



Isigny-sur-Mer National YB Provisional Race Report

5th September 2026

The BICC, BBC and CSCFC held another joint liberation from Isigny-sur-Mer. To begin, it has to be stated that, as another season of racing has drawn to a close for the BBC, BICC and CSCFC, on behalf of all three Committees we would like to say a big thank you to our marking stations and their teams across the three organisation who have worked week in and week out throughout the old bird and young bird season for us.

Also, thank you to David Parsons who signed off our paperwork for France, to our Race and Weather Advisors whose jobs never get any easier. Mark Gilbert, Clive Merrills and Steve Appleby. Our Convoyers, Nick Stevens, Pat Harris and Steve Travers who have all had the welfare of our birds in their hearts, caring for them. Finally, we would like to thank Mike Jackson as Press Officer for the BICC but also covering the combined race reports for the three clubs.

Before closing the season, we turn to the final race from Isigny-sur-Mer. This historic Normandy town is known for its protected butter and cream, cheeses, caramels and nearby oysters. More than 60% of the town was destroyed during the D-Day campaign in June 1944, after which its harbour helped move Allied supplies inland. Rebuilt after the war, it now lies close to the Normandy landing sites.

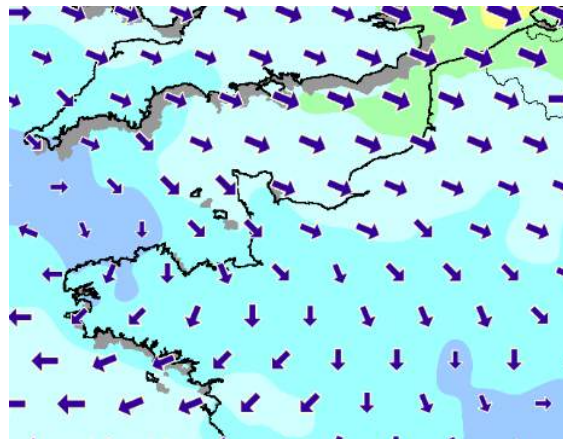
The town also has a traditional connection with the Disney family name. It is said to derive from d'Isigny, meaning "from Isigny", and to have evolved into Disney after members of the family settled in England. Isigny-sur-Mer marks the link through the Walt Disney Garden and the Walt d'Isigny museum.

The BICC would like to thank Andrew Hitchcock for sponsoring the photograph of the BICC National winners and Terry Peart for the photographs he supplied.

The weather/race report

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

The club was fortunate that the weather was favourable for this final race of the season from Isigny-sur-Mer. High pressure centred directly over the Channel Islands brought good conditions. The birds were liberated at 07:30 under blue skies into a west-north-west wind. The convoyers reported that the birds cleared the site extremely well and headed out to sea, usually a good indication of a favourable race. Satellite images and webcams showed sunny or clear skies, while the Greenwich Light Vessel weather buoy, moored in the centre of the Channel, reported visibility of 11 miles. Although the wind had a westerly influence, leading birds were timed both in central England and at lofts farther east.



Wind flow map

This report is based on members' first-bird verifications, and the final result may vary.

1st Open BICC, Clive Allwright of Ashford

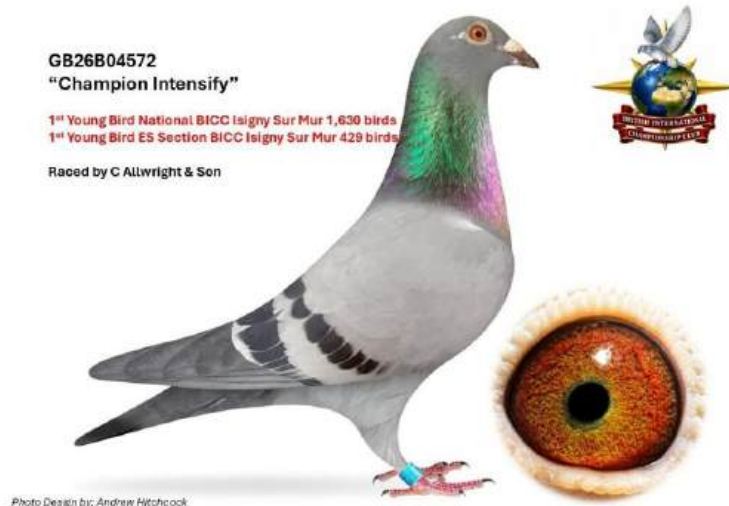
1st Open, 1st South East Section BICC, C Allwright & Son. Clive said he was delighted to win his fourth National, having achieved his three previous National wins with the National Flying Club. This was his first win with the BICC. He said, "It has been a long time coming, but I'm glad I've finally chalked one up with the BICC." The winning hen was a very keen darkness youngster and had been exercising well around the loft. She received no additional training between races and competed in three or four club races before being sent to the Isigny-sur-Mer National. On several occasions, she fought with a cock sitting on a pair of youngsters. Although she was not paired, she repeatedly tried to enter this other pair's nestbox, and Clive could see just how keen she was. Clive prepares his birds in the same way as his dad did, avoiding unnecessary disturbance. When they are on the nest, he does not clean out too thoroughly, preferring to leave them settled. He believes they need to return feeling that the loft is secure and truly their home. That was his dad's approach, and Clive still follows it today.

