

Coutances Young Birds & Old Hens National
1st Open 1st Section G
Jaimie Clarke & Dtr
With “Flipping Fantastic” & “Flipping Magic”

With the 2017 season now drawn to a close, we must congratulate all the prize winners. Our thank yous must go to everyone who has taken the time and effort to assist at all marking stations, your help is invaluable. We hope to see you all next season. A special thank you to John Garvey who came back from holiday to run Penkridge marking station for this young bird race then once finished marking turned round and drove back again to finish his holiday. The convoy for our final race was 842 young birds sent by 124 members and 162 old hens. On board also was 131 birds sent by the Welsh South Road Federation.

After waiting for some patchy rain on site to clear first thing, Nigel managed to get the birds away at 9.05am with no wind on liberation but a West North Westerly across the channel which was increasing as the day progressed.

Congratulations to our winner of both the young bird race and the old hens race **Jaimie Clarke & Dtr from Selling**. The blue cock which won is a direct son of my 2016 BICC 3rd Open winner Flo when pair to a pied cock which is a winning Grandson of Ronny Williamson 1st NIPA winners Ireland.

The winning pigeon is now called “Flipping Fantastic” as that is what I think of this weeks racing.

Flipping fantastic was raced on the dark till the longest day of the year and from then on the light system where the lights are kept on to 12 o'clock at night every day to hold back the moult.

He has had every club race to date and they get trained around 3 times a week to around 30 miles.

We have fed slightly heavier this year at the end of the week to see if it helps with getting better returns from the channel / longer club races which seems to have worked or are we just go lucky? Who know?

I would like to thank Mark for all he's help and to Ronny Williamson providing me with some outstanding stock pigeons which have now won 3 Nationals for me in 2 years so could not be happier with these pigeons. Also to Peter Wratten who is a good mate of mine now in his later years but always makes it up on race days and my little partner Oliver who always there for a photo.



Jaimie & Oliver Clarke



Flo

1st Section J 2nd Open John Gladwin & Jarvis from Leigh on Sea. Firstly I would like to say well done to Jaimie Clark on his win, and say well done to the BBC on giving us a good race on what was a difficult day weather wise. We sent 10 birds and had 2 come together and 2 more together 4 minutes later and 7 out of the 10 back on the day and another one this morning.

First bird on the clock is a Formula 1 Lofts bred Frans Zwols, the sire is Frissian boy Junior a grandson of Boy and Queen, he was part of the birds we bought from Frans Zwols in late 2015 when he retired from racing and we bought all his stock and race birds from him. The dam is also from Frans Zwols and is from Titan (brother of Space Shuttle) lines which have been doing very well in the UK in the last two seasons.

My second pigeon which is 7 seconds after the first one is also a Formula 1 Lofts Frans Zwols x (Louis Thijs), The sire is from the lines of King of Rekkem and comes from one of the originals we bought from Frans in 2010. The dam is from the best of lines from Louis Thijs that we bought direct from Louis in 2014.

I would like to say a big thank you to my wife Theresa who has been a very big help to me with the pigeons over the last two years especially with out her I would find it very difficult to even race let alone be competitive.



John and Theresa Gladwin

2nd Section J 3rd Open John & John Brady from Benfleet. The Brady's would like to congratulate J Clarke & daughter on their YB/OH National wins, well done.

Our first bird GB17A00779 a blue pied cock like most of our successful pigeons is from our direct Jos Thone pigeons he is a grandson from our daughter of Jos Thones "National 2" she has so far bred 2 x first and 3 x second National winners and is on both sides of his pedigree. He was having his second channel race and on return it was obvious he had raced through heavy rain.



John and John Brady

4th Open Rob & Andrew Wilton (D Wilton & Son) from Chadwell St Mary. Our timer is a blue cock. He's bred from a son of P & HP Brockamps top breeding hen Valhalla, sister to Euro Diamond. This young cock was also 6th Open BICC Guernsey 1 two weeks ago. All our young birds are raced in the sliding door system and are trained well in the weeks leading up to the National races.



