

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION JOURNAL



Spring 2024 | Volume F No.1

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NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION JOURNAL

SPRING 2024 | VOLUME F NO.1



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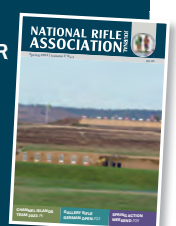
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ON THE COVER

Stickledown Range set up for a Precision Rifle Shooting event.



BRITISH *Summer time*

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



The arrival of British Summer time brings the fervent hope that the rains will ease, ranges will dry and the hardy souls who have braved the firing points over recent months will have warm sunshine on their backs.

We will shortly be publishing the NRA 2023 Annual Report and Accounts which show income has topped £10 million for the first time. This is split £4.9 million from NRA charitable activities and £5.1 million from National Shooting Centre (NSC) commercial activities. Drilling down one further step finds the £4.9 million of NRA income split £1.3 million competitions and training, £2.2 million estate and £1.4 million membership and affiliations. NSC's £5.1 million of income is made up of £2.5 million range hire and armoury sales, £2.2 million clay shooting, with £0.4 million of accommodation, events and filming contracts making up the balance.

“ It shows how hard the Bisley estate works to generate funds that support competitions and training, our key charitable activities.

So what you might ask!

Firstly it shows how hard the Bisley estate works to generate funds that support competitions and training, our key charitable activities.

Secondly it provides a guide on how we have grown our commercial NSC activities to fund the maintenance, development and improvement works at Bisley.

And thirdly it gives a clue why our hard working staff may, during rare unguarded moments, appear somewhat harassed.

Away from the sums, I attended the Club Open Forum at

Solihull in March. To my delight the questions and points raised were fair, relevant, thoughtful and enlightening. Lead ammunition, access to MoD ranges, training, hand loading were discussed and debated. Not once was the word “caravan” mentioned, suggesting this is an issue peculiar to Bisley. Having officials from clubs from all over the UK in one room was very rewarding; we need to think carefully how to continue such valuable engagement in the future. Nic Couldrey’s article provides a fuller report later in the journal.

With a General election looming large on the horizon I would urge clubs to consider inviting local Parliamentary candidates of all colours to your range. Such visits provide candidates the opportunity to meet club members (voters) and show them clubs are important centres of social interaction and cohesion, promoting safe and responsible target shooting. Prospective MPs will be keen to engage with their electorate, and General elections provide the target shooting community the opportunity to explain who we are, what we do, and why we merit the support of elected MPs.

Speaking of caravans, I am pleased as punch with the cracking progress made by our contractors building the 28 new serviced caravan pitches on Wharncliffe site. Works are on schedule for completion by the end of April, leaving plenty of time for NRA members and clubs to secure a pitch, buy a new or second-hand caravan and site it in June ready for the start of the Imperial Meeting. Leases are for terms up to 20 years; each pitch has mains gas, electric, water, drainage, and fibre broadband connected. For further information contact shelly.fletcher@nra.org.uk 📧

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2.59	40	1255	1036	140	95	2000	50



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NRA TEAM TO THE CHANNEL ISLANDS 2023

By **Euan Munro** MD FRCSEd Gen FRCSEng.

I have been given the honour of writing the report of the Team's training, fund raising, web site development, pre-tour matches and of the tour itself for the NRA Journal.

It has been a very great privilege for me to have been a part of this team of great leaders and individuals and who have all become lasting friends.

Our Captain James Mehta and Vice-Captain Kimberley Pope both have their shooting roots in that very great institution, Framlingham College, progressing on to representing Scotland & Ireland respectively and James also at GB level.

The Team Adjutant Ian Ashworth has his shooting origins in air-rifle and small-bore rifle progressing on to full-bore including at County Team and GB level.

Simon Dickson was the Team's Chief Wind Coach and in familiar style, began shooting at school, progressing through the Athelings (with distinction) and on to represent the West of Scotland County Team and Scotland, both as firer and latterly as wind coach.

The team was selected just following the 2022 TR Imperial:

- Richard Bird (*Northants, Leicester & Rutland, England*)
- Richard Dyball (*West of Scotland, Scotland*)
- Rob Edwards (*Gloucestershire*)
- John Evans (*Somerset, Wales*)
- Ed Feast (*Hertfordshire*)
- Ryan Lindsay (*Ireland GB U21*)
- Euan Munro (*West of Scotland, Scotland*)
- Sasha Radkovskii (*Oxfordshire*)
- Chris Vonchek (*Hampshire GB U25's*)
- Ed Welford (*Hampshire, England*)

Harry Asquith-Beard, Sophie Hodge, Henry Waldern & Nia Barnes all had to leave the team for a variety of reasons.

TEAM MASCOT

The team chose the 'Magpie' as mascot to ward off misfortune as not only is this a member of the corvid family, but is also something that all shooters dread to see appearing on their target! Consequently, the team were also known as 'The Magpies', wearing the Magpie logo on team kit.

FUND RAISING

All touring TR Teams need to raise additional funds to reduce the overall cost, particularly for younger Team members.

1. Brochure sponsorship

We are very grateful to the North London Rifle Club, The County of Gloucester Rifle

Association, Simon Shouler, The London & Middlesex Rifle Association, Precision Rifle Services Ltd, Peaceful Pets, Wandsworth Full-Bore Rifle Club, Ellesmere Target Sports, The Scottish Gamekeepers Association, BASC and all the individuals who kindly made donations to support the team.

2. It's a Grand Knockout

The Team are very grateful to the organisers of the above for supporting the Team at this year's Imperial.

3. Auction

A number of items were generously donated to be sold at auction via the Team's website.

4. Gin Sale

Most visitors to Bisley over the last year will remember seeing a bottle of the Ruddy Magpie being sold by members of the Tour, or seeing it stocked behind the North London Bar! An initiative started by our Adjutant and distilled by Brennan & Brown Ltd has been our longest-running fundraising activity.

5. Calendar Sale

Rob Edwards put together photos of ranges around the UK and in the Channel Islands to make a unique and lasting memento of the Magpie Team.

Left: NRA Team.



6. Guest Day

A Friends and Family Guest Day was run together with the 2024 GBU25 squad to South Africa on 30th April 2023, where Chris Vonchek ran the butt party, with Richard Bird and Sasha Radkovskii coaching targets for the TR section.

7. Cake Sale

Our Vice-Captain held a cake sale at the North London club in 2022 and most recently in early May 2023, with proceeds going to the tour treasury.

TRAINING AND PRE-TOUR MATCHES

Our first training weekend was in September 2022 and was concerned with introductions, team building, itinerary, options for transport, fund raising plans and measuring up for team kit. Dave Crispin kindly bore-scope'd the Team's rifles and thankfully found no major issues.

Shooting and plotting practice was undertaken at 300 and 600 yards, together with team drills for efficient changeover.

Ammunition was in short supply at the time and the Team had to rely on individual members purchasing the permitted number of rounds of 2022 GGG from the NRA.

We were particularly fortunate to receive a lecture from Matt Ensor on Plotting technique in December 2022. The Team were shown how accurate and rapid plotting and effective communication with the wind coach could change a mediocre score into a maximum one. The Team were asked not to reveal detail of what we were taught and we are very grateful to Matt and also GB Palma Team Captain Jeremy Langley for this learning opportunity.

The Team practice weekend in early April 2023 was



Above: The sunsets are just as good as the shooting and the hospitality. La Corbiere Lighthouse, Jersey. **Below:** A thick, blustery wind from the right at Fort Le Marchant.

concerned with shooting at 600, 900, 1000 and 300 yards, the emphasis was not only on individual performance, but also on team drill. Shooting performance at 300x was highlighted because as the old adage says, "You can't win a match at 300x, but you can certainly lose it".

The third training weekend in April started with a Team practice at 300 and 500 yards and then a "National" format match against the English XX Lions Squad on the Saturday and then a "Kolapore" format match on the Sunday, with the NRA CI team winning both.

Our final pre-tour match against the LMRA took place on the 24th May using a 2&15 course of fire at 300 & 600 yards, the Magpies were victorious and Richard Dyball achieved the highest score in the match. This was followed

by an excellent dinner hosted by the LMRA.

THE TOUR

The Team departed from Bisley very early on the morning of 25th May in four cars to catch the ferry from Portsmouth to Jersey. The Team cars

were required to place red stickers on windscreens and drive through the ferry terminal and onto the ferry with hazard flashers going, in view of the fact that

we were transporting firearms. Customs on the UK side required that heavily laden cars be unpacked and then rifle cases opened on the roadway for all to see, whilst serial numbers and FACs were checked. The author was also asked to open the bonnet of his car and the engine having been inspected was then asked if he was carrying a knife!! (I suppose I could have said no, but I do have a selection of

very sharp ones at work!)

The 12 hour voyage to St. Helier via Guernsey was very comfortable with calm sea conditions. The team enjoyed a late breakfast and then snoozed in our cabins. Customs were very relaxed on our arrival into Jersey.

On arrival a swift transfer to Crabbe for the first view for many of this delightful range. We were very grateful to our Jersey Hosts for opening up the armoury to store our rifles.

The Team stayed at "The Inn" in central St. Helier, very comfortable and convenient for the town, with a bar that was popular with the Team members and on one occasion the bar staff were ably assisted by the Chief Wind Coach for a cocktail tutorial.

The following morning was a rest session followed by pistol and carbine shooting at Crabbe Range in the afternoon. This activity was arranged by Richard Dyball and the Team had the opportunity to shoot 9mm Glock and CZ pistols and 9mm semi-automatic Heckler & Koch carbines and also a modern manufacture Schmeisser MP39 machine ►



pistol (S/A only). The range practice was conducted at 25M and Richard Bird was the winner of the informal competition.

The Team are very grateful to Richard Le Brocq of The Modern & Military Arms Association and his team of range officers, Maurice Saunders, Tony Satchwell, Nick Byrne and Matthew Beddoe for supplying the arms and ammunition, for making us welcome and for the generous amount of time that they spent.

The JRA Open Meeting started on Saturday 27th May, with the Team required to be at the range at 0730. This meant early departures from the hotel were the order of the day, especially as the narrow and winding Jersey roads with speed limits of 15-25mph in the main, dictate that progress is not going to be rapid.

The Team were faced with windy conditions, which proved challenging not only from a wind reading point of view, but also buffeting of the rifle whilst on aim, something that the author had a particular issue with, not helped by a large foresight tube. Most unusually the gusty lumpy wind came from the right: normally the prevailing breeze is pretty constant, and

comes from the left.

Although electronic targets have many advantages, the Team were faced with technical issues throughout the meeting, with signal drop out, shots not recorded and on at least one occasion at 600x, shots being erroneously recorded, necessitating a change of target. The author

11 and 13 minutes, although there were periodic gusts which could take the unwary into the magpie or even the outer.

The match was won by Kaden Rivoallan of the JRA with an outstanding maximum score of 105.13, closely followed by Sasha Radkovskii of the NRA with 104.14.

“ The Magpies were treated to champagne by Captain James to toast their success.

did not have a good start to the meeting when he converted a 50.6 into a 45.5 at 200x by firing on the neighbouring target during a particularly fraught set of e-target issues.

The Jersey Grand Aggregate was won by Chris Watson dropping only 4 points with 451.52. The top NRA scorer was Sasha Radkovskii with 443.49 in 6th place, closely followed by Rob Edwards with 442.49.

The Long Range part of the meeting was held at Les Landes Range at 900 and 1,000 yards, the course of fire was unusual comprising of 2+10 at 900x and 2+11 at 1,000x. Conditions were challenging with a wind bracket at 1,000x of between

The Team and Pairs Matches against the JRA took place on the afternoon of 29th May with a Kolapore format at 300/500/600x.

The wind strength had increased by this stage creating real buffeting issues for the firers. The Team had not experienced or practised for these sort of conditions. The decision was taken to have the plotters lying prone on the upwind side of each of the firers to afford some sort of protection.

The NRA Team had a clear lead after 300x, taking advantage of our target draw on the right-hand side of the range. But at 500x we were exposed to the full extent of the buffeting wind and did much less well. But we

made a recovery at 600x with the advantage of protection offered by the topography to win the match with 1137.100 against the JRA score of 1135.98. Richard Dyball of the NRA achieved the highest individual score in the match of 147.16.

The NRA also won the Pairs match with 288.32 to the JRA score of 276.22.

The post match dinner was held at Corbiere Phare Restaurant, which has superb views out over the coast and specialises in seafood dishes.

The Magpies were treated to champagne by Captain James to toast their success.

The Team were grateful to the local organisers in Jersey particularly JRA Captain Nick Atkins for their generous hospitality and competition.

The Team were able to enjoy a day's sightseeing around St. Helier the next day before catching the ferry to Guernsey in the evening. We were met by Peter Jory who as a Guernsey RFD took possession of the Team's rifles for safe storage, prior to checking in to the St. Pierre Park Hotel & Golf Resort.

A day of R&R followed, when the team toured the

Below: A sunny but windy Crabbe range, Jersey.



“the islands themselves have many beautiful panoramas and the people very helpful and friendly.”



Above: Fort Le Marchant range, Guernsey. **Left:** Fort Le Marchant range, Guernsey 2.

and Ian Ashworth shot outstandingly well in the conditions winning their match with 293.21 to the GRA's 290.23. Ashworth lived up to his reputation of SuperSub, having to take over at the last moment when Chris Voncheck suffered a back and shoulder spasm.

We were treated to an excellent barbeque by our Guernsey Hosts following the prize giving and the NRA Team are very grateful to the Guernsey Rifle Association for the welcome, hospitality and strong competition that they provided.

The Team then caught the late ferry back to Poole, arriving at Bisley at 3am on June 4th.

As the appointed Team M.O., the author only had two medical issues to deal with on tour, the first being a case of hay fever and the second an acute shoulder injury managed using a combination of paracetamol, an anti-inflammatory and a Team Member's personal electric massage machine!

For and on Behalf of the 2023 NRA Team to the Channel Islands. 🍷

island's coast and visited some of the Nazi fortifications and Bunker Museum. The number and size of these structures built by the occupiers on both Jersey and Guernsey is quite staggering and all built by slave labour. The Museums in both islands clearly record the hardships endured by the islanders during occupation and sadly the atrocities committed by the occupiers.

On a lighter note, the islands themselves have many beautiful panoramas and the people very helpful and friendly, with many excellent restaurants, which the team greatly enjoyed! Definitely Islands to return to for further visits!

The Guernsey Open started on June 1st at the very striking Fort Le Marchant

Range, which has both WWII blockhouses and Napoleonic Towers on site. The wind conditions were even more challenging than Jersey, with buffeting that required the adoption of a very different shooting technique and wind allowances of up to 5 minutes at 300x and 12 minutes at 600x.

The format was 2+10 at 300 and 600 yards on day 1, Kings 1&2 on day 2 and then 2 &15 at 600x followed by the Team and Pairs Match on day 3.

There were again some electronic target issues with shots not registering, signal drop out and the occasional "wild" shot put down to target rather than firer error. It was thought that the unusually windy conditions might have been responsible in part

causing excessive movement of the target frames.

The Guernsey Grand Aggregate was won by Ed Welford with 390.38, closely followed by Sasha Radkovskii with 389.37, both of the NRA Team. Rob Edwards of the NRA won the Falla & Highfield (Kings 1 format) with 101.12.

The Team and Pairs Matches against the Guernsey Rifle Association took place in the afternoon.

The NRA Team lost at both 300x and 500x, but recovered at 600x with the highest team score at that distance (by 8V's), but losing the match overall with a score of 1144.107 to the GRA's 1166.106. The hosts coped much better than the visitors in the blustery conditions.

The NRA Pairs Ed Feast

NRA MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION

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Gift Aid is a scheme that lets UK taxpayers easily supercharge their charity donations. Every time you say ‘yes’ to Gift Aid, each tenner you give becomes £12.50 for the charity at no extra cost to you.

And if you’re a higher or additional-rate taxpayer you can later claim some further tax back (which you could donate too).

WHAT IS GIFT AID AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

Gift Aid is a government scheme that lets charities and ‘Community Amateur Sports Clubs’, such as the National Rifle Association, claim tax relief on the donations that you make to them.

Your annual NRA membership is considered a donation to the charity, which therefore allows us to take your donation and – if you’ve agreed to Gift Aid – claim your basic-rate (20%) tax back from HM Revenue & Customs.

To claim Gift Aid on your donation, the charity will need:

- Your name and address
- You to declare that you pay tax in the UK of an amount at least equal to the donation you are making
- Your signature and the date

We have included a Gift Aid handout in this Journal which turns into a return FREEPOST envelope - please complete the form, fold in half, stick it down and pop it in your nearest post box.

Here’s how it works...

You make a donation of £100

to a charity, and agree the charity can claim Gift Aid. The charity then claims £25 from the state in tax relief, meaning your total donation now amounts to £125.

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If you live in England, Wales or Northern Ireland and pay higher-rate tax of 40% or additional-rate tax of 45%, then you can claim extra tax relief on gift-aided charity donations, on top of what the charity has already claimed.

What you can claim is the difference between the highest rate of tax you pay, and the basic-rate of tax (20%, which the charity has already reclaimed through Gift Aid). So, higher-rate taxpayers could reclaim an extra 20%, and additional rate taxpayers an extra 25%.

If you live in Scotland, the same rules apply, but the tax rates are different. So, intermediate-rate 21%, higher-rate 41% and additional-rate 46% taxpayers can all claim something back.

The table shows how much extra you could get in tax relief on a £100 donation (remember the charity has already claimed the basic-rate tax relief). As above, the tax relief is worked out as a percentage of the amount you’d have earned pre-tax to make the donation.

You could ‘pre-donate’ the extra tax relief to charity knowing you’ll get it back

Once you’ve claimed the tax relief due, you can choose what to do with it. Many choose to donate the extra to the charity, so it benefits from Gift Aid twice over.

Let’s imagine you’re a higher-rate 40% taxpayer in England. If you donate £100 and Gift Aid it, then the charity gets £125 and you can claim £25 back. Effectively your donation cost you £75.

Yet you could instead give the charity £125 upfront. In

this case, the charity can claim £31.25 in Gift Aid, making your total donation £156.25. Yet you can also claim £31.25 as extra tax relief, meaning your donation effectively cost you £93.75 – close to the £100 you originally planned to donate, but in this scenario the charity’s much better off.

The maths is never going to be exact, because the more you give, the more you get back, but this is a way of making sure the charity benefits from your extra tax relief upfront.

How do I claim the extra tax relief on gift-aided charity donations?

If you fill in a self-assessment tax return, you can enter details of all your gift-aided donations in the charitable giving section of the form. If you’re new to this, make sure you keep records of all gift-aided charity donations in the future so you have accurate numbers to fill in.

If you don’t fill in a self-assessment form, you can call HMRC on 0300 200 3300 and tell it about your charitable donations, so it can adjust your tax code (if you’re an employee or receiving a private pension). This will mean you’ll have less tax taken off you in future to give you the extra relief you are due. If you’re not an employee or receiving a pension, HMRC may issue you a refund cheque.

Information taken from [moneysavingexpert.com/family/gift-aid/#what](https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/family/gift-aid/#what)

EXTRA TAX RELIEF YOU CAN CLAIM ON A £100 DONATION

Tax Band	In England, Wales & Northern Ireland	In Scotland
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Higher rate (40% or 41%)	£25	£26.25
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F-CLASS 2023 TEAMS LEAGUE FINALE

Report by **Simon West.**

Established ahead of the 2023 F-Class World Championships to provide valuable team practice, the British F-Class Teams League completed the 2023 season with a final match (Round 6) at Bisley on Saturday 25th November.

For anyone unfamiliar with team shooting, it is an excellent way to improve your all-round shooting/windreading/plotting skills in the company of others.

For the F-Class Teams League, a standard 8-person/4-shooter arrangement is the maximum capacity for any team, although many get by with fewer members who multi-task throughout the match. The teams are also restricted to ICFRA/GBFCA FTR rules – so scoped .308 calibre (or .223) rifles, bipods, rear rests and a weight limit of 8.25kg for everything attached to the rifle when fired.

For Round 6, the teams would be at 900 yards for one match, falling back to 1,000 yards for three more matches, using the standard F-Class target which has a 5-inch V-bull at long-range (800-1000 yards).

Even at this late stage, three teams could still win the league – Pandas Black (the current leaders), Team MXM/VV100 and The BullHitters. They would be joined by Pandas White for the final match, also very determined to finish the season with a win.

