

Tarbes National
1st Open 1st Section G
Doug Gatland of Hookwood

Due to a very late decision made by the The French Army on Thursday afternoon the National Flying Club were unable to liberate from the Hippodrome, Pau as there was intense Air Activity in and around Pau which would delay any liberations for the next 3 days in the morning. The NFC was advised to move the birds to Tarbes where it would only be the weather conditions delaying any release.

(Liberation details) - *The pigeons have been liberated from Tarbes at 1.30pm and cleared immediately into a fight path through France this afternoon, which is one of broken clouds and sunshine. Winds W/N/W.*

Patchy rain will move westwards across northern France this evening and overnight. Any early morning rain soon clearing westwards with sunny periods developing. Channel is affected by isolated showers with good visibility. Southern England broken clouds and sunshine and a westerly wind.

The BBC entry for Tarbes was 70 members sending 403 birds (393 of these were duplications from the NFC).



Congratulations to our race winner on a top performance **Doug Gatland of Hookwood 1st & 5th Open 1st, 2nd & 4th Section.** It gives me great pleasure to be in a position to report on my winning pigeon from the BBC Tarbes National, having rejoined the BBC this year with a view to racing from Pau and Barcelona and an organisation I was inspired to compete in as a teenager by the late Stan and Jane Witts of Whitchurch in Hampshire.

My winning pigeon is a small red pied yearling hen who has been prepared all season with Pau in mind, paired mid January she reared a pair of young birds before being split from her cock and raced on my version of roundabout / chaos. She flew 10 races in the build up to Tarbes including Guernsey, Alencon and St Philbert in the BICC being my third pigeon from Alencon. After St Philbert with a few of the hens starting to pair the whole team was paired for Tarbes so that they would be on a small yb for race marking. But I guess as with all good pigeons there was a twist, her cock had been lost from a short inland race (presumably to raptor) and she was spare so I opened a few boxes and left the spare hens to it, she duly took a box on her own and went broody eventually laying and sitting her eggs solo. After a week or so she allowed another hen into the box and they shared the eggs so 4 days before marking they were given a pair of chipping eggs and she was sent to the race on 2 day old babies and super keen! She is home bred her

dam being bred by my great friend Duncan Harvey of Cornwall being a grand daughter of my 2nd BICC St Vincent x 20th NFC Tarbes and Ron Dove's Barcelona winner. The sire another home bred pigeon being a grandson of my number 1 stock cock who himself won 81st Open NFC Tarbes as a yearling.

I was fortunate to time two more yearlings on the winning day with my second pigeon prepared identically to the winner for 5th Open, she is from the same bloodlines as the winning hen on the dams side and her sire is a gift pigeon from the late Ian Crammond and Nigel Langstaff being a Grandson of Mark Gilbert's Kanibaal Barcelona, Starlight and Melissa. My 3rd pigeon is a small dark cock paired to the second and is of Jelle Jellema bloodlines being from a grandson of Zwart Goud.



Tarbes winner 5 minutes after arriving home

Another superb performance was by **Mark Bulled of Harlow** with 3 out of his 7 entries **1st, 2nd & 3rd Section J 2nd & 7th Open**. Well done to Doug on winning the BBC and to all those that timed in a tough Tarbes race.

I was fortunate to time three birds in the result, all are north road birds that were turned south this season.

I knew they were well but wasn't confident as with all the NE winds I hadn't managed to get in the channel preparation I had liked.

In fact, due to losses, a lot had lost their partners, so I made the decision to pair my distance section up, and all three were sitting 7 days eggs at basketing. A condition I prefer rather than sitting longer.

