

Lerwick National
1st Open 1st Section E
Mellonby, Knowles & Simpkin from Bridlington
With “The White Fox”

For the BBC's longest old bird north road race of the season we were kindly convoyed to Lerwick by the North Road Championship Club, which we have to thank Ray Knight and everyone involved for all their help and we look forward to joining you for Thurso. 34 members sent 163 birds and after a one day holdover the birds were liberated at 5.30am in to a South East wind.

1st Open 1st Section E for the third race in a row are **Kerry Mellonby, Stewart Knowles & Colin Simpkin of Bridlington**. Their winning pigeon is a half sister to Lightening Strike 2, the Hexham and Perth National winner. “The White Fox” is a 2 year old, Klien x Premier Stud Geerinckx. This trio has been working very hard with these hens for Lerwick and this hen was 7th Open Hexham beaten by 6 loft mates and last year she scored in 5 Nationals. She is really a super hen.

WHITE GRIZZ HEN
 GB.20.49952

1ST NAT BBC
 2ND SEC 3RD OPEN NAT BICC
 LERWICK 420MLS VEL 668 YPM

7TH NAT BBC
 7TH NAT BICC
 HEXAM 97 MLS VEL 1415 YPM

A WINNER AT CLUB & FED LEVEL
 TIMED FROM FIVE NATIONALS AS A YLG
 3 NORTH WITH THE BICC
 2 SOUTH WITH THE MNFC
 ROMAIN KLIEN X GEERINX
 1/2 SISTER TO LIGHTENING STRIKE 2
 THE DOUBLE NAT WINNER .

“THE WHITE FOX”



MELLONBY, KNOWLES & SIMPKIN . 07885637049
ANDY COLBY
 PHOTOGRAPHY
 07983700897

The White Fox

2nd, 3rd & 4th Open 1st, 2nd & 3rd Section E Graham & Michael Britton of Peterborough. As I write this article for once it is tinged with the sadness of the loss of so many of our great Lerwick pigeons which are yet to return, with arguably the worst Lerwick Race that we have had since the 1950's with many birds reported to still be in the top of Scotland & even on the Shetland Island itself.

However every Race must have a winner & we were delighted that 3 of our Team made it on the second day & managed to battle against the strongest head wind ever encountered when being liberated at Lerwick. As I type this

on the Thursday a further 3 birds have returned with a further reported in Newcastle, we hope more birds find their way home to not only our loft but to many others that I know have yet to see a bird return from this year's Race. Firstly congratulations must go to the Open winners Mellonby, Knowles & Simpkin & all Section Winners & everyone that managed to get a bird on the result in race time!

We have come a long way from our first race with the Club being third to last in the Young Bird Race last year & nearly pulled off the win with 2nd, 3rd & 4th Open, please see below for some details of our winning birds along with a photo of the 1st & 3rd birds home that are now paired together due to both their partners having not returned:

GB18X00191 – Blue Cheq Cock – 1st Section D, 2nd Open:

This is the first time this pigeon had been in the clock, with Covid meaning no Lerwick in 2020 he successfully completed his first trip from the island last year on a hard day. He is bred from our old John Lovell family which contain all of John's previous 3 X 1st Open NRCC Kings Cup Lerwick winners.

GB19X03017 – Blue Cheq Cock – 2nd Section D, 3rd Open:

Could be a future star, only time will tell, he is from a direct daughter of Ivan & Sandra Rich's 2015 Kings Cup winner, which was the standout UK Long Distance performance that year in our opinion. He was our 10th bird home from the Shetland Island last year recording 20th Section E, 123rd Open NRCC Lerwick.....our Thanks again to Ivan for breeding us such a well balanced Hen admired by all.

GB16X00817 – Blue Cheq Hen – 3rd Section D, 4th Open:

The third pigeon home is a real star of the loft & has a host of previous performances the best being 2nd Section E, 16th Open NRCC Lerwick in 2019 & after flying successfully that year from Lerwick went on to win 4th Section E, 66th Open NRCC Thurso 431 miles (just beaten by another loftmate) 1112p just 2 weeks later, thus flying over 950 miles in 2 weeks!

She was also our fourth bird home in 2018's hard King's Cup race recording a velocity of 1073 ypm and being 7th Section E, 30th Open NRCC, 717p. Last year she was our 8th bird home & recorded 18th Section E, 117th Open NRCC Lerwick velocity: 796

She is a full sister to our 2017 Hen that won 1st Section E, 5th open NRCC Thurso 431 miles, 1149p. 2017, followed by 5th Section E, 76th Open NRCC Thurso, 1112p Vel :807 in 2019 then 1st Section E, 5th Open NRCC Thurso in 2020 all at 431 miles.

Thus it is bred off a Son of the late Ray Farrington's Kings Cup winner "Mr Fergie" that Ray very kindly gifted to me. Its mother came from the MNFC Bordeaux winning fancier Barry Thirtle when he packed up racing on his own and, in turn, is down from the NRCC winning Perry Brothers pigeons that were so successful for him and many others.

