President: Nigel Rigiani



THE HOME OF LONG DISTANCE PIGEON RACING

Patron: Mark Gilbert

The British Barcelona Club celebrating '50' years 2014

Bordeaux National 1stOpen 1st Section J Vic Shaw & Grandson Andrew from Harlow With "Trigger"

After a one day holdover due to the bad weather conditions both here and in France on Saturday, the BBC's final old bird race from Bordeaux finally got under way on Sunday, being liberated at 9am in to a Southerly wind. Again, the weather was not on our side, as Sunday dawned with thunder and lightening at Bordeaux and then another belt of rain holding the liberation up. We had 20 birds verified on the day, two of those arriving in the dark during the hours of darkness.

For this race we had the familiar face of Pete Willcox taking care of the birds with Bill Travers, due to Nigel Rigiani recuperating after being taken ill about 3 weeks ago.

I would like to say thank you to Pete for standing in at the last minute and ending our season with a great race. Also special thanks to Colin Beckett, Dick Burgin and Terry Haley for bringing the Penkridge and Walkern birds to Salisbury. Your help was very much appreciated and it was nice to see everyone pulling together and to my good friends Robbie and Anne Hooper for helping me out in my hour of need.

Winners of the Bordeaux National and 1st Section J are Vic Shaw & Grandson Andrew from Harlow. Vic and Andrew fly pigeons as partners and are great friends. We put 100% effort into flying our widowhood cocks but still manage to have a good deal of fun in the garden especially on Saturday on race days. Winning is important but not everything! Be a good winner and a good loser. Our Bordeaux winner (now called Trigger: fools and horses) is 50% Preece Bros and Sons of Abertillery in Wales. 50% Soontjen bloodlines from Dave and Graham Wright from Blyth Northumberland. The blue cocks ring no GB09T38979 shows he is 5 years old, and will be in the race team again as a 6 year old. On the Preece Bros side of the pedigree are numerous prize winners at National level. On the Soontjen side the breeding has L.N.R Combine Thurso and L.N.R Combine Arbroath winners.

After flying the north road for 27 years and having the luck to have been quite successful by winning the L.N.R Combine 5 times and 2nd 5 times. Also, the good fortune to have won the coveted Thomas Long Trophy 5 times plus the London Region Victory Trophy I decided to try the south road route - HELP. I find the shorter races early in the year from France a disaster area. The longer races later in the year seem to be more of a fair challenge but a bit too tough for me. I am approaching 73 years of age and in order to reduce the amount of birds kept I intend to fly the roundabout system next year.



Vic and Andrew.

2nd Open 2nd Section J, Mark Bulled From Harlow. Congratulations to near neighbour Vic Shaw (300 yards down the road) on winning the Bordeaux National.

I timed my good hen "Bump" last night, so called as I always miss her coming and hear her land on the shed. Last night being no exception!

She is a 3 year old hen sent on a small baby after being widowhood all season. She has lots of previous form including 18th BICC Alencon, 19th BBC Bordeaux and 73rd NFC Cholet. She has never nighted out. She is bred from what I used to call my "fast day" Thurso family – different to my distance and sprint families. Her Dam was 5th LSECC Bergerac and her Grandsire was 4th and 9th LNRC Thurso for my Dad.

Her sire was bred by Mick Carrick of Chesham direct from his 1st BBC Bordeaux winner, so you could say she was bred for the job.

My thanks to Bernie Whitbread for taking my birds to the marking station and for being my clock setter the last few weeks. We can both rest now!



Mark Bulled

3rd & 6th Open 1st & 4th Section D, Mark Gilbert from Windsor. This first pigeon was a widowhood cock, he was a grandson of "Southfield Supreme" when paired to a full sister to Deweerdts "Iban".

The second and third pigeons are both brothers and are from a son of "Euro Diamond", the mother is a Deweerdts hen which is a granddaughter of "Magnus" and "Ted".