My first home, and provisional 2nd open was ironically the least experienced of them all, he had only one previous channel race, Alencon 230 miles, where he returned a few days later hawked. It then took a good month or so to get him back right before I could start getting him ready for Tarbes. He is bred from my Legacy/Sergeant Cecil family 1st NFC Tarbes, 1st LSECC Tarbes paired to a hen I bought from Paul Kendal closely inbred to Morning Glory (Full of Pau NFC winners). Although inexperienced on the south he had previously won 38th LNRC Thurso 14 hours on day. My second home was my main fancy, a dark pied hen. A winner last year of 7th LNRC Thurso. Her preparation Wadebridge 234 miles. St Philbert and Guernsey. She is bred from my no 1 son of Legacy when paired to a full sister of my good friend Heath Archibald's The Proof, 2nd and 3rd NFC Tarbes, an outstanding line of pigeons.

My third home has won 18th LNRC Thurso. She is a double granddaughter of Legacy and a direct daughter of my Bordeaux Queen 1st 3rd UBI Combine Bordeaux, 4th and 5th BBC Bordeaux. Her dam being Bump 2nd BBC Bordeaux.

All three were in good condition and fresh. Out flying next morning. They had been through rain (I believe on first day or overnight) and had flown a long time second day by the look of their wings on arrival.



Mark Bulled



3rd Bird Home



1st Bird Home



2nd Bird Home

Always about at the top are Jimmy Wearn & Erik Neilson (Wearn Bros 1 & Neilson) of Ramsden 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6th, 7th & 8th Section A 3rd & 8th Open. We would like to congratulate everyone who got birds home on what turned out to be a very testing race. We had 12 birds home on the winning day and was just pleased to clock as it is never easy no matter what the weather from 500+ miles. Well done to the winner.



1st Arrival Home



Jimmy Wearn & Erik Neilson

1st & 4th Section C 4th & 14th Open Steve Slade of Calne. First of all I'd like to congratulate D Gatland for winning the BBC National and to Fagg and Nicholas for winning the NFC.

Four years ago I decided that I'd like to concentrate on distance flying so I decided to visit Steve and Lesley Wright from House of Aarden and I purchased some Padfield pigeons and some Jella Jellema to try to form a family of distance birds, so this year was my first year to fly from Tarbes and it turned out to be a good weekend, to win 1st in the BBC and 1st & 2nd Section in the NFC.

My 1st pigeon was a Padfield Jella cross, he was sent sitting on a 12 day old youngster.

My 2nd pigeon was purchased from House of Aarden as a kit of youngsters and was also sitting on a 10 day old youngster.

Both pigeons have been coming consistent in the build up races to Tarbes.

On return from the club house I found a 3rd pigeon, which is a Padfield which I didn't clock.



Steve Slade

1st, 3rd & 4th Section B 6th Open Danny Lanahan & John Gerard of Poole. Well done to all the section winners and fanciers timing pigeons on a very hard race for the birds. Our first pigeon a yearling blue hen raced on our chaos system is bred from one of John's top racing/breeding cocks "Porshe" John raced Porshe as a young bird in Holland winning 1st 12,500 pigeons, 1st 4,200 pigeons, 1st 3,000 pigeons, 1st 1,700 pigeons plus 4 x 1st club. Porshe is now sire of 15x 1st being mainly Van Loon blood. He was paired to a hen given to us by a great friend of ours George Owers "Owers Brothers." She is Bartolli De Klak.

Our second pigeon was bred from a daughter of Zwarte Louders 1st National St Vincent 16,340 birds 600 miles. She was paired to a Jelle Jellema cock.



John Gerard, Danny Lanahan and family



The Rostrons

The Rostrons of Thatcham 1st & 3rd Section D 9th Open. Firstly we would like to congratulate Doug Gatland on his win and to all those that clocked, its certainly not been easy. Our 3 year old chequer hen is raced on the roundabout system with the main aim for the distance pigeons being Pau. This is only the hens second channel race of the season with the previous one being Nort Sur Erdre where she arrived at 7.20pm giving her plenty of time on the wing ready for the challenge ahead.

We are over the moon with the achievement and would like to thank everyone for the messages and phone calls its very humbling.

