



LancashireBULL N°57

The Newsletter of the County of Lancaster Small-bore Target Shooting Association
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6th LSR Champs - Burnley

The sixth annual County of Lancaster Light Sporting Rifle Championships took place at the Burnley Rifle Club on Sunday, 13th October 2013. As per tradition, Burnley RC members were perfect hosts and their hard work in preparing and running the ranges allowed the event to proceed in a manner not dissimilar to a Swiss train.

The number of competitors entering the Championships was the same as 2012, which meant all but the first and last details were full. The CRO was thankful for the empty first detail as it allowed him to enjoy his bacon butty before all the fun began. Competitions were closely fought and there was a good spread of medal winners, with 70% of the competitors taking home one or more medals.

Carl Birnie of Blackburn Rifle & Pistol Club narrowly missed retaining his Confined Championship title after cross-shooting onto the target of his fellow Blackburn member Tony Holmes. Whether or not this was of benefit to Tony will no doubt be debated for many years, nevertheless Tony did go on to win the Confined Championship.

A strong contingent travelled from the North East. Sunderland Rifle Club provided the top two competitors in the Open Championship; Bill Pow just holding off Norman Veitch by one point to take the title. Bill Pow also won the Veterans Championship.

Emma Duffy of Fulwood Shooting Club made it three years in a row as Lady Champion, picking up two other medals along the way.

Undoubtedly the best performance of the day came from Carl Birnie. Normally a master of the slowfire precision disciplines, Carl showed equally accurate shooting in the fast action of the Timed & Precision 1 competition by scoring a perfect 300 ex. 300. This Highest Possible Score won Carl the competition and the Derek Waterworth Memorial Cup. Feedback from one competitor summed up the day nicely - Thanks Paul, a fun and well organised day as always!



Andrew Waller Secretary of Burnley R&PC presenting the Open Championship to Bill Pow of Sunderland



Carl Birnie - Blackburn RPC - Derek Waterworth Memorial Cup



Emma Duffy - Fulwood Shooting Club Ladies Champion



Neil Roberts - Fulwood Shooting Club



Tony Holmes - Blackburn RPC - Confined Champion

Competition 1: 25 metre Precision

	Name	Card 1	Card 2	Card 3	Total
Class "A"					
1st	William Pow	89	88	97	274
2nd	Carl Birnie	85	93	88	266
3rd	Norman Veitch	89	89	86	264
Class "B"					
1st	Emma Duffy	88	89	82	259
2nd	Neil Roberts	85	85	85	255
3rd	Paul Harkins	84	87	84	255

Competition 2: 50 metre Precision

Class "A"					
1st	Norman Veitch	97	99	97	293
2nd	Anthony Holmes	96	94	95	285
3rd	Philip Johnston	95	94	95	284
Class "B"					
1st	Neil Roberts	91	96	93	280
2nd	Martin Hannam	94	91	94	279
3rd	Nigel Hannam	90	95	91	276

Competition 3A: County of Lancaster Confined Championship

1st	Anthony Holmes	260	285	545
2nd	Carl Birnie	266	270	536
3rd	Neil Roberts	255	280	535

Competition 3B: Open Championship

1st	William Pow (V)	274	284	558
2nd	Norman Veitch	264	293	557
3rd	Anthony Holmes (V)	260	285	545

Ladies Medal: Emma Duffy

Veteran Medal: William Pow

Competition 4: LSR Timed (25 metre)

		120 sec	20sec	10 sec	Total
Class "A"					
1st	Carl Birnie	89	97	85	271
2nd	Norman Veitch	92	82	86	260
3rd	Philip Johnston	91	80	83	254
Class "B"					
1st	Nigel Hannam	75	84	86	245
2nd	Paul Harkins	78	68	86	232
3rd	Martin Hannam	83	62	83	228

Competition 5: Precision & Timed 1

1st	Carl Birnie	120	120	60	300
2nd	Nigel Hannam	119	118	60	297
3rd	Norman Veitch	117	118	60	295
Class "B"					
1st	Trevor Earnshaw	115	116	58	289
2nd	Douglas Turnbull	117	110	59	286
3rd	Emma Duffy	120	111	55	286

Just how old is the Association?