Mark and Karen Gilbert

4th Open 2nd Section D, Neil & Jean Andrews from Much Hadham. We timed a Blue Cock 2011 late bred. This season he has been raced spare as have all of our birds due to a severe hawk problem in April and May, we do not like the birds to be easy targets for the hawks so on the system they go out for a hour a day only. It has been a case of in the loft or in the sky.

He only sees the opposite sex after training or after a race only, in fact he was attacked in the spring of 2012 by a sparrow hawk in the garden so much so that he could not race that year.

He started racing 2013 and in 2014 he has flown Falaise, Le mans and Poitiers. After his last race he had 2 weeks off from racing, we paired him for Bordeaux when we were again struck by a hawk, so we had to train him most days rather than take the chance of the birds being out at home. He was always trained against the wind most days for 2 weeks.

His Sire has bred some good birds including 3^{rd} and 4^{th} Combine winners on different occasions from France plus various cards in the BBC. In fact a Grandson won Le mans in the Club this year. The 2^{nd} bird timed next morning was a great granddaughter of this cocks sire.

Over the last 3 years we have not sent in the BBC apart from Bordeaux due to time but we have been lucky enough to have pigeons on the day each time we have sent to Bordeaux. The best positions being 9^{th} and 15^{th} .

As for feeding, all the birds are fed on a high carbohydrate mixture along with farm beans and barley depending on what they are doing or going to do race wise.

Well done to Vic Shaw and Andrew on winning the race and all that timed in on the day.



Neil and Jean Andrews

5th Open, 3rd Section D, Jeff Poole from King Langley. I timed a grizzle hen bought as a baby from Houton Spring Fayre in Holland for 50 euro's Jap Van Halpen. She is of Silver Shadow Van Loon lines. She has had every Club race this season and taken cards in the top 6 Club and top 20 in the Fed. She was nominated through to the Fed and will probably be 3rd Combine winning Fed nom

prize. She is a small hen that fits nicely in the hand and she was on her 3rd flight in the wing. When she arrived home it was in the fading light and in good shape.



Jeff Poole

7th Open is Dennis Smith from Bethnal Green. Dennis timed his 2nd Open 1st Section D BBC Fougeres National winner. She was sent feeding the same baby as she was at Fougeres and also sitting 12 days. She has not raced since being 2nd Open but has been training with the young birds. The day before being basketed she had a tough trainer from Rochester.

The sire was bought from George Bates entire clearance sale and the dam from Jimmy Shepherd a daughter of Moonraker.



Dennis Smith

8th Open, Pete Mawby from Rugby. I'm a 52 year old lorry driver and at 6:15 this morning my wife rang me while I was in Portsmouth to tell me she had clocked our first pigeon. A chequer pied cock with a 21 day old youngster in the nest. I lost his hen last week.

Prior to this race, he raced inland plus Alencon from which he turned up a week later in Birmingham and I collected him in a box.

My second pigeon was going for her second trip over the water and first time over this year, she too had a big youngster and 5 days on eggs.

Our third entry arrived while I was getting my clock read so all three arrived by 1pm on the second day.

So it's been a great race for me and I'd just like to thank my wife for clocking for me and also the BBC for giving us a great race with great returns.



Pete Mawby

1st Section B 9th Open, Mark & Julie Gower from Fordingbridge. My section winner is a 4 year old hen bred from Brian Shepherd stock, she is one of those pigeons that comes home at her own pace and only once making a mistake from last year's Bordeaux race. She has flown consistently throughout her life being 2nd Club 8th Fed Saintes as a yearling, in the

She has flown consistently throughout her life being 2nd Club 8th Fed Saintes as a yearling, in the result 3 times from Tarbes NFC, including this year. She is flown on the round-a-bout system but this year after Tarbes NFC she was re-paired and sent to this race on 10 day eggs.

