



BICC ALENCON RACE REPORT.

The second race in the BICC 2017 Old Bird race program took place on Saturday 13th May when 5,654 birds were liberated at 9.45 am into broken cloud and excellent visibility at Alençon.

Alençon is situated in the Normandy region of North West France, around 100 miles due west of Paris and was founded in the 4th century when Christianity was introduced to the local inhabitants. In 1047, William Duke of Normandy, later known as William the Conqueror and King of England, laid siege to the town. Alençon was later ruled by the English during the Anglo-Norman wars of 1113 to 1203.



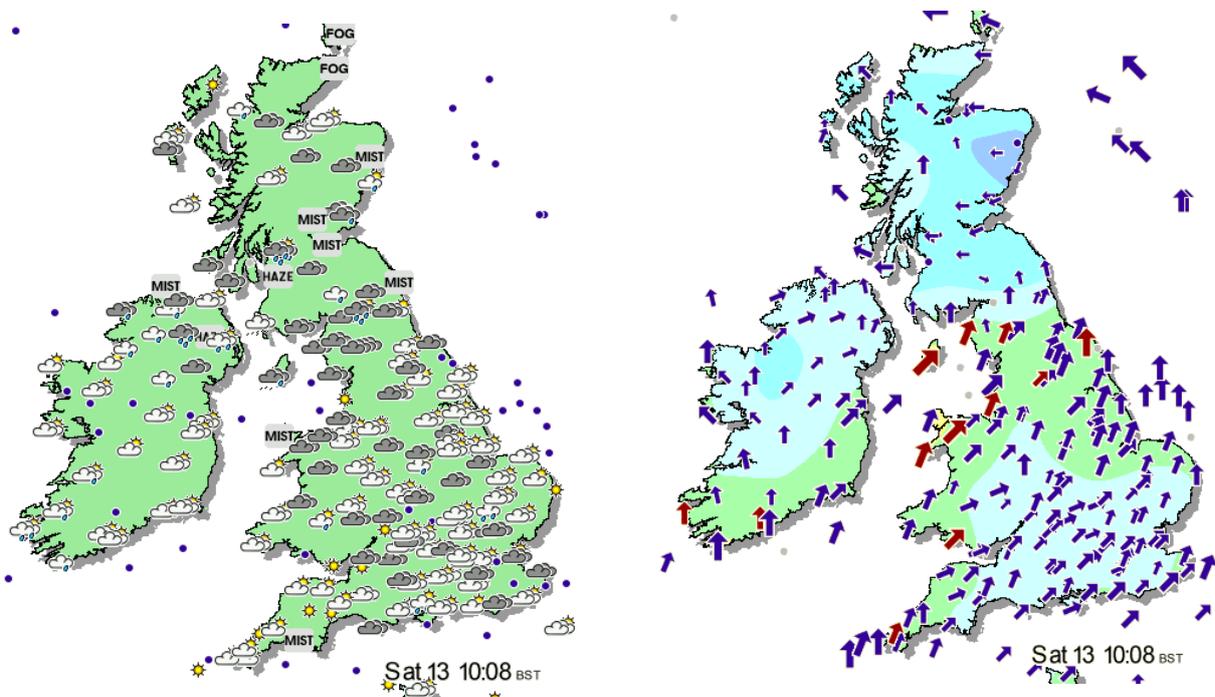
It became the seat of a dukedom in 1415, the title of the Duke of Alençon, being given to the younger brothers of the King of France until the French Revolution. Formerly known as the "City of Dukes",

the French Revolution caused little disturbance here and the city is home to several preserved historic buildings from this period.

The town is renowned for its needle point lace industry called 'Point d'Alencon' which was started in the 17th century. Made from linen thread, it is amongst the finest lace in the world. The economic development of the 19th century led to an industrial boom generated by several mills and good transport links being built. In the first half of the 20th century, the city developed a thriving printing industry. After the Second World War, the population increased sharply and new industries prospered, many of which are related to plastics.

