

# NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION JOURNAL



Winter 2012 – Volume XCI No. 4

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# NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Winter 2012 – Volume XCI – Number 4



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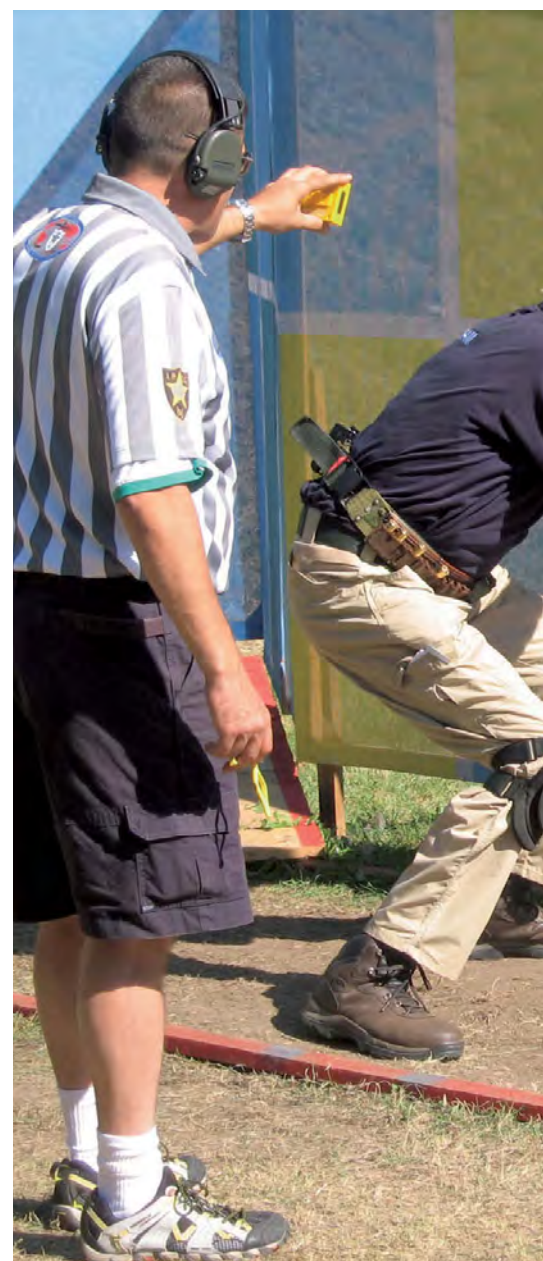
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# Welcome

## HANDING OVER THE REINS

Outgoing chief executive Derrick Mabbott signs off and introduces new chief exec Andrew Mercer

**N**ovember sees our permanent chief executive Andrew Mercer take up his post. Having taken a central role in his selection and spent considerable time with him in advance of him joining and since he started, I am confident we have a chief executive who is entirely capable of meeting the challenges we face.

In my 16 months in post, I have seen considerable change within the NRA, and that change must continue. We are far from what we should be: a truly national governing body that represents all fullbore shooting in the UK. To make that a reality, we need to generate far more money than we do today. That is the only way we will be able to afford the resources to grow the sport and represent and lobby for fullbore shooting in the way that all members would wish.

Bisley is the home of our sport, the base for the NRA and the only means we have of generating the kinds of revenues we need to make our ambitions a reality. Sadly as we all know it has been starved of funds for a considerable period, and we face a maintenance backlog before we can begin developing the facilities we would wish here too. Another tilt at toilet cleaning seems to have finally made a difference, with a transfer of responsibilities to a member of staff who is giving renewed focus on this work. I am sure that Andrew will continue to focus on this lightning rod issue. A winter programme of redecoration of many of the toilet and shower blocks should help, but the real answer is substantive refurbishment.

Ultimately, the refurbishment of Bisley as a whole remains a key priority, with the generation of funds to achieve it a huge undertaking.

Training has been a key focus over the last few months, with a large Sport England grant being used to subsidise RCO and coach training. The training team, led by Richard Blackmore, has made tremendous efforts on this, drumming up interest both at Bisley courses and, importantly, courses in other parts of the country.

A further innovation from the newly combined membership and training department is the Young Marksman Club, with its first meeting on 1 December. This affords 30 shooters under the age of 16 to try out air pistol, air rifle and .22 gallery rifle under close supervision, with a view to introducing them to the sport. This activity brings Winans Range back into service. An email to the membership filled the course in 24 hours and we look forward to growing both this category of membership and the use of this venerable range.

We have made strides in terms of our profitability, but there is still much to do. The transformation of the NRA into a more disciplined and commercial organisation must be pursued further, and its customer focus enhanced. I am absolutely confident that Andrew Mercer will carry this forward with great success. All that remains is for me to thank the staff for their determined efforts over the last 16 months. They have gone through a great deal of change and that will be the norm from now on – we cannot stand still. ■



# ONE WEEK IN

New chief executive Andrew Mercer reports on his first week in the job



I have now completed my first few days with the NRA and found the experience fascinating if not a little confusing. We have assets and resources that range from potentially world class to woeful, and a rich heritage that creates a unique atmosphere for the association and camp.

I have shot since I was six years old and have lived in Wiltshire for most of my life but I had never been to Bisley – finding such terrific facilities so close to London has been a revelation. My first week included an hour on the ranges with a variety of rifles – great fun, and I felt the seductive draw of target shooting and now have a basic understanding of the disciplines. To shoot a few rounds through a Lee Enfield was a particular delight.

To a simple soul like me, the delivery of a good Bisley experience appears uncomplicated – an obvious arrival to the camp, clear signage to direct you to your destination, suitably engineered roads and car parking, the provision of attractive ranges and clean toilets, and the opportunity to enjoy good quality food

and beverages. Improving this experience must be a key priority for 2013 and each and every future year.

To fund this development we need to develop new profitable income streams, work efficiently and squeeze value through applying rigorous commercial disciplines throughout our work. New income streams must be complementary to the spirit and atmosphere of the camp and focus on improving the use of our existing resources.

The relationship with our membership and affiliated clubs is of course complicated, but we share a common goal to see Bisley and the sport of shooting flourish. I had the privilege of meeting members of the Sperry Shooting Club, and was struck by their genuine affection for Bisley and desire to see the NRA succeed.

The enthusiasm and professionalism of our volunteers, coaches, trainers and staff is a delight, and their continued support will be critical in the reinvigoration of Bisley and the Association. I am looking forward to attending the many events and competitions in the coming year and meeting members. ■

# News

## NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE TAKES UP POST

The NRA Council is delighted to announce that on 19 November 2012 Andrew Mercer has taken up the new post of Chief Executive of the NRA following the restructuring of the NRA.

Andrew takes over from Derrick Mabbott, who has been acting chief executive since August 2011. During this time he has carried out the restructuring agreed by the Trustees, who are very grateful to Derrick for doing this unenviable, difficult but very necessary task. Derrick remains for a short time in a part-time role to effect a handover

before returning to his career in the insurance industry.

Andrew joins us from the Lowther Castle and Gardens Trust, where he was 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.

Please join me in welcoming Andrew to the NRA.

**Robin Pizer, NRA Chairman**

## NRA SEEKS TRUSTEES

The NRA is looking for four unpaid charity trustees to fill vacancies in the NRA council.

Trustees are sought with skills in the following categories: civil or commercial engineering; human resources; accountancy; public relations; and staff management.

The board of trustees, who are unpaid volunteers, meets six or more times a year,

each meeting requiring about a day and a half of the trustee's time to review reports and attend the meeting. In addition, there is a regular flow of email traffic between meetings, which often requires specific input from one or more trustee.

The total time commitment is probably about 20-25 days a year, most of which

requires time in the evening or at weekends. This is expected to reduce substantially over the next year.

Applications are open until 2 January and appointments are expected in February. If you are interested, please contact chairman Robin Pizer on [rpizer@pizer1.demon.co.uk](mailto:rpizer@pizer1.demon.co.uk).

## USA AND CANADA TEAM BREAKS RECORDS

The GB rifle team, led by captain Jeremy Langley, completed its tour of the USA and Canada with an amazing set of successes at the DCRA Championships in Ontario.

Team GB won all three of the



team events it entered, setting records along the way, while there were several individual successes to behold as well.

The Outlander, for teams visiting Canada from overseas, saw Britain top the standings on a score of 1186.130 ahead of Australia on 1171.101 and the USA on 1161.97.

The following day, 24 August, saw the Commonwealth match, at 800 and 900 metres. Remarkably, the British managed the same aggregate score it had the day before: its 1186.134 saw

off Canada's 1177.144 and the USA's 1154.96 to take top position.

But it was in the Canada Match that the team truly excelled, with an astonishing 1200 perfect score with 156 v-bulls. This is certainly a record score, and is believed to be the only time a perfect 1200 has been fired in an international match.

David Luckman, meanwhile, did the 'double' by winning both the Grand Aggregate and the Governor General's Prize.

**Full results at [www.dkra.ca](http://www.dkra.ca).**



## 2012: A LEGACY AFTER ALL?

Though much is yet to be determined, British Shooting has revealed the first details about the legacy we may get from the Olympic and Paralympic Games in London this year.

British Shooting released a statement that said: "British Shooting has submitted its business case to UK Sport for funding for the next four years into the 2012 Olympic Games in Rio.

"The level of funding agreed by UK Sport to support British Shooting performance should be known in January 2013."

The organisational body also said it was working to ensure as

much of the equipment used at the temporary shooting venue at the Royal Artillery Barracks was used to benefit target shooters across the UK.

It said shooting's governing bodies would be responsible for distributing the equipment, and that no item would be sold on for profit.



## GB IS A CLASS ACT

Great Britain came out on top in both the Open and F/TR disciplines of the F Class European Championships at Bisley on 4-6 November.

Three competition days saw six individual matches – two each at 800, 900, and 1,000 yards over Friday and Saturday – all two-sighters plus 15 score shots bar Saturday afternoon's 20-shot 1,000-yarder. Sunday morning was team matches, and everything wound up with a three-way prizegiving, the third

part for the now completed GB league championship season.

Conditions gradually worsened throughout the weekend. Those who shot early had light winds and high scores, but fast rising, vicious westerlies saw the last F/TR shooters on Sunday need 18MOA of windage.

Lee Tomlinson topped the individual standings for Open, while Tim Stewart took F/TR ahead of Italian Fabrizio Giuggia.

**Full results at [www.gbclass.co.uk](http://www.gbclass.co.uk).**

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### TONY LOUGHNAN

As the Journal was going to press, we learned that AM (Tony) Loughnan, a former president of the NRA of New Zealand, has sadly died. Tony captained the New Zealand team in the Palma match in 2011, and the debt owed to him in his defence of ranges and rifle shooting is enormous. Our thoughts are with those close to him.

#### AIRGUN CLUB GETS APPROVAL

Blackburn Outdoor Airgun Club was given conditional approval to shoot on agricultural land, having originally set up hides without planning permission. The hides were originally made of profiled metal sheet, but after they were modified to be clad in timber, Blackburn with Darwen council chose to approve the club's planning permission application on the condition that it came up with a woodland management plan within three months.

#### BIDEFORD'S LAST CHANCE

Bideford Rifle Club, which has shot at a temporary location for two and a half years, faces a race against time to find a new venue by April 2013. The club shot at Grenville College until it closed in 2010, and was given a two-year permission to stay at the site, which was then extended by a year. The club is looking at a site in Shaplands, Barnstaple, but would need other sports clubs to join it to make the proposal viable. If you have a suggestion, email it to [bidefordrc@hotmail.com](mailto:bidefordrc@hotmail.com).



# YOUR *Views*

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

## TWENTY'S PLENTY

Dear editor,

The letter from Mike Wood in the Autumn edition, in which he showed concern for the increasing costs of shooting and the need for both NRA members and the Association to manage their respective finances more carefully than ever, unfortunately focused on his decision not to shoot in the English XX Spring Meeting. On behalf of the English XX Council, might I say that we are not unaware of increasing costs, and our 2012 meeting issued ammunition at a cost we believe to be well below that of other issued ammunition at Bisley. In doing so, our numbers of entries were down by only 15 on the previous year, and of the 95 entries received, 68 were for the Grand Aggregate.

In 2013, the Spring Meeting will allow the use of any 7.62 ammunition, including handloads, as specified in NRA Rule 150, thereby enabling competitors choice and the option of using the cheapest ammunition available. The format of the weekend matches will also be changed to enable competitors to be more flexible in their entry.

**Richard Horrocks**  
President, The English XX Club



**Ammunition awareness:**  
The English XX Spring Meeting will allow competitors to pick their own 7.62 ammo

## REST EASY

Dear editor,

In a recent *NRA Journal* article about rifle bipods, one in particular caught my eye: the so-called Rigby bipod previously distributed by RUAG. RUAG redirected me to the manufacturer, Robert Taylor of J Mark Engineering, who I visited in North London at his workshops.

It is incredibly strong, well engineered and solid and designed so one bipod will fit any number or type of rifle. Many accessories are available.

Mr Taylor is a real engineer, incredibly helpful and friendly. As a hunter myself, and a long-time shooter of all guns, I like quality and this item fits the bill.

I highly recommend this bipod, which far outclasses anything else I have seen. A Royal Marine sniper friend agreed.

**Michael Jay**

## BIG FEES

Dear editor,

I recently sent off my application to renew my RCO certificate. To quote Derrick Mabbott in the Summer edition of the *Journal*: "Being an RCO is an important role in shooting. Not just on MoD ranges, either – it is best practice in any context."

What Derrick does say is that has a price. Apart from the understandable initial course charge, there is a further £36 every time you renew the certificate. The renewal is based on certification by the club secretary and not appraisal by the NRA. In administrative terms, the renewal of this card can be no different to the issue of Shooter Certification cards. So why the vast difference in cost?

Then the NRA makes a charge for a copy of the current edition of the RCO's manual. This is a safety matter, and every RCO should be encouraged to have the latest information. Why not put it on the website and let us download it free, like the *Journal* or the *Bisley Bible*?

If we are to encourage people to hold this qualification, the NRA must justify its charges, or it will be subsidising members to gain the qualification and actively deterring them from renewing.

**David Pay**

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# Future developments



## The NRA's new head of membership and training Richard Blackmore on how the Association will serve its members in 2013

Let me begin by introducing myself. My name is Richard Blackmore and I am the head of membership and training at the National Rifle Association. I have been in the post for three months, and what a whirlwind three months it has been.

As many of you will know from the communication sent to members on my appointment, my career background is within the health and fitness sector where I spent 15 years working for three different companies, culminating in five years as sales and membership director at the Fitness Industry Association (FIA), which is the trade body for the sector. During my time with the FIA I successfully built new benefits for members, promoted the sector to gain funding for training and development, and delivered improved communications so members felt a part of the association.

I intend to use these skills to help build further value for NRA members and to show to external partners and associations that as the national governing body for fullbore shooting, we are meeting our objectives.

### Training and development

One of my first challenges has been to work with the training team to ensure we deliver to our members the opportunity to engage in RCO and club coach courses, for which funding was secured from Sport England. The funding allowed the NRA to offer courses with up to a 60

per cent reduction on the fees, making them accessible and therefore helping to grow the number of recognised RCO and Club Coaches across the sport. Importantly, this presents to the 'outside world' that as a sport we continue to 'up-skill' our participants and that the sport will evolve and grow safely.

The RCO courses for October, November and December have had over 200 attendees at Bisley and regionally across England. Courses for early 2013 are already filling up fast and I anticipate that by the time you read this article, we will have hit our Sport England targets – great news for attaining future funding and showing the appetite NRA members have to continually develop the sport.

