



The National Flying Club

SIGOGNE

After Lukasz Belko from Minster on Sea was crowned winner of 1st Open National Flying Club from Nort-sur-Erdre, the dedicated team of workers and volunteers who are an essential part of our great club's success immediately set about the preparations for the third Old Bird National of the 2025 racing season, this time from Sigogne, which is located in the Charente region of south-western France and saw 273 members send a convoy of 1,560 birds. This race is a memorial race for our late President, Geoff Kirkland. A man and fancier who was the very essence of everything great about our sport! How fitting it is then that we have a new Kirkland nom (W) on the Sigogne race, in memory of Geoff. Barbara has guaranteed the £1,000 prize money for this year, split one prize per band: Band 1) up to 420 miles; Band 2) 420 - 490 miles; Band 3) 490 miles and over.

The birds were liberated at 0600hrs in a light north-west wind and a temperature of 17°. The outlook in France was clear with light winds turning west in the Channel winds were set to turn south-west and also south-west in England with cloud breaking throughout the day. The temperature en route and in England was forecast to increase throughout the day. As our winged athletes strived for home in what turned out to be a testing day for many a fancier and pigeon alike, only one question remained who would emerge victorious? To answer this question, let's start by looking at the provisional top ten of the all-important National result.

Flying a distance of 398 miles securing **1st National Flying Club, 1st Section E** with a yearling pigeon attaining a winning velocity of 1266.161, is one of the most consistent fanciers ever to take on the ultimate challenge that is National racing. Ladies and gentlemen, please raise your glasses to the one and only **Mr Roger Lowe of Reading**.

Let's take a moment to hear from this great fancier about what is the latest in a long lineage of stellar performances in what I can only describe as a lifetime of dedication to our sport throughout which Roger Lowe has raced the stars out of the heavens, over to you Roger.

'First I would like to thank everybody who got in touch and sent me congratulations, it's been overwhelming. All I ever wanted to do was win the Saintes National with the NFC after coming close on several occasions, being 2nd and 3rd Open with the Main Man to my friend Mark Gilbert. Then, when I won Sigogne for the first time in 2018 with a son of the Main Man (Main Son), the last thing I expected was to win it for a second time, so to say I'm over the moon is a understatement. Sending 20 birds, 16 hens and four cocks, my first two which look to be 1st and 3rd Open are hens. The first bird is a yearling having her fourth Channel race of the season after going twice as a young bird, her best result being

3rd Section, 3rd Open Classic Guernsey, 1,329 pigeons. She is now called Dark Lady. Her sire is a double grandson of Mark Gilbert's Southfield Supreme, winner of the Dax International, now gifted back to Mark. Her dam is She's A Star, winner of 1st Section, 11th Open NFC Coutances 2016 against the wind, a very hard race, she's bred from My Little Diamond, a winner of the NFC young bird race in 2007 in her only ever race. The sire was Million Dollar Man bred by André Roodhooft from his top pigeons.

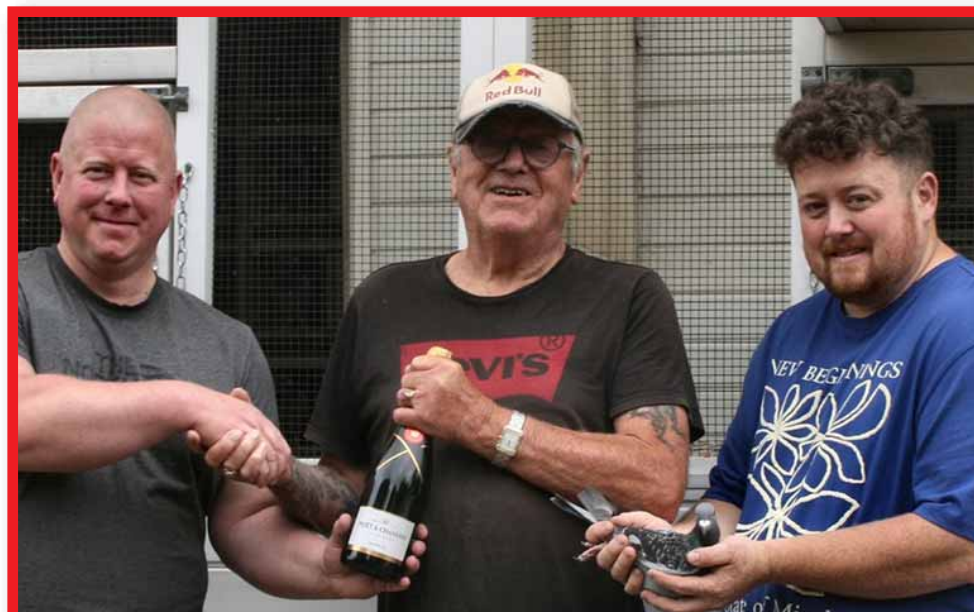
My second pigeon, now called Bonus Girl, is a full sister to 2nd Ace which finished 2nd Ace Pigeon last season in the NFC. It is of the Gino Clicque blood from Bonus Ball, a pigeon I won in the Federation bonus ball raffle from Mark Gilbert, direct Gino's. He is from a full brother to Golden King. Bonus Girl has four previous performances overseas, the best being 10th Section, 13th Open Fougères 2,635 birds.