Dawn broke on the coldest day so far of the autumn, with frost glimmering on the range. Travellers from 'The North' like Nick Gilbert, revelled in the southern -1C warmth as they had left home in the early hours at minus 5C! However, the teams were now enjoying clear skies, and light winds suggested that some high scores could be recorded in the first stage at 900 yards.

Each of the four stages consisted of two sighters and fifteen shots to count, for each of the four shooters, with seventy-five minutes to complete the stage.

With the hooter sounding, a five minute blow-off period followed; Message 1 was sent to the butts and the targets rose.

Team MXM/VV100 took Stage 1 with some impressive shooting – only dropping

four points across all four shooters, with veteran Mark Downing registering a remarkable 75.11, ably coached by Pete Dommatt.

The teams moved back to 1000yds for Stage 2, and by now the Stickledown wind was building. However, all the teams had solid performances with Pandas Black winning the stage with a score of 290.19 (out of 300.60 possible). Ryan Goodman put in the top score of 74.5 coached by Ewen Campbell, the Pandas Black team Captain.

With Winter Bisley timings in place, and only 2.5 hours maximum of daylight remaining, the organisers reduced the detail timings for the afternoon matches to 65 minutes (for potentially 68 shots downrange). Message 1 was sent to the butts for Stage 3 – The BullHitters got stuck in and were finished with 25 minutes to spare. They had put all four shooters through at a very speedy rate with the very experienced wind coach and Great Britain F-Open team Captain Tony Marsh using his knowledge to deal with the very twitchy headwind.

The RO was giving a regular time countdown but the other teams looked as if they were cutting it really fine as they waited for some stable wind conditions to magically appear. With only 3 minutes left the last shot was fired – much to everyone's relief.

Again, Pandas Black managed to sneak a win on this stage by 3 clear points but the highest shooter score for a second time was Mark Downing, with an impressive 73.4 for Team MXM/VV100.

With the 2023 league still to play for and very few points between all the teams, the 2023 GB Teams League was going down to the wire.

With the 65 minute time limit still in place for this detail, the slower shooting teams from the last stage had learnt their lesson and all the teams got stuck in, finishing the fourth and final stage with plenty of time to spare. The most notable shooter score came from Kat Balakrishnan for Pandas White, with a 75.10 coached by

Below: NRA F-Class rep Peter Dommatt presents the Teams League trophy to the Pandas Black team. (L-R: Jon Longhurst, Arnaud Martin, Garryk Campbell, Ryan Goodman, Simon West, Ewen Campbell).



Mike Harris – a very much up-and-coming F-class wind coach.

But with the scores all counted, who had won Round 6, and more importantly, which team had won the 2023 GB FTR Teams League?

Pandas Black with some very solid shooting throughout the day (and the season) had managed to win by eleven points, and the league for the third year running by 3 clear points.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thankyou to Ian Bellis for being Range Officer and to young Tom Reynolds for leading his team of markers throughout the year; without them we could not shoot.

The 2023 League has been extremely closely fought and we have had some challenging weather conditions this year. Team shooting is great fun and the League always has space for more teams if you fancy giving it a try. If you are keen to be involved in F-Class team shooting or individual shooting and would like to know more, please email fclass@nra.org.uk

ROUND 6

1st	Gun Foo Pandas Black	1153.81 Vs
2nd	The BullHitters	1142.83 Vs
3rd	Team MXM/VV 100	1142.74 Vs
4th	Gun Foo Pandas White	1084.67 Vs

GB F-CLASS TEAMS LEAGUE 2023 – GRAND AGGREGATE POINTS

1st	Gun Foo Pandas Black	39 points
2nd	Bullhitters	36 points
3rd	MXM/VV100	35 points
4th	Excalibur	29 points
5th	Gun Foo Pandas White	28 points
6th	White Horse Lodge	6 points
7th	Nomads	5 points 🍀



GBFCA F-CLASS 2023 BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIPS

Report by **Richie Jones**.

The GBFCA F-Class British Championships, held in November each year, are the final match in a national league that runs from April each year, has eight rounds, and is truly 'national', with four of the rounds at Bisley, two at the Diggle ranges near Manchester, and two at Blair Atholl in the Highlands of Scotland.

Coming into this final Round 8, placings were tight at the top of the league tables in both F-TR and F-Open classes. In FTR, Simon West (the new GB FTR Captain) was leading the field, and likewise in F-Open, GB team Captain Tony Marsh was ahead. Both of these top places were due in part to big wins for both shooters in Round 7 in atrocious conditions at Blair Atholl.

However, in both classes, the leaders had rivals nipping at their heels, and results in Round 8 would be critical to deciding the 2023 overall winners. The joys of Bisley also attracted competitors from as far as Italy, like Gianfranco Zanoni and Ludovico Cesario, who had to deal with cancelled ferries across the Channel.

The weather forecast ahead of Round 8 didn't look promising, with heavy black clouds covering most of southern England. Heavy rain had battered the Bisley area throughout Tuesday to Thursday, with threats of a weekend cancellation being aired by the NRA due to 'Storm Ciaran'.

Muscle memory had everyone subconsciously packing extra waterproofs and a towel within their range kits, just in case we got hit with the worst.

The NRA Grounds Team had also been very busy, happily staying late on the Friday to fix the steps up to the 800 yard firing point which had been washed away in the earlier rains.

As is often the case, the F-Classers had been squadded on targets starting from the far left (wettest) side of Stickle-down (Target 1) and it was a great relief to see that the trees hiding the near left flag (A3) had also been cut back to give the left end shooters a fair chance against the rest of the field.

Saturday started relatively calm, but by the time the Match Director's gazebo had been assembled, it took off downrange in a very strong gust of wind, along with the Match Director (yours truly) who will need to add some extra ballast for the 2024 season!

The F/TR competitors were first into the breach for Match 1 and as their volley of blow-offs went downrange at 08:37hrs, the air suddenly went cold, with heavy rain rapidly approaching. It was apparent that our shooters got the same feeling and rapidly completed their 2+15s.



Above: Cracking the flags as F-Open's Match 3 – Detail 3 gets under way.

Left: F/TR's Dan Lomas and Asad Wahid about to do battle in Match 4 – Dan's taking it all in his stride!

Despite the hard conditions, some fantastic early scores had been submitted in F/TR with several 75s already on the scoreboard screen.

Detail 2 was a mixed detail (with some FTR shooting alongside some F-Open) and soon got under way. At around shot 3, the heavens fully opened. This was a real conundrum for the rest of the F-Open contingent waiting at the rear for the third detail, and worrying about getting their shiny bits damp.

However, by shot 13 of Detail 2 the rain abruptly stopped and the sun came out. F-Open's Detail 3 then produced some very high scores and everyone dressed back to 900 yards to either dry out, cry, or enjoy their high score.

Conditions for the rest of the morning session remained dry and despite the sun, temperatures stayed at a cool 12C. Moving to Match 2 at 900 yards, the wind remained consistent and tilted around 1.0 – 1.6MOA Right, with occasional drop offs to a 0.5 Right being the main reason for lost points.

After grabbing some lunch, our shooters then made ready for Match 3 at 1000 yards at 13:30hrs. The forecast for the remainder of the day looked stable and everyone was really pleased to see that all the weather apps agreed with one another for a change. Match 3 was a 2+20 which always adds a bit of additional difficulty for the shooters and RCOs as timings and poor weather can make the shooting run right to the hooter.

That concluded our first day of the British Championships and well done to all those who won Stage medals in Matches 1-3, especially those few who did it with a fantastic clean and a good V-Bull count. In difficult conditions, the league's leaders were being put under considerable pressure and there was a real battle unfolding for a Top 10 finish in the overall 2023 league stakes.

In particular, Dan Lomas in F/TR was building a strong lead. Maintaining the lead to the finish would see him leapfrog Simon West into overall 1st place in the 2023 F/TR League.

SATURDAY (DAY 1) AGGREGATE RESULTS

F/TR	M1	M2	M3	AGG
1 Dan Lomas	73.07	74.10	98.07	245.24
2 Asad Wahid	73.06	73.06	96.07	242.19
3 Mike Harris	75.06	71.03	95.06	241.15
F-OPEN				
1 Brogan O'Shea Smith	75.10	75.09	98.08	248.27
2 Ian Boxall	75.08	74.05	98.07	247.20
3 Tony Marsh	75.06	74.04	96.09	245.19

F-Open were first in line to shoot Sunday and with two matches of 2+15 at 1000 yards on the cards, it was still anyone's game. Under the dry but very cold conditions, we couldn't have wished for better shooting conditions on the final day of the 2023 League. Gusty winds were present from the hooter, which is always a positive for a Day 2 and especially that of the British Championships, as it attracts mistakes and gives everyone a chance to try and regain points to make up for any poor matches the previous day.

The wind on Sunday was coming in stronger from the left and as we pushed through Match 4 and into Match 5, winds were hovering around 3-4 MOA left with drop offs as low as 2MOA in value while occasionally gusts picking up to around 6+MOA when it misbehaved. This caused several 'head-in-hands' moments across the firing line with some shooters' weekends being thrown to the dogs in an instant.

With all the Sunday results into the computer, the competitors huddled around the scoreboard screen awaiting the final reckoning.

Sunday's two shoots produced six different names on the daily aggregate scoreboard, with honours going to Kathirvel (Kat) Balakrishnan in F/TR and Gary Costello in F-Open. Gary is no stranger to the medals, and Kat was continuing his great shooting after his 3rd place overall at the European Championships in September.

SUNDAY (DAY 2) AGGREGATE RESULTS

F/TR	M4	M5	AGG
1 Kathirvel Balakrishnan	71.03	69.02	140.05
2 Arnaud Martin	70.05	69.04	139.09
3 David C. W. Lloyd	70.05	69.02	139.07
F-OPEN			
1 Gary Costello	72.06	72.02	144.08
2 Martin Miles	71.00	72.03	143.03
3 Neil Gould	71.02	71.04	142.06

Firstly, eyes were drawn to the overall results for this final Round 8 – the British Championships. Congratulations to Dan Lomas in F/TR and to Tony Marsh in F-Open for finishing on top.

SUNDAY (DAY 2) AGGREGATE RESULTS

F/TR	ROUND 8 GRAND AGG
1 Dan Lomas	380.32
2 Mike Harris	379.21
3 Asad Wahid	378.28
4 Arnaud Martin	377.31
5 Ewen Campbell	376.30
F-OPEN	
1 Tony Marsh	387.25
2 Brogan O'Shea Smith	386.35
3 Ian Boxall	386.34
4 Gary Costello	383.24
5 Martin Townsend	380.31

So how did the British Championship results affect the final overall GBFCA 2023 League positions?

Congratulations in F/TR to Dan Lomas for holding it together throughout Round 8 to ultimately pip Simon West to the top spot for the year. In F-Open, Tony Marsh (leading the League before Round 8) finished in style with his Round 8 win to put his name on the winner's trophy.

GBFCA 2023 F-CLASS LEAGUE FINAL POSITIONS

Position	FTR	F-Open
1	Dan Lomas 77	Tony Marsh 79
2	Simon West 76	Des Parr 75
3	Arnaud Martin 75	Brogan O'Shea Smith 72
4	Asad Wahid 71	Gary Costello 70
5	Ewen Campbell 68	Mark Bannon 64
6	Peter Dommatt 68	Tom Reynolds 64
7	Kat Balakrishnan 66	Ian Boxall 61
8	Mike Harris 61	Pat Allen 60
9	Dean Wallace 60	Paul Harkins 46
10	Ryan Goodman 60	Lance Invall 43

As another competition season comes to a close, I want to thank all of our loyal shooters, Range Officers, Markers, our GBFCA committee members, our generous supporters and fantastic sponsors throughout 2023. Finally, I'd like to thank the NSC, its range staff and the Range Office for helping us to make this another very successful year for F-Class shooting in the UK.

If you'd like to get involved with F-Class shooting in the UK, contact fclass@nra.org.uk 📧



Above: 2023 TOP 10 F/TR shooters, especially Dan Lomas at becoming the new 2023 F/TR League Champion. (Top row L-R) Ryan Goodman, Mike Harris, Kat Balakrishnan, Pete Dommatt and Dean Wallace (Front row L-R) Arnaud Martin, Simon West, Dan Lomas, Ewen Campbell and Asad Wahid.



Above: 2023 TOP 10 F-Open shooters, especially Tony Marsh for becoming the new 2023 F-Open League Champion. (Top row L-R) Ian Boxall, Paul Harkins, Tom Reynolds and Pat Allen (Front row L-R) Brogan O'Shea Smith, Des Parr, Tony Marsh, Gary Costello and Mark Bannon (Missing: Lance Invall)

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Above: Fort George 600 yard range.

SNIPER PLATOON COMPETITION 2023

Sniper Platoon, 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Scotland
Open Sniper Competition 2023. **Martyn Asker** reports.

Cawdor Rifle and Gun club received an invitation from the 3rd Scots, sniper platoon to enter a open competition at Fort George and the Tain Air Range to consist of three days of shooting in various sniper oriented competitions commencing on November the 29th.

This was distributed to the club membership and eight hardy souls eventually arrived at Fort George at 08:00 on the Wednesday morning. I was one of those souls. It must be said I was quite nervous about what would be asked of us and if I was even a good enough shot or fit enough to enter up against real military snipers. I had already let CSgt Brownless know about my age, dodgy hips and general poor fitness levels, “Not a problem” was the response.

We were quickly taken to a meeting room where various items from the competition sponsors were distributed and details given as to the rules and what we were going to get up to. As CSgt Brownless and his team explained what we were to do I became relaxed, more and more excited as I realised we were in for a real treat.

As a background here, I knew I would not be willing to lug my F class rifle

around the various challenges and so had already asked if I could use my 1941 Lee Enfield SMLE, CSgt Brownless had already given me permission to use that rifle and was interested to see it on the ranges we were to use.

I will detail the three days competition in order commencing with day one:

WEDNESDAY THE 29TH NOVEMBER, FORT GEORGE; Event one, Bingo.

Shot at 100 metres. This consisted of a bingo card as the target with each numbered square being around 3.2cm in size. A random number was called out and you had to hit the number called.

Needless to say with open sights I could not see so I just aimed at the card... I did not do well!

Shooters had to claim lines and full cards, a couple did lines, but no full houses.

Event two, Plate Party.

Also at 100 metres, this was 11 circles on one target, the largest plate being 12cm in diameter, but only scoring one, the smallest being 9mm in diameter and scoring 11, five shots allowed. I did OK on this and scored 14. One of our Cawdor



Above: SMLE at 100 yards.

members scored the maximum of 55, hitting the 11 score, a remarkable effort of marksmanship.

Event Three, Rapid Bolt.

Shot at 400 metres, shooting at a large round target and then 5 smaller targets above, this was starting to increase the distance and was also the first time we moved with our rifles as we started 10 metres behind the firing point and had to run forward, load and put five rounds in the big target and one in each of the smaller targets. Needless to say I ran out of time. ▶





Above: Preparing for the next duty.

Event four, Know Your Limits.

This was from 300 to 600 metres, once again moving with your rifle, shooting at a Figure 11 target, starting at 300 metres, 10 metres behind the firing point. You then had 90 seconds to run forward, load, shoot one round, show clear and run back to the next firing point, place your rifle on the point and dress back 10 metres. This was repeated a further three times with each range adopting a different firing position, 300 metres - standing, 400 metres - sitting, 500 metres - kneeling, 600 metres - prone.

Event five, Change of Pace.

This was from 600 metres to 300 metres and back again and was the first of the real physical tests. Again, we used a number 11 target. Starting at 600 metres, prone, fire one round in five seconds, then on the command 'move' you have 50 seconds to show clear, run to the 500 meter point, adopt a sitting position, reload with one round and make ready. Then once again it is five seconds to shoot, then 50 seconds to show clear and move to the 400 meter point. This is repeated a further six times with alternate prone and sitting shooting positions.

At the end of it on the last 600 meter position, my heart was pounding, I was gasping for breath and the end of the rifle was bouncing up and down like a yo-yo.

That was the end of day one. I was very tired, not wet though (that was to come

later) and enjoyed a brilliant days craic with all my fellow shooters and range safety management detail.

At each of the details each shooter was accompanied by their own safety supervisor to ensure a safe operation of equipment and correct loading and unloading procedures. There were many members of the Fort George complement who were assigned butt duties, safety duties and many other back ground tasks, these were all carried out with complete professionalism and in a very friendly manner.

So at the end of day one, what had I scored? fourteen points, of which I was very proud, others had done a lot, lot better. But as a bonus the old SMLE behaved impeccably and created a lot of interest.

THURSDAY 30TH NOVEMBER, TAIN AIR RANGE. THE HUNT

So the serious stuff begins. This day was spent at the Tain Air Range, a massive area of ground.

The Hunt consisted of shooters being divided up into two man teams, a sniper pair. Carrying all our kit and rifles, but no ammunition, we had to navigate, find and approach without being seen an observation point. The OP was considered the enemy and were on the lookout for us. We had to approach "tactically" which means crawling around in the peat bog and through the trees to a point where we were camouflaged and within a good firing position on the OP.

Once achieved and so long as we were not seen a range and shooting stance was recorded by the supporting military staff, along with a record of the distance the sniper pair thought they were at, this is important!

This period of approach took several hours and was over several kilometres in distance. Fortunately I with others was given the loan of a camouflaged jacket.

Unfortunately my partner and I were perhaps a little cautious and took too long travelling to the OP position hence did not manage to establish a good firing point.

Once a range and position without being seen was recorded, we then moved to a range where targets were set out for each team at the distance. Some got as close as 200 metres or less, others were hundreds of metres away. As guests we were allowed to shoot at a target at 300 yards, but I believe with no score.

Then each shooting pair were shown their targets at the actual distance, but instructed to shoot with sight elevation set to the distance they quoted as being at. This lead to some misses at seemingly simple targets.

End of day two, absolutely shattered, covered in mud but very happy what an experience. Also I claimed a UK record as being the last person in the UK to use a 1941 SMLE on a military exercise.

It was a joy to be allowed to move around a safe area, with your rifle, trying to sneak up on an objective.

Below: Out at Tain Air Range, completing "The Hunt".





Left: We each had our own safety supervisor.

FINAL THOUGHTS

This competition with being allowed to shoot at Fort George and Tain Air Range, while mixing with and shooting against real snipers and with my fellow club members was a real privilege and honour. I enjoyed every minute of it and am already planning to attend next year.

Being on a rifle range eating the provided food, with your rifle by your side while surrounded by folks in their uniforms was quite an experience, as one of the other club members said, it was like being in a movie.

I also learned so much about military shooting discipline and range control, some things are similar to how us civvies do it, others very different.

It was interesting to me that while the ability to shoot well is expected, it is not the skill for which the highest points were awarded. Much greater emphasis with much higher point availability was rewarded for a successful hunt and ability to complete the physical fitness elements of the competition.

The amount of support and effort put in by CSgt Brownless and his team was remarkable and they must be thanked.

Next year I will take a more relevant rifle, the SMLE while not missing a beat, even while covered in mud was totally outclassed. I also would like to be fitter, one I guess will happen, the other probably not. 🤔

FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER, FORT GEORGE, JUDGEMENT DAY

Now the real pain, or as the Physical Training Instructors called it “the beasting” begins. We were given choices...

- 1) 3 km run with various exercises like crawling, duck walk (my hips did not allow that), tactical low level movement, within a time limit. If completed lose zero points, if fail loose many points.
- 2) 1 km run with crawling in a time limit. If completed lose many points, if fail lose even more points.
- 3) 200m walk, lose a lot, lot more points. Not available for the real snipers.

If you failed the time limit I believe you were disqualified. I initially opted to try the 3km run (a moment of insanity) after watching the others I changed to the 1km run.

I did complete the run in the prescribed time but it was seriously hard as it involved 4 by 25 meter belly crawls, easy you might think, try it with your rifle and ruck sack, you like me will be close to throwing up.

After the beasting, we were taken to the rifle range to shoot 2 rounds at a Figure 11 target at 500 metres... only problem we had to crawl with full kit from the 600 meter point. By the time I got there I was struggling, heart going like hell, heaving for breath and on aiming the end of the rifle was once again dancing around the target.

Once again I did not do well, but some in the club managed it with several completing the 3km run and getting the targets, massive, massive effort and to be applauded.

That was the end of shooting.

We then had a presentation and BBQ, in the afternoon, with many prizes. Cawdor Rifle Club did well, winning the open competition best shooter and second for best sniper pair.

Finally we were joined by the Depute Provost of the council, who supported and congratulated the Scottish Regiment on running the three days of competition.

Below: Meeting the Inverness-shire Depute Provost of the Council.



