

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION JOURNAL



Autumn 2012 – Volume XCI No. 3

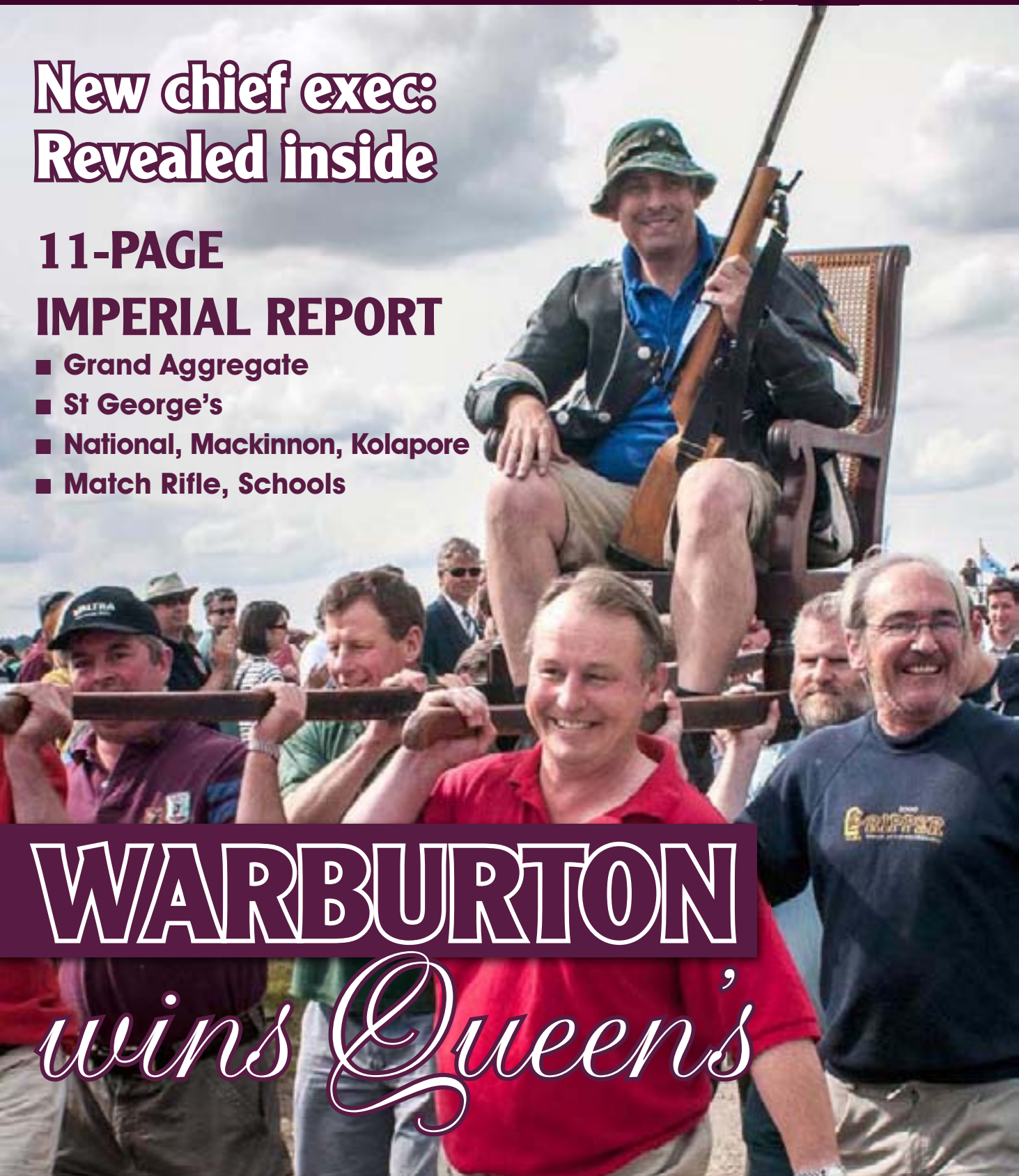
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New chief exec: Revealed inside

11-PAGE

IMPERIAL REPORT

- Grand Aggregate
- St George's
- National, Mackinnon, Kolapore
- Match Rifle, Schools



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NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION



Autumn 2012 – Volume XCI – Number 3



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We won a gold, but there are still obvious areas of development that can be identified. The National Rifle Association Journal reports on Team GB's performance at the 2012 Olympic Games



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Welcome

THE POSITIVE EFFECTS OF CHANGE



The last few weeks have seen a lot of activity within the NRA and some important milestones passed. Internally, we have welcomed our new head of membership and training, Richard Blackmore. Richard comes to us from the Fitness Industry Association with a strong background in working with membership organisations and a real desire to get involved in a sports governing body. His sound commercial skills will help us extend our capabilities as far as commercial training is concerned, which will help us keep the costs of training for members as low as possible.

We have now published our accounts for 2011. They show a significant improvement on 2010, yet still with a loss of £110,000. This demonstrates both the rationale behind the changes

we have made and the progress we have achieved, but clearly we are not 'out of the woods'. Bear in mind that these results reflect the impact of changes that were only beginning to take effect in 2011. Our continuing focus on commercial and cost disciplines is bearing further fruit, and we will continue to implement these as part of the new, more professional culture we aspire to.

At the AGM there was much dissatisfaction raised with the changes made, especially reductions in staff levels. There was a good deal of concern over the impact this would have on the Imperial Meeting given reduced staff levels and the loss of institutional memory. In actual fact, the Imperial meeting went off very well.

The Army championships, the traditional curtain-raiser to the Imperial,



were attended by the Duke of York, while our own contribution, the inaugural Adaptive Championships, was a great success. The culmination was one of our friends from Headley Court, a young Gurkha soldier, marching up to receive his trophy in front of a packed Umbrella tent. He did so in front of a strong contingent of men from his battalion, most of whom had not seen him since his injury in Afghanistan. It would have been a hard heart indeed not to have been moved by this scene.

Despite the often dreadful weather, especially in the earlier matches, the Imperial Meeting was a testament to the hard work of all the staff in making it work. This goes for not just the full-time staff but those who join us on a temporary basis for the duration of the event. In the latter stages, we saw some magnificent scores. Dr John Warburton pipped a strong field to become the 2012 Queen's Prize winner. It is traditional for the winner to sign the back page of a book by Lord Cottesloe, *The Rifleman*. Dr Warburton was the first person to sign a new page, which should see us through to 2053.

As the financial position improves, we can begin to turn our attention to improving our service levels to our members. We look to refurbish/rebuild one – ideally two – ablution blocks before the end of the year. This was another issue highlighted at the Annual and Bisley General Meetings and clearly needs increased focus. Equally, once the ground is dry enough, we plan to address the increasingly poor pothole situation around camp. Further, we plan to revise our range office procedures to be more responsive to customers.

An area we must be mindful of is the Safe Shooter Scheme, which we run in conjunction with the MoD. There was an occasion recently, which the MoD's Defence Land Range Safety Committee has highlighted to us, where it discovered that the basic procedures under the Scheme were not adhered to. This was partly down to MoD staff not checking paperwork, but also our members not having that paperwork in the first place.

I have met the MoD on a number of occasions in the last month, and it is clear we must ensure our side of the agreement is maintained. To be clear: when shooting

fullbore on MoD ranges, all shooters must have a valid NRA certification card, while the RCO who signs for the range must be able to produce a valid, current RCO card. This requirement only applies to MoD ranges and only to fullbore. Nevertheless, clubs should expect to find a heightened level of scrutiny from MoD range staff. In line with this, I would ask that clubs are equally scrupulous in their approach. This Scheme is the life blood of full-bore shooting in many parts of the country and we cannot allow it to be compromised.

On other fronts, I have extended a formal offer to our new Chief Executive, Andrew Mercer, who we introduce on page 9 of this Journal. Andrew will be visiting Bisley in advance of joining us this November and he and I have already begun the process of getting him up to speed with the issues that we have here. I look forward to introducing him to the staff and to many of you in the coming weeks.

It is clear that we still have much to do to make the NRA into what it should be, but with our finances improving and new staff coming on board, we are starting the next phase of that development.

Derrick Mabbott



News

HERITAGE PISTOL FOR 1066

After almost three years of negotiation with the Home Office and Sussex Police, 1066 Rifle and Pistol Club has been given Designated Site status for Heritage Pistols held under Section 7(3) of the Firearms Act.

Existing 7(3) pistol owners based in the South East may find Hastings easier to get to than their existing site, but it often costs more to transport the pistols than it is worth. 1066 now has appropriate authority to transport firearms on the behalf of customers to reduce these costs.

The Heritage Section intends to hold several "Introduction to 1066 Heritage Pistols" meetings at the range, without any heritage pistols being present, and invite NRA members with the appropriate authority to go down and experience 1066. The club has space for any who wish to move their pistols to the welcoming site.

Heritage members will be full members of the club and therefore able to take advantage of its other shooting facilities, including a heated 25-metre indoor range, the clubhouse, full-bore rifle shooting at Hythe & Lydd, and the air rifle and sporting rifle zero range. There is disabled access to the range facilities, including disabled toilet.

Membership and storage costs are to be explained at the meetings, or can be obtained from the secretary. Email secretary@1066rifleandpistolclub.co.uk for more information.



NEWS IN BRIEF

NEW TARGET SHOTGUN REPRESENTATIVE

James Harris has been elected to the NRA's General Council as a representative of target shotgun shooting. The results of the election were revealed on 16 July, with a final tally of 24 votes to 12 in favour of Mr Harris. For a report from one of the country's top target shotgun events, turn to page 36.

HELP SIMPLIFY FIREARMS LICENSING

The Home Office has proposed two new designs for firearms licence application forms. The NRA is supporting BASC in its work with the police and determine with design to select, and shooters' views are important in determining which format is adopted. To view the two options and have your say, visit www.basc.org.uk.

DTSGB LAUNCHES WEBSITE

To coincide with the beginning of the Paralympics, Disability Target Shooting GB has launched its new website, Facebook page and Twitter account. In recent months DTSGB has changes its corporate and management structure, and the new web presence is the first evidence of the brand change that comes from that restructure. Visit the website at dtsgb.org.uk.

ANZAC STAYS OPEN

Australian shooters saw success in their battle to save the Anzac rifle range after the courts decided in favour of the New South Wales Rifle Association. On 1 August, Justice White set out the association's rights to remain at the range until an appropriate new location was found. The site was set to be handed over later this year and a nature park built on its location, which would have entailed evicting the rifle club without finding it a new home.

Permanent Chief Executive announced

I have great pleasure in announcing that I have finalised my due diligence and agreed terms with the new, permanent Chief Executive for the NRA. Andrew Mercer joins us from the Lowther Castle and Gardens Trust, where he is Project and Commercial Director on this complex restoration and economic regeneration project. Before this, he was chief executive of the East of England Agricultural Society, responsible for the modernisation of this large but highly traditional charity.

In both roles he has managed multiple interest groups and grown commercial trading while upgrading the charitable aspects of both organisations. He also brings operations and marketing experience from more conventional corporate backgrounds.

With a first-class degree from Oxford, Andrew has a strong intellect and is a good motivator and communicator, with considerable media experience.

There will be many, I am sure, who will ask why we are appointing someone without a strong shooting background. The reasons are quite simple. First and



foremost, the chief executive's role is to execute the charitable and commercial objectives of the NRA. Being a good (or indifferent) shot adds nothing to the skills required to achieve this. Second, shooters were as able to apply for the role as anyone else; they were not excluded, they were simply not given any special priority. If shooting is to be strengthened and grown, we need a strong NRA. That means appointing the best candidate to

continue the work we have started.

Andrew will start in November, at which point, obviously, I will step down.

Andrew's appointment marks another milestone in the regeneration of the NRA. Having restructured the organisation and taken significant steps towards its continued financial success, we look forward to Andrew building upon what we have achieved thus far.

Derrick Mabbott

Royal mail's gun ban plan

Royal Mail has revealed plans to stop transporting firearms and component parts – and shooters only have until 17 September to make their views on the proposals known.

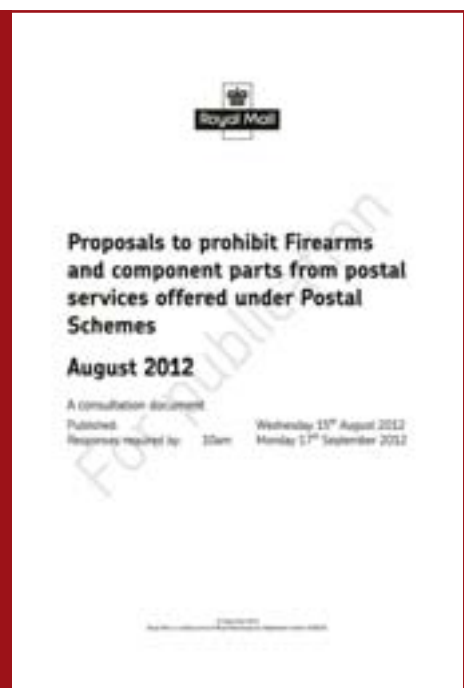
If a consultation document is approved, Royal Mail will limit the delivery of firearms and their component parts to between registered firearms dealers only via Parcelforce and some other couriers. This would include firearms accessories like magazines, fastenings and triggers, which are not currently controlled by firearms legislation.

Deeming it to be "flawed, legally incorrect and not evidence-led",

BASC has requested that all its members reply to the Royal Mail's propositions.

Christopher Graffius, director of communications at BASC, said: "These proposals are quite ridiculous. Guns have been efficiently and effectively carried in the post for years. We are unaware of any occasions when this has led to crimes being committed and we find it extraordinary that a law abiding section of society should be discriminated against by a public service in this way."

To respond to the public consultation, email zoe.allchorn@royalmail.com.



AGES MATCH 2012

The eternal question of which age group is the best at target shooting will once again be answered – for a year at least – at the Ages Match on 27-28 October.

The NRA is currently seeking participants for this year's match. Teams will consist of a captain, adjutant, main coach, three sub-coaches and 12 firers. Any of the team office bearers may also be firers.

At the time of writing, two of the six captains' positions had been filled – for the 25-35 and over-65 age groups – while Brian Thomas has called for volunteers to fill the other four positions.

The two-day competition will consist of two sighters and 10 to count at 300, 500 and 600 yards; then two sighters and 15 to count at 900 and 1,000 yards. The entry fee will be £600, to cover all costs.

Last year the 55-65 team, captained by Keith Pugh, won the Ages Match with a total score of 3447.10v. To be a part of this year's match, contact Brian Thomas at brian.thomas@nra.org.uk.

CTSA CALLS FOR FUNDS

The Cambridgeshire Target Shooting Association is raising funds to build a 50-metre indoor rifle range and target shooting training facility.

The club put out a statement saying: "Ranges tend to be at the mercy of landlords and developers, and clubs that use them find it harder to survive. Even the London 2012 ranges are temporary.

"The CTSA development, on its own land, will be a beacon for target shooting in eastern England, creating a new hub for development and growth of the sport in the post-Olympic and Paralympic period."