We know how old CLSTSA is because that was formed in 19XX from the original County of Lancaster Small-bore Rifle Association, what we don't know is when the original small-bore association was formed. We recently held the 100th Annual General Meeting of the Association, so it's at least one hundred years old. How further back it goes is a bit of a mystery. Should any of you have any clues, please get in touch with the Hon Sec Paul Holdstock/

Minutes of the 100th Annual General Meeting

of the County of Lancaster Small-bore Target Shooting Association, which took place on Saturday, 16th November 2013 at Blackburn Rifle & Pistol Club, Unit 5A, Audley Hall Mill, Dickens Street, Blackburn BB1 1RN.

In attendance: John Billbrough, Mr D I Pritchard, Mr J O Lloyd, Dr P Holdstock, Mr P Sadler, Mr G Barlow, Mr J Breakwell, Mrs D Cornforth, Mr B Pearce, Mr K Skidmore, Mrs E Ainscough
Apologies: Mr R Cox, Mrs I Falat-Marsh, Mr B Fletcher, Ms M Gardner, Mr A Langhorn, Mr M Liversage, Mrs S McHugh, Mr J Whitwell.

1. The Honorary Secretary read the notice convening the meeting at 2 pm.
2. The minutes of the 99th Annual General Meeting were confirmed without change (Prop. Mr Billbrough, Sec. Mrs Cornforth, approved unanimously).
3. There were no matters arising from the minutes of the 99th Annual General Meeting.
4. The Honorary Secretary read the Report of the Council (see Annex A). The meeting approved the report (Prop. Mr Lloyd, Sec. Mr Skidmore, approved unanimously).
5. The Honorary Treasurer presented the accounts of the Association and the Honorary Treasurer's Report (see Annex B). The Honorary Treasurer recommended no change to Subscription Rates. The meeting approved the report (Prop. Mr Breakwell, Sec. Mr Pearce, approved unanimously).
6. Subscription Rates:
 - a. Individual members subscription fees were proposed to remain the same as 2013 rates, i.e. general membership £5.00, senior membership £4.00 and junior membership £2.50 (Prop. Mrs Cornforth, Sec. Mr Breakwell, approved unanimously).
 - b. Club affiliation fees were proposed to remain at the 2013 rates, i.e. up to

- 10 members £14
- 11 to 20 members £25
- 21 to 35 members £38
- 36 to 60 members £47
- over 60 members £60 (Prop. Mrs Cornforth, Sec. Mr Breakwell, approved unanimously).
7. The Honorary Secretary's and Honorary Treasurer's Honorariums were proposed to remain at the 2013 rates, i.e. £250 and £50 respectively (Prop. Mr Lloyd, Sec. Mr Barlow, approved unanimously).
8. Elections – the following Officers were nominated collectively by Mr Barlow, seconded by Mr Pearce and elected by unanimous vote (no other nominations were received):
 - a. Patrons R Cox D Bannister (Mrs)
 - b. The President J A S Billbrough
 - c. Chairman: D I Pritchard
 - d. Vice-Chairmen: J O Lloyd
 - e. Honorary Secretary: P Holdstock
 - f. Honorary Treasurer: P Sadler
9. Dr Paul Holdstock was re-elected as representative member of the National Small-bore Rifle Association and as representative to the County of Lancaster Rifle Association (Nom. Mr Lloyd, Sec. Mr Billbrough & Mr Breakwell, no other nominations, approved unanimously).

