

The Greatest Race on Planet Earth by Jim Emerton

The Barcelona International Race reigns supreme over all others. It is at the top of pigeon racing sporting endeavours. Have you been initiated into the inner sanctum of excellence? If so then images of the experience will long remain in your consciousness.

It is the race with everything, Glamour, Prestige, Extreme distance and huge birdage with up to 30,000 birds. The result reverberates around the world and often winners are sold to the far east for "record" prices.

We in the United Kingdom can aspire to clocking in excess of 1,000 miles from this race, horizons where history is made. I was fortunate in clocking "Barcelona Dream" and verifying two more birds from six entered in 1995.

This was in the British International Championship Club to be 13th open at 879 miles and the longest flying bird clocked in Europe from 20.936 birds.

I like to promote this race and have formulated a challenge to adventurous and ambitious. Fanciers in the UK i.e. The highest velocity of a pigeon on the second day at over 800 miles and also the highest velocity of a pigeon on the third day at over 1,000 miles into the UK. This is as hard as it comes, with due reason, and will create a new dawn and beginning to determined fanciers.

It is a pigeon racing renaissance and a supreme challenge, "My Barcelona Dream" and "Dark Enchantment" have become key pigeons in the "Emerton Strain". These are the birds that hard race fanciers enrich their birds with c'est ça, the formula one of racing, The tops!