

**Barcelona National
1st Open 1st Section D
With Southfield History
Mark Gilbert of Windsor**

Well, what can we say. History has been made. This year's Barcelona race has seen the first ever pigeon to be timed in to the UK on the day. Mark Gilbert along with Nigel Langstaff & Troy Birch and a phenomenal 2 year old pigeon "Southfield History" have written themselves in to the History books with an unbelievable never seen before performance. Many pigeons fanciers probably thought they would never be around to see a pigeon drop in to the UK on the day from Barcelona, amazing!

The birds were liberated at 6am on Friday 7th July With 27 members sending 103 birds, this will always be one Barcelona race we will never forget. Well done to everyone who timed.

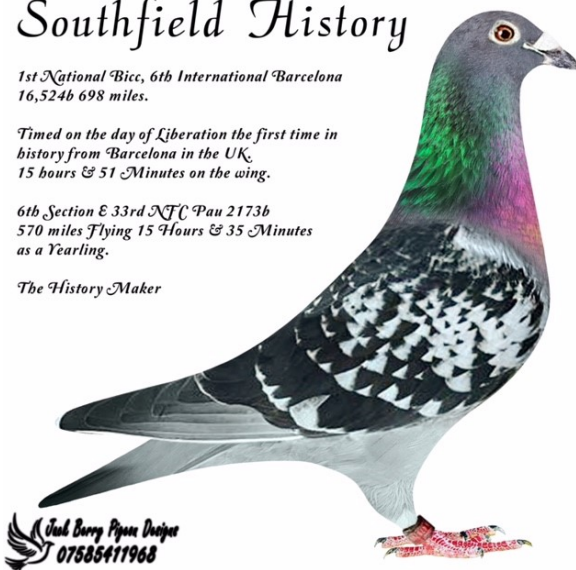
Southfield History

*1st National Bicc, 6th International Barcelona
16,524b 698 miles.*

*Timed on the day of Liberation the first time in
history from Barcelona in the UK,
15 hours & 51 Minutes on the wing.*

*6th Section & 33rd NFFC Pau 2173b
570 miles Flying 15 Hours & 35 Minutes
as a Yearling.*

The History Maker



Southfield History

Congratulations to Mark Gilbert, Nigel Langstaff & Troy Birch of Windsor 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 8th, 11th, 18th & 22nd Open 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th & 9th Section D. Well, what can I say but it seems our amazing season has just got even better. I still don't think what unfolded last night has even sunk in.

Anyone who knows me will tell you how much I want to win Barcelona in the UK and how I have always said with the right conditions, right preparation and more importantly the right pigeons we could get a day pigeon on the clock. Well last night we made history at Southfield managing to clock the very first pigeon on the day from Barcelona. They were liberated at 6am and after flying 698 miles in 15 hours and 51 minutes we managed to win 1st National and 6th International from 16,561 birds.

'Southfield History' as she is now called was paired up earlier in the season and sent on a 5 day baby and she pulled out all the stops to get home to that baby. We decided to have a go at the Internationals on Natural only this year and it has really paid off as we were also 1st National, 6th International from Pau.

Even though she is only 2 years old she does have previous form. Last year she flew the National Flying club Pau race and after flying 570 miles in just over 15 and 1/2 hours scored 10th section, 33rd National. Incidentally in the

same race her nest mate scored 4th Section, 19th Open. Not bad for a pair of yearlings.
 Her Father is Son Naomi of Cor de Heijde 6th Int. Barcelona and her Mother won 17th Int. Barcelona for Twan Bongers so the apple didn't fall far from those trees.
 I would just like to say thanks so much for all the messages I really do appreciate them but there are so many I would be here for days trying to answer them all.



