

Scottish Small-Bore Rifle Association

Newsletter, September 1990

Chairman's Address

It hardly seems a year since I was appointed chairman, but the editor assures me it is, so a brief report has to be prepared. Council has met four times with long fruitful discussions on many aspects of the sport eg squad training, drug testing, fund raising, home office regulations, development officer, federation within Scottish Shooting bodies etc. Our secretary has found the workload somewhat demanding, hence the infrequency of the newsletters. It is unlikely he will continue in the post next year, so again we shall need a replacement at the AGM. Ideally we need someone who has taken early retirement, has lots of spare time, loves the sport and needs a challenge to keep himself/herself fully occupied. Any volunteers?

We managed to hold a 'senior' squad session on wind, wind coaching and team shooting at Denwood and its success may have contributed to a successful set of results this summer, including a rare win over the auld enemy at Bisley. Next year's squad session will include practice at dismantling bolts and reassembling rifles within the 20 minute detail! A further objective is to ensure success in the ladies events and I hope we can arrange squad training and competitive matches for them this winter. Any ladies specifically wanting enhanced coaching must forward their names to myself or the secretary as soon as possible.

Robin and Bill have already had many congratulations on their Games success and I hope this is the first of many for them. We are already discussing, within the Scottish Target Shooting Federation, the need to plan well ahead for Victoria in 1994. One priority is to ensure a review of the team management structure to allow a specialist rifle coach to accompany the team. This we feel would significantly increase our medal prospects. Shooting within the UK gives our shooters limited match experience and we hope to be able to send teams to European events in future as part of our development programme.

The Denwood association are to be congratulated on the hard work they have put into the sub-national facility they are building at Denwood. Every bit of financial help will be gratefully appreciated by Adam and his colleagues, so dig deep. On the national front (facilities of course) problems still hold up the development at Manor Powis and we await the outcome of the planning application appeal.

Finally I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM, to hear your views and make a positive contribution to Scottish Shooting.

Federation

Much has been said over the last few years about the Association taking part in 'Federation Talks' with the other shooting bodies. These discussions stemmed from the Scottish Sports Council's wish to communicate with one federated shooting body, rather than with each of the independent associations. The Councils of the SSRA have over the years felt that it was in small-bore's best interest to actively participate in these discussions.

At the Scottish Target Shooting Council's AGM in March this year, a new constitution was adopted and the bodies present became members of the new Scottish Target Shooting Federation.

The main features are :-

1. The SSRA is a member body of the Federation. It had been discussed that individuals might themselves become members of the Federation, rather than any one Association, but this has not been adopted.
2. The member bodies currently are the SSRA, the Scottish Pistol Association, the Scottish Rifle Association, the Scottish Clay Pigeon Association and the Scottish Air Rifle and Pistol Association.
3. Each of the founding member bodies may have three delegates on the Federation's Council. Each delegate holds one vote.
4. The ability to veto Federation decisions has been introduced - where the decision relates to the individual associations own discipline. This does not apply to selection decisions.
5. A new executive post has been created, that of Vice-Chairman.

The Shooting Council's constitution has also been altered to make clearer the aims and objectives of the Federation. Although it is difficult to summarise them in a few words - these are essentially to promote and develop target shooting as a whole and to provide Scottish shooting with a body that can represent the mutual needs of the individual disciplines. For example, the Federation is currently representing 'shooters interests' on various liaison committees with a view to clarifying and possibly influencing the amendments to the Firearms Act. In addition the Federation has many ongoing plans for the development of shooting facilities which we hope Scottish shooters will benefit from.

The Commonwealth Games, Auckland 1990

Train hard, fight easy was the motto of a famous Prussian military man. For the three Scottish team members for whom the Commonwealth Games was their first major international match, Gordon Winch, Robin Law and Bill Murray, things were never likely to be easy given that the New Zealanders appeared to be making up rules about the entries as they went along. Suffice it to say that at one point soon after arrival it looked as if the only way the Scottish team could be entered so as to end up shooting the events they had been chosen for, would be for Winch and Murray to be entered for the 10 metre Running Target event.

In addition, while Robin was grappling with a total of six matches including the Badge shoots, having to repeatedly get himself into competitive shape with few rest days, Gordon and Bill were at the opposite end of the scale: they each only had one chance to make their mark - Bill did not even get a Badge match to warm-up on. Half way round the world and a lot of months of training and hoping is a long way for one match.

Jock Allan and John Knowles, the two senior members of the team, quickly showed their true colours. John was the funny man, Jock the straight man and between them they could make a whole bar full of people laugh until it hurt within ten minutes of walking in. Jock also demonstrated that he has the makings of a pretty steady go-cart racer in him while Knowles managed to leave rubber marks around every roundabout in Auckland. Winch and Murray meanwhile, went on a 'acclimatisation' trip which involved camping at 6,000 feet on an active volcano. As a cure for jet-lag after the 30 hour flying time, it seemed to work pretty well.