That's a "potted history" of the town, here's the report of the race.

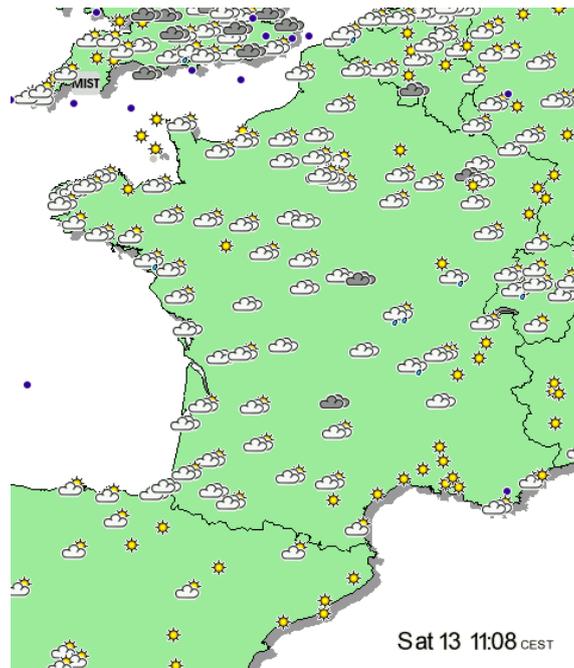
Here's race advisor John Tyerman's preliminary report on the liberation:-



UK Wind and Weather maps for Saturday 13th May 2017

The 5,654 BICC National pigeons have been liberated at Alencon at 9-45 am this morning (Saturday 13th May, 2017) into broken cloud and sunshine. They cleared well. The web cam at Alencon airfield currently shows high white cloud and blue sky. The wind is light south westerly in France but Shipping forecast shows force 4/5 SW in the channel, where visibility is described as good. UK weather is also forecast to improve on the line of flight.

John Tyerman & Mark Gilbert.



Weather map for France Saturday 13th May 2017

BICC Race Advisors

And here's the race advisory team's more comprehensive report on preparations for the race and the liberation:-

“With an excellent entry of some 5654 birds for this race the 3 Convoyers had their work cut out to get round all the various marking stations. On arrival at Horndean, both transporters and the trailer were finally loaded with crates and luckily made it in time for the overnight ferry to Caen. The sea crossing was smooth and by midday on Friday the transporters were on site at Alencon where birds were later properly fed and watered.

Earlier on Thursday and Friday our Weather Advisor Steve Appleby had given us the update on the weekend weather which looked favourable for the race day. We again spoke with Steve late Friday and around 7-30 am on the Saturday morning. He reported that the channel was not too good and advised we wait. This information was passed to Chief Convoyer Trevor Cracknell who reported that conditions at Alencon were fairly good. With an improving picture and clear channel the birds were released into a south west wind at 9-45 am and cleared the liberation site very well. A fast race ensued and it was pleasing to note that there were 482 first bird verifications on the day, with birds being clocked all over the UK. Our thanks go to Convoyers Trevor, Steve and Barry who, as always, did a great job in looking after the large convoy.

*John Tyerman and Mark Gilbert
BICC Race Advisors.*

Now for Steve Appleby's weather report for race day:-

Weather report

Many members accessing the internet will have been aware of the favourable weather conditions that were forecast for Saturday's B.I. C. race from Alencon. Early on areas of low cloud and drizzle affected the channel. The forecast for this poor weather to dissipate proved correct as by 09:00 hours a vast improvement could be seen. Broken clouds and sunshine was the general picture over northern France. Winds over France were light generally from the south west but gained in strength over the open sea to approximately 18 mph. Visibility in the channel was exceptional. The early morning poor weather over many regions of England slowly improved presenting a good flying day. With conditions improving and considering the time the birds would take to reach the channel, race controllers John and Mark decided to inform our convoyers to liberate the convoy.