"Southfield History" GB 21-B07251 H

GB 21-B07251 H Southfield History Mark Gilbert Chg W/F 1st Nat BICC U.K. Barcelona 8th International Barcelona 16-5340 2023 Flying 686 Miles 15hrs 35mins on The Wing The History Maker 10th Section E 35rd National NPC Pou 21750 2022 68 6 Yearling Flying 570 Miles 15hrs 35mins on The Wing	ML 15-5554832 C Bra Don Michel C. de Heijde Blue Sire of 4th Sect 15th Open NPC Tarbes 2022 10th Sect E 35rd Open NPC Tarbes 2022 Sire 200m Don Michel Father of 5th Barcelona 385 24th Nat Barcelona 5423 pigeons 31st Intnat Barcelona 30669 pigeons 127th Nat Peripanon 6414 pigeons 8th Nat Peripanon 1708 pigeons 42nd Nat Peripanon 6414 pigeons 22nd Nat Barcelona 1745 pigeons 44th Nat Barcelona 5182 pigeons	ML 09-5959107 C Zoon Don Michel C. de Heijde Geschelst 5th Barcelona 385 24th Nat Barcelona 5423 pigeons 31st Intnat Barcelona 30669 pigeons 127th Nat Peripanon 6414 pigeons 8th Nat Peripanon 1708 pigeons 42nd Nat Peripanon 6414 pigeons 22nd Nat Barcelona 1745 pigeons 44th Nat Barcelona 5182 pigeons	ML 06-9659671 C Don Michel C. de Heijde Geschelst 17th Nat Peripanon 5479 pigeons	ML 05-0534500 H The Peripanonvlin C. de Heijde Blue 10th Nat Perp 1356 pigeons	ML 10-3054650 H Naomi C. de Heijde Dark Chg Pied 1st Barcelona 566 8th Nat Barcelona 5423 8th Int Barcelona dv 20669 4th Int dv 55th 4th Nat dv 1809	ML 01-0127577 C Zoon Peripanon C. de Heijde Dark White Flight 22nd Nat Dax 13555 pigeons	BE 05-5100189 H Steen Duivin Joak Steen Dark White Flight	ML 02-1854760 C Steady Blue L. Monroy, Sayo Blue Pigeon of 2004 1855 Int Barcelona	ML 02-0260950 H Kielym Aurora v Monroy Chequer 1st International Peripanon 2005	ML 06-1576886 C NiceBoy Jelle Jellima Cheque Pied The New Stampreeder Father of Two	ML 06-0764307 H Little Thin Jelle Jellima Chequer Granddaughter of Orion Mino Suffer
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Kevin Foster of Longfield Hill has had an exceptional old bird season so far and with another truly outstanding performance from Barcelona, sending three birds and all three being timed on the second day to take **2nd, 6th & 7th Open 1st, 2nd & 3rd Section G.** Well done Kevin.

Firstly, can I offer congratulations to Mark Gilbert on his history making performance and the high standard he continues to set. In addition, very well done to all those that have clocked and will feature in the result. Having a smaller team this year and planning and preparing for the longer National and Internationals has required some thinking about but I am happy that my team have held their form in a year which has seen big losses and some very good pigeons going down. I sent 3 to Barcelona and if at 5am on the second day you had said that I would clock all three by 5pm and be in front of over 16,000 birds in the International result with my first bird I would have thought you were mad!

My first pigeon was a three year old widower cock bred by the Belgian International fliers Van Ouwerekerk - Dekkers. He was one of a batch of 20 I bought in as late bred with a view to racing half of them. However most were too old to let out so only 4 were raced. He went to Tarbes NFC in 2022 returned early next morning and would have made the top 150 but I had closed my clock after the first day. Amazingly he arrived badly hawked and with a broken leg spending the next month in his nest box.

Even after the moult I wasn't happy with his feathering on his rump and watched him closely in his racing for which at no time did he look anything less than 100% fit and none more so when he dropped from Barcelona looking like he had another 100 miles in him. His sire is a very good breeder for VOD father of 12th Nat Perpignan, 29th International and others to score from St Vincent and Pau Nationals. In turn he was a direct son of De Sterke 24th Nat Barcelona and brother to 5th Nat Barcelona and out of the top pigeon 'Mr St Vincent' winner of 1st Nat St Vincent. His dam is a daughter of 'Night Flier' 21st Nat Barcelona clocked at 1.04am.