Dark Lady, the 2025 Sigogne winner will now be paired to 2018 Sigogne winner, Main Son. Thanks again to everybody and well done to all the Section winners'.

Taking **2nd Open, 1st Section J** is the Telford loft of **Keith Rhodes** who clocked a brilliant 2y on 1260.845. Speaking of his 2nd Open winner Keith says, 'My timing is a 2y pencil widowhood cock, a Jim Gibbon x



Dark Lady, 1st Open for Roger Lowe.



NFC Chairman Tom Scott congratulating Roger Lowe on another National win.

Cramond & Langstaff x Cosmin Talas. His sire is pure Jim Gibbon and in his final race he was 27th Open NFC Sigogne plus he won other top positions in Nationals during his racing career. The dam is off a Crammond & Langstaff cock purchased in their clearance sale a few years back and a hen purchased off Cosmin Talas back in 2020. His half brother, which we recently retired, was 2nd Ace and 1st North Region over two years in the NFC. He has always been a very good pigeon and so far he has won 6 x 1st prizes in our local club flying in the Shropshire Federation finishing 2nd Federation on two occasions. This is the first year we have sent him across the Channel, he had six prep races and in those races this season he has won a 1st, 2nd (beaten by a loft mate), 4th and 6th. He was sent to NFC Fougères and was fourth pigeon back to the loft. From NFC Nort-sur-Erdre he was the first pigeon back finishing 17th Section, J 173rd Open. He was sent to Sigogne and was well fancied for this race.

He is now finished for the season and will be back racing next year. I had three from five on the day with another first thing the next morning. Thank you to the NFC conveying team as they all came back in as good a condition as I sent them. I would also like to say well done to Roger Lowe for winning it and also thank you to everyone who rang or messaged me'.

Securing **3rd Open, 1st Section F** with a 2y on 1235.568 is Oxford fancier, **Ioan Ardeleanu**.

In 4th Open, 1st Section K on 1225.018, thanks to a 5y bird is **Nigel Dennett of Meden Vale**.

Taking **5th Open, 1st Section G** is the Devizes-based partnership of with a 2y on 1218.733 with another bird arriving soon after. Speaking of their Section win, the partners told me. 'We would like to congratulate Roger Lowe on winning the National and all other winners on what turned out to be a very difficult day. We had two hens together raced on the chaos



2nd Open, 1st Section J, flying 491 miles, Keith Rhodes of Telford.



Ioan Ardeleanu of Oxford, 1st Section F, 3rd Open.



Our late President, Geoff Kirkland.

system, one second apart, which will be provisional 1st and 2nd Section. The first hen is from our old family, she previously had flown Alençon, then NFC Fougères when she ended up reported in Peterborough by Dave Cowell. He kept her for a week and put her on the transporter the following week, and she was tossed from Reading. After that she had two inland races, won one and was then entered in the National. The second hen has been very consistent this year previously winning 11th Open BICC Alençon from over 5,000 birds this year! She has been to all the NFC races this year. She is also from our old family as she is a great granddaughter of our good pigeon, Merit Man. They will both now go to Bordeaux'.

