

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION JOURNAL



Autumn 2013 – Volume XCII No. 3

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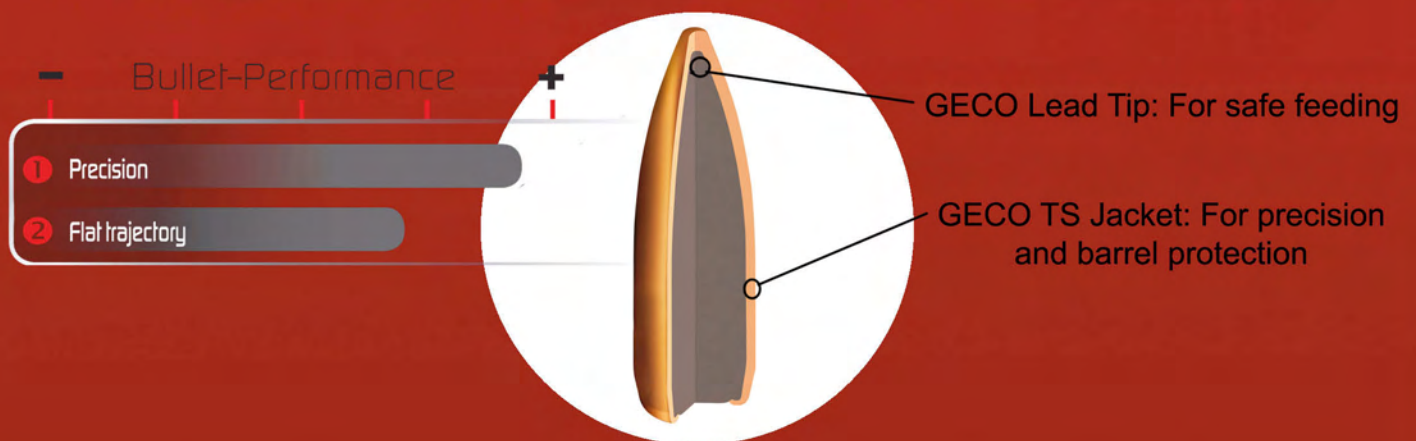
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The NRA Journal is published on behalf of the National Rifle Association by Blaze Publishing Limited.
Address: Lawrence House, Morrell Street, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, CV32 5SZ.
T: 01926 339808
F: 01926 470400
E: edit@blazepublishing.co.uk

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Welcome



Outstanding Imperial

Andrew Mercer looks back on a sun-drenched Imperial Meeting and explains his desire to see civilian shooting flourish throughout the country

We are now firmly into the summer season at Bisley with a roasting hot Imperial behind us. Heading into a new event (for me) is always interesting, and I was reassured and impressed by how our team of volunteers and staff stepped up to deliver a decent meeting. We have started a detailed review to improve efficiency and encourage greater participation but overall it was hard not to be impressed with the happy atmosphere and pleasing tempo of the competition. Despite fears of a calamitous reduction, entries in 2013 were just over 2 per cent down on the previous year. The youngest competitor was 13 and the oldest 90 years of age – a truly astonishing range and a wonderful testament to the inclusive nature of our sport.

Some of the Imperial terminology is distinctly odd – referring to ‘First Thursday’ some three weeks into the meeting still puzzles me. On the Bisley ranges the Imperial lasts a full four weeks with waves of competitors shooting in regular forces, Territorials, Cadets and school competitions before the start of the ‘proper’ Imperial. I was

privileged to attend the falling plate competitions at Pirbright ranges and was able to compare the performances of international regular armies with our Civilian Service Rifle teams. It is fair to say that many of our CSR competitors displayed excellent athleticism and crack marksmanship, occasionally on the same detail.

During the TR competitions, problems with issued ammunition proved an interesting diversion. I received enormous amounts of passionate advice about blown and leaking primers but took the simpleton’s approach and rejected the rest of the entire batch as faulty. Thankfully we had sufficient alternative ammunition that performed well for the rest of the meeting. What we could have done had our ammunition stock not been so laden is a matter that needs to be carefully considered in future. RUAG, the manufacturer, has behaved quite properly and accepted the batch as faulty, and we are now working on plans for supplies for next year.

The weather was stinking hot for most of the meeting and our markers performed heroically in very testing conditions. Three lorry loads of bottled water helped, but it highlighted the difficult work that they perform. I rashly offered to do a stint in the butts for the markers’ shoot where we gave them the opportunity to experience the other side of the competition. After three hours of huffing and puffing I realised that there is much maintenance and many improvements to make on the target frames. I experienced three challenges to my marking, happily all verified by the butt supervisor, and now have first-hand experience of the frustration of waiting for the shot that never comes.

The formal elements of the meeting were a mixed bunch. I am still confused as to the merits of the Umbrella tent meeting and have gone away to think if there is a more dignified way to award the fabulous collection of silverware at the prizegiving. Queen’s Final Day provided an element of proper theatre to proceedings, and watching the RAF team wrestle with the leaderboard was very entertaining. Jim Corbett’s win proved popular and it was good to see one of the many international visitors as the worthy winner.





While revelling in the pomp and ceremony, Andrew is still getting used to the terminology

The increase in activity at Bisley has highlighted the fragility of much of our infrastructure, and the estate and housekeeping staff have worked hard to do the best possible job in presenting the camp to a reasonable standard. Thankfully the dry weather has slowed grass growth and allowed us to catch up with mowing in most areas. I know only too well that dry weather and bright sunshine flatters the appearance of the camp.

After the meeting, a visit from Natural England gave an excuse to explore the range danger area held under a 125-year lease from the MoD. Standing atop Sticklepath stop butt, it was hard not to imagine majestic herds of wildebeest in the distance, although the growing number of red deer are a good substitute. The Natural England ecologist became very animated at the sight of three Silver Studded Blue butterflies, and it was pleasing to see rare fauna and flora flourishing largely because of shooting activity and the attractive variety of habitats yielded from our programme of range maintenance.

I suspect it is not well understood that much effort is expended by our staff on background issues such as dealing with the MoD, Home Office, police, other statutory bodies and the media. Perhaps the greatest threat to our sport comes from diminishing access for civilian clubs to military ranges. In reality civilian clubs rate a poor fourth after the regular services, territorials and cadets

in the pecking order for access to ranges, and we are working to reassure the MoD that civilian clubs are properly regulated, competent and deserve continuing access. Claiming grandfather rights from decades of previous access cuts little influence with hard-pressed military personnel. Civilian shooting can appear to pose many uncertainties compared with military use where each soldier completes an annual weapons handling test and shoots with issued rifles and ammunition at standard targets with recognised forms of fire. We are working on plans to offer further reassurance to the MoD; collectively all clubs shooting on their ranges need to ensure the highest standards

of safe procedure and care. One careless incident could have potentially calamitous consequences to us all.

Travelling away from Bisley to other ranges is always interesting, and visits to Salisbury Plain, Kingsbury and Millpool ranges offered the opportunity to meet interesting and enthusiastic members. A recent trip to Bodmin in the bowels of Cornwall reminded me of the fickle weather 'enjoyed' by the hardy Cornish shooters; their stoic and optimistic attitude to low cloud, driving rain and woeful visibility was a delight. Such shooting depends on a small group of committed enthusiasts who deserve our encouragement and support. ■



Volunteers worked hard as the sun continued to beat down

News

BRITISH SHOOTING FACILITIES STRATEGY

The NRA is supporting British Shooting in the ongoing development of its future Facilities Strategy.

A key aspect of this work is to provide a comprehensive picture of current shooting facilities and to identify issues that will help form future investment priorities and strategic facility planning for the period 2013-17 and beyond.

The focus for the survey work is to assess current shooting facility provision in terms of its scope and quality and how it may have an impact on participation, growth or retention in the sport, while recognising the major differences between various disciplines.

The assessment will include the suitability of facilities for able-bodied participants; for participants with a disability, and for those embarking on a talent pathway.

The survey has been developed and managed by TrioPlus Limited sport and leisure consultants, appointed by British Shooting to help develop its Facilities Strategy. As well as assessing the results of the survey, a technical guidance document will also be produced.

An email communication incorporating the link to the online survey was sent to all NRA member club chairmen and secretaries towards the end of July and we have encouraged all to take time to complete the survey to help support the development of shooting.

Participating NRA member clubs will be taking part in an important survey that will help determine a future strategy to improve facility provision for shooting.

British Shooting's strategic plan for the period 2013 to 2020 has been published and is available to view at www.nra.org.uk/common/files/news/13/BritishShootingStrategyMay13.pdf. Please turn to page 58 for an overview of the flagship programmes that will be delivered through the Whole Sport Plan and the Rio 2016 Plan.



FUNDING FOR FIVE

Following the latest round of Inspired Facilities Funding applications, Sport England has agreed to invest over £200,000 to support facility development and improvement in five venues across England.

Two of these, Tees Valley Target Sports Club and Farncombe and Godalming Rifle Club are dedicated shooting clubs, while the other three are multi-sport venues that will offer local communities the opportunity to participate in a range of activities, including shooting. The recipients of these grants are Cockfield Parish Council, Burnley Cricket Club and Leicester Outdoor Pursuits Centre.

Inspired Facilities funds the renovation and modernisation of local sports facilities and is part of Places People Play, Sport England's programme to deliver a London 2012 legacy of increased participation.

GOING, GOING, GONE!



Visitors to October's Trafalgar Meeting

will have the opportunity to turn unwanted shooting equipment into cash thanks to Shooter's Auctions. On 19-20 October they are holding an auction offering the chance to buy or sell shooting gear, rifles, air rifles, shotguns, optics and accessories. Potential sellers are invited to bring their lots to Bisley on the day with a label affixed giving a short description. Sellers are able to set a reserve selling price at a cost of 2.5 per cent of the reserve with a maximum fee of £50. Sellers will pay 10 per cent commission on the final sale price, but there is no buyer's premium and lots will be available to view until 3.30pm. Remember to bring your certificate and if you don't have space to stow your purchases, Shooter's Auction can store your items or send them to your nearest RFD. For more information contact Global Rifle on 01455 291100.

NEWS IN BRIEF

RIFLE CLUB BURGLARY

Two people have been arrested following a break-in at a rifle club in Keighley, West Yorkshire.

Fifteen guns were taken from Keighley Rifle & Pistol Club's Parkwood base sometime between the evening of July 25 and the following morning.

The haul included six .22 calibre rimfire rifles, five .177 air rifles and four target air pistols.

Airedale and North Bradford CID conducted searches at local addresses as part of the investigation, but as yet none of the missing guns have been found.

A club spokesman said: "This year is the club's 80th anniversary and I've never experienced any incident like this before – it's heartbreaking."

DOCTOR ORDERS

Durham Police has angered firearms and shotgun certificate applicants by advising them to provide and pay for a medical report from their GPs, in a move that goes beyond official Home Office guidance and existing requirements set out by law.

The law states that relevant medical conditions must be declared on the application form for a firearm or shotgun certificate, and that this can be checked by police with the applicant's GP.

BASC's director of firearms Bill Harriman said: "BASC's advice to certificate holders is that they should not comply with it, and should complain if there is any attempt towards coercion."

RANGE SAFETY UPDATE

NRA Chief Executive Andrew Mercer had a very positive meeting with Secretary Defence Land Ranges Safety Committee on 23 July. While there remains much detail to be worked out, the following major changes have been agreed on:

- The requirement in RSPL 13/02 for 'MOD RCO cards' will be withdrawn.
- The Range Aide-Memoire (RAM) template produced by the NRA will be

approved for use by Clubs on MoD ranges. We will publish this through the NRA website as soon as approval is given. Tracer firing by civilians will be permitted on Field Firing Areas only.

We also received indications that JSP403, the MoD Handbook of Defence Land Ranges Safety, is in the process of being amended. We hope to have the opportunity to comment on those elements that affect civilian use of the MoD ranges.

NRA MEMBERS SURVEY

The new look NRA Journal has now been running for a little under two years. During that time we have received many comments from relatively few NRA Members – some who are in favour of the new format but equally some who would prefer a return to the old format. The Council is looking at ways to bring the Journal more into line with what people want, but before making any changes, we wish to canvass a wider spectrum of views. As a result, we will be holding an online survey during September in which all members are encouraged to participate. Please keep an eye on www.nra.org.uk. It is your Journal, and we wish to hear your views on it.



YOUR Views

If you have an opinion or suggestion you would like to share, write to "Journal Letters" at NRA HQ or email nra@blazepublishing.co.uk



There was something for everyone at the Imperial – even Buzz Lightyear!

Dear Editor,

I read with interest Andrew Mercer's editorial ('Getting off on the front foot') in the Spring Edition of the NRA Journal, particularly the part concerning involvement in competitions.

I was invited to accompany a couple of "old hands" from my club, Matt Peppitt and Alan Podevin, to take part in the Imperial Gallery rifle events on Friday 12 July, and gratefully accepted.

I cannot tell you how much I enjoyed the whole day. We entered seven competitions and I cannot wait to do it again. I wholeheartedly endorse Andrew Mercer's view that it is a fabulous opportunity to learn and develop your

technique by watching and speaking to some accomplished competitors.

I can fully understand how some shooters may feel they might be intimidated by the event, but I can vouch for the fact that my experience was not like that at all – it's a very relaxed and extremely well run day. A word in the ear of any one of the RCOs that this is your first time, and you will get all the help and encouragement you will need.