The second pigeon is a three year old hen, again bred by Van Ouwerkerk Dekkers. I liked her from day 1 and once in racing nearly pulled her out of the race team when I went back to check her breeding, and like the cock has looked superfit from day 1 and convinced me by her condition on arrival after Tarbes NFC last year where she was my 4th pigeon taking 94th Nat that she was going to Barcelona in 2023. Her sire is 'Paulo' 4th National Pau and a brother to 18th Nat Perpignan, 47th Nat Agen, 53rd Nat Narbonne. and other top 100 national prizewinners. Her dam is a direct daughter of 'Mr St Vincent' 1st National St Vincent. and the line of Poco Barcelona 1st Nat ace pigeon PIPA and 5th Nat Barcelona.

The third pigeon, was a 4 year old hen previously 11th Nat NFC St Philbert and other Nat prizes. Her sire is son of De Cas Barcelona ace pigeon when paired to a daughter of New Laureatte x kleine Jade. Her mother is a Grand daughter of Starlight x melissa when paired to the father of My 2016 Le Mans Nat winner. So having mentioned earlier that planning and preparation are a big part of racing then lady Luck has a part to play and I know Clare Norman will recall this. After returning from Agen marking I realised I had sent the wrong pigeon and left my No 1 candidate at home '42'. I was so annoyed with myself! I then decided to add '42' to the Tarbes team of 4 and take one out to add to the Barcelona team. '42' was my first pigeon from NFC Tarbes well up in the result, and the cock I added to the Barcelona team was the Belgian cock 2nd National!! What do we know about pigeons?



Kevin Foster





2nd Open with his hen 30 minutes after arriving home

1st & 3rd Section A 9th & 21st Open Mr & Mrs Mick Bunney of Paulsgrove. Blue hen: raced celibate and paired one week before Barcelona not a desired condition but circumstances demanded it, her breeding is from my original Dordin family which I started back in 1980, last year she was 7th Open and 2nd Section in the BICC Barcelona race and would have been 1st Section A in the BBC had I had duplicated.



Mick Bunney



Lee & Kevin Buddle

Lee & Kevin Buddle of Dover 10th, 14th & 16th Open 4th, 6th, 7th & 10th Section G. Our 4th Sec G, 10th Open BBC Barcelona is a 5 year old hen flown on our Widowhood Chaos System.

In preparation for Barcelona she had the following races this year: 3x inland to 130 miles, BICC Alencon 194 miles, BICC St Philbert 267 miles, BICC St Maixent 332 miles.

She has been fed Vanrobaeys corns this year and fats added in the last week before race marking.

She has previously flown: BICC Lerwick 2021 631 miles & BICC Barcelona 2022 676 miles and she is a half sister to our 2019 BBC Barcelona winner 'Triple Two'.

Her sire is 'Mike' winner of: 3rd Open BICC Marseille 2014, 4th Open BICC Marseille 2011, 9th Open BICC Marseille 2013, 13th Open BICC Pau 2015, 13th Open BICC Agen 2014, 24th Open BICC Perpignan 2012, 37th Open BICC Pau 2013, 60th Open BICC Pau 2013, 64th Open BICC Pau 2012 & **BICC Certificate of Merit Award**, Her Dam is a daughter of 'Pipi' winner of: 4th BICC Barcelona 2011, 9th BICC Barcelona 2014, 10th BICC Barcelona 2013 & verified Injured from Barcelona 2012, 4x Barcelona Int 673 miles.

Our second pigeon to be timed winning 6th Sec G, 14th Open is a 5 year old hen, daughter of our 'Elsa' 1st Nat BICC Narbonne 2014 557 miles when paired to a son of 'Tom' & 'Lynx' 1st Nat BICC Marseille 2017.

Congratulations to Mark Gilbert and his team on his historic amazing achievement from Barcelona International.