The centre will consist of a rimfire range with 10 firing points, an airgun range with eight firing points, plus armoury, toilets and clubroom. If all goes to plan, building will start around Easter next year and finish in the autumn.

Around £50,000-£70,000 is needed to secure Sport England Inspired Facilities support. Contact secretary Sandra Haskett on sandy@haskett.wanadoo.co.uk or visit localgiving.com/charity/ctsa for more information.

OLYMPICS: THE TARGET SHOOTING EVENTS

The shooting events at the London Olympics 2012 saw nearly 400 athletes compete for 45 medals, setting a number of records along the way – not to mention giving the shooting sports an immeasurable profile boost.

A record field of 390 shooters from 108 countries descended on the Royal Artillery Barracks in Woolwich to contest 15 shooting events, 10 of which were in the rifle and pistol disciplines.

China's Siling Yi kicked off the proceedings with the first gold medal of the entire Olympics – an event attended by IOC chairman Jacques Rogge, who presented her with the medal.

China quickly made it a sweep in the women's airgun events as Guo Wenjun took top honours in the air pistol, beating the arguably bigger names of Celine Goberville and Olena Kostevych into silver and bronze respectively.

But a far bigger surprise was to come in the men's air rifle, when Alin George Moldoveanu – ranked outside the world's top 25 – beat Niccolo Campriani by just 0.6 points to take gold. Gagan Narang, supported by the hundreds of Indian fans at the finals range, took bronze.

Niccolo Campriani was finally to have his day in the men's three-position rifle, where he produced a dominating performance to take gold with Korea's Kim Jonghyun in second place and Matt Emmons of the USA taking bronze.

Korea, in fact, was the most successful nation in the Olympic shooting events, thanks in no small part to Jin Jong Oh. He'd taken a gold and a silver in the pistol events in Beijing, and went one better in London, taking gold first in

the men's air pistol and then in the free pistol, where he beat compatriot Choi Young Rae into silver.

Kim Jangmi's gold in the women's pistol made it three for Korea – she held off China's Chen Ying and Ukraine's Olena Kostevych, who made it two bronzes from two events.

Elsewhere, a combination of big names – Sergei Martynov in the men's prone rifle – and surprise packages – Cuba's Pupo Leuris in the rapid fire pistol – completed the rifle and pistol golds.

Team GB's highlight came in a shotgun discipline: the men's Double Trap, in which Peter Wilson unforgettably won gold. For a full report on how British hopes fared, turn to page 41.

LONDON 2012: RECORDS SET

EVENT	SHOOTER	SCORE	RECORD
Men's Air Rifle	Alin Moldoveanu (ROU)	599	EOR
	Niccolo Campriani (ITA)	599	EOR
Women's Pistol	Kim Jangmi (KOR)	591	OR
Rapid Fire Pistol	Alexei Klimov (RUS)	592	WR
	Leuris Pupo (CUB)	34	EFWR
Men's Prone Rifle	Sergey Martynov (BLR)	600	EOR
		705.5	FWR
Women's 3p Rifle	Jamie Lynn Gray (USA)	592	OR
		691.9	FOR
Men's 3p Rifle	Niccolo Campriani (ITA)	1180	OR
		1278.5	FOR

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CAMP FOLLOWER

It is all too easy for those of us who shoot to underestimate, or even simply fail to appreciate, the time and effort that goes into running the competitions we enjoy. To this end I would like to thank Martin Camp and his wife Mary for once again running the McQueen competition from first Monday through to the finals on Second Thursday, enduring wind and rain but persevering nonetheless.

Martin and Mary do a grand job and put a lot of effort into it both on the firing point and behind the scenes, for which both I, and I am sure all the others who shoot McQueen, am very grateful.

Steve Wallis

BROUGHT TO LIFE

Regarding the letter from Glyn Barnett in the last edition: the last paragraph sums up much of the problems with the NRA and its membership in the past, and its backward views.

The old Journal was “easy on the eyes, comfortably predictable”. So predictable, I used to flick through it with no real interest, but in the last edition I actually found myself reading a large percentage of the articles – many of which I probably would not even have noticed in the old format. It was informative and to the point, and much more interesting to read about the changes being made by Derrick Mabbott and his team – something, incidentally, he should be highly commended for.

As for the increase in advertising: again, I found looking at them a refreshing change to the old Journal, and one that will breathe life and interest into the publication. All round a better magazine, and one that shows the changes finally being made within the NRA. A positive step all round.

Derek Edgar

MONEY, MONEY, MONEY

I am writing to complement the NRA Council, executive and staff for beginning to reverse the financial losses of the recent years and, despite some small hiccups, running a successful Bisley Meeting last month.

The finances of the NRA and the costs of shooting are constant topics of conversation in rifle clubs across the UK. My experience is that recently I am much more selective in what and where I shoot. I no longer shoot the English XX Meeting. I have stopped attending the Bisley clubs shoots in September, and my Imperial entry is restricted to the Grand Aggregate. Instead I shoot with my own club more often than not, with handloads. This is largely because of escalating costs.

The point of this letter is to encourage those responsible for running fullbore target shooting in the UK to move quickly to introduce handloading in all major events at Bisley as an alternative to, but not a replacement for, issued ammunition. There will be arguments about loss of revenue and safety, but I am sure the Shooting Committee and others at the NRA can overcome any obstacles.

A change of direction like this may bring back more shooters and add further to the recent efforts of the NRA to return our finances back to health.

Mike Wood

Recently I am much more selective in what and where I shoot. I no longer shoot the English XX Meeting



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Rise of the Valkyrie

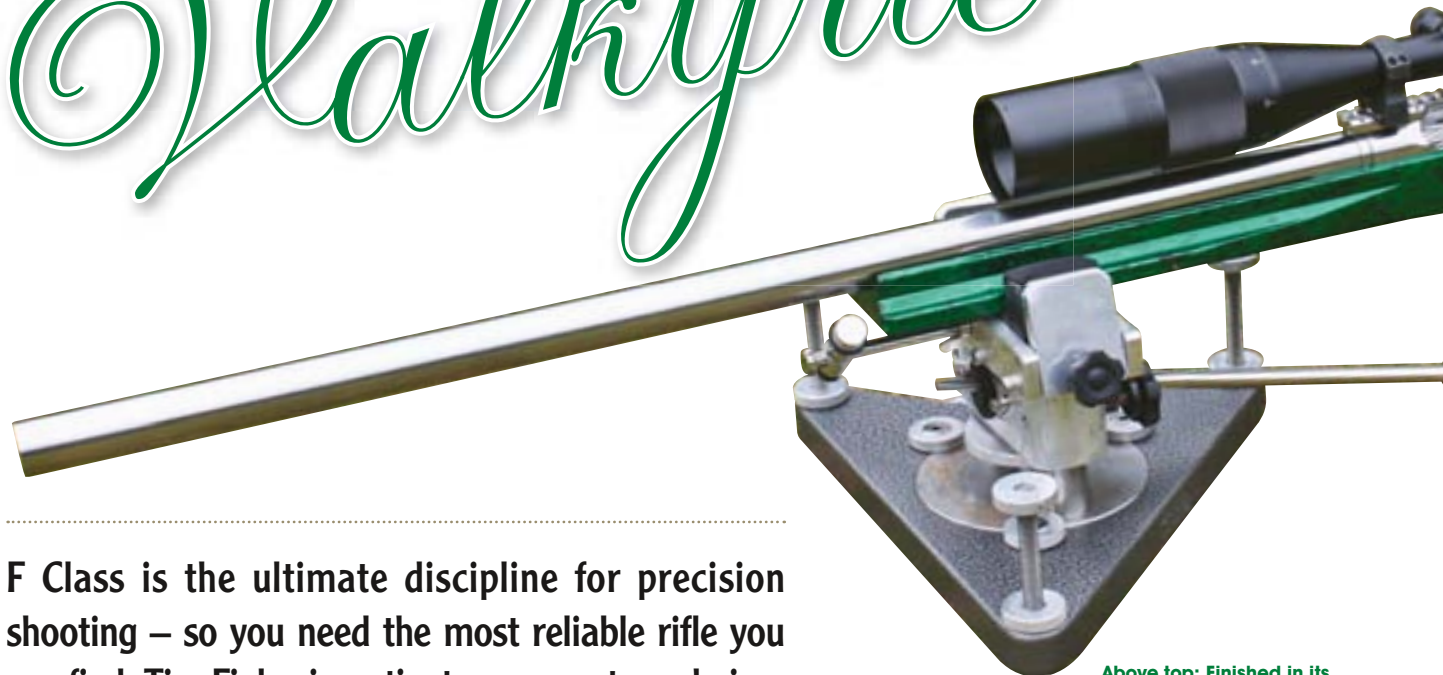
F Class is the ultimate discipline for precision shooting – so you need the most reliable rifle you can find. Tim Finley investigates one custom choice

F Class shooting has become a popular shooting sport with events held at Bisley, such as the successful European championships. Just what F Class entails may be a mystery to many shooters. It began as the brainchild of a Canadian called George Farquharson, hence the F in F Class. He loved his shooting but old age was making it harder and harder for him to get into the resting-on-elbows position needed in long-range target shooting, and his eyesight was finding the iron sights difficult to gain the correct sight picture.

He came up with the idea of putting a scope on his rifle to get over the iron sight problem, and a bipod on the front to take the weight of the gun. This new type of gun was soon recognised as a legitimate new class and was shot for the first time in a Canadian national championships in 2001. Canada then held world F Class championships, and as soon as it was seen how it made long-range target shooting more accessible and more enjoyable to shoot, it took off all over the world. The rules are not over-complicated either, with two distinct classes: Open and F/TR.

Open F Class is the cutting edge of long-range rifle shooting. Benchrest may get smaller groups, but it is altogether a different style of shooting with five shots rattled off as quick as the shooter can manage to get a small group. F Class shots are taken singularly and strung out over time so the shooter must be able to read the wind, not just look for a wind 'window'. F Class shooters aim for a score, not a group size. The element of luck is a lot smaller than in benchrest – in F Class, the best shots tend to win.

Of course the rifles themselves play a big part in any success. Dave Wyld at Valkyrie Rifles has built his own Open F Class rifle on his new Valkyrie action. The idea for the action came about during a conversation with the person who makes the actions for Dave's tactical rifles. They were already coming up with plans for a bigger action to cope with the .338 Lapua Magnum cartridge (the calibre Dave



Above top: Finished in its striking emerald colour, it's certainly a rifle you'll notice on the range

Right: The bolt handle has been enlarged and is ribbed for easier grip

Bottom: The rifle sits well on an SEB rest

Bottom right: The Valkyrie has a Sako-style extractor fitted






TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Model	Valkyrie F Class long action
Calibre	.284 Win
Action	Right hand bolt, left hand port
Type	Single shot
Sight rail	20MOA
Barrel	Krieger 1 in 8in twist
Barrel length	33in, 1.25in parallel profile
Stock	McMillan F Class
Trigger	Jewell
Price	Action only £1,050 (not supplied) Barrelled action prices on request All other specifications: prices upon request
Contact	Valkyrie Rifles 07889 388378 www.valkyrierifles.net





Making the bed: The Devcon bedding is a precise job

F-CLASS: THE RULES

Open

- 1 Any rifle up to a maximum weight of 22lb or 10kg including scope (and bipod if used). Any safe trigger is permitted; muzzle brakes are not
- 2 Any scope – no limit on power
- 3 Any calibre up to 8mm providing it complies with range safety rules. It is up to the individual shooter to verify this
- 4 The rifle may be supported front and rear on sand bags. The front sandbag may in turn be supported on an adjustable pedestal. The rear bag must not be attached to the front support but a combination of sandbags may be used. A bipod may be used in place of a front sandbag

F/TR

- 1 An F/TR Class rifle must not weigh more than 8.25 kg (about 18lb 2oz) including scope and bipod
- 2 Permitted calibres are .308 Winchester/7.62 Nato and .223 Rem/5.56mm
- 3 The rifle can only be supported by a simple bipod or sling. A sandbag may be used under the rifle's butt
- 4 There is no restriction on scope power
- 5 Factory or hand-loaded ammunition may be used and any bullet weight is permitted.

used in a rifle he built to shoot a 1.152in centre-to-centre five-shot group for the British 500-yard record). Dave then hit on the idea to expand the design to be suitable for F Class rifles. Currently the Barnard action dominates here – an action Dave personally dislikes. Not that that there is anything wrong with it – it's just not a good-looking action, and who really wants an ugly rifle? Not Dave, that's for sure.

The action they came up with has a Remington 700 long action footprint, with a slightly larger diameter body made of 416 grade stainless steel. This means it can be fitted easily into stocks made for Remington long actions, thus opening up the stock options for the new action. The small diameter modification is taken up when the action is bedded in Devcon. The bolt diameter has been increased from the .700 found on most rifle actions to .750. Doing this allowed them to go for a bigger bolt head and a larger bolt lug area – both good things when you are dealing with the high pressure of the bigger cartridges.

The bolt is made of 4140 grade chrome molybdenum steel. To cope with the heavy recoil also associated with such calibres, the action has an integral recoil lug and a large recessed area under the action to allow the bedding compound to fill. This last feature stops the action torquing upon firing and imparting stress on the action screws. The action can be supplied with either a left hand or right-hand bolt or a left-hand or right-hand loading/ejection port. Such is the thought that has gone into the design that the customer can even specify what bolt tolerances they want.

For the benchrest crowd the action can be supplied without a case ejector. Doing this also makes the bolt massively strong, allowing it to better cope with the big cartridges that are becoming more prevalent these days. The scope rail angle can be whatever minute of angle (MOA) value the customer wants; the rail itself sits on two stainless steel dowels and is bolted down to the action with four M4 Allen screws. Having a separate rail means the angle can be changed more easily, and keeps the cost of the action down.

The rifle I tested is a right-hand bolt with a left-hand loading/ejection port. The bolt is fluted and fitted with a Sako-style case ejector and a coffin lid bolt shroud. It has a 20MOA canted scope rail and is fitted into a McMillan F Class stock. The action is fully pillar and Devcon bedded into the stock. Dave painted the stock in emerald green candy over a silver marble over a black base – it's certainly a looker. He went for a McMillan stock to keep the weight down, and it has all the features required for an Open F Class stock.

These rifles are shot in the prone position from joysticked rests with the 75mm wide, flat forend running on Cordura pads in the front rest. It is in .284 Winchester calibre; Dave went for this calibre over a 6.5-284 as the 7mm will give the shooter a longer barrel life. He fitted a 33in long 1-in-8 twist Krieger parallel 1.25in diameter barrel – a real beast. Using a 180-grain SMK bullet and a case full of 4831 short cut powder for initial load development, it showed great promise. Getting the best out of a custom rifle involves much testing of different types of powder, powder amounts, bullet weights and even how far of the lands of the barrel the bullet starts from. In these first tests, Dave's F Class rifle liked the bullet 0.01in off the lands rather than 0.005in.