This year she has flown Seaton, Carentan, Messac CSCFC, Seaton, Tarbes, Seaton & Bordeaux with very little road training.

I would like to finish on congratulating the BBC on a good race at the end of a very hard season & to my good friend Andy parsons for being second in the Salisbury club clock station, truly a "giant" amongst men!



Julie Gower

2nd Section B 10th Open, Scott Storie from Poole. My pigeon, a 5 year old cock is a Jim Biss & Venus Supercrack breeding. He is a good racer winning a number of Classic and National prizes. He started the 2014 season 59th Open BBC Carentan in his first race. Then he went off the boil with some indifferent racing.

His last race before Bordeaux was Le Mans with the BICC and despite being off the pace he looked as though he'd never been away on his return. Days leading up to basketing he was acting like his old self again. He is the sire of my NFC Tarbes pigeon this year.

Thanks to John Gerard who helped cleaned the loft before the race and Mick Wiffen and his wife Joy for waiting for the birds with me. It was Joy who spotted him.

It was a good night with 3 being clocked on the day, one at 9.25pm in the dark.



Scott Storie

1st Section C 11th Open, Val Richards from Gloucester. I timed a 3 year old Blue Janssen cock. The sire was bred by Ponderosa UK Stud and is a Grandson of Wonderboy 05 and Lichte 05. On the dam's side she was bred by Louella and is a daughter of De Felle cross a daughter of Compas & Flits.

This cock bird like all my young birds was not trained or raced in the year of his birth. I trained and gave him one race as a yearling then put him to work this year. He has had two tough channel races before Bordeaux flown on total widowhood i.e racing cocks and hens.

I bought some very well bred Janssens from Ron Hillcoat, Louella and Ponderosa UK Stud to breed an inland/sprint team but my heart is in distance racing, so I sold all the Janssen stock birds and now one of the Janssen "Sprinters" has topped the Section at 485 miles, which is by far my best result since moving from Essex to Gloucester.



Val Richards

1st Section H 12th Open, Willie Healy from St Helier, Jersey. My pigeon is a 3 year old blue bar hen of the late Joe Letchio of Alloa and Geoff Kirkland bloodlines. She is a medium size pigeon sent sitting 16 day eggs. To be truthful this is the first time she has come good and this is a hard race for the Channel Island pigeon fanciers.

Well done to my friend Paul Davies on his 2nd Section. Finally a big thank you to Clare Norman for everything she has done for myself and the Channel Island fanciers. An old Scottish saying Clare you are a good wee dame. Good luck to all for the future.



Willie Healy

1st Section G 14th Open , Ian Crammond & Nigel Langstaff from Fontwell. Ian and Nigel clocked a M & D Evans Vandenabeele cock at 18.59 flying on the widowhood system. The sire is a Son of Solitaire x 2nd Open BBC Lamballe she is from a Son of Shadow x Dau Benetton x Devon. This cock seems to perform better on harder days and seems to take after his Dam as she was one of only five timed in on the mainland on the day in the 2005 young bird race with the BBC Lamballe. This result follows on from their 1st and 2nd Section NFC Saintes last weekend.



Ian Crammond & Nigel Langstaff

3rd Section B, Andy Parsons from Salisbury. First of all I would like to congratulate the winner and everybody who managed to clock a day bird, especially my good friend Mark Gower for topping Section B for the 2nd time this year with the BBC.

My 3rd Section winner is a yearling sent on 7 day eggs, he was unraced as a young bird and Bordeaux was his 4th race of the year. His Sire is a Cannon cross, purchased at the Keith Nethercott bereavement sale, he is Sire of 11th and 18th CSCFC and Grand sire of 10th NFC Tarbes. The Dam of my bird is a good blue hen bred by my friend Keith Bush and she is fast becoming a very important bird in my stock loft, being Dam of some very good Tarbes birds.

I would like to say well done to Pete Willcox for getting the birds up. On a personal note, I would like to congratulate and thank the BBC committee and secretary for giving us excellent racing in a year when most weeks the wind was in the north.