My thanks to Matt and Alan for their advice and patience and the same to all the Range Officers, Jane and the rest of the NRA staff for their efforts – well done. Kindest regards,

Stuart James Huskie

Dear Sir,

Having just received the Summer edition of the journal, I am disappointed to see the photograph on page 25, with the GB gallery rifle team holding the union flag UPSIDE DOWN! Shame on them!

Regards,

P H Vicars

Dear Editor,

With reference to the photograph on page nine of the most recent edition of the journal, heading the 'HBSA Turns 40' article (News, Summer 2013), perhaps I might explain the background story to it.

The Northern Group of the HBSA hosts two Historic Arms Meetings charity shoots a year in aid of the Gurkhas, namely the St. George's in April and the Trafalgar in October. Both events are enthusiastically attended by UK entrants and foreign guests. Among our regular German visitors is a gentleman by the name of Michael Zimmer, and last year he donated the magnificent cup that you see illustrated in the below photograph. Shot at 300 and 600 yards, it is open to any Mauser rifle.

At this year's St. George's meeting Michael came first and second, modestly confessed that he could not win his own trophy and generously suggested that it should go to the next English competitor – namely yours truly, with his Israeli 7.62mm 98k, hence the published photograph of me accepting the cup from Stuart Taylor of our Northern Group.

I trust that you may find the above of interest.

Yours sincerely,

Maurice Kanareck



Maurice receives the HBSA prize

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It's not often you get the chance to borrow the scope of an F Class world champion but that's exactly what Nick Parrish did as he tested Gary Costello's March 5-50x56

After shooting F Class and F/TR disciplines on a recreational basis for the last two years at my club, I decided to go ahead and, as finances allowed, collect the equipment required to build a competitive purpose-made gun for the discipline. While waiting for various elements of the rifle itself to be finalised, gathered and built, I set to task choosing a riflescope that would last the course and leave me without doubt as to its specification for the job in hand.

Marching forward

There are many great scopes out there these days but precise requirements and the necessity to comply with defined rulebook criteria means there is a list of must and must-not have features. Gary Costello, the UK March scope importer/distributor who is himself a world champion (at time of writing the 2013 World Championships are ongoing), has introduced this breed, manufactured by DEON Optical in Japan to the highest specifications. The prices can

initially seem intimidating but the reputation held by these scopes is second to none in high magnification optical performance, reticle suitability and physical weight when aiming at ½MOA V-bulls 1,000 yards away.

The scope I decided to test after intense scrutiny of the models offered was a 5-50x56 precision/tactical unit with non-illuminated MTR-1 reticle. Offering 60MOA elevation travel with 40 for windage, I had little doubt the adjustment offered was satisfactory. Fingertip adjustable turrets offered 10MOA per turn with an adjustable zero stop allowing negative travel if needed. Clear ¼MOA markings with finer intermediate ⅛MOA clicks are as precise as you can ask for anywhere.

The MTR-1 reticle in the second focal plane offered precise aim off subtensions, varying in value according to the setting applied with the red markings on the zoom ring. At 40x, each individual hash mark measures 1MOA (2MOA at 20x), which is fine enough to discern a precise aim on a V-bull half the size. 40x magnification is on the upper edge of likely usage in range conditions with all mirage, temperature and other visibility factors applied, though 30-40x has been the area I have mostly used to date. At close ranges, using the high magnification when zeroing or load developing can



indicate gun hold issues that weren't noticed before but there is the odd day where visibility allows 50x at long ranges.

Measuring up

An overall length of 400mm (not including the supplied sunshade) gave plenty of 34mm diameter tube space to attach the scope to the gun. It certainly won't look out of proportion when coupled with a 30-32" barrel, the weight of which is less of a worry as the scope weighs a competitive 840 grams – especially impressive when you consider the solid reputation the internal mechanics have for excellent tracking and a class-leading 10x zoom ratio.

Loaning out

I tested Gary's own scope, already complete with March rings and anti-cant bubble indicator. The single-piece tube with compact saddle was easy to align with the mounts and rifle body on the test gun, while the anodising was clean and slid smoothly at the initial set-up stage.

I ran the scope on a tactical rifle while waiting for my F Class rig. This highlighted a few factors I hadn't previously considered. From minimum to maximum magnification, the eye relief envelope was $\frac{5}{8}$ mm at any setting and pleasantly varied only 9mm overall from 5-50x, but the downside to a 10x zoom ratio is a wide range of exit pupil dimensions. Listed at 1.12mm for 50x magnification, it can feel quite critical in use. On the other hand, the zoom range you're likely to use – 30-40x – does increase it slightly, and the scope is designed to work with a precision rifle. It will minimise head position error and parallax error, but I think I would fit a stock equipped with an adjustable cheekpiece to minimise strain on my neck. Some F Class shooters like zero cheek contact, though, and it could be a deciding factor for them.

The parallax dial on the left of the saddle focuses down to 10 yards, a distance unlikely to be required for F Class. The dial has no backlash but scopes with a shallow depth of field are the ones that snap hard in and out of focus. Here, the greater depth of field means a wider envelope of primary image focus.



Dial it in: The scope pairs quarter-MOA marking with eighth-MOA clicks

Parallax is the key factor, though, so a little movement of the eyeball around the image to check for relative reticle/image drift is always a good habit. I had no problem with either element combined with well-defined eyepiece focus. Moving out to 1,000 yards and beyond, I discovered a bright, clear image with no problem focusing to infinity with edge-to-edge clarity. I don't always spot bullet holes but I was able to see 6mm holes at 400 yards on white backgrounds, with occasional sightings in excellent atmospheric conditions at 600.

Verdict

DEON's lens grinding and mechanical manufacture are some of the best I have viewed, but as light fades, I don't feel the glass will quite hold up to European competitors and is perhaps a little flatter colour-wise. That said, few European manufacturers offer a

mechanical specification anywhere close to those seen here, certainly not for serious competitive target work. The ability to aim off or dial and – more importantly – accurately call the position of shot markers on the target quickly added to my data plotting sheets, and the vernier-style rotation indicator proved idiot-proof allied with the zero stop.

A five-year warranty is reassuring, and this particular scope had seen extensive use already, with no sign of any wear and tear from the critical internal mechanisms. I'm looking forward to using my fully built gun with the scope in the near future – will they be the perfect pairing? ■

5-50x56 MTR-1 non-illuminated reticle:

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Pride of Australia

Last year's Grand Aggregate winner James Corbett took the greatest honour of all at the 2013 Imperial Meeting, reports Tony de Launay

Australia may have had an Ashes summer to forget, but by the end of Final Saturday at the Imperial, James Corbett of Benalla and his Australian colleagues had restored some national pride. Corbett, a regular at Bisley and winner of last year's Grand Aggregate, snatched the Queen's Prize after one of the tightest finishes for years, in which the first four had all scored 297 ex-300. Thanks to his magical harvesting of central bullseyes in the final stages he was home with six to spare over second placed Ed Jeens. Let's go back to the beginning.

Second Wednesday, the first stage of the Queen's Prize: the first detail of the 950 competitors lined up as the bright early sunshine quickly burned through. Parag Patel showed them how to do it, despite a breeze that every now and then broke into a skittish



The 54-year-old from Victoria was a deserved and popular winner



After some initial confusion Corbett's magnificent victory was confirmed



950 competitors set out searching for glory on Middle Wednesday



He pushed Corbett all the way but Ed Jeens (Welsh RA) just missed out

trot. All bar one of his 21 shots were in the central bullseye: "I converted a cooking bull sighter," he admitted, as 55 other 105s queued up behind him, led by Gaz Morris (Welsh RA), Simon Osmond (LMRA) and Corbett. The cut was 102.12.

Friday afternoon, Queen's II, and there was a stiff left wind to keep the scores down a bit. The cut was 146.13 with three for one place. At the top there were just two 150s, from Sam Hunter (Old Epsomians) with 19 centrals and Nick Tremlett (Windsor) on 16. Third was Corbett, 149 with a staggering 28 centrals. "I hung on a bit at 300, and it yipped," was the laconic explanation. Adam Partridge of Gresham's got the 100th place.

Saturday's final started with overcast skies and a steady right hand breeze. Plots on the repeater scoreboards suggested plenty of high scores at the halfway stage: 15 competitors had 75s, including

Tremlett, Jeens, Corbett, Patel and Matt Millar. Into the final knockings the winds picked up as the sun came out. Corbett dropped his second and tenth, one low left and one high right. At three off, with several others just one and two off, his name was unceremoniously swept from the leaderboard.

Tremlett continued to lead on one off, until a troubled patch consigned him to the chasers. Jeens took over, quickly to be relegated after two points slipped away. Matt Millar led, just one off, two thirds of the way through his shoot. Jeens finished three off: Millar approached his last two shots, still clean at 1,000 and just one point down.

Meanwhile, in the scramble and forgotten by many, Corbett on target 42 had been first off the range, a five-bull finish fixing him three off with 46 centrals. The scoreboard seemed to have lost sight of him. The end was nigh: Millar

disastrously put his last two into the inner ring. Jeens was holding the leader's star on three off and, when Corbett's name was eventually restored, it was posted behind Jeens, who had 40 centrals to Corbett's 46.

Eventually the light dawned. Those with Corbett told him the true outcome and the board changed. Last year's Grand winner became this year's Queen's Prize winner. He and a very happy Joanne were able to relax and enjoy.

Second was Ed Jeens of Welsh RA on 297.40, who gave everything in his attempt to bring the Prize to Wales. Matt Ensor snatched third with 297.39, with Millar reconciled to fourth on 297.32. In fifth was Emma Cannings (UVRC) who had pulled out all the stops for a magnificent total in the final of 149, leaping up the list from a starting place of 62nd: oh the cries of joy! ■



Double up

Tony de Launay reports on a memorable defence of the St George's Vase by Somerset's David Luckman



'Luckie' was in luck again - though no small amount of skill was involved



A 150.27v in St George's I and II sent Parag Patel on his way to a Silver Cross

Three stages; 15 shots at each stage; the addition of scores at stages one and two determining the finalists; the addition of scores in stages two and three determining the final order. Clear? Good.

The Bronze Cross for the first stage at 300 yards went to Johan Du Toit of South Africa after a tie shoot when he and Des Vamplew of Canada had both made 75.15. The cut for the 300 progressing to the second stage was 73.9.

The second stage saw an outright winner of the Silver Cross in the form of surgeon Parag Patel, making 150 with 27 centrals, hard pressed by Scotland's Jacqui Rankin, just one central behind, and Chris Haley of OCRA with 150.24. There were 15 scores of 150 to go forward, and the cut for the final was 148.13.

On Saturday morning came the final at 900 yards. These days you must have 150 to stand a chance of a good placing, unless cyclones or similar intervene. It was overcast but still warm, the wind from the right fresh but seemingly steady enough to allow 22 maximum 75s among the field with the final top 12 all making maximum totals of 150.

Who was the best among them? A man of Somerset, David Luckman on 150.24, who added the Vase to his Grand Aggregate win of the previous Thursday (report overleaf). In second place by two centrals was Angus McLeod of the Army and third was Rob Sandlant of Australia on 150.21. For Luckman, who won the St George's last year with a perfect 150.30, just one target remained, that of HM the Queen's Prize where he again carried forward a maximum 150. That would have been a notable first ever triple. Sadly, it did not come to pass. ■



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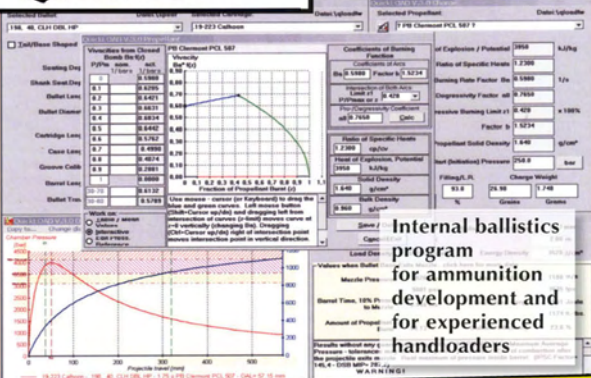
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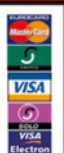
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The Shooter's shoot

Winning the Grand is the ultimate test of consistent shooting, and David Luckman's win secures his place in history, says Tony de Launay



Competitors suffered in the thirty-degree heat...



...with uncovered shooters longing to be in the shade

The Grand Aggregate starts on Middle Saturday with the Daily Telegraph Challenge Cup (pictured above) and meanders through 10 other matches before the final showdown on second Thursday, at the hands of the Prince of Wales. 705 points are at stake: stamina was definitely top of the list of requirements.

To set the scene we must remember that recent annual Bisley Meetings have not been blessed with the greatest weather. The year 2013 will be remembered for relentless sun, temperatures regularly in the upper 20s and lower 30s, and treacherous breezes wafting, sometimes blowing briskly, mainly from the right as the days passed. That direction is significant: all the trees and scrub removed on the left of Stickledown would not have an impact on shooters on the famous hill, while the trees on the right gave shooters on butt 4 just a bit of shelter unavailable to the central and lower butts.

Eight competitors tied for the Telegraph, all with 75.13. Six were knocked out after the first five tie shots and it took just one more before Gaz Morris with a central bull put paid to Jonathan Haward with a cooker, each having shot a perfect 25.5. Morris was in the process of getting up when Haward challenged his cooker. Cue consternation – had he been successful Morris would have had to settle again. The challenge failed. Richard Birtwhistle was third.