Owing to the phenomenal demand and the continued emphasis on expanding the training available, we have opened a new training centre located behind the HAC building, which can hold up to 75 students and be divided into two classrooms, allowing us to provide more training courses.

It is important in the current economic climate to offer courses and development at a cost that is affordable to the membership and those wishing to take up the sport, so for 2013 we will look to create commercial partnerships and secure funding that will allow us to keep costs at a minimum.

### Individual membership fee

I am able to announce that 2013 individual membership fees will remain the same as in 2012. Although I hope that is seen as positive news by the membership, the challenge for 2013 is for members to receive tangible benefits for their membership. For the NRA to continue growing and representing fullbore shooting across the UK,



New development: Training courses offered by the NRA will be given a boost by the new training centre

members need to see value in belonging to the association.

Over 2013 I will look to increase the number of benefits available with membership, ranging from those that will provide a financial gain through to those that continue to promote and protect the sport. I would also ask that if members wish to make suggestions for new benefits or have something they would like to offer, please contact me and I would be delighted to discuss further.

### Communication

Over the next 12 months it is also my intention to develop the communication channels to the membership and beyond.

From January 2013, all NRA members will receive a monthly communication by email, which will inform them of all the relevant news, training, competition and membership updates. To ensure you receive this, please make sure we have your email address, which you can update via the NRA website members' area.

There is also an opportunity to develop the NRA website so it can contain all the information members need to know – from competition results to the booking of ranges – while also welcoming potential members to shooting and allowing them to

understand the procedures on becoming involved in the sport.

The NRA has also created Facebook and Twitter accounts, which over 2013 will continue with their activity. With the explosion of social media in the last five years, it is important we use every channel to promote the sport of fullbore shooting and show that we are progressive and welcoming to new shooters. Currently 334 people follow the NRA on Twitter and 459 have liked the NRA Facebook page, and I will look to increase this over 2013 so it allows members to choose the best way to view communications from the NRA.

I look forward to delivering tangible benefits, quality training and improved communication to ensure the NRA moves forward as the governing body for fullbore shooting. ■

#### SOCIAL MEDIA



**facebook.com/NRAUK**  
**twitter.com/NRAofUK**

#### CONFIRMED 2013 COURSE DATES

<b>12-13 Jan</b>	TR Skills & Club Instructor
<b>19-20 Jan</b>	Range Conducting Officer
<b>26-27 Jan</b>	Handloading
<b>23-24 Feb</b>	Club Instructor
<b>3 Mar</b>	Range Conducting Officer High Muzzle Energy
<b>3 Mar</b>	Gallery Rifle
<b>09-10 Mar</b>	Club Coach
<b>16-17 Mar</b>	Range Conducting Course
<b>30-31 Mar</b>	Club Instructor
<b>06-07 Mar</b>	Wind
<b>11-12 May</b>	Range Conducting Officer
<b>19 May</b>	Gallery Rifle
<b>22-23 Jun</b>	Range Conducting Officer



Members of all ages will benefit from increased communication via emails and social media



# Rimfire round-up

**It's not just the Ruger – there are a host of .22 semi-auto rifles and events out there to interest target shooters. Tim Finley tests a few out**

**S**emi-automatic .22 calibre rimfire rifles are the only self-loading rifles we now have in the UK for target shooting. There are two distinct types of target shooting they are used for, and I have competed and won in both. They are the gallery rifle events stemming from pistol events run before the ban on pistols, and 'mini-rifle' events based on short-range pistol competitions from the other side of the pond. You may see a common thread here: both types of competitive shooting are derived from pistol shooting but can be shot effectively and with the same degree of shooter satisfaction as a pistol – well, almost.

Gallery rifle events are mostly shot on turning target systems. Many clubs have these systems, as does the National Shooting Centre at Bisley where national matches are shot. The exposure times (the time a target is

facing the shooter) can be as little as three seconds for two shots, so that's where a semi-auto rifle is needed. Bolt-action rifles do not cut the mustard.

Ruger 10/22 rifles dominate in sheer numbers owing to their relative cheapness and availability. That's not to say you cannot get other .22 semi-auto target rifles. It's just that the aftermarket parts for add-on barrels, stocks and the other things you need to make the gun function are vast for the venerable 10/22. Other makes cannot

be readily fitted with lighter triggers or more accurate barrels.

You could buy a standard Ruger 10/22 and shoot it 'out of the box' in gallery rifle events, but you would not figure near the top end of the results. The main factor behind this is the heaviness of the standard trigger, but the type of stock also plays a part. The standard trigger can range from 5lb to 7lb in weight; gallery rifle events require accuracy, and a heavy trigger pull is not what you want or need to achieve the level of accuracy for these competitions. The head position on the stock is also vital, as you have only seconds to get the correct head/eye/reticle/target alignment.

As an experiment I took a standard 10/22 and shot it at 50 metres, then had the trigger tuned by Rimfire Magic and shot it again at 50 metres with the same ammo and scope and from the same sitting shooting position.

{ If you have a jam  
in mini-rifle, you  
cannot hope to win }



Rimfire Magic gallery rifle



Rimfire Magic mini-rifle gun



Standard Ruger 10/22

I then changed the standard barrel for a Green Mountain match chambered barrel, but kept on the standard sporter-style stock, shot it again at 50 metres and finally fitted the action into a more ergonomic target stock with a better cheekpiece and deeper forend and tested it again.

The results showed that just a trigger tune vastly improves the accuracy of a 10/22. This is not to say you may need to re-barrel a 10/22 – many standard Ruger barrels are exceptional shooters. I shoot a standard 10/22 barrel myself for mini-rifle events, although not for its accuracy – but more of that later. What I was trying to prove was that it makes more sense to buy a custom-made target rifle rather than thinking you can buy a standard gun and hope to win anything.

Another semi-automatic .22 sometimes seen at gallery rifle events is the Remington 597. If money is no object, on the other hand, you could buy an American-made Volquartsen action. More commonly, shooters fit the renowned Volquartsen carbon fibre barrel to Ruger 10/22s. Other aftermarket barrels to look for come from Whistle Pig, Tactical Innovations and Green Mountain.

There is another action built in the UK based on the 10/22 but with its small faults designed out. It is also readily available as there is none of the messing about with USA customs. I'm talking about the Rimfire Magic action. I use such an action with a Volquartsen 12in carbon fibre barrel for gallery rifle events. Rather than a bolt-on scope rail, it has an integral Picatinny scope rail machined into the solid aluminium block of the action.

Stocks play a big part in any success in gallery rifle shooting, and Bell and Carlson and Boyds' target stocks are firm favourites. Shooters can either stick with a stock to suit their handedness, or go for an ambidextrous design. Certain gallery rifle competitions force the shooter to use their gun from their 'weak' shoulder.

Ammunition tends to be SK or Geco standard velocity, and you'll need a variable magnification telescopic sight with some form of parallax adjustment and target turrets. You know the range you are going to shoot at, so you can dial in the range and set your parallax for a perfect sight picture and the ability to aim dead on the v-bull.

When it comes to mini-rifle shooting, the choice of rifle available is much larger than for gallery rifle. The guns are also normally cheaper and tend to be copies of military or tactical rifles. Most of these 'black guns' need little or no further modifications to make them competitive. With mini-rifle, the gun needs to be able to take a 25-round magazine as a minimum and also be ultra-reliable in operation.

Sights are much more basic than in gallery rifle, with lower optical sight magnifications. Red dots or even open sights can be used. I shot with a GSG-5 and a red dot sight when I started shooting mini-rifle some four years ago. I now use a Rimfire Magic rifle with Ruger BX-25 magazines in a Tapco tactical stock and a Leupold 3-9x33 mil-dot scope. As I mentioned before, it has a standard stainless steel Ruger barrel cut down to 12½in, fitted with a muzzle brake. The generous chamber sizing and the fact that I use high velocity ammunition means it feeds without jamming – if you have a jam in mini-rifle, you cannot hope to win.

Other .22LR rimfires used at our club include Ruger 10/22s, SIG 522s, Heckler & Koch 416s, Southern Gun Company V22s and Spikes Tacticals. Two guns to consider in particular are the Smith and Wesson M&P15-22 and the Ruger SR-22. I have tested the Ruger SR-22 and found it to be the best Ruger I have ever shot 'out of the box'. It would be quite capable of winning a mini-rifle event just by fitting a scope and banging in a Ruger BX-25 magazine.

Target-style light triggers are not needed or desired for mini-rifle. It is a fire-with-movement event and safety is the primary consideration – a 1½lb hair trigger would be a liability. The guns have to be capable of good accuracy but not at the expense of reliability.

At the last competition I



**10/22 TEST RESULTS**

	Groups	Average C/C group 50m
<b>Out of the box</b>	2.54 2.43 2.21 2.61	2.45in
<b>Trigger tuned</b>	1.78 1.81 1.59 1.71	1.72in
<b>Rebarrelled</b>	0.84 0.92 0.85 0.82	0.86in
<b>Rebarrelled + stock</b>	0.69 0.66 0.67 0.64	0.67in

ran, a shooter turned up with his Ruger 10/22 fitted with a Volquartsen Snake barrel, and wondered why it was jamming all the while when he was rapidly firing it. Such a barrel is capable of stunning groups at 100 yards, but the chamber is just too tight for mini-rifle – unless it is kept spotlessly clean, it will jam. Also, the barrel is too long and heavy – it is not possible to transition from target to target as fast as say, my 305mm lightweight standard barrelled rifle. The clue is in the name, mini for mini-rifle. The gun has to be light and very pointable.

Ammunition choice steers towards higher velocity makes as these help with the cycling of the action. I use CCI MiniMag for mini-rifle and have found it does not cause jamming issues even when used in differing ambient temperatures – something you have to bear in mind when shooting outdoors in the UK climate.

Guns have to be capable of being shot either left- or right-handed. Shooters are forced to shoot from either side of barricades during a stage. You need to be able to manipulate the controls of a mini-rifle during the stage as it involves magazine changes and clearing possible jams. An extended bolt handle on 10/22-type actions is a must, along with large magazine catch levers. I made my own, which extends down in front of the pistol grip so I can operate it just by flicking the fingers of my trigger hand out while they are still on the grip, dropping the magazine while the forward supporting hand has already left the forward grip and has a fresh magazine ready to push into the now open magazine well.

Mini-rifle does not involve the expensive turning targets needed for gallery events. I have manufactured challenging targets made from wood to blank off the cardboard coffins used in mini-rifle as the competitor shoots. This means it can be shot at more clubs than a gallery rifle. There are no real standard courses of fire – it is only limited by the course setter’s imagination. As long as it is safe it can get very interesting.

Gallery rifle and mini-rifle are two very differing styles of shooting and need rifles with differing characteristics. As for which is best – I cannot think of ever not shooting either sport. ■



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# Historic MEETING

**NRA gallery rifle representative Neil Francis, assisted by Neil Roberts, reports on the high scores, tough stats and obscure disciplines on offer at the 2012 Trafalgar Meeting**



**T**he 2012 HM Diamond Jubilee year coincided with the 26th anniversary of the Trafalgar Historic Arms Meeting held at Bisley over the weekend of 20-21 October. For those unfamiliar with the Trafalgar, it brings together the largest array of shooting competitions for the historic arms shooter available anywhere in the country. To be accurate, this year it was 205.

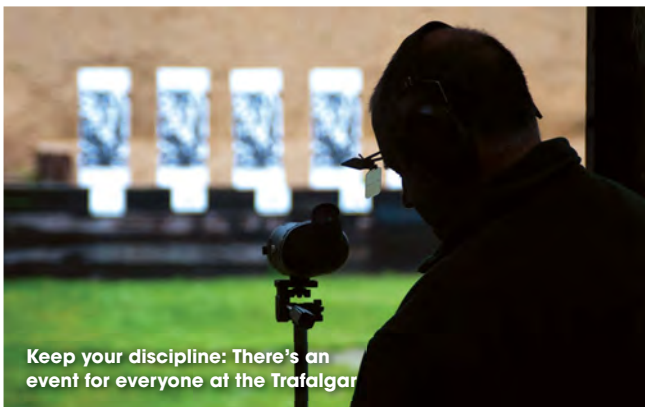
Eligible firearms do not have to be manufactured in the relevant era – only in the spirit of it. For example, a modern-

day Marlin 1894 is eligible, as are Browning takedowns, Enfields of many types, black powder cap and ball revolvers and pistols and, of course, hundreds more too numerous to list here. A complete list of rifles used in recent years is being compiled as we speak as a personal project, and will be available on [galleryrifle.com](http://galleryrifle.com) in due course.

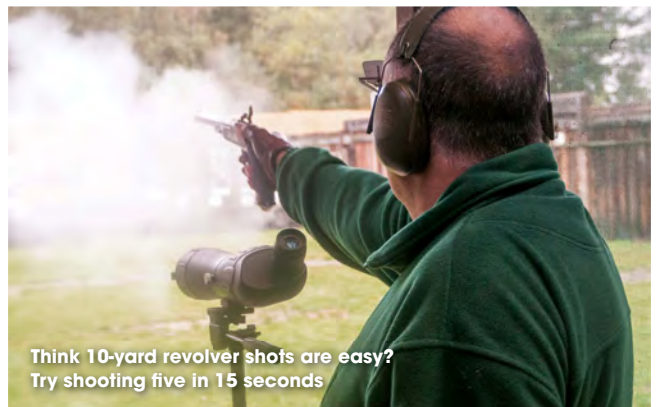
Let's analyse the meeting – though maybe not too much, as at this point the brains of the show are set to autopilot. The planning and preparation is complete and we are well

and truly into the operational phase. If the eyes and ears of the meeting are the ROs out on the ranges, then the stats crew are probably the beating heart of the process. All scorecards flow to them, and they turn the show from what would be a casual plink down at the range into the Trafalgar.

This year the decision was made not to start the stats office until the Saturday afternoon. This allowed those not normally able to see the autumnal daylight to get out on the ranges and enjoy the sights and smells.



**Keep your discipline: There's an event for everyone at the Trafalgar**



**Think 10-yard revolver shots are easy? Try shooting five in 15 seconds**

The weather stayed kind for the most part, breaking only towards the back end of the Sunday afternoon when the wind started to pick up. All of Saturday and Sunday morning blessed competitors with very little wind and light mist. The latter mixing in with the black powder residues coming from many ranges across the camp made for some interesting photo opportunities.

So, having released myself from the salubrious environment that is the stats office, I found myself with a morning free to avail

myself of some shooting. New events (well, new to me) beckoned, and first off I headed to Pocket Thumbcocking Revolver, mainly because a .31 Colt had been in my safe for too many years without seeing the light of day. Ten yards does not seem that far away until you try shooting five shots in 15 seconds, single-handed, and having to cock it with the shooting hand.

Thanks to lots of help from a certain William Home and the range crew, I managed to rebuild the revolver after primer caps

dropped into the workings. Luckily this was at the end of one detail so scores were unaffected, although I didn't have much left of the 45-minute time slot.

My next effort was a double action Advancing match. The less said about this, the better to be honest. Suffice to say it did give plenty of enjoyment to those around me and may even make an appearance on Youtube.

Despite the current economic climate, the number of competitions shot stayed roughly



**Fog of war: The mist made the 'powder smoke effect' more pronounced than ever**

the same as the previous year, with around 1,100 competition cards successfully submitted to the die-hard stats crew beaver away in the centre of the camp. Many matches have had their round count increased this year to give competitors more shots for their money. This will hopefully continue in future years where possible. When such decisions do not impinge on range squadding timeslots, it seems nonsensical not to offer as many tries as possible to achieve the perfect target.

