

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION JOURNAL



Autumn 2023 | Volume E No.3

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Imperial Kings **FINAL**



**8TH LRRFC V DRA
CHALLENGE** *P19*

**ENGLISH TWENTY CLUB
SPRING MEETING** *P28*

**TARGET RIFLE
MEETING 2023** *P36*



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AUTUMN 2023 | VOLUME E NO.3



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SUCCESS AT THE *Imperial Meeting*

NRA Secretary General, **Andrew Mercer**, introduces the Autumn issue.



The 154th Imperial Meeting proved to be an enjoyable affair and competitors arrived and left Bisley in good spirits. With Covid on the back foot, little fuel in the range danger area to sustain a fire, and plentiful supplies of good quality ammunition I was hoping for a “proper” Meeting with no significant challenges. However the weather on the busiest Saturday delivered storm force winds that damaged target frames and forced the cancellation of most competitions. Although the mood on Camp on the day was surprisingly cheerful, we will have to recognise and plan for exceptional weather events in the future.

Demand for targets at Bisley shows no sign of abating and our range office staff have the often thankless task of trying to accommodate as many shooters as possible on very busy weekends throughout April to September. In simple terms our policy is to provide shooting for as many shooters as possible, whilst ensuring all disciplines have a fair allocation of range space throughout the year. Echelon shooting at targets at varying distances concurrently on the same range significantly reduces the number of targets available. Matters are further complicated by our busy clay target ranges, whose use is restricted when the left hand side of Century range or 1200 yard Stickle-down firing points are in use. Some might question why we do not prioritise rifle ranges at all times; however the shotgun ranges account for 20% of our income and yield significant surpluses used to fund capital expenditure and much needed repairs and maintenance.

One such capital project is funding the construction of a new firing point at the MoD Warcop range in Cumbria. Nic Couldrey, our Regional Ranges Manager, has been quietly working for four years with the MoD and Fifty Calibre Shooters Association (FCSA) to develop a bespoke range suitable for civilian .50” calibre target shooting. We were delighted to receive confirmation that the range is now available for bookings by the FCSA. I am very much looking forward to visiting Warcop to see FCSA members engaging tank hulk targets at considerable distances. We are extremely

grateful for the support and encouragement from our MoD colleagues at Warcop and Warminster, and for the forbearance and patience shown by FCSA Chairman Chris Stevenson.

We will shortly be publishing a consultation draft of the 2024 to 2027 Bisley Estate Development Plan. There is much to do! Range development and improvement remains a key priority, and we have listed projects under the headings of accommodation, retail, clubhouses and tenanted buildings, services and utilities, caravan sites and residential. We are keen to receive feedback from members; agreeing the priorities will be challenging as the funds currently generated by our activities are limited. Our “standard” annual budget for capital expenditure is £500k, supplemented by the efforts of our buildings maintenance team. We have resisted the temptation to borrow money to finance capital expenditure, choosing to fund projects from our cash surpluses.

UK Reach’s work to draft legislation banning lead in ammunition is nearing completion. Whilst the recommendations are awaited we have, in partnership with the NSRA, started work drafting a Code of Practice for the management of lead on outdoor rifle ranges. We will consult with a group of regional range operators who have been so helpful in the past on this matter; their insight, advice and experience has ensured we do not fall into the trap of viewing the issues through “Bisley goggles”. I expect UK Reach to have finalised their report to Government well before the end of this year.

Autumn brings a welcome flurry of competitions to our ranges, including the Gallery Rifle National Open, F Class Europeans, Trafalgar meeting and Autumn Action weekend. A full schedule can be found on the Marksman’s Calendar on the NRA website, and we look forward to welcoming you at Bisley over the remaining months of 2023. 🍂



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Alun Lewis and
Gavin Moffat report.

IMPERIAL KING'S FINAL

Carol King almost once sang in 1970 that "I've seen fire (2022) and I've seen rain (any year) I've seen sunny days (any year) that I thought would never end." All we have to add is a mention of gales (2023) and we've got a fair description of the last couple of years at Bisley in June. And this year's Imperial meeting certainly featured the weather!

But as ever, almost nothing could stop all of the shooting and on the last Saturday a new name was added to the 154 entry-long Sovereign's Prize final.

This year's King's Final victor was Chris Watson who from now on will always be recorded in NRA publications as Watson C GM. The last initials indicating the Gold Medal in the big event.

That's new, so what else is? Well on the first Saturday, following torrential rain on "First Friday", the wind blew some target frames to pieces, leaving just the stumps of the legs remaining in the metal frames. The trench in the butts was not a safe place to be and so the Conan Doyle and Daily Telegraph had to be abandoned.

Those who know, think that this is a first. Oh yes, and most importantly, after 70 years of referring to the premier prize

of the Imperial as "the Queen's" we had to remember to say "The King's" for the first time in our shooting lives, most of us.

Some things of course do not change and as ever the Imperial is a magnet for international full bore shooters.

Outside of the UK, we had 21 countries represented. Denmark, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Jamaica, Singapore the USA and the West Indies all had one shooter. While there were two from France, China, Trinidad and Tobago, and the Isle of Man. Japan, the Netherlands and New Zealand fielded three apiece. Kenya, South Africa, Germany, Canada and Australia had strong representations in double figures.

When all had assembled and signed in it was time for them all to face the vagaries of our glorious British summer weather.

Following Stormy Saturday, the rest of the week leading to the King's, the wind was moderate to fresh for the most part, with it being gentle or zero for those lucky enough to be squadded on the first detail or two of the day. But even then the flags were deceptive and left quite a few questioning

their wind zeroes, even at 300yds, when fall of shot indicated the need for right wind while the flags clearly demanded left wind.

So when the sun shone it was the mirage you had to watch for the true indicator. All very well until the light changed and you lost the mirage!

During the week, as usual, we were all watching the results to see who was

firing on all cylinders, and who was perhaps keeping their powder dry.

The Grand Aggregate was missing those two vital early matches which always give us Century and Stickledown early indicators. But for the rest of the week the overseas visitors (back in force now) figured strongly. Steve Negus from Australia won it, with perhaps most importantly, going clean in King's 1 with 10 Vs. His wife Donna was in

the mix too at 17th only 10 points behind. The Baileys from Australia were second and third. There were also shooters from Kenya South Africa, Japan, Canada and Germany.

But back to the chronological series of events. The St Georges 1st stage was on Tuesday and of the 743 entrants, the top 157 only dropped one point, with the top

“of the 743 entrants, the top 157 only dropped one point, with the top 56 going clean over the 15 shot match at 300.

Above left: Chris Watson being chaired from the range victorious. **Above right:** Alun Lewis reporting.



“All the home countries got represented in the top 300. A good, and pretty even number of the perennial Jersey v Guernsey dueling gang.”

56 going clean over the 15 shot match at 300. The winner, William Broad only dropped one V. Very tight.

So to The King's Stage 1 on Wednesday. Taking part were 781 eager shooters who were facing a very challenging wind from the left. There were sudden, and not-easy-to-spot strong gusts that produced a large number of 3 o'clock maggies. Add that to the occasional 'hole' in the wind, and it was the quicker shooters who stood a better chance. And it wasn't constant for all butts. Someone on one butt could have come off with a bracket of 1 to 3 minutes; someone on another butt a bracket of 2 to 6 minutes; an effect not uncommon to see on Stickle-down but less so on Century. And with the relatively low number of entrants that we are currently getting, we were only using the central firing points. So there was none of that fancy nonsense you get with a left to right wind on butts 18 and 19. And the fancy swirl over the trees on the far right.

The difficulty of the wind provided an unusually low cut for Stage 2. Instead of the normal 101 or more this year it was 99.

Up at the top of the ranking were a lot of the familiar names but also some new ones. There were 33 females and a decent sprinkling of younger shooters joining in the first celebration of the King's Prize. And

a great performance from the Tyro classed Miss Ashiynne Downie of the British Cadets Rifle Team who won the Chairman's prize for her excellent 18th place score of 104.11. To put that into context Dave Luckman was only 1 bull and 5 Vs in front!

As expected all the home countries got represented in the top 300. A good, and pretty even number of the perennial Jersey v Guernsey dueling gangs. Germany and Canada tied on six each. Four from South Africa, two from Kenya and one from Japan. Topping the list of course were 14 from Australia. A few "relative pairs" from brothers, to husband and wives, and parent and offspring just to keep the customary internecine battles alive.

Then the warm-up match of the St Georges 2. The weather was kind and the top 100 progressing to the final were within 3 points overall.

King's Stage 2 produced some pleasant surprises, as well as some less surprising results. Though the leading score was posted by Chris Weedon, the overseas brigade was hot on his heels. There were 6 Australians and Canadians just in the top 20 with more in the final 100. A good sprinkling of younger shooters, and Jersey versus Guernsey was 3:2.

The spread of points was just 4 bulls and 4 Vs. 12 Women made it through to the

Above left: Chris Watson - Welsh Winner. **Below:** HM Kings Prize Final - Lining up on the 900 yard firing point.



100. We had husband and wife rivalry with both the Negus's- Steve and Donna just a point apart. There were 14 O class and one Tyro – JJ Culshaw of the British Young Shooters Association. The youngest shooter was 13 years old (Corin Hiles), while the oldest was a mere 89 (Peter Holden).

Previous winners such as Rick Shouler, Alice Good (last year's champion and maybe the last to be a Queen's Prize winner), Dave Luckman, Glyn Barnett, Parag Patel, were all in the final 100.

As the final Saturday dawned the weather forecast was, rather depressingly, predicting rain starting just in time for the King's Final. The forecast was for once spot on. We all trudged out onto a fairly sodden 900 yards firing point and peered through the rain at the targets. Visibility not too bad but there was also that wind. Coming from the left and behind it was going to present quite a challenge to those allocated the lower numbered firing points. The first two flags were showing zero wind while the rest of flags were indicating anything from 2 to 6 minutes depending on when you looked up at them. The rain hardly eased up for the duration of the match, which made it hard for some of the overseas brigade who were less used to these conditions at any time of the year.

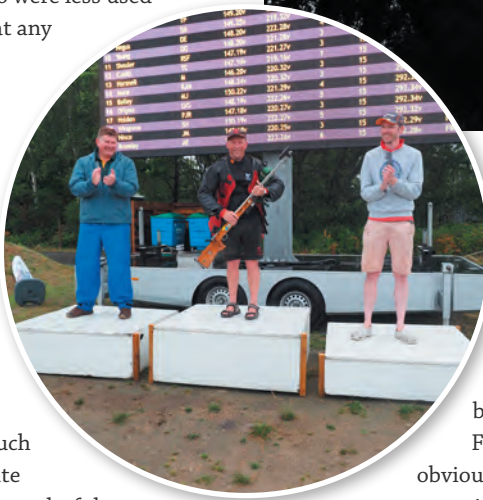
As the shooting started we were all treated to another innovation. High up on the top of the range was a lovely new electronic scoreboard. Easily visible from a long way away and, more importantly, very much more up to the minute with the scores. The wonderful RAF scorers were now prowling behind the shooters armed with electronic notepads recording the scores as they happened. And the scores were transmitted to the score officials and to the scoreboard instantly. We were shown the names, the Stage 2 scores, and the number of shots fired as well as the possible final score of the top twenty shooters as they happened. For those with the means to do so, it was for the first time possible to see the scores as they came in for the whole 100 shooters.

“High up on the top of the range was a lovely new electronic scoreboard. Easily visible from a long way away and, more importantly, very much more up to the minute with the scores.”



NRA 154th Imperial Meeting King's Final - 1000x							
		Stage 2	900x	1000x Points	1000x Shots	Possible Score	
1	Watson	ECJ	149.17v	222.26v	0	15	297.34v FINAL
2	Jonck	JJC	147.21v	221.32v	1	15	295.39v FINAL
3	Millar	MRM	148.20v	222.29v	2	15	295.38v FINAL
4	Langley	JDS	150.17v	221.24v	1	15	295.29v FINAL
5	Weeden	CP	150.22v	222.31v	3	15	294.40v FINAL
6	Ernsor	MLJ	148.22v	221.30v	2	15	294.37v FINAL
7	Shaw	TP	149.20v	221.27v	2	15	294.32v FINAL
8	Negus	SM	149.25v	219.32v	1	15	293.40v FINAL
9	Young	DG	148.20v	221.28v	3	14	293.35v
10	Negus	DE	148.20v	222.28v	4	15	293.35v FINAL
11	Shouler	RSF	147.19v	221.27v	3	15	293.33v FINAL
12	Cubitt	TC	147.10v	219.16v	1	15	293.23v FINAL
13	Horsnell	M	146.20v	220.32v	3	15	292.37v FINAL
14	Mace	RJM	148.24v	220.32v	3	15	292.36v FINAL
15	Bailey	MLJ	150.22v	221.29v	4	15	292.36v FINAL
16	Holden	PJR	147.18v	220.27v	3	15	292.35v FINAL
17	O'Flynn	LVG	148.19v	222.26v	5	15	292.34v FINAL
18	Wingrove	SH	150.19v	222.27v	5	15	292.32v FINAL
19	Button	MCJ	147.13v	222.22v	5	14	292.29v
20	Hince	JM	148.18v	220.25v	3	15	292.29v FINAL

Above: The Winning Scoreboard. **Inset:** The Top Three - Watson Jonck Millar.



This was especially useful for those supporters and family who were not at Bisley. Vital for the overseas brigade of course.

From the start it was obvious that Chris Watson was on a mission. He, Alexander

Coetzee and Mike Bailey were one point clear of the pack about half way through the shoot. And the top scorers were dropping very few points and shooting quite quickly.

Anthony Bromley and Chris Watson had gone all out when others still had 6 to shoot. Again this was all made possible by the new score board and the excitement was growing in the crowd. With the last column showing the "Possible Final Score" we all got a really good idea of how things

were going. With 17 of the top 20 all out, Chris Weeden and Coetzee (of South Africa) were showing at the top with two or three shots to go and still with a possible score of 223, while the rest down to Matt Button in 14th were on 222.

After all 15 shots were fired only four of the top 20 shooters had gone clean. But Coetzee was ranked first with 223.27, followed by Bromley – 3 Vs behind. It was tight though with next 12 all on 222 possible and the eventual winner, with a 73.9 at 900 was 13th.

The strong Australian support camp both at Bisley and watching our live video feed at home were delighted to see that Donna Negus was 8th while her husband Steve was not on the board, but Shaun Wingrove was. Canadians were cheering for Jim Paton in 4th. Alice Good (GM) was lying 10th. All to play for as the heroic two hundred packed up sodden shooting kit and plastic covered ▶

marking boards and trudged or cantered back to 1000.

During the first leg we had discovered that a certain Bruce Parker was sitting in the dry of his car at 1000 and enjoying seeing me getting very wet while trying to do the commentary. Bruce, it turns out did a live commentary for the BBC in the early 1970s with three 5 minute slots before, at mid point and then for the final scores. He was based in a box on stilts up by the score board. Not much has changed except that our sport is no longer seen as socially acceptable and gets little to no mention anywhere. Even Alice Good's epic performance last year went unremarked. Only the third female to lift the prize and breaking a 22 year long spell. Why is that not newsworthy?

So back to the final 15 or 17 shots of the 154th Imperial. The rain was still with us and the wind was annoyingly still doing its tricks with the low number firing points having baffling flags while the right hand side were seeing reasonable consistency. But the sight picture was good and some people were using the rain drops in their scopes as a more accurate gauge.

By about half distance much of the crowd were migrating to the top of the hill to check the overall scores. Now we

had Millar, Watson, Jonck, Good, Button, Bromley and Langley fighting it out. The first two were just that one point up on the chasing pack. The scoreboard was now showing a potential three point spread of possible scores. A while later a lot had happened. Miller and Watson were still slugging it out point for point at the top and still only one point clear.

A further point back, Donna the Duelling Negus was being caught by Steve Negus. And a lot of new names had appeared.

As the end approached, the battle for The King's was reaching its pitch. With only three shots left for the top three of Millar, Jonck and Watson, and barring a disastrous shot from one or all of them it was obviously a three horse race. Already some were all out and there was a spread of 5 points covering the top 20. Suddenly with Jonck and Millar having three and one shots respectively Watson was all out, he's gone clean at 1000 and the other two could not catch him as they were already one or two points behind. We had a winner in Chris Watson and a new

name to add to the famous roll of honour. The Uppingham Vets were already getting rowdy and ready to carry the famous chair and its occupant, their fellow club mate, around the camp to the traditional strain of "Hail the Conquering Hero Comes."

The doughty markers, who had endured rather more than in the past were cheered

and it only remains to remind

all the readers of this journal of the sterling work also done by Range staff, everyone of the staff of the NRA who work so hard all year to make the Imperial happen.

The Stats staff who produce 400 separate prizelists, the counter staff who all managed to get all the shooters to the right place at the right time by answering thousands of queries, and of course the small army of experts who tend the grounds and the

mechanisms and the accommodation of the whole of the Bisley camp.

Well done to one and all. And just In case you are wondering who did best in the 2023 Queen's (oops) King's when it came to family rivalry... Steve and Donna in that order just 5 Vs apart. 🍷

“By about half distance much of the crowd were migrating to the top of the hill to check the overall scores.”