GALLERY RIFLE & PISTOL NEWS

Ash Dagger provides updates on Gallery Rifle shooting.

As we start the 2024 season, there are a few changes to note within the GR&P world. Probably the most significant is the new approach we intend to take at the Imperial. For a few years now, entries have been scarce in some competitions (especially the Trophy Matches) to the point where some were significantly undersubscribed and some actually empty. However, the ‘Unlimited’ matches continue to attract shooters throughout the weekend. There were also calls for more recognition of the Gallery Rifle Classic events, which from an Imperial perspective reflects the heritage of the meeting.

Taking those observations into account, the new structure will see the Unlimited’s shot for the whole meeting and the trophies for each respective event will be awarded to the highest placed GRCF Classic score (medals will continue to be awarded across the whole range of gun types). So, instead of a poorly attended Head-to-Head Trophy match, all scores from the Unlimited’s will determine the medal and trophy winners, along with ‘Highest Possible Score’ (HPS) awards. As the name suggests, you can still enter and shoot an unlimited number of times to achieve that ultimate score !

The Aggregates (no longer requiring nomination) will remain, to provide the variety of challenges across a number of events, and the Team matches will of course continue (noting that the nominated Team scores will not count for HPS and Unlimited medals). We’ve also updated a couple of the courses of fire to both reflect the event conditions and names, aligned to the rest of the

GR&P annual programme and in some cases increased the round count to ensure consistency. As an example, Advancing Man will change to 6 shots on a single target per pass, rather than 3 on each of two targets – which now aligns with all

the other GR&P meetings. Finally, we’ve removed the malfunction allowance; it was never properly policed and it doesn’t appear across the wider GR&P annual programme. So – make sure you clean those firearms ! As always, the changes will be reflected in the latest GR&P handbook – available free from the NRA and as a download from galleryrifle.com. Please take the time to read it.

“ For those new to the world of GR&P, please consider the excellent training courses that the NRA host.

For those new to the world of GR&P, please consider the excellent training courses that the NRA host. They will explain the disciplines, techniques and protocols for the events; they include a GR Skills Course, a Bianchi Skills Course and a Handgun Skills Course. And for those who want to give something back to the sport, please consider volunteering as an RO or helper at the various GR&P meetings. At Bisley, there is a good package of food, accommodation and mileage available for volunteers; recent changes include increased rates for meals allowances and no mileage caps.

A few other things

to note – you will now all be familiar with the NRA’s Handloading Code of Practice. As a reminder, to shoot your homeloads on MoD / Bisley ranges, from the 1st of June 2024 you’ll need a handloading endorsement on your SCC. This is not just a paper exercise – make sure you read, understand and follow the Code when handloading, to minimise the risk to yourself and others. In GR&P the common practice of leaving a live round in the chamber when reloading will no longer be allowed. As an example ‘load 6, shoot 5’ following by ‘reload 6, shoot 7’ must be replaced by ‘load 6, shoot 6’ then ‘reload 6, shoot 6’. A warning will be issued in 2024, and it will be mandatory (it already is in international events !) from 2025.

The NRA have introduced some new aggregates to be competed for at SAW and AAW; we’ve not had any aggregates at these meetings before. These are specifically designed to demonstrate the NRA’s commitment to ‘relevant people’ in its membership (current and former members of the military / reserve forces, police and other emergency services). There will be Aggregates for Serving, Ex-Serving and U25’s; the events for each gun type are GRCF: Matches 0102 and 1902; GR SB: Matches 0101 and 1901; SGSA: Matches 0736 and 1136. Again, all is clarified in the latest GR&P handbook.

From an International GR&P perspective, both GB GR and GB Handgun Teams successfully competed in Europe at the end of 2023; a write-up for Germany should appear elsewhere in this Journal. The GR squad for 2024 remains mostly

2024 GALLERY RIFLE SQUAD	
Captain	Mornè van Dalen
Vice Captain	Jonny Cormie
Squad	Andy Summers, Chris West, Dave Hackett, David Guest, David Morrow, Gerry Betteridge, Jake Mossom, Joseph Pugh, Scott Lyon, Stephen Lamb, Malcolm Stewart, Keith Cox, Keith Kilvington, Peter Keegan, Peter Watts, Phil Wood, Robert J Tonner, Robert L Tonner, Robert Wheeler, Mel Beard, Amiel Gardiner
Adjutant	Jacky Lamb
2024 HANDGUN SQUAD	
Captain	David Harris
Vice Captain	Neil Jones
Squad	Alan Podevin , Matt Peppitt , Dave Berry, Steve Lamb , Chris Parnell, Pete Watts, Andy Wiggins, Nigel Porter, Ken Williams, Paul Lacey
Adjutant	Sharon Bowden



unchanged but with Amiel Gardiner now 'promoted' from the watch-list into the main squad; well done to her for her commitment and achievement. GB GR looks forward to competing in Ireland and Germany this year, along with hosting the

overseas Teams at the Phoenix in May. The GB Handgun Team again remains mostly stable, but with two new additions to the squad. Two others (David Fell and David Gwalter) are also putting in good scores; that earns them both a place in the Handgun watch-list. The Team will travel to the European Championships in Romania, competing in WA1500 CF & SB open sighted matches and (new from 2023) the Optical sighted events. As always, prospective shooters can contact us (e-mail: gallery@nra.org.uk), if they want to be considered for either squad in the future.

The International Teams are mainly self-funded, so we are always looking for opportunities to raise funds through sales, sponsorships and donations. If you know of any such opportunities, please contact

us; we are always happy to have such discussions. Also, please take the time to sign up to Easyfundraising; it's at no cost to yourselves, but your online shopping could generate added donations to the GB GR&P funding pot. More details at www.gbgr.org, or just scan the QR code. Finally, from a GB GR perspective, the current GBGR Captain – Morné van Dalen – will complete his 2 year tenure at the end of 2024. Details for the vacancy for 2025 will appear in the Summer Journal, so now's the time to start preparing your CV!

That's all folks! – Safe Shooting.

Ash Dagger, GR&P Discipline Rep
gallery@nra.org.uk 📧

Below: Gallery Rifle Nationals 2023.





LONG RANGE

UNMATCHED PRECISION



110 ELITE PRECISION

26" BARREL | MDT ACC ALUMINUM CHASSIS | ADJUSTABLE ACCUTRIGGER
MDT VERTICAL GRIP | 1-PIECE 20MOA RAIL | LEFT HANDED VERSION



110 PRECISION

24" CARBON STEEL HEAVY BARREL | MDT LSS XL CHASSIS
ADJUSTABLE ACCUTRIGGER | BA MUZZLE BRAKE | SKELETONISED STOCK



IMPULSE ELITE

26" STAINLESS STEEL BARREL | MDT 1-PIECE ALUMINIUM ACC CHASSIS
ADJUSTABLE ACCUTRIGGER | ARCA RAIL FOREND WITH M-LOK SLOTS



110 CARBON

22" CARBON FIBRE WRAPPED STAINLESS STEEL BARREL
ADJUSTABLE ACCUTRIGGER | CARBON STEEL RECEIVER | 1-PIECE 20 MOA RAIL



B SERIES LITE

18" CARBON WRAPPED BARREL | 10 ROUND DETACHABLE MAGAZINE
ADJUSTABLE ACCUTRIGGER | 1 PIECE PICATINNY RAIL | MDT PISTOL GRIP



B SERIES

18" HEAVY THREADED BARREL | 10 ROUND DETACHABLE MAGAZINE
ADJUSTABLE ACCUTRIGGER | 1 PIECE PICATINNY RAIL | MDT PISTOL GRIP

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Above: Competitors and range crew.

THE BDMP GERMAN OPEN

LEITMAR 10-11 NOV 2023

Report by **Morné van Dalen.**

The last major competition on the Gallery Rifle calendar in the year is the German Open, normally held at the BDMP complex in Leitmar. And normally the choice of mode of transport is by car, as that is the easiest to carry your firearms and ammunition required for the competition.

There is still the complexity of ferry or Channel Tunnel, but most of the team prefer the Tunnel as it allows more flexibility in the number of rounds you can transport.

After Brexit and the loss of EU Firearms passes, the trip takes a lot more planning though. As the competition

is hosted in Germany, a temporary permit is required that covers both firearms and ammunition and is issued by the local German authority (Landkreis). As we have had a few years since Brexit now, the process has been tried and tested a few times with numerous tweaks along the way. So, by now we have a fairly solid check list of requirements that needs to be met and any evidence that need to be supplied. This, in addition with careful route planning (yes, there are areas

within certain countries that need to be avoided) and the complexity of transit permits for countries like France that we will enter & leave, but not stay in. This all means that we have a dedicated core set of people that help to collate, process and apply on behalf of the team. Yes, a lot of forward planning is required to get it done in time! And in our case, we really appreciate the time and effort put in by Steve & Jacky Lamb to sort this out for the travelling team. Especially as accommodation and team entries are also included.

So, now the rest if the team can concentrate on organising the road trip, i.e. who is sharing with whom, travel dates and times, ferry/train bookings, are they all at the same accommodation, etc. We normally try to have a few cars travel together, which makes French customs, rest stops, etc. easier. And friendly reminders to each other with regards to the speed limit along the way, traffic enforcement cameras, suitable food options and rest stops. No need to spoil the road trip by getting an unnecessary fine!

Depending on how early you set off, you may or may not ▶

THE GB TEAMS

GRCF	Chris West, Jonnie Cormie, Robert Wheeler, David Guest, Malcolm Stewart
GRSB	Chris West, Jake Mossom, Joe Pugh, Keith Kilvington, Andy Summers

Below: Smallbore International.



have a chance to get a quick zero in at the range. Bear in mind that with stops along the way and the traffic conditions, this is anything between 10 and 12 hours of travelling. Depending of course on where you started from within the UK and how long a delay there was getting through French customs. So, even if you get there in time, this may be the last thing you feel like! A well-deserved beer or glass of wine may be more appropriate.

This year we were lucky enough to have a full smallbore and a full centre fire team to compete. A last-minute injury meant that we only needed to have one person compete in both smallbore and centre fire, unlike the Irish and German teams that basically had the same team for both. After a close fought battle, the results were as follows:

GRSB: Germany 5898, 326X, Great Britain 5882, 362X, Ireland 5783, 296X.

GRCF: Great Britain 5946, 405X, Germany 5938, 366X, Ireland 5793, 291X.

The notable performances for each were as follows:

GRSB: Daniel Eggers, Germany:

1487, 105X. Chris West, Great Britain:1485, 103X. Eammon Gallagher, Ireland: 1478, 89X. GRCF: Chris West, Great Britain: 1494, 119X. Daniel Eggers, Germany: 1493, 103X. Eammon Gallagher, Ireland: 1487, 81X.

We are happy with the result, as this is a good test run before the World Champs in Germany in November 2024. This also allowed us to field some new members in the squad in an international, building on that experience for the next year.

As is customary, we all

“ This year we were lucky enough to have a full smallbore and a full centre fire team to compete. A last-minute injury meant that we only needed to have one person compete in both smallbore and centre fire...

met later that evening at the International Dinner, where we could enjoy each other’s company over good food and refreshments. Always good

to unwind and have a laugh as we continue to build up the relationship between competitors and countries. Until the next event. ☺



Above: Centre Fire International. **Left:** Concentration is high. **Below:** The results.



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- Guided stalk outings
- Bespoke hunting trips
- Regular Club events, including hunting trips, stalk days, themed range days & social events
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If you are looking to get into deer stalking please visit capreolusclub.co.uk for more information and to apply for membership

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*This offer is for a limited period. Please quote your NRA membership number when applying at capreolusclub.co.uk

GUIDANCE ON QUALIFICATIONS AND COMPETENCIES OF NRA

RANGE SAFETY OFFICERS (RSO) AND RANGE CONDUCTING OFFICERS (RCO)

All shooting activities should be overseen by a well-trained and competent Range Officer (RO).

The NRA delivers National Governing Body (NGB) standards of formal RO training. The ROs trained by the NRA are an integral part of the NRA Safe Shooting System (SSS).

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

NRA RO courses are delivered in the regions at clubs and at the NRA training department in Bisley Camp. The RSO course is the foundation building block for all NRA RO training. Currently this is a standalone two-day course, however further voluntary bolt on modules are planned for the future. These one-day courses will broaden and enhance RSO skill sets and knowledge. Future courses will focus on moving target ranges, dynamic shooting and range design and inspections. Please keep an eye on the NRA website for launch dates.

The RCO course is the 2-day bolt on to the RSO qualification for clubs who need to use Ministry of Defence (MoD) ranges.

NRA RSO

RSOs have been trained and tested in the duties of running safe club ranges, aligned with the NRA SSS. This means RSOs can offer clubs support in all areas of range safety.



RSOs will be in possession of an in date photo ID card, valid for six years. On the reverse of the card will be listed the types of shooting they are authorised to oversee. The below is the full (current) list of classifications that can be obtained by an NRA RSO.

To book on to an RSO course you need to be at least 18 years of age and a member of a Home Office approved shooting club. For further details please look at the website by using the QR code or contact the NRA Training Department.

RSO COURSE (2-DAY) 2024		
Bisley	Adult	U25
NRA Member	£192	£114
Non-NRA Member	£217	£130
Regional		
NRA Member	£99	£60
Non-NRA Member	£112	£66
Pin Badge	£10	
Cloth Badge	£7.50	

NRA RCO

RCOs have been trained and tested in the duties of an RO using a MoD range. They fully understand all procedures and requirements that civilian shooting clubs must comply with to use MoD ranges. When running a MoD range they must be in possession of an in date photo ID RCO card. On the reverse of the card will be listed the types of shooting they are authorised to oversee. The following is the full list of classifications available to a NRA RCO.

All NRA affiliated shooting clubs with a Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) Form 5665 operating licence MUST use an in date NRA qualified RCO when shooting on MoD ranges.

To book on to a

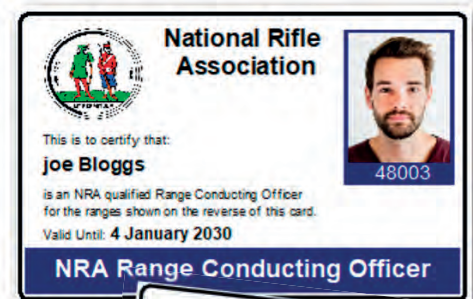
NRA RCO course you need to be an in date RSO. For further details, please look at the website by using the QR code or contact the NRA Training Department.

RCO COURSE (2-DAY) 2024		
Bisley	Adult	U25
NRA Member	£192	£114
Non-NRA Member	£217	£130
Regional		
NRA Member	£99	£60
Non-NRA Member	£112	£66
Pin Badge	£10	
Cloth Badge	£7.50	

NRA MILITARY, CADET AND POLICE CONVERSIONS:

The NRA offers military, cadet, and police conversions for acquiring the RSO and RCO qualifications without attending the courses. This opportunity is accessible to those who are currently serving, and up to six months post-service. To qualify for the conversion, applicants must also meet the following criteria:

- Possession of the relevant range qualifications.



Left and above: RSO and RCO ID cards.



- Member of a Home Office-approved club.
- The following is the full list of classifications that will be added to your NRA RSO and RCO cards from a conversion:
- Smallbore & Fullbore
 - Gallery Rifle & Pistol

However, you are able to add classifications. For further details, please look at the website by using the QR code or contact the NRA Training Department.

CONVERSIONS 2024	
Military/Cadet/Police Conversion	£58

RO COMPETENCIES

In the friendly world of shooting, ROs must have the moral courage along with the correct knowledge and skills to ensure all shooting activities are conducted safely. Safety standards and focus should never be lessened especially not for friends or colleagues. A qualified, diligent RO is the

key to ensuring that Safe Practice occurs on any range. RO qualifications are mandatory for clubs that use MoD ranges and best practice for clubs running their own ranges. It is the responsibility of all ROs to remain current and competent during the six-year licence period. Shooting clubs they operate with should also monitor this.

RSO / RCO RENEWAL

One month before the runout date for the RSO / RCO qualification an email reminder will be sent out. This can only be done if the NRA system has an up-to-date email address for the individual. It is therefore very important that the NRA Training Team is informed of any changes in personal email details. RCOs will get one final reminder the day before their qualification is due to expire.

At the six-year point all NRA ROs must pass an online test relevant to the qualification they wish to renew.

This renewal test can be taken up to six months before and after the card expiry date. However, beyond six months expiry requires attendance to the relevant course to requalify.

Note: RCOs must not operate on MoD ranges without an in date RCO card.

RENEWALS 2024	
RSO - NRA Member	£52
RSO - Non-NRA Member	£58
RCO - NRA Member	£6
RCO - Non-NRA Member	£12

If you are interested in purchasing RSO / RCO / Hand Loading / Probationary / Range Management Guide / Club Instructor manuals, pin badges, cloth badges, Hi Vis Vests kindly scan the QR code and complete the accompanying form. A representative from the training department will reach out to you regarding payment. ☺



Above: Examples of pin badge and cloth badge.



LRRFC SPRING OPEN

Report from the event held on Sunday 17 March.

Report by **Chris Hazlehurst**, photos by **Keith Ballard** and **Nigel Jeffries**.

Following our Skills day on the previous day, we started early on Siberia Range at 200 yards.

Setting up, around 07:15 to be ready for the shooters appearing from the car park, however there were those that had allowed for the M25 closure and were there before 07:00.

A good turnout of 36 shooters out of the 48 that had booked. However there had been a few that had cancelled at the last minute due to a bug that seemed to restrain them to the smallest room in the house along with the chaos of the M25 closure that weekend.

The day started overcast with a light sprinkling of rain which called for the gazebos to be erected at the rear of the firing point.

Starting slightly behind schedule due to a targetry issue which was soon overcome, the rain started in more intensity – many thought the delay was to await the start of the intensity! Wet covers for the F Class and waterproofs were donned by many, apart from the secretary who resolutely stayed in his shorts!

F Class were out on the first 2 details with a smattering of other disciplines who required an early

detail. By the end of the second detail, the F Class rifles were removed and the weather started to brighten up. It seemed that 'someone' doesn't like F Class! The course of fire was 1 minutes blow off, 3 practice scored shots, 2 convertible sighters and 20 to count. A series of good scores started to arrive but Gavin Moffatt shone out with an outstanding 98.10 on the first detail.

The 3rd detail was mainly Match Rifle and a few of the shooters that had elected to shoot two disciplines. Fortunately, the rain had virtually stopped and the 4th

detail being the Target Rifle shooters of which the majority had travelled down from Derbyshire that morning.

The secretary disappeared to the NRA leaving a group of volunteers to collapse the gazebos and move them to 300 yards for the afternoon shoot.

At 300 yards, the sun was shining and a 13°C pleasant spring day which had a few wishing they were in their shorts. However, the wind decided to play games and even though the mirage started, for those

that could read it, it was tricky at 300 yards with many coming off the point with disappointment at their lack of wind reading. This distance is ballistically equivalent of a .308 at 1200 yards, so it is quite an accomplishment to produce phenomenal scores.

The afternoon started with F Class, but as we had a few issues with targets on the previous day, where there were gaps for those that had cancelled or not turned up, we filled to allow for any potential issues that may face us which worked out well and kept many on their feet as they were called forwards if they were ready.

The shoot was 3 practice scored shots, 2 convertible sighters and 15 to count. Only 2 scores of over 70 were produced, Chris Hazlehurst in F Class – 70.6 and Ben Stubbins in Target Rifle – 70.4.

After the shoot had finished, we adjourned to the London & Middlesex RA where members had a 'light refreshment' and discussed what had happened to them whilst our stats guru, Keith Ballard constructed the scores for the prize giving. A big thank you to Fred from privatemarket.co.uk for the butt marking, Tony Lawson the RCO and Keith Ballard for running the stats.

