



Lancashire **BULL** N°20

The Newsletter of the County of Lancaster Small-bore Target Shooting Association
Visit our website www.cltsa.org Issue N° 20 January 2004

90th AGM Report

At the Association's 90th Annual General Meeting at Blackburn R&PC on 15th November 2003, the main business included a report from the Hon. Sec., (see below), and the executive officers were elected: President; John Billbrough. Chairman; David Pritchard. Vice Chairman; John Lloyd. Honorary Secretary' Paul Holdstock. Honorary Treasurer; Philip Sadler. Patron; Reg Cox. The Individual Subscription was set at £4.00 for the year. This includes; reduced entry fees to CLSTSA competitions, Regular copies of the Association's newsletter, access to Altcar Ranges via NWRFC Identity Card and the CLSTSA Membership Card. Applications for membership should be made to the Membership Secretary, Bob Clevely, 8 The Farthings, Astley Village, Chorley, Lanc's, PR7 1TP, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope.

Secretary's Report (abridged) As delivered at the AGM.

NSRA County Rifle Team and Reserves League

Lancashire 1st Team finished 2nd only two points behind the winners in Division 2 and some way ahead of the third placed team. The team is shooting very well and hope to get into Division 1 next year.

Lancashire 2nd Team finished 3rd in Division 6, with a notable performance from John Wilkinson maintaining an average of 98.77. Heather Doyle, Jamie Dummer, Paul Hatton and Howard Temperley also managed to keep above 98.0

Affiliations & Membership. There are currently 15 Affiliated Clubs and 133 Card Carrying Members of the Association

Following an initiative from NSRA we will be contacting clubs in the County of Lancaster who are not currently affiliated to offer free affiliation next year as an encouragement to future affiliation.

Notable events. As you should all know, we now have our very own website, thanks to Neil Roberts who is our Web Master. Any club with their own website who would like a link from the CLSTSA site should please contact Neil. Also if you have any information on your clubs or shooting activities in the County please get in touch with Neil. 0151 226 6832.

We purchased a target scoring system this year, which has been a great help in the airgun meetings. Our thanks go to those involved in securing the funding for this equipment.

On the subject of new facilities, last week was the official opening of the fantastic new ranges at Wigan Target Sports Club. In the words of Mike Babb, it is the best indoor range in the Country and one of the best in the World. Congratulations to all those at Wigan that made it possible.

On a sad note, this year we lost two valued friends and hard working Members of the Association – John Wood and Keith Butterworth.

Next year. We now have six juniors representing the County in the NSRA 10m Air Pistol Winter League. It is great to see new talent developing in the County and we hope this will lead the way for other disciplines to bring their juniors forward.

We are hoping to run a Light Sporting Rifle / Small-bore Gallery Rifle Competition next year, probably a couple of weeks before the Phoenix Meeting. We do need organisers so anyone willing to volunteer please contact me or your club reps.

There will be a Postal League in the Spring of 2004 for Muzzle Loading Pistols and Revolvers. We are also considering plans for a Summer Competition for ML Rifles and an Autumn Postal League for ML Handguns.

A standard air pistol competition will be held at Blackburn in July.

We are in discussion with Yorkshire Small-bore Rifle & Pistol Association about a Roses match for air rifle and pistol. The venues will likely be Blackburn and Bradford.

We are also planning to re-introduce badge competitions, which will be welcomed by many of you who remember them from previous years.

Continued over-

Hurrah for Horrocks!

Dick Horrocks, former Lancashire Pistol Team member, in the days when our government trusted us with cartridge pistols, has been appointed Captain of the England Rifle Team to tour South Africa later this year. Professor Dick, of the Bolton Institute, will lead a squad of twenty plus, full-bore Target Rifle shooters from the English XX Club to Bloemfontein, to compete in the South African Open Championships. Congratulations and best wishes to Dick and all the England Rifle Team.

"There are hordes of MP's who would ban shooting and angling if they could get away with it". Kate Hoey MP.

The Countryside Alliance's "Campaign for Shooting", is seeking support from all shooters, in the protection and promotion of shooting sports. Although primarily concerned with game shooting, it is all part of "shooting", as seen by the general public and our badly informed MP's, and as such affects us, Target Shooters. The sooner we work together for a common cause, the better, or the government will pick us off one by one.

To support the campaign, contact Countryside Alliance Campaign for Shooting, The Old Town Hall, 367 Kennington Road, London SE11 4PT. 020 7840 9235. email <cfS@countryside-alliance.org> website www.countryside-alliance.org or use the form on p4 of this newsletter.

Free Pistol Postal League

Now that the country is flooding with Long Arm Free Pistols, (well they are beginning to filter through), and I've heard of several Lancashire shooters who are now proud owners. CLSTSA is organising a postal league for the new guns, which is open to all UK Free Pistol shooters.

Starting in summer, this year, the league will be organised by Reg Cox.

Reg would like to know what distance you prefer; 20yds, 25m or 50m.

All interested parties should contact Reg Cox on 0151 727 2177, or <regcox@mac.com> for details.

