

LancashireBULL N°26

The Newsletter of the County of Lancaster Small-bore Target Shooting Association
Visit our website www.cltsa.org Issue N° 29 March 2006

Silver for Lanc's Jnr.

Tom Miller, aged 14, of Whalley Pistol Club achieved a Silver Medal in the NSRA British Championship 2006 - Open Air Pistol - Junior Men at Bisley on 18 February 2006.

Finishing the qualification heat with a personal best score of 524, Tom qualified in third place to enter the final. He then took the lead in the "Olympic" style final to move up into overall second place with a score of 616.7 ex 700. **Glen Eldershaw** of Stoke, won with a score of 657.5

Tom started pistol shooting in 2004 and under the tutelage of **Tony Power** he quickly showed a potential for the sport.

Following a good result in the 2005 CLSTSA Air Championships at Blackburn in April 2005, Tom was selected to represent the County of Lancaster Junior Air Pistol Team in competition and is currently shooting for the Lancaster C team in the Inter County postal comp.

With improved results in the 2005 CLSTSA Air Open Meeting, Tom was invited to train with the Great Britain Junior Squad under the guidance of **Sue Preston**.

Another familiar figure at Lancashire shoots, **Hugh Owen** of Grange, won the Veterans Cup.



Election of Officers

At the Annual General Meeting on 26th November 2005, the following were elected to the positions of:

President:	John Billbrough.
Vice President:	Vacant.
Chairman:	David Pritchard.
Vice Chairman:	John Lloyd.
Honorary Secretary:	Dr Paul Holdstock.
Honorary Treasurer:	Phil Sadler.
Membership Secretary:	Robert Clevely.
Minutes Secretary:	John Lloyd.
Patron:	Reg Cox.
NSRA Representative:	Dr Paul Holdstock.
CLRA Representative:	Graham Readyoff.

Considerable discussion was given to the subject of the subscription rates for the coming year, (2006). It was decided to raise the rates to:

Individual members up to the age of 65,	£5.00.
Individual members over the age of 65,	£4.00
Junior Individual members (up to the age of 21,	£2.50.

At the Council Meeting on 28th January 2006 the following were elected to the positions of:

Executive Committee: David Pritchard, Dr Paul Holdstock, Phil Sadler, John Lloyd, Bob Clevely and Kevin Hindle.

Competition Secretary-Rifle:	Kevin Hidle.
Competition Secretary-Pistol:	Vacant.
Badge Secretary:	Phil Sadler.
Team Captains: Rifle, Long & Short Range:	Joe Thompson.
<i>Ladies:</i>	Heather Doyle.
<i>Three Positions, S.B.:</i>	Sandie McHugh.
<i>Muzzle Loading:</i>	John Lloyd.
<i>Air Rifle:</i>	Geof McHugh.
<i>Air Pistol:</i>	Tony Power.
<i>Free Pistol:</i>	Peter Taylor.

Chief County Coach-Rifle & Pistol: Vacant.

Chief Range Officer: Kevin Hindle.

County Range Officers: Dr Paul Holdstock, John Lloyd, Neil Roberts and Graham Readyoff.

2006 Airgun Champ's & Free Pistol Blackburn 9th April

A full range of comp's will be shot, including Rifle & Pistol at 10m, both 60 shot x2. Standard Pistol (Air) at 25m, all .177" and Free Pistol .22" 30 shots at 50m.

Entry forms are available from Neil Roberts tel 0151 226 6832, email neil@cltsa.org

Rifle Section Report: *Kevin Hindle.*

Before I present my report I would like to offer a vote of thanks to Dorothy Banister for all her sterling work over the years and wish her the best in her retirement.

I would also like to thank John Billborough for his guidance and assistance in the Preston Cup and Short Range Championship, also Dorothy Banister, Ernie Entwistle and Hugh Dodson for scoring the Summer League.

Rifle Section Report:

Winter League 2004-5

The Winter league was in full swing when I was in the process of taking over the reins.

The results were sent to me by Dorothy and are as follows:

Division 1. Wigan A. Division 2. City of Salford B.

