

Messac National

1st Open 1st Section C Graham Clift & George Harding Of Tirley

Unbelievable to think that it has been three years since the BBC lorry made the journey across the English channel to France. Considering how hard old bird racing has been this year, we were pleased with the birdage of just over 1200 pigeons sent by 133 members.

Higham marking station proved to be a big success with the help from Kevin Foster and his team who agreed to run the marking station so we could try and encourage our members on the East side to send. Fingers crossed this can continue for the future.

Thank you to all our other marking stations as well, Alan and Jill Webber for running Steventon and Sue & Alan Thompson & everyone at Frome, some of whom have not encountered the new Channel racing procedures before. Special mention to Clive Merrills & Shane and Clive & Jill Rogers who helped with transporting the Steventon and Frome birds to Southampton.

(Race & Weather Advisors – Steve and Mark) - The birds were liberated at 6.00am under clear blue skies clearing the race point immediately in one batch. Winds at the site are very light with an easterly influence, but will change to southerly over the channel and then to south westerly over the English mainland. The channel is clear with good visibility.

Congratulations to our race winners **Graham Clift and George Harding of Tirley 1st Open 1st Section C**. Clift & Harding partnership was formed in 2021 after George's house move to a bungalow with a small garden not suitable to race birds from.

Previously George raced and had our stock birds at his previous address which extended to 3 acres but became too much to maintain hence the move.

We have been life long friends and also raced in partnership many years ago.

The loft at Tirley consists of mainly long distance pigeons but we have introduced some sprint/middle distance birds recently to be more competitive in the shorter races.

The provisional Messac winner is inbred to Champion Izzy who won 4th CSCFC Pau, 1st CSCFC Pau, 2nd CSCFC Tarbes, 16th NFC Tarbes, RPRA Award winner - all at distances 593 - 604 miles for Rob Kerr, she was sold at his entire clearance sale.

She is very well bred her g/parents on the sire's side is a brother of Mark Gilbert's Southfield Junior when paired to the dam of Izzy.

Her g/parents on the dam's side a son of Fabia Rob Rome's great racer who won the car in the NFC Tarbes race 2015 plus many other positions when paired to a daughter of Izzy.

Both the dam & daughter of Izzy was kindly loaned to us by Alen Gibb of Gloucester.

Like many others we have lost some really good channel pigeons in the easterly winds this year including two of our three good pigeons that scored from Tarbes in the NFC race last year, so winning the BBC has given us a real boost.

We race the birds on the chaos system never pair them up until the end of the season [as a reward] they are fed of Verselle Laga Superstar plus young and old birds all season.

Our thanks to all the workers at the marking station, the race controller and Clare Norman who has been an excellent secretary for many years.

Finally well done to Charlton Kings members who featured well in the result and all who clocked good pigeons including our mate Pete Barlow who is provisionally 3rd Open he has had a great season in the National races this year.



George Harding & Graham Clift

1st Section A 2nd Open JJ Schoeman of Andover. Firstly I would like to congratulate Graham Clift on winning the race and all the other Section winners.

This 4 year old hen I timed to win the Section and take 2nd Open has once again done us proud. She is a pigeon I gifted to my Mother in Law Shirley May and is the same hen who three weeks ago was 1st Section 9th Open in the BBC from Guernsey, being Samson/ Better than Bolt bloodlines.

2nd Section C 3rd Open Pete Barlow of Coombe Hill. My provisional 3rd Open pigeon is a 2 year old roundabout hen sent on a big youngster. Three weeks ago her mother was 10th Open BBC Guernsey. Her sire is a Martin Williams pigeon bred from stock purchased years ago.

Congratulations to club mates and good friends George & Graham on winning the race and all section winners.

4th Open 3rd Section C Darryl Cousins of Melksham. I would like to congratulate Clift & Harding for winning the open and all the section winners.

My first bird is a 5 year old hen who was sent sitting 10 days, she is bred from pigeons that were given to me by Paul Weems of Chippenham, consisting of his lines and also lines from the late Ernie Smith. I had 7 of my 8 entries back which I was happy with on what seemed to be a tough race.



