Guernsey (2) Provisional Young Bird Race Report

10th September 2022

The BICC's final young bird race was from Guernsey, where 228 members sent 2,520 birds that were liberated at 9.07 am on Saturday 10th September 2022. In accordance with RPRA guidelines and in remembrance of HM Queen Elizabeth II, the convoy respected a 2-minute silence before liberation.

The BICC's thoughts and condolences are with the Royal family, as we too, mourn the loss of the longest serving British Monarch. She dedicated her life to public service, and she stood as a symbol of Britain, bringing comfort, leadership and steadfastness to millions.

On a happier note, and to celebrate the last race of the season for the BICC, there were 2 prizes from Benzing available for this race and 2 for the AA race. This is in addition to BICC prizes and diplomas. Each winner will receive a Benzing Blue N°1 solution with a RRP of £75, delivered FOC! The young bird prizes are: Open winner Northern Section, awarded to the race winner positioned in the Northern Sections regardless of the clocking system used, ETS or rubber, sponsored by Team Aurel. Open winner Southern Sections, again awarded to the race winner regardless of the clocking system used, sponsored by Benzing. The Club would like to thank Team Aurel and Benzing for their sponsorship.



The weather/race report

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

As anticipated at first light heavy cloud cover extended over Guernsey and the surrounding area. Using the weather satellite clear blue skies were identified moving towards the Island from the northwest. (See image Guernsey circled.) As a result, the convoyers on site reported conditions were improving and with the knowledge blue skies were on the way, they prepared to liberate. The convoy was released at 09:07 taking into consideration the 2 minutes silence directive by the R.P.R.A. They cleared the race point immediately which is usually a good indicator for a successful race. Channel conditions were very good, a clear flight path with visibility 11 miles as recorded by the Channel meteorology buoys. Over England conditions were of broken cloud and sunshine with isolated showers affecting the east side of the country. Winds at liberation and over the Channel were N/W changing to NNW over England. Many of the leading pigeons were timed into the east of the country. Despite the north westerly wind influence some exceptional performances were achieved into other areas, well done.



Satellite image

View of Saint Peter Port

Wind flow map

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

The Provisional Open winner, taking 1st South Centre Section was Lance Gunn of Southwick on 1520 over 137miles. A delighted Lance said, 'My winning pigeon was bred by Kevin Gillam of Croydon. The dam and sire were bred for Kev by Les Pinfield and Bob Carter. Can I thank Kev for breeding this young bird, she came really well on the day. She was racing back to a 4 -day- old swab and returned home with a brilliant trap. I am delighted to win the last BICC National of the season and I'd like to thank the club, the convoyers and congratulate all the other section winners. I had a good weekend racing, as I also took 1st Section in the AA race. And finally, on this occasion, I would like to send my condolences to the Royal family.'

2nd South Centre Section, 17th Open were D & J Novis of Brighton on 1397 over 142 miles. The partnership's pigeon was bred from Peter and Leon Mcmahon and purchased in the Reigate breeder/ buyer. The bird also won 2nd prize in the breeder/buyer, picking up a total of £3k. Raced on natural, the breeding is 3/4 Brockamp and 1/4 Gaston van de Wouwer. The lines are from James Parkers', National Beauty when paired to a Brockamp hen from Crammond and Langstaff. James and his dad would like to congratulate their good friend Lance Gunn on winning the race.

3rd South Centre Section, 19th Open were Malik & Khan of Tolworth on 1389 over 162 miles. Imran told me, 'Firstly, congratulations to Mr Gunn on a super pigeon and winning the race, which turned out to be quite tough. Our first bird's sire was, The Unrung Cock, who is bred from Tipsey x Beauty Blue when paired to a daughter of our 2 National winners, when paired together. National Ace 1st NFC Coutances x Ruby 1st BICC Alencon. On the day we had 8 from 11 and all birds arrived in good condition.'



Lance Gunn

D & J Novis



Malik & Khan

The Provisional South East Section Winners

1st South East Section, 2nd Open were Topp & Mann of Rayleigh on 1473 over 200 miles. Mitchel said, 'First I would like to congratulate the winners Lance, and my club mate, John Cowlin. A very well done! My first pigeon was a Gaby x Zwols from Mark Evens and Formula One. Gaby's side was pre- Olympic and Lady Lucas, and the Dream Pair on the other side. Her racing condition was, just paired up and looking to nest, so I gave her a bowl and she took to it very well. I put straw in the loft the night before and when I looked in on basketing day, she had built a big nest and was sitting on top of it, so she seemed very keen. I wasn't surprised when she come home, really trying, and was she was a pleasure to see. I would also like to thank everyone involved in making it such a good race as always, and all say congratulations to the Section winners. I would like to thank my grandad, my partner, and my best mate, for getting up and getting the birds in when I call to wake him up at 5'oclock in the morning. Nothing would be possible without him. And on a final note, I would like to send my condolences to the Royal family.'