Now for the less enthusing news. This year the British Percussion Revolver Championships were included into the programme as an attempt to keep it running. Unfortunately there was a lacklustre take-up for this. Only three entries were received this year, which does not bode well for the future of this event. The organising committee may take this year's poor showing as the ultimate finale. It's over to the community – you guys. Lobby your appropriate NRA representatives if you think it should stay alive.

Melville ranges were, as usual, very busy. A plethora of matches on offer included Advancing Target, Precision, Bobber, Dueling and the very interesting Surrenden. Many matches at this meeting are shot on turners, which is just the correct thing to do. Special mention must go to William Horne, who cleaned up in five matches on Melville including Advancing Target for gallery rifle, revolver and double action revolver – adding to a particularly impressive showing in the pocket revolver match shot at 10 yards as mentioned above.

Out and about on the longer ranges Joël Meyers managed to clean up in 12 (yes, 12!) events – a record for the meeting. Joël's speciality seems to reside in the veteran disciplines.

The free-to-enter trade show always seems to be busy at the Trafalgar, with plenty of would-be buyers crowding into the Pavilion. Perhaps it's not as large or busy as the Phoenix trade show, but with the target audience having more traditional interests, it was never meant to compete. However, in recent years it has been noticed that the more contemporary traders are putting the weekend to good use.

The stats database was improved this year, which allowed the prize giving to be brought forward by 30 minutes to 6pm. Combined with a streamlined prize giving at the Army clubhouse, this resulted in everyone being able to retire to the bar not much later than 7pm to discuss those 'what-if' stories we all know and love.

The Trafalgar meeting awards a couple of traditional trophies: the Match Director's Trophy and the Trafalgar Letter. This year Ian and Mirianne Gunning were awarded the Match Director's trophy for services to the meeting over the years, and Larry Brown, winner of Competition 406, received the Trafalgar Letter. ■

#### TRAFALGAR MEETING: TOP PERFORMANCES

Advancing – Any Gallery/sporting rifle 25yd	Derek Yates	150.26
Advancing – CF Gallery Rifle manual 25m	William Horne	149.22
Advancing – RF Gallery Rifle manual 25m	Mick Tedesco	149.8
Advancing – RF Gallery Rifle semi auto 25m	Brian Yard	150.21
Any Classic Rifle 200yd	Joel Meyers	49.5
Any Classic Rifle 600yd	Stephen East	50.1
Any Transitional Rifle 200yd	Roger Ellis	50.8
Any Transitional Rifle 600yd	Stephen East	50.7
Any Veteran Rifle 200yd	Ian Hollingsworth	50.5
Any Vintage Rifle 200yd	Leon Kranen	49.7
Classic Service Rifle 200yd prone	Larry Brown	49.5
Classic Service Sniper Rifle Optical 200yd prone	Ian Hollingsworth	49.6
Hesketh Pritchard Military 600yd	Michael Heyes	50.3
Hesketh Pritchard Military 900yd any	Steven Voak	75.8
Open .22 Rimfire Rifle 200yd prone	John Eling	49.4
Open Rifle Service Sniper 200yd prone	Ian Hollingsworth	50.8
Repeating CF Gallery Rifle 25m Bobber	Shaun Trout	199.10
Repeating CF Gallery Rifle Duelling 25m	Gerry Betteridge	200.11
Veteran Service Rifle 200yd prone	Joel Meyers	49.2
Veteran Service Rifle Sniper Optical 200yd prone	Mat Giles	50.8

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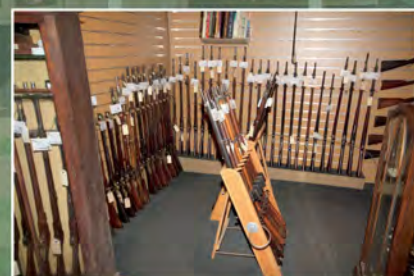
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All smiles: The team put on a strong performance in Jersey...

# NEW TALENT ON TOUR



...and emerged with all the spoils in Guernsey

## NRA TEAM TO THE CHANNEL ISLANDS

<b>Captain – Garnett Faulkner</b>	GBV, Ireland and Tyrone
<b>Adjutant – Richard Baillie</b>	Ireland and Ulster
<b>Coach – Chris Fitzpatrick</b>	GB, Ireland and Oxfordshire
<b>Coach – Peter Coley</b>	GBV, Ireland and Cornwall
<b>Shooter – Griff Morgan</b>	Wales and South Wales
<b>Shooter – Eleanor Joseph</b>	Somerset
<b>Shooter – Jack Alexander</b>	Ireland and Tyrone
<b>Shooter – Philip Chapman-Sheath</b>	Lincolnshire
<b>Shooter – Robert Kitson</b>	Ireland and Ulster
<b>Shooter – Iain Power</b>	Yorkshire
<b>Shooter – Emma Cannings</b>	Northants, Leics, Rutland
<b>Shooter – Eleanor Hoolahan</b>	GBU25 and Kent
<b>Shooter – Sam Dash</b>	GBU19 and Sussex
<b>Shooter – Thomas Smith</b>	GBU19
<b>Reserve – Michael Cooper</b>	Comber

## Team captain Garnett Faulkner has all the results from a young NRA Team’s tour to the Channel Islands this summer

**T**eam selection for the NRA Channel Islands tour is, as always, a difficult process. But the objective this year was to form a team made mainly of those who had not toured before, along with younger shooters who had reached county level and who aspire to GB and national colours. A practice day in April was the first occasion most of the team got to know each other and, the process of team building began.

The traditional pre-tour match against the LMRA took place on Tuesday 29 May in pleasant shooting conditions with some high scoring from both teams. The NRA came out on top with a score of 1181.140 versus 1145.116 for the LMRA. Top score for the LMRA was Jack Alexander on 150.21 closely followed by Ellie Hoolahan with 150.12. The LMRA top score was Brian Cudby with 148.17. An excellent

dinner followed at the LMRA, but it was early to bed that night as the team had to depart Bisley at 5.10 the next morning to catch the ferry to Guernsey at 8.30.

On Friday 1 June, apart from a few stiff backs from the previous day's team-building exercise of go-kart racing, all was well and the team assembled at the beautiful Fort le Marchant range for the first of the individual shoots. The following day, the Guernsey Rifle Club kindly rearranged the shooting programme so the team match could be shot in the morning as the ferry was due to depart to Jersey at 17.20. The course of fire was 2 and 10 at 300, 500 and 600 yards.

Team scores at 300 and 600 yards were very close; the match result hinged on the 500-yard score. The NRA won the match with a score of 1185.151 against 1176.134 for the GRC. Top score for the NRA was Tom Smith with 150.24, coached by Pete Coley (Tom's first 150 with his new Barnard Rifle) closely followed by Sam Dash on 150.19, coached by Chris Fitzpatrick. The highest score for the GRC was Sam Hunt on 149.15 coached by Mike Martell. The Reserve Match was close but won by the GRC, 290.31 to the NRA's 289.33.

In the individual events, the Guernsey Can went to Chris Fitzpatrick (NRA) with 100.16 and the Edna Parker Trophy to Ellie Hoolahan (NRA) with 149.15. Chris also won a new trophy, kindly donated by the Martell Family, with a tremendous 199.28 ex 200.40 for the overall Aggregate in the individual competitions.

Then it was a 'slow boat' to Jersey followed by another early start on Sunday 3 June. The team assembled in good order at Les Landes for the Jersey Evening Post individual competition at 900 and 1,000 yards.

The weather was dull with a strong left wind, but mist and drizzle closed in, which halted shooting midway through the first detail owing to lack of visibility. There was a danger of cancellation but the mist cleared and the competition was completed as scheduled. Some excellent scoring saw Jack Alexander (NRA) coming second with 103.13 ex 105.21, only one v-bull behind the winner, Barry Le Cheminant (JRA).

Short Range at Crabbe followed in the afternoon, with 200- and 500-yard competitions that proved quite difficult owing to severe buffeting. The top three results for the NRA were Tom Smith on 98.13, Griff Morgan on 98.8 and Rob Kitson on 98.5.

It was early to bed that night  
as the team had to depart  
Bisley at 5.10 the next morning

On Monday 4 June, the day's shooting began with Crabbe IV at 300 and 600 yards – won by Kate Le Quesne (JRA) with 100.15 ex 100.20, followed by Griff Morgan (NRA) and Garnett Faulkner NRA, both on 99.13. The Team matches followed. Conditions were bright with a moderate fishtailing headwind. After 300 yards, the teams were even on points at 392 with the JRA ahead on v-bulls (52 to 47). Both teams scored 390 at 500 yards, with the JRA increasing their V bull count by five.

With the teams going into 600 yards on even terms on points, the tension was evident. The JRA produced a stunning performance at 600 yards, dropping only three points and managing six possibles. The NRA shot well with four possibles but they could not quite match the JRA, dropping seven points. Top score for the NRA was Phillip Chapman-Sheath with 150.15, closely followed by Jack Alexander on 149.23 and Tom Smith with 149.21. Top score for The JRA was Mary Norman with 150.24.

While it is always disappointing to lose a match, it was still an excellent performance by the NRA Team who took on world-class opposition and were only narrowly beaten. The NRA took the reserve match by two points, with Emma Canning scoring 50.6 at 600 yards.

We are indebted to the NRA, LMRA, GRC and JRA for all their help and hospitality. On a personal note, my thanks to the long-suffering but ever watchful adjutant Richard Ballie, to the coaches, Pete Coley and Chris Fitzpatrick and to the team members who 'gelled' so well together and made my task so much easier. I congratulate them collectively and individually on their discipline and their shooting performance. ■

Scenic setting: Pete Coley, Emma Cannings and Chris Fitzpatrick at Fort le Marchant







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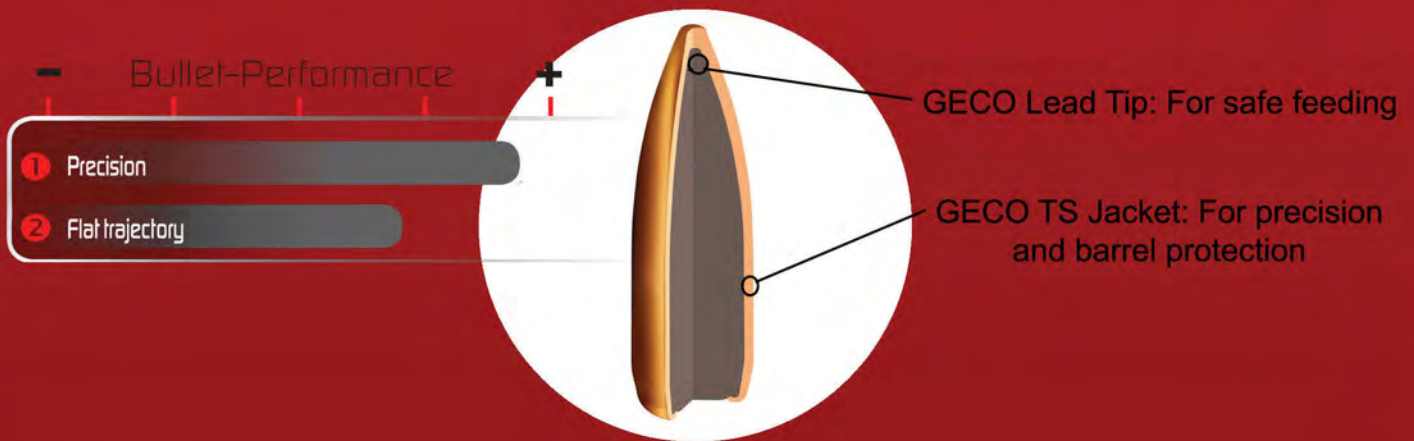
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# YOUNG VS OLD

**Tony de Launay reports from the annual battle for age-related bragging rights: the Ages Match, taking place at Bisley on 27-28 October**

**Y**ou know when the end of the season is approaching because the Ages Match swims into your ken. At stake, the bragging rights for a generation – whether it is the youth, the up and comers, the middle ages or the wrinklies and not-quite-so-wrinklies that are the top guns.

As is normal with this event, the late October weather produced a cold weekend with just a little rain – about which to moan later. Teams of 10 shot over short and long range – the long on the ICFRA targets – with some teams boxing and coxing personnel across the two days because of availabilities.

Short range went to the 25-34 group, which established an overnight lead of four points over the 55-64s with the 35-44s one point further behind and the 65s holding fourth just three points further adrift. It looked like age was going to deliver a serious challenge to beauty, but the younger folk had other ideas. On the harder ICFRA targets the 35-44s stormed to a decent winning margin of 24 points thanks to a determined 1,000-yard shoot. Their collective 701 for the 10 shooters in some testing breezes was simply too good for the rest, even though the pensioners were the next highest with 688 in a highly combative display of experienced wind coaching and shooting.

The final order saw the 35-44 group leading home the 55-64s by those 24 points, followed by the 25-34s six points behind, just knocking the 65s off the podium by one

point. The 45-54s were fifth with the under-25s sixth and their development squad seventh. Individual top gun on the weekend was Archie Whicher of the 45-54 group with an excellent 296.27.

Special mention must be made of the excellent meal provided by the North

London Rifle Club on Saturday night and the subsequent roistering good party at the Surrey.

So, relative youth held the day, but those of fuller years gave them a sharp reminder that all is not over with the onset of the middle ages. ■



**A year's worth of gloating was at stake for the different age groups**

## TOP PERFORMERS – THE HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SCORER FROM EACH TEAM

45-54	A Whicher	296.27
55-64	J Pugsley	293.33
35-44	J Underwood	293.31
25-34	D Blake	290.27
Over 65	M Gregory	289.24
Under 25	D Nuthall	291.28
Under 25 Dev	H Pugsley	284.28

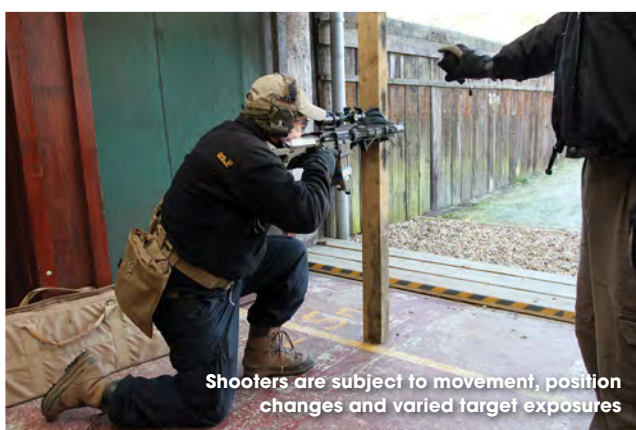
# Service resumes

The 2012/13 Civilian Service Rifle winter league is under way, and Mark Bradley has the results from the first two matches

The NRA Civilian Service Rifle (CSR) winter league is a series of matches, shot in four rifle classes, between October and April. A typical CSR season consists of 14 matches, with two matches shot in a day. The league is based on individuals' top 10 scores in a particular class during a particular season. To compensate for different matches having different highest possible scores, and being shot on different days and in different weather conditions, match placings are converted into percentages for the purpose of the league.

The courses of fire for CSR matches are drawn from those used for service rifle competition shooting, primarily from the UK, but suitable service rifle matches from around the world are also incorporated. Some extension of timings is required for some stages of matches to compensate for the use of manually operated rifles due to UK firearms law.

The first two matches of the 2012/13 Winter league were shot on Saturday 6 October. The Urban contact match was shot in the morning and, in the afternoon,



Shooters are subject to movement, position changes and varied target exposures

the short range rural contact match. For the full course of fire for these, or any other, CSR matches refer to the Bisley Bible.

