

British International Championship Club

Lerwick National Provisional Race Report

25th June 2022

Lerwick is the main town and port of the Shetland Islands. It is centred 123 miles off the north coast of the Scottish mainland and on the east coast. It is both the most northerly and the most easterly town in Scotland and the name "Lerwick" means *bay of clay*. Towns with similar names exist in southwestern Norway (Leirvik, Lervik) and on the Faroe Islands (Leirvík).

This race was once again a joint race with the BBC and CSCFC and after one day holdover, the birds were liberated at 5.30am. In the South Centre Section 9 members sent 39 birds, in the South East 3 sent 10, South West 3 sent 10, in the North Centre 15 sent 115, North East 4 sent 32 and in the North West Section, 4 members sent 33 birds. In total, 38 BICC members sent 239 birds. They were convoyed and liberated with the NRCC.

This report is based on member's first bird verifications and the final result may differ.

The Provisional Open winner, taking 1st North Centre Section were Hardy & Wilson of Yaxley on 725 over 529 miles. A delighted Arthur said, 'I race as Hardy & Wilson with George Wilson being the silent partner, but over the last few years my grandson Nathan has taken the pigeons very seriously and is with me on every occasion he can. Something I have really enjoyed. My Lerwick race winner, a blue hen GB21B 08065, was bred in 2021 and only trained in her year of birth to 15 miles due to deciding to turn north for 2022. This year she flew consistently on the north route, having most club races with the Peterborough City Flying Club, before being rested up for two weeks with just loft training. Which the birds take quite readily, before being entered for Lerwick. Her breeding is typical of the family we have been developing over the past three seasons, with her sire being a blue cock closely inbred to New Laureaat and Kleine Jade, who are both International Barcelona winners. Her sire came from a local fancier Peter Wraight, who is a full brother to his good blue w/f cock, who was 1st Sec E, 3rd Open MNFC Bordeaux 2018. Being a $\frac{3}{4}$ New Laureaat and $\frac{1}{4}$ Jill, 2nd International Perpignan for Jellema. Peter purchased his stock from Pipa sales. His Dam came from House of Arden out of Jelle Man and Jelle Babe, a brother and sister, again from New Laureaat and Jade. Her dam came from pigeons I purchased from the Paul O'Leary sales for Rick te Morsche, The 864 and, Inbred Romee, who purchased his original Jellema pigeons from Jan Morsink. They carry all Jellema's top blood lines, like Zwart Goud, Saffier, Romee, Blauwe Benno, Jill, New Jade 1 and 2 again from New Laureaat and Jade. She is small to medium as most of the family are and very quiet around the loft. On arrival from the north-east she had flown no weight off and was still full of fly. Could I thank the north road convoyers Darren and Merv for the sound job they do taking care of our birds.' Arthur also won the Kings Cup in the NRCC race.



The National Winner



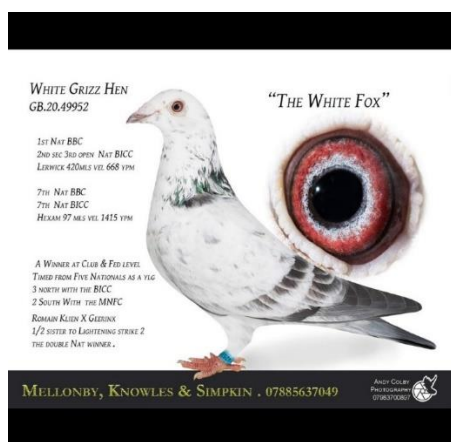
The Hardy & Wilson Lofts



Arthur and Nathan

2nd North Centre Section, 3rd Open were Mellonby, Knowles & Simpkin of Bridlington on 668 over 420 miles. The in-form partnership told me, 'Our Lerwick pigeon is a 2-year-old, Klien x Premier Stud Geerinckx. She is, believe it or not, a half-sister to the double national winner, Lightning Strike 2. We worked very hard with these Lerwick hens, tossing them right up the coast onto the sea. This hen was 7th Open Hexham, beaten by 6 loft mates and last year she scored in five Nationals. She is really a super hen.'

