

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION JOURNAL



Spring 2025 | Volume G No.1

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The National Rifle Association Journal is published on behalf of the National Rifle Association by **Fellows Media Ltd.**

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ON THE COVER
Spring Action Weekend.



Spring INTO Action

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

The first few days of glorious British Summer Time provided a perfect excuse for a walk around Camp to catch up with a host of development projects. These come after a good financial performance in 2024 that yielded a surplus of over £500k, the result of some above inflation price rises, strong demand for rifle and shotgun ranges, and resilient membership subscriptions and affiliations.

It is good to see some long-standing projects underway. These include extensive repair works to Building 103, the former eyesore blighting the entry to Camp; repairs and decoration to the candy striped Exhibition Hut; and the completion of the Pavilion air gun range and function suite. New initiatives include the refurbishment and upgrading of the Sporting Rifle range complex, and the installation of a shooting simulator for the new Bisley Shooting Academy.

A good proportion of this work is designed to encourage young shooters to Bisley. The decision by the MoD not to replace Full Bore Cadet Target Rifle will see a significant reduction in their numbers in 2026. To counter this we need to offer air rifle and pistol, .22 rim fire and shotgun, as well as the traditional full bore shooting, and build relationships with youth groups, schools and other institutions. The shooting we offer must be safe, fun, affordable, accessible and have pathways to develop marksmanship and participate in competitions. An early trial with a local cadet force with no access to shooting has been very rewarding. Two hours every evening on the first Tuesday of the month shooting under floodlight was enjoyed by cadets and NRA instructors alike.

We are recruiting a new member of staff to drive our youth shooting initiatives; success will be measured over decades to come as happy memories shooting at Bisley encourage the return to target shooting. Our efforts at Bisley are but one part of this initiative; we need to learn what works, learn from our mistakes, and share and celebrate our successes with those of our affiliated clubs.

Another Home Office consultation on firearms legislation has been announced following the awful triple murder



and thwarted school shooting by a loathsome individual who acquired a shotgun and ammunition with a forged certificate. Applying logical explanations to counter public unease with the widely published CCTV images of the handover of the shotgun and ammunition from the boot of a car is difficult. The legal owner may have been acting within the law but I suspect many from the shooting community would have felt uneasy at best in such circumstances.

All our hard work to find the new NRA Secretary General was richly rewarded with the recruitment of Simon Lee who will take up post on 16th June 2025, just in time to see me off the premises two weeks later. Simon was the outstanding candidate, and has been assiduous in his work to get to grips with the challenging, confusing, contradictory and downright enjoyable scope of his new position. He is urbane, very bright, ambitious and very much the right person for the NRA.

It is over 12 years that I first walked into Bisley as Secretary General. Three days in post came the news we did not have enough money to pay the salaries and Barclays would not extend the overdraft. Fancy footwork averted the crisis and the following day I found myself firing a Vickers machine gun on Butt Zero range. Dealing with the unexpected, taking advantage of opportunities, being prepared to make mistakes and maintaining a robust financial base have been constant challenges ever since.

It has been a great privilege working with many talented staff, trustees, volunteers and members; I wish all who care about the NRA every success in the future. 🍀

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THE TRAFALGAR 2024

Martyn Asker describes his first experience shooting in the Trafalgar Meeting 2024.

After reading about The Trafalgar in several issues of the NRA Journal, in 2024 I decided to enter and see how I got on. As I live in the west coast of The Highlands this was more than a simple trip.

So after booking accommodation in the Bisley Pavilion, deciphering the entry form and deciding which of the seemingly endless competitions I should shoot and with what, we arrived at Bisley on the 18th of October. My wife had agreed to join me as a spotter, supporter and provide motivational support.

The rifles I had with me were a 1941 SMLE with Tippins rear sights and a Winchester model 61 of around 1960 vintage.

I decided to do 10 competitions, seven with the SMLE and three with the Winchester. As this was my first visit I thought that would be about right.

The Pavilion was very pleasant and you could certainly see where a lot of improvements have been made, the attached café was very convenient for a tasty breakfast. The room was comfortable and warm.

So enough of that what about the shooting?

On arrival I was given a pack containing all the information I needed, this was very well done and alleviated a lot of my concerns.

It must be said here, that this weekend consisted of a lot of firsts for me and so perhaps I did not shoot as well as others, but I enjoyed and only came last twice, I was disqualified twice and will explain that later.

So what did I enter?

“On arrival I was given a pack containing all the information I needed, this was very well done and alleviated a lot of my concerns.”

Competition number at the start of each paragraph.

First of all shot with the Winchester.

(886) 25 meter advancing, this is where the target starts at 25 meters away and moves towards you, getting bigger and closer in a very short time, I scored 133.8 out of 150 and came 9th out of 10 shooters. This was a first, brilliant fun and while looking simple, watching that target

get larger and larger while running up to you piles the pressure on. The shooter next to me suggested waiting until it was close and then rapidly firing, I was using a repeater and thus tried to

time my shots spaced regularly in the allowed time. This did work and I got them all away and was happy with how I did.

(889) 50 meter advancing, this is where the target starts at 50 meters away and moves towards you stopping at 25

meters, once again in a short time, I scored 98.1 out of 150 and came 5th out of 6 shooters. This also a first, seemed easier as the target is further away, once again happy.

(601) Running Boar, this is where there is a moving target shaped like a boar 25 meters away, it moved rather fast and you have to shoot it, I scored 98 out of 200, it was very difficult and came 15th out of 24 shooters.

Another first, this is an amazing competition, the lady running it was extremely patient as she must have explained how it worked a hundred times, It was so good I did it twice. Obviously as its moving you have to aim in front of the target as it moves, I have never shot at a moving target so a very steep learning curve. I was very happy with my score and amazed I came 15th.

Shot with the SMLE.

So a bit about the SMLE, a few years ago my eye sight reached the point where I could no longer get a clear sight image, I was actually considering giving the SMLE up as it all seemed a little pointless and perhaps obtaining a number 4. However in an antique shop while my wife was browsing I



Above: Shot with the SMLE.
Left: Bisley Camp Pavillion.



noted that there was a small firearm related section, books, bits and bobs etc. In one of the boxes I found a rear sight and I knew immediately this would fit on an SMLE replacing the safety group and using the same fixing. I discovered this was a Tippins rear sight made for the SMLE in around 1910 ish and allowed me to have an aperture sight to sharpen the foresight and thus keep shooting my SMLE, due to it's date I have always felt it is "in the spirit of the original".

Now a wee moan here, I did check this with the NRA and was given an OK that all was well. However as you will see below, it still was deemed not suitable for two of the competitions, however I still enjoyed shooting them both and to be honest did not do very well in those competitions.

(539) Agony Snaps at 200 yards, I was disqualified from this, see above, however they still let me try it and it was very difficult the target is about the size of an A4 sheet of paper 200 meters away and it appears randomly for a short time, I am using open sights, no scopes allowed here folks, I did hit it a couple of times. Even the guy who came first only scored 19 out of a possible 50.

(544) Double Snap 200 yards, once again, disqualified. Once again the target is very small and 200 meters away and it appears for a short period and you have to get two shots away, I could not load fast enough. Once again even the chap who came first only scored 19.1 out of 50.

Ok so now it gets better:-)

(506) 200 yards prone, this is simple 2 sighters and ten scoring shots, I scored 35.1 out of 50 and came 20th out of 25 shooters, I was very unhappy with my performance



Above left: 200 yards standing, wild, wet and windy. **Above right:** Oh yes, V Bull.



here, I can normally do better, the weather was not great, in fact the Saturday morning weather was very poor, windy and very wet, I know excuses! I just could not seem to settle. My wife was great, sitting in a chair in awful weather with the spotting scope and my score card.

(510) 200 yards standing, Ok so shoot your SMLE 10 times from 200 yards standing Mr Asker, not so easy, I did come last out of 8 shooters. I have not shot my SMLE standing for a considerable time, our home club does one competition a year where this is possible, so lack of practice really showed here. I knew I was doing poorly every time I squeezed the trigger.

The weather by now was truly awful. My wife had retreated to the RCO's tent and basically said "you're on your own here pal".

That was the morning, all done. Off for some lunch.

While on lunch I must mention the London and Middlesex Rifle Association. They are very welcoming and

we ate there several times, another worth a mention are the boar burgers from Fat Tony's snack bar.

Now off for the afternoon, much improved weather, the sun even made an appearance.

(524) 500 yards prone, I enjoyed this one the most with two sighters and 10 shots to count. This was familiar territory and I regularly shoot this at my home range. It was sunny and warm I scored 36.1

out of 50 and came 9th out of 14 shooters. With one V bull, photo by my wife with comment.

I was interested to see the coloured targets, at the home range they are black on a white background, however that made it more interesting.

(530) 600 yards prone, once again two sighters and 10 shots to count, this is where it went completely wrong, I had not shot the old SMLE ►

Below: Running Boar. Fun being had!





Above: All the prizes.

at 600 yards for a long time and seemed not to be able to find the target. The butt party were reporting missed shots, I managed to get on twice, but seemed unable to hold it on target, so for safety reasons I retired after a few shots.

(615) Running deer, as with the running boar, you are shooting at a moving target shaped like a deer at 50 yards, it moves quite fast and I was using the SMLE stood up again, but boy what fun. I scored 33 out of 100 and came 15th out of 20 shooters. The shooting was in a covered area and letting fly with the 0.303 indoors was a most ear defining experience, I swear the ground shook.

Once again shooting at a moving target 50 yards away was a new experience and you had to aim in front of the deer to hit it. Guidance from the folks running the competition was very helpful and got me on target quickly. Basically even with my zero experience we would have had venison for dinner, I was very happy.

Well that was it, over the course of the weekend I shot 90 odd rounds with the 303 and by the end my shoulder was rather sore.

I feel barring disqualifications I did OK,

why? Well you are up against people who shoot a lot more and practice a lot more than I do and as Rafa Nadal says, the more I practice the luckier I get.

I really enjoyed the weekend and my wife was amazing by helping with spotting and scoring.

Additionally there was a trade fair going on with many and varied firearms and other items on display for the discerning shooter and food to be had in various locations, plus after a hard days shooting there is nothing like putting the rifle safely away and retiring to the bar for a much earned pint.

As part of the booking process there was an item at the bottom for the Trafalgar dinner, after finding out about it we decided to attend, what a great evening it was held in the Canadian pavilion. We were treated to a most excellent three course dinner with wine (free flowing) and a gentleman gave a most excellent talk about the pavilion and its history, also plans for the future. It would be interesting to stay there the next time I visit the Trafalgar. They are doing a lot of work on the building and bringing the timber that will be used all the way from Canada.

“I really enjoyed the weekend and my wife was amazing by helping with spotting and scoring.”

Finally there was prize giving on the Sunday evening. I was rather disappointed that not more shooters stayed for this as after all the winners of the prizes deserved the recognition of their efforts, there was one winner who must have hailed from the States as he was dressed in full cowboy regalia complete with a Stetson and spurs.

Although I visit Bisley usually a couple of times a year, I discovered parts of the camp I did not know existed, all the indoor ranges and little ranges tucked out of the way, for instance there is a small club range though a gap in the fence next door to the running boar range.

All the NRA staff that helped run the weekend were

brilliant, helpful and friendly, It was great to be amongst shooters and like minded people who understood shooters and the sport of shooting.

The amount of competition I did was about right with enough time to enjoy the venue, eat food and visit the trade fair. I am sure I could have shot more but I am sure you could fall into the trap of entering too much

Would I do it again? Yes! But not in 2025 as there is only so much time in the year and I have other competitions I want to do this year.

Finally, I have just come into the possession of a two band Parker Hale volunteer muzzle loading percussion cap rifle in 0.541, so 2026? ☺

Below: An old chap with his old rifle, in the sun, having fun.



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THE 2024 BRITISH F-CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS

(ROUND 8) *2-3 November 2024, Bisley*

Report by **Richie Jones.**

The last quarter of the season is always a mad scramble for us and by the time the dust has settled from Round 7 at Blair Atholl we're already knocking at the door of November, and our final showdown of 2024, the British Championships at Bisley, is upon us.

Our league has attracted many non-UK shooters this year. Every competition has had an international feel to it, and this has also helped drive the standards even higher as the world's F-Classers prepare for the World Championships at Bisley in August 2026. So a big thanks to all the Italians

who travelled over to compete with us in Round 8.

Heading into this final round, the overall league was looking very tight and all to play for at Bisley.

In FTR, Asad Wahid was leading with 2023 champion Dan Lomas close behind, and Mike Harris in third looking to overtake them both. In F-Open, former World Champion Gary Costello was setting the pace, followed by Lance Vinall and Brogan O'Shea-Smith.

Arriving on camp for Round 8, everyone was looking forward to predicted temperatures of a mild 14C,

with no rain forecast.

Entry numbers looked positive and we started proceedings with 39 F/TR and 48 F-Open on the range.

Friday started with the usual full day of informal practice and the wind throughout the day was a bit tricky, coming in from the right between 1 – 1.5 MOA.

Saturday dawned, and that original forecast seemed particularly optimistic, with a front of rain approaching Stickledown. F/TR were first into the breach at 800 yards with a 2+15 and within three shots for record, the rain was upon us.

Luckily for the F-Open shooters, the rain vanished as quickly as it had appeared, conditions were very readable and a GBFCA record-breaking frenzy was about to be unleashed on our stats department!

F/TR's Detail 1 was soon followed by a Mixed detail before a final F-Open detail and wind values throughout Match 1 ranged between 0.5 MOA Right to Zero.

The Top 3 shooters in both F/TR and F-Open cleaned with high V-Bull counts and countbacks, but a special

Above: Saturday dawned with rain approaching the first shooters.

Inset: A calm, wet start for Match 1 F/TR with winds maxing at 0.6MOA Right 1.

mention must go to FTR's Jonathan Longhurst for setting a new National League record with an amazing 75.14, followed by Mark Webb (75.11) and Asad Wahid (75.11). In F-Open, Lance Vinall took 1st Place honours with a 75.13, only beating David Lloyd and Pat Allen on countback, with David Lloyd pipping Pat to second place.

By the time Detail 3 was underway, the waterproofs were off and we were in for a pleasant day's shooting in the dry, albeit still rather cool.

Once all shooting had finished at 800 yards, we then dressed back to the 900 yards firing line for Match 2 and to repeat the process all again.

As F/TR's Detail 1 started getting set up, it was a relief to see the sight picture of the targets had improved and the target rings were now fully visible again. ►

Below: A calm, wet start for Match 1 F/TR with winds maxing at 0.6MOA Right 1.





Above: A view from the 1000 yard line just Prior to F-Open's Detail 3 starting their Match 3. **Inset:** Sunday's wind flags at 08-30hrs.

Wind conditions at 900 yards weren't that dissimilar to that at 800. However, it had become more of a full value and had increased to just shy of 1 MOA Right. As the light was increasing, light mirage could also now be seen running through the range and this was a better indicator than the flags which showed changes that just weren't there. I'd hazard a guess that the majority of 4s across the field were deliberately aimed and the point of impact was exactly where the cross hairs had hovered.

F/TR's Jon Longhurst had another incredible shoot, taking Gold with another clean (75.10), leaving Simon West (75.08) and Dan Lomas (74.11) close behind. In F-Open, it was another gathering of cleans with Paul Sandie (75.12) taking Gold, leaving Lance Vinall (75.10) and Gianfranco Zaroni (75.09) (Italy) following.

Match 3 got underway at 13:30pm and this match was a longer 2+20 and extremely tricky, with subtle changes seeing fish tailing conditions going from 1 MOA Right through to 0.6 MOA Left and once again the flags were no help. There were also unexplained elevations creeping in across the full line

of targets and those who were spotting behind the shooters noticed on several occasions that it started showing between Lanes 1 – 8 with 4s going high or low, all while lane 9 upwards were drilling the Vs. It would then pass, and a switch was visible, with lanes 1-8 now finding the V and lane 9 upwards now struggling to hold the waterline. Certainly more to it than mere coincidence?

Scores at 1000 yards were amazing with two more National league records being broken. In F/TR Jon Longhurst took a third Gold and another record with an excellent 100.10v, with Mike Harris only one V behind, leaving Simon West in 3rd after dropping shot 9 for a 99.11.

In F-Open, Ian Boxall was also feeling the force and set a new F-Open record, taking Gold with a 100.15, ahead of Darren Stewart (100.14) edging ahead of Tom Bindley (100.14) on countback – certainly an indication of how well their rifles and minds were performing.

Looking at the overall 2024 league positions, there were now a number of shooters looking worried; the tide was turning, and dangerous momentum was building. The Saturday Aggregates saw F/TR's Jon Longhurst clean the day with 250.34v, taking a 4th Gold. Simon Gambling

“ Scores at 1000 yards were amazing with two more National league records being broken.



had only dropped 1 point for 2nd place with Dan Lomas dropping 3 points for 3rd. In F-Open, all three stage medal winners had cleaned the day, with only four V-Bulls splitting them apart. Well done to Ian Boxall for 1st and David Lloyd and Darren Stewart for their respective 2nd and 3rd Places.

I must admit that I love this time of year, and as the dark mornings and evenings are present, it seems to make



Above Left: F-Open's Tom Bindley (3rd) Ian Boxall (1st) Gary Costello (2nd). **Above Right:** FTR's Dan Lomas (3rd) Jon Longhurst (1st) Simon Gambling (2nd).



everything run at a slower pace. Once the range was packed down, the sun had faded away and fireworks could be heard in the distance.

Up at the crack of dawn I headed off to the range to get all the electrics and brew kit up and running. The GBFCA League is a great place to compete: live scoring on the results screen, complimentary hot drinks on cold days, and plenty of free advice to newcomers.

Conditions were dull and overcast from the off but the flags across the range certainly flew with more conviction than on Saturday.

Temperatures hovered around 12C but it was dry, and that's what mattered.

Sunday consisted of two 2+15 Matches at 1,000 yards, setting the stage for a great showdown of shooting prowess and yet another National League record to be broken.

With F-Open shooting first on Day 2, I'm unsure how others found it, but I shot the whole match on 1 MOA Right, and held off around the outer 5 Ring. I still dropped five points though, all of which being squeaky elevations top and bottom. Either my acute neck angle was starving my head of wind reading ability, or I should have cleaned my barrel the night before and shot more blow offs. You live and learn, but I was scanning targets either side of me and did noticed others suffering the same fate, which was reassuring.

Some competitors found it a walk in the park and shot brilliantly, with the top

three finishing on cleans.

By the time FTR got down to shoot, conditions weren't that different and again, some brilliant scores were submitted for record. The leader board had altered once more and as is usual at the British Championships, it was going right down to the wire!

