

# The Bristol bullet in

B&DR&PC NEWSLETTER

January 2007

## Editorial new year resolutions

A Happy New Year to all out readers! Is it just me or was 2006 really that short?

I can remember this time last year, in the dry but cold winter, practice was *not very pleasant* with numbed fingers after a short time. This year we seem to have more traditional wet and windy weather (and judging by the forecast it seems likely to continue) - practice is *still not very pleasant*, no change there then! On the bright side—you can do it longer if you fingers don't freeze so there is no excuse for not getting along to the range and having a go.

Traditionally we now look back on the previous year and forward to the new—so here goes.

**Good things last year;** a lot

of new members, some young, some less so, gentlemen and ladies. Some good performances by members on the national shooting circuit and more members having a go at national competitions for the first time. The range has been spruced up and is looking fine.

**Good things to look forward to this year;** the first winner of the Greg Patterson Aggregate Trophy. More shooting opportunities with reciprocal agreements with the Frome Club and the Muzzle Loaders to join them on their rifle dates and other events. A full calendar of national events to help drain your bank balance. Great can't wait!

Are there any **bad things** to

watch out for? Well to retain all this you need to continue supporting your club—don't worry no rants about attending the AGM for another month or so yet. I just want you to consider now and again, **"ask not what my club can do for me but what I can do for my club"**. No points for originality—but I think the sentiment is right!

Thank you all who have contributed this year. The Committee will be asking for your continued support and I know you will all make your best effort to come along to those essential maintenance days.

**Let's have making BDRPC a still better club one of our resolutions for 2007.**

**All the very best—ED!**

## Forthcoming events

If you have every fancied a go at shooting a full bore rifle or perhaps you have one in the cupboard that hasn't had an outing for a while, then—get along to the Frome and District Pistol Club Open Day on Sunday 21st. January 2007. No

previous experience necessary, guns and ammunition available. Safe introduction to a new type of shooting or some useful practice for established shooter—fingers crossed for the weather! Give Rifle Captain a ring beforehand.

Don't forget only three more rounds of the Aggregate Trophy left.

Full calendar of events for the next three months is attached with this newsletter.

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### **Western Action Shooting—Hamilton Ranges**

Sunday 4th. and 18th. February 2007

Well partners once more it's time for the Western Shoot—Lever Action Rifle on 4th. February (30 rounds) and keep your eyes peeled for the Failand Kid.

18th. February it's black powder revolver (24 rounds)

There will be prizes!

Woe betide any varmint that misses the spittoon in the rest room

*Signed*  
**Captain Jack**

## Gallery rifle part 6 introducing bianchi cup

If you look up the word "Bianchi" on the Web you will find a company boasting—the worlds finest holsters. It is therefore not surprising that the Bianchi Cup Competition is an offshoot (no pun intended) of American quick draw shooting.

When you think of American holsters, you think of Westerns which you then might correctly associate six-shooters. Unsurprisingly the Bianchi Cup is shot in strings of six shots and was designed as a revolver match, although it is frequently shot with self-loaders.

Here in Britain there was a fast growing Bianchi Cup circuit when handguns were banned. A spirited few took up the challenge and it is now shot with under-lever (centre fire) and .22 rim-fire (self-loading) gallery rifles. Interestingly the introduction of

ban-busting long barrelled revolvers (LBR) have brought things full circle and LBR Bianchi is burgeoning.

Although having American six-gun roots it is not a single action shooting event, quite the reverse it is an explosive rapid fire sort of a thing, comprising four separate stages that could keep you entertained for a good half day. It will cost you 192 rounds of ammunition, each of the four stages using 48 shots.

The different stages are designed to test a wide range of shooting ability, but you cannot doubt the martial connect as the principle target used is called the "tombstone". That is just what it is a rectangular shape with a semi-circular top reminiscent of those grave stones at "Boot Hill".

The usual rules apply—the .22 target is half full size, which is about 18" wide and 30" high. Strangely the full size target is constructed of thick brown card whilst it's smaller cousin is black and white paper. This is something of an advantage as the inner circular scoring rings can be more readily acquired but I will talk about scoring next time.

The apparent advantage of such a large target (and did I mention quite close ranges) is countered by the fact that you don't get very long to do it. If you are shooting under-lever then you need to hone your racking skills, on some stages you only get a single second to get off each shot.

More next time with stage 1—the so called practical match. See you then!

## What do you want?

One question that Committee asks all new applicants for membership is, "what kind of shooting are you interested in?" The great thing about being a member of a club like ours in the wealth of knowledge and experience that the members have and new members can access.

This section of the newsletter is your space to have your say, ask questions or lobby other members to get support from the Committee to put on the kind of events that you would like to have a go at. This facility is open to **all members**, whether you have been with the club since its inception or

only joined last month.

Chatting with one of the new probationers on the range a few weeks ago it seems that despite the articles on competition shooting in the newsletter, we are still not offering enough opportunities for match practice, other than the monthly club matches, which have been mainly .22 rim-fire recently.

Do I remember a time when we just used to have practice matches on an ad hoc basis—does anyone want to propose such a day? The club can get the targets (if we haven't already got them) and match practice is very wel-

## Members section

come, the new season will be upon us before we know it. There is plenty of space in the calendar for such events so speak up and the Committee will arrange things.

You can speak to any Committee Member at the range, if you feel formal you can write to the Committee at the PO Box or you can e-mail the Newsletter Editor. The advantage of the e-mail option is that you will get put on the mailing list and you will get an e-version of the newsletter before the others—I know you can hardly contain your excitement!

## Club news

The newsletter editor has been out of town recently so this edition of the Bullet-In has been somewhat delayed (sorry but I do have to earn a crust).

Some of the dates in the schedule are therefore a little dated but fear not. If you still want to shoot full bore rifle but missed the January date (advertised in the forthcoming events section) then give the Rifle Captain a ring anyway there are more dates in

## what went on at committee?

February and Steve does arranged expeditions to Bisley.

Two new probationer members joined the B&D ranks this month but I haven't got their names as I missed the Committee Meeting this month. I will make amends in the next newsletter but I think that this will be the eighth month in a row I have had the pleasure of welcoming newcomers. I hope you enjoy our sport and I look forward

to meeting you about the range (whoever you are?).

The press call August the "silly season" when there is suppose to be no news. One good thing about missing a Committee Meeting, as I did this month, means that other than the new members this is a no news month. I suppose the winter season does equate to the shooting equivalent of the "silly season".