

British International Championship Club

Tarbes (St Vincent) International Provisional Race Report

15th July 2022

The St Vincent International was moved to Tarbes due to forest fires. On Thursday prior to liberation, a statement was issued by Filip Norman, President, and Yvan Eeckhout, Secretary, the race organisers. It read, 'Right now the French department of La Gironde - the area of Bordeaux - is hit by heavy forest fires. Despite the enormous efforts of the local fire brigade, the fire is still not under control, but on the contrary. In such circumstances, we find it irresponsible to unload pigeons tomorrow, Friday, in St Vincent. After consultation with and agreement of the Chairman of the National Sports Committee K.B.D.B. and our foreign partners, the Belgian Conscience has decided to move to Tarbes. Thank you for your understanding.'

And so, the birds were moved and were liberated at 6.20am on Friday 15th July were the weather report started: the weather is good, the wind is from the west, on the flight line the wind is mainly from the northeast. Temperatures rise to 35°C later in the day in southern and central France. In northern France temperatures up to 25 °C.

At this race, the fourth International of the season, 62 BICC members sent 332 birds to join the international liberation. Each section sent the following: South Centre, 24 members sent 122 birds. Sout East 26 members sent 154, South West 9 sent 45, North Centre, 1 sent 5, North east 1 sent 5, North West, 1 member sent 1 bird. They joined a liberation of 10, 237 birds.

1st South Centre Section, 1st Open was Mark Gilbert of Winkfield, Windsor on 748 over 570 miles. Mark timed two birds, the first was a 5-year-old cock. The father of this bird is a grandson of Southfield Supreme, who was 2nd and 3rd NFC Tarbes and the mother was from Euro Diamond. A bird that has scored many times over the distance. His second bird was a direct daughter of Golden Barcelona and a half-sister to his two Barcelona National winners, Southfield Hugo and Gold Lady. She flew, on the day, from Bordeaux this year and if all is well, will go back to Perpignan in a few weeks.



Mark Gilbert

2nd South Centre Section, 2nd Open was M Adochita of Queensbury on 744 over 579 miles. Marinel Adochita timed a 2-year-old dark chequered cock, GB20B00511, on the second day at 11:37:04 and it's one of the most constant racers in his loft. He said, 'As for pedigree, both parents are from my good friend and multiple National Marathon Champion, Mr Vasile Badin from Romania. The father being a grandson of his super pigeon, The Gladiator. The Gladiator was a marathon Olympic pigeon. He is 75% Wegen and 25% Vanroy. In preparation for this race, the bird had flown 6 races with the club, 4 from Guernsey and then he went to St Philbert with BICC. He had 2 weeks rest time in preparation for Tarbes which is 579 miles or 932km to my loft. Over the last few years, for the marathon races, I have been using the programme of Duncan Goodchild, a real gentlemen, a man with a live time of experience in the racing pigeon sport. I am very pleased that I got the opportunity to say a big thank you to Duncan for all the good advice he has given me over the years.'



Marinel Adochita



Marinel's bird

3rd South Centre Section, 3rd Open was Dave Watson & Son of Ashford Common on 716 over 567 miles. Dave and Daniel timed an experienced pigeon to take this 3rd Open position. Ring no. GB 14 P 08058, called Peanut has previously won in 2018: 15th Open 8th Section Agen 524 miles, 2019: 50th Open 19th Section Cholet 301 miles, 33rd Open 10th Section St Vincent 539 miles, 2020: 7th Open 4th Section Agen 524 miles, 2022: 18th Open 5th Section Bordeaux 451 miles and now 3rd Open 3rd Section Tarbes 567 miles. Peanut is a blue cock, he is a Krauth of our own family crossed with a Busschaert. Dave explained, 'He gets his name for his love for peanuts. So much so, that when he got back from Tarbes, we gave him some barley and he refused to eat it after being on the wing that long, so we gave him some peanuts. Then we couldn't stop him from eating. He is an outstanding old pigeon with some lovely results and now he will move to the stock loft to retire gracefully.'



Dave, Daniel and family



Peanut

The Provisional South East Section Winners

1st South East Section, 4th Open was J Nicholson & Son of Rochester on 680 over 563 miles. The partnership timed a 3-year-old bird but weren't able to provide any more information.

2nd South East Section, 5th Open was B & J Wilson of Dagenham on 678 over 575 miles. Bernie and Jamie timed a 3-year-old natural hen bred by David Hales / Duncan Goodchild. She is a granddaughter of Duncan and a half sister to Mirfar, 1st & 2nd Open Perpignan. They have called their bird Poppy.

3rd South East Section, 8th Open were G M Preece & Son of Dover over 669 miles. Following on from their fantastic Barcelona results, the partnership timed a 2-year-old bird, to take 3rd Section in this race.



Bernie & Jamie Wilson

The Provisional South West Section Winners

1st & 2nd South West Section, 7th & 10th Open were GG Cooper & CJ Cooper of Peasdown St John on 676 & 651 over 571 miles. The partnership said, 'Our first section bird was Farm Grafters, a four-year-old cock flown on widowhood. He had the first hard Poitiers race with the BICC, then four weeks rest into Tarbes. Last season flying north, he won 3rd Section Berwick National then 2nd Classic, 3rd National from Elgin. He is inbred to Farmer George and has the bloodlines of Wollongong, New Laureaat, Special One and Kliene Jade. Our second section bird is a yearling widowhood cock, now called Farm Sol, as it was the hottest weekend so far this year, and our grandson is called Sol. Farm Sol flew the young bird programme on the north last year and was turned south this season and had his first ever Channel race from Poitiers four weeks ago. The sire of Sol is a son of Farmer George and Wollongong and the dam is from Hugo Batenburg, a daughter of De Tarbes, 1st Dutch National Tarbes. We also clocked a two-year-old inbred grandson to Farmer George to be 4th Section. All the widowhood cocks had their hens the day before basketing and had great fun building nests etc before being basketed for the race. Although the birds had to contend with the heat, head winds and dodge the forest fires in France they came home in very good condition, a credit to the organisers.'



Catherine and Geoff's 1st bird



Catherine and Geoff's 2nd bird

3rd South West Section, 29th Open were Clive and Jill Rogers & Neil Sales of Radstock on 479 over 570 miles. GB18R03970 took the 3rd Section for Clive & Jill Rogers & Neil Sales and was a sister to the bird that they timed to be 3rd Section from the Bordeaux/Pau International. They were both bred from a Terry Preddy cock bird when paired to a hen from the Padfield Family.



Clive and Jill Rogers & Neil Sales

The Provisional Top Ten Open Positions:

1st M Gilbert of Winkfield on 748, 2nd M Adochita of Queensbury on 744, 3rd D G Watson & Son of Ashford Common on 716, 4th J Nicholson & Son of Rochester on 680, 5th B & J Willson of Dagenham on 678, 6th M Gilbert of Winkfield on 677, 7th G.G. Cooper & C.J Cooper of Peasedown Saint John on 676, 8th G M Preece & Son of Dover on 669, 9th G M Preece & Son of Dover on 664, 10th G.G. Cooper & C.J Cooper Peasedown Saint Johnon 651.

Mike Jackson
BICC Press Officer
Email:mike.jackson026@hotmail.com
Tel:07964448291