Andy Parsons

1st & 2nd Section E, Gordon Rigg from Congleton. My two year old cock bird came home in great condition after a hard fly from Bordeaux. Given the liberation time and wind forecast, I was hoping to have a bird timed in at about 20-00 hours on the day of liberation, but birds were only reaching the coast at this time.

The pigeon is bred from a cock given to me by Steven Holmes from his distance birds, which was paired to one of my old and trusted. Duserdryn hens.



Gordon Rigg

2nd Section C, Phil Newton from Weston Super Mare. This bird was sent to Bordeaux flying to a 5 day old youngster. In preparation for this race he had five channel races the last one being Poitiers with the BICC. Since then he has just been trained once or twice a week from around 40 miles. He has been a good consistent racer for me, in the first BICC race of the season from Falaise, he scored winning 7th West Section 7th Open 1,639 birds. He is bred down from my NFC Certificate of Merit winner.

My race and stock birds are fed on cereals, peas and beans purchased from local farms, also countrywide maize and trapping mix.

As always a big thank you to my wife Tess for all her hard work with the birds.(who needs self cleaning nest boxes!!!)



Phil Newton

3rd Section C, William Young from Gloucester. Where to start, well the bird is one of my "Orton Commando's" as I call them, so called because I got them and the loft for free from Bob Orton, when he and his wife Shirley gave up the sport about 5 years ago to spend more time with their grandchildren. How many people do you know that would do that?!

Bob said at the time there's some good birds there lad, but little did I realise just how good! From the last 2 BBC Bordeaux Races I sent to, these guys have been 4th, 5th and 8th Section, 4th, 46th and 58th Open and now 3rd Section 20th Open. Last week from NFC Saintes a hen took 3rd Section also, so good things do come in 3s!

I would to say a big thank you to the lads at Charlton Kings FC, Gloucester FC for supplying a clock last week when my T3 stopped, Andy Harker for the grain, and last but no means least my gorgeous Julia and the kids for putting up with the time I spend with the birds, its not that much honest?!

And last but by no means least, its hard to imagine that 100 years ago this weekend, a whole generation of young men, our fathers and grandfathers, had crossed the channel, going to war, whilst today, we were sitting in our gardens peacefully waiting on our birds crossing the same channel to come home.



Willie Young

1st Section A, Clive Ret & Dtr from Southampton. Firstly, I would like to say well done to all the winners, it appears to be another one of those patchy races.

Well, my hen was bred off a full sister to the dam of my Classic winner when paired to a dark cock of Ernie Deacon's. She was sent sitting. I sent 3 pigeons and I got her cock bird this morning so 2 out of 3 for me. Well now to young bird racing. Good luck to everybody.



Clive Ret

2nd Section H, Paul Davies from St Clement, Jersey. I timed a yearling blue cock sent sitting 12 day eggs. This cock is called "Egghead" as it came from an egg given to Paul by Glen Moon. This cock won 1st Section 11th Open in the Fougeres Y.B race with the B.B.C last year. This year it got 3rd Section from Messac with the B.B.C.

I would like to thank Clare Norman once again on behalf of the Channel Islands for taking their birds to the marking station.



Paul Davies

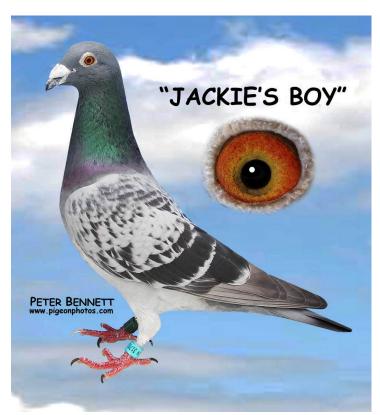
3rd Section J, Keith Gosling & Mick Jarvis from Mountnessing. The partnership clocked a two year old dark pied widowhood nicknamed Sh***er this was his 6th Channel race of the season. He has flown BBC Messac beaten by loft mates, BICC Tours 3rd Section, 31st National, BICC Poitiers

