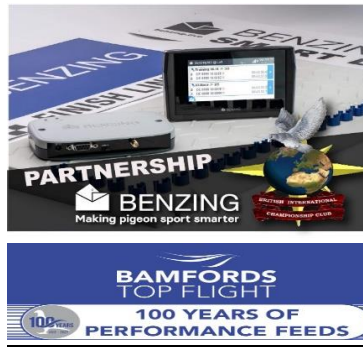


British International Championship Club



Guernsey OB (3) National Provisional Race Report

25th August 2024

The race was also the 7th old bird National of the year. In the old bird race, 90 members sent 639 birds. Each Section sent the following: South Centre, 44 members sent 269 birds, in the South East 33 sent 302, South West, 6 sent 25, North Centre, 2 sent, 8, North East, 3 sent 12 and in the North West, 2 members sent 12 birds. In total, 90 members sent 639 birds. This added up to a total liberation of 2,510.

The Provisional Open winner, taking 1st South Centre Section were T & J Gunn of Rottingdean over 141 miles on 1962. Firstly, I'd like to say thank you to all the people who have called to say well done to us. We would also like to say well done to Lance and Graham for coming second and well done to all the other winners. Thank you to the BICC team for taking great care of the birds and we had all 8 on the day all in great condition.

We would also like to say a big thank you to Graham and Lance Gunn, my son, brother, grandson and nephew for breeding this great pigeon for us. Also, to Dan Sallis for helping us to train the birds. The pigeons breeding is Vandenabelle x Lambrect obtained from Mark Everiss who has now sadly packed up racing. What a great feeling to win this National.



Ronny Gunn looking good at 88 years young



National Old Bird Winners, Tracy & Ronny Gunn

The Provisional South Centre Section Winners

2nd South Centre Section, 2nd Open were Lance and Graham Gunn of Southwick over 137 miles on 1904. The partnership's bird was a Leo Herman's, bred by us. We would like to thank the convoyers for looking after the birds, and to congratulate the other winners. Obviously, a special mention to my grandad, Ronnie and uncle Tracy Gunn on their first BICC win, very well done.

3rd South Centre Section, 6th Open was Ken Wise of Isleworth over 166 miles on 1850. Ken timed GB22N00107 at 10.38 to take 3rd Section.



Lance & Graham Gunn

The Provisional South East Section Winners

1st South East Section, 3rd Open was J Clarke & Dtr of Selling over 195 miles on 1892. Jamie timed GB22N75013 at 11.01.30 to win the section.

2nd South East Section, 4th Open was John Cowlin of Hullbridge over 202 miles on 1875. John would like to say a big well done to all the winners. His first bird has previously won 6th Section, 42nd Open BICC Guernsey 2023 and 11th Section, 24th Open BBC Guernsey 2023. In 2024 she only had 3 inland races winning 9th Open Thames Stoney Cross, 110 miles, before going to this race. Her breeding is 100% Frans Zwols, bred by Zwols pigeons. Her sire is 093, and he has become a super breeder being the sire of Sophie Boy who won 1st Open NFC St Philbert and 4th Combine Guernsey. 093 is direct from D'Artagain and Sweet Princess. The dam of this hen is direct from Theresa Boy, a winner of 1st National when paired to the Brilliant Dreamy, who is also g/dam of the 1st and 2nd Open National for Lee Bastone in the YB race.

John's first YB is also 100% Frans Zwols. It had 3 inland races and with the Thames North Eastern Counties before this race. The sire is a special cock we put to stock. Being direct from the wonder that is Amor. Amor is 19 years old and still alive, not only was he a big winner on the road but has been a world class breeder, being the sire of Dreamy among many others. The dam of his YB was put to stock after breaking her legs badly when racing. That has turned into a blessing in disguise, because she is breeding good birds each year. In turn she is from the Amal cock and Guernsey Princess, both big winners and parents of 2 x 1st National winners.

3rd South East Section, 5th Open was Andrew Popely of Maidstone over 186 miles on 1871. My first pigeon clocked from the Guernsey is a celibate yearling blue hen, having her 5th race of the year. She is a Willem De Bruijn X Eijerkamp Heremans-Cuester. She was purchased from our club breeder buyer in 2023 and was bred by friends Mark & Dave Cowell.



