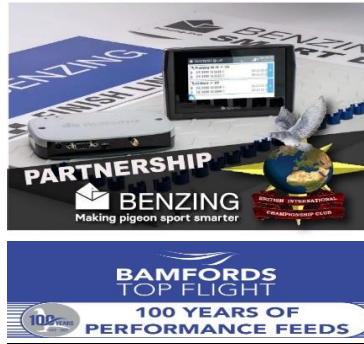


British International Championship Club



BICC Committee and AGM Report

The BICC held their New Year committee meeting and AGM on Sunday 26th January at The Lion Brewery, Ash. Carol Francis, our retiring secretary, gave her apologies because she was in hospital. Since then, we have received the sad news, that she has passed away. Carol served as secretary for over 10 years and was such a dedicated administrator and friend to hundreds of BICC members. She will be sadly missed, and the committee pass on their condolences to Carol's friends and family.

The meeting began in the usual way, by reading and passing the minutes of the last meeting. The committee then moved onto the agenda.

Marking Stations

Important change: Sunbury marking station will not be used for National races. The marking station is moving to Lambert Flying Club, Denham Ladies Football Club, The Den, Oxford Road, Denham, Middlesex, UB9 4GW.

But Sunbury will remain as the marking station for the International races.

The other marking stations for 2025 are: Colchester, Gravesend, Northampton, Rugeley, Southampton, Steventon, Street and Wales. Rugeley, Northampton and Wales are raising funds to help with the vet's cost. The Welsh marking station is moving from Newport to Cwmtillery, the home of those great Barcelona champions, the Padfield Family.

David and Emma Armstrong and Alan Bamford, from Bamfords, asked about the possibility of a marking station at Leyland. Marking at R E Bamford, Globe Mill, Midge Hall Lane, PR26 6TN. The committee discussed this, and providing they were willing to pay for the vet and transport, agreed.

Breaking News - Since the meeting, it has been confirmed that the marking station will be run from Leyland, and they will mark the birds the night before and transport them to Rugeley. More details on this exciting new venture will follow soon.

It is important to note, that all pigeons are watered and fed on Thursday at the final marking station. This is with the corn that is kindly donated by Bamfords themselves. Hopefully this will reassure members that the wellbeing of their birds is paramount to the BICC.

Fantastic sponsorship news

The club built on its existing sponsorship and 2025 promises to be a great year for prizes. The following sponsorship has been agreed:

- Cest Pharma are offering for the Bordeaux race: £500 worth of products to the winner of the North Sections and £500 worth of products to the winner of the South Sections. (North – NC, NE, NW, South – CS, ES, WS).
- Who Dares Wins: To the winner of Alencon 2 free entries in to the One Loft Race for 2026 and St Philbert 3 free entries in to the One Loft Race for 2026.
- Mircea Cioc: Mircea has very kindly offered to sponsor every National and International winner with a professional photograph.
- Bamfords: Bamfords are very kindly sponsoring all the corn for our races.
- Benzing: Benzing are awarding to the winners of the Barcelona & Bordeaux Races a Benzing Smart Loft System. For Nort Sur Erdre, St Philbert, Falaise YB and Fougeres YB Races there is a £1 per bird Benzing Nomination. There are unlimited entries with the Nomination and the winners will receive a Benzing Smart Loft System.
- Pride of the Potteries One Loft Race: are sponsoring the winner of Nort Sur Erdre with 2 free entries in to the 2026 season and the winner of Falaise YB race with one free entry in to 2026 season.
- Cosmin Talas: will sponsor the winner of Bordeaux race with a bottle of champagne and a young bird from his loft.

If that doesn't whet your appetite, then what will? Remember BICC membership is now due, and the club are open to new members. Please contact Clare Norman at clarenorman71@outlook.com or call 02380 573919 to join.

Breeder/ Buyer Rings / Sales.

There are 132 rings sold to date and the venues for the sales are set, with the first sale taking place on 30th March. A discussion took place about next year's sales, and it was agreed that two sales would be held in March and two in April. This will give members who breed earlier the opportunity of entering before their young ones are too old and flighty. The venues are:

- Sundridge: Sunday 30th March. Sundridge Park Working Man's Club. 134 Burnt Ash Lane, Bromley. BR1 5AF.
- Bristol: Sunday 6th April. Sartan Club, Queens Road, Bishopsworth, Bristol. BS13 8LF.
- Southampton: Sunday 13th April. Penning from 11am. Sale to start at 12.30pm. Sarisbury Social Club, 108 Bridge Road, Sarisbury Green, Southampton. SO31 7EP.
- Drayton: Sunday 20th April. Drayton Village Hall. OX14 4LF.

Race reports in 2025

The regulations for race reports at the BHW have changed due to print costs and space and it has been agreed that only photographs of the race winner and each section winner will be sent to the paper. This will also apply to the combined race reports with the BBC and CSCFC. However, the full

report with the other section winners will still appear in a longer report on the club website and be linked to the Facebook site.

AGM

The AGM was quite a quick affair, with the committee having met beforehand. It was reported that there were 67 resignations, and these were received with regret.

The minutes were read and agreed, and the election of officers took place. It was agreed at the time, to make Carol Francis a Life Vice President. The following officers were elected:

- President: Jill Rogers
- Life Vice Presidents: Gareth Watkins, Albi Deacon, Rose Wills, Mike Armitage & Carol Francis
- Vice President: Jeff Lyden & Bill Knox.
- Chairman: Mark Gilbert
- Vice Chairman: Kevin Buddle
- Secretary/ Treasurer: Clare Norman
- Committee: Jeff Lyden, Bill Knox, Kevin Buddle, Alan Webber, Tom Firmager, Ray Strawbridge, Paul Basham, Doug Gatland, John Gladwin, Richard Chambers, Martin Norman & Clive Rogers.
- Press Officer: Mike Jackson
- RPRA Delegate: Mark Gilbert
- Weather Advisor: Steve Appleby
- Race Controllers: Mark Gilbert and Steve Appleby
- Auditor: Jill Rogers
- Data Controller: Clare Norman
- Transport Manager: Clare Norman

At the end of the meeting, the committee wished all the members every success for 2025. If you want to race against the best in Britain and Europe, then the BICC is the club to join. New members are always welcome, where 'Only the finest' is on offer for National and International racing.

As always good luck, good flying and may the line of flight be with you for 2025.

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