## Urban contact match

This is a match consisting of four stages, from five stages of two rounds all the way through to 10 rounds during three exposures of seven seconds. Full course of fire in the Bisley Bible. This match is shot as a continuous course of fire once started. The firer must, under the supervision of his RO, make safe before each stage and await the target flash to signal movement to the appropriate firing position for the stage.

This combination of movement, positional changes and varied target exposures makes

the match particularly challenging, especially so if shooting a 7.62/308 rifle or using a scope with a high minimum magnification setting.

## Rural contact match

This is match consisting of five stages, covering standing and prone positions (often in the same stage) and varying exposure times and frequencies. Again, full course of fire in the Bisley Bible. As a result of the positional changes, the rundowns and the limited target

exposure times, this is a very challenging and interesting match to shoot. Great skill and consistency is required to achieve a good score.

The straight-pull AR15-type rifle has become increasingly popular and successful in CSR competition, as can be seen from the results printed here. This is down to its easy and quick to operate action in rapid fire stages, ergonomics well suited to positional shooting, and the incredibly broad range of aftermarket options available for triggers, stocks, barrels and the like. ■

Details of the other matches in the Winter League can be found on [www.nra.org.uk](http://www.nra.org.uk).

RESULTS: URBAN CONTACT MATCH			
NAME	MATCH TOTAL (EX 200)	RIFLE TYPE	CALIBRE
<b>Service optic class</b>			
P Cottrell	183	Straight-pull AR15	5.56/0.223
S Drewitt	176	Straight-pull AR15	5.56/0.223
P Tasker	167	Straight-pull AR15	5.56/0.223
<b>Practical optic class</b>			
N St Aubyn	173	Straight-pull AR15	5.56/0.223
S Sheldon	156	Straight-pull AR15	5.56/0.223
M Camp	149	AI Arctic Warfare	7.62/0.308
<b>Any iron sighted</b>			
S Clarke	117	Straight-pull AR15	5.56/0.223
V Inman	116	Straight-pull AR15	5.56/0.223
L Collins	77	Straight-pull AR15	5.56/0.223

RESULTS: RURAL CONTACT MATCH			
NAME	MATCH TOTAL (EX 200)	RIFLE TYPE	CALIBRE
<b>Service optic class</b>			
P Cottrell	234	Straight-pull AR15	5.56/0.223
C Vale	232	Straight-pull AR15	5.56/0.223
P Hunter	224	Straight-pull AR15	5.56/0.223
<b>Practical optic class</b>			
M Camp	238	AI Arctic Warfare	7.62/0.308
J Elliott	226	Converted Rem 700	7.62/0.308
S Sheldon	221	Straight-pull AR15	5.56/0.223
<b>Any iron sighted</b>			
V Inman	160	Straight-pull AR15	5.56/0.223
S Clarke	141	Straight-pull AR15	5.56/0.223
L Collins	90	Straight-pull AR15	5.56/0.223

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# Lloyd's a banker

**David Lloyd reports from the F Class events at the Imperial Meeting 2012 – where he was never far from the action, having won most of the events himself**

**T**he Imperial meet is very special. Not only is it the UK's premier shooting event but it is also a wonderful event to reunite old friends and make new ones. This year as ever it is great to see such a turn out of people from all over the world. F Class saw a large Canadian presence and also the ever-growing contingent from Germany.

Like TR, F Class kicks off with the warm-up matches on the first Friday: the Century at 500 and 600 yards, then the Admiral Hutton at 900. The day was overcast with variable winds, making shooting interesting to say the least. My nerves settled with a 75.6v at 600 yards and then 1 point down at 500 finishing me on a 149.15v – thankfully this later proved to be enough to win the Century match. I was closely followed by Ian Boxall on 148.14v.

The middle Saturday saw the start of the Grand Aggregate and also the weekend 2009 FCWC Celebration aggregate. The weather switched from sunshine to torrential downpours, during which the targets on Stickedown became invisible. It really made one dig deep, and in parts called for the

old Dunkirk spirit – at one point, a young lady kindly donated an umbrella to one of the competitors, which I can't imagine why he accepted, as a pink flowery umbrella clashes somewhat with a green and black rifle.

The standard of shooting was very high, and an extra influx of shooters competing in the weekend matches made for some close scoring. Tony Marsh from Sedgemoor TSC emerged the final winner of the weekend aggregate, taking the 2009 FCWC Celebration Aggregate with a score of 438.38v. Runner up was Steve Poultney from the Dorset Riflemen on 436.36v.

On to the next week, with scores building towards the Grand Aggregate. Tony Marsh led for most of the week, but I'd brought the gap down to just v-bulls, so it was all to play for in the final shoot of the aggregate, the Prince of Wales at 600 yards.

Thursday dawned grey and blustery. I set up on the firing point with no idea of Tony's score from the detail before. A bit of a shaky start but I kept them in the 5 ring, then I got into the V as my confidence built. I missed one pick up,

which sent me into the 4 ring, but finished on a 74.9v which proved to be enough to take the Grand Aggregate. Tony had finished on an excellent 73.7 – remember the F class V bull is only three inches wide at 600 yards.

The weather was unpredictable as ever the following day, which saw the George's final and the Queen's final 900-yard stage. The wind performed a complete 180 between the two events – and in the St George's I totally missed two wind reversals, which cost me a wonderful brace of 3s, but I still managed to finish on a 71.7v. To my delight this was enough to win. Congratulations must go to runner up Colin Shorthouse on 70.3v and third-placed Tony Marsh on 70.1v.

The Queen's Prize final followed immediately with 2+15 at 900 and 1,000 yards. At 900 the wind was constant, the flags told me the truth and I was happy with a 75.7v. At 1,000 the wind got a bit twitchy and pushed a few shots flat into the four ring – but I held on with a 70.4v to take the Queen's Prize. Runner up was Rudy Eckbauer from Germany on 144.8, and in third Ian Chapman on 144.4v. ■



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Top of the world: Jane Capewell collects her trophy



Best in class: The medal winners assemble

# ALL IN THE FAMILY

The Muzzle Loaders Association of Great Britain continued its successes at the World Championships in August, with a remarkable father-daughter pair in the medals

The team sent by the MLAGB to the World Championships in Pforzheim, Germany, came home yet again with a substantial tally of gold medals. This year's competition attracted teams from 18 nations, not only from Europe but from further afield – America, Canada, Argentina and Australia.

All competitions were fiercely fought, but the GB team came second in the medal tally to Germany, beating their nearest rival Sweden by nine awards. This is the highest position MLAGB has ever attained. The team won medals in nearly all classes of competition, from clay shooting with original percussion arms to matchlock rifle.

In the past couples have competed together at this level, and they continue to do so, but a unique event occurred this year: shooters from two generations of the same family competed, and they both won medals. Father and daughter Peter and Jane Capewell were the pair in

{ A unique event occurred this year: shooters from two generations of the same family competed, and they both won medals }

question, with silver and gold respectively. The family duo have been competing against each other since 1989 and are members of the Warwickshire branch of the MLAGB.

Peter (75), a former World and European Champion and world record holder, won silver after a shoot off in the Manton original event, which is for original flintlock shotguns.

Jane, also a former World and European Champion won gold in the Lorenzoni event, which is for original percussion shotguns. Jane broke the existing world record by shooting 49/50. She also won a gold medal in the Batesville team event with two

of her team mates, beating the existing world record by eight clays after shooting 145 ex 150. All three members of the team, Jane Capewell, Richard Morris and Martin Crix, shot 25 ex 25 in their second round of the competition – this has never been done before.

Jane is the shotgun team captain. There are no separate events for lady shotgun shooters – they compete on an even footing with the men.

Full results can be found on the MLAIC website and more information in the next edition of Black Powder, the quarterly journal of the MLAGB. ■

MEDAL TABLE: TOP 5			
Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Germany	25	12	11
Great Britain	6	8	7
Sweden	6	3	3
France	5	9	8
Spain	5	4	10





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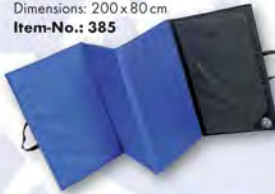


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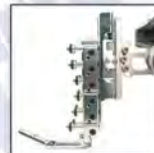
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# Hungary for change



A new event: But did the stages lack imagination?

## George Granycome welcomes the establishment of a world shoot for shotgun, but has some strong words on the inaugural shoot in Debrecen on 19-30 September

This year, for the very first time, the International Practical Shooting Confederation has supported a world shoot for shotgun. The location chosen was Debrecen, the second city of Hungary, some 100 miles beyond the capital Budapest. A team of 32 Brits made the journey. It was a long way to go, but Hungary is a beautiful country, the people are charming, the young women are very pretty, and Debrecen is a nice town.

It takes a little time to get one's thoughts in order over the shotgun match itself. I now understand why no stage details were released before the match. On first walking round and seeing the stages, one's immediate reaction was that there was nothing really exciting, nothing tricky, nothing that posed a shooting problem with different ways of solving it.

The shooting of the match actually turned out to be much better in the event – as shooting always is a pleasure – that is why we do it – but as the days went on, easy days with only six stages to shoot each day, many of which were trivial, the questions kept returning. The Hungarians did well with some witty and resourceful props but the

basic concept of the match was wrong, and it seems they received poor guidance. Perhaps their better ideas had been forbidden by an uptight international shotgun course approval organisation.

Do not misunderstand – many of the stages were enjoyable to shoot. But it was not practical shooting as we understand it here, and although some of the props were better, the stages were not as good as those found at our best ranges. Furthermore, many of the steel targets were of a design that would not have been allowed in the UK as some plates could turn without falling over.

Bobbing and moving targets were scarce. There was an easy bobbing A4 paper target on two of the three pathetic little buckshot stages. There were no other moving targets in the entire 30-stage match except for three bobbing clays and a swinging beam. The swinging beam held two steel targets on magnets, which would have been easy shots had not the arrangement been prone to failure owing to the plates twisting rather than falling when hit.

The five slug stages were outrageously bad. One stage was shot through the barred windows of a 'house', which led

to muzzle angle hazards. One was a pure loading exercise with an empty gun; another other was shot from a sitting position on a moving platform, but both of them had such low backstops and tight vertical muzzle angles that had the rules been strictly applied by the RO half of the shooters would have been disqualified on every shot as the muzzle flipped.

Being essentially a group of amateurs, we Brits did not do so well in the results against other nations, some of whom receive support from governments and shooting industries and who are almost semi-professional, and some who are just plain better shooters. Fortunately the UK ladies won their team event, and so our national anthem was heard once.

In summary, Hungary is a fine country, the people are wonderful, the Hungarian shooters very competent, and their stage props interesting and impressive. However it seems that a dead cold hand had been placed on the stage design and approval, as there was little that was freestyle or innovative and far too many examples of eight-plates-in-a-row just to get the round count up. ■

# AROUND THE NATION

Match reports from the shoots and meetings that took place this autumn – wherever you shoot and whatever discipline, we've got it covered

## CORNWALL OPEN MEETING

**Millpool, Bodmin Moor, 4-5 August**  
By Tony de Launay

A good field of 40 shooters entered this year's Cornwall Open – bringing it forward three weeks seems to be working. The first warm-up match at 300 yards is not part of the overall Grand Aggregate but, right on message 1, the rain duly arrived. Irritating, but it passed quickly. The second detail fared worst – déjà vu for those unlucky enough to be caught on the 11am detail of this year's Donegall at Bisley. Eagle eyes out and carry on. Stuart Larter-Whicher ran out the winner with a 50.6, followed by George Gilpin 50.4 and Andrew Wilde 49.9.

Match 2 was fired on the 300-yard metric target. This smaller bull certainly seems to concentrate the mind as evidenced by the scores made by Robin Hallows 100.5, Steve Maris counting out Wilde on 100.3. Then out to 500 yards, won by Andy Gent with 75.11, followed by Mike Frost on 75.6, and Wilde on 74.9, in a delicate little wind bracket of about 1½ minutes from the east.

Saturday concluded at 600 yards. Jonathan Haward came out on top with a 50.8 with Tony Jones counted out Frost, both on 50.7. The wind remained from the east, down to a minute bracket, but at least it remained dry for the shoots.

Sunday morning had on its black face but the rain kept off, and did so for the rest of the day, even producing summer's rarest commodity: some sunshine. Match 8 on Sunday morning was 15 shots to count at 500 and 600 yards. This was won by Dave Crispin with a splendid 150.23, Jon Cload 149.22 just edging Wilde 149.188 into yet another 3rd place. Again, light winds from the east kept the bracket to about 1-1½ minutes.

The meeting concluded with the top 20 in the Grand plus the top 3 F Class shooting 15 to count at 600 yards for the Duke of Cornwall trophy. This was won by Haward with 75.10, ahead of Jon Cload 74.14 (not dropping his last) and Dave Crispin 74.10. Dave Pickering emerged victorious in the F Class battle, winning both the Saturday and Grand Aggregates, with Ian Mowbray 2nd and Paul Calvert 3rd. The TR Grand Agg was won by Andrew Wilde on 373.36 ex 375, with Cload 2nd

on 371.40 and Crispin 3rd on 368.38. Prizes were presented by Lt Col Bolitho (late Grenadier Guards), Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall, whose family donated the very large Cornwall Shield (match 7) in 1890, so our links go back in time.

We are indebted to our sponsors, HPS, Norman Clarke, St Austell Brewery, Sierra from the USA, Prestige Firearms of Helston and Uniform Footprint, the successors to Albie Fox. Thank you to you all for your support in difficult economic times. Thanks go also to Mike Hallows who provided immediate results all weekend, and to Maureen, Terri and Jen Mitchell for providing those wonderful bacon butties. Thank you to all our out of county friends who continue to support and enter our Open. It is vital to our existence.



## SURREY RA OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Bisley, 15-16 September**  
By Tony de Launay

They say that points win prizes, but that central bullseyes break ties. Nevertheless there was still a dead-heat after two days of shooting at the Surrey Rifle Association Open Championships. Kelvin Ramsey and Jon Underwood had each scored 402 points with 60 central bullseyes. So, in the

absence of time to shoot a shoulder-to-shoulder tie for the title, the scorers had to resort to the less satisfactory count-back procedure to determine the overall winner.

It was Ramsey, a reconstructive surgeon, who pipped plant manager Underwood, both of whom had been members of the record-breaking GB team to Canada in August). His 73 with five centrals against Underwood's 72 with 10 at 1,000 yards in the very last match was the clincher for both open and closed titles. Dominic de Vere was third in the open championship,

and Andy Gent third in the closed event for Surrey members only.

In the individual matches Mark Millar took the Cantlay Challenge Cup (Queen's I) on centrals ahead of David Crispin and Chris Watson (another of the Canada stars) all making maximum 105s. Ramsey pocketed the Peek Cup (Queen's II) ahead of Underwood and de Vere, again on centrals and all on 150. At long range it was fast jet pilot Andy Gent who took the title, centrelling out Steve East (both on 149) with de Vere third.

## TULLIBARDINE (TAYSIDE) CHAMPIONSHIPS

Blair Atholl, 18-19 August  
By Tim Kidner



The Tullibardine Championships were held at Blair Atholl on the 18-19 August, shooting Queen's I and II at 400, 500 and 600 yards on the Saturday and then 20 rounds to count at 900 and 1,000 yards on the Sunday. Scores on the Saturday were relatively high and Tim Kidner was top with 253.35v (out of a possible 255), two points ahead of Mark Joyce.