In F-Open, Gary Costello set a new 1000 yard National record with an awesome 75.11, with Ian Boxall (75.10) and Lance Vinall (75.08) following very closely in his slipstream. In FTR, Simon Gambling took the Gold with a 74.06, leaving Mike Harris (74.05) and Mike Pearson (73.11) close behind.

Wind conditions for the final Match 5 remained the same, so it was like starting off, just where we'd left things. Keeping my previous setting of 1 MOA Right, my rifle settled straight away, and water lined for all my shots. I personally dropped two points by overthinking things. I really enjoyed it though, and it was great to be back behind the rifle and competing amongst the wolfpack again.

ROUND 8: BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIPS GRAND AGGREGATE

	F-OPEN		FTR	
1	Ian Boxall	399.53	Jon Longhurst	397.46
2	Gary Costello	398.51	Simon Gambling	396.36
3	Tom Bindley	398.38	Dan Lomas	392.44

As scores started to flood in, it wasn't long before the usual crowd formed in front of the range results monitor, all eager to see where they had finished in the final pecking order.

As each new score comes in, everyone else moves in order.

For Match 5, well done to F-Open's Gordon Waugh for taking Gold with an impressive 75.10 and to Steve Rigby (75.10) who lost to Gordon on countback. Adam Bagnall (75.09) took Bronze with only 1 V-Bull less.

In F/TR, Jon Longhurst had come up trumps again, taking yet another Gold with a 74.04, with Simon Gambling (73.07) only a point behind and Mike Pearson (73.05) taking 3rd.

With the Sunday match scores now in, Dave Raybould took the Sunday aggregate top spot by cleaning both matches and finishing on a

very impressive 150.14, the only person to do so on the day. 2nd Place went to Steve Rigby with a 149.21, leaving Gary Costello in 3rd, only 1x V-Bull behind.

In F/TR, Simon Gambling had pipped Jon Longhurst to the finishing post by shooting 1x more V-Bull for Gold on 147.13, with John in 2nd on 147.12, leaving Mike Pearson to collect his third bronze medal of the day on a 146.16 – Great shooting Mike!

That then concluded our last round of 2024 and what a competition it was, with many competitors going all out and certainly leaving the best for last.

Congratulations to our new F-Open British Champion Ian Boxall, Runner Up Gary Costello and 3rd Place overall Tom Bindley. In F/TR, congratulations to Jon ►

Right: F/TR's Top 10 shooters of 2024 – Back row left to right Peter Dommert, Ryan Goodman, Kat Balakrishnan, Peter Sheffield, Simon West, Arnaud Martin and Jon Longhurst. Front row left to right – Asad Wahid, Dan Lomas and Mike Harris.





Above: F-Open's Top 10 shooters of 2024 – Back row left to right David Lloyd, Celt Ridout, David Rollafson, Darren Stewart, Tony Marsh, Brogan O'Shea Smith and Adam Bagnall. Front row left to right – Lance Vinall, Ian Boxall and Gary Costello – Awesome achievement from everyone!

Longhurst who let's face it, had led from the very beginning, taking a deserved F/TR Champion status. Simon Gambling took Runner Up with Dan Lomas propping up 3rd Place overall. Great shooting guys, and an awesome performance from all of you.

Coming to the final placings in the overall 2024 League, our heartiest congratulations go out to all the Top 10 competitors in both F/TR and F-Open. It's no easy task making that leader board and it's been great seeing you all perform at your best, when it mattered. Bring on the Worlds, as I'm sure we'll see you guys somewhere at the top of the tree.

In FTR, a special mention goes out to Dan Lomas for becoming a back-to-back Champion in F/TR. He's shown his worth throughout the full season and shot like a true star since 2023. Asad Wahid was a worthy runner-up and has shown ultimate dedication, shooting more in one year than most in a lifetime, and winning a huge amount of stage medals throughout 2024. Congratulations again to Jon Longhurst for taking 3rd

Place overall and for pulling it out of the bag in Round 8.

In F-Open and no stranger to the top spot, Gary Costello. Many congratulations for becoming F-Open's 2024 League Champion and for shooting as well as you have. Never far away from the top and next up is Ian Boxall. Congratulations on finishing in 2nd Place overall with a string of great results in previous rounds and especially for pulling it out the bag at Round 8 and securing your overall finishing spot in stone. Lance Vinall finished a very respected 3rd and has shot extremely well all year. It's no surprise he's finished within the Top 3 and we wish him all the best going forward from here...

I'd like to take this opportunity to personally thank Gary, Fred and all our team of private markers. Our RCOs Steve Rubley, Phil Northam, Nik Batson, Tony Lawson and Mick Williams. Thanks to all those who've jumped on our range computer and helped with Stats, in particular Brogan O'Shea-

Smith, Dan Lomas, Tom Reynolds and Julie Bagnall (who has also been our resident photographer at each round), including all those who've helped check score cards (there's far too many to mention).

Thanks to Paul Harkins and Tom Reynolds for all their tech help with our website, online sales and live scores and our team of dedicated committee members (Pete Dommett, Gary Costello, Mik Maksimovic, Tony Marsh, Lance Vinall and Des Parr),

who help make all the day-to-day matters happen and back me up when the proverbial hits the fan.

Finally, a monumental thanks goes out to all our loyal supporters, members and active competitors from all around the World. You are what really make our competitions happen and help us drive the standards of F-Class shooting to new heights, year on year. It's been a pleasure to be in your company and class you all as friends and we value your support so much, we'd genuinely be lost without you. Long may it continue and we wish you all the best in 2025/26.

"I'm going to close my blog with some words of wisdom. We're all extremely lucky to be a part of this close-knit family of F-Classers, as we get the chance to shoot and do what we enjoy most throughout the year. Please be grateful for all the opportunities you get to compete alongside your friends and above everything else, be thankful for making it to the end of another season.

Some of our fellow friends and valued competitors weren't as fortunate." 🙏



Above: RIP Martin Scrivens 1956 – 2024. **Right:** RIP Dave Riley 1955-2024.





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Above: Dennis nailing those X's!

2024 GERMAN OPEN & GALLERY RIFLE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

November means it's time for the annual German Open, hosted by the BDMP in Leitmar and this year this also included the IGRF World Championships. This change meant that available slots disappeared nearly as fast as the online squadding became available. Meeting Director Daniel Eggers and his team worked hard to free up available slots by arranging for some of the local participants to use the earlier slots, thus leaving some slots free for the arrival of the international teams.

Besides the individuals entering from various countries, the international match (1500) this year featured Germany, Ireland and Great Britain. The smallbore match was scheduled for Saturday afternoon, with the centre fire match on the Sunday afternoon. So, with this in mind we all tried to get suitable squadding times for our individual shoots that did not clash with the international matches.

The smallbore match set the stage with a close fought battle. Great Britain kept it together and managed to put in a formidable score. Sunday's

centre fire match was a new battle and was even more closely fought. All the teams struggled with some issues, including ammunition failures. It was even more important to remain focused, remember misfire drills and make sure every point counted. The results were as follows:

Smallbore	
Great Britain	5,889 355x
Ireland	5,872 325x
Germany	5,841 310x
Centre fire	
Germany	5,948 376x
Great Britain	5,925 354X
Ireland	5,916 350X

The respective top scorers per country were:

Smallbore	
Chris West (GB)	1,485 103x
Daniel Eggers (DE)	1,475 90x
Mark Nolan (IE)	1,472 75x
Centre fire	
Jessica Eggers (DE)	1,492 95x
Chris West(GB)	1,489 101X
Denis Cummins (IE)	1,485 88X

It is worth noting that on aggregate the Brits are 25 points in the lead. That is pretty impressive, considering

Above left: Smallbore match. **Above right:** Dennis Cummins (Ireland). **Below:** Squad.





we came second in the centre fire match! Shout out to Ian Archer on earning his first cap, having to step up from reserve to shooting in the team at short notice.

The Brits also featured prominently in the individual and club team results. As this was the World Championships, there were also Individual World Champions announced. These are based on the aggregate score of Timed & Precision 1, Multi Target, 1500 and 50m Precision.

Above left: Smallbore team.
Above right: Chris West (Great Britain).

The results were as follows:

Smallbore – Overall		
1	Daniel Eggers (DE)	2,194
2	Chris West (GB)	2,178
3	Robert Wheeler (GB)	2,177
Smallbore - Ladies		
1	Jessica Eggers (DE)	2,175
2	Amiel Gardiner (GB)	2,153
3	Julie Moran (IE)	2,147
Centre fire - Overall		
1	Daniel Eggers (DE)	2,187
2	Stephen Lamb (GB)	2,186
3	Joseph Pugh (GB)	2,180
Centre fire - Ladies		
1	Jessica Eggers (DE)	2,172
2	Jacqueline Lamb (GB)	2,131
3	Laura Warwick (GB)	2,123

Below: Centre fire match.

Our hosts put on an excellent dinner for all competitors in the appropriately named “Shooting Hall” across from the range complex, with a fine selection of German food and

drinks. Once again a good opportunity for all the teams and individuals to get to know each other better, with a lot of good-natured leg pulling to boot.

Lastly, a word of thanks to the team, the squad and all those in supporting roles that made it possible for us to be here and compete at all. Huge gratitude to all of you. It has been an honour to have been your captain the last two years and I look forward to working with and leading you for the next two-year cycle. 🍀



Above: Centre fire match. **Below:** Centre fire team.





BISHOP AUCKLAND GALLERY RIFLE OPEN 2024

Match Report by **Mike Hibberd**.

For several years, Bishop Auckland Gun Club had organised some informal Gallery Rifle training every



month to give those members that were interested some exposure to various courses of fire. Those organizing these training events also competed regularly from Bisley to Aberdeen and were keen to see the discipline grow within the club. Also recognizing the need for more regional competition and a geographical gap between Derby Rifle & Pistol Club and Joint Services Pistol Club discussions started about the possibility of hosting an Open competition.

Having attended many competitions it is easy to overlook what is required to plan and host an event. Once you start identifying the various tasks required, they soon start to mount up. The first and most important item was to seek committee approval for the event. This was something new for them and thankfully they had faith in the team to undertake this. The club is situated in a small industrial estate in Bishop Auckland and parking is very limited, so organising this to prevent disruption to our neighbours was high on their list of

requirements but other than that we got the green light to proceed.

The proposed competition was publicized via a couple of posts on the Gallery Rifle Facebook page well in advance to allow people to plan and arrange accommodation if need be. The club is surrounded by hotels, pubs and restaurants. From there we set about going through all the tasks required.

Charles Murton agreed to provide a copy of his excellent Stats software and Amanda Hibberd set about learning to use it at the Scottish Open and in the lead up to our competition. This software is fantastic and integrates into the GR&P Scores Database seamlessly.

Squadding would have to be done manually, which didn't turn out to be too difficult for a two-day competition and the appropriate targets were also purchased. Rough calculations for the number of targets required were checked several times but the sense of anxiety on the day as the pile depleted does take some getting used to.

A team of volunteers was put together with Stephen Bushnell assuming the role

“What was encouraging to see were several people entering a formal competition for the very first time with new GRiD numbers being allocated to several shooters.”

of CRO for the two days with assistance for Dave Nicholson, Geoff Fielding and Mathew Close. Stephen also came up with a fantastic catering solution involving a rather excellent Burger Van and this seemed to go down quite well with the competitors.

With everything seemingly in place, the time approached to send out the entry forms. Joint Services Pistol Club allowed us to use the format of their entry form, which was much appreciated and pricing kept in line with other regional competitions. There is an expectation that as soon as entries open you should be inundated with replies. This wasn't the case and we did begin to wonder if we'd misjudged the appetite for a competition in the Northeast of England. However, as time went by, a slow trickle of entries arrived and the entries closed with numbers sitting in the mid-20s across both days. This proved to be an ideal number. What was encouraging to see were several people entering a formal competition for the very first time with new GRiD numbers

being allocated to several shooters. It was humbling to have competitors enter from Aberdeen, Dundee and Cumbria and it is probably a reflection of the close nature of the GR community.

The weekend of the shoot arrived and the ROs and volunteers shot on Friday afternoon and into the evening. We were aware that the weather forecast for Saturday wasn't great but the amount of snow across northern England took everybody by surprise. Some competitors arrived late, some travelling from Cumbria had to turn back but we went ahead as normal.

The decision was made early on to keep the competition simple with a TP1, MT1

and 1020 across all the usual gun types. The club has a 50m indoor range so there was plenty space for people to stand on the range or sit and relax in the communal area with plenty tea, coffee and chocolate to keep people going.

Not long before the competition, the club had decided to replace the old analogue target controller with a digital version. The ability of the turning target system to last two days of constant use had been a concern. The new system, running wirelessly from an Android Tablet, never missed a beat.

As always, the standard of competition was high with some excellent shooting all round. New shooters got to experience the camaraderie that exists at competitions and we know that at least one newbie is now hooked and looking forward to attending more events throughout 2025!

Scores collated, there was a quick prize giving and thanks offered to all the competitors.

The team is grateful to the Committee of Bishop Auckland Gun Club in allowing us to run this competition and it is provisionally scheduled to be an annual event going forward. Thanks also to Charles Murton, Amanda Hibberd, Stephen Bushnall, Dave Nicholson, Geoff Fielding and Mathew Close for making this event happen.

The 2025 Bishop Auckland Gallery Rifle Open is scheduled for 21st -23rd November 2025. 🌱



TARGET SHOTGUN FESTIVAL 2025

Saturday 8th
March 2025

0735 Timed & Precision 1 - SGM

1	Jamie Stevenson	292 7x
2	Marc Bayliss	290 6x
3	Glenn Isaacs	289 7x
4	Jeffrey Brock	279 5x
5	Derek Bambling	277 4x
6	Benjamin Harrison	274 6x
7	Derren Appleyard	269 6x
8	Kieran Poll	256 2x

0736 Timed & Precision 1 - SGSA

1	Lucius Hilger-Ellis	297 16x
2	Timothy Jemmett	294 8x
3	Rob Sanders	293 10x
4	Gareth Cooney	293 7x
5	Eduard Nicorici	292 8x
6	Glenn Isaacs	291 12x
7	David Dawson	291 11x
8	Jamie Stevenson	289 6x
9	Adam Chapman	287 17x
10	Peter Matthews	286 7x
11	Richard Perry	284 5x
12	Steven Murphy	284 4x
13	Stephen Denton	283 9x
14	Paul Jebson	281 2x
15	Iain Gair	276 6x
16	J Laws-Beatham	276 6x
17	David Lacey	270 6x
18	Justin Bosanquet	264 0x
19	Peter Priest	263 1x
20	Julia Hilger-Ellis	259 6x
21	Julian Parsons	257 1x

0737 Timed & Precision 1 - SGC

1	Rob Sanders	292 9x
2	Jamie Stevenson	291 11x
3	Derek Bambling	263 6x

1135 Multi-Target - SGM

1	Glenn Isaacs	105 7x
2	Rob Sanders	105 5x
3	Marc Bayliss	99 9x
4	Jeffrey Brock	89 0x
5	Jamie Stevenson	86 4x
6	Benjamin Harrison	78 1x
7	Narinder Semar	59 3x

1136 Multi-Target - SGSA

1	Rob Sanders	111 8x
2	Timothy Jemmett	109 10x

3	Lucius Hilger-Ellis	108 11x
4	Jamie Stevenson	107 5x
5	Glenn Isaacs	106 8x
6	Gareth Cooney	106 8x
7	Eduard Nicorici	105 7x
8	Peter Matthews	104 5x
9	Julia Hilger-Ellis Iron	100 6x
10	Derek Bambling	99 7x
11	Joseph Laws-Beatham	98 7x
12	Jan Schumacher	96 7x
13	Julian Parsons	95 2x
14	Iain Gair Iron	94 3x
15	Adam Chapman	93 7x
16	Richard Perry	91 6x
17	David Lacey Iron	91 2x
18	Steven Murphy	90 3x
19	Paul Jebson Iron	89 3x
20	Conner Schumacher	72 3x
21	Peter Priest	64 0x
22	Nicholas Panayi	54 2x
23	James Rossell Iron	50 2x
24	Lauren Carter	42 0x

3335 Embassy Cup - SGM

1	Glenn Isaacs	118 22
2	Marc Bayliss	105 17
3	Jamie Stevenson	99 19
4	Benjamin Harrison	87 9

3336 Embassy Cup - SGSA

1	Adam Chapman	120 24
1	Lucius Hilger-Ellis	120 24
1	David Dawson	120 24
4	Peter Matthews	118 22
5	Gareth Cooney	117 21
6	Glenn Isaacs	116 20
7	Eduard Nicorici	114 22
8	Timothy Jemmett	114 20
9	Martin Harper	112 20
10	Jan Schumacher	78 10
11	Jamie Stevenson	77 9
12	Conner Schumacher	66 8
13	Iain Gair	58 10
14	Justin Bosanquet	58 6

3434 Service Match - SG

1	Adam Chapman	101 8
2	Glenn Isaacs	86 6
3	Jamie Stevenson	77 2
4	Benjamin Harrison	56 0



TARGET SHOTGUN LEAGUE 2025

Sunday 9th
March 2025

Shotgun Open

1	Eduard Nicorici	100.00%
2	Paul Moreland	80.29%
3	Matthew Orton	75.17%
4	Peter Matthews	74.20%
5	Gareth Cooney	65.37%
6	Zoltan Horvath	62.99%
7	David Ashcroft	61.29%
8	Alan Hills	57.65%
9	Craig Hamilton	55.37%
10	Turhan Suleyman	48.08%
11	Richard Poole	39.39%

12	Jeremy Douglas	30.82%
13	Darren Thomas	13.86%

Shotgun Standard

1	Lucius Hilger-Ellis	100.00%
2	James Harris	92.03%
3	James Bardolph	87.36%
4	Robert Lawson	86.81%
5	Glenn Isaacs	75.13%
6	Gareth Cooney	68.22%
7	Rob Holmes	66.92%
8	Robin Shelley	62.62%

9	Mark Wood	62.46%
10	Krishan Mistry	61.71%
11	Kian De La Cour	59.00%
12	Robert Sanders	58.52%
13	Stuart Jenkins	53.86%
14	Brian Farrow	48.43%
15	John Lynch	45.69%
16	Colin Rowe	44.85%
17	Anton van Zyl	44.14%
18	James Rossell	42.33%
19	Julia Hilger-Ellis	41.29%
20	Jan Schumacher	41.20%

21	David Lacey	39.26%
22	David Salter	37.05%
23	Gio Lowen	32.37%
24	Bradley Smith	31.49%
25	Stephen Hooker	26.88%

Shotgun Standard Manual

1	Matt Liddy	100.00%
2	Graham Hill	90.99%
3	Tim Felstead	90.05%
4	Glenn Isaacs	89.78%
5	Richard Dare	73.62%
6	Steve Cox	73.60%
7	Oliver McCann	71.10%
8	Marc Bayliss	69.24%
9	J Laws-Beatham	63.81%
10	Mark Wood	59.16%
11	Corbie Barnard	59.03%
12	Benjamin Harrison	53.65%
13	Gio Lowen	39.86%





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SPRING ACTION WEEKEND

Ash Dagger reports on the first main competition of the season held at Bisley.

