



M. P. Supports PISTOL SHOOTING IN GB.

An interesting piece of news, received from the Sportsmans Association, via Neil Roberts and Derek Waterworth, that deserves as wide a publicity as possible. Please write to your MP supporting the following motion.

Labour MP Frank Cook has tabled an Early Day Motion (EDM) on the Commonwealth Games Pistol Shooting Competition. The number of the EDM is 429 and its wording is:

"That this House commends most highly the organising agencies involved in the manifestly complex preparation for the staging of the XVII Commonwealth Games in Manchester next year; thanks most warmly Frances Done for her briefing given to honourable Members yesterday; and offers every good wish for continuing success in a very demanding task; recalls that at the last Commonwealth Games held three years ago in Kuala Lumpur, Mick Gault won four gold medals for England but was never celebrated in proper fashion in the media, presumably because his sport was that of pistol shooting; takes account of the fact the Mr Gault achieved this notable feat despite having to travel abroad to train because of Firearms Amendment legislation; notes that pistol shooters of England, Scotland and Wales are still inhibited by these legislative restrictions whereas competitors in the same disciplines living in Northern Ireland are not; notes too that in almost every other sport, home competitors will have the benefit of home advantage in terms of being able to train on British territory; and therefore calls upon the Home Secretary to grant a dispensation for British competitors in the Commonwealth Games to enable them to undertake properly supervised training sessions at the Bisley ranges from now until the end of the Games, thus making it more likely than it is at present for the pistol shooting representatives from Wales, Scotland and England to bring true credit to the United Kingdom as they have done so frequently in the past."

We would strongly suggest that all members and supporters of the Sportsman's Association should write to their MP and urge them to sign this important EDM. (*That goes for any shooter in Great Britain. Ed.*)

Regards,

Richard Ormrod, PA To the Director, The Sportsman's Association

CLSTSA SUMMER RIFLE LEAGUE RESULTS 2001

	Pts	Agg
Div 1		
Bury	14	324
Leyland Motors A	13	135
Morecambe A	13	135
City of Salford A	12	121
Blackpool A	6	307
Wigan	2	203
Div 2		
Urmston	16	193
Vulcan A	15	184
Ashton u Lyne A	12	192
Blackpool B	7	262
Warrington	6	248
Leyland Motors B	4	276
Div 3		
Vulcan B	17	249
City of Salford B	14	254
Ashton u Lyne B	12	290
Cheadle	8	284
Bogey	5	320
Morecambe B	4	331
Div 4		
Blackpool C	13	448
Vulcan C	12	447
Blackpool D	10	363
Ashton u Lyne C	9	373
Colne B L	8	396
Southport	8	1152
DIV 5		
Vulcan D	18	550
Leyland Motors C	15	479
Ashton u Lyne D	10	465
City of Salford C	8	515
Blackpool E	5	1246
Bogey	4	560

Thank you for taking part in this league and a special thank you to the scorers who have again done a splendid job.

MEETING OF FIREARM USER LIAISON GROUP LANCASHIRE POLICE HEADQUARTERS HUTTON THURSDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2001

CLSTSA was represented by John Billbrough. Some other groups represented were Lancashire County Fullbore Association, Gun Traders Association, BASC and NSRA.

Many issues were raised and discussed, the following are a few relevant issues:

Quantities of ammunition held or purchased:

Judgement is made on evidence supplied. If you need more than allowed (eg after batch testing) write to Mike Sykes, Firearms Department Manager and state your case. He guarantees he will consider your 'reason' but cannot of course guarantee approval. He is a former shooter and knows of 1.000 round minimum purchase ex Eley after testing. A reasonable request will meet a reasonable response. But if he does not know your National Squad status or other involvement in the sport (more than the once a week, perhaps, club shooter), then you cannot expect more than what you've got.

Home Visits.

Behind with targets set for inspections. This point appreciated and positive steps being taken to improve - Civilian inspectors under active consideration. Where backlog delays renewal and renewal butt-ends previous FAC, Lancashire will not take penal action on holders using the firearms on outdated FAC within Lancashire Police Authority. For outside the area use, apply and get Section Seven cover.

Use of Armed Response Vehicles on Home Visits:

In spite of backlog this was opposed - wrong message; wrong on owners family and neighbours; wrong type of police culture ; wrong security message : armed police knocking on your door is not the way forward.

Use each of your guns at least six times a year or lose them.

This is not a legal requirement, not a rule, so not a must. But it is the point at which Mike Sykes will ask questions. At that time a reasonable explanation is what is required; for example, fullbore shooting at Altcar is restricted; should you be on holiday for two of the weekends, sick on another, etc. you can soon drop below six.

Remember 'good reason' - the onus is on you to show this. Also, Mike Sykes, his staff and his superiors do not make the law. Your redress if you don't like it is elsewhere.

It is hoped that this group will meet three times a year. Should any Lancashire shooters have recurring problems rather than individual ones please let John Billbrough know. (0125 726 8718).

Please note that this discussion concerned only Lancashire shooters. Shooters living in Greater Manchester, Merseyside, or elsewhere, are not necessarily covered by the above and it is advisable to contact your own Firearms Department.

Air Pistol Postal League

It is proposed to start running this league, dependant on entries, in January 2002. The number of classes will be also be dependent on the entries and medals will be awarded to the first two or three in each league.

Each round will consist of 20 – (4x5) shots on AIR4 targets at 10 metres, with the shot cards being sent to the organiser by a certain date. If there are a number of shooters from one club, then a “Club Scorer” could be appointed and only the scores sent in.