The Daily Mail went to James Corbett with the only 75.15, as did the Duke of Cambridge with 50.10. Paul Sykes of Bedfordians

won the Alexandra with 50.10. With four shoots gone the Grand was led by David Luckman on a maximum 250.40 with Corbett on 249.42 followed by Jim Bailey of Australia and Ed Jeens. The top 34 were covered by four points.

30°C on the open heath was the temperature on Monday. The Times belonged to Arno Haasbroek of South Africa, who beat David Nuthall of Old Epsomians 25.5 to 25.4 after both scored 50.10. The Wimbledon was resolved in favour of Roy Jobson over David Rose 24.2 to 23.3 in a tie, and the Corporation's four-way tie went to the third extra shot when B. Stevens of City RC 25.4/V/5/V beat Jane Messer by that final central to a cooker. Luckman led the Grand on 396.59 by six centrals from Bailey with Messer third and Jeens fourth. Tuesday's St

**"Hi Mum, I've won again..."
Luckman phones home after
the Prince of Wales**



**Jim Bailey couldn't overcome
Luckman but it was a strong
showing by the Australian**

George's did not change the two leaders, but behind them Steve East climbed to third and Parag Patel fourth.

Wednesday's Queen's I and Conan Doyle saw the latter won on the fifth tie shot by Alex Pilgrim, beating Ant Ringer 25.3 to 25.2. The Grand changed behind leader Luckman on 625.95 with Bailey second on 624.86, Patel 623.90, Jacqui Rankin 622.79 and East 622.77. It was all on the Prince of Wales where East was squadded at 8am, Patel 8.55, Bailey 9.45, Rankin 10.45 and Luckman the last detail at 11.40.

Thursday was bright, clear and fresh with the right hand breeze getting more skittish as the day wore on. East made 75, Rankin, Bailey and Patel 74 each. Luckman had two points to play with subject to sufficient centrals, but lost two shots into the inner in the vindictive wind. "When the second one went I thought that I had lost it," he said. Wrong: he had his third Grand (previously 2007 and 2010) by just six central bullseyes ahead of Bailey, followed by Patel exactly one point behind, East, Gaz Morris, Ed Jeens and Rankin.

Luckman, an actuary with Clerical & Medical Group, has also been second on four other occasions as well as being a previous World Long Range Rifle champion, making him arguably one of the finest rifle shots ever produced by this country. It was a fine chase from start to finish. ■

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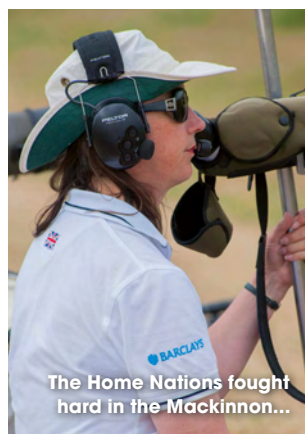


Canada shot their way to 1167.132v in the Kolapore – just off the podium places

Australia dominates the Mackinnon after a Kolapore silver while England hold the National, reports Tony de Launay



Captain Charles Brooks ponders England's position after 300 yards in the National Match



The Home Nations fought hard in the Mackinnon...



...but Wales were edged out into fourth place

The National Match

Led by skipper Charles Brooks with main coach Bill Richards, the England team came up against a spirited challenge from the Welsh. As the 300 yards stage finished, both teams had put 683 points on the board with England a bare three centrals in front. Stern words perhaps, and England pulled out to a seven-point lead over Wales and nine over Ireland at 500, increasing that to a winning margin of 16 ahead of Wales by the conclusion of 600. Parag Patel top scored for the English with 105.18, with 105.16 from both Gaz Morris of Wales and Scotland's Alex Gill, and 105.9 from Alwyn McLean of Ireland.



Blustery conditions added another element of difficulty to the Mackinnon

The Kolapore

John Warburton's Great Britain VIII simply proved too powerful for the opposition in the Kolapore Match, dropping a total of just nine points in a deceitful afternoon wind. With James Watson and Gaz Morris making 150, three 149s and three 148s, they headed Australia (for whom Jim Bailey made 150.24) by 16 points with Guernsey taking an excellent third just four points behind (Nick Mace 150.16). Canada were fourth and Jersey fifth. Something just seemed to suggest that the Australian team was gelling and that with a slice of fortune they could upset the form book.

The Mackinnon

Throughout the individual shoots of the Grand there had been some very high quality Australian performances. On Final Saturday they put it all together with a vengeance in the Mackinnon Match, much to the discomfort of England and the rest. With the wind from the right, the Australians made full use of the slight shelter provided by the trees on the crest of the hill: forget the deforestation down on the left – it was irrelevant. Nor did the Australians hide from the muttered comments about the luck of the draw: like any professional team they got on with it and used it as any other team would. It was simply fine teamwork and fine shooting.

At 900 yards England languished in fifth place with Scotland heading Ireland, both on 591, by 24 centrals, Wales on 590, Australia 589 and England 583. John Webster's Englishmen were going to have a hard time of it to get into the lead, drawn, as they were, downhill of the Australians at 1000. They tried their utmost but the Australians turned on the power, putting in a fine 583 to England's 579, making 1172.128 for a winning margin of 10 points. Owen Henry's target had three 100s and a 97 by close of play. They could have done with that in the Ashes Test at Lord's.

So England fell to a very fine shoot, but passed all the other countries along the way, with Scotland third and Wales fourth. Congratulations Australia. ■



Irish eyes weren't smiling as they could only secure fifth in the Mackinnon

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: WINNING SCORES

Event	Team	300	500	600	900	1000	Total
National	England	683.84v	689.91v	691.88v			2063.263v
Kolapore	Great Britain	399.64v	397.48v	395.51v			1191.163v
Mackinnon	Australia				589.63v	583.65v	1172.128v

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Read **all about it**

Queen's Prize victor James Corbett may not shoot to win – but Australian triumph in England has knocked cricket off the back pages back home

A first Australian winner of the Queen's Prize since 1981 was a big story down under, making headlines in the *Sydney Morning Herald* and easing the pain of a third successive Ashes defeat. Together with team success in the Mackinnon Match, it was a memorable Imperial Meeting for James Corbett but the 54-year-old Victorian is an unassuming champion. Corbett described being chaired as a "great honour" but he insists that his only goal is to enjoy shooting.

"I never consciously think about the rewards," said Corbett. "I'd rather concentrate on the doing part and let the other take care of itself. While I take an interest in the standard of the competition, my pre-occupation is to shoot well, not finish in front of anyone else."

"It's basically a competition against yourself. You prepare, you shoot, you analyse your plots, you modify procedures and try to improve your performance."

It may sound simple but to come out on top in a field of 950 requires remarkable

shooting – Corbett could only be separated from three other shooters who finished on 297 by virtue of his 46 V-bulls. It was such a tight finish that even the Bisley leaderboard struggled to identify the winner. "My colleagues walking up and down the range had indicated to me that the leading contenders were all finished on three down," explained Corbett. "I thought, if they can better my centre count I'll take my hat off to them. A little while later Peter Cottrell started pinning my coat to accept the badge, and I started to realise the leaderboard wasn't going to change."

Last year's Grand Aggregate winner had gone one better in 2013, giving him the opportunity to take centre stage in a 153-year-old tradition. "It was very hot," said Corbett. "The three cheers led by the Chairman and from the crowd was a great honour. Then our Captain pinned the Australian flag to my jacket and my colleagues and team-mates prepared to chair me down Queen's Way to the

NRA offices. The 'Hail the conquering hero' marching music still rings tunes in my head."

Asked what he had done differently to secure the big prize, a modest Corbett insisted that shooters always require some luck. "Several cards have to fall into place to have a successful final," he said. "Assuming your Q2 is reasonable, then getting a berth to shoot the Mackinnon Match is a great opener for Q3 as it allows you to fine-tune your zeros and sighting for the afternoon."

"Of course, the draw plays a big part. Mine was 0 – 4 being target 1 then 42 and this year the wind from the right meant shooting on the hill was the preferred location. A good marker at 1,000 yards was another card that fell my way but the trump card was pairing with Chris Weeden of NLRC. He kept a steady rhythm throughout the shoot and so we were one of the first off the mound."

Corbett also explained that rebarrelling his rifle may have been a decisive factor. "Last year my rifle and I didn't perform well at the final range, and while it was flawless on the

shorts, the final is all won and lost on that final 1,000-yard range," he explained. "My spare rifle had a shortish 29.5" barrel and wasn't being used so I decided to rebarrel it with another 35" Border, fitted to an RPA Quadlock in one of my Jericho alloy stocks."

Corbett is in pole position to qualify for next year's Commonwealth Games in Glasgow but, despite an impressive career medal haul, he is not likely to run out of room on his mantelpiece any time soon. "It may appear strange to some but I prefer to keep all the shooting badges and memorabilia in a briefcase in the shed," said Corbett. "I'm not aware of the autograph from Her Majesty so perhaps it will arrive with the Bisley tinketry which is usually posted after the meeting." His £250 prize money didn't even leave Bisley as it has been put towards his registration for next year's meeting. NRA HQ has in fact become something of a home from home for the Aussie, who was born in Birmingham like cricketing compatriot Andrew Symonds.

"I've been in the same caravan for the last 10 years and quite like the area near the British Commonwealth Club," he explained. "Taking up membership of the City Rifle Club a few years back has allowed me to keep a full shooting kit at Bisley, which certainly reduces the stress of international travel. Bisley can be a lonely place when you don't know many people but I've slowly become more involved with social events on the range. I've found the best solution is to share the journey to Bisley with family and friends and, in doing so, introduce people to the biggest and best fullbore shoot in the world. As the late David Skippen used to say, 'There's something for everybody at Bisley.'"

Despite being born in Blighty, Corbett has called Australia home as long as he can remember. "My mother and father completed their postgraduate education in the UK and settled in Birmingham. But in 1960 my father received free passage as the ship's doctor on the Fairsea and we emigrated to Australia." Corbett's pride in representing his country was emphasised by the key role he played



Writing history: Corbett gets an Australian name in the book for the first time in 32 years

in the Mackinnon Match and he believes there should be a greater focus on team events back home. "Team shooting is about giving and I enjoy contributing to a team environment," he said. "Shooting in the UK is highly geared towards team shooting whereas in Australia it's predominantly individual shooting. We think your model has the right mix and are actively campaigning to have more travelling teams, including an annual Australian team to Bisley."

In the meantime, though, the Queen's Prize winner is just happy that shooting success is superseding cricketing catastrophe in the press. "Reading the UK newspapers before we departed for Australia, we didn't find any shooting results and over 10 pages of cricket results. But the *Sydney Morning Herald* had an article and a larger advertising flier at the shopfront of newsagents in New South Wales. Together with the feedback from political parties, it was great coverage for shooting in Australia which was exceptionally pleasing for the NRAA." ■





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Prize Fighters

Reports from around Bisley as
over 200 winners were crowned



Match Rifle

The four days of the Imperial Match Rifle shooting and 1025 contested points started on Saturday 6 July in glorious warm sunshine.

For those not familiar with MR, it's for those with an interest in the art and science of getting a rifle to shoot well at long range – the closest distance shot is 1,000 yards with the most shooting taking place at 1,100 and 1,200 yards. Calibres allowed are .308 Win or .223 Rem and telescopic sights are allowed, as is a rest. However, unlike those F Class sissies, no back bags and no part of the rifle may touch the rest, meaning the rifle is entirely supported by the hand. So the rest replaces the sling although some shooters use both, shooting in a manner similar to TR with some extra steadiness courtesy of the rest.

Ammunition-wise, the most successful recipes seem to be around 200-215 grain

bullets atop a case full of Elcho 17 for a velocity of 2,700-2,800fps – so you know they have gone when you touch one off.

The most striking thing about MR seems to be a relaxed, friendly atmosphere. As one seasoned campaigner remarked, "We don't like to make rules about things if we can help it," while hand loads serve to keep the costs down with a grand aggregate of 1025 points. Perhaps think of it as a more genteel House of Lords as opposed to the cut and thrust of the Commons.

The first match is the Whitehead: 2 & 15 at 1,000 and 1,100. Winds were generally light but it was often difficult to determine the direction. I remember firing many a shot in the first two days on zero and thinking I wouldn't be surprised to get a 4 or worse on either side. Flags lifted a tad one way in the early part of the range, differently further along while the mirage couldn't make its mind up at all. Canny Scot Mike

Ballie-Hamilton seemed to see it well though, posting 75.11 at 1,000 and 74.11 at 1,100 to take the match, with Angus McLeod scoring 149.17 taking the second spot. Gareth James from Wales was third with 149.17 but a couple of Vs less than Angus at 1,100. Steve East, shooting RWS from a target rifle, came in on 146.17.

The afternoon brought the Halford: 2 & 15 at 1,100 and 1,200 and with the temperature around 28°C or so. It was warm work. Wind-wise, conditions were similar and Mr H. Butcher from Scotland scored 146.12 to win, finishing with a 75.6 at 1,200 from Nick Tremlett on 145.15.

John Bridger won the Cottesloe on Sunday morning with 100.17, ahead of seven other possibles including Parag Patel on 100.10 shooting TR/RWS. Rumour has it that John converted at least one cooking bull if not two. Courtesy of an extra 100 yards and high temperatures, it was 'tricky city' at 1,100 yards and the best effort was that of Mike Barlow on 98.14 ahead of four other 98s. Highest RWS competitor was M Persaud on a creditable 96.3.