After his top performance from Tarbes the previous week, Doug is certainly enjoying life, sending just the one pigeon to Barcelona **Doug Gatland of Hookwood 12th Open 5th Section G.** I timed my Barcelona single entry at 8:02pm on the second day arriving in torrential rain. He is a 4 year old light blue chequer cock now named Cornish Dream and has been prepared for Barcelona since birth, a real effort considering the restrictions placed upon us through covid and the impact of the new EU regulations.

Cornish Dream was bred by Duncan Harvey of St Buryan, Cornwall and was a co breeding effort with the late Trevor Jenkyn from Penzance, I moved to new house in January 2019 and in March Duncan and Trevor provided me with a team of young birds, with Trevor saying to me "wouldn't it be great to get one to Barcelona!"

Cornish Dream is a previous winner of 14th Section 38th BICC National Tarbes and in preparation for Barcelona had flown the BICC Alencon, St Philbert and St Maxient-Ecole races. Both the Sire and Dam were Louella Dutch distance pigeons purchased by Trevor the sire being a grandson of Times 6 and Icon with the dam a granddaughter of Red Rum, La Rosa Benita and Barcelona 241.



Doug Gatland's cock bird

2nd Section A 13th Open Martin, Clare & Jack Norman (Mannor Lofts) from Southampton. Our lone entry was a 4 year old hen and is bred half from our good friend Andy Parsons and half from Mick De Carteret of Guernsey. She flew Barcelona last year but was just out of race time and previously as a two year old she was 14th Open CSCFC Elgin.



Martin, Clare & Jack Norman's Hen

Mark Bulled 1st Section J 16th Open with his single entry. Firstly, congratulations to Team Gilbert on their amazing achievement, surely one of the best ever in to the UK and well done to all others who timed on the second day. I timed a 5 year old warrior, often slow but always reliable, he flew Bordeaux 474 miles as a yearling, scored 125th Pau NFC 585 miles as a 2 year old. Flew North twice to Lerwick 584 miles and now finally Barcelona 711 miles South, even picking up a 1st Sect NRCC Perth on the way. He is from a son of Legacy x a daughter of Tom from Lee and Kevin Buddle. I think that may be his lot now.

17th Open Steve, Sally & Paul Rhodes of Aylesham. Rhodes family with our Barcelona timer. He is from our Zaragoza 3rd Open x International hen Freieldenhoffen, her sire Forest Junior, he was out of race time from Barcelona last year a bit better this time. Raced on roundabout, the photo taken with his hen just re paired, as she was our second bird on fourth morning not timed. We have competed from Barcelona for many years and am proud to have been in the race when Mark's ultra game hen turned in that performance. Congratulations to Mark and his team.



Steve, Sally & Paul Rhodes

19th Open Simon Fear of Hayes. Bred out of Drennan Expected. The sire is a red cock from Bill Knox GB17R33312 and the dam is a Spanish Diploma winner GB09N62680 chequer hen 47th Open Barcelona 2012, 21st Open Barcelona 2013 and 9th Open Barcelona 2014. She was also 42nd Open Fougères as a young bird.

20th Open Bill Knox (S R & W H Knox) of Canterbury. My Barcelona pigeon was a 6 year old having previously flown Barcelona in 2020 coming late but in race time i regretted not timing. He has flown Alecon and Saran this year and was sent sitting 8 day eggs after rearing a single young bird. He has flown Channel 18 times 36th Narbonne in 2019 and 346 open Guernsey in 2021. He is grandson of 2nd open Pau X 1st open Barcelona BICC on his fathers side and his dam was granddaughter of Red Alert 1st open BICC Barcelona and Minx 1st open Barcelona BICC so bred for the job.