Spring Action – the GR&P season opener at Bisley – tends to bring the best and worst of the weather. I’ve shot in the snow, rain and baking sun, but it was a nice surprise this year to shoot in just about ideal conditions of warm and dry! This should be the event where all those broken bits have been replaced and all that dirt scrubbed out, after the winter break; unfortunately, those plans don’t always come to fruition. That said, in what was a good turn-out for March, I was personally blessed with 100% reliability (except of course from the shooter).

Info from our hard working Stats Office confirms that there were 200+ competitors this year, with 1044 score cards issued over the weekend; not too shabby for a Spring event. What struck me was the number of new faces on the line – it’s always a pleasure to see the event is still attracting fresh shooters. And of course, plenty of experienced shooters are always on hand to offer their advice and guidance to the newbies, who hopefully will both ingest

those wise words, and spread the word on how welcoming and friendly the GR&P community is.

It was also noticeable that there were a few new faces in the Range Crew line-up. That is always welcome as whilst we have a good contingent of established ROs, the age profile is somewhat elevated (that’s a better way to say we are all old and grumpy – some more grumpy than others!) The regulars will have noticed some improvements in the volunteer’s reward package; we hope that will also attract and retain even more into the fold; these events would not work without all those hard working crew, who give up so much time for free.

SAW runs over 10 of the Bisley ranges with 20+ events offered across multiple firearm classes (so circa 100 different opportunities to shoot, should you so wish). This also includes the recently established aggregates for Serving, ex-Serving and under-25s. Shooters can check their scores online, and if you are lucky

enough to have won a medal, they will be waiting for you at the Phoenix match in May (or posted out just after).

Unfortunately, the 2025 GR&P Handbook fell foul of the printer’s gremlins for SAW. However, the new version is always available online and will now be available from the NRA office – free to anyone that wants one. Take a few back to your home range and spread the GR&P word.

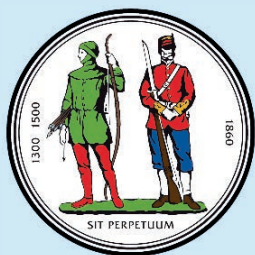
So – all in all, another successful weekend and as the pictures show, plenty of action and enjoyment for all who attended. Hopefully, we’ll see them and plenty of others at the Phoenix, at the end of May.

As always – any suggestions for changes or improvements can come via myself on gallery@nra.org.uk ☺

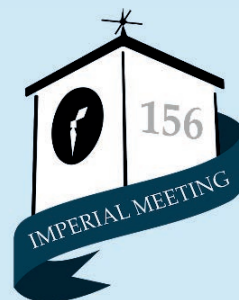
SPRING ACTION WEEKEND GALLERY ►







Imperial Meeting Programme 2025



Service Rifle: Friday 13th – Tuesday 24th June

Military Adaptive Championships: Thursday 19th June

Civilian Service Rifle: Wednesday 2nd – Sunday 6th July

F Class: Thursday 3rd – Sunday 6th July

Match Rifle: Friday 11th – Thursday 17th July

Imperial Historic Arms: Saturday 12th – Sunday 13th July

McQueen: Saturday 12th – Sunday 20th July

Sporting Rifle: Saturday 12th – Tuesday 22nd July

CCF Schools Meeting: Monday 14th – Thursday 17th July

Gallery Rifle & Pistol: Thursday 17th – Sunday 20th July

300m Championships: Monday 21st – Tuesday 22nd July

Target Rifle: Thursday 17th – Saturday 26th July



HM THE KING'S PRIZE

Wednesday 23rd July
Stage I

Friday 25th July
Stage II

Saturday 26th July
Final

NEW LEASE OPPORTUNITIES!

We are delighted to announce the following accommodation opportunities at Bisley Camp.

CRAWFORD LODGE

Crawford Lodge has undergone a complete refurbishment and is now available for lease. It provides an ideal base at Bisley, perfect for those involved in shooting activities.

The lodge offers an open-plan lounge/bedroom, a newly fitted kitchen area, and a W.C. with shower, gas central heating and hot water. Additionally, it comes with its own dedicated parking space for added convenience.

Presented to a high standard, Crawford Lodge is ready for viewings.

The lodge is being offered by tender to NRA members and affiliated organisations for a lease term of either 7 or 21 years.



WHITE HORSE LODGE

White Horse Lodge offers a unique opportunity for attractive, well-located accommodation on Bisley Camp. This versatile space can serve as either a private residence or a clubhouse for members involved in shooting activities at Bisley.

Having undergone extensive refurbishment in 2018, the lodge remains beautifully presented. It features a veranda and a private garden that leads directly to Club Row, with views over Exhibition Lawn.

Inside, the property is thoughtfully laid out across a spacious ground floor. It includes a large open-plan lounge and kitchen, along with a dedicated gun-cleaning room and storage cellar and comes with gas central heating and hot water. The lodge also has four bedrooms, each with its own en-suite, including a shower, separate toilet, and washbasin.

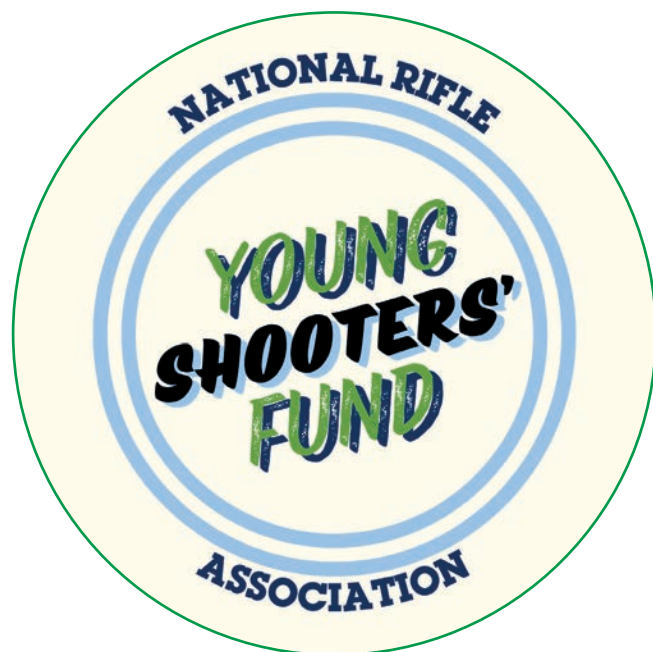
Whether you're looking for a private retreat or a functional space for a shooting club, White Horse Lodge provides the perfect setting for both.

White Horse Lodge is being offered by tender to NRA members and affiliated organisations for a lease term of 7 - 21 years. 🔄

INFORMATION

For further details of either property please contact Shelly Fletcher at the NRA on 01483 797777 Ext 212, or email shelly.fletcher@nra.org.uk.

YOUNG SHOOTERS FUND: EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF SHOOTERS



Applications are now open for the Young Shooters Fund (YSF), an initiative aimed at supporting young individuals passionate about shooting sports. The fund provides financial assistance and vital resources to help young shooters overcome financial barriers and continue their development in competitive shooting disciplines.

The YSF is for individuals aged 18-25 who have demonstrated commitment and potential in the sport but lack the financial resources to access necessary equipment. By offering loaned rifles and other support, the YSF ensures that financial constraints do not hinder young shooters from pursuing or advancing in their passion for shooting.

HOW THE FUND WORKS

The YSF is designed to offer eligible young shooters the resources they need to participate in competitive shooting. Selected recipients will receive a loan of a suitable rifle or spotting scope for exclusive use. In some cases, at the discretion of the YSF Committee, recipients may have the opportunity to purchase the equipment at the end of their support period for a fair market value based on third-party estimates.

This initiative is specifically geared towards young individuals who are active or aspiring competitors in NRA shooting disciplines. In addition, applications are welcomed from clubs, schools, associations, teams, and groups affiliated with the NRA, who are looking to support young shooters in their development.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To apply for the Young Shooters Fund, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Aged 18-25 years of age.
- Full individual members of the NRA prior to application.

- Actively engaged or intending to compete in shooting disciplines.
 - In need of financial assistance to purchase equipment or limited in participation due to lack of access to suitable equipment.
- Clubs, schools, associations, teams, and other groups may also apply on behalf of young individuals, provided they are NRA-affiliated.


HOW TO APPLY

Interested individuals and organisations can complete the online application form, detailing their shooting experience, aspirations, and financial needs. All applications will be reviewed by the YSF Committee, and recipients will be selected based on eligibility and merit. The application form and further information are available from the NRA website.

SUPPORT THE FUND – A CALL FOR SPONSORS AND DONORS

To further strengthen the impact of the Young Shooters Fund, the NRA invites sponsors, legacies, and donors to contribute. Your support will directly help young shooters access the resources they need to reach their full potential in the sport.

Together, we can help remove financial barriers and ensure that dedication and talent are the only requirements for success in competitive shooting.

For more information on how to apply or contribute to the Young Shooters Fund, please email: YSF@nra.org.uk 



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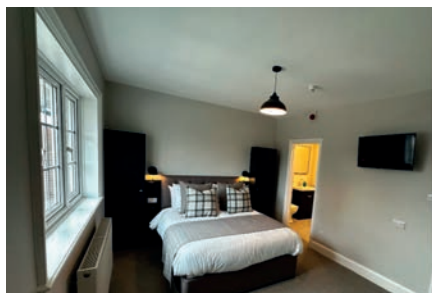
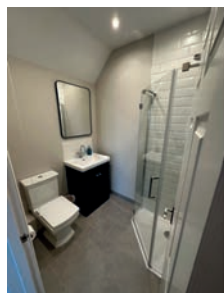
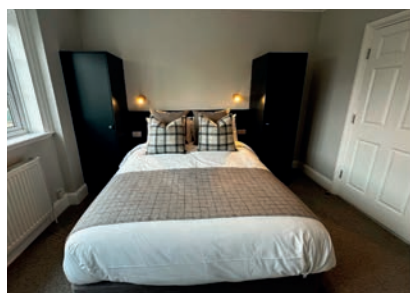
BISLEY REFURBISHMENT PROJECTS UPDATE

Update by **Richie Vallance**,
Head of Operations.

You may have noticed a significant amount of construction activity around Bisley Camp. I'm delighted to share that we are immersed in several exciting refurbishment projects, aimed at enhancing the site's facilities while preserving its rich heritage. Here's the latest update on our progress:

PAVILION ROOM REFURBISHMENTS

The latest phase of the Pavilion refurbishment project is now complete. Four additional rooms, Rooms 2, 3, 4, and Pavilion Cottage Room 17, have been fully upgraded, bringing the total number of refurbished rooms to 13, with six more planned for future renovation.



Top: The ISSF – 10 Lane airgun range being fitted with SIUS targets.
Above: The new conservatory is nearing completion.

Each room has been redesigned to maximise space and enhance guest comfort. Notably, three of the four newly refurbished rooms now feature king-size beds, a first for the Pavilion. All rooms are ensuite with modern walk-in showers and spacious wardrobes for added convenience. Particular attention was given to Rooms

2, 3, and 17, where previously narrow bathrooms have been expanded and modernised to create a more comfortable experience. Room 17 is in the Pavilion Cottage and is designed to be dog friendly.

PAVILION BALLROOM AND CONSERVATORY TRANSFORMATION

Work on the Pavilion Ballroom is progressing well, with completion scheduled for 1st

Left: Pavilion Room Refurbishments.

“The conservatory area has undergone a complete transformation, creating a stylish lounge, bar, and restaurant space.



Above: Exhibition Hut is now structurally sound and ready for the next chapter in its life at Bisley.

May. This iconic space is being transformed into a multi-functional venue, featuring a state-of-the-art 10m ISSF-compliant air pistol range. A unique feature of this range is its ability to conceal targets behind trap doors when not in use, ensuring the Ballroom retains its grandeur for other events. We look forward to welcoming air pistol enthusiasts soon, so keep an eye on the Pavilion and NSC websites for further booking details.

Additionally, the conservatory area has undergone a complete transformation, creating a stylish lounge, bar, and restaurant space. To improve guest experience, the storeroom has been slightly reduced to accommodate new toilets, including an accessible toilet. A new decking area has been added, allowing guests to enjoy outdoor seating during the summer. Just in time for the Imperial Meeting!

To further improve accessibility, a side decking area has been introduced, providing step-free access to the building and a beautiful setting to sit to take in the sights of Bisley. The conservatory now also benefits from underfloor heating, which has not only enhanced

comfort but also enabled us to level the floors throughout the building, improving accessibility across the venue.

EXHIBITION HUT

The Exhibition Hut (also known as the Muzzle Loaders Association building) has undergone essential structural repairs to safeguard its historic character. Significant rot had made intervention necessary to prevent further deterioration.

This refurbishment has been undertaken entirely by the NRA maintenance team, whose dedication and craftsmanship have been invaluable. My sincere thanks go out to the entire team, as each member has played a role

in this project. However, I'd like to give special recognition to Andy Harvey, the team's carpenter, who has carried out the majority of the restoration work. Early in the project, Andy shared his thoughts with me: "I feel privileged to be working on this building." His passion and skill have been instrumental in ensuring that the restoration remains faithful to the building's original construction, using traditional materials and techniques to maintain its authenticity.

The next phase will involve repainting the exterior, with work set to begin shortly now that the weather is improving. Once completed, we will move on to the interior

refurbishment, further enhancing the building while preserving its heritage for future generations.

BUILDING 103 RESTORATION

Work is also well underway on Building 103, another historic structure at Bisley. Like the Exhibition Hut, this building is being carefully restored with great respect for its original design and character. The installation of a new roof was a crucial step in securing the structure's longevity and safety. The next phase will focus on structural upgrades to ensure the integrity of this unique space for years to come.

FUTURE PROJECTS

We have recently commenced work on several new projects, which I look forward to sharing in the next journal update. We remain committed to enhancing Bisley's facilities while respecting its history, ensuring that it continues to serve as a premier destination for shooters and visitors alike. We look forward to keeping you updated as these projects progress! 🔄

Right: Building 103 with its new shiny roof.





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From the Safety, Legal & Technical Officer

DISCIPLINARY CASES 2024

NRA Safety, Legal & Technical Officer, **Iain Robertson**, outlines disciplinary procedures undertaken in 2024.

Last year, I wrote that in 2023 the NRA had applied its disciplinary process to thirty-two members and three clubs following various breaches of rules. In 2024 professional staff and members of the Disciplinary Body continued to expend time on the consequences of entirely avoidable events. Disciplinary action followed in thirteen of seventeen reported occurrences involving about forty individuals and four clubs.

Only one case went to a disciplinary committee. The others were dealt with under “Administrative Disposition”. Such an outcome requires that: the offender (the “respondent” in the language of the Disciplinary Code) accepts the error and their liability for it; the respondent has no recent history of similar misconduct; the Secretary General offers disposal with the approval of the Chairman of the Disciplinary Body; the respondent accepts that disposal.

By far the commonest imposition under Administrative Disposition was a requirement to attend and pass the NRAs Range Safety Awareness Course (RSAC). The course content is tailored to the perceived deficiencies in the respondent’s conduct and is delivered one-to-one or in a small group by the Association’s professional training staff. The respondent is required to pay a standard fee towards the cost of running the course.

Offers of Administrative Disposition may include a financial penalty of up to £500. Payments are credited to the NRA Young Shooters’ Fund.

The most common theme seems to have been failure to follow Range Regulations – in particular at Bisley taking

malfunctioning firearms off the range rather than calling for assistance from Armoury staff. After that, a variety of failures to engage brain before opening fire. And a couple of cases that defy rational explanation.

Here are some details of the year’s cases. Please everyone, just stop doing this kind of stuff.

JAMMED FIREARM

A club’s underlever rifle was in use by a club member. The user loaded the rifle with 9mm ammunition rather than .38” Special. The club kept both types of ammunition, from the same manufacturer and in colourful packaging that emphasises the company rather than the content, in the same ammo tin. The incorrect ammunition resulted in a jam with at least one round stuck in the moving parts and at least two more inaccessible in the magazine. The club’s FAC holder, trying to be helpful, took the rifle to the Range Office in that condition. RSAC for the FAC holder, to educate both him and the club.

PROCEDURAL ERROR LEADING TO SAFETY VIOLATION

A club was assembling behind the electronic targets on Stickledown during the lunch break. A busy programme was planned. The RO permitted club members to place equipment on the firing point ahead of the afternoon start. He then left the immediate vicinity to attend to other organisational matters. He and others on the range were alerted by a shot; a club member, hearing other shooting (from the

shotgun ranges who operate to a different timetable) had assumed permission to commence firing. Fortunately nobody was on the range floor, the mantlet or the stop butt. RSAC for the RO and the firer.

INAPPROPRIATE PROCESS TO SOLVE A PROBLEM

A member was properly qualified and booked to use the Zero Range (which is covered by real-time CCTV showing in both the Range Office and the Range Safety office). Having failed to hit the zero target in the prone position from the firing point and being unable to pick up the fall of shot into the sand, he took his straight-pull rifle forward and engaged the zero target from the standing position. This caught the attention of Range Safety staff, who went to intervene. The member wrote a comprehensive account accepting full responsibility for the error. That, coupled with the period of about two months of suspension while the disciplinary process was worked through, convinced the Secretary General that the lesson had been fully learned. No further penalty.

PROCESS ERROR FOLLOWED BY INAPPROPRIATE RESPONSE

A club RCO on a military range gave the order to commence firing without obtaining clearance from Range Control. The club had a large number of probationary or guest members present and the RCO was working hard to get the event under way. He failed to contact Range Control to obtain the final clearance to open fire. Very shortly after giving ►

the order he realised his error and tried unsuccessfully several times to contact Control before eventually doing the right thing and calling a halt. A protracted investigation established the sequence of actions, that there were no procedural or physical controls to prevent the failure and that some initial reports were in error. The RCO surrendered his qualification and gave an undertaking not to supervise range activity in the future.

GROSS BREACH OF DISCIPLINE

A member sought an early detail with his club at Bisley because of external constraints. Having fired one detail, he saw an opportunity for another before he had to leave. He changed ammunition type (both types commercial) and on the first feed the round jammed with the bolt part open. After some futile attempts to fix the problem the firer removed the rifle from the range with the round still engaged in the boltface, in defiance of the ROs order not to do so. The case took about five months to bring to a disciplinary committee during which time the respondent was suspended from range activity (and resigned his club membership). The disciplinary committee cancelled all qualifications and awarded a further 11 month's suspension followed by extended mandatory retraining with a condition that failure to complete retraining successfully would result in termination of membership.