In 6th Open, 1st Section W is Mark Sparey of Abertillery who timed a 2y on 1214.657.

Securing **7th Open, 2nd Section E** is one of the UK's leading exponents of long distance racing, a man who is a real tour de force in the discipline of distance / marathon racing, **Mark Gilbert**, whose wonderful racing exploits are renowned worldwide, Mark clocked a yearling on 1214.457. Mark writes: 'We sent a mixture of middle

distance and long distance pigeons fully expecting the middle distance birds to be way ahead of the long distance. This was not the case disappointingly as we thought this would be their type of day, so we were surprised when two long distance yearling hens turned up before them.

First in the clock at 3.33pm on 1214, provisionally 2nd Section, 7th National was a yearling widowhood hen and she is a full sister to Southfield Abigail's Star, winner of 1st National BICC Agen. She is also sister to 1st Section, 2nd Open BBC Pau, 1st Section, 3rd National BICC Pau, 6th Section, 8th Open BBC, 9th Section, 14th National BICC Barcelona, 38th National NFC Tarbes, 38th National BICC Pau and 9th Section, 29th National BICC Dax. The sire is a son of Sumerian Fighter, 1st International Barcelona 17,026 birds 2017 and the dam is a daughter of Romee, winner of 3rd National Bergerac 10,327 birds, 3rd National Orange 4,302 birds, 3rd NPO St Vincent 1,365 birds 2013. Second in the clock, 30 seconds later on 1213ypm was a blue chequer yearling widowhood hen, a half sister to 1st Section, 3rd Grand National NFC Tarbes 2024. The sire is a son of Southfield Hugo, 1st National Barcelona,

1st National Perpignan paired to Willeke, 1st International St Vincent. The dam is a daughter of Jef, 1st International Barcelona 16,051b 2019 when paired to a daughter of New Laureaat, 1st International Barcelona 25,382b 2013. Congratulations to our good friend Roger Lowe who is showing he has still got it by winning the National'.

The partnership of **W Carr & Son from Wood Street Village** are **8th Open, 3rd Section E** with a yearling on 1214.430.

Racing under the banner of **G Treharne & Son from Nantyglo** and in **9th Open, 2nd Section W** is **Stuart Treharne** who timed a 4y on 1213.691. Stuart writes, 'Our bird is a 4y chequer cock that has previously won 1st NFC Section, 50th Open Sigogne in 2023 as a 2y. His sire is a son of Alan's Lad, 1st Welsh National Saintes, when he was paired to a daughter of Nadira. His dam is a granddaughter of Eijerkamp's Kain when our son of Kain was paired to a granddaughter of Alan's Lad and Kain which won 1st Welsh National Carentan for us, so the cock is inbred to two really consistent lines in our loft. The cock is flown on roundabout and was let into his box overnight before being basketed early Thursday morning for marking. The birds

arrived in good condition and we presently have seven from nine. I would like to congratulate the winners and also our good friend Mark Sparey for topping the Section into Wales'.

Taking **10th Open** is the Harrow loft of **Andrei Antoce** with a yearling on 1213.593.

Congratulations to the winner and all who made the top ten in this very testing race. We will now look at the provisional top three in each Section.

Section A

In **1st Section, 39th Open** is the well-known and respected husband and wife partnership of **Mr & Mrs Brian Wall from Havant** timing a 3y pigeon on a Section winning 1110.831. Brian writes, 'I sent four to Sigogne and the race turned out to be really hard. My first bird also won 1st Section A last year from this race point, so that's two in a row. He is a widowhood cock, sire JP Parker bloodlines from Top Dog, hen is a Paul Macalony bird direct, I was pleased to see him on the day, once again he got me out of trouble. Next race will be Bordeaux and that's him for the season'.



Chris & Jane Howse, 5th Open, 1st Section G.



9th Open, 2nd Section W for G Treharne & Son.



Starling, 2nd Section, 94th Open for Mircea Cioc.



Hardwick Faith, 1st Section D for Lee & Dyer.



Geoff Cooper holding 2nd Section G, 28th Open.



Craig Gough's hen, 2nd Section, 13th Open.

Taking **2nd Section, 66th Open** is **Mr M J Skidmore of Havant** with a yearling on 1031.285.

