



**FÉDÉRATION AÉRONAUTIQUE
INTERNATIONALE
Ballooning Commission**

Hall of Fame

**Janet Folkes
Inducted 2015**



Nationality: British

1959 July 20th - 2012 Jan 17th

Janet had been involved in Ballooning for over 25 years, initially flying hot-air balloons and as a competition observer, but more recently flying Roziere and gas balloons. She established 45 World records, many of which still stand today. In 1995 she set the women's World altitude and British distance and general duration records for AX-2 (cloud-hopper) balloons. In 1998 she set women's World distance, duration and altitude records for a Roziere balloon. In 1999 she set the British general duration and altitude records for a gas balloon. She had competed in several Gordon Bennett and American Challenge gas balloon races, and in 2005 she competed flew over 46 hours and 1500 miles from New Mexico to Canada to win the race and gave her the British General distance and duration records by a large margin. As well as ballooning she also flew helicopters and hang gliders, and was a sky-diver.

Janet was not just a pilot but was also instrumental in getting people into the sport of ballooning by starting the Loughborough University balloon club over 20 years ago and more recently the Nottingham University Balloon Club.

Janet was a brave and courageous person and had fought a battle with breast cancer for a number of years. She even arranged her chemotherapy around the 2010 Gordon Bennett race!

Achievements, honors and awards:

AX-02	Altitude – Feminine	2 293 m	28/01/1995	Current World record
AX-02	Altitude – General	2 293 m	28/01/1995	Current British record
AX-02	Duration – General	1h 14 min	31/01/1995	World record
AX-02	Altitude – General	2293 m	28/01/1995	British record
AA-06-15	Duration - General	28h 49 min	01/10/1995	Current British record
AA-06-15	Duration - General	46h 6 min	03/10/2005	British (Folkes & Forse)
AA-06	Altitude - General	4613 m	03/10/2005	British (Folkes & Arras)
AA-07-15	Duration – Feminine	69 h 19 min	08/09/2009	British (Folkes & Arras)
AA-07-15	Distance – Feminine	1106.4 km	08/09/2009	British & World Record (Folkes & Rich)
AA-07-15	Altitude – Feminine	3325 m	08/09/2009	British Record (Folkes & Rich)
AM-03-06	Altitude	3722 m	22/05/1998	World record
AM-03-15	Distance	32.2 km	22/05/1998	World record
AM03-15	Duration	1h 17 min	22/05/1998	World record
AM-03-07	Altitude – General	6 866 m	04/11/1998	Current World record
AM-03-15	Altitude – Feminine	6 866 m	04/11/1998	Current World record
AM-03-15	Duration – Feminine	1h 38 min	04/11/1998	Current World record
AM-03-15	Distance – Feminine	69.7 km	04/11/1998	Current World record

- 2005 Royal Aero Club Silver medal
- 2006 BBAC Adams Sparks Trophy
- 2008 Awarded Freeman of the City of London
- 2010 BBAC Charles Green Salver (with Ann Rich)

Competed in the following gas balloon races:

- 1999 America's Challenge Gas Balloon Race – with Simon Forse
- 2004 America's Challenge Gas Balloon Race – with Bill Arras
- 2005 America's Challenge Gas Balloon Race – with Bill Arras
- 2009 Gordon Bennett Race – with Ann Rich
- 2010 Gordon Bennett Race – with Ann Rich