Lastly we would like to thank someone that has been a friend of the BBC for a long time & undoubtedly one of the Sports greatest characters Mr Tony Cowan.....I think we could have done with those Barcelona pigeons for this race Tony!



2nd Open when paired to 4th Open



Ivan with the Kings Cup & Tony Cowan

5th Open 1st Section J Tom Burkill of Mattishall. My first pigeon GB18X05160, a dark chequer hen has been a bit of a stalwart for me she never lets me down and has flown Lerwick twice - she has been to every NRCC race available to her in her life and was also my first pigeon from a very tough Fraserburgh with the NRCC this year 2 weeks previous. I lost her cock early in the season and she wasn't paired or prepared for the race as I largely concentrate on the sprint races so the entire team remain roundabout but essentially she flew to her old box. She has now earns her retirement.

She is bred off a cock from my friend Rich Turner of Worksop, one of his Van Lints, from a son of Amos and a Granddaughter of Attila, he was paired to a hen I got from Chris Vasey of Loftus, a daughter of his Black Knight (Mr Consistent x Black Widow) when paired to Dark Debee (Full Sister to Premier Studs Dark Destroyer).



Tom Burkill, son Archie & David Hicks

2nd & 3rd Section E Paul and Wendy Woolliss of Grimsby. Our first bird was the small Blue hen featured in the Hexham write up, She is from a long line of winners of our national winning family, She looked the most tired I have seen her, but looked normal again the next day .
 She had no weight loss though even after 30 + hours of flying, At Lerwick last year she was 8th Section 460mls, 11th Section Elgin, 13th Section, 75th Open Hexham too.
 Like all my birds they fly South road most weeks then just turned North when the Nationals come along no North road training at all, as I did not get registered for South channel racing in time this season.
 Our Second timer is Chequer cock, who has been a steady pigeon for us, doing Guernsey 3 times, France many times, Again from our national family with Pau, Palamos, Barcelona, winners all in his breeding, He looked more tired than the blue hen with weight loss which I have never seen him like before but it was a gruelling race.
 His previous form is 4th Section Lerwick 460mls, 87th Open, then the next week the hard BBC Thurso 375 mls 5th Section. His next race Guernsey NFC clock bird 300 mls. He finished 29th Ace pigeon North Team Aurel awards North 2021. He was destined for Barcelona 2022 but due to hitting wires early in season he was badly cut up I thought best not, also me not getting registered in time.



Paul & Wendy Woolliss with Grandchildren Isla and Harry. Also their 2nd bird.

2nd & 3rd Section J Mark Bulled of Harlow. My first home from Lerwick is 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 top stock cock when paired to a daughter of Legacy.
 My second home was a 3 year old hen sent sitting 7 day eggs. Her sire was 64th NFC Tarbes and her dam 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

1st Section G Calum Edmiston of Horley.

My section winner was my 3rd yearling out of Lerwick last year but not timed. This year she had Guernsey, Exeter, Wadebridge and Stoney Cross in preparation. She had one private toss from Skegness prior to marking, nest condition was a 3 day baby. She is bred from a son of Queen of France, RPRA award, winner paired to a daughter of 2nd BBC Zaragoza x BICC merit winner Red Rain. Corn was Vanrobaeys Platteuw. This was my last race as I am retiring from the sport. Success and good times to all.



Calum Edmiston

Telephone & Website verifications which may be subject to change

<i>Open</i>	<i>Mem No</i>	<i>Flying Name</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>Ring Number</i>	<i>A-A-T</i>	<i>Velocity</i>
1	E470	Mellonby Knowles	Bridlington	GB20Z49952	420 1041 6 27 47 2	668.218
2	D546	G V & W Britton	Peterborough	GB18X00191	521 573 13 16 22 2	605.087
3	D546	G V & W Britton	Peterborough	GB19X03017	521 573 15 20 31 2	559.295
4	D546	G V & W Britton	Peterborough	GB16X00815	521 573 15 40 15 2	552.647
5	J431	T Burkill	Mattishall	GB18 05160	524 1232 17 33 44 2	520.637
6	E755	Mr & Mrs P Woolliss	Grimsby	GB19Z41731	460 1183 16 55 17 2	467.234
7	E755	Mr & Mrs P Woolliss	Grimsby	GB18Z73242	460 1183 21 2 34 2	408.956
8	J58	M Bulled	Harlow	GB20B07410	583 988 19 7 10 3	352.077
9	E509	Litherland Bailey &	Swadlincote	GB20Z12940	512 1532 16 35 4 3	326.449
10	J58	M Bulled	Harlow	GB19B06956	583 988 13 36 6 4	282.464
11	E219	Michael John Burden	Stoke On	GB20N70481	498 1347 19 53 21 4	218.727
12	G462	C Edmiston	Horley	GB20N18076	623 583 14 4 24 6	190.317

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