37th Section 214th National, BICC Fougeres beaten by loft mates, BBC Le Mans beaten by loft mates and now BBC Bordeaux. Sh***er was given his hen two days prior to marking and was fed on Verse Laga Widowhood and Leige mixes with added peanuts. The sire was Kingpin bred by Jim Biss and is grand son of Vend 1st NFC Pau and Zimbiss 1st BBC Palamos. The dam was 95 bred by Ponderosa stud Van Wanroy First Lady and Black Giant bloodlines.



Keith Gosling & Mick Jarvis

2nd Section A, Dave Wells of Bordon. Timing "Jackie's Boy" a 4 year old chequer cock winner of a CSCFC Blue Riband Certificate 2014 after clocking him 3 times from Tarbes/Pau, 2014 – 36th Open, 2013 – 50th Open and 2011 – 6th Open (as a yearling) and also winner of the CSCFC Blue Thunder Trophy 2013 timing him in race time from all four races Guernsey 28th Open 135 miles, Messac 380th Open 231 miles, 50th Open Tarbes 546 miles and 159th Open Bergerac 420 miles.

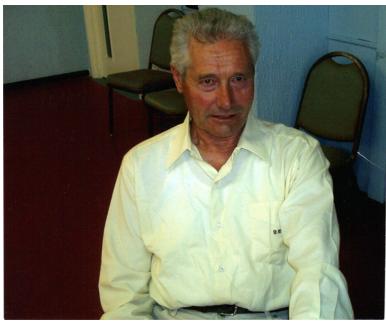


Dave Wells' "Jackie's Boy"

3rd Section A, George Wood from Ventnor, IOW. George's pigeon is a 3 year old chequer hen who has scored on two previous occasions already this season both from very hard races, taking 20th Open CSCFC Pau and 3 weeks ago 14th Open CSCFC Bergerac.

Her sire a 4 year old cock bird which is ¾ Jim Hooper's bloodlines also scored from these two races being 24th Open CSCFC Pau and 53rd Open Bergerac. He never raced in 2013 as he injured his wing but in 2012 he was 6th Open CSCFC Bergerac.

The dam has a mixture of long distance bloodlines.



George Wood

2nd Section G, Don Harvey from Dover. First of all I would like to send my congratulations to the winners on a hard race. Also to Clare the secretary and race controllers. The birds were in very good condition on return. I timed seven of my eight entries.

My first bird was a four year old blue cock "LITTLE BOY BLUE" he was also 23rd Section G 2012 from Bordeaux. This year he had a Tours with the BICC where he was my fourth bird, then Tarbes with the NFC, returning 8 days later minus his rubbers. His sire was bred by Mike Spencer and is a Grandson of "Border Duke" who won many positions with the NFC, his Dam was bred by my good friend in Holland who only keeps 36 pigeons and never sends a big team but mostly beats the big senders. This hens Dam scored from St. Vincent international.

My second in the clock was a 2 year old pencil blue cock, his sire was the "LONE RANGER" and he scored from Tarbes NFC 3 successive years. I was preparing him for Marseille in 2012 and was sadly lost of the loft (hawk I expect). His dam was another hen from Holland and she has also bred some good pigeons.

My third bird was a 2 year old blue chequer cock and he is 100% dutch blood. All my pigeons are fed on Bayers corn, treated for canker/cocci and worms. I don't like antibiotics and now take the zero tolerance approach.

I would like to thank my good mate Bert Shepherd for all his help and advice and also supplying me with young birds from his very best and also his wife Andrea for making myself and Elaine very welcome when we visit them.