INATTENTION / DISTRACTION

A club member walked from near the centre of Stickledown range at 1000 yards to the toilets at Melville, causing an emergency stop by firers on the left side of Stickledown at 1100 yards. Contributory factors included that other members had parked their cars so as to obscure the line of STOP boards marking the live range element. Admin disposal by RSAC. Some range layout procedures have changed as a follow-up action.

BREACH OF REGULATIONS? CONFUSION?

In a busy range session at 600 yards on Century range, a participant waiting at the rear was thought to have dry-fired a rifle. A member of professional staff rebriefed the individual. That would have been

the end, except that the individual then sent the NRA a confused email saying he hadn't sent an email. After a considerable correspondence, the original bare facts were accepted. Sending confusing emails isn't of itself a breach of the rules, but it soaks up a lot of time. Please review before pressing send.

POOR DECISION AND IGNORING REGULATIONS

A member acting as their own RO decided that as there was nobody on the range floor it was OK to start shooting on Melville range during the lunch break. The respondent refused to accept their error, thus the offered disposal could not proceed. In the meantime the member failed to renew membership. Case closed.

jammed on a detached percussion cap, they found that they did not know how to dismantle the gun. So they removed the percussion caps from unfired chambers and took the gun back to the armoury. RSACx2.

(NEARLY A NASTY) ACCIDENT

A club member, having an unthinking off day and without anyone else noticing, loaded a muzzle-loading revolver with nitro powder. When on the first shot the gun disintegrated in the hands of a young probationary member, fortunately without injuring anyone, the club dealt with the immediate fallout but, in breach of an assortment of NRA Rules and Range Regulations, did not tell the NRA. The NRA found out a few days later when

“The most common theme seems to have been failure to follow Range Regulations.”

INATTENTION / POOR BRIEFING

A club member drove across Century range behind the 300 yard firing point to reach his club on butt 19 when live firing was in progress at 600 yards, then changed his mind after clearing the lanes in use from 600, turned round and drove back again. The driver personally and the club's event organiser on behalf of the club were required to complete RSAC.

ASSUMPTION

A member brought a private guest to shoot on Bisley ranges on an individual booking, thus contravening the Range Regulation that restricts use of the ranges to individual members and members of affiliated clubs acting as such. In mitigation, the member stated that as the NRA advertises days when members may bring guests to shoot he thought it would be OK at other times. That led staff to a view that there might be other elements of the Range Regulations with which he was unfamiliar. Fined £100 and RSAC.

REFAMILIARISATION FAILED

Two members (husband and wife) took out an NRA muzzle-loading revolver, to remind themselves how to use it ahead of an SCC renewal assessment. When it

police asked for an explanation after the destruction of the gun was reported to them for licensing purposes. Before the NRA could act, a combination of police input and personal decision resulted in the member giving up his firearms. Mandatory retraining through the RSAC was required of the two club members acting as RO on the day, a RSO qualified club member who was present, and the club Chairman, who under the affiliation agreement carries personal responsibility for the appointment of ROs on behalf of the club.

A BUNCH OF P****S ARE BARRED

At the conclusion of an event on Bisley ranges, a club set up multiple improvised targets including a near-life-size inflatable figurine and gave fire orders for about a dozen members to engage in rapid fire. Rules ignored included restrictions on targetry, cross-lane firing, obedience to range commands, duties of the range officer and likely others. The club filmed the misconduct and posted the video on public social media, from which the NRA became aware about a week after the event. At time of writing the club is currently suspended pending disciplinary action. ☹️



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MUSEUM NEWS

Anthony de Launay, NRA
Museum Curator reports.

APRIL 2025

CHRISTOPHER BUNCH

It is with very great regret that we received news from his family that our Museum colleague Chris Bunch had died on 31 January. All of us will miss his wisdom and quiet humour as well as his extensive knowledge of issues to do with the NRA. His obituary appears elsewhere in the Journal.

MALCOLM COOPER'S MEDALS

We mentioned, in the Spring 2024 issue of the Journal, that we had been presented with one of the late Malcolm Cooper's Olympic rifles – now on display in the Museum. We have since been contacted by Malcolm's wife Sarah, who has very kindly presented us with his collection of medals won over many years at the top of the international and Olympic shooting lists. We are most grateful to her for this act of kindness and support, and for the beautiful book of photographs that she has compiled in his memory.

In front of us lies a massive task of creating a suitable display that will also allow us to show Malcolm's rifle and the fruits of his excellence as a marksman.



1861 QUEEN'S PRIZE BADGE

We recently were alerted to a very early pair of badges going under the hammer at auction – and we were able to enter a successful bid. One was an 1861 Queen's Prize Wimbledon badge, and the other an 1863 St George's cross with metal medallion in the centre.

The colour and design of the Queen's Prize badge leads us to conclude that it is the winner's badge and would therefore have been won by Pte JM Jopling. On the basis that they were from the same source we also conclude that the St George's medallion is almost certainly Jopling's badge from his victory in that competition in 1863.

In any event, the 1861 badge is now the earliest such badge in our collection, and would be one of the 40 badges awarded retrospectively to earlier finalists of the first three years of Wimbledon on the introduction of the badges in 1863. The St George's cross is of crimson fabric on a metal frame with a central St



George's medallion. That badge predated the introduction of the badges that we know today, as described in Nick Leaper's fine history of that competition.

IMPROVING OUR INFORMATION ACCESSIBILITY

We are always looking for areas in which we can improve information available to researchers. Currently much depends on old-fashioned devilling and manual scouring of paper records. This needs to change to drag us into the 21st Century by having a searchable Museum database available to members and to others.

That is the dream for now, but in coming years, probably culminating long after I and some of my colleagues have passed into total retirement, we envisage an on-line accessible system tuned into Museum and Membership needs. Our research thus far suggests that such a programme is available and we are currently taking steps to make the first moves forward. We would welcome input from anyone with experience of managing such a task.

ASHBURTON RESULTS' RECORDS

From 1861 onwards the bound annual "Report of Proceedings" contained full details of the Ashburton competition in the form of lists of the schools and their scores. They showed each school's total score and those made by each team member.

This amount of detail continued for some years until, at various points thereafter, the amount of detail was reduced. In 1964, the annual report was replaced by a flimsy and truncated results summary booklet. In 1996 the records of each Annual Bisley Meeting were restored and improved into bound paperback books and then CDs. For the Ashburton they showed the names of the team members in the top three schools' places, but only the School name and total score in the rest of the list of those taking part.

NUMBER.	NAME.	SCHOOL.	200 YARDS.					500 YARDS.					TOTAL POINTS.
			1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	
1	Anwyl . . .	Rugby	2	2	1	1	2	2	0	1	1	2	14
2	Evans . . .	"	1	2	2	1	2	0	1	1	1	12	
3	Farwell . . .	"	1	2	0	2	1	1	1	1	0	11	
4	Garnett . . .	"	1	2	0	2	1	1	0	2	1	10	
5	Hopkinson . . .	"	2	2	1	1	2	0	0	1	0	10	
6	Lyons . . .	"	1	2	2	1	2	0	0	1	0	9	
7	Richards . . .	"	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	8	
8	Manell, 1st . . .	"	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	6	
9	Tritton . . .	"	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	5	
10	Manell, 2nd . . .	"	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	
11	Thurston . . .	"	11	13	11	11	14	6	2	10	8	91	
1	Peel . . .	Harrow	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	11	
2	Hurley . . .	"	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	0	10	
3	Parker . . .	"	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	8	
4	Ridley . . .	"	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	8	
5	Bushell . . .	"	0	2	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	8	
6	Prichett . . .	"	0	1	1	2	2	1	0	1	0	8	
7	Jones . . .	"	0	1	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	7	
8	Bogle . . .	"	0	1	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	6	
9	Hood . . .	"	1	0	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	6	
10	Cunningham . . .	"	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	5	
11	Hay . . .	"	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	5	
			9	13	11	11	14	6	5	7	6	79	
1	Howard . . .	Eton	1	2	1	2	3	1	0	1	0	12	
2	Parker . . .	"	1	1	1	1	2	1	0	2	1	9	
3	Lt. Clannorris . . .	"	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	9	
4	Johnson . . .	"	2	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	8	
5	Arkwright . . .	"	2	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	9	
6	Hicks . . .	"	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	1	1	5	
7	Garnett . . .	"	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	5	
8	Acland . . .	"	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	
9	Lees . . .	"	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	
10	Leach . . .	"	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	4	
11	Macrae . . .	"	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	3	
			10	12	7	11	14	3	3	6	7	75	

We do have copies of all the printed prize list sheets for the years in which the pared down lists were issued and have started the huge task of entering all results into an Ashburton database that will cover the years from 1861 to date. The database will show just the name of the school, its total score and its placing. The whole will also show moments of note, such as changes to conditions over the years. Once this is completed it will be available for interrogation in the Library of the Museum (and we hope subsequently on line).

YOUR MUSEUM NEEDS YOU - COUNTIES' AND SCHOOLS' BADGES

Among our displays are numerous collections of Queen's and King's Prize badges, St George's, Kolapore and many others showing achievements of individual shooters. What we do not have is any representative display of either School or County badges awarded for membership of Ashburton or County teams. These are just as much emblems of shooting heritage as all the others. What we would like to do is to create two displays.

Counties: of County Rifle Association team badges, normally awarded when an individual has been selected to shoot in a county team in competitions such as King George V heats, Inter-Counties, Counties Short and Long or similar. It may well be that there have been county "mergers" or disappearances over the years. We would invite each County RA to donate a

current or historic badge for this display. Indeed, there may be examples of two or more badges where changes have happened over the years – County Secretaries, can you help us?

Schools: of all the Schools that have participated in the Schools' Meeting over the years since 1861. Some badges were designed for use on the Cadet Force uniform:



similar badges today may well be of different design, or possibly without the specific CCF nuance. We therefore invite each and every School, whether currently shooting or not, to donate one of their badges (the earlier the better), or a similar blazer type badge showing their school crest, to the Museum for use in a display. Schools' cadet forces - can you help us? If there are any past pupils who wish to donate their badge, we would welcome their contribution.

You can contact us at museum@nra.org.uk or write to us at the NRA's postal address.

MUSEUM PERSONNEL

Following on from the article and the appeal for volunteers in the Spring 2024 Journal we are delighted to welcome Paul Roberts and Jade Cresswell-Harwood to our ranks. Paul brings with him sporting and historic rifle knowledge with a career in surveying; Jade, brings computer literacy and understanding of systems as we move into the future. Welcome, Paul and Jade.

SCHOOLS OF THE EMPIRE TROPHY

On one of our adventures into the darker and spider infested spaces we came across another dirt encrusted trophy in the form of a circular shield surrounded by subsidiary shield shaped nameplates. Application of the Price magic formula

transformed it into the recognisable prize awarded to School teams in the Schools of the Empire Match. It was a postal match for schools and contested from

1909 to 1915 – although the

final winners never had their names engraved on one of the smaller shields.

What is intriguing about the central element of the trophy is that the depiction of figures and events is identical to the centre of the Ashburton Shield and to another shield that we believe exists in Australia.

The manufacturing process, by Messrs Elkingtons, is therefore likely to have

been through the use of a die to press out a number of these shields. It is currently on display in the Museum and it is hoped that it will be brought back into competition in the future.



FINALLY...

My thanks to everyone who assisted us through 2024 into 2025, whether as a member of our Volunteer crew or by way of advice and encouragement in what we try to do. We hope that 2025 will be a positive and rewarding year for everyone. ☺

RANGE OFFICE

NRA MEMBER DAYS

Have you ever wanted to try out PRS style shooting with steel targetry? Have you ever wanted to shoot against the picturesque background of Chobham Ridge? Ever been intrigued by the Mini McQueen shoots at NRA competitions?

Our Member Days provide an opportunity for full NRA members and members of affiliated clubs to experience

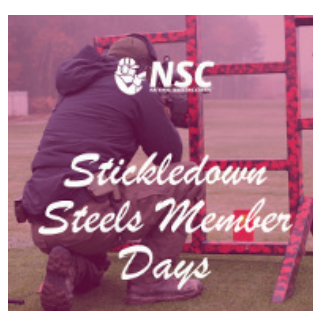
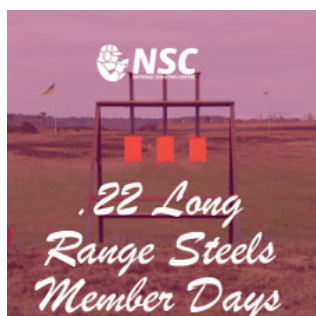
different types of shooting disciplines, of which may not normally be available as individual bookings, at a discounted rate. Prices vary depending on event.

These sessions are booked as individual bookings (not club bookings), one person permitted per booking.

As of 2025, affiliated club members are able to book on to our Member Days for an additional £11.00 insurance fee. Affiliated

club members are required to submit an online booking. If they have an SCC they will automatically have an account. Please contact membership@nra.org.uk for these details.

Check out the events section on the NSC website for more information including availability.



TARGET MARKERS NEEDED

for the Imperial competition



Target marking is an ever-growing, exciting position. A chance to work a physical outdoor job and alongside your friends, target marking is a unique job opportunity.

In full-bore shooting, a target is mounted on a mechanical frame which is raised and lowered between shooting and scoring. A 'Target marker' performs this action, and communicates the score achieved via coloured discs that the shooter can see from hundreds of yards away. Don't fret, although the prospect of working on a shooting range may be daunting, you are completely safe and will be provided with full training.

Our annual summer Imperial Competition is rapidly approaching, and we will be holding training sessions in preparation from June. The competition takes place from 3rd – 26th July (varying start dates available). There will be additional work available outside this period.

On a casual contract basis, and unrivalled pay, this is not an opportunity to miss.

As of April 2025, the pay is as follows: Under 21 - £11.70. 21 and over - £13.68

Head to the National Rifle Association website (and search "Markers") for more details including pay, application forms, dates, and contact details, or email markers@nra.org.uk to speak to the team. 📧



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There has been an awful lot of nonsense floating around about the medical requirements for licensing.

As the company who invented the 3rd party process of Firearms Licensing proforma completion and with half a decade of experience working with the Home Office, UK Forces and international judiciaries MedCert are uniquely positioned to dispel a few myths and offer some advice.

There are any number of scary tales on forums and "my mate knows this chap" stories being told wherein the individual, through absolutely no fault of their own, has had their guns removed and their licence revoked. The vast majority are total bunkum, at best these tales can often provide misleading lessons for those looking to preserve their own licences, and has given rise to a number of myths.

Myth No. 1 This process is new. No. The physical piece of paper, the proforma, is new and the timings are different, but the questions remain the same and the requirement for the individual to declare any relevant medical conditions is as important as ever.

As stated, this is nothing particularly new, and certainly not a system designed to remove guns from the individual or to specifically create income for the GPs. That said, a number of GPs have seen this as an opportunity to charge preposterous fees for the work done.

Myth No 2. Revocations are certainly taking place across the country, but contrary to many rumours the vast majority of these are due to the individuals themselves failing to report notifiable conditions on their original grants or subsequent renewals.

Myth No 3. Signs of illness will mean I lose my license. No. The medical proforma is an objective, opinion-free summary of an applicant's medical history and firearms licensing use this as one of the many pieces of information they review when assessing an applicant's suitability. Everyone goes through hard times in life and past episodes, or current conditions which are well managed, are not a barrier to being granted a licence.

However, what is a barrier to being granted a licence is omitting details of relevant medical conditions on previous application forms or during the term of the licence.

There are, of course, nuances to this – in all the many thousands of proformas we have done we are not aware that the police have revoked for minor discrepancies. On occasion, a patient may have been diagnosed with low mood and not been informed, had a note placed on their record as an aside or been prescribed a drug without knowing it is an antidepressant and therefore do not to tick the relevant boxes on their licence application in all good faith.

I cannot stress enough how much honesty is the best policy. Not only is it a requirement for all licence holders to be of good character, but trying to circumvent the system by omitting medical information or attempting to forge either your medical records or your proforma will result in serious consequences for both you and the shooting community as a whole. You might be surprised by how quickly forgery can be detected.

If you are suffering from a notifiable condition then you should never defer, avoid or cease treatment because you believe it will affect your licence. There are a number of wonderful organisations offering confidential support if you're not sure where to turn – the Gamekeeper's Welfare Trust, for example, has an excellent helpline.

A last point. The requirement is that you submit your completed proforma along with the rest of your application paperwork, and that this should be at least eight weeks prior to your expiry date. As such, please be aware that you should start the process of getting the proforma approximately five months before the ticket runs out.

Whilst the 'new' timings of the medical proforma may be causing some issues, by the very nature of the cycle of licensing these will lessen. Medcert are already doing renewals for the FLU's that were early adopters of the proforma and even the latest adopters are fast approaching their third anniversary.


NRA E-League

Open to members of any
Home Office Approved Club

1- Download: The Courses of Fire can be found on the NRA Website. The competitions are based on published NRA matches – a great training tool if you are working towards entering Club or NRA Competitions

2- Shoot: Arrange a time to shoot the competitions at your own Club at any point in the three month window - you will need a witness to sign the scorecard

3- Submit: Email us your scorecard before the closings date, along with the £3/class entry fee, and your results will feature on our online leaderboard

 **Awards:** NRA Civitas (Community) Medals are awarded in each Round. Medals are also awarded, in each firearm class to the highest scoring:

Under 17, Under 21, Under 25, Serving and Ex-Serving Member of HM forces/ Emergency Services

Visit our website for
full details:





NRA TRAINING UPDATE 2025

From **David Camp**, NRA National Training Manager.

Good training is a key factor to a safe days shooting. The NRA training department is here to support our club members and any affiliated club members. We offer training at Bisley and in the regions. We have a suite of courses on offer and can run bespoke training if requested.

It all starts by contacting us first. Call the NRA Training Department on 01483 797777 (ext. 149) or email us at training@nra.org.uk

NRA PROBATIONARY COURSE (BISLEY ONLY)

Our new 2025 NRA Probationary Course allows students better access to our clubs facilities. The course provides successful students with the foundation knowledge and skills to safely handle and use firearms. During the first 4 training sessions, core competencies are taught and tested. Students will then receive a probationary Shooter Certification Card (SCC). They must attend another 3 supervised sessions to fully complete the course. However with the new Probationary SCC, students will be granted greater access to attend NRA skills courses, NRA Shooting Club days or enter competitions. They will also be allowed to shoot under supervision of a full individual member of the NRA. This new access will allow students more control to immerse themselves into the types of shooting they prefer.

NRA CLUB INSTRUCTOR COURSE

Club instructors play a vital role at any club. Club instructors deliver probationary

training as well as conduct safety certifications on current club members. Therefore, it is crucial they use the correct information and methods.

The two-day NRA Club Instructor course will ensure that students fully understand how to do both of the above. The course teaches and demonstrates how to utilise the NRA probationary system and SCC Assessors Guide.