Conditions on Sunday morning at 900 yards were still relatively benign but it got considerably more difficult at 1,000 yards, resulting in a significant drop in

scores. At 900 yards Tim Kidner and Kenny MacDonald both scored 100 and there were three scores of 99. At 1,000 yards Kenny MacDonald was top score on 93.6v and then Andy Hay, Keith Pugh and Mark Joyce were all on 91.

The final aggregate was very close, with Tim Kidner and Kenny MacDonald both on 442 (out of a possible 455), but with 56 vs to Kenny's 52, Tim had done just enough. Andy Hay was third on 437.48v. In the F/TR Class Jim Kettle was top with a score of 438.49v.

## PALATINE COUNTY OF DURHAM OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Battle Hill Range, 15  
September  
By Graeme Clarke

Battle Hill range lies at 1,000 feet in the north Pennines and, true to form, it was a clear, cool day with a strong, fishtailing westerly wind that blew into shooters' faces. The championship had been brought forward to Saturday 15 September because the danger area was unavailable on the planned day, 29 September – to the disadvantage of the local grouse.

High scores were hard to get in the eye-watering conditions. Nigel Watson from Sheffield made the only possible

of the day (50.6) at 300 yards to win the Teesdale Cup, an indication of the effect of the fishtail. Graeme Clarke with 49.7 was second with more centrals, but rueing the old saying that 'points win prizes'. His 72 with seven centrals was enough to take the Weardale Cup at 500 yards with David Archer (Pickering) and Paul Powell (Darlington) a point behind.

Testing conditions bamboozled the field at 600 yards. Watson was on top again, taking the Raby Cup with the best of three scores of 48 at 600 yards. His five centrals beat the four each of Gary Stevenson (Darlington) and Guy Trembath (City of Newcastle), who counted out in that order.

At the end Watson and Clarke had tied with 167 and 17 centrals, but Nigel

Watson's top score at 600 yards ensured he won the Open Championship. Clarke consoled himself by taking home the Durham Championship for the second year running. Trembath was third overall and second in the closed section.

Ken Mounsey from Penrith took the F Class trophy, the Elvet Plate.



## NATIONAL RIFLE CLUB OF SCOTLAND MATCH RIFLE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Blair Atholl, 8-9  
September  
By Tim Kidner

With the benefit of dry and relatively warm weather, the 'NRC of S' championships saw a good entry of 32 shooters including

15 visitors. Shooting 20 rounds to count at 1,000, 1,100 and 1,200 yards, the conditions on Saturday seemed ideal, but with the usual tricky wind conditions on the Blair Atholl range, scores were well spread out. However, conditions were also ideal for the local midges, which plagued the range on the Saturday afternoon.

At the end of Saturday Mike Baillie-Hamilton was top on 297.33v, 12 points ahead of Mike Barlow. On Sunday conditions were more difficult – the highest score at 1,100 yards was 97 and there were few scores above 90 at 1,200 yards. Mike Baillie-Hamilton coped best with the difficult

conditions and won the Grand Aggregate with a score of 489.51v, beating the previous 'course record' by six. Mike Barlow was second on 475.46v and Alex Cargill Thompson was third on 469.33v, winning the brown tankard for the highest placed visitor. The spread of scores for the top five places was 29 points, which was unusually high.

Mike Baillie-Hamilton also won the Brodie Trophy for the 1,200 yard-aggregate with a score of 193.15v out of 200, seven points ahead of Mike Barlow. The F-Class Trophy was won by Peter Hunt with a score of 292.29v (out of a possible 300), five points ahead of Hugh Inglis.

# EAST OF SCOTLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

Blair Atholl, 15 September

By Bob Aitken and Tim Kidner

The East of Scotland Championships took place on Jubilee Range, Blair Atholl, on 15 September – one of the few sunny days this summer. With light winds in the morning, scores were high at 400 and 500 yards, but in the afternoon at 600 yards the wind conditions became more difficult. Although there were a number of high scores at each distance, no one managed to get a full score in the Queen's I or Queen's II stages. Tim Kidner was top in Queen's I and II with 104.12v and

148.19v. In F/TR, Peter Burbridge was top with 104.18v in Queens I and 148.19v in Queens II.

The Championship final was a 15-round shoot at 600 yards with the top 10 scores in the Grand qualifying to shoot the final. Scores were close with 3 shooters scoring 73, Tim Kidner on 73.6v, Colin McEachran on 73.7v and the winner was Louis Stewart, who is a pupil at Dollar Academy, on 73.8v. The Grand Aggregate was won by Tim Kidner with a score of 325.37v (out of a possible 330) and Louis

Stewart was second on 321.38v. The F/TR Class was won by Peter Burbridge on 252.37v (out of a possible 255) 13 points ahead of Mike Barton.

The ladies' cup went to Claire Halleran and the team match to West Atholl. Full results are on the SRA website.





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## MATTERSEY BIANCHI AND GALLERY RIFLE & PISTOL OPEN

**Mattersey Rifle and Pistol  
Club, 29-30 September**  
By Pete Whomersley



Mattersey Rifle and Pistol Club hosted a Bianchi and Gallery rifle & pistol competition on the 29-30 September. With 34 people entering 125 matches, and considering the economic climate, the weather report for the Sunday

afternoon and other fixtures taking place, it was a good attendance figure.

Mattersey captain Malcolm Dukes once again put on a great shoot with the usual gallery rifle and pistol short range events: Timed and Precision, Multi Target for five classes of firearms (GRSB, GRFC, LBR, LBP and Target Shotgun). The main event was the Bianchi action course of fire with plates, mover, practical and barricade matches. Malcolm also put on a very popular Los Alamitos match.

There was some good shooting over the weekend, notably Chris West who scored a perfect 420.42x in the Los Alamitos centrefire match, Clive Ferguson also scored 420 in the same match but with 40 x-bulls.

Chris Thompson scored 420.35x in GRSB Los Alamitos, in LBP class Chris West 420.39x, Clive Ferguson 420.37x and Phil Stead 420.34x. Chris Thompson scored a perfect 300.22x in Timed and Precision GRFC. The full results can be found on Mattersey's website or on galleryrifle.com.

On behalf of Malcolm Dukes and the club committee I would like to thank all those who helped make the event happen, which

included members and non-members, particularly Gwyn Roberts. I asked Gwyn to look after a new member of ours shooting Bianchi for the first time and give him the benefit of his vast experience. The guy went home with a big smile on his face after a great day's shooting I would also like to thank our sponsors, the NSC and York Guns.

Mattersey hopes to put on more Open shoots in the future, such as the popular Mattersey 10-Event Open in May 2013; a lot of shooters use this match as practice for the Phoenix later in the month. It will be running a .22 steel shoot with all the favourites such as snooker, mover, pool, speed – lots of steel shooting fun. Visit [www.matterseyrapc.org.uk](http://www.matterseyrapc.org.uk) for details.



## CLRA VS LMRA 150TH ANNIVERSARY MATCH

**Bisley, 21 September**  
By Martin Liversage

For 150 years now there has been a strong inter-county relationship between

Lancashire and Middlesex. The first match between the two (and possibly the first ever match between two counties) was shot on 1 July 1862. Back then the order of the day was 10 shots at 200, 500 and 800 yards, both teams formed from military personnel. Lancashire won over Middlesex with 870 against 862 – and this year saw the same victor crowned.

The 2012 match was held at Bisley on the Friday before the LMRA open, 21

September. The course of fire was two sighters and 10 to count at 300, 500 and 600 yards.

From the off there was a gentle nine o'clock breeze that didn't give the coaches too much to think about. Sadly both teams struggled with support for the match so the best seven shooters from each team were counted. The final score was CLRA 1030.112, LMRA 1008.95.

## LONDON & MIDDLESEX RA OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Bisley, 22-23 September**  
By Tony de Launay

It was a three-way battle over two days for the LMRA Open and Closed

Championships, involving Andrew Wilde of Somerset, Nick Mace of Guernsey and Nick Brasier of the County of London. Wilde emerged the victor by a slender single point despite, and possibly because of, the dreadful conditions on Sunday.

Although Mace had secured a two-point margin overnight when he had gone clean through the Saturday short-range matches, a magnificent clean

sheet at long-range by Wilde proved too much for the rest, Mace dropping all of his three crucial points there. Brasier was third five points behind Mace. In his race for victory Wilde took the President's Cup (Queen's I) and the Anderson Cup (long range) as well as the overall title and the Malcolm Cup. Mace had the consolation of winning the Elizabethan Trophy (Queen's II).

## **METCALFE CUP & THIEPHAL TROPHY**

**Tees Valley Target Sports Club, 29-30 September**

**By David Hart**

Bill Evans emerged as aggregate winner in Tees Valley Target Sports Club's Metcalfe Cup, while Barry King took top honours in its sister event the Thiephal Trophy.

Tees Valley Target Sports Club was founded under the name Guisborough Gun Club in 1906 as a militia. During World War Two it became a Home Guard unit. In the late 1960s it morphed into its present status, and changed its name to TVTSC in 2006.

Tees Valley's annual competition, the Metcalfe Cup, is shot over 300, 600 and 1,000 yards. The competition consists of two convertible sighters with 10 shots to count on an NRA target. Entrants tend to use scoped rifles, generally fitted with a muzzle brake and with restrictions for Bench/Target rifles.

The weather, though dry, was windy, making the shooting that bit more challenging – but Bill Evans emerged covered in glory after the three stages.

The other competition running over the same weekend was the Thiephal Trophy. This is for 'as issued' iron-sighted service rifles from any country and any era, and once again it is two convertible sighters with 10 shots to count. This is shot over 300 and 600 yards and using NRA targets. The windy conditions made shooting very difficult, but Barry King took top spot and in the process proved the eternal usefulness of a 70-year-old Enfield rifle.

## **EUROPEAN LONG RANGE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**13-14 October 2012**

**By Tony de Launay**

Despite having to substitute one of their team members, taken ill after the first day of shooting, England's team of 12 proved too strong for the other five countries in the European Long Range Rifle Championships at Bisley. With the course of fire over 800, 900 and 1,000 yards on Saturday and 900 and 1,000 on Sunday, England were quickly off the mark dropping just four points to 17 by Scotland and 22 by the Channel Islands at 800 yards.

From then on it was all about who could take second place. The English built a healthy 33-point advantage over Ireland on the first day, even though a rainstorm dampened everyone's spirits during the afternoon. They added eight more points in the Sunday sunshine although the Irish were able to inflict the only distance defeat on them in the second 1,000-yard shoot.

In the team match James Watson was the top scorer for England with 370 and 39 central bullseyes, but it was Jack Alexander of Ireland who was top gun overall with 372.41. From there the team proceedings gave way to an individual test for the top two scorers plus a captain's nomination from each team.

Keeping it in the family, Gary Alexander took the match by a clear point from Irish teammate David Calvert with Nick Mace of the Channel Islands third.

## **ORA 25TH LONG RANGE INTER COUNTIES MATCH**

**Oxford Rifle Association, 14 October**

**By J Hooper**

A chilly start turned into a lovely autumn day at the ORA, with plenty of sun and minimal wind in the morning. Four county teams participated in this annual competition. As Hereford & Worcester only had a team of seven, the remaining teams agreed to take their seven best scores.

Bright sun behind the shooters in the first few details caused a few problems with glare but the scores were not unduly affected. At lunchtime and the end of the 900-yard detail, the leading

teams of Sussex and Hertfordshire were split by only eight v-bulls, with respective scores of 510.59v to 510.51v.

Top score went to Hertfordshire's Keith Sheead on 75.13v. There were three other possibles: Sussex's George Cotton 75.11v, Oxfordshire's Ian Farnell 75.11v and Mick Silver 75.10v.

The wind picked up after lunch with a tricky fishtailing wind blowing up the 1,000-yard range. The wind coaches finally had some work to do for their teams after a leisurely morning.

By the end of the competition, Sussex had comfortably increased their lead over Hertfordshire to win the match. The highest score at 1,000 yards was Sussex's Tim Brooking with 74.10v. Overall highest match score was George Cotton with 148.18v.



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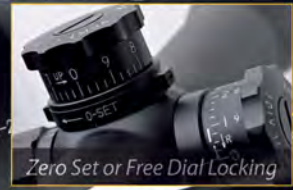
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# March

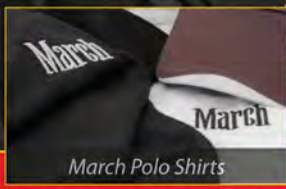
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# Sporting half century

**Set up to cater for running deer shooters, the British Sporting Rifle Club reports from its 50th anniversary celebrations this year**

In 1962 a small group of like-minded shooters got together to form the British Sporting Rifle Club. Their primary reason was to secure the future of running deer shooting at Bisley. Fifty years later, the club is going strong with running deer still very much at the heart of its shooting activities.

Over the years, running boar and 10m moving target shooting have also been added. The club now caters for sporting shooters who enjoy using the rifles they stalk or shoot vermin with and has a thriving competition scene with monthly matches as well as two major competitions each year and a number of other annual events such as a Stalkers' Match in the spring and a Memorial Match in November each year.

To celebrate its first 50 years, the club used their Annual Championships as a centrepiece around which they held a formal dinner and a guest day. The Championships itself attracted 183

entries in various events held over three days. When the dust settled, the overall winner for 2012 was none other than the Club Chairman Steve Wallis, who won all but one of the events in the Open class. This was despite strong competition from fellow club members. Winner of the Class B aggregate, shot using rifles of restricted weight and in calibres corresponding to those required to lawfully shoot larger species deer in England, was Darren Coffee.

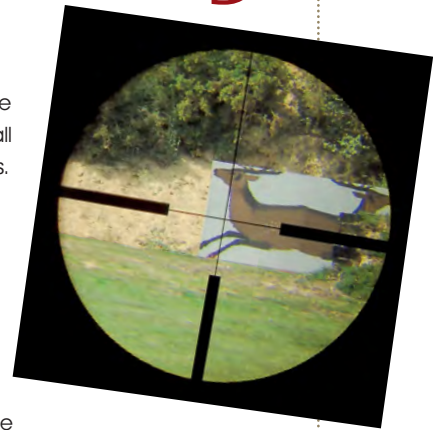
Friday evening saw the marking of the Club's 50th year, the anniversary itself being in March, with a formal dinner at the Army Target Shooting Club, Bisley. This was well attended by club members and guests, including Club President Major John Gough, Vice President Don Carter, and NRA Chairman Robin Pizer, as well as the sole surviving founder member Philip Mackworth-Praed.

Guest speaker for the evening was Don Heath from Norma, who was accompanied by Philip Unwin, managing director of RUAG. Don gave a fascinating insight into his time as a professional hunter in Africa using some great photos and recollections of various episodes he had been involved in over the years. It was good to see him catching up with one or two old friends he had not seen for a while and who had come out of the woodwork especially to see him.

The third element of the weekend was held on Sunday and after days of good weather came the question: 'Why did it have to rain on our parade?' The 73 guests who braved the elements were able to try their hand at a variety of different targets. Some shot for the experience, others fancied themselves in competition, and there was much support for the junior events. A variety of prizes, including commemorative mugs, badges and stickers, were awarded to guests, and among the 20 club members who were shooting there was fierce competition to win a handmade, specially tooled, commemorative leather rifle sling made and donated by Richard Lane.