Steve Appleby weather advisor.

A great deal of "behind the scenes" work was carried out in a very short time in order for this week's Alencon race to take place. Following the breakdown of one of the transporters on the homeward journey from Falaise, an interim vehicle had to be sought. Luckily, club Chairman Albi Deacon was on the case immediately and a replacement transporter obtained to see us through to the end of the season hopefully, when a new state of the art transporter will be ordered.

Right, now let's get onto the report on the race. With a fair bit of west in the wind it was expected that the leading birds would be over in the east of the club's radius. This is exactly how it turned out with the first thirteen birds in the provisional Open result racing to lofts in the East section. From what I can gather from those fanciers who I have contacted, the race was yet another roaring success with excellent returns and as always, the birds homing in pristine condition, testament to the care and attention of the convoyers Trevor, Barry and Steve.

Once again, right at the start, I must emphasize that the following report is based on fanciers' first bird verifications. The final result might well differ considerably.

Leading the way in the east section and Open recording a velocity of 1845.3 ypm was a two year old white grizzle hen to New Romney fancier Jonathan Smith.



Jonathan Smith 1st Open BICC Alencon 2017

The hen was bred by Martin Blythe of MB lofts. Her sire is Sumo 879 a grandson to two of Jos Thone's main pigeons. Sumo and grandson Arnoldus 1st world champion 1996. Her dam is Poco Queen a half sister to Pocaru the top stock hen.

The Alencon winner was bought as part of a kit of 12 young birds from Martin and was raced through the whole young bird program with the Kent Cosmo.

As a yearling she had most races with the fed and a channel race too as experience.

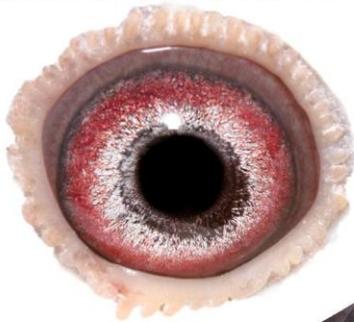
After deciding at the end of 2016 season that inland racing was not for him, Jonathon then joined the BICC and EECC to race only the channel. Over time Jonathon has raced the birds on natural and roundabout systems and thought it was time to try widowhood. He bought himself the Dave Allen book "The widowhood year" and has

followed that to the letter over the last 5 months. Feeding is what Jonathon believes is 90% of the challenge to getting good pigeons and so uses Versele Laga Superstar black label plus and energy plus. The hen was paired to a 2014 cock in January and the widowhood started then.

Preparation for the BICC was: 25-30 15mls single up tosses followed by 5 x 50 mls on a Wednesday. Then the team had two Bedhampton races at 86 miles.

“White Mist”

GB15Z59424
1st East Sect 1st Open British International
Championship Club Alencon 2017
Owned & Raced by
Jonathan Smith, New Romney



©Chris Sutton

Here are Jonathon’s final words on the preparation of his National winner:-

“That's really about it nothing special just hard work and routine oh and watch what your birds eat they will tell you what they want.”

Congratulations Jonathon on your National win.

In the R/U spot in both the east section and Open result on 1835.8 ypm was a yearling to the Herne Bay partnership of Fagg & Pullen. Adam Fagg sends me the following information on their near miss:-

“Our first bird was a yearling cock whose sire is a full brother to Gaston V D Wouwer’s National winner Laura and the mother is a direct Frans Laereman which won the Combine for my dad.

'Kenneth' showed promise as a young bird winning 1st club, 4th Fed 1,353 pigeons. The Alencon race was his first time across the channel and he looked fantastic when he returned. He will now be aimed at Poitiers.



Blue Cock 2nd Open BICC Alencon 2017 for Fagg & Pullen

All of my pigeons are fed on Vanrobaeys Casaert Depurative and Versele Laga Champion Plus purchased from Stimulite Bird Foods as they give me a nice discount- thanks Lin!