Rob, Andrew & Louie Wilton

1st Section D 5th Open Baz & Steve Baron from Redbourn. The blue hen is of Geerinckx breeding. We bred the dam from a pair bought from Foxwood Lofts, and the sire was bought from premier lofts. She has been a consistent youngster, last week having come 4th club from Honiton. She is darkness pigeon racing to the perch.

We have over 50 yrs racing experience, but formed a partnership 5 years ago.



Baz & Steve Baron

2nd Section D 6th Open Mr & Mrs Ken Hine from Hayes. Our provisional 6th open young bird is out off our Soontjens lines. It has raced the whole young bird programme in the BB&O and has been coming very well all season. The week before it went to Coutances in the NFC. Our young birds are exercised round the garden for an hour each day and are fed on Countrywide young bird mix.
Like to say well done to all involved for an excellent race with 14/15 home on the day.



Mark and Gary



Keith Gosling and Mick Jarvis

7th Open Keith Gosling & Mick Jarvis from Mountnessing. The partnership timed a dark chequer hen named “Miss Jingles”. This was her sixth race having flown four inland races and Guernsey. She was raced natural prior to basketing she was just showing interest to some of the young cocks. Her sire was bred by the late John Puddephat and is a grandson of Highdown Duke 1st section 10th NFC Dax, 3rd section 24th NFC Dax, 10th section 70th NFC Pau and Highdown Lily 4th section 24th NFC Tarbes. Her dam was bred by Brian Sheppard and is a grand daughter of Jingles 6th, 33rd and 34th NFC Pau. The partnership entered 12 birds and 10 arrived on the day. We would like to congratulate Jaimie and daughter for winning both races great performance well done.

8th Open Brian & Dick Chitty from Kings Langley. The partnership was formed thirty five years ago and since then we have had some success in National, Combine and Fed flying, including eight combine wins and two L & S.E Classic wins.

The first bird yesterday was a gift pigeon from a friend from the Welsh borders Nick Morris or Border Lad in the fancy press, this pigeon was paired to a hen from Dean Pallatt's stock.

She went to the N.F.C last week had a long fly but took nothing out of herself and looked superb.

We would first like to add our congratulations to the winners and well done to club mates Baz & Steve Baron.





Brian and Dick Chitty

9th Open Bruce McAllister from Furneaux Pelham. Chequer hen raced to perch had 4/5 club races to coast. The breeding from Jos Thone cock Sumo lines. He is a Fed winner paired to Bert Shepherd hen from Niarco. Think she should be a future Tarbes hen.

Unfortunately my ETS did not register so had to catch her and re- swipe, chaos, but eventually worked.



Bruce McAllister with Grandchildren Isabella and Daniel

10th Open Jeff Poole from Kings Langley. First, I would like to congratulate all winners today. My first bird was a Van Loon cock bred from a brother to my number 1 stock cock from my Paul Russell bred birds. The dam is a Planet Brothers hen purchased at one of their Blackpool sales. He has raced every club race this young bird season. A sister to him was put in the Spelthorne breeder buyer and brought by Terry Haley to win 5th breeder buyer.



Jeff Poole



Mr & Mrs Mick Smith & Grandson

2nd Section G Mr & Mrs Michael Smith & Grandson from Guildford. Firstly after getting over the shock of a high section place, A well done to the section and race winners. The sire of my first bird is home bred while the dam is a Wim Mueller brought at the Ponderosa UK Stud earlier in the year, also a big thank you to the marking team over the years.

1st Section A Dave Wells from Liphook. I would like to start by thanking Clare and Martin for their excellent work and also the markers. I brought the bird in the breeder buyer at the CSCFC. Sent it to the Classic breeder buyer race and was very late. His second race was the BBC winning section A. The bird was breed by S & G Attwood of Gosport.