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– SPORTING RIFLE – IMPERIAL MEETING

Report from the event held over the IHAM weekend on 8-9 July 2023.



Above: In memory of Garth Buckle MBE.

Sitting here listening to the rain pounding down outside like it has been for weeks now it's hard to believe that this time last year we were under constant threat of stoppages caused by the heath fire on the Stickledown RDA. On the plus side, we at least were able to shoot from under cover and this year saw the return of the Sporting Rifle competitions held over the IHAM weekend of 8 and 9 July. There was one name that appeared consistently in the results and that was Alan Christmas who not only shot a possible to win the Fox Test but also won the Swedish Deer and was placed in the three other competitions – with a bit of practice Alan you should do better next year! Showing that he has not forgotten how to shoot the Stalkers Test, Steve Lewis also shot a possible.

Also showing that he has not forgotten what do was John Kynoch who won the Running Boar and who is the focus of Message 10.

Summary results for the Sporting Rifle weekend are shown to the right with full results on the NRA website - [nra.org.uk/results/liveresults](https://www.nra.org.uk/results/liveresults)

As ever, the main event for Sporting Rifle shooters in the Imperial Meeting was the Running Deer Championships and, alongside it, the Running Deer Unlimited entry competition. Again we were fortunate that this is shot from under cover which kept

competitors dry and out of the wind, a wind that for others brought delays and cancellations due to target damage.

Whilst we welcomed some of our regulars to the Unlimiteds it was noticeable that, perhaps along with other events this year, numbers seemed down when compared to pre-Covid times? That said, there was some good competition for the NRA Gold Medals with John Kynoch beating Carl Glaister for honours in the first week. Not wanting to leave empty handed, he's a Yorkshireman and wanted something to show for his money, Carl took the honours for the NRA Gold Medal in the second week.

Not content with his

winnings so far, and showing that being 90 years young is no barrier to competition, John Kynoch shot a score of 160 ex 200 to win the British Running Deer Championship aggregate, beating Richard Jeffery into second place.

This was not to be John's only trophy though as his score of 159 ex 200 also placed him first in the Running Deer Singles ahead of Asad Wahid by just one point.

Asad is a good shooter and

“ There was some good competition for the NRA Gold Medals with John Kynoch beating Carl Glaister for honours in the first week.

RESULTS

Running Deer Unlimited

Week One

John Kynoch	82
Carl Glaister	74
Nick Thomas	61

Running Deer Unlimited

Week Two

Carl Glaister	69
Peter Clark	52
Peter Bysshe	39

Running Deer Singles

John Kynoch	159
Asad Wahid	158
Richard Jeffery	155

Running Deer Doubles

Richard Jeffery	147
John Kynoch	147
Asad Wahid	145

Running Deer Champs

John Kynoch	160
Richard Jeffery	154
Asad Wahid	153

Dewar Cup

Asad Wahid	44
John Kynoch	43
Richard Jeffery	42

Stalkers Test

Steve Lewis	100
Alan Christmas	98
Chris Rennick	97

Swedish Deer

Alan Christmas	42
Cornelius Schalkwyk	40
Jim Hawkins	36

Running Boar

John Kynoch	159
Alan Christmas	158
Graham Gough	148

Fox Test

Alan Christmas	100
Cornelius Schalkwyk	98
Richard Jeffery	88

Running Deer

Jim Hawkins	31
Cornelius Schalkwyk	30
Alan Christmas	30

Right: Winner of the Running Deer Championships and Singles, John Kynoch (centre); Doubles, Richard Jeffery (right); and, Dewar Cup and Sporting McQueen, Asad Wahid (left).

could be so much better if he wasn't whizzing back and forth between ranges all the time, something he continued to do this year but, it has to be said, he was obviously doing something right because not only did he win the Dewar Cup for the best 10 shot series of Running Deer during the Championships, he also bagged the Sporting McQueen by not just being the only competitor to shoot an HPS but doing it with 10 V bulls for good measure. Also doing something right was Richard Jeffery who tied with John Kynoch on the Running Deer Doubles but who took honours based on 'worst shot loses'.

This year's Championships was a poignant one with competitors shooting the

last target prepared by British Sporting Rifle Club maintenance team stalwart Garth Buckle who recently passed away. Garth's skills at being able to glue together multiple target sections in such a way as to ensure the aiming mark stayed true to the scoring area will be difficult to follow. Many will not have known that Garth was awarded an MBE in recognition of his work with disadvantaged young people and that he was a co-founder of spark!, a youth charity helping young people develop their employability skills through in-school workshops, events, and programmes. The British Sporting Rifle Club is pleased to have been able to raise and donate £650 to spark! in Garth's memory.

“ This year's Championships was a poignant one with competitors shooting the last target prepared by British Sporting Rifle Club maintenance team stalwart Garth Buckle. ”

Thanks as ever go to the BSRC maintenance team for keeping the range and targets in good order, especially those who helped resolve mechanical issues at short notice and to those who helped run the events – Michael Morris, Steve Willingham, Nick Thomas, Darren Cottey, Carl Glaister and Chris Rennick.

Full scores can be found on the NRA website with a summary of results shown to the left. 📄

For more information on Sporting Rifle shooting please visit the British Sporting Rifle Club website bsrc.co.uk

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– GB GALLERY RIFLE TEAM – IGRF IRISH INTERNATIONAL & IRISH OPEN 2023

Report from the event, Irish
Open held from 29 June –
2 July and IGRF International
Match on 1 July.



There are at least three International Gallery Rifle Federation (IGRF) competitions each year, comprising a Gallery Rifle Centrefire (GRCF) 1500 Match and a Gallery Rifle Smallbore (GRSB) 1500 Match. The first in the 2023 Series was held in GB at the Phoenix, with both matches being won by GB, Germany in Silver and Ireland in Bronze. This was a great scene setter for the second match of the IGRF Series to be held in Ireland at the start of July, hosted by the National Association of Sporting Rifle and Pistol Clubs (NASRPC).

Preparations began in earnest back in April. It isn't straightforward to take firearms and ammunition to Ireland and, with the current economic environment, the shortages of components and annual

leave, it needed some pretty determined team members. Against the odds, Morné van Dalen, the 2023 GB GR Team Captain, pulled together a Team of 5 and GB were able to compete in both the GRCF and GRSB competitions. Steve Lamb was Tour Captain, with Dave Morrow, Malcolm Stewart, Amiel Gardner and Jacky Lamb.

However, the German Team was sadly unable to make it. We are all looking forward to competing against them again in the third match of the IGRF International Series in Germany later this year.

The Irish Open was held from Thursday the 29th June to Sunday the 2nd July. The International Matches were on Saturday 1st July and GB Team members competed in individual competitions from Friday to Sunday. The conditions were challenging ►

GALLERY RIFLE CENTRE FIRE

Ireland		Great Britain	
Eammon Gallagher (C)	1491.103	Dave Morrow	1490.100
Denis Cummins	1490.109	Steve Lamb (C)	1488.103
Mark Nolan	1490.103	Malcolm Stewart	1488.094
Jakub Mikołajczyk	1485.105	Jacky Lamb	1435.076
Declan Byrne	1487.091		

Gold	5956.420	Silver	5901.373
-------------	-----------------	---------------	-----------------

GALLERY RIFLE SMALL BORE

Ireland		Great Britain	
Eammon Gallagher	1485.110	Dave Morrow	1463.074
Mark Nolan (C)	1476.083	Steve Lamb (C)	1452.077
Jakub Mikołajczyk	1475.093	Malcolm Stewart	1450.081
Mike O'Grady	1468.093	Amiel Gardiner	1435.070
Gary Newman	1461.077	Jacky Lamb	1404.061

Gold	5904.379	Silver	5800.302
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with wind and rain across all three days. However, although it was still windy, the rain held off for the International. Despite the wind, both teams shot well, but the Irish fielded two very strong teams, determined to demonstrate their prowess after being beaten at the Phoenix. It paid off and they took gold in both events.

Dave Morrow had a particularly good GRCF match putting in a personal best and what a great time to do it! The many years of GB Shooting experience brought by Steve and Dave were invaluable, with Malcolm, Amiel and Jacky all making their debuts. Whilst we would all have liked to have shot better, shooting for your country is very different to shooting as an individual or for your club. Now we have that experience, we can build on it.

In the individual matches of the Irish Open, GB Team members all shot well in their classes and between them won 12 golds, 13 silvers and 10 bronzes! Two of those silvers were won by Amiel in small bore pistol; Multi-target A Class and Timed & Precision 1 (T&P1) B Class. Given this was her first time shooting a pistol, this was an amazing result.

The Championship Aggregates were an aggregate of T&P1, Multi-target, 50m Precision and the 1500. These are the same

events that are aggregated for the IGRF Individual World Championships. In the centrefire, Steve took gold and Malcolm took silver and in the smallbore Dave Morrow took silver. All great results.

A special thanks to the NASRPC and our Irish shooting friends for giving us such a

great welcome, helping us with the logistics and giving us the opportunity to try some new skills. Without their help, we wouldn't have been there and they made it such a memorable experience.

The full match results can be found here: nasrpc.ie/results-irish-open-2023 📄



“Dave Morrow had a particularly good GRCF match putting in a personal best and what a great time to do it!”



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– LONG RANGE RIM FIRE – 8TH LRRFC V DRA CHALLENGE

Text by Chris Hazlehurst Photos by Chris Hazlehurst,
Kevin Sayers, Jamie Wyllie, Ben Stubbins.

The 8th Annual Long Range Rifle Club v Derbyshire Rifle Association Challenge or Derbyshire Rifle Association v Long Range Rim Fire Club took place at Thorpe Cloud range near Ashbourne, Derbyshire on Saturday 15th July 2023.

After the difficult decision of making a selection from available members the LRRFC went to Thorpe Cloud with a strong intent to overturn last year's result where the DRA destroyed the LRRFC by 28 points.

The LRRFC team was split with 3 shooting in Target Rifle and 3 in F Class whilst Derbyshire fronted 8 Target rifle shooters only so they would proffer their best 5 scores and it was discussed that we would take our best 5 scores, but had to include all our Target Rifle (TR) scores.

The shooting was with standard .22 bolt action

(Martini / falling block rifles are allowed) rifles and using standard commercial .22LR ammunition.

The day started with the briefing by Ben Stubbins (DRA) in the carpark of the Peveril of the Peak Hotel. The weather started at 12°, but a yellow weather warning had been posted by the Met Office on the Friday that from 09:00 – 23:00 Saturday would be “Unseasonably strong winds”. Not what you want to hear with only 40 grains of lead flying up to 500 yards and gusts of 45MPH!

The challenge match was 3 + 2 sighters and 15 to count at 200, 300 & 500 yards and both teams were split and half of each team were shooting whilst the others were in the butts.

There had been a drought during June, but the long range forecast had threatened extreme unseasonal windy weather for the weekend, but watching the forecast closer to the date, it turned out to be a yellow warning of very strong winds. The weather in the morning was windy and this was interspersed with squally angry showers from ►

“The LRRFC team was split with 3 shooting in Target Rifle and 3 in F Class.”

Above: 500 yard firing point in the afternoon.

Above Inset: Ben Stubbins not enjoying the lunchtime rain.



“ At 500 yards we decided to reduce the shoot to 3 + 2 + 10, so that we could catch up any time and make allowances for the wind which was building to strong.

around 10:45 and thunderstorms at the lunchtime change over, which caused a few to delay putting 24 inch lightning conductor in their hands to throw a 40 grain piece of lead 200, 300 and 500 yards. The afternoon weather appeared to have it easier with the wind and after a few showers, it brightened up and the wind decreased in its intensity.

Thorpe Range is on the rear of the hill that forms the backdrop to the Dovedale Valley and the infamous ‘Stepping Stones’ in the Peak National Park of Derbyshire, a few miles from Ashbourne. A steep sided valley which bends to the right after the butts which houses 3 well maintained targets that are a ‘pleasure’ to mark as they are maintained by clubs affiliated to Derbyshire Rifle Association. We usually share the range with sheep and or cows, but this year we only had sheep to concern ourselves with, so a careful eye needs to be kept by the RCO not only for walkers but also the local livestock. Fortunately, the weather held back all but the hardest of walkers.

The wind was very tricky at 200 yards with a wind bracket in the morning of 7 – 12 MOA and this just increased throughout the day although the temperature didn’t really raise itself above the high of 16°C by 10:00. We used a wind coach to make our calls, but the wind whips down the valley as well as tumbles down the sides creating a big vortex. The mirage, when it did try and show itself, blink and you’ll miss it(!), decided to do something different, constantly, and this was frustrating for the coach. At 300 yards the wind bracket was still 9 – 12 MOA. If he hadn’t before, it certainly gave him a few grey hairs.

At 500 yards we decided to reduce the shoot to 3 + 2 + 10, so that we could catch up any time and make allowances for the wind which was building to strong, there is a degree of comradery in the constant radio communication trying and helping everyone to get on target as many haven’t had the opportunity to shoot 500 yards before. Here the morning wind bracket was 15 – 24 MOA and holdover to cope with the changes.

At lunch we swapped over and the morning detail moved into the butts. The first detail was quite pleased



Above Left: LRRFC Chairman, Simon getting to grips at 500 yards.

Left: Mike Harris coaching Kevin Sayers on target at 500 yards.

as it started to rain with lightning and thunder so were quite pleased to be able to get under some cover and out of the wind and rain.

At the end of the day, the shooters went back to the carpark to claim their kit which had been in the safety car which then went to drive up to and along the ridge to recover the red flags. Whilst waiting for it to return, the scores were calculated and checked and checked again.

After loading the cars, it was like Whacky Races to the top of the hill to the Old Dog.

After the post shoot libations were collected and we moved to one of the covered areas in the courtyard, a hush descended as there was some serious calculations were conducted and checked by both sides.

The outcome of the calculations and checking the 'Best 5' to count with ALL the LRRFC TR shooters to count, it came that the Long Range Rim Fire Club had won for the first time in 8 years. Well done, Derbyshire for putting up a spirited shoot. Young Jack Cheetham, at only 14 and had only shot at 100 yards once prior to going to Thorpe did really well at 200 & 300 yards, but suffered from the magnitude of 500 yards.

Thank you to all the LRRFC shooters that turned out. Well done to Mike Harris who lay out in the wind and rain all day trying to coach the winning shots. Congratulations to Robert Nightingale (DRA) with

the top score of the day. The result was that the Long Range Rim Fire Club had beaten Derbyshire Rifle Association by 38 points and nearly double the amount of V bulls.

News came through whilst we finished our libations that shooting had been cancelled at Bisley in the Imperial due to the high winds!

Our regular club shoots are held at Bisley between 100 and 600 yards. For more information on the Long Range Rim Fire Club, get in touch with Chris – secretary@lrrfc.org.uk

Our next big shoot is our Championship and International match at Bisley on September 3rd with an Individual shoot & aggregate at 200 & 300 yards and a teams (5) shoot at 300 yards. 🍀

Below: 500 yard firing point in the afternoon.

DERBYSHIRE						
Name	Class	To Count	200yds	300yds	500yds	Aggregate
Richard Jacques	TR	Y	59.2	49.0	25	133.2
C Doram	TR	Y	58.3	53.0	19.0	130.3
Ben Stubbins	TR	Y	67.5	50.0	19.0	136.5
Tim Stubbins	TR	Y	65.3	57.0	28.0	150.3
Robert Nightingale	TR	Y	59.1	66.4	33.0	158.5
Jack Cheetham	TR	N	60.1	38.0	2.0	100.1
Carl Cheetham	TR	N	60.1	52.1	6.0	118.2
Robert Grice	TR	N	62.2	50.3	11.0	123.5
Total						707.18

LRRFC						
Name	Class	To Count	200yds	300yds	500yds	Aggregate
Chris Hazlehurst	TR	Y	55.1	60.3	28.0	143.4
Simon Edwards	TR	Y	61.4	56.2	34.0	151.6
Jamie Wyllie	TR	Y	64.3	55.3	30.1	149.7
Mike Harris	F Class	Y	69.5	57.2	30.0	156.8
Kevin Sayers	F Class	Y	65.6	54.2	37.0	146.8
James Fowler	F Class	N	65.4	47.1	32.0	144.5
Total						745.32





Photos by Chris Hazlehurst, Jamie Wyllie and Gavin Moffatt.

– LONG RANGE RIM FIRE – LRRFC TO IRELAND

Report by **Chris Hazlehurst.**

We had an invite from Patrick (Paddy) Healy at .22 Long Range Precision Ireland.

The match against Ireland was in June at a range just outside Tullamore, Ireland.

They shoot their Long Range slightly different to us, but nothing that we can't do or hit...And it may be 'Fun' he says! They shoot from 25 yards to 625 yards, so it is possible to change sights or rifles to cope with the range.

The Thursday 8th June was mainly taken with driving and preparing for the security at both ends. There was a concern at Holyhead when I looked over to see a boat coming in. I was just hoping it wasn't our ferry!!