Having an exceptional long distance season so far **10th Open 3rd Section G Kevin Foster of Longfield Hill.** My first pigeon from Tarbes was a three year old hen on widowhood. She was my first pigeon from St Philbert in her last race a few weeks previous where she was 10th Section BICC. She has previously been in the top 200 5 times in National races with her best 45th Nat twice all up to 500 miles.

She is a direct daughter of my dark misty cock (now dead) from Robert Rome. He is also the grand sire of my Lady Maixient my National winner a few weeks ago and the grand sire of 71 my first pigeon from Agen International provisionally 12th National, timed a few hours earlier, so two tough races and the recent St Maixient race where the dark misty line has come through. The dam of my Tarbes hen is a sister to Southfield Jane 1st Nat for Mark Gilbert and closely related to my no 1 stock hen (a daughter).

Well done to all the winners and those who timed birds on the winning day.



Kevin Foster



Albert Sinclair

2nd Section C 11th Open Albert Sinclair of Swindon. The hen I timed is down from my De Weerdt Dark Star Line CSCFC Pau Winner.

2nd Section D 12th Open M Hawthorne of Leicester. Flying 641 miles. Max sent one lone pigeon - a 3 year old cock which is named, "Mick O" after Max's good friend Mick O Rourke of Leicester.

This fine cock was bred by Max himself and is a mixture of blood obtained from Brian Denney, Pat O Sullivan of Enfield and Peter Oliver. The pigeon contains the blood of some real distance cream including Tuff Nutt and Braveheart.

Max's target race each year is Tarbes and he set's his stall out specifically for this race. In the lead up to this race Mick O was sent to Fourgeres and returned on the 2nd day, then to Newton Abbot and nighted out again. This didn't deter Max who knew that the pigeon was in the condition of his life and was on his optimal nest conditions.



Max Hawthorne

13th Open Trevor Booth & John Roper of Tewkesbury. We timed a 7 year old hen to take provisionally 3rd Section C 13th Oopen in what turned out to be a very hard race. We fly well over in the west, sitting not far from the Malvern Hills. This hen's main target was Barcelona this year. She was paired up in the stock loft and didn't return to the racing loft until the end of April. She would not exercise and hid behind the stock loft. After several weeks of encouragement she was exercising well. During this time she started to show an interest in me (Trevor), never has this hen in 7 years shown any liking for me but now she is following me around the loft and hopping from one perch to another and sweeping her tail and to be close to me. Seemingly totally paired to me. Barcelona was always on the cards, but 4 days before basketing I changed my mind and was glad I did, but wonder what might have happened at Barcelona. She has flown Pau once, Tarbes twice, Lerwick once and Elgin. She has achieved the following in national races. 16th Section, 94th Open MCCFC Fougères; 2nd Section, 231st Open BICC Poitiers; 5th Section, 42nd Open BICC Lerwick; 3rd Section, 28th Open BICC Elgin; 4th Section, 16th Open CSCFC St Philbert; 7th Section, 59th Open NFC Pau and now provisionally 1st Section, 35th Open NFC Tarbes and 3rd Section, 13th Open BBC Tarbes. She is a hen in a million and she will now join our other 1st section J 5th Open Tarbes NFC 2019 hen, 'SPORTSVIEW AMY' in retirement.

We would like to thank everyone for all the messages of congratulations, it has been quite overwhelming. Also we would like to congratulate Doug Gatland on winning the race and to all section winners. And many thanks to Alveley marking station.



Trevor Booth & John Roper



Happy to be home

Our furthest flying member timing on the winning day is **Dean Jones of Boston 1st Section E 15th Open**. My section winner a 5 year old cock bird of Padfield's blood lines. He is a grandson of Padfield's Blue Badge, 2nd National Barcelona. 4th Open at Agen. 2nd Open St Vincent and 10th Open Pau. A grandson of Padfield's Champion Vince. He is a half brother to my double section winner from Bordeaux and Alencon. He was sent sitting 5 day old eggs as he was being prepared for Barcelona but was changed at the last minute. He previously went to BICC St Philbert, he then went to Fougères with the Midlands National and several inland races with the Peterborough Central Fed. He will go to Perpignan with the BICC next all being well.



