

British International Championship Club

Truro National Provisional Race Report

Saturday 29th May 2021

The second BICC National was held at Truro, Cornwall's only city and its centre of administration. It is also England's southernmost city and the people who live there are known as Truronians. Truro grew as a centre of trade around its port and then as a town known for its tin-mining industry. Cornwall is of course famous for its pasties and I noticed, having had a quick look on the internet, that on the weekend of the race, the Pasty Shop in the main street had an offer of two pasties for £5. I hope the convoyers saw this and took advantage, looked to me like an offer too good to miss!

But, back to the pigeons and for this race, some 5,345 birds were sent by 403 members that were liberated at 7.30am on Saturday 29th May. The birdage for each Section was: South Centre 2,390 birds sent by 176 members, South East, 1,057 sent by 77, South West, 644 by 43, North Centre, 605 by 42, North East, 405 by 51 and finally the North West, 244 birds by 14 members.

The weather/race report

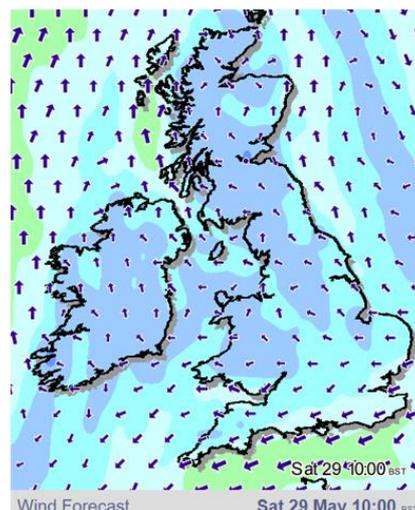
Steve Appleby, the BICC race and weather advisor, provided the following report:

After examining the weather over the line of flight from Truro across the country, Mark Gilbert and I were pleased to see the improvements with the weather conditions over-night giving the green light for the race to go ahead. The B.I.C.C. convoy liberated at 07:30, left the Truro race point under broken cloud and blue skies. The flight path from Truro as far as Salisbury and Bath was of mainly clear skies affording an excellent start for the race birds. More cloud was evident further north and east but visibility was first class. An area of cloud carrying some patchy light drizzle affected the Midlands throughout the morning migrated into Wales by about midday. The unfriendly dry easterly wind drawn off the continental land mass moving across England was the major factor affecting the race (westerly winds carry moisture). Winds although light changed to variable over the north Midlands, see wind flow chart. A tough race all down to the east in the wind.

Steve Appleby race/weather advisor.



Truro weathercam



Wind Chart

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

The Open Winner

The Provisional Open Winner, taking 1st South West Section was Chris Templar, of Bristol on 1372yph over 140 miles. Chris, took the top spot with a 2 year-old blue hen covering the 140 mile journey at a velocity of 1372yph. The hen has been a very consistent bird for Chris, and was bred from his old lines. The sire being a 10 year-old cock of Garrett Louis bloodlines, paired to an 11 year-old hen from Syndicate lofts of the old Koopman lines. Getting on, but still breeding the goods!

Chris told me. "I would like to start by saying thanks to Clive and Jill and team at Radstock Marking Station, they do a great job. I also need to thank Adam Wealthall for all his help with racing hens and with advice about what corn to feed and how to feed them, thank you Adam. Also to Joe and Les from Country Wide for supplying the corn I feed. As a young bird the hen was 29th Combine Truro 2,153 birds and as a yearling she was 27th Combine Truro, 17th Combine 1,500 birds from Yelverton. So she has covered this point a few times, but really came back well this time! Can I thank everyone for the texts I received after the race, as this is my first National win with the BICC. I did take 4th Section with the BICC from Wadebridge but, this tops the lot. I had 9 of my 11 entries back and I intend to prepare the winner for the next national race, so we'll see what happens. Thanks to everyone and good luck for the rest of the season."



Chris Templar



Winning pigeon

2nd South West Section, 2nd Open was Stuart Wilcox, of Bristol on 1364yph over 140miles. Stuart had some good returns and said this, "We gave the pigeons around 3 hours flying time however, it didn't prepare us for the panic of having 6 pigeons together, online and bang on time. All 6 were hens flown on a new system that I picked up from friend and mentor Albert Derwa. From the provisional result I suspect these hens will be 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 8th Open. First over the pad and my pooler was a yearling blue hen that scored 1st Club 28th West of England Combine from Sennon Cove last season, she is bred from Olympus a direct Leo Hermans grandson of Den Olympiade when paired to Safire, bred by Koen Minderhoud, and she is a direct daughter of Geeloger 3 x 1st NPO when he was paired to his own mother, a daughter of Albert Derwa's, Paulien. 2nd over the pad is a hen that won 1st Club 11th Combine Truro 2,157 birds as a young bird, and she is bred from Inbred Tip Top Junior, one of the last pigeons bred by Frans Zwols when paired to an inbred granddaughter of Geeloger being a daughter of Special K. Next over the pad was a yearling hen bred from a