Final date for entries is 8th December and the entry fee is £5.00 for CLSTSA Members and £6.00 for lesser mortals.

Entry forms can be obtained from David Pritchard, 11 Edgemoor Close, West Derby, Liverpool L12 9JF. tel 0151 228 6578. email <dave@hammerli.freeserve.co.uk >

Honours to Atkins

The National Rifle Association has awarded the “HPS Cross” to Tony Atkins in recognition of his high scores with Lightweight Sporting Rifle at Bisley.

In the last two years Tony has shot no less than four possibles in competition which included a 300 ex 300 in “Timed Precision”

This medal (HPS stands for Highest Possible Score) is a rare award and Tony is to be congratulated on his fine achievement.

Muzzle Loaders

THE SMOKEY FOLK AROUND BLACKBURN ARE CONSIDERING FORMING A “BRANCH” OF MUZZLE LOADERS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

THERE IS QUITE A FOLLOWING OF THE NOBLE ART IN THOSE PARTS.

IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO JOIN IN THE FUN CONTACT JOHN LLOYD ON TEL - 01254 209 851 FOR MORE DETAILS.

News wanted!

Please send articles of interest, future competitions and general scuttle butt on shooting to Reg Cox, see address on right

2002 Manchester

THE XVII COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Because of the hostile attitude of H.M. Government and the media towards our chosen sport, we tend to be somewhat secretive and furtive. Unlike shooters in Europe, where it is considered an honour to belong to one of their gun clubs, in much the same way as membership of English golf clubs is looked upon as a feather in your cap.

You may have noticed that the Commonwealth Games is being held in Manchester next year, though the shooting events are being held, amidst top security in Bisley, with competitors guns being looked after by Securicor, or a similar organisation.

We will never be accepted by the public at large, unless we are seen to be the responsible people that we know we are and this means putting your head above the parapet and making it known that you are a shooter. I know there are all sorts of security problems, but there are things that can be done in a positive way, such as John Lloyd's shooting activities with the Scouts and the CLSTSA's past connection with both the disabled and the Pony Club.

At present the organisers of the Commonwealth Games are looking for volunteers to give a hand with the running of the Games and this is a good way of letting people know that we, the shooters, are there. So how about lending a hand? You can do it in two ways, that I know of. One is to volunteer, you need to be 16 or older. Willing to work a minimum of 10 days in the 2 week run up to the Games and the Games period too. Willing to attend training sessions, mostly in the evenings and weekends. Pass a security test. Live within daily travelling distance of Manchester and various other criteria including “Be proud to wear the official Games uniform”.

The other way is to be part of the team that will carry the “Queen's Jubilee Baton” around the country, prior to the start of the Games. You can nominate yourself or a friend, relative or someone from your community to be a “Jubilee Runner”, someone who has made a special contribution to their community, improved the lives of others or achieved a personal goal against the odds. A Jubilee Runner does not have to be an athlete. Members of the public, from all walks of life, are being asked to carry the baton in a relay, each person will travel about 500 yards with the baton, before handing it on. The baton starts its journey from Buckingham Palace on 11th March 2002, visiting approximately 20 countries before returning to Great Britain on 6th June for the start of a 50 day journey around Britain, being carried by 5,000 runners and finishing in Manchester at the Opening Ceremony.

If you would like to be a “volunteer”, contact Volunteers, Manchester 2002 Ltd, PO Box 2002, Manchester M60 3RP, or 0845 345 3457. If you fancy carrying the baton, then contact Manchester 2002 on 0845 345 3457, or on the website at <www.commonwealthgames.com >

Wanted

One recoilless air pistol, economically priced, with left handed grips, for use by a junior. Contact Reg Cox on 0151 727 2177.

NSRA Changes

With the superb new range complex at Bisley now in full use, it has been decided to hold the British Air Rifle and Pistol Championships there, as a joint Rifle & Pistol event over the weekend of *1st to 3rd of March 2002*. The format of the meeting will be much as before, except for Rifle and Pistol being shot at the same time.

There will be an additional shoot, (for Northern shooters who don't like the long haul to Bisley), on the weekend of *12th - 13th October 2002*, when Aldersley will host the finals of the Eley Postal Shoot and a new Grand Prix event. Details of this new shoot will be published just as soon as they are finalised.

It has also been decided to revert to the old method of holding the Pistol Meeting separate from the Rifle Meeting. Next year it will be held over the *August Bank Holiday weekend*. Once again details will be published ASAP.

The International Pistol Competition for the Mayleigh Cup, shot by teams of 10 pistol shooters at 50m on their own ranges, has not been competed for by Great Britain for the years since the Firearms Amendment Act took away our pistols. As this year is NSRA's Centenary Year, it was decided to shoot the competition at the Northern Ireland International 2001. The team comprising six Northern Ireland shooters, three from Jersey and Trevor Haynes from West Midlands, is not expecting to win the shoot, but at least we made an appearance.

The “*Lancashire BULL*” is edited and produced by Reg Cox, phone/fax 0151 727 2177, email <regcox@mac.com>.

Articles for future issues should be sent to CLSTSA Secretary - John Kruger 0161 798 7725, email <the.krugers@virgin.net> or direct to Reg Cox. Please submit copy to Reg Cox by email or on “Word” via a floppy disc. (Otherwise I have to type it all out, as my OCR is a bit dodgy! Ed.)