For delivering probationary training, instructors can utilise the very comprehensive NRA Probationary Training pack. This contains an excellent training manual backed up with the PowerPoint presentations pack and tests.

For the issue of club SCCs, instructors can use the NRA SCC Assessors Guide. This will ensure clubs have a standard and auditable system in place for the issue of club SCCs.

NRA RANGE SAFETY OFFICER (RSO)

All shooting should be overseen by a well-trained and competent Range Officer.

The RSO course is the foundation building block for all NRA Range Officer training. It is a standalone two-day course. To book on to a NRA RSO course you need to be 18 years of age or older and a member of a Home Office approved shooting club. A qualified, diligent RSO is the key way to ensure that Safe Practice occurs at your club or range.

The focus of the training is based around the maintenance and use of civilian club ranges. Students will be taught the principles and correct implementation of the NRA Safe Shooting System at club level:

- **Safe Shooter**
- **Safe Equipment**
- **Safe Place**
- **Safe Practice**

This ensures NRA RSOs have a greater awareness beyond just the duties of the RO on the firing point. Club RSOs should be central to assisting and supporting club safety in all areas of range operation.

RSO BOLT-ON MODULES

The Range Conducting Officer (RCO) course is the 2-day bolt on to the RSO qualification for ROs who need to use Ministry of Defence ►



(MoD) ranges. For many years, a separate RCO card was issued for those that completed this course. However, from 2025 the NRA will only be issuing an RSO card. The RCO qualification will be listed on the reverse of the RSO card along with other entitled categories. Old RCO cards in use will still remain valid until expiry date or renewal.

Future bolt on courses planned will focus on Moving Target ranges, dynamic shooting and range design and inspections. Please keep an eye on the NRA website for launch dates.

BOOKING A REGIONAL COURSE

The NRA offers the following courses for clubs throughout the British Isles:

- Club Instructor (CI) Course
- Range Safety Officer (RSO) Course
- Range Conducting Officer (RCO) Course

All courses are two-days. Any regional course should ideally have a minimum of 4 course attendees, up to a maximum number dependant on the allocated instructor's discretion.

CONTACTING THE NRA

All regional training course requests must be organised through the NRA training department. The first step is contacting the NRA training department on 01483 797777 (ext. 149) or email us at training@nra.org.uk as we will be able to facilitate your requirements.

After making contact with the NRA training team, we will allocate the most suitable instructor to make contact with you regarding dates.

The host club should be able to facilitate the course in its entirety. The basic requirements for a course are:

- Space to be used as a classroom/training room which can facilitate the number attending the course
- A suitable range
- Power supply and projector or television screen from which to run the course material
- Tea & coffee making facilities

- Toilet facilities
- First Aid (either a suitable First Aid box and or trained First Aider)

If some of these requirements cannot be met, it is usually possible to work around them in some way but the NRA and the allocated instructor will require a period of notice in order to find a suitable solution.

We look forward to hearing from you. ☺



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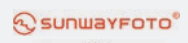
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This knowledge has improved shooting experiences and helped our customers expand the range of pistol and rifle targets used for competitions and leisure.



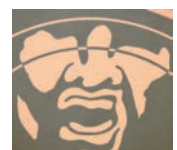
Police

The training requirements for today's Police forces are constantly evolving. We work closely with the Forces to understand their needs for new training targets for front line officers.



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MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS

to General Council & Regional Issues

by **Bryden Ritchie**, Scotland Regional Member.

Taking up the baton from the excellent articles from Alex Cargill Thompson and Rob Kelvey in the Winter 2024 edition of the NRA Journal I have committed to report back to the membership the responses to their Questions to Council and also to report on regional issues.

For those who do not know me, I am the elected regional member of the General Council for Scotland. I am primarily a historic shooter these days and have been the secretary of the Vintage Arms Scotland club in Edinburgh for the past thirty years. I sit not only on the General Council but also on Shooting and Membership committees.

Following on from Rob's excellent article in the last edition, I would firstly like to continue the call for a wider regional participation in NRA activities. There is now an established Regional Members working group which meets regularly to discuss regional issues. Currently the focus of discussion has been the loss of regional ranges both from the range closure and reduced access to the MOD estate.

As we move through the consequences of the REACH study into lead, we need to ensure that existing ranges remain usable and compliant with any conditions that emerge from the exemption scheme for ranges. It would be a tragedy if we lost ranges because of this process.

Another area which we have been considering is the issue of the NRA Club Insurance where it applies to Clubs and affiliated members. Many members of Affiliated clubs consider that the NRA Insurance provides them with cover for all their shooting activities. This is not accurate! The NRA Club insurance covers the Club as an organisation and it's club members for all shooting activities

undertaken by the club. It does not cover affiliated club members for any personal shooting undertaken outside of organised club shoots and events. Full individual insurance cover is only provided to full NRA members and covers them for all their shooting activity.

Can I ask that Members and Affiliated Club Committees make and maintain contact with your Regional Member of Council? Our contact details are all available on the "About/About the People/Regional Representatives" page on the NRA website. There have been many accusations in the past that the NRA is blind to the concerns of regional shooting. This is not an accurate view, and the NRA does do much to support regional issues, however much of this happens in the background, sometimes of necessity, but often because the communication channels do not seem to exist between regional groups.

Please keep your regional member "in the loop" regarding the local shooting scene. It is important that they can report on issues of concern to the wider shooting community that are not always appreciated within the "Bisley Bubble"! If we are not made aware of regional issues, then we are not able to influence the NRA in its plans and objectives!

A wide range of questions were presented to the General Council Meeting on 15 Feb 25. The complete content of the questions and answers are available in the minutes of the meeting however, here is a summary of the main points and the full response:

QUESTIONS RELATED TO THE NATIONAL SHOOTING CENTRE:

Provision of Target Scoring Gauges (TSG) to NRA Markers and Butt Supervisors. Target scoring gauges

("TSGs") are not routinely issued to markers and NSC has no plans to make them available as part of routine target bookings or to offer them for sale in the Armoury. TSGs are available to Butt Supervisors in major competitions such as the Imperial. They can also be provided for other major competitions on request at the time the competition is booked, and competition organisers are free to bring their own TSGs for use by markers. Not all markers will be familiar with TSGs so organisers should allow time to brief markers on their use for them to be most effective.

Priority of Bisley Camp

Accommodation for Shooters. NSC manages the accommodation on Camp as it is a commercial activity. Low occupancy rates have been a continuing problem and represent lost income opportunities. NSC has recently listed some accommodation on booking.com to help improve occupancy rates and the economic return to the charity from accommodation on Camp. NSC will closely monitor the bookings received through on-line sources to make sure the bookings are in addition to shooters booking for competitions rather than displacing those bookings. NSC must balance communicating key developments to members against causing email fatigue and did not consider that this recent initiative warranted a special notice to all NRA members.

Availability of Electronic Targets for use at 500 yards. NSC provides electronic targetry based on demand from its customers. At the moment, 300-yard and 600-yard targets are the most popular distances and so electronic targets are focused at those distances. NSC has not yet received sufficient interest for 500-yard electronic targets to justify the investment in electronic targetry at that distance. If individuals and clubs do want electronic targets at 500 yards, they should let the Range Office know so the demand can be properly assessed.

QUESTIONS RELATED TO THE NATIONAL SHOOTING CENTRE:

Sporting Rifle Ranges

BR Comment: The NRA Council has decided not to renew the current lease for the Sporting Rifle Ranges held by the British Sporting Rifle Club. The Sporting

Range Complex will be run by the NSC under a lease from the NRA. This issue was raised by a number of members who expressed disappointment at this decision and concerns regarding the long-term viability of the complex. Several individuals requested detailed financial and procedural details regarding the decision. The NRA replied to these concerns with the following collective response:

The NRA doesn't publish the proceedings of Confidential Council Meetings at which lease renewals are discussed or comment on the circumstances of individual lease renewals. In considering any lease renewal Trustees must always consider whether it is better for the charity that the property is used by the charity (or in the case of commercial properties, the NSC) rather than being leased to a third party. The NSC pays a licence fee for property it uses at Bisley and its profits generated from that property eg ranges, accommodation etc are Gift Aided to the charity.

NSC is keen to work co-operatively with the BSRC to ensure a smooth handover of the Sporting Rifle range to minimise disruption to users of the range and to enable the competitions planned for 2025 to go ahead as planned. NSC will provide targetry that reflects the needs of the customers using the Sporting Rifle range in the same way that it does for the other ranges on Camp.

The NRA doesn't publish financial information in addition to the accounts that are provided to General Council for each of its meetings and to all members each year as part of the Annual Report. The future of the Sporting Rifle ranges was discussed at some length at the 2019 Annual General Meeting, starting at page 26 here: <https://nra.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/AGM-Minutes-2019-1.pdf> which provides further background.

These new arrangements will provide much greater access to this unique range complex. Bookings will be available to individual NRA members and affiliated clubs on an hourly, daily and half-daily basis. The ranges will provide training facilities for police and military personnel. The Spring Action and Phoenix Meeting will also continue at the Sporting Rifle Range. There will be a separate announcement once arrangements are in place for NSC to start taking bookings.

The NRA looks forward to increased

participation in Sporting Rifle shooting as a result of greater access to, and new investment in, the Sporting Rifle range.

The Sporting Rifle range is a valuable facility and as a result of the changes, the benefits of the range complex will be available across the wider shooting community. BSRC will be able to book the range, along with other NRA-affiliated clubs and NRA members, meaning that BSRC members will continue to be able to enjoy the range facilities as well as benefitting from the improvements planned by the NRA for 2025.

The NRA is keen to emphasise that the new arrangements for the Sporting Rifle range is not intended to end the BSRC, which we hope will continue to thrive and provide a valuable network for its members. Many clubs, both at Bisley and away from Bisley, provide valuable services to their members without a lease of a range or a clubhouse. BSRC is not losing access to the Sporting Rifle range. NSC will welcome range bookings from BSRC as a valued customer of the Sporting Rifle ranges, alongside bookings from individuals, NRA-affiliated clubs and commercial customers. The NSC is keen to promote the Sporting Rifle discipline as part of its operation of the Sporting Rifle ranges for the benefit of the wider shooting community.

Temporary Ban on 6.5mm ammunition on MOD ranges. The MoD issued a notice in November restricting the use of all 6.5mm ammunition on constructed ranges. This restriction applies to all range users including NRA Clubs. We expect the restriction to remain in place whilst MoD completes a detailed evaluation of a new weapons system using the 6.5 Creedmoor cartridge and subsequent development of new advice for danger area templates. We understand that the restriction applies to the majority of constructed MoD ranges used by NRA Clubs.

The NRA email advising clubs of this restriction was sent on 4 December to officers of affiliated clubs who are licenced to shoot on MoD ranges. We did not circulate the email to all NRA members because it relates solely to MoD ranges.

Replacement of the MOD Range Action & Safety Plan (RASP) / Range Safety Document (RSD) with the Civilian Safe Activity Assurance Form (CSAAF). The regulatory notice was

published, after discussion and input from the NRA, by the MoD on 29 January.

NRA Affiliated clubs who are licenced to shoot on MoD ranges were notified about the changes, with sample forms, guidance and copy regulatory notice by the email dated 4 December referred to in the previous question.

HSE report on use of Lead in ammunition and consequences for shooting. The NRA played the lead role in securing the inclusion of the derogation for the continued use of lead ammunition on outdoor rifle ranges in the final HSE report; this was the result of detailed evidence, careful lobbying and demonstrations how lead is managed at Bisley and other regional ranges. Efforts to secure derogations for the continued use of lead shot for anything other than elite Olympic shooting proved fruitless.

Full recovery costs for Firearms Licencing. The NRA was a member of the Home Office Firearms Fees Working Group, and we provided robust evidence to challenge Home Office calculations of "full cost recovery". Furthermore we promoted a 3 yearly inflation linked increase to these fees.

These and other representations caused the Home Office to delay the implementation which has resulted in the decision being made by the new government.

Request for NRA to produce video training materials for Range Officer training, Passing a Shotgun course, loading a Black Powder Pistol and Rules and regulations for shooting at Bisley. The NRA has no plan to provide training videos on these topics, given the cost and time of producing them. In-person training provides a more effective method of communication on these important topics. NRA provides a range of training courses and all members are encouraged to book a place on relevant courses to enhance their skills. Members are also encouraged to use the resources on the website, especially in relation to range regulations as there are important differences between different ranges at Bisley. Clubs also play a vital role in providing training to members on a range of topics.

Progress on the removal of the need to hold Moderators on FAC. There was a Home Office public consultation on this topic last year. ►

You can read more about it here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/firearms-licensing-sound-moderators> The consultation is now closed and the Home Office has announced it is reviewing the results. The NRA will review the situation again once the Home Office has published its response. The NRA supports the proposal to remove sound moderators from section 1 of the Firearms Act.

The NRA gave a practical impact of moderators on 7.62 calibre rifles on Stickledown range to members of the Home Office Firearms Policy Unit; this did much to improve the understanding of moderators and facilitated the support for a change in legislation.

Concerns regarding the future of Cadet rifle shooting. The NRA is in discussions with CCRS to see how cadet target rifle can continue in light of the announcement that there will not be a replacement for the cadet fullbore target rifle after it reaches its end of service life in 2026. The NRA is keen to encourage cadet and youth shooting in all its forms. The NRA continues to keep the case for the contribution that civilian-only target shooting makes to Defence of the Realm under review.

Request for General Council to receive minutes from meetings of Regional Members. This is a matter for General Council. Any member of General Council can ask for this item to be added to the Agenda of a future Council meeting. It is then open to General Council to request that Regional Representatives provide minutes of their meetings to assist General Council.

(BR Note – This was agreed by GC and that a recurring regional issues item would be included in future GC agendas)

Request for a detailed plan to improve NRA communication with its members. The NRA does not currently have a detailed communication plan covering the points listed above. The NRA concentrates its social media outreach via Facebook, supplemented by email messages to members as needed with useful information. The NRA is keen to recruit a Communications Manager and would welcome introductions to suitable candidates by General Council members.

Wharnccliffe Caravan site query. There are 8 pitches still available on Wharnccliffe Site. Each lease granted on

Wharnccliffe contributes around £25,000. We expect to see more interest in the remaining properties as the 2026 shooting season commences.

Issues with the current method of contacting a GC member via the NRA website.

We will keep this in mind for future website updates. We do not plan to implement it as a standalone project.

Query regarding inconsistencies in the fee structure for the Imperial Meeting. Fees have been reviewed and simplified on the basis of the right table:-

Bisley Policy for favouring Pedestrians, Cyclists and Disabled Shooters. Bisley Camp is a shared space enjoyed by a wide range of users. We encourage everyone to behave responsibly and to respect other Camp users. In particular, road users are expected to give way to cyclists and pedestrians in the same way as they would under the Highway Code outside Bisley Camp.

Delays to “Explosives Licence” (Certificate to Acquire and Keep) Renewal Implications. If your Explosives Licence (Certificate to Acquire and Keep) has expired you should lodge your black powder (and any other licensable substances) with an authorised person. You must not retain possession of it illegally. The statutory extension for firearms and shotguns certificates does not apply to explosive licenses so it is important you lodge your renewal application in good time.

Progress with replacement of EU Firearms Pass. This issue is regularly raised at meetings with the Home Office;

Non-member Fee	Max Days	2025 Fee	Notes
NRA Standard Annual Membership	365	£125	
Over 65 / Overseas	365	£117	
NRA Junior Annual Membership (22-25)	365	£63	
NRA Under 21 Annual Membership	365	£30	
TR Imperial	10	£70	
Present Serving	10	£63	10% off
Over 65 / Overseas	10	£63	10% off
U25	10	£42	40% off
U21	10	£30	40% off capped at U21 full membership
U21 – 1st Entry	10	£0	Free
MR Imperial	6	£50	
Present Serving	6	£45	10% off
Over 65 / Overseas	6	£45	10% off
U25	6	£30	40% off
U21	6	£30	40% off capped at U21 full membership
U21 – 1st Entry	6	£0	Free
F-Class Imperial	4	£30	
Present Serving	4	£27	10% off
Over 65 / Overseas	4	£27	10% off
U25	4	£18	40% off
U21	4	£18	40% off capped at U21 full membership
U21 – 1st Entry	4	£0	Free
300m Imperial	2	£16	
CSR Imperial	5	£16	
GR&P Imperial	4	£16	
IHAM	2	£16	
McQueen Imperial	10	£16	
Sporting Imperial	2	£16	
Team Individuals Imperial (shooter)	10	£16	
Team Individuals Imperial (non-shooter)	10	£10	

they have given no firm indication that it will be progressed in the near future.

Progress on implementation of Disposal facilities – Site 1 Caravan Park. Work is expected to be completed by the end of April 25.

Speeding by NRA Staff on Camp. The NRA can respond most effectively to the issue of speeding on Camp if it has information on specific examples so it can take targeted action. NRA staff have been reminded of the importance of respecting speed limits. Speed limits are clearly sign-posted for visitors. Speed bumps are used as a traffic-calming measure. There are no plans for electronic monitoring or speed cameras. The NRA will act where specific problems are identified, so we urge people to report speeding incidents to enable the NRA to take effective action based on evidence. To take action in the absence of evidence risks being seen as arbitrary and disproportionate, neither of which are conducive to good management of the estate. ➡



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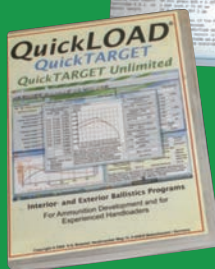
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GALLERY RIFLE AND PISTOL NEWS

Report by **Ash Dagger**, NRA GR&P Discipline Rep.

By the time you read this, the GR&P season will be well underway; I hope you used the downtime wisely to get all that essential practice / reloading / cleaning complete. I would observe that a significant number of points dropped in competition stems from duff ammo, crusty magazines and other jams – all of which could be avoided with a little pre-match preparation. Let's hope you don't fall foul of the avoidable issues; with the cost of shooting inevitably rising, you'll need to make best use of your hard earned cash!

Another thing you should now have stuffed into your shooting bag is the new 2025 GR&P Handbook – available free from the NRA reception, or downloadable from www.galleryrifle.com. In fact, if you have an active GR&P club, take a few to share back with your mates, to introduce them to the wonderful world of GR&P competitions. As always, there are a few amendments in this year's handbook – changes to some competitions (including the introduction of an LBP match for the 'GRAND') and some rule revisions / clarifications. Importantly, you will now see penalties applied for infringements of the rule prohibiting reloading whilst there is a live round in the chamber – introduced last year on safety grounds – and additionally, the correct procedure for the safe clearance of LBP's.

Looking forward into 2025 there is, again, a full

calendar of Open matches for you to attend; details of all known matches are on www.galleryrifle.com, together with entry forms, rankings and results, and a host of other useful information on how to stay informed and involved in GR&P. I'm also glad to see that some of the inevitable price rises at Bisley have been held back to provide slightly better value for money when competing at what is the best shooting venue in the UK.