I moved to Liphook 2 years ago and have had two bad seasons so hopefully next year will be better for me. I was pleased to get this bird yesterday.

Also well done to my buddy Derek Human for winning section A Old Hens.



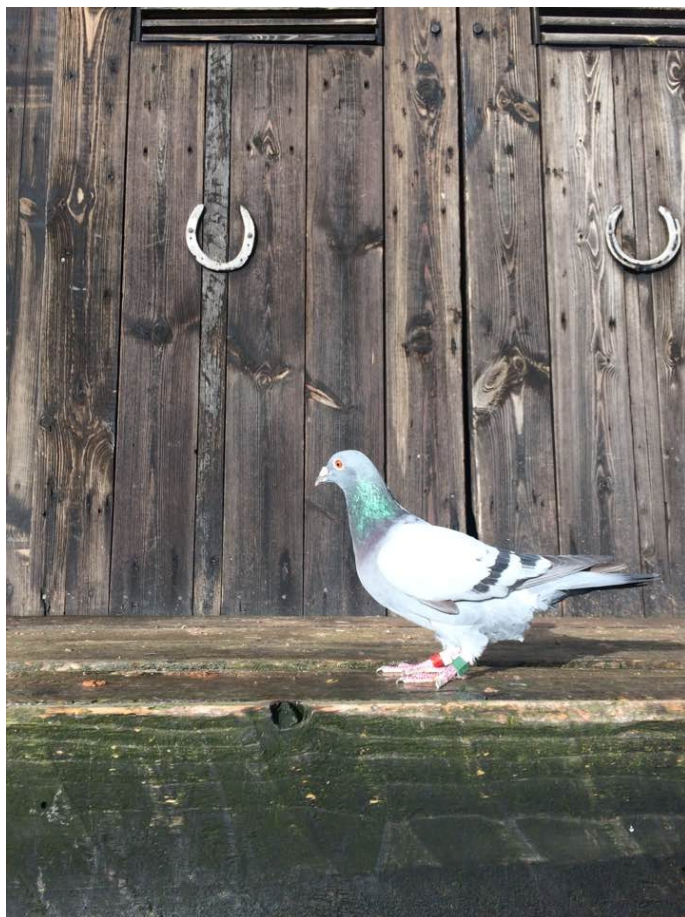
Dave Wells

1st Section E Ken Pettitt from Stoke on Trent. Ken Pettitt needs no introduction to the winners podium. Having flown very well last year in the NFC he chose the BBC this year as a new challenge and has proved his sprint families can and will win at the shortest channel events to their longest which was Bordeaux 580 miles. This young bird race got Ken excited last year so much so he began to prepare for it at the end of the young bird season. He checked over his stock birds and made pairing in his head which he put into practice as early as November 2016 when he paired them up. He only just got the rings on the young birds but he did. He told me if he could not get the rings on he would dispose of them and let them go down again so much was his determination at this YB race 2017. Ken wanted age on his youngsters because he believes their bodies change as they grow older. Well this year it paid off because Ken timed his very early bred cock of Vandenaabeele breed just after 4.30pm after flying just over 270 miles to win section E by nearly an hour. The bird dived and trapped without any hesitation through a storm of torrential rain. Ken has decided to name this game cock “Blue Storm”. Ken had another young bird who is likely to be 3rd section. Ken has previously stated is a heavy feeder of beans and maize. He trains very little but likes to see them exercise around the home lofts.

Ken sends his congratulations to the winners. (thank you to Michael John Burden for the information).



Ken Pettitt



Blue Storm

1st Section C Martin Williams from Hereford. My section winner is a Blue Chequer cock. His breeding is a Les Green x my old family, Andre Roodhoof, the Famous Mustang line, which have been excellent for me. The sire and dam are both race birds.