This year, I changed clubs and joined the Wingham club, an excellent and highly competitive club full of top-class fanciers. I would like to thank everyone there for making me feel so welcome; I have thoroughly enjoyed this year's racing.

The winner was bred from stock given to me by my good friend Jamie Clarke, who encouraged me to get back on top. Thank you, Jamie—what a pigeon. Cheers, mate. I am very pleased with how it has all turned out.

What a fantastic day. Thank you to all my friends for their congratulations and to everyone who phoned. I am naming my National winner Champion INTENSIFY. Her sire and dam carry the bloodlines of GWP Macaloney's outstanding pigeons, which win at every level, from club to National competition. This hen simply wanted to get home quickly. As I mentioned, she repeatedly tried to feed other pairs' youngsters but was pushed away. At one stage, she was even fighting with the cock bird—what an incentive, I thought.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate all the section winners in both the young bird and old bird races, as well as everyone who timed. As we all know, a young bird National is never easy to win.



1st Open BBC, John Cowlin of Hockley

1st Open, 1st Section J BBC & 2nd South East Section, 2nd Open BICC, John Cowlin of Hockley. John was delighted to win the BBC race. He wanted to thank the organisers for arranging the joint race, all the workers at the marking stations for their hard work and congratulate those who also timed good pigeons. His first young bird is a Frans Zwols × José and Gustave Goemaere pigeon, bred from two yearling race birds. Both parents are crosses of the Zwols and Goemaere lines and raced very well as youngsters and again as yearlings this year. The sire won inland, while the dam was Gladwin & Jarvis' second old hen in the NFC the previous week and is expected to finish second or third Open. Provisionally, the same hen also won the BBC Old Hens race the following day.



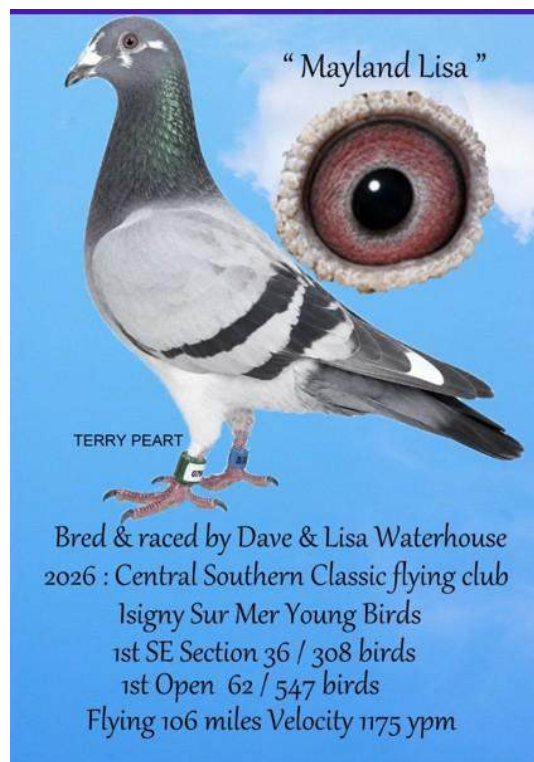
John Cowlin

1st CSCFC, Dave & Lisa Waterhouse of Bedhampton

1st Open, 1st SE Section CSCFC & 1st Section A, 5th Open BBC, Dave & Lisa Waterhouse of Bedhampton.

First and foremost, I would like to thank some very special people who make the CSCFC the great club that it is. Firstly, the club has Clare Norman, the best secretary in the sport. Along with Clare, we have conveyors and markers who are second to none. I would also like to thank everyone for the messages I received when it was confirmed that I had won the race.

