



THE HOME OF LONG DISTANCE PIGEON RACING

**Fougeres National  
1st Open 1<sup>st</sup> Section C  
Chris & Jane Howse from Devizes  
With “Lady J”**

The weather forecast for this race was not very promising long before this weekend, so Nigel and Bill made their way down to Messac with the convoy of 1600 + birds on the Friday morning knowing that the Saturday probably would be a hold over due to the conditions in the north of France on the Saturday. After conferring with other organizations in France Nigel and Roger made the decision to holdover on the Saturday. During Saturday afternoon weather checks were carried out again, and for Messac mist and fog was due on Sunday morning which can take a while to clear at Messac, so the decision was made to move the birds to Fougeres with a view to liberating on Sunday morning. When dawn broke on Sunday morning, the problem once again was the north of France, along the Peninsula and the Channel Islands. Slowly over the next couple of hours conditions were supposed to improve and the birds were liberated at 9am.

Many congratulations to our Winners of the Fougeres National **1<sup>st</sup> Open 1<sup>st</sup> Section C Chris & Jane Howse from Devizes**. We are very pleased to win this race on what turned out to be a very hard day. Our winning bird a hen now named “Lady J” is raced on the widowhood system, something we are trying for the first time this year! We never imagined we would win as they were coming well as a team but just off the pace.

She was one of our most consistent young birds last year winning 12<sup>th</sup> Section CSCFC Coutances and 12<sup>th</sup> Section NFC Coutances and Club positions.

Her sire is a son of one of our best birds “Stumpy” when paired to a daughter of Brian Milkins “Champion 30” paired to a daughter of “Drum” from Syndicate Lofts. The dam is a daughter of a cock that was 10<sup>th</sup> Open NFC Saintes from our old family when paired to a John Puddephatt hen who bred a bird to be 1<sup>st</sup> Section 5<sup>th</sup> Open CSCFC Pau.

All the hens are fed on Gerry plus with Superstar, we had a good race with 7/11 on the day and another the next morning.

We would like to thank everyone for the phone calls and messages on our win and also thanks to Paul Weems for taking our birds to the marking.



**Chris and Jane with Jay, Alfie, Layla, Toby and Archie**

In **2<sup>nd</sup> Open 2<sup>nd</sup> Section C** with a great performance clocking his single entry is Club mate to Chris Howse **Gordon Hancock from Devizes** with his yearling cock bird bred from a gift cock bird from Mick Rawlings of Broad Hinton.



**Gordon Hancock**



**1<sup>st</sup> Section A 3<sup>rd</sup> Open is Gordon & Pat Emm from Downton, Nr Salisbury.** This pigeon that has won the Section was a stray cock bird that came in to me last year which belonged to Mark Gilbert. Mark transferred him over to me and he has been flying very well since. His breeding is: on the sire's side J Hooymans "Inteelt Harry" x P Veenstra "Broer Dolce Vita". The dam's side is Hardy Kruger "Da Vinci" and "Catwoman"

I always keep my pigeons in good health as I always use my microscope to check for any diseases. I feed my birds on Hormoform, Gerry's Plus and Country Wide. I'm very grateful to my wife Pat for all her hard work, you can't beat a good woman and she works very hard for the pigeon sport. Once again I'd like to thank Clare for all her hard work and support.



Gordon & Pat Emm with Great Grandsons Theo and Reubyn

**1<sup>st</sup> Section B 4<sup>th</sup> Open is Clive Harrison from Dorchester.** Firstly I wish to congratulate Chris Howse and his wife on winning, and the other Section winners on their performances on what proved to be a stiff but fair day. I would also like to thank Nigel for giving us a race on a weekend when other organisations capitulated at the prospects of indifferent conditions.

My Section winner now called Hardy Frank is a Blue Widowhood cock one of three of my 6 entries I timed on the day. His sire is a cock from my very good friend, and former partner Frank Fournier of Bridport and a hen from Tony Cowan's Nazareth bloodlines. I feed Willsbridge Super Widowhood mix with CO2 in the drinkers.