The final event of the day, the Armourers 2 & 20 at 1200, was won by Gareth James with 99.12 followed by Nick Tremlett on 97.11 and Mike Wentges on 96.14. 14 out of 20 into a 14.4in circle at 1,200 yards strikes me as a pretty fair effort so well done Mike. Given that the 600-yard bull is 13 inches, that suggests that Mike would have shot approximately a pair of 47s on the 600-yard target but from 1,200 yards.

Monday is a relatively relaxed affair with just two shoots: 2 & 20 at 1,100 and 1,200 for 'The Edge'. On a winning streak, Mike Barlow took this home too with a 98.5 at 1,100 and a 96.7 at 1,200 from Rosanne Furniss on 193.23 (98.13 – 95.10).

The Albert rounded off the final day of individual shooting – 15 to count at 1,000, 1,100 and 1,200 with no sighters. Continuing his Hopton charge, Mike Barlow came off with 75.13, 73.10 and 73.6 to win from John Bridger with 74.9 – 74.7 – 73.9.

In the final count, the Hopton was won by Mike Barlow following steady shooting throughout difficult periods on 99.115/1025. Last year's winner Angus McLeod was second on 99.97 with Nick 'quite a few Hopton wins' Tremlett in third place on 99.1.109.

Kate Fitton

The Elcho

With the Scots having won the Elcho for the previous four years, Nick and his English team were determined to avoid blunders. The coaching effort led by Bill Richards had a strategy to cope with the differences of some shooters launching 190-grain Sierras at 2,750fps alongside others shooting 215 Berger Hybrids at similar velocity. The behaviour in wind, given a 10mph breeze, was slightly different between those two loads at 1,200 yards, so allowances had to be made. It was no sighters and 15 to count at 1,000, 1,100 and 1,200 yards for an eight-man team.

Scotland got off to a strong start, posting a 75.12 from Mike Barlow – but that was matched by Simon Whitby, one of three 75s in the England line-up at 1,000 yards. Wales were also there with 75s and 74s punctuating their board, and Ireland were hot on their heels. At the end of the range, England on 591.82 held a small lead over the Welsh on 586.65, followed by the Scots on 585.64 and Ireland on 581.70.

1,100 yards was a bit fresher for the coaches, and all teams stopped and started when it was judged conditions looked most favourable – sometimes with success, sometimes less so. England managed to increase their lead over the Scots by another five points, posting 570.55

to 565.45 while Wales made 555.44 followed by Ireland's 551.42.

So falling back to 1,200 yards after lunch, England had a slender 11-point lead over Scotland – which could be wiped out in a thrice at 1,200 – and a 20-point lead over Wales. While it was not mere points and v-bulls separating the players, no one was totally out of touch. To Nick's relief, England had a solid range to consolidate their lead and the final tally was a win for England with 1725.181 from Scotland on 1703.147. Wales made 1676.142 and Ireland 1671.150.

Thus ended the match followed by retirement to the English VIII for the customary strawberries, cream and Pimms. Hurrah!

Kate Fitton

F Class

This was my first Imperial Meeting, and even though it was not my first shoot at Bisley I can say this was a different experience. Not just the length of the competition – seven days' shooting in all – but everybody was just so friendly, walking around with smiles and some large ice creams owing to the unusually warm weather. There were not as many competitors in F/FTR as I would have liked, but there were a number from Germany, France and a lone Canadian in my class, FTR. Luckily I can speak a little German. I tried, anyway,



A determined England team denied Scotland a fifth successive Elcho win



Steve Donaldson (right) capped a fine maiden Imperial by winning Queen's F/TR





and it seemed to be appreciated.

My first competition was the Admiral Hutton at 1,000 yards on Friday at 8.30am, and the weather was warm and dry. There was a tricky wind switching direction on one occasion, catching me out. Most of the competitors used the mirage for wind calls more than the flags, which was the case especially at long range all week. I came off with a 67, which gave me second place. The winner was our lone Canadian and really nice guy, Monsieur FB Bezeau, who was accompanied by his wife.

The next competition was the Century at 500 at 13.45 (73.4) and 600 yards at 19.00 (75.6). The conditions were good with a pretty consistent wind giving some high scores and that rounded off the first day.

Competing in three competitions at three different distances each day means there are too many competitions to give details of them all, so I will concentrate on the Grand

Aggregate, the Queen's Final and the St George's Final.

The Grand Aggregate FTR was won by John Chambers of the NRA who was last year's runner-up with a score of 786.57, ahead of second-placed Steve Donaldson of the 101 Rifle Club (781.54). John shot consistently all week, winning three golds and two silvers in the individual competitions. F Class was won by AW Marsh of Sedgemoor TSC (831.78), ahead of D Lloyd of West Wales ML (813.70) – they are both familiar faces at F Class league shoots, and both members of the GB F Class team that competed in the F Class World Championships at Raton, New Mexico at the end of August.

The finals were shot on the second Friday. We shot the St George's first at 900 yards – the weather was fantastic as it was all week, although winds were tricky with people experiencing elevations. F/TR was won by Steve Donaldson of 101 Rifle Club (71.6) ahead of R. Adler of BDMP Germany (67.3). In F Class, the winner was R. Eckbauer of BDMP Germany (72.8) while in second place was AW Marsh of Sedgemoor TSC (72.6).

The Queen's Final was shot at 900 and 1,000 yards – once again the winds played their tricks particularly on elevations

at 1,000 yards. In F/TR, Donaldson again came out on top ahead of J Chambers of NRA (132.9). In F Class the winner was S Poultney of the Dorset Riflemen (140.8) while second place went to D Trowsdale of Norfolk (139.14).

The prize presentation took place on Saturday night opposite the pavilion at 6pm, lasting nearly two hours with over 200 awards to dish out. There were some truly spectacular trophies, which anyone would love to have, if only for a year.

There has been a major change to the characteristics of Stickledown since the cutting down of a large area of woodland. There has been a dramatic difference with higher winds, and sudden changes sometimes went unnoticed, causing some unexpected falls of shot.

To summarise my first Imperial, I met a lot of nice people from all over the world. I have shot in a number of large competitions, but without a doubt this has been the biggest. If you enjoy shooting, the Imperial is a must, so I hope to see you there next year. I would like to finish by congratulating all those who competed in every class, without whom I would not have enjoyed myself half as much. ■

Steve Donaldson

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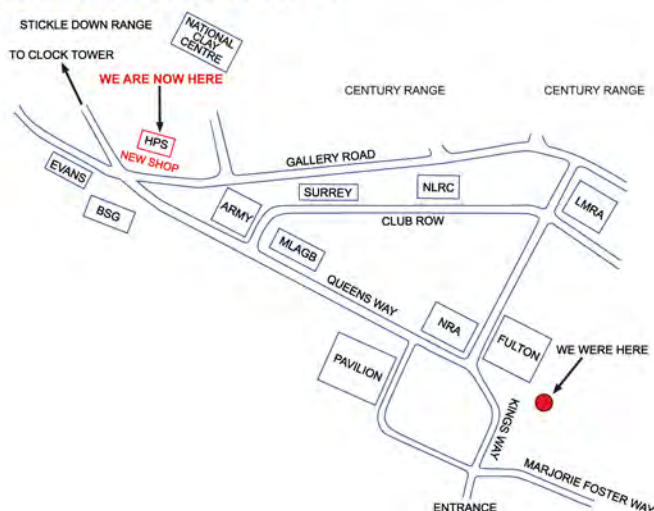
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AROUND THE ISLES

A round-up of summer shoots throughout the UK and Ireland

Scottish Open Championships

Blair Atholl, 7-9 June

By Tim Kidner

The first competition was the Association Medals shot at 400 and 600 yards – Steve Thomas (right) won the gold medal and Dick Horrocks won the silver, both scoring 148. At the end of the first day positions at the top were close with Thomas on 223, two points ahead of Mike Barlow and four others another point behind. On day two, Angus McLeod won the first stage of the Scottish Championship with a score of 224.27v, just one v ahead of Barlow. The F/TR competition was also close, with James Bell and Peter Burbridge tied on 365.41v.

The Lawrence Trophy International Match between Scotland and England for teams of 12 shooting at 500 and 600

yards was shot on the afternoon of day two. After contending with strong, variable winds, the Scotland coaches decided to stop shooting to wait for the conditions to settle. This delay paid off and Scotland were 16 points ahead of England after 500 yards. Conditions at 600 yards were more settled and England caught up two points but overall Scotland won by 14. The Scotland team included Lindsey McKerrell, who won her first cap for Scotland on her 18th birthday.

This year a new trophy was presented (below) in memory of David Hossack, a past captain of Scotland, and was awarded for the highest individual score in the Lawrence Trophy Match, won by Steve Thomas with the only 150.

Day three is the final of the Scottish Championships shot at 900 and 1,000 yards. Steve Thomas continued his winning form and won the final,

scoring 149.18v, two points ahead of Tim Kidner. The Caledonian Shield, confined to Scots only, was won by Angus McLeod with a score of 298.37v, while the Grand Aggregate was won by Thomas on 518.63v. The F/TR Grand Agg was won by James Bell, with a score of 511.59v just one v ahead of Peter Burbridge.



Steve Thomas becomes the first winner of the David Hossack Memorial Trophy

Scottish Long Range Championships

Blair Atholl, 22-23 June

By Tim Kidner

The Scottish Long Range Championships are shot at 900 and 1,000 yards, shooting three times at each distance over two days. Saturday was wet with frequent showers coming across the range but the wind was light and scores were very close. Sunday was wet with light rain all morning but the wind was coming down the range towards the shooters and switching from side to side so it was easy to get caught while on aim making scores more variable. The top TR shooter in the Sunday Agg. was Kenny MacDonald who scored 216, six points ahead of Simon Glen and John Potter. In F/TR Paul Crosbie maintained an opening day lead with a score of 219, three points ahead of Peter Burbridge. F-Open was led by Hugh Inglis, one point ahead of Paul Sandie on 203. The TR Grand Aggregate was won by MacDonald with a score of 436.50v while Paul Crosbie won the F/TR section with a score of 444.60v and Inglis won the F-Open section, beating Sandie by two points. The TR trophy for the Double Grand, based on combining the scores in the Scottish Open Championships and the Scottish Long Range Championships, was won by Kenny MacDonald with a score of 948.



Top of the class: Hugh Inglis wins the F-Open Grand Aggregate...



...while Paul Crosbie takes the honours in the the F/TR Aggregate



Fantastic four: The individual class winners

Fullbore Adaptive Championships

Bisley, 3 July

By Olaf Jones, NRA Disability Representative

The fullbore adaptive shoot was initially devised to provide a shooting competition for military veterans, and for those men and women still undergoing rehabilitation, to offer anyone with any disability the chance to take part in competitive target shooting on equal terms. In its second year of running there were more competitors coming from a wider variety of backgrounds and shooting skills. The message appears to be slowly spreading that there are fullbore shooting opportunities for those people with disabilities. For the first time ever, this year competitors were allowed to enter that had had no previous military service. This new aspect to the adaptive shoot will hopefully attract more shooters into our community that might not have previously considered shooting a worthy pastime at all.

The competition consisted of a McQueen sniper snap shooting element and the Adaptive Match with three elements, comprising a deliberate precision shoot, a snap shoot and a rapid shoot. The total aggregate score, as well as the individual scores from the McQueen and Adaptive elements, decided the prize pool. The whole competition was fired from 100 yards on Short Siberia range using benches, so the competition was fair to all firers regardless of disability. Each entrant was also given the choice of whether they would like to shoot from the prone position. There were 34 competitors, 12 of whom were veterans, four members of the general public, and the remainder currently undergoing rehabilitation at either Headley Court or Tidworth House. It is hoped that next year's event will attract many more competitors, particularly those people with disabilities that have never served in the Armed Forces.

The competition was hotly contested, as it was last year – especially the McQueen. The Adaptive Match scores were quite variable meaning that the aggregate scores towards the top of the lists were pretty close with only a few points separating the prize-winners.

Hampshire Open Championship

Bisley, 22 June

By Charles Brooks

32 shooters including eight cadets from Nigel Ball's Wellington College squad gathered for the Hampshire RA Open Meeting, comprising 10 shots to count at 300, 600, 900 and 1,000 yards: an Australia match course and the perfect way to prepare for the Imperial Meeting. Conditions were difficult – a strong and blustery westerly wind all day giving a bracket of eight to 14 minutes in the 1,000 yard shoot in the afternoon.

The only possibles on the day were all recorded in the 300-yard shoot, where Nigel Ball's 50.9 counted out three shooters on 50.6, two on 50.4 and one 50.2. 600 yards only produced two scores of 49 with Carol Painting counting out Nigel Ball on 49.7 to 49.5.

Long range in the afternoon saw Sarah Cheslyn-Curtis score the only 49 beating six scores of 48, while the 1,000-yard shoot was won by David Crispin after a tie shoot with Richard Gardiner both with 47.3. Nigel Ball's consistent shooting throughout the day meant he took the Grand with seven off, as well as the short- and long-range aggregates, while Carol Painting took the HRA Closed Championship from Ed Dickson and Kip Morton. Consistent shooting from this year's Atheling from Wellington, Oskar Graziosi, saw him win most of the cadet reserved prizes, quite apart from finishing fifth in the Grand.

Western Winner 1500 match

Bristol & District RPC, 10-11 May

By Ashley Dagger

Early May 2013 saw the running of the 10th Western Winner 1500 match: the West Country's premier Gallery Rifle and Pistol event. Hosted by Frome & District Pistol Club, this match grows year on year with a variety of events for every type of GR&P. The two-day shoot offers competitors the pick of 1500, T&P1, T&P2 and Multi Target for all classes of rifle and pistol. All of the events are shot in their own classes so, whatever your ability, the measure of success was against peers of similar capability.

