

Nigel Laycock - UK Update

By Paul Gibbs

Never one for being idle or resting on his past achievements, Nigel is always looking to improve his family of top quality race birds. This can only be done by continually monitoring the results of your opposition and those on the continent. Such is Nigel's diligence that he has always been able to stay at the top of his game by judiciously introducing birds from sources that have had exceptional results.

As such, Nigel has only just obtained the very best birds from the partnership of Marshall, Son and Smith that recently sold three of their cock birds for over \$120,000 dollars. Such is Nigel's reputation that this partnership actually approached Nigel with the offer to lend all of their very best stock birds to Nigel to cross with his "Northern Bound" pigeons with the view to exchanging and sharing the offspring.

Nigel informed me that as a result he now has in his stock loft brothers, sisters, uncles and aunts, infact he has the parents to one of the cocks that sold for \$120,000.

What makes these birds of the "Marshall, Son & Smith" partnership so special you may well ask, well recently in a race from a very hard Bourges, a distance of 580 mls flying into a head wind with many members of the various federations failing to time in, the Marshal, Son & Smith partnership who had entered twelve birds timed in seven on the day, taking the following "Top Fifty Positions" – 2nd, 8th, 9th, 12th, 16th, 18th, and 20th. The bloodlines of their pigeons going back to the Broeckamp and the Aelbrecht De Rauw Sablon birds, bloodlines that have produced countless winners throughout Europe.

A sample of one of the Champion Race Birds belonging to the partnership is the well-named bird "The Machine" (Refer to attached photo and results).

Nigel told me that if he didn't think they were up to the job that he wouldn't even look at them, adding that he believes they will come through, saying that they will be raced hard and if they are successful, the winners would be crossed back into his own family of birds.

As you are aware, Phil Murphy of LPM Stud has a limited number of young birds directly down off Nigel Laycock imports with more arriving in Australia early 2016. I dare say that if these new introductions of the Marshall, Son & Smith are successful in the coming year, that some of these may also find their way to the LPM Stud.

Further more, Nigel has informed me that he has just acquired three cocks from Brian Denny off his two best pairs – the "Tuff Nut" and "Maxi" lines. For those not familiar with Brian Denny just go to the PIPA web site and type in his name. You will be surprised as to the many top UK fanciers that are having success with his birds.

There have been many magnificent performances that these birds have achieved from big races in the National Flying Club including Pau and now Tarbes. This race point being 748 miles to Brian, 200 miles further than the likes of Mark Gilbert who also uses Brian's birds.

As I say, always on the lookout for improvement is Nigel, and if successful any future imports to Australia can only benefit fanciers here.

Phil asked me to thank Ted Jones of Lake Cathie on the Mid Nth Coast of NSW, as without Ted Phil would have never been able to acquire these pigeons. Ted has known Nigel for many years and has been very instrumental in LPM Stud being able to import the best of Nigel's pigeons.