Clive Harrison



Rob Jones



**2<sup>nd</sup> Section A 5<sup>th</sup> Open is Rob Jones of Bartlett & Jones from Southampton.** Firstly, a big congratulations to Chris on winning 1<sup>st</sup> Open on what has been a nightmare season with massive losses from silly short races for Chris and myself from this race in particular. Also congratulations to the many Wiltshire Federation members dominating this result with 9 birds in the top 15 of the open and having a great season National and Classic racing.

Now on to my race. This is one of the worst races I have ever had with my ETS failing on my first arrival and only getting 4 out of 15 home on the day with no more home when writing this piece. My first bird is a yearling cock flown Natural Hood sitting 12 days. This is his 5<sup>th</sup> channel race of the year and has never been far away from the first birds home. He is bred from a 12 year old Direct Wal Zoontjen being sire to many top birds including 1<sup>st</sup> Section NFC Saintes 3<sup>rd</sup> Open for the Late Tony Hayward from Sandhurst. The Dam is mother to 3<sup>rd</sup> Solent fed 1<sup>st</sup> Hampshire 2 Bird Championship Club being a G/ Dtr of 1<sup>st</sup> Olympiad bird "New Freddy" the famous racer breeder at "PIPA" All birds are trained regular from Fontwell with the help from Nigel Langstaff or Wincanton depending on the wind giving them around a 40 mile toss. They are fed on a mixture of Marimans - Versa Laga and all birds get the full range of AVIFORM products which I swear by.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Section B 6<sup>th</sup> Open Ray Dibben from Poole.** I would like to say well done to everyone who clocked a pigeon, in what was a very testing race. The first pigeon I clocked was a Jan Aarden cross Busschaert, which originated from Louella lofts and was raced on the widowhood system. He has been a very consistent pigeon and has taken many cards in the Channel racing with the BBC, CSCFC and the NFC.



Ray Dibben

**Mr & Mrs Terry and Jan Anderson of Poole are 7<sup>th</sup> Open.** Firstly we'd like to congratulate Chris and Jane Howse for winning what turned out to be a very hard race. Our two year old chequer cock was bred from birds purchased from Mark Gower of Fordingbridge. The bird was flown natural and had been sitting 15 days on eggs. This was his 3<sup>rd</sup> Channel race this year. We have had a good few weeks winning two Club races and 4<sup>th</sup> Section B from BBC Coutances this year. On top of this we took 2<sup>nd</sup> Section in last year's CSCFC from Bergerac.



Terry & Jan Anderson



Frank Quinn and Frankie



Another Club mate to our winners is **Frank Quinn from Devizes in 8<sup>th</sup> Open**. This Chequer cock is a very consistent bird and 100% Wilf Reed breeding of Monmouth. His best results is in 2016 2<sup>nd</sup> Section 52<sup>nd</sup> Open Grand National Tarbes. Unfortunately last year he came back from the NFC Messac race badly hawked so was finished for the year. This season Fougères was his 3<sup>rd</sup> race, it was a funny race and I did not expect it to be so hard. I only had 7 out of 21 on the day. Let's all hope the rest make it home. Best wishes to all who got them.

**9<sup>th</sup> Open is Bryan Woods of Shaftesbury**. GB15N7078. My Blue Chequer Soontjens cock is the Grandson of Super Girl, a prolific winner.

As a youngster and yearling he raced consistently with the Dorset Fed, NFC, BBC and CSCFC. 29<sup>th</sup> April 2017 he topped the Dorset Fed from Carenten, 7<sup>th</sup> May 2017 he was 15<sup>th</sup> Open 3<sup>rd</sup> Section from Coutances with the CSCFC, 20<sup>th</sup> May 31<sup>st</sup> Open 2<sup>nd</sup> Section with the NFC from Fougères. During the 2017/2018 winter he was hawked flying round the loft by our local Peregrine and has taken a while to settle down, however he has started to shine again with the result from Fougères last Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> Open, 4<sup>th</sup> Section B.



