

CHAMPIONS OF THE SCOTTISH NATIONAL RACING PIGEON CLUB
2010

Report number 6 is on one of Fifes pigeon racing personalities Dennis Dall. Dennis is synonymous in the UK with some of the best long distance racing pigeons around having been at the top of distance racing in Scotland since 1945 some 65 years and he recollects in that time there was only ever one year that he did not win an official diploma also in that period his pigeons have won 2 Gold Awards with the SNFC and 1 Hall of Fame award with SNRPC.

Dennis Dall of Airdits Cottage Kettlehill Ladybank Fife
Winner of SNRPC Silver Champion Award 2010

SNRPC Silver Champion Lady Helen



This very good 7 year old Dark Chequer hen was flown as a two year old in 2004 with the SNFC from Falaise and competed with some 3025 entries from a distance of 525 miles winning 69th open and 26th section C. In 2005 as a 3 year old from the SNRPCs first Gold medal race flown from Alencon she won 56th open and 17th section C competing with 762 open entries and 220 in the section the distance flown was 557 miles. In 2006 as a 4 year old Dennis did not race Lady Helen As a 5 year old in 2007 she went to Tours with the SNRPC and won 8th open and 5th section C there were 109 open entries the SNRPC birds were transported and liberated with a west of England amalgamation Lady Helen was flying 634 miles. In 2008 from Messac which was a hard race she returned late the distance to Messac was 580 miles the SNRPC birds

were transported with the MNFC Then in 2009 at 7 years old flew from Andrezel with the SNRPC distance 584 miles winning 20th open and 17th in section C. Lady Helen was competing with 129 open entries and our pigeons were convoyed and liberated with the mighty Up North Combine. In reality she has flown from France 5 times from being a 2 year old to now a 7 year old proof that Dennis's policy of only flying his pigeons once a year from the distance works. The Blood lines are from Sid McFarlane of Dundee and Jackie Ritchie of Fraserburgh these lines having won 5th open Claremont and Jackie Ritchie's 10th open Noirt at 697 miles The grand dam is a full sister to Rowena 1st open SNFC Noirt for Dennis Jackie Ritchie's blood lines being related to Dennis's birds.



Dennis Dall in front of his main racing loft

Originally Denis flew with his Father Norman Dall as D N Dall and we are going as far back as 1936 to 1971 when sadly Norman passed away, in that time the partnership was a well renowned long distance phenomenon winning exceptionally in the Scottish national scene well out of turn, with Norman being one of Scotland's long distance racing pigeon personalities for any one interested there is full report on his Dad in the Racing Pigeon Gazette he was not sure of which month but the year was 1962.

From 1971 when living in Ladybank Dennis has had the distinction of having amongst all his other wins won 2 Gold award Diplomas and 1 Hall of fame award which to remind the readers means that the award only can be won if the pigeon has won 5 times from over the channel originally the ratio was 1 in 15 to win a diploma it is now 1-10. The following are the brief details of these winners. The first Gold award was a Red Chequer hen called Barbara named after his mother and was with the SNFC, the Second gold award was with a mealy hen named Rebecca 11 in 2004 also with the SNFC and the third one was another Red hen and was the SNRPC then Hall of Fame awards.



Dennis moved to Kettlehill in 1996 and Airdits cottage is situated in the small country area of Kettlehill above Ladybank in Fife. Dennis's house has a commanding view of the surrounding countryside as does his three lofts that you pass on the way down to the house. Two face westerly and are together for his race and stock birds and the third on the other side of the drive faces south and is for the young birds. He races around 30 old birds and has a few stock birds many of which he has raced successfully before retiring them to stock, at this moment in time he has high hopes of a Brian Denny import but only time will tell. He breeds around 40 young birds each year and likes to try and race them out to 200 miles.

His pigeons are allowed an open door during the racing season Training is usually from Stow which would be around 40 miles south and over the Forth but he much prefers to condition his channel candidates by racing, he flies on the natural system and usually gives his race bird's three races out to 300 miles before jumping them into the birds chosen channel race, another preference to the winning condition he likes his birds to be sitting around 10 days on eggs.

It maybe that a full in depth report on this interesting racing pigeon character would not go amiss as it is for certain that he has a mind of interesting stories of pigeon racing gone by. His wife Helen like all good racing pigeon men's wives is very

supportive and has her own interests in the local community Dennis's silver champion is of course named after his wife and many of his other champions names are taken from Sir Walter Scott's Waverly Novels. For Duncan and I, it was a most interesting afternoon and we both enjoyed the most generous Tea Sandwiches and cakes which was greatly appreciated It is for sure that Dennis will be winning another Champion award in the fullness of time and it will be well deserved, congratulations from the president and the committee on your Champion silver award..

Photos Duncan Knox Text Ian M Brown.