Whilst waiting for loading, two other team members turned up. Unfortunately, from the original dozen shooters that said they wanted to go over to Ireland, only 3 made it. Maybe next time!!

The crossing was easier than over the local millpond and the 3 hours "sailed" by and due to the security, we had been placed in priority so we one of the first off. Security at the Irish side was also very straight forward and efficient.

The range, National Midlands Shooting Range is right in the centre of Ireland near Tullamore, a mere 2 hour drive from the Dublin Docks. Driving, once out of Dublin and suburbs is easy and relaxing with no potholes.

After a 'traditional Irish breakfast' a short drive to find the range which is less than 15 minutes from Tullamore. Meeting the event organiser – Paddy Healy, as

I parked up, discussed the order of the weekend, a message to get the others to come over from their accommodation as we would put in a full day of practice.

Midlands National Shooting Range is built on an old

disused peat bog, originally used to power a local power station. The area is now being used as a large range complex and also being turned back to a nature area as well as flooding the fringes and danger area to create a swamp. It boasts at least a covered 50m zero range, a covered 100 - 300 yd range, 600yd Windmill range, a 1200yd Creedmore range, 3 archery ranges, shotgun range and a couple of pistol ranges, as well as other prospects for development in the pipeline.

After a short while, we were able to drop on the 50m range to quickly zero / check our rifles before moving out to the 'Windmill Range', fortunately no windmills were harmed in the day's events.

Starting off with a STAGS shoot which was totally new to members of the LRRFC and involved standing at 25yds and shooting at a couple of targets before moving back to 50m standing then prone, shooting a couple more targets and some matches on a stick then moving back to 100yd and in the prone shooting at another set of targets before sitting or kneeling to shoot an egg on a string!

We then moved back to 225 yards and shot at 3 steel plates on the stop butt with

4 shots on the first, 3 each on the second and third. Moving back to 325 and 425 before moving to 525 and 625 and only having 2 plates, but 5 shots on each. The extra 25 on the range distance is due to the steel place being on the butt stop. Both the short and long range shoots were also against the clock to add a little more jeopardy. They had increased the timings as we were single loading and they were using magazines. Although we kept up, it was still 'keen'!

The weather on the Friday was extremely good, with a temperature of 25*+ and a strong, bright sun but with a strong wind blowing from right to left around 12 – 15 MOA with gusts up to 30MOA. With the area being a former peat bog, it is very flat to the horizon so the wind is usually severe.

We all came off the range a little redder than when we had arrived!

After the shoot we met the range owner and operator JP Craven, and it was after 9pm when we left back to our relevant accommodations.

Saturday started at 10:00 on the firing point shooting the same format as the practice,



Rifle Type	30.06	30.06
Name	CHRIS HAZLEHURST	Board No. 15
25 Yards	ACE OF SPADES	STANDING
25 Yards	CANS	STANDING
50 Yards	HIT THE BIG SPOT	STANDING
50 Yards	BREAK THE MATCH	PRONE
50 Yards	DROP THE BLOCK	PRONE
100 Yards	BREAK THE EGG	KNEELING OR SITTING
100 Yards	FOX	KNEELING OR SITTING
100 Yards	HIT THE SPOTS	PRONE
125 Yards	STEEL	
TOTAL SCORE (SHORT RANGE)		
325 Yards		
325 Yards		
425 Yards		
425 Yards		
625 Yards		
TOTAL SCORE (LONG RANGE)		



“Gavin topped the LRRFC scores at short range by 1 point to Jamie.”

but also included 3 steels at 125 yards. Also included was a knockout competition of shooting a beer can at 225 yards. This was a one-shot deal. Gavin Moffatt from the LRRFC ended up in a tie shoot which ended up as a draw, and no, the prize wasn't the remains of the contents of the can!

The weather on Saturday was overcast in comparison to the Friday practice but the wind had dropped to negligible on the flags, even though they are like a parachute nylon, so it came down to mirage reading which helped the three LRRFC members end the first day in the top 8 out of around 35 shooters. The temperature was around 23* and wind a steady right to left around 5MOA. A couple of times it attempted to rain, but by the time you thought it was going to set in, and got the rifle wet gear out, it had stopped. It was never severe enough to consider putting wetproofs on. As usual, the secretary was in his shorts! With the dust from Friday, the

spots of rain turned the cars into a dappled shade of grey.

The shoot was a little less jovial and game heads were on, but this didn't stop the banter and encouragement after each stage.

Gavin topped the LRRFC scores at short range by 1 point to Jamie who was 2 points ahead of the Secretary. At Long Range, Jamie was ahead of the Secretary by 5 points who was ahead of Gavin by 10 points.

The end of the day ended with a hot meal being produced for us and a social with the obvious “How that one got away!” sagas. Again, meeting JP Craven, it was after 8:30pm when we got away, only for Gavin and Jamie to meet up with JP in the Blue Ball pub where they were staying and it became a late night or is that early morning as Gavin seemed to have an issue reading his watch thinking it was quarter past midnight!!

After the Saturday, Sunday was brighter with the wind having turn 180 degrees and the sun out as well, it managed

to top up the tan we received on Friday! The temperature was around 24* and a gentle fishtailing wind of 5 – 10MOA.

There were some new shooters to the party that could only manage the Sunday and the shoot ran the same format.

Unfortunately, Gavin's scope was playing up on the short range and forced him to miss a couple of the shoots whilst he attempted to fix it. He managed to fix the problem after only a couple of cards then was allowed to check zero with a couple of shots.

There was much interest from the locals in Gavin's scope as it was much different to their systems.

Moving on to the long range shoot Gavin was back on his game and so was Jamie. The Secretary just held the steady shoot he'd had on the Saturday.

After the 625 yard detail, we moved back to the club house and had another meal whilst score were calculated, checked and held for the prize giving.

Prize giving was held under the National flags of the countries taking part, Ireland, Great Britain & Poland, and also the .22 Long Range Precision club flag.

The members of the LRRFC were called out and were presented a bottle of Tullamore DEW whiskey before the prize giving got underway. Now that's hospitality and they must have known the Secretary had finished his own Tullamore at home on Monday night!

The Secretary was 8th in the combined aggregate shoot for short range. For the combined Long Range aggregate, the Secretary was 8th again and Jamie Wyllie was 3rd.

The welcome, comradery and support we received from .22 Long Range Precision Ireland was exemplary and we are looking to be invited back next year, hopefully with a bigger squad and a little more knowledge in their shoots.

With their facilities on offer, it could also be opened out to a FTR & F Open shoot one day with the .22 on another day or all FTR & F Open for the weekend for some whilst others did all .22!

However, before then, we look forward to welcoming a strong Irish contingent over to Bisley in September for the LRRFC Championship & International Match on September 3rd. 🍀



– LONG RANGE RIM FIRE – SUMMER OPEN

Photos by Keith Ballard & Kevin Sayers.



Chris Hazlehurst reports from the event held on 18 June.

All good things come to an end, so they say. The heatwave that we'd been having for the previous 2 weeks decided to come to an end. Whilst people had been complaining about the intensity of the heat, as soon as it started raining, the first iterations of "It's always raining" were heard, but not till late in the day.

The traditional LRRFC Summer Meeting was held on Sunday June 18th at 300 & 400 yards shooting bolt or martini actioned rifles. The weather started off bright and around 20° with a right to left wind blowing with around 1 - 3 MOA at 300. After lunch the wind had changed both in angle and intensity and blowing with a gentle 'Nemo' fishtail from 6 'o clock to 8 'o clock and a steady eye had to be kept on the angle as well as the intensity which varied from 3MOA to 12 MOA. By early afternoon it had started clouding over creating a very muggy humid afternoon. By 16:00, steady rain spots were felt, but still not enough for rain jackets until you walked from the 300 to 400 firing point when it had intensified slightly, but there were still a few around with polo shirts on.

We had a good turnout of 30 considering it was Father's Day, with some of the members deciding to shoot in two disciplines, glutens for punishment! Unfortunately, with the demographic of the club there were some of the regular members that were unable to attend, in that case, we hope you get well soon, but like many clubs, there are new members coming through and making a good showing.

We start off with a minute of blow offs then 3 practice shots which are marked on the target and then 2 convertible sighters and 20 to count at each range.





“Mark Blatchly led the way with a sizeable lead in his class and Mark Hodgins fought off all the opposition.

At 300 yards the first detail the flags were 'lively' and providing fun for many but they calmed down for the second and third details. The first detail being mainly F Class, there were several putting in good scores and Mike Harris leading the pack with Paul Russell just behind him, were nervously watching but with Gavin Moffatt on the second detail as the flags eased off and took the lead. With 6 shooters with 90+ at 300 yards, pressure on at 400!

In Match Rifle, making his debut, David Pitchforth on his first competition rose to the top of the pile, much to his surprise. It just goes to show, you can put off, put off and put off and never do anything, or you can thrust yourself forwards, and top out.

Target rifle, Mark Blatchly led the way with a sizeable lead in his class and Mark Hodgins fought off all the opposition in Service rifle! Unfortunately, Service Rifle in Rim Fire is a very select group with only a few in the whole club and this meeting there was only Mark who entered with his 1894 Kongsberg.

After lunch, we moved to 400 yards where for the Spring meeting, we had to use tables due to new range regulations which we weren't set up for and many members didn't like them but with great support from the NRA, Peter Cottrell & Jess Edward, thank you for your help, we were placed across on the targets where the firing point doesn't dip and we were able to get away with only using a pair of platforms which overcame the restrictions placed on us previously.

It started to cloud over after lunch and as one ►


Name	Club	Rifle	Class	Ammo	300yd	400 yd	Agg
C Hazlehurst	LRRFC	Centre Ten	FC	RWS R100	88.04	69.02	157.06
M Harris	NRA	CZ	FC	RWS R100	95.10	86.03	181.13
P Francis	Chichester RPC	Anschutz 1913	TR		80.06	77.01	157.07
K Ballard	Burgess Hill TSC	Anschutz 54	TR	RWS R100	74.01	61.02	135.03
M Blatchly.**	Leicester & Dist	Walther	TR	RWS R100	84.04	59.00	143.04
K Sayers	101 RC	Anschutz	FC	RWS R100	84.01	77.04	161.05
J Fowler	101 RC	Anschutz	FC	RWS100	90.05	81.04	171.09
M Wilkes**	SRPC	Anschutz	FC	RWS R50	69.01	73.02	142.03
P Russell	LRRFC	CZ455	FC	RWS R100	91.07	76.04	167.11
M Hodgins.**	HBSA	Remington	MR	RWS R100	74.03	70.04	144.07
M Gallivan	LRRFC	CZ457	FC	Eley Match	90.05	77.04	167.09
P Jones	LRRFC	VGW	FC	RWS R100	89.08	87.08	176.16
R Kenchington	NLRC	Anschutz 1913	MR	RWS R50	87.03	83.03	170.06
P Durntall	Hurn RPC	BSA International	MR	SK Long Range	0.00	0.00	0.00
S Isherwood	NRA	Winchester	MR	RWS R50	78.00	82.01	160.01
M Dimmer	Christchurch	CZ	FC	SK Long Range	80.02	88.05	168.07
G Moffatt	LRRFC	Walther	FC	RWS R100	98.07	88.03	186.10
A Edwards	Cinque Ports RC	Anschutz	FC	RWS R100	79.05	75.03	154.08
M Pearson	LRRFC	Anschutz	FC	RWS R100	90.06	78.03	168.09
T Hayton	Parkstone GC	Lithgow	FC	SK Long Range	83.04	80.00	163.04
D Pitchforth	LRRFC	CZ457	MR		89.04	65.01	154.05
T Hobbs			FC		80.04	69.02	149.06
S James	Cinque Ports RC	Anschutz	FC	RWS R100	84.04	89.04	173.08
M Blatchly.**	Leicester & Dist	Walther	MR	RWS R100	70.01	36.00	106.01
S Edwards	Harwell	Gemini Walther	TR		76.01	83.03	159.04
B Stubbins	Staveley RC	Anschutz	TR	RWS R100	74.02	87.07	161.09
M Hodgins.**	HBSA	Kongsberg	SR	RWS R100	65.01	62.01	127.02
J Mead	Chipstead	Anschutz	FC	RWS R100	87.08	91.03	178.11
M Wilkes**	SRPC	Anschutz	MR	RWS R50	76.02	72.06	148.08
N Tremlett	Windsor	Anschutz	MR	RWS R100	73.00	95.08	168.08

shooter remarked, it felt like being in a jungle, as it had gone very humid and muggy and the forecast rain wasn't far off, just the timing was out as it had been forecast from around 09:00. Emphasis was to try and get the shooters through and clear of the firing point as soon as they had finished shooting rather than discussing where they lost their points so the following details could follow and hopefully beat the impending rain.

Nick Tremlett had an issue at 300 with his rifle and came up in the afternoon saying that he was going to withdraw. Fortunately, and as a good sportsman, Mike Harris offered him his rifle only for Nick to go out and put in the best score of the afternoon and in the rain as it has picked up with a little intensity but Nick had sandwiched himself between two groundsheets to stay dry.

With only one score over 90 at 400 from John Mead in F Class, the aggregate was certainly in the mix.

For the aggregate there was only 2 shooters Gavin Moffatt and Mike Harris with 180+, both in F Class, 1 shooter, Richard Kenchington with 170+ in Match Rifle, 1 shooter, Ben Stubbins with 160+ in Target Rifle and our only Service rifle shooter, Mark Hodgins with 127+.

LRRFC shoot at Bisley from 100-600 yards with bolt action or Martini/ falling block rifles and standard commercial .22Lr ammunition. For further information or to join, please contact Chris - secretary@lrrfc.org.uk. 

LRRFC SUMMER MEETING 2023 PRIZE LIST				
Class	Distance	Place	Name	Score
FCSB	300	1	G Moffatt	98.07
		2	M Harris	95.10
		3	P Russell	91.07
	400	1	J Mead	91.03
		2	S James	89.04
		3	M Dimmer	88/05
	Aggregate	1	G Moffatt (1)	186.10
		2	M Harris	181.13
		3	J Mead	178.11
MRSB	300	1	D Pitchforth	89.04
		2	R Kenchington	87.03
		3	S Isherwood	78.00
	400	1	N Tremlett	95.08
		2	R Kenchington	83.03
		3	S Isherwood	82.01
	Aggregate	1	R Kenchington (2)	170.06
		2	N Tremlett	168.08
		3	S Isherwood	160.1
TRSB	300	1	M Blatchly	84.04
		2	P Francis	80.06
		3	S Edwards	76.01
	400	1	B Stubbins	87.07
		2	S Edwards	83.03
		3	P Francis	77.01
	Aggregate	1	B Stubbins (3)	161.09
		2	S Edwards	159.04
		3	P Francis	157.07
SRSB	300	1	M Hodgkins	65.01
	400	1	M Hodgkins	62.01
	Aggregate	1	M Hodgkins (4)	127.02

1. Celtic FLXI Urn for the highest aggregate score. 2. Nonington College Cup for the highest aggregate MRSB. 3. Old Gloryhunter Goblet for the highest aggregate TRSB. 4. Woodbury Ceylon Cup for the highest aggregate SRSB.





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When not in the shop we can be found at our local club coaching or shooting.

ENGLISH TWENTY CLUB SPRING MEETING

Shot over the weekend of 27th to 29th May, the meeting was very well supported with an entry of 130 shooters, 101 of which were shooting the full competition. Report by **Laura Haley.**

Day one of the meeting, taking place on the Saturday afternoon, saw warm weather, sunshine, and some 'interesting' winds, leading to only two 105s for the day. These were from Nigel Ball and Richard Stewart, with Richard Stewart being top scorer of the day and winning the Association with 105.13v.

The Sunday saw even more sunshine, and more tricky winds on the range. The 300x and 500x of the Second Stage were shot in the morning, with the 600x and Cortis taking place in the afternoon.

Showing how tricky the wind had been, everyone shooting the Second Stage was blessed with dropping at least one shot, and only two 149s going to Chris Heales

and Paul Johnson, with Chris Heales winning the Second Stage with a 149.22v.

The Cortis was won by Matt Millar with a very impressive 75.14v, and Nick Tremlett taking second place with 75.9v.

By the end of the second day, David Luckman had won the Short Range Aggregate, and was therefore leading the Grand Aggregate with a 325.42v, with John Bellringer closely behind on 324.43v.

Conditions remained interesting on Stickledown on the Monday morning, with the wind challenging many. Only two shooters managed 75s at 900x; Matt Millar and Stewart Larter-Whitcher, with Matt winning the Long with 75.12v. As a result,



Matt also won the Inner Aggregate with 298.48v.