Bryan Woods

**10<sup>th</sup> Open is Paul Weems from Chippenham**. Firstly, I would like to congratulate Chris and Jane Howse on their win on a very hard and testing race also congratulations to Gordon Hancock on 2<sup>nd</sup> Open with only sending one pigeon fantastic flying, well done Gordon.

My first pigeon Chunky's red kite, I've called him that as when he came he was gliding around like a kite. Is a Eric Ceulemen cross flown on roundabout.

Can I also congratulate all the other section winners and even fanciers who clocked on such a hard race hasn't been best year for channel racing with everyone losing top and experienced pigeons as I write this I have 11/21 sent and 16 pigeons left out of 46 started with at beginning of season. Time to concentrate on the babies.



Paul Weems



Frank Quinn, Paul Weems, Chris Howse & Gordon Hancock



**1<sup>st</sup> Section E** flying 325 miles in to **Stoke on Trent is Ken Pettitt**. What can I say about Ken Pettitt that I have not already said. He is a semi retired farmer who was hay making whilst his birds made their way back home to the lofts. His loyal wife Shirley was on look out and soon had one bird timed which she rang through. Ken had another a short time later and nothing since. Ken has prepared his birds an unorthodox way this year. They are separated and he thought he was sending to the race point but discovered they were only being taken about 5 miles away. So his birds first race was the previous BBC race two short training tosses and then straight into this race. His first bird Ken describes him as one of the best pigeons he has ever owned. Last year he thought he had lost him but he returned after being missing for a while covered in oil and his tail feathers missing. This cock has won the Fed across the channel twice along with other prizes. He is a Vandenabeele which he bred himself. His second bird is a blue chequer hen of Walter Docx again bred himself. Ken is disappointed in his returns today but is pleased with his win and congratulates the winner of this race. (thank you to Michael Burden for the information)



Ken Pettitt's birds

**1<sup>st</sup> Section D is Roger Lowe from Reading.** 1<sup>st</sup> bird is a yearling widowhood cock bred from the racing widowhood hens and is a Heinz 57. The sire being Diamond Supreme from Mark Gilbert's International Winner Southfield Supreme when paired to My Little Diamond 1<sup>st</sup> NFC winner in her only ever race. Dam of the sire is Blue Supreme grand daughter of Supreme. Dam of my first bird is a racing widowhood hen winner of a few prizes including 24<sup>th</sup> Section 91<sup>st</sup> Open BBC Bordeaux and 14<sup>th</sup> Section 87<sup>th</sup> Open CSCFC Coutances Great Grand daughter of New Laureaat Winner of 1<sup>st</sup> International Barcelona owned by Batenberg van da Merge and Pipa. My 2<sup>nd</sup> bird a yearling widowhood hen inbred to My Little Diamond. Sire is Diamond Che bred by Crammond and Langstaff from Platinum Che son of Eijerkamps Che when paired to a daughter of My Little Diamond. Dam of second bird is Gold Ring inbred daughter of My Little Diamond when paired to her son Main Man winner of many prizes including 1<sup>st</sup> Fed plus 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Open Saintes NFC and sire to many winners like his mother which has bred winners with every cock she been

paired to including 1<sup>st</sup> NFC national.

I would just like to say well done to all the winners on a very trying day.



Roger Lowe

Next to Roger in **Section D** is **Dave Hawthorne from Tadley**. Firstly I would like to congratulate Chris and Jane Howse on their win. Well done to Roger Lowe on winning Section D and all other Section winners. I would like to mention Keith Gosling and Mick Jarvis on a good weekend racing being 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Section J Fougères and 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Section ES 6<sup>th</sup> open Poitiers on Saturday and winning their club race from Carentan all against an east wind. Thanks also to Stewart Guy for taking my birds to the marking station.

I have called my chequer pied hen Beth in memory of our friend's granddaughter who at the age of 16 passed away after losing her battle against cancer at the beginning of May this year.