10. There being no other formal business, the meeting closed at 2.16 pm. Dr Paul Holdstock, Hon. Secretary, 46 Beech House, The Beeches, West Didsbury, Manchester M20 2AH Tel. 0844 778 6372, E-mail: paul@holdstock.eu

Report of Council to the 2013 Annual General Meeting

The number of affiliated clubs for 2013 is 16, the same as last year. Overall individual membership has fallen slightly this year to 61, compared to 64 in 2012 and 76 in 2011. We had 10 new individual members join this year that had not previously been members of the Association.

The winners in the County of Lancaster 2103 Individual Rifle League were Div. 1: J Wilkinson (Morecambe), Div. 2: T Horrocks (Salford), Div. 3: A Gregson (Ashton-under-Lyne), Div. 4: R Baker (Wigan), Div. 5: J Whalley (Wigan), and Div. 6: N Hill (Miss Wigan).

The winners in the County of Lancaster 2012/13 Winter League were Div. 1: Wigan A, Div. 2: Salford C, Div. 3: Salford D, Div. 4: Vulcan C, and Div. 6: Leyland C.

Following the postponement of the County Airgun & Free Pistol Championships last year, it was great to be able to run this year's event in its usual slot in the calendar. The Champions for 2013 are: David Owens of Cumberland News Rifle Club (Air Pistol Champion); Paul Horbury of Ilkley Rifle & Pistol Club (Air Rifle Champion); Ian Hart of Mattersey Rifle & Pistol Club (Free Pistol Champion); Ingrid Falat-

Marsh of Blackburn Rifle & Pistol Club (Lady Champion) and Rachael Whitehead of Blackburn Rifle & Pistol Club (Junior Champion).

The 2014 Airgun Championships will be part of the new NSRA National Airgun Series. We are also in discussions to have the Airgun Championships recognised as a nominated meeting for National team selection and are considering possible improvements to the range and competition facilities currently located at Blackburn Rifle & Pistol Club.

The Light Sporting Rifle Championships were again held at Burnley Rifle Club. The Champions for 2013 are: Anthony Holmes of Blackburn Rifle & Pistol Club (County of Lancaster Champion), William Pow of Sunderland Rifle Club (Open & Veteran Champion) and Emmy Duffy of Fulwood Shooting club (Lady Champion). Carl Birnie of Blackburn Rifle & Pistol Club won the Derek Waterworth Memorial Cup with a Highest Possible Score of 300 ex. 300 in the Timed & Precision 1 competition.

It has been noticeable in the past year that team captains are experiencing difficulty in recruiting shooters to compete in County teams. There are also problems with team members not shooting or submitting cards on time. Shooters and club representatives have been advised of this, and we trust the situation will improve. Air rifle is one discipline where we are particularly short of shooters. Our Air Rifle Captain, Sandie McHugh reports: In Lancashire we don't have enough air rifle shooters! Some other counties do seem to have more shooters, in our division we are competing against Oxfordshire and Somerset B teams. Those we do have may have medical or domestic issues that make it less easy for them to train to improve their standard.

However, shooting at club and county level can also be seen as an enjoyable leisure activity. There needs to be encouragement for engagement in our sport for these aims and we shouldn't get too distracted by the "right kit", & ask for hours of devoted training. I consider there should be more of a distinction between the requirements for the "elite" – the professional/near professional international shooters and those enjoying a leisure activity. If the perception of newcomers or old-timers is that they have to invest much money & more time than they have to engage in air rifle or 3P then it may be a major disincentive! Please let us know if there any new, old-timers, national squad or leisure air rifle shooters in your clubs; all standards are welcome. Indeed, we would welcome new shooters in all disciplines.

We finish our report by thanking the captains, competition secretaries, event organisers and other volunteers who have dedicated their time to supporting target shooting in the County this year.