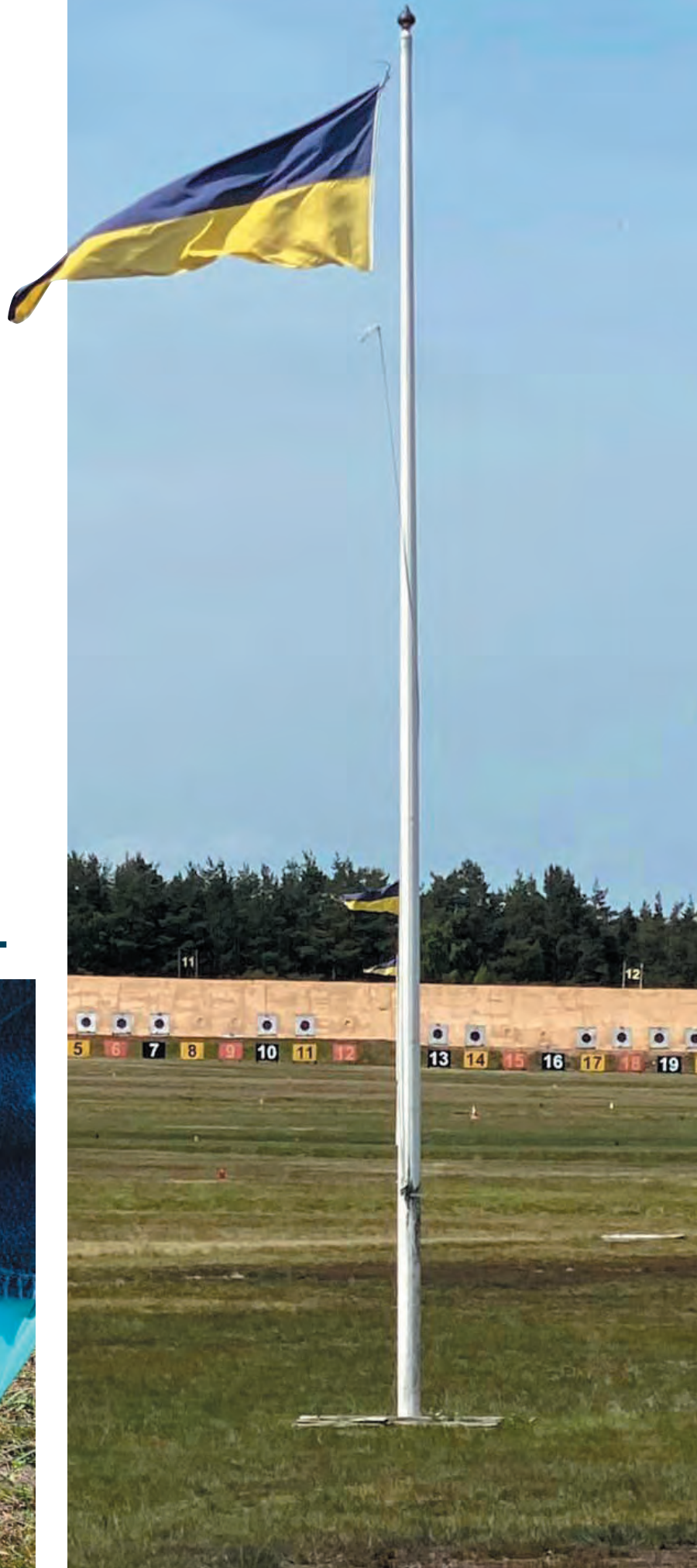
The winds continued to blow at 1000x for the Final, and Nigel Ball came top with a 73.9v. Out of the shooters on the range, only 13 scored 70 or more, and only two walking away with more than a 145 for the Monday Aggregate (the Long and the Final combined). These were Toby Raincock and John Bellringer, with John Bellringer winning the Monday Aggregate scoring a very credible 147.16v.

John Bellringer's steady shooting throughout the weekend and the tricky winds, saw him secure the Grand Aggregate and the Johnson Lion Trophy, two points and two v bulls clear of David Luckman in second place, with Nigel Ball coming in third.

Other notable winners for the weekend were Kenan Kousetta winning the Cadet Grand Aggregate and Top U19; and Henry Walden placing top U25.

A good weekend of shooting was enjoyed by the competitors, and many congratulations to John Bellringer for his win. 🍷

“John Bellringer's steady shooting through the weekend and the tricky winds, saw him secure the Grand Aggregate.”



GALLERY RIFLE & PISTOL NEWS

The latest news from NRA GR&P Discipline Rep **Ash Dagger**.

First off... a rule change for 2024. When the Gallery Rifle (GR&P) discipline was founded, many of its rules were inspired by those of the World Association 1500 (WA1500), the governing body for a wide range of handgun shooting. Over time, we've refined the GR&P rules based on experience and common practice.

One of the common practices adopted by many UK GR&P shooters has been around reloading. Many of our events involve shooting two or more strings of 6 shots within a time limit which includes reloading. Many shooters took to loading with 6, shooting 5 and then reloading with a round still in the chamber; this gives a small time advantage, particularly with our .22 semi-auto rifles and Long Barrel Pistols (LBPs) as these would not need to be re-cocked. Other shooters stuck with the "load 6, shoot 6, reload" practice mandated by the WA1500 rules even though we didn't specifically include it within the GR&P rules.

The UK is a founder member of the International Gallery Rifle Federation (IGRF), which is the governing body for international GR matches. Other members include Germany – where "load 6, shoot 6, reload" is a rule for GR, i.e. "load 6, shoot 5, reload" is specifically not allowed. In order to ensure a

level playing field across all IGRF international matches, regardless of host country, the IGRF adopted a new rule in its 2023 Manual; in all IGRF International Team Matches, all loaded rounds must be fired before reloading commences. For example, the historic practice of "load 6, shoot 5, reload 6, shoot 7" is NOT allowed.

shooters may have to re-learn an ingrained reloading technique. We would therefore not penalise anyone for getting it wrong during the 2024 season; RO's would be instructed to remind anyone seen using the wrong reloading technique about the rule change but would not start applying procedural penalties for using it until the 2025 season.

“We need your views on the GR&P Imperial matches for 2024.”

This rule was of course in place for the IGRF international matches at Phoenix earlier this year. The GR&P Working Party have reviewed this and we are considering introducing this rule into the 2024 GR&P Handbook for all GR&P shooting. The reasons for this are to encourage all GR&P shooters to get used to reloading in the international standard way rather than potentially mixing two techniques depending on which match or country they are shooting in at the time. And, to ensure a level playing field for all GR shooters next time the UK hosts an IGRF World Championship. There is a small element of safety, but this is more about consistency.

We realise that, if we introduced this rule, many

Onto the Imperial! I realise that a lot of GR&P shooters attend the main Bisley events, such as SAW, Phoenix, NATS and AAW. However, there is also a dedicated GR&P element of competition at the Imperial. Traditionally, this has not been as well supported as it could be. We'd like to know why! There are a range of standard (and not so standard) matches; some with re-entry and some shooting for a range of very prestigious Cups. Unfortunately, those Cup matches are very poorly supported and we need feedback from the GR&P shooters to understand what needs to change. We'd also like to ensure that results are fed back into the rankings where possible; this may

incentivise more shooters to attend. This will likely be limited to Cup matches initially, so please, let us have your thoughts or bite the bullet and enter next year.

On the International scene, you will have seen an article elsewhere on the GB GR team's outing to Ireland. That was the second leg of the IGRF matches for 2023 – the third being to Germany in November. The GR Captain, Morne van Dalen has announced his provisional Teams for that match:

SMALLBORE

- Jake Mossom
- Chris West
- Keith Kilvington
- Andy Summers
- Joe Pugh
- Reserve: Amiel Gardiner

CENTRE FIRE

- Jonnie Cormie
- Dave Morrow
- David Guest
- Robert Wheeler
- Malcolm Stewart
- Reserve: Steve Lamb

We wish them every success in Leitmar. And, as I write, the GR&P Handgun team are travelling to Stockholm in Sweden for the 2023 WA1500 World Championships – no doubt an article will be forthcoming in the next Journal. This follows the success of various squad members in Jersey, where they took part in a friendly against handgun shooters from Jersey and Germany. Finally, NRA Trustees have confirmed the appointment of Dave Harris to continue as handgun Captain next year; the Team's major challenge being the European championships in Romania, in August 2024.

As usual, any comments or feedback always welcome... E-mail them to gallery@nra.org.uk 📧



NRA E-League

*Civilian Service Rifle:
2023/24 Season Overview*

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Classes: Historic Enfield, Any Iron, Service Optic, Practical Optic

Autumn: *1st September – 30th November*

Competition 1: (200x) Based on Short Range Match, Stage 4 (Fig 12)

Competition 2: (100x) Based on Imperial Match, Stage 8 (Fig 12)

Competition 3: (100x) Based on 300x Match, Stage 1 (Fig 12)

Winter: *1st December – 29th February*

Competition 1: (200x) Based on 200x Match, Stage 1 (Fig 14 window)

Competition 2: (100x) Based on Rural Match, Stage 1 (Fig 14 window)

Competition 3: (100x) Based on SR Practices, Sitting Snaps (Fig 14 window)

Spring: *1st March – 31st May*

Competition 1: (300x) Based on 300x Match, Stage 2 (Fig 11)

Competition 2: (200x) Based on 200x Match, Stage 2 (Fig 11)

Competition 3: (100x) Based on Urban Match, Stage 1 (Fig 11)

Summer: *1st June – 31st August*

Competition 1: (300x) Based on 300x Match, Stage 1 (Fig 12)

Competition 2: (200x) Based on Imperial Match, Stage 6 (Fig 12)

Competition 3: (100x) Based on Imperial Match, Stage 7 (Fig 12)

For full details please visit: nra.org.uk/e-league/
or email competitions@nra.org.uk



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IMPERIAL HISTORIC ARMS MEETING 2023

Report by **Derek Stimpson.**

This year the Imperial Historic Arms Meeting returned again, having restarted in 2021 post COVID, and after being cancelled last year due to the extensive fires on the danger area.

So on 8th and 9th July this year, IHAM took its usual place during the first weekend of the Imperial meeting.

The Imperial is the NRA's largest and perhaps best known meeting, including internationally, with many overseas competitors taking part. 2019 saw us celebrating the 150th Imperial meeting.

The IHAM meeting is part of the Imperial meeting but a precursor of the Trafalgar. Therefore, a wonderful opportunity to shoot and see historic arms in use, some of which have been around since the last quarter of the 19th Century, or even earlier.

The list is long and to name but a few - Lee Enfields, Mausers, Mosin Nagants, the Lebel, BSAs, military and sporting, Winchesters, Marlins, many Sporting

rifles (my own Rigby .275 and BSA Hunter), plenty of interesting small bore rifles and of course muzzle loading arms.

This is also a reminder that shooting historic arms covers all disciplines and types of firearm.

This year, once again, the NRA Sporting Rifle competitions ran concurrently with IHAM.

Amongst the participants were the regular shooters returning again this year, although a few old friends were missing, plus a few new ones. It would be good to see more newcomers, owners of historic arms, bringing them along and shooting them to good effect.

The most popular event was 406, 200 yds prone Classic Service Rifle, with 23 shooters, followed by the ever popular 601, Running Boar, 55yds moving target, Any Rimfire Sporting Rifle with 18 shooters, and third 506, 200 yds prone Veteran Service Rifle with 17 shooters. ►



“By shooting your historic arms you are effectively researching their effectiveness as a firearm whether on the battlefield or sporting use.

As always there remain a number of events shot by one person.

I am sure that there are many of you who have classic and historic arms which don't get used. You will find great satisfaction in shooting well with a historic rifle or ML pistol. Start practicing now for the Trafalgar! If you win a competition – well that's a bonus! On top of which, you own and are preserving a piece of heritage, and may be contributing to research. By shooting your historic arms you are effectively researching their effectiveness as a firearm whether on the battlefield or sporting use. Like any artefact historic arms can benefit from use.

If you have any questions, requests, or suggestions about doing so there is plenty of advice available, so do not hesitate to get in touch and above all come and join us. Why not try an event you haven't tried before?

There is a new and updated Classic & Historic Handbook for 2023 which will answer some of those questions and is available on-line. Thanks go to all those who gave input and much hard work to produce and update it.

The table below shows the numbers of shooters and competition entries. There was a modest dip in competitor numbers and cards shot this year. We need to reverse this trend and see more of the owners and collectors of historic arms participating in the historic arms meetings – IHAM and the Trafalgar, as well as other specific matches such as historic CSR and the sporting historic shoots.

We need more shooters to support these meetings if they are to continue, and hopefully grow and thrive. Where are all the young shooters who will take up the baton for the future of our heritage? Come along and learn about historic arms.



Thanks go to the NRA and their team for their splendid support of the meetings, especially IHAM during the Imperial, when there are plenty of other pressures.

Finally, we must add that without the volunteers, notably Stats and ROs, these meetings could not run. We were glad to note some new Range Officers joining the old hands this year. Thanks to them for their help and please keep it up.

- 2023 – 69 Competitors – 375 cards (incl GR)
- 2022 - Meeting cancelled due to fires
- 2021 – 79 competitors – 401 cards (incl GR)
- 2020 – no meeting due to Covid
- 2019 – 92 competitors – 430 cards (incl GR)
- 2018 – 90 competitors – 401 cards (incl GR)
- 2017 – 89 competitors – 455 cards (incl GR)
- 2016 – 103 competitors – 452 cards (incl GR)
- 2015 – 90 competitors – 395 cards
- 2014 – 101 competitors – 415 cards (incl GR)

The competition results are shown elsewhere and the full list is on the NRA website. Congratulations to the winners and to everyone – keep shooting!

We look forward to seeing you at next year's IHAM and at the 2023 Trafalgar – the 21st and 22nd of October.

Circumstances allowing, we expect that there will be the usual arms fair and arms exhibitions at the Trafalgar.

The Trafalgar formal dinner is also back, now at the Council Club, so don't forget to reserve your place when booking your shooting entries. 🍷



TARGET RIFLE MEETING 2023

Dan Richardson reports from the event, held on 14-22 July 2023.



Above: Century Range 600 yards. **Right:** Checking the Wind Speeds on Century Range.

FIRST FRIDAY, 14 JULY

After the Great British Heatwave of 2022, a return to a more traditional sort of Great British Summer in 2023, with shooters dusting off waterproofs and wet weather drills. The first drops of rain could be felt at 8.00 in the Astor, and continued all day, sometimes heavy, and always wet, the sort of rain that somehow manages to get everywhere. Wind from over the shoulder, mostly from the left but somewhat steady, perhaps a half up to one and a quarter on Century, with somewhat bigger numbers at the longer distance. At 18.50, with targets barely visible and light fading fast, numbers ranged from five to above eight.

In the Century, Jemima Hince, losing her last shot

into the bull ring, tied David Luckman on 100.19v. The man from Somerset prevailed in the tie.

Sandy Walker took the Hutton with the only 50.10v. Luckman added 50.8v over the Hill to make it 150.27v for the Friday Aggregate. Room for improvement.

Wimbledon Common RC retained the Astor, dropping just six points for a fine total of 624.65v.

MIDDLE SATURDAY, 15 JULY

From very wet to very (very, very) windy. At 10.10 in the Donegall, anything from one and a half to three left was called for – a veritable mischief of magpies could be seen up and down butt 14 alone, not to mention the remainder of the

detail (up to 17 minutes of breeze on range 3) suffered delays as targets broke, were repaired, and broke once more. After a half hour break, the decision was taken to cancel the remainder of the match. An hour or so later, the NRA scrubbed the Daily Telegraph. It was the first time in living memory that matches had been cancelled due to wind.

MIDDLE SUNDAY, 16 JULY

You wait 20 years for an 8.30 detail in the Corporation, and when you get there you are greeted with 17 minutes of left wind. Life, sometimes,



range. Your correspondent was delighted to escape with a 49, with a solitary vee bull. Many others were not so lucky. Matt Millar, yet another fine product of the Epsomian stable, somehow contrived to score the only 50.10v, with three others managing 50.8v. There were only 19 scores of 50.

Reports from the morning details of the Conan Doyle suggested a bracket of 8 (ish) to 14 (ish) left. The lunchtime

just isn't fair. One renowned Jersey shooter saw his first sighter disappear into the right hand magpie on 14 left; his second disappeared altogether. A message seven suggested it may have passed by the left hand edge of the target. And so it goes. There were no scores of 50; Australia's Mitch Bailey led a handful of 49s, with a very impressive seven centrals.

In the Daily Mail, Matt Millar, Ed Dickson and the wily

Central Banker Steve Thomas tied on 50.8v. Millar prevailed in the tie.

In the Alexandra, Sophie Hodge, David Luckman and Rick Shouler tied on 50.8v. Shouler won the tie.

By day's end the top of the Grand was an all Aussie affair, with father and son Jim and Mitch Bailey inseparable on five off: 195.22v. Son led father thanks to his winning score at 1,000 yards, which was also good enough for the Weekend Aggregate.

SECOND MONDAY, 17 JULY

And so to second Monday, and the Times at 300 yards, the Duke of Cambridge at 900 yards, and the Prince of Wales at 600 yards, the first 15 round shoot of the Meeting.

A (relatively) calmer day. High cloud, occasional warm bursts of sunshine, and the odd, infrequent light shower. Winds remained strong, occasionally very strong, from the left and freshened throughout the day, but were on an altogether different scale to those of the weekend. At 600 yards, reports suggested a bracket of three-ish to pushing seven. Over the Hill, you needed up to 11, with the usual gusts and drop offs associated with a forceful, constant westerly.