My hen was sent sitting dummy eggs. So far this year she has flown Coutances with the CSCFC and Alençon with the BICC.

All my birds are raced natural and when possible have an open loft during the day. They are fed on Gem mixes and farm tic beans. Her breeding on the sire side is Van Coppernolle/Southwell and a cross of my own family. The dam is a Bricoux gifted to me by John Farrer of Church Crookham. I think the Southwell blood line gives my birds that bit extra on hard days. Her g/sire has flown Pau/Tarbes three times and was 14<sup>th</sup> Section 82<sup>nd</sup> open Bordeaux, her g/dam was 4<sup>th</sup> Section 290<sup>th</sup> open Tarbes with NFC. Her nest mate was 26<sup>th</sup> Section 98<sup>th</sup> open Bordeaux as a yearling.





Dave Hawthorne & Dave's Hen

**2<sup>nd</sup> Section E is Chris Whittingham from Wheaton Aston, Stafford.** This blue pied hen was bred by Dave Harris from his good Busschaerts. She's flew the channel 3 times this year then came the bigun. Chris only sent the one to get 20<sup>th</sup> Open 2<sup>nd</sup> Section. What more can you ask for a marvellous achievement. Well done Chris. (thank you to John Whittingham for the information).

Chris is now 81 years young and still as keen about the birds as ever, rising very early in the morning to take his own and his Club mate's birds training three times a week. Altogether he has about 60 birds and the BBC is now the only National Club he races in plus his local Clubs.



Chris Whittingham

**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Section is Mr & Mrs Tony & Carol Welch of Chichester.** Tony and Carol would like to congratulate Chris Howse on Winning 1<sup>st</sup> Open BBC Fougères on a very tough day. Tony and Carol only fly a small team of pigeons to their small pigeon loft. Tony never paired his pigeons up this year as he was not breeding any young birds so his cocks and hens have been kept separate and only go together on the return from a race. His pigeons are schooled along the coast with the South Coast Fed and once fit are only sent to BBC, NFC, and BICC races. His birds are fed on Gerry Plus, Best All Round and plenty of Conditioning seed. The partnership's first bird was a gift bird from Crammond & Langstaff out of their race team from the bloodlines of Darran Mcfadden Megan's Boy 4<sup>th</sup> Open LSECC Tarbes, Razors Girl 1<sup>st</sup> Open LSECC Tarbes and Pau Princess 2<sup>nd</sup> Int Pau on the sire's side and on the dam's side bloodlines Crammond & Langstaff New Laureaat 1<sup>st</sup> Int Barcelona x Monar 1<sup>st</sup> Int Narbonne. Their second Pigeon again was gifted by Crammond & Langstaff out of their race team this time from bloodlines Starlight 2<sup>nd</sup> Int Tarbes, Melissa 1<sup>st</sup> Int Agen and Pau Princess 2<sup>nd</sup> Pau on the sire's side and New Laureaat 1<sup>st</sup> Int Barcelona x Monar 1<sup>st</sup> Narbonne on the dam's side. Tony has five birds home from a team of ten but he loves tough challenging days.





Tony Welch



Barry Aldridge

Following Tony and Carol in **Section G** is **Mr & Mrs Barry Aldridge from Brighton**. This chequer pied cock has been a very good bird for me. Last year he was 2<sup>nd</sup> Section Messac and this year he's been 1<sup>st</sup> Club Messac only sending the one bird and now 3<sup>rd</sup> Section Fougères. I sent 5 birds to this race and clocked 2 on a very hard day and have a third one this morning. I'd like to thank the BBC Race Controllers for doing a great job and congratulate all section winners on their performances.