Division 3. City of Salford C. Division 4. Colne BL.

Division 5. Leyland Motors E.

Individual League 2005

This was the first time I have had to administer a competition, and Dorothy Bannister assisted with guidance and scoring. The results were as follows:

<i>Pos</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Club</i>	<i>Avg</i>
Division 1			
1st	I Thomson	Wigan	98.54
2nd	J Wilkinson	Morecambe	99.18
Division 2			
1st	S Duncalf	Wigan	97.90
2nd	E Chadwick	Vulcan	96.90
Division 3			
1st	D Hoose	Wigan	97.45
2nd	N Brown	Wigan	96.00
Division 4			
1st	C Harrison	Colne BL 9618	
2nd	P Shaw	Ashton U Lyne	94.55
Division 5			
1st	R Boughton	Vulcan	95.73
2nd	F Slater	Ashton U Lyne	94.27
Division 6			
1st	A Borresen	Leyland Motors	95.18
2nd	D Ormerod	Vulcan	91.82
Division 7			
1st	S Galvin	Wigan	93.36
2nd	N Aitkin	Morecambe	93.27

Summer League

My first adventure alone. There were just enough teams to have four complete divisions. I found due to the pressures of work and holidays that it was difficult to send out the results on a regular basis and

for the winter league I will be trying something new.

The results for the summer league are as follows:

Division 1. Wigan A

Division 2. Blackpool A

Division 3. Leyland Motors B

Division 4. Leyland Motors D

The Short-range Championship

The number of entries was a little disappointing and resulted in there being only one round before the final, however I did manage to find the Ladies Trophy which had been missing for a couple of years.

My thanks to John Bilborough for scoring the first round.

The competition turned into a Double Doyle with Heather Doyle winning both the Ladies Competition and The overall Championship. The results are as follows:

Short-range Championship

Winner: H Doyle, Wigan. Runner Up, M Miller, Leyland Motors

Ladies Winner: H Doyle, Wigan.

Ladies Runner Up: KM Young, City of Salford

Junior Winner: B Young, City of Salford

Junior Runner Up: A Goad, City of Salford

Preston Cup

This competition is now in its second round and the final is due to be fired in mid December. Again I would like to thank John Bilborough for scoring this competition

The final was fired at Leyland between Morecambe A and Bury, with Bury emerging as the winners.

Winter League

Again this competition is well under way; I have tried a new system for scoring. All cards will be sent to me in two batches and I will issue results after the first batch is scored in January. As I am shooting in this competition I have asked Ernie Entwistle to score the cards for Ashton-Under-Lyne RC. At the time of writing I have not yet had a reply.

After the Winter League is complete and the Trophies bought and paid for it looks like there will be a small profit. And I think all involved have had an enjoyable year.

Looking forward I am intending to get more people interested in the Short-range Championship by introducing classes and a handicap competition. Long-range competitions are also in mind but I will be thinking about those in the New Year.

Kevin Hindle. Rifle Section Competitions Secretary

Roundup of Results

Winter League 2004-5

Division 1. Wigan A. Division 2. City of Salford B.

Division 3. City of Salford C. Division 4. Colne BL.

Division 5. Leyland Motors E.

Individual League 2005

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Summer League

Division 1. Wigan A. Division 2. Blackpool A.
 Division 3. Leyland Motors B. Division 4. Leyland motors D

Short-range Championship

Winner: H Doyle, Wigan
 Runner Up: M Miller, Leyland Motors
 Ladies Winner: H Doyle, Wigan
 Ladies Runner Up: KM Young, City of Salford
 Junior Winner: B Young, City of Salford
 Junior Runner Up: A Goad, City of Salford

Preston Cup – Winners, Bury. Runners Up, Morecambe A

Gault goes for Record at Games

Latest news from the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne, (17th Mar.), is that Mick Gault has equalled the record for the most medals won by any shooter in the Games, previously held by Malcolm Cooper. Mick and Nick Baxter, won the bronze medals in the 50m Pistol Pairs with 1078.

Moore/Repacholi (Australia) won with 1086 points, 2nd were Jung/Singh (India) with 1082.