Dean Jones



Chambers family

Very closely behind Dean are the **Chambers Family from Cannock 2nd & 3rd Section E 16th Open**. Our first arrivals from this weeks Pau national was a 2 year old blue cock bred from one of our main stock cocks who we call Jack Smash. Jack Smash was a winner himself of 2nd section 61st open NFC Tarbes disaster race 2018 one of the hardest ever races with only 16 birds recorded in the over 650 miles having also taken 7th section 149th open NFC Tarbes in 2017. He is now sire of several top pigeons for us including 2nd section 27th open BICC national Agen 623 miles and our 0–800 mile RPRA Award winner for the WM Region 2022.

The dam to our first arrival is a daughter of our 1st section 7th open NFC Tarbes cock who we call Dutch Thunder when he was paired to a daughter of Pennine Hights winner of 1st Tarbes flying over 700 miles.

Our second arrival who we clocked early on Sunday morning was the nest mate to our first bird detailed above and our third arrival was a 2 year old dark chequer cock who arrived shortly after our second bird. He is a half brother to our 2020 1st Section E Pau winner who we call Hot Stuff who also won the 0-800 mile RPRA award in 2020. This cock is also a double grandchild of Dutch Thunder meaning all three of our arrivals are G. children of Dutch Thunder

who is himself bred down from our Dutch Family of long distance racers which go back to our 1997 Midland National winner from Bergerac.

In the middle of Jim & Erik's birds in **Section A** is **Kalvin Legg (K & S Legg & Son) of Portsmouth**. This three year old blue chequer cock flew Tarbes last year being 137th Open 25th Section B. He is bred out of the stock loft from our distance birds Mark Gilbert x Geoff & Catherine Cooper.



K & S Legg & Son Cock Bird



Mel & Sue King

2nd Section B Mel & Sue King of Blandford Forum. Congratulations to the winners.

Our first bird is a 2 year old hen raced on our celibate/widowhood system and is again bred from our well established Vandénabelle based family and is linked in some way to the majority of our National Winners and Joe Raeburn "Alex".

Team Aurel of Telford. Here is our super hen called "Dolce Far Niente" our arrival from Tarbes Grand National 662 miles. In Italian language it translates "The sweetness of doing nothing" as she was sent straight to Tarbes with no channel racing this year in preparation for the big race. Many people will tell me it cannot be done, but here she is to tell another story: 5th Section E / 39th Open BBC.

She ouzes class and she is bred perfectly for the job: On the Sire side is my old bloodlines "Nelu 68" Full brother to "Nela" 1st Sec E BBC Bordeaux 540 miles .

On the Dam side is "Pipi Mike 570" from Lee & Kevin Buddle who is a Daughter of Mike (BICC Certificate of Merit) when paired to a daughter of Pipi (4x Barcelona).

Well done to Doug Gatland for one of the performances of the season & well done to Mark Bulled for turning the pigeons from north to south to show us how it is done! From my section great performance from Dean Jones, Booth and Roper and Craig Chambers your dedication is clearly paying off.
 Congratulation to all fanciers who timed from this hard race!