Early May is always a gamble with the weather, but the rain held off and the comps were shot in near ideal conditions. The best performance from the weekend was by Keith Cox, with a podium place in all the GR&B and GRCF matches, bar one (in which he was 4th). There were also a number of first-timers who put in a range of credible scores, and with Chris Farr on the stats, results were out quickly and accurately.

A prize table of well over £1,000 was on offer thanks to the headline sponsor, the Sportsman Gun Centre of Exeter, while there were also a number of vouchers on offer from the NRA and plenty of other prizes – sponsorship that aids in laying on such a quality match.

Frome & District runs a number of open competitions each year and more details are available at www.fdpcc.org.uk

Phoenix Practical

Slinfold, Sussex, 5 May

By James Harris

Running over the May bank holiday weekend, this match is a great reason not to go to the beach or DIY shop. Phoenix Practical is a club run by Ron Flint and its ranges are in the delightful countryside of West Sussex not far from Slinfold. Although finding the ranges can be tricky they are well worth the visit as there are five good-sized bays (20m x 25m) separated by stout walls and two larger open areas under the tree cover. Onsite catering is provided and there is a great club atmosphere.

The innovative use of condemned scaffold tube made for some interesting targets that really had to be shot accurately unlike the lightweight steel plates favoured by some clubs.

The eight stages were spread out around the complex allowing the squads to circulate in an orderly fashion. First off was a quick 20-plate stage, lots of penalty targets and four positions with about 25m

of running in total. Next was a 12-plate shoot from sitting position with targets from 10 to 20m, and you had to aim, particularly as the smoke and dust hung in the air. A Texas star with two plates on the floor was third up – as always racing the wheel before it starts to move is the best bet but you have to be quick though and the plates were very heavy. A proper eight-round Virginia count came next and only eight in the gun meant that the speedy top-up was not an option.

After lunch came a tricky 12-rounder from two positions with the targets partially obscured, which caused some awkward positions close to the barricades. The next stage was the same targets but this time you were 10ft up in the air on a platform, which altered the sight picture somewhat – well that's my excuse for hitting the tree branches. Once these were completed we were back down the hill again for a tricky little standard exercise of six weak shoulder, six strong shoulder. The targets were



awkward as well as they were made from 300mm long sections of scaffold tube set upright – you really had to hit them in the middle to make them fall. The final stage forced weak shoulder for most, kneeling and also had some more of the scaffold tube targets at the end positions to test your shooting after you had run to change location.

For more information contact Ron on 0208 150 9284 or visit the website: www.phoenixshootingclub.co.uk

Inter-Counties Meeting

Bisley, 15-16 June

By Tony de Launay

The westerly winds blasting across Century range on Saturday had coaches reaching for the tent pegs to keep their seats on the firing point, and their waterproofs to escape the heavy showers. Hampshire coach Charles Brooks admitted to thoughts of disaster at short range after his team had dropped 54 points, but this turned to amazement when they gained fourth place.

With recorded settings of seven left at 500 yards and eight or more at 600, coaches were into the guessing game and firers into the 'hang on like grim

death' approach for the short-range team match for the Lt. Col. H Jones Trophy. Surrey's Bill Richards and Matt Ensor kept their team on the map for a total of 1169 with 139 centrals and first place. The County of London was close, just six points behind, and Somerset third, a further eight points adrift.

An overcast but much milder day dawned on Sunday, with far more accommodating breezes coming in over the newly trimmed Stickledown heathland on the left. Surrey dropped only two points across their eight shooters at 900 yards and just a further 14 at 1,000 to finish on 1184 with 147 centrals – a highly respectable score in any conditions and a safe winner

of the NRA Long Range trophy. Surrey ruled the roost, taking the overall NRA Championship Trophy with a score of 2353.286, with London 23 points behind, and 44 points ahead of third-placed Devon.

Individually there were three scores of 150 at long range, the best being David Young of Lancashire, with 25 of his 30 shots in the central bullseye. On the Saturday morning the ever-dependable Jon Underwood had won the R Jarvis Trophy under Queen's I conditions in the winds with the only 105 on the range (with 13 centrals), while in the LMRA-organised Clive Amstein Memorial Trophy, East of Scotland triumphed by seven points from Essex.

NASRPC Irish Open

Harbour House Gun Club, Co.

Kildare, 13-14 July

By Nigel Barrett

They came, they saw and they had the craic. For the second year running, the NASRPC Irish Open, including the Irish leg of the IGRF International Series, was held at the ever-impressive Harbour House Sports Club in County Kildare – just a short drive outside of Dublin.

You would never know you were in Ireland, with Mediterranean

conditions – indeed a high of 34C was recorded, unheard of in these parts – and as any of the competitors can tell you, it was considerably hotter when kneeling or sitting on the baked ground.

The Irish always make a point of ensuring that everyone has 'the craic', ensuring you have the best time possible. If you happen to shoot well or win a few medals that is good, but you can be sure you will go home with a full belly and a smile on your face regardless. On Saturday night – once the competitions were over – there were speeches, toasts and everyone had a great time and enjoyed the craic and banter until the sun went down.

On Sunday afternoon a presentation was made to the NASRPC & Harbour House, on behalf of the BDMP by Dieter Graefrath, president of the BDMP, who travelled to the match for the first time. Michael Tope, chairman of the NASRPC, presented the awards. For many it was



their first international award and there was some great applause, not least for Harbour House's own Clive Jackson, who only took up Gallery Rifle and pistol shooting a short while ago and who could not get the smile off his face (I'll bet it's still there).

A special presentation was made to the three members of the paramedic team who were on hand to deal with any eventualities over the weekend but whose skills were thankfully not needed. Finally a presentation was made to Tommy and Maura O'Brien and Toby and Deirdre O'Brien for all the work they did in hosting the event.



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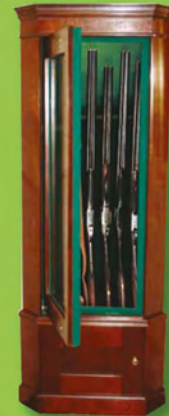
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MATCH REPORTS

We review an action-packed summer of shooting at Bisley and beyond



targets were a touch easy at 200 yards, about right at 300 and a bit too difficult at 400 yards. It is therefore suggested that at the next meeting, the targets used should be the Bisley TR targets for 200, 400 and 600 yards, shot at the same distances of 200, 300 and 400 yards. This should reduce the level of scoring at 200 yards but increase it slightly at 400.

Generally, the meeting was judged a success and several competitors expressed the hope that another will be held in the near future. Long Range .22RF could well provide a realistic way forward where traditional Target Rifle is no longer possible, such as for many schools and in the increasingly large areas of the country where there are no longer any MOD ranges.

Thanks are due to Brian Thomas and Mike Mercer, and latterly Peter Cottrell, all of the NRA, for making the necessary arrangements.

Long Range .22 Rimfire Trial Shoot

Bisley, 27 April

By Richard Kenchington

Prompted by technical articles about the long-range performance of the .22 rimfire cartridge, which appeared in the NRA Journal during 2011, the NRA decided to hold a trial shoot to gain experience and assess the practicability of using this cartridge for long-range shooting in the wind, with a meeting held on Century Range 19. The Saturday morning dawned cold and unsettled, with sun and cloud, spots of rain and a moderate to fresh wind blowing in our faces from 1pm, but the weather worsened after lunch with a short hailstorm as the second detail at 300 yards was getting down to shoot.

The general level of scoring was higher than anticipated and the winning aggregate was 204.13, which is comparable with winning scores made in MR meetings about 25 years ago. The highest score at 200 yards was a fine 73.12 and there were seven scores of 70 or more. At 300, there was one score of 70 and six scores over 65, which seemed about right for the conditions. 400 yards was generally acclaimed as great fun, but group sizes opened up so that there were many losses to elevation. The highest score was 63, with only five scores over 60. Analysis of the shots and scores afterwards indicated that the



The first detail at 400 yards proved a little tricky



Mark Silver shoots at 400 yards

British Commonwealth Rifle Club Open Meeting

Bisley, 29-30 June

By Tony de Launay

It was good to see some warm and sunny weather and a good field of 99 competitors, moving back towards numbers of previous years. Ammunition was RUAG/RWS as issued, batch 60 PG – Paul G Kent could be forgiven for thinking it was most thoughtful of the organisers to have his initials stamped on the boxes. He made good use of it, taking the Saturday Dominion Aggregate by two points from old rival David Luckman with Steve Thomas third.

Luckman took the first two of the short-range shoots (West Indies at 300 and India at 500) on his way to that second place, with Thomas cleaning up the other two (Africa 500 and Canada 600). In the process he outshot Dominic de Vere and Neil Hart in a tie shoot for the Africa. Mirage and flags disagreed for much of the day: sometimes the former was truthful, and at other times the latter. Older heads nodded sagely, pointing out that as the match was shot on the extreme right-hand butts on Century the ghosts of Magpie Alley came out to play, swirling the winds into and back from the line of trees. Those with dodgy wind zeroes had a potential problem.



Success at the Ceylon Aggregate sealed overall victory for Toby Raincock

Sunday's long range started with a fifth of the field making maximum 50s in the Falkland Isles at 900 yards. James Watson and Jon Underwood made maximum 50.10s; no tie shoot – there is no trophy. The gods of the wind took action to correct this oversight, and in from the left it poured for the rest of the day, as the sun wound the temperature up to bake anyone lurking in sunny shelter. This was significant because with the target allocation down on the left of Stickedown, the firing points were sheltered by the remaining trees, with the left-hand firers shooting blind into the open spaces.

The Australia (15 at 900) went to Sandy Gill with 75.9 – the only maximum – Toby Raincock on 74.12 and Jane Messer on 74.11 following him. At the New Zealand at 1,000 yards, Reg Roberts posted 73.5 to Raincock's 73.4 and Alastair Brown on 72.7 – which, given the conditions and the difficulty in spotting the changes, was some tidy shooting.

Raincock's late charge saw him take the Ceylon Aggregate for Sunday and jumped him up the lists as others suffered. It was enough to land him the overall Commonwealth Aggregate.



There was no stopping the in-form John Payne who lifted the Daily News Cup

Sussex County Rifle Association Championship Final

Bisley, 23 June

By BJ Burns

The Sussex Championship Final was faced by tempestuous winds blowing in from the left of Stickedown range. The top 12 finishers in the first stage of the Championship fired 15 shots at 900 and 1,000 yards to add to their brought-forward short-range scores. Those scores ranged from 196 down to 180 ex-200 thanks to an equally windy Sunday three weeks earlier, with Hailsham's John Payne leading the group on 196.19, three points ahead of Martin Woolger.

There were no maximum 75s at 900, everyone visiting the inner at least twice. At

halfway Payne had extended his lead over Woolger by three more points with Wicker and county captain Tim Brooking following.

At 1,000 yards, just looking at the flagpoles flexing promised some fun. A large collection of magpies, outers and a skilful 'hit' scoring one peppered the scorebooks. Keeping it in the black seemed like a good idea and scores in the mid- and upper 60s were greeted with something approaching relief. If Payne could do that, it was unlikely that anyone could touch him. He finished with 66 for a total of 335 and 27 centrals. Les Wicker managed to pull back one point to take second place as Woolger dropped out of contention. In third was Tony de Launay, sixth at the start of the day, who produced the best 1,000 yard score of 71.6. It was Payne's fifth title win, adding the Sussex Daily News Cup to the Carden Cup for his first stage victory.

May Multi-Gun Match

Shield Shooting Centre, 12 May

By James Harris

Owing to the booming interest in multi-gun created by the F4i National Championships, matches are now being held midweek so that those who can't get range space at weekends can get their fix. Run in accordance with the F4i/International Multi-gun Rules, this competition included the use of shotguns, .22 rifles, .22 LBPs and a .223 kindly loaned by Mark Bradley. It was a friendly match consisting of two teams of 17 drawn from the Civilian Service Rifle and F4i forums, competing for the John Noveske Memorial Trophy.

A delay in starting caused by fog in the danger area meant that only five out of six stages were completed, but the event still involved shooting more than 200 rounds in some cases. Stage 1 had a series of metal plates that had to be shot down from a seated position before retrieving a .22 rifle to clear the paper roundel targets. The roundels have a red centre with a black outer ring – you can clear the target with either one hit in the centre or two hits in the black. Failing to clear a target results in a time penalty of 10 seconds, so every one has to be shot if you are planning to win.

The second stage required a bit of speed across ground. After knocking down a series of steel plates with the shotgun you had to run to the next position, retrieve a .22 rifle, activate the moving targets then clear a



field of roundel targets. The mover proved too tempting a target to shoot just twice, and many people ran out of ammunition as a result. Stage 3, or the blue screen of confusion, involved using all three firearm types and this made for some comic moments where people forgot to rack the straight-pull after using the semi-auto .22s.

Stage 4 made good use of the Bianchi barricades again and multiple positions had to be used to clear the shotgun targets before clearing the roundels, which were mounted on the turning targets, with a .22.

Stage 6 (stage 5 was dropped from the overall scores) was a variation on a theme, the theme being the falling plates run down. A 25m sprint to the firing line raised heart rates before the shooting had even started and the mixture of knock-down plates, shattering

clashes and rapid-fire rifle use had many people in broad smiles.