The diamond fluting on the bolt really sets off the look of the polished action and barrel. Spiral bolt fluting comes as standard on the Valkyrie action with the cool diamond pattern being an optional extra. The shroud on the rear of the bolt is a coffin shape – this is another optional extra, as Dave wanted his F Class rifle to have all the extras. The action can be built as a single-shot or a repeater, with all the options of left or right bolt or left or right port. The Valkyrie action can take any trigger that a Remington 700 can accept; the test rifle here was fitted with a Jewell.

Valkyrie actions can be built in any of the popular Open F Class calibres: 6.5-284 Norma, 284 Win, 7mm WSM, 7mm BooBoo and the big .30-338 Lapua. Dave can also build F/TR F Class rifles in .308 or .223. He will not supply action only but can provide a customer with a barrelled action only if required. Prices start from £1,050 plus the price of the barrel. I would have the whole rifle built by Valkyrie if it were my money. The rifle on review would set a shooter back somewhere in the region of £3,500, not including the scope and mounts.

The Valkyrie action is a well thought out design, and with Dave's obsession for perfection, performance is assured. ■

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Warburton's winning ways

Who was the best at Bisley? Tony de Launay reports from the ranges at the main target rifle events at the Imperial Meeting 2012. First up: the Queen's Prize

It is the prize that all rifle shooters wish to win, and on Saturday 21 July it was Yorkshire's Dr John Warburton of Huddersfield Rifle Club who was simply the best, occupying the chair for the bumpy journey to the NRA offices. But let us slip back to the start, some three days earlier, on Wednesday 17 July.

This is the shoot in which all are on equal terms, handicapped only by age and competence, rabbits and tigers all playing together on the same piece of hallowed turf or, this year, damp and soggy ground. It started with the broad 971, some of

whom habitually dust off their kit specially for the event, driven by nostalgia and enjoyment of a sport for all ages.

The day started fresh and breezy with high clouds. The rain held off until 4pm to catch the last few details at 600 yards. Seven to count at 300, 500 and 600 yards as always, and who and how many would the 105s be? Gaz Morris of Uppingham Veterans led the final 300 with 105.19 – almost perfect, but not quite. John Warburton was warming up nicely with 105.17, and Henry Day of LMRA was snapping at his heels with one central fewer.

Of greater importance to the 300 was the lowest score that made the cut – 101.13 was surprisingly modest after the high scoring of the events thus far in the Meeting. Some were saying that, despite the excellence of the ammunition in previous events, the special Queen's batch did not like their rifles quite so much.

To Friday afternoon, 20 July, and the second stage. It was 10 shots this time at the same distances, with the cut to the 100 finalists to come. A playful breeze teased from both sides of the flagpoles, but when the wind changed direction and swung more north-easterly, the temperature dropped significantly.

There were 10 shooters who logged scores of 150, Gaz Morris winning the silver badge to add to his bronze with 25 centrals, this time chased by James Corbett of Australia, who had won himself the first and second stages of the St George's by then. The cut was announced as 147 with 14 centrals, with five shooting for just one place. And shoot they did, only to find later that the cut was in fact 147.16 all in.

Queen's final day, and the best day so far of the Meeting weather-wise. That tricky little front-on wind was still there for the 2.30pm start, and a tense affair it turned out to be. By the end of



High scores: Shooters needed 147.16 to make the cut for the Queen's final

the 900-yard shoot not one of the 10 150s had managed to stay clean – each had dropped one or more points. As the 1,000-yard shoot progressed, it became clear that no one had an advantage. The leader board showed a gaggle of firers on 'one off', then two off and then three off as the wind teased errors from the shooters.

There were six scores of 297 on the leaderboard. At first, Jeremy Thompson had the tag with 37 centrals. He was joined quickly by Ian Shaw and David Dashwood, and a tie looked to be a possibility for the first time in ages. Richard Birtwistle crushed their hopes with 38 centrals and then David Armstrong with 43.

Was that it for the Guildfordian? No, Warbie was plugging along keeping them in the centre, finally finishing with a match-winning 74 to be added to a 75 at 900 plus his carry forward of 149. He was just two off for 298.34, and the Queen's Prize was his. Warburton is now the holder of the prestigious and rare double, the Queen's Prize and the Canadian Governor General's Prize, won last year on tour with the British Rifle Team.

It was a slightly shell-shocked and beaming Warburton who was steered up the hill and onto the scaffold to receive his well-deserved gold badge. They still do say that points win prizes. ■



High standard: Even 'three off' from 30 shots wouldn't have won this year



The wind, always a presence at Bisley, accounted for countless dropped points

THE ART OF WARBURTON

What Queen's winner John Warburton said in an interview with theshootingshow.tv immediately after his win

"I've always thought that no matter how good you are at shooting, it is perfectly possible never to win the Queen's Prize. It needs to be your day – you need a little bit of luck somewhere along the way.

"I've come second twice before, so I know what it's like to be almost there. My philosophy has always been that it's better to be second than third, but it's nice to actually get over the hurdle and come first.

"It's an important part of my life, it's great fun to compete, it's nice to win – but really, it's all about having a good time with your friends, and it's what you do in the summer."



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The Wizard of Oz

Ten events, one winner – and it was Australian James Corbett who took the Grand Aggregate. Tony de Launay reports

The Queen's Prize may be the big one, but there were, of course, nine other events making up the Grand Aggregate, spread over six days. Sunday is always the first indicator, with four events finished. Paul Kent had a narrow lead of one central ahead of David Calvert and then Martin Whicher and Ian Shaw, all clean with 250 points.

To get there, they had completed the Daily Telegraph, won by Ross McQuillan after a tie shoot with Dr Hamish Pollock, both having made 75.15; the Daily Mail, in which Matt Button lost out in his tie shoot with Parag Patel after both scored 75.14; the Alexandra, in which Ed Dickson and Richard Gardiner had tied on 50.10 – won by Dickson; and the Duke of Cambridge, wherein Jon Haward, Martin Schwarz and Andy Sturrock all made 50.10 with the eventual victor being Haward. A maximum possible start.

Monday's Times was won by Alexander Coetzee of South Africa, after he, Nigel Ball, Lulu Watson and Francesca Purdy had all made 50.10 (163 possibles all told). The windy Corporation produced a tie between James Dunbar and Peter Thompson with 50.7, won later by Thompson. Finally for that day, the Wimbledon produced the first outright victor of the Grand up to that point in the form of Nigel Cole-Hawkins with the only 50.10.

All of this meant that the leader board now had James Watson at the top on three points off, with David Luckman and Ian Shaw following on equal points but lagging in the centrals' department. Tuesday had only the St George's to add and, with all three leaders making 75, there was no change.

Wednesday, and the Queen's first stage and the Conan Doyle, the latter won outright by James Paton of Canada with 50.10. There was a significant change at the top: Watson dropped a point in the Queen's and two in the Doyle to drop to fourth. Luckman and Shaw each lost a point in the Doyle, and all of them were overtaken by James Corbett of Australia,



Perfect ten: The 10 events make for a total possible score of 705



who went clean on the day having been sixth overnight. This left him on 625.95 with Luckman and Shaw on 625.92 and 625.80 respectively, Watson was 624.90 and needed the others to lose it in the final shoot if he was to win.

Thursday: the Prince of Wales. All four of our leaders, by some quirk of squadding which the bearded wizard Bill Richards had never seen before, were in the same detail at 9.50am. The weather was blustery. Corbett took both his five sighters and finished on 75.12. Each of the others made 75 but could not catch him on his centrals' advantage. It was status quo in the order, and James, from Benalla, with his 35in one-in-twelve twist Border barrel, was the winner on his fifteenth visit to Bisley. Excellently, his wife Joanne was there to see him do it.

As in previous years it is interesting to look at some simple statistics, designed to compare basic facts. What does it tell you? Not a lot, one ventures to suggest. Perhaps if it was all printed out in graph form there might be some gentle upward slopes, but also many peaks and troughs: each year has different conditions sprinkled through the programme that affect individual shoots. Was the high scoring enough to shrink the bull? That only becomes a sensible question if we know what ammunition we will be using in two or three years time. The consensus seems to be that the size of the bull's eye and the tie-breaking central ring did their job. The number of ties and the number of shooters in them was entirely manageable and provided good entertainment. So don't tinker with rings.

There was a discernible undercurrent in the bars and gunrooms towards supplying your own ammunition. But that is much more to do with the very high cost we are now paying for what is, beyond doubt, very good ammunition rather than the accuracy of the ammunition we are now using and scoring ring sizes. What would be equally as helpful and interesting would be to use the figures to show the number of Grand Aggregate entries, additional aggregate entries and sweeps entries year on year for the past five years. I suspect that a lot of people did not enter some or all of the sweeps and aggregates that they had entered in the last two years. That income costs the NRA nothing, but its loss cuts hard at possible profits for the event. ■

GRAND AGGREGATE STATISTICS													
COMPETITION	YARDS	EX	ENTRY	SCORE TO WIN	NO.	TIE	2012 MAX%	MAX: 2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
Alexandra	600	50.10	903	50.10	2	25.5	11.3	102	66	99	45	12	77
Conan Doyle	900	50.10	863	50.10	1	-	7.5	65	153	41	45	97	43
Corporation	1000	50.10	864	50.7	2	24.3	1.3	13	15	23	24	0	40
D Mail	500	75.15	894	75.14	2	25.4	4.9	44	27	61	16	22	97
D Telegraph	500	75.15	898	75.15	1	-	16.2	145	37	36	69	4	83
D of Cambridge	900	50.10	885	50.10	3	25.1	8.5	75	56	82	36	12	41
Pr of Wales	600	75.15	870	75.14	1	-	6.2	54	156	69	90	30	31
Queen's I	3,5,600	105.21	971	105.19	1	-	2.2	21	92	25	8	26	26
St Georges I	300	75.15	937	75.15	1	-	11.2	105	122	146	129	31	69
Times	300	50.10	881	50.10	4	25.5	18.5	163	118	200	163	39	204
Wimbledon	600	50.10	878	50.10	1	-	8.4	74	96	46	99	11	159

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W WIDE ANGLE

The best of Luckman

In a phenomenally high-scoring St George's, it was David Luckman who had all the luck – and the skill. Tony de Launay reports



It seems to be becoming the norm that, to win the St George's, you need a maximum 75 in the final, and it helps as well to get one in the second stage to get you there. Tuesday's first stage produced 105 scores of 75, and a cut of 73.9 to progress onwards. James Corbett of Benalla, Australia, on his fifteenth visit to Bisley and on his way to becoming winner of the Grand Aggregate, was top scorer and winner of the bronze cross with 75.15.

He repeated this in the second stage, to go just three centrals ahead of David Luckman, James Paton and Gaz Morris with 40 other scores of 150 behind them. Robin Hatcher was the successful tail-end Charlie among the six scores of 148.19, grabbing the 100th place.

So to Saturday's final, early in the morning on Stickle-down. Carry forward your 600 yards score only and the first 77 started on the same number of points: 75! Sixteen of those then went clean again for a final 150. Could the tie-breaking central bull's eye sort this out or would there be a tie shoot? It could sort the order. For a few minutes it looked as though Corbett had managed to win all three stages as his 150.28 was at least four centrals better than the rest. But then Luckie D arrived – with 75.15 to add to 75.15 for a perfect finish.

Congratulations to David Luckman, the actuary from Bristol, who received the winner's badge from Chairman Robin Pizer. Commiserations to James, who had shown us some wonderful shooting throughout the 10 days. He had actually converted his sighter, which were both fives on this occasion, as I suspect most might well have done at 900 yards in an uncertain wind. ■

SWEET 16: THE 16 SHOOTERS WHO POSTED 150S IN THE ST GEORGE'S SECOND STAGE AND FINAL

	NAME	TOTAL
1	D Luckman	150.30v
2	J Corbett	150.28v
3	J Warburton	150.25v
4	D Richardson	150.24v
5	M Barber	150.24v
6	P Stock	150.23v
7	J Pugsley	150.22v
8	H Pollock	150.21v
9	A Walker	150.21v
10	G Morris	150.21v
11	P Lanigan	150.20v
12	S Ward	150.20v
13	S Postlins	150.19v
14	J Haward	150.19v
15	R Baker	150.19v
16	C Mallett	150.16v

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Grand internationals

A full programme of team matches, including three of the Big Five internationals, rounded off the Imperial Meeting's show events. Tony de Launay has the results

The National Match (300, 500 and 600 yards)


The questions in everyone's minds were: "Could the Scots make it three in a row?" and "Would the English buckle under pressure of expectation?" Not if Mike Fugeman's team of more than 20 coaches had anything to do with it. With the weather remaining blustery but free of rain, the English established a 300-yard lead of nine points over the level-pegging Welsh and Scots, with Ireland trailing by a further nine.

The English margin increased (over the Welsh) by a further nine at 500 during the more problematic part of the shoot when wind coaches were kept alert. They ran out winners after 600 by 21 points with a total of 2072.268, their board containing seven maximum 105s and six 104s. The Welsh were pleased with their second place on 2051.219, ahead of Scotland's 2049.227, with the Irish on 2036.224.

For England, a degree of satisfaction at having reversed the results of the last two years; for the Welsh and Scots, an added challenge for next year.

The Kolapore (300, 500 and 600 yards)

It fell this year to Nick Tremlett to pick a GB winning team for the blue riband Kolapore short range international match, and this he did with a vengeance. With Jeremy Langley, Bill Richards and Matt Ensor providing the wind guidance in conditions that



British brilliance: GB shot record scores in both the Kolapore and the Mackinnon

fluctuated greatly, they went clean at 300 yards, and lost just one point at 500. Could they challenge the record set by Anton Aspin's team a few years ago using the old RG ammunition?

Yes they could, going clean again at 600 for a total of 1199.201: a new record by two points. Not many teams in the world could live easily with that, not even a valiant 1187 by Jersey or 1183 by Guernsey. Canada finished on 1160.

Paul Kent just missed out on a perfect 150 by one central bullseye during his 600-yard shoot. GB recorded seven maximums and one 149, in which coach and shooter are entitled to argue (totally academically) as to which might have contributed most to the vanished point. For Jersey and Guernsey two good scores on which to base their assault next year, and for Canada some deep thinking.

The Mackinnon (900 and 1,000 yards)

John Warburton's England team did not have it all its own way at the start of this long range international match. The Scots, no doubt stung by the result of the National Match, have been using their precious Blair Atholl facility wisely and were a point ahead after 900 yards. Time for a talking to by the England skipper (to the English, that is, not the Scots).

Whatever was said, there was a noticeable sock pulling-up reaction by the English, held for spells while the winds made up their mind which direction to blow from and how hard. As time ticked away, the England finishers added a steady advantage after their first firers had posted a set of respectable scores. The Welsh started a mighty catch-up from seven points behind Scotland at 900, and in fact equalled the England total at 1,000 yards, also equalling Scotland's overall total of 1,170 but falling short of them by seven centrals.

England finally posted 1176.139 for a new record match score. It was a convincing victory but hard-fought thanks to the Scots and Welsh pushes. Ireland, Jersey and Canada filled the remaining places. ■



Blue Wales: The Welsh closed a seven-point gap in the Mackinnon but had to settle for third place on central count



Closely fought: With competition like this at Bisley, who needs the Olympics?