In the Air Rifle, Chris Hector and Chris Lacey, came 4th with 1173 in the mens pairs, won by Abhinav Bindra/Gagan Narang (India) with 1189 points and Louise Minett/Becky Spicer came 5th with their 777, won by Tejaswini Sawant/Avneet Kaur Sidhu (India) with 791 points.

Isle of Man clay busters Trevor Boyles and David Walton also got on to the medal podium, with a bronze in the Mens Trap. Australia took Gold with 189 and Canada Silver with 185. More at <www.bbc.co.uk/commonwealthgames>

In the wine soaked mind of the ancient Editor, there are sun dappled images of young ladies in long flowing skirts on bicycles with baskets on the front, a la David Hamilton. Ah happy daze! This gives a whole new spin to the image...

CYCLING... Nicole Cooke has escaped with severe bruising and cuts after a nasty training accident in the build up to the defence of her Commonwealth Games title. "I was leading around one bend and there was a van parked on the course, right in front of me," said Cooke who was taking part in a World Cup race in New Zealand.

<www.ukssport.gov.uk>

Ouch! She must have had her head down, or it was a very sharp bend. Ed.βπ

Opportunity for Juniors

Do you fancy representing your country in a brand-new sport designed especially for young shooters? How about competing in a prestigious international event at Bisley, the home of shooting? Or

perhaps you'd rather just take part in a new sport that puts safe, friendly, affordable shooting enjoyment at the top of its priorities list? Welcome to Sporter Air Rifle, the brand new shooting discipline that gives you all of these – and much, much more!

Sporter Air Rifle was originally developed in the United States in the late 1990s, and it's become so popular that over 40,000 young shooters are now enjoying Sporter's superb mix of fun, challenge and excitement. News of Sporter's success soon spread, and three years ago, South Africa signed up to the discipline. Currently, 3000 South African juniors are taking part and their numbers are increasing all the time.

In November last year, our own National Smallbore Rifle Association (NSRA) announced its intention to promote Sporter Air Rifle, and interest in the new sport has grown by the day. Sporter is already established within the ranks of the nation's Scouts and Air Cadets - and now it's your turn!

Team selection trials are being arranged and those that are selected will shoot in the first ever Sporter International Matches, which will held at Bisley in Surrey in August, and covered extensively in Air Gunner. See the information at the end of this article for details,. Meanwhile, let's see what Sporter Air Rifle is all about.

BASIC FORMAT

Sporter was conceived as a three-positional, air rifle discipline, which is normally shot at 10 metres using standard, ISSF paper targets, although at this early stage of the sport's development there's room for flexibility in the format for longer ranges and different types of target.

The rifles used are all .177 calibre, up to a maximum of 7.5 lbs (3 kilos) in weight, with a minimal trigger pull-weight of 1.5 lbs. (.7 kilos). These rifles are fitted with inexpensive iron sights, and, apart from a target glove, no special match-shooting clothing is allowed. The emphasis is firmly on affordable, accessible, shooting fun which can be practised almost anywhere.

With a little thought and our usual attention to safety matters, Sporter Air Rifle ranges can be set up in any hall or room that can accommodate a 10-metre range. The main requirements are target stands, pellet-catchers / backstops and enough light to see the targets properly. In the U.S. and South Africa, competitors often shoot outdoors and there's no reason why UK shooters can't do the same. The potential of Sporter Air Rifle is truly huge!

UK manufacturers, Air Arms, are already involved in producing rifles to cater for the new demand and their S200T is proving popular. US giants, Crosman has its 2000T and there are many more rifles out there that, with the fitting of an aperture sight, could be used to great effect in Sporter Air Rifle.

WHAT EQUIPMENT DO YOU NEED?

One of the great attractions of Sporter Air Rifle is its affordability, and the total outlay for a complete outfit – including rifle, sling, glove and perhaps a kneeling roll – can be as low as £150 when a low-priced, spring-piston rifle is used, to around £500 when you go for a precharged outfit.