There are also a number of GR&P Skills development courses available, including GR introductions, Bianchi and the increasingly popular Handgun courses – all run by skilled volunteers with a host of experience and knowledge of our sport. These are regularly advertised on the NRA's training section of their website.

On the International scene, you should find elsewhere in this journal, an article from the German GR World Championships, fiercely contested by Team GB. If you represent the GB Teams at any

of the IGRF (or WA1500) events you are now entitled to wear the GR&P 'Colours' – recently approved by the NRA Trustees. These are available to anyone who has shot for GBGR or the GB Handgun Team – backdated to our first NRA official GR International in 2010. Details of who qualifies and how to obtain the Colours badges will be promulgated shortly on the GB GR&P website – www.GBGR.org. The new squads for GB GR&P this year are listed in the table below.


A final reminder – please support the GB GR&P Teams. We are mostly self-funded, however our main areas for additional income are the Bring and Buy stalls at the major meetings, and 'Easyfundraising' – an online donation stream from internet shopping. If you have any shooting paraphernalia that you wish to donate, please bring it along to the meetings or email me. To subscribe to the Easyfundraising channel (which is totally free to subscribers), just click on:

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/greatbritain/galleryrifleteam>.

All donations are very welcome.

As always, competitions don't happen without the dedicated efforts of the volunteers – CRO's, range crew, stats and all the other helpers essential to run matches. I'm happy to report that negotiations with the NRA have elicited an improved benefits package for the Bisley volunteers which covers fuel, accommodation and meals, plus new 'Volunteer points' that can be exchanged for NRA gifts. And of course, dedicated RO days, to get all your own matches shot.

For Bisley (and wider), we are supporting the NRA to build more of an RO 'community' through the Volunteer Network, that will include better communications, training, Crib sheets, improved benefits and potentially, an annual RO event. This will allow us to attract and retain a larger (and hopefully better motivated) cadre of volunteers to meet the needs of the GR&P competition circuit. In return, apart from the tangible rewards, it also allows a greater number of people to engage and give something back to our shooting sport. If you don't volunteer at the moment but want to start, contact me on how to get engaged.

So.... whether you want to just shoot the matches, improve your skills, support the GB squads or volunteer, there are avenues and support for all – just contact me for any further advice or information on gallery@nra.org.uk. 

Gallery Rifle		Handgun
Morné van Dalen (Capt)		David Harris (Capt)
Amiel Gardiner	Keith Cox	Alan Podevin
Andrew Summers	Keith Edwards	Andy Wiggins
Chris Douglas	Keith Kilvington	Dave Berry
Chris West	Pete Watts	Ken Williams
Dave Hackett	Malcolm Stewart	Matt Peppitt
Dave Morrow	Mel Beard	Nigel Porter
David Guest	Robert Wheeler	Neil Jones
Ian Archer	Steve Lamb	Peter Watts
Jake Mossom		Norman Brown
Joe Pugh	Laura Warwick (Adjutant)	Chris Parnell
Jonathan Cormie		Steve Lamb
		Sharon Bowden (Adjutant)

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BISLEY CAMP, BROOKWOOD, SURREY GU24 0PB

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23RD - 25TH MAY

Trafalgar Arms Fair

18TH - 19TH OCTOBER

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www.nscbisley.co.uk



info@nra.org.uk



NOTICES

National Rifle Association notifications and news.

THE NRA IS SEEKING A NEW CHAIR OF THE ASSOCIATION

David Lacey's term of office as the Chairman of the Association is due to expire in February 2026 after two successful terms.

The election of a new Chair of the NRA will take place at the 2026 February meeting of General Council.

The Chair shall be elected for a

term of up to three years, and shall hold office until the conclusion of the meeting of the General Council at the end of the term of office, unless a new appointment has been made before such meeting of the General Council. The Chair in office may stand for re-election, but only so far as their total

period in office will not exceed six years.

Any two members of General Council may nominate any other Registered Member or Associate Member of the Association for Chair by giving notice in writing to the Secretary General.

We will be pleased to receive nominations of NRA members for the position of Chair; please contact a member of the General Council to discuss the role. Their contact details can be found on the NRA website nra.org.uk/who-are-we/about-the-people/

Nomination and application forms are available from Georgina Thatcher georgina.thatcher@nra.org.uk; the deadline for nominations is midday Friday 30th January 2026.

TEAM CAPTAIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are pleased to announce the following captaincies:

- John Bloomfield - Kolapore Captain 2025
- Henry Waldern - GB Under 25 Team Captain 2025
- Ian Ashworth - NRA Team Captain Channel Islands 2026
- Nick Brasier - GB Team Captain Australia 2026
- Dr John Warburton - GB Palma Team Captain World Championships Bisley 2028
- Martin Townsend - GB Veterans Team Captain World Championships 2028

Our congratulations and best wishes go to all captains and their teams.

Team Captain - Nominations

Nominations are invited for the following team captains:

- GB Under 25 Team Captain to Australia 2026
- GB Rifle Team Captain to Canada 2027
- GB Under 21 Team Manager World Championships Bisley 2028

Nominations in writing, signed by three proposers all of whom must be full annual or life members of the NRA, must be received by the Secretary General not later than 5pm on Friday 16th May 2025. Nominations forms and CV pro-forma available on the NRA website, or from Georgina.Thatcher@nra.org.uk.

Great Britain Rifle Team Palma 2028

I have been honoured by the Council of the National Rifle Association with the captaincy of the Great Britain Rifle Team to compete in the World Long Range Championships and Palma Match to be held at Bisley in July 2028. I am delighted Peter Bromley has agreed to be my Vice-Captain and James Watson the Adjutant.

We will assemble an initial training squad of approximately 60 people in the autumn of 2025 from which the final team will be selected after the Imperial Meeting in 2027. We plan to build on the very strong foundations laid by the 2024 Palma team and are under no illusions to the scale of the challenge that lies ahead.

I invite applications to join the squad from both shooters & coaches. In particular I encourage those new to "Palma" shooting who have the dedication and commitment to succeed at the highest level to apply. In the first instance please express your interest to me via email using the address below. You will then be asked to complete a questionnaire which must be returned by the closing date for applications of 31st July 2025.

John Warburton, Captain Great Britain Palma Team 2028. captain.
gbpalma28@gmail.com



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The NRA's 2025 Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday 6th June 2025 at 6pm, followed directly by the NSC's Annual General Meeting, in the NRA Pavilion.

BISLEY GENERAL MEETING

The 2025 Bisley General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 23rd July 2025 at 9pm in the NRA Pavilion.

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP TEAM

2025 NRA GUEST DAYS

Guest days offer NRA Members the opportunity to invite friends or colleagues (up to maximum of 4) for an introduction to the world of target shooting with a special offer for the guest if they also decide to join the NRA.

CENTURY RANGE / SHORT SIBERIA RANGE BOOKINGS

Two members and their guests will be assigned to a target, sharing the firing point for the session. The day is designed for you to introduce your guests to prone target rifle shooting, taking alternate shots on the shared target throughout the session. Benches will be available by request. Muzzle brakes are not permitted.

Ranges will be overseen by NRA Range Conducting Officers/Instructors, but guests are the responsibility of the NRA Member and must not be left on the target unattended.

COST

£85 per booking – includes the hire of the Range, Range Officers, Targets and Markers.

A selection of firearms will be available on the range on the day for those members who do not own their own firearms. Ammunition is not included in the fees, but can be purchased on the day.

We will be running two distances on each Guest Day (excluding Nov):



NRA Team to the Channel Islands 2026 – Call for Applications

I have been honoured by the NRA Council with the Captaincy of the NRA team to the Channel Islands in 2026. I am delighted to announce that David Colegate and Bruce Winney have agreed to be Adjutant and Main Coach respectively.

The provisional tour dates will be from Thursday 21st until Sunday 31st May-26 inclusive and a training programme to prepare for the tour to Jersey and Guernsey will start on 13/14th Sep-25 and then most likely in Apr and May-26 culminating in a match against the LMRA on Wednesday 20th May-26.

I intend to assemble a team with a mixture of experienced and developing shooters, of all ages and home nationalities. If you are keen to improve your shooting, take a major step closer to international standards, or feel that you can support the team as an experienced shooter please send in your expressions of interest by email to nraci.2026@yahoo.com and an application form will be sent to you.

Applications will be open until the end of Jul-25, with the team and reserves will be selected in Aug-25.

It would be great to be able to put faces to names as well so please do come and introduce yourself during the Imperial Meeting if not before. I look forward to hearing from you and meeting you.

Ian Ashworth, Captain NRA CI 2026

• Saturday 13th September 2025

100 yards Short Siberia Range (and)
300 yards Century Range

• Sunday 12th October 2025

300 yards Century Range (and) 600
yards Century Range

• Saturday 8th November 2025

25 yards Cheylesmore Range (AM ONLY)

Online bookings available -

online.nra.org.uk/guest-days

2025 NRA SHOOTING CLUB DAYS

The NRA Shooting Club runs twice monthly at Bisley and all NRA members are welcome to book and attend these days. Three attendances at the NRA Shooting Club at Bisley in a 12 month period using all your different firearms will provide automatic qualification for an NRA 4 year SCC.

We have four different ranges running throughout the day allowing the majority of firearms to be used at varying distances, and you may book to shoot on all ranges.

All sessions are overseen by NRA Range Conducting Officers/Instructors.

SESSION TIMINGS

**8.30AM to 12.30PM & 1.30PM to
4.30PM (low season) or 5.30PM**

(high season)

• Wednesday 7th May – 200E, Winans B, 1000E - AM & PM SESSIONS

• Saturday 31st May – 300E, Winans B, 600E, 1000E – AM & PM SESSIONS

• Wednesday 4th June – 200E, 600E, Winans B, 1000E - AM & PM SESSIONS

• Wednesday 6th August – 200E, Winans B, 1000E - AM & PM SESSIONS

• Saturday 16th August – 200E, Melville, 1000E - AM & PM SESSIONS

• Wednesday 10th September – 200E, 600E, Winans B - AM & PM SESSIONS

• Saturday 20th September – 300E, Winans B, 600E, 1000E - AM & PM SESSIONS

• Saturday 4th October – 300E, 600E, Winans B, 1000E – AM ONLY

• Wednesday 15th October – 200E, 600E, Winans B, 1000E - AM ONLY

• Saturday 22nd November – 300E, 600E, Winans B, 1000E - AM ONLY

• Wednesday 10th December – 200E, 600E, Winans B, 1000E – AM ONLY

• Saturday 20th December – 300E, 600E, Winans B, 1000E - AM ONLY

Online bookings available -

online.nra.org.uk/shootingclubs

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I wish to express my full support for Richard Munday's compelling article "Next Generation" in the NRA's Winter Journal, which draws on the wisdom of history and the enduring example of Switzerland to address the pressing need for revitalising shooting sports in Britain. As Mr. Munday eloquently outlines, the challenge is not merely to maintain our existing traditions but to ensure that they are passed on to future generations in a way that fosters enthusiasm, inclusivity, and community.

It is often said that "it takes a village to raise a child." In shooting, the equivalent might be that "it takes a club to raise a shooter." Clubs are far more than bricks and mortar; they are living, breathing communities comprised of passionate members. Their collective ethos and individual mentorship are the true heart of the sport. As we confront the challenges of an ageing demographic and societal misconceptions, clubs must recognize that their most valuable asset lies in the dedication of members who go above and beyond to welcome and guide newcomers.

These individuals are the lifeblood of our sport. They take the time to teach, inspire, and integrate new members into every aspect of club life. Whether by explaining range rules at the firing point, introducing new disciplines, or simply offering an encouraging word, such members create a supportive environment that ensures newcomers feel valued and motivated. This inclusivity and mentorship are critical to retaining

new shooters and fostering a lifelong passion for the sport.

Equally vital is the need to provide opportunities that appeal to the next generation. Shooting clubs must offer a balanced program of competitions and events that cater to diverse skill levels and interests. The British Alpine Rifles (BAR) program is an exemplary model in this regard. With its varied competitions—ranging from precision to practical, timed to freestyle—it offers a hook for newcomers and a progression path for skills development. The mix of unique events ensures there is always something fresh and exciting, igniting a competitive spirit that inspires shooters to continually improve.

Practical events, often favored by beginners, play a particularly important role. While they may not captivate seasoned precision experts, these dynamic and accessible challenges are precisely what many new shooters enjoy most. They provide the thrill of competition, fostering the desire to improve and participate in further events. Through this natural progression, beginners become committed members of the shooting community.

The Swiss model, as Mr. Munday describes, offers valuable lessons in fostering a vibrant shooting culture. By emphasizing youth programs, integrating juniors into championship events, and offering opportunities for early achievement, Swiss clubs sustain both participation and excellence. BAR's success in introducing young shooters—even as young as five years old—to safe and

supervised training highlights how these principles can be adapted to British circumstances.

As history reminds us, the National Rifle Association was founded in 1859 with a dual mission: to promote shooting as a sport and to support the nation's defense. Lord Elcho's vision of a "national brotherhood in arms" remains as relevant today as ever, and it is heartening to see that BAR has embraced this ethos, not only preserving our shooting heritage but also innovating to meet contemporary challenges.

Shooting is not merely a solitary pursuit; it thrives on the camaraderie of shared experiences, mentorship, and the vibrant culture that clubs cultivate. As we look to the future, we must collectively embrace our responsibility to welcome new participants, nurture their growth, and ensure that shooting remains a dynamic and inclusive sport for generations to come.

Sincerely, Andrew Eddy

TEMPUS FUGIT

In our great rifle club there be
Some members
somewhat elderly.

To get down on the firing points
Is not too hard upon the joints.

But getting up is not with ease;
It takes its toll upon the knees.
You'll hear their groans, their grunts and
sighs
Whenever they attempt to rise.

Their rifles used to bear their weight
And this is how they stand up straight.
If pistol prone was these chaps' sport
Their gun would offer no support.

These men seem old to younger peers
With ever more advancing years
But though they're seventy and more
They shoot a more than decent score.

*David Woodcock – Windsor Rifle Club –
December 2024*

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Obituaries

Christopher Bunch Telecommunications Expert, Museum of the NRA Historian and Chronicler 27 August 1941 – 31 January 2025.

The death of Chris Bunch on Friday 31 January has deprived the Museum of one of its most devoted supporters. It was through his voluntary work with the NRA that Chris had become a much respected contributor to the activities and success of the Museum and a source of calm and reasoned contributions.

Chris was born on 27 August 1941 in Hampshire, where he lived in Yateley for much of his life in the house built by his father. He attended Dean Close School and from there went on to pursue a career in Telecommunications working for Cable & Wireless before moving to their subsidiary Mercury.

During his working life he spent time on overseas assignments in Kenya, Mauritius, the Middle East, Tortola and BVI (where he had a speed boat to whizz around in when he wasn't working...). He married Rosie in Barbados and moved soon afterwards to St Lucia, where Sarah was born.

In retirement, after a spell undertaking consultancy work, he enjoyed further studies in history fulfilling a dream to complete a further 'A' level. It was then that his interest was stimulated by a chance encounter. Although he was not a rifleman, he had a strong family link with the NRA through his father, Flying Officer Cyril Bunch, who won the Grand Aggregate in 1938 and finished 3rd in the King's Prize in 1939 - to add to many other shooting honours.

Chris perhaps did not realise the extent to which his father

had excelled as a rifleman until he dined with Queen's Prize winner David Richards and David's future wife - Chris's niece and God daughter - Karen. During that evening Chris produced his late father's large collection of medals and badges, the importance of which David was able to identify and describe.

Chris took an immediate interest and his historian instincts were further piqued when his daughter Sarah joined the NRA as a member of the Shooting Division, going on to become Clay Shooting Manager and a Director of the National Shooting Centre. Chris then was introduced to the trove of NRA papers held in the Museum setting out the links between the NRA and the London and South Western Railway Company, in pursuit of research for the book he was writing.

He spent much time trawling the NRA archives and also The Royal Archives in support of this project, examining the relationship between the railway and the events held by the NRA at Wimbledon from 1860 to 1889 and, subsequently, at Bisley. He became a fully-fledged member of the Museum team under Ted Molyneux's leadership in 2010, continuing his research and contributing to the day to day work of the Museum.

From this emerged his fine and detailed account of the relationship between the NRA and the London and South Western Railway covering the period from the 1860s to the last run of the Bisley Bullet

in 1952. His book, *The NRA, Its Tramways and the London & South Western Railway-Targets and Tramways* was published in 2019.

It chronicled the fascinating exchanges between the governing body and the railway company, as well as accounts of the passenger tramway on the ranges, used at the annual Prize Meeting. Among the more bizarre happenings he recorded was the collision involving the range tramway locomotive, Wharncliffe, hauling a wagon containing competitors, and a cart loaded with cyder, lemonade and ginger beer, belonging to Castle Brewery of Guildford.

Chris's forte was an ability to research and discover reports of matches and events that helped to explain the origins of various artefacts from the NRA's past. The archives of the NRA, the British Library and the Volunteer Gazette were among his hunting grounds.

This led to the discovery of many facts and accounts of ancient contests and events to confirm and verify clues to mysterious tankards, cups and medals. His great interest in old photographs, pictures and prints resulted in huge numbers of these records being scanned and recorded for the NRA's archives. It was detective work of the highest order.

It was not always research into the NRA: he also discovered that

his father, in his wartime service, had flown a Sopwith Camel in Mesopotamia. The propeller from his plane is on display at the Army Air Corps Museum in Middle Wallop.

To his Museum colleagues Chris was a quiet man, a listener and a doer. His opinion was always worth heeding. He got on with the job in hand, having the innate ability to seek and find historical details through his knowledge of relevant sources. He also contributed a number of articles for publication in the NRA Journal.

That he listened carefully to what others were saying was demonstrated by his tenacity: he would hear the discussion at one week's Museum gathering, and return the following week with research that either confirmed or varied conclusions drawn earlier. This art underwrote the realisation among his colleagues that they were all capable of being both right and wrong on any given query. It was the art of constructive teamwork.

He was created an Honorary life member of the NRA in 2017.

In the last two years Chris had been troubled by ill-health, resulting in treatment for cancer which

he fought with good spirits and determination. He was admitted to hospital with suspected pneumonia in late January and died peacefully on 31 January 2025.

He was a devoted husband and father. To his wife Rosemary and to his daughter Sarah we extend our condolences and sincere appreciation of someone who contributed his all to the Museum of the NRA, and thereby to its members.



Jim McAllister 1944 - 2024

Jim McAllister was a familiar shot on the Bisley ranges for over 50 years and probably one of the most successful Scottish shooters of his generation. Born on 4th March 1944, in Blantyre, Jim never ceased to describe himself as a Scot despite moving to the south of England in his 20s. He was recognisable on the common for his soft Scottish voice, his leather hat decorated with the McAllister tartan, and his green handknit jumper embroidered "Dour Lowland Scot".