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MATCHES

NATIONAL

England	2072.268	(J Watson 105.19)
Wales	2051.219	(G Morris 105.12)
Scotland	2049.227	(T Hunter 105.13)
Ireland	2036.224	(P Lanigan 105.18)

MACKINNON

England	1176.139 – new record	(T Raincock 100.10)
Scotland	1170.133	(J Rankin 100.12)
Wales	1170.126	(E Jeens 99.17)
Ireland	1164.136	(C Johnson 99.13)
Jersey	1154.118	(P Stock 100.13)
Canada	1150.112	(R Smeltzer 98.15)

KOLAPORE

Great Britain	1199.201 – new record	(P Kent 150.29)
Jersey	1187.161	(A LeCheminant 150.25)
Guernsey	1183.168	(A Jory 150.25)
Canada	1160.149	(J Paton 148.23.)

Full prize lists of these and other competitions and aggregates can be found at www.nra.org.uk



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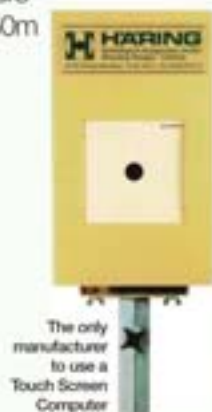
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BEST OF THE REST

Reports and miscellaneous info from the other events taking place around Bisley

Every year, a week before the Imperial starts, over a thousand cadets shoot at Bisley – the Inter Services Cadet Rifle Meeting for ‘open’ cadet units followed by the NRA Schools’ meeting for ‘closed’ cadet units. 2012 saw a robust entry for the schools’ – 49 teams including one each from Canada and Australia, over 550 cadets, and 31 entries in the Ashburton. A further 12 Ashburton Four entries suggests that interest in shooting among cadets remains high but has a way to go.

The new Cadet GP rifle featured on Monday alongside the TR events. The modified GP match was further modified on the range, with Oratory clear winners from Sutton Valence and Seaberg. Individually, Cdt Latham and LCpl Bromley from Sutton Valence took first and third, with Cdt Torres from Campbell College in second. The Marlborough Cup was won by Sgt Ballsdon from Oratory. Over at Pirbright, the Marling was won by Sutton Valence, with Oratory taking second and third; later in the evening Sutton Valence dominated the falling plates match, taking the top four places. Target rifle shooting that day should have been affected by the rain that was a feature of the meeting as a whole, but the Monday Aggregate showed Cdt Tessier from Canada on 104 ex 105, as was Cpl Brooker from Wellington College.

Tuesday and Wednesday are a good opportunity to consolidate and get the best team for the Ashburton. Again, the weather was unkind but not a disaster – just one stoppage for lightning and a bit of sunshine to dry the wet clothing and kit. Tuesday’s highlight was an outstanding 105 ex 105 from AS Purdy of Gresham’s. Special mention must go to Ellesmere College, who returned after a 23-year absence with a strong team and the winner of the Wellington – Cdt Williams on 35 – after a three-way tie shoot.

For the first three days, there was an opportunity to try some different types of shooting. The clay shoot is always popular and was won by Cdt Baron from Charterhouse. The Gallery Rifle

**“The weather was unkind
but not a disaster – just one
stoppage for lightning”**





At the ready: The teams line up for the Elcho match 2012

competition was fired with one type of rifle but a longer and more varied shoot; cadets from Tonbridge took the top four places in the individual, with the school's B team winning the team match. New to the meeting this year was an F Class TR – using a bipod mounted target rifle, with scope and RG ammunition – at 1,100 yards, or one kilometre in metric. This was a slow burner but ended up closely fought, with the winner – Cdt Pedley from Stonyhurst – dropping just one V for a 25.4. It has been proposed that next year the competition will be called the 'Cadet 1K'.

Thursday confounded the weather experts by being mainly dry, with good conditions for the Ashburton. Epsom were strong favourites, but after 300 yards they were three behind RGS Guildford, with Wellington College comfortably ahead, further extending their lead after 600. The order was unchanged after 500 yards – Wellington won their first Ashburton with a commanding score of 787, with RGS Guildford second on 770. Epsom achieved third place with 760 points. The Ashburton Four was a closely matched shoot between Campbell College and Clifton College; in the end, Campbell were clear winners, Clifton second and St Albans third.

Prize-giving – and the Schools' Veterans' match – took place in the pouring rain; the decision to have everyone inside proved a good one. A packed tent saw a presentation to Tony Clayton to commemorate his many years' association with Schools shooting; many thanks to all the schools who gave so generously towards this. The winning Ashburton team took their seats at the front, and it was encouraging to see so many different schools coming up to receive prizes, a testament to the strength of shooting and skills of the shooting officers around the country.

By Peter Turner

GET INVOLVED

If you are a school with a CCF that hasn't discovered the delights of Bisley yet, please give it a go. There is lots of help available – an email to schools@nra.org.uk will yield information on entering, team composition and offers of help from more experienced schools.

Match Rifle

The 2012 Imperial Meeting promised to be particularly special for Match Rifle shooters, with the 150th Anniversary of the first Elcho match, 150th Anniversary dinner and Woomera match looking to be highlights for all.

The Hopton was preceded by trips to Blair Atholl and Cambridge for matches with the Australians, the Lex Lions and Any Rifle Extras at Bisley, building high hopes for both individual and team success from all sides.

The mild conditions and some excellent shooting provided 25 scores of 100 in the Cottesloe, with Nick Tremlett beating Chris Hockley in a tie shoot, both having finished on 100.19v. The Edge also provided some excellent scores, with Tim Kidner victorious with 198.21v and Nick Brasier scoring 100.11 at 1,200 yards – the first at 1,200 yards during the Hopton on record.

Going in to the Albert, Ted Hobbs led the race for the Hopton with Mike Baillie-Hamilton only one point behind. Angus McLeod and Jim McAllister were next at four points off the lead, but 15 shots to count at three ranges with no sighters leaves all to play for. The relatively calm conditions and temporary abatement of the rain meant high scores were expected, and going into 1,200 yards Angus McLeod had gone



clean. He stormed through without dropping a point at 1,200 yards to finish with 225.25v; a remarkable achievement. This put McLeod in first position in the Hopton with 1002.119v, a full six points clear of second placed Baillie-Hamilton, with last year's winner Rob Lygoe finishing in third place and Ted Hobbs slipping to fourth. Top placed tyro, CURA's Ashley Abrahams, finished in 17th, earning him a sought-after spot as England reserve in the Elcho.

Wednesday's forecast promised rain later in the day, so the Elcho teams prepared with varying strategies. Challenging wind conditions developed throughout the day, with a rainstorm (and subsequent calmer conditions) midway through 1,200 yards providing excitement until the last shots were fired. After 1,000 yards, Scotland had a five-point lead over Wales, with England and Ireland following. England then top scored at both 1,100 and 1,200 yards, but Scotland held their nerve to finish only two points ahead, victorious in the Elcho and making it four wins in a row for the first time in its history. Top scorer Angus McLeod continued his excellent shooting, finishing on 220.19v, three points clear of the rest of the field.

In honour of the 150th Anniversary of the Elcho match, all current and past members of Elcho teams were invited to a celebratory dinner attended by 165 guests including the Earl of Wemyss and March and his son, the current Lord Elcho as guests of honour. Since its foundation in 1862 by Lord Elcho (the first and then current chairman of the NRA) the Elcho Match has provided tension, fun and hilarity, snippets of which we were reminded of through the evening. Although Corporal William Fergusson's 30 misses in 1862 is hopefully a unique occurrence, the recollections

of records which have been broken, the match-deciding last shots and the triumphs of our nations along the way provided ample talking points and made for a memorable evening. Transcripts of the speeches will be available on the EVIII and NRC of Scotland websites for those interested.

Thursday's focus was on the Woomera match against the Australians, with GB Captain Alex Cargill Thompson and team determined to reclaim the Woomera trophy whilst on home soil. Strong shooting from all of the team resulted in a resounding victory for Team GB with 1749.199v (ex 1800.360v) against the Australians' 1718.144v and Angus McLeod again top scored with 223.30v. The GB Match Rifle team will look forward to trying to retain the Woomera trophy the next match in Australia in 2016.

Alongside the Woomera, Cambridge and Oxford were battling it out for the Humphry. With two Elcho reserves, it was no surprise that Cambridge claimed victory by 36 points, with Nick Hall top scoring with 212.21v. ■

By Roseanne Furniss

HISTORY LESSON

The Earl of Wemyss on NRA founding member Lord Elcho

Lord Elcho, born in 1818, was a man of abounding energy and invention. He sat in parliament for 72 years – a record still unsurpassed. He was a keen deer stalker – hence his interest in rifle shooting. He was an enthusiastic art collector, and a keen golfer – when at home in Scotland, he liked to play one round of golf every day, and preferable two rounds.

He was a keen founder of competitions. He donated two golf trophies and one curling trophy to East Lothian and, of course, the Elcho Shield. He was also an inventor. He invented the Elcho bayonet, which to his great pleasure was adopted by the Prussian army, although the War Office rejected it as too heavy. A strong opponent of home rule for Ireland and Scotland, he invented a golf club called the Unionist. He also invented the Elcho military boot and the Elcho military shovel. Equally enthusiastically, he helped found the National Rifle Association. At a meeting at the Thatches House Tavern in Wimbledon in 1859, he became its first chairman, remaining so until 1870.

The Crimean War had revealed that with new rifles, accurate long-range rifle fire was an essential component of victory on the battlefield. It also revealed a growing middle-class and working-class impatience with aristocratic monopoly of military and political power. Elcho saw the volunteers and the NRA as a way to improve national military capability and bring together all classes in a joint voluntary endeavour.

The practical consequences of the volunteer and NRA movements were vital to the future of the country. The British Arms was the only European army not to suffer a mutiny during the Great War. This was because of the ethos of the Territorials, successor to the ethos of the Volunteers. A man could in peacetime resign from the Territorials with two week's notice, so no Territorial officer dared insult his subordinates in case they resigned. The consequent civility of the Army was what kept it intact through four long years of trench warfare.



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MATCH REPORTS

SHIELD SUMMER CHALLENGE SHOTGUN MATCH

Shield Shooting Centre, 8-10 June

By James Harris

The Shield Summer Challenge provides the biggest and most challenging target shotgun match of the year in the UK. There are those who think that they can roll up on a Friday morning, lash up a few screens, throw out a few targets to shoot at two or three times and call it a proper match – but they obviously have not been to Shield, where the build takes many weeks to complete. Providing 11 stages and a round count of 170, this is no mere club comp.

Friday morning arrived with bright blue skies and a tractor ride to the top fields where five of the stages were to be found. Squads rotated through the stages; mine began on an 18-plate shoot designed to tax every aspect of the shooter's ability, including loading,

target acquisition and awkward shooting positions. To make sure that those fleet of foot had no advantage, the organisers had strung ropes at 18in above ground level, below which you started lying down with all your ammo loose in a bowl. Times ranged from the slow (70 seconds) to the glacial (a few minutes), but the laughter rang out clear below the leafy canopy.

Next up, stage 7, where 16 plates were arrayed in a maze. Speedy feet and quick loading were the order of the day here, and times tumbled as the weekend progressed.

Stage 10 was a chance to bask in the summer sun, and provided the most taxing shots of the entire match. There were 19 paper and steel targets from 15 to 35 metres, with the shooter's own choice of ammunition



allowed – resulting in a great deal of freestyle and lots of mistakes. Birdshot hits on paper don't count and heavy targets don't always fall to birdshot, so plans that got out of sync cost some of the contenders dear.

From the bright sunlight of the field we moved to the shadowed stream bed. In summer the streams dry up and the wide gravel bed makes a good surface underfoot while the shot is contained by the banks rising up either side. With 18 targets in plain sight, it was a stage for the fleet of foot. A special mention must go to the ROs for all their efforts, especially when they found the leaky wellies!

Stage 1 was another deceptive stage. Sitting down, loaded gun, seven targets on a ladder frame at 20 metres – what could go wrong? Well, missing, that's what. Or using impractical ammo that isn't even fit for use on pigeons.

Stage 2 had a twist to it. Four large plates out front encouraged the unwary to blaze away at speed and then try to shoot at the same cadence on bobbing mini clays, which led to a lot of smoke, noise and disappointment. From the smallest targets in the match to the largest, 12 full-size IPSC targets at 8 to 30 metres, it offered the only chance this year ▶





▶ to shoot a proper slug stage under competition conditions. Times varied according to experience and practice but the enjoyment levels were the same for all.

Over on range 4, a Texas star was put to good use at the end of an 18-plate runabout, which tested both strong and weak shoulder shooting. The star was hidden by a dividing screen at the end of the stage, meaning two positions would be needed to shoot all the plates off.

On to range 5 where a quick five targets form the start and another eight as you moved down the range. The final three had to be shot from within the confines of a 1,000-litre

barrel that had been laid down to force you into an awkward kneeling/crouching position. Those that forgot to load before entering soon rued their poor memory.

Stage 6 had another Shield first: the multi-clay penalty bobber. The start seemed innocuous enough. Stand in the box, five targets to the right – then activate the penalty bobber by passing through a gate and shoot all the remaining targets as seen. Get the timing wrong and the results were spectacular and bad for your score.

That rounded off the shooting for me. I spent the remaining two days ROing and helping out, which meant the chance to watch shooters' different approaches to the

challenges and to socialise with old friends. This event always draws people from all over the country.

The total turnout was well over 60, which is good considering the recession and fuel prices, I suspect that next year the figures will come back to the 80 or 90s as in previous years so enter early to avoid disappointment.



NRA INTER-COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIPS

Bisley, 16-17 June
By Tony de Launay

The teams of eight from UK counties faced some of the most tempestuous conditions seen on the Bisley ranges for many years in the annual National Rifle Association Inter Counties championship. With a number of the wooden target frames snapping off from their mountings, and the

afternoon winds showing no signs of abating, the organisers had no option but to abandon the short-range H Jones match after the first of the three distances had been completed. The result was declared on the scores made at 300 yards – never a happy way to resolve the match but probably inevitable – with Surrey just edging out London by one point with Sussex third.

With the winds slightly calmer on Sunday, the long-range match at 900 and 1,000 yards was completed. Surrey once again proved to be the masters, finishing 18 points clear of Hertfordshire

with London a further seven points adrift in third place. This also secured Surrey the overall championship title on the aggregate scores of the two days.

Earlier Toby Raincock of Surrey had warmed up in style, winning the R Jarvis preliminary match. His winning score was the best of only two scores of 103 ex 105 in a top-class field, an early warning of the winds to come later in the afternoon. The Clive Amstein Memorial Match for 'second' teams of four produced an excellent battle in which the West of Scotland snatched a five-point win over Surrey, with Buckinghamshire third.



BRITISH COMMONWEALTH RIFLE CLUB OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Bisley, 30 June – 1 July
By Tony de Launay

This was the last chance for shooters to engage in match competition before the start of the annual Bisley Meeting. So why do we talk about the weather? Because it's there, lad, because it's there. There was a marginal improvement over earlier weekends, but the shooters still were tested by variable winds and occasional rain.