Forget about special match-shooting jackets, trousers and shoes – they're not allowed in Sporter – so your sweatshirt, jeans and trainers are perfect. There are rules in place to protect the 'spirit' of Sporter Air Rifle, but none of these are complicated or difficult to understand, and a full set of them are available from the address in the contact panel at the end of this article.

GET INVOLVED!

Above all, Sporter Air Rifle is about enjoyment and participation, and there was certainly no shortage of these on display when I saw my first Sporter training session at Bisley's Lord Roberts Shooting Centre. This is a superb shooting facility that's used by the GB Olympic team, but don't think that it's all steely-eyed competitors and intense hush. Not a bit of it!

The Scouts were in when I visited and there were smiles aplenty. I was pleased to see how many girls were enjoying Sporter, and how relaxed the whole atmosphere was. All safety and courtesy considerations were there, of course, and everything was supervised by an ever-helpful squad of marshals, but we were all there to enjoy and celebrate a new type of shooting – and that's what made it such fun!

Sporter Air Rifle really does represent a fantastic opportunity for today's young shooters. The

framework of the sport is already in place and our national shooting authority is right behind it, along with some of the biggest names in the airgun business. All that's needed now, is you!

Get those applications filled and sent, then, and with any luck I'll be interviewing you at Bisley in August. See you – and your International Team Medal – there!

Young shooters wishing to take part in the trials should write to

Eric Dougliss, c/o NSRA, Lord Roberts Centre, Bisley Camp, Brookwood, Woking, Surrey, GU24 0NP, marking your envelope Sporting Air Rifle and enclosing a stamped, addressed envelope for reply OR email to eric@oxrifle.org.uk.

Information required:

Name	Male or Female
Date of birth (<i>you must be under 21 on 31 December 2006</i>)	
Postal Address	Email address (<i>if available</i>)
Telephone No	Shooting Club (<i>if any</i>)
NSRA Membership No (<i>if any</i>)	Brief details of shooting experience

Shooters must have their own rifles and other equipment and will be expected to fund their own travel and accommodation for trials. There may be a charge for registration and/or participating in the trials. NSRA Membership is not required for trialists, but will be for those selected to shoot in the International Match. Initial trials may be postal and/or held locally and the NSRA will be pleased to hear from Clubs, Associations or organisations interested in running local trials or competitions. Final selection trials are likely to be held at Bisley and Aldersley.

Northern Ireland International and All Ireland open Pistol Meeting, 22 – 25 June 2006.

Entry forms for the above shoot, held at East Antrim R&PC and Ballymena R&PC, may be obtained from: **Bob Green** 29 Magherana Park, Waringstown, Co. Armagh. BT66 7QF.

[<bobgreenucssa@yahoo.co.uk>](mailto:bobgreenucssa@yahoo.co.uk)

Included in the meeting, will be **the Gallie, BRITISH 50 yard Pistol Championship**, the "Home Countries Teams of 3" matches for Air Pistol, Standard Pistol and Centre-fire Pistol. Also the **Mayleigh Postol International Match 2006**. *Capt. Eric Dougliss. Adj. Sue Preston.*

The Mayleigh match will be shot on Saturday 24th June at East Antrim Ranges Ballyclare. The team will consist of ten shooters and two reserves. Some places in the team will be taken by seeded shooters appointed by the team Captain. The selection of the remaining team members and reserves will be based on eligible competitor's performances, in relevant competitions shot on Thursday and Friday.

The match will consist of 30 shots at three PL7 targets, 10 shots at each target in 10 minutes. Range 50 metres. Any .22 Pistol, including 50 metre pistols, may be used. NRA of America Pistol rules apply.

Rumour has it that guns can be "borrowed"! See Bob Green. Bob runs many shoots, open to all and is worth contacting. (Ed.)

NRA Open Day, Altcar. 27th May 2006

The first Regional Open Day at Altcar, run by local NRA affiliated clubs, is to be held on Saturday, 27th May this year, from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm.

Involved clubs will be providing volunteers to staff the event, which will provide "tasters" of a wide variety of disciplines from 7.62 Target Rifle, through most popular disciplines to Archery and Laser Clay shooting.