For further information on The Long Range Rim Fire Club, please contact secretary@lrrfc.org.uk 📧



RESULTS

Name	Discipline	200 yards	300 yards	Aggregate
C Hazlehurst	F Class	94.05	70.06	164.11
P Francis	Target Rifle	0.00	62.02	62.02
K Ballard	Target Rifle	83.02	58.00	141.02
S Isherwood	F Class	94.06	69.06	163.12
C Waldron	F Class	85.05	59.02	144.07
S Huskie	F Class	95.06	42.02	137.08
P Russell	F Class	92.08	65.06	157.14
M Standage	Target Rifle	75.02	56.02	131.04
M Gallivan	F Class	87.08	59.03	146.11
D Willis	F Class	94.06	66.06	160.12
N White	F Class	90.06	63.03	153.09
G Gough	F Class	79.00	35.01	114.01
J McDonagh	F Class	85.05	33.00	118.05
P Jones	F Class	97.12	53.03	152.15
M Wallace	F Class	92.06	48.01	140.07
H Taylor	F Class	92.03	61.01	153.04
K Sayers	F Class	96.11	65.02	161.13
M Pearson	F Class	84.03	66.00	150.03
G Moffatt	F Class	98.10	69.05	167.15
C Hazlehurst	Service Rifle	68.01	49.01	117.02
M Watkins	Match Rifle	93.06	58.02	151.08
M Standage	Service Rifle	62.02	46.01	108.03
C Waldron	Match Rifle	92.05	63.01	155.06
M Wilkes	Match Rifle	76.00	53.01	129.01
S Hale	Target Rifle	84.05	60.02	144.07
R Jacques Snr	Target Rifle	82.00	67.03	149.03
B Stubbins	Target Rifle	92.04	70.04	162.08
T Stubbins	Target Rifle	90.06	51.01	141.07
P Wright	Target Rifle	85.05	57.01	145.06
R Grice	Target Rifle	92.08	55.02	147.10
R Jacques Jnr	Target Rifle	80.01	53.02	133.03
C Doram	Target Rifle	47.01	54.00	101.01
D Hale	Target Rifle	45.00	0.00	45.00
J Wyllie	Target Rifle	94.08	60.03	154.11
S Edwards	Target Rifle	84.03	62.02	146.05
J Mead	F Class	96.11	68.06	164.17
D Wallace	F Class	91.04	65.04	156.08
J Campbell Smith	F Class	0.00	66.05	66.05



RANGE

Rupert Fowler – Range
Infrastructure Manager.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Maintaining Bisley's ranges is a year-round challenge. The ranges have been in use for some 130 years and the need for constant investment is ever apparent. We invest approximately £300,000 annually on maintaining and improving the ranges for the long term. Projects include installing new target mechanisms, investment in electronic target software and hardware, improvements to the stop butts, mantlets, markers galleries, access for disabled shooters, road re-grading and car parking.

Range Infrastructure is made up of three small teams: Electronics, Grounds and Target Shed who between them are responsible for all ranges,

targets, mechanisms and grounds across the Bisley estate.

Century Range has been the main focus for much needed improvements. The ceiling of the gallery roof has been refurbished, and the concrete itself (in remarkable condition given its age) cleared of accumulated moss and treated to ensure long-term use. The mantlet has been widened to comply with safety standards and the 'Hythe' frames cleaned, inspected and serviced.

Melville Range was closed in late January to allow refurbishment of all bays, with particular focus on the advancing targets, re-building the stop bank retaining wall, and works to the walls dividing each Bay. A new concrete path was laid from Melville range entrance to the toilets, providing better access for disabled shooters by avoiding the uneven car park.

Winans Range is to have a replacement dividing wall between 'A' and 'B' due to the deterioration of the existing cell walls. These projects are just a snap shot of what goes

on behind the scenes during the quieter winter months and are by no means the only tasks completed by the

infrastructure team.

Daily re-active and pro-active maintenance are the constants of the department, which keeps the multiple ranges operational on a daily basis.

ELECTRONIC TARGETS

Electronic targets provide cost-effective shooting and are increasingly in demand. The main three systems in use at Bisley are inspected daily as the systems are set up, with more in-depth maintenance undertaken every Monday. Each system is calibrated monthly and results recorded; on average they show an error of +/- 10mm between actual shot placement and recording of hits.

Windy conditions affect all electronic systems to some degree; target frames moving back and forth reduce the accuracy of sensors by varying amounts, please bear this in mind especially when shooting beyond 300 yds.

Shooting is attritional and we expect to have to replace consumables and parts; we maintain stocks of main items to ensure little or no down time. Most users understand the theory of a group but the frequent instances of poor preparation or lack of care, especially when using the electronic systems, prompts a polite reminder to members and users alike.

Sensors/cables are being shot out too frequently, causing delays to subsequent users and costly repairs. Removing a Kongsberg frame to make repairs is a two-man lift;

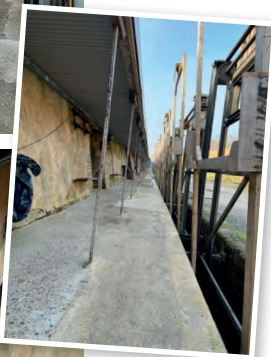


Above: Re-profiling of the mantlet, with the addition of over 140t of soil. **Below:** Replacement of all range floor pegs.

replacing cables and sensors up to four hours in the workshop.

The photo opposite was taken on the first day the Intarso targets on Century were in use following the Imperial. It shows not only the volume of rounds fired on a single day by a large club booking, but also the spread on a day with light 4-6mph easterly winds. The low shots are perilously close to the main sensors.

The photos of two target numbers amplify the point, both have been in situ for



Left: Century Range improvements.



Above: Roof Capping and Stop Butt.

demonstrates a lack of attention to the NRA Safe Shooting System.

Check your rifle before firing, set your sights for the correct distance and if there is any doubt of your zero, go to the Zero Range first.

FUTURE PROJECTS IN THE PIPELINE

Stickledown – off-grid power solution to provide a more robust system.

Short Siberia – 200 yds covered FP and refurbishment of range and access.

Butt Zero – soak away and drainage solution. ♻️

Electrical update and stop butt repairs.



8 years. No 59 is on Butt 15 and has 83 bullet holes, approximately 10 hits per year which is acceptable; No 47 is one of the Intarso electronic targets in Butt 14 and has too many holes to count. It

Below: Intarso Electronic Target 600 yards - Day 1.



Winans Range



Right: Century Range Target Numbers.





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AIMING TO HIT MORE THAN ONE TARGET

“Message 6 – Crossfire” Words that make your blood run cold!

But not us! From the first day we met, we decided that we wanted to make the most of our team’s opportunity, and to do more than just challenge ourselves on the ranges. We wanted to raise awareness for good causes close to our hearts, and so we decided to adopt a philosophy of “Targeting Inclusion in Sport.” Our team ethos is reflected by the nature of shooting, which is one of very few sports in which all competitors can compete equally alongside each other, regardless of age and gender. Our team is made up of a diverse mix of ages and experience, and thus the principle of inclusion is reflected at the very foundation of our squad.

We are supporting the Down Syndrome Association, as a team member has an intimate connection to this charity. They run a programme called DS Active that funds and facilitates the inclusion in sports for adults and children with Down Syndrome. It’s a wonderful programme, and a team member’s son plays football for the Bristol City Down Syndrome team. Therefore, we are proud to be supporting this charity in our fundraising efforts.

Our “Brassed for Cash” programme, in which we recycle used brass cases allows us to donate 10% of the profits to the Down Syndrome Association UK. “Brassed for Cash” will be running until the end of the Imperial Meeting at Bisley in July 2024.

Please donate where you see our branded bins in armouries and clubhouses, or whenever you see our flag flying on the range. We also have a permanent brass bin located outside of the Ibis Clubhouse on club row, where you can drop off your brass 24/7. We accept any calibre, as long as it’s not live!

SPONSORS

We would like to announce our partnership with Sierra Bullets. This is an organisation that shares our team values and charitable ideology, making them the perfect partners. Sierra has been making bullets for over 70 years and has dedicated themselves to the manufacture of the most accurate bullets in the world. We are immensely proud that such a prestigious company has chosen to associate its brand with us.

FUNDRAISING

This tour is an incredibly exciting opportunity, and as a team we have launched multiple fundraising efforts in ►





“Win a 10.9 fullbore shell.”

events we have planned are featured on our social feeds and on UK Fullbore.

Instagram - @nra_ci_tour

Facebook – NRA Team To the Channel Islands

Finally, a big thank you to our generous sponsors, our friends at Sierra Bullets.

We really appreciate all of the support so far, and look forward to our upcoming training and touring.

All the best,
the NRA touring team 2024. ☺



QR Code to sign up for the Family & Friends Day

order to support affordability across the team and make the tour accessible for everyone.

Firstly, we are running two raffles;

We have launched our “Merlin Raffle”, which offers the amazing chance to win a Spitfire Flight and a VIP Lancaster Bomber experience day. These tickets will be sold by team members at as many NRA competitions and club opens as we can, or via the SMS instructions on the posters. If you see our flag flying, or a man looking like Biggles walking along, he will be selling raffle tickets - don't hesitate to pay him a visit!

We will also be launching our “Sharpshooter’s Raffle”, which will offer the incredible opportunity to win a number of different shooting related items, including a 10.9 Fullbore shell. Look out on our social media channels for more information to come on this!

We have a Friends & Family day, held at the beautiful Bisley ranges, on Sunday 12th May. This will provide a unique opportunity to try a variety of shooting disciplines, with 1:1 supervision and coaching from the team and international shooters. We will be offering Target Rifle, Prone Smallbore and Gallery Rifle.

If you want to help us raise money whilst you shop, please sign up to our Easyfundraising campaign by going to easyfundraising.org.uk and searching for *NRA Team to the Channel Islands 2024*

There’s no catch or hidden charges and we will be really grateful for your donations.

Please follow us on our social media

pages for updates on the team’s progress and fundraising efforts, as we prepare to launch our upcoming initiatives! Information and booking details for all the





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2024 GB PALMA TEAM TO SOUTH AFRICA



Above: The 2024 Palma Team at the General De Wet range, Bloemfontein, South Africa.

Back in 2020, around 100 hopefuls submitted applications to be a part of the 2023 Palma Team, with a pre-tour to take place in 2022. One global pandemic later, with the schedule slipping by a year, on 2 March 2024 - only 1245 days since the initial squad was selected - Jeremy Langley's team of 25 set off to South Africa for the 2024 World Long Range Championships. The primary goal of the team was to reclaim the Palma trophy. Before this, the SA Open Championships, World Individuals, the RSA International and Protea team matches were scheduled; all to help us prepare for the big one on 22 and 23 March.

Nine new GB Palma caps were not the only changes brought to the squad. Closer working between our Under 21, Under 25, Senior and Veteran teams provided us all with a strong team platform to work from. A huge focus had been put on technical development of ammunition and rifles to help the team perform at the very high level needed. Pulling in expertise from armourers, Match Rifle, F-Class and Target Rifle ammunition loading experience, and testing and

retesting components, the GB teams had shipped 39,000 rounds of ammunition to Bloemfontein in the hope of victory.

After a few days to acclimatise to the 1395m altitude and 30+ degree temperatures of Bloemfontein, we visited the range. The General De Wet range provides 81 targets across 9 butts, from 300m to 900m. Throughout the tour, individual competition consisted of two details with three people to each firing point. Generally short range was scheduled first, with competitors falling back across the distances as the day progressed. Unlike at Bisley, an early detail does not mean it is easier; the winds were typically strong from the left to start the day, turning through zero mid-to late-morning, and strongly from the right in the afternoon, making for quite fair squadding for all competitors.

WARMING UP

Although the calendar this year was changed to accommodate the World Championships, the warm up programme was as before, starting with the Free State Championship. The team finally got the chance to

experience the General De Wet range and Bloemfontein winds in earnest. The 36-degree heat (in the shade, with competitors lying out in the sun on grey gravel that was measured to exceed 55°C later in the week) put us to the test and the few days of acclimatisation in advance proved essential. Our first shoot at 300m set out what might be needed to win - in many individual competitions it would be vee bulls rather than points that were going to determine outcomes. As such, Matthew Ensor's perfect 50.10 set us off to a great start! At 600m we saw the only logistical mishap of the tour, with target faces not only being incorrect, but variable between targets. Otherwise, the organisation and running of the range was flawless throughout our time there. At the end of the day, Matthew Ensor retained his short-range aggregate win from 2023, with Glyn Barnett in second. A solid start.

The final 'pre-Grand' shoot was the Scottish Sword. Nigel Ball successfully transferred the sword back to Chief Range Officer General Mac Alexander following his win last year. In

what quickly became the theme of the tour, 900m decided it all. With strong scores posted at short range, the winds at 900m became rather challenging, with very quick and significant changes. Only team captain Jeremy Langley and new cap Hannah Cook went clean at 900m, with Hannah top scoring for the team overall with 104.7v.

THE RSA INTERNATIONAL MATCH

With just 2 days on the range under our belts, this match allowed us all to get a feel for how we, our rifles and our match ammunition might perform. Parag Patel and David Luckman were asked to sit this one out as reserves and all our new Palma caps had the chance to represent GB. The course of fire was two sighting shots and 15 scoring shots at each of 800 & 900m, for 16 firers across 4 targets. The afternoon was exceedingly hot, with the mercury again topping 35 degrees in the shade. Hot sun and ground usually mean rapidly changing winds and 800m did not disappoint. Waits and stops were common across the range and on several occasions the range fell completely silent as

the coaches tried to decipher the contradictory flags and mirages, whilst the firers 'glowed' in their thick shooting jackets. GB worked excellently as a team to minimise the points lost and at the halfway point we had opened up a 13-point lead over both Australia and South Africa.

900m however was a different story; the South Africans coached and shot brilliantly, dropping just 13 points across 16 firers. This performance was enough to wrestle the lead back off GB and push us into second place. Congratulations indeed to the South Africans on a great performance. Congratulations also to Theo Dodds (coach: Seth Dowley) and Rosanne Furniss (Matthew Ensor) for their perfect scores of 150 in the match, Theo's 150.19v the best individual score of all teams by 2 vee bulls. We reflected on our approach and took some key learnings forward about how best to manage the tricky winds in the matches ahead.

SA OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Next up was the SA Nationals. Like the Imperial at Bisley, this is the main feature of the South African Bisley Union (SABU) calendar. With the Grand Aggregate taking place over four days, and the State President Final and SABU cup final just after this, there were plenty of chances to both lose and gain places. Performances of note include Glyn Barnett's 100.10v to win the President Cup, Glyn also leading the Grand after Day 1. Theo Dodds and Nick Healy placed 2nd and 3rd in the State President First Stage while Jon Kent led the Grand after Day 2. Rick Shouler top scored with 150.20v in the State President Second Stage, the whole team qualifying for the third and final stage. Matthew Ensor led the Grand after Day 3, James Watson and Chris Mitchell placed 2nd and 3rd in the Dalrymple Cup that morning. It was exciting for us as a team to see consistently good performances across all

Below: The SABU Championship Top 3 (L to R), 2nd Matthew Ensor (GB), 1st Brandon Green (USA), 3rd FWA Coetzee (RSA).



shooters and coaches.

Particular mentions must go to Matthew Ensor, who shot exceptionally to win the Long Range Aggregate with 247.26v and the 2024 Grand Aggregate with 559.68v. Also to Parag Patel, who had joined other team members by taking a day off earlier in the week, returning to win the State President Trophy with 295.32v.

In a new addition for this year, the SABU Nationals finished with a shoot off for the top 20 competitors in the SABU Cup (an aggregate of the Grand Aggregate and State President, similar to the British Open). Around half the team had taken time off beforehand but of those who shot through, four team members had scored well enough to make the top 20 with Matthew Ensor, David Luckman, Chris Mitchell and Nick Healy representing us as part of the best on the range. Matthew Ensor finished in second place behind the USA's Brandon Green to top off an excellent few days of intense competition.

THE PROTEA MATCH

Day 13 of the tour would prove to be lucky for us, with our second team match of the tour. The most prestigious annual match in South Africa, this would be GB's 16th appearance with last year's match seeing us victorious by a single point over South Africa, something we

wanted to repeat. With a format of 16 firers across 4 targets, each firing 10 counting shots at 300m, 600m, 800m and 900m, there was plenty of time for conditions to change, and room for error.

In a complete change to conditions we had seen previously, we were faced with a blustery headwind predominantly from 1 o'clock, needing up to a minute of angle on the windage arm at 300m. We had taken off mirage bands to avoid them acting like wind socks and our strategy was to shoot quickly before conditions became more variable. GB were first off the range and back at 600m whilst others were still shooting. Scores were reasonable, although points were lost to shooters being buffeted and the team finished 8 points down – a solid start but we'd been hoping for better. Given the conditions we were not expecting to lead, but our score proved to be very competitive with South Africa and Australia dropping 14 and 20 points respectively.

At 600m, conditions started to get more interesting, with more waits as the coaches wisely decided to wait through unusual or gusty conditions. Whilst this means the shooters are on the point for longer, the risk of shooting through can be very expensive in points terms. With the cooler temperatures at this stage in the morning, ►

RSA INTERNATIONAL MATCH				
Captain: Jeremy Langley. Adjutant: Nigel Ball. Main Coach: Bill Richards. Reserves: David Luckman, Parag Patel.				
Coach	Firers	800m	900m	Total
Nick Tremlett	Chris Mitchell	74.08	73.06	147.14v
	Matthew Button	75.05	69.04	144.9v
	Graham Nelson	73.07	75.11	148.18v
	Rick Shouler	74.08	72.08	146.16v
		296.28	289.29	585.57v
Seth Dowley	Toby Raincock	71.06	70.04	141.10v
	Chloë Evans	73.06	72.08	145.14v
	Theo Dodds	75.09	75.10	150.19v
	James Watson	73.08	75.10	148.18v
		292.29	292.32	584.61v
Derek Lowe	David Armstrong	74.12	71.03	145.15v
	Paul Sykes	74.07	70.06	144.13v
	Jonathan Kent	74.08	73.06	147.14v
	Jon Underwood	75.10	74.09	149.19v
		297.37	288.24	585.61v
Matthew Ensor	Glyn Barnett	74.05	72.09	146.14v
	Nick Healy	73.08	72.05	145.13v
	Hannah Cook	74.08	73.06	147.14v
	Rosanne Furniss	75.06	75.11	150.17v
		296.27	292.31	588.58v
1st	South Africa	1168.117v	1187.126v	2355.243v
2nd	Great Britain	1181.121v	1161.116v	2342.237v
3rd	Australia	1168.113v	1163.94v	2331.207v
4th	USA	1159.107v	1154.101v	2313.208v
5th	New Zealand	1114.58v	1100.73v	2214.131v
6th	Canada	1102.87v	1013.61v	2115.128v

waiting was the right decision. As a result, the team had a very solid distance; again dropping only 8 points. Australia were top at 600m with only 6 points dropped.

Back to 800m for the final shoot before lunch. The wind was trickier again, with periods of stop and start, especially in the middle of the session. It was again a great decision by the coaching team as magpies were spotted on neighbouring targets as we waited it out. Not needing to rush, but no longer having any time to dawdle, we restarted and the 2 minute warning was given as our last shot went down the range. Overall, another 8 points off – amazing work from the coaching team. Given that we had an identical 13 point lead as in the RSA International prior to the final range, the team was taking nothing for granted.

As we started 900m the wind was tricky. Many waits, rests, sighters out of turn, and an eye on the time were all needed.

Below: State President Trophy Winner, Parag Patel.



The coaching team worked like a well-oiled machine, and only a few points were dropped as the winds changed. We were very happy with the team performance; 20 points off, leaving us 44 points off for the day, having racked up 331 vee bulls along the way. As the results started to trickle in it was clear that we had won the match by a handsome margin. Final results were GB in first with 3156.331v, South Africa second with 3124.295v and Australia third with 3110.279v. A convincing victory to motivate us ahead of the Palma just over a week later.