This bird had 3 races in the Severn Valley Federation from Yeovil, Kingsdown and Newton Abbott. He then switched to the West of England Combine on an East route for the bigger races. He went to Bedhampton twice, and came well which set him up for this race.

It looks as if he needed his experience for this challenging race. By comparing velocities, it seems as if he had to come a lot of miles on his own, in that very strong W/N/W wind and battering storm, so he was a very gallant bird on the day. My returns were poor, only having 2 out of 4 back.



Martin Williams

2nd Section A Ken & Sue Francis from Southampton. Firstly congratulations to all the winners both Section and Open.

The biggest problem for me with this race was selecting candidates. Racing natural, most of the team are very heavily into their moult and so selection was made simply on those with the most feathers!

The first pigeon, a small blue hen kept natural and flying to the perch is a Billy Lynch Casaert. Prior to this race she had two races with the Southampton & District Federation and arrived to score in both of them.



Ken Francis

2nd Section E Paul Whitfield from Apedale, Newcastle Under Lyme. In a very N/W position in the BBC Club the first bird to the loft of 4 on the day out of 10 sent was a small hen who was sent paired, and was let into the cock the night before basketing morning. Prior to this race she had had 3 training races, which were Frome, Purbeck, Portland. Out of Frome she did 10 1/2 hours on the wing, so Paul had her in mind for this race from the start. The other 3 timers on the day are all Kuyper x Verhaye birds home bred that have proven to be a real good cross for the Whitfield family.

Paul would like to thank Billy Hassel from the Midlands for this gift bird and his and Jean's friendship over the years. Bill informs Paul that the hen is very close related to his NFC Tarbes winner King Arthur who won the International trophy.



Paul Whitfield



Archie Whitfield

2nd Section E Robbie Brown & Duncan Elliott (loft 1) from Devizes. First I would like to congratulate Jaimie Clarke on winning a tough young bird race and all the section winners.

The pigeon that won 2nd Section C I nearly never sent her as she only returned from the Classic Coutances race the following Thursday, so she was just rested since then but found her way home quicker the second time. On her sire's side she is down through Bartoli and her dam's side is Kannibaal.



Robbie Brown



Roger Smith

1st & 2nd Section B Roger Smith from Salisbury. Firstly I would like to congratulate the winner. My first bird in the clock was bred from pigeons obtained from Tom Larkin. They are Janssen/ Wildemeersch/ Frans Laermans breed. My second timer is a Pete Wells from Dunstable pigeon.

Next up to Roger Smith in **Section B** is **John Halstead** with a chequer hen which had been pairing with a young cock. She has an impeccable pedigree being a granddaughter of Nyland Untouchable the 2009 BBC Barcelona winner on the sire's side and her dam is a granddaughter of Vend the winner of 1st Open NFC Pau at 646 miles (5,427 birds) for Jim Biss. This is only her third race and last week she was provisionally 5th Section in the NFC Coutances race.



John Halstead

Old Hens Race

Jaimie Clarke & Dtr. First off, thanks to everyone who has congratulated me on my win.

The blue hen who is now called “Flipping Magic” is from a multi winning blue cock with 1st Feds to his name plus many top positions. He is from Direct Ronny Williamsons stock of Ireland. The dam is also from Ronny Williamson pigeons, she has had many prizes in Club and Fed racing.

I would also like to thank Mark for all his help.

Flipping Magic was raced on roundabout all season racing in mostly the BICC / BBC / NFC national races. She was then left to pair up and sit a round of eggs for 3/4 weeks then we started training them every day up to 24 miles before she was sent to the race.