It is envisaged that equipment, including guns, will be available for use by visitors and the visitors will be able to purchase the necessary ammunition.

For further information, when available, contact CLSTSA Hon. Sec. Dr Paul Holdstock, tel 0161 434 0192.

For "long distance" shooters:-

We have received information of a **“Queen’s 80th Birthday Short Range Postal Comp.”** Organised by the West Kent Rifle League.

5 Classes, with Ladies, Juniors and Pairs. *Each competitor to receive a specially designed embroidered cloth badge.*

Entry fees are £3.00 per entry or £5.00 per 2 entries. Closing date is 30th June, but please apply for entry form ASAP to: The League Secretary, R Chitty, 7 Westfield, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 3PA.

NSRA News

To Club Secretaries. *December 2005*

This is to bring to your attention the opportunity to become involved in the UK’s first National Sports Club database. It only requires a few minutes of your time and will not cost you or your club anything.

An organisation called Sports Hub, working in partnership with Sport England and the NSPCC, are in the process of building this database and trying to include clubs from as many different sports as possible. Of over 100 different sports, they already have about 60 involved from high profile sports such as Athletics, Cricket and Rugby League to sports such as Lacrosse, Korfball, Waterskiing, various martial arts, Triathlon and many more. The purpose of the database is to pull together all sports club information under one roof for ease of use. It is not intended to detract from the work already done by national governing bodies, but to compliment it.

By use of a postcode search facility people will be able to locate their nearest club in a specific sport or just find out what sports are available in their area. It has great potential to raise the profile of and encourage participation in the lesser known sports.

A condensed version of that same database (sports and clubs that cater for children) will be used in Sports Search, the online product that will be available in secondary schools. This is designed to help children identify what sports they are most physically suited to and then contact a club for the sport in which they wish to participate.

The National Sports Database will also be linked to Sport England’s Active Places website (www.activeplaces.com) and other Sport England initiatives. Active Places provides useful information on buildings, fields and other places to play sport but does not currently hold any data on sports clubs which is what Sports Hub are doing for them.

In line with the NSRA’s firm policy, we have not provided Sports Hub with details of NSRA-affiliated clubs. Instead we have agreed to send these details direct to you, so that you can decide whether you wish to make use of the facility.

It is a Sports Hub requirement that a participating club must be affiliated to its National Governing Body. It is therefore suggested that if you wish to be included on the Sports Hub database, you should apply for a form to Membership Department at Lord Roberts Centre. It will then be forwarded to Sports Hub with confirmation of your NSRA membership.

If you would like to know more about Sports Hub, information can be found on www.sportshub.com or by contacting them direct - email info@sportshub.com or phone 0870 428 4678. The Data Protection Act is being strictly adhered to - at no time will Sports Hub approach you on any other matter, nor will your details be sold on to third parties.

It is emphasised that despite the close connection with Sport England, Sports Hub is a facility available to be taken up by any club in the UK.

The NSRA is supporting this venture as we can see its potential value and we hope you will. Some of you may have already received similar communication from the NRA.

Name Change

The NSRA/ISSF Rifle Meeting has been renamed the **British International 50m Rifle Championships Meeting** and the dates have been changed to 16 - 18 June 2006.

2006 Scottish Meeting

The *2006 Scottish Rifle Meeting* will be held on 1st - 7th July at Castletown, Caithness.

Questionnaire, Amalgamation and Competitions Review

Responses to the questionnaire issued in the second half of 2005 now number several hundred and the responses are being analysed by a group of Board Members.

Even after a preliminary examination a number of points come across clearly, including the need to improve communications and contact between the Association and its constituent members.

Another obvious point is that a majority of respondents would like to see a single governing body covering all forms of target shooting. As may have been seen by those who have contact with the NRA, discussions are taking place between representatives of the NSRA, NRA and CPSA on this topic, a matter which has been the subject of occasional discussions between various organisations in the past.