In **3rd Section, 88th Open**, **David Turner from Dorking** with a yearling on 910.079.

Section B

Taking **1st Section, 15th Open** is the loft of **Wearn Bros 1 & Neilson from Ramsdean** with a 2y on a Section-winning 1184.627.

Taking **2nd Section, 38th Open** is the Fareham-based partnership of **George Willett & Son** with a yearling on 1111.242.

In **3rd Section, 41st Open** is the popular Portsmouth partnership of **Mr & Mrs David Waterhouse** with a 3y cock on 1102.638. David sent me the following information about their pigeon. 'He is from a grandson of Sagan, and he and his brother have been very consistent in the NFC, the Classic and the Premier 100 Club. He was raced paired and sitting three or four day eggs, he has been raced on the new Jellema corn so he's very happy. The returns were not great, only having three from six, so back to the drawing board. Can I say a big well done to the winner and all the Section winners. And last of all the team involved in the NFC. Thank you'.

Section C

Taking **1st Section, 80th Open** is the Blandford Forum loft of **MA & SC King**. Mel clocked a yearling on 941.378. Mel writes, 'Congratulations to the winner and all the Section winners. My latest 1st Section winner from the Sigogne is a blue yearling widowhood cock from my well established National winning Vandenabeele family'.

In **2nd Section, 94th Open** is the ever present and extremely consistent, having topped the Section twice already in 2025, Shaftsbury's **Mircea Cioc** with a 2y on 887.083. He writes, 'my pigeon is a 2y dark cock named Starling, he won the Section from Fougères this year and 2nd Section from Nort-sur-Erdre, both with the NFC and now 2nd Section Sigogne. He is half brother (same sire) to last year's 1st Section Sigogne NFC winner, which actually was my second pigeon which I clocked in from Fougères. He is also half brother (same dam) to 6th Section NFC Sigogne 2023.

The sire of my Section winner is Bulldozer, a pigeon bred and raced by Cosmin Talas from Oxford. Bulldozer contains the same blood as Cosmin's new super pigeon, Choco, 1st National Ace Long Distance Titan Games 2024, 1st National Ace Pigeon over two races Tarbes and Sigogne, 1,021 miles in two weeks. 1st Section, 19th Open National Sigogne, 6th Section, 85th Open National Tarbes. Choco also won 3rd National Champion of Champions 2024. Bulldozer bred me 1st Section Sigogne NFC 2024, 1st Section Fougères NFC 2025 and a very good pigeon that raced well in club races. The dam of my Section winner was also bred by Cosmin Talas and is half sister to Remy and Dark Gem, both very good pigeons for Cosmin. Remy won 1st and 2nd Section, 15th and 19th Open Saintes National NFC. Dark Gem won a lot of prizes for Cosmin including 6th National Ace Pigeon. Starling was raced on widowhood and fed on traditional widowhood mix. I would like to congratulate my club mate Mel King for winning the Section and Roger Lowe for winning the Open'.

In **3rd Section, 116th Open** is Dorchester loft of **Mr & Mrs Lawrence Cowley** with a 6y bird on 763.004.

Section D

In **1st Section, 17th Open** with a brilliant yearling pigeon on 1167.718 is the Plymouth loft of **Lee & Dyer**. They sent the following: 'Our first pigeon was a light chequer hen that has been very consistent this year, hence the name Hardwick Faith, from every race we sent her. The sire is a cock that was purchased from Mark Gilbert which is from his Hugo x Golden Barcelona line, and the dam is a hen from Geoff & Catherine Cooper bred from the Farmer George x Evie line. Our second pigeon is bred from Derek Nichols, now called Bo Derek, which was purchased as a baby and races in our autumn tour programme which consist of four race starting in October. This hen is from Derek's Jelle Jellema lines. Derek sent us a small team of young birds that is proving a good move with the line of these pigeons. This hen was also the single nom winner in the Plymouth & District Classic Club'.

Taking **2nd Section, 55th Open** is Sidmouth's **Simon Cordery** with a yearling

on 1061.364. Simon says 'Firstly, I'd like to say top flying to Lee & Dyer for being 1st and 2nd Section D. My blue hen is bred from a Lambrecht cock and a Whizz Stevens hen. Ironically, she is the full sister of my 3rd Section Fougères National this year'.

