# $\triangle U C T I O N$ 

 18th July, 2018 Liverpool Sale Centre Viewing 5.30pm Auction 7.00pmBirds from LPM Stud \& Phil Murphy

# Gurnaville Stud 

Phil Bouffler
On offer for the 1st time ever are pigeons from - Nigel Laycock • Jos Sootjen• - Erik Limbourg • Eric Ceulemans some of the best medium to long distance pigeons in Europe,
these birds are highly sort after for the big ${ }^{\circ}$ money races in the UK

Also in auction will be birds of LPM and Gurnaville Studs original lines.

For more details contact: Phil Murphy: 0404809167 Phil Bouffler: 0429205372

All these pigeons have had Rotavirus.

## NIGEL LAYCOCK/CEULEMANS

The Nigel Laycock Ceuleman imports belonging to Phil Murphy of the LPM Stud are now starting to make their mark in racing pigeon results across three NSW federations. Unfortunately the Rotavirus outbreaks over the last couple of years has not helped in being able to really give these birds a "real hit-out", but in the few races that they have competed in, both last year in the SRPF and this year in the CCF and NCF they have demonstrated their ability to perform at the highest level having been an equal club winner along with being an equal 10th O/A in the Fed. This bird being clocked the following week for 3rd Club, 20th Fed.

Last year (2017) in the SRPF these birds were clocked to record 8 Federation Prizes. To-date in the CCF already this year (as of the end of June) they have been clocked to record three top Federation places two for myself and one for a club mate.
As this year
continues I expect the current progeny of these Laycock birds to continue to be highly placed in both club and at federation level. This current breeding season (2018/19) I will be offering youngsters for sale directly off these birds along with youngsters from my recent Laycock imports.

It is interest to note that the champion partnership of Frank and George Bristow in the UK are also experiencing great success with pigeons obtained from Eric Ceuleman. Over the past few years this partnership has obtained a full round of youngsters from Eric. Keep in mind that Frank and George have won no less than two "Kings Cup" races and in 2014 were the Midlands National Flying Club Combine Average winners which culminated in a 1st National win from Bordeaux. Not all of the Bristow's birds are Ceuleman based but a good percentage are.

So, here you have it, two top British fanciers Laycock and Bristow that can claim that much of their success has come from the birds obtained from Eric Ceuleman. So now there is an opportunity for Australian fanciers to obtain this bloodline but there will be only a small number available in the coming breeding season. If you are seeking a winning bloodline that many others do not have then you will need to place your order early to avoid disappointment.














































igel is a fancier that I have been aware of for a long time. He is a man who will never be satisfied with second best. This trait has passed on to his pigeons, he has always gone after what he considers the superior bloodlines and the success that both he and others have had with his birds underlines that his beliefs aren't far from the mark.

For many years Nigel has been well known for his Jos Soontjen based birds. He had and still has some excellent specimens of this superfast family of pigeons. Though he had several potent breeders, his main breeder was a pigeon called 'Gold Spot'. This cock and several other loft mates bred offspring which simply won for fun not just for their owner but for many other well-known fanciers including his good friend Paul Stobbs who as most readers will know has flown with phenomenal results up into the North East of England. With another example being the Doncaster lofts of Fenwick \& Howard. In fact it was at their loft that I got to handle their best birds and many were descended from Nigel's stock. I well remember being very impressed with the quality of their pigeons. In a word they were simply magnificent.

situated in the countryside to the North West of Doncaster and if the truth be known isn't the ideal location for the North Section that Nigel competes in because all fanciers know that the wise men came from the east' and only 'cowboys go west'. The loft set up is excellently designed with several spacious sections each with a huge open door for the birds to fly directly into the loft. The hens live in the 'front of the loff to the left and

'Northern
Bound' winner
of 2 nd North
Section MNFC
twice this
season. A real beauty!


A few years ago the decision was made while not completely deserting the tried and trusted Jos Soontjen sprinters, to compete more in the long distance National and Classic racing scene. With this in mind contact was made with the exinternational footballer Belgian Erik Limbourg who had made the transfer from football to pigeons very

One of Nigel's hens that he later timed from Bordeaux winning 7th North Section.
smoothly, as Erik has won National races and Ace awards for fun since this time. Bearing in mind the affore mentioned Laycock philosophy of only the best will do, Nigel purchased at no small expense direct children off some of the Limbourg champions.