JJ Schoeman



Pete Barlow



Darryl Cousins

1st Section G 5th Open Mick & Lyn Chaplin of Woking. I congratulate the winner of this hard race and am pleased that I have 5 of my 7 entries back. The section winner is a 5 year old widowhood cock. This was his 18th time across the channel and his 45th race overall. He has been very consistent in the BBC/BICC/NFC previously having 8 positions in the top 200 including a 2nd, 4th and 5th section. As a YB he won 2 x 1st, and is bred from our No1 stock pair of Burgher Wildermeersch who are responsible for most of our winners.

1st Section J Mark Bulled of Harlow. Well done to Graham Clift on his fine win, and thank you to Kevin Foster on running a very well organised and friendly station at Higham. I'll be back for Bordeaux. It's been a very difficult year for channel racing. My team that has raced successfully north the past 2 seasons were completely turned south with good performances inland, but the NE winds on the channel soon took their toll resulting in losses of some very good pigeons.

Negotiating the team has been like a game of chess, so it was a pleasant surprise in timing an early bird from Messac, and what I think will be the first 5 in the Section.

My Section Winner and 6th Open is a yearling hen from my old Red Bull family, very consistent but this her first position of note. She was trying for her life and is out on her own this side of the country. She is raced on my version of the jealousy/chaos/natural system that has been successful for me with hens from France.

Thank you to Clare for her continuous hard work and those that helped get channel racing back. There really isn't anything like it.



Mick & Lyn Chaplin



Mark Bulled

7th Open 2nd Section G John May of Chichester. Firstly congratulations to the winner and section winners. The pigeon clocked is a yearling hen raced on roundabout widowhood, she has been a very consistent hen winning 1st Section A, 16th open NFC 1489 birds YB, also 71st Open National 4,639 birds this season, with some top club and federation positions as well. She is a granddaughter of May Pigeons Racing and Breeding Centre's "Spiderman" who is a responsible for over 500 x 1st winners, and is a son of the famous couple "Rossi" x "Spinneke", making him a full brother to the world famous "Nieuwe Rossi".

8th Open 2nd Section A Jimmy Wearn & Erik Neilson of Ramsdean. Our first bird timed is a yearling was bred down from Wall, Lunt & Green.



The May Family



Erik Neilson & Friends

9th Open Steve Thorpe of Swindon. I would like to congratulate the winners & everyone on result in what proved to be another hard race from the channel.

My 9th Open 4th Section winner was a dark ch hen a Cuelman X Vervoort bred for me by Frank & George Bristow of Hobling.

1st Section D 10th Open Ricky Turner of Aylesbury. I like to thank the BBC for putting this race on. My first bird has been an excellent pigeon for me so far this year, topping the Fed for me from Wadebridge. The sire is my good racer number 71, 5 x first Feds, 13 times in the top 10 of Fed, bred by Darren May. The dam is from my good mate Mick Carrick which carries Peter Fox lines.

I would like to thank the members in my club who help me train and take me to the club, Frank Elliston Trevor Griffiths and Graham Jones, thanks lads.

So far I've had a fantastic season topping the Fed 6 times 5 weeks on the bounce. I don't keep a big team 20 cocks to start with and 27 young birds.

I would also like to thank Darren May especially as since I've brought his pigeons in I can't go wrong with them, thanks mate.

2nd Section D Steve & Paul Kulpa of Reading. Firstly well done to the winners and Ricky for winning the section.

We clocked a 2 year old Hereman ceuster x Lambrecht cock to be 2nd section D. The sire was bred by ourselves for stock out of our original pair of Eijerkamp bred Hereman ceuster stock pair, Bruno & Casandra. The dam is Red Lady, one of our top Cyril Lambrecht breeding hens, she is responsible for club and fed winners for us.

A tougher than expected race for us, the early birds made good time but they stopped early afternoon with returns only being 9/20 by Sunday lunchtime which we were quite disappointed with.

All our birds are fed on versele laga corn and aviform products in the water.



Steve Thorpe



Ricky Turner & 1st Section D



Steve & Paul Kulpa

1st Section B Tony Cottrell (Cottrell, Richmond & Rogers) of Wimborne. 2021 bred Blue Pied Hen now known as MERRIFIELD DONNA was bred by Justin Rogers at BOSLIVEN LOFTS.

She's flown consistently north and south on the roundabout chaos system but like some of the other hens she's started laying. She couldn't go to NFC last week as laid so went here instead. My dog Scrumpy followed me in the loft as always and devoured her eggs on the Tues and not noticed until Wednesday morning. I quickly put a nest and handful of pot eggs on the grills where the eggs had been. They showed no interest but finally that evening Donna sat them again.