That did not stop Tony Mitchell of Cornwall from posting a notable pair of perfect possible 50.10s, one at 300 and one at 900 yards, which won him the West Indies and Falkland Islands trophies.

With a top-class field turning out for this final pre-Imperial Meeting event, there were some familiar names chasing the podium positions as well as some of the younger pretenders signalling their intentions. Alex Walker snatched the India from the combined vast experience of Simon Belither and Steve Thomas by a single central bull's eye. James Postle, Colin Mallett, and sheep farmer Peter Bromley all made 50.7 in the Africa with Postle making the only

25 in the tie. And Ros Wiltshire took the Canada by three centrals.

Over the hill, the Australia was won by Ed Jeens ahead of Henry Day by a single central, while seniority asserted itself in the battle between Lindsey Peden, Parag Patel and Jon Underwood in the 1,000-yard New Zealand. Peden making the only maximum 75. Did I record the name Underwood? I will do it again, as winner of the overall Championship Commonwealth Aggregate by one point from Patel and Jeremy Thompson. "I don't really know" was the modest response to the question 'how many times is that, then': Three or four, I think". Well deserved, Mr Consistency.

MILITARY ADAPTIVE CHAMPIONSHIP

Bisley, 4 July
By Olaf Jones

It had been on the cards for a while, and on 4 July the realisation of a dream became a reality: a fullbore shooting competition for those with disabilities.

The inaugural military adaptive shooting competition was hosted by the National Rifle Association at the world famous ranges at Bisley, Surrey.

For those of you who are familiar with fullbore target shooting sports, an introduction to the 'home of British shooting' at Bisley would be prosaic at best. For those who are not, then the Victorian architecture and period charm of the camp and surroundings imbue a long-lasting fascination with bygone days and hard fought commonwealth shooting competitions and international championships.

The fullbore adaptive shoot, possibly the first of its kind in the world, was devised to provide ▶



► a shooting competition for military veterans and for those men and women still undergoing rehabilitation. It offers anyone with any disability the chance to take part in competitive target shooting on equal terms. The rifles used in the competition were military types as most service personnel are familiar with them. Colt AR15 derivatives in 5.56mm (.223 Remington) and the Desert Tactical bullpup sniper rifle in 7.62mm (.308 Winchester).

The competition was a 'game of two halves' in that there was a McQueen sniper snap shooting element and the Adaptive Match with three elements: a deliberate precision shoot, a snap shoot, and a rapid shoot. The total aggregate score, as well as the McQueen and Adaptive elements, comprised the prize pool.

The whole competition was fired from 100 yards on Short Siberia range using benches, so that the competition was fair to all firers regardless of disability. Each entrant was also given a unique medal to commemorate the inaugural event.

There were 31 competitors, 14 of whom were veterans, the remainder currently undergoing rehabilitation at Headley Court or Tidworth House. It was hoped that there would be a greater number of entrants, but a delay in the advertising was the probable cause of the limited number. It is hoped that next year's event will be at full capacity.

The real heroes of the piece, though, were the NRA staff and volunteer helpers who made the day run smoothly and helped to ensure that the experience was not only a memorable one, but also an extremely good-natured and enjoyable one. Their professionalism and many years of organisational experience were evident in the slick and glitch-free running of the whole event during the day.

Of particular note is the hard work and dedication keenly displayed by the Bisley Estate staff. The highest praise must surely go to this team, who were on hand all day to ensure a smooth running shoot.

Virtually the entire infrastructure on Short Siberia range has had to be upgraded to accommodate the shooters: from access road preparation to electrical turning target installation, manufacturing new McQueen castles and shooting benches, to providing wheelchair accessible firing points over terrain that was not only waterlogged, gravelled and muddy, but was also undulating and at different levels. The installation of sectional track/walkway must have also been a costly consideration.

The competition was hotly contested – particularly the McQueen sniper match and the aggregate scores towards the top of the lists, which were pretty close with only a few points separating the prize winners from the rest. The prizes were awarded by Dr Robin Pizer, the chairman of the National Rifle Association, and those who won the individual stages of the McQueen and Adaptive Competitions were awarded further prizes by Lieutenant General Page at the main AOSC prize-giving ceremony.

The overall Military Adaptive Match aggregate trophy was won by a young Gurkha soldier who had lost both of his legs. Ministry of Defence protocols prevent the identification of any serving military personnel – particularly those who are undergoing medical



rehabilitation – which is the reason for his anonymity here.

This competition was the first of what will now become an annual event. It has broken the mould in that people with disabilities no longer have to fear that they are segregated or discriminated against because of an impairment. Here is a sporting competition where they can all compete against each other.

The NRA is now committed to increasing the range of inclusive and integrated competitions for people with disabilities in all fullbore shooting disciplines. It will take time, but it will be worth the wait.



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A mixed bag in London

The National Rifle Association Journal assesses the British contingent's performance at the Royal Artillery Barracks

Shooting, if you'll pardon the pun, shot into the big time when double trap shooter Peter Wilson sank to his knees on breaking the last two clays in his final. He'd won an Olympic gold medal – on home turf, no less – and as he embraced his father minutes after his win, he cemented his permanent place in the history books.

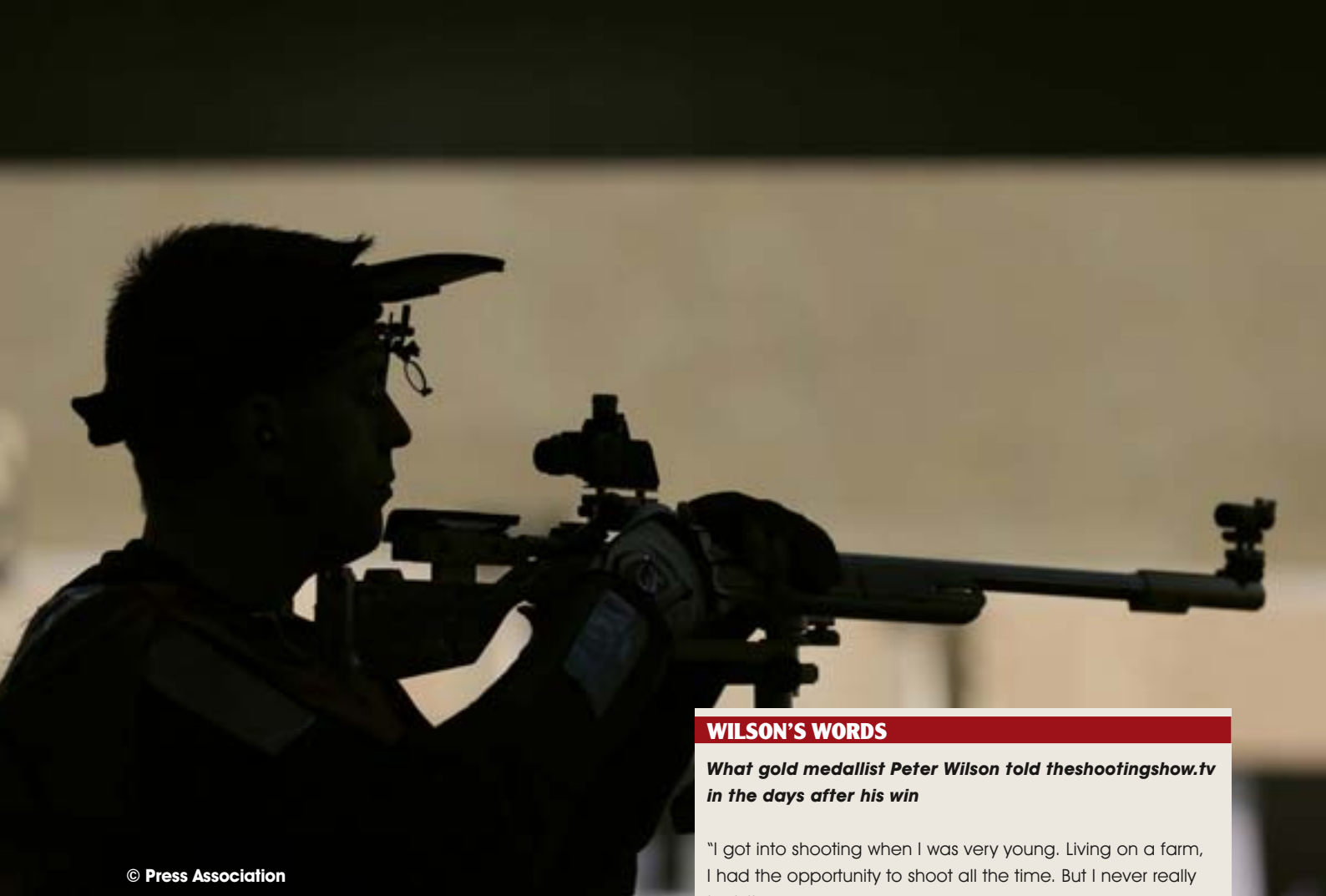
Since then the only way has been up for Peter, the 25-year-old Dorset farm boy who only took up the discipline six years ago after he broke his shoulder when snowboarding. He's been on a whirlwind press tour, met David Cameron and Sebastian Coe, and become what many people have said shooting needs: a public face to bring it into the mainstream and encourage more people to take it up.

Yes, shooting became big news overnight – but as a rifle shooting fan, you may justifiably ask what this shotgun event has to do with you. The answer, sadly, is that a report solely about Team GB's rifle and pistol performances would not make heartening reading. No British rifle or pistol shooters made finals, with it being more common to see Brits at the bottom end of the standings than the top. Big names like Gorgs Geikie and Commonwealth gold medallist Jen McIntosh saw a series of low finishes. James Huckle put in some good performances and was just a few points off the final in the men's air rifle, but the likes of Niccolo Campriani and Gagan Narang proved just too strong this time around.

So it was a mixed performance indeed – but there's no use wringing our hands and wondering what went wrong. Most shooters performed to within expectations – in fact, even as the team was selected, the heads of British shooting were playing down the medal hopes of some of our athletes. Team GB chef de mission Andy Hunt said "It's exciting that the likes of Jennifer McIntosh, James Huckle and Georgina Geikie have the opportunity to compete at an Olympic Games in the early stages of their career, and their potential bodes well for the future



EVENT	ATHLETE	FINISH	SCORE
Women's Skeet	Elena Allen	14th	60
Men's Skeet	Richard Brickell	12th	118
	Rory Warlow	16th	118
Women's Trap	Charlotte Kerwood	16th	64
Men's Trap	Ed Ling	21st	118
Men's Double Trap	Peter Wilson	Gold	143+45
	Richard Faulds	12th	133
Women's Air Pistol	Gorgs Geikie	47th	359
Women's Pistol	Gorgs Geikie	37th	562
Women's Air Rifle	Jen McIntosh	36th	392
Men's Air Rifle	James Huckle	24th	593
Women's 3p Rifle	Jen McIntosh	42nd	570
Men's 3p Rifle	James Huckle	25th	1162
	Jonathan Hammond	41st	1142
Men's Prone Rifle	Jonathan Hammond	17th	593
	James Huckle	29th	591



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We've now won two shooting
golds this century, and you
could do worse than James
Huckle for a sneaky bet on
gold in Rio 2016

of British Shooting," while shooting team leader Phil Scanlan said, "James Huckle and Jennifer McIntosh are making the first steps in their promising careers." Clearly they were being treated as hopes for the future, not 2012.

But even if that's the case, shooters will want to see their country's representatives challenging for medals in future, not doing well to come 24th. Clearly we don't lack natural talent – we've now won two shooting golds this century, and you could do worse than Huckle for a sneaky bet on gold in Rio 2016. What we need is a system that makes the most of that talent, and ensures the existence UK Sport chairman Baroness Sue Campbell calls a 'talent pipeline' whereby we have the apparatus in place to produce a whole host of top athletes.

The first step is as prosaic as it is obvious: funding. And, whatever you think about legacy, that's actually where the good news is. Our first medal since Sydney will see shooting promoted to the rank of 'Olympic medal-winning sport' in the eyes of UK Sport, and there should be an increase in lottery funding to go with it. Which means despite Bisley being passed over, there will be a 'hard legacy' for shooting from the Games after all. We shooters now have to make sure we make the most of the sport's time in the limelight and provide a 'soft legacy' as well. ■

WILSON'S WORDS

What gold medallist Peter Wilson told theshootingshow.tv in the days after his win

"I got into shooting when I was very young. Living on a farm, I had the opportunity to shoot all the time. But I never really took it up.

"It was only when I had a snowboarding accident that I started shooting properly. A friend of mine said, 'Come and have a shot if they will allow you to do it one-handed. I'm sure you'll enjoy it.' I thought, why not, let's go and have some fun.

"I did that for six months with my arm in a sling. The physios were keen that I carry on because I was holding the gun in my left arm and that was good for my recovery.

"I worked out that if I wanted to carry on, the Olympic disciplines were my only avenue. I had a go at all of them, and I loved Double Trap.

"I had a chance to have a go at Bisley. Ian Coley was there, and said, 'Come back tomorrow and shoot the competition.' So I did; I made the final and won the junior event. I think that sparked something in me.

"The last four years have been absolutely dedicated to [the Olympic Games], especially the last two. I have trained really, really hard.

"If I'm really honest I was actually disappointed with my qualifying rounds. Clearly any lead is a great lead – but going into an Olympic final at home had a little bit of pressure stuck to it.

"With two pairs to go I allowed myself a look at the board and realised that if I shot the next pair it would be down to one target.

"On peg five I realised: 'This is it – this is the Olympic Games.' I did think about double-barrelling the first one for a second, mind."

Watch the interview in the 13 August episode of The Shooting Show. New shows every Monday at www.theshootingshow.tv.

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F-CLASS GLASS

Want to improve the set-up on your F Class or F/TR rifle? We've lined up five makes of scope that will serve you



FOX SCOPES

The scope range from Northern custom rifle maker Fox Firearms, the Fox range is considered among the best of the budget F-Class scopes. The Fox 8-32x50 is widely used, as is the 10-40x50 30mm tube model. Both have fine crosshair reticles with a small central aiming dot – perfect for long-range shots – and they are good performers in terms of both optics and adjustments. A great scope for the 200-800 yard shooter.

Price: From £105

Fox Firearms 0161 430 8278 www.foxfirearmsuk.com



SCHMIDT & BENDER

With 34mm tubes, the Schmidt & Bender PMII range (particularly the 5-25x56 and 12-15x56 models) are the ideal choice for the must-have-everything Open class shooter. They are a big, heavy scope, but for that weight you get all the strength and reliability you could ask for. It's currently going through a change of UK distributor, but in the interim period it's still commonly seen atop the rifles of European competitors coming to the UK.

Price: £2,623.99 (5-25x56)

Schmidt & Bender www.schmidtbender.com

MARCH SCOPES

A real up-and-comer on the market, the March brand garnered attention with its 50, 60 and 80 maximum power settings. They are very reliable and impressively light – in fact they have just about everything going for them provided you can afford the asking price. At a recent F Class league shoot, five of 11 shooters in the main detail used March – a sign of how quick the uptake has been of this imported brand.

