

British International Championship Club

Penzance National Provisional Race Report

12th June 2021

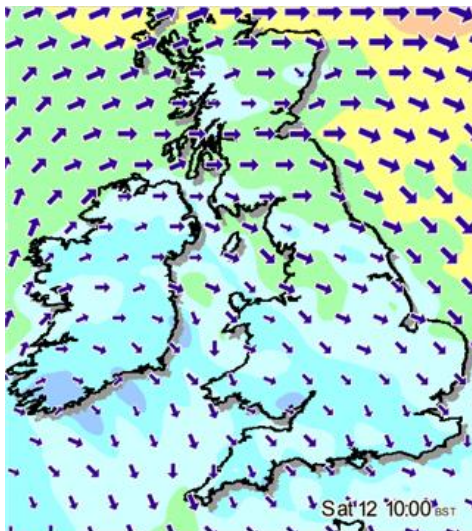
The BICC's fourth National race was from Penzance, in the south-west of Cornwall, where 317 members sent 3,575 birds, which were liberated at 7.00am on Saturday 12th June 2021.

Penzance is a town, civil parish and port in the Penwith district of Cornwall and is the most westerly major town in Cornwall. Penzance is known as a pirate town, not because of actual pirates, but because it was the setting of Gilbert and Sullivan's comic opera, *The Pirates of Penzance*. And, it was a busy weekend in Cornwall, not only because the BICC pigeons were liberated there, but 8 miles north of Penzance, in Carbis Bay, the UK played host to the leaders of the G7 at the intergovernmental summit, which included US President, Joe Biden on his first visit to the UK. It was a lovely weekend, and I wonder if they asked Steve for a weather report? If they did, I imagine it would be top secret and he couldn't say but, this was his report for the BICC.

The weather/race report

During Friday afternoon with the latest forecast to hand Mark Gilbert and I were confident a race would take place on Saturday and pencilled in a 07:00 liberation. This is exactly what transpired with the B.I.C.C. convoy being liberated under blue skies soon clearing the race point. The weather conditions for this race from Penzance were very good as a sunny summer Saturday dawned. The webcam overlooking the Penzance harbour captured a picture of blue skies with the sun reflecting off the moored boats. Early on, flags were almost stationary indicating the calm situation and variable winds. The line of flight was one of fair weather cloud and good visibility. Although at first light winds were variable as the morning progressed they did generate to a north westerly breeze. Viewing the early times confirmed an excellent race took place.

Steve Appleby race/weather advisor.



Penzance Harbour

This report is based on member's first bird verifications and the final result may differ.

The Provisional Open winner, taking 1st South West Section, was Nigel Templar of Hartcliffe, Bristol on 1600ypm over 156 miles. Nigel just beat his brother, Chris, the Truro National winner, who is provisionally 2nd Open in the race. Nigel told me, "The bird I timed was a dark yearling cock, bred from pair of birds from Gary Cox. This yearling widower was switched from the east road to the

west and this was his first time, down west this season. I'm really happy to win this one, it's a great feeling. This BICC win rounds off the wins I've taken in the other big clubs, as I've won the NFC and been 2nd Open twice and won the BBC and Central Southern Classic. So, I've got a BICC win as well now!

He also said, "I'd been racing east to west with the West of England Combine as far as Ramsgate but, with clashing and other things, I lost a few yearlings so I decided to switch them, and race the BICC from Penzance. I'd won a few races with the combine so it wasn't because of bad results; I just thought I'd give it a go. So, I gave my birds three training tosses of 30 miles to Bridgewater just to wake them up to the change of direction. I never told anyone, so everyone thought I was having a week off. When I went top of the leader board with my yearling cock, now called "Nato" after my grandson, I had a few phone calls saying, 'they've got you winning and you never sent!' I played along with it for a bit, before in the end I confessed to my sense of humour. I got a bit of friendly stick at the clock station and stopped my brother from winning two open races in one season. And, do I regret it? No, it was all good fun to compete against our local leg specialists and it was a great weekend. I had another two birds within a few minutes so was very happy. Finally, can I thank Clive and Jill at the marking station at Radstock and Gary Cox for breeding the parents and the BICC for good racing."