On the day of the race I sat with a friend who had not seen a race etc since her Dad John Bonwick passed in the 1990's.

She was delighted to see the hen come high to the north east but flying with purpose. I felt I needed one by 10.30 to be a good one so felt she'd put on a good shift. I told my friend if she wins anything I'll name her after you as you bought me luck so hence the name Donna. I only sent 4 and it was a tough day again and not a team performance but got 3 of the 4 home including the 2nd one some 3 hours behind with a peregrine up her backside.

Merrifield Donnas breeding is as follows. Sire: Inbred double grandson of ROSSI. Dam: Inbred double granddaughter of the EURO. She's a full sister to Gary Jacobs NFC winner.

Congratulations to the winners and section winners, the marking teams and Clare for putting up with me as I'm always getting something wrong !! At least the birds did something right.

Till the next time, remember Motivation and Observation, keep them flying



Tony Cottrell

2nd & 3rd Section B Robbie Hooper of Poole. I have flown my birds on the north road for the last two seasons, so I didn't know what to expect from this race, this hen has been flying on the chaos system this season. Also my second bird was also a chaos hen which will be well up in the section.

This is my third second section this year. Congratulations to my club mate Tony Cottrell on winning the section.

2nd Section J John & Theresa Gladwin & Jarvis of Leigh on Sea. My first pigeon is a yearling cock. He is Frans Zwols x long distance lines. Sire is 65 who was a top racing cock for John Cowlin from our best Frans Zwols bloodlines. With the other side being down from a pigeon called Joe Jones which was raced and owned by H&P Archibald and was the sister of the Proof. Both of these hens were super hens at the distance for Heath. He was 9th Section from Guernsey in the BBC 3 weeks ago.

I would like to say a big well done to all the section and open winners, on another tough day.



Robbie Hooper



John & Theresa Gladwin & Jarvis Cock bird

1st & 2nd Section E Dean Jones of Boston. My section winner is a 3 year old cock, bred with Padfield's blood lines on both sides. Being a grandson of Padfield's St Vincent and Padfield's Vince. He previously had several inland races with the Peterborough Central Fed and went to BICC Alencon and will now be entered for BBC Bordeaux.

My 2nd section bird is a 5 year old hen, grand daughter of champion De-Cas, champion Ceessie and champion Black Shadow. All champions from Barcelona. She previously went to several inland races and then went to BICC St Maixent-Ecole. She returned home hawked.

All birds return home in top condition in very testing conditions. At present I have 8 out of the 15 I sent.