2nd South East Section, 3rd Open were T Sparks & P Dallas on 1472 over 184 miles. Tommy and Pauline started by passing on their congratulations to the Lance Gunn. They then told me, 'Our pigeon, WHU22D28001, was bred by Brandon Webb from Wales. The sire is an in-bred Planet Bros Van- Loon and the dam came from Norman Sibley. She is half in-bred sister of the fed cock that won 38 x firsts - she was a pure Coulleman.'

3rd **South East Section, 4**th **Open was Tim Pierpoint of Sheerness on 1471 over 197 miles.** Tim said, 'The bird that is currently 3rd Section 4th Open, is a Belgian hen from a small loft in Antwerp, sourced by my great friend and Mentor Bob Fenech. I sent 7 of these Belgian rung birds to the race and got 100% returns. In the first YB Guernsey a few weeks ago, another of these Belgian youngsters was 8th Section, 10th Open, so they look promising. I had two young birds arrive together, and the second one on the clock is bred from the National winning stock of Colin Fagg of Hartlip'.



Topp & Mann



Sparks & Dallas



Tim Pierpoint

The Provisional South West Section Winners

1st South West Section, 122nd Open was Tomasz Fedyk of Melksham on 975 over 131 miles. 'Congratulations to all winners' said Tomasz and he continued, 'I'm please to win my section. My first pigeon was a dark chequer hen, who flew the Channel for the first time. The sire of this hen is a grandson of a son of New Laureat x Kleine Jade and Black Shadow Daughter. The dam is a Black Shadow x Daughter of Julie from Steve Slade. Once again, thank you to everyone who took care of all pigeons during this race.'

2nd South West Section, 131st Open was G Treharne & Son of Nantyglo on 912 over 160 miles. Stuart said, 'Our bird was a blue cock, a second-round youngster hatched on 21st March and is a mixture of some of our best lines. His sire is the son of Kain, our number 1 Eijerkamp van loon, when he was paired to our 1st Open BICC Poitiers winner. The dam is bred from Alan's Lad, 1st National Saintes and Gold Cup winner in the Welsh South Road National, when he was paired to a daughter of Rocco from Rutz and Son. They have bred us a lot of good pigeons. He was flying to the perch and was in very good condition when he arrived. Returns appear to be generally pretty poor in the area in what was a very testing race for the westerly lofts.'

3rd South West Section, 160th Open was John Halstead of North Dorset on 484 over 103 miles. John timed a dark Hardy Kruger/ Vandenabeele cock having his first ever race. John's youngsters are

lacking race experience as the Dorset federation chose to race from the north and this route does not appeal to him. John, as we know from his track record, prefers to race from France and Spain.



Tomasz Fedyk



Stuart Treharne



John Halstead

The Provisional North Centre Section Winners

1st North Centre Section, 109th Open was David Paine of St Neots on 1042 over 212 miles. Dave said, 'The bird I timed to win the section is the one that won the Guernsey (1) race, she's made it two on the trot. This hen had one club race before going to Guernsey (1). She's joint bred from a cock bird owned by Ray Roberts which is a syndicate loft pigeon. The breeding is Little Big Man x Ariel with Foxy Lady bloodlines (sire). The dam is one I purchased this year, from James Parker of Reading. She's a Stefaan Lambrecht with her bloodlines containing Saturn and Den05.'

2nd North Centre Section, 118th Open were Kevin & Lauren Grace of Kneesworth on 992 over 208 miles. Kevin and Lauren said, 'This pigeon is bred from the J & K Jellema birds we bought directly from Holland. We would like to say a big thank you to all down in Sunbury Marking station for all they do throughout the year. And again, to J & K training transporter, those 100-mile tosses twice a week just show what results you can get, thanks.'

3rd **North Centre Section, 119**th **Open was John Black of Hitchen on 990 over 200 miles.** John told me, 'The bird I clocked was a blue J & K Wim Muller hen, flying to the perch and bred by Kevin Grace. This was her second channel race this year, and she was just outside the top 20 in the Section from the first young bird Guernsey. So, she is one for the future. Well done all the Section winners.'



David Paine & his grandson



Kevin & Lauren Grace



John Black

The Provisional North East Section Winners

1st North East Section, 61st Open was David Fisher of Ipswich on 1042 over 240 miles. David said, Well done to all the winners and thanks to all those at the Ipswich BICC Marking Station. I sent 9 young birds, and it turned out to be a difficult race. I had 5 on the day and 3 on Sunday. My first bird, a blue hen, was bred by Ben Oakley and is a granddaughter of Skyfall. She was purchased in the Thames Breeder Buyer sale and has been my most consistent young bird. She is a darkness youngster but just flying to the perch. She went to the first Guernsey and was my third bird home. The week prior to basketing, she went to Yeovil at 183 miles and was first bird back. I don't usually race young birds, but this year they have been very steady.'