Jim was a fantastic shot. In a long shooting career, Jim won many competitions including (many on more than one occasion) the Adams & Brown Salver, the Albert, the Alexander Forsyth Memorial Medal, the Armourers, the Cottesloe, the Dram Cup, the Halford, the Hopton, the Irish Cup, the Martin Smith, the Maxwell, the Ranken, the Sandiman, the Scottish VIII Cup, the Stamford Young, the Tribe Memorial, the Whitehead, the Wimbledon and the Cambridge University Long Range Rifle Cup. He also shot in and was a winning member of teams in the Elcho, the FW Jones, Match Rifle Pairs and the Woomera. He held various records including in September 1997 when the Daily Telegraph reported: "Jim McAllister... won the Autumn Meeting. He put 87 of his 90 shots into the 24" diameter bullseye, 65 of them in the central 14" V-ring, setting a range, match and individual record of 447.65"

I had the pleasure of shooting with Jim over many years and, when on form, he was truly remarkable. I often looked at his score diagrams and thought that maybe the fall of shots were not quite as flat as he had drawn them.

However, shortly thereafter, I coached him in a match and was astonished to see how flat he shot with barely a shot out of a quarter minute at 1200x.

Jim was passionate about developing the sport and spent much time encouraging and helping others to take up Match Rifle. He was a mentor to many including Hugh Butcher, Zoe Woodroffe, Hannah Fisher, and me. Without his guidance and encouragement, many people would not be the shots they are today.

He was also very interested in the science of shooting and spent a lot of time in his gunroom at Cottesloe Lodge testing out different ammunition and rifles. He was constantly "fiddling" with his kit, much to the chagrin of some of his coaches as occasionally he changed something between distances, not necessarily for the better. He was an expansive and generous host and for many years hosted the NRCoS post Elcho Match barbecue.

Although most people will know Jim as an accomplished Match Rifle shot, he was also a former Commonwealth Games competitor who represented Scotland in Smallbore, Fullbore Pistol, Air Pistol and Air Rifle. He was a life member of the NRA, LMRA, BPC, BSRC and NLRC and a member of the NSRA, CPSA, CULRRRC and WFSA. He was also a council member of the British Shooting Sports council. For many years he was firearms officer of the National Rifle Club of Scotland, personally sponsoring the acquisition of new rifles to encourage new shooters.

Away from shooting, Jim was a successful property developer. Deciding he wanted to work in property, Jim took a

novel approach to job hunting by posting an advert in the Estates Gazette: 'Young man, reasonably well-educated wants to work in property'. He received 16 replies. In 1983, tired of making money for others, he spotted a development opportunity in West London and decided to branch out on his own. The Rutland Group was established in a single room in the heart of Mayfair. By 1988, Jim had expanded to take over the entire five storeys of the Upper Brook Street town house and embarked on what was to become his first landmark development at Bedfont Lakes in West London.

Jim was a long term investor as he demonstrated at both Bedfont Lakes and later Dunsfold Park. A twenty-year project was bread and butter to him, and he remained at the forefront of pioneering ideas throughout his career. He wanted to shape the environment for the better and his ideas for sustainable development represented a totally new way of thinking: building whilst seeking to mitigate climate change. Such was the integrity and innovation of Jim's thinking, he was the first developer to win the support of Friends of the Earth in favour of a major residential development scheme - at that time quite unheard of.

Philanthropy played an important part in Jim's corporate, personal and shooting life. He was a Vice President of the Community Foundation for Surrey and a patron and corporate sponsor of many local and national charities. He gave back to the shooting sports by sponsoring F-Class trophies, the Match Rifle Hopton winner's barrel and kit for several overseas tours. He was also an investor

in Border Barrels and Precision Rifle Services. Jim was always keen to welcome newcomers to the sport he loved and he regularly donated a day's shooting at Bisley, hosted by him, to charity auctions. They were one of the most hotly contested prizes, which raised considerable sums for his favourite charities.

Jim lived in his forest in the Surrey Hills where he won a Centre of Excellence Award from the Forestry Commission for his work there. When not shooting at Bisley, he spent many happy hours in the forest, shooting clays and taking pot shots at grey squirrels! He also bred Sika deer - but not for the pot, having made the mistake of naming them! He so loved spending time with his family as well as skiing, reading books, classical music and latterly ballroom dancing. He was a friend to many and gloriously, fantastically generous with his time and his assets.

Jim died peacefully at his beloved Winterfold Forest, in July 2024, surrounded by his family and close friends, following a short battle with cancer. At the time, he was still making plans for work projects, travel, shooting and spending time with family and friends. He leaves behind his three sons, David, Jamie and Hugo and his daughter Emma as well as his grandchildren Isobel, Edith, Etta, Theo and Jack and his step-grandchildren, Daisy and Arthur.

Will Meldrum



Neil Joy, OF 1934 – 2025

Rifle shooting at long range is an eccentric sport.

To be any good, one needs a combination of calm concentration and a childish love affair with explosions, blended with a reasonable understanding of physics and precision engineering mixed with a grasp of basic meteorology.

That's a paradox in itself, since the definition of the word 'eccentric' is 'off centre' – a result all rifle shooters desperately strive to avoid.

It should come as no surprise then the sport has its fair share of off-kilter participants.

And few of them came more eccentric than Neil Joy, who died in February after a long struggle with cancer, five days short of his 91st birthday.

Neil was well named – it was always a joy to see him turn up on the Bisley ranges for the Old Framlinghamians Rifle Club. And he always did.

In his later years he grumbled about old age, fading eyesight and increasing decrepitude, yet competition after competition, there he appeared.

And always in his beloved (and also increasingly decrepit) silver Ford Capri 2.8i, which he bought new in 1983 and drove to almost his dying day – complete with 80s style Go-Faster stripes.

At the beginning of each season there would be smiles all round from the rest of us as we had a quiet guess which sort of home-made gizmo he would produce. He was an engineer after all.

Horrified by the cost of specialist shooting eyewear, yet (like many of us) frustrated by deteriorating eyesight – he simply made his own. The origin of the gigantic lens he had soldered to a recycled wire frame remains unknown but

it gave rise to one of the many monikers we all acquire over the years. He became known as 'Cyclops'.

Neil was characterised by gentle humour, kindness, willingness to muck in and sheer tenacity. Even well into his 80s he would cheerfully run the butts for our Guest Days. An always physical and frequently tedious task, yet vital to raise funds to keep the club fiscally healthy – his radio messages could be sheer comedy.

Another admirable quality was his modesty. When he fired a shot he didn't like, he would unfailingly apologise to the coach.

A few years back, I was coaching him at 900 yards on an unusually fine, breezy Saturday in May.

As usual, this rumped figure with borrowed gear, black socks sticking out of the end of the ubiquitous shabby sandals, shuffled up to the firing point and settled down.

Neil complained that he was too erratic 'these days' and apologised in advance for any wild shots. But on this day he showed his class and experience of more than seven decades of rifle shooting.

He was hitting the middle, just, but keeping it in the bullseye. Happy with that but for all of the best of us.

I was muttering words of encouragement and watching closely to keep him focussed. It was getting quite exciting.

"Sorry about out that one Steve, a bit high." It was. But still in the bull. His sixth consecutively.

I was not prepared for the next shot, however, because as the bullet shot out – so did his teeth.

Without changing position, he reached for the unexpected projectile with his right hand and calmly pushed the top set



back in with his thumb – bits of grass and all.

"Sorry Steve, these are new choppers, I haven't quite got the hang of them yet."

The shot was bang in the middle.

He dropped only one point that day, finishing with 49.2 from a maximum possible 50.10. He took some convincing it was a genuine score too, but there was no hiding his utter joy at finally putting a great score together.

It kept him coming back for many more years.

We embarrassed him once. The Public Schools Veterans shoot at Bisley, the last of the season and a 'must' for Neil. It's a huge match with upwards of 50 teams of Old Boys (and Girls, obvs) taking part.

The tannoy burst into life announcing to more than 1000 people across Century range that someone from Haileybury School was shooting his 60th consecutive Veterans match. Neil said it was his 75th. We had that very loudly announced, too (by John Miller, ahem, Hon OF).

We cheered him. Neil looked at his sandals.

Neil Joy was born in Portsmouth on 9 February 1934. His father was a Merchant Navy officer and the family (with his younger brother Kit, also a keen shooter) relocated to Singapore until the Japanese invaded in 1942 and they were evacuated to Australia.

Returning the UK in 1947, he was promptly dispatched to a bleak Suffolk coast at Framlingham College.

Unlike most of the rest of the OFRC, Neil thrived and by all accounts was extremely successful. He was 1st XV rugby, hockey and cricket, shooting

captain and a scholar.

National Service in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers yielded another great Neil moment. This caused great consternation with John "Irish Imam" Halahan, himself a former REME squaddie, when he revealed he had been a Lieutenant.

"Oh yeah," said Halahan, "I was a corporal... and so was Hitler."

Being an officer was unusual for a National Serviceman but he explained that the base commander had two young sons and he wanted Neil to teach them to shoot though, in order to do so, he had to accept a commission so he could take charge of the range. Naturally, helpful and willing as ever, Neil obliged – for nearly two years.

A scholarship to Imperial College, London, to read Chemical Engineering followed as did a wife, Sheila, whom he met at a college dance, a long career in all kinds of engineering – including project managing the construction of the Channel Tunnel – and two sons.

Sadly Sheila, later a primary school teacher, became extremely ill with MS and Neil became her full-time carer for many years before her death in 2010.

He is survived by Gordon and Nicholas, three grandchildren; Nicholas, Peter and Marie-Guiliane and a 1983 Ford Capri 2.8i – still with Go-Faster stripes.

He will be greatly missed by many – the OFRC most certainly. Neil was the antithesis of a rifle shooter who craved the opening of every season and enjoyed every shot he fired – regardless of the score.

Steve McDowell ☺



NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION COMPETITION CALENDAR

MARCH

01 Mar-31 May **E-League 2024/25: Spring**

Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Civilian Service Rifle, Classic & Historic, F Class, Match Rifle, Schools & Cadet, Target Rifle, Target Shotgun, NRA

08-09 **Target Shotgun Festival - Spring 2025**

Target Shotgun, NRA

29-30 **Spring Action Weekend (SAW) 2025**

Gallery Rifle & Pistol, McQueen, Muzzle Loading, Target Shotgun, Civilian Service Rifle, NRA

30 **Smallbore Long Range Match 2025**

Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Match Rifle, Target Rifle, F Class, NRA

APRIL

12 **CSR Winter League - Apr 2025**

Civilian Service Rifle, Classic & Historic, NRA

19 **Precision Rifle Shooting (PRS): Competition Apr 2025**

Precision Rifle, NRA

MAY

22-25 **Phoenix Meeting 2025**

Civilian Service Rifle, Classic & Historic, F Class, Gallery Rifle & Pistol, McQueen, Muzzle Loading, Sporting Rifle, Target Shotgun, NRA

JUNE

- 07-08 41st Inter Counties 2025 (Team)**
Target Rifle, NRA
- 07-08 41st Inter-Counties 2025 (R Jarvis)**
Target Rifle, NRA
- 13-24 Service Rifle Championships: Imperial Meeting**
Service Rifle (Armed Forces), NRA
- 19 Military Adaptive Imperial 2025**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Service Rifle (Armed Forces), NRA

JULY

- 02-06 CSR Imperial 2025**
Civilian Service Rifle, Classic & Historic, NRA
- 03-06 F Class Imperial Meeting 2025**
F Class, NRA
- 05-06 CSR Imperial - Team 2025**
Civilian Service Rifle, Classic & Historic, NRA
- 06 F Class Imperial - Teams 2025**
F Class, NRA
- 11-17 Match Rifle Imperial Meeting 2025**
Match Rifle, NRA
- 11-13 ISCRM - Inter Services Cadet Rifle Meeting 2025**
Schools & Cadet, NRA
- 12-20 McQueen Imperial Meeting 2025**
Civilian Service Rifle, Classic & Historic, McQueen, Sporting Rifle, Target Rifle, NRA

- 12-13 Imperial Historic Arms Meeting 2025**
Classic & Historic, Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Muzzle Loading NRA
- 12-22 Sporting Rifle Imperial Meeting 2025**
Sporting Rifle, NRA
- 14-17 Match Rifle Imperial - Teams 2025**
Match Rifle, NRA
- 14-17 CCF Schools Imperial Meeting 2025**
Schools & Cadet, Target Rifle, CCRS, NRA
- 17-20 Gallery Rifle & Pistol Imperial Meeting 2025**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Muzzle Loading, NRA
- 17-26 Target Rifle Imperial - Team 2025**
Target Rifle, Schools & Cadet, NRA
- 17 Schools Veterans Match 2025**
Target Rifle, Schools & Cadet, NRA
- 18-26 156th Target Rifle Imperial Meeting**
Target Rifle, IMPERIAL MEETING, NRA
- 21-22 Imperial 300m Championships 2025**
300m, Target Rifle, NRA

AUGUST

- 15-17 Cottesloe Heath Challenge 2025**
Target Shotgun, NRA
- 30-31 Nationals 2025**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Target Shotgun, Muzzle Loading, Civilian Service Rifle, McQueen, NRA

OCTOBER

- 04-05 Target Shotgun Festival - Autumn 2025**
Target Shotgun, NRA
- 04 Historic SR Match - Autumn 2025**
Civilian Service Rifle, Classic & Historic, NRA
- 05 CSR Winter League - Oct 2025**
Civilian Service Rifle, Classic & Historic, NRA
- 11 Ages Match 2025**
Target Rifle, NRA
- 18-19 Trafalgar Meeting 2025**
Civilian Service Rifle, Classic & Historic, Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Muzzle Loading, Match Rifle, McQueen, Sporting Rifle, Target Rifle, NRA
- 25-26 Autumn Action Weekend 2025**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, McQueen, Muzzle Loading, Target Shotgun, Civilian Service Rifle, NRA

NOVEMBER

- 01 CSR Winter League - Nov 2025**
Civilian Service Rifle, Classic & Historic, NRA
- 02 Precision Rifle Shooting (PRS): Competition Nov 2025**
Precision Rifle, NRA

DECEMBER

- 07 CSR Winter League - Dec 2025**
Civilian Service Rifle, Classic & Historic, NRA

RESULTS

MINI RIFLE LEAGUE - 2025 CURRENT STANDINGS

1 Tom Ellaway	14.29%
2 Kevin Leaton	14.14%
3 Alex Meade	12.96%

CSR LEAGUE 2024/25 - AFTER 6 ROUNDS

Historic X Class	
1 J. Gray	997.07

Historic A Class

1 J. Mcaree	885.66
2 A. Rigby	342.46

Iron X Class

1 B. Ellis	977.77
2 S. Meredith	925.77
3 A. Cattell	811.97

Iron A Class

1 D. Mcchesney	928.57
2 S. Page	898.75

Service Optic X Class

1 P. Cottrell	990.13
2 A. Chapman	987.07

Service Optic A Class

1 D. Atraghji	947.37
2 P. Slinn	893.26
3 B. Randall	880.33

Service Optic B Class

1 D. Clarke	868.26
2 R. Oxford	846.56
3 Ewan Chapman-Gadd	833.85

Practical Optic X Class

1 J. Timms	974.36
2 M. Eustance	971.08
3 R. Stevens	966.96

Practical Optic A Class

1 J. Day	936.51
2 G. Stead	917.08
3 C. Fleischhack	899.95

Practical Optic B Class

1 T. Dolski	886.43
2 A. Zygouras	832.32
3 D. Bailey	830.38

E-LEAGUE - CURRENT STANDINGS AS AT THE END OF THE WINTER ROUND

GR&P GRSB

1 P McGuinness	934.40
2 Vyvyan Greenall	934.21
3 Alan Barker	931.35

GR&P GRSB Benched

1 P McGuinness	996.99
2 Breval Alexander	982.62

GR&P GRCF

1 G Betteridge	978.76
2 B Nicholas	950.24
3 C Gilmore	884.26

GR&P GRCF Classic

1 M Greenall	961.34
2 Mark Gerrard	920.25
3 B Nicholas	901.14

GR&P LBP

1 Alan Barker	913.30
2 M Greenall	867.16

GR&P LBR

1 David Perry	815.10
2 C Gilmore	686.80

CSR Historic

1 L Le Berruyer	208.0
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CSR Iron

1 L Le Berruyer	185.0
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CSR Service Optic

1 L Le Berruyer	241.0
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CSR Practical Optic

1 L Le Berruyer	256.0
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Target Rifle

1 Michael Cooper	300.45
2 Nicholas Atkins	290.31

PSR MATCH

Factory

1 Lawrence Barnes	57
2 Andy Simpson	39

Limited

1 Andrew Sterling	31
2 Samuel Quilliam	23

Open

1 Benjamin Mcilwaine	57
2 Sam Steward	55
3 Joe Pask	52

Open - Female

1 Jennifer Hoodless	33
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Open - Military/LEO

1 Paul Calvert	48
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Open - Senior

1 David Arnold	40
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HISTORIC SERVICE RIFLE MATCH - SPRING

Allcomers

1 J. Gray	224
2 D. Green	207
3 B. Ellis	177

Classic

1 B. Drummond	175
2 A. Leech	168
3 S. Bulmer	157

Veteran

1 A. Chapman	212
2 P. Hunter	202
3 J. Mcaree	181

Veteran Optic

1 D. Atraghji	235
2 R. Wade	224

PRS MATCH

Factory

1 Michael Hayes	45
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Factory - Highest Military

Michael Hayes	45
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Limited

1 Andre Mills	48
2 Jamie Calleja	42

Limited - Highest Senior

John Tusa	3
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Limited - Highest Military

Jamie Calleja	42
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Open

1 Daniel Owen	66
2 James Sewell	62
3 Charlton Botha	51

Open - Highest U25

Achille Boswell	15
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Open - Highest Senior

Julian Timms	49
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Open - Highest Female

Jennifer Hoodless	17
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Open - Highest Military

Daniel Owen	66
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TARGET SHOTGUN FESTIVAL - SPRING

0735 T&P 1 - SGM

1 Jamie Stevenson	292
2 Marc Bayliss	290

0736 T&P 1 - SGSA

1 Lucius Hilger-Ellis	297
2 Timothy Jemmett	294
3 Rob Sanders	293

0737 T&P 1 - SGC

1 Rob Sanders	292
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1135 M-T SGM

1 Glenn Isaacs	105.7
2 Rob Sanders	105.5

1136 M-T SGSA

1 Rob Sanders	111
2 Timothy Jemmett	109
3 Lucius Hilger-Ellis	108

3335 Embassy Cup SGM

1 Glenn Isaacs	118
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3336 Embassy Cup SGSA

1 Adam Chapman	120
1 Lucius Hilger-Ellis	120
1 David Dawson	120

3434 Service Match - SG

1 Adam Chapman	101
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SMALLBORE LONG RANGE MATCH

F Class Aggregate

1 Gavin Moffat	126.10x
2 M Townsend	120.5x
3 Steve Isherwood	120.4x

Match Rifle Aggregate

1 Nick Tremlett	123.9x
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Target Rifle Aggregate

1 Simon Edwards	115.6x
2 Peter Francis	111.2x

Service Rifle Aggregate

1 Mark Hodgins	111.3x
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NOTES

Where an event or class has only one entry, the competitor's GRID, name and score are shown in italic text. No medals are awarded in these cases.