My winning pigeon, "Mayland Lisa", is a lovely blue pied hen who, like the rest of my young birds, has flown very consistently all season. In this race, she recorded 1st Open CSCFC, 1st Section, 4th Open BBC, and 8th Section, 24th Open BICC. On the day of basketing, she was sitting one egg in a bowl on the loft floor. What encouraged me to send her was that she had taken over feeding another pigeon's youngster. This hen was raced every week but rested for two weeks before the Classic race. She was bred from two Mike Chadwick pigeons. The dam was purchased from Gary Tomlinson, who named the hen Lisa. The sire was a Mike Chadwick pigeon that I purchased on Elimar. I sent ten youngsters to the race, so I was very pleased to get eight of them home.



2nd Open, 2nd Section J BBC, John & Theresa Gladwin & Jarvis of Leigh-on-Sea. My young bird is a Frans Zwols × José and Gustave Goemaere hen. Six days previously, she was provisionally 6th Open NFC, and in her last inland race she was my second pigeon, winning 2nd Club and 2nd Open Thames, beaten by a loft mate. Her sire is a direct son of the Goemaere brothers' National cock, paired to Tip Top Devil, one of our elite breeding hens.

2nd Open, 2nd South East Section CSCFC & 2nd Section A, 6th Open BBC, Jim Etherington of Cowplain. The pigeon Jim and Sheryl timed to take this excellent position was bred by Nigel Llewellyn. They would like to thanks Nigel.

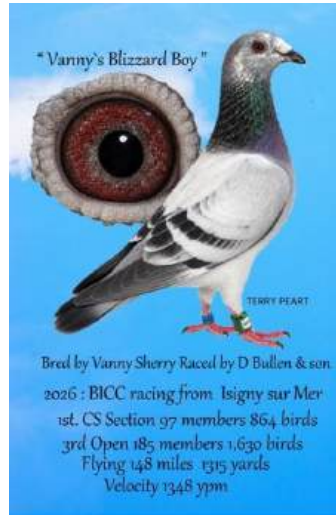
1st South Centre Section, 3rd Open BICC, D Bullen & Son Loft 2 of Croydon. Kirk told me, "Our 1st Section pigeon was a grizzle cock, a Blizzard from John Carson crossed with an '01' pigeon from James

Parker. He is a darkness cock raced on widowhood. Two weeks ago, following plenty of training from the south coast, he won 1st Club from 253 birds and 7th Open Thames from 1,231 pigeons. We may also have the provisional 3rd Section pigeon, a chequer hen bred by Jane Mitchell. She was also raced on the darkness and widowhood systems."

2nd South Centre Section, 5th Open BICC, John & Bradley Donovan of Warlingham. GB26S31034 is a blue hen raced to the perch. Her sire is a double Federation winner whose sire comes from our Channel lines through Roger Lowe. His dam, bred by Jamie Clark from his Van den Bulck family, finished 6th Open BICC in 2021. The hen's dam, also bred by Jamie Clark, was purchased at the Thames Breeder Buyer in 2022. She has previously bred a 1st Section BBC winner and a 2nd Section BBC winner, the latter beaten only by a loft mate.



Jim Etherington



D Bullen & son



J & B Donovan / PJ Hugh

3rd South Centre Section, 12th Open BICC, Mark Gilbert of Windsor. Mark took 3rd Section and 12th Open BICC from Isigny-sur-Mer with one of the Breeder Buyer pigeons he purchased at the start of the season. The pigeon was bred by Kirk Bullen.

3rd Open 1st Section G, BBC Tommy Sparks & Pauline Dallas of Gravesend.

3rd Open CSCFC & 7th Open BBC, Martin Attrill of J Attrill & Sons of Southampton.

4th Open, 2nd Section G BBC, Mr & Mrs Durrant & Son of Guildford. Our pigeon is a blue hen bred from a grandson of Man O'Chester, bred by Andri Giedra, crossed with a Jos Cools hen bred by D Wilton & Son. She is a granddaughter of Cher Ami and De As 77. She was raced naturally and paired to a young cock. Before this race, she had competed five times, all on the north road with the Solent Federation, before being turned south and sent straight into this event. This was our first Channel race for four or five years, as we decided to give young bird Channel racing another go this season. Our youngsters had never been trained south, having only trained north to Reading, around 20 miles, so this was their first race on a southern route and a very pleasing result. We had four of our eight entries home, all on the winning day. Well done to the winners and everyone who clocked.