Team Aurel

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>Mls</i>	<i>A-A-T</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Velocity</i>
1	G115	D Gatland	Hookwood	GB22B01341	550 1418	12 40 39	2	1026.219
2	J58	M Bulled	Harlow	GB21N36141	589 1554	14 15 52	2	998.391
3	A122	Wearn Bros 1 &	Ramsdean	GB21N41377	539 1595	13 22 47	2	962.962
4	C329	S Slade	Calne	GB21N24372	576 1443	14 51 41	2	943.775
5	G115	D Gatland	Hookwood	GB22B01366	550 1418	14 3 40	2	943.319
6	B16	Lanahan & Gerard	Poole	GB22C46595	532 194	13 52 10	2	921.615
7	J58	M Bulled	Harlow	GB21N36144	589 1554	15 59 48	2	907.671
8	A122	Wearn Bros 1 &	Ramsdean	GB21N46542	539 1595	14 34 10	2	898.001
9	D498	The Rostrons	Thatcham	GB20E10048	575 745	16 10 5	2	877.532
10	G126	K Foster	Longfield Hill	GB20N61842	565 37	15 53 23	2	874.320
11	C405	A Sinclair	Swindon	GB18N44022	587 344	16 38 28	2	873.990
12	D872	M Hawthorne	Leicester	GB20N88572	641 1549	18 41 5	2	865.622
13	C369	Booth & Roper	Tewkesbury	GB16N80613	616 1487	17 56 41	2	861.158
14	C329	S Slade	Calne	GB21N26530	576 1443	16 43 35	2	854.848
15	E250	D Jones	Boston	GB18X20956	677 1160	20 20 53	2	848.953
16	E305	Chambers Family	Cannock	GB21Z54705	661 1116	19 49 52	2	847.590
17	A122	Wearn Bros 1 &	Ramsdean	GB21N41367	539 1595	15 47 56	2	839.480
18	J58	M Bulled	Harlow	GB20V88867	589 1554	17 35 29	2	837.602
19	B388	Mr & Mrs M A King	Blandford	GB21N08588	536 1320	15 48 0	2	834.523
20	A122	Wearn Bros 1 &	Ramsdean	NL19-1328706	539 1595	15 59 32	2	830.964
21	A406	K & S Legg & Son	Portsmouth	GB20N68067	530 615	16 0 56	2	815.257
22	G115	D Gatland	Hookwood	GB22B01391	550 1418	16 45 46	2	814.797
23	A122	Wearn Bros 1 &	Ramsdean	GB21N94074	539 1595	16 52 47	2	793.991
24	A122	Wearn Bros 1 &	Ramsdean	GB21D07752	539 1595	17 27 15	2	771.764
25	B16	Lanahan & Gerard	Poole	GB21V44651	532 194	17 32 3	2	757.667
26	A122	Wearn Bros 1 &	Ramsdean	GB21N41397	539 1595	17 50 45	2	757.310
27	C211	Clive & Jill Rogers &	Writhlington	GB22B00275	570 497	19 18 27	2	747.661
28	G287	M Watson	Angmering	GB21N54050	526 758	17 43 26	2	742.739
29	E305	Chambers Family	Cannock	GB21N75357	661 1116	7 11 0	3	723.727
30	E305	Chambers Family	Cannock	GB21X16328	661 1116	8 29 42	3	689.978
31	C211	Clive & Jill Rogers &	Writhlington	GB21B06685	570 497	6 58 36	3	628.646
32	C76	F J Quinn	Devizes	GB21N43519	570 82	8 13 58	3	600.061
33	B16	Lanahan & Gerard	Poole	GB22C46359	532 194	6 41 27	3	592.937

34	G220	SR & WH Knox	Canterbury	GB19F16609	561	553	9	33	28	3	564.049
35	B96	Mr & Mrs L Cowley	Dorchester	GB20N37520	534	842	9	29	50	3	538.199
36	D498	The Rostrons	Thatcham	GB20B03712	575	745	12	49	47	3	519.947
37	G31	P Baker & J Middleton	Seaford	GB19X31369	528	1644	11	54	50	3	491.815
38	G31	P Baker & J Middleton	Seaford	GB21L29185	528	1644	12	9	9	3	488.123
39	E295	Team Aurel	Telford	GB20V59185	662	454	7	56	45	4	440.047

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