When stats had finished tallying scores, you had to go to 8th place to find the top ranked Home Nation firer: Kelvin Ramsay. Ahead of him it was an entirely southern hemisphere affair, with the two Antipodean Jims - Bailey (eight off) and Corbett (nine off) - occupying first and second respectively, with Mitch Bailey in third. From there you had the two magnificent South Africans, Neels Jonck and Alex Coetzee, followed in sixth and seventh by husband and wife Steve and

Donna Negus, separated by a mere central. What a Meeting it was turning out to be for the visitors.

With six ranges to go and two shoots scrubbed, Parag Patel (who knows a thing or five about winning Grand Aggregates) pointed out that eight off leading the Grand wouldn't have been close to good enough for the Gold Cross in any of his recent wins

in the week. Will Broad (yet another sharpshooting Old Epsomian) shot beautifully to win the first stage of the St George's, with 14 centrals. What wind there was blew from just over the left shoulder in the early part of the day, but as the sun rose higher the wind built and angled squarer. Shooters in the 14.50 detail of the Lovell needed anything from two and a half to eleven

private residences, reigning world champion Steve Negus (12 off) led the Grand by one point from the man from Benalla, Jim Corbett. Neels Jonck lay a further point adrift. With only the first stage of the King's Prize remaining, it looked to be a two-horse race between the Aussie pair.

In the Wimbledon, Pete Holden and Guy Hart tied on 50.9v, with Holden taking the Cup after the tie. There was more Aussie success in the Lovell, as Scott Brindley triumphed with 50.8v.

“When stats had finished tallying scores, you had to go to 8th place to find the top ranked Home Nation firer: Kelvin Ramsay.

(six off in 20, four in 21, six in 22). His one word to describe conditions? “Carnage.”

And so to the results. John Kennedy won the Times, with the only perfect score. Donna Negus took the Prince of Wales with 75.12v, and three-time Queen Ant Ringer won the Duke of Cambridge with a luscious 50.9v. Alice Ogilvie of the NLRC won the Monday Aggregate, with a superb, and unrivalled, one off.

SECOND TUESDAY, 18 JULY

And so to the penultimate day of the Grand. Three shoots, taking in the first stage of the St George's at 300 yards, the Wimbledon at 600 yards, and a potentially make-or-break Lovell at 1,000 yards. Would our Australian and South African visitors continue their relentless assault on the top left hand side of the Grand board, or could a Brit produce the performance of the week to fly up to the top and set up a nail biting finish? Let's dive in!

The day dawned eerily still, with flags hanging limp for the first time

and half left, a devilish bracket that punished bright eyed colt and grizzled veteran alike.

Overnight leader Jim Bailey slipped four at 1,000 and a further three at 600 yards. Fellow Aussie Steve Negus took full advantage, his maximums at both 300 and 600 combined with a 49 at 1,000 good enough for the daily aggregate, ahead of Will Broad and Ulster's Michael Cooper. By day's end, with plenty licking their wounds in clubhouses and

SECOND WEDNESDAY, 19 JULY

The final day of the Grand, and with it a task for Negus: a 104 or 105 in the first stage of the King's Prize would render his lead unassailable.

At 8.30, indications of what was to come were already apparent. Gone was the fresh left-hander that had dominated since the start of the Meeting, replaced with an in-your-face breeze that strengthened as the distances grew longer. 300 was a largely navigable affair, ►

Below: Jim Bailey of Australia, overnight leader Monday into Tuesday
Inset: Steve Negus of Australia, Grand Agg Winner.



but the combination of a tight bull and King's nerves more than made up for any perceived slackness in conditions. As morning gave way to a bright and breezy afternoon, with clouds high and sunshine intermittent, the wind really began to bite. A good, old-fashioned Century afternoon then, with the breeze angling variously from 1 o'clock, then 11 o'clock, then - alarmingly - 9 o'clock, and all the way back again. Poor Jim Corbett's chances of overcoming his fellow Aussie were dashed - he shipped six points for a 99 and failed to make the cut. Yes, it was that difficult.

At 600 yards, Negus shot quickly - his was the first target to finish - to capitalise on a relatively steady patch of wind. He made no mistake - his fist pumped as his last, a dead central vee-bull, appeared. The winning margin was four points and vee-bulls - one of the most comprehensive victories of recent years. His had been a truly golden (or should that be canary yellow?) week.

The Bronze Medal went to David Luckman, with 105.16v. Luckman had had an uncharacteristically quiet week until this point, and was clearly determined to make amends. He did that, and then some. David Le Quesne, Matthew Ensor, Mitch Bailey and Negus



Above: Great Britain's winning Kolapore Team. **Below:** Australia's Collection of Trophies. **Below Right:** Chris Watson - King's Prize Winner 2023 being chaired off the range.

“ Thursday is now one of those funny days where you could shoot a bit, a lot, a very great deal, or not at all.

GC were the only others to make 105s. A solitary score of 99.9v made the cut.

SECOND THURSDAY, 20 JULY

Thursday is now one of those funny days where you could shoot a bit, a lot, a very great deal, or not at all, taking in as it does two ranges in the Counties Short Range, the second stage of the St George's, three ranges in the National (or the Overseas, the Inter-Services, and so on) and, if that isn't enough, the final of the Donaldson Memorial. It's exhausting just to type, let

alone shoot.

Wednesday's flirtatious, fishtailing breeze continued, with Bisley bathed in warm sunshine. Surrey triumphed in the Counties Short, with six of their eight firers going clean across 500 and 600 yards. South Africa's Jason di Bona, shooting with your correspondent (and capitalising on his poor judgment of when the wind was, and wasn't, changing), took the St George's Silver Cross, adding a 75.12v to his 75.10v in the first stage. England, under the sage captaincy of Stephen Penrose, won the National, while Australia comfortably beat Jersey, Guernsey, Canada, and Germany to the Overseas. Paul Sykes of the Old Bedfordians produced the best of three 75s, with ten centrals, to win the Donaldson Memorial.

SECOND FRIDAY, 21 JULY

To the Kolapore. Given the dominance of the Australian contingent to date, talk on clubhouse terraces suggested

that Australia might be considered favourites, that Great Britain's iron-clad grip on the pair of Ewars might finally be prised apart for the first time since Jersey's famous win in 1995. Could it be? Let's find out.

The strength of the Australian challenge was there for all to see at 300 yards: one off, to Great Britain's four. Game on. The Kenyans, a team going from strength-to-strength in recent years, fired wonderfully to place third at arguably the most testing distance. Jersey and Guernsey were fourth and fifth as the match headed to 500 yards.

As teams fell back, the wind came to life and the fishtail of the previous day re-emerged. It was here, one felt, that the match might be won or lost. If Australia could match the intensity of their 300 yard performance, it would take a truly world-class effort from the British outfit to trump them at 600 yards. If...

It was the Brits that pulled a rabbit out of their hat. Drawing on years of collective



experience of the fickleness of Century winds, the GB team, led by Tom Rylands, produced a masterclass: just two points off, seven scores of fifty, and the match all but won. The Australians, perhaps caught up all too much by the ferocity of the GB fight back, held for what felt like an age as the wind ebbed-and-flowed either side of zero, the end result being that Steve Negus had to fire on both Australian targets just to ensure that they didn't run out of time. Pressure can do funny things, even to reigning World Champions.

GB did what they needed to do at 600 yards; the Australian's race was run. A case of "what if" for the visitors, but very much a case of "job done" for Great Britain, who have now won the last 28 editions of the Kolapore. Iron-clad, indeed.

A short break for lunch, and straight back out onto Century for the second stage of the King's Prize. Conditions were similar to the morning, but had perhaps calmed somewhat, with longer spells of steady wind, and fewer wild swings either side of zero. When all was said and done, you needed 146.18v to earn a King's Badge with Ant Ringer the last man in. The Silver Medal went to Chris Weeden of the NLRC, after a tie-shoot with (you guessed it) an Australian - this time Mitch Bailey.

And yet the day wasn't over. Plenty of those who had just collected their King's squadding trudged up to Stickledown for the final stage of the St George's Cross. With the wind strong from the left, and angling on and off, this wasn't to be a high-scoring final. So it proved to be, with a visibly emotional Ant Ringer taking the Gold Cross with the only 150 (and one of only five 75s in the final itself - shout-outs to

Nigel Ball (12v), Sandy Gill, Rob Lygoe (both 9v), and Simon Hayton (7v) for the others).

A personal view is that the current iteration of the timetable (which has, unavoidably, been chopped-and-changed in every running of the Meeting since 2020), and especially the running order for Thursday and Friday, requires re-visiting. With the first shot in the final of the St George's not finding its way to the stop butt until shortly after 18.30, there was no time for the presentation of the badges for those finishing in the top 25, which surely diminishes its prestige. Food, perhaps, for thought.

FINAL SATURDAY, 22 JULY

The forecast for Final Saturday had been ominous, and it proved correct. Wet, wet, and thrice wet. Those partaking in morning activities only just about survived unscathed; for those contesting the first Final of HM The King's Prize since 1951, however, it was a very different story.

The Mackinnon was close. Really, really close. With the wind fresh and from the left, England led Ireland by just three points after 900 yards, with Australia lurking a further couple of points back. Australia

produced the goods at 1,000, winning the range by three points (and, again, coming perilously close to running out of time), but it wasn't quite enough to overhaul the English, who took the Challenge Cup by the barest of margins - just two points. On a morning that witnessed many a visit to the white portions of the target, five points separated the top three.

A short break for lunch, and back up over the Hill for the highlight of the fullbore shooting calendar. Forecasters made good on their promise as the rain duly arrived around 13.00, and did not relent thereafter. It was, perhaps, not as heavy as had been suggested, but that mattered little; conditions were atrocious.

In previous wet finals (most recently, 2017), shooters could take some consolation from the fact that the arrival of rain generated a commensurate departure of wind; not so this year. The wind, as it had all week, remained, albeit with a little more constancy.

Things were tightly bunched after 900 yards, the Prize wide-open, with plenty in the mix at anything from three- to five-off. It would come down, as so often, to whoever could conjure some magic at the furthest distance, with the pressure at its fiercest.

And then the Welsh wizard Chris Watson conjured that piece of magic; well, 15 of them, to be exact. A huge cheer erupted as his last to count - a vee, just a shade towards half past nine - was signalled. His was the only 75 at 1,000 yards, and he became the first winner of HM The King's Prize since Gil Boa - of the Canadian Hall of Fame - in 1951. Neels Jonck took the Jersey Rifle Association 150th Anniversary Trophy for the best score in the Final itself, with 148.18v, edging out the newly crowned Welsh King by a solitary vee-bull. Jonck took the Silver Badge, while Matt Millar, capping a brilliant week, took the Bronze.

Chris Watson thus joins Parag Patel, David Luckman, John Warburton, Jon Underwood, and Glynn Barnett in a very exclusive club of riflemen to have won the Big Three (Grand, George's, King's or Queen's). Illustrious company indeed.

And just like that, all was done. As the Conquering Hero played, Watson began his journey around Camp, a journey that wouldn't reach its destination until well past Midday on Sunday.

So, until next year; see you there, same time, same place. 🏹





NRA E-League

*F Class, Match Rifle & Target Rifle:
2023/24 Season Overview*

**Take part at your own range, submit your scores
and see where you place on the leaderboard**

In addition to the highest overall scores, awards are presented in each round to the highest placing **Serving & Ex-Serving** member of HM Forces, U21 and U25 shooters in each Class

F Classes: F-Open, & F/TR

MR Classes: Match Rifle & Any Rifle

TR Classes: Target Rifle & Cadet Target Rifle

Autumn: *1st September – 30th November*

	F Class	Match Rifle	Target Rifle
Competition 1	2+15 @ 300x	2+10 @ 1000x	2+10 @ 300x
Competition 2	2+10 @ 600x	2+15 @ 1100x	2+10 @ 500x
Competition 3	2+5 @ 900x	0+5 @ 1100x	2+10 @ 600x

Spring: *1st March – 31st May*

	F Class	Match Rifle	Target Rifle
Competition 1	2+10 @ 500x	2+10 @ 1000x	2+5 @ 300x
Competition 2	2+10 @ 600x	0+5 @ 1000x	2+10 @ 500x
Competition 3	2+10 @ 900x	2+15 @ 1100x	2+15 @ 600x

Summer: *1st June – 31st August*

	F Class	Match Rifle	Target Rifle
Competition 1	2+15 @ 300x	2+15 @ 1000x	2+5 @ 500x
Competition 2	2+10 @ 600x	2+10 @ 1100x	2+10 @ 600x
Competition 3	2+5 @ 1000x	0+5 @ 1200x	2+15 @ 900x

For more details please visit: nra.org.uk/e-league/
or email competitions@nra.org.uk

Richie Vallance explains recent developments in the clay shooting world.

I am pleased to report our clay shooting facilities have remained in high demand over the summer months and with the advent of the game season, the outlook for clay shooting at Bisley looks solid. Our Glorious 12th Simulated game day marked the start of the season with a full complement of guns. The heather was out, the weather was perfect and our Shooting Manager "John Heagren" led everybody on a memorable day on Cottesloe Heath. Our corporate bookings remain notably strong and there is increasing support for our other events such as Young shots and Ladies days. I believe our clients still value clay shooting as an important part of their expenditure, and we will endeavour to provide value for money across all our offerings moving forward.

BSG hosted our first registered 100 Bird English Sporting competition on Cottesloe Heath this summer, where we hosted 181 shooters throughout the day. This event proved a real test for all our staff due to the sheer volume of competitors moving through the ground. The ground staff worked tirelessly to replenish the 18000 plus targets, and keep the machines working, whilst the office staff processed the waves of score cards and continued online updates to the community. A big thank you to all the target markers who stepped out from the butts to referee a registered clay shoot for the day.

SCHOOLS CLAY COMPETITION

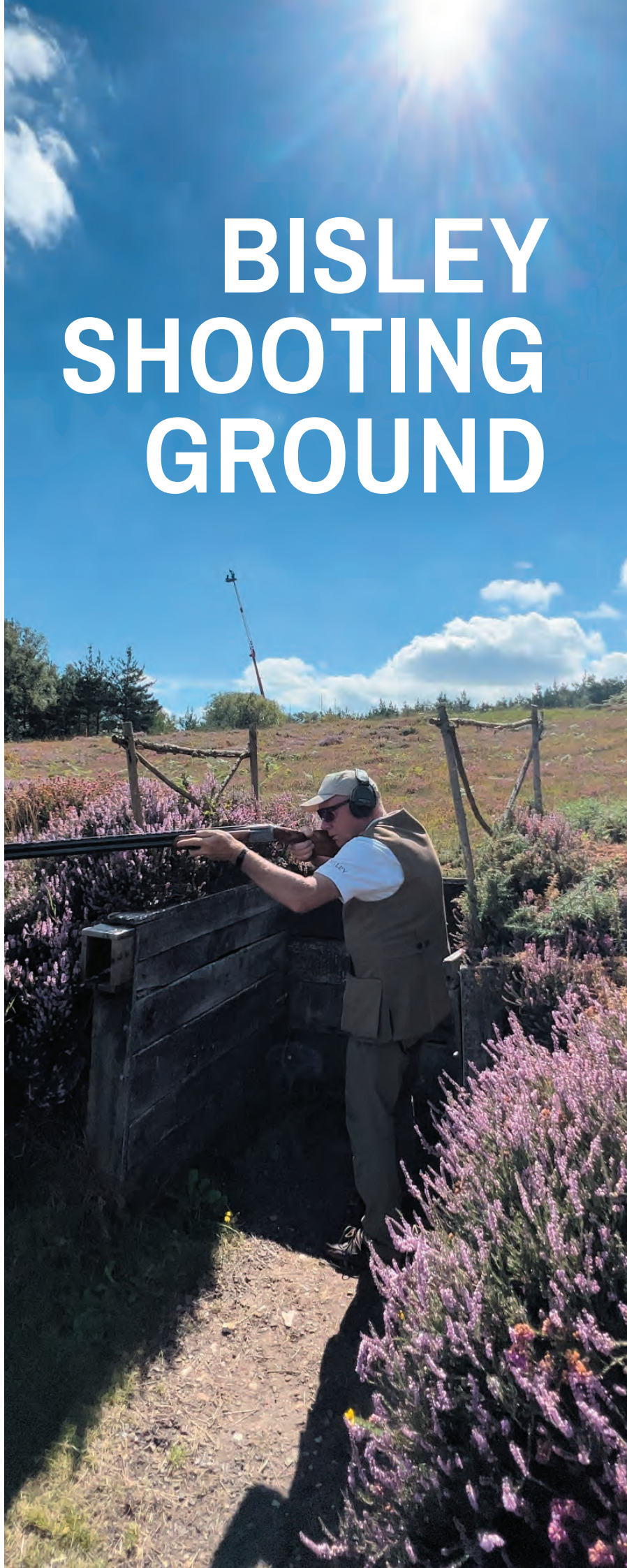
Due to the recent construction of our new Jubilee copse range, we were able to continue operations throughout the Imperial Meeting and host the schools Clays competition. Support for this event is growing and our 25 Target sportrap competition is proving to be particularly popular. We were also able to offer taster sessions for the less experienced this year and we hope to see them back next year to enter the main competition.