4th Open CSCFC & 8th Open BBC, Luke & Les Cross of Portchester. Well done to Dave and Lisa on what has been a fantastic young bird season. We are extremely pleased with our little hen. Her sire is a Frans Zwols pigeon bred by John Gladwin, directly from Sophie's Boy, while her dam is a Koopman bred by the Angell Brothers. This was a new pairing for us in 2026, and she has certainly shown plenty of promise.

She was competing in only the second race of her life, having already impressed us as our second bird home from the CSCFC Guernsey race the previous weekend. We have named her Paisley's Faith after our daughter and granddaughter, who had been waiting for a hen to win so that we could name one after her. We hope there is more to come from this promising young hen. This also marks our final

year racing together as a partnership. Although we will continue to bounce ideas off one another and offer our full support, from 2027 dad, Les, will race from his new home in Widley, strongly supported by mum, Dawn, as dad has pulmonary fibrosis. They will compete as Les & Dawn Cross, and we are really looking forward to seeing what they can achieve from their new home. It has certainly been a tough season, and we would like to offer a big thank you to Clare and the team for everything they do. Here's hoping for a strong 2027 for everyone.



Mark Gilbert



Mr & Mrs V Durrant and Sons
hen



Luke & Les Cross

5th Open CSCFC & 9th Open BBC, K & S Legg & Sons of Portsmouth.

6th Open CSCFC & 10th Open BBC, Steve, Yvette & Lauren Harris of Portchester. We would like to congratulate all the winners and thank the marking team for the great job they do. We purchased our pigeon through the Premier 100 Club Breeder Buyer Sale. She was bred by our good friend and neighbour, Justin Bernard, who was delighted that she also won the Breeder Buyer race on another tough day.

7th Open, 1st North East Section CSCFC, Tom Pickford of Aylesbury.

2nd NE Section, 21st Open CSCFC, Rob Quinn of Aldershot.

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs D Waterhouse on the young bird win and to T Pickford on winning the section. I must be honest and say that finishing 2nd Section on my velocity was a surprise, as my bird was late and came out of the north-west. However, I am very pleased with the position, especially as I was not going to send because I could not get to the marking station. Thanks to Steve Howard for taking them for me. I sent three birds and had two home on the day, with the third returning the following morning. She is from my Channel family, crossed with G Snelling birds that score for me regularly. I would like to thank Clare and all the marking team for all their hard work throughout the year.



Rob Quinn

1st Section E BBC & 1st North West Section, 62nd Open BICC, Graham Jones of Cannock. Graham topped the section with a Cooster x Gert pigeon. The bird was fed the Chaos mix and raced on the roundabout system.

1st Section D BBC, Garry Inkley of Hillingdon. The hen I timed to win 1st Section was also 2nd Section in the NFC the previous week. She is 100% Syndicate Lofts bloodlines. Her sire is from my Super Mario, winner of 2nd Open BICC and 3rd Open NFC, when paired to a daughter of Solomon and Foxy Lady. The young hen's dam is directly from Inbred Thomas 6 and Elenor.



Steve Harris



Graham Jones



Gary Inkley's young hen

1st NW Section CSCFC & 2nd South West Section, 83rd Open BICC, Leigh Sheppard of Batheaston. This result was much needed after a tough season. Our first bird home was a grandchild of a cock I timed from Agen International as a yearling, when he took 5th Section and 29th Open. The dam won 1st Section Guernsey NFC as a young bird. The birds have been trained and raced solely with High Littleton FC this season, as far as Eastbourne at 120 miles, and were line-trained during the week before basketing. Congratulations to all the winners on what was another tough day.

2nd Section D BBC, Andy Hitchcock of Windsor. My first bird was GB26V31174, bred by me. She is a granddaughter of HRP Adam, a Jan Hooymans, winner of 1st National BBC Wakefield, 1st Section BBC Wakefield, 1st Section BICC Wakefield and 3rd National BICC Wakefield, and grandsire of a 1st Club and 1st Federation winner. She is also a granddaughter of "HRP Lady Elsacker" (Van Elsacker-Jepsen), winner of club, Federation, Section and National prizes on both the north and south roads. Lady Elsacker also flew Lerwick, 601 miles, three times, including as a yearling in 2021, and is the granddam of a 1st Club and 1st Federation winner.

2nd NW Section CSCFC & 3rd South West Section, 91st Open BICC, Mike Hathway of Bristol. Mike timed a blue hen that was showing interest in a young cock. Before this event, she had been sent to every inland race held on both Saturdays and Sundays.