The Auckland range at Ardmore was beautiful but horribly difficult. On a neck of land with the Pacific on one side and the Tasman Sea on the other, there was rarely a prevailing wind; it seemed to hit the flags at one end, do a complete 360 degree rotation, die for a moment, and then pick up again. Anything close to 590 or 1140 was good. On the other hand, the target changers were scary. If you wound a target too far, you couldn't go back again, which meant you would need to go on and fire two shots at the next one. But you can only do that twice in 60 shots without penalty, and when you add that to the fact that you have to remember to wind on after every shot as well, you have to be able to keep your head just to get through the match without unnecessary penalties - something which everybody did.

The high point obviously was the Bronze medal for Robin and Bill. Bill's prone shoot of 396 - five points better than anyone else - looked like getting them off to the best possible start, but Robin was bitterly disappointed with 378, and more or less cancelled out Bill's score. Predictably, after such a start, the tables turned in the standing section, with Robin shooting a really fine 370 in his favourite position to pull his overall score back into shape, and Bill struggling to make 360. The kneeling detail was very tricky and although he had been shooting hundreds in practice, Bill only managed 379 total for 1135. Robin, whose kneeling has a habit of being worse than his standing, chose the best moment to pull out one of his steadiest shoots for a 374 and 1128. All the other pairs had at least one person shooting, and nobody really believed the Scots had done it except the team members themselves! Eventually, after the usual agony of waiting for confirmed scores, they were just 14 points behind the gold medal, exactly the same margin as there was between themselves and India in fourth place.

Much had been expected of Jock before the team went, but his heart wasn't in it. It was a pity for Gordon that he couldn't have come back with something, too: he did everything right to begin with in his match, and if it had been over three twenty shot cards instead of a continuous sixty, things would surely have been different for him and John in the pairs match.

New Zealand Match 1990

As was reported in The Scotsman, the score shot by the New Zealand match team this year was indeed a record for the Scottish team. We do not yet know the score shot by the New Zealand team, so this may not be a record for the overall match. Our hopes are high though!

RA Sellar	100	99	100	100	399
H Milne	100	100	100	99	399
CWC Ogle	100	100	100	99	399
DAM McIntosh	100	100	100	98	398
NG Lemon	100	100	100	98	398
R Law	99	99	99	100	397
LB Buchanan	99	99	100	99	397
H Simpson, Jnr	97	100	99	100	396
I Shanks	98	99	100	99	396
T Kidner	99	98	100	99	396
GJB Winch	99	99	99	99	396
A Gordon	100	99	97	99	395
CIH Thomson	98	100	98	98	394
H Simpson, Snr	99	100	98	97	394
WF Hamilton	98	96	98	98	390

Scotland 5944

Reserve					
WT Vaughan	98	99	99	99	395

This year the team chosen contained a vast amount of experience, with only one new cap, Gavin Lemon who earned his place by winning the Speedway. Although the score was a record, there were no 400's shot (again) but Ronnie Sellar, Harry Milne and Cliff Ogle led the way with 399's. This record will continue to stand, as next year we should be on the new targets. Lets hope that we can improve on the score despite the smaller bull!

1990 Indoor Finals - Tie Shoots

Enclosed with the news letter is a copy of the results of the 1990 Indoor Finals. We are sorry if you have not received this before but there appears to be some confusion as to whether or not they have been distributed to those involved or not. The Tie Shoots indicated on the results sheet have been shot and the results of these were as follows:

Silver Medals & Salvors

Class A

RA Sellar	Watsonians	1,0,0 = 1 (Silver Medal & Salver)
A Gordon	Bon Accord	4,3,2 = 9

Class B

GJ Fraser	Orkney	0,2,0 = 2 (Salver)
J Simpson	Glasgow Rail	2,3,2 = 7
LR Graham	Watsonians	4,2,3 = 9

CanDicap (first card decides)

J Stewart	Larkhall	5 (-5) = 0; Other cards 4,7
Mrs D MacDonald	Bearsden	7 (-9) = 2; Other cards 12,11
K Edward	St Andrews	8 (-5) = 3; Other cards 7,6

3-Positional Championship

There were 19 people entered in the 1st stage of the 3P championship this year. The standard was far higher than ever before, with 10 people having half-courses of over 550, and 7 having a total over 1100. Bill Murray was top qualifier with an amazing 1162 and with Robin Law only 4 points behind it looked like a close fight between them. Unfortunately three of our 3P team members, Steve Dunlop, Shirley Smith and Lance Graham failed to complete the qualifier, and Ian Shirra-Gibb and John Millar were unable to attend the final which diluted the competition somewhat. As usual this was shot near the beginning of the outdoor season at Linwood. Conditions were good, but the expected battle never emerged, Bill Murray producing a steady 1136 to take his first Scottish 3P Championship. The battle was fought between Cliff Ogle and Robin for 2nd and 3rd place, and between Ronnie Sellar, Donald McIntosh and Will Low for 4th, 5th and 6th places. The standard is getting higher, with the gap between the Commonwealth Games men and the trailing pack getting smaller. It was also good to see some new faces present this year. They need encouragement and coaching, and that is something to which we need to address ourselves. The signs are good however, and once Denwood has been completed and 3P starts in earnest in Aberdeen we may see a great improvement.