I race all of my birds, young and old from a 14ft converted shed that has 2 compartments that was with the house when we bought it. This year my team of widowhood cocks have been in great form winning 4 out of the 5 races entered in the competitive Herne Bay club as well as 1st,7th,8th Fed Blandford, 2nd, 4th, 8th Fed Lyndhurst etc. I have also just found out I was provisionally 1st Kent Cosmo Fed Exeter this weekend so all in all a great weekend.

Big thank you to my wife Jo who's a partner in the birds and looked after them when we won the Fed a few weeks back as I was away with work. I must give a big "thank you" to my Dad, who is my mentor and is always giving me guidance on the birds. I couldn't ask for a better sounding board.

Finally, I would like to say a huge well done to my mate Jonathon Smith on winning the race and everyone else in the results. Also thanks to John Chipperfield and the team at the marking station who do a great job under a lot of pressure."

Taking 3rd East section and 3rd Open velocity 1819.4 ypm is a two year old to former BICC Perpignan winner Robbie Harris of Ramsgate.



Robbie Harris with the two young Harrises

Robbie had this to say about his latest top class performer:-

“The hen is of long distance bloodlines bred by the partnership of Wilmore & Proctor of Rossendale, Lancashire. She is of Walkingshaw x Jan Aarden bloodlines.

In 2015 they sent me 4 to try at the distance down this neck of the woods. This year she has had 1 trainer from Bedhampton 110 miles, 1 trainer from Lyndhurst 136 miles plus BICC Falaise then into Alencon. I’ll be getting her ready for Poitiers and then I’ll see how she comes from there and I might get her ready for Pau international. I’d like to congratulate Jonathan Smith on his win and Fagg&Pullen for being 2nd. The hen was sent to Alencon separated from her cock bird but on the night before basketing I let them run together and have their nest bowl -roll on Pau international!” Well done Robbie and I hope your health improves.



Keith Weller of Cuxton comes in next with a three year old doing 1806.6 ypm to take 4th East section 4th Open. Keith sent me the following information:-

“Firstly a well done to the winning loft of Jonathan Smith and a very big thank you to all those involved in organising and looking after our birds for this race, especially to John Chipperfield and his team of helpers at Johnson’s Garden Centre and Pet Superstore. My birds came back, as always, in excellent condition.



Keith Weller 4th East section 4th Open BICC Alencon 2017

There is a story behind my bird. Its sire, a chequer was one of two cocks given to me by Bernard Gasson, both off his old family. The other cock bird was a red grizzle. These two cocks kept pairing together but I eventually broke them from this habit and got a round of youngsters from both the new pairings. Being over stocked I asked Bernard if he would like the birds back. He said his friend Cedric Allwright of Ashford had asked him if he had any spare cocks so would offer them to Cedric. The red grizzle went on to breed a second open winning pigeon for Cedric and his son. My bird was also 4th club a fortnight prior to the Alencon race. His dam was an unrung Josh Thone hen given to me by the Andrew Marney and Lisa Howard partnership.”

At 5th East section and 5th Open is a two year old racing to the Whitstable lofts of Mr & Mrs T Varley and recording a velocity of 1802.3 ypm.



Ted Varley 5th East section 5th Open BICC Alencon 2017

This is a celibate hen having her first ever competitive race!

She has however been well trained with Terry Johnson and John Lane as well as having had a number of trainers across the channel with the EECC. Bloodlines are Busschaert and William Geerts.

At 6th East section 6th Open on 1796.8 ypm we have a yearling cock racing to the Billericay loft of Pat Newell. Pat has won scores of top prizes in his lifetime in the sport including the London North Road Combine, Essex Combine and also Perpignan with the BICC. In the Alencon race his yearling cock was sent sitting 5 day eggs and is bred from a stock cock gifted to Pat by, as he refers to her, "The Famous Meg Murray", the dam being a granddaughter of Pat's aforementioned BICC Perpignan winner. Preparation for the race included three inland races from one of which he returned hawked with secondaries missing. Unfortunately, despite several attempts to get a photo of the septuagenarian Pat, I have to say I failed. Perhaps next time Pat?

