

Lu Lu Elizabeth Wins The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Race, Messac For David Coward-Talbott

The RPRA London Region south road, Queen's Diamond Jubilee Race was held on 2nd June. from Messac. The race was organised by the Leigh-on-Sea Club with help from Basildon Zone members, along with Claire Mills from the Southern Region, who made the race possible by offering to transport the birds on the Southern Region transporter, and assisted with the loading when John Gladwin and Jake Hammond arrived with the Leigh club transporter in Southampton. The birds arrived home in excellent condition and for that we have to thank the driver and Convoyer, both of whom helped with the loading, so thanks, lads. Many thanks also go to Rita & Eddie Good who run the Brandon Grove Marking Station at Ockendon. I phoned Eddie up when we first thought about running the race and asked if it would be possible to use their marking station as they are central to the M25 and everyone knows where they are because they run the BICC M/S. Without any hesitation he said yes. They were both there at 6.30am and when I left about 10 they were still there. Rita makes a grand cup of tea. Without the help of these people, the race would not have happened.

The weather forecast was for an east wind, not what we needed for the race. However, before seven, the birds started to arrive and they kept coming in a steady stream until nine. I was taking the money (someone has to have the easy job) and I seemed to always have someone at my table giving me money. We had two Unikon systems on the go, which

helped to get everyone through quickly. Tony Mahoney was in charge of the manual clocks. It is amazing just how quickly things have changed. Not long ago almost everyone would have had a manual clock and one man would not have coped but now it is the other way round.

On Saturday morning we got the call from Claire to say the birds were liberated at 0800hrs in an east wind. Never having run an Open race before we were learning on the job so to speak. We had decided that everyone would have to ring in their first bird within an hour of clocking. This worked perfectly with John and me taking the calls and then entering them onto the computer. We were expecting the birds to take around seven hours to our area, which was not far out. **The winner of the race, David Coward-Talbott from Galley Wood near Chelmsford**, timed in at 15.12.19 to record a velocity of 1167.415, having flown 286 miles 1333 yards. David is going to call his winning pigeon Lu Lu Elizabeth, after his young granddaughter, Lucia, who was out in the garden with him waiting for the pigeons to arrive home, and after our Queen Elizabeth. David tells me his blue hen '31' is a nest sister to '30' who was 12th Open Messac 2011. Her sire is The Maker who was the sire of 1st open NFC Bordeaux for Les Jones of Hertford. The Maker was purchased by Paul Russel of Harold Wood from a sale of Vandeflaas birds but unfortunately his pedigree was lost. Dam of 30 and 31 was a blue ch hen GB10-97 purchased by David from one of Brian & Cornelia Long sales after the premature death of Brian. She is a granddaughter of a grizzle son of Poco, 1st International Pau and Pauline 4th International Pau, Emperor, sire of 1st International Dax 19,400 birds and 2nd International Dax 17,000 birds and Zarina, direct Daughter of Sars 1st International Bourges.



The winner of the race, David Coward-Talbott.



Joe House, 2nd Open Messac.



The blue pied cock is bred from a direct Dirk Sepers cock via the late Brian Long and a g.daughter of Kannibal. His previous results include 1st Fed Poole 2010, 42nd Open NFC Saintes 2010, 33rd Open LSECC Alençon 2011, 1st Club, 3rd Combine Carentan 2011.

J H House & Son from Basildon were 2nd Open with a yearling chequer hen. Joe keeps a very small team of pigeons, which win out of turn for him. His first and second pigeons were bred the same way. The Dam is a Derek Pedley Janssen and the sire is a direct Peter Gijbels selected by Mark Evans of Heart of England Auctions. Both of the pigeons were having their second Channel race of the season and are raced on the roundabout. At the time of writing Joe still has four from 11 missing and would like to say a big well done to David on winning and to everybody who timed in on a difficult race.

Taking **3rd Open was Mark Bulled** with a 4y widowhood cock that has previously won 19th LSECC Tours and 48th BICC Falaise, plus wins inland. He is bred through his locally well-known Red Sprint family. He sent nine and had six on the day.

In **4th Open was Gary Inkley** with a 2009 blue pied cock bred from a direct Dirk Sepers cock via the late Brian Long and a granddaughter of Kannibal. His previous results include 1st Fed Poole 2010, 42nd Open NFC Saintes 2010, 33rd Open LSECC Alençon 2011, 1st Club, 3rd Combine Carentan 2011.

D Bullen & Son took 5th Open. This was the first race for their 10



D. Bullen & Son 5th.



Garry Inkley, 4th Open Messac.

widowhood cocks this year. This 2y dark cheq cock is a great-grandson to their 1st NFC 5th International Dax winner 2005 Reggie's Boy and also related to I.R.D.B. They were also on the clock with another 2y cock also related to Reggie's Boy. Their pigeons have had prior to this race three 40-mile tosses and been flying round the house morning and night.

D Heywood & Son were 6th Open. The pigeon they got yesterday was a son off their Guernsey cock who himself had five top 20 positions in National and Classic races 3 x top 10. '34', the cock they got, has three top 20 positions himself and is a grandson off the sire off their shed Jonjo from John Gerard.

Martin & Watts were 7th Open with a yearling Vandenabeele blue ch cock sent sitting 10-day-old eggs.

Down & Good came in at 8th Open with a dark cheq cock bred for them by Stuart Bevan of Tilbury. They call him the Little because as a yearling he lost half an hour trapping but finished in the first 200 BICC Open result and 38th ES. As a 2y he was raced up to Bergerac and this year they put him on widowhood and he has flown all three BICC races, taking positions in all three Carentan – 297th Open, 19th Section,



6th Open Dave & Gary Heywood.



Micky Watts.

Falaise 324th Open, 22nd ES and Alençon 444th Open, 39th ES. They are well pleased with the performance of this pigeon since he has been on widowhood he traps well but he is still called the Little *****.

John Nicholls was 9th Open with a 2y blue hen.

Meg Murray took 10th Open with a 2y cock that she bred from a pair of Biss pigeons acquired quite a few years ago from William Lawrence from Ayr in Scotland. Over the past six or seven years, Meg has always crossed them out, but then, a couple of years ago, decided to try them paired together. The resulting offspring have done really well on hard days. She is going to keep an eye on this one and hopefully try him out on one of the longer races.

Tony Coker was 11th Open with a 2y cheq pied hen; **J. Harris & Daughter 12th**, also with a 2y cheq pied hen; **Tony Buckfield 13th** with a 4y blue hen; **Alex Mackenzie 14th** with a golden oldie, a 6y blue cheq cock; **Asher & Standeven 15th** with a 2y cheq cock; **Gladwin Jarvis & Family 16th** beating us with there 2009 mealy hen; we were on the clock two minutes later, which made us **17th**, and it was also an 2009 cheq hen; **C Hoskin 18th** with a 2y cheq cock; **Roy Royland 19th** with a blue pied cock; **John Cowlin 20th** with a yearling blue hen; **P J Kelly 21st**



Eddie & Dick (Down & Good) 8th Open Messac.G.



Meg Murray.

with a yearling cheq cock. These were the only birds phoned in and this is a provisional result of first birds.

It was, as expected, a hard race for the birds. We had eight home on the day, three on Sunday and three on Monday, which were looking a bit sad, although they soon picked up. I hope that everyone else was the same. We would like to thank everyone who sent to the race and our sponsors, H & B Groundworks. P2PMailing, Racing Pigeon, Belgica pigeon products (Henk De Weerd) and the British Homing World.

PAM GLADWIN

Tel 01702 542019 or

07958 463095

Email: pamelagladwin@yahoo.co.uk