The name Mr. & Mrs. Hitchcock & Sons is known for the top long distance performances achieved since starting in 1997.

The lofts of Mr. & Mrs. Hitchcock & Sons are based in the grounds of Windsor Castle, Windsor (South East England). In the short time we have been racing we soon began to establish a team of strong, hard long distance pigeons, which led to the successful results achieved.

The Partnership began racing in Windsor in 1997 and consists of Kevin, Helen, Andrew, Adam & Dean Hitchcock.

We are currently a member of Windsor Racing Pigeon Club, which is one of the largest and strongest clubs in the country flying against multiple Classics, National & International Winners. We also compete in the National Classic Races flying with the National Flying Club, London & South East Classic Club, The British International Championship Club & The British Barcelona Club.

After the hugely successful season in 2004 after winning the 1st Open National Pau we decided to stop racing for a few years due to having very little time to spend with the birds because of work commitments, however during this time we have maintained a select team of stock pigeons which we bred from in 2012 these will be raced as young birds in 2012 with the aim towards producing some top long distance pigeons to compete at the highest level both Nationally and Internationally.

The Stock Loft
The stock loft is managed by Andrew and he is responsible for the selection and management of the entire breeding team. We currently have two Stock lofts which are located in a small brick building which is divided in to two breeding sections, one section has 12 breeding boxes and the other has 8 boxes. We currently use the standard widowhood breeding boxes which are located on the back wall about 20 inches off the ground, the stock loft floor is concrete with grills which are approx. 5 inch off the ground this ensures that the birds do not have access to any waste product which we believe dramatically reduces the risk of spreading disease.
The health and condition of our pigeons is very important to us and has a direct impact upon the quality of the birds we produce. We have recently registered with the Belgic De Weerd Avian Veterinary Clinic which enables us to ensure our birds are on top form and if we do have any problems the world leading pigeon vet Dr Henk De Weerd and his team are on hand to provide the best possible advice to keep our pigeons in top condition. We follow a very strict preventative treatment plan at set points throughout the year avoiding over treating unnecessarily. Our birds will never be treated for anything with out this been prescribed by the vets at the Belgic De Weerd Avian Veterinary Clinic.

Dropping samples and swabs from our stock pigeons are sent off to the Belgica De Weerd Avian Veterinary Clinic every four months to ensure our birds are in top breeding condition and we are not missing anything. These results are stored on our file at the clinic so that we have a full medical health inventory of our stock birds.

As mentioned above we only treat our birds upon receiving professional advice from the vet. Our stock pigeons are vaccinated at the beginning of each season against Paramyxovirus and from next year they will also be vaccinated against Paratyphoid to ensure our birds have a good immunity against these two deadly viruses. As part of the preparation before the breeding season the stock are also treated with Onespot on the back of the neck once a year this will delouse and deworm them for a twelve month period. We use paratyphoid treatment in the water once a year before the breeding season and the stock birds are also cankered at the beginning, halfway through and at the end of the breeding season.

The only product used in the water is ORIGO-STIM, this product is 100% natural which is added to the drinking water and it works by cleansing and replenishing the gut lining to improve overall health of the bird, the product is used and recommended by successful fanciers all over the world. We have noticed that whilst using this product our stock pigeons
remain healthy throughout the season and maintain dry droppings throughout the season.

The stock birds are fed on GEM BREEDING PLUS which consists of Maize, Round berry Maize, Maple Peas, White Wheat, Red Dari, Vetches, Safflower, plus G10 Pellets.

**Bloodlines**

Before considering returning to racing we completed a lot of research in to current racing results, bloodlines & ancestry for many of the current modern day top racers. The strain selected are without doubt the finest racing pigeons in the world today, this is the De Rauw-Sablon strain, however due to the nature of this family performing best at the one day long distance races we have decided to bring back a family which we have raced very successfully before which are the Deweerdt en Zn from Kortemark which will help us achieve our aims at the longer distance races we hope.

To make available the superb team of pigeons we have today a huge amount of effort & money has been put in to acquiring some of the finest stock pigeons available, for the purpose of establishing a world class stock team which we can work with and continually breed from to ensure the correct type and body build is maintained throughout the family.

**De Rauw-Sablon (Marcel Aelbrecht)**

The De Rauw-Sablon (Marcel Aelbrecht) pigeons we have sourced for our stock come from the top National & International performing lofts of Geoff Kirkland & Marino & Frank Martens (a close friend of Marcel Aelbrecht)

In their pedigrees there is some very famous pigeons such as “DE MARSEILLE”, “DE CERAFIN”, “DE PERPIGNAN”, “CRACK 066”, “CRACK 308”, “SMALLEN”, “BAK 17”, “ALBERT & POALA”

Below is a very small sample of some of the superb De Rauw-Sablon bloodlines we have within out stock lofts.
“Marseille King” is a direct Son from “Sweet Sixty Six”. (A very good breeding hen from the world famous “BAK 17” making “Marseille King” a G.G Son from the world famous “BAK 17”) “Marseille King” is also a G.G Son from “De Perpignan” 1st National Cahors, “De Marseille” top racer for Marcel Aelbrecht.

“Young Albert” is a G.Son from “De Cerafin” one of Marcel Aelbrechts best racers.
"Maria" Full sister to "Angelo" (below) From some of the very best proven Aelbrecht bloodlines in the UK today bred by G.W Kirkland.

"Angelo" Full brother to "Maria" (above) From some of the very best proven Aelbrecht bloodlines in the UK today bred by G.W Kirkland.

"Sablon's Gem" Sister to Combine winners up to combine level, G.G Dtr from "De Cerafin" one of Marcel Aelbrechts best racers also "Crack 66" 1st Prov Cahors, 7th National Cahors.