The Limbourg lines which suited Nigel best were the offspring from 'Black Opium'

## Nigel

 explaining the trapping system employed. Notice the ETS traps.
the winner of 1 st semiNational from both Argenton and Narbonne respectively in 1996-1997 and 'Slimmen' the great racer breeder that as well as breeding exceptionally won $3 \times 1$ st Provincial for Erik in the 1990's. This is clearly evident when looking at the breeding of Nigel's stars of 2013.

Let's look first of all at his cracking yearling chequer cock now named 'Northern Bound' after twice being 2nd North Section with the MNFC from both Carentan and Fougeres. Additionally he was on both occasions 1st Section in the Club's Yearling Classic races. This


The old cock a direct son of 'Black Opium'.
pigeon is a superb specimen with everything that a class bird requires, a rich eye, excellent shape, silky feathers. In short the complete package. He is a double grandson of 'I'm Spartacus' who in turn is a son of the Laycock base cock a direct son of 'Black Opium'.

From the third MNFC race from Ancenis a distance of

DE SLIMMEN


435 miles on a hot day with a wind on the birds noses Nigel clocked another yearling this time a blue hen to take 2nd Open and 1st Yearling Classic against 5,510 pigeons. Nigel told me that he dropped a clanger by not closing the internal sliding door before his hen's arrival home and she flew straight into her box without clocking over the ETS pad and it was panic stations as he had to catch her and put her through one of the small enirances over the pads. Happily it had no effect on the result. Incredibly this bird was paired to the twice 2nd Section winning 'Northern Bound'. I certainly wouldn't mind an egg off those twol

The breeding of this pigeon is certainly 'star studded'. Her sire is a son of a 1 st Northern Classic winner from Messac which is of the afforementioned Limbourg 'Slimmen' breeding. When paired to Nigel's 1st MNFC Section Tours winner from 2011 and she is Soontien based. The Yearling Classic winner's mother is once again off a 'Slimmen' based cock cross a hen of De Rauw-Sablon breeding. This isn't the first national victory

## Some of the

 birds in the outside flight in excellent condition.
for the 'Slimmen' based family as a few years ago Nigel won 1st Section K,
they still were commendably placed in 7th \& 16 th Section positions. So rounding off



One of the individual breeding flights, the best way to be $100 \%$ certain of parentage.

Nigel and his son Ryan after 'Northern Bounds' first 2nd North Section win.
everything is very, very professionally carried out at Womersley. In one section were an array of 'Black Opium' bred cocks all beauties and looking like the proverbial 'peas in a pod'. Nigel believes that he has hit the jackpot with this tightly knit family especially the offspring from 'I'm Spartacus' which Nigel is extremely confident will become an absolute ace breeder.

The Soontjens based family that I handled were every bit as good as I remembered them and the eyesign was 'par excellent'. Some say the eye sign is unimportant but if that is so why do all the top breeding birds have good eyes?

Along the front and rear of the breeding lofts were spacious (that word again) aviaries and the birds in there sunning themselves were in superb condition. Is it any wonder that such fine birds are breeding so potently at Nigel's? With the quality of pigeons at his disposal I can only envisage even more success for Mr Laycock in the near future.


# PIGEONS AND THEIR EGONOMICAL HEALIH CARE 

## Dr Zolt Talabér


#### Abstract

A pigeon speciallst book that has quickly conquered the world: it has become a besteller in fiffy countrics on four continents so far. It includes every thing fanciers should know and observe. It helps you to immediately resognke problems that other breeders can only do with decades of experience. This book is a real refreshment. It is written in a basic language that we can all understand; the explanations are for the every day working fancler, who wants to sit and read something you can understand and not have to go rushing to the dictionary. Very good practical points, many useful tips. A must for any serious fancicr. People who have it, can surely take advantage of it and will be a great step before the others! Once you will have the book you only have one problem: When you lend it out you never see it back any more. Contents - Maintaining good health without recourse to medicines - General information about medicines * Diseases by group • Drugs grouped by therapentic effect • Treatment schedule • Gloxsary • Biblography


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# 'A Man With Birds That Are In Great Demand' 


#### Abstract

Whilst visiting Frank and George Bristow the partnership that has been racing so well over the last few years I got to hear about Eric Ceulemans and his pigeons. Frank explained to me that every year he gets a full round of youngsters from Eric and he allows a large proportion of these babies to move on to new homes. Fanciers can come and take their pick and the partners are happy to keep and race what are left. This policy hasn't prevented the Bristows from flying fantastically well with the remainder. When you bear in mind that Frank and his son George have won no less than two Kings Cup races and in 2014 were the Midlands National Flying Club Combine Average winners which culminated in 1st National from Bordeaux. I am not trying to claim that all of the Bristows winning birds are Ceuleman based but a good percentage of then certainly are. This surely must give a good indication of the consistent high quality of the birds housed in Booischot.


