



FÉDÉRATION AÉRONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE Ballooning Commission

Hall of Fame Nomination

Dr LINDSAY MUIR

Lindsay Muir was born on 21st June 1957 and had her first balloon flight whilst researching for a PhD at Bath University the UK. Her first flight was on the 200th anniversary of the first manned flight (21st November 1983) and after that she was hooked. After another 2 or 3 more flights she had had enough of being a passenger and was determined to get her licence. She was lucky enough to be able to train whilst still University and gained her PPL in 1986. Since then she has gone on to become one of the world's leading balloonists and arguably the most successful female hot air balloon competition pilot.

In 1988 (at her first championship) she became the first (and only) female pilot to become British Champion a feat she repeated in 1996. In 2006 she won the UK Grand Prix series beating twice world champion David Bareford. Lindsay competed in all the World Honda Grand Prix since its inception and in 2002 was placed 3rd in the event in Motegi, Japan; probably the toughest competition event in the world. She has competed in most World and European Hot Air Balloon Championships since 1989 where she was often the only female competitor. Lindsay has been Ladies World Cup champion 4 times and in 2012 she won the Women's European Hot Air Balloon Championship. In 1995 she was placed 6th in the World Championship; in 1997 was placed 2nd in the 1st World Air Games Hot Air Balloon Championship and in 2008 she was once again in the top 10 in the World Hot Air Balloon Championships (9th).

Lindsay is also the holder of various British and World ballooning records. She is the only female balloon pilot to gain a gold CIA badge solely in a hot air balloon. She has been awarded the Adams Sparks trophy by the BBAC¹, a silver medal by the RAeC² and the "Freedom of the City of London" (2008) for her achievements in ballooning.

Lindsay worked as a full time hot air balloon pilot for over 23 in the male dominated business of passenger flying and flew one of the largest balloons in the country. She hopes to master the art of flying balloons sometime!

After getting her licence Lindsay taught her husband to fly which they both admit might have been a mistake but their marriage survived. A few years later she became a qualified instructor and several years later (2010-2011) she successfully taught her daughter to fly.

Lindsay has also served the ballooning community in other ways having served as a member of the BBAC main committee (Safety Officer), as a member and later chairman of the BBAC Competitions Club and as the UK CIA Delegate and member of the Records and Awards and Sporting Code – Section 1 Working Group

Lindsay has been married for over 25 years to Graham Hallett and has a daughter Chloe Hallett – a budding champion balloon pilot.



in

at

¹ BBAC – British Balloon & Airship Club (UK Governing body of ballooning)

² RAeC – Royal Aero Club

BALLOONING ACHIEVEMENTS

- 1986** 1986 Obtained pilots licence
- 1987** British Women's Distance Record
(AX-7, 102.5 mls)
- 1988** 1st - British National Championships
British Women's Duration Record
(AX-7, 6 hrs. 36 min)
Awarded Adam Sparks Trophy by the BBAC
- 1989** Women's World Distance Record,
British Women's Distance and Duration Record
(AX-8, 277.8 mls, 8 hrs 41 min)
World Championship competitor - (JPN)
7th - British National Championship
Awarded Adam Sparks Trophy by the BBAC
- 1990** 6th - Canadian Open National Championships
5th - British National Championships
1st - 1st Ladies World Cup (JPN)
- 1991** 4th - British National Championships
1st - 2nd Ladies World Cup (JPN)
7th - Pacific Cup (JPN)
World Championship competitor (CAN)
Awarded Adam Sparks Trophy by the BBAC
- 1992** 1st - 3rd Ladies World Cup (JPN)
20th - European Championship (FRA)
- 1993** 5th - 4th Ladies World Cup (JPN)
8th - British National Championships
- 1994** Awarded Bronze Medal by the RAeC
5th - British National Championships
24th - European Championship (SLO)
- 1995** 6th - World Championship (USA)
- 1996** 1st - British National Championship
Awarded Adam Sparks Trophy by the BBAC
1st - 7th Ladies World Cup (JPN)
- 1997** 2nd - 1st World Air Games (TUR)
22nd - World Championship (JPN)
7th - British National Championship
- 1998** British Women's Altitude Record
(AX-7, 22,480 ft)
Diamond altitude badge (30,000 ft)
3rd - British National Championship
10th - Mobilux Trophy (LUX)
- 1999** 28th - World Championship (AUT)
9th - British National Championship
- 2000** Women's World and British Duration Record,
British General Duration Record
(AX10-14, 19 hours 8 mins)
16th - European Championship (LUX)
5th - British National Championship
- 2001** Awarded Silver medal by the RAeC
30th World Air Games (ESP)
10th Saga International Balloon Fiesta (JPN)
3rd Motegi International Balloon Fiesta (JPN)
- 2002** 4th - British National Championship
5th Motegi International Balloon Fiesta (JPN)
- 2003** 5th - British National Championship
13th Motegi International Balloon Fiesta (JPN)
- 2004** 4th - British National Championship
World Championship competitor (AUS)
World Honda Grand Prix competitor
- 2005** 15th - European Championship (HUN)
16th - World Honda Grand Prix (LUX)
3rd - British National Championship
- 2006** 3rd - World Honda Grand Prix (LUX)
1st - UK Grand Prix Series
6th - British National Championship (JPN)
21st - World Hot Air Balloon Championship
- 2007** 27th - European Championship (GER)
No national championship
14th - Tochigi International Balloon Championship
- 2008** Awarded Freedom of the City of London
9th - World Hot Air Balloon Championship (AUT)
10th - Tochigi International Balloon Championship
- 2009** British National Championship competitor
Tochigi International Championship competitor
- 2010** 2nd - Women's European Championship (LTU)
Tochigi International Championship competitor
- 2011** British National Championship competitor
Luxembourg World Balloon Trophy competitor
Tochigi International Championship competitor
- 2012** 1st - Women's European Championship (GER)
Luxembourg World Balloon Trophy competitor
11th - Tochigi International Championship
British National Championship (did not compete)