NATIONAL CLAY SHOOTING CENTRE

NCSC is pleased to announce that it will continue the legacy of Down The Line (DTL) competition shooting now that Bisley Gun Club (BGC) Ltd have ceased trading as of July 23. NCSC will now host regular registered competitions primarily on the first and third Sunday of each month, ensuring a seamless transition for both members and non-members of BGC. At the time of writing this article, we have already hosted two successful DTL competitions and are excited to ►

Right: John Heagren demonstrating simulated Grouse shooting on the beautiful Cottesloe Heath.

BISLEY SHOOTING GROUND



announce a full line-up of events for the rest of the calendar year. The DTL ranges have been refurbished and brand-new equipment has been installed to ensure targets are of the required standard. As we bid farewell to Bisley Gun Club, it's worth recognising they have been key to the DTL community for 100 years. Their departure marks the end of an era, but NCSC is committed to building upon their legacy and to continue to provide exceptional shooting experiences for all.

PLANS FOR THE BISLEY GUN CLUB PAVILION

We have many exciting plans for the old Bisley Gun Club pavilion. These are mainly focused around providing a centre of technical excellence for shooting and training. Discussions with potential investors are ongoing and we are currently working on the overall design and layout. We have settled on a name, the “Bisley Shooting Academy”, which if all goes to plan, will be industry leading and act as a hub for multi discipline technical shooting training at Bisley. I hope to have more detail on this in time for the next edition of this magazine.

DTL BOOKINGS FROM 15 JULY

Bookings for shooting sessions, will now be taken directly from the National Clay Shooting Centre Reception 01483 797666, and refreshments will be available from the Clays Café. The following dates have been released for your diaries. Participants, both previous Bisley Gun Club members and new enthusiasts, are encouraged to look out for the latest announcements through the NCSC website www.ncscbisley.co.uk and their social media channels.

DTL BOOKINGS FROM 15 JULY	
2nd September	DTL practice/lessons
3rd September	Registered DTL
16th September	DTL practice/lessons
17th September	Registered DTL
30th September	DTL practice/lessons
1st October	Registered DTL
7th–8th October	National Inter Counties DTL
28th October	DTL practice/lessons
29th October	Registered DTL
4th November	DTL practice/lessons
5th November	Registered DTL
6th November	DTL practice/lessons
19th November	Registered DTL
2nd December	DTL practice/lessons
3rd December	Registered DTL
16th December	DTL practice/lessons
17th December	Registered DTL



Above and Right: Before and after the DTL range refurbishment ahead of Registered events commencing July 23.





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RANGE WARDEN'S SHIELD 2023



Report by **Simon Favell.**

RANGE WARDEN'S SHIELD 2023					
Competition	Competitor	300yds	400yds	500yds	Total
F Class individual scores	Mark Daish	48.3	49.7	48.2	145.12
	Gordon Smeeton	48.4	48.5	45.2	141.11
Target Rifle individual scores	Vladimir Korolkov	50.7	50.6	49.6	149.19
	Paul Wright	49.6	50.6	48.4	147.16
Open Rifle individual scores	Mark Liversage	49.8	50.7	48.4	147.19
	John Cooper	47.5	47.4	49.6	143.15
	James Mitchell	46.5	47.3	44.3	137.11
	Robert Gifford	43.7	44.3	49.3	136.13
	Tim Wood	43.3	44	46.3	133.6
	Oliver Favell	45.2	42.3	45.3	132.8
	Ross Smith	46.6	41.1	44.4	131.11
	Malcolm Kujawa	40.1	45.2	43.2	128.5
	Jess Mitchell	42.2	42.3	43.2	127.7
	Thomas Kelly	41.2	43.3	42.3	126.8
Team Scores	Repton – Mark Daish, Mark Liversage, Tom Wood				425.37 Ex 450
	Staveley – Paul Wright, Gordon Smeeton, Oliver Favell				420.35 Ex 450
	Rolls-Royce – Jess Mitchell, James Mitchell, Robert Gifford				400.31 Ex 450
	East Bridgeford – John Cooper, Ross Smith, Thomas Kelly				400.24 Ex 450
	DRA 1 – Vladimir Korolkov and Mr Malcolm Kujawa				277.24 Ex 300

The Range Warden's Shield is our annual Full-Bore competition held at Thorpe Cloud Rifle Range in Derbyshire. It is intended to allow members of all user clubs to compete against each other in a friendly competitive way, allowing for the three main rifle disciplines to be shot simultaneously. We have the F Class shooters, who can support their rifles front and rear; The Open Rifle, which allows for the rifle to be supported on a bi-pod at the front, but must be free from the ground at the rear, any sights; and then Target Rifle.

To make the competition a level playing field, each discipline shoots on their own specific targets, coming down in size from the standard TR 1995 pattern ones. This allows mixed teams from the same club, as well as allowing scores to be matched across the competitors.

There are individual prizes for the



disciplines work well, and level scores can be used across the competition.

Everyone shot very well during the day, with some great scores being recorded. The F Class winner was Mr Mark Daish with 145.12 Ex 150

The Open Class winner was Mr Mark Liversage with 147.19 Ex 150

The TR winner was Mr Vladimir Korolkov with 149.19 Ex 150

The winning Team for 2023, from Repton, of the Range Warden's Shield was Mr Mark Daish, Mr Mark Liversage and Mr Tim Wood, with 425.37 Ex 450

Our thanks go to all those who shot, and we look forward to seeing you back for the 2024 Range Warden's Shield. 🍀

Left: First detail at 300 yards. **Above:** Second detail at 300 yards **Below:** Mr Vladimir Korolkov.



Above Right: F Class winner Mr Mark Daish.
Right: Open Class winner was Mr Mark Liversage.
Below: TR winner was Mr Vladimir Korolkov.



“ Each discipline shoots on their own specific targets, coming down in size from the standard TR 1995 pattern ones.

highest individual scores in F Class, Open Rifle and TR, as well as the Highest Team score, shooting for the Range Warden's Shield. If all three members of the winning team are from the same user club, the top Prize is a free day for the club in 2024.

On to the wonderful day that Sunday brought us. You could not have wished for a calmer sunnier day, in the beautiful Derbyshire countryside, however 29 deg. C was getting a little warm by mid-day.

We had a great turn out, with most shooters electing to shoot Open Rifle.

First detail at 300 yards, with all competitors shooting Open Rifle, on standard 1995 200 yard faces

Second detail at 300 yards, with TR on target 3, on standard 1995 pattern targets; Open Rifle on target 2, on 200 yard faces; and F Class on target 1, on the NRA 300 yard F class targets. Mixed



NRA E-League

*Gallery Rifle:
2023/24 Season Overview*

**Take part at your own range, submit your scores
and see where you place on the leaderboard**

In addition to the highest overall scores, awards are presented in each round to the highest placing **Serving & Ex-Serving** member of **HM Forces, U21 and U25** shooters in each Class

Classes: GRSB, GRSB Benched, GRCF, GRCF Classic, LBP, LBR

Autumn: *1st September – 30th November*

Competition 1: (25m) Based on Multi-Target, Practice 1 (DP1 / DP1 half)

Competition 2: (25m) Based on America Match, Practice 3 (GR5/ PL7)

Competition 3: (25m) Based on 25m Precision (PL14/PL7/NSRA 25x Benchrest)

Winter: *1st December – 29th February*

Competition 1: (25m) Based on Multi-Target 3, Practice 2 (DP1/ DP1 half)

Competition 2: (15m) Based on Timed & Precision 1, Practice 2 (DP2/ DP2 half)

Competition 3: (10m) Based on Multi-Target, Practice 4 (DP1/ DP1 half)

Spring: *1st March – 31st May*

Competition 1: (25m) Based on Timed & Precision 1, Practice 1 (DP1/ DP2 half)

Competition 2: (20m) Based on Bianchi, Practical Match, Stage 3 (DP2/ DP2 half)

Competition 3: (10m) Based on 1020/1500, Practice 1, Stage 1 (B1/ B1 half)

Summer: *1st June – 31st August*

Competition 1: (20m) Based on Multi-Target, Practice 2 (DP1/ DP1 half)

Competition 2: (15m) Based on Phoenix A, Practice 3 (DP1/ DP1 half)

Competition 3: (10m) Based on Timed & Precision 1, Practice 3 (DP2/ DP2 half)

For full details please visit: nra.org.uk/e-league/
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NRA E-League

Target Shotgun:
2023/24 Season Overview

Take part at your own range, submit your scores and see where you place on the leaderboard

In addition to the highest overall scores, awards are presented in each round to the highest placing **Serving & Ex-Serving** member of **HM Forces, U21 and U25** shooters in each Class

Classes: Shotgun Manual & Shotgun Semi-Auto

Autumn: *1st September – 30th November*

Competition 1: (25m) Based on Timed & Precision 1, Practice 1 (DP2)

Competition 2: (20m) Based on Multi-Target, Practice 2 (DP1)

Competition 3: (15m) Based on Timed & Precision 1, Practice 2 (DP2)

Winter: *1st December – 29th February*

Competition 1: (25m) Based on Service Match, Practice 2 (DP1)

Competition 2: (20m) Based on Service Match, Practice 3 (DP1)

Competition 3: (10m) Based on Multi-Target, Practice 4 (DP1)

Spring: *1st March – 31st May*

Competition 1: (25m) Based on Multi-Target, Practice 1 (DP1)

Competition 2: (20m) Based on Multi-Target, Practice 2 (DP1)

Competition 3: (10m) Based on Timed & Precision 1, Practice 3 (DP2)

Summer: *1st June – 31st August*

Competition 1: (25m) Based on Timed & Precision 1, Practice 1 (DP2)

Competition 2: (15m) Based on Multi-Target, Practice 3 (DP1)

Competition 3: (10m) Based on Multi-Target Practice 4 (DP1)

For more details please visit: nra.org.uk/e-league/
or email competitions@nra.org.uk

– IMPERIAL MEETING – MATCH RIFLE REPORT



Above: The Hopton Trophy.

Alex Cargill Thompson reports.

Having experienced two years of socially-distanced Hoptons, followed by its cancellation in 2022 because of the Danger Area fire, a “normal” Hopton was firmly on Match Rifle shooters’ wish lists for 2023. As the Hopton approached, the weather forecast looked “variable”, with the prospect of heavy showers more or less balanced by some “interesting” wind.

Pre-Friday proved fairly benign for the warm-up shoots in the form of the Any Rifle Extras, at least to start. Ron Scaglione top-scored at

1000x (75.14), Sophie Wentges at 1100x (74.6) and Mike Barlow at 1200x (73.7), with Jon Sweet winning the day overall (219.22).

First Saturday saw the Hopton start in warm and humid conditions, with the promise of short, sharp storms. These held off until late morning, towards the end of the second 1100x detail of the Whitehead. Some who had shot quickly managed to finish without getting themselves and their kit soaked; others were less fortunate, with shooting stopped due to lightning risk. But at least the lunch break provided the opportunity to dry out. Fortunately, the Whitehead 1100x is followed (after lunch) by the Halford 1100x, and the decision was taken that those with unfired

shots from the morning should fire them immediately on completion of their Halford 1100x.

Four tied for the Whitehead with 149.23, but a special mention should go to Toby Raincock scoring just three fewer v-bulls using GGG ammunition to take sixth place. Nick Tremlett won the Halford with 148.19, and Rob Lygoe won the Saturday Aggregate with 297.39.

First Sunday started cool, and became warmer and more humid as the day progressed. John Lindsay III won the Cottesloe (1000x, 100.18), Fergus Flanagan won the Wimbledon (1100x) dropping a single “v” for a particularly impressive 100.19.

The Whitehead Tie Shoot was held at 1100x late morning following the Wimbledon, with a tricky wind of about 5 minutes from the left. Alex Cargill Thompson top-scored (24.3), followed by Fergus Flanagan (24.2), Rob Lygoe (24.0) and John Lindsay III (22.1). With three out of four shooting the more traditional “supine” position, it goes some way to show that “front-gun” isn’t the only way to shoot match rifle competitively.

Nick Tremlett won the Armourers (1200x, 97.10), also taking the Martin Parr (Sunday) Aggregate (296.41) and the Weekend Aggregate (591.80), just two points ahead of Rob Lygoe.

First Monday is comparatively quiet with just the Edge’s two distances (1100x and 1200x) contributing to the Hopton Aggregate; the wind, however, provided ▶



Left: Supine Bench and Prone firers on the point.

Above: 150th Elcho started with celebratory canon fire.

a good degree of challenge, particularly at 1200x. Shaun Wingrove (from Australia) top scored with 191.18. The afternoon saw the FW Jones match, with seven teams of four firing at 1100x and 1200x in tricky wind, and the Hopton Supper Club lifting the nut dish with a score of 549.37 (out of 600.120).

And so to the final day of the Hopton – and the Albert, an infamous 15 shots at each distance, without any sighters. Not so bad when the wind is benign... John Lindsay III top-scored (218.21), followed closely by Jon Sweet (217.31) and Will Meldrum (217.23). Hattie Mansell was Top Tyro (215.19) and Thomas Nightingale was Top Under 25 (209.18).

With all the scores tallied, Nick Tremlett won the Hopton for the 8th time (997.117), followed by John Lindsay III (991.110) and Rob Lygoe (988.108). Tim Brooking (968.87, 21st place) was Top Tyro and Thomas Nightingale (952.71, 39th place) was Top Under 25.

As usual, First Wednesday saw the Elcho, the historic match involving teams of eight shooters each from England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales. With this year's being the 150th Elcho Match (the Elcho's 150th anniversary was marked in 2012), the Match was preceded by the Elcho Captains firing miniature cannons; there was also a demonstration of historic muzzle-loading rifles later in the morning.

The Match started with the threat of heavy showers, and a tricky wind that would only become trickier. Scotland led England by four points after 1000x, but England secured a 17 point lead after 1100x, then giving up four at 1200x to win by 13: 1st England (1716.154); 2nd Scotland (1703.159); 3rd Ireland (1669.40); 4th Wales (1621.107).



Above: England wins the Elcho Shield with 1716.154.

Above inset: Harriet Mansell was selected as England reserve for the first time.

Below left: Nick Tremlett won the Hopton for the 8th time.

Below right: Alex Cargill Thompson, winner of the Whitehead, shooting in the supine position

As is customary these days, the MR prize-giving followed the Elcho, with David Lacey, the NRA Chairman, presenting the majority of the prizes and the Earl of Wemyss and March presenting the Elcho medals. John de Havilland (a distinguished former Captain of the English Eight) was visiting and kindly agreed to present the Hopton prizes. In celebration of the 150th Elcho, the MR prize-giving was followed by a reception expertly organised by Silke Lohmann.

With the majority of the Match Rifle events complete, two key competitions took place on First Thursday. The Humphry, the Match Rifle Varsity match between the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford was closely fought with the lead changing after each distance. CURA were victorious (837.66 vs OURC's 835.67), with CURA's Alex Clark top-scoring with an impressive 220.17. And last but not least, sixteen stalwarts competed in the Any Rifle competition at 1200x, won by Ron Scaglione (97.10).