[^1]> bird racing quite simply because the demand for his birds was so high and so to fulfil his orders that he recently has to largely fore go old bird racing. I was very eager to know what the foundations of the Ceuleman colony were. Eric explained that he started racing in 1982 flying from his parent's home and the first birds were a combination of the lines of Frans Maris, Lambrecht and Geert. These birds gave some excellent results in the early days. In 1998 the birds were transferred to present lofts. Since this time further introductions have been added from the likes of Van HoveUytterhoeven and Engels of Putte and last but not least from
one of the up to date sensation loft of Gaston Van de Wouwer who as $99 \%$ are aware has a team based around the fabulous 'Kaasboer' (Cheesemaker). When one digests these facts it is no great surprise to find out why Eric and others have performed so admirably with the Ceuleman blend of pigeons.

I was soon firing more questions to my host. Eric did say that from the middle of May that he with the aid of his son manages to race his old cocks with the bonus that the late start allows him to race well into September with his male birds. It was explained that the young birds get plenty of 'roadwork' which may just


Frank \& George Bristow with their fine haul of trophies many of which were won with their good friend.
explain why Eric's birds race so well for him in the UK as everyone is aware that the Brits tend to be heavy trainers in general.

There are 60 pairs of breeders with a close eye kept on the results of their offspring with a strict policy of no good performances then their parents are soon removed from the loft. In front of the lofts was woodland and Eric bemoaned the fact that hawks were a big problem to him and looking at the location it is ideal habitat for the Sparrow Hawk or as the Belgians refer to it as the 'Klamper' which is exactly how the bird holds its prey down.

I asked Eric for a few of his do's and dont's. First he told me never listen to your club mates as he considers that they are very unlikely to offer sound advice. After a few seconds thought I must agree with his opinion as how often is a rival going to aid someone they are in competition with? As we continued our conversation Eric told me that besides excellent stock, health is the most important item to obtain good results. The weather he feels also plays a big part as poor weather conditions result in poor and often inaccurate races. I asked if he was a believer in medication and his reply to that one was "Water alone is not enough!" So I
will take it from that comment that the Ceuleman birds are treated for the usual health problems on a regular basis. This I find is quite a common belief amongst the shorter distance flyers. Possibly this is due to the incorrect over use of medicines over the past few decades. I wish I had a f1 for every time I have either read or been told to treat for either one or two days during the racing season and these medications are often antibiotics. How can one or two days be correct if the need is there to treat then the directions on the box or bottle should be followed otherwise you are helping to 'feed' the disease. I remember
listening to Armand Scheers who explained that 'short term treatments only knock a disease down but it gets up again in a short time and is stronger and more difficult to eradicate than ever as it has built up an immunity to the medicine'. This sounded like wise advice at the time and in fact still applies today of that I'm sure.

I was shown into the young bird racing loft and it was a hive of activity with birds busy nest building and others with a baby in the nest and as it was early October at the time of my visit it was clear that the birds were still highly motivated which is essential as the birds can become less interested as the long season draws to a close and remember the young bird races take place in Belgium from May until near the end of October. This explains why the 'young bird Specialists' race first to the perch then operate separated sexes and a 'sliding door system' and finally racing to the nest.


Eric's hen talked about in the report guarding her baby.

I was intrigued to see Eric's selection for the race that was to take place on the following day a nice blue hen sitting on a large baby behind a sloping board and every time a bird flew up to the
shelf where her nest was she was out like a shot to drive the invader away. I bet she didn't let Eric down in the race either as she was as keen as the proverbial mustard.


Some of the breeding hens relaxing in the garden aviary at the end of the breeding season.


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[^1]:    Knowing that I always keen to highlight good lofts Frank very kindly gave me Eric's phone number and arrangements were soon made to visit him on my next visit to Belgium. It was a bright afternoon when / drove over to Eric Ceulemans home and lofts in Booischot. I must say what a grand set up Eric has the lofts are made up of a fine double decker loft for the old birds and breeders above his garage and a large conventional loft where the young bird team is housed.

    As we sat talking so that I could gain a back ground to Eric and his pigeons, Eric told me that he concentrated more on young