Don & Elaine Harvey

3rd Section E, Mr & Mrs Alan Shore from Crewe. GB11N54285 is a two year old late bred with an old ring. He is flown on widowhood and was paired up a week before Bordeaux BBC. His hen had just laid when he was sent to the race.

Prior to the Bordeaux race he had two inland races and one other Channel race flying 11 hours from Carantan. His sire is a KoNipius stock bird paired to a hen gifted to me by D. Lawton of Crewe which was out of a hen which had flown Tarbes on the day (680 miles). Her sire was a son of Red Barcelona.

We clocked two more pigeons at 13.01 and 13.10.



Mr & Mrs Alan Shore's cock bird

3rd Section G, Freddie Hadley from Preston, near Canterbury. My 3rd Section G pigeon is named Cavendish and was purchased in Belgium while on the Spring Exchange Trip 2012. He flew the full young bird programme in 2012 including NFC Fourges. As a yearling flew Falaise BICC (clocked) and 3 more Channel races up to Tours in the Kent Invicta Combine winning 3rd Club from Le Mans in the process.

The season didn't start to well for him as he lost his hen on the first training flight of the year. Cavendish had midweek training flights with Wingham Flying Club and 2 build up races with the East of England Continental club and Tours BICC in preparation for BICC Pau International. He was then sent to Pau BICC International on the 20th of June being clocked on the winning day gaining 25th East section 59th Open 556 miles and on the 7th of July was 51st Section E 169th Open NFC Tarbes 560 miles also clocked on the winning day.

After Tarbes he was then trained in all directions before Bordeaux. He was raced widowed at the start of the season and paired for the main events. He was sent to the Bordeaux race due to hatch and arrived in very good condition to the loft.



Freddie Hadley

3rd Section H, Mick De Carteret from St Sampsons, Guernsey. Mick timed a four year old blue hen bred by Nigel Legg out of Jim and Anne Donaldson stock. She was sent sitting a ten day old youngster.

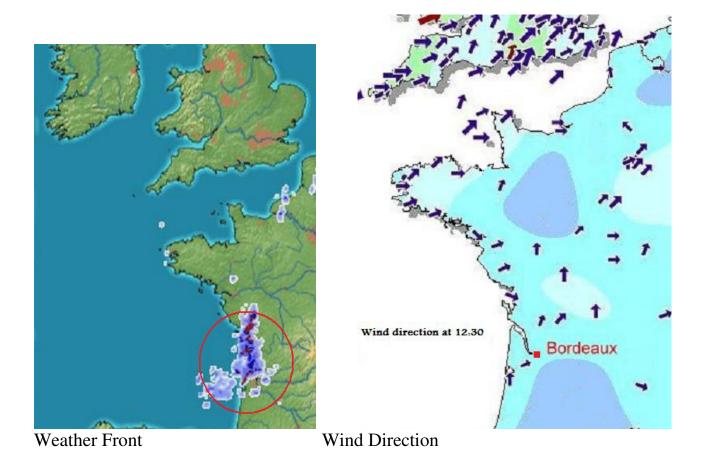
Mick and the GRPC send their thanks to Robbie Hooper and Clare Norman for their continued support.



Mick De Carteret

Weather report.

Early on Sunday morning thunderstorms affected the Bordeaux region delaying liberation. These fortunately moved away eastwards clearing the flight path by about 08:30. This welcome development allowed the birds to be released into a light southerly wind. Consideration was given to the 09:00 hours liberation, but as light southerly winds were available this affectively benefitted the birds as they were able to gain some assistance. Conditions through central and northern France could not have been better. Sunny periods and broken cloud coupled with a favourable wind was the order of the day. The channel was clear with wind direction changing to fresh west south west reaching 12 to 18 mph and visibility was good. Despite the early complications an excellent flying day became available to the BBC pigeons racing from Bordeaux. Steve Appleby.



