

CHAMPIONS OF THE SCOTTISH NATIONAL RACING PIGEON CLUB
2010

The 7th report on the champions of the SNRPC is on Ian Lowe of Glasgow. Ian is a member of the Glasgow federation and the Chryston club a dedicated pigeon man and proud of his performances in the club the federation and in the SNRPC distance races. It gives me great pleasure to be writing about Ian and his pigeons highlighting another one of the fanciers who fly to the west of Scotland proving that winning in National racing is achievable any where in Scotland.

Ian Lowe of Moodiesburn Glasgow Winner of SNRPC Bronze Champion award
2010

SNRPC Bronze Champion Sophies Girl.



This Chequer hen wins its Bronze champion award with 3 open positions from 3 Gold medal Races from Reims. Ians Bronze champion won her first open position as a 2 year old in 2006 flying 573 miles from our gold medal race Reims, being 37th open and 1st section F competing with 532 open entries and 49 in section F. As a 3 year old Ian sent his good Chequer hen back to the Reims Gold medal race, the 2007 premier SNRPC race was flown after a 5 day hold over and only the most determined long distance racing pigeons made it from that years SNRPC classic race and Sophies girl was one winning 43rd open and 3rd section F. Open entries were 575 and section F entries 53. In 2008 she was sent again to Reims and sadly she returned late, Ian

thought at the time of basketing she was not right and wondered after the race if by feeding peanuts to his channel birds for the first time he had upset them.

In 2009 he set about preparing his good channel hen again for Reims and this time from our Gold medal race at 5 years old and her 4th time across she gave her best open performance and won 32nd open and 4th section F. Competing with 449 open entries and 31 in section F. Sophies Girl is now retired to stock and has already produce birds to win, another interesting point is that the nest mate to Ians Bronze Champion also won a bronze medal for being 1st section F from our inland National. The breeding is through a Jim Hannah of Blantyre Cock and hen, from a group of late bred National Young birds he purchased from Jim the previous year.



Photo of Ian Lowe the Lofts and Sophies Girl

Ian Lowe has kept pigeons since the age of 12, was born in Chryston but grew up in Gartcosh and has worked in the building Industry some 50 years having recently become Construction Director with Barratt Homes. Married some 32 years he has one daughter and two sons and one grand daughter, Sophie, who politely answered the phone to me quite recently and of course is the reason for the name of his Bronze Champion. Unfortunately his wife Karen, was in hospital the day Duncan and I visited, it was obvious that Karen had taught Ian well by Ian producing a great plate of home made soup which was very much appreciated. At the recent SNRPC Presentation and Dinner at the Cairn Hotel I had the great pleasure to meet Karen now having fully recovered well from her wee spell in hospital.

Ian Joined the Chryston club when he was 15 after having to receive his dads permission and has been a member of that club ever since, in fact he is now the president.

The Lofts are situated very close to the very busy M73 though it could not be seen you could hear the traffic passing by, other than that his garden and lofts are very private and it must be very pleasant sitting on a summers day, in his garden waiting on returning birds

There are three separate lofts two with aviaries, these two are his stock lofts and he keeps his cocks in one and the hens in the other during the winter period. The Third loft is his racing loft and young bird loft combined, about 90 birds are housed.

Though he has over the years enjoyed racing in the club and flying with the Glasgow Federation and still does, he loves flying in long distance National racing ever since as a young boy he met his next door neighbour Sany Watt, also a pigeon fancier who introduced him to Alan McCulloch who had won 2nd open Rennes. Alan told him to come in the loft and chose 6 birds that he fancied. Ian explained he had only a few pounds. Alan McCulloch being like so many genuine fanciers, allowed young Ian to walk away with some interesting winners from the distance for his few pounds pocket money.

Ian Always trains his young birds and depending on the various situations may race them lightly. As yearlings they normally fly the race programme to the channel coast. As 2 years old they begin racing at 100 miles to Leicester about 260 miles then they are jumped into the chosen distance race. During the two weeks before the distance race they may get some individual private training. He flies his pigeons on the natural system to young birds and or eggs. Regardless of the many different regimes, feeding routines, training and candidates preparation for the distance that I see on my visits to the different lofts, Ians way is working by the regular appearance of his name on the current distance SNRPC result sheets.

It was a pleasure for Duncan and I to visit your home and lofts and we both appreciated your hospitality. I am sure that it will not be to long before you are in the running for another champion award. The President and the committee congratulate you on your SNRPC Bronze Champion Sophies girl.

Photos Duncan Knox SNRPC PRO Text Ian M Brown SNRPC JVP.