3rd North Centre Section, 4th Open were S & M Cook of Barton on Humber on 641 over 420 miles. Mick said, 'Our first pigeon clocked was a blue chequer pied cock, bred in 2019. He is bred from birds gifted to us from our good friends Bobby and Brian Gorton from Easington. Sadly, Bobby is no longer with us so we will name the bird, Bobby after him. Our second bird was a blue chequer pied hen, 2020 bred. She is from a pigeon that was obtained from the House of Arden, through their Invincible Spirit line and Padfield's Invincible. Both birds were clocked from Lerwick last year, when the hen was a yearling. Our third bird was a blue cock, 2018 bred, from our old Jan Theelan cock. He was clocked four times from Bordeaux having good positions in MNFC. Finally, we would like to thank everyone at the marking station for all the work they put in especially Harry Jackson for transporting the birds for the race.'



Mellonby, Knowles & Simpkin's White Fox



Steve & Michael Cook

The Provisional North East Section Winners

1st North East Section, 2nd Open were Mr & Mrs Brian Garnham of Butterwick on 674 over 489 miles. The ever consistent loft of the husband and wife partnership told me, 'First of all we would like to congratulate Arthur Hardy, George Wilson and grandson Nathan on the most fantastic performance winning NRCC King's Cup and BICC 1st Open at over 525 miles. We were so pleased to win the section with our Menne & Daughter widowhood cock, GB20X06608. His preparation this year earned him 1st Club, 28th Fed, 39th Section, 87th Open NRCC Perth. Two weeks later he was sent to NRCC Fraserburgh and was 18th Section, 40th Open, 4th Club, 29th Fed on 841yppm, which we hoped would set him up for a tough Lerwick race ahead. His sire bred NFC 1st Section, 15th Open Tarbes. His dam is a daughter of Bartholomew, 4 x Barcelona prizes and Daphne, 4 x Barcelona prizes. Our 2nd arrival at midday, the following day, was last year's 1st Section winner from BICC Lerwick. Also, our good friends and clubmates Mr & Mrs Russell Skinner's 6th Open bird, was a full sister of 20X06608, our widowhood cock.'

2nd North East Section, 7th Open, were Becker & Catchpole of Norwich on 564 over 525 miles. The partnership of Mary Becker and Vic Catchpole said, 'First off, a big well done to Brian Garnham on winning our section. Well done, Brian! Our bird, 850 has always been a reliable pigeon, but this was his first test at flying over 500 miles. His sire is a son of Luc Buyl's Golden 025, dam and grandam to many national and international prize winners, including Matador, 2nd International Barcelona 25,294 birds. The dam to 850 is an inbred granddaughter to, The Stayer of Jac Steketees.'

3rd North East Section, 12th Open was Graham Kirkham of Friskney on 523 over 492 miles. Graham said, 'My Lerwick bird is a 4-year-old dark pied cock flown on my celibate system. He was paired late March and parted onto celibate when on 7-day old eggs. He had just dropped his first flight and was fed on a high fat diet from Bamfords. He is bred to fly 700 miles, his sire is direct Jan Polder, and his dam was bred by Barrie Winter. He is the same way bred as, Jet, the sire of Little Gem, 1st NFC Tarbes. I clocked a second bird on the winning day, on her second trip to Lerwick, she again is bred from a direct Polder cock paired to a hen direct from Little Gem.'



Brian Garnham's Section
Winner



Mary Becker and Vic Catchpole



Graham Kirkham

The Provisional South East Section Winners

1st and 2nd Section, 23rd and 25th Open was Mark Bulled of Harlow on 352 & 282 over 583 miles. Mark said, 'My first home from Lerwick was a 2-year-old widowhood cock. The sire was bred by Joe Raeburn and is a grandson of Southfield Supreme. The dam is from. Old 60, my Dad's old top stock cock when paired to a daughter of Legacy. My 2nd home was a 3-year-old hen, sent sitting 7-day eggs. Her sire was 64th NFC Tarbes and her dam was 5th BICC Pau. Both birds have previously raced south and had the same preparation this year, which included Berwick 290 miles and Perth 354 miles. Well done to all that timed in what was an extremely tough race. Very brave birds.'



Mark Bulled

The Provisional Top Ten Open Positions:

1st Hardy & Wilson on 529 of Yaxley, 2nd Mr & Mrs Brian Garnham on 674 of Butterwick, 3rd Mellonby/Knowles/Simpkin on 668 of Bridlington, 4th S & M Cook on 641 of Barton-on-Humber, 5th GV & W Britton on 605 of Newborough, 6th Mr & Mrs R Skinner on 585 of Boston, 7th Becker & Catchpole on 564 of Norwich, 8th David Paine on 562 of St Neots, 9th GV & W Britton on 559 of Newborough, 10th GV & W Britton on 552 of Newborough.

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