Nigel Templar



NATO – the National Winner

2nd South West Section, 2nd Open was Chris Templar of Bristol, on 1585yppm over 156 miles. Chris, the Truro National winner, told me, "Mike, what a day it turned out to be, I took 2nd Section and 2nd Open only to be beaten by my brother! The hen I timed was bred from my stock, the sire was a son of, Snowball and the dam from Gregg brothers & McCandless. Snowball is of Adam Wealthall bloodlines. Well done Nigel."

3rd South West Section, 3rd Open was Stuart Wilcox of Bristol, on 1584 over 156 miles. Stuart said, "I timed two hens together that, I imagine, will be 3rd and 4th Open. These two hens are sisters and both performed very well from the BICC Truro race. First over the pad was "069" who won 1st Bristol Federation 1820b 3 weeks ago and 11th BICC Truro 2 weeks ago, 2nd over the pad was her sister "221" who was 6th Open BICC Truro. These two are sisters and half sister to, 1st Club 1st WoESRC Truro 3197b, 1st Club 1st WOESRC Sennon Cove 1771b, 1st Bristol Fed Truro 1820b, 1st Club 511b, 1st Open Bristol Fed Truro (2021), 1st Open Bristol Fed Truro (2020), 6th National BICC Truro 5397b, 8th

National BICC Truro 5379b, 8th WoESRC Exeter 2960b, 10th Bristol Fed Truro 1820b, 11th National BICC Truro 5345b, 1st Club 188b 11th WoESRC Truro 2157b, 19th WoESRC Sennon Cove 1986b, 21st WoESRC Yelverton 2166b, 22nd WoESRC Exeter 2166b, 24th Bristol Fed East Prawle 839b, 25th National BICC Truro 5345b, 26th Open CSCFC Wadbridge 1980b, 30th WoESRC Yelverton 2519b (1st Club) etc. They are bred from, Amigo and Miss Turbo. Amigo is bred by Rik Hermans from Propere 42, son of Propere x Klien Martien and Friendship who won 1st Nat Chateauroux 44,314b and 1st Souppes 6134b etc. Dam is Miss Turbo, bred by Koen Minderhoud. She is a direct daughter of the Turbo Koppel who bred champion, Late Turbo, Nieuwe Turbo, Frans Turbo etc. All top NPO winners from 300 to 450 miles. All my hens are flown on widowhood and are feed on Beyers and Countrywide corns. Once again, well done to the Templar brothers.”



Chris Templar's bird



Stuart Wilcox

The Provisional South Centre Section Winners

1st South Centre Section, 10th Open was Tony Barrett of Portsmouth, on 1507ypm over 204 miles. Tony said, “Let me start by thanking Paul O’Leary and the team at Hornbeam marking station for a fantastic job and the BICC conveyer for looking after the birds. This pigeon has been knocking on the door week in, week out. I sent four to Truro with the BICC and was 7th Section, 26th Open, 5,345 birds. Then he went to Sennen Cove with the NFC, where he was 7th Section, 55th Open, 5,600 birds, and this week he was 1st Section, 10th Open 3,259 birds; provisionally. He was bred from gift birds from Wean and Nellson on the dam’s side, and the sire was from Jason Ross. Also, thank you Jimmy, Eric and Jason and thank you to Jason and Kala for my miniature bottle of champagne for winning the section. They promised a large bottle when I win the Open, ha-ha.”

2nd South Centre Section, 12th Open was Mark Gilbert of Winkfield, on 1506ypm over 231 miles. Mark told me, “I would like to thank the conveyers for the great condition of the birds, I had two birds drop together, a hen and cock. The hen was 2nd Section E last week with the NFC and both were bought from Mr J and W Molendijk of Strijen, in Holland. He’s a good friend of Hugo Batenburg and I bought these birds to try and improve my middle distance performances and they have raced very well for me.”