Dean Jones

Telephone and Website verifications which may be subject to change

<i>Open</i>	<i>Mem No</i>	<i>Flying Name</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>Ring Number</i>	<i>A-A-T</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Velocity</i>
1	C454	Clift & Harding	Tirley	GB21N01458	286	459 11 58 31	1 1405.288
2	A486	J J Schoeman	Andover	GB19V35476	234	152 10 57 19	1 1385.701
3	C223	P Barlow	Coombe Hill	GB21N09846	285	377 12 2 35	1 1384.446
4	C90	D Cousins	Melksham	GB18N43188	246	349 11 18 15	1 1361.537
5	G120	M/M Chaplin	Woking	GB18N49661	248	1307 11 23 7	1 1354.888
6	J58	M Bulled	Harlow	GB22A78092	284	1360 12 13 40	1 1341.302
7	G411	J May & Son	Chichester	GB22N23703	213	961 10 40 40	1 1339.101
8	A122	Wearn Bros 1 &	Ramsdean	GB22N23312	222	571 10 52 31	1 1337.671
9	C826	S Thorpe	Swindon	GB21Z52336	259	1409 11 41 52	1 1337.507
10	D118	R Turner	Aylesbury	GB22N60771	279	137 12 8 24	1 1333.271
11	D201	S & P Kulpa	Reading	GB21N24055	252	1656 11 35 22	1 1327.431
12	D410	D Crick & Son	Luton	GB21B05948	289	260 12 23 52	1 1325.721
13	D720	R J Lowe	Reading	GB22N05546	255	560 11 38 59	1 1325.611
14	C369	Booth & Roper	Tewkesbury	GB21N36066	289	1298 12 24 57	1 1324.686
15	B729	Cottrell Richmond &	Wimborne	GB21N79056	206	1251 10 35 56	1 1318.474
16	A172	M Bradley	Fareham	GB21N38139	210	467 10 41 12	1 1316.028
17	A887	Williams & White	Southampton	GB21V56413	212	101 10 44 0	1 1314.158
18	A182	M/M D Waterhouse	Bedhampton	GB22N17221	212	1308 10 46 9	1 1308.503
19	D55	M/M D Beasley & L	Reading	GB22D83765	254	84 11 41 59	1 1307.444
20	D435	P J Wells	Dunstable	GB21H41978	286	343 12 26 17	1 1303.973
21	C211	Clive & Jill Rogers &	Writhlington	GB22X26889	241	278 11 26 45	1 1298.969
22	B689	R Hooper	Poole	GB22A62147	200	1355 10 33 57	1 1289.852
23	G83	T S Sparks & P Dallas	Gravesend	WHU22D28019	267	476 12 7 38	1 1279.525
24	A300	R S Harbour (Loft 2)	Brading	GB22N51665	199	985 10 36 40	1 1269.488
25	C610	M Williams	Hereford	GB22N70357	293	1237 12 50 4	1 1260.568
26	C38	D & J Staddon	Shepton	GB21B01121	230	676 11 24 33	1 1249.348
27	D438	Dennis Baker	Maidenhead	GB19N45511	260	1531 12 8 50	1 1244.820
28	D1043	J F Haynes	Maidenhead	GB21N88060	257	1685 12 6 26	1 1238.984
29	J292	Gladwin & Jarvis	Leigh on Sea	GB22N46745	281	1656 12 41 57	1 1234.522
30	D677	Mr & Mrs A Webber &	Abingdon	GB20D10834	266	333 12 20 12	1 1232.228
31	G400	M/M May & Son	West Ashling	B21-6048516	213	1449 11 6 4	1 1229.565
32	B689	R Hooper	Poole	GB21R16541	200	1355 10 48 22	1 1225.367
33	J644	D Heywood & Son	Basildon	GB20E09773	278	1162 12 40 23	1 1224.931
34	B685	Mr & Mrs N Smith	Salisbury	GB19N43964	225	382 11 25 7	1 1219.199
35	J545	Topp & Mann	Rayleigh	GB22D24231	282	315 12 50 52	1 1208.750
36	C116	P Duckett	Highbridge	GB19N45049	238	1674 11 48 22	1 1207.217
37	D81	Catalin Anghelache	Farnborough	GB21D32289	245	178 11 57 35	1 1206.371
38	C405	A Sinclair	Swindon	GB19N15529	261	1340 12 23 58	1 1199.844
39	B16	Lanahan & Gerard	Poole	GB22C46519	204	1243 11 0 30	1 1198.945
40	B323	C Bartlett	Salisbury	GB20H36964	225	890 11 32 26	1 1193.894
41	G258	B & J Gumbrill	Barnes Green	GB22B13767	230	497 11 39 46	1 1192.869
42	B85	M/M M Gower	Fordingbridge	GB19N26458	216	961 11 19 44	1 1191.996
43	A525	W Edwards & P Harris	Gosport	GB21N01101	208	1655 11 9 43	1 1187.327
44	C144	P Weems	Chippenham	GB22N64977	251	44 12 13 53	1 1181.663
45	C425	S Hughes	Swindon	GB18N14078	259	1576 12 27 12	1 1181.343
46	D123	G & M Bicknell	Reading	GB22N31986	255	218 12 20 22	1 1180.487
47	C186	Mr & Mrs Hodges	Templecombe	GB20N21307	222	1139 11 35 47	1 1167.000
48	A82	Berry & Matthews	New Milton	GB21N14574	203	823 11 6 56	1 1166.713
49	B11	Harp & Pearse	Poole	GB21N01480	201	1460 11 4 31	1 1166.504
50	B345	J Clapcott	Poole	GB17F15876	200	1202 11 3 15	1 1164.722
51	C1140	C & J Howse	Devizes	GB18N77337	241	1005 12 6 2	1 1161.547
52	A202	P Fyfield	Borden	GB21N23185	232	1002 11 52 57	1 1159.717
53	G598	Malik & Khan	Tolworth	GB22N10014	254	1424 12 26 52	1 1159.221
54	C94	Mr & Mrs Fairfax & L	Langport	GB17N12887	229	1651 11 50 26	1 1154.830
55	A395	M Shipp	Bedhampton	GB18N13921	212	1432 11 26 15	1 1148.052
56	B196	N & D Spracklen	Dorchester	GB17N56307	201	1339 11 12 50	1 1135.106
57	G816	F Hall & Dtrs	Worthing	GB22N69427	217	1718 11 39 9	1 1131.175
58	B355	J P Halstead	Gillingham	GB18N54914	220	883 11 43 39	1 1129.297
59	G251	N Jones	Sandwich	GB15F14071	276	1033 13 14 48	1 1119.579
60	B1220	G Glaze	Shaftesbury	GB17X47043	220	1312 11 52 16	1 1102.892
61	J154	D Hunt	Great	GB20B06410	292	448 13 47 20	1 1100.645

