

# British International Championship Club

## Pau / Bordeaux International Provisional Race Report

27<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Pau is one race that almost needs no introduction, as it is an iconic race point that fanciers have tried to win for generations. The last time BICC members raced from there was on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2000, when Mick Bunny timed the only bird on the day into the UK. So, the opening International of the season was much anticipated. The liberation was planned for Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June but due to bad weather, the birds were held over and were transported to Bordeaux and were liberated at 6.00am into a north-west wind turning west and south-west on route on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June.

Bordeaux is the world capital of wine, with its castles and vineyards and it is located close to the European Atlantic coast, in the southwest of France. Since 1947, it has been twinned with Bristol.

The BICC birds joined a total of 15,536 pigeons up from 14,246 pigeons in 2021. Each country sent the following: Belgium 3,734, Holland 4,994, Germany 1,356 France 5,162 and Luxembourg 31.

In the South Centre Section 12 members sent 70 birds, in the South East 21 sent 141, in the South West 3 sent 12, in the North Centre 5 sent 32 and in the North East 1 member sent 4 birds. In total 42 members sent 258 birds.

**The Provisional Open winner, taking 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> South East Section were L & K Buddle of Dover on 1303 & 1245 over 453 miles.** Lee said, 'Our provisional 1<sup>st</sup> ES, 1<sup>st</sup> National BICC Bordeaux is a 3-year-old cock we now call Apollo, flown on our widowhood chaos type of system, clocking him at 15:25 on the day of liberation. He is also sitting provisionally 34<sup>th</sup> Open International 15,536 birds. Preparation for the long-distance races this year has been totally different to other years as we were unable to get into France earlier in the season, this cock only had 4 inland races out to 160 miles and 2 Guernsey races with the BICC and NFC. Feed as always here, is very simple with the same mix being given every day, 7 days a week. It consists of 2/3 Versele-Laga Superstar Plus & 1/3 Best Allrounder or an Irish Mixture, with Fats given after their feeds for the last 3 days before basketing. The winning cock Apollo is a son of one of our top pigeons Tom, himself a winner of – 5th BICC St Vincent 531m 2013, 6th BICC Perpignan 598m 2016, 10th BICC Pau 545m 2016, 15th BICC Pau 545m 2014, 22nd BICC St Vincent 531m 2014, 27th BICC St Vincent 531m 2015, 30th BICC Pau 545m 2013 and a BICC Certificate of Merit Award winner. Tom has also been a great breeder for us and others, for instance he is the G-Sire of H&P Archibald's The Proof, 1<sup>st</sup> Sec, 2<sup>nd</sup> NFC Tarbes 2018 & 1<sup>st</sup> Sec, 3<sup>rd</sup> NFC Tarbes 2017. The dam of Apollo is, The Cooper Hen bred by G & C Cooper for stock purposes.

We are also lucky enough to also win 2<sup>nd</sup> ES, 2<sup>nd</sup> National BICC Bordeaux. Clocking a 2-year-old hen at 15:38 just 13 minutes after the winner. She has now been named Bella, by my daughters. She is full of the best long distance international winning bloodlines, as her sire is an Inbred G-Son of Perpignan-0,6, 1<sup>st</sup> National, 2<sup>nd</sup> International for P & Dr HP Brockamp. Her dam is Kobal Laureaat and is an Inbred granddaughter of New Laureaat, 1<sup>st</sup> International Barcelona in 2013. Feed and preparation races have been the same as Apollo, the winner.

We cannot explain to you all how super it is to finally get back into racing from France and more importantly to us, the international races, as we haven't been able to since 2020 due to Brexit and a change in EU rulings. A big well done to all who have worked so hard to make this happen, you know who you are, and I speak for a lot of pigeon fanciers when we say, thank you for all your hard work to make this happen in 2022, despite all the negative comments and opinions mostly on social media platforms.'



Fighter was 1<sup>st</sup> International Barcelona 17,094 birds, one of the hardest Barcelona races ever, X daughter of New Laureaat x Romee. Mark's second pigeon is from a son of Blue Champion, Kees Droog. Blue Champion won 20<sup>th</sup> National St-Vincent, X Rozalynn. Rozalynn took 8<sup>th</sup> National Barcelona 2017, when paired to a daughter of Jack x Dafne of Jelle Jellema. Jack won 6<sup>th</sup> Nat St-Vincent, 26<sup>th</sup> Nat Barcelona, 35<sup>th</sup> Nat Perpignan, plus many more results. Dafne won 3<sup>rd</sup> Nat Perpignan, 35<sup>th</sup> Nat Pau and 85<sup>th</sup> Nat Pau. Really top bloodlines in Mark's pigeons.

**2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> South Centre Section, 4<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> Open were W Carr & Son of Guildeford on 1245 & 1174 over 453 miles.** Bill Carr & Son timed a 2-year-old dark chequer cock. His best performance as a yearling was 3<sup>rd</sup> to the loft over 236 miles from Sennen Cove. He flew both north road this year then had a Truro training toss from 200 miles before flying Bordeaux. He was bred from Mark Gilbert's international stock.