Barcelona Trophy Winners

A Stephens (B181) – The Harkers Challenge Trophy, Ron Michieson Challenge Trophy, Spanish Challenge Trophy, The Woodsider Trophy, The Doug Horwood Memorial Salver, The Eileen Bunn Memorial Challenge Trophy, The Ron Michieson Memorial Rose Bowl, The Mr & Mrs Stephenson Challenge Cup, The Arthur Bartlett Memorial Trophy, The Albert Padfield "Blue Riband" Memorial Trophy, The Peter Rigiani Memorial Trophy, The Cyril Medway Memorial Trophy, The Mr & Mrs Ken Hine Memorial Trophy and The Peter Bennett Special Presentation Plate.

Gosling & Jarvis (J767) – The Bert Bryant Challenge Cup, The Ron Youde Memorial Trophy, The BBC Appreciation Trophy, The Hillside Greater Distance Trophy and the John Parish Memorial Trophy.

A Cowan (A954) – The Bert Wiffen Memorial Shield, The G Stubbs Memorial Trophy, The Mr & Mrs A Brant Challenge Cup and The A Hoare & Son Memorial Trophy.

A E Shepherd (**A620**) – The Gladys Stephenson Memorial Trophy, The H Sopp Challenge Cup, The Spanish Trophy, The G H Hall Rose Bowl and The Mr & Mrs G S Maskell Challenge Cup.

Mr & Mrs J & H Hooper (C1) – The Willcox Trophy, The Horace Baker Memorial Trophy, The W Bowen Challenge Trophy, The Olwen Padfield Memorial Trophy, The Christine Humphreys Memorial Trophy and The Reg & Myrtle Venner Memorial Rose Bowl.

A J Turner (G772) – The Jack Edwards Memorial Trophy and The A H Woodward & Son Challenge Cup.

Mr & Mrs T & C Welch (G37) – The Ron Bissett Memorial Trophy, The Barcelona Olympic Challenge Cup and The Frank Lloyd Memorial Trophy.

Mr & Mrs L Hawkins (J754) – The Strugglers Challenge Cup.

Mr & Mrs S Fear (D152) – The Middlesex Challenge Trophy and The Hands & Castree Challenge Trophy.

J G Rigg (E756) – The Gordon Hare Challenge Cup, The Emma Bate Memorial Cup, The Eachway Surprise Challenge Trophy and The Jack Bate Memorial Trophy.

J P Halstead (B355) – The W Gale Challenge Cup and The Ken Otton Memorial Trophy.

W Castledine (A638) – The Gazette Challenge Trophy.

Dickson Brothers (C1013) – The Churchill Challenge Trophy.

J Ludlam (C49) – The A G Mullholland & Son Avon Trophy.

Each Section Winner will receive a special 50th Anniversary Medal.

Section Winners are:

A – A Cowan (A954), B – A Stephens (B181), C – Mr & Mrs J & H Hooper (C1), D – Mr & Mrs S Fear (D152) E – J G Rigg (E756), G – A J Turner (G772), J – Gosling & Jarvis (J767).

Fougeres Winners

M Bulled (J58) – A photograph of the winning pigeon.

Each Section Winner will receive a special 50th Anniversary Medal.

Section Winners are:

A – Wearn Bros 1 & Neilson (A122), B – Mr & Mrs M Gower (B85), C – Mr & Mrs M & C Brown (C77), D – D J Smith (D694) E – B & S Stone (E607), G – K J Abbott (G918), H – G Moon (H228), J – M Bulled (J58).

Urgent - Dinner and Prize Presentation

For members wishing to attend the dinner on Saturday 15th November, please book or reserve your tickets with me as soon as possible as tickets are now limited. Ticket prices are £35 per person. Those wishing to stop over can book their accommodation direct with The Days Hotel, Bournemouth on 01202 552111. Please mention the Club when booking to ensure special rates. For more details on the dinner please see your Club Handbook.

Clare Norman. Tel: 023 8057 3919 Email: secretary@britishbarcelonaclub.com