Firearm Certificate Fees

At a meeting on 8th October 2013 between the Home Office, BSSC (of which the NSRA is a member) and the police, it was agreed that a Working Party consisting of representatives of shooting organisations, Home Office, police and other interested parties would take part in a "back to basics" review of the costs of issuing Firearm Certificates and Registered Firearms Dealers Certificates. It was stated that there would be no increase in fees until the review had been completed, which is unlikely to be before 2015.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT TO THE SHOOTING COUNCIL 23rd NOVEMBER 2013

In recognition of his work in establishing and nurturing the discipline of air rifle shooting for those who are blind and visually impaired, Ken Nash has received an award from British Shooting's Disabled Shooting Project for the Outstanding Individual Contribution to Disabled Target Shooting 2013

The award was presented at the conclusion of the Disabled Shooting Gala, held at Lord Roberts Centre on 8 September, the presentation being made by Michael Whapples, one of Great Britain's leading Blind/VI shooters.

It has subsequently been announced that Michael has been appointed Chairman of the Shooting Committee of the International Blind Sports Association. This appointment, together with the excellent work being done by another Briton, Sarah Bond, as Shooting Manager at the International Paralympic Committee, means that Great Britain's profile in the world of disabled target shooting is rising rapidly.

SHOOTING MATTERS

National Meetings 2013
National Rifle Meeting, Bisley

The National Meeting ran between 10th and 18th August and the attendance at approximately 660 competitors was nearly the same as 2012. Because of the reduction of the number of firing points (which was only discovered late in June and was mentioned at the previous Council Meeting) discussions were held with the NRA in trying to find a solution. However it became apparent that a workable compromise could not be found, which meant a decision was made to cancel the Classic and Veteran Rifle events and the Services competitions which are shot alongside ours.

There were no major problems during the meeting. The weather was good for the most part although it did rain very heavily on the Saturday of the Roberts final. For a second year Bideford Rifle Club ran a scheme to give assistance to first-time entrants to the meeting. This was again very well received, the information available at

the desk being used and appreciated by not only the first timers but also regular participants at the meeting. All medals and vouchers should have been distributed in the last couple of weeks.

We have held the first discussions with the NRA about the meeting for 2014. It is hoped that once we have agreed the smaller details we will reach an agreement that will secure the National Rifle Meeting at Bisley for the next three years.

Pistol Championships Meeting, Bisley

This year's Pistol Championships Meeting was held over the weekend of 20th to 22nd September. There were a total of 55 competitors shooting in six or more events; unfortunately this was down on last year's entry of 67. Competitions Department did all the required paperwork in the run up to the event, but the Pistol, Airgun & Crossbow Committee members ran the event with help from the volunteer Range Officers. We are waiting a delivery of Bisley Championship medals and once they have arrived and been engraved they will be sent out.

Meeting Dates for 2014

The programme of dates for next year is (at Bisley unless otherwise stated):
21 – 23: February British Airgun Championships. 1 – 2: March Blind Air Rifle Championships, Aldersley.
30 May – 1 June: British International 50 metres Rifle Championships.
28 June – 4 July: Scottish Rifle Meeting, Lauder 5 – 6 July.
8 August: Sporter and Precision 3P Air Rifle Championships. 9 – 17 August: National Rifle Meeting. 19 – 21 September: British Pistol Championships.
Other relevant dates are: 21 June: Dewar Trial and Match, Appleton.
10 August: NSRA-Eley Finals (Prone & 3P) 4 – 5 October: NSRA-Eley Finals (Other events)

NSRA-Eley Competition Finals

The Eley finals were held on 11 August for the Prone and 3P Rifle and over the weekend of 5 and 6 October for the other events. From an organizer's point of view they ran quite smoothly with no major problems. Particular thanks are due to Dave Poxon for all his help in the run up to the October weekend and during those finals as well.

International Matches

Postal International Matches

Successes in 2013 Rifle Matches were achieved in the Randle (by a single point) and the Wakefield, by a considerable margin. The scores were:

Dewar: United States of America 7838, Great Britain 7788, South Africa 7692.

Randle: Great Britain 3989, United States of America 3988, South Africa 3946.