62	C340	B J Millard	Bristol	GB17N83498	243	1514	12	30	18	1	1099.652
63	G900	D Reid	Weybridge	GB21N15061	252	939	12	45	35	1	1095.851
64	B96	Mr & Mrs L Cowley	Dorchester	WHU22D21642	204	559	11	29	36	1	1091.016
65	G184	Brunger & Warner	Billingshurst	GB22N32040	229	769	12	10	18	1	1090.491
66	D498	The Rostrons	Thatcham	GB20N67993	254	1540	12	51	46	1	1089.403
67	A207	D & K Jones	Havant	GB20N62589	213	882	11	57	16	1	1051.769
68	C329	S Slade	Calne	GB22N16422	250	317	13	1	0	1	1045.884
69	E250	D Jones	Boston	GB20B60285	367	1759	16	24	41	1	1036.812
70	G67	M/M S Rhodes	Aylesham	GB21B01546	271	841	13	41	4	1	1036.295
71	J189	M & D Allen	Hockley	GB22D24277	284	806	14	5	49	1	1030.525
72	G106	L & K Buddle	Dover	GB22V14303	267	1671	13	40	10	1	1024.827
73	C77	Mr & Mrs M & C	Hungerford	GB22D04349	251	1621	13	13	45	1	1022.204
74	B158	Owers Brothers	Bere Regis	GB19N78194	202	1413	11	53	0	1	1011.142
75	D142	C Harrison Brothers	Richmond	GB21N62011	261	33	13	36	18	1	1006.778
76	J4	Mr & Mrs S Wakerley	Basildon	GB22N70816	277	1078	14	16	43	1	983.655
77	A240	T Willis	Niton	GB22N31618	192	1210	11	46	56	1	977.508
78	C70	P A Sarahs	Swindon	GB21N59412	257	1641	13	45	29	1	975.247
79	B328	A Parsons	Salisbury	GB22N12556	226	253	13	5	10	1	936.134
80	G128	Sallis, Rushman,	Hove	FR22-339215	222	303	13	1	6	1	928.575
81	C706	Mr & Mrs S & V	Peasedown	GB18C37574	243	18	13	44	55	1	919.946
82	G516	M/M S Howard	Guildford	GB17E04306	243	113	13	46	28	1	917.092
83	G178	Mr & Mrs J Cheverst	Gravesend	GB22N77246	267	1065	14	33	57	1	916.402
84	A140	G R Pinhorn & Son	Portsmouth	GB22C17194	211	1305	12	56	49	1	894.074
85	G220	SR & WH Knox	Canterbury	GB19F16610	273	720	15	21	46	1	856.583
86	C227	B Holley	Frome	GB15E10513	234	1497	14	11	45	1	840.543
87	A193	J R Etherington	Waterlooville	GB22N25028	215	907	13	49	34	1	807.781
88	C1013	Dickson Brothers	Sharpness	GB19V57009	270	971	15	51	6	1	805.568
89	A22	P Stowell	Basingstoke	GB18N23853	238	619	14	44	50	1	799.299
90	C686	K J Palmer	South	GB16A23053	259	1653	15	32	27	1	799.184
91	B502	D Vincent	Axminster	GB20N21366	211	857	14	15	10	1	751.700
92	A173	D Wells	Liphook	GB22N50053	229	953	15	30	26	1	708.221
93	J744	J Cowlin	Hockley	GB20P28989	284	1612	17	51	41	1	704.600
94	B153	P Murrell	Poole	GB21R16904	202	352	14	33	16	1	693.347
95	A792	B Bate	Lovedean	GB22N44499	216	859	18	52	36	1	493.165

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