The BSRC is looking ahead to the next 50 years with great enthusiasm, with plans for further improvements to the range facilities and continued efforts to promote and support sporting rifle shooting at every opportunity. The club has also marked a milestone in its 50th year by forming the basis of the first official Great Britain Sporting Rifle Overseas Team, with a series of competitions shot in Norway during the summer including running deer, running boar, moose and field target events. ■

*Photography by Steve Wallis.*



**Different style: Sporting scopes and rests are a common sight**



**Life begins at 50: The BSRC has been in situ at Bisley for half a century**

## GET IN TOUCH

The BSRC provides training and support to members at all levels of ability, and has connections with a range of clubs and national shooting organisations across the world, holding competitions and informal events with like-minded shooters from New Zealand, Australia, South Africa and Europe.

To find out more, get in touch by email: [secretary@bsrc.co.uk](mailto:secretary@bsrc.co.uk)

# Get geared up

Feeling festive? We've lined up a selection of Christmas gifts for target shooters, and the latest and best reloading kit

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Available in a new, bigger size, the Napier gun cleaner and lubricant is suitable for all types of firearm. With a fast working two-in-one action, it cleans and oils, removing fouling and leaving behind a thin film of oil, which maintains the protection against corrosion. In a 300ml aerosol can for effortless application, this gun cleaner will not harm oil or urethane stock finishes and it will not degrease.

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Napier 01235 812993 [www.napieruk.com](http://www.napieruk.com)



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## ZIPWIRE CLEANING KIT

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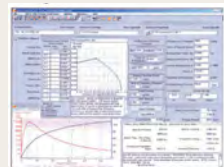
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# Obituaries



## ERIC MCGIBBON 1926 – 2012

By common consent among shooters Eric McGibbon was one of the many much-loved characters who, over the years, have brought their skills and companionship to the rifle ranges of the 'common' – more usually known as Bisley Camp, the headquarters of the National Rifle Association.

McGibbon had a larger-than-life upbringing and a bewildering succession of roles in tea planting, manufacturing and international sport. Slight of frame, sporting a bristling moustache and with a permanent twinkle in his eye, he never turned away anyone in need of a chat or advice.

Eric Malcolm McGibbon was born in 1926 in Toungoo, Burma, where his father was pursuing a profession as an economic botanist. His parents separated 18 months after his arrival; his mother and her two sisters entered nursing having moved to Ledo in Assam where his uncle was superintendent of the coalmines. As a result of the move young Eric had plenty of opportunities to refine his skills at cricket, football,

hockey and shooting, as well as gaining exposure to the local wildlife.

Educated at St Joseph's Catholic College in Darjeeling, Eric confessed to being neither in the top flight of academia nor of Catholicism. In 1944 he took his School Certificate, achieving distinctions in mechanics, dynamics and statics. Exam papers were written using a pencil and carbon papers to produce three copies, each posted on different days to the examiners in case the boats on which they travelled were sunk by enemy action.

With most of the senior personnel then absent on wartime duties, he learned quickly about tea plantation management from his late teens. His experiences included other narrow escapes. He dealt with a marauding tigress that had been attacking plantation workers and their cattle. As the plantation workers helped to track the animal down for him to shoot "one barrel loaded with big-game shot and the other with solid slug" he failed to notice that his quarry had turned back and that he was now the hunted. Only the alertness of his helpers gave him sufficient warning and he was able to dispatch the animal with the first barrel as it stalked him, mere feet away across a small stream.

The tigress became a rug, decorating his front room until very recently. His big game bag also included an elephant

(shot in self-defence), and a wild boar that stood 37in at the shoulder and 39in around the neck.

As a child he escaped injury when a Banded Krait, one of the most venomous snakes in the world, fell from the rafters and landed on his shoulder. It was dealt with swiftly by staff, but left him with a lifelong fear of serpents. Later he welcomed prompt action by a plantation worker who saved him from attack by a king cobra that reared up in front of him. The worker felled the snake with a single blow from the stick that he used for carrying sacks of newly plucked tea leaves.

McGibbon joined the Assam Valley Light Horse Volunteers. Although they had no horses of their own, he still managed to learn how to ride on borrowed mounts. He participated in their annual rifle assessment course involving deliberate and snap-shooting and what he described as a mad rapid, firing five shots, reloading and firing 10 more, all in 60 seconds. For some reason the farmers among the troop consistently produced the winner, always decided by the final rapid session. It was, he said, something to do with having time to practise.

The arrival of Indian independence in 1947 coincided with his decision to move on. On his birthday he set sail from Bombay to the UK, eventually arriving at Purley, Surrey. There he joined the ration queues. His work included drilling holes for door hinges at the Briggs Motor Bodies plant at Croydon Airport, engineering duties for AcandTab, later part of ICL, which manufactured machinery for making punch-cards, and heavy engineering at Banbury's in Croydon, first as a fitter and then as part of the maintenance team for the works.

In 1950 he went to lunch with a friend, carrying as a gift his meat ration. There he met his friend's sister, Josie, a telegraphist at the Admiralty, and they were married in 1952 at the Cafe Royal, Croydon.

He also took to open range rifle shooting with some success when, in 1967, he tied for the Donegal Prize at Bisley with a perfect 50, with all 10 shots in the smaller central tie-breaking ring, coming third in the deciding tie shoot.

By 1969 shooting was changing, allowing custom made rifles to shoot the 7.62mm calibre ammunition that replaced the old .303 cartridge. He had met George Swenson and Laurie Ingram, manufacturers of the new Swing target rifle. They asked if he could do some work modifying rifle sights. This he did for nothing in his spare time, and was surprised when two leading British shots involved with the Company appeared one day on his doorstep to present him with a new Swing rifle for his efforts.

An early diagnosis of cataract problems in his right eye led him to develop a periscope for use with his left eye allowing him to sight down the barrel. It worked well.

McGibbon was, for seven years between 1974 and 1980, adjutant to the powerful Surrey county team, winning the King George V Cup five years in succession – the first time it had been done. Adjutants did not get winner's medals at that time but his captain, Ted Molyneux, presented him with one of his medals inscribed to record the event. He was also Surrey captain from 1984 to 1986.

On the demise of Banbury's he moved to work full-time at the Swing works at Tonbridge "as an engineer rather than an armourer". His reputation as a fettler of rifles reached other ears. In 1991 he started a series of armouring jobs with Colin Cheshire's British teams to the West Indies and Raton US in 1991, the winning Palma team at Raton in 1992, and the winning Palma team at Trentham, New Zealand, in 1995. He won his GB colours in matches during the Canadian championships in 1992, on the way to Raton.

McGibbon was a curator in the National Rifle Association's museum; the displays of badges and firearms and their showcases are a permanent testament to his handiwork and that of his museum colleagues.

His wife died in 1999, and his son Malcolm in 2002. Thereafter McGibbon was rarely to be seen without his dog Ben.

*This obituary first appeared in the Times newspaper, published 20 October 2012, and is reproduced here by kind permission of Times Newspapers*

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## GEORGE LING

### 1928 – 2012

George Buck Way Ling died peacefully in the VG Site, QEII, Palliative Care Ward on 9 October.

George was born in Halifax on 6 July 1928 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. His family was among the first Chinese immigrant families to settle in the area. He often spoke fondly of his childhood years on the family farm.

George enlisted in the Canadian Armed Forces and served 27 years, including time in Korea in 1951 with later postings throughout Canada and Europe. A quiet and modest man, George was an expert marksman who represented the Canadian Army at international competitions.

In 1962 at Bisley, George won the Wimbledon SRab Challenge Trophy, with a full score of 50 ex 50, shot at 600 yards. There were 949 competitors on the day of his win, and his was the only full score. It seems a nearly impossible feat to me, and I wonder about how many times someone has achieved a full possible score of 50 at 600 yards with a service rifle.

A very quiet and unassuming man, George was very proud of his many accomplishments in rifle shooting, and that particular victory was his sweetest.

Best wishes to you all at Bisley, and especially to Mr Ted Molyneux, who I think knew George from those years of competition. George's friends will miss him very much.  
*Kevin Sollows*

## IAN DAVID SHEPHERD

1929 – 2012

Ian's funeral took place on 4 April at St Nicholas' church, Rotherfield Greys (near Henley). It was well attended by Oxfordshire Rifle Association, Ricochet RC and IBIS (Ian's small-bore club) members. Ian had been poorly for the previous year following a heart attack.

Ian was a northerner by birth, attended Manchester Grammar School, and went on to read chemistry at Manchester University. He was by training a chemical engineer, and he worked for Brook Bond Liebig for many years. His work took him to Kenya, where Ian won the fullbore Kenya Championship in 1974. He also had a role in the invention of instant tea, although I'm sure he never drank instant tea from choice as he was a knowledgeable tea connoisseur. When Johnson Matthey took over the Brook Bond Liebig offices near Sonning Common, Ian worked for them, and remained living by himself on the outskirts of Henley.

Ian had been the Hon. Sec. of the fullbore section of the Oxfordshire Rifle Association for almost 30 years, and his organisation of ORA practice shoots and county matches did much to improve the standard of Oxon shooting. Ian was District Superintendent of the Oxfordshire section of the English XX Club, a member of the Ricochet Rifle Club since 1969, and organiser of many fullbore events. He held both the ORA Silver and Gold awards for distinguished service to target shooting in Oxfordshire. He shot both SB and FB rifle and was a long time umpire for the SB Section. Ian shot in the Oxon County small bore team for many years.

A little anecdote about Ian by the former captain of the Ricochet RC typifies the man. "He and I were walking along the back of the 1,000-yard range to our allotted targets. The day was a typical English summer day, cold, overcast and

with a slight drizzle. We passed five or six members of the Kenyan rifle team waiting their turn to shoot. They were long-faced, not talking to each other, and obviously not relishing their shoot. Never have I seen a group looking so much like they wished they were somewhere else.

"Ian broke away from me, walked up to them and spoke a few words in their own language. What

an instant transformation. They became animated and happy, chatting with the biggest smiles I have ever seen. After shaking his hand, they settled down again looking pleased to be there and ready to take on their shoot. I think that this simple act of kindness by Ian made their day, and it reflects how much he was prepared to do for others."

Ian was at heart a gentle, old-fashioned, northern bachelor who loved singing in his church choir, classical music and tea. Never seen without a blazer or sports jacket, he sometimes sported a bow tie, for many years took snuff, and was never angry or said a bad word of anybody. He was a real gentleman, well liked by all, and will be greatly missed.  
*Rob Needham, Hon Sec, Ricochet Rifle Club*



## CATHY TUCKER

1943 – 2012

Shooters will be saddened to learn of the death of Cathy Tucker, widow of the late Andrew Tucker, one of the target shooting world's greatest marksmen. Cathy was a familiar figure at Bisley in the last three decades of the 1900s, and the other half of the partnership that was Andrew Tucker Gunsmiths, supplying rifles, shotguns and shooting equipment.

The sister of one of Andrew's co-workers at Cogswell & Harrisons of Piccadilly, she met him through the work connection and they were married in 1964. She was a driving force in their business and in running their shop in Cobham, Surrey, bringing a direct and perceptive view to any discussion, and cementing many sales along the way. Like Andrew, she

made many friends around the world through their business and sporting connections. She was never afraid to offer advice to the Bisley hierarchy, much to the enjoyment of those witnessing the event, and perhaps to the discomfort of those on the receiving end.

While Andrew was away on shooting tours, often with Ken Chard, Cathy took care of the business, running the shop in his absence. In the winter Cathy, accompanied by her close friend Chrissie Chard, would go on holiday, normally to the Caribbean, reasoning that if the boys could go away every year, the girls could take a leaf out of their book too.

In Andrew's last years fighting cancer she was the indomitable force and spirit that supported and cared for him. Cathy died peacefully in her sleep on 8 September at her cottage at Shannagarry, County Cork in Ireland, aged 69.

## DAVID THOMAS

David Thomas, a part chairman of the British Pistol Club and a leading member of the Historical Breechloading Small Arms Association (HBSA), died on 23 November 2011 at the age of 64. David had been afflicted by motor neurone disease for more than two years, an ordeal he bore with remarkable courage.

David was a retired Royal Artillery major who had qualified as an instructor in gunnery at the School of Artillery, commanded a battery of 155mm self-propelled guns and been involved in the introduction of the US multiple launch rocket system (MLRS) to British service.

However, his real interest lay in pistols and pistol shooting. He was a much-travelled ISSF A Class judge who was determined that this country should continue to be represented in international pistol shooting, despite the 1997 ban on the ownership of pistols for competitive shooting. To this end, in 1995 he persuaded the then minister for sport to start the process that eventually allowed the United Kingdom national pistol squad to train in this country for the 2012 Olympics.

His interest in pistol shooting extended well beyond ISSF disciplines and he had a particular interest in the military use of the pistol. The theme of the dissertation that he wrote for his

MA degree from Birmingham University was 'The pistol in British military service during the Great War' and in the view of many who have relevant knowledge, this is the finest work in the subject yet produced. He also delivered various lectures on the history of the pistol to the HBSA and his extensive scholarship in this field was recognised by the award of the HBSA President's Cup – an honour that is not granted lightly.

However, his interest in pistols was far more than academic. David was one of the early members of the British Alpine Rifles, the group of British enthusiasts who shoot pistols and semi-automatic rifles in Switzerland. He was also a strong supporter of the heritage pistol scheme at Bisley and a serious collector of Section 7(1) and 7(3) pistols. Now did he confine his shooting to pistols – he owned two Lee Enfield rifles, which he used whenever time permitted.

Perhaps less well known as his interest in the American Civil War, which he was able to pursue in depth (when he was not on a pistol range) during his MLRS tour of duty in Alabama. It seems unlikely that the coffin of any other British Army officer has been draped in the Confederate flag since the end of that war.

David remained cheerful to the end. Those of us who were his friends are diminished by his passing and our thoughts are with his wife Penny and his children Emma and Guy.

*Ian Patrick*

## ROY PITCHER

### 1973 – 2012

Roy passed away in his fortieth year, having achieved so much by any measure. He touched the lives of so many, not simply because of his achievements but more the manner in which he made them. Throughout his life he was a constant to so many, always ready to help, always reliable, selfless and kind. He was a warm-hearted and gentle soul and remains fondly remembered by his shooting friends and family.

Shooting was to start with St Helier MRC and Victoria College in Jersey and before long he was firing small-bore five times a week in the winter months and could be found at Crabbé fullbore range three times a week throughout the summer. Roy always liked to throw himself fully into things. Five shoots a week was not enough for Roy so he supplemented his shooting with dry firing every day. It is no wonder that he achieved so much in his short shooting career.

Roy represented Victoria College at Bisley in the Cadet Pairs and Ashburton on five occasions and helped the Channel Islands win the Cadet National Match at Bisley for the first time in 1991. As a cadet, his successes also included being a TA Cadet Pair Winner and Winner of the CCRS Chairman's Prize. He fired in two winning AG Bell matches and, having shot his way into the Jersey Kolapore team in 1990, aged 17, earned his place on a successful tour to Canada with the Athelings in 1991.

Roy fired in the St George's Final in 1991 and 1992, represented Jersey seven times in the Kolapore in the 1990s

and six times in the Mackinnon, firing alongside his brother Scott in 1997. In the same year, Roy won Silver for Jersey in the Island Games.

Soon after, Roy retired his trusty left-handed Swing but shooting remains very much in the family and Roy's brother-in-law, Paul Wheeler, continues to fly the family flag at Bisley.

What endeared Roy to so many was his patience and generosity. He was also full of energy and surrounded by laughter and fun. He was incredibly bright and hard working. Having graduated from the University of Warwick, Roy settled into life at Ernst & Young, qualifying as a prize winning Chartered Accountant and a Chartered Tax Advisor. In 2005, having reached the upper echelons at Royal Bank of Canada in Jersey, Roy started his own Trust Company Business and much of Pentera's success is down to Roy's vision and perseverance.

