

The Bristol bullet in

B&DR&PC NEWSLETTER

April 2007

Editorial

Next month I will have completed the series on gallery rifle matches with the exception of the "1500" match, which I thought I would leave until a later date.

In June I thought I would start a run of a few articles on rifle scopes—I am no expert mind but it seems to me that a few members have been asking me for advice on what type of scope to get, how to fit it, what magnification etc?

If you don't like the idea, or you would like to contribute an article yourself, or have any other ideas then let me know.

All this assumes you wish to re-elect your Newsletter Editor at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting, which will be held at Old

Bristolians Sports Club in Failand on Thursday, 10th. May 2007 at eight o'clock.

I hope to see quite a few of you there, it is your chance to express your views on the running of the club and to elect the Committee that will be responsible for running the club on your behalf. All full members may attend and vote on motions, probationary members can attend but have no voting rights. Please try and get along if you can.

Calling notices have been circulated and if you wish to discuss anything you can forward agenda items to the Club Secretary.

It hardly seems like a year since I started the Newsletter and I have to say sometimes it has been a bit of a rush to get it out. Thank

you for your comments and support, it does make it worthwhile, I hope it continues to meet the requirements of the members—so please let me know the sort of things you would like included.

One bit of a failure this year has been the setting up of the Club Web Site. I have booked on two courses in website design, only for both of them to be cancelled at the last minute. I am going to keep trying and I think we should carry forward a resolution to get a site up and running by next year's AGM.

Lastly I cannot believe that there are only thirteen of you who use e-mail, that's all I have on the mailing list for the newsletter. If you are on e-mail let me know, thanks - Es.

Forthcoming events

The next three months sees a lot of opportunities for a variety of shooting. There are dates for rifle, club matches at Failand and some national events to look forward to. Let's hope we have some good weather so we can enjoy our shooting this spring.

One event may be of interest to those who want to do some competition shooting but don't wish to travel too far. The Wiltshire County Shooting Association (WCSA) are holding an open gallery rifle match on Saturday 9th. June 2007. There are four different

matches to enter and you can shoot both centre-fire and small-bore classes. There is an open category for non-Wiltshire residents and the entry fees are quite good. Why not have a go? Entry forms on the Hamilton Range notice board.

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Phoenix Meeting 2007

National Rifle Association, Bisley

Friday—Sunday 25th./27th. May

If you only have time to go to one national shooting event or you haven't been to one yet, then this one is a must. No matter what type of shooting you are interested in, it is all here.

Over 75 events from 10 to 1,000 metres. There is also trade stands on the weekend so you can have a look at the latest bit of kit, or better still treat yourself.

Bisley is in Surrey and about two hours drive from Bristol, so why not get together and have a day out.

Details from the NRA or any Committee Member

Gallery rifle part 9

the bianchi—barricade

The barricade match is the third stage of the Bianchi Cup and is shot on two of the now familiar "tombstone" targets, set 7½ feet apart (centre to centre) and standing 6 feet to the top of the target.

In front of this is set four vertical barricades, each being 2 feet wide and standing 6 feet tall, with a "box" marked on the ground immediately behind the barricade (therefore 2 feet across) that extends 3 feet. The competitor must remain entirely within this "box" during shooting.

The barricades are set at 10, 15, 20 and 25 yards. The shooter will engage the right hand target shooting around the right edge of the barricade and the left hand target around the left edge (obvious but someone had to say it). The time allowed at each distance

is 6, 7, 8 and 9 seconds for a six shot string, followed by a slow-time reload and the same series at the other target. 48 shots in all and so another 480 points (possible maximum) up for grabs.

There are two main consideration in this match (in addition to speed for the under lever shooters); whether to shoot left and/or right handed around the different edges of the barricade and how to use the barricade for support?

I shoot strong handed (being right handed for me) around both sides, but it does require you to lean out on the left hand edge and risk stepping out of the "box" and incurring a penalty. If you are a confident wrong handed shot then it is probably better to go that way or better still practice until

you are confident,

You can use the barricade for support during shooting and I was taught to hold the rifle as normal but push the back of your forward hand against the barricade. If you let go with your trigger hand you should find that the gun is locked between you front hand and the shoulder leaving you free to pull the trigger and operate the under lever.

I suppose the madness behind this match is to simulate shooting from behind cover and rapidly appearing targets and I have to say I have a slight distaste for quasi-martial style shooting but is it extremely good fun.

Next time the last Bianchi Cup match , the mover—you will see that this one really is about practice makes perfect.

Winter aggregate complete!

The final round of the Greg Patterson, Winter Aggregate Competition was shot on Sunday 11th. March 2007 with a narrow margin of victory in this round to **Bob Sweet**, beating **Dave Perry** by 9 points. Well done Bob! The full scores for Round 7 are on the reverse of the calendar of events, attached with this newsletter.

The final stage of the competition attracted the best turn out so far with nine shooters taking part. Over all seven round 17 shooters shot 49 match cards.

The question you are all asking is who

won? The first ever winner of the Greg Patterson Trophy for 2006/07 is **Dave Perry**. There were a possible 670 points available for each round, with the best three scores in each of the three matches being aggregated to give the final placing. The best possible score is therefore 2,010. Dave's aggregate score was 1,918, dropping just 92 points in 237 shots fired, excellent!

Hopefully the trophy will ready in time to be presented at the AGM in May, but don't think it ends there because the second and third place prizes will also be announced and presented at

Members section

the AGM.

If you are a re-loader then I have some news for **Steve Downs** (Rifle Captain), who is also a firearms dealer. Apparently from 1st. April you will have to produce your firearms certificate to obtain primers. The only fly in the ointment the licensing authorities, who will have to get their act together so that renewals and variations are dealt with in a more timely manner. I know they have had a bit of a bad time with the implementation of new national licensing system—hopefully it will settle down soon—watch this space!

Club news

Fancy joining the Committee and helping to run your club. Then send your details with a proposer to the Secretary in time for your candidature to be considered at the AGM—the cut off is by 19th. April, so do it now.

One proposal already tabled for discussion at the AGM is an amendment to the rules on probationary membership, to require attendance at fewer sessions but to include mandatory formal training sessions and assess-

ments. It is hoped that it will provide a broader and more knowledgeable membership. You should see the item on the agenda, when it is circulated.

A few newsletters ago improvements to club guns were announced, so here is an update. The club has acquired a 38/357 Marlin under-lever rifle, which will shortly be in the hands of the Training Officer, as soon as he gets his hands on it, it will be set up to a standard required to be competitive for

what went on at committee?

match shooting.

The club now has three Ruger 10/22 self loading rifles, all of them have tuned triggers and reasonable scopes to make them match capable. The Training Officer has one and the Secretary holds another two on the club firearms certificate, so they should be available for members use.

Please take advantage of them.

The Committee.