First stage results :-

	P	S	K	T1	P	S	K	T2	Total
WA Murray	199	185	197	581	198	188	195	581	1162
R Law	199	186	195	580	199	189	190	578	1158
RA Sellar	199	179	190	568	200	174	197	571	1139
CWC Ogle	200	178	194	572	198	169	192	559	1131
DAM McIntosh	197	173	195	565	196	174	195	565	1130
W Low	197	175	185	557	197	175	189	561	1118
I Shirra-Gibb	196	170	180	546	193	180	183	556	1102
JP Millar	199	163	193	555	196	162	185	543	1098
WF Hamilton	197	152	178	523	199	160	179	538	1065
WP Baird	192	154	177	523	196	157	185	538	1061
JR Silcox	197	143	173	513	191	161	182	534	1047
LJ Marlow	195	139	183	517	198	143	182	523	1040
EJ Jones	188	141	173	502	194	162	169	525	1027
S Quintela	190	153	168	511	184	156	175	515	1026
A Thomson	190	120	172	482	188	128	167	483	965
SJ Dunlop	196	182	190	568	---	---	---	---	---
SJ Smith	195	170	189	554	---	---	---	---	---
LR Graham	197	175	172	544	---	---	---	---	---
R Bryce-Stafford	195	126	172	493	---	---	---	---	---

Final results :-

	P1	P2	Tot	S1	S2	Tot	K1	K2	Tot	Total
WA Murray	196	194	390	181	181	362	192	192	384	1136
The Watsonians Trophy, Gold-type Medal and Kneeling Medal										
CWC Ogle	197	200	397	173	175	348	187	187	374	1119
The Silver-type Medal										
R Law	187	194	381	180	188	368	180	189	369	1118
The Bronze-type Medal and Standing Medal										
W Low	193	198	391	163	168	331	185	192	377	1099
RA Sellar	198	196	394	172	159	331	186	186	372	1097
DAM McIntosh	197	195	392	158	175	333	185	183	368	1093
LJ Marlow	192	189	381	132	149	281	186	180	366	1028
WP Baird	185	187	372	142	157	299	174	181	355	1026
EJ Jones	190	190	380	153	136	289	172	171	343	1012
JR Silcox	189	189	378	149	146	295	161	174	335	1008
WF Hamilton	193	196	389	124	148	272	171	168	339	1000

The Oxfordshire Match

I was particularly proud to be nominated to Captain the hastily-assembled Scotland team to this particular Border Raid. Yes, I know I can't claim to be directly descended from the Stone of Scone; perhaps that is one of the reasons why I have always felt especially keen to do well when I am shooting for Scotland. All I know is, there are plenty of folk wandering the Lowlands who seem to care less for the place than I do... Sorry to go off the point, perhaps that rhyme at the Scottish went deeper than I care to admit.

Not our best team went to Oxfordshire - in view of the result, that is perhaps no bad thing, as we did rather clean the board - but I wouldn't be surprised to see the same faces all shooting 1150s and 595s in five years time. The ability and enthusiasm is there, of that I have no doubt.

We arrived in our several conveyances on a morning of Equatorial heat, which was to continue all day, making shooting both uncomfortable and extremely difficult, light drifting winds shifting direction continuously. The City of Oxford Club range is in a really lovely spot,

and I am sure the main memory of our team will be the hospitality with which we were treated. I desperately hope we can offer a reciprocal invitation to the Oxford boys next year. It seems ridiculous that City of Oxford can find a malt whisky company to sponsor a match every second year, and we cannot.

However, returning to the match, which was fired as a 60/40/40, yours truly struggled to the best individual score, while Willy Low again demonstrated that he is ready to make considerable and fast progress as a 3 x 40 shooter if he can find the time to keep his present level of progress up. He had the best standing card of the match. Lance Graham also showed signs that he will soon be moving up into the 1100's. Well done both to Lance and to Stephen Dunlop for the really excellent job that he does in coaching Lance and many other juniors. Poor Ronnie Sellar deserves a mention, too - having driven all the way from Scotland the previous night and contemplating the return journey as soon as the match finished. Having been in the same boat myself I sympathise sincerely: it can be possible to still shoot decent prone in those conditions, but 3P is completely impossible. The trouble is that a bad shoot is a bad shoot whatever the reason, and it doesn't do your self-confidence any good.