Price: From £2,553 (March-X Tactical 10-factor)

March Scopes 01293 606901 www.marchscopes.co.uk



Recent years have seen a big push for lighter scopes and bipods



NIGHTFORCE

Probably the most commonly seen brand at an F Class shoot, Nightforce scopes are reliable (they are built to military specifications, after all), accurate and come with a wide choice of reticle designs. The make has been around for a long time, and the number of second-hand models around is an indicator of its quality. It's hardly a cheap scope, but its price sits just below those of the very top-end European scopes.

Price: £1,536 (5.5-22x56)

RUAG 01579 362319

www.ruag.co.uk



SIGHTRON

With a range of 8-32x56 and 10-50x60 models, the Sightron SIII series seems almost tailored for F Class shooting. Excellent optics coupled with precise adjustment means you get an awful lot of scope for a price that's far less than some other makes out there. The new LRMOA 'tactical' model boasts 72MOA elevation adjustment, making it even more suitable for the task at hand.

Price: £890 (8-32x56 LRMOA)

Aim Field Sports 01606 860678

www.aimfieldsports.com

Shoot steady

It's not just the Harris, you know: we've lined up five alternative bipods, from bargains to top-of-the-range models

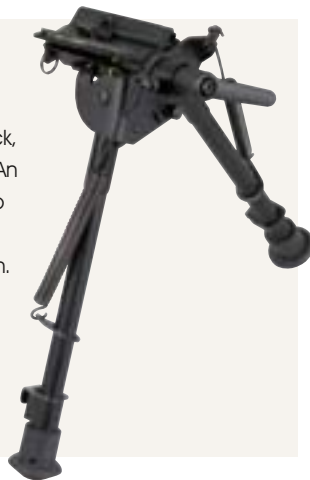
SNIPERSYSTEMS MK V TILTING BIPOD

Snipersystems continually responds to user feedback, updating its bipod to what is now the Mk V model. An incorporated tilt locking mechanism enables you to easily tilt the rifle if needed – just swing it round to unlock, tilt as desired, then swing back to lock again. Available in three sizes, it's able to suit any type of shooting, from prone and benchrest to kneeling.

Price: £75

Global Rifle 01455 291100

www.globalrifle.co.uk



BISLEY RIFLE BIPOD 6-9IN

When choosing accessories, sticking with a name that instantly resonates with target shooting is always a safe bet. A solid entry-level model, the Bisley Rifle 6-9in Bipod model features a quick release claw that attaches to a standard QD swivel stud. Construction is solid, though it's surprisingly lightweight. The legs are spring-loaded and offer six points to lock them at varying heights via notches. The feet have anti-slip rubber cups, and swinging the legs in and out is easy, with no stiffness.

Price: £39.99

John Rothery 023 9224 5350

www.bisley-uk.com



RIGBY BIPOD

A real top-of-the-range piece of kit, the Rigby bipod can support any rifle up to .50 cal, meaning it can deal easily with even the heaviest Open class rifle. Apart from its strength, what particularly impresses about this rest is its versatility. Its modular design allows adaptors to be fitted for all major types of rail, and there is a wide range of accessories available, starting from £20. Coming with a lifetime warranty, the Rigby bipod is available in three basic models: the male spigot, Picatinny rail assembly (pictured) and sling swivel assembly.

Price: £194.04

RUAG 01579 362319 www.ruag.co.uk



DEBEN AIMPOD

If you need something a bit more substantial, check out Deben's 6-9in Tilt model. It's perfect for prone shooting over upward or downward ranges, the tilt function facilitating alignment of your reticle to be perpendicular to the ground via a screw at the rear of the body. Deploying the legs in place is hassle-free, and the anti-glare finish is another neat touch. Hard rubber cups serve as the bipod's 'feet' and, over a variety of surfaces, provide a solid base for this impressive unit.

Price: £64.95

Deben 01394 387762

www.deben.com



UTG FOLDABLE BIPOD

One of the few bipods on the market not based on the industry-standard Harris design, the UTG makes a selling point of its versatility. The legs are locked in place via a thumb-lug; you have to push it down before the legs deploy. It's a smoother system than the Harris-style tensioned spring, though admittedly at the cost of some play on the extended legs. Those legs feature a rotating sleeve-lock, which, when loosened, quickly extend the legs to their full length (29cm).

Price: £39.95

DGS International 01527 853245

www.dgsinternational.co.uk



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Obituaries

ALAN WHITTLE

1955 – 2012

It is our sad duty to report the passing of one of the Gallery Rifle community's long standing members: Alan Whittle. Alan was with a group of shooters at the Derby 1500 shoot in July when he was taken ill on the range. Despite valiant efforts by a number of medical professionals on scene, they were unable to save him.

Alan was a long-standing member of Bristol and District Rifle and Pistol club and of Frome and District Pistol club. He joined Frome in the late 90s; it wasn't long before we realised we had a very capable shooter. His style was one of unflustered precision – no rush, yet perfect results. He was also a great source of knowledge, from the history of his sport (and many other things) to his patience in perfecting the ultimate reload. Every case was polished, every bullet a perfect crimp. Alan was committed to shooting and continued to rise in both Club and National prominence, remaining at the top until the end. His shooting career culminated in his selection for the Great Britain Gallery Rifle Team – a role he revelled in, and one that took him onto the international circuit. He was also a respected range officer, running and assisting in numerous matches from club to internationals.

Alan had a career in both the merchant navy and the police – honing the skills that made him so capable

and interesting. Out of uniform, but still with the force, he reached the top in the field of forensics.

It will come as no surprise that his funeral was packed – a true mark of his popularity. He'll be missed by many, as a shooter, organiser, range officer and friend. Anyone who met Alan will tell you that he was without doubt one of life's true gentlemen; shooting will be all the poorer with his untimely demise.

By Ashley Dagger and Neil Francis



NORMAN WHITTINGHAM

1933-2012

Norman Whittingham died on 3 August 2012 at the St Barnabas Hospice, Worthing.

Norman was born in Brighton in 1933. During World War Two, at the age of 11, he was evacuated to Haworth. Until his death he kept in touch with the family that had looked after him during the war years.

From an early age Norman always had an interest in guns and shooting. When he left school he worked for Southdown Buses; his evenings were spent going to night school and studying to become an engineer. He left Southdown and joined Allen and West, a Brighton-based engineering firm, until the early 1950s when he did his national service as an RAF ground crew. After national service he went on to join

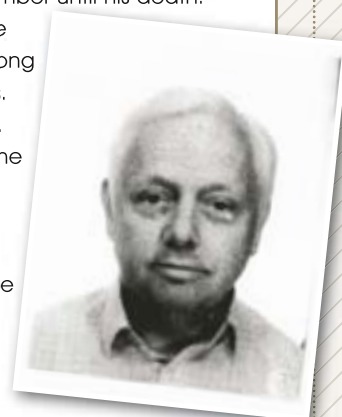
Seeboard Electricity until he retired at the age of 65. He became restless and rejoined Seeboard as a consultant until again retiring at the age of 73.

Norman joined the NRA and Brighton RPC in the early 1990s and remained an active member until his death. During the handgun ban process he attended all the Hyde Park rallies along with thousands of his fellow shooters.

The club has lost a loyal member. We shall always remember him as the perfect gentleman, never having a cross word for anyone. He shall be missed by all that knew him.

Norman leaves a widow Stephanie and son Paul.

By Tony Walker



JOHN BAINES

22 JANUARY 1952 –
28 JUNE 2012

John Baines had a keen interest in firearms, which started at an early age when he was taken shooting by his father. He shot rifles, muzzle loaders, pistols and shotguns, organising and running a charity clay shoot for the Bob Champion Cancer Trust a few years ago.

He was a member of the NRA and HBSA, and until his illness took hold he was regularly to be found at Short Siberia with the HBSA. He had wide and varied interests as well as being a shooter and collector he was also a musician and photographer having exhibitions of his work in Sussex. Somehow he also found time to go to work, in careers spanning, among others, programming computers, a brewery and finally joining Sussex Police as a crime prevention officer.

A man with many strings to his bow and a wide circle of friends, he founded a living history group initially dedicated to explaining to the public the development and history of British military firearms during the reign of Queen Victoria, it later extended to cover the Great War period. His interest in the First World War expanded when he found, by accident, the largely forgotten battle The Boar's Head (30 June 1916). He diligently researched the subject; indeed he was instrumental in starting an annual memorial ceremony at the Richebourg St Vaast Cemetery, involving the local population and relatives of those who took part. The town

of Richebourg had a special medallion struck for John in gratitude; sadly he did not live to receive it but it was presented to Julie on 30 June this year.

He collected a vast amount of information and started to put it into a form suitable for publication he was still working on it and finding more out in his last weeks. He managed to finally publish his research as 'The Day Sussex Died'.

We have lost a man with a sense of humour and huge fund of knowledge; he was full of enthusiasm with which those around him got carried along. There is a John-shaped hole in many of our lives which will not be filled.

John dies after a long battle against illness, which he fought to the end. He leaves his wife Julie, his daughter Jamey and his son Gary, to whom all who knew him extend our deep and heartfelt sympathy.

By Ross Stenner



DAVID LATIMER

1946-2012

David loved his shooting with a passion that continued for all his adult life, even bagging four crows on the day he passed away. He was unable to shoot as much as he would have liked as his job as a heavy plant operator kept him away. But holidays and weekends were spent with his guns.

He first came to Bisley as a member of the United Services Shooting Club in the early 90s. Never losing his fascination for the Camp, he joined the NRA so he could shoot there at any time. He planned many more trips during his retirement, which has sadly been cut short. David loved guns, not just for what they could do, but also for the technical aspects. He experimented for many years in reloading his own rounds, continually adjusting loads to suit his different rifles.

As well as ballistics expertise, David was an expert on the upland fox, with a huge annual tally that allowed a wide diversity of wildlife creatures to survive and thrive. He also

had deer management qualifications. He believed they deserved a safe environment and a quick death. He was passionate about shooters' rights and responsibilities. A long-term member of BASC, he would go on Countryside Alliance marches in London with his friends even though it meant taking time off work.

In retirement, he entered local sporting competitions with his long-term friend Hubert Hetherington and this year won the shield and decanter at Penrith Gun Club's shoot. His proudest sporting achievement was winning a magnificent Predator, hand-built by Brock & Norris, as first prize in a Help for Heroes draw (the tickets being filled in for him by Hubert).

He will be sadly missed by all his shooting friends and colleagues with whom he would talk guns for hours. He loved gun shops, shoots in the mornings and nights with his friends. He would travel for miles to see them and their own guns, because they made him happy with his family and friends.

By Mrs D Latimer

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12th October	London
16th October	Edinburgh, Scotland
17th October	Glasgow, Scotland
24th October	Pulborough, Sussex
26th October	Tiverton, Devon

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Results

IMPERIAL RESULTS

Grand Aggregate Matches

Alexandra, 600 yards: 1. E Dickson (Old Marlburians) 50.10/25.4; 2. R Gardiner (Club 25) 50.10/24.3; 3. C Weeden (NLRC) 50.9.
Conan Doyle, 900 yards: 1. J Paton (Canada) 50.10; 2. G Cann (Exonia & Tiverton) 50.9; 3=. P Patel (Old Epsomians) & J Haward (Exonia & Tiverton) 50.9.
Corporation, 1000 yards: 1. P Thompson (NLRC) 50.7/24.3; 2. J Dunbar (ATRC) 50.7/23.1; 3. J Watson (UVRC) 50.6.
D Mail, 500 yards: 1. P Patel (Old Epsomians) 75.14/25.4; 2. M Button (Wandsworth) 75.14/24.1; 3. D Calvert (RAFTRC) 75.13.
D Telegraph, 500 yards: 1. R McQuillan (Ulster) 75.15/25.2; 2. H Pollock (OGRE) 75.15/24.5; 3=. A Ringer (UVRC) & C Fitzpatrick (RAFTRC) 75.14.
D o Cambridge, 900 yards: 1. J Haward (Exonia & Tiverton) 50.10/25.1; 2. M Schwarz (Bedfordians) 50.10/24.2; 3. A Sturrock (ATSC) 50.10.
Pr of Wales, 600 yards: 1. S Thomas (Central Bankers) 75.14; 2. R Knapstein (BDMP Germany) 75.13; 3. A Walker (Old Framlinghamians) 75.13/24.1.
HM Queen's I, 300, 500, 600 yards: 1. G Morris (UVRC) 105.19; 2. J Warburton (Huddersfield) 105.17; 3. H Day (LMRA) 105.16.

St George's I, 300 yards: 1. J Corbett (Australia) 75.15; 2=. N Mace (Guernsey) & J Watson (UVRC) 75.14

Times, 300 yards: 1. A Coetzee (RSA) 50.10/25.5; 2. N Ball (Stock Exchange) 50.10/25.4; 3. F Purdy (Athelings) 50.10/24.4.
Wimbledon, 600 yards: 1. N Cole-Hawkins (NLRC) 50.10; 2=. S Luckman (Old Epsomians) & M Schwarz (Old Bedfordians) 50.9.

Second & Final Stages

St George's II, 300, 600 yards: 1. J Corbett (Australia) 150.30; 2. D Luckman (Sedgemoor) 150.27; 3. J Paton (Canada) 150.27.
St George's Final, 60, 900 yards: 1. D Luckman (Sedgemoor) 150.30; 2. J Corbett (Australia) 150.28; 3. P Stock (Jersey) 150.24.
HM Queen's Prize Stage II, 300, 500, 600 yards: 1. G Morris (UVRC) 150.25; 2. J Corbett (Australia) 150.23; 3. A McCullough (City RC) 150.22
HM Queen's Prize Final, 900, 1,000 yards: 1. J Warburton (Huddersfield) 298.34; 2. D Armstrong (Old Guildfordians) 297.43; 3. R Birtwistle (Manydown) 297.38; 4. J Thompson (Central Bankers) 297.37.
Grand Aggregate, 300, 500, 600, 900, 1000 yards: 1. J Corbett (Australia) 700.107; 2. D Luckman (Sedgemoor) 700.99; 3. I

Shaw (Old Epsomians) 700.87; 4. J Watson (UVRC) 699.100.

National and International Matches

National Match, 300, 500, 600 yards: 1. England 2072.268 (J Watson 105.19); 2. Wales 2051.219 (G Morris 105.12); 3. Scotland 2049.227 (T Hunter 105.13); 4. Ireland 2036.224 (P Lanigan 105.18).

Mackinnon Match, 900, 1000 yards: 1. England 1176.139 – new record (T Raincock 100.10); 2. Scotland 1170.133 (J Rankin 100.12); 3. Wales 1170.126 (E Jeens 99.17); 4. Ireland 1164.136 (C Johnson 99.13); 5. Jersey 1154.118 (P Stock 100.13); 6. Canada 1150.112 (R Smeltzer 98.15).
Kolapore, 200, 500, 600 yards: 1. Great Britain 1199.201 – new record (P Kent 150.29); 2. Jersey 1187.161 (A Le Cheminant 150.25); 3. Guernsey 1183.168 (A Jory 150.25); 4. Canada 1160.149 (J Paton 148.23).