Bill & Tricia Knox

1st Section C Dave & John Staddon of Ditchheat. They had this to report. "Hi Clare & Martin, congratulations on your Barcelona pigeon. Dad and I are really pleased for you. Firstly, massive congratulations to our great friends Mark Gilbert, Nigel Langstaff and Troy Birch (Team Southfield Lofts) on their truly historic win from Barcelona. What a truly fantastic achievement to time a day bird from this iconic Spanish race point, absolute history makers. Well done to all the other sections winners and everybody who timed a pigeon with special mention for the runner-up Kevin Foster who timed 3/3 on the second day, another great piece of flying from a gentleman of the sport. We are delighted to win the Section from Barcelona. Our section winner a 2019 Blue cock and is now named **Deano** and was bred by Dean Pallatt and Dean Junior from their elite breeding centre. He is 100% Jelle Jellema's bloodline, His sire is a grandson of Romee, Zwarte Goud and Snelle Jelle. The Dam is a granddaughter of Dirke the father of Kleine Jade 1st International Barcelona and also features Rika, Marcus, Golden Future and Frankenstein in her pedigree. Dean sent us some youngsters to race in 2019 and 2020 and this cock is from the first draft. This cock is a nestmate of our 2022 Barcelona Section winner called Pallats Pride. There can't be too many Nest brothers to have both won the section from Barcelona. Deano had won 2nd section BICC Barcelona in 2022 but did it much quicker this time but still not as quickly as we would have liked as we were hoping for a 2nd-day pigeon. He still won the section on the third day so we remain pleased and hope he can improve with more experience. He has come out of the race in very good order so will be considered for the Elne International race. In preparation for Barcelona, he had four inland races, then Alencon, St Philbert and St Maixent-Ecole with the BICC. He is raced on the Chaos widowhood system and fed on Bamfords Staddon Chaos Mix & Bamfords Energy Corn.



Dave & John Staddon

Open Provisional

<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	D1102	M Gilbert	Windsor	GB21B07251	697	1030	21 51 27	1	1290.399
2	G126	K Foster	Longfield Hill	B20-6160947	685	930	7 17 19	2	1053.447
3	D1102	M Gilbert	Windsor	GB18B04634	697	1030	9 27 40	2	962.438
4	D1102	M Gilbert	Windsor	GB20B06429	697	1030	13 24 37	2	811.673
5	D1102	M Gilbert	Windsor	GB21V98307	697	1030	13 37 52	2	804.625
6	G126	K Foster	Longfield Hill	B20-6247393	685	930	15 12 16	2	744.649
7	G126	K Foster	Longfield Hill	GB19D40432	685	930	17 4 51	2	696.269
8	D1102	M Gilbert	Windsor	GB20B06297	697	1030	18 5 10	2	684.683
9	A803	Mr & Mrs Bunney	Paulsgrove	GB18N56739	661	1712	16 34 14	2	684.437
10	G106	L & K Buddle	Dover	GB18B00192	663	18	17 43 35	2	658.675
11	D1102	M Gilbert	Windsor	GB20B06455	697	1030	20 7 2	2	641.112
12	G115	D Gatland	Hookwood	GB19N10311	675	682	20 2 37	2	622.146
13	A1108	Mannor Lofts (M C &	Southampton	GB19N34886	671	1232	8 19 12	3	520.056
14	G106	L & K Buddle	Dover	GB18B00240	663	18	8 28 58	3	511.132
16	J58	M Bulled	Harlow	GB18B00547	711	1198	12 8 12	3	500.583
15	G106	L & K Buddle	Dover	GB19V11523	663	18	9 16 41	3	499.332
17	G67	M/M S Rhodes	Aylesham	GB18N11107	670	154	10 14 10	3	493.832
18	D1102	M Gilbert	Windsor	GB20N70701	697	1030	12 48 53	3	482.818
19	D152	Mr & Mrs S Fear	Hayes	GB17N066502	699	1362	14 21 38	3	467.111
20	G220	SR & WH Knox	Canterbury	GB17F13367	676	465	14 49 12	3	446.747
21	A803	Mr & Mrs Bunney	Paulsgrove	GB18N56732	661	1712	16 1 18	3	425.783
21	D1102	M Gilbert	Windsor	GB19B06361	697	1030	19 13 6	3	419.442
22	G106	L & K Buddle	Dover	GB18B00125	663	18	17 29 17	3	413.312
24	C38	D & J Staddon	Shepton	GB19N33492	699	997	20 56 53	3	406.230

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