

The Bristol bullet in

B&DR&PC NEWSLETTER

December 2007

Editorial

PRIME MINISTER PROMOTES INEQUALITY!

I have reported in recent editions about what I perceive to be a catalogue of unfairness shown to shooting sports.

The chairman of Sport England (whose name escapes me) resigned recently and on the BBC Radio 4 programme "Today" he explained why. Sport England has been active in promoting the "sport for all" programme—providing greater access for everyone wishing to take up sport not just the elite. He went on to inform the listeners that as far as activity based sport is concerned, i.e. running and jumping, the "sport for all" concept has been moved under the umbrella of the health department.

The main problem with this is that those wishing to take

up sport would not intuitively turn to the health department as their first port of call. Even more sinister you might say is the separating off of the "less physically active" sporting disciplines from the sport for all concept altogether. You may wish to try phoning the health department and asking about the possibility of taking up archery for example and test their response—strange concept!

The objective investigative journalist (well ok you will have to put up with me instead) would look for independent verification of this principle of the de-sportification of "discipline" type sports from those which are activity based.

I think the evidence is clear. The Prime Minister's Office sent a well deserved letter

of congratulations recently to Christine Ohuruogu for her performance in winning the 400m gold medal for Britain at Osaka. It took a letter from a journalist on the Daily Telegraph to prompt the Prime Ministers Office before similar congratulations were sent to David Luckman, who also took a world title for shooting.

I do realise that the young do need to be encouraged to keep fit and activity sports provide the ideal vehicle for this. What concerns me is the promoting of this philosophy to the exclusion of all else.

The inequality continues.

Ed

Forthcoming events

Final preparations have been confirmed for the Boxing Day Clay Pigeon Shot that will (not unsurprisingly-considering its name) take place on Wednesday 26th. December. If you wish to take part a prompt 10 a.m. sharp is advisable as it has proved a

very popular event.

The event is a Guest Day so why not bring a visitor?

—

The Winter Aggregate Trophy continues with four more monthly competitions between now and March.

Cards are also being submitted for the precision event, shot in the form of a postal competition, which can be shot any time before the end of March 2008.

Why not come along and have a go?

This issue

Editorial	1
Forthcoming Events	1
Christmas Shoots	1
Future Articles	2
Range Talk	2
Club News	2

Boxing Day Clay Pigeon Shoot

This ever popular Boxing Day event will take place as usual this year—see forthcoming events section for details.

Remember that ammunition and shotguns will be available on the day—but if you bring your own it's felt wads only please.

Christmas Shoots

At Failand on Saturday 15th. December, Frome and District Pistol Club will be holding their Christmas Fun Shoot. Our members are very welcome to join them—the format of the fun shoot is bring a prize (about £5 value) and win a prize.

Happy Christmas

WHAT FUTURE FOR THE BRISTOL BULLET-IN?

This edition will be the 20th. since I took over the job of Newsletter Editor. So far in this "shooting snippets" section we have looked at the different types of competitions that can be shot with the kind of guns you can use at the Failand Ranges—i.e. gallery rifles.

The Rifle Captain also wrote a piece on Full Bore Rifle and has also organised a couple of days out to enable members to have a go at longer ranges.

More recently I have completed a series of articles on "scoping up" your rifle, describing what types of telescopic sight there are available and which type we should consider for what purpose. Finally ending with mounting and zeroing your scope.

I have asked in newsletters for **your** ideas for what you would like to see in future publications. In the absence of

any direction from the membership I will have formulated a programme of articles for the forthcoming year on the presumption that you are satisfied with the current content!

What is in and what's out?

Well reloading is a definite no, no! The Committee feel, rightly or wrongly that they will be liable if things go wrong. What could be done with ammunition is a description of the most popular calibres and what they are suited for.

The second forbidden fruit is tuning up your guns, again liability being the issue. Given this we could look at types of rifles and the different models available, e.g. Enfield v. Mauser.

Less controversial would be a report on the national competition circuit for rifle events and a look at some of the events that also take place at these

meetings. You may not be aware but there is much full-bore shooting done at GRAW meetings, that's **Gallery Rifle Action Weekends**. So starting in January there will be a three monthly cycle of articles: -

Month 1—Firearms. The advantages of the different makes and models, their availability and what you expect to pay.

Month 2—Ammunition. Which calibre to use for what disciplines. What type and style of bullet you should consider for each event.

Month 3—Meetings. Where to go to take part in national competitions and when the next one will be held.

Hope this programme is agreeable to you, if you have any other suggestions please let me know.

Range talk

On 26 November Bristol and District Rifle and Pistol Club entered the electronic era by launching it's website. As mentioned last time you can see what it looks like on: -

www.bdrpc.org.uk.

For those who do not have access to the website it is my intention to put on a short presentation of what is on the site at the next AGM. If you have the web then you can see there are pages about: -

1. History of the Club—an article and pictures courtesy of a founder member and an article from Tar-

get Sports Magazine from when the new ranges were opened.

2. Facilities—the Failand Ranges.
3. Membership—how to apply and the advantages of membership, including an on-line enquiry form.
4. Events—showing the current three monthly calendar.
5. News—with copies of all the newsletters I have produced, minus personal details.
6. Links— to other useful sites.

I also intend to "tune-up" the site a bit

website now on line!

by optimising the content to match internet search engines and adjusting the images to allow quicker downloading. There will also be pages on the types of shooting that takes place at Failand, with links to courses of fire and to other associations that hold similar activities.

I have already had some feedback but would also welcome your thoughts.

Happy Shooting!

Club news

The Committee has had a report that a member attended the range and found the top gate unlock and the range unattended. Whilst no harm was done and there is limited scope for damage and loss to the club, the Committee would remind members that restricting site access limits liability to anyone unlawfully gaining access and subsequently injuring them selves. It also prevent squatters gaining access and setting up unauthorised caravan

parks with all the associated problems of removing them.

Another recent oversight was that upon closing the range recently a members noticed that nobody had signed to open it. There was no danger to anyone at any time as all the necessary actions to open the range had been completed but not recorded.

No further action will be taken regarding recent matters, the Committee

what went on at committee?

accepting that these were oversights but request that shooters pay special attention to security in future, thank you.

—

The Committee would like to wish all the membership a peaceful and merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous new year!

The Committee