Continued from p1.

The 10m and 20yd Air Pistol postal league organised by Dave Pritchard will be starting in January and entry forms have now been sent out.

Perhaps the best news for shooting this year has been the return of Free Pistols, back where they belong in the hands of dedicated sports men and women. NSRA are already planning competitions, in fact Free Pistols can be used in the Eley 20yd Pistol competition this year. Our Patron, Reg Cox, will be organising a Free Pistol postal league and we will have a Free Pistol competition here at Blackburn at the same time as our Spring Airgun Championship next year.

On the subject of the Airgun Championship, yesterday I received confirmation from NSRA that our request for Nominated Status has been approved. Our Championship will now be listed in Rifleman and on the NSRA website as a Nominated Meeting for air rifle and air pistol.

Dr Paul Holdstock. Hon. Sec.

Wigan Target Sports Club's New Range



Kate Hoey, the former Sports Minister, came to Wigan on the 8th November to officially open Wigan Target Sports Clubs brand new shooting complex in Park Street, Poolstock. The deputy mayor and mayoress of Wigan, Mr and Mrs J Hilton, attended the ceremony along with Wigan MP Neil Turner. The Deputy Mayor stated how very impressed he was with the new building and later proposed a toast to the future success of the club.

Before carrying out the official opening, Kate Hoey congratulated all those involved in the project and stated what a great opportunity it provided, not only to advance the shooting sports, but to accommodate and develop a whole host of associated recreational pursuits.

Mike Babb, Commonwealth Rifle Gold Medalist, also congratulated the Club for their efforts in providing the facility and described it as easily the best indoor range in the country.

Club officials Ray Hunter, John Davidson and Martin Lowe spoke to the 80 strong attendees and charted the clubs humble beginnings in 1961 at the old Drill Hall in Powell Street to the present day facility, which boasts three ranges with generously sized preparation areas and a comfortable lounge.

The club would like anyone wishing to make enquiries about the facility to call them at Park Street on 01942 826336 between 8pm and 11pm – Monday or Thursday.

Preston Cup 2003 Final Results

| | Start | Card 1 | Card 2 | Total |
|-----------------|-------|--------|--------|---------------|
| Ist Bury | | | | |
| JJ Thompson | 5 | 100 | 99 | 1 |
| J Dummer | 7 | 100 | 100 | 0 |
| M Gradner | 7 | 98 | 100 | 2 |
| B Fletcher | 7 | 99 | 100 | $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| 2nd Morecambe A | | | | |
| J Wilkinson | 5 | 100 | 99 | 1 |
| D Lee | 5 | 99 | 98 | 3 |
| E Entwistle | 5 | 99 | 100 | 1 |
| R Cundell | 5 | 100 | 100 | $\frac{0}{5}$ |

Well done both teams on such a close finish and congratulations to Bury. Many thanks to Mick Miller at Leyland Motors RC, John Billbrough for scoring and Ken Hindle of Ashton under Lyne for his assistance.

Dot Bannister.

Rifle Summer League 2003

Results

| Div1 | Pts | Agg |
|-------------------|-----|-----|
| Bury | 17 | 77 |
| Morecambe A | 14 | 99 |
| City of Salford A | 11 | 121 |
| Leyland Motors A | 9 | 116 |
| Vulcan A | 6 | 160 |
| Blackpool A | 3 | 459 |

Div 2

| | | |
|-------------------|----|-----|
| Ashton u Lyne A | 18 | 170 |
| Leyland Motors B | 14 | 192 |
| Cheadle | 9 | 268 |
| Warrington | 8 | 491 |
| Vulcan B | 6 | 295 |
| City of Salford B | 5 | 261 |

Div3

| | | |
|------------------|----|-----|
| Blackpool B | 29 | 257 |
| Ashton u Lyne B | 12 | 300 |
| Morecambe B | 12 | 329 |
| Vulcan C | 8 | 357 |
| Leyland Motors C | 4 | 367 |
| Blackpool C | 4 | 453 |

Div 4

| | | |
|-------------------|----|------|
| Ashton u Lyne C | 16 | 351 |
| City of Salford C | 16 | 368 |
| Leyland Motors D | 12 | 408 |
| Ashton u Lyne D | 10 | 547 |
| Blackpool D | 4 | 1826 |
| Leyland Motors E | 2 | 562 |

Thanks to all participants and a special thanks to the scorers for an excellent job.

Dorothy Bannister

LSR & SB Gallery Rifle

CLSTSA would like to organise a competition for light sporting rifle and small-bore gallery rifle. There are already several postal leagues for these disciplines and rather than clash with these we would like a shoulder-to-shoulder competition, maybe even a CLSTSA Championship. If anyone is willing and able to organise such an event please contact the Hon. Secretary, Paul Holdstock on 0161 434 0192 or e-mail <holdstock@regusnet.com>

Speak Up!

Clubs are reminded that it is their duty to warn anyone entering a range where shooting is taking place of the danger involved in not using ear defenders.