In at 7th East section and taking 7th Open on 1796.5 ypm is a yearling racing to the Burnham of Crouch, Essex loft of Meg Murray. This is what Meg had to tell me about her timer:-

"First, let me say a big 'Well done' to Jonathan Smith and the others at the top of the sheet.

It was great to have some west in the wind, with our birds battling in

east winds over the past five or six races.



Meg Murray 7th East section 7th Open BICC Alencon 2017

My first one home was a chequer pied yearling cock, rung with a £10 special ring for the second YB BICC race last year. I don't think he made that race for some reason!

He certainly knew he was in a race this week, south west wind or not, landing with a bump, wings down and needing a drink. And that was it, the sky was empty for about thirty minutes before anything else arrived!

His sire is a twelve year old super breeder gifted to me by Lee Bastone who flies in the same club. He is 3/4 Soontjen, 1/4 SVR and over the years he's produced top birds and is still going strong, with some lovely offspring this year. Can't wait to see how these go later in the year.

The yearling's dam is another gift, this time from the loft of Craig Booth in Blackhall, Co. Durham. She comes down from one of Craig's families of club, Fed and Combine winners. Both Craig and Lee have been mentioned many times in my results, such is the quality of their birds.

I already have 3 YBs from Craig this year and two more 'specials' are on the way next week. Can't wait!"

Barrie Myhill of Dover comes in next at 8th east section 8th Open with a five year old recording 1794.7 ypm. Unfortunately, despite trying to

contact Barrie on four occasions I was unsuccessful in getting any information on his timer.

Then we have the Rochford partnership of Mr & Mrs R Hume who clocked a four year old on 1791.4 to take 9th East section 9th Open.



Robert Hume 9th East section 9th Open BICC Alencon 2017

Rob had this to tell me:-

“The Hen I timed in was a Jan Arden bred from a cock that was 16th Open BICC Alencon, 13th Open BICC Pau International that was timed on the day. She has been a steady hen at the moment and is just racing back to the perch with a view of pairing up for St Vincent fingers crossed. I would like to thank my sister in law who kindly takes my birds to marking, and my friend Keith who takes the hen birds to Ilford for me 3 times a week that's just under 30 mile toss which is a great help.”

Finishing off the top ten in the Open is a bird to the Ramsgate partnership of Asher & Standeven with a velocity of 1790.3 ypm. The partners clocked a widowhood cock of Ulrich Lemmen blood from his

De Gust. This cock was 2nd Kent and Essex combine beaten on the trap by a loft mate a second in front of him !



Asher & Standeven 10th Open BICC Alencon 2017

He has also scored well in open results in the EECC. Alencon was only his second race of the season having one race previously from Bedhampton 110miles with the Wingham club. The partners would like to say well done to Jonathan Smith the winner and a big thank you to everyone who has commented and sent personal messages on Facebook. They also add that, as always, the pigeons were in super condition so well done to the convoyers and race controller.

Round the sections now and as can be seen from the above, the East section dominated the Open result so we'll move on to the winners in the other sections.

Centre section winners were the Morden partnership of Alan Stoner and son John. The partners clocked a three year old to record 1782 ypm and had a couple of other handy pigeons close behind which will also feature in the result.