2nd North East Section, 87th Open were Mr & Mrs Cridland from Nr Stowmarket on 1111 over 244 miles. Trevor and Valerie have never raced north but switched with their club this year. So, the blue pied hen that they timed over a distance of 244 miles, was having her first taste of the south and water! In fact, she had never even been trained south. The week before, she raced from Donnignton, on the north, over 198 miles and as flown a total of 1,035 miles this season. Trevor told me, 'I have never switched a bird like that, but it just goes to prove that they can do it. This hen was from Jimmy Wickham from the Ipswich area and is of Heremans Ceusters breeding. I also sent a couple bred by my good friend Dave Fisher and I'd like to thank the BICC for arranging the race and Trevor Cracknell, who doesn't live too far away from me, and the convoying team.'

3rd **North East Section, 89**th **Open was Jeremy Nicholson of Ipswich on 1105 over 237 miles.** 'Well done to the winner and all the section winners, and thank you to all the BICC committee and everyone else in making Channel racing possible in 2022!' Said Jeremy. He continued by saying, 'Also thank you, to Terry and Jacque for running the Ipswich station. My first bird was a blue hen, flown on the darkness and flown constantly all season. She is also a Thames north and eastern county gold ring bird, so fingers crossed. Her sire is a retired racing cock, which I bought in 2013 from a breeder buyer sale for £10 from a Mr Ron Prewer from his Soontjens. This cock won over 15 cards including 5 x 1sts, so he was a good investment. The dam is a home bred Cooreman from my top Cooreman stock pair.'



David Fisher's bird



Jeremy Nicolson's bird

The Provisional North West Section Winners

1st North West Section, 146th Open was Lionel Brewer of Worcester on 782 over 183 miles. Lionel clocked a chequer cock in a very difficult race to take 1st Section. Lionel won this section last year and this year the bird was bred for him by good friends Trevor and John (Booth and Roper). This bird is from their family of Dordin, Van den Bosche and the French hen lines. Both parents have scored in the BICC this year. His great grandmother won 1st Championship Messac in the Severn Valley Federation in 2011. Another great grandmother took honours in the MNFC again in 2011 as 6th long distance Ace pigeon. This bird is still in their loft. Lionel clocked 2 youngsters on the day. He would like to thank Trevor for taking him to Steventon for the marking, and to thank the marking team for

their efficiency and hard work and would like to congratulate the Open winner and all Section winners.

2nd North West Section, 152nd Open were Dave & Kyle Harries on 710 over 225 miles. Dave said, 'Our first bird, provisional 2nd Section is a red pied cock bred through two new additions to our loft. The sire is from Mark Simpson of Wolverhampton and is from Marcel Sangers bloodlines. He contains the very best Van Bulck and Lambrechts and has many of the top names within his grandparents and great-grand parentage such as Konica, Gold Dust and Lincie (sister to Lincia). Mark has an array of talent within his loft and the birds that we have had through him have hit the ground running, winning at club and national level. Unfortunately, he has decided to sell up at the end of this year, so there will be some class birds going on sale to look out for. The dam is another bird that is on loan to us from Glyn Preece of Telford. She is through the Lambrecht lines and the parents of this pigeon have bred numerous winners for Glyn and others. Our second day bird being held by Kyle on the right is also through some new additions this year. The father being through the JPS Lincia lines when paired to a hen purchased from John and Daniel Baptist of Newcastle. This pair have produced three outstanding young birds, all have held their own within a very strong young bird team that have been fully tested through a full young bird programme, and all flown the Channel. The nestmate was our second bird the weekend before from a challenging NFC Coutances race.

3rd North West Section, 170th Open was John Rodway of Rushwick 322 over 185 miles. John said, 'The bird I clocked is a small dark chequer, hatched the middle of mid-May. She was my first bird from Guernsey 1. It was sent natural, just racing to the perch only. Once again, the NW section competitors had a challenging race in the brisk NW wind. My returns were one bird from three entries.'



Lionel Brewer



Dave & Kyle Harries



John Rodway

The Provisional Top Ten Open Positions:

1st Lance Gunn of Southwick on 1520, 2nd Topp & Mann of Rayleigh on 1473, 3rd T Sparks & P Dallas of Gravesend on 1472, 4th Tim Pierpoint of Sheerness, 5th Mr & Mrs R Hume of Rochford on 1468, 6th Freddie Hadley & Family of Leigh on Sea, 1467, 7th J Cowlin of Hullbridge on 1465, 8th Darren Simmons of Mayland on 1457, 9th Lee Bastone of Burnham on Crouch 1456, 10th Dave Bastone of Althorne on 1444.

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