To replace the dropped stage, a 'man versus man' shoot was run on the centre Bianchi bay using skittles and clays, which are satisfying when hit as they dissolve into a cloud of dust or spin off the sleepers with a resounding thunk.

One of the better aspects of an F4i match is the accompanying social element and the prize-giving dinner held at the Old Sergeants Mess was no exception. The time plus scoring method meant that stats were quickly completed, which was a good thing as there were a lot of prizes from the sponsors! Overall winner was Paul Tasker with Team CSR beating team F4i by about 5 per cent – next time I may shoot it myself to try and redress that.

For more information on Multi-gun visit www.four4islands.org

Derby Gallery Rifle and Pistol Open Meeting

Derby Rifle & Pistol Club, 29-30 June

By Amy Usher

There were a record 94 shooters at this year's 10th Derby Open, and with more than 600 competition entries, it is certainly a growing event.

Usually I would have been RO-ing, but this year I also competed in my first ever competition and what a place to start – a smooth transition into the world of competitive shooting with an array of shooting events such as T&P1, 2, 3, Multi-target and 1500.

It's fair to say I was a bit nervous before my first competition. The nerves finally subsided after a pep talk from the gang and other passers-by, telling me how ridiculous I was being. I manned up to the challenge and then I didn't want to leave the range. Needless to say I was as cool as a cucumber for the rest of my competitions, and it will be the first shooting weekend of many.

Derby provides three great ranges; a 25m, a 50m and a not-quite-200m hosting the varied competitions. The event wouldn't work if it wasn't for all the hard work put in by expert match director and squadding guru Jim Smith, assisted by Dave Holt – a big well done is in order for these two chaps, who

worked tirelessly for what was a spectacular event. Assisted by 30 or so members of their own club and a few regular 'ex-pat' stragglers who can be spotted around Bisley camp now and again, they very much helped ease the stress.

With two chefs keeping everyone well fed, we got through a whopping 200 burgers, 400 rashers of bacon, 120 venison sausages and 380 bottles of water. Sadly I wasn't a winner this time but there is always next time and believe me I wouldn't miss it for the world. The most important thing to take away is that I did beat the boys.

I think it's fair to say this was the 10th of many, many more Derby Opens to come. Join us next time – same time, same place.



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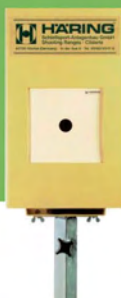
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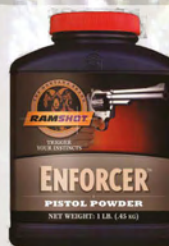
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The Olympic *discipline*



This year's Imperial Running Deer events are a timely reminder of a thriving discipline with a 150-year pedigree, says John Kynoch

Most of us will know that the NRA was formed in 1860 only a few months after the Volunteer Force, the driving force being the realisation of the benefit of having a civilian body with skill at arms, as in Plantagenet days. While the main thrust was multi-range prone shooting, based on trench warfare, some may not realise that shooting at a deer target started in 1862. All will be familiar with the iron deer targets in front of the NRA offices, but they may not have noticed the weather vane above.

With the aid of the windmill, still in situ on Wimbledon Common, and the detailed annual range survey maps held in the visitors' centre, it is easy to find the site of Running Deer firing point shooting across Glen Albyn. Though this area is now completely wooded over, the original scene is preserved for us in the famous 1888 'Surrey Hut' painting by Thomas Blink. It shows undoubtedly Walter Winans shooting, accompanied by the usual bevy of well-dressed ladies, which are often in paintings he commissioned.

In those days the deer target, mounted on a trolley on rails, was pushed down an incline and then run across a 25-yard gap whereupon it was retrieved, turned around and then sent back for the return run. There were circles on the chest area with a 6" bull scoring four points, a 12" ring scoring three, and a two in an 18" circle. The outline of the target was based on the full-sized cartoon drawn by Sir Edward Landseer, the celebrated Victorian artist, which is in the stairwell of the NRA offices. On his visit in 1863 the 21-year-old Prince of Wales, the future King Edward VII, planted four successive shots on the Deer – a fact that spoke well of the thoroughness of his Highland training.

The picture of Winans shooting at Bisley in 1891 (one of the Cutler Gouaches behind the counter in the NRA front office) shows him sitting with the left arm supported on a knee and the right arm free to allow for a proper swing. He would wait until the target was at its slowest near the end of the run, and used a lead of 16" with his 'high velocity' double rifle (double rifles are no longer allowed). Then, as now, there were two competitions, Singles and Doubles. In the latter, one fires two shots on each four-second pass of the deer.

As the host's prerogative for the 1908 London Olympic Games, Running Deer was included as one of the many shooting

events. Winans won the gold medal in the Doubles after a shoot off with Thomas 'Ted' Ranken. Running Deer was held in subsequent Games: 1912 Stockholm, 1920 Antwerp, 1924 Paris (at which Winans won a gold medal for art), then a gap until 1952 Oslo and finally 1956 Melbourne.

To complete the Olympic moving target story, 50m Running Boar was introduced in 1972 at Munich and was shot until 1988 when the 10m air rifle Running Target was substituted to be subsequently dropped after Athens in 2004.

Following his Olympic win Walter Winans presented a fine silver cup for the Doubles. The NRA produced a Challenge Cup for the singles in 1921. In 1980 the BSRC donated a trophy with two silver deer for the aggregate of the first series of each of Singles and Doubles. In 2007 the BSRC was fortunate to retrieve a 1914 Running Deer Dewar Cup, which now goes to the highest 10-shot series during the meeting by someone other than winners of the former three.

But I want to take you back to the 1908 Olympics and tell you about Ted Ranken, a career soldier, a major in the Royal Scots. He won silver in Singles and Doubles, and was also fourth in the 1,000-yard prone rifle event. He won the Doubles in 1914; Winans won it in 1919 and 1920, then in the 18 years from 1921 to 1938, Ranken won the Doubles 17 times and the Singles several times.

His enigmatic tombstone in Dean Cemetery in Edinburgh only states "Remember Tom Ranken – a large and lovable personality." It gives his dates (1875-1950), has a sculpture of his dog under an arch, and on this the musical notation of Beethoven's Ode to Joy. I hope that by penning this I have helped foster his memory. He appears to be a special person of whom I would like to know more. If any reader knows more about him I would appreciate to hear from them.

In 1962 the British Sporting Rifle Club was formed under the drive and enthusiasm of Archie Butterworth with the main aim of saving Running Deer. In January that year he received a letter from the Secretary of the NRA telling him that "they were dickering with the NSRA about leasing them the Running Deer Range on a long-term lease as a permanent small-bore rifle range". Within a few weeks the BSRC was inaugurated and affiliated to the NRA.

Since then it has developed the near-derelict range that was really only used during the Imperial Meeting and in a series of development phases, it has produced what our foreign guests say is the best moving-target rifle shooting complex in the world. All events are electronically scored. This has been achieved by virtue of much expert as well as heavy work by members and, for instance, the investment of over £280,000 in the 14 years to 2009 without any grants or loans.

As well as running its own matches, it has for many years run a number of events on behalf of the NRA, the most important being the Running Deer Championship. In the current format this is 2 + 10 shots Unlimited Entries on First Thursday and Friday and Second Monday and Tuesday, and two series each of 20 shots Singles and Doubles on Middle Saturday and Sunday.

This year, as last, Alan Harvey won all three trophies. John Maddison came second in all with Carl Glaister and John Kynoch filling the third places. Alistair Bullen, the Club Captain and Sporting Rifle Delegate to General Council, won the Dewar Cup. ■



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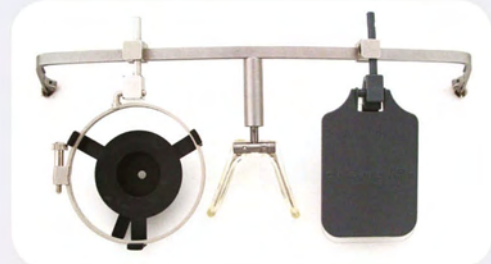
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ONE TO WATCH

A young air cadet with no experience of Bisley ranges, Chloe Jones defied the odds to become the youngest Queen's finalist of 2013. We ask her how it felt...



Chloe qualified for the final in 19th place

Among the Patels, Luckmans and Jeenses of the 100 shooters qualifying for the Queen's final was a name that will have been less familiar to most: cadet Chloe Jones of 1344 Squadron (Cardiff), making the 100 at her first ever Imperial Meeting and aged just 15. Who says kids never win anything – getting your first 100 badge at that age is one thing, but qualifying for the final in 19th place just two off the top is quite another. Especially, as Chloe explains, when you've never shot at 1,000 yards in your life.

"I've only been shooting for about a year," she says. "I've been joined up to the air cadets for about two years, and that led to the shooting.

"I started off as a butt marker, then got onto a team and I started shooting from there," explains Chloe.

"It was my first Imperial this year – I didn't even know much about it before I

arrived. My coach entered me into most of the events – I don't even know how many I entered!"

Clearly, Chloe's not exactly a dyed-in-the-wool competition shooter. But some would say that makes shooting straight into the Queen's final on your first try an even more impressive feat. "It didn't really sink in at first," she says, "but now I do realise it was quite a big achievement." She follows that up with a characteristic understatement: "It's quite a big competition in the Imperial, isn't it? I didn't really know much, but I guessed it was quite a big one."

That understatement makes an appearance a few times, such as when she's asked if she has any other hobbies apart from shooting: "Yes, football." Do you play in a team? "Well, I play for Wales..." Clearly we have an athlete of many talents on our hands.

Back to affairs at Bisley, we wonder if Chloe's Queen's performance has sparked

a desire to come back and shoot in more competitions: "Yes, I'm definitely going to go back. It was really good to be there, and I'm going to carry on. I've been shooting small-bores twice a week with the cadets – that keeps my eye in."

Of course, small-bore shooting is a far cry from .308 Win at 1,000 yards – something she'd never done before the final. Not that this put her off: "It was a new experience, but it was really fun. It was a really big change from everything I'd shot before – from 600 to 900 and 1,000, there's a big change in the sight pictures.

"I just tried to carry on as well as I could, but I think I did ok. I was a bit off with the wind, but at 1,000 I think my score was 66."

That score joins a host of strong finishes – on Queen's II she shot 148, dropping one each at 300 and 500 and impressively going clear at 600. As the final concluded she had amassed 286.27v, good enough for 87th place. "I beat my coach," she says with a hint of pride in her voice. "He got to the Queen's final as well, but came 95th."

A rematch next year, then? "Definitely. I'd like to shoot the Prince of Wales again too – I think I did pretty well on that one." How well? "Well, I shot 75 and 10, and I beat T Class – though I'm not quite sure what that means..." There's that understatement again. It's clearly combined with a competitive instinct, though, so don't be surprised if you see her name on many more Bisley leaderboards in years to come. ■



A multi-talented sportswoman, Chloe also represents Wales at football



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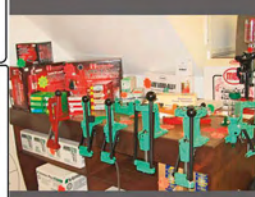
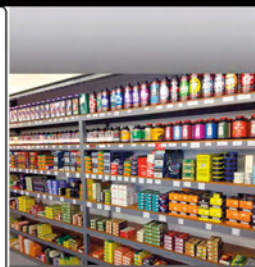
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Obituaries



J. NEILL 'ALFIE' BATES TD **5 SEPTEMBER 1951 – 17 JULY 2013**

Neill was born in Gosport to Lieutenant Commander Jim Bates and Susie Bates. Jim had to drag a slightly worse-for-wear medical officer out of the mess to assist in the birth of his son, younger brother to Penny.

The family home was at Maisemore, Gloucester, where Susie's dad was the manager at Home Farm. Family holidays provided Neill with the Gloucestershire countryside he loved to roam in, and which in later years was to become his family home.

As with many service families, the Bateses lived a nomadic lifestyle as Lieutenant Commander Jim Bates was given various postings. One of these was to Singapore where the days were spent swimming and the young Neill became acquainted with firecrackers.

At the age of 11 he was sent back to England to board at the Royal Hospital School in Ipswich. The regime was harsh and undoubtedly character-building given the man we all knew and admired. Holidays were now spent at Oxenhall, on the Gloucester/Hereford border, where Neill acquired the nickname 'Alf' which was to stick with him for the rest of his life. During this period one of his friends recalls being pulled along a frozen lake wearing ice skates by Alf, who was riding a motorbike.

After sixth form and back in Gloucestershire he joined the Merchant Navy and learnt navigation aboard an oil tanker around the Scandinavian coast in winter – but this was not what he had in mind for a career. Joining Soil Mechanics as a lab technician after his time in the Merchant Navy enabled Neill to travel to Algeria and Sudan, where he tested soils and supervised laboratories. During this period he contracted malaria and was saved by a doctor with a hypodermic, whose mode of transport just happened to be a donkey.

After this sojourn a job at home was called for. Starting work in the lab at Mitcheldean for Rank Xerox, Neill went to night school where he earned an RSC certificate in Applied, Advanced Analytical Chemistry. He became a section manager until taking early retirement in 2001 when the firm relocated.

Marriage to Jill beckoned in 1981 after a 10-year relationship, and Laura and David were born in 1985 and 1987 respectively. Neill was immensely proud of his children's achievements with Laura earning a degree in Adult and Mental Health Nursing, and David becoming a REME corporal who has served in Iraq.