In his latest journey in life, Roy was utterly selfless and positive, evident in his great spirit whilst dealing with melanoma. He died on 31 August 2012 with his loving wife, Kari, and daughter Lily at his side. His cheerful nature is sadly missed by all his friends at the Jersey Rifle Association.

*Bruce Horwood*



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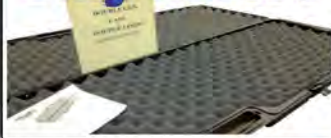
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# Results

## 2 JUNE – GUERNSEY RIFLE CLUB VS NRA

NRA	300	500	600	TOTAL
Tom Smith	50.08	50.09	50.07	150.24
Sam Dash	50.08	50.06	50.05	150.19
Jack Alexander	49.08	50.09	50.07	149.24
Griff Morgan	50.05	50.08	49.06	149.19
Rob Kitson	48.0	50.08	50.05	148.17
Phil C-S	50.05	48.06	50.02	148.13
Ellie Hoolahan	48.05	49.06	50.08	147.19
Iain Power	48.05	49.05	47.06	144.16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>393.48</b>	<b>396.67</b>	<b>396.46</b>	<b>1185.151</b>

GUERNSEY	300	500	600	TOTAL
Sam Hunt	49.04	50.05	50.06	149.15
Pierre Goubert	50.10	49.08	49.06	148.24
Philip Ogier	50.07	49.05	49.07	148.19
Richard Perkins	49.06	49.07	50.06	148.19
Peter Jory	49.06	49.05	50.07	148.18
Nick Ogier	48.04	48.06	50.06	146.16
Mike Creber	48.04	49.05	48.06	145.15
Sylvia Sirett	49.04	47.02	48.02	144.08
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>392.45</b>	<b>390.43</b>	<b>394.46</b>	<b>1176.134</b>

## RESERVE MATCH

GUERNSEY RC	300	500	600	TOTAL
Luke Belton	49.05	49.04	48.07	146.16
Martin Parker	45.03	49.04	50.08	143.15
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>289.31</b>	

NRA	300	500	600	TOTAL
Ellie Joseph	50.08	47.05	49.07	146.20
Emma Cannings	47.01	49.07	47.05	143.13
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>289.33</b>	

## 4 JUNE – JERSEY TEAM MATCH EIGHTS

JRA	300	500	600	TOTAL
M Norman	50.09	50.08	50.07	150.24
BA Horwood	50.06	50.07	49.06	149.19
R Benest	50.08	48.06	50.08	148.22
G Harris	49.07	49.05	50.08	148.20
A Langley	50.06	48.05	50.08	148.19
K Le Quesne	50.07	49.07	48.07	147.21
B Le Cheminant	48.05	48.03	50.08	146.16
IT Jones	45.4	48.04	50.05	143.13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>392.88</b>	<b>390.45</b>	<b>397.57</b>	<b>1180.54</b>

NRA	300	500	600	TOTAL
Sam Hunt	50.05	50.04	50.06	150.15
Pierre Goubert	49.08	50.07	50.08	149.23
Philip Ogier	50.08	49.05	50.08	149.21
Richard Perkins	50.06	48.05	50.06	148.17
Peter Jory	49.04	49.04	49.03	147.11
Nick Ogier	49.08	48.05	49.03	146.16
Mike Creber	48.6	47.05	49.05	144.16
Sylvia Sirett	47.02	49.05	46.0	142.10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>393.01</b>	<b>390.4</b>	<b>393.39</b>	<b>1176.29</b>

## RESERVE MATCH

NRA	300	500	600	TOTAL
Luke Belton	47.03	48.02	50.06	145.11
Martin Parker	46.04	49.06	48.06	143.16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>93.07</b>	<b>97.08</b>	<b>98.12</b>	<b>288.27</b>

JRA	300	500	600	TOTAL
Ellie Joseph	49.08	49.04	48.06	146.18
Emma Cannings	45.03	47.04	48.06	140.13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>94.11</b>	<b>96.08</b>	<b>96.12</b>	<b>286.31</b>

## 15 September

### PALATINE COUNTY OF DURHAM OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP, BATTLE HILL RANGE

Teesdale Cup (300yds): 1. N Watson (Sheffield RC) 50.6; 2. G Clarke (Darlington R&PC) 49.7; 3. J G Trembath (City of Newcastle RC) 48.6.

The Weardale Cup (500yds): 1. Clarke 72.7; 2. D Archer (Pickering RC) 71.6; 3. P Powell (Darlington R&PC) 71.5.

Raby Cup(600yds): 1. Watson 48.5; 2. G Stevenson (Darlington R&PC) 48.4; 3. G Trembath 48.4.

Cameron Cup (300 & 600 yards): Watson 98.11.

Barclays Bank Shield (500 & 600 yards): Clarke 118.10.

Open Championship - The Lewin Cup:

1. Watson 167.17; 2. Clarke 167.17; 3. Trembath 165.18; 4. M J M Black (City of Newcastle RC) 165.16; 5. K O Pugh (City of Newcastle RC) 165.11.

County of Durham Championship - Palatine Cup and County Badge: 1. Clarke 167.17; 2. Trembath 165.18; 3. Black 165.16; 4. Pugh 165.11.

The Elvet Plate (Class F): K Mounsey (Penrith) 162.

## 15-16 September

### SURREY RA OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Buck Challenge Cup (Open): 1. K Ramsey 402.60; 2. J Underwood 402.60; 3. D de Vere 402.52.

Closed: 1. Ramsey 402.60; 2. Underwood

402.60; 3. A Gent 400.54.

Cantlay Challenge Cup (300, 500 & 600yds)

1. M Millar 105.18; 2. D Crispin 105.17; 3. C Watson 105.17.

Peek Challenge Cup (300, 500 & 600yds)

1. Ramsey 150.28; 2. Underwood 150.21; 3. De Vere 150.19.

Albert Cannon Cup (900 & 1000yds)

1. Gent 149.21; 2. S East 149.18; 3. De Vere 74.10 74.9 148.19

St Georges Agg. & Surrey Challenge Bowl

1. K Ramsey 255.42; 2. Underwood 255.38; 3. Watson 254.40

## 22-23 September

### LONDON & MIDDLESEX RA OPEN

**CHAMPIONSHIP, BISLEY**

President's Cup (300, 500 & 600yds)  
 1. A Wilde 105.15; 2. N Mace 105.13; 3. P Jory 105.10.  
 Elizabethan (300, 500 & 600yds)  
 1. Mace 150.23; 2. N Brasier 149.18; 3. S Penrose 148.24.  
 Anderson (900 & 1000yds)  
 1. Wilde 150.21; 2. K Willingale 149.18; 3. B Horwood 148.20.  
 Malcolm Cup (Open Ch'ship) & Association Agg (Closed Ch'ship)  
 1. Wilde 403.59; 2. Mace 402.54; 3. Brasier 397.53.  
 Saturday Agg  
 1. Mace 255.36; 2. Wilde 253.38; 3. R Winney 252.25.

**6 October**

**BISLEY CLUBS MATCH, BISLEY (300, 600 & 900YDS)**

1. London & Middlesex RA 1372.160 (N Brasier 174.26); 2. North London RC 'A' 1366.148 (N Cole-Hawkins 173.20); 3. NLRC 'B' 1345.123 (J Campbell 173.15); 4. City RC 1013.11 (A McCullough) 174.22.

**13-14 October**

**EUROPEAN LONG RANGE CHAMPIONSHIPS (800, 900 & 1000YDS)**

1. England 4376.409 (J Watson 370.39); 2. Ireland 4335.345 (J Alexander 372.41); 3. Scotland 4302.348 (J Ford 363.28); 4. Wales 4283.296 (E Jeens 366.26); 5. Channel Islands 4165.290 (N Mace 365.38); 6. Germany 4145.259 (J Huber 361.25).

**INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP (1000YDS)**

1. G Alexander (Ireland) 74.7; 2. D Calvert (Ireland) 73.3; 3. N Mace (CI) 72.4; 4. E Jeens (Wales) 71.5; 5. J Alexander (Wales) 71.2.

**20-21 October**

**TRAFALGAR MEETING, BISLEY**

**Advancing – Any Gallery/sporting Rifle 25y** Derek Yates, 150.26, **Advancing – Any Revolver 25m** William Horne, 62.1, **Advancing – CF Gallery Rifle manual**

**25m** William Horne, 149.22, **Advancing – DA Revolver 25m** William Horne, 48.0, **Advancing – Long Range .22 Rifle 50m** Derek Yates, 134.7, **Advancing – Long Range L/A Rifle 50m** John Woodward, 122.1, **Advancing – RF Gallery Rifle Manual 25m** Mick Tedesco, 149.8, **Advancing – RF Gallery Rifle Semi Auto 25m** Brian Yard, 150.21, **Advancing – Standard Revolver 25m** William Horne, 62.2  
**American – Buffalo Match 600y** H C Taylor, 34.0, **American – Offhand Match 200y** William Horne, 44.1  
**Any CF Gallery Rifle 100m** Tony Bowden, 161.2, **Any CF Gallery Rifle – Precision 50m** Rob Libbiter, 138.18, **Any CF Gallery Rifle – Slowfire 25m** Stan Hill, 136.17  
**Any Classic Rifle 200y** Joel Meyers, 49.5, **Any Classic Rifle 200y** Jeff Abbishaw, 36.0, **Any Classic Rifle 500y** Joel Meyers, 46.2, **Any Classic Rifle 600y** Stephen East, 50.1  
**Any L/Action Repeating Rifle – Precision 50m** Kjell Middleton, 135.15 **Any L/Action Repeating Rifle – Slowfire 25m** Mick Tedesco, 136.16, **Any Lever Action Repeating Rifle 100m** Kjell Middleton, 164.4  
**Any M/L Rifle Any Sights 600y** Armin Buse, 43.2, **Any M/L Rifle Any Sights 900y** Armin Buse, 48.0  
**Any Revolver 25m** Walter Keverne, 76.0, **Any Revolver – MLAGB 25m** Colin Oswald, 81.0, **Any Revolver – Slowfire 25m** Doug Green, 46.2  
**Any RF Gallery Rifle 100m** Kjell Middleton, 159.1, **Any RF Gallery Rifle – Precision 50m** Reg Hankey, 134.15, **Any RF Gallery Rifle – Precision 50m** Julie Robinshaw, 134.15, **Any RF Gallery Rifle – Slowfire 25m** Alan Warner, 136.16  
**Any Target Pistol – Precision 50m** Kevin Henderson, 40.0  
**Any Transitional Rifle 200y** Roger Ellis, 50.8 **Any Transitional Rifle 200y** Frank Heymel, 33.1 **Any Transitional Rifle 500y** Roger Ellis, 49.7 **Any Transitional Rifle 600y** Stephen East, 50.7 **Any Transitional Rifle 900y** Stephen East, 71.7

**Any Veteran .22 Rimfire 50m** Jonathan Clark, 192.6 **Any Veteran Rifle 200y** Ian Hollingsworth, 50.5 **Any Veteran Rifle 500y** Ian Hollingsworth, 48.4 **Any Veteran Rifle 600y** Joel Meyers, 47.3 **Any Veteran Rifle 900y** Joel Meyers, 70.8 **Any Veteran Rifle Agg** Joel Meyers, 143.10  
**Any Vintage Rifle 200y** Leon Kranen, 49.7 **Any Vintage Rifle 200y** Walter Keverne, 33.0 **Any Vintage Rifle 500y** Mark Silver, 44.1 **Any Vintage Rifle 600y** Leon Kranen, 47.2 **Any Vintage S/S Rifle 200y** Ted Dixon, 6.0  
**ARA - Standard Revolver** John Burnhill, 70.3  
**Bobber Gallery/Sporting Rifle 25m** Leslie Kong, 193.6  
**Carbine & Short Rifle none L/A Any 100y** Tim Read, 144.0 **Carbine & Short Rifle none L/A Any 200y** Tim Read, 38.0 **Carbine & Short Rifle none L/A Any 500y** Michael Williams, 35.0 **Carbine & Short Rifle none L/A Rapid 200y** Malcolm Jackson, 17.0 **Carbine & Short Rifle none L/A S/Snaps 200y** Malcolm Jackson, 20.1 **Carbine & Short Rifle none L/A Service 200y** Graeme Tregay, 46.1  
**Classic Military Miniature Rifle 50m** Michael Owen, 193.8 **Classic Miniature Target Rifle 200y** Jonathan Clark, 45.2  
**Classic Rook & Rabbit 100m** Roger Hodgkins, 141.0 **Classic Rook & Rabbit 50m Standing** Adrian Dagger, 112.0  
**Classic Rook & Rabbit Rifle 50m Standing** Gerry Betteridge, 136.16  
**Classic Running Deer 50y Standing** John Burnhill, 35.0  
**Classic S.R. Short Range Agg (406 & 465)** A D Milbourne, 87.4  
**Classic Service Rifle 200y Double Snaps Prone** D Milbourne, 42.0 **Classic Service Rifle 200y Prone** Larry Brown, 49.5 **Classic Service Rifle 200y Standing** James Stock, 39.2 **Classic Service Rifle 200y Rapid** A D Milbourne, 38.0 **Classic Service Rifle 200y Single Snaps Prone** Steven Voak, 41.0 **Classic Service Rifle 500y Prone** Joel Meyers, 44.3  
**Classic Service Rifle 600y Prone** Joel

Meyers, 45.4 **Classic Service Rifle 900y Prone** Frank Heymel, 72.4 **Classic Service Sniper Rifle Optical 200y Prone** Ian Hollingsworth, 49.6 **Classic single shot Service Rifle 200y Prone** Trevor Jackson, 48.2

**Classic Sporting Rifle Met Sights 200y Prone** Trevor Jackson, 43.2 **Classic Sporting Rifle Optical 200y Prone** Mike Townsend, 46.1 **Classic Target Rifle 900y Any** Joel Meyers, 59.2

**Duelling Gallery/Sporting Rifle 25m Standing** Alan Warner, 197.3

**Enfield Minute 200y Rapid** David Evans, 34.0

**First Generation 7.62 Sniper 200y McQueen Prone** Griff Elliott, 39.0

**Flintlock (Repro) Open Sights 200y Prone** Olivia de Courcy Scott, 34.0

**Flintlock Pistol – Duelling 25m Duelling** Terry Pearce, 88.0 **Free Flintlock Pistol – MLAGB 25m MLAGB** Allan Edwards, 87.1

**Hesketh Pritchard military 1,000y Prone** Steven Voak, 72.8 **Hesketh Pritchard Military 600y** Michael Heyes, 50.3 **Hesketh Pritchard Military 900y Any** Steven Voak, 75.8 **Hesketh Pritchard Sniper 600y** Nigel Greenaway, 49.6 **Hesketh Pritchard Sniper 900y** Steven Voak, 71.7

**Hist. 22rf Self-loading Gallery/Sporting 25m** Alan Warner, 197.6

**Lever Action Agg (648 & 649)** William Lander, 66.0

**M/L Free Rifle 200y** Olivia de Courcy Scott, 46.2 **M/L Service Rifle 100m MLAGB 10/13** John Hollis, 87.0

**M/L Service Rifle 200y** John Hollis, 42.0 **M/L Service Rifle 200y** David Pearce, 23.0 **M/L Service Rifle 500y** David Craven, 31.0 **M/L Target Rifle 100m MLAGB** Gary Evans, 48.5 **M/L Target Rifle 100m MLAGB** Gary Evans, 88.0 **M/L Target Rifle 500y** Armin Buse, 41.0