As usual, our thanks go to all those – too many to mention – who contributed to making the Hopton the enjoyable event that it was. 🍷





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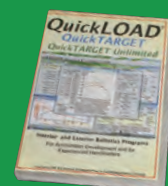


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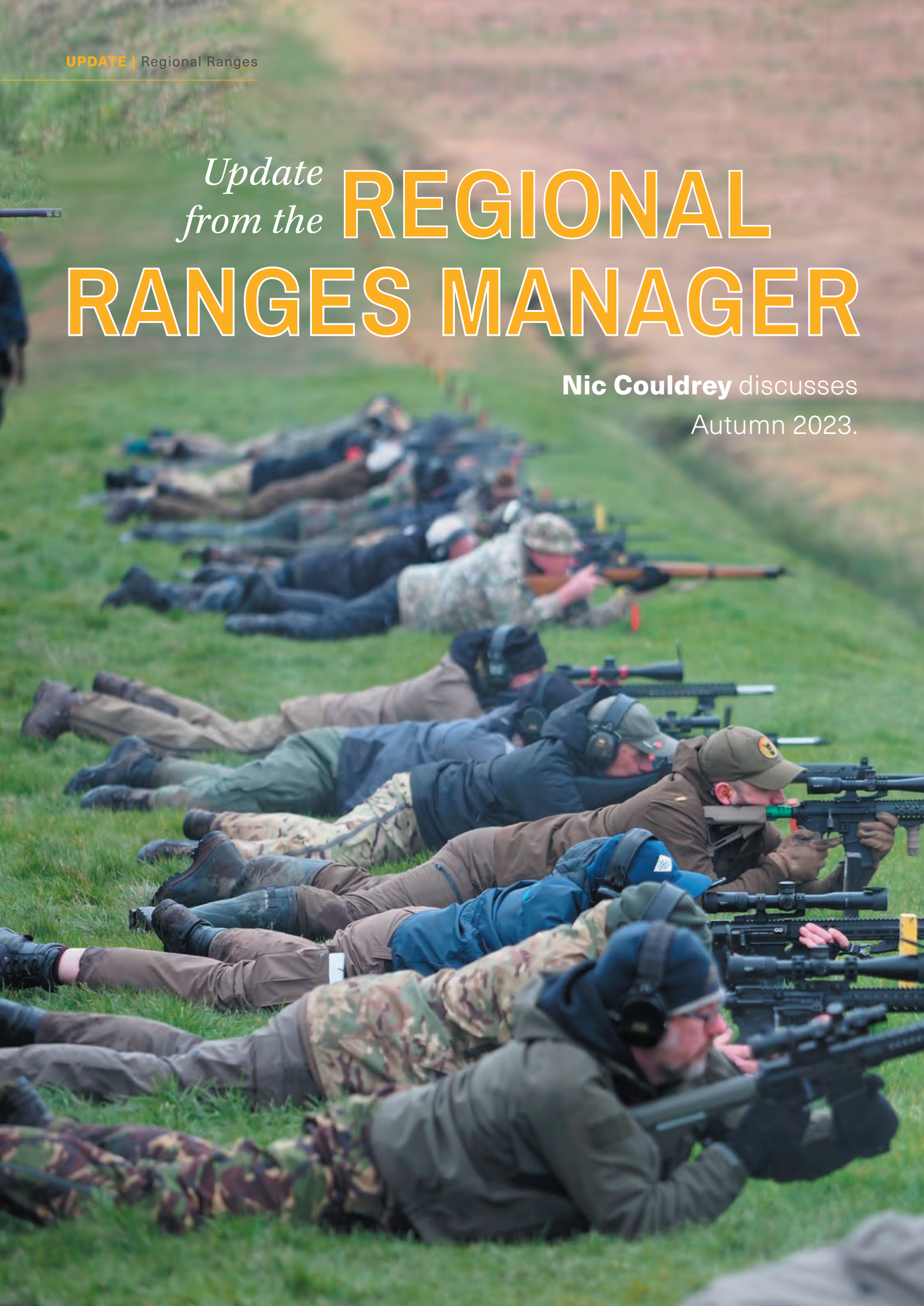


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*Update
from the* **REGIONAL
RANGES MANAGER**

Nic Couldrey discusses
Autumn 2023.



ACCESS TO MOD RANGES

The UK Armed Forces programme to develop and prepare Ukrainian recruits has been running for a year and will train circa 37,000 people through 2024. Recruits spend five weeks on training areas learning field craft and on ranges honing their accuracy skills.

This places significant demand on ranges not just to deliver shooting activities but also to perform range maintenance and allow down time for range operations staff. Restrictions on civilian access to ranges in Wales and West Midlands will remain in place through 2023.

New charges for MoD range bookings and a significant increase in the weekend hourly rate for Landmarc operatives came into effect in July. MoD sets the charges to access ranges on the Defence Training Estate; there is no negotiation with the NRA. Club officials that make bookings on MoD ranges are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the local specifics and details. The local Landmarc events co-ordinator will be able to answer billing/invoice related questions. Supporting information is available on the NRA website here nra.org.uk/new-charges-for-nra-club-use-of-mod-ranges/

HME FIREARMS ON DEFENCE ESTATE RANGES

Defence Infrastructure Organisation has confirmed that the process for final approval of a new constructed range at Warcop is in progress. The range will allow the use of civilian firearms that exceed the energy limits of a standard constructed range; e.g. .50BMG Target Rifles. We hope to have more information before the

“ More information for Clubs that operate an outdoor range is available in the NRA Handbooks (Range Managers Guide and Range Design and Safety Handbook).

year-end. Serial 45 at Lydd will re-open in November 2023.

COMPLIANCE WITH LICENCE CONDITIONS

MoD suspended the range licence for an affiliated Club after a breach of the licence conditions. This has significant implications for the Club, its Officials and individual Club members. The breach constitutes a safety incident and places continued access to Defence ranges at risk. The matter is currently subject to the NRA Disciplinary process.

Club Officials and RCO's responsible for range bookings and shooting activity should familiarise themselves with the conditions of the Club licence which should be read in conjunction with the current range orders and range specific procedures. Any remaining questions should be raised during the range recce. NRA Club access to MoD ranges is a privilege and relies on a system of trust and local relationships. Let us work hard to safeguard our continued access to MoD ranges.

SCOTLAND

The Dechmont Range and Training Area located 8 miles SE of Glasgow is managed by Lowland RFCA. The site comprises a 200-acre dry training area and a six lane 25m NDA Barrack Range in regular use by three NRA Clubs (Claymore, Cartside and Balornock).

The Secretary General NRA, the NRA Representative for Scotland and the Regional

Ranges Manager met the CEO Lowland RFC and his team in Glasgow in early August to discuss an NRA proposal to build a range at Dechmont for NRA recognised target shooting. The meeting was productive; both parties are aligned and keen to develop Dechmont to provide range capacity and opportunities for young people to shoot in the central belt. A further meeting will take place on site at Dechmont in October.

RANGE MAINTENANCE AND DE-LEADING

Regular removal of lead from the stop butt and bullet catcher of outdoor ranges is a recognised process to avoid the build-up of ricochet inducing material. Many clubs allow the lead to be recycled into new projectiles or sold for scrap. Clubs that operate a range should use a risk assessment to determine the frequency of de-leading, this should be part of the broader range repair and maintenance cycle.

More information for Clubs that operate an outdoor range is available in the NRA Handbooks (Range Managers Guide and Range Design and Safety Handbook) available here nra.org.uk/all-downloads/nra-handbooks/

Regular de leading is likely to be a requirement for the continued use of lead ammunition on outdoor ranges; Clubs that operate an outdoor range are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the advice contained in the Handbooks. 📄



NOTICES

National Rifle Association
notifications and news.

2024 RANGE BOOKINGS

In August 2023 we requested all major club competitions for 2024 (6 targets or more for Century and Stickledown) to be submitted via email to the Range Office. These bookings provide a template layout for the ranges and determine the remaining availability.

These major bookings are subject to our cancellation policy of 6 weeks or more. See below.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Worked well for 2022

- Number of targets reduced up until 1st September – 475
- Targets charged for 50% as per 3-6 week cancellation policy – 37
- Targets charged for 75% as per 3 week of less cancellation policy – 8
- All others reduced outside cancellation policy and incurred no fee

Weekends Low Season (1 Jan – 26 Mar & 29 Oct – 31 Dec) and Weekdays (1 Jan – 31 Dec) – 3 days or less charged at full rate

Weekends High Season (27 Mar – 28 Oct) Bookings of 5 or less Targets – 4 days or less charged at full rate

Weekends High Season (27 Mar – 28 Oct) – Bookings of 6 or more Targets on Century, Stickledown & Short Siberia

Bookings cancelled/reduced within 6 weeks of the shooting weekend will be liable for the following:

- More than 6 weeks before of the shooting weekend: any changes made to the booking* are non-chargeable
- Targets cancelled/reduced with 3 to 6 weeks' notice before the shooting weekend: 50% of the booking* is chargeable
- Targets cancelled/reduced with 1 to 3 weeks' notice before the shooting weekend: 75% of the booking* is chargeable

Targets cancelled/reduced with 1 weeks' notice before the shooting weekend: 100% of the booking* is chargeable

- When cancellations/reductions result in a % of the booking being chargeable, the balance payment is due at the time of cancellation/reduction.
- *Booking: Following a reduction of targets, the revised amount of

targets becomes the booking. Any further cancellations/reductions will apply to the revised booking.

Bookings taken within the cancellation period will be:

- Subject to the cancellation policy
- Accepted on Butt Zero, Winans, Cheylesmore and Melville (exc Bay A), only if providing own Targetry unless resources permit otherwise.

As you can see above, shown in last year's annual booking conference, the policy worked well for 2022. This has continued for 2023, with updated numbers to be provided at this year's conference due to be held on Tuesday 24th October at 1400 at the Pavilion. During the conference we will also discuss any updates to our ranges and procedures, as well as issues that have occurred throughout the year. The conference will be posted online and emailed to all members afterwards. Should you wish to attend, please email Claire. rubley@nra.org.uk to reserve your space.

After this, the online range booking system is due to open on approx. the 1st of November for 2024 bookings. Bookings will begin to be processed shortly after this period. Please note that all major bookings that

INVITATION FOR APPLICATIONS TO THE GREAT BRITAIN RIFLE TEAM TO CANADA 2025

I am honoured and privileged to have been appointed Captain of the Great Britain Rifle Team to Canada in 2025. I am delighted that Chris Watson (GC, GM), (Wales and GB) has agreed to be the team Vice Captain. I am further delighted that Liam Cheek (Ireland and GB) has agreed to be the Adjutant for the tour.

I intend to take a mixture of experience and new caps who have achieved the required standard for GB selection. The tour is expected to be two and a half to three weeks in length, taking in a provincial meeting followed by the DCRA meeting in August 2025. I invite applications to be considered for selection in the team. Please apply by email to: GBCaptain2025@gmail.com

Applications will be accepted until the BCRC meeting in 2024 and the team will be selected immediately after the 2024 Imperial Meeting.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Paul Gray (Wales and GB)

have been pre-organised will need to be submitted by no later than the 1st of January. After this date they are subject to be removed and availability will be opened back up to other range users.

When the system opens in November we expect a large influx and it may take us a while to process all bookings. Unfortunately the team will be unable to provide you with availability over the phone due to the backlog of bookings on the system, what we are advising you may not be accurate when we come to process online. Additionally this will also slow the team down in processing all your bookings. Please bear with us, we will try and assist, accommodate and offer alternatives where possible.

To help you with your bookings, take a look below at some of the reasons behind possible delays and

suggestions on how to make the process quicker for both you and us.

1. Look at the upcoming 3 week availability posted on the NSC website <https://nationalshootingcentre.co.uk/range-availability/>
2. Provide alternative options or dates in the comments section of your booking
3. Long range dates: please see the relevant page on the NSC website <https://nationalshootingcentre.co.uk/long-range-dates/>
4. If wanting a fallback:
 - a. See the relevant pages containing available dates on the website <https://nationalshootingcentre.co.uk/fall-backs/>
 - b. Weekday fallbacks, or requests for dates not shown in the above link will be subject to range

availability and may only be confirmed approx. 1 week prior to the date requested

5. Hourly bookings (excluding Melville Bay A and electronic targets) will be subject to range availability and may only be confirmed approx. 1 week prior to the date requested
6. Butt Zero/1100x/800x Bookings:
 - a. During high season weekends, bookings will only be confirmed approx. 1 month prior depending on remaining availability on Stickledown Range.
 - b. All other times will be reviewed 1 week prior to the date requested

If you have any other queries please do not hesitate to contact the Range office on 01483 797777 ext 152 or via email at Range.Office@nra.org.uk

GREAT BRITAIN RIFLE TEAM SOLID SILVER CUFFLINKS

I am commissioning a new supply of these top quality solid silver cufflinks. These first batch of these were produced in 2000 and a further batch in 2002 to support the 2002 GBRT to Canada.

All profits will go to support our teams to the World Long Range Championships and Palma Match in 2024.

The first batch bore the special Millenium Hallmark and the second the special Golden Jubilee Hallmark. This new batch expected to have the special Coronation Hallmark.

The cufflinks are approximately 23mm high x 19mm wide x 3mm thick and the pair weigh 23gm (0.8oz). They will be supplied in a quality presentation box.

These cufflinks class as GB representative insignia therefore only shooters, coaches or team officers who have represented Great Britain in an NRA controlled discipline* on either an Overseas

Team or in a Home match (e.g., the Kolapore) are eligible to wear these. They may be purchased on behalf of another person who is eligible to wear GB insignia

Team Officers may opt to have their set Gilded at extra cost. If there is sufficient demand I will commission sets in solid 9ct gold, again for team officers only.

A neck pendant with silver chain or lapel pin badge is also available on request for ladies or those who do not wear cufflinks

Prices : Cufflinks are £105 per pair (gilding £25 extra, solid 9ct gold POA)

Neck pendant or lapel pin badge are £65 each

Post and packing by Registered Post if required is £7.50

To place your order please contact John Bloomfield through the NRA Office by post or email (GBRTcufflinks@nra.org.uk). A £50 deposit with order is required. Orders will close 30 October 2023

**Eligible disciplines are : Target Rifle, Match Rifle, F-Class, Gallery Rifle and Sporting Rifle. Members of age restricted teams other than GB Veterans are not eligible.*



Obituaries

IRIS BENNETT

30th May 1937 – 22nd December 2022

Iris took up rifle shooting in 1954 after meeting John who was riding on his bicycle through town with his rifle on his back to the rifle club. She took up both .22 and SR (b) .303 with Kidderminster Rifle Club and North Worcestershire Rifle Club of which she became social secretary. In 1958 she married John and they shared their passion for rifle shooting competing most weekends either small-bore or SR (b) .303. She first went to Bisley in 1954 staying in the Ladies quarters while the "gang" she called them from the rifle club stayed in tents. She competed in the NRA meeting up until the birth of their son James in 1966. From then on she took on

administration roles and shot occasionally. In 1974 John was in the Great Britain Rifle Team to Canada under the captaincy of Geoff Little (GM GC) who became a life long friend. Iris went as a "camp follower" but took her rifle with the intention of entering only a few of the DCRA matches at Connaught. Frank Harriss (GM) who was adjutant informed Iris after making enquiries with the DCRA "it was all or nothing". She entered the full DCRA meeting which was her first full meeting for a few years. Iris was squadded during the DCRA meeting with the late Gerry Ouellette who inspired Iris throughout the meeting. Needless to say Iris found form and shot well throughout the DCRA meeting much to half the GB teams embarrassment. The team went on to Alberta after the DCRA meeting and she shot "unofficially" in the GB team against Alberta coached by the late Bert Whitaker (GC) who she also received great inspiration from.

In the late 1970's Iris took on more

administrative roles while her husband entered more and more open meetings. She became Hon.Sec of the Midland Rifle Association at Kingsbury Rifle Range and organised the "Birmingham Bisley" for many years. In 1979 a letter arrived from the Prairie Provinces Rifle Association with a request for a match against the "Midlands" before visiting Bisley for their 1980 tour. A request from the PPRA also included that could their team members be put up by Midland members in their

houses to keep their costs down.

Both requests were fulfilled and two matches were held in the Midlands both at Kingsbury rifle range and Tyddesley Wood Rifle Range. Iris and John put up at their home a couple from Lacombe, Alberta, Carl and Beatrice Ganter who became life long friends and stayed with them many times on their regular trips to the UK.

Iris became the West Midlands Regional NRA Council Member in 1998 to 2018, a role which she thoroughly enjoyed putting her heart and soul into and extremely proud of. In 1990 she was adjutant of the England Mackinnon Team, 1999 English Twenty Club Captain against combined services and home countries, NRA Team to the Channel Island's captain in 2000 and adjutant in 1981. She was "overseas liaison officer" with the CCRS and helped with the Australian Schools tours to the UK in 1994 and 2003. Iris made many friends both at Bisley and overseas. RIP Iris you will always be remembered.



ALAIN MARION GM3, GC, SM, SB, SC2

It is with very great regret that we report the passing of Alain Marion of Canada, one of the greats in the world of TR.

Alain won HM The Late Queen's Prize three times, in 1980, 1983 and 1996. He was second in 1972 and third in 1987 and 1990. He qualified for sixteen Queen's Prize Finals, an overseas record. He also won the Bisley Grand Aggregate in 1990 and was second in 1973 and 1980. He was in the Top 50 of the Grand Aggregate sixteen times, also an

overseas record.

At home, he was the Canadian Fullbore Rifle Champion a record 12 times, was second 6 times and third 3 times. He won the Canadian Grand Aggregate a record 10 times, coming second 3 times and third 6 times. He won the Governor General's Prize 5 times, placing second 6 times and third twice.

In the Commonwealth Games Fullbore Competition, he won one Gold and two Silver Medals.

In recognition of his shooting

accomplishments, Alain was appointed a member of the Order of Canada.

Our thoughts are with his family and all our friends at the DCRA.



COLIN REED 1931 – 2022

It is with great sadness that we must report the death of Colin Reed, who died in hospital as the result of an accident at home.

Over a shooting career that spanned more than 60 years Colin made many friends across the wide variety of shooting disciplines he participated in, in the UK and abroad. Not only was Colin still competing in his 90s, a feat remarkable in itself, but he also found the time and energy to organise and run club and county competitions.

Colin started his non-shooting career at the Harwell Atomic Energy Research Establishment not long after the war in 1950. He subsequently gained degrees in chemistry and computer science, and he was an associate of the Royal Institute of Chemistry.

His shooting career did not start until his mid-20s, and it seems there was not a discipline that didn't interest him. From air pistol to centre-fire pistol; from smallbore target rifle to gallery rifle, fullbore TR and even F Class, Colin could still be seen on the ranges, competing. He was adept at long-range pistol shooting, a fact attested to by some 23 medals gained in that discipline. He was also known to have the odd historic rifle or two in the back of the cabinet, requiring the manufacture of some esoteric cartridge. Luckily Colin was also a proficient handloader.