3rd South Centre Section, 15th Open was Cottrell & Richmond & Son of Wimbourne, on 1499ypm over 164 miles. Tony Cottrell told me, “Our blue-bar cock was bred by my life-long friend Justin

Rogers, of Boslevin Lofts in Cornwall. This year Justin joined the racing partnership, now know as, Cottrell, Richmond & Rogers and I've known Justin since he was 12 years old. The breeding details of our bird are Herman Custer, with the sire, a full brother to Tartan Bolt and the dam an inbred granddaughter to, New Olympiad. He was paired up in the second week of January, he reared one young bird and was then put on widowhood. He took a low box but likes to dominate the corner of the loft next to it. He was our first timer in the BBC Wadebridge Race, taking 27th Open 15th Section and is now provisional 15th Open 3rd Section Penzance. He was sent to Penzance flying freely around the loft, no training as I was hit at a 10 mile training toss, losing 9 cocks on my fourth training this year. Having more hens than cocks he was spoilt for choice with two hens in his box. You could call it the chaos system but, to be honest, I think I'm more likely to be on it than him! Also, congratulations to Nigel Templar, who I had a chat with at the Radstock station and his brother, for his Truro win, just being piped for first post this time. And, all the section winners and officials, it's now back to the drawing board."



Tony Barrett



Mark Gilbert



Cottrell, Richmond & Rogers

The Provisional South East Section Winners

1st South East Section, 25th Open was Kevin Foster of Longfield Hill, on 1473ypm over 271 miles. Kevin told me, "My bird was a 3 year-old chequer hen that was raced on widowhood. She was my second bird from BICC Bordeaux last year, making the top 100 of the Open result, always being a consistent hen for me. Her sire is from Mark Gilbert, a direct son of Southfield Karen, 3rd International Hens when she was paired to a son of, Euro Diamond. Her dam is from Premier Stud, a double granddaughter of Mark's 1st International Bordeaux."

2nd South East Section, 28th Open were T Sparks & P Dallas of Gravesend, on 1472ypm over 274 miles. Tommy and Pauline timed a yearling cock of Frans Zwols cross Louis Cooreman bloodlines.

3rd South East Section, 37th Open was Tony Meader of Benfleet, on 283ypm over 283 miles. Tony clocked a blue pied hen to take the 3rd Section spot. She was placed 8th Section BICC Truro, two weeks ago, and is a Vandenbeelee cross.



Kevin Foster



Tommy Sparks & Pauline Dallas



Tony Meader's bird

The Provisional North Centre Section Winners

1st North Centre Section, 38th Open was Shaun McDonough of Walsall, on 1452, over 232 miles. Shaun had two birds arrive together. He said, "The cock that won the Section arrived with his loft mate, they were both yearlings and were both bred by Pieter Oberholster. The winner having won 1st club, 5th fed and 3rd club, 3rd fed earlier in the year. Both were raced on widowhood and both we're having their first BICC race. The breeding of the first bird is: Super breeding Son MJ1 TRPF-ZA13-14132 x Gaby Vandenabeele hen GB17-Z99983 and the second is: Za13-14132. Pieter also told me that Dom Gruzelier's provisional 3rd Section winner carries the bloodlines of this bird."

2nd North Centre Section, 41st Open was Gary Downing of Smethwick, on 1448ypm, over 224 miles. Gary timed a chequer Lambrecht hen, which is a 2019 late-bred. Gary said, "She is a sister to 8 different 1st prize winners, the mother of them was gifted to me by my good friend Stuart Inett."

3rd North Centre Section, 49th Open was Dominic Gruzelier of Houghton Conquest, on 1435ypm over 257 miles. Dominic clocked a 2019 home bred blue hen, and said this about her, "She is a half sister to my Alencon Section winner, bred down from some un-rung pigeons from my good friend Pieter Oberholster. As a young bird she was very consistent winning club cards and 1st Section in the BICC race. She went off form as a yearling so I stopped her racing but, hopefully she's back now!"