**McQueen Aggregate (405, 407 & 409)** Joel Meyers, 142.10

**Open .22 Sporting rifle 50m Prone** Michael Owen, 164.1 **Open – .22 Sporting rifle – Running Boar 55y** Carl Glaister, 156.0 **Open – Agony Snaps 200y** Jeff Abbishaw, 42.0 **Open – Any Rifle Historic 110y Running Deer Standing** Steven Voak, 32.0 **Open – Big Game Rifle 110y Running Deer Standing** Adrian Dagger, 33.0 **Open – CF Military Rifle 110y Running Deer Standing** Steven Voak, 67.0 **Open – Double Rifle Large bore 50y Standing** Derek Stimpson, 89.0 **Open – Lever**

**Action CF Repeater Rapid 200y Double Snaps** William Lander, 27.0 **Open – Pre 1946 L/A CF Repeater Slowfire 200y** Christopher Baker, 44.0 **Open – Target Rifle NRA .303 SR(b) 200y Prone** Justin Shenton, 47.4 **Open .22 Rimfire Rifle 200y Prone** John Eling, 49.4 **Open Frame Revolver - Slowfire 25m Standing** George Tondryk, 46.3 **Open Pre 1946 Lever CF Repeater 200y Standing** Nick Doe, 40.0 **Open Rifle Military Miniature 200y Prone** Trevor Jackson, 47.3 **Open Rifle Service Sniper 200y Prone** Ian Hollingsworth, 50.8 **Open Schutzen Rifle 200y Standing** John Eling, 78.2

**Patched Ball Rifle1 Open Sights 50y Standing** James Stock, 86.1 **Patched Ball Rifle2 Aperture Sights 50Y Standing** Gary Evans, 85.0

**Perrier SR Agg (406, 408 & 410)** Joel Meyers, 135.9

**Repeating CF Gallery Rifle 25m Bobber** Shaun Trout, 199.10 **Repeating CF Gallery Rifle Duelling 25m** Gerry Betteridge, 200.11 **Repeating RF Gallery Rifle Manual Action 25m Bobber** John Woodward, 197.9

**Rimfire Schutzen Rifle 200y Standing** John Burnhill, 84.4 **Rimfire Schutzen Rifle – Precision 50m Standing** Roger Hardy, 140.20 **Rimfire Target Rifle 100m** R I M Thomas, 198.2

**Shoulder Stocked Pistol – Precision Standing** Walter Keverne, 34.1

**Single shot Gallery Rifle – Duelling 25m Duelling** John Woodward, 198.9

**Single shot Percussion Pistol – Duelling 25m Duelling** Peter Burdige, 93.4

**Smoothbore Flint Pistol – MLAGB 25m MLAGB** Peter Jones, 79.0 **Sniper Military 200y McQueen** Michael Deakin, 37.0

**Sporting Rifle 100m** Trevor Jackson, 153.1 **Sporting Rifle – Precision 50m** Roger Hardy, 137.17

**Standard Pocket Revolver 10m Pockets** William Horne, 92.8 **Standard Revolver 25m Bobber** N Morewood, 87.0 **Standard Revolver – MLAGB 25m MLAGB** Peter Jones, 89.1 **Standard Revolver – Precision 50m** Reg Hankey, 46.1 **Standard Revolver – Slowfire 25m** Colin Oswald, 47.0

**Surrenden – Repeating CF Gallery Rifle 25m Surrenden** Keith Henderson, 63.6

**Surrenden – Standard Revolver 25m Surrenden** M Wagstaff, 10.1 **Target Pistol – MLAGB 25m MLAGB** John Lewis, 93.3

**The Century Match 100m** Gary Shenton, 186.4

## **The Halford Aggregate (208, 230 & 232)**

Carole Silver, 143.3

**The Martini Target Match 100m Prone** R I M Thomas, 197.9 **The Martini Target Match 50m Prone** Jonathan Clark, 196.5

**Thumbcoocked Pocket Revolver 10m Pockets** Neil Roberts, 86.5

**Trans. Mid Range Agg. (710, 712 & 714)** Frank Heymel, 144.15 **Trans. Short Range Agg. (710 & 718)** Frank Heymel, 83.6

**Vet SR Agg (506, 524 & 540)** Joel Meyers, 131.3 **Vet SR Short Range Agg (506 & 540)** Phil Milsom, 78.1 **Veteran Service Rifle 200y Prone** Joel Meyers, 49.2 **Veteran Service Rifle 200y Standing** John Eling, 37.37 **Veteran Service Rifle 200y Rapid** Mat Giles, 43.2 **Veteran Service Rifle 200y Single Snaps Prone** David Evans, 41.0 **Veteran Service Rifle 500y Prone** Stephen Garlick, 44.2 **Veteran Service Rifle 600y Prone** Stephen Garlick, 43.3 **Veteran Service Rifle 900y Prone** Paul Williams, 62.2 **Veteran Service Rifle Dble Snaps 200y Double Snaps** Bob Burdock, 36.0 **Veteran Service Rifle Sniper Optical 200y Prone** Mat Giles, 50.8

**Vintage B-L & Classic C/F Schutzen Rifle 200y Standing** Linda Welsh, 85.4

**Vintage Match Rifle 1000y Prone/Supine** Mark Silver, 63.3 **Vintage Match Rifle 900y** Krish Thirugnana-Moorthy, 64.1

**Vintage Repeating Rifle 200y Standing** David Chappell, 31.0

**Vintage Service Rifle 500y** Andrew Russell, 29.2 **Vintage Service S/Shot Large Bore 200y Prone** John Hollis, 47.3

**Vintage Service S/Shot Large Bore 200y Standing** Linda Welsh, 44.2 **Vintage Service S/Shot Medium Bore 200y Prone** John Hollis, 46.1

**Vintage Service S/Shot Medium Bore 200y Standing** Linda Welsh, 37.0

## **27-28 October**

### **AGES MATCH (300, 500, 600, 900 & 1000 YARDS)**

1. 35-44 Group 2851.215 (J Underwood 293.31); 2. 55-64 Group 2827.232 (J Pugsley 293.33); 3. 25-34 Group 2821.212 (D Blake 290.27); 4. Over 65s 2820.194 (M Gregory 289.24); 5. 45-54 Group 2817.227 (A Whicher 296.27); 6. Under 25s 2811.220 (D Nuthall 291.28); Under 25 Development 2710.168 (H Pugsley 284.28).





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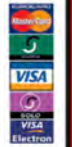
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# General Notices



## LIBBY GENDALL

Libby Gendall retires at the end of 2012 after almost 10 years at the NRA. Libby started with the NRA part-time on reception. It was a baptism of fire – her first day was the second Monday of the 2003 Imperial. "I thought it was going to be like that all the time," she remembers. However, while reception is not always that busy, Libby's professionalism and work ethic meant she acquired a number of other duties to fill her days until she became PA to the managing director Jeremy Staples after 18 months.

Along the way, she has taken on responsibility for a variety of different things, but her most significant roles have been in running the front offices for open days and the Imperial Meeting. Her impact has been such that the role of PA to the (now) chief executive will not be retained but replaced with a new role of office manager. This simply reflects the role that Libby does, not what her title has been.

When I joined the organisation as acting chief executive in July last year, Libby was already planning to retire. I am deeply grateful that she postponed those plans to stay on and help see the organisation through a time of considerable upheaval and change. From my perspective, there are three things that typify Libby's contribution to the NRA: dedicated professionalism, willingness to 'muck in' with whatever needs doing, and above all, her constant sense of humour and fun. No one in any organisation is 'irreplaceable', but some leave a gap that is hard to fill. Libby is such a person.

2013 will see her travelling with her husband, Geoff, a fine man who knows just how lucky he is, and who also retires at the end of this year. The Mediterranean and the USA will be interspersed with travelling around the UK, before they move to Cornwall, a place they both love. "We will have lots of fun," says Libby, and we all wish them well.

**Derrick Mabbott**

## DISCIPLINARY

### 6 July 2012

The Disciplinary Committee found that Mr P Wikeley had, by issuing Shooter Certification Cards (SCC) that did not meet agreed conditions of validity, failed to observe the terms of the NRA / MoD agreement for access by civilians to MoD ranges. Accordingly, Mr Wikeley will not be authorised to issue SCC in the future. Further, Mr Wikeley has been excluded from Bisley Camp and Ranges for a period of five years.

### 24 September 2012

The Disciplinary Committee found that the person acting as RCO on an MoD range (during an incident which was the subject of separate investigation) had done so when his NRA qualification to do so had lapsed. Accordingly, that person would be recertified as an NRA RCO only if they successfully completed the full NRA RCO course.

### Mr M Evans

In the Summer edition of the NRA Journal it was reported that Mr M Evans was struck off the register of NRA members and permanently expelled from the camp. As there is more than one member by that name, the NRA would like to make it clear this does not refer to Mr MG Evans of the Ham & Petersham Rifle & Pistol Club.

## IMPERIAL SCORES

The individual scores section of [www.nra.org.uk](http://www.nra.org.uk), which allows competitors to search for their Imperial Meeting (MR & TR) scores, has been updated to include the 2012 results. The database now contains 1999-2012. Please inform the web admin of any errors or queries noting where possible your index number from the year in question.

# Old Bisley Gun Club



The NRA is offering to lease to individual members or clubs the Old Bisley Gun Club. The building has been used in the past as a clubhouse, a training centre and more latterly as a retail

unit. The building is being offered for lease to organisations or individuals for use in connection with shooting at Bisley. We are seeking offers for the building by informal tender on a full repairing and insuring basis for a term of just under 21 years. The building is located next to the National Clay Shooting Centre behind the 1,200-yard firing point on Stickledown range. The building was partially renovated internally about five years ago to provide accommodation for the NRA training centre but little work was carried out on the exterior, which will require a fair amount of repair and redecoration.

The accommodation provides for one large room with separate kitchen facilities, male and female WCs, and an amount of storage space. Note there are no bedroom facilities provided in the building.

For further information including the draft lease and energy performance certificate or to arrange a viewing please email Libby Gendall at [libby.gendall@nra.org.uk](mailto:libby.gendall@nra.org.uk) or telephone on 01483 797777.



# Marksman's Calendar

Plan your next year of target shooting today – check the upcoming fixtures in the NRA's 2013 calendar

## 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

### 9 PROBATIONARY MEMBER COURSE

Nick Halford, 01483 797777 x 138, nick.halford@nra.org.uk

### 16 NRA TARGET SHOTGUN FESTIVAL

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

### 16-17 MULTI-GUN MATCH

Shooting Division, 01483 797777 x 148, brian.thomas@nra.org.uk

### 23-24 CLUB INSTRUCTOR COURSE

Caroline O Connor, 01483 797777 x 158, caroline.oconnor@nra.org.uk

## MARCH 2013

### 3 NRA CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE, WINTER LEAGUE

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

### 3 RANGE CONDUCTING OFFICER COURSE

Maureen Peach 01483 797777 maureen.peach@nra.org.uk

### 9-10 CLUB COACH COURSE

Caroline O Connor, 01483 797777 x 158, caroline.oconnor@nra.org.uk

### 23-24 NRA SPRING ACTION WEEKEND

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

### 30-31 CLUB INSTRUCTOR COURSE

Caroline O Connor, 01483 797777 x 158, caroline.oconnor@nra.org.uk

## APRIL 2013

### 6 NRA CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE, WINTER LEAGUE

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

### 6-7 WIND COACHING COURSE

Caroline O Connor, 01483 797777 x 158, caroline.oconnor@nra.org.uk

### 13 PROBATIONARY MEMBER COURSE

Nick Halford, 01483 797777 x 138, nick.halford@nra.org.uk

## MAY 2013

### 4-5 CLRA ALL COMERS MEETING (ALTCAR)

County of Lancaster RA www.clra.org.uk

### 11-12 RANGE CONDUCTING OFFICER COURSE

Maureen Peach 01483 797777 maureen.peach@nra.org.uk

### 18 PROBATIONARY MEMBER COURSE

Nick Halford, 01483 797777 x 138, nick.halford@nra.org.uk

### 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

www.mod.uk

### 22-23 RANGE CONDUCTING OFFICER COURSE

Maureen Peach 01483 797777 maureen.peach@nra.org.uk

### 26-30 CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE MEETING

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

## JULY 2013

### 3 NRA MILITARY ADAPTIVE SHOOTING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Olaf Jones, olaf.jones@tesco.net

### 5-11 IMPERIAL MATCH RIFLE EVENTS

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

### 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

### 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 IMPERIAL SCHOOLS VETERAN MATCH



Historic meeting: The Trafalgar 2013 will take place on 19-20 October

Heather Webb, 01483 797777 x 155,  
memsec@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

**23-25 COMMONWEALTH SHOOTING  
FEDERATION CHAMPIONSHIPS**

John Bloomfield (through www.nra.org.uk)

**AUGUST 2013**

**10-11 CLUB COACH COURSE**

Caroline O Connor, 01483 797777 x 158,  
caroline.oconnor@nra.org.uk

**24-25 GALLERY RIFLE NATIONAL  
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

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

**31 AUGUST – 1 SEPTEMBER CLUB  
INSTRUCTOR COURSE**

Caroline O Connor, 01483 797777 x 158,  
caroline.oconnor@nra.org.uk

**SEPTEMBER 2013**

**7 NRA OPEN DAY**

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

**14-15 RANGE CONDUCTING OFFICER  
COURSE**

Maureen Peach, 01483 797777, maureen.



Firing point: Shooters and markers at this year's Imperial Meeting

peach@nra.org.uk

**21 PROBATIONARY MEMBER COURSE**

Nick Halford, 01483 797777 x 138, nick.  
halford@nra.org.uk

**OCTOBER 2013**

**5 CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE**

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

**12-13 RANGE CONDUCTING OFFICER  
COURSE**

Maureen Peach 01483 797777 maureen.  
peach@nra.org.uk

**12-13 WIND COACHING COURSE**

Caroline O Connor, 01483 797777 x 158,  
caroline.oconnor@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

**9 AUTUMN TARGET SHOTGUN FESTIVAL**

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

**9-10 RANGE CONDUCTING OFFICER**



Save the date: Target Rifle shooters won't want to miss the Queen's final on 20 July

#### COURSE

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

#### 30 OCTOBER – 1 NOVEMBER CLUB COACH COURSE

Caroline O Connor, 01483 797777 x 158, caroline.oconnor@nra.org.uk

#### DECEMBER 2013

##### 7 CIVILIAN SERVICE RIFLE

Mark Bradley, mark@bradleyarms.com

##### 14-15 CLUB INSTRUCTOR COURSE

Caroline O Connor, 01483 797777 x 158, caroline.oconnor@nra.org.uk

#### 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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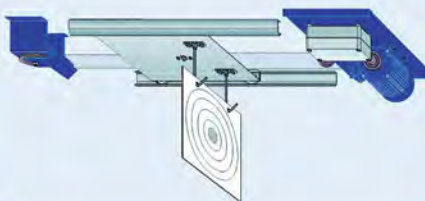
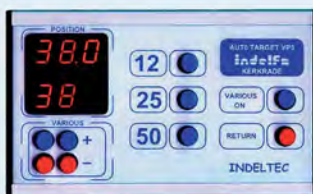
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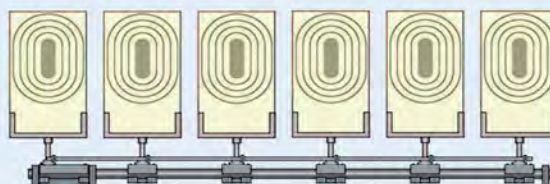
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