Wakefield: Great Britain 5934, South Africa 5869, New Zealand 5854, Australia 5849, United States of America 5829, Canada 5827.

Drew: Junior Men team of 3. South Africa 1744, Great Britain 1743, United States of America 1721.

Junior Women team of 3

United States of America 1740, New Zealand 1734, Great Britain 1716, South Africa 1707.

Junior team of 10

United States of America 5753, South Africa 5750. Great Britain 5748.

The scores for other teams in the **Mayleigh Pistol Match**, including the USA, are not yet known. However as the GB score of 2547 ex 3000 was 100 points lower than in 2012, it looks extremely unlikely that we will have successfully defended the trophy.

Postal International Match Officials

The Rifle Committee has appointed Mr John Dallimore and Mr Richard Watchorn as Captain and Adjutant respectively of the Dewar team for 2014 and 2015.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

At the Meeting on 28 September the Board of Management re-appointed Mr Ken Nash as a Vice Chairman of the Association.

Fees for 2014

Affiliation and Membership

The affiliation fees for 2014 were agreed by the Board of Management as, Clubs: Over 75 members £275, 31 to 75 members £215, 16 to 30 members £150 15 members or fewer £115.

Junior Clubs

Over 15 members £145, 15 members or fewer £115. Cat. B, C, D & E organisations £185.

The membership fees for Individuals were also agreed as: Annual £83, Junior and FTE £41, Associate £63.

Competitions

The Board has decided that there should be a 5% increase in postal competition entry fees. However the Board is concerned at the variation in the levels of income and expenditure between the various National Meetings and will therefore review each case on its merits rather than setting a percentage increase across the board.

Christmas/New Year Break

The NSRA Offices and BSW Ltd will close at 5.00 pm on Friday 20 December. The Shop closes at 5.00 pm and the Centre at 6.00pm, both on Sunday 22 December. All will re-open at 9.00 am on Thursday 2 January 2014.

Shooting Council Meeting Dates

Council meetings in 2014 are scheduled for 15 March, 26 July (plus the Annual General Meeting) and 22 November.

Firearm Certificate Fees

At a meeting on 8 October 2013 between the Home Office, BSSC (of which the NSRA is a member) and the police, it was agreed that a Working Party consisting of representatives of shooting organisations, Home Office, police and other interested parties would take part in a "back to basics" review of the costs of issuing Firearm Certificates and Registered Firearms Dealers Certificates.

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Home Office Guidance on Firearms Law

The Home Office has produced a new edition of its Guide to Firearms Licensing Law, which is available to download from the Government website. There is currently a link to the download on the NSRA website Home Page. www.nsra.co.uk

There was very little time available for members of the British Shooting Sports Council (including the NSRA) to digest and comment upon the new edition. As a result work is continuing and further amendments may be made in due course.

Durham Constabulary Consultative Meeting

A meeting took place at Durham Constabulary HQ on 24th June to consult with the shooting community both nationally and locally. No papers or agenda were provided prior to the meeting as it was to be open forum discussion. However it became clear the main focus of the meeting was to discuss the measures being suggested by Durham police after the enquiry into the murders perpetrated by Michael Atherton at Horden. Atherton was a certificate holder and so the issue of certificates (for Section 1 and Section 2) has been under scrutiny – in particular the elements concerning the mental stability of certificate holders/ applicants information on depression, medication etc. and other psychological factors.

The consultation was generally considered to be useful and the involvement of national bodies on this occasion being appropriate. Outcomes of the pilot of the screening process and other measures are awaited with interest.

Benchrest

Initial discussion has taken place with UKBR22 to start the development of a Club Instructor course for benchrest shooting. The representative from UKBR22 has been provided with a copy of the LSR course to look at the layout and start to work out the content. Some of the component sections will be transferable from other courses.