Full prize lists of these and other competitions and aggregates can be found at www.nra.org.uk

OTHER RESULTS 9-10 June

Sussex County Rifle Association (900 and 1,000 yards)
Championship Final: 1. M Brister 333.28; 2. J Payne 332.32; 3. R Roberts 330.23. Mhow Cup: 1. D Hossack 136.12; 2. C Moon 135.8; 3. R Nichols 121.4.

LONDON & MIDDLESEX RIFLE ASSOCIATION LMRA Leagues

Rnd 3 (Div 1): Manydown 481.53; 2. O Haberdashers A 477.54; 3. Ruislip 470.44.
Rnd 3 (Div 2): 1. Lloyds TSB 475.42; 2. Whitgift Veterans 443.29; 3. East Barnett 430.17. Final (Div 1): 1. Manydown 11 match points; 2. O Haberdashers A 8; 3. Ruislip 7; Parthians 4. Final (Div 2): 1.



Lloyds TSB 12; 2. Whitgift Veterans 9; 3. East Barnett 6; 4. O Haberdashers B 3. LMRA Match Rifle Teams: 1. Woomera A 1619.108 (J McAllister 282.24); 2. Woomera B 1619.99 (K Fitton 281.21); 3. Woomera C 1612.108 (M Barlow 282.22). Surrey Rifle Association v NLRC & Hampshire 1. Surrey 496.62 (P Patel 100.16); 2. NLRC 490.50 (D Coleman 100.19); 3. Hants. 484.52 (A Leech 99.14)

16-17 June

NRA INTER-COUNTIES MEETING, BISLEY

R Jarvis Trophy (300, 500 & 600 yards): 1. T Raincock (Surrey) 103.13; 2. D Luckman (Somerset) 103.9; 3. M Frost (Devon) 102.12. Lt Col H Jones Trophy (300, 500, 600 yards): match abandoned and result declared on 300-yard score only: 1. Surrey 387.43 (T Raincock 50.7); 2. London 386.38 (T Hunter 50.3); 3. Sussex 384.36 (A Pilgrim 50.6). NRA Long Range Challenge Trophy (900 & 1,000 yards): 1. Surrey 1165.112 (J Underwood 149.15); 2. Hertfordshire 1147.108 (A Skellett 146.15); 3. London 1140.107 (Hunter 147.15). NRA Inter-Counties Championship: 1. Surrey 1552.155; 2. Hertfordshire 1529.137; 3. London 1526.145. Clive Amstein Memorial Match: 1. West of Scotland 1098.82 (L Peden 282.24); 2. Surrey 1093.95 (J Tuck 279.27); 3. Buckinghamshire 1092.81 (A Smith 275.17).

16-17 June

IRISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS, BALLYKINLER

Ballykinler Tankard (300 yards): 1. R Martin (Comber) 75.14; 2. G Coburn (URA) 75.12; 3. J Alexander (Dungannon) 75.11. Saturday Aggregate: 1. Martin 104.14; 2. M Latimer (URA) 104.13; 3. McQuillan (URA) 104.12. Ulster Rifle Association Tankard (300 yards): 1. D Calvert (Comber) 50.9; 2. Martin 50.9; 3. S Carson (Comber) 50.8. Royal Irish Fusiliers Trophy (500 yards): 1. T Steele (URA) 50.10; 2. McQuillan 50.9; 3. Calvert 50.8. Mourne

Trophy (600 yards): 1. McQuillan 50.10; 2. Martin 50.9; 3. G Alexander (Dungannon) 50.9. Sunday Aggregate: 1. Calvert 150.24; 2. Carson 150.20; 3. G Alexander 149.20. Championship Final: 1. A McLean (Comber) 75.11; 2. M Miller (Comber) 75.10; 3. McQuillan 75.9. Irish Open & Closed Championships: 1. McQuillan 327.45; 2. D Calvert 327.42; 3. G Alexander 326.44. Lord Mayor of Belfast's Trophy: 1. Calvert 254.34; 2. Carson 253.33; 3. Martin 252.38. Astor County Championship: 1. Comber 608.65; 2. URA 599.58.

23 June

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY RIFLE ASSOCIATION OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP, BISLEY

Solomon's Cup (300, 600 yards): 1. R Gardiner 98.11; 2. M Martel 98.11; 3. K Hardyman 97.8. Woolding's Cup: (900, 1,000 yards): 1. Gardiner 96.9; 2. C Painting 96.7; 3. A Brown 96.7. Lord Lieutenant's Trophy (Closed Ch'ship): 1. Martel 191.16; 2. S Larter-Whitcher 190.19; 3. Painting 190.18. Open Ch'ship: 1. Gardiner 194.20; 2. Martel 191.16; 3. Brown 191.14. Cadet: F King 179.8.

23-24 June

SCOTTISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS, BLAIR ATHOLL

Stock Exchange (400 yards): B Jones 75.12. Bannock Burn (500 yards): D Gass 75.9. Presidents (600 yards): S Thomas 75.8. Faculty (900 yards): M Barlow 75.7. City of Glasgow (1,000 yards): M Joyce 72.5. Association Medals: Gold: T Kidner 149.23; Silver: C Dickenson 148.20. Scottish Championship: 1st Stage, Thomas 224.27; 2nd Stage, Barlow 75.7; Final, Joyce 146.10. Caledonian Shield: 1st Stage, I Robertson 222.22; Final, Barlow 295.27. Grand Aggregate: TR: 1. Thomas 515.61; 2. A McLeod 513.55; 3. J Webster 509.59. F/TR: 1. M Barton 513.61; 2. P Burbridge 503.55. Lawrence Trophy International Match : 1.

Scotland 1747.206 (McLeod 149.24); 2. England 1744.170 (Thomas 149.15).

30 June-1 July

British Commonwealth Rifle Club Open Championship, Bisley

West Indies (300 yards): 1. A Mitchell 50.10; 2. D de Vere 50.9; 3. G O'Leary 50.8. India (500 yards): 1. A Walker 50.8; 2. S Bellfther 50.7; 3. S Thomas 50.7. Africa (500 yards): After tie shoot: 1. J Postle 50.7/25.4; 2. C Mallett 50.7/24.3; 3. P Bromley 50.7/23.0. Canada (600 yards): 1. R Wiltshire 75.11; 2. P Stock 75.8; 3. J Lewis 74.11. Dominion Aggregate: 1. J Underwood 222.32; 2. J Thompson 222.28; 3. A Walker 222.24. Falkland Isles (900 yards): 1. Mitchell 50.10; 2. I Shaw 50.9; 3. G Alexander 50.8. Australia (900 yards): 1. E Jeens 75.14; 2. H Day 75.13; 3. R McQuillan 75.13. New Zealand (1,000 yards): 1. L Peden 75.10; 2. P Patel 74.11; 3. Underwood 74.10. Ceylon Agg: 1. Jeens 199.29; 2. N Ball 198.25; 3. A Ringer 197.27. Commonwealth Agg (Ch'ship): 1. Underwood 419.57; 2. Patel 418.51; 3. Thompson 418.50.

4-5 Aug 2012

CORNWALL OPEN MEETING, MILLPOOL, BODMIN MOOR

Match 1 (300 yards): 1. S Larter-Whitcher 50.6; 2. G Gilpin 50.4; 3. A Wilde 49.9. Match 2 (300 yards metric): 1. R Hallows 100.3; 2. S Maris 100.3; 3. Wilde 100.3. Match 3 (500 yards): 1. A Gent 75.11; 2. M Frost 75.6; 3. Wilde 74.9. Match 4 (600 yards): 1. J Haward 50.8; 2. A Jones 50.7; 3. Frost 50.7. Match 8 (500, 600 yards): 1. D Crispin 150.23; 2. J Cload 149.22; 3. Wilde 149.18. D o Cornwall Trophy (600 yards): 1. Haward 75.10; 2. Cload 74.14; 3. Crispin 74.10. Grand Agg: 1. Wilde 373.36; 2. Cload 371.40; 3. Crispin 368.38. F Class: 1. D Pickering; 2. I Mowbray; 3. P Calvert.



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A446	357 Sig 125gr FMJ	£40.75
A339	357 Magnum FPJ 158gr	£40.75
A353	40 S&W 180gr TMJ	£40.75
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C027	270 Winchester	£33.91
C345	7,5 x 55 Swiss	£41.51
C030	7,62 x 39	£33.29
C020	308 Winchester	£35.23
C346	7,5 x 54 French	£41.51
C031	7,62 x 54R	£38.30
C128	8mm Mauser	£38.30
C470	7,62 Nagant	£41.51
C483	6,5 Grendel	£43.15
C385	6,5 x 51 Jap	£47.90
C383	7,7 Jap	£50.04
C424	7,92 x 33 Kurz	£47.90
C417	8 x 50 Lebel	£63.83
C384	8 x 56 Mannlicher	£50.04
C413	7,63 (30 Mauser)	£24.66

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P222	Large Pistol Primers	£27.98
P333	Small Rifle Primers	£26.66
P444	Large Rifle Primers	£27.98

PPU BULLETS

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pack of 100



B008	22 FMJ BT 55gr	£13.58
B484	6.5mm FMJ BT 110gr	£16.60
B083	6.5mm FMJ BT 139gr	£16.60
B127	7 FMJ BT 174gr	£17.26
B105	7mm 158gr Grom	£26.55
B010	30 FMJ RN 110gr	£17.26
B009	30 FMJ BT 145gr	£17.26
B007	30 FMJ 139gr	£17.26
B099	30 FMJ 150gr	£17.26
B496	308 Match HPBT 168gr	£23.03
B345	30 FMJ BT 174gr	£17.26
B366	30 FMJ BT 175gr	£17.26
B074	7.62mm FMJ 123gr	£16.60
B143	303 FMJ BT 174gr	£17.26
B437	303 FMJ BT 170gr NEW	£17.26
B348	8mm Match FMJ BT 198gr	£23.03
B351	8mm 185gr Grom	£29.00
B323	30 Grom 170gr	£26.55
B140	38 158gr RNFP	£7.15
B339	38 FPJ 158gr	£16.44
B221	44 FPJ 180gr	£19.30
B180	45 FMJ 230gr	£19.30

SP - Soft Point
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SPBT - Soft Point Boat Tail
PSPBT - Pointed Soft Point Boat Tail
SPRN - Soft Point Round Nose
FSP - Flat Soft Point
HPBT - Hollow Point Boat Tail
FPJ - Flat Point Jacket
FMJ - Full Metal Jacket
FMJRN - Full Metal Jacket Round Nose
FMJBT - Full Metal Jacket Boat Tail
RNFP - Round Nose Flat Point

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General Notices

Safe Shooter Certification Cards

Many of you will have a Certification card, either issued by the NRA directly or by your club chairman. Over the last few weeks there have been some issues and questions over the scheme such that it is perhaps worthwhile to set out what the scheme is and why it exists.

In 2008, the Ministry of Defence was considering whether it would continue to allow civilian shooting on its ranges. For many people, fullbore shooting is only possible on MoD ranges, so the withdrawal of access would have been catastrophic to the sport.

Given that importance, the NRA lobbied the MoD and agreed the Safe System of Shooting (SSS). This was developed through a collaboration between the Defence Land Ranges Safety Committee (DLRSC) and the NRA. Since the SSS's inception in 2008, the NRA has issued thousands of cards, either directly or through its affiliated club chairmen.

Under the SSS, shooters are certified as being competent in the safe use of various categories of firearms.

The requirements of the SSS are in addition to the long-standing MoD requirement for all civilian shooting on MoD ranges to be overseen by appropriately qualified Range Conducting Officers (RCOs).

It is no exaggeration to say that without the SSS, there would be no fullbore shooting in many parts of the country. Hence it is a vital scheme to our sport. In recent weeks there have been a few incidents where civilian shooting on MoD ranges has been placed under scrutiny. It is therefore imperative that all shooters appreciate the importance of this and of the responsibilities of individuals and club chairmen:

- All shooters on an MoD range must carry a valid, in-date Certification card
- The RCO must sign for the range personally and carry a valid, in-date RCO card.

The DLRSC is looking to tighten procedures among MoD range staff to ensure that these requirements are always met; it is in all of our interests to ensure that we fulfil our responsibilities.

The Cottage

The NRA is offering for lease to an individual member, or potentially two or more members as joint tenants, The Cottage, as a private dwelling for use in connection with the member's shooting at Bisley. The Cottage is offered for lease by informal tender on a full repairing and insuring basis for a term of just under 21 years. Unconditional rental offers are sought with the guide for the rent being £7,200 per annum initially – contact the Chief Executive's PA for more details.

The Cottage is located at Bisley on Club Row, next to Bunhill Lodge on the one side and the London and Middlesex Rifle Association on the other. Accommodation is laid out over two floors with a veranda to the entrance hall, three reception rooms, kitchen, boiler room, WC and rear entrance porch on the ground floor. On the first floor, stairs lead to a landing, three double bedrooms, a bathroom and WC. The effective floor area of The Cottage measures approximately 109.80sq/m (1,181.88sq/ft).

Externally, The Cottage benefits from enclosed gardens to the front and rear with views onto the Century Range. Outbuildings in the rear garden could be used for storage. Access to The Cottage is taken from Club Row and a right of access is reserved over the driveway to access the rear of Bunhill Lodge.

The Cottage requires some modernisation and improvements including redecorating throughout to bring it up to standard. The tenant will be required to carry out this work in liaison with the NRA's estate manager.

For further information including the schedule of recommended improvement works, the draft lease and the energy performance certificate, or to arrange a viewing, please email Libby Gendall on pamd@nra.org.uk or call 01483 797777 ext 142. ■



CHARLES MURTON



This September, Charles Murton stands down as a Trustee after six years in the post, with three of those years as vice-chairman. As a Trustee and Chief Executive, I have had the privilege of working with Charles for the last three of those years, and his commitment to the NRA has been extraordinary, his execution of the role of vice-chairman exemplary. A few words from Charles:

I first became an NRA volunteer in 2000 when I ran the stats for that year's Phoenix meeting. We used borrowed computers and software, which was a disaster, so we wrote a new database for gallery rifle and pistol competition scoring. That database is now used in all NRA GR&P competitions, as well as most of the 'open' events around the UK and in Ireland. Since the Phoenix 2000, I've been Chief Stats for every NRA GR&P competition at Bisley.

In 2005 I was persuaded to stand for the GR&P discipline rep role on General Council – and was elected. I therefore joined the Shooting Committee. In the years that followed I oversaw the introduction of the GR&P Handbook – the first consistent and standardised set of rules, courses of fire and classification system for the discipline. This is now used for all national and international GR&P competitions – and for most club-level shoots as well.

Later in 2005 I joined the Membership Committee and quickly ended up as its Vice Chairman. I worked very closely with the Chairman, James Watson, on the development of the membership strategy (simplification of the membership categories and reduction in fees) which resulted in a significant increase in the Association's membership.

In 2006 I was persuaded to stand for election as a trustee – and was successful. I continued my GR&P and Membership Committee roles in parallel. I also joined the Working Group which saved civilian shooting on MoD ranges by agreeing the Safe System of Shooting with the MoD.