John Cowlin



Andrew Popely

The Provisional South West Section Winners

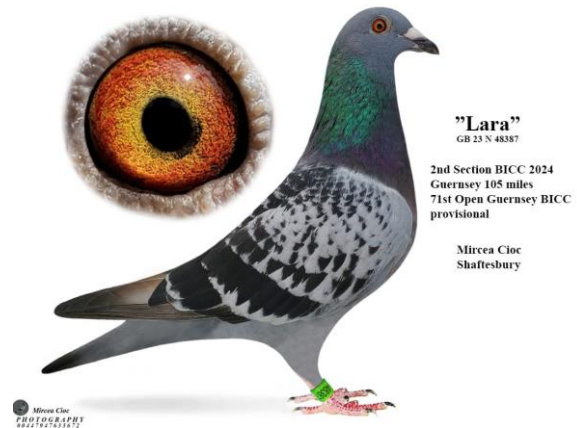
1st South West Section, 55th Open was John Halstead of Kington Magna over 103 miles on 1549. Provisionally 1st SW Section, 55th Open is John Halstead of Kington Magna with a 5-year-old dark chequer Vandabeele X Hardy Kruger hen sent sitting for 14 days on departure day. She has been a very consistent racer winning prizes every season since she was a yearling, and she has now been in the top ten of the section in National racing 10 times, including 8 times from Guernsey.

In June she was 25th West of England Combine from Brighton with 908 birds competing. Her sire Nyland Linford has won 1st Federation, 3rd National, and was 13th Open BICC Guernsey 2441 bird's last

season. All of John's birds are fed on Countrywide mixtures, supplemented with Harkers Hormoform, which is one of the best products available. This is used to condition all of his race birds.

2nd South West Section, 71st Open was Mircea Cioc of Shaftesbury over 105 miles on 1378.

First of all, I would like to congratulate all the winners. Well done to John Halstead for winning the section. My 2nd Section winner has only been used as a widowhood hen for the cocks this year, and after the old bird season, she was rained privately. This race was her first proper race. She is a full sister with my 1st Section winner from Sigogne NFC this year. Her parents are both bred by Cosmin Talas from Oxford. Her father been lightly raced by Cosmin before he came to me. He was bred from a full brother, with the mother of Cosmin's 1st Section winner Sigogne NFC 2024, 3rd National Champion of Champions, 1st Section Ace Pigeon 2024 and bred by Van Hassel in Belgium. The mother of my bird is a daughter of Red Emperor and daughter Dinan. She is the g/mother to my 1st Section winner and the mother of my 2nd Section winner from Sigogne. This year has been a very successful year. I have won two first sections and three second sections in National racing over the water.



3rd South West Section, 72nd Open were Mr & Mrs Nigel Nutt of Street over 112 miles on 1369. The partnership timed GB20N36008 at 10.23.59 to take 3rd Section.



Mircea Cioc & family



John Halstead

The Provisional North Centre Section Winners

1st North Centre Section, 34th Open was P Lane & Son of Wootton over 199 miles on 1696. Phil had two hens arrive close together both Fran Swols, flying on the natural system. He sent 5 hens and they were all home within 30 minutes, so he was very satisfied.

2nd North Centre Section, 47th Open was D Lyden & Son of Yardley Gobion over 193 miles on 1578.

He is a yearling late bred and I only sent him in preparation for the Fourgeres race in a couple of weeks and to catch up with my other yearlings that have been over the Channel 3 times this year. He is bred down from a gift hen of Tornado lines from my good friend and club mate Danny Pullman and the sire is off birds obtained directly from the lofts of McSween and Sexton of Sunderland.