THE WORLD INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

After a day supporting the Under 25 team in their impressive win in their World Championship match, we began the World Individual competitions on Sunday 17th March. As in previous Championships, the

PROTEA MATCH						
Captain: Jeremy Langley. Adjutant: Matthew Button. Main Coach: Bill Richards. Reserves: Chris Mitchell, Nigel Ball.						
Coach	Firers	300m	600m	800m	900m	Total
Nick Tremlett	Glyn Barnett	50.07	50.05	50.05	50.06	200.23v
	Graham Nelson	50.06	48.05	48.00	47.06	193.17v
	Rosanne Furniss	50.06	49.06	50.06	49.05	198.23v
	Rick Shouler	49.05	50.06	50.05	50.05	199.21v
		199.24	197.22	198.16	196.22	790.84v
Seth Dowley	Toby Raincock	50.06	48.07	49.04	48.06	195.23v
	Chloë Evans	50.03	50.08	49.05	48.01	197.17v
	Theo Dodds	49.06	49.07	50.08	48.04	196.25v
	James Watson	48.05	50.06	50.05	49.03	197.19v
		197.20	197.28	198.22	193.14	785.84v
Derek Lowe	David Armstrong	49.06	50.05	50.05	48.05	197.21v
	Paul Sykes	50.04	49.08	50.04	48.05	197.21v
	Jonathan Kent	49.05	50.04	50.05	49.04	198.18v
	Jon Underwood	50.04	50.05	50.05	48.01	198.15v
		198.19	199.22	200.19	193.15	790.75v
Matthew Ensor	Parag Patel	50.05	50.03	49.06	50.08	199.22v
	Nick Healy	49.04	49.06	49.05	49.06	196.21v
	Hannah Cook	49.02	50.08	48.04	49.06	196.20v
	David Luckman	50.07	50.05	50.05	50.08	200.25v
		198.18	199.22	196.20	198.28	791.88v
1st	Great Britain	792.81v	792.94v	792.77v	780.79v	3156.331v
2nd	South Africa	786.78v	788.78v	789.78v	761.61v	3124.295v
3rd	Australia	780.71v	794.83v	772.60v	764.65v	3110.279v
4th	USA	784.78v	782.70v	774.60v	739.52v	3079.260v
5th	New Zealand	775.65v	775.63v	764.65v	732.37v	3046.230v

programme saw Day 1 700m on the first day, with Day 2 700m, Day 1 800m and Day 1 900m on the second day, a similar format on the third day, and then the Day 3 800m and 900m on the final day. This led to various levels of confusion about which shoots were on which day and in which Day aggregate, but we got there with only a small amount of turning up at the wrong target. This did mean that the 700m shoots took place at the start of the day, leaving the more challenging winds for the longer distances. Never was this more evident than on Day 1 900m, where devastation was the best word to be used for the scores. Team Captain Jeremy Langley had shot well and was already back at the hotel as his 900m victory with a score of 73.9v was announced; showing just what a challenging day all competitors had experienced.

With Day 1 having spread scores rather more than many had hoped for, the team continued to put in solid performances. Using our match

grade ammunition gave excellent elevation groups, and very strong scores across the board. As we moved to the final day, we had five shooters in the top 10, moving to the final shoot off. The top-10 featured a previous World Long Range Champion, the U25 World Champion, the winner of the State President Final, the SABU Cup Winner, four Queen's Prize winners, and the 900m aggregate winner amongst other accolades; it was tough competition for all involved.

Glyn Barnett started in pole position, with only 6 points separating the top 10. In the final, Jon Underwood scored an exceptional 75 to move up to third place, with Glyn Barnett, David Luckman, Parag Patel and Rosanne Furniss scoring 73s. Australian Ashley Bidgood achieved a 74, pipping Glyn to the World Championship on vee bulls - well done to Ash.

After 19 days on tour, and 13 days since the shooting began, the team were consistently shooting and scoring well. Overall, there were many

successes in the World Individuals, with the following notable results:

Day 1 900m

1st - Jeremy Langley

3rd - Glyn Barnett

Day 2 700m

2nd - Chris Mitchell

Day 3 900m

3rd - Jon Underwood

Day 1 Aggregate

1st - Glyn Barnett (223.24v)

2nd - Jeremy Langley (221.28v)

Day 2 Aggregate

2nd - David Luckman (223.25v)

700m Aggregate

1st - Theo Dodds (225.36v)

800m Aggregate

1st - Glyn Barnett (224.26v)

900m Aggregate

2nd - Parag Patel (219.18v)

3rd - Jon Underwood (219.15v)

World Long Range Championships

2nd - Glyn Barnett (739.86v)

3rd - Jon Underwood (738.78v)

5th - David Luckman (736.81v)

6th - Parag Patel (736.80v)

7th - Rosanne Furniss (735.80v)

13th - Jeremy Langley (658.73v)

16th - Matthew Button (658.62v)

17th - Graham Nelson (658.61v)

19th - Chris Mitchell (657.70v).

THE PALMA MATCH - DAY 1

With the team selected, the event we had spent years preparing for was finally here - the 2024 World Long Range Championship Match for the Palma Trophy. Every member of the touring team continued to have an important part to play over the next 2 days. Just 16 of the advertised team of 25 would be "firing shots", but all were fully involved, and indeed had been over the past 3 years of training and preparation. The course of fire was 15 to count at 700m, 800m and 900m on each of two days. 1,440 opportunities for our firers to fire perfect shots, and for our coaches to make perfect wind calls. A single lapse of concentration could result in a cross shot, or a poor wind

call. As we had seen from the previous individual and team shoots, every point was going to be critical.

The South African team, fuelled on by the Protea Match loss, were keen to correct this. At their home range, and with the most experience of the wind conditions, they were always going to be hard to beat. The Americans, back to string shooting in threes could never be underestimated. The Australians were also back to full strength, with their Palma team having been spread across their Under 25, Senior and Veterans teams for the Protea Match. We knew it would be close, but this is what we had been training for.

Conditions at 700m were steady, with target coaches using values around two and half minutes left to keep their firers in the middle. The GB team dropped just two points, while the Australians went one better to lead by a solitary point as teams moved back to 800m. USA and South Africa had dropped 4 points each, with New Zealand a handful further back - things were tight.

The start of 800m coincided with the coming of the most "interesting" of the conditions that teams would encounter throughout day 1. As is usual, the wind gradually angled from seven o'clock around to six and eventually five, and then back again to seven. The GB team, led by main coach Bill Richards, took the decision not to fire when the wind was flicking around from behind or slightly from the right, but to wait for the predominant condition from the left (anything from one to two and half minutes provided you avoided shooting when the angle squared). We were vindicated, as GB set a new range record both for a single target (Matthew Ensor - 300.44v) and a team



Above: Glyn Barnett, 2nd in World Individual Long Range Championships.

(1194.153v) at the distance. The Australians continued their relentless pursuit of the centre of the target, also beating the previous record team score, but with fewer vee-bulls (1194.150v) to leave them still 1 point ahead. The South Africans suffered somewhat at 800, dropping sixteen points, to leave them with work to do going to 900m. The Americans had a fine morning and went to lunch in third place. Then came New Zealand, Canada, and Germany.

What wind there was at 900m came from behind and varied little. Values ranged from one minute one way to two and bit minutes of angle the other, with GB deciding not to fire when the flags and mirage suggested a higher number. 900m is an extreme distance for TR specification rifles and, with the bull being the same actual size as the other distances (and therefore effectively smaller as we move back) trips into the 4 were more common. The team finished the range having dropped 14 points across 16 firers, a remarkable average, beating the previous record. Australia however went one better for 1187.132v - a fabulous score and new distance record by 13 points!

By the end of Day 1, we trailed a remarkable Australian team by two points and a handful of vee-bulls. No fewer than seven Palma records, some of which had stood since 2003, were shattered in a single day - the standard was that high. Within the team both Matthew

Ensor's and Nick Tremlett's targets broke the previous record, now set by Matthew Ensor's target at 899.118 (only 1 point dropped). Rick Shouler's (Tremlett) 225.34v was the best GB score on the day, with Jon Underwood (Lowe), Parag Patel (Ensor), Rosanne Furniss (Ensor) and David Luckman (Ensor) also going clean. Top guns on the range on the day were, however, not British. Australian Brett McCauley (Jim Bailey) and South African Alexander Coetzee (DJ Fourie) posted a whopping 225.36v - only 9 shots outside the vee bull all day - another new record.

THE PALMA MATCH - DAY 2

As we arrived at the range it was clear that the wind was fresher than yesterday, but also steady, allowing us to pursue our preferred strategy of shooting quickly, posting a score, and moving back to the next range. We were conscious of the threat of rain arriving later in the day. A strong team performance saw us drop two points at 700m, good enough to eliminate Australia's overnight two-point lead as they lost four points. We were reminded of why a two-day match is so exciting; although behind overnight the USA went clean to win the 700m and South Africa were only one point off... any outcome remained possible. As teams dressed back to 800m, there was nothing to separate ourselves from Australia: we were tied on both gun score and vee-bulls with 4776.650v. ▶

Conditions at 800m remained very steady, and we once again shot quickly and built a solid score. Bullseye followed vee followed vee followed bullseye. A cheer from the scoreboard confirmed that we had broken the range record set the previous day, posting a highest possible score of 1200 ex 1200. You might think that was enough to take a lead, but the Australians, shooting to our right-hand side, responded magnificently and posted a 1200 of their own, with under 25 World Champion Mitch Bailey topping the pile with a perfect 75.15v. South Africa dropped 4, and the USA 2 points meaning that all the medal positions were being hotly contested.

And so with five out of the six ranges completed, scores were GB and Australia on 5976 points each, GB with 838 vee bulls to Australia's 834. South Africa were third with 5957.729v, followed by the USA only 11 points further back, then New Zealand, Canada and Germany.

With just the final 900m to go, the flags lay limply on the flagpoles as the wind dropped to almost nothing, unlike the previous few weeks. Peter Bramley remarked that he had not seen two days like it in his 45 years on the range. We knew that tricky winds would favour us, but today we had to rely purely on our shooting ability. We started strongly. The Australians lost four points early on, while we lost just a couple. With our third firers down, we had a lead of two points and several vee bulls over the Australians. Shot by shot, the Australians kept posting Vs and 5s, and whilst GB had more vee bulls coming in, the odd 4

2024 WORLD LONG RANGE CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH FOR THE PALMA TROPHY										
Captain: Jeremy Langley. Adjutant: Graham Nelson. Main Coach: Bill Richards. Reserves: Hannah Cook, Nigel Ball.										
Coach	Firers	DAY 1				DAY 2				Grand Total
		700m	800m	900m	Total	700m	800m	900m	Total	
Nick Tremlett	Glyn Barnett	75.14	75.09	74.09	224.32v	75.12	75.12	75.10	225.34v	449.66v
	Chris Mitchell	75.14	75.09	74.07	224.30v	75.13	75.11	75.11	225.35v	449.65v
	Matthew Button	75.12	74.10	74.08	223.30v	75.12	75.12	74.08	224.32v	447.62v
	Rick Shouler	75.12	75.12	75.10	225.34v	75.08	75.11	72.11	222.30v	447.64v
		300.52	299.40	297.34	896.126v	300.45	300.46	296.40	896.131v	1792.257v
Seth Dowley	Toby Raincock	75.12	74.08	75.06	224.26v	74.10	75.10	73.08	222.28v	446.54v
	Chloë Evans	74.12	75.12	75.08	224.32v	75.13	75.11	75.12	225.36v	449.68v
	Theo Dodds	75.14	74.10	74.10	223.34v	75.14	75.14	75.12	225.40v	448.74v
	James Watson	75.09	75.06	72.08	222.23v	75.10	75.12	75.09	225.31v	447.54v
		299.47	298.36	296.32	893.115v	299.47	300.47	298.41	897.135v	1790.250v
Derek Lowe	David Armstrong	75.14	75.10	73.11	223.35v	75.10	75.10	75.11	225.31v	448.66v
	Paul Sykes	75.09	74.06	74.06	223.21v	75.12	75.14	75.09	225.35v	448.56v
	Jon Kent	74.12	73.09	72.06	219.27v	75.11	75.09	73.10	223.30v	442.57v
	Jon Underwood	75.13	75.08	75.06	225.27v	75.11	75.13	75.10	225.34v	450.61v
		299.48	297.33	294.29	890.110v	300.44	300.46	298.40	898.130v	1788.240v
Matthew Ensor	Parag Patel	75.12	75.11	75.07	225.30v	74.10	75.13	75.13	224.36v	449.66v
	Nick Healy	75.12	75.11	74.05	224.28v	75.10	75.11	75.09	225.30v	449.58v
	Rosanne Furniss	75.12	75.10	75.06	225.28v	75.13	75.14	75.12	225.39v	450.67v
	David Luckman	75.13	75.12	75.07	225.32v	75.12	75.11	75.12	225.35v	450.67v
		300.49	300.44	299.25	899.118v	299.45	300.49	300.46	899.140v	1798.258v
1st	Australia	1199.192v	1194.150v	1187.132v	3580.474v	1196.176v	1200.184v	1196.162v	3592.522v	7172.996v
2nd	Great Britain	1198.196v	1194.153v	1186.120v	3578.469v	1198.181v	1200.188v	1192.167v	3590.536v	7168.1005v
3rd	South Africa	1196.159v	1184.124v	1182.122v	3562.405v	1199.168v	1196.156v	1196.140v	3591.464v	7153.869v
4th	USA	1196.172v	1186.137v	1166.103v	3548.412v	1200.173v	1198.152v	1194.139v	3592.464v	7140.876v
5th	New Zealand	1191.136v	1163.91v	1137.78v	3491.305v	1183.141v	1183.131v	1173.126v	3539.398v	7030.703v
6th	Canada	1173.103v	1153.86v	1125.78v	3451.267v	1169.117v	1170.118v	1156.90v	3495.325v	6946.592v
7th	Germany	1152.107v	1098.67v	1043.49v	3293.223v	1156.90v	1123.87v	1111.65v	3390.242v	6683.465v

was creeping in too. Records were being broken and rebroken across the range. As they drew level again on points, Australia only had one firer left, whilst we had three.

The outcome of the match was not known until the very last shots of the final distance, and much to our disappointment, it was the Australians who emerged triumphant, retaining the trophy that they had won in Trentham five years ago by dropping just 28 points across the two days (7172.996v). GB placed second, just four points behind on 7168.1005v, with South Africa third (7153.869v), edging out USA (7140.876v). Congratulations to Darren Enslin and the Australian Team.

Brett McCauley (coach: Jim Bailey) – set a new individual record for the Palma match: 450.73v, or just seventeen

vees “dropped” across the six ranges and two days of intense competition. In total, 10 firers from the USA, South Africa, GB and Australia shot perfect 450s. Theo Dodds (GB) set a new day record with 225.40v ex 225.45v. Australian Mitch Bailey's 75.15v at 800m and American Curtis Gordon's 75.14v at 900m set new individual range records. Matthew Ensor and Australian Hamish Pollock's target teams set a new 900m record of 300.46v. Jim Bailey (Aus) set both a new target one-day record of 900.134v and a new two-day target record of 1798.264v. GB's 1200.188v at 800m and Australia's 1196.161v at 900m were records. And of course, Australia's winning day score of 3592.521v and total score of 7172.996v were new records. The top four teams all broke the previous team record score from 2015.

REFLECTIONS

Whilst the outcome of the Palma match was not what we were hoping for, Team Captain Jeremy Langley, Vice-Captain Nick Tremlett and Adjutant Derek Lowe have shown that we can perform at the top levels, and that we are a force to be reckoned with. Only 4 points out of a total 7200 is a tiny margin, and one that we plan to change at Bisley in 2028. We have built on our technical capabilities, performance and team approach, and introduced new caps to the excitement that is a Palma Match.

As we return to normal life, we reflect on the many successes and new records set during the tour with pride. Thank you to all those who enabled the tour to happen, and for all the support given to the team. The preparation for 2028 begins... 🍀

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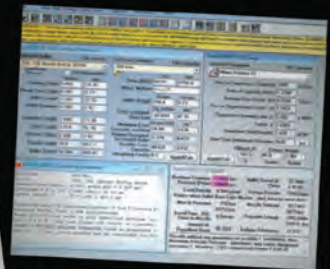
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GOLD FOR THE GBU25s AT THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN SOUTH AFRICA

GB Under 25 Team Captain, **Harriet Bramwell** reports.

After two and a half years of training, the Great Britain U25 Team assembled at the North London Rifle Club ready to depart for the World Championships in Bloemfontein, South Africa. As we swapped the grey skies of Bisley for the searing sun of General de Wet range, it confirmed to us all the feedback from our 2023 recce tour; learning to adjust to the environment and fickle winds in South Africa was going to be pivotal to our performance this year.

The first day of individual competition, The Free State Championship, certainly gave the team a good flavour of what Bloem had to offer, with fierce winds at long range and 35 degree heat. This was a particular eye opener to the six team members who were first timers at Bloemfontein, however one of those six, George Bramwell, featured in the evening prize giving, coming 3rd in the U25 long range aggregate. From that point onwards, throughout the individual championships, Great Britain went from strength to strength. Flat, quick shooting through difficult wind over the course of the following week resulted in our very own Christina Cuming placing 2nd in the U21 world championships and Toby 'The Cube' Cubitt coming a very respectable 5th in the same competition. We then had 4 of the team placing in the top 5 of the U25 individual world championships: Luca O'Flynn 5th, Alice Good GM 4th, Jemima Hince 3rd and vice-captain TP Shaw (it's not a brand) placing 2nd. Congratulations to

Mitch Bailey of Australia and South Africa's Noah Bennett (B Class Champion) for their incredible accomplishment as the U25 and U21 World Champions respectively.

In terms of team matches, in the run up to the World Championship match, there was the RSA International and the Protea, where bronze was the colour for GB. However, we did have a significant win in the Vice Presidents match that ran alongside the RSA and this allowed everyone in the team to gain valuable big match experience in South Africa. Having played our cards close to our chest, when the World Championship match came around, GB were ready to show what it really meant to have such phenomenal strength in numbers in an exceptionally close knit team. All the frosty mornings on Stickle-down range, the online plotting sessions, the winter training and even a half marathon had all come down to one day, 16th March 2024.

We knew quick shooting from the firers with fast decision making from the coaches was going to be vital during the World Championships and our starting distance of 300m didn't disappoint. First up was Jemima Hince. Within 5 minutes of General Mac Alexanders booming countdown to start the match, Jemima was walking off the point with a 50.8v, before the other teams where anywhere near

approaching their 5th to count. We got through the rest of the team in an equally fast fashion, only dropping 2 points in total.

The morale boost of being the first team off the point was taken advantage of, with all of our firers being able to sort their kit out and have their sights set and checked before any other team had joined us back at 600m. The strategy for short range was to get on and get off the point as soon as possible to minimise the number of wind changes we'd have to navigate the firers through, as we'd learnt from our previous matches the conditions were only going to get more difficult as the morning went on. Another fantastic performance from the team, and we were leading the pack by 2 points.

They say that in a match you always have a distance that doesn't quite go to plan, and unfortunately 800m was that distance for the GBU25s. The firers still shot brilliantly, however it was Miles Horton-Baker and my grip on the on wind that slipped. Waits were called to little benefit and we struggled to allow the shooters to get into a proper rhythm so that they could perform at their best. As a result we scored the lowest on that range by three clear points.

Now in 2nd place overall, 3 points behind Australia and just 1 point ahead of South Africa and America, I remember sharing a look with Miles as we realised the wind was picking up and we had a lot of work to do at 900m. Over lunch I glanced around the team, where I could start to see a certain flicker of doubt in some people eyes. Yes,



Below: U25 World Champions.





THE PAVILION BISLEY CELEBRATES 100 YEARS



We take a look back at the last 100 years of history, and reveal recent upgrades of The Pavillion Bisley. **Richie Vallance** updates.

Constructed in 1924 as an Officers Mess, the Pavilion Bisley replaced its predecessor, an old Pavilion transported from Wimbledon Common in 1890. The picturesque, but temporary structure was demolished in 1923, making way for the 'new Pavilion,' which has now stood proudly for a century.

As we move into our 100th year, the Pavilion Bisley Hotel unveils a fresh look and renovations to mark this special occasion. This is a significant milestone for the Pavilion, so I am eager to

share with you the changes we have made over the last few months. I believe this year is not just a celebration of the Pavilion's longevity, but also an opportunity to refresh and rejuvenate for the next chapter.

Our journey began in 2023, as we initiated a comprehensive refurbishment program. We have renovated many of the rooms, extending the transformation to the reception, café, and car parking areas. The bedrooms have been thoughtfully updated to cater to the needs of both shooters and business travellers alike.

To ensure you enjoy the best possible experience, our room prices will remain competitive and reflect the ongoing improvements until every room has undergone its full transformation.

Bisley hospitality will now be accessible through our new website: www.ThePavilionBisley.com. Incorporating our new brand identity, the website offers a polished, easy to use navigation, with a newly customised booking system. Designed to make it easy to search and

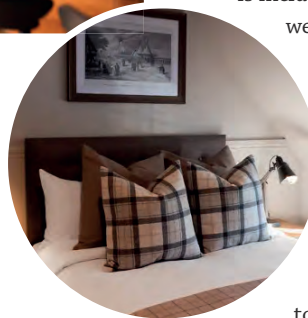
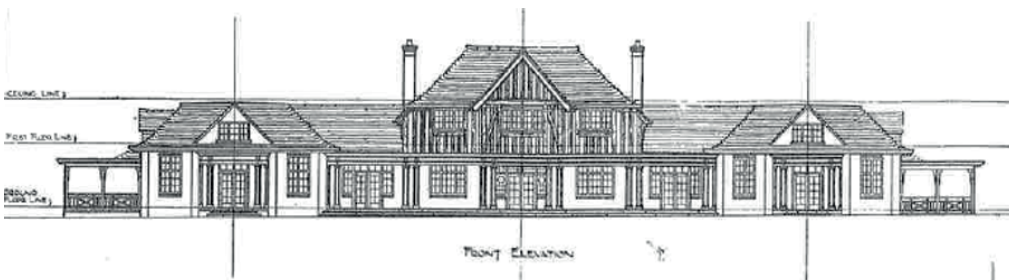
book accommodation on desktop, mobile, tablet and other devices, there are intuitive options to filter accommodation by type, be that accessible, family or dog-friendly rooms.