In 2009 I was asked to stand as Vice Chairman of the Council. I agreed to take this on, but clearly could not fill this role as well as all the others. I had recently stood down from the Membership Committee and SSS Working Group because my NRA commitments had started to clash with my day job. I therefore also stood down as GR&P rep.

My main role as Vice Chairman has been to ensure that Council business was managed effectively and under proper governance. I have also brought to bear my experience as a shooter (mainly but not solely GR&P) and my knowledge of central government (while always being wary of potential conflicts of interest since I am a central government civil servant). I have been involved to some degree in almost every aspect of Council business – staff management, commercial contracts, risk, safety, competitions, training, discipline, governance, communications, incident management ... the list goes on.

My time on Council, and particularly as Vice Chairman, has seen massive change within the NRA – particularly (but not solely) the ongoing restructuring. John Jackman was Chairman when I first joined the Council; he was succeeded by Bill Richards and then by Robin Pizer. During this time, I saw various initiatives started but insufficiently supported, so they ran into the ground or were killed off – Bisley Camp development and NATSS being good examples. More recently, though, the Council has shown the collective will – and the Trustees the individual commitment – to actually drive through major change.

My experience of Council started as one of frustration – the Association clearly needed to change but there was enormous change resistance. I, and others on the Council, considered resigning more than once because we were so tired of banging our heads against a brick wall. I'm pleased to be able to say that, although the resulting workload for me has been huge (equivalent to a second day job over the past two years), things are now different. I leave post as Vice Chairman with a feeling of satisfaction rather than frustration – we have recognised our problems and we are doing something to fix them. It's been a painful process at times, particularly when it's involved giving staff bad news, but the alternative would have been far worse in the longer term. There is a great deal of hard work left to do – and I wish my fellow trustees luck with it – but I am confident that things are moving in the right direction.

When my term of office as a Trustee ends (at the end of the General Council meeting on 7 September 2012) I will also be standing down from the General Council. However, I will still be Chief Stats for the GR&P competitions so I will still be around the camp fairly often. I also plan to do more actual shooting.



GB & NRA TEAM CAPTAINS

Nominations are invited for Captains of the following teams :

- **Great Britain Kolapore Match 2013**
- **Great Britain Rifle Team to Canada 2014**
- **NRA Team to the Channel Islands 2014**

Nominations in writing, signed by three proposers all of whom must be full annual or life members of the NRA, must be received by the secretary general not later than 5pm on Friday 28 September.

South-east regional squad opens

The South East Region Rifle Squad has now formally adopted its constitution and appointed its management team.

The squad will aim to encourage the development of target shooting at the national and international level through providing coaching support, working with national governing bodies, and giving shooters a structured career path that leads from club level all the way up to national squad level and beyond.

Bob Sanderson, the south-east's regional performance manager, made an online statement saying: "We are still in the development phase, but we are looking for proficient small-bore and air rifle shooters to be nominated for membership of what is intended to once again become the leading regional squad.

"We will be holding an open day later in the year so anyone interested may come along and see what the squad has to offer."

Contact 07906 529747 or bs.seregion@gmail.com.





GREAT BRITAIN U25 TEAM TO SOUTH AFRICA 2013

I am honoured and delighted to have been appointed Captain of the Great Britain under-25 Rifle Team to South Africa 2013.

The tour is expected to last approximately three weeks between mid-March and early April 2013 and will include a few days' touring before and after the South African Bisley Meeting at Bloemfontein. More information about the tour and prior training weekends is available either by contacting me directly, or by joining the Facebook group "Great Britain Under 25 Rifle Team – South Africa 2013".

I welcome applications in writing or by email including a brief shooting/coaching CV together with full contact details from anyone who will be under 25 on 31 March 2013 who wishes to be considered for the tour. Applications should reach me not later than Friday 28 September.

Stuart Young
37 Temple Drive, Swinton, Manchester, M27 4EA
07833 461915 stuartyoung.sey@gmail.com



GB Rifle team set new record

The GB rifle team, led by captain Jeremy Langley, completed the second leg of its tour to the USA and Canada with an amazing series of successes at the DCRA championships.

David Luckman won both the Macdonald Stewart Grand Aggregate and the Governor General's prize, while the team won its three matches, culminating in a perfect score of 1200 (156v) in the Canada match (teams of eight, 2+10 at 300, 500 and 600 yards) – the first time this has ever been achieved in an international match.

Full report in the next NRA Journal.

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7.62x55 East German	£26/100	303 Blank	£54/100
7.62x55 Prv	£50/100	7.62x45 Blank	£30/100
9mm S&W & Bellet	£22.50/100	9mm FMJ Blank	£26/100
4571, Crowfoot	£56/100	50cal Blank	£1.20 each
48mag (240gr)	£56/100	7.62 Charger Clips	£3 per 20
4056R (150gr)	£42/100		
4056R (110gr)	£42/100		
357mag Crowfoot	£42/100		
5.56/223 mil spec	£36/100		
New 303 prv	£33/100		
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22LR American Eagle	£60/1000		
22 mini mag	£76.50/100		
7.62x45mm S&W	£29/100		
7.62x45 prv	£71/100		
7.62 (new S&W)	£29/100		
7.62 prv	£71/100		
7.62 x 51 Mil/Win	£43/100		
7.62 x 51 S&W/Win	£43/100		
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Marksman's Calendar

All the events for the rest of 2012, and some provisional dates for 2013. All events at the National Shooting Centre, Bisley, unless otherwise stated.

SEPTEMBER

01 COMBINED SERVICES V CIVIL SERVICE

ATSC TR Captain, atsccaptain@gmail.com

02 ATSC V HAC

ATSC TR Captain, atsccaptain@gmail.com

02 RAFTRC V LMRA

RAFTRC Match Secretary, 07974 128462,
karen@bang.eclipse.co.uk

02 METHODS OF INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP

Phyllis Farnan, 01483 797777 x 150, training@nra.org.uk

08-09 NRC OF SCOTLAND OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS (BLAIR ATHOLL (SCOTLAND))

Tim Kidner, 01224 321468, tk762@aol.com

14 NRA SHOOTING CLUB DAY

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

15 EAST OF SCOTLAND MEETING (BLAIR ATHOLL (SCOTLAND))

Major (Ret'd) RJ Aitken, 0131 445 1948,
baifkenshooting@btinternet.com

15-16 RANGE CONDUCTING OFFICER COURSE

Maureen Peach, 01483 797777 x 149,
maureen.peach@nra.org.uk

15 LMRA AFFILIATED CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIPS (PAIRS)

LMRA, 01483 473006, secretary@lmra.co.uk

15-16 SURREY RIFLE ASSOCIATION OPEN MEETING

Surrey Rifle Association, 01483 473159,
secretary@surreyra.org

16 ATSC V CITY

ATSC TR Captain, atsccaptain@gmail.com

21 COUNTY OF LANCASTER V LMRA

County of Lancaster RA, secretary@clra.org.uk

22-23 LMRA OPEN TR MEETING

LMRA, 01483 473006, secretary@lmra.co.uk

23 GLOUCESTERSHIRE OPEN AUTUMN MEETING

Simon Cox, 01242 512711, shandmacox@talktalk.net

23 NRA SHOOTING CLUB DAY

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

23 SURREY LEAGUE ROUND 3

Surrey Rifle Association, 01483 473159,
secretary@surreyra.org

23 SURREY RA WESTCOTT CUP

Surrey Rifle Association, 01483 473159,
secretary@surreyra.org

27-30 COMMONWEALTH SHOOTING FEDERATION (EUROPEAN DIVISION) CHAMPIONSHIPS (JERSEY (CHANNEL ISLANDS))

Derek Bernard, 01534 769460, DB@TSLjersey.com

29-30 LMRA V SCOTTISH RA (BLAIR ATHOLL (SCOTLAND))

LMRA, 01483 473006, secretary@lmra.co.uk

29-30 THE ENGLISH EIGHT CLUB AND IRISH EIGHT CLUB AUTUMN MEETING

English VIII, bill@englisheight.co.uk

29 COUNTY DURHAM OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS (BATTLE HILL, CO DURHAM)

Graeme Clarke, 01642 890740, graeme.clarke1@ntlworld.com

29-30 TEES VALLEY TARGET SPORTS CLUB METCALFE CUP

Tees Valley Target Sports, david.hart1@sky.com

OCTOBER

06 CIVIL SERVICE SPORTS COUNCIL CHAMPIONSHIP

Nigel Thomas, 01992 630981, nigel.thomas430@ntlworld.com

06 CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE COMPETITION

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

06-07 WIND COACHING COURSE

Phyllis Farnan, 01483 797777 x 150, training@nra.org.uk

06 BISLEY CLUBS MATCH

NLRC, captain@nlrc.org

06-07 F CLASS LEAGUE ROUND 6

(Blair Atholl (Scotland)) Des Parr, desparr@yahoo.com

07 CITY OF NEWCASTLE RC OPEN

(Ponteland, Newcastle (England)) Keith Pugh, 01670 772234, keithpugh@hotmail.com

07 ATSC V LMRA V U25S

ATSC TR Captain, atsccaptain@gmail.com

13-14 RANGE CONDUCTING OFFICER COURSE

Maureen Peach, 01483 797777 x 149,
maureen.peach@nra.org.uk

13-14 EUROPEAN LONG RANGE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Karen Robertson, 01483 797777 x 146, karen@nra.org.uk

13 NRA SHOOTING CLUB DAY

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

20-21 CLUB INSTRUCTOR COURSE - GENERAL SKILLS

Phyllis Farnan, 01483 797777 x 150, training@nra.org.uk

20-21 TRAFALGAR MEETING

Chris Farr, chris.farr@nra.org.uk

23 NRA SHOOTING CLUB DAY

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

27-28 AGES MATCH

Karen Robertson, 01483 797777 x 146, karen@nra.org.uk

27-28 CLUB COACH COURSE

Phyllis Farnan, 01483 797777 x 150, training@nra.org.uk

27-28 GALLERY RIFLE - AUTUMN ACTION WEEKEND

Chris Farr, chris.farr@nra.org.uk

NOVEMBER

01 F-CLASS GB SQUAD TEAM TRAINING

Mik Maksimovic, 01780 481567, mik@mikdolphin.demon.co.uk

02-04 F CLASS EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Mik Maksimovic, 01780 481567, mik@mikdolphin.demon.co.uk

04 CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE COMPETITION

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

10 TARGET SHOTGUN FESTIVAL

Brian Thomas, 01483 797777 x 148, brian.thomas@nra.org.uk

10-11 RANGE CONDUCTING OFFICER COURSE

Maureen Peach, 01483 797777 x 149,
maureen.peach@nra.org.uk

14 NRA SHOOTING CLUB DAY

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

25 NRA SHOOTING CLUB DAY

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

DECEMBER

01 NRA SHOOTING CLUB DAY

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

01 CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE COMPETITION

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

08-09 RANGE CONDUCTING OFFICER COURSE

Maureen Peach, 01483 797777 x 149, maureen.peach@nra.org.uk

08 NRA SHOOTING CLUB XMAS SHOOT

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

16 RCO (HME) COURSE

Maureen Peach, 01483 797777 x 149, maureen.peach@nra.org.uk

JANUARY 2013

6 NRA CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE, WINTER LEAGUE

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

12 GALLERY RIFLE XMAS SHOOT

Chris Farr, chris.farr@nra.org.uk

19 VOLUNTEERS CHRISTMAS SOCIAL AND SHOOT

Brian Thomas, brian.thomas@nra.org.uk

FEBRUARY 2013

2 NRA CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE, WINTER LEAGUE

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

16 NRA TARGET SHOTGUN FESTIVAL

Brian Thomas, 01483 797777 x 148, brian.thomas@nra.org.uk

MARCH 2013

3 NRA CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE, WINTER LEAGUE

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

23-24 NRA SPRING ACTION WEEKEND

Chris Farr, chris.farr@nra.org.uk

APRIL 2013

6 NRA CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE, WINTER LEAGUE

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

MAY 2013

4 NRA OPEN DAY

18-19 NRA 300-METRE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Shooting Division, shootsec@nra.org.uk

24-26 NRA PHOENIX MEETING

Chris Farr, chris.farr@nra.org.uk

27 PHOENIX INTERNATIONAL MATCH

Chris Farr, chris.farr@nra.org.uk

JUNE 2013

15-16 INTER-COUNTIES MEETING

Karen Robertson, 01483 797777 x 146, karen@nra.org.uk

21 JUNE – 5 JULY ARMY OPERATIONAL

SHOOTING CHAMPIONSHIPS

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26-30 CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE MEETING

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

3 NRA MILITARY ADAPTIVE SHOOTING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Olaf Jones, olaf.jones@tesco.net

JULY 2013

6-7 INTER-SERVICE CADET MEETING

LMRA, 01483 473006, secretary@lmra.co.uk



6-7 IMPERIAL HISTORIC ARMS MEETING

Chris Farr, chris.farr@nra.org.uk

6-11 IMPERIAL MATCH RIFLE EVENTS

LMRA, 01483 473006, secretary@lmra.co.uk

8-11 IMPERIAL SCHOOLS MEETING

Phyllis Farnan, 01483 797777 x 150, training@nra.org.uk

10-14 IMPERIAL PISTOL AND GALLERY RIFLE EVENTS

Chris Farr, chris.farr@nra.org.uk

11-20 IMPERIAL TARGET RIFLE EVENTS

Karen Robertson, 01483 797777 x 146, karen@nra.org.uk

12-20 IMPERIAL F-CLASS EVENTS

Karen Robertson, 01483 797777 x 146, karen@nra.org.uk

20 HM QUEEN'S FINAL

Karen Robertson, 01483 797777 x 146, karen@nra.org.uk

AUGUST 2013**24-25 GALLERY RIFLE NATIONAL****CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Chris Farr, chris.farr@nra.org.uk

SEPTEMBER 2013**7 NRA OPEN DAY**

Libby Gendall, 01483 797777 x 142, libby.gendall@nra.org.uk

OCTOBER 2013**5 CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE**

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

12 OCTOBER OR 9 NOVEMBER**AUTUMN TARGET SHOTGUN FESTIVAL**

Brian Thomas, 01483 797777 x 148, brian.thomas@nra.org.uk

19-20 TRAFALGAR MEETING

Chris Farr, chris.farr@nra.org.uk

26-27 AUTUMN ACTION WEEKEND

Chris Farr, chris.farr@nra.org.uk

26-27 AGES MATCH

Karen Robertson, 01483 797777 x 146, karen@nra.org.uk

NOVEMBER 2013**3 CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE**

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

DECEMBER 2013**7 CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE**

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

OTHER DATES OF INTEREST**LAST AND FIRST DAYS OF SHOOTING****2012/13:****23 December and 3 January****29 March – Good Friday** – Offices and ranges closed all day**1 April – Easter Monday** – Offices closed all day, ranges closed PM**6 May – Early May bank holiday** – Offices closed all day, ranges closed PM**27 May – Spring bank holiday** – Offices closed all day, ranges closed PM**26 August – Summer bank holiday** – Offices closed all day, ranges closed PM

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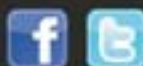
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