Leigh Sheppard



Andy Hitchcock



Mike Hathway

3rd South East Section, 4th Open BICC, Topp & Mann of Rayleigh. Mitch said, "I would like to congratulate all the winners, especially C Allwright & Son on a clear win—well done. Our first pigeon was a young roundabout hen, bred from my old Gaby pigeon with some Zwols bloodlines. She was my third pigeon the previous week in the NFC, finishing high in the Open. I would also like to say that our results over the last three weeks have all been down to my grandad, as I haven't really been around. Well done, Harry."

1st South West Section, 81st Open BICC, Tomasz Feyk of Melksham.

1st Section B BBC, John Halstead of Kington Magna. Leading Section B in the young bird race was John Halstead, who welcomed home a blue chequer cock competing in only his fourth race after improving steadily week by week. Raced on the darkness system, he was shown a few young hens for ten minutes before basketing. His sire is bred from two of Mark Gilbert's Jellema pigeons, with Silvie, 3rd International Barcelona, and the renowned Golden Barcelona prominent in the pedigree. His dam is from Sumerian Romee 86, a full sister to Mark's 1st BICC Agen winner in 2022 from 7,361 birds, when paired to a full brother of Nyland Maurice, winner of the 2011 BBC Palamos race at 682 miles. The bloodlines also contain Jim Biss champions Vend and Turban. On his return, the young cock showed no sign of tiredness, flying around the loft for a full five minutes before deciding to go in.

1st SW Section CSCFC & 2nd Section B BBC, Danny Lanahan & John Gerard of Poole.

1st Section C BBC, Dave Fare of Bristol. Our first bird was a blue cock bred from a John Creahan Hooymans stock cock and a Vervoort hen purchased in the winter of 2025. I am pleased the pairing paid off, with three of the four youngsters still remaining. The young cock was understandably a little shell-shocked when he landed after five and a half hours on the wing and took two and a half minutes to coax in. It was a great relief, as we were beginning to think we might not get any returns.

Another bird arrived seven minutes later. I did not see her return because I was inside the house verifying the first arrival, but my wife, Sam, my father-in-law, Brian Harvey, and former fancier Mike Williams said she dropped like a stone, landing straight on the board and going in. This young hen is bred from a Syndicate Lofts cock crossed with a Luc Vervoort hen, also purchased in the winter of 2025 from the Rod Sparks sale. Returns were very poor for me, with only two birds home on the day and one the following day. Here's hoping for more returns in the coming days.



Topp & Mann



John Halstead's Section B YB



Dave Fare and Brian Harvey

2nd Section C BBC, Clive & Jill Rogers & Neil Sales of Radstock. This little blue hen was bred from Treetops Lofts' middle-distance race birds carrying Brenda New Harry bloodlines and was provisionally timed to take 2nd Section C. Before this race, she had been trained and raced inland with High Littleton Flying Club, with Eastbourne, approximately 122 miles, being her longest race. Well done to the race winner and all the section winners; it was a tough race for the young birds. Thanks also to everyone working with the BBC in 2026. As always, you have done a first-rate job.

2nd SW Section CSCFC & 3rd Section B, BBC Mircea Cioc of Shaftesbury.

My 2nd Section CSCFC and 3rd Section BBC pigeon is bred from the Kleine John pigeon, which has started to show good signs in the stock loft. He is the sire of the 1st Section Fougères National NFC, 3rd Section Isigny National NFC this year, 6th Section Sigogne last year, and 4th Section, 32nd Open Guernsey. He was bred by Cosmin Talas of Oxford from his good pigeon Johnny, which won 1st Section and 5th Open Saintes NFC. Last week, Johnny bred the 1st Section, 13th Open Saintes pigeon for me and the 1st Open Midlands National St. Maixent pigeon for Aurel Nedelcu. The dam is a daughter of Arn and Rona, both very good breeders for Cosmin. Arn is a son of the National Ace Pigeon Long Distance, and Rona is a daughter of Hugo Vlaeminck's famous pigeon Ronaldo. The dam of my section winner is Arona, bred by Cosmin Talas from Arn and Rona. Arn, one of Cosmin's best breeders, is a son of the National Ace Pigeon Long Distance. Rona is a daughter of Ronaldo, one of the best National pigeons in Belgium, with three 1st Provincial prizes, 2nd National Bourges, and 1st National Ace Pigeon. Half-brother: 1st Section C, 14th Open Saintes, National Flying Club. Half-brother: 3rd Section K, Nort-sur-Erdre, National Flying Club.