In **3rd Section, 87th Open**, the Marsh Green loft of **Richard Goodier** who timed a yearling on 910.686.

Section E

Taking **1st Section, 1st Open NFC** with a yearling on 1266.161 is **R J Lowe of Reading**.

In **2nd Section, 7th Open** is **Mark Gilbert of Winkfield** on 1214.457.

Taking **3rd Section, 8th Open**, **W Carr & Son of Wood Street Village** on 1214.430.

Section F

In **1st Section, 3rd Open** is **Ioan Ardeleanu of Oxford** on 1235.568.

Speaking of his performance, he says, 'I live in Oxford with my wife and my little boy. I started keeping pigeons about four or five years ago and started racing three years ago. The first pigeons I had were from Cosmin Talas. I have built my own loft but after a couple of years I had to move to my current location. Cosmin helped me with everything, from feeding and training to joining the club and the National. He also told me about treatments and how to keep the pigeons healthy. At the beginning I made a lot of mistakes but we all do and learning all the time. My current loft is about 18ft by 5ft with two sections, one for old birds and one for young birds. I race the old birds on the nest and the young birds on natural. I feed Bamfords corn with Beyers. I sent four pigeons to Sigogne and clocked three, all hens flying natural and bred by Steve Wells. The Section winner is a 2y blue hen, Etienne Meirlaens crossed with Xavier Verstraete. My second pigeon which will be 3rd Section is a 2y cheq hen, my first pigeon from Nort-sur-Erdre. She is half sister with my third pigeon and she is from two pigeons of Cosmin Talas, daughter of Red Emperor paired with sister of Remy, 1st and 2nd Section Saintes. My third pigeon is a yearling dark hen, a half

sister to my second pigeon and again from Cosmin Talas pigeons. I would like to thank Steve for breeding me the pigeons and Cosmin for all his help. Most importantly I want to thank my wife for putting up with my hobby and for all her support'.

Taking **2nd Section, 42nd Open** is the partnership of **Kenny & Armstrong of Wantage** with a 2y on 1102.362. They sent me the following: 'Our 2nd Section bird is a blue bar widowhood cock. He has previously been 2nd Section, 2nd Open Messac CSCFC. His sire is a Gino Clicque cock when paired to a full sister of the gold mine hen, Adele'.

In **3rd Section, 70th Open** with a 2y on 1002.099 is the partnership of **Mr & Mrs Alan Webber & Son from Abingdon** who told me, 'Our bird is a 2y chequer cock flown on the chaos system, and was our only entry. Sigogne was his fifth overseas race this season and his best performance to date. His breeding is Ouwkerk Dekkers cross Roger Lowe on the sire's side and Ouwkerk Dekkers on the dam's side. His dam has already bred a CSCFC Bordeaux winner, so one to watch'.

Section G

In **1st Section, 5th Open** is the Devizes partnership of **C & J Howse** with a 2y on 1218.733.

Taking **2nd Section, 28th Open** is a loft that needs no introduction to the National or international stage, racing under the banner of G G & C J Cooper is **Geoff & Catherine Cooper of Bath** with a yearling on 1135.715 with their second pigeon arriving four seconds later. Catherine writes, 'We clocked a yearling chequer cock who has previously this season flown Alençon, Fougères, Nort-sur-Erdre then into Sigogne. He is bred down from Wollongong (four times in the pedigree) George, Farmer George, Ivy, Invictus, Darren, Armando and Sumerian Fighter, all top bloodlines. He was raced roundabout, paired at the end of January'. They had 10 from 11 return to the loft as of the day after the day of liberation all of which returned in good condition.

In **3rd Section, 56th Open**, the well known auctioneer **Stuart Wilcox of Bristol** with a 5y on 1060.446.

Section H

Securing **1st Section, 36th Open**, the partnership of **C Crick & Son from Stotfold** with a 2y on 1113.523. They wrote, 'Our first pigeon is a 2y Dirk van den Bulck chequer, widowhood cock. He has raced steady inland, generally having better performances in tough races so we felt like Channel racing could suit him'.

