

Warwick Federation Notes

Good morning ladies and gentlemen. Apologies for the late appearance of this second set of race reports. The gremlins were having a field day with the last report, and despite my computer telling me the report had gone to the magazines for publication they were sat in my inbox for almost 3 weeks and it needed to be sent again, and this time the gremlins behaved themselves. But we got there in the end, so let's continue.

Week four saw the federation competing from **Honiton** with a strong send of 2,129 birds sent by 115 very keen members. After the early starts we have experienced during the first few weeks, this time we were at the mercy of the elements and we needed to sit and wait for the line of flight to improve in a few patches. At 10.15 Johnny gave the nod for the birds to be up and away in a no wind situation, so in this race the pull would beat the wind to find the winners.

The race turned out to be a 2 member tussle for the top 10 between Tim Atkin and Johnny 'Golden Mile' Gilbert. Tim came out on top with a winning velocity of 1411.752, and taking 2nd spot on 1411.416ypm. Johnny had to settle for being the Bridesmaid, claiming 3rd spot on 1411.291ypm. Tim had them tumbling in again and walked away with a cluster of positions being 4th, 8th, 9th, 11th, 12th, and 15th federation. Johnny didn't do too badly either claiming 5th, 6th, and 7th federation. Baz Lovell came in next with the top 2 in the strong Monsell club, and these were good enough for 10th and 13th Federation. The long flying East Leake get represented by Mr and Mrs Elton who have the club topper and 14th Federation on 1389.847ypm. Going double top at Trent Valley we have the partnership of E Allen and son with these 2 good enough for 16th and 17th Federation. Rounding off the top 20 with 3 on the drop we have the Nuneaton partnership of Wilson and Malin. Well done Ken and Steve.

The weekend of the 25th May saw the 1st channel race of 2019 with 34 members duplication 307 birds back from the MNFC **Carentan** race. It is the nature of channel race that we see a raft of new names on the result sheet as when you put a stretch of open water in to a race it changes things completely. This channel race was no different. Top of the heap is a gentleman with a shed full of national diplomas and years of experience at this game, Mr Jerry Wright. Jerry tops the fed and Monsell club on 1373.28ypm, this pigeon put some daylight between themselves and the rest of competitors, and clearly wanted to get home. Jerry claimed a second federation position with his next arrival, claiming 11th Federation. Runner up, and topping Barras Club is the quiet man Bob Rouse. Good to see that he is back on top and obviously recovered from his brush with death in Mexico. For good measures Bob had a second bird for 9th federation.

Taking 3rd and 4th Federation with 2 quick together is the Monsell loft of J Murphy on 1320 and 1313 ypm. Next up and topping Coalville club we have the national winning loft of Bill Marbrow, another gentleman of the sport, Bill has been struggling with his health recently and this has impacted on his ability to tend to the birds, word on the street is that he is being assisted by a younger fancier who is serving his apprenticeship under Bill – hope you are learning lots Jon!! Taking top honours at Wigston is the good looking and talented Dean Pallatt who has recently dipped his toe back in to racing after a very successful racing career previously. Dean had a clock full, and peppers the result with 6th, 7th, 13th, 15th – 18th Federation – not a bad day at the races Dean.

The Broad Street winner and taking bragging rights for the week is the loft of the mysterious BB who is reluctant to have any publicity, and this performance was strong enough to claim 10th federation. Taking the red card in East Leake this week we have the partnership of Allen and Walker, and their club winner takes 12th Fed on 1275ypm. Top of the heap in Lime Tree and claiming 14th Federation is the partnership of Farrell and Brennan. Runner up spot in East Leake goes to R Shelton, and their bird claims 19th Federation.



Tim Atkin– The New King of Sprint

On the same weekend of the Carentan race the federation were at **Newton Abbott** for the 5th race of the 2019 inland programme. The birdage was slightly down due to members competing with the MNFC, but Steve still had 1537 birds in his care and was riding solo this week as Adam was on a Booze run in France, and has the tan to prove it. The birds were up at 10.00 in no wind and were up and cleared in 1 circle. The race turned out a quick and close 1 with only 22 yards between the top 20 in the fed. The race also turned out to be a masterclass in how to sprint from arguably the top 2 sprint men within the federation at the moment. Taking top spot and in fact having a cavalry charge to the loft is the Frankton lofts of Tim Atkin. Tim had a drop of birds who were up at the front to win both his clubs and take 1st through to 11th and 14th in the federation. To highlight the quality of sprint racing consider that his velocities range from 1559 ypm down to 1557 ypm – no room for error there at the home end for sure. This is without a doubt a top drawer performance and is to be admired and clapped.

Continuing the sprint lesson we have the top Monsell loft of Mick O'Rourke close on Tim's tail with 6 birds on velocities starting from 1557 - he is a man who has sprinted top bird for a long time and is now back in his stride. he claims 12th, 13th, 15th, 16th, 17th and 19th Federation. Well done gentlemen, you are showing what quality sprint racing looks like and are the competition for others to follow. Close in contention again we have Golden Mile Gilbert claiming 18th Federation and Baz Lovell rounding up this tight finish with 20th Federation on 1537 ypm.



Mick O'Rourke

Right folks, that's it for this week. Hopefully the techno gremlins will be more gracious this week. As always, any news to weebu@hotmail.com, 01926 817796 or 07984230076.

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