grandson of the, Young Couple that was gifted me by Peter Fox when paired to a direct Dirk Van Dyck hen. Next is "155" a hen that won well here last year and is a direct daughter of Special K, one of our top breeders being a son of Geeloger 3 x 1st NPO when paired to his aunty, a daughter of Albert Derwas, Paulien. The next two are both sisters, they are bred from Amigo, a direct son of Friendship, 1st National Argenton 47,239 birds for Rik Hermans when paired to Miss Turbo, again bred by Koen Minderhoud. She is a daughter of his Turbo Koppel. Miss Turbo has bred 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) plus many more top prizes. Koen Minderhoud sadly doesn't fly anymore due to ill health but I always inform his of my results to keep him in good spirits. All the birds are fed on Beyers mixes and Country Wide Corns and have plenty of condition powder and oils from Beyers which keeps them in top condition. Congratulations to our club mate Chris Templar on what was a super day for the Towers, we now have the undesirable record of being 2nd in all of the National and Classic organisations, so we will be trying our hardest to go one better in the future! "

3rd South West Section, 3rd Open was Stephen Moseley of Bishopswort on 1349yppm over 139miles. Stephen followed up his 4th Section, 30th Open from Wadebridge with another provisional 3rd Section spot. This time with a yearling widowhood blue cock with similar breeding to the Wadebridge bird. His sire is a Van Dyke x Garrick family, of Les Nicholas and dam is a Wildermeersch x Van Osch. Stephen relaxed following the race, as is usual, with a day at his caravan in the glorious sunshine.



Stuart Wilcox



Stephen Moseley

The Provisional South Centre Section Winners

1st South Centre Section, 12th Open was Mark Gilbert, of Windsor on 1258yppm over 214 miles. Mark told me, "I really enjoyed the race and would like to thank all the markers and committee for making racing happen. I had four hens together, the first one on the clock was a hen bred by my very good friend Les Green. About 2 years ago I talked to Les about trying sprint racing, Les bred me some youngsters and gave me his methods, and I must say, I have really enjoyed it. I would like to say a big thank you to Les. The second and third pigeons were from my Kittle family and the fourth hen that topped the fed last week was bred by Nigel Langstaff from his, Harry family."

2nd South Centre Section, 18th Open was J F Haynes, of Fifield on 1251ypm over 214 miles, who timed a yearling but wasn't able to add any more information.

3rd South Centre Section, 20th Open was Stuart Sheffield, of Oakley Green on 1248ypm over 215 miles. Stuart timed a 2 year-old blue cock bred by Steve Williams of Doncaster. He breeding is Herman Custer, of the Lad of France, Diamond Bolt bloodlines. The cock was raced on roundabout and has raced well for Stuart in the club.



Mark Gilbert



Stuart Sheffield

The Provisional South East Section Winners

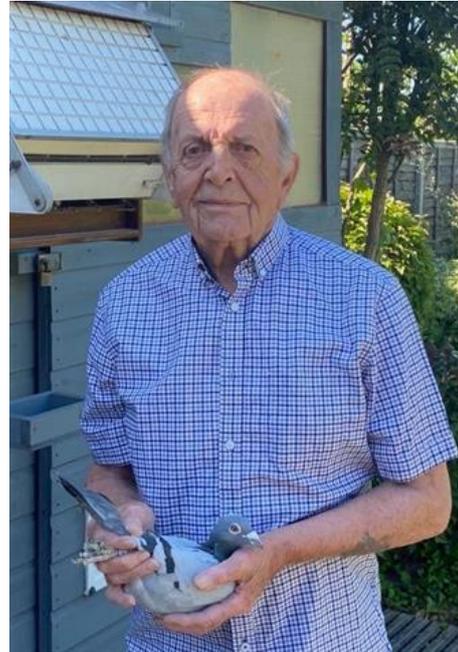
1st South East Section, 35th Open was Fagg & Nicolas, of Hartlip on 1232.7ypm over 265 miles. Colin told me, "I timed a 2 year-old chequer hen, who won the federation race from 142 miles last week. She hasn't been paired this season as I was keeping her for channel racing and intended to pair her for that. So, I'm surprised she came so well but this might be something I'll try in the future. She is a distance bird and her dam is a granddaughter of Kleine Barcelona, bought at a Nigel Langstaff sale and her sire is a direct Menne and daughter." Colin wanted to congratulate the other section winners and mentioned that it might be tight for first spot between him and Tommy Sparks and Dallas when the final verification is calculated.