All Bisley Accommodation is included on the website so you will still be able to book cabins, Bunkabins, and camping pitches just as before. Our website also allows you to conveniently book breakfast in the Pavilion Café while making your reservation.

To keep you informed and engaged of our journey, we have also launched a new Facebook page. Like and follow us @ThePavilionBisley for real-time updates, exclusive offers, and a behind-the-scenes look at the Pavilion's ongoing evolution.

Above inset and below: Newly refurbished double rooms in varying shapes and sizes to suit your requirements. Perfect for that quick stopover.

Top: The Bisley Pavillion. **Above left:** Sit by the fire in the Pavilion lounge. **Above right:** Enjoy a Full English or Continental Breakfast in our new Pavilion Cafe setting. **Below:** Original Drawing from the Architects Journal (Sept 1924).



DAVID DALE CPSA COACH OF THE YEAR NOMINEE 2024

Richie Vallance updates.

I am pleased to announce that David Dale has just been shortlisted as one of four nominees for the Clay Pigeon Shooting Association (CPSA) coach of the year 2024. David has been the head coach at the National Clay Shooting Centre (NCSC) since its investiture for the Commonwealth Games in 2001, and before that he worked at Bisley Shooting Ground. It struck me that David is somewhat of an unsung hero at NCSC and Bisley as a whole. Very few permanent staff can boast working on the camp for the last 25+ years, so I thought it was worth a mention.

David has represented England eight times over the past twelve years. He has won the English Grand Prix twice and the English Open

once, including numerous county and inter county wins. In addition, he was the technical officer for the 2002 Commonwealth Games and a senior referee at both the London Olympics and the Glasgow Commonwealth Games. He has been team coach to the GB Junior Team four times on matches abroad, and a British Shooting Pathway Coach for the past five years.

Personally, I have witnessed David's contribution to both NCSC and the wider shooting community for much of his career, and his ability as a coach is quite remarkable. He has consistently demonstrated an unparalleled dedication and expertise that has made him one of the most highly regarded coaches in the



“ I have witnessed David's contribution to both NCSC and the wider shooting community for much of his career, and his ability as a coach is quite remarkable.

country. His competence and ability are truly unequalled, but what sets him apart from the rest are his humility and patience. His expertise goes beyond enhancing his clients' shooting skills; he also excels at creating an enjoyable experience, whilst giving detailed and accurate shooting instruction at the highest level.

David has remained dedicated to fulfilling a career in the sport ever since. His commendable commitment to both personal and professional development is evident, culminating this year in the successful completion of a four-year journey to attain his CPSA Level 3 Senior Coach qualification. This achievement underscores his dedication to the sport and his ongoing pursuit of excellence, a commitment that may seem unnecessary to some. Now that he has achieved qualification as a coach

across all the clay shooting disciplines, David has joined a very small cohort of senior coaches that can demonstrate such a deep, multidisciplinary understanding of the sport. Feedback from course assessors consistently paint him as an exceptional candidate, with many expressing he is likely the most outstanding candidate they have encountered. His passion is solely focused on enhancing individuals, devoid of any personal gain. This selfless commitment to his clients distinguishes him as a mentor, genuinely invested in their progress and well-being, both on and off the shooting range.

If you find yourself in need of a clay shooting lesson, pop into NCSC and book the Head Coach. ▶

Right: David being presented his Senior Coach Badge by Iain Parker, CPSA CEO.





BISLEY SHOOTING GROUND

Richie Vallance reports on the success of 2023, and new initiatives for 2024.

I am delighted to announce another year of achievement at Bisley Shooting Ground (BSG).

It has been a year of strong demand for shooting lessons and group shoots, as well as the hosting of engaging events and meaningful community involvement. Many of our events and Sunday club shoots are now oversubscribed and have waiting lists. To avoid disappointment, we encourage you to book early!

Our corporate offerings have also continued to attract businesses seeking unique team-building experiences and memorable corporate outings. I believe the positive feedback and repeat bookings we've received are a testament to the quality of service and experience we provide.

Early this year we were thrilled to welcome InchCape Land Rover as a partner, further enhancing our offerings to our patrons. This partnership has enabled us to elevate our services and provide an even more comprehensive experience for our visitors and we are proud to showcase their

vehicles on our grounds.

In addition to our commercial endeavours, we remain committed to supporting our community. Our local charity event held at the end of last year was a tremendous success, with 60 attendees coming together to raise an impressive £4000 for Woking Hospice. It was heartwarming to see the generosity and support of our community in making a meaningful impact on such an important cause. This year we have two more charity events planned, our normal commitment to "Teenage Cancer Trust" plus a new

venture for the "Head on Foundation".

SUPER SPORTING

A fresh addition to our offerings this year involves tackling the typically quieter months from January to March. We have launched a weekly competition centred around the novel discipline, "Super Sporting." The plan is to captivate our patrons during traditionally slower periods, offering them a new endeavour to try.

Super Sporting is a clay shooting discipline

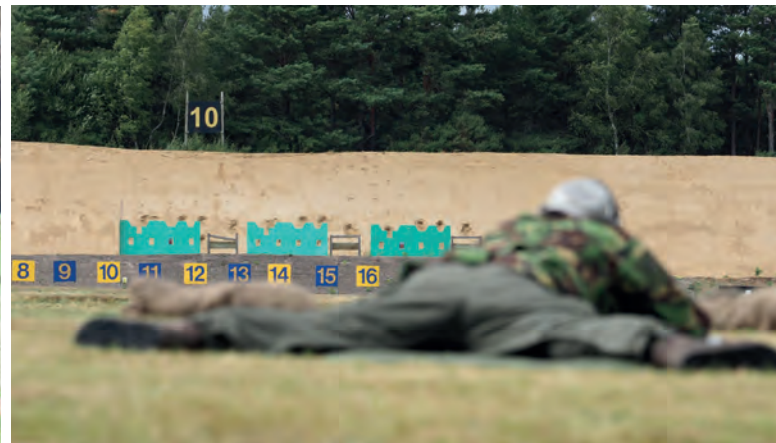
that combines the excitement of various disciplines, including FITASC, with a unique and innovative format designed for shooters of all skill levels. We have introduced it as a Wednesday competition to test our shooter's skills on a challenging course comprising 100 targets spread over 8 stands. Each stand is expertly crafted by John Heagren, featuring 3 to 5 traps arranged in a sequence that offers a diverse range of target presentations.

At each stand, shooters face a series of challenges, starting with singles, followed by on-report pairs, and then simultaneous pairs. This carefully crafted sequence ensures shooters adapt their technique to tackle each presentation,

adding an extra layer of excitement and challenge to the whole experience. We hope to build on this initiative and implement a more diverse range of competitions to keep our customers interested during the quieter months. 🔄



- BISLEY
- A
- B
- C
- A o/r B
- B o/r C
- C o/r A
- AB Sim
- BC Sim



Have you ever wanted to try out a new precision style of shooting with steel targetry at long range? Have you ever wanted to shoot against the picturesque background of Chobham Ridge? Have you ever been intrigued by the Running Boar or Mini McQueen feature at BSRC?

We are excited to announce a selection of new opportunities for 2024; Member Days. Our Member Days provide an opportunity for full NRA members to come together under the supervision of an RO and experience different types of shooting disciplines, which may not normally be viable for a single shooter.

Our Member Days consist of four selections:

- Chobham Ridge • Stickledown PRS Steels (Note: only available through our low season months and will start again during November) • McQueen Castles • BSRC (Running Boar and Mini McQueen on Time Limit)

These sessions are booked as individual bookings, one shooter per booking (not club bookings) via the online system. Please check out the member day's page under the events section on the NSC website. We have received excellent feedback from members who have already attended our sessions.

If there are any other offers that you would like to see in the future, please let us know!

Opposite: November's pilot course; Classroom training – prone position, using the post, sitting position, and a variety of standing stances.



HANDGUN SKILLS COURSE



Since the 1997 handgun ban, the only ways to shoot competitions with handguns in Great Britain have been with air pistols, muzzle-loading handguns, long-barrelled pistols (LBPs) and long-barrelled revolvers (LBRs). LBPs and LBRs are included within the NRA discipline of Gallery Rifle & Pistol (GR&P).

As you probably know, the NRA runs Skills Courses for many of its disciplines, including GR&P. Until now, we've had a GR Skills Course which focused mainly on gallery rifles with content added for LBPs and LBRs if the students specifically asked for it.

However, the popularity of LBPs and LBRs has grown significantly in recent years. Also, a group of dedicated handgun shooters has made use of resources overseas to take part in international handgun competitions. This has led to the formation of a GB Handgun Team and Squad, as explained in a recent Journal article.

As a result of all this, the NRA is now launching a Handgun Skills Course. A pilot course was held in November 2023 to test the course material; the four instructors and seven students (all volunteers) were very pleased with the way it went and the new course will run from 2024 onwards. Like all Skills Courses, it will be bookable online or by contacting the Competitions Team (competitions@nra.org.uk). The first course will run on Sunday 3 March; there is a GR Skills Course on Saturday 2 March, so students will have the option to attend both back-to-back if they wish. Further courses will be scheduled based on demand.

The aim of the new Handgun Skills Course is to develop the skills necessary for safe and competent participation in handgun competitions. The scope of the training includes:

- Competitions run under NRA UK auspices for LBPs and LBRs.
- Competitions run under World Association 1500 PPC (WA1500) rules for pistols and revolvers. (Note: The WA1500 is the International Sports Governing Body for the competitions in which the GB Handgun Team shoot.)

The learning objectives for the students are:

- Safely handle and operate pistols and revolvers;
- Make safe and appropriate use of holsters;
- Understand and follow range commands;
- Understand and apply key elements of handgun marksmanship;
- Understand and follow standard courses of fire (including positions and use of barricades);
- Recognise and appropriately address handgun malfunctions;
- Score targets.

Training is carried out with a mix of airguns, LBPs and LBRs. 🕒



FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, take a look at the NRA website online.nra.org.uk/skill-courses



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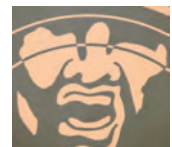
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The training requirements for today's Police forces are constantly evolving. We work closely with the Forces to understand their needs for new training targets for front line officers.



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JOIN THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION *as a* TARGET MARKER



Article by **Max Green.**

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 are holding upcoming training sessions in preparation. The competition takes place from 10th – 27th July. 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 2024, the pay is as follows:

- Under 21 - £11.41
- 21 and over - £12.82

Head to the National Shooting Centre website ('Visiting-Target Markers') for more details including pay, application forms, dates, and contact details, or email markers@nra.org.uk to speak to the team. 



Update from the REGIONAL RANGES MANAGER

Nic Couldrey discusses the pilot Club Forum held in Solihull, Birmingham.

The Club Forum is a pilot scheme designed to widen participation and engage regional Clubs throughout the UK to better understand local challenges and highlight focus areas for the NRA.

Representatives from more than 40 Clubs met the NRA in Solihull on March 16th, some travelling from as far

“The Secretary General provided an update on the NRA’s work on proposed UK Reach legislation including hosting key stakeholders at Bisley in 2023.

as Aberdeen to Cornwall and staying overnight to attend.

The meeting was hosted by Julia Hilger-Ellis, NRA Vice Chairman, James Harris, NRA Trustee and Chairman of the Shooting Committee, Andrew Mercer, Secretary General and Nic Couldrey, Regional Ranges Manager. David Lacey, NRA Chairman, was unable to travel for health reasons.

The Vice-Chairman opened the meeting, reading a written welcome message from Chairman to explain the purpose of the forum; to allow Clubs to hear from the NRA and for the NRA to listen and answer questions. Several Clubs provided topics for discussion in advance of the meeting.

The Secretary General provided an update on the NRA’s work on proposed UK Reach legislation including hosting key stakeholders at Bisley in 2023, the proposed derogation for the continued use of lead ammunition on target shooting ranges and the expected transition timelines. This work has been supported by Clubs that operate outdoor ranges, particularly processes for de-leading and routine range maintenance.

The Secretary General and Regional Ranges Manager discussed the challenges facing Clubs that rely on access to MoD ranges, the NRA’s work to develop ranges away from Bisley including due diligence on Orston Shooting Ground and discussions with Lowland RFCA to build facilities at Dechmont.

The Secretary General provided an update on the roll out of training and shooter certification for the use of

Below: Left to Right James Harris, Andrew Mercer (standing), Julia Hilger-Ellis, Nic Couldrey.





Above: Representatives from over 40 regional clubs attended the forum.

hand loaded ammunition explaining the background and importance of the changes.

The Vice Chairman then turned the Forum over to an open discussion covering over 25 topics submitted by Clubs prior to the meeting. The key themes include:

COMMUNICATIONS

The NRA recognises that communication with Clubs and Individual members is patchy; the focus has been on the execution of tasks and not on communication. The discussion covered the delivery of regional training, local representation on General Council and recent Home Office consultations. The NRA has recently recruited a communications consultant to develop a broader communication strategy and improve the two-way flow of information.

ROLE AND VALUE OF THE NRA

The NRA's role as subject matter expert and work done on behalf of Clubs is not

“ There was consensus that the Forum was a success and should be repeated, ideally leveraging video/audio conferencing to broaden participation.

well publicised and understood by Clubs. This should form part of any future communication strategy. Greater clarity around the terms of Club insurance provided through the NRA and the link to the NRA's advice and guidance for hand loaded ammunition would be helpful.

IP AND INTANGIBLE VALUE

The NRA makes valuable intellectual property directly available to Clubs, this includes training, technical advice and guidance. The NRA's indirect value is its work with stakeholders including Government, Police and Law Enforcement, MoD and others to safeguard and promote civilian target shooting and mitigate growing threats to the future

of shooting. Much of this work is unseen by regional Clubs, there is scope to improve Clubs understanding of the value that NRA brings to the broader target shooting community.

RANGES

Clubs face increasing cost, external scrutiny and complexity in the operation of their own private ranges and gaining regular access to MoD ranges. The NRA has a role to play to support regional Clubs and should do more to engage locally, meet Clubs to understand issues and opportunities.

NETWORKING AND COLLABORATION

The Forum highlighted the value of networking amongst Clubs and the opportunity to collaborate, share and “do

more with less” including dialogue to coordinate regional training and range- bookings. WhatsApp is already used by some Clubs to work more closely together. There is a sense that Clubs are stronger together, particularly if this can be augmented by the NRA. There was consensus that the Forum was a success and should be repeated, ideally leveraging video/audio conferencing to broaden participation.

SUMMARY

Participant feedback has been very positive, our thanks to everyone that contributed topics for discussion, special thanks to all those that travelled to Solihull. The Forum will be repeated, frequency and location to be determined. 📍

MUSEUM NEWS

By **Tony de Launay**, NRA Museum Curator.

Recent years have been beset with sadness and interruption, but we are now back to a relatively normal opening. We lost our great friend and tireless Museum Curator Ted Molyneux at the beginning of 2021. While it is possible to ensure that the show goes on, it is impossible to replace his knowledge, humour and, above all, friendship. Ted's magnificent collection of badges and medals are now on display next to the "First Shot" cabinet.

Ted had invited me to take over as curator at the beginning of 2019. It was a hectic five months' introduction and learning the ropes, but I have excellent colleagues armed with both technical knowledge and advice on the items that we have on display. To Roger Mundy, Jim Hallam, Chris Bunch, Rosemary Meldrum, Peter Jordan, Tim Price (and friends departed - Ted, Dick Ellis and Eric McGibbon) - a huge thank you.

PIXLEY, HALE & PATERSON PUZZLE

The winner of Her Majesty Queen Victoria's prize in 1862, Stuart Pixley, had three finalist's badges: the gold for the winner and two 'ordinary' finalist's badges, one of which is smaller than the other. Arthur Hale in 1928, had a winner's badge plus a finalist's badge, but also had a more tatty one as a result of it being worn on his jacket.

But in both cases why the extra badge? We tend towards the simple explanation that these two individuals asked for an additional badge so that they could display it on their tunic - unless, of course, someone knows better. It is a matter of record that the finalists' badges in the general form that we know today came into use some three years after the first Wimbledon Meeting in 1860. The earliest winners had backdated badges provided to them.

Quite by chance we were offered some old badges that included an early 1910 King's Prize second stage Silver Badge. Mysteriously, the winner, Sgt DR Paterson, also had two other finalists' badges dated 1890. They are not duplicates because the one on the left has "Wimbledon" stitched across it and the other "Bisley".

As we all know, 1890 was the year in



which the Meeting moved from Wimbledon to Bisley - the new ranges being finished in the nick of time. Had some nervous member of the organising team commissioned two sets of finalists' badges - just in case? The Museum crew has found no other plausible explanation.

MYSTERIOUS QUAICH

Another mysterious item kindly gifted to us is the Bellerby Lowerison Quaich. This fine silver Quaich bears the inscription "Bellerby Lowerison - 1917 - Bisley" on one side and "Scottish CLNG Wapinshaw" on the other. CLNG stands for City of London National Guard and the shoulder badge for that unit also contains the letter 'V' - for Volunteers.

Lowerison was born in 1863 in Great Lumley, County Durham and after a period teaching in some of the poorest areas of London went on to found the John Ruskin School Home in Heasham on Sea in Norfolk. Contemporaneous documents refer to correspondence between Lowerison and the War Office relating to the provision of binoculars for the troops - possibly engaged in watching the shores of Norfolk for intruders.

However, there were no NRA Bisley competitions from 1915 to 1918, Bisley being taken up by the War Department for training purposes. Our own target booking records show that at the beginning of 1917 CLNG held training camps at Bisley. From that we can make an informed guess that the Quaich may have been presented to Lowerison either as a trophy for winning a CLNG competition or as a mark of respect for his service with the unit. He would have been 54 in 1917.



RAILWAY POINTS

We became aware of an item up for auction. Our team was despatched to the Stoneleigh National Agricultural showground with instructions to marshal their wagons and purchase the item - if they were satisfied that it seemed relevant and genuine. Roger and Chris returned carrying a plaque bearing the coat of arms of the London & South Western Railway Company. This was the very headboard that had adorned the front of the locomotive that had pulled the train carrying Alexandra, Princess of Wales, to Bisley in July 1890. There she fired the first shot to open the Bisley Ranges.



For the technically minded train-spotters among you the engine was a William Adams Class 02 0-4-4 tank engine, number 185. The picture of the engine can be found on page 118 of Chris Bunch's excellent book on the tramways of Wimbledon and Bisley, with the headboard just visible at the front of the engine. Copies of the book are available via Chris who can be contacted via the Museum museum@nra.org.uk.

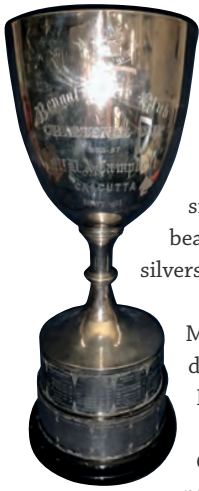
Also added to our tramway corner are examples of the three types of tramway rails used around the Wimbledon and Bisley grounds, together with a fine drawing of the steam loco Wharncliffe that pulled the crude open carriages for competitors.

PROPELLING PENCIL

Before she fired the opening shot in 1890, Princess Alexandra, with the Prince of Wales, had already fired what were meant to be last shots in 1888. Then she had used a Maxim Machine Gun. The enterprising Mr Gregory, NRA optician, acquired many of the spent cases and made them into propelling pencils and match holders, or scent bottle for ladies, for sale to the public at the price of one Guinea. Three ornate and enamelled examples were presented to the royal guests. We have one basic model now on display with a copy of Gregory's advertisement.

BENGAL RIFLE CLUB CHALLENGE CUP

On top of a cupboard we discovered a blackened and dirt encrusted cup. Tim Price set to with cleaning equipment to restore the piece, removing thick layers of



black tarnish and grime. Standing about 25 inches tall, in the form of a chalice, the magnificent cup is of silver with gilt interior, and bears the name of India based silversmiths Cooke & Kelvey.

It was donated to the Museum some years ago and dates from the late 1800s.

Engraved with the inscription “Bengal Rifle Club Challenge Cup”, this had been the prize for the best aggregate of scores made in specified Bengal RC competitions.