Shaun McDonough's bird



Gary Downing's hen



Dom Gruzelier

The Provisional North East Section Winners

1st North East Section, 110th Open was Stephen Kascher of Diss, on 1338ypm over 333 miles. Stephen Kaschner timed a 3 year old dark chequer pied cock to top the Section. Stephen said, "He has been a consistent bird but this is his best performance yet. He is of L Cooreman bloodlines bred from Bob Fench direct stock. I think Cooremans' seem to fly well in 6-10 hour races. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the BICC for trying to keep all members happy with alternative options this season. Also, well done to our near neighbour and club mate Glen Arterton who was 2nd Section."

2nd North East Section, 122nd Open was Glen Arterton of Norfolk, on 1378ypm over 333 miles. Glen timed a 2 year cock bird of mixed breeding of club mate's stock. Glen said, "He has always been in the results but this is his best performance so far. Can I say a special thank you to my friends Chris and Val Wood for allowing me to site my loft on their land."

3rd North East Section, 138th Open were D & E Ball of Eyke, Woodbridge, on 1364ypm over 331 miles. Dennis and Elaine Ball timed a 3 year old Blue Vandenabeele cock, sent sitting 4 days and they told me that previously their pigeon has won 5th club, 16th fed, 2nd club, 19th fed, 3rd club, 8th fed, 7th Anglian Classic Cannapeville, 1st club, 15th Anglian Classic, 23rd Open Norfolk & Suffolk Alencon, 2nd club, 8th NE section BICC Falaise, and also winning the club's Channel Ace Pigeon as a yearling. That is what is called a real consistent bird. Dennis said, "Can I thank everyone who is working hard to get

our channel racing back, the BICC Secretary for all her hard work, and club and marking station Secretary, Jaqui Ivatt, for her sterling work and dedication. Well done to all.”



Stephen Kascher



Glen Arterton & Chris Wood



Dennis Ball

The Provisional North West Section Winners

1st North West Section, 61st Open was J Rodway of Rushwick, on 1429ypm over 201 miles. John told me, “The bird is a dark pied three year old cock flown on the natural system and is of mixed blood lines. He was sent to the race driving his hen to nest and last weekend he was in Sennan Cove with the NFC where he was my first bird home, although a bit behind the leaders. The race for me was erratic with my arrivals well spaced out. Can I thank Mick Howard for taking my birds to the marking station at Radstock and also thanks to Carol Francis for all the work she does as secretary.”

2nd North West Section, 66th Open was L Brewer of Worcester, on 1426ypm over 201 miles. Lionel timed a 2017 blue cock from his own distance bird’s family bloodlines. He told me, “The birds returned well and I timed four birds within 20 minutes, all raced on widowhood. I don’t alter the feed or break them down, I wait for natural form to show.” Over the years, Lionel has had some success over the distance, taking 1st Midland’s National from Angolune and Toulouse. Lionel couldn’t send a photo this time and joked, he’ll defiantly get one for next time.

3rd North West Section, 120th Open was Graham Jones of Cannock, on 1379ypm over 234 miles. Graham’s bird was from C Leadbeatter and Sons, and he sent 4 and had 3 back in ten minutes. Graham said, “My first bird went to Hexham on the north the week before with BICC and was switched to the south this week, so they can fly either direction. Well done to the Templar brothers, good racing boys.” Graham couldn’t send a photo this time either.



John Rodway

The Provisional Top Ten Open Positions:

1st Nigel Templar, of Hartcliffe on 1600ypm, 2nd Chris Templar, of Bristol on 1585ypm, 3rd Stuart Wilcox, of Bristol on 1584ypm, 4th J Thompson, of Bristol on 1581, 5th R & J Whiteside, of Abbots Leigh on 1566ypm, 6th L Nicholls, of Bedminster on 1561ypm, 7th Brimble & Caldwell of Cam on 1549ypm, 8th D & B Rayner, of Bridgwater on 1512ypm, 9th Steve Dickinson & Phil Neal, of Locking on 1508ypm, 10th Tony Barrett of Portsmouth on 1507ypm.

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