A Stoner & Son 1st Centre section BICC Alencon 2017

Here's what John had to tell me:- "Firstly we would like to congratulate the winner Jonathon Smith with a top bird. We should take 1st and 2nd section as we had 2 come together from 8 sent. Our 1st pigeon's sire is a Van Lint who has won 4x 1sts and has had many top Fed positions. The dam is from my future "father & mother in law" Frank and Sue Carson of Cheam from the top class M&D Evans blood who has also bred 1st open LSE Classic and multiple 1st Fed winners. We sent these 8 cocks on the widowhood system and have given them all the inland races with 1 Channel race last week from Falaise, where these 2 cocks took 1st & 2nd. We feed a breakdown of Matador corn and exercise daily with no training."

Mark Gilbert of Betchworth comes in at 2nd Centre section with a four year old doing 1771 ypm. This pigeon is something of a racing phenomenon as this widower has now won 14 x 1sts plus a host of Fed and National prizes. Mark was telling me that he will now be retired to the stock loft!! Bloodlines are Vandenabeele Benetton x Band of Gold lines.



Mark Gilbert of Betchworth 2nd Centre section BICC Alencon 2017

The excellent R & K O'Connor partnership clocked a two year old to record 1767 ypm and finish at 3rd section.

The North East section winner, a three year old, was clocked by Dave Downing and recorded a velocity of 1733 ypm. This is what David had to say of his day at the races:- "My timer is a 3 year old widowhood cock that has previously won 3 x 1sts in my local club and also won the strong M11 Club. This year he has had four inland races and although not winning he has been very consistent winning the club pools twice and went to Alencon as my most fancied entry. His breeding is based on my M & D Evans Vandenabeele bloodlines – the sire being from a grandson of Benetton and the dam from a son of Jester.



David Downing 1st NE section BICC Alencon 2017

This was only his third time over the water with the BICC as last year after being in the clock from Falaise he made a mistake from Alencon having a night out – but obviously this has not affected him."

R/U in the North East section was one to Robert Saunders on 1725 ypm. Here's Robert's take on the race:-

"My pigeon is a five year old bird flown on the double widowhood system and was bred directly from my BICC Tours National winner of 2011. Congratulations to the winner, I know how he feels and to all the Section Winners. Thanks also to the Convoyers, the birds arrived home in first class condition with four of the five sent home on the day. Also thank you to Ness Point Marking Station. They do a great job."



Robert Saunders 2nd NE section BICC Alencon with grandson Toby

Arlow & King's three year old on 1722 ypm finishes off the top three in the section.

Moving over to the North Central section and here we have B & P Loom of Wyboston taking the red card yet again with a three year old on 1701 ypm.

Paul Loom was telling me that this is the partners' third section win in two seasons racing with the BICC. They clocked a blue hen raced on roundabout to top the section. She has been a consistent bird and has always earned her box, winning 1st Section BICC Alencon last year.



Paul Loom of the B & P Loom 1st NC section BICC Alencon 2017

Paul says he would love a loft full of birds like her. Wouldn't we all! Her nickname is Mrs Eddie the Eagle. Paul would also like to say a big thank you to his friends John Black & John Chipperfield as well as Mark Bulled who gifted her sire to the Looms.

Pieter Oberholster comes in with a two year old blue hen on 1678 ypm to take 2nd North Central section closely followed by a four year old to the loft of Mr & Mrs G Spiller on 1676 ypm.



Pieter Oberholster 2nd NC section BICC Alencon 2017

To the West section now and here we see the Bristol partnership of Mr & Mrs Bob Hill and daughter fresh from their win in the 2016 Falaise OH's National take the red card in the section once again with a four year old hen on 1541 ypm. Here's what Bob Hill had to say about his latest section winning performance:-

'Firstly we would like to thank Clive and Jill for running the marking station at Radstock in such an efficient and friendly way.