Jaimie and Oliver Clarke

2nd Open Keith Gosling & Mick Jarvis from Mountnessing. The partnership timed a 4 year old Mealy hen “Black Eyes”. This was her fifth race this year having flown three inland training races and BICC Guernsey, she was 48th National in that race. Black Eyes is a previous winner of 1st Club 5th Fed Market Rasen, 1st Club 9th Combine Ripon, 45th Section 87th BBC Poitiers. She was sent sitting 10 days. Her sire was mealy stock cock responsible for many prize winners son of Champion Matt 11th Classic Pau, 24th Classic Tarbes, 27th Classic Alencon, 47th Classic Bergerac, 60th Classic Alencon, 112th Classic Alencon, 154th Classic Tours, 167th Classic Tours and Champion Astra 4th BBC Bordeaux, 15th NFC Bordeaux, 18th NFC Saintes, 19th NFC Guernsey, 50th NFC Fougères, 69th NFC Fougères, 129th BBC Bordeaux, 153rd BICC Falaise. Her dam was bred by Peter Van de mere grand daughter of Gwen. The partnership entered two hens and clocked the second hen which should also figure in the result.



Keith Gosling & Mick Jarvis

2nd Section G Mr & Mrs Mick Worsfold from Bisley. The first Pigeon to arrive was racing over the channel for the first time and was racing back to a 10 day old youngster in the nest.

The breeding of it was out of my Van Loon family which originated from Mr & Mrs Romani from West Yorkshire. I got 6 out of 8 home in a very testing race. All credit to the convoyers for getting them away on the race day otherwise it could have resulted in a long holdover, not the best time of the year for that. A little bit of panic when the bird arrived as on Wednesday midweek race I had 3 drop together and she did not register on the ETS so a quick look at the clock was required, but all was well.

After many years in administration in clubs, feds I have given up most offices to concentrate on racing my birds properly again, and have had a taste for National Racing again so I saved my yearling Cocks for 2018 and raced my yearling Hens in National Old Hens races so it was nice to get a little bit of early success.



Mick Worsfold

1st Section D Dennis Rusted & John Hayward from Baldock. This four year old hen has flown the channel many times, mainly in Old Hen Nationals. This season in the last month she was our 2nd pigeon from BICC Guernsey and our 2nd pigeon from NFC Coutances Old Hen National. For this race she was sent on a 14 day old youngster.



Dennis Rusted

2nd Section J John & John Brady from Benfleet. For the old hens race we had our 6 year old hen with the same blood lines as our young bird who has flown the channel many times to finish 5th Provisional. This was her last race.



John & John Brady

2nd Section D Dennis Smith from Bethnal Green. The yearling hen I timed was sent sitting 21 day pot eggs and has been a consistent hen for me this season being my first pigeon home from BICC Poitiers, BBC Coutances OB and now this race. She is bred down from my own family of Lerwick pigeons crossed with Jimmy Shepherd's and Dave Downing bloodlines.



Dennis Smith

1st Section E Alan & Cynthia Shore from Crewe. GB15A33715, Dark chequer hen is a Vandenaabeele cross. She has been a widowhood hen all season then trained with the young birds. She was my second bird home the previous week from the NFC and then sent to BBC Coutances Old hens race.



Alan Shore

2nd Section E is Paul Millward from Stone. My first timer is a 2 year old, raced as a youngster with no racing as a yearling. This season she was sent in the Stafford club young bird races for training and raced on widowhood. Her sire was bred by J & T. Barnett & Dtr, Telford being a son of The Palamos Cock a winner of 3rd Section, 65th Open Barcelona. 1st Section, 36th Open Palamos and 395th Open Tarbes. Her dam is a LPW Jan Aarden out of a son of Incredible & an inbred Grand daughter of True Grit.



Paul Millward

1st Section A is Derek Human from West Meon. Derek's hen has been a very consistent yearling in every race she has participated in. She is from Derek's old family of Cattrysse and was bred for him by son Adrian. Adrian is well known for his superb cock bird "Ramsdean Reliance" who was 5 times clocked from Palamos/ Barcelona over 6 seasons.



Derek Human

1st Section C is Melvyn Bird from Kimpton, Andover. Melvyn timed a 4 year old dark pied Van de Velde hen whose previous performance this season included 57th Open BBC Bordeaux.