But it was pistol shooting that primarily held his attention. When competitive pistol shooting was banned in Britain some 25 years ago, Colin was among the first to travel to Switzerland and join the British Alpine Rifles, where he continued to make his mark, accumulating over 200 medals in Swiss competition. BAR was launched in 1997 in the face of the pistol ban, to preserve the sport that was destroyed in Britain. BAR's first meeting in Switzerland commenced a few days before the ban came into force, and Colin was among the marksmen who exported their pistols in order to participate. He was indeed the very first member to be signed on to BAR's membership book, when the officers of the new organization opened

it for applications that summer. Colin never missed a single BAR meeting in the next quarter of a century, and one year he succeeded in winning the coveted bronze apple that (in memory of William Tell) is the prize for the Apfelschiessen, which is shot with a pistol on an apple target at 50m. Offering over a hundred competitions in a myriad of different disciplines, BAR has enabled British citizens to maintain marksmanship traditions broken in this country as a result of the Firearms Acts of 1996 and 1988. Colin was keen to preserve that shooting heritage, and was always the first to offer any help that BAR needed.

Back home in the UK, Colin embraced both gallery rifle and muzzle-loading pistol with enthusiasm, and it was as a gallery rifle & pistol rep that he served on the committees of Harwell Target Shooting Club and the Oxfordshire Rifle Association for many years. He was responsible for organising the annual ORA prize meeting, just one of the many meetings, events and leagues whose administration he undertook for us in the club and the county. In 2007 he was recognised by the ORA for his long and exceptional service to shooting sport in the county of Oxfordshire.

He provided a great deal of support for the Oxford University shooting club, running the Town and Gown competition that takes place just before the Varsity Match, which he also helped to organise. He would attend college dinners and enjoyed his involvement with the University shooting scene.

At Harwell he would stoically herd the cats down to Bisley once a year for the Imperial gallery rifle and pistol events, and though we might never have lifted a major trophy it's due to Colin that we participated and had the fun and enjoyment that we did.

Colin will be missed by all at Harwell TSC, British Alpine Rifles, the Oxfordshire Rifle Association and the many friends he made in the wider shooting community.



GORDON JOHNSTON CB

Life member since 1952

Gordon Johnston was one of the few who could recall in the 2020's the Imperial Meetings of the late 1940's and early 1950's, and the personalities he then met, such as Marjorie Foster, Ronald Melville and Lord Swansea, as described in his 'How it all Began' article in the NRA's Spring Journal 2023.

As a member of the Clifton College CCF, he was a member of the winning Cadet Pair in 1949, and went on to shoot in the early 1950's for Clifton in the Ashburton.

On leaving school, he joined in 1952 the City Rifle Club (junior membership was then ten shillings a year) and won the Tiro Competition that Autumn. The prize was a life membership of the NRA – a greatly valued award.

At Cambridge he was an active member of the Cambridge University Rifle Association, but missed any chance of being considered for a place in the match against Oxford in 1955 by its clash with the date of the civil service exams.

During his National Service in the Scots Guards he was able to keep up his interest in shooting, winning the Bisley Cup in the Army meeting in 1956.

Once he embarked on a civil service career the demands of the job seldom allowed him to attend the Imperial Meeting, although he was in the Queen's Hundred in 1958.

When he finally retired from full-time employment in 1999, his attempts to return to competitive shooting proved unsuccessful due to failing eyesight. He continued however to support Clifton at the Veterans' match to present a cup set up by Old Cliftonians in memory of the 1949 success.



RESULTS

NRA/ARA ADAPTIVE IMPERIAL

Serving Championship		
1 Del Oswald	334.20x	
2 Joseph Talbot-Adams	315.24x	
Veteran Championship		
1 Chris Parkes	348.38x	
2 Ashley Hall	345.42x	
3 Ryan Goodman	343.27x	

CSR IMPERIAL CSR CHAMPIONSHIP

Historic X		
1 Ellett, S	751	
Historic A		
1 Radcliffe, P	709	
2 Corfield, G	705	
3 Tong, W	65	
Iron A		
1 Cross, D	759	
2 Yardley, R	727	
Practical X		
1 Eustance, M	1094	
2 Stirrup, N	1074	
3 Newberry, A	1073	
Practical A		
1 Timms, J	1056	
2 Ellis, B	1046	
3 Dunn, O	1042	
Practical B		
1 Camp, D	1017	
2 Li, R	986	
3 Cooke, F	968	
Service X		
1 Cottrell, P	1080	
Service A		
1 Eeles, T	1032	
Service B		
1 Bennington, N	990	
2 Wheeler, R	984	
3 Atraghji, D	982	

CIVILIAN METHUEN

Historic		
1 LERA A	834	

2 The Volunteers	645	
Practical		
1 LPSC A	1304	
2 PSSA	1271	
3 ATSC	1237	

F CLASS IMPERIAL

F Open Grand Aggregate		
1 RE Eckbauer	718.63v	
2 D Cownley	717.54v	
3 GL Costello	715.46v	
FTR Grand Aggregate		
1 PA Dommett	715.47v	
2 MA Harris	705.47v	
Farquharson		
1 Mr D Cownley	312.25v	
2 PA Dommett	303.15v	

GR&P IMPERIAL

GRCF Grand Aggregate		
1 Cox K	1362.95	
2 Podevin A	1352.95	
3 Watts P	1351.86	
GRSB Grand Aggregate		
1 Cox K	1355.76	
2 Lane S	1343.75	
3 Horner C	1343.71	
LBP Grand Aggregate		
1 Lane S	920.56	
2 Townsend L	914.56	
MLP Grand Aggregate		
1 Philpott R	237.4	

MR IMPERIAL

Hopton Aggregate		
1 CN Tremlett	997.117v	
2 JA Lindsay III	991.110v	
3 RJ Lygoe	988.108v	
The Elcho		
1 England	1716.154v	
2 Scotland	1703.159v	
3 Ireland	1669.140v	

MCQUEEN IMPERIAL

McQueen A		
1 McGill, D	50.10v	

2 Woods, S	50.10v	
3 Doyle, S O	50.10v	
McQueen A (Cadet)		
1 Deakin, O	50.10v	
2 Phillips, E	50.4v	
3 Nolan, I	49.8v	
McQueen A (U25)		
1 Deakin, O	50.10v	
2 Richards, C	50.9v	
3 Davies, J	50.8v	
McQueen Targets Aggregate		
1 Shorthouse, C	100.19v	
2 Deakin, O	100.18v	
3 Walker, S	100.18v	
McQueen Targets U25 Aggregate		
1 Deakin, O	100.18v	
McQueen Pairs		
1 Matt & Alice	100.17v	
2 The John Kynoch	99.17v	
3 No Hoppers	99.17v	

SCHOOLS IMPERIAL

The Ashburton		
1 Victoria College	758.36v	
2 Epsom College	744.37v	
3 Bradfield College	740.33v	
Cadet Grand Aggregate		
1 L/Cpl T Maxwell	293.19v	
2 LCpl O Roussel	292.22v	
3 Cpl HA Purslow	291.24	
The Cadet International		
1 Channel Islands	809.79v	
Cadet Rifle Aggregate		
1 LCpl O Roussel	100.9v	
2 Cdt R Weinberger	100.9v	
3 Cpl M Lucas	100.9v	

Schools Veterans Aggregate		
1 Old Guildfordians	736.84v	

SERVICE RIFLE IMPERIAL

Bisley Bullet		
1 Al Zahli AS Sgt	SOAF	244
2 Al Hinai MK SSgt	SOAF	243
3 Al Hattali MD	Wo2 SOAF	243
15 Guidi M LCpl	Royal Navy	221
16 Wilson B Sig	10 Sig Regt.	217
17 Barr A SSgt 10	Sig Regt.	203
Inter Services Urban Contact Match		
1 British Army	1439	
Inter-Unit Championship		
1 SOAF 6	28	
2 10 Sig Regt.	13	
International Service Rifle		
1 SOAF	2135	
Queen Mary		
1 Al Saadi MK Cpt	SOAF	186
2 Al Mamari AS Cpt	SOAF	180
3 Al Hinai MK SSgt	SOAF	174
8 Barr A SSgt 10	Sig Regt.	163
13 Milligan B Mne	Royal Navy	156
15 Guidi M LCpl	Royal Navy	153
Service Rifle Championship		
1 Al Saadi MK Cpt	SOAF	426
2 Al Mamari AS Cpt	SOAF	419
3 Al Hinai MK SSgt		

SOAF 417
13 Guidi M LCpl
Royal Navy 374

SPORTING RIFLE IMPERIAL

Running Deer Championship
1 Kynoch, J 160

Fox Test
1 Christmas, A 100
2 Schalkwyk, C 98

Running Boar
1 Kynoch, J 159
2 Christmas, A 1 58

Running Deer
1 Hawkins, J 31
2 Schalkwyk, C 30

Swedish Deer
1 Christmas, A 42
2 Schalkwyk, C 40

The Stalkers Test
1 Lewis, S 100
2 Christmas, A 98

TR IMPERIAL

H.M. King's Prize
1 CJ Watson X 297.34v
2 JC Jonck X 295.39v

Grand Aggregate
1 SM Negus X 643.75v
2 MJ Bailey X 639.70v

3 JP Bailey X 638.67v
St. George's

1 A Ringer X 150.17v
2 DC Luckman X 149.24v
3 J M Di Bona X 149.23v

The County Championship
Long Range

1 Norfolk 582.67v
2 W of Scotland 580.60v
3 Lancashire 580.55v

The Kolapore
1 GB Rifle Team
1185.144v

The National
1 England 2076.268v

Yorkshire Volunteer Shield
1 Old Epsomian
Orange 557.45v

2 Old Marlburian
Rifle Club 555.39v

3 Army Maroon 554.33v

300M CHAMPIONSHIP

British 300m Championship

1 M Guille 592.32v
2 A Wilde 592.27v
3 M Raiber 592.24v

COTTESLOE HEATH CHALLENGE

Shotgun Open

1 D Ashcroft 100.00%
2 L Bowditch 98.84%
3 S Burrows 93.94%

Shotgun Standard

1 J Jeffries 100.00%
2 M Cousins 93.60%
3 J Harris 86.49%

Shotgun Standard Manual

1 D Roe 100.00%
2 G Isaacs 93.36%
3 S Cox 92.10%

PRACTICAL LEAGUE LEADERS

Long Barreled Pistol Open

1 T Gardener 100.00%
2 P Nicol 69.41%
3 B Parkhouse 56.24%

Long Barreled Pistol
Standard

1 J Harris 80.13%
2 T Gardener 50.00%

3 A Florance 44.83%
Long Barreled Revolver

1 Sonny Bayly 56.24%
2 Paul Nicol 54.52%
3 Tim Gardener 50.00%

Mini Rifle Open

1 Kelvin Leaton 42.86%
2 Tom Ellaway 39.43%
3 Duncan Roe 35.03%

Shotgun Open

1 Lee Bowditch 66.07%
2 O Bloomfield 46.44%
3 D Ashcroft 44.81%

Shotgun Standard

1 B Horner 47.09%
2 J Harris 46.62%
3 T Dolski 46.02%

Shotgun Standard Manual

1 Glenn Isaacs 55.47%
2 Steve Cox 49.46%
3 Joseph Laws-
Beatham 41.86%

FULL RESULTS CAN BE DOWNLOADED AT:

[nra.org.uk/results/imperial-results-classifications/
imperial-meeting-results/imperial-meeting-2023](https://nra.org.uk/results/imperial-results-classifications/imperial-meeting-results/imperial-meeting-2023)

nra.org.uk/results/practical-league-results





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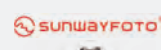


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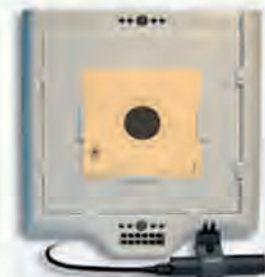
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MESSAGE 10



Full name:
John Kynoch
Age: 90

How did you get into shooting and at what age?

Perhaps 6 or 7, living on a farm in New Zealand controlling rabbits was a fun duty. Being entrusted with only one more .22 cartridge than the number of tails I returned last time, concentrated one's efforts.

Went to a College where shooting was an important sport. Won the Junior Championships and realised that this was something I could do better than my mates and decided to 'push it'. Following year having done well in the senior .22 equivalent, though not old enough to be shooting with the .303s, was told by the Shooting Master that I had better finish the course for the Senior Championships. I won it as I did again the next year.

What is the most memorable moment in your career?

Realising that, after some years of considerable application, in Munich in 1972, when in very good physical and mental state and on the best range stage I had experienced, (the target ran on rails rather than bouncing on a wire!) and with no publicly acclaimed expectation (which killed off several more skilful shots) that after six 10 shot series over two days I had produced the big score that I knew was within me. It was 11 points above my previous best, and was the World Record twelve months before. Further that as only two others had shot higher scores (something I had no control over) they hung an Olympic bronze round my neck – quite a bonus!

What was the biggest hurdle you had to overcome as a shooter?

Because all available stocks at the time were designed for prone iron sight shooting (not what I had in mind) I made a stock out of an old beech log. Got the inletting right because it put five shots in a .3" outside diameter hole when zeroing at a World Championship; something I understand the Bench Rest people call a 'screamer'.

Living 680 miles from the only Running Boar range in the country I had to find a way of dry firing at a moving target in my garage. I later had made a railway sleeper carrying bullet catcher on wheels which I could position in the factory out of working hours to shoot live at 20 metres.

“Living 680 miles from the only Running Boar range in the country I had to find a way of dry firing at a moving target in my garage.

What role does your family/friends play in your shooting?

My father shot for Fettes in the Ashburton before emigrating to New Zealand where I was born. He and a neighbouring farmer, who was a rifle instructor in '14-'18 and with a son my age, regularly supervised both us boys group shooting on a small range in our garden.

Later when seriously training for Munich and with a wife and four small children, I selfishly took up the whole of one of the weekend days and several evening sessions a week with aspects of my training. They were very supportive and understanding without which I could not have done it.

What sort of music do you listen to?

Classical choral.

What Club are you a member of?

British Sporting Rifle Club.

Who has been your biggest inspiration?

Undoubtedly Archie Butterworth, our Founding Father and initial Charman. He wrote me a four page letter in 1964 after I picked up a Guns Review which announced it was "The Official Journal ▶





Left: John with the bronze medal from the Munich Olympics Medal Ceremony.

affiliation to the NRA and NSRA and various trips they organised, at Munich I was one of only three of the competitors who had shot in every World and European Championship in the previous six years – a great advantage.

What do you like to do in your free time?

Observing wild life and reloading ammunition! I have recently acquired enough components for the next ten years!

Do you have any pre-competition routines?

They usually start about a year before the selected competition, rising to a peak months before and ideally tailing off to nothing in the last week. By that time I would like to be thinking that I had done everything I could in preparation and was ready to forget about the potential results and just enjoy the shooting while paying attention to the essential minutiae. I achieved this equilibrium for this year's Imperial rather better than in recent years; surely my last hoorah.

What advice would you give to somebody who wanted to take up shooting?

If you find something – in work or at play (perhaps it is shooting?) - that you enjoy doing and could be a bit good at (which will enhance your pleasure) give it your all for a fair while. There will be plenty of obstacles to overcome and many opportunities to not bother, but in life one tends to reap where one sows. Good luck; you will need a bit.

So, what Next?

Rather less of the same! The most significant effect of aging is the considerably increased length of one's reaction time, an important talent in our sport; the time it takes to decide when the fleeting aim is good enough for one's current fine-motor skills and then, act appropriately before the bullet leaves the barrel. ☺

“If you find something - in work or at play (perhaps it is shooting?) - that you enjoy doing and could be a bit good at (which will enhance your pleasure) give it your all for a fair while.

of the British Sporting Rifle Club”; thus I learnt of the Club's existence. What a strange and wonderful concept – shooting seriously with a 'scoped sporting rifle, standing under cover rather than lying on a cold drill hall floor shooting with iron sights at targets I could never see in the way that others described them. I was hooked!

Archie showed me the 4 metre range he had in his workshop – 4 metres because an easily available quarter diopetre spectacle lens strapped in front of the 'scope focussed it perfectly. The target moved across and back by alternately lifting and replacing a weight beside where one stood. This operated a string that after a delay picked up and took the target across the opening. The speed was controlled by the beautifully made three brass balled governor that one found in an old HMV 78 record player. Simple!

After many hours of dry firing over the

winter I attended a team trial at Bisley to shoot the 50m Running Boar event for the first time. I shot a UIT Gold Badge score which was the requirement to represent GB in a World Championship, a score that had hitherto eluded other trialists. The NRA later relaxed the rules with reference to the Soviet team's winning score at the last World Championship and four of us went the 1966 World Championship in Wiesbaden – the first of several great experiences.

Which is your favourite country in the world? Is it somewhere you have visited on tour?

Split between New Zealand where I grew up and Scotland where we lived for thirty years – but England is pretty good as well!

How has Bisley and the NRA influenced you?

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