2nd South East Section, 36th Open were T Sparks & Dallas, of Gravesend on 1232.4ypm over 257 miles. Tommy Sparks' first bird was a chequer pied, yearling widowhood cock. His sire was a former Combine winning Busschaert and dam, a Frans Zwol bird that was retired from racing. Tommy reported good returns, with the birds in immaculate condition upon arrival.

3rd South East Section, 43rd Open was Kenny Burt, of Hartley, London on 1224ypm over 253 miles. Kenny timed a blue yearling widowhood cock. It was the grandson of the, 38 Cock and granddaughter of Woody's Dad. Kenny said, "The breeding is Gaby Vandenabeele from my good friend of Mick Sheedy via Andrew Lawley. I was really pleased with the way he flew over the 253 miles to Hartley. I'd like to congratulate the other section winners and thank the race organisers for all they are doing."



Colin Fagg



Kenny Burt

The Provisional North Centre Section Winners

1st North Centre Section, 14th Open were the Johnson Family, of Allenton on 1256 over 245miles. They timed a yearling dark pied cock that they bred from a grandson of their Midland's National winner, Maisie, crossed with Jos Thone bird from John Wheatcroft and G Kirkland Snake Lines. The whole family were happy with the win as can be seen from their picture, smiling faces on a sunny day.

2nd North Centre Section, 34th Open was Shaun McDonough, of Walsall on 1234yppm over 217miles Shaun explained, "The bird I timed in was a yearling blue hen, she was bred by my good friend Pieter Oberholster, and she has already won a 1st and a 2nd this year and both times, she was well up in the federation. She was raced on widowhood and at the minute she lives in a temporary flight built on the side of the widowhood cocks loft. She has been raced twice a week up until this race, and I'm pleased with this result, as this is my first attempt in the BICC. The dam of this hen is a sister to the cock that bred my 2nd Open National bird in the BBC last season." Pieter provided the breeding details for Shaun's bird: Sire, Blue Son Rudy BE15-3150655 inbred to Bliksem x Blue hen GB17-Z08888. G.Dtr Bliksem and also Rudy so also inbred Bliksem.

3rd North Centre Section, 53rd Open was R&G Jones & Batt, of Bereton on 1216yppm over 224miles. Richard Jones told me, "The bird we timed, was a late bred gifted to me by my cousin Barry Jones. He is bred from Shaun McDonough x J Bradley bloodlines." Richard also asked me to say what a great job Richard Chambers is doing at the new marking station, "He's doing an absolutely fantastic job, and should be congratulated." If he hadn't organised the station, Richard said that he wouldn't be flying with the BICC and considering they took 1st Section from Wadebridge two weeks ago, they are making a great start with the BICC.



The Johnson Family



Shaun McDonough's blue hen



R&G Jones & Batt's dark chequer cock

The Provisional North East Section Winners

1st North East Section, 153rd Open were Jacqui & Terry Ivatt, of Ipswich on 1146ypm over 305miles. The long standing I/C's at the Ipswich station, Jacqui & Terry Ivatt, said, "Our '19 blue cock is bred by ourselves flying in its first BICC race. It raced as a yearling in the club. The sire is a full brother and sister bred by us and raced successful on the north road, winning a Gold Diploma when bred to our De Rauw Sablon. Strangely, it is the same way bred as our previous section winner. A good race for us with 8 from 11 birds home, flying a distance just on 305 miles. Thank you to the BICC for their good care of the birds and our team at Ipswich for the marking."

2nd North East Section, 185th Open were Mr & Mrs David Quantrill, of Lowesoft on 1117ypm over 337miles. David and Sheila Quantrill have been racing pigeons for almost 50 years, winning many long distance and overseas races in their time. More recently, they have had some success flying with the BICC. On this occasion their bird was a two year-old chequer cock bred by fellow club member Mick Graham, from Lowestoft. They told me, "The bird was purchased at a Ness Point South Road Flying Club breeder/flyer sale for the princely sum of £10. He flew well as a young bird and a yearling but, had been quiet this year until this race from Truro. We would like to congratulate Jackie & Terry Ivatt, the section winners. Our thanks are conveyed to the BICC and all those who work tirelessly at the marking station for making the race possible."