During his time with Rank Xerox, Neill joined the TA and went to Monmouth, and the Royal Monmouthshire Royal Engineers as a sapper. In 1984 his potential was seen almost immediately and a commission soon followed. By 1990 he had been promoted to Captain and was given the nickname 'Badger Bates' for his tenacity and eagerness in the field. It's possible that during his career with the TA he picked up a trick of getting the young Laura and David out of bed. Laura describes it as shouting, "Get out of bed" in a military manner before pulling the duvets off onto the floor.

At his dining out he presented the regiment with a stuffed badger's head on a plaque, which was greeted with riotous laughter by his fellow officers. He was enormously proud to have served in the most senior regiment in the Territorial Army.

After retirement in 2001, Neill received a call from Land Rover Experience asking if we would like an interview to become an off-road instructor at Eastnor Castle. This was without doubt his dream job, and he got paid for doing it.

A member of Greensleeves and Ledbury gun clubs, he is remembered there as a competitor who treated success and failure the same way – think of Kipling's poem *If*. He was always keen to do the best he could, but equally happy when others did well, even when he lent them one of his rifles and they scored higher with it than him. For Neill it was all about participation, opportunity and fairness, the hallmark of a true sportsman and gentleman. He was only ever angered – perhaps disappointed is a better word – when the behaviour of others looked like trying to gain an unfair advantage in some way.

Above all, he was always able to laugh at himself and laugh with others when things didn't quite go quite right. As Butts Officer at Tyddesley Wood he managed to drop the range radio into a water-filled target trench and suffered considerable ribbing. On another occasion, when finishing at 600 yards on Century with LERA, a group of other shooters converged with the LERA members as they headed back to Club Row. Neill engaged a young lady in conversation and asked if she had shot for her club in competition. "Yes..." she replied, in a slightly halting voice. The mirth behind them both was something to behold –

Neill hadn't noticed her gun bag with "Team GB" emblazoned along its length. When a national newspaper published a story about the young lady's success at Bisley one of the contributors to this obituary cut out and posted the article to him. He had opened it over breakfast and had to explain to Jill what it was all about! The phone call later in the day to the perpetrator was full of laughter.

He took the sport seriously but never took himself too seriously – he always got the balance right. He was without doubt one of the best Club and NRA RCOs that this contributor has met. Capable of running the range with complete authority, yet maintaining good humour throughout. He would take time to explain to those who were learning and made things clear to those who should have known better. As a Club member he was always happy to coach and mentor others, encouraging the growth of knowledge and understanding. He would freely share information about shooting in general and the historic rifles he loved using, the technology and the history.

When news of his illness and operation reached his friends they naturally asked him how he was. He responded with courage and dignity – this correspondent was simply told in army parlance, "It's Endex!" The last few months of his life were made much more bearable by the love of his family, which he frequently mentioned when friends phoned to enquire about his progress. Throughout his illness Neill always said he had no regrets and that he had lived a full and happy life, blessed with a loving family and very good friends.

I feel we, his friends, were blessed to have known him.

M.K, G.R.N.E, J.B. & T.J.

GEOFF MORTON

29 NOVEMBER 1932 – 26 MAY 2013

Geoff had many loves in his life: his lovely wife, Sonya, who so unfortunately predeceased him in 2008, his two children, Lisa and Andrew, target shooting, sea fishing and, of course, his allotment. Geoff pursued all of these things with much vigour and a relentless competitive spirit. Geoff joined the Stock Exchange Rifle Club in 1956 and was one of the club stalwarts over the

years. He held various committee posts but his focus was on fullbore shooting, a section he captained from 1963 for many years. His name first appeared on an SERC Bisley trophy in 1957 and his name regularly appeared up to the early 1990s.

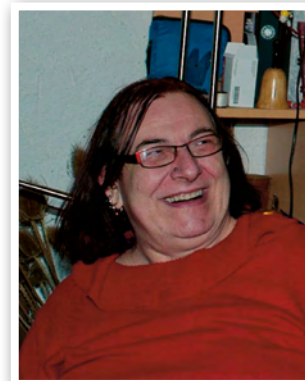
Geoff was awarded life

membership of SERC on his 60th birthday in 1992. He was also an active member of the Midland Bank Rifle Club in 1980 (now HSBC R.C.). He was their fullbore captain, main wind coach and represented the bank for many years, shooting in the United Banks League competitions, small-bore and fullbore. Geoff was a member of the NRA, the English XX, and the London and Middlesex Rifle Association from the 1950s and he was an active club member, serving on Council for many years. The LMRA is the home of shooting for the counties of London and Middlesex and Geoff served a three-year stint as London captain between 1975 and 1978. He was a most enthusiastic captain and he brought on many new London shooters who might have otherwise been passed over. Geoff also stepped in to serve a further year as London captain in 1988, when the post became vacant. While Geoff won many club competitions and trophies he was most proud of his selection as a reserve for the England team in the National competition in 1971, his winning of the Wimbledon Trophy during the Imperial Meeting of 1977 and his appearance in three Imperial Meeting Queen's Prize finals.

Geoff kept on shooting into his 80th year and will be remembered as one of the true and fully committed characters around Bisley Camp. He will be sadly missed, both on and off the Range.

OLIVIA-HENRIETTE BRAUNISCH

DIED 16 JULY 2013



It is with great sadness we have to report the death of Olivia-Henriette Braunsch.

Olivia died on 16 July 2013

in a tragic road accident

near Marsberg in Germany. She was 61 years old.

Originally from Warendorf, Olivia was a National Association black powder instructor in Germany and worked as a professional truck driver. Regular attendees of the Phoenix Meeting and the IGRF Gallery Rifle Open meeting in Leitmar, Germany, will probably have met, or at least encountered, Olivia as for quite a few years she acted as a Range Officer at both meetings.

As an RO, Olivia had a natural presence and managed the range and shooters with a mixture of friendly humour and detailed expertise in numerous competitions and disciplines. With an uncomplicated style of officiating, Olivia's presence and voice were hard to miss. She will leave a large gap in the Gallery Rifle scene both nationally and internationally. Many friends and shooting colleagues within the community are going to find Olivia's absence from the range hard to come to terms with. RIP Olivia, you will be missed by all.

Dietmar Honers, Neil Francis





As worn by
Stuart Clarke

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Colour Mag (CMT) - Premium

Intensifies orange targets against any background. See up to 250% more orange light than a standard lens without affecting other colours LT 18.50%

Results

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH RIFLE CLUB OPEN MEETING, 29-30 JUNE		
PLACE	NAME	TOTAL
WEST INDIES (300YDS)		
1	D Luckman	50.9/25.5
2	J Underwood	50.9/25.4
3	J Borland	50.9/25.4
INDIA (500YDS)		
1	D Luckman	50.10
2	J Underwood	50.9
3	R Jeens	50.9
AFRICA (500YDS)		
1	S Thomas	50.9/25.5
2	D de Vere	50.9/24.3
3	N Hart	50.9/22.1
CANADA (600YDS)		
1	S Thomas	75.13
2	J Deane	75.12
3	P Kent	75.11
DOMINION (SATURDAY) AGG		
1	P Kent	225.29
2	D Luckman	223.39
3	S Thomas	223.36
FALKLAND ISLES (900YDS)		
1 =	J Watson	50.10
1 =	J Underwood	50.10
3	E Jeens	50.9
AUSTRALIA (900YDS)		
1	A Gill	75.9
2	T Raincock	74.12
3	J Messer	74.11
NEW ZEALAND (1000YDS)		
1	R Roberts	73.5
2	T Raincock	73.4
3	A Brown	72.7
RAMPOOR AGG		
1	J Messer	198.28
2	A Gill	198.22
3	T Raincock	197.27
CEYLON (SUNDAY) AGG		
1	T Raincock	196.22
2	N Ball	194.22
3	A Brown	194.16
COMMONWEALTH GRAND AGGREGATE		
1	T Raincock	419.50
2	D Calvert	416.49
3	J Messer	415.54

FULLBORE ADAPTIVE CHAMPIONSHIPS

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HAMPSHIRE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP, 22 JUNE		
PLACE	NAME	TOTAL
EXCELLENT CUP (300YDS)		
1	N Ball	50.9
2	P Bromley	50.6
3	R Gardiner	50.6
Cadets	O Graziosi	50.6
HEYGATE VERNON CUP (600YDS)		
1	C Painting	49.7
2	N Ball	49.5
3	S Cheslyn-Curtis	48.7
Cadets	P de Souza	48.4
SOLOMON'S CUP (SR AGG)		
1	N Ball	99.14
2	C Painting	98.12
3	W Putter	98.9
Cadets	Graziosi	98.8
HUMPHREY CUP (900YDS)		
1	S Cheslyn-Curtis	49.4
2	N Ball	48.7
3	P de Souza	48.6
SYMONDS CUP (1000YDS)		
1	D Crispin	47.3/24.3
2	R Gardiner	47.3/22.2
3	N Ball	46.4
Cadets	O Graziosi	45.0
WOOLDINGS CUP (LR AGG)		
1	N Ball	94.11
2	R Gardiner	94.7
3	D Crispin	93.6
Cadets	O Graziosi	91.4
LORD LIEUTENANT'S CUP (HANTS CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIP)		
1 =	C Painting	189.20
1 =	E Dickson	189.12
3	C Morton	185.10
CUTLER CUP (OPEN)		
1	N Ball	193.25
2	C Painting	189.20
3	R Gardiner	189.18
Cadets	O Graziosi	189.12

NRA INTER-COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIPS, 15-16 JUNE

PLACE	NAME	TOTAL
R JARVIS (300, 500 & 600YDS)		
1	J Underwood (Surrey)	105.13
2	N Mace (Hampshire)	104.12

NRA INTER-COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIPS, 15-16 JUNE		
PLACE	NAME	TOTAL
3	J Sweet (Hertfordshire)	104.10
LT. COL. H JONES TROPHY (300, 500 & 600YDS)		
1	Surrey (P Patel 149.19)	1169.139
2	London (D Armstrong 148.14)	1163.114
3	Somerset (R Dix 147.17)	1155.121
NRA LONG RANGE TROPHY (900 & 1000YDS)		
1	Surrey (M Millar 150.22)	1184.147
2	Hertfordshire (J Sweet 147.42)	1168.132
3	London (E Jeens 149.22)	1167.131
NRA INTER-COUNTIES CH'SHIP		
1	Surrey	2353.286
2	London	2330.245
3	Devon	2309.236
LMRA CLIVE AMSTEIN TROPHY		
1	East of Scotland (A McLeod 287.21)	1125.88
2	Essex (T Clarke 284.23)	1118.100
3	Surrey (P Wheeler 286.32)	1106.100

IMPERIAL INTERNATIONAL MATCHES

PLACE	COUNTRY	TOTAL
THE NATIONAL MATCH		
1	England	2063.263
2	Wales	2047.226
3	Ireland	2043.221
4	Scotland	2040.234
THE KOLAPORE		
1	Great Britain	1191.163
2	Australia	1175.145
3	Guernsey	1171.128
4	Canada	1167.132
5	Jersey	1164.130
THE MACKINNON		
1	Australia	1172.128
2	England	1162.128
3	Scotland	1158.134
4	Wales	1158.123
5	Ireland	1154.114
6	Jersey	1144.110
7	Canada	1143.104
8	Guernsey	1135.101

IMPERIAL MEETING - MAIN TR RESULTS SUMMARY (FOR FULL RESULTS PLEASE VISIT WWW.NRA.ORG.UK)			
COMPETITION	1ST	2ND	3RD
Daily Telegraph	G Morris (UVRC) 75.15/25.5/V	J Haward (Ex & Tiv'ton) 75.15/25.5/5	R Birtwhistle (Manydown) 75.15/25.3
Wimbledon	R Jobson (Cornwall) 50.10/24.2	D Rose (O Epsomians) 50.10/23.3	O Marshall (Victoria College) 50.9
Daily Mail	J Corbett (Australia) 75.15	P Roy (RCAC) 75.14	D Luckman (Sedgemoor) 75.13
Duke of Cambridge	J Corbett (Australia) 50.10	D Calvert (RAFTRC) 50.9	J Hakim (O Epsomians) 50.8
Times	A Haasbroek (RSA) 75.15/25.5	D Nuthall (O Epsomians) 75.15/25.4	A Haley (Welsh RA) 50.9
Alexandra	P Sykes (Bedfordians) 50.10	= J Ajrens (RSA) & P Patel (O Epsomians) 50.9	
Corporation	B Stevens (City) 50.6/25.4/V/5/V	J Messer (NLRC) 50.6/25.4/V/5/5	P Thompson (NLRC) 50.6/25.4/4
St George's I	J Du Toit (RSA) 75.15/25.1	D Vamplew (Canada) 75.15/24.4	P Chapman-Sheath (NLRC) 75.14
Queen's I	P Patel (O Epsomians) 105.20	G Morris (UVRC) 105.19	S Osmond (LMRA) 105.19
Conan Doyle	A Pilgrim (NLRC) 50.10/25.3	A Ringer (UVRC) 50.10/25.2	Three unbreakable 50.9s
Prince of Wales	P Thompson (NLRC) 75.15/24.2	S Hunter (O Epsomians) 75.15/24.1	E Jeens (Welsh RA) 75.14
Donaldson Memorial	J Warburton (Huddersfield) 75.11	J Messer (NLRC) 75.9	J Ahrens (RSA) 75.7
Grand Aggregate	D Luckman (Sedgemoor) 698.103	J Bailey (Australia) 698.97	P Patel (O Epsomians) 697.103
St George's II	P Patel (O Epsomians) 150.27	J Rankin (Surrey RA) 150.26	C Haley (OCRA) 150.24
St George's III	D Luckman (Sedgemoor) 150.24	A McLeod (ATSC) 150.22	R Sandlant (Australia) 150.21
Queen's II	S Hunter (O Epsomians) 150.19	N Tremlett (Windsor) 150.16	J Corbett (Australia) 149.28
Queen's III	J Corbett (Australia) 297.46	E Jeens (Welsh RA) 297.40	M Ensor (O Guildfordians) 297.39



The Imperial saw a host of individual winners crowned in TR events...