Melvyn Bird



Lin Travers

1st & 2nd Section B is Lin Travers from Poole. Both birds GB16B10510 and GB16B10532 were bred out of our racing team and were sitting on 10 and 12 day old babies. This was their 9th Channel race this season. They arrived together during torrential rain.

We do not keep stock birds as we like all our birds to fly out every day. We work on the theory of early breeding, good feeding, plenty of training and lots of fresh air, sunshine and exercise every day.

We kept going with the old hens as our Fed transporter had an incident on the night of marking for the first YB race and looked like it would not be available for the season. At this point the BBC stepped in and helped, so I'd like to say a big thank you to the BBC Secretary, Clare, and her officers for arranging for the Dorset Fed to hire the BBC Supply Transporter with Driver/Convoyer Nigel Rigiani who I must say has a "glass is half full" attitude and nothing is a problem to him. And finally, I'd like to say a very big thank you to Mrs Jenny Mills (Fed President) and her husband Stuart who have kept the Fed going in some very troubled times.

2nd Section A is Martin & Kenny Attrill (J Attrill & Sons) from Southampton. This hen was previously 8th Section 14th Open Coutances Old Hens CSCFC, 1st Section 66th Open Coutances Old Hens NFC and now 2nd Section 21st Open BBC Coutances. She is off of a Sprint hen from our old family, her Grandsire won over 6 x 1st from Kingsdown, Exeter and Picauville. Hopefully a good bird for us in the future.



Kenny and Martin Attrill

Next up to Lin Travers in **Section B** is **John Halstead** with a chequer 3 year old daughter of Big Bucks when he was mated with a Southwell hen. She has been very lightly raced and this was the first time she had been first to the loft, possibly the 2 week old baby and looking at her mate was the added motivation.



John Halstead

2nd Section C Bruce Miller from Wanstrow. The pigeon clocked will be called Marley after my good friend the late Marley Westrop. The breeding is a Brockamp pigeon a Grandaughter to Euro Diamond from the 1st National Perpignan 06 pigeon.

I would like to thank Marley for all the mentoring over the years R.I.P my friend.



Bruce Miller & Chris Coles

Convoyers Report

8/9/17

After the 50 mile journey from Cherbourg to Coutances we set the lorry up under the canopy of the barn on site to shelter us from the driving rain that accompanied us all the way from the UK, and the birds were fed and watered. As the forecast had stated all week things did not look good for the weekend at all, we had heavy rain and strong winds for most of the night.

9/9/17

The morning dawned to sunshine and heavy showers coming from the North.

After phoning Clare and the other convoyers on the continent the picture from Cherbourg, Guernsey and Carentan was looking much better with clearing skies and moderate Westerly winds in the channel.

With the other convoys liberating around 08:00 we still had sunshine and showers and unable to safely liberate, but by 09:00 the skies had cleared to the North allowing us to lib at 09:05 with sun on the transporter, the birds cleared in one batch to the north east without hesitation.

The journey back to Cherbourg docks was bright and sunny but with strengthening winds and as we came over the hill looking down to Cherbourg docks we could see how rough the channel was and once at sea it proved to be the roughest crossing we had had in a long time.

This being the final race for the BBC I would like to sincerely thank all those who have helped this year, especially to John Garvey who came back from holiday to run the Penkrudge marking station and then go back to meet his wife and continue his holiday, now that's dedication for you. and finally to Clare, this has not been an easy year for her for a number of reasons but I am now pleased to say she has come through it all, well done Clare.

Nigel Rigiani



Dinner presentation Saturday 18th November. The prize presentation will be upon us before we know it. Anyone wishing to attend the dinner please contact me. Don't leave it too late as we had a full house last year. Ticket price is £35 per person. Accommodation can be booked with The Marsham Court Hotel on 01202 552111. Please mention the BBC when booking for reduced rates.

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