Bob Hill of the Mr & Mrs Hill & Daughter partnership, 1st Open BICC OHA Falaise 2016 and 1st West section BICC Alencon 2017

Our first bird is bred down from pigeons we bought from Mark Evans (Myrtle Lofts) in 2009. She was 10th open in the any age race from Falaise in September last year with the BICC. Our second bird was bred out of a grandson of Eisenhower (Myrtle Lofts) when crossed with a Van Reet hen bred out of pigeons we had from Lee Birrell who now lives in Australia. This hen was our first National prize winner in the any age race from Falaise in September last year with the BICC. Our third bird was bred by Nigel and Nikki Templar and she was first section in the CSCFC hen's race in August last year from Guernsey. These three hens have always been consistently good racers for us and can be relied on to do their best. They were the only pigeons we entered in the Alencon race and all three returned within 11 minutes. They are raced on the widowhood system and we put them in with their mates about two hours before they went off to the marking station. Lastly, but importantly, we would like to thank the convoying team for looking after the birds so well, it is most appreciated.'

Clive and Jill Rogers and Neil Sales aka Treetops Lofts, come in next at 2nd West section with a yearling doing 1518 ypm. The partners timed a Red chequer cock that they believe to be an out and out sprinter, which is an unusual thing in Treetops Loft, as the majority of stock birds housed are from distance bloodlines. However, this cock which topped

the WOESRC from Littlehampton as a youngster, is proving to be a very useful member of the racing team. He is bred from a cock bird that is a son of Crowley & Green's "Vagabond" when paired to their hen "Sienna" (Van Rhyn x Janssen/Roger Maris) and the dam was a Tumley Lofts pigeon purchased at the Mad Hatters Sale in 2015. The yearling cock flew his heart out to come 39 minutes in front of the next pigeon to the loft from Alencon. Treetops Lofts feed Matador pigeon corn. Clive, Jill & Neil would like to thank the BICC convoyers and race advisor John Tyerman for a good race. Also thanks to Carlingcott Homing Society for their help and co-operation.



Clive & Jill Rogers with Neil Sales 2nd West section BICC Alencon

The hard working Caerleon partnership of Gordon and June Mears finish off the top three in the West section clocking a three year old on 1467 ypm.

The North West section winner is no stranger to BICC success as it is none other than John Rodway who clocked a three year old on 1461 ypm.



John Rodway 1st North Central section BICC Alencon 2017

This is what John had to tell me about his latest success:-

“The bird is a blue bar hen. She was sent sitting sixteen day old eggs having the first channel race of her life. In 2014, as a baby, she was lost off the loft and reported flown out. She was not raced as a young bird and in 2015 she was lightly raced to the coast up to a hundred miles, but has never been in the clock. In 2016 she suffered a very bad hawk attack but miraculously she recovered and has repaid the attention I gave her. In 2017 she has had a couple of short races but as always has been hours behind!! She arrived from Alencon from a north easterly direction, so obviously had flown well wide. My returns were nine out of eleven on the day.”

The Liverpool partnership of Bauress & Murray clocked a four year old flying 367 miles to record a velocity of 1449 ypm. This terrific performance follows on from their equally impressive performance in the recent Falaise race where their timer finished at 3rd section 44th Open on the provisional result.



Jimmy Bauress & John Murray with their 2nd sect Alencon 2017 & 3rd section Falaise 2017 winners

Unfortunately I couldn't get hold of the partners in time for publication for the Falaise report but will make up for the omission here. The partners' Falaise timer was bred by their good friends Frank and George Bristow. This cock is known as the Clock Cock as he has been one of the partners' most consistent birds, so a big thank you to Frank for breeding him. The Alencon timer is a blue hen and once again she

has been one of the partners' most consistent hens. She is from a new distance family purchased from Belgium and her nest mate was 3rd bird in the clock from Alencon followed by her son which was the fourth bird in the clock. A promising start from this new family.

In at third North West section is one to T & J Davies of Birtsmorton on 1447 ypm.