Existing NSRA Individual Members clearly regard the provision of competitions at national level as an integral part of the NSRA's functions and a significant benefit of membership. The programme of competitions offered by the NSRA is kept under regular review by the appropriate technical committees. These reviews are normally concerned with ensuring that conditions of current competitions are up-to-date and sensible in meeting the needs of shooters, clubs and associations.

There is also a role in identifying new areas for development in the light of changing firearms legislation and shooter preferences.

It is, however, a long time since the competition arrangements have been the subject of a major review in relation to the philosophy underpinning the competitions on offer and the organisation needed to run them. A small group headed by two Board Members is being established to undertake a detailed review of both postal competitions and national meetings. The group will, of course, have access to the comments on competitions included in the responses to the questionnaire. However further comments on matters relating to any aspect of NSRA competitions will be welcome. They can be sent by post to Lord Roberts Centre (please mark the envelope "Competitions Review"), or by email to info@nsra.co.uk (marked "Competitions Review" in the subject line).

British Records Set at InterShoot

For the third year running the England team attending the InterShoot Airgun Match in The Hague on 2 to 4 February 2006 returned having set new British Record Scores. This year there were five, the main beneficiaries being the Women's Air Pistol shooters.

The Senior Women's Air Pistol team record has stood at 1117 since 1993, when England set it, also at InterShoot. On the first day of competition the team of Julia Lydall, Georgina Geikie and Kathryn Pearson increased the record by seven points to 1124. Their aggregate on Friday dropped back to 1118, still one point above the old record, but on Saturday the total moved on another two points to 1126. No doubt England will now be looking forward to their next chance to advance the record at the British Championships in two weeks time.

This is a young team, Kathryn and Georgina being not long out of the Juniors. However Julia is still a Junior under ISSF Rules, and although shooting in a Senior competition her scores are still eligible to count as Junior Individual Records. In winning the Gold Medal on Thursday her score of 480.5 (382 + 98.5) eclipsed Sarah Bird's existing record of 476.3, set in 1996. Julia's second Gold Medal on Saturday moved the record on again to 480.6 (381 + 99.6).

The fifth record to fall, and the third on Saturday came when Chris Hector won the Silver Medal in the Senior Men's Air Rifle. He broke his own record of 696.2, set in The Hague in 2004, raising it to 698.5 (594 + 104.5).

The Scottish Small-bore Rifle Association has also announced that three scores from The Hague were added to its list of Scottish Records, details of which can be seen on the SSRA website <http://www.ssra.co.uk/>.

Sports Club of the Year Awards 2006

sponsored by The Foundation for Sport and the Arts in conjunction with the CCPR.

Does your club:

- encourage more people to take part in sport or recreation?
- set standards in excellence to which other clubs aspire?
- have a proven track record in working with schools, local authorities and other community organisations?
- provide for young people and disadvantaged groups?

In short, would you consider your club to be a fine example of “best practice”?
If you think you match up to these criteria, why not nominate your club for the Sports Club of the Year Award 2006?

First prize £6,000

Two x Second prizes £3,000

Three x Third prizes £1,000

The NSRA will nominate up to three clubs to be considered by CCPR for this prestigious award.

The nomination form is below and must be completed and returned to the NSRA, PO Box 122, Brookwood, Woking GU24 0YW, marked for the attention of Mrs J A Page, by no later than Friday 24th March 2006. A copy of your club’s constitution must also be provided. The CCPR will only accept the application and a copy of the club’s constitution. Do not send any more than this.

CLSTSA Air Pistol Postal League

Current leaders in the Air Pistol Postal League, run by David Pritchard are:

10m “A”. 1st, H Owen. 2nd, A Ditzell, =2nd, P Taylor.

“B”. 1st, A Langhorn. 2nd, R Vernon. 3rd, R Speight.

“C”. 1st, R Houghton. 2nd, H Doyle. =2nd, K Clapham.

20yd “1”. H Owen. 2nd, P Taylor. 3rd, D Burton.

“2”. 1st, S Mottley. 2nd, E Langhorn. =2nd, A Langhorn.

The battle continues... I can see that we’ll have to nobble Messrs Doyle and Owen. (Ed.)

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. - Dr. 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 disc.