You only have to look at the number of "senior" shooters, who wear hearing aids to prove the point. (Me included! Ed.)

You could also lay yourself open to a claim for negligence.

So, be warned!

Stolen Firearms

The underlisted guns have been reported missing, or stolen. Anyone finding any of these guns, should report the matter to your local Police.

Avon & Somerset

12 bore Unknown make, single barrel shotgun, No AT9733

12 bore BSA, single barrel shotgun, No MOD12819

Gwent Constabulary

12 bore Midland shotgun, No 26107

Northumbria Police

12 bore Browning over/under shotgun, No 30310NP

.410 Falco Single barrel shotgun, No 6528

Essex Police

20 bore Silma shotgun, No 89981

12 bore Stevens single barrel shotgun, No 677

12 bore Maestro shotgun, No F589643

Dial A Star flare pistol, No 6/1984

"The People Have Spoken - The Bastards!"

"The Listeners' Law" - "A Bill to authorise homeowners to use any means to defend their home from intruders."

In an unprecedented move, BBC Radio 4 listeners were given the chance to vote for a shortlist of five potential new laws. They could have voted for a limit on the number of terms which a Prime Minister may serve or to allow the state to remove organs from the dead without permission or prevent the display of Christmas lights in October. However, by a large margin, they voted for a bill which would allow householders to deal more effectively with the crime of burglary without fear of instant retribution by the police.

Stephen Pound MP had agreed to assist in presenting the winning bill to the House of Commons, but is now apparently less than enthusiastic at the prospect of being landed with potential legislation increasing the rights of householders over those of burglars. In an interview following the announcement of the result, Mr Pound made it clear that he would have much preferred to promote a bill transferring ownership of body parts to the state on death. Describing the result of the poll, Mr Pound told listeners to BBC Radio 4's "Today" programme "The people have spoken - the bastards!"

The Homeowners Defense Bill, proposed by Andrew Moffat and Amanda Lindsay, topped the Radio 4 poll with a massive 37% of the total. Its nearest rival received 30%, whilst the other three measures were left far behind.

For further details go to <http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/today/vote/results.shtml>

If you would like to congratulate Stephen Pound MP on being the father of the Homeowners Defense Bill and remind him of his promise to bring the winning piece of legislation before the House of Commons, you can write to him at: House of Commons, LONDON, SW1A 0AA.

Telephone 020 7219 1140/4312. Facsimilie 020 7219 5982.

E-mail: stevepoundmp@parliament.uk Website: <http://www.stevepound.org.uk/> On which appears an article denigrating the Lib-Dems for being soft on burglars...

Normally Members of Parliament will only respond to their own constituents. However, as Mr Pound has held himself out as the promoter of a bill of national importance, it would be dishonourable of him not to respond to inquiries concerning its drafting or progress. Should he fail to promote the bill or respond to your inquiries, you may wish to contact the BBC Radio 4 "Today" programme and ask them why.

The Campaigning Voice for the Shooting Community

To protect and promote our sport the shooting community must increase the size and strength of its campaigning 'voice'. Please help the Campaign for Shooting by completing and returning the form overleaf, so that we can reach and mobilise everyone with an interest in shooting.

Thank you for your help

Edward Dashwood. Chairman Countryside Alliance's Campaign for Shooting.

Game Girl

Ex Cheshire Olympic Pistol shooter, Tay Bennett, took off, some years ago, to back pack around the world and has now settled in Cape Town, where she has qualified as a South African Tour Operator. Tay and her South African partner Allan offer to tailor holidays to the needs and pockets of their clients. So if you're bored with making holes in bits of paper and would like to try bagging something for the pot, fancy yourself as an undiscovered wild life photographer, or would simply like to experience life "on safari" then contact Tay at <info@africanthemetours.co.za> or visit the website at www.africanthemetours.co.za

Golden Oldies Corner

John Tomlinson, Preston Pistol Popper Par excellence was 70 in October and his family celebrated with a party held in the ex cow shed of John's farm, (suitably decorated for the event).

John shot Free Pistol for GB in the Rome Olympics in 1960 and amazed the party goers by wearing his blazer from forty odd years ago.

Many shooters were present, from deer stalkers and game bird shooters, to the holes in paper variety. CLSTSA members may remember Mervyn Davies-Colley ex British SB Rifle Champion and Dr Laslo Antal ex Free Pistol and Air Pistol Champion.

John, who is also an accomplished deer stalker and fisherman, hopes that he will soon be in possession of one of the new "Long Arm Pistols" to resume his love affair with Free Pistol shooting.

Space to LET!

Stories, results,

NEWS wanted.

Contact - Reg Cox

0151 727 2177

<regcox@mac.com>

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 Hon. Sec. - Paul Holdstock tel. 0161 434 0192, email <holdstock@regusnet.com> or direct to Reg Cox. Please submit copy to Reg Cox by email or on "Word" via a floppy disc. (If you send it on a piece of paper, I have to type it all out, as my OCR is a bit dodgy! Ed.)