**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Section J is Keith Gosling & Mick Jarvis from Mountnessing**. The partnership timed two widowhood hens, the first being a yearling blue hen this was her third Channel race this season previously flown Coutances and Messac as a young bird. She was 5<sup>th</sup> Federation Poole and 17<sup>th</sup> Section 34<sup>th</sup> National 3<sup>rd</sup> Gold ring BBC National Coutances. Her sire was son of the partnerships champion Ria in order of performance 26<sup>th</sup> Section 99<sup>th</sup> LSEC 4<sup>th</sup> breeder buyer Vire 139<sup>th</sup> Section 256<sup>th</sup> NFC Fougères 44<sup>th</sup> Section 66<sup>th</sup> LSEC Carentan 9<sup>th</sup> Section 50<sup>th</sup> LSEC Alencon 17<sup>th</sup> Section 33<sup>rd</sup> BBC Fougères 48<sup>th</sup> Section 79<sup>th</sup> BICC Le Mans 26<sup>th</sup> Section 147<sup>th</sup> BICC Alencon 112<sup>th</sup> Section 295<sup>th</sup> BBC Messac 15<sup>th</sup> Section 21<sup>st</sup> BICC Guernsey 2<sup>nd</sup> Section 4<sup>th</sup> BBC Fougères 59<sup>th</sup> Section 170<sup>th</sup> BICC Le Mans 24<sup>th</sup> Section 33<sup>rd</sup> BICC Guernsey 91<sup>st</sup> Section 257<sup>th</sup> BICC Alencon. Her dam was bred by WLG a daughter of Rebel 1<sup>st</sup> Combine and twice 2<sup>nd</sup> Combine and Miss Magic 1<sup>st</sup> Combine twice 2<sup>nd</sup> Combine 5<sup>th</sup> Combine 6<sup>th</sup> Combine. The partnerships second timing was a very good racing four year old blue hen also having her third Chanel race. She is a top performer both in Channel and inland racing having previously won inland 1<sup>st</sup> Eastbourne 1<sup>st</sup> Purbeck 2<sup>nd</sup> Bedhampton 3<sup>rd</sup> Littlehampton 4<sup>th</sup> Poole and Channel 8<sup>th</sup> Coutances 29<sup>th</sup> Fougères 32<sup>nd</sup> Fougères 118<sup>th</sup> Poitiers. Both

her parents were purchased from the Successful Belgium partnership of Roger and Eddy Grootjans both hens were flown on widowhood but were introduced to their cocks on Tuesday evening prior to basketing being called to nest when basketed. They will now lay and sent to their next race sitting eggs. The partnership feed a mixture of VL super widowhood and Liege. The partnership competed in three chanel races over the weekend and were provisional 2<sup>nd</sup> Section 6<sup>th</sup> National BICC Poitiers the day before and 1<sup>st</sup> Club Carentan same day as Fougères.



Mick Jarvis & Keith Gosling

**1<sup>st</sup> Section H is Willy Healy from St Helier, Jersey.** This is my 2 year old blue bar cock, he was sent sitting on eight day old eggs. This is his second race win this year. He was bred from Robbie Thomas of the Jones & Thomas partnership from the Wirral through my friend Terry Rix from Birkenhead.

Congratulations to the winner and hope all other birds arrived home safely. Best Wishes to the fanciers from my home town in Kilsyth, Scotland and a special thank you to Clare Norman.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Section H is Nigel Legg (R Legg & Son) from Castel, Guernsey.** My pigeon is a blue 3 year old cock having his third race of the season flown roundabout. He was a gift egg from Roger Phillips of Patrick Van den Abele lines. A very consistent pigeon that I was pleased to see even though he was a little late in the afternoon due to thick fog and no sun covering the Island during the day.





Willy Healy



Nigel Legg

### **Coutances National Winners**

**R J Lowe (D720)** – The Norman Fysh Memorial Trophy, The Hyatts Trophy.  
**Sherman & Wells (D168)** – The Ernie Rivett Memorial Trophy.

**Section Winners are:** Each Section Winner will receive a Medal.

**A – M/M D Waterhouse (A182), B – C Lake (B806), C – P Newton (C556),  
D – R J Lowe (D720), E – M Hughes (E347), G – J M Armitage (G676),  
J – M Bulled (J58)**

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