

Thames North & Eastern Counties Flying Club

Race 15 was flown on 13th July from Purbeck (41/590) with distances ranging from 107 miles to 164 miles. The birds were up and away at 0700hrs into a north wind for what proved a good steady race with the winners doing 50mph. With the north in the wind the leading positions were well spread around the locations of the members and the clubs within.

Doing a demolition job taking the first three in both **Basildon Zone** and **The Thames** Open we have Paul Gilbert whose first pigeon took 2 hours 58 minutes to cover 147 miles and 1400 yards. Paul does not get much time to race his pigeons due to work and family commitments so it is great to see him have such a smashing result clocking three pigeons in four seconds. First over the trap was his excellent 3y cock, which I reckon has scored around 20 times for him and has won each year of its life. Keep in mind Paul does not even send to 50% of the races most seasons. In his own words this Frans Zwols x Louis Thijs is the best pigeon he has owned. His second pigeon is a Louis Thijs and his 3rd is a mealy bred by the Shoebury North Road ace, John Wickenden. Paul lives right out on Foulness Island meaning his birds have to break and fly 7 to 8 miles on their own on the home stretch.

Also doing a demolition job in **Tilbury** was D Wilton & Son who clocked three cocks in 2 seconds to take the first three in Tilbury Club and



Robbie and Andrew Wilton.



4th, 5th and 6th Open Thames. These cocks took 2 hours 29 minutes to cover the 123 miles, 1480 yards to the Wilton's lofts. Taking the red card definitely not for the first time this season in **Sundridge Park** we have the excellent partnership of P Jackson & Son, who clocked a 2y cock which took 2 hours 12 minutes to cover the 108 miles 1078 yards. To also finish 7th Open Thames. They also had two more cocks 2 minutes later which finished up 2nd and 3rd Sundridge Park.

Another loft which has been bang in form in recent weeks took the red card in **Hullbridge** and 8th Open **Thames** and that is Frank (The Man) Aloisio who clocked a good yearling Frans Zwols hen which covered the 133 miles 465 yards to his loft in 2 hours 42 minutes.

Coming in as bridesmaid yet again in Hullbridge Club and 9th Open Thames we have myself Gladwin & Jarvis. I clocked my super Frans Zwols sprint cock '76', this old cock has scored both on the North Road and South Road and has over 25 positions to his name. 76 covered the 137 miles 878 yards to my loft in 2 hours 47 minutes. Completing the top 10 in the Thames and 3rd Hullbridge Club we have John Cowlin who clocked another Frans Zwols cock.

Taking the win this week in **Estuary** we have Lee Tracey who clocked his good 3y cock first to also take 22nd Open Thames. T McLaughlin and A Hammond & Son were the next two fanciers to clock in Estuary. Packer & Clarke closely followed by R Denny took the spoils in Thurrock Club and 24th and 26th Open Thames. Micky Harvey took the red card in **Laindon** and he was followed by the ever-present Steve Smith and Alex Mackenzie. Winning 25th, 29th and 40th open Thames respectively.

In what turned out a close run race in Colchester Club Mr & Mrs Reis just edged out Bob Wija into 2nd and 3rd positions. The winning widowhood cock a 2y blue from our John Sparry Vandenabeeles was having its second win on the trot, it was declared to win and won both the club's snowball and weekly nom. Bob's two yearling cocks are both latebreds which have previously been raced in the Super Six both having taken prominent positions, his second timing in fact is a double winner of the super six, both are from his Heremans-Ceuster family.

Super 6

Moving on to the Super 6 race which were liberated 15 minutes later at 0715hrs, these

pigeons doing around 4mph less than the main liberation.

Winning the red card in both Hullbridge and the Thames we have the super partnership of Mr & Mrs J Buckfield who once again have had a great season especially on the North Road adding further Combine and Arnal wins to their already impressive CV. Bridesmaids again both in Hullbridge and the Thames was myself Gladwin & Jarvis clocking my very good Frans Zwols hen '14', who is a full sister to Max (winner of 1st Open BICC Alençon and Combine D'Artagnan. (winner of 1st Combine, Falaise). '14' despite not winning a big race like her brother and sister has many good positions both inland and from across the Channel. Taking 3rd spot in both Hullbridge and the Thames we have Frank (The Man) Aloisio. Keeping his good recent form going by clocking a 2y Frans Zwols hen. Taking the red card in Estuary and 4th Open Thames we have T McLaughlin who has flown very well in these Super 6 races this season. Coming in 4th Hullbridge and 5th Open we have Micky Watts. Clocking a good 2y. Completing the top 6 in the Thames and winning Colchester Club we have B Wija, whose Heremans-Ceusters are once again having a great season in The Thames.

Any news or views to john.gladwin@hotmail.co.uk



John Buckfield.



Paul Gilbert's pigeons.