SPRING ACTION WEEKEND 2025

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

0101 25m Precision GRSB

1	Colin Hudson	281 5X
2	Adam Chapman	276 6X
3	Les Pearson	260 5X

0102 25m Precision GRCF

1	Gareth Jones	297 14X
2	Clive Ward	295 18X
3	David Guest	295 13X

0103 25m Precision GRCF Open

1	Adam Chapman	297 13X
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0104 25m Precision GRCF Classic

1	Alan Podevin	296 13X
2	Les Pearson	295 14X

0121 25m Precision LBP

1	Lee Townsend	286 8X
2	Steve Lane	284 11X

0122 25m Precision LBR

1	Adam Chapman	282 4X
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0201 25m Precision Benched GRSB

1	Mihai Boc	300 20X
2	Mike Deakin	298 19X

0202 25m Precision Benched GRCF

1	Clive Ward	298 22X
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0204 5m Precision Benched GRCF Classic

C Shepard	213 1X
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0301 50m Precision GRSB

1	Colin Hudson	297 8X
2	Les Pearson	285 5X
3	Gareth Jones	282 3X

0302 50m Precision GRCF

1	Charlie Horner	279 8X
2	Gareth Jones	278 7X

0303 50m Precision GRCF Open

1	Colin Hudson	279 4X
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0304 50m Precision GRCF Classic

1	Les Pearson	274 5X
2	Pet Pearson	271 4X

0321 50m Precision LBP

1	Steve Lane	241 2X
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0322 50m Precision LBR

Andrew McGee	213 1X
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040150m Precision Benched GRSB

1	Julian Fox	296 9X
2	Pet Pearson	290 9X

0501 America Match GRSB

1	Mike Deakin	283 9X
2	Colin Hudson	282 7X

0502 America Match GRCF

1	Keith Cox	284 12X
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0503 America Match GRCF Open

Colin Hudson	281 7X
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0504 America Match GRCF Classic

1	Peter Watts	285 8X
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0521 America Match LBP

1	Neil Francis	277 7X
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0701 Timed & Precision 1 GRSB

X 1	David Guest	300 18X
X 2	Jake Mossom	299 21X
A 1	C Horner	298 16X
B 1	G Hutchinson	295 6X
B 2	Alex Florance	294 8X
C 1	P Paz-Cundy	292 6X
C 2	Paul Bennett	291 10X
C 3	Mihai Boc	289 12X
D 1	A Kitchener	281 7X
D 2	Alison Burstall	278 2X
D 3	Lucas Dillon	277 3X

0702 Timed & Precision 1 GRCF

X 1	D Hackett	300 27X
X 2	Peter Watts	300 25X
X 3	Keith Cox	300 23X
A 1	A Gardiner	299 19X
B 1	Steve Denton	298 12X
C 1	Mihai Boc	297 13X
D 1	P McGuinness	295 14X
D 2	J Burstall	295 13X

0703 Timed & Precision 1 GRCF Open

Paul Flanagan	188 3X
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0704 Timed & Precision 1 GRCF Classic

1	Alan Podevin	299 19X
2	Peter Watts	298 25X

0721 Timed & Precision 1 LBP

X 1	L Townsend	299 19X
X 2	Steve Lane	297 14X
A 1	Danny Treacy	298 7X
A 2	Julian Fox	297 11X
B 1	P Matthews	295 7X
B 2	Fred Cooke	292 11X

0722 Timed & Precision 1 LBR

X	Lee Townsend	299 9X
A 1	C Horner	295 11X
B 1	P Matthews	286 9X
B 2	Chris Mclean	281 6X

0724 Timed & Precision 1 LBP Iron Sights

1	Andrew McGee	293 11X
2	Dave Harris	290 10X

0725 Timed & Precision 1 LBR Iron Sights

1	Jim Smith	288 6X
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0731 Timed & Precision 1 SGMB

1	Rob Sanders	290 11X
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0735 Timed & Precision 1 SGM

1	Glenn Isaacs	295 13X
2	Marc Bayliss	292 10X

0736 Timed & Precision 1 SGSA

1	David Hackett	299 17X
2	A Chapman	298 21X
3	Glenn Isaacs	297 20X

0737 Timed & Precision 1 SG Classic

1	Rob Sanders	293 12X
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0901 Timed & Precision 2 GRSB

X 1	A Gardiner	587 18X
B 1	M Reynolds	576 17X
B 2	Patrick McGuinness	560 19X

0902 Timed & Precision 2 GRCF

A 1	D Hackett	594 30X
B	Jacky Lamb	586 21X

0921 Timed & Precision 2 LBP

B	Laura Warwick	545 6X
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1021 Timed & Precision 3 LBP

1	Neil Francis	243
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1022 Timed & Precision 3 LBR

1	Ian Archer	234
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1101 Multi-Target GRSB

X 1	Joe Pugh	119 12X
X 2	Steve Lane	115 11X
A 1	K Edwards	116 13X
B 1	C Murton	111 7X
B 2	Matt Greenall	109 4X
C 1	G Hutchinson	105 6X
C 2	Paul Bennett	101 7X
D 1	Thomas Burns	98 3X
D 2	Alison Burstall	91 4X

1102 Multi-Target GRCF

X 1	Joe Pugh	120 17X
X	D Hackett	118 17X
A 1	Mike Deakin	117 19X
B 1	Paul Bennett	112 8X
C	Mihai Boc	109 5X
D 1	Danny Treacy	110 8X
D 2	R Harris	105 3X

1103 Multi-Target GRCF Open

Jim Dodd	104 4X
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1104 Multi-Target GRCF Classic

1	Alan Podevin	115 10X
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1121 Multi-Target LBP

X 1	C Horner	114 10X
A 1	Danny Treacy	113 13X
A 2	Mihai Boc	111 9X
B 1	Arthur Hughes	98 5X
B 2	Steve Denton	98 0X

1122 Multi-Target LBR

X 1	Jim Smith	111 10X
A 1	Charlie Horner	102 6X
B	A Samworth	71 0X

1124 Multi-Target LBP Iron Sights

1	Steve Lane	114 12X
2	Andrew McGee	108 8X

1125 Multi-Target LBR Iron Sights

1	Jim Smith	105 11X
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1135 Multi-Target SGM

1	Rob Sanders	112 7X
2	Glenn Isaacs	106 10X

1136 Multi-Target SGSA

1	Adam Chapman	116 10X
2	Rob Sanders	109 9X
3	Gareth Cooney	107 8X

1301 Phoenix A GRSB

X 1	Gary Bowden	188 18X
A 1	S Russell	179 12X
B 1	Alan Barker	175 13X
B 2	G Gough	169 13X

1302 Phoenix A GRCF

A 1	Steve Jordan	190 20X
B 1	C Horner	188 20X

1304 Phoenix A GRCF Classic

Peter Watts	195 16X
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1321 Phoenix A LBP

X 1	Steve Lane	194 21X
A 1	C Horner	180 17X
B 1	Julian Fox	187 19X

1322 Phoenix A LBR

X 1	L Townsend	169 11X
A 1	Robert Illius	148 5X

1501 1500 GRSB

X 1	Chris West	1485	102X
A 1	A Gardiner	1484	87X
A 2	K Kilvington	1483	89X
B 1	Steve Lamb	1457	75X
C 1	Jacky Lamb	1450	61X
D 1	Tom New	1406	49X

1502 1500 GRCF

X 1	J Robinson	1495	115X
A 1	D Hackett	1490	102X
A 2	K Edwards	1490	100X
B 1	M van Dalen	1480	79X
C 1	M Reynolds	1469	90X
D 1	P Bennett	1452	74X

1503 1500 GRCF Open

Anthony Defreitas	1467	74X
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1504 1500 GRCF Classic

1	K Kilvington	1484	92X
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1521 1500 LBP

X 1	Ian Archer	1480	94X
A 1	T Garwood	1468	62X
B 1	G Jones	1402	45X

1522 1500 LBR

X 1	J Robinson	1395	54X
A	L Peltz	1438	47X
B	S Lamb	1428	38X

1524 1500 LBP Iron Sights

1	Dave Harris	1395	40X
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1525 1500 LBR Iron Sights

1	Chris Pannell	1425	39X
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1601 1020 GRSB

X 1	Chris West	1018	76X
A	M Reynolds	1007	57X
B 1	Jacky Lamb	996	48X
B 2	Alex Florance	995	39X

1602 1020 GRCF

X 1	Chris West	1020	85X
A 1	Mike Reynolds	1013	78X
B 1	Bill Ellis	1010	61X
B 2	S Russell	1010	53X

1603 1020 GRCF Open

Anthony Defreitas	1000	65X
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1604 1020 GRCF Classic

Keith Kilvington	1014	67X
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1621 1020 LBP

X 1	Chris West	1009	48X
A 1	Danny Treacy	984	41X
B 1	K Kilvington	995	48X

1622 1020 LBR

A 1	Lance Peltz	960	20X
B 1	D Hackett	950	19X

1821 WA48 LBP

1	Neil Francis	479	39X
2	Steve Lane	479	33X
3	David Guest	479	31X

1822 WA48 LBR

1	Jim Smith	470	15X
2	Dave Harris	466	18X

1901 Advancing**Target GRSB**

X 1	David Guest	297	38X
A 1	Gail Podevin	275	26X
B 1	Paul Bennett	277	30X
B 2	C Murton	275	18X
C 1	G Hutchinson	263	14X
C 2	Tom New	261	13X
D 1	Mihai Boc	259	13X
D 2	A Burstall	257	12X
D 3	T Burns	256	13X

1902 Advancing**Target GRCF**

X 1	David Guest	179	31X
A 1	M Reynolds	178	26X
B 1	M Wilson	178	23X
C 1	Mark Harvey	161	10X
D 1	S Bowden	173	24X
D 2	Patrick McGuinness	168	15X

1903 Advancing Target**GRCF Open**

1	Jim Dodd	168	15X
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1904 Advancing Target**GRCF Classic**

1	Alan Podevin	178	28X
2	Arwel Roberts	171	13X

1921 Advancing**Target LBP**

X 1	L Townsend	175	25X
X 2	C Horner	175	22X
A 1	Mihai Boc	171	17X
A 2	Peter Watts	171	17X
B 1	R Owens	164	8X
B 2	O Mickiewicz	163	11X
B 3	S Bowden	158	7X

1922 Advancing**Target LBR**

X 1	Jim Smith	170	16X
A 1	Steve Denton	161	12X
B 1	Arthur Hughes	145	5X

1924 Advancing Target**LBP Iron Sights**

1	Alan Podevin	174	19X
2	Mike Reynolds	170	25X

1925 Advancing Target**LBR Iron Sights**

1	Jim Smith	167	14X
2	Alan Podevin	166	18X

2001 Advancing Target**Benched GRSB**

1	John Barnes	291	23X
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2004 Advancing Target**Benched GRCF Classic**

C Shepard	166	15X
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2101 Speed Steel**Challenge GRSB**

1	Arwel Roberts	23.87
2	Steve Jordan	24.57
3	Julian Fox	24.77

2102 Speed Steel**Challenge GRCF**

1	Mel Beard	36.77
2	Stuart Jenkins	45.21

2104 Speed Steel**Challenge GRCF Classic**

Arwel Roberts	206.95
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2121 Speed Steel**Challenge LBP**

1	Arwel Roberts	26.78
2	Steve Jordan	31.4
3	Mihai Boc	36.73

2122 Speed Steel**Challenge LBR**

1	Mel Beard	35.47
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3335 NRA Embassy**Cup SGM**

1	Glenn Isaacs	117
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3336 NRA Embassy**Cup SGSA**

1	Tim Jemmett	118
2	Peter Matthews	117
3	Adam Chapman	115

3521 Practical Pistol**(Open)**

1	Tim Gardener	100%
2	W Mickiewicz	94.42%
3	R Parkhouse	87.44%

3522 Practical Revolver**(Open)**

1	Tim Gardener	100%
2	Stuart Tennent	78.33%

3524 Practical Pistol**(Standard Iron)**

1	Tim Gardener	100%
2	James Harris	96.38%

6301 200m GRSB

1	Simon Finch	117
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6302 200m**GRCF**

Neil Francis	37
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6303 200m GRCF Open

Neil Francis	62
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6304 200m GRCF**Classic**

Simon Finch	64
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6380 200m Any**Full-Bore Rifle**

1	Rui Li	163
2	Bill Ellis	156

6381 200m Service Rifle A pre 1955

1	Bill Ellis	118
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6382 200m Service Rifle B pre 1955

Bill Ellis	128
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6392 200m Service Rifle**post 1955 svc optic**

1	Bill Ellis	171
2	Peter Cottrell	166

6501 McQueen GRSB

X 1	Michael Morris	50	9V	50	2V
X 2	Stuart Doyle	50	8V	50	6V
X 3	Dave McGill	50	7V	50	9V
A 1=	Paul Green	50	4V		
A 1	Edward Bush	50	4V		
A 3	Sarah-Jane Binder-Swash	49	7V		
B 1	Gabby Hutchinson	48	3V		
B 2	Julian Fox	47	1V		
B 3	Ewan Gadd-Chapman	46	2V		

6507 McQueen Issued**GRSB**

1	T Offen	50	9V	45	5V
2=	Paul Flanagan	50	6V		
2=	J Binder-Swash	50	6V		

6580 McQueen

1	Dave McGill	50	7V	50	4V
2	Jonathan Binder-Swash	50	5V		
3=	Stuart Doyle	50	4V		
3=	Robert Clarkson	50	4V		
3=	Mark Zarembo	50	4V		
3=	Bob Tottey	50	4V		
3=	Christopher Dye	50	4V		

6590 McQueen**Issued Rifle**

1	Colin Shorthouse	50	3V
2=	Dave McGill	50	0V
2=	Jason Baker	50	0V
2=	Walter Kinglsey-Filshie	50	0V

A61 Under 25 GRSB

1	E Gadd-Chapman	498	15X
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A71 Serving GRSB

1	Andrew Hayes	405	5X
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A73 Serving SGSA

1	J Stevenson	395	15X
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A81 Ex-Serving GRSB

1	Adam Chapman	517	23X
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A82 Ex-Serving GRCF

1	Gareth Jones	464	29X
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A83 Ex-Serving SGSA

1	Adam Chapman	414	31X
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25m Timed	America Match	Multi-Target 3
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100/200/300 yards	Grand	Sporting Statics
200/300 yards	Granet	Surrenden
400/500/600 yards	Imperial Silhouettes	Timed & Precision 1
800/900/1000 yards	McQueen	Timed & Precision 2
1020	Mini McQueen	Timed & Precision 3
1500	Mini Rifle Match	WA-48

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MESSAGE 10

Full name: James Howard
Gray Age: 56

How did you get into shooting?

When I was 13 years old, my parents gave me a .22 BSA Meteor air rifle for Christmas. Shot all the usual things in the back garden, tin cans, Airfix models, biscuit tins and the like. It really got going when I joined the Army back in 1985 and found I really liked being on the ranges, and I enjoyed being on several unit shooting teams as a result whilst I was in.

What is the most memorable moment in your career?

Winning the Armistice Centenary competition in 2018. All done whilst in period uniform and equipment. It was also my first ever NRA medal. An enjoyable and humbling day in equal measure.

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

After leaving the military in 2010, 'real life' and a need to fund a deposit for a house lead me to sell all my rifles and equipment. Horrific, I know!! But at the time it was needs must. It took a while to get back to a point where I could reapply for my FAC and go through the process again.

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

My family are very supportive although they often wonder what the appeal of CSR is on a cold, wet, windy day in winter. Especially when you arrive back home covered in mud! But they understand it's my 'thing' and it's what I enjoy. Without

their understanding and support, it would be difficult to take part. Friends are encouraging, ready to give advice, tips and hints (as well as take the mick, which keeps me grounded), and share the odd après shooting cold one and a tall story or two in one of the clubhouses.

What sort of music do you listen to?

Mixed bag really, but currently blasting out of the car stereo on the daily commute is a bit of rock, punk and heavy metal from the likes of Shinedown, Foo Fighters, Fall Out Boy, Blink 182 etc, with the odd sea shanty thrown in, from The Longest Johns and The Dreadnoughts.

What Club are you a member of?

Primary club is the NRA but also a member of LERA, ATSC and TCRA.

Who has been your biggest inspiration?

My father was a big inspiration, an ex professional speedway rider, he instilled a sense of determination and competitive

spirit in me. Certainly, I was influenced on the ranges by my recruit instructors during training, but I'm also inspired by a new shooters enthusiasm or an old hands calm, practiced demeanour on the range.

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

After a career in the Army, there have been many countries I've enjoyed, along with a few that weren't so agreeable! But I have to say New Zealand. Although born in the UK, my family moved there in the 70s and it's where I spent my childhood. I went back as an adult many years later and it was like being back home.

How has Bisley and the NRA influenced you?

As some of my Aussie mates have said, Bisley is "hallowed ground" for shooters and on some days I can't quite believe I'm shooting there myself. Look in the right

places and its history stares right back at you. NRA members in their many guises and from multiple disciplines have been a source of curiosity, inspiring me to dip my toe in and give it a go. I've tried target shotgun, black powder and more recently reloading. The energy of the NRA instructors and staff is infectious and for myself certainly encouraged me on my return to shooting, to continue into the competitive arena.

What do you like to do in your free time?

I try to keep fit with a bit of running (ok, these days more like jogging!), reading, trekking and camping and riding my motorbike (especially to the Isle of Man TT – 8 times so far).

Do you have a pre-competition routine?

Ideally, I like to have a practice session prior to competition and a decent, hot breakfast to start the day, especially in winter!

What advice would you give to somebody wanting to take up shooting?

Dive in and give it a go! Get yourself to a guest day at any of the clubs up and down the country and see what it's all about. You'll be amazed at the breadth of disciplines available; there is something to pique the interest for everyone and it's a very welcoming community, eager to pass on its knowledge.

So, what Next?

Before committing more time to shooting, I used to skydive and was a demo jumper for my Regiment. I've still got my equipment and will be looking to get back in the air this year. Just for fun though, the CSR Imperial beckons and that will be a focal point for me this year. 🕒





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