...while Commons and Lords contested the annual Vizianagram

NRA LONG RANGE .22 RIMFIRE TRIAL SHOOT, 27 APRIL – MRSB AGGREGATE					
NAME	CLUB	200 YARDS	300 YARDS	400 YARDS	AGGREGATE
C Tremlett	Windsor	71.05	70.04	63.04	204.13
R Hodgins	HBSA	73.12	66.04	62.01	201.17
E Dickson	OMRC	70.07	66.04	61.03	197.14
B Stubbins	Staveley	72.05	65.04	60.01	197.10
P Wright	Staveley	72.06	69.05	51.00	192.11
R Kenchington	NLRC	67.03	64.03	59.01	190.07
M Parkes	Staveley	73.06	64.04	49.00	186.10
J Robbins	Petworth	58.02	67.04	57.01	182.07
C Silver	NRA	64.03	57.01	61.00	182.04
J Selwyn-Smith	NRA	60.03	61.00	59.02	180.04
C Silver	NRA	63.01	59.01	58.01	180.03
A Cattermole	Luton	70.03	59.03	48.00	177.06
N Steadman	SSBPCRCGB	65.06	58.02	52.00	175.08
J Mead	Ferndown	68.04	56.00	50.00	174.04
S Chamberlain	St Nicholas	67.05	62.00	40.00	169.05
J Wilson	Wantage	63.01	55.04	34.01	152.06
J Clark	St Nicholas	66.04	41.00	23.02	130.06
C Painting Eur Ing	Pumas	65.01	64.02	NA	129.03
G Ormerod	Luton	68.06	59.02	NA	127.08
P Francis	Carshalton	65.04	NA	NA	65.04

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British Shooting provides us with an overview of its 2013-2020 Strategy

British Shooting has recently launched our 2013-2020 Strategy, within which we have identified several flagship programmes that will be delivered through our Whole Sport Plan (funded by Sport England) and our Rio 2016 Plan (funded by UK Sport). British Shooting represents the National Governing Bodies (NGBs) of international competitive target shooting sports, and our purpose is to:

- Act as a single contact for International Federations
- Act as a single shooting body in receipt of public funding from UK Sport and Sport England (or successor bodies)
- Be the member body of the National Olympic and Paralympic Committees (BOA and Paralympics GB)
- Oversee the development and preparation of world class shooters for success on the international stage
- Support the development of grassroots shooting in England
- Promote quality and professional governance for target shooting sports

British Shooting's Whole Sport Plan for 2013-2017 has received just over £1 million from Sport England to help the sport develop disability shooting and talent pathways across the target shooting disciplines represented at the Olympic and Commonwealth Games. This investment will enable us to work with our member

governing bodies in England – the CPSA, NRA and NSRA – to deliver not only these two key programmes but also through the England Development Group projects with the potential to benefit everyone involved in our sport. This also provides us with an opportunity to work collectively to address things like facilities, coaching, engaging young people.

Talent pathways

The primary objective will be to ensure the systems and structures are in place to identify, recruit and develop target shooters with the greatest potential to perform at the 2016, 2020 Olympic and Paralympic and 2018 Commonwealth Games across all disciplines. We will work in partnership with the member NGBs and other key stakeholders to develop bespoke, evidence-based and sustainable pathways that will provide target shooters with the opportunity to be the best they can be.

NGB projects

The WSP funding will also be used to support the NGBs in their work developing grassroots target shooting. A joint project looking at facility provision across the disciplines is already under way and we are also looking to develop a project in conjunction with the Cadets and other uniformed groups. In addition to this we will work with the NGBs to support coach

and club development and identify opportunities to raise the profile of the sport and to promote it to new audiences.

Disability shooting

With disabled people already representing 25 per cent of recreational shooters, British Shooting will look to raise the profile of target shooting as a disabled friendly sport. We will continue with the delivery of the Disability Shooting Project, with the ambitious target of introducing 7,000 new participants to the sport over the next four years and providing more opportunities for disabled people to take part in target shooting on equal terms with non-disabled people. By working with our member NGBs across the disciplines we will offer advice, showcase good practice and support clubs wishing to develop shooting for disabled people. We will also look to work with DTSGB on the further development of pathways and integrated and inclusive competitive opportunities for disabled shooters. ■

CONTACT BRITISH SHOOTING

For further information on this or the work we are currently doing with the NGBs, please contact Liz Davidson, England Development Manager **liz.davidson@britishshooting.org.uk** or Steve Seligmann, Talent Pathways Manager **steven.seligmann@britishshooting.org.uk**



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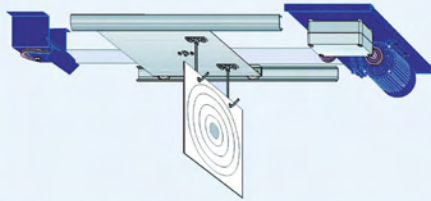
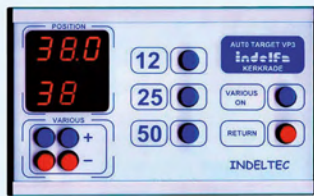
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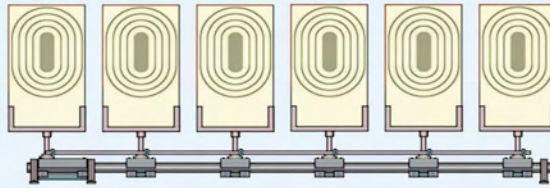
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General Notices

CHANGES TO FIREARMS LICENSING PROCEDURES (EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 2013)

The Firearms Rules 1998, which regulate applications for a Firearm or Shotgun Certificate, have been amended. There will be a new application form for the grant or renewal of an FAC or SGC or both, which also allows for variations at the time of renewal, and a separate, much simpler form for variation of a FAC

at other times. Both forms will be on the NRA website under Membership/Firearms Liaison. The existing referee form (Form 125) remains valid.

There will be changes to the application procedure itself. All convictions except parking tickets and fixed penalty notices must be declared every time you apply. The requirement that one referee is a club official and the other is not a member of any

target shooting club will be removed. Both referees must be people of good character who have known you for at least two years. Referees need only sign and date a photograph – the "I certify..." wording will be removed. If you apply for a FAC and SGC at the same time only four photographs will be required.

Finally, the application notes state that if your application is successful, the police will inform your GP of that fact.

PLASTIC WAD BAN

From 1 January 2014 plastic wadded shotgun ammunition is prohibited from use at Bisley except on the NCSC complex. A specific exclusion for solid slug ammunition is in place.

To be clear, the term wadding also includes over wads, shot cups, base wads and any other part of a cartridge discharged from the barrel on firing. This rule has been introduced for environmental and amenity reasons. Any members not complying may be subject to disciplinary action. Fibre wadded cartridges are available from the NRA shop and the NCSC.

OUTCOME OF DISCIPLINARY HEARING

Following an occurrence on the Running Deer range on 18 May 2013 while he was acting as Range Officer, Mr S Wallis appeared before the Disciplinary Committee on 22 July 2013 to answer an allegation under rule 545a. The Committee found that there had been no breach of safety, and as a consequence the Secretary General has lifted the suspension of Mr Wallis RCO qualification.

NRA IMPERIAL FACEBOOK COMPETITION



The winner of the NRA Imperial Facebook competition was Susan Webb who posted the picture above showing the firers of the future:

Firers – John Webb and Jessica Young, **Wind coach** – Lucy Webb, **RCO** – Phoebe Young, **Spectator** – Holly Luckman

Thank you to all members who sent through photographs from the Imperial.

Marksman's Calendar

The events still to come this year and looking ahead to 2014

SEPTEMBER 2013

12 NRA SHOOTING CLUB DAY

NRA Shooting Club, nrasc@nra.org.uk

14-15 RANGE CONDUCTING OFFICER COURSE

Maureen Peach, maureen.peach@nra.org.uk

28-29 THE ENGLISH VIII AND IRISH VIII CLUB AUTUMN MEETING

Bill Taylor, bill@englisheight.co.uk

OCTOBER 2013

5 CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

12 NRA SHOOTING CLUB DAY

NRA Shooting Club, nrasc@nra.org.uk

12-13 RANGE CONDUCTING OFFICER COURSE

Maureen Peach, maureen.peach@nra.org.uk

12-13 WIND COACHING COURSE

Caroline O'Connor, caroline.oconnor@nra.org.uk

19-20 TRAFALGAR MEETING

Shooting Division, shootingdivision@nra.org.uk

26-27 GALLERY RIFLE – AUTUMN ACTION WEEKEND

Shooting Division, shootingdivision@nra.org.uk

26-27 THE AGES MATCH

Peter Cottrell, peter.cottrell@nra.org.uk

NOVEMBER 2013

2 INTRODUCTION TO CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE

Shooting Division, shootingdivision@nra.org.uk

3 CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE (WINTER LEAGUE)

Shooting Division, shootingdivision@nra.org.uk

9-10 TARGET SHOTGUN FESTIVAL

James Harris, targetshotgun@nra.org.uk

9-10 RANGE CONDUCTING OFFICER COURSE

Maureen Peach, maureen.peach@nra.org.uk

10 NRA SHOOTING CLUB DAY

NRA Shooting Club, nrasc@nra.org.uk

21 NRA SHOOTING CLUB DAY

NRA Shooting Club, nrasc@nra.org.uk

23 MLAGB RCO COURSE

Maureen Peach, maureen.peach@nra.org.uk

30 NRA SHOOTING CLUB DAY

NRA Shooting Club, nrasc@nra.org.uk

DECEMBER 2013

7 NRA SHOOTING CLUB DAY

NRA Shooting Club, nrasc@nra.org.uk

7 CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE (WINTER LEAGUE)

Shooting Division, shootingdivision@nra.org.uk

14-15 CLUB INSTRUCTOR COURSE

Caroline O'Connor, caroline.oconnor@nra.org.uk

JANUARY 2014

5 CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

FEBRUARY 2014

1 CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

15-16 MULTI-GUN MATCH

Shooting Division, shootingdivision@nra.org.uk

MARCH 2014

2 CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

22-23 SPRING ACTION WEEKEND

Shooting Division, shootingdivision@nra.org.uk

APRIL 2014

5 CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

MAY 2014

3 OPEN DAY

Amanda Vaughan, amanda.vaughan@nra.org.uk

17-18 NRA 300M CHAMPIONSHIPS

300m@nra.org.uk

23-25 PHOENIX

Shooting Division, shootingdivision@nra.org.uk

26 PHOENIX INTERNATIONAL MATCH

Shooting Division, shootingdivision@nra.org.uk

JUNE 2014

14-15 INTER-COUNTIES

Shooting Division, shootingdivision@nra.org.uk

25-29 IMPERIAL CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE

25-4 JULY IMPERIAL SERVICE RIFLE

JULY 2014

2 NRA MILITARY ADAPTIVE SHOOTING CHAMPIONSHIPS

4-10 IMPERIAL MATCH RIFLE EVENTS

5-6 IMPERIAL HISTORIC ARMS MEETING

7-10 IMPERIAL SCHOOLS MEETING

9-13 IMPERIAL PISTOL & GALLERY RIFLE EVENTS

10-19 IMPERIAL TARGET RIFLE / F CLASS EVENTS

19 HM QUEEN'S FINAL

AUGUST 2014

22-24 HOME INTERNATIONAL SKEET CHAMPIONSHIPS (NCSC)

Barry Desborough, barry.desborough@nra.org.uk

23-24 GALLERY RIFLE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Shooting Division, shootingdivision@nra.org.uk

SEPTEMBER 2014

6 NRA OPEN DAY

Amanda Vaughan, amanda.vaughan@nra.org.uk

OCTOBER 2014

5 CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

18-19 TRAFALGAR MEETING

Shooting Division, shootingdivision@nra.org.uk

25-26 AUTUMN ACTION WEEKEND & AGES MATCH

Shooting Division, shootingdivision@nra.org.uk

NOVEMBER 2014

1 CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

DECEMBER 2014

7 CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

OTHER DATES OF INTEREST

Last and first days of shooting 2013/14:

20 December and 2 January

18 April – Good Friday – Offices and ranges closed all day

21 April – Easter Monday – Offices closed all day, ranges closed PM

5 May – Early May bank holiday – Offices closed all day, ranges closed PM

26 May – Spring bank holiday – Offices closed all day, ranges closed PM

25 August – Summer bank holiday - Offices closed all day, ranges closed PM



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Item-No.: 460



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(Shirt long)
Item-No.: 158
(Pants long)



Cotton
patches
Item-No.: 504

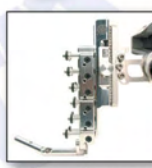


Cleaning set
Item-No.: 581

Carbon cleaning rod
Item-No.: 580



Side shift for sight set
Item-No.: 1015



Hook Butt Plate PRECISE
Item-No.: 5000



Aluminum butt plate
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