

East Coast Fed, dam being a Lambrechts and Barry tells me these birds are breeding winners at home and topping Feds for others now. **Holderness** (-/192) 1st Colin Bolton on 1580.5 with a De Klak gift bird from Chris Salter; 2nd Colin Bolton on 1580.1 with a self-bred Soontjen; 3rd Colin Bolton on 1579 with another self-bred Soontjen; 4th Colin Bolton on 1577, Colin has been putting the miles in I'm told with the help of Dave Suggitt training service.

Once again conveyed by the Durham Combine our longest race of the season gave the distance men a chance to test their blood, 67 Fed birds were liberated in Gien in France at 6am into a NE wind turning southerly. Distance ranging from 450 miles to 490 miles we saw a good

number of brave day birds. First Fed went to Harry Smith, 2nd P Mann & Son, 3rd & 4th Thorpe & Elvidge, 5th Harry Smith, well done to all.

Whitby & District HS (-/5) 1st P Mann & Son the father of this bird is a Busscheart that raced and scored before being put in the stock loft, his grand dam was from Geoff Brundle and the grand sire was 3rd & 6th UNC for Ronnie Evans, his mother's side is Rietveld x Janssen from Mark Walton and raced and scored as a young bird, this season he has scored 2nd Club, 4th Fed, 1st Club, 2nd Fed. **Scarborough FC** (-/17) 1st Thorpe & Elvidge on 1119 with a Jan Arden x T Jackson bird; 2nd Thorpe & Elvidge on 1106 with a gift bird from Wayne Sellers from his 1st Section MNFC Bordeaux,; 3rd

Thorpe & Elvidge on 669; 4th Steve Patchett 667. **Cayton Bay IC** (-/31) 1st Martin Wood on 1043 with a Gordon x Marshall pigeon; 2nd Martin Wood on 977 with a Mari Rietveld that's won Bourges previously; 3rd Martin Wood on 774 with a Rietveld x Denney x Gordon pigeon; 4th Martin Wood again with a Rietveld x Denney x Gordon pigeon on 695. **Wolds** (-/14) 1st Harry Smith on 1192 with a Goossen x Busscheart x Van den Bosch, these families of pigeons really have served Harry well over the years; 2nd Harry Smith on 1099; 3rd Harry Smith on 1071; 4th Harry Smith on 938.

Any news or information that anyone would like to send direct to me please feel free to do so neil.rogers72@hotmail.com.

Neil Rogers

Van Gent

TWO RACES TO GO AND OUR 2020 SEASON IS OVER...

What did I do

2020 is a challenge. We had a decent year until now, seen in the circumstances we are in. Last time I did layout the planning for this year. I am writing this just before basketing for Bergerac (909km) and Narbonne (1050km).

My racers got three times 117km, then 284, 246, 342 kilometers. The last three were with headwind and the last one was with a 28 degrees headwind. Then the racers that were planned for the second and third races got 516km and the St Vincent birds got 100km. The yearlings got after the 342km with 28 degrees and headwind, 350km (two nights in the basket for the first time) and 600km two times.

And then a special project 'Marathon Lady'. This hen was in 2019 the best Marathon racers in the region and due to unknown 2020 season, I liked to get some youngsters from her. So I started training her later. I tossed her on 30km, 100km, 180km then 425 and 600. Now I am basketing her on Bergerac tonight. I still have some doubts, but she came home very good in training.

Races

St Vincent was the first race and I basketed four birds. This was a total day off. I only got two birds home, luckily my first two assigned. Then we a week later we had Bordeaux and International Agen.

It was a rainy morning and early there were already timings of Agen. My first is just after the closing, but I got three out of four home. For Bordeaux I had three in the race and my first one won 1st in the region. As you can see on the picture, totally wet. Three out of three back again.

One week of rest for the racers and one week of not basketing. I raced them all on the first three races and then they need to recuperate. So I could not basket Dax and Perpignan, but I was happy afterwards, 35 plus degrees is not good for the



birds and the races were brutal, specially Dax.

So tonight we are basketing for Bergerac and tomorrow for Narbonne. I have planned five for Bergerac and three for Narbonne.

Health wise

After the 342km race then got a treatment against Trichomoniasis. And after coming home from a big race they will get a tablet against it. One week back I did use a smoke block of Koudijs in the loft.

Youngsters

I tossed them one at the time at 10, 10, 20, 40 kilometers. Then I basketed them for 90km with a trailer from the east of North-Holland. Until now I have lost five youngsters out of 37 on these tosses. So all good.

Weather permitting, I will basket them for 110km next week, the 180 twice.

Until now

I am happy. The bird loss is low, one already had a 1st in the region and I see birds come home in a year full of uncertainty. I am a happy fancier at the moment.

I hope that I still be that after this weekend.

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