2nd North Centre Section, 52nd Open BICC, Freddie Bannister of Doddington.

1st North Centre Section, 14th Open BICC, C Crick & Son of Stotfold. Adam said, "Our first pigeon was a Cooreman chequer cock. We were delighted to see him arrive in good time in what proved to be a tough race. He was paired and sitting eggs for the race, having finished 3rd Club and 5th Federation from Honiton with the Inter Counties Federation the previous week. He carries the same bloodlines as the pigeons that finished 1st and 2nd Open in the NFC Isigny-sur-Mer National earlier this season."

3rd North Centre Section, 101st Open BICC, John Black of Hitchin. The bird I timed was a chequer pied cock sitting ten-day-old eggs, bred by Jamie Clark of Snelling, Kent. Thank you, Jamie, for another good bird. I would also like to mention that droppings were taken from my basket for drug testing, along with samples from several other fanciers. Well done to the RPRA; let's see more of this.



Clive & Jill Rogers and Neil Sales



Adam Crick



John Black

1st North East Section, 28th Open BICC, Chapman & Eastoe of Great Yarmouth. Our section-winning young hen was sent to the race flying to the perch. We sent only one old hen and one young bird, so it was pleasing to clock them both within six minutes. She was bred from the hen that finished 3rd Section in the Any Age race. Thanks to Clayton for taking our birds to the marking station, and well done to everyone who clocked.

2nd North East Section, 104th Open BICC, Jeremy Nicholson of Ipswich. I would like to congratulate all the winners. My only bird home on the day was bred by Tim Peirepoint from his family of Red Alert and Blizzard King Kittel lines. It proved to be a tough race for the young birds in the east, with only two timed on the day. A big thank you also goes to Dave Fisher, the IC at Colchester, and to Derck Reis and Bob Wija for carrying out the marking. Thanks, lads.

3rd North East Section, 138th Open BICC, Dave Downing of Newmarket.

3rd North West Section, 106th Open BICC, Wade Davies of Kidderminster.

2nd North West Section, 80th Open BICC, Martin Williams of Hereford. After another tough week in the west, my 2nd Section pigeon was a blue cock showing to a hen. He is bred from the old original Van den Bulck × Leo Heremans lines, which have flown very well for me this year. This bird has consistently been among my first five arrivals each week in the West of England Combine, despite having to fly the final 35 miles on his own. I had five of my eight entries home, including two that had competed with the NFC the previous week. I would like to thank Mike for his reports on each race.



Glen Chapman



Jeremy Nicholson's YB



Martin Williams' cock bird

That concludes a demanding young bird race in which Clive Allwright's Champion INTENSIFY claimed the BICC National, John Cowlin topped the BBC, and Dave and Lisa Waterhouse won the CSCFC with Mayland Lisa. Across the sections, there were many excellent performances from promising youngsters, with fanciers' careful preparation and the birds' determination evident throughout. Congratulations to all who timed—and now, on to the old bird report.

Isigny-sur-Mer National OB Provisional Race

Report

5th September 2026

1st Open BICC, D Heywood & Son of Laindon

1st Open, 1st South East Section BICC, D Heywood & Son of Laindon. Dave and Gary were thrilled to time their old bird National winner. Their yearling hen has been named Anniversary Girl because the race fell on what would have been Dave's wedding anniversary. She is bred from a Luc Vervoort pigeon from Carl Turner and a cock from Bob Fenech's Red Alert lines. She had finished 2nd Club behind a loft mate the previous week and was sent to the race sitting a 12-day-old youngster. Dave and Gary sent two hens and are hopeful that their second arrival will also feature prominently in the result.

Still buzzing from the win, they congratulated all the other prize winners and thanked the BICC for organising the joint race, as well as the convoyers and marking-station workers for all their hard work.



Gary & Dave Heywood

GB25S40869
"Anniversary Girl"

1st Old Bird National BICC Isigny Sur Mur 320 birds
1st Old Bird ES Section BICC Isigny Sur Mur 130 birds

Raced by D Heywood & Son



Photo Design by: Andrew Hitchcock

1st Open BBC, Gladwin Jarvis and Family of Leigh on Sea

1st Open, 1st Section J BBC & 2nd South East Section, 2nd Open BICC, Gladwin Jarvis & Family of Leigh-on-Sea. The old hen we timed is a Frans Zwols × José and Gustave Goemaere pigeon. Six days earlier, she was provisionally 2nd or 3rd Open NFC, having also finished 5th Open NFC as a young bird in 2025. She is also the dam of John Cowlin's young bird race winner, which was provisionally 3rd Open NFC six days earlier, showing the winning bloodlines running through these pigeons. John and Theresa were delighted with the BBC win and would like to thank the committee and all the marking-station workers for their hard work throughout the season. They are now looking forward to racing again next year.