It was won between 1887 and 1891 on successive occasions by a Mr D A Campbell – at which point it became his undisputed property to keep. It was donated to the Museum by his family.

The Museum is delighted to say that the Cup was brought back into active competition at the July 2022 Annual Bisley Meeting, as the prize for the top score at 600yds in the second stage of the St Georges, won by David Luckman. In return, the one remaining Dragon Cup held by the NRA, awarded to winners of the St Georges Vase as a permanent memento in years gone by, will move to the Museum for display with the other St George’s memorabilia.

TIMES BADGE

One other little mystery that we have been able to solve was the apparent absence of

any sample of the gold, silver and bronze badges that were awarded between 1934 and 1939 to the first three places in the Times Challenge Cup competition. Having searched high and low for a likely looking “badge”, we found our quarry under our noses: it was a fine, small, medal similar in construction to a Donegal badge. It sits in one of the many rows of medals in the case of honours won by Admiral Hutton above the Museum office door. Hutton was second in 1934: we believe it to be silver but are not about to take down and dismantle the display to verify that! All we need to do now is to find examples of the gold and bronze counterparts.

MEDALS & OTHER MEMENTOS

Among other acquisitions now on display are:

- JS “Jimmy” Speight’s medals, four times winner of the Grand Aggregate in the 1970s
- Medals of Donald Honey Grist, who worked for much of his life in Malaya, imprisoned for some 4 years during WWII in Changi Jail
- Ted Molyneux’s bequest of a prize sword, won in a regimental shooting competition in Airdrie

- Badges and medals of Reginald Rodney Rees, a Welshman who spent his early working life in Australia and South Africa and was the first Western Australian Champion in 1902

- Sir Edward Lionel Fletcher CBE: medals and badges

- Malcolm Cooper’s Olympic Rifle

- Badges of Sir William James Miller Burton, who seems to have been a member of both Irish and English National and Mackinnon teams at different times!

ENDING WITH A SWAGGER

Finally, we discovered what appears to be an officer’s swagger stick. It has a silver ferrule showing three figures and is of a slender translucent material – but what material? Suggestions have ranged from cane to fibre-glass, or some part of the anatomy of a mammal. We think we have a clue, but if you know we would be delighted to hear from you. ☺



MUSEUM OPENING TIMES

The Museum is normally open on Tuesdays from 9am to 2pm. A phone call to 01483-797777 x 127 or to reception in advance to check is a good idea. If you have any Museum related queries do not hesitate to email us on museum@nra.org.uk or write to us at the NRA and we will do our best to respond.

Museum of the NRA VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Museum of the National Rifle Association is seeking more volunteers to work with the existing team. You will be involved in the management and maintenance of the displays and stored artefacts that have been collected over the years since the foundation of the Association.

We are looking for members of the NRA who may have a shooting background, or possibly their relatives or friends, who have an interest and belief in the importance of the historical background of our Association. Knowledge of the minutiae of firearms development is not a necessary primary qualification. The ability to help others to understand how the NRA was - and is - important through its history, and the ability to create, improve and maintain our displays to reflect that story, are the skills necessary to help visitors and enquirers.

Our team are all unpaid volunteers. We value personal skills in the form of infinite patience to deal with enquiries, practical skills allied with the display and maintenance of

exhibits, and terrier like forensic skills to research mysteries from our records and artefacts.

An interest in shooting across the disciplines governed by the NRA and knowledge of the general history of the NRA and the Volunteer Movement would obviously be an advantage. Basic computer literacy would be helpful. We meet once per week in the Museum on the first floor of the main office at Bisley, normally on a Tuesday. We are also usually open for five days or so during the final two weeks of the Annual Bisley Meeting in July (which might allow a “July only” volunteer to join us during that week).

If you think you have something to offer as a member of our Museum team, please contact the Curator, Tony de Launay, briefly saying how you think you can contribute, care of:

Georgina Thatcher, Office Manager
NRA, Bisley Camp, Brookwood, Surrey GU24 0PB
Georgina.thatcher@nra.org.uk



NOTICES

National Rifle Association
notifications and news.

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

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

I intend to take a mixture of experience and new caps who have achieved the required standard for GB selection. The tour is expected to be two and a half to three weeks

in length, taking in a provincial meeting followed by the DCRA meeting in August 2025.

I invite applications to be considered for selection in the team. Please apply by email to:

GBCaptain2025@gmail.com

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

I look forward to hearing from you.

Paul Gray (Wales and GB)

GB Rifle Team Captain Canada 2025

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The NRA's 2024 Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday 7th June 2024 at 6pm, followed directly by the NSC's Annual General Meeting, in the NRA Pavilion.

BISLEY GENERAL MEETING

The 2024 Bisley General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 24th July 2024 at 9pm in the NRA Pavilion.

TEAM CAPTAIN – NOMINATIONS

Nominations are invited for the GB Rifle Team Captain to tour Australia in October 2026, and captain the Australia Match, due to be held in Belmont, Queensland, Australia on Sunday 18th October 2026.

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 **12pm on Thursday 23rd May 2024**.

Nominations forms and CV pro-forma available on the NRA website: <https://nra.org.uk/gb-rifle-team-captain-australia-2026-nominations-invited/> or from georgina.thatcher@nra.org.uk

NRA GUEST DAYS 2024

The Guest Days have been well received in 2024 with the majority of events already sold out. Guest days offer NRA Members the ability to invite friends or colleagues for an introduction to the world of target shooting with a special offer for the guest if they also decide to join the NRA. Spaces are still available for the following Guest Days Saturday 21st September 2024 – 300 yards on Century Range Sunday 13th October 2024 – 25 yards on Cheylesmore Range AND 100 yards on Short

TEAM CAPTAIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are pleased to announce the following captaincies:

- David Harris - GB Handgun Team Captain 2024
- James Harris – GB Target Shotgun World Championships Team 2024
- Bill Richards – GB Kolapore Team Captain 2024
- James Postle – NRA Channel Islands Team Captain 2025
- Simon Whitby – GB Match Rifle Team Captain Woomera Match 2025
- Paul Gray – GB Rifle Team Captain Canada 2025
- Simon West – GB F-Class FTR Team Captain 2026
- Tony Marsh – GB F-Class F-Open Team Captain 2026

Siberia Range AM & PM sessions available £85 per booking – includes the hire of the Range, Range Officers, Targetry, Free Rifle Hire and Tea & Coffee. Ammunition is not included

in the fees, but can be purchased on the day. NRA Members may bring up to 4 guests per session. Limited availability – online booking only – online.nra.org.uk/guest-days

PROCEDURE FOR THE GENERAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2024

ELIGIBILITY OF CANDIDATES AND PROPOSERS

Only persons who are Registered Members of the Association and who have fully paid up their subscriptions for 31st March are eligible to be Candidates for election to the General Council and to be Proposers for such Candidates.

REGIONAL AND SHOOTING DISCIPLINE CANDIDATURE AND VOTING

Those voting for Regional Candidates must live in the appropriate Sports Council Region even though their nominated Candidates for election may live elsewhere.

Those voting for Shooting Discipline Candidates must have previously declared that Shooting Discipline to the NRA as their primary Shooting Discipline.

Eligibility for voting will be determined as at **30th April 2024**.

CURRICULUM VITAE

In order to assist the Registered Members with their choice of representatives in the election, a CV for each Candidate will be provided with the voting papers. A draft of no more than 300 words should accompany the nomination. A passport sized photograph of the Candidate will accompany all CVs. A content layout for the CVs is on the pro-forma.

The Chief Executive will refer back to authors where CVs are too long or are or appear to be factually incorrect.

THE PROGRAMME OF KEY DATE FOR ELECTIONS

31st March 2024

All Candidates and Proposers must be fully paid-up Registered Members of the Association by this date.

30th April 2024

- Nominations for all vacancies must be returned to the Chief Executive by 17:00 on this date.
- Registered Members must be qualified for voting for their respective Regional or Shooting Discipline Candidate by this date.
- All Members desiring to vote must be fully paid-up Registered Members by this date.

31st May 2024

All entitled Members will be balloted by this date, either by electronic or postal means with the procedures for voting.

15th July 2024

Postal votes must be received no later than 6.00pm on Monday 15th July 2024 by placing the voting slips in the correct envelope supplied. Electronic votes must be made by 6.00pm on Monday 15th July 2024.

SCRUTINEERS APPOINTED BY THE COUNCIL

To be notified after the Council Meeting on 19th April 2024.

RESULTS

All results will be confirmed at the General Council meeting in September.

ROUTINE VACANCIES

There will be the following vacancies in 2024, all of whom are entitled to stand for re-election.

Five Ordinary Members

GK Alexander
CM Brooks*
FPR Northam
TG Rylands
R Sayer

Five Regional Members

PR Coley – South Western *
AN Gran – Greater London and South East
RS Kenchington – West Midlands
GAE Larcombe – Southern
MP Watkins - Wales

Three Shooting Discipline Members

JS Harris – Target Shotgun
N St Aubyn – Civilian Service Rifle
& Practical Rifle
S Wallis – Sporting Rifle

* Not standing for re-election

Nomination Forms and CV Forms can be downloaded from: nra.org.uk/procedure-for-the-general-council-elections-2024/ or requested by emailing Georgina.Thatcher@nra.org.uk



NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION COMPETITION CALENDAR

MAY

- 04 Practical Mini-Rifle League**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Non-NRA Event
- 05 Mattersey Open**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Non-NRA Event
- 05-06 Army Open**
Target Rifle, Non-NRA Event
- 08 County of Lancaster Open**
Target Rifle, Non-NRA Event
- 11-12 F Class League - Round 2 - Long Range Challenge**
F Class, Non-NRA Event
- 11 Practical Shotgun League**
Target Shotgun, Non-NRA Event
- 18-19 RAFTRC vs Home Nations**
Target Rifle, Non-NRA Event
- 18 KGV Southern Heat 2024**
Target Rifle, Non-NRA Event
- 19 Kent Open**
Target Rifle, Non-NRA Event
- 19 Practical Handgun League**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Non-NRA Event
- 19 Berkshire County Rifle Association Open Prize Meeting**
Target Rifle, Non-NRA Event
- 23-26 Phoenix Meeting**
Civilian Service Rifle, Classic & Historic, F Class, Gallery Rifle & Pistol, McQueen, Muzzle Loading, Sporting Rifle, Target Shotgun, NRA
- 25-27 Jersey Rifle Association Spring Meeting**
Target Rifle, Non-NRA Event
- 25-27 English XX Meeting**
Target Rifle, Non-NRA Event
- 31 E-League: CSR Spring 2024 Deadline**
Civilian Service Rifle, Classic & Historic NRA
- 31 E-League: GR&P 2024 Spring Deadline**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, NRA

- 31 E-League: TS Spring 2024 Deadline**
Target Shotgun, NRA
- 31 E-League: F Class Spring 2024 Deadline**
F Class, NRA
- 31 E-League: MR Spring 2024 Deadline**
Match Rifle, NRA
- 31 E-League: TR Spring 2024 Deadline**
Schools & Cadet, Target Rifle, NRA

JUNE

- 1-2 F Class League - Round 3 - Northern Champs**
F Class, Non-NRA Event
- 08-09 144th Aberdeen Wapinschaw**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Non-NRA Event
- 08-09 Practical Mini-Rifle League**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Non-NRA Event
- 08-09 112th Irish Open Championship**
Target Rifle, F Class, Non-NRA Event
- 08-09 40th Inter-Counties 2024**
Target Rifle, NRA
- 08-09 Inter-Counties R Jarvis**
Target Rifle, NRA
- 14 Service Rifle Championships: Imperial Meeting**
Service Rifle (Armed Forces), NRA
- 20 Military Adaptive Imperial 2024**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Service Rifle (Armed Forces), NRA
- 23 Practical Handgun League**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Non-NRA Event
- 24-25 Service Weapon Imperial - International & Teams**
Service Rifle (Armed Forces), NRA
- 28-30 Derby Open**
Classic & Historic, Gallery Rifle & Pistol Non-NRA Event
- 29-30 F Class - Round 4 - Mik Mak's Long Range Challenge**
F Class, Non-NRA Event
- 30 Bisley Clubs 2**
Target Rifle, Non-NRA Event

JULY

- 03-07 CSR Imperial**
Civilian Service Rifle, Classic & Historic, NRA
- 06-07 Practical Shotgun League**
Target Shotgun, Non-NRA Event
- 06 CSR Imperial - Falling Plates 2024**
Civilian Service Rifle, NRA
- 07 CSR Imperial - Methuen 2024**
Civilian Service Rifle, Classic & Historic, NRA
- 11-14 F Class Imperial Meeting 2024**
F Class, NRA
- 12-18 Match Rifle Imperial Meeting 2024**
Match Rifle, NRA
- 13-14 Imperial Historic Arms Meeting 2024**
Classic & Historic, Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Muzzle Loading, NRA
- 13-21 McQueen Imperial Meeting 2024**
Civilian Service Rifle, Classic & Historic, McQueen, Sporting Rifle, Target Rifle, NRA
- 13-23 Sporting Rifle Imperial Meeting 2024**
Sporting Rifle, NRA
- 14 F Class Imperial - Teams 2024**
F Class, NRA
- 15-18 Match Rifle Imperial - Teams**
Match Rifle, NRA
- 15-18 CCF Schools Imperial Meeting 2024**
Schools & Cadet, Target Rifle, CCRS, NRA
- 18-27 Target Rifle Imperial - Teams**
Target Rifle, Schools & Cadet, NRA
- 18-21 Gallery Rifle & Pistol Imperial Meeting**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Muzzle Loading, NRA
- 19-27 155th Target Rifle Imperial Meeting**
Target Rifle, IMPERIAL MEETING, NRA
- 20-21 Practical Shotgun League**
Target Shotgun, Non-NRA Event
- 22-23 Imperial 300m Championships 2024**
300m, Target Rifle, NRA
- 27-28 Practical Handgun League**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Non-NRA Event

AUGUST

- 03 Practical Handgun League**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Non-NRA Event
- 03 Catastrophy Meeting**
Target Rifle, Non-NRA Event
- 03-04 F Class League - Round 5 - Scottish Championships**
F Class, Non-NRA Event
- 03-08 F Class League - Round 6 - European Championships**
F Class, Non-NRA Event
- 16-18 Cottesloe Heath Challenge 2024**
Target Shotgun, NRA

- 17-18 Derby Handgun Challenge**
Classic & Historic, Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Non-NRA Event
- 21-24 Jersey Rifle Association Open Meeting**
Target Rifle, Non-NRA Event
- 31-01 Sep National Championship (GR&P and TS) 2024**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Target Shotgun, Muzzle Loading, Civilian Service Rifle, McQueen, NRA

SEPTEMBER

- 10-12 PSUK Open Championships 2024**
Civilian Service Rifle, F Class, Gallery Rifle & Pistol, McQueen, Target Rifle, Target Shotgun, Non-NRA
- 20-22 JSPC Spring Open - Autumn 2024**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Non-NRA Event
- 21 SLG Bisley 1500 and Shorts Open**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Non-NRA Event
- 21-22 Practical Shotgun League**
Target Shotgun, Non-NRA Event

OCTOBER

- 05-06 Target Shotgun Festival - Autumn 2024**
Target Shotgun, NRA
- 05 Historic SR Match - Oct 24**
Civilian Service Rifle, Classic & Historic, NRA
- 12 European TR Long Range Championship 2024**
Target Rifle, NRA
- 12-13 F Class League - Round 7 - Highland Challenge**
F Class, Non-NRA Event
- 19 Practical Mini-Rifle League**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Non-NRA Event
- 19-20 Trafalgar Meeting 2024**
Civilian Service Rifle, Classic & Historic, Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Muzzle Loading, Match Rifle, McQueen, Sporting Rifle, Target Rifle, NRA
- 26-27 Autumn Action Weekend 2024**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, McQueen, Muzzle Loading, Target Shotgun, Civilian Service Rifle, NRA

NOVEMBER

- 02 CSR Winter League - Nov 2024**
Civilian Service Rifle, Classic & Historic, NRA
- 02-03 F Class League - Round 8 - British Championships**
F Class, Non-NRA Event
- 02-03 Practical Mini-Rifle League**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Non-NRA Event
- 30 Precision Rifle Shooting (PRS): Competition**
Precision Rifle, NRA

DECEMBER

- 01 CSR Winter League - December 2024**
Civilian Service Rifle, Classic & Historic, NRA
- 14-15 Practical Mini-Rifle League**
Gallery Rifle & Pistol, Non-NRA Event



RESULTS

HANDGUN LEAGUE 2024 TO DATE

LBP Open

1	Tim Gardener	100.00%
2	Waldek Mickiewicz	86.65%
3	Stuart Tennent	80.19%

LBP Standard

1	Tim Gardener	100.00%
2	Stuart Tennent	55.06%
3	James Harris	54.97%

LBR

1	Tim Gardener	100.00%
2	Sonny Bayly	73.00%
3	Paul Nicol	66.12%

MINI RIFLE LEAGUE 2024 TO DATE

1	Kelvin Leaton	100.00%
2	Jim Starley	95.44%
3	Tom Ellaway	94.96%

SHOTGUN LEAGUE 2024 TO DATE

Open

1	Oliver Bloomfield	100.00%
2	Eduard Nicorici	95.95%
3	Lee Bowditch	94.73%

Standard

1	Robert Lawson	100.00%
2	Lucius Hilger-Ellis	98.49%
3	James Harris	98.29%

Standard Manual

1	James Whiting	100.00%
2	Glenn Isaacs	93.70%
3	Jonathan Holloway	87.41%

CSR LEAGUE 2023/24 TO DATE

Historic X Class

1	J Gray	966.02
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Historic A Class

1	M Standage	954.82
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2	M Rigby	764.38
3	J Mcaree	251.02

Iron X Class

1	A Cattell	811.97
2	W Daysh	136.41

Iron A Class

1	B Ellis	985.39
2	S Meredith	925.77
3	R England	847.05

Service Optic X Class

1	A Chapman	984.68
2	R Wade	978.3
3	P Cottrell	967.67

Service Optic A Class

1	G Lavandera	944.74
2	R Wheeler	915.27
3	D Atraghji	903.72

Service Optic B Class

1	D Wylde	943.92
2	S Bulmer	923.42
3	S East	890.89

Practical Optic X Class

1	M Eustance	976.03
2	R Li	966.53
3	N St Aubyn	951.9

Practical Optic A Class

1	C Vale	943.83
2	M Lawton	931.14
3	M Adams	928.74

Practical Optic B Class

1	G Gordon	953.01
2	G Stead	893.64
3	J Day	887.19

HISTORIC SERVICE RIFLE MATCH SPRING 2024

All Comers

1	Green, D
2	Tadman, M

3	Ellis, B
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Classic

1	Bulmer, S
2	Dewey, I
3	Drummond, B

Veteran

1	Chapman, A
2	Radcliffe, P
3	Packham, M

Veteran Optic

1	Greenaway, N
2	Wade, R
3	Atraghji, D

PRECISION RIFLE MATCH SPING 2024

Factory

1	Michael Hayes	17
2	Charles Luke	14

Limited

1	Andrew Mills	50
2	Vitaliy Vyshtyalyuk	37
3	Timothy Brush	31

Open

1	Joseph Park	60
2	Tulga Cordan	50
3	Charles Martin	42

Open - Female

1	Jennifer Hoodless	23
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Open - Military/LEO

1	Daniel Owen	57
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Open - Senior

1	David Arnold	35
2	Duncan Mcilwaine	26

TARGET SHOTGUN FESTIVAL - SPRING

0734 T&P 1 - SGC

1	Rob Sanders	298.18x
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0735 T&P 1 - SGM

1	James Harris	299.21x
2	Rob Sanders	297.13x

0736 T&P 1 - SGSA

1	Timothy Jemmett	298.14x
2	Glenn Isaacs	297.14x
3	Rob Sanders	296.13x

1135 M-T SGM

1	Rob Sanders	110.8x
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1136 M-T SGSA

1	Rob Sanders	113.11x
2	Timothy Jemmett	113.7x
3	Lucius Hilger-Ellis	111.10x

3335 Embassy Cup SGM

1	Glenn Isaacs	116.20x
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3336 Embassy Cup SGSA

1	Lucius Hilger-Ellis	120.24x
2	Glenn Isaacs	119.23x
3	Timothy Jemmett	118.22x

3434 Service Match - SG

1	Paul Jebson	84
2	Mark Johnson	78.2x

SPRING ACTION WEEKEND 2024 INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