Mark Gilbert, Nigel Langstaff & Hugo Battenburg



Bill Carr

### The Provisional South West Section Winners

**1<sup>st</sup> South West Section, 42<sup>nd</sup> Open were Brooks Bros & Wilcox on 721 over 453 miles.** The Partnership of Brooks Brothers and Wilcox was formed to fly long distance internationals and where possible we try and send a small team to every race. Racing is down to Robert Brooks and breeding and supplying the bloodlines is the job of Stuart Wilcox. We timed a 3-year-old widowhood hen who previously had only been as far as Fougères. She is fantastically bred, her sire is, Brother in Arms who was bred jointly by Barry and Pete Winter and Alwyn Hill. Brother in Arms is bred from Jet the sire of Little Gem and the De Vos Hen, the dam of Wing Down, so he is a ½ brother to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Open NFC Pau at nearly 700 miles. The dam is a 2018 hen who was retained for stock, being bred from a son of Wilf Reed's Champion Darkie, NFC Certificate of Merit Award Winner from Pau. The son of Darkie was paired to a full sister of Little Gem, again from Barry and Pete Winter. Stuart said, 'We would like to thank everyone who has helped get channel racing back on track, especially Mark Gilbert. Also, a special thank you from both Rob and Stuart to Clive and Jill Rogers for all they do for the sport and the BICC, they kindly took our birds to be marked, Clive continued to Belgium with the convey and Jill delivered the Lerwick birds to Southampton. We hope that people realise the sacrifices these guys are making to allow others to enjoy their racing.'

**2<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> South West Section, 64<sup>th</sup> & 70<sup>th</sup> Open were Clive & Jill Rogers & Neil Writhlington of Radstock over 450 miles.** Clive and Jill Rogers and Neil Sales took 2<sup>nd</sup> South West Section with a two year old chequer white flight cock, GB20R00483, that was bred from a pair of pigeons purchased from S R & W H Knox. The second pigeon to their loft, taking 3<sup>rd</sup> Section, was a chequer pied cock, GB18R03920, which was bred from a Terry Preddy cock bird when paired to a hen from the Padfield family.



Brooks Bros & Wilcox



Jill & Clive Rogers & Neil Writhlington

### The Provisional North Centre Section Winners

**1<sup>st</sup> North Centre Section, 10<sup>th</sup> Open was John Black of Hitchen on 1197 over 492 miles.** John told me, 'The bird I'm holding in my right hand is a dark chequer two-year-old hen from my Marley Westrop stock, 1<sup>st</sup> NC Section. She was raced on widowhood and she had two Guernsey races as preparation and then off to Pau. Last year she had one race north with the BICC from Hexham gaining 26<sup>th</sup> Open, so I knew she was one for the future. I was pleased how well she did against a strong west wind to gain 10<sup>th</sup> Open. My second bird was a three-year-old chequer, widowhood Southwell cock, from stock purchased from Justin Bernard in Portsmouth, way back in 2016. He's always been a very consistent. I was down the club getting my clock read when I got a text message at 21-47-14 pm letting me know he was home. Dave George, one of my club members, wouldn't believe me till I showed him the text. What a game bird he is. I'm pleased with the conditions of the birds when they returned and I had one next morning, so 3 from 4, not bad. Well done to the winner and all the section winners.'

**3<sup>rd</sup> North Centre Section, 61<sup>st</sup> Open were T & B Woodhouse of Hitchen on 654 over 492 miles.** Ted and Brenda said, 'I bred this pigeon from two Pennine Heights pigeons owned by Brian Shackleton from Keighley and they are from the, Top Star family. The pigeon was trained on John Black and Kevin Grace's transporter, twice to the coast at 100 miles. Then he went once in the club to 100 miles, to Guernsey at 200 miles and he was rested until he went to the International.'



John Black



Brenda Woodhouse

### The Provisional North East Section Winners

**1<sup>st</sup> North East Section, 41<sup>st</sup> Open Dean Jones of Sibley on 700 over 562 miles.** Dean said, 'I timed a 3-year-old hen of Padfield X Impett blood lines, being a granddaughter of Vince, 1<sup>st</sup> WRS Nat Pau in 2000 and a double granddaughter of the famous, Old 89. On the dam's side is, The Goldmine Brugemann from Dave Impett, sire of Patsy, 1<sup>st</sup> Welsh Nat pau. The hen had several inland races with the Peterborough Central Fed down to Weymouth then three Guernsey's with the BICC and NFC. She was re-paired with Pau in mind and sent sitting an 8 day chick. She returned in fantastic condition and will now be aimed at Pau with the NFC in four weeks' time.'





Dean Jones Section winner

**The Provisional Top Ten Open Positions:**

1<sup>st</sup> L & K Buddle of Dover on 1368 2<sup>nd</sup> L & K Buddle of Dover on 1336 3<sup>rd</sup> M Gilbert Winkfield on 1303, 4<sup>th</sup> W Carr & Son of Guildford on 1245, 5<sup>th</sup> Mr & Mrs S Rhodes of Aylesham on 1242, 6<sup>th</sup> Mr & Mrs S Rhodes of Aylesham on 1227, 7<sup>th</sup> M Gilbert of Winkfield on 1224, 8<sup>th</sup> Truelove Family of Folkestone on 1219, 9<sup>th</sup> A B Coker of Wickford on 1202, 10<sup>th</sup> John Black of Hitchin on 1197.

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