John & Theresa Gladwin

1st CSCFC, Mark Drackett of Portsmouth

1st Open, 1st South East Section CSCFC & 3rd Open, 1st Section A BBC, Mark Drackett of Portsmouth. Mark was delighted to win the CSCFC old bird race with a yearling Van den Bulck widowhood hen. He congratulated all the other winners and everyone who timed good pigeons, and thanked the committee, convoyers, and all the marking-station workers for their hard work throughout the season.



Mark Drackett

2nd Open, 1st Section G BBC & 1st South Centre Section, 7th Open BICC, Adam Light (A M & L Light) of Horsham. My pigeon is a yearling blue hen of mixed bloodlines who has had a long season, having flown the old bird programme and continued through to the final two Nationals. After losing her mate earlier in the season, she flew spare from the young bird loft before recently taking a new mate. She was sitting ten-day-old eggs at basketing. Congratulations to all the winners.

2nd Open, 2nd South East Section CSCFC; 4th Open, 2nd Section A BBC & 2nd South Centre Section, 12th Open BICC, Bartlett, Jones & Wells of Southampton.

3rd Open CSCFC & 5th Open BBC, Brian & Viv Wall of Bedhampton. Our pigeon in the old bird race is a yearling hen of Macaloney bloodlines. She has raced throughout the old bird programme and competed in the last couple of Any Age races. She is a beautiful hen, handles superbly, and is definitely one for the future. Well done to all the winners, and a special shout-out to my mate Dave Waterhouse on winning the CSCFC young bird race.

3rd South East Section, 3rd Open BICC, P Jackson & Son of Bromley. My hen has raced consistently for us across the Channel. In 2025, she was stretched out to Sigogne with the NFC, finishing 14th Section P on a very hard day. She is bred from my old Black Jack and 41 lines, both developed by us. The hen 41 recorded several Channel positions, including 24th Open NFC St Malo, and these lines originate from Jos Thoné's ace breeder SARS. Our hen is raced on the widowhood system and fed Vanrobaeys corn. When she has not crossed the Channel this year, we have continued to race her in our organisations' Any Age events, as it is important to keep the hens focused and fit for these final races. I have also just been told that Tommy Sparks's first arrival in the BICC Futurity race, GB26C00042, is bred from a half-brother to GB23N100787.



Adam Light's hen



Brian Wall



Lee Jackson

3rd South Centre Section, 13th Open BICC, Ken Wise of Isleworth.

2nd NW Section CSCFC, S & S Whittle of Bristol.

1st NE Section CSCFC & 1st Section D BBC, Andrei Bargaoanu of Basingstoke.

3rd NW Section CSCFC, Mike Hathway of Bristol. Mike timed a yearling chequer hen that was being driven to the nest. A regular prize winner, she had previously finished 47th Open and 6th West Section with the BICC.

1st South West Section, 33rd Open BICC & 1st Section B BBC, John Halstead of Kington Magna. John timed a dark chequer yearling hen feeding an eleven-day-old youngster. She had been lightly raced during the old bird season and was given an 80-mile training race with the Three Counties Classic on the recent Bank Holiday Monday, returning within 20 minutes of the race winner. As a youngster last season, she finished 119th Open in the equivalent BICC Fougères race from 1,040 birds. She is a daughter of Nyland Solomon, an excellent race bird that won many National prizes, including 11th Open St Maxence from 1,277 birds, 38th Open Penzance from 3,575 birds, and 139th Open BICC Bordeaux from 1,520 birds. Her pedigree also carries the old Jim Biss and Brian Denney bloodlines.

2nd North East Section, 9th Open BICC, Dave Downing of Newmarket. Dave took provisional 2nd Section with a two-year-old Hardy Krüger hen that finished 4th Section BICC Falaise last year. She was bred from an original Krüger stock pair that has produced many winners at club, Federation and National level, including five section winners. The hen flew the inland old bird programme on the roundabout system before joining the young bird team in preparation for this final race of the season. Dave also took 3rd Section in the young bird race.

3rd North East Section, 11th Open BICC, Chapman & Eastoe of Great Yarmouth. Our chequer hen was sent to the old bird race sitting eggs that were due to hatch. She is the same hen that won the section in this race last year and is also the dam of our section winner in the young bird race. Thanks to Clayton for taking our birds to the marking station, and congratulations to him on the section win.