0101 25m Precision GRSB

1	Colin Hudson	280 6X
2	Keith Cox	272 2X
3	Adam Chapman	269 2X

0102 25m Precision GRCF

1	Clive Ward	298 16X
2	Adam Chapman	294 13X
3	Ian Archer	291 10X

0103 25m Precision GRCF Open

1	Colin Hudson	298 19X
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0104 25m Precision GRCF Classic

1	Ash Dagger	291 11X
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2 Neil Francis 288 10X

0121 25m Precision LBP

1 Steve Lane 285 10X
2 Charlie Horner 282 7X

0122 25m Precision LBR

1 Charlie Horner 282 7X

**0201 25m Precision Benched
GRSB**

1 Michael Deakin 300 20X
2 Simon Finch 299 6X

**0202 25m Precision Benched
GRCF**

1 Clive Ward 296 16X

**0204 25m Precision Benched
GRCF Classic**

1 Richard Perry 222 2X

0301 50m Precision GRSB

1 Colin Hudson 290 11X
2 Rob Wheeler 290 4X
3 Keith Cox 288 9X

0302 50m Precision GRCF

1 Charlie Horner 270 6X
2 Clive Ward 270 1X

0303 50m Precision GRCF Open

1 Colin Hudson 281 10X

0304 50m Precision GRCF Classic

1 Greville Wealthall 262 2X

0321 50m Precision LBP 3428

Steve Lane 248 2X

0322 50m Precision LBR

1 Ciaran Lennon 136 2X

**0401 50m Precision Benched
GRSB**

1 Michael Deakin 291 5X

**0404 50m Precision Benched
GRCF Classic**

Richard Perry 0

**0404 50m Precision Benched
GRCF Classic**

Richard Perry 0

0501 America Match GRSB

1 Michael Deakin 284 8X
2 Oscar Deakin 280 7X

0502 America Match GRCF

1 Keith Cox 289 9X

0503 America Match GRCF

Open

1 Colin Hudson 279 7X

0504 America Match GRCF

Classic

1 Peter Watts 274 8X

0521 America Match LBP

Steve Lane 281 5X

0701 Timed & Precision 1 GRSB

X 1 Joe Pugh 300 16X

X 2 Michael Deakin 299 16X

A 1 Amiel Gardiner 298 21X

A 2 Steve Jordan 298 13X

B 1 Keith Edwards 298 14X

B 2 Charlie Horner 296 11X

C 1 Mihai Boc 293 8X

C 2 Thomas Ellaway 291 9X

D 1 Martin Haynes 292 10X

D 2 Paul Jebson 285 7X

D 3 Jason Challen 285 2X

0702 Timed & Precision 1 GRCF

X 1 Joe Pugh 300 25X

X 2 Keith Cox 300 21X

A 1 Kevin Mayo 300 17X

A 2 Malcolm Stewart 299 18X



B 1 Julian Fox 300 15X
 B 2 Steve Denton 300 11X
 C 1 Paul Bennett 300 10X
 D 1 Jason Challen 300 15X

**0703 Timed & Precision 1
 GRCF Open**

1 Adam Chapman 280 21X

**0704 Timed & Precision 1
 GRCF Classic**

1 Peter Watts 300 24X
 2 Graeme Sim 299 14X
 3 Nigel Porter 299 14X

**0721 Timed & Precision 1
 LBP Open**

X 1 Steve Lane 300 16X
 A 1 Charlie Horner 296 9X
 A 2 Andrew McGee 295 10X
 B 1 David Hackett 299 20X
 B 2 Paul Joyce 297 9X

**0722 Timed & Precision 1
 LBR Open**

X Lee Townsend 297 13X
 A 1 Jim Smith 296 9X
 A 2 Ian Archer 295 7X
 B 1 Graeme Sim 291 6X

**0724 Timed & Precision 1
 LBP Iron Sights**

1 Alan Podevin 293 12X
 2 M Reynolds 293 10X

**0725 Timed & Precision 1 LBR
 Iron Sights**

1 Michael Reynolds 288 3X

**0731 Timed & Precision 1
 SGMB**

1 Rob Sanders 295 11X

0735 Timed & Precision 1 SGM

1 Jaime Stevenson 296 13X
 2 Rob Sanders 295 15X

0736 Timed & Precision 1 SGSA

1 Glenn Isaacs 299 17X
 2 Rob Sanders 298 18X
 3 Adam Chapman 297 16X

**0737 Timed & Precision 1 SG
 Classic**

1 Rob Sanders 294 13X

0901 Timed & Precision 2 GRSB

X 1 Jake Mossom 588 21X
 A 1 Rob Wheeler 584 24X
 B 1 Jacky Lamb 556 9X

0902 Timed & Precision 2 GRCF

X Gary Bowden 593 23X
 A 1 David Guest 594 28X
 B 1 M Reynolds 559 20X

**0904 Timed & Precision 2
 GRCF Classic**

G Wealthall 474 11X

0921 Timed & Precision 2 LBP

X 1 Steve Foskett 583 21X
 A Ian Archer 566 9X

0922 Timed & Precision 2 LBR

David Guest 458 4X

1021 Timed & Precision 3 LBP

1 Chris West 247
 2 Steve Lane 245

1022 Timed & Precision 3 LBR

1 Ian Archer 229

1101 Multi-Target GRSB

X 1 Steve Jordan 112 8X
 X 2 Steve Lane 111 11X
 A 1 Keith Cox 114 11X
 A 2 Amiel Gardiner 114 9X
 B 1 Graeme Sim 106 9X
 C 1 Mihai Boc 102 5X
 C 2 Alan Barker 97 4X
 D 1 Martin Haynes 100 5X
 D 2 Rick Grieve 94 5X
 D 3 Richard Beckett 93 4X

1102 Multi-Target GRCF

X 1 Joe Pugh 119 17X
 X 2 Keith Kilvington 119 15X
 A 1 David Hackett 117 13X
 B 1 Tony Pilmer 115 11X
 B 2 Trevor Maund 115 10X
 C 1 C Schalkwyk 112 10X
 D 1 Paul Bennett 114 8X
 D 2 Jason Challen 106 8X

**1104 Multi-Target GRCF
 Classic**

1 Keith Kilvington 118 16X
 2 Peter Watts 117 16X
 3 Alan Podevin 115 12X

1121 Multi-Target LBP Open

X 1 Steve Lane 117 14X
 A 1 Jim Smith 111 9X
 A 2 Alan Barker 107 7X
 B 1 Graeme Sim 104 6X

1122 Multi-Target LBR Open

X 1 Lee Townsend 112 8X
 A 1 Ciaran Lennon 105 4X
 A 2 David Hackett 104 8X
 B 1 Graeme Sim 96 4X

**1124 Multi-Target LBP Iron
 Sights**

1 Alan Podevin 107 5X

**1125 Multi-Target LBR Iron
 Sights**

1 Alan Podevin 105 5X

1135 Multi-Target SGM

1 Rob Sanders 110 10X
 2 Tim Felstead 104 7X

1136 Multi-Target SGSA

1 Tim Jemmett 112 10X
 2 Rob Sanders 112 10X
 3 Simon Drewett 110 8X

1301 Phoenix A GRSB

X 1 Gary Bowden 186 13X
 A 1 Amiel Gardiner 172 11X
 B 1 Achim Dreyer 167 11X
 B 2 P McGuinness 165 8X
 B 3 Alan Barker 159 9X

1302 Phoenix A GRCF

X 1 David Hackett 195 24X
 A 1 M van Dalen 189 21X
 B 1 M Stewart 191 14X

1304 Phoenix A GRCF Classic

1 Keith Kilvington 195 23X

1321 Phoenix A LBP

X 1 Steve Lane 195 22X
 A 1 Stuart Russell 175 7X
 B 1 Vince Inman 167 9X

1322 Phoenix A LBR

X 1 M van Dalen 174 14X
 A Robert Illius 158 8X
 B 1 Vince Inman 161 6X

1501 1500 GRSB

X 1 Chris West 1481 108X

A 1 Joe Pugh 1475 72X
 B 1 Amiel Gardiner 1468 84X
 B 2 Keith Edwards 465 86X
 C 1 Alan Barker 1428 50X

1502 1500 GRCF

X 1 J Robinson 1495 111X
 A 1 David Hackett 1491 104X
 A 2 Ian Archer 1489 108X
 B 1 Nigel Porter 1482 101X
 C 1 Jacky Lamb 1464 85X

1504 1500 GRCF Classic

1 Chris West 1473 77X

1521 1500 LBP

X 1 Chris West 1480 84X
 A 1 Ian Archer 1467 67X
 B 1 Chris Pannell 1434

1522 1500 LBR Open

X Chris Pannell 1434 43X
 A 1 Nigel Porter 1376 38X
 B Daniel Treacy 1277 35X

1524 1500 LBP Iron Sights

Chris Pannell 1465 70X

1525 1500 LBR Iron Sights

1 John Robinson 1478 73X

1601 1020 GRSB

X 1 K Kilvington 1020 79X
 X 2 Jake Mossom 1018 78X
 A 1 Oscar Deakin 1015 69X
 A 2 Amiel Gardiner 1011 60X
 B 1 M Reynolds 994 46X

1602 1020 GRCF

X 1 David Hackett 1020 85X
 X 2 Keith Kilvington 1019 88X
 A Charlie Horner 1017 66X
 B 1 M Wilson 1008 52X

1604 1020 GRCF Classic

1 Keith Kilvington 1015 74X

1621 1020 LBP

X Ryan Wiggins 907 44X
 A 1 W Mickiewicz 990 40X
 B 1 Chris Pannell 1005 57X

1622 1020 LBR

A 1 Chris Pannell 985 31X
 B 1 David Hackett 963 23X

1821 WA48 LBP

1	Ryan Wiggins	479 34X
2	Dave Morrow	478 38X
3	Steve Lane	478 35X

1822 WA48 LBR

1	Jim Smith	465 22X
2	Daniel Treacy	465 17X

1901 Advancing Target GRSB

X 1	Gary Bowden	291 29X
X 2	Charlie Horner	289 23X
A 1	Jacky Lamb	282 19X
B 1	Timothy Offen	286 29X
B 2	Kevin Mayo	278 26X
B 3	Paul Jebson	274 18X
C 1	Jake Mossom	293 39X
C 2	Jeremy Derenne	273 22X
D 1	Martin Haynes	269 21X
D 2	Alan Barker	266 16X
D 3	Henry Richards	255 10X

1902 Advancing Target GRCF

X 1	Michael Deakin	180 27X
X 2	Keith Kilvington	179 29X
A 1	Oscar Deakin	179 24X
B 1	Kevin Mayo	178 22X
B 2	Alan Barker	176 20X
B 3	Matthew Wilson	174 17X
C 1	R Thomson	174 19X
D 1	G Thomas	168 15X
D 2	Jason Challen	166 17X

1903 Advancing Target GRCF Open

1	Mark Harvey	167 9X
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1904 Advancing Target GRCF Classic

1	Keith Kilvington	179 29X
2	Alan Podevin	178 22X
3	Mick Tedesco	175 20X

1921 Advancing Target LBP Open

X 1	Lee Townsend	177 18X
X 2	Dave Morrow	176 22X
A 1	Alan Barker	174 15X
A 2	Steve Denton	171 17X
B 1	Jeremy Derenne	173 16X
B 2	Mick Tedesco	163 19X
B 3	Vince Inman	160 12X

1922 Advancing Target LBR Open

X 1	M van Dalen	176 20X
A 1	G Trimmer	172 19X

A 2	Jim Dodd	166 16X
B 1	Ciaran Lennon	158 11X
B 2	Mark Harvey	152 7X

1924 Advancing Target LBP**Iron Sights**

1	Alan Podevin	171 16X
2	M Reynolds	169 17X

1925 Advancing Target LBR**Iron Sights**

1	Alan Podevin	171 14X
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2001 Advancing Target**Benched GRSB**

1	Rick Grieve	283 28X
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2101 Speed Steel Challenge GRSB

1	Arwel Roberts	21.15
2	Thomas Ellaway	22.05
3	Henry Richards	23.34

2102 Speed Steel Challenge GRCF

1	Matthew Wilson	37.58
2	Mel Beard	38.30

2121 Speed Steel Challenge LBP

1	Arwel Roberts	26.57
2	Dave Morrow	31.01
3	W Mickiewicz	32.14

2122 Speed Steel Challenge LBR

1	Mel Beard	33.95
2	W Mickiewicz	34.41

3335 NRA Embassy Cup SGM

1	Glenn Isaacs	118
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3336 NRA Embassy Cup SGSA

1	Adam Chapman	120
2	Martin Harper	118
3	David Dawson	117

3521 Practical Pistol (Open)

1	W Mickiewicz	86.71%
2	Stuart Tennent	80.29%
3	Stephen Drew	7.31%

3522 Practical Revolver (Open)

1	Tim Gardener	100.00%
2	Sonny Bayly	74.14%

3524 Practical Pistol (Standard Iron)

1	Tim Gardener	100.00%
2	James Harris	58.00%

6301 200m GRSB

1	Martin Haynes	46
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6302 200m GRCF 034

Neil Francis	5
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6304 200m GRCF Classic 034

Neil Francis	0
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6380 200m Any Full-Bore Rifle

1	Stuart Jenkins	150
2	Bill Ellis	147
3	Robert Petrie	143

6381 200m Service Rifle A pre 1955

1	Bill Ellis	86
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6382 200m Service Rifle B pre 1955

1	Bill Ellis	115
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6392 200m Service Rifle post 1955 svc optic

1	Steve East	141
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6501 McQueen GRSB

X 1	Dave McGill	50 9V 50 7V
X 2	P Radcliffe	50 8V 50 8V
X 3	Mihai Boc	50 7V 49 3V
A 1=	243 Paul Flanagan	50 5V
A 1=	931 C Shorthouse	50 5V
A 1=	Simon Walker	50 5V
B 1	Henry Richards	50 1V
B 2	Gary Shenton	48 5V

6507 McQueen Issued GRSB

1	Jason Baker	50 9V 50 6V
2=	T Offen	50 7V 50 8V
2=	Peter Woods	50 7V 50 8V

6580 McQueen

1	C Shorthouse	50 7V 50 3V
2	J Binder-Swash	50 6V 50 6V
3	Dave McGill	50 5V 50 6V

6590 McQueen Issued Rifle

1=	Dave McGill	50 4V
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1=	Peter Woods	50 4V
3	Timothy Offen	50 3V

AGGREGATES**A72 Serving GRCF**

Ian Archer	469 37
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A73 Serving SGSA

1	Jaime Stevenson	391 17
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A81 Ex-Serving GRSB

1	Adam Chapman	542 18
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A82 Ex-Serving GRCF

1	Greville Wealthall	435 15
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A83 Ex-Serving SGSA

1	Tim Jemmett	405 24
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NRA SMALLBORE LONG RANGE MATCH 2024 - AGGREGATE**F-Class**

1	John Mead	128.8x
2	John Campbell-Smith	128.5x
3	Gavin Moffatt	126.7x
4	Kevin Sayers	125.5x
5	Philip Morgan	122.3x
6	Paul Russell	121.5x
7	Michael Pearson	119.3x
8	Peter Jones	118.4x
9	Michael Gallivan	118.2x
10	Chris Hazlehurst	118.1x
11	Steve Isherwood	116.6x
12	Steven James	109.4x
13	Michael Townsend	107.3x

Match Rifle

1	Martin Watkins	122.6x
2	R Kenchington	120.2x
3	David Pitchforth	113.3x

Target Rifle

1	Simon Edwards	122.5x
2	Timothy Bedwell	118.3x
3	Jamie Wyllie	118.1x
4	Gary Shenton	108.1x
5	Peter Francis	104.3x
6	Carole Silver	76.4x

Service Rifle

1	Blair Drummond	98.1x
2	Chris Hazlehurst	87.0x

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MEET OUR NEW REP

Introducing our new Eastern Regional Representative **Rob Kelvey**.



Hello to you all. I'm 56 and based in East Anglia where I work for our NHS. You could argue I am a late starter to the world of target shooting having only gained my FAC in the last couple of years. However, I look on it as continuing a genuine passion stretching back many decades that began as an Air Cadet firing No4's on 25m airfield ranges. Unsurprisingly, historic firearms remain the focal point of my personal shooting interest.

Being acutely aware of the multiple challenges our shooting community faces in the East of England, I felt compelled to offer up for the vacant position. I understand I have big shoes to fill left by

our previous representative, the late Harald Dunton, but I will do my best.

I am an absolute exponent of improved communication between the clubs, members and, the NRA. In sharing common issues and good practice, our region can more easily adapt to the challenges we all undoubtedly face. The immensely rich heritage that is the NRA gives grounding to the longevity of our sport and one I feel privileged to be part of. The support I have already received from officers of the association also confirms my belief that preservation of our sport is stronger by working together. Contact me via email: eastern@nra.org.uk ☺





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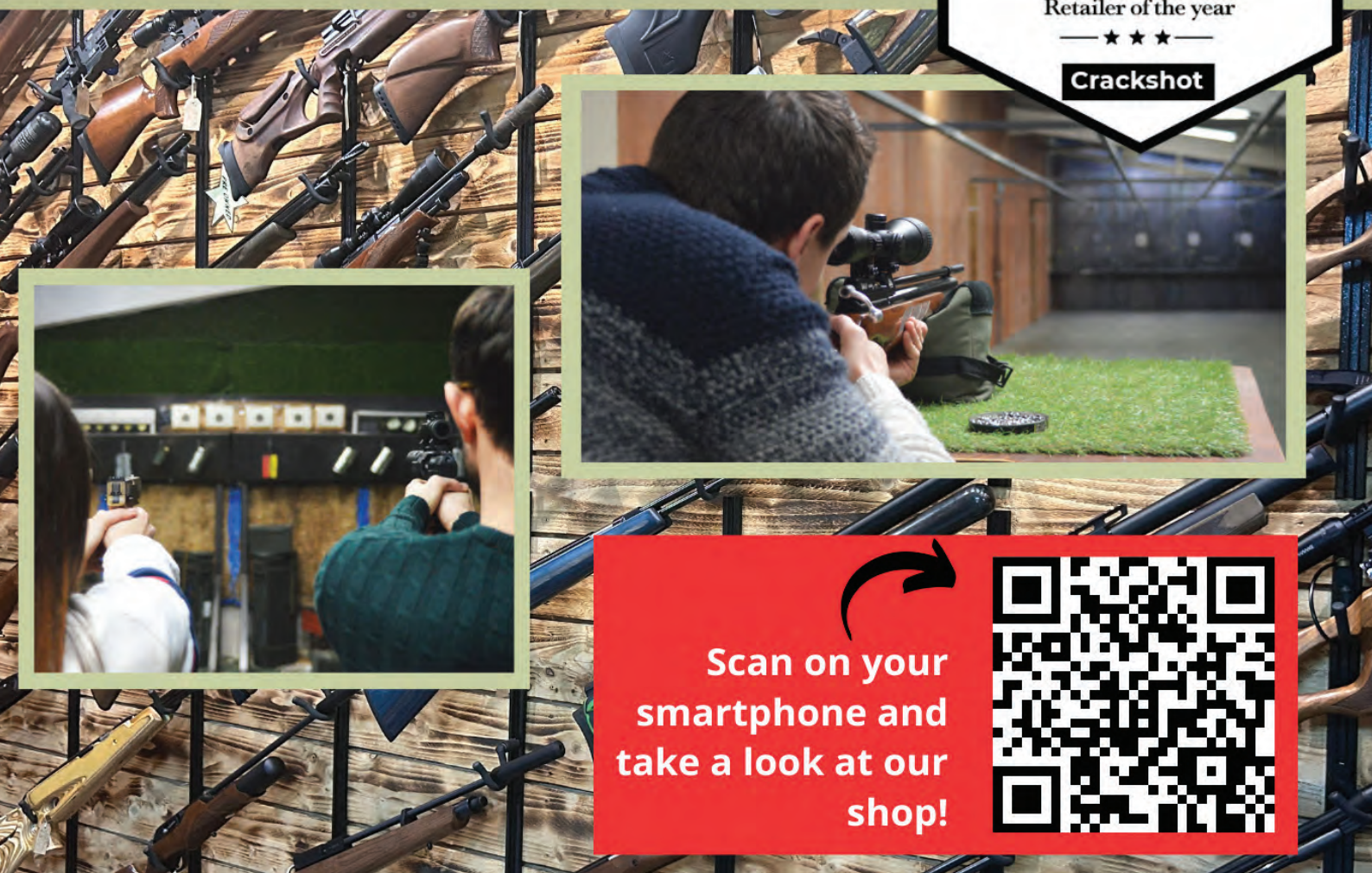


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