Scorers Course

A total of 20 scorer's courses have now taken place including a course for NSRA staff at LRC. The current number of qualified scorers has increased to 242. Future courses are planned for; Sussex (November), Bedford (Feb), Hampton Rifle Club (Nov), Perth (x2), Nov, Cumbria (Feb), Oxfordshire (Jan), Sheffield (Jan), and for the Scouts (March). Courses in Lancashire, Darlington and Forres are currently being organised. Emphasis will now move to encouraging counties to take on the running of courses.

Disability Shooting Project

Work continues on the development of the Disability Shooting Project including a new overall plan and key performance indicators to track progress. The activities of the project now come under the following headings: Marketing and Promotion, Opportunities, Guidance, Competitions, Talent, Compliance, Operational.

Work has started in most sections but Talent development and compliance are the least advanced.

Pathway Development

Steve Seligmann has been appointed as the new BS Pathway Manager and has started work on the development of the shooter pathways within the Olympic and Commonwealth Games disciplines.

GB Performance Pathway

A 2 day meeting took place in Cardiff on 27th and 28th August to discuss and begin the development of the Athlete Pathway for Olympic shooting disciplines – in particular the transition between Home Country/Commonwealth Games level and World Class. It emerged that a GB Academy, which operates in the area between Home Country and World Class Squads, would be necessary to cover the current gap in the athlete pathway. Further working group meetings are being planned to look at the other sections of the pathway.

England Talent Pathway

An initial meeting took place in September at CPSA HQ to discuss England Talent Pathways.

The objective of the meeting was to bring the respective NGBs together and begin discussions about England Talent Pathways and to build an action plan for the next 12-36 months. The objective is to outline the current England Talent Pathways (shotgun, rifle, pistol), establish what are the mechanisms that feed into the pathway and how the pathway integrates with the GB pathway. From the initial meeting the mission statement has become: *To deliver an effective and sustainable England Talent Pathway that recruits and develops target shooters from local and regional level to fulfil their potential and to become capable of progressing along the GB Performance Pathway.*

Discipline specific groups have been formed and the smallbore group has representation from NSRA, ESSU and DTSGB. This group has started to map out the optimal ETP for small-bore target shooting and explore how the future ETP can be delivered.

It was generally thought that the best outcome is a simple pathway that was understandable by all. Coaching and competition pathways also need to be developed alongside the ETP.

Home Office Firearms Licencing

The new Home Office guidance on Police on firearms licencing has been published and is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/firearms-law-guidance-to-the-police-2012>

CLSTSA Shoot at Aldersley?

Clubs are requested to advise the Honorary Secretary if their members have any interest in a County of Lancaster rifle meeting being held at Aldersley to include prone rifle and bench rest rifle at 100 m with competitions for iron sights and any sights.

20YD PISTOL TEAMS

I'm having trouble getting enough people to shoot the Winter league, I think we have enough for 1 team which will have to be the A team, there may be 3 people for the B team but that still leaves me 2 shooters short.

Tony Power

County Teams

If you know of reliable shooters that would like to join one the County teams (men's rifle, women's rifle or 20yd pistol), please advise the Team Captains or myself as soon as possible.

Despite several requests for potential team members there has not been sufficient interest shown by clubs / individuals to form a team.

Only FOUR clubs responded and several individuals declined due to other commitments.

In the winter league we have 75 shooting In the individual league we had 62.

Based on the start of the individual league only 17 shooters had an average of 95 and above.

Geoff Barlow.

Apology

Editor Reg Cox wishes to apologise for the lateness of this issue. Unfortunately his wife Ina fell and broke her hip and he is now her carer 24/7.

He hope things will improve for the future.

The "LancashireBULL" is edited and produced by Reg Cox, tel: 0151 727 2177. email: regcox@mac.com
Articles for future issues should be sent to CLSTSA Hon. Secretary Paul Holdstock, tel: 0844 778 6372, email paul@holdstock.eu
or direct to Reg Cox. Please send copy by email or in "Word" on disc.