John Halstead's old hen



Dave Downing's hen



Glen Chapman's old hen

2nd South West Section, 35th Open BICC, Wojcicech Blachut of Trowbridge.
3rd South West Section, 36th Open BICC, Mr & Mrs Hodges of Templecombe.
1st SW Section CSCFC & 2nd Section B BBC, Danny Lanahan & John Gerard of Poole.
2nd SW Section CSCFC, Terry Peart of Bournemouth.
2nd Section G BBC, Mr & Mrs Connolley of Marden.
5th Open CSCFC, Venky Rao of Didcot.
1st North Centre Section, 32nd Open BICC, Brian Clarke of Hitchen.

1st North East Section, 5th Open BICC, Eddy & Clayton Oxborough of Norfolk.

This is very much a family partnership, with Eddy as the senior partner, alongside Clayton and Craig. Eddy has been racing and winning with pigeons for 70 years. This was the partnership's first Channel race of the year, and they clocked a two-year-old dark widowhood cock of Cooremans lines, bred from Clayton's pigeons. He had been well prepared, having raced regularly with the East Anglian Federation, and it was a lovely way to end the season, with the whole family waiting for him to arrive.



The Oxborough partnership

4th Open CSCFC, 1st Section C BBC & 1st North West Section, 23rd Open BICC, John Rodway of Worcester. My first bird was a two-year-old blue bar cock sent feeding a large youngster. This cock has usually been hours adrift in races. The previous weekend, he was my last bird on the day from the Classic Guernsey race after ten hours on the wing, so I was very surprised when he arrived first this week. For me, the race was a difficult affair, mainly because of the fresh west-north-west wind. The birds arrived well spaced out and looked as though they had battled back from the east. My returns on the day were seven of the ten old birds and one of the two young birds. My thanks go to fellow club member Mick Howard for taking my birds to the Paulton marking station.

1st Section E BBC & 2nd North West Section, 30th Open BICC, Team Aurel of Ironbridge. What a fantastic day of racing for us from Isigny-sur-Mer with the BICC. Our pigeon, "Geoff Called", finished 2nd North West Section from Isigny-sur-Mer, a distance of 237 miles, having previously won Section E with the BBC from Messac at 334 miles. We love the blend of old and new bloodlines in this pigeon. His sire carries the old English Southwell bloodline from Stewart Reed. On the dam's side, he comes from our old Champion Vasile line. Champion Vasile was 1st Marathon National Ace Pigeon and was crossed with a daughter of Son New Laureaat from Mark Gilbert, paired to a daughter of Olympic Romee. It was a beautiful day of racing and a great team performance against the wind. Congratulations to all the winners, and thank you to my loft manager, Bran the Man.

3rd Section E BBC & 3rd North West Section, 31st Open BICC, Nigel & Wendy Shaw of Crewe. The old bird we timed is a yearling hen who has been very consistent for us. She was bred by Jamie Langrish as part of a kit. Her sister has topped the Federation three times, while her brother won a one-loft race. Racing as "Miss J", her yearling results include provisional 18th Open and 2nd Section NFC Isigny-sur-Mer; 48th Open and 22nd Section MNFC Isigny-sur-Mer; 19th Open and 7th Section MNFC Yearling Classic; 21st Open and 1st Section BBC Guernsey; provisional 31st Open and 3rd Section BICC Isigny-sur-Mer; and, when duplicated into the BBC Isigny-sur-Mer race, provisional 11th Open and 3rd Section.



John Rodway



Nigel and Wendy Shaw's hen

The joint young bird and old bird races from Isigny-sur-Mer provided a fitting close to the 2026 season. Both events produced worthy winners and excellent performances across the sections, highlighting the quality and determination of the pigeons and fanciers involved. Congratulations to everyone who timed and contributed to another successful series of joint races.

That concludes the BICC, BBC and CSCFC racing for the 2026 season. I would like to thank Clare Norman for providing the information for the joint races, which again proved successful and attracted stronger birdage. My thanks also go to the BICC members who supplied details for these reports and responded to my emails and messages. I am equally grateful to the staff at the British Homing World for presenting the reports so professionally and for their continued support. Finally, I would like to thank Steve Appleby for providing the weather reports throughout my time as BICC Press Officer. As Steve steps down as weather adviser, I sincerely wish him all the very best and hope he enjoys having more time to concentrate on his own pigeons.

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