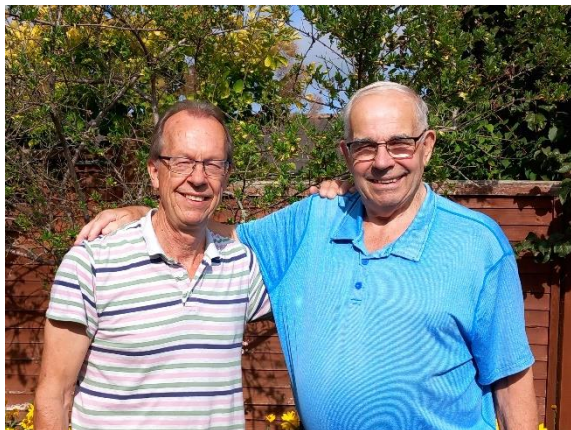
D Lyden & Son's yearling late bred

The Provisional North East Section Winners

1st North East Section, 36th Open was Dave Downing of Newmarket over 229 miles on 1687. Dave recorded his third section win in 2024 timing a 2-year-old Hardy Kruger hen. This hen was raced on roundabout for the early part of the season and was then repaired to prepare for these later Any-Age races. Racing to a small youngster and being one of half a dozen hens to be trained and conditioned with the young bird team. She is bred from a direct pair of the original Kruger bloodlines purchased from Premier Lofts – the sire a g-son out of Black Power with this pair having now bred 3 x 1st Section National winners and numerous other club winners. Dave first introduced these Krugers in 2014 from Premier lofts and supplemented these with directs from Hardy Kruger to cross into his Vandenabeeles to produce a team for these short/middle distance races.

2nd North East Section, 44th Open, was Roly Rix of Newmarket over 229 miles on 1632. Roly timed a 3-year-old hen of Van Rign X Janseen lines. She was fourth in the same race last year, but on her last outing to Guernsey, she had a week away! Due to health issues, Roly thinks that this may have been his last race. He is waiting for a knee operation and depending on the outcome of that, he may just keep a few birds for fun. He has enjoyed his racing with the BICC, especially over the last few seasons, where he has picked up regular section positions, including a nice few first places.

3rd North East Section, 87th Open was Paul Austin Jnr of Bury St Edmonds over 237 miles on 850. Paul timed GB23D44661 to take 3rd section with a late bred cock, whose parents were given to him by the late Barry Mower. Not raced as a youngster, but sent to Stoney Cross, Yeovil and Exeter with the Stansted RPC, the Inter Counties Federation as well as Guernsey (2), where he had a minor placing. He was sent sitting on dummy eggs for 10 days. I would like to congratulate all the section winners and the BICC who do a great job in transportation. A big thank you to Newmarket and Stansted clubs for putting up with my manual clock.



Good friends, Dave Downing and Roly Rix



Paul Austin Jnr

The Provisional North West Section Winners

1st North West Section, 68th Open was John Rodway of Rushwick over 185 miles on 1438. Along with his good young bird, John also took first in the old bird race. My first bird was a yearling blue chequer hen. She has been a consistent pigeon all year without winning any prizes. She had just deserted her eggs when sent to the race. It was a real struggle for any birds in the NW section as the wind was a very strong WSW, keeping the bird's way out in the East.

2nd North West Section, 77th Open, were Mr & Mrs W Lewis of Kempsey over 182 miles on 1256. I thought I would enlist the help of a picture of General Kitchener to get the message over that your BICC needs you to send pigeons. It's much better than one of me, anyway, said Bill. Competing in the North West section, we ended up runner up to the consistent John Rodway who always finds a pigeon to compete in the BICC races and always gets one. This weekend we ended up as the bridesmaid, well and truly beaten by John's old bird. He also followed this up by getting a good young bird as well, when fellow fanciers struggled in the NW section to find an entry. It's a disappointing situation and let's hope the next race will show an improvement.



John Rodway



The BICC needs you in the north west says Bill Lewis

The Provisional Top Ten Open Positions:

1st T & J Gunn on 1962.101, 2nd Lance and Graham Gunn on 1904.039, 3rd J Clarke & Dtr.on 1892.336, 4th J Cowlin on 1875.171, 5th Andrew Popely on 1871.779, 6th K Wise on 1850.116, 7th T Buckfield on 1836.195, 8th Mr & Mrs Boggins & Son on 1833.842, 9th D Bullen & Son Loft on 1829.413, 10th N Emberson on 1828.798.

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