3rd North East Section, 192nd Open was Roly Rix of Newmarket, on 1109ypm over 279miles. The Wadebridge section winner of two weeks ago, Roly Rix took 3rd from Truro and joked, "I'm slipping!" Slipping he may be but, still making the grade. Roly timed a 4 year-old blue cock raced on the roundabout system. This cock has previously taken 1st and 2nd positions in the club and is a full brother to his Wadebridge section winner, Dazzle. Roly wanted to congratulate the first and second section winners who both raced further than him on what he said, was a hard day's racing for the birds.



Terry Ivatt



David & Shelia Quantrill



Roly Rix

The Provisional North West Section Winners

1st North West Section, 11th Open was Team Aurel of Ironbridge, on 1261ypm over 204miles. Aurel said, "It was written in the stars. It was such an emotional day for me to hear that I won the NW section of national race with the British International Championship Club from Truro in Cornwall. The whole week I had that strange feeling that something good was going to happen. I am going to call this pigeon, The Destroyer, as a tribute to a very nice man called, Keith Gaut aka THE DESTROYER, who wrote a very nice article in the British Homing World about me and my pigeons. I have shown his article to my children and said, 'Look guys, someone took the time to write something good about daddy and he does not even know me.' I wanted my children to know that, in a world where you could be anything, be kind."

Aurel continued, "I think my bird was 1st over 200 miles, but to be fair I think Mr Mark Gilbert's bird was better, flown in head wind. So I am under no illusion where I stand. It was a perfect day on Saturday and was a great present for my 49th birthday party. The cherry on the cake was a great phone call today from my friend, Mr Sorin Florea (one of the biggest collectors and investors in racing pigeons in Europe) offering me to fly in partnership with him next year. My first reaction was one of, 'I cannot believe it' and, 'why me?' But, the first thing I said to Sorin was, 'I do not want to disappoint you, in case I lose your birds.' But life is full of challenges and I have accepted this one. To learn from his loft manager, Mr Petrica Cocos, is something that everyone will have, as a once in a lifetime opportunity. So let's go, Team AS (Aurel + Sorin). Well done Cristian Voinea for a great connection with the pigeons! You know that feeling when the passion burns through your veins and nothing is going to stop you? To be a winner as a person it is something special, but to get an animal winning for you, it is a spiritual experience. I am blessed and I feel humble." Aurel concluded by saying, "Do you know that feeling of elation when you float on happiness? Do you know what I mean?" Well, I think Aurel does, and I think he's certainly looking forward to forming a great partnership, so watch this space.

2nd North West Section, 19th Open were Mr & Mrs G Lloyd of Hereford, on 1249ypm over 169 miles. Joy contacted me and told me they were delighted with another good position in the BICC. She said, "Our blue hen is a Deweert x Jan Aarden and her sire was bred by Alan Gibb of Gloucester. She is raced on the chaos system and she laid the night after last week's race from Yeovil, so we left her in with the cocks all week and she was sent sitting 5 day old eggs. She was also our 2nd bird from Ilkeston on the north road 3 weeks ago. We had 17 out of 20 birds on the day, which was really pleasing. Finally, congratulations to Team Aurel on their 1st Section winner and thanks to all the

team for getting us some racing this year, at such a difficult time. Good luck to all for the remainder of the season.”

3rd North West Section, 24th Open were Mr & Mrs Nigel Shaw of Crewe, on 1246ypm over 230miles. Nigel said, “The pigeon we were 3rd section with, is a very consistent blue hen having scored 7th Open in the NWCC. She was bred by my good friends, J&B Oakley out of a pigeon called, Black Gold, who is a son of Black Caviar from Paul Macaloney. The dam is, Skyfall and these pigeons are breeding some top class pigeons. And finally, well done to all the winners.”



Team Aurel



Mr & Mrs G Lloyd



Nigel Shaw

The Provisional Top Ten Open Positions:

1st Chris Templar of Bristol on 1372ypm, 2nd Stuart Wilcox of Bristol, on 1364ypm, Stephen Moseley of Bishopswart, on 1349ypm, 4th M Hathaway of Bristol, on 1346ypm, 5th Steve Dickenson & Phil Neal of Locking, on 1320ypm, 6th Daniel Hockling, of Bridgewater on 1315ypm, 7th G Treharne & Son, of Nantyglo on 1309ypm, 8th J Thompson, of Bristol on 1306ypm, 9th L Nicholls, of Bedminster on 1303ypm, 10th Marg & Lawrence Cowley, of Grimstone on 1269ypm.

The next race is from Hexham, so good luck, good flying and may the line of flight be with you.

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