In **2nd Section, 40th Open** is the loft of **Patmore & Rayner from Saffron Walden** with a yearling on 1108.045. They told me the following, 'We timed a yearling widowhood cock after 11 hours 24 minutes to take provisional 2nd Section H. This was his fourth Channel race of the season which hasn't been a walk in the park this year. His dam has flown Tarbes three times being from our old family of van Hee van Loon with a little bit of Peter Virtue. Her sire was 4th Open Saintes NFC. The sire of the yearling cock was a late bred purchased in 2023 from Ken Droog of Forfar in Scotland. We had three out of seven on the day and two since. Happy with that on a difficult day.

Taking **3rd Section, 75th Open** is **Kelvin Sharman from Syleham** with a 4y on 981.062.

Section I

Only two birds were recorded. Taking **1st Section, 69th Open** is Chipping Norton's **F J Hambidge** with a 4y on 1003.480.

Securing **2nd Section, 117th Open** is a true gentleman of the sport and one of the keenest fanciers you are likely to find anywhere in the sport, our great friend **Cliff Sanders of Atherstone** who timed a 3y on 759.532.

Section J

Taking **1st Section, 2nd Open** is Telford fancier **K Rhodes** on 1260.845

In **2nd Section, 13th Open**, Shrewsbury fancier **Craig Gough** clocking a 2y hen on 1193.704. Raced on roundabout she was paired up and on chipping eggs for this race. She was Craig's second bird at the first NFC race, 308 miles taking 358th Open. She is bred from a pair of birds from the late Brian Heath of Market Drayton, from Brian's Bordeaux family which scored so well in MNFC.

Taking **3rd Section, 22nd Open** with a yearling on 1154.676 is the **Chambers Family of Cannock** who sent me the

following details. 'Our first bird from Sigogne, flying 487 miles was a yearling blue white flight cock who had previously scored 2nd Section in the YB BICC National from Fougères flying 302 miles last year. He is a child of our Heart Breaker hen, winner of 3 x 1st t Section in the NFC, BICC and BBC from St Philberts in 2022. His sire is a half brother to our 7th Open NFC Tarbes cock, Dutch Thunder. We were lucky enough to time two birds within two minutes from Sigogne with a third arriving six minutes later, which lulled us into a false sense of security thinking this was going to be an easy race! Congratulations to the overall race winner and all Section toppers, there were some truly incredible birds timed in, racing to unfavourable locations on the day so well done to those people especially the winner of Section N, what a performance that was flying 639 miles on the day!'

Section K

In **1st Section, 4th Open** is **Nigel Dennett of Meden Vale** on 1225.018.

Doncaster's dynamic fancier **Nigel Laycock** takes **2nd Section, 14th Open** with a 3y red cock on 1193.360. Nigel told me that this pigeon is bred from a double grandson of the Special One from Hugo Battenburg when paired to a direct daughter of Kate, daughter of Snelle Jelle from Verweij & de Haan. Nigel went on to say that 'this 550 miler took nothing out of him.' I am sure, dear readers that we will hear even more about this great fancier and pigeon in the near future.

In **3rd Section, 20th Open** with a 2y on 1161.408 is the Leeds loft of **J Finlay**.

Section L

Taking **1st Section, 11th Open** is the Congleton loft of **George Bowyer** with a 2y on 1209.843.

Liverpool's 2022 1st Open NFC Grand National winner, **Ronald Pendleton** takes **2nd Section, 18th Open** with a 2y on 1163.358. Ron's grandson Kieran told me, 'Our pigeon is a 2y cheq pied hen sent on a young bird. She went to the first NFC race from Fougères and since then has had two short tosses and been left alone. Her sire is the father to our loft, he is also the sire of our 1st NFC Tarbes in 2022 and has bred us to many good pigeons to list. He was bought out of the Liverpool Classic Club sale in 2015 and is a son of Baress & Murray's good Bordeaux cock. Her dam is our good blue pied hen which was 3rd Section L, 97th Open Pau in 2020 for us'.

Taking **3rd Section, 19th Open** is the Oldham partnership of **J Wood & Son** timing a 2y on 1162.517. They sent me the following details. 'The pigeon that was 3rd Section L is a 2y hen which was sent sitting 12 day eggs, from a pair I bought from Bill Dickinson which I believe are R & B Smith lines. The picture of the hen was taken just after arrival. I would like to congratulate the winner and all who timed on a very hard day'.