Jeremy Davies 3rd NW section BICC Alencon 2017

Here's what Jeremy had to tell me about his race:-

“First bird is of Mike Ganus breeding Terminator lines x Gaby the sire being grandson of Bliksem which is the same sire to my now retired top racing hen Sweet 16. They are on the simple split door method and conditioning is done with my pigeontotics.com and Frazers feeds. The team has been coming well winning three club races so far in the West of England Combine. I would like to say thank you to the excellent marking team at Evesham and to the convoying team on a job well done.

Congratulations to John Rodway for topping the section which was a tough flying day on the west side also my congratulations to the open winners. The photo attached is of me holding Timothy's Dream 1st Open BICC Guernsey and my two daughters Heather and Jessica holding 2nd open Guernsey 2015 and a baby off sweet 16.”

There endeth the report on the Alencon prize winners. I have tried to cover the first three in each section as well as the leading fanciers in the first ten Open positions. However, with such a tight deadline for publication, I have nevertheless failed to contact some of the fanciers. It would make my life as Press Officer a great deal easier if the fanciers who appear in the top ten Open and in the first three of the section

results were to contact me on the day after the race is flown. My email address is Gcymro@aol.com or phone me on 01443 / 435684.

Next I have some news from club treasurer Russell Bradford which might be of interest to Marking Station I/C's.

“John Chipperfield phoned me yesterday and almost unsolicited he praised the electronic version of the spreadsheet he's just completed for the first time for the Chestfield marking station. His actual words were “It's so easy and does all the adding up for you”. Granted he had a bit of coaching initially from Sandy at Mysoft, but he is now all for it and wonders why he didn't want to do it previously, as he says “it's so much quicker as well and it doesn't make any mistakes”. John openly admits he's not computer literate or as he calls it ‘not a computer man’ and his Wife helps,”

There you go then, those marking station I/C's who are not using it are obviously missing out! Whilst on the subject of Marking Stations – in my Falaise report I mentioned that members who used the South Ockenden marking station were disappearing after their birds were marked, leaving just Rita and Ernie Good along with the convoyer to load the crates onto the transporter. Rita has asked me to thank those members who took note of my appeal and who stayed behind after Alencon marking to help load up the transporter. It seems that some people do read my reports after all!!



A busy day at the South Ockenden Marking Station

Now some news of a possible new Marking Station in the North West of England in the Bolton area. I recently had a phone call from an obviously very enthusiastic Alan Wicker of Bolton, who enquired about the feasibility of having a Marking Station in Bolton which he would be

I/C. Obviously the logistics of opening one in the North West would have to be looked into and also the viability of the proposed station viz the likely number of fanciers who would use the station. Alan has asked that fanciers in the area who are interested in National and International racing with the BICC contact him on 07932 / 473122 and we can take it from there.

Finally, an update regarding the BICC's "adopted son", young Harvey Watson of Penzance.



Harvey with his new leg braces and Physiotherapy training

Harvey's uncle Trevor, has sent me this latest bulletin on Harvey's progress following his recent operation.

"Brilliant news from Harvey's Mum today , he had the last dose of his medication that he has been having 3 Times a day for the last 6 Years , and he is now Medication and Pain free , To get to this stage after only 2 and a half weeks after his Operation is such wonderful news. He is doing brilliantly with his Physiotherapy, and the other day walked a few steps holding on to his wheeled frame.It took a lot of determination but he did it .

The thing that touched me the most was that he is now pain free. How that must feel for him. However, this is only the start, but with his determination and his loving family I know that Harvey will do well , and I am so proud that pigeon fanciers, Elimar, Pigeon companies have all helped Harvey so much , and have contributed to him getting to this stage.

Hopefully he will be home from Bristol at the beginning of the week, can't wait to see him and give him a hug. Then his long road ahead will

seem a little easier when he is back home.

Kind Regards and Thanks to you all for what you have done for Harvey Trevor , Penzance.”

My thanks once again to all the BICC members who have supported this brave young lad in his pursuit of a happy, healthy and normal life. It makes me proud to be associated with such decent, generous and big hearted people.

Gareth Watkins