Deweerdt en Zn, Kortemark
The Deweerdt pigeons are responsible for top International performing pigeons worldwide. We have purchased several top future stock pigeons off of Andy Gregson’s direct imports. His family of Deweerdts are responsible for Combine Winners, Open Winners, RPRA Meritorious Aware winners, hundreds of club & Federation winners, section winners & National winners. This family of pigeons win pure but also cross very well and will add speed to any other long distance strain. “When the going gets tough the Deweerdts get going”.
This family has been brought in to provide a cross in future years with our De Rauw-Sablon family.

The Racing Lofts

We currently have about 10 pairs of racers however this will increase next year. The old birds are raced on Widowhood for the first part of the year and are then paired up before the longer distance races. The old birds are fed on GEM SUPER WIDOWHOOD which consists of 15 different ingredients especially prepared for racing cocks: Plate Maize, Popcorn Maize, Maple Peas, Tares, Croats, Re dari, White Dari, Buckwheat, White Peas, Lentils, Paddy Rice, Mung Beans, Soya Beans, Hemp, Safflour. Again the only supplement added to the water is ORIGO-STIM.

We breed about 60 Young birds each year for the race team and these are flown on the darkness system. The main aim for these young pigeons is the long distance races as yearlings onwards. We try to get each young bird to at least one channel race so that they experience the water before they begin racing the year after. The young birds are kept on deep litter and are only cleaned out once after a few weeks of being weaned and are then not cleaned out until the end of the racing season we believe this helps build a natural immunity and keeps the loft dry. We do not train our young birds hard as we use the club races to train our birds which start at 80 miles. The young birds are fed GEM YOUNG BIRD NO MAIZE - A super young bird mixture and very popular with fanciers that feed YB's no maize Maple Peas, White Wheat, Vetches, Red Dari, White Dari, Safflour, Buckwheat, White Peas.

The young birds have remained on ORIGO-STIM, this product is 100% natural and is added to the drinking water which is changed each day this helps maintain dry droppings throughout the season.

Our biggest influence on our racing has been by “GOD” Mr. Geoff Gilbert of Windsor, a wonderful mentor. This man has forgotten more than most fanciers know.
“The Hitchcocks record only bird in to England on the day”

Mr & Mrs Hitchcock & Sons won this race with a pigeon called “LADY HELEN”, 1st Open BICC Pau and the only bird home on the day in Great Britain. The brilliant performance was put up by a 2 year old blue hen bred from a cock from Terry Hudson’s De Klaks and a hen from Geoff Gilbert which is a pure Geoff Cooper. This hen bred Geoff the “NARROW COCK” which was 1st open L&SECC Pau, 10th Open NFC Pau, 2nd BICC Dax. Geoff kindly loaned us this hen and has bred some really good pigeons. One of our ambitions was to time a good pigeon on the day from pau and it has now come true.
Performances
Below are some of the top performances achieved from 1997 – 2005 with our old bloodlines, we hope to exceed these results with this new family we have introduced.

1st RPRA Southern Region Ace Young Bird 2001
1st RPRA Ace Y.F Long Distance Pigeon 2003
1st National BICC Pau 133 birds
2nd Entente Belge International Hens Dax 2,644 birds
2nd Section E National Flying Club Dax 174 birds
2nd NW Section L&SE Classic Club San Sebastian 88 birds
3rd Section E National Flying Club Tarbes 1,142 birds
3rd NW Section L&SE Classic Club Guernsey 252 birds
4th National Flying Club Dax 582 birds
4th Greater Distance Single Bird National Flying Club
5th Section E National Flying Club Vire 2,366 birds
5th NW Section L&SE Classic Club San Sebastian 88 birds
7th National Flying Club Tarbes 4,066 birds
7th Section D British Barcelona Club 152 birds
7th NW Section L&SE Classic Club Tours 298 birds
7th NW Section L&SE Classic Club La Ferte Bernard 502 birds
7th NW Section L&SE Classic Club La Ferte Bernard 572 birds
8th National Flying Club Vire 6,361 birds
8th NW Section L&SE Classic Club Tours 298 birds
8th NW Section L&SE Classic Club Guernsey 302 birds
8th NW Section L&SE Classic Club Guernsey 252 birds
9th National BICC Pau 133 birds
9th London & South East Classic Club Guernsey 2,107 birds
10th London & South East Classic Club San Sebastian 634 birds
10th NW Section L&SE Classic Club Guernsey 291 birds
11th NW Section L&SE Classic Club Guernsey 180 birds
11th NW Section L&SE Classic Club Plymouth 301 birds
12th Section D British Barcelona Club 103 Birds
13th NW Section L&SE Classic Club Alencon 400 birds
14th NW Section L&SE Classic Club Tours 1,292 birds
14th NW Section L&SE Classic Club Guernsey 294 birds
15th National BICC Perpignan 152 birds
23rd Entente Belge International Dax 17,526 birds
23rd National BICC Dax 388 birds
25th London & South East Classic Club Guernsey 1,376 birds
27th London & South East Classic Club Tours 1,959 birds
28th London & South East Classic Club Plymouth 1,687 birds
29th London & South East Classic Club Tours 1,959 birds
29th London & South East Classic Club Guernsey 1,723 birds
29th London & South East Classic Club La Ferte Bernard 2,772 birds
33rd Colombe Joyeux International Hens Pau 1,544 birds
37th Section E National Flying Club Saintes 853 birds
37th Section E National Flying Club Dax 174 birds
45th Section E National Flying Club Pau 1,076 birds

(Photo: Trophies won)