Section N

Only two pigeons were recorded. Taking **1st Section, 16th Open** flying an incredible distance of 639 miles on the day of liberation with a 3y on 1173.144 is **Robert McKie of Newcastle upon Tyne**. What a fantastic endorsement for the art of long distance pigeon racing into the UK and the skill of the British fancy. 'Congratulations Bob'.

Regarding this outstanding performance into Newcastle upon Tyne I have been sent the following. 'At 9.59pm whilst chatting on the mobile to his friend Trevor Robinson, Bob saw his late bred 2y blue/white hen flash past his sitting cabin and drop on top of the aviary roof before entering the loft. Flying almost 16 hours on the wing at 40mph, this bird left Bob flabbergasted, excited, and confused all the same time. Medium-sized, she was in fine fettle and readily took some small seed and then a long drink. Now called Dreammaker, she was bred by Terry Knox, our local corn merchant. Her sire was from Ally McLeod, one of the top UNC fliers and the dam contains the bloodlines of New Laureaat, Kleine Jade and Champion Blue Badge. She has been racing on the Jealousy system and was his second arrival from the first NFC National from Fougères. In 2024 she also flew Fougères with the NFC and was Bob's only arrival in race time. Clearly a tough and determined pigeon.

In **2nd Section, 128th Open** is the North Shields partnership of **Mr & Mrs K Kelly** with another brave 3y, flying 645 miles on 591.809, yet again another performance worthy of the highest praise! Kevin Kelly and his wife Tracy timed this brave little dark chequer hen at 8.38pm to take 2nd Section N in her first Channel race of the season. She is bred out of a son of Covid paired onto Molly Moo of Dawson & Peacock from Sunderland and on the dam's side is a granddaughter of De Cas. Clearly bred for the job.

Section P

In **1st Section, 35th Open**, **Tony Buckfield of Hockley** with a yearling

Soontjen hen on 1115.418. She has previously had four club races, was then sent to Nort-sur-Erdre for her first time across the water, then given a two week break with only light training. She was then sent to St Philbert and was Tony's first pigeon, once home she was paired up and sent to this race sitting eight or nine days. Tony sent a team of five birds, three of which were home on the very hard day. He would like to congratulate Roger Lowe on winning the race and the NFC Conveyors and all Section winners in not only the NFC but also BBC and UBI races.

Taking **2nd, Section, 53rd Open, D Heywood & Son of Laindon** on 1075.326. They sent the following information, 'We would like to congratulate Rodger Lowe on yet another fantastic win. The pigeon we clocked is a 2y widowhood cock bred from pigeons obtained from Alan Parker from Clitheroe. Well done to all the Section winners, including our mate Tony Buckfield'.

Securing **3rd Section, 54th Open** is the Basildon partnership of **Mahoney Bros** with a 3y pencil pied cock on 1069.536. Here is what they told me about their performances. 'We don't race young birds and as yearlings we try to send them all to our furthest inland race point, Wadebridge at 245 miles. He had his first ever Channel crossing three weeks ago from St Philbert, 290 miles to us, having nine hours on the wing, so this was his next race. His sire is from our old Planet Bros strain dating back to 1982 crossed with Frank Sheader Soontjens, we have had a fair amount of success across the Channel with these pigeons. His dam was bred for us by B & J Willson from Dagenham (our nephew and brother-in-law), she is a sister to their BICC Falaise winner, a Sheader Soontjen crossed with Soontjens from Fenwick & Howard from Doncaster.

Section Q

Only one pigeon was recorded. Taking **1st Section, 126th Open** is the Liskeard loft of **L Luscombe** with a 2y on 641.586.

Section W

In **1st Section, 6th Open**, **Mark Sparey of Abertillery** recording 1214.657

Taking **2nd Section, 9th Open**, **G Treharne & Son** on 1213.691.

In **3rd Section, 27th Open**, **Derek R Nicholls of Barry** with a yearling on 1137.663.

CHRIS WILLIAMS



2nd Section H, 40th Open for Patmore & Rayner.



Ronald Pendleton's 2nd Section L, 18th Open.



John Wood & Son, 3rd Section L.



Tony Buckfield's yearling hen, 35th Open, 1st Section P.