Having won the match and the individual bottles - sorry, I mean prizes - we were then all presented with an individual commemorative bottle of the Macallan (I heard a rumour that some lasted until the team got the the Border, but personally I doubt it) before being treated to a barbecue which we really weren't prepared for fully - I think we would all have liked to plan to stay a bit longer and not have to drive home after the match. Especial thanks go to John Sims and his wife for laying on the hospitality.

Friendly matches like this are just such good fun, without too much pressure, and with plenty of time to sit around and just chat. I have an especial fondness for the Oxford match: the first one, four years ago saw me shoot my first score over 1100 (1118 at Bisley on the old targets) and I came away convinced for the very first time that I might actually be able to get somewhere as a 3P shooter.

Bill Murray

The Training Squads - 1989/90

The training squad that has been in existence for the last few years was split up this year. A small prone squad, consisting primarily of juniors (U21) from Caithness, Aberdeenshire and Edinburgh University met twice at Meadowbank over the winter. Gentle coaching was provided by Cyril, aided by Bill Hamilton on video camera. Cyril was decidedly short-staffed on these occasions, and the sessions weren't what they might have been. Most people gained something however, even if Cyril is the only one to have seen the video yet!

The other half of the old squad, the 3-positional shooters, have gained in strength so much in the last couple of years that there is little they can gain from coaches in Scotland. A session the day before the 3P final at Linwood with Commonwealth Games medalist Bill Murray provided some useful insights for the young pretenders however. There was also a session run at Meadowbank for our (few) up and coming 3P shooters. Four youngsters from George Watson's College - including two keen young ladies - along with Lance Graham and Lynda Marlow suffered the tender mercies of Ronnie Sellar, Steve Dunlop and Donald McIntosh. We also ran a beginners clinic one evening during the Scottish on the Tain Rifle Club range. Aided by a visiting coach from the South East Regional squad, most of the Scottish 3P team struggled to pass on the little they new to

shooters ranging from absolute beginners to GB junior Lance. The 3P coaching is a bit chaotic at the moment - we have so few people capable of coaching it to any level, and we are depending on various regular 3P team members - who are (supposed to be) training hard - to help bring the newer people along. We are looking at the alternatives for 3P coaching, including the possibility of approaching a National coach to travel to Scotland to help our people out.

The newest innovation on the coaching front was the "Senior" squad that met at Denwood in June. Invitations were issued to all those who had shot in full Scottish prone teams (ie Home Countries Internationals and Mini-Games) in 1988 or 1989. There was about a 50% turnout for a reasonably successful session on wind coaching. Plans for another session before Bisley never came to anything however, although the demand seems to be there. We hope to carry this idea forward into next year, and hope to have more than one session.

Increased co-ordination and communication, along with extra coaching staff are really needed for all the squads. We will be looking into improving all of them next year. If you have any positive ideas that might help, or wish to get involved either as a coach or a coachee, then please let us know. Correspondance should be addresses to Donald McIntosh, [REDACTED]

Grand Prix Order of Merit 1990 (Prone)

There were 5 Grand Prix events again this year - Denwood, Linwood, Caithness, Western (at Linwood) and Gage. These were shot on the 1989 targets for the first time, and where possible the UIT rules were applied. These included the 1989 changes to butt hooks and jackets. There were lots of people taping up pockets and building up butt hooks at most of the meetings! The new targets are definitely making a difference - there were only 6 scores of 590 or higher this year, and 5 of those were in the relative calm of Denwood. The old hands at this game dominated the scene again, but Bill Mitchell is getting there, winning his first Grand Prix at Linwood, and it was encouraging to see so many new faces among the medal winners this year.

	Denw'd	Linw'd	C'nness	Westrn	Gage	Total
JN Knowles	15 593	8 583		12 587	1 584	36
CWC Ogle		10 584	15 587	4 582	3 586	32
I Shanks	3 588	12 585	6 ***	8 585		29
WF Hamilton		6 583		5 583	15 590	26
WHJ Mitchell		15 588	4 ***	6 584		25
DAM McIntosh	12 593		12 585			24
GJB Winch				15 588	6 586	21
RA Sellar	6 591	3 580			10 588	19
LR Graham	4 588				12 589	16
J Lavety	10 593				5 586	15
CJ De Jonckheere				3 582	8 587	11
NG Lemon				10 585		10
JR Sinclair			10 ***			10
WT Vaughan	1 587	2 579	3 ***	2 582	2 585	10
W Low	8 592	1 578				9
J Swanson			8 ***			8
EC Lovie	5 588			1 581		6
CIH Thomson	2 587				4 586	6
AM Hamilton		5 580				5
R Law			5 ***			5
AJ Horne		4 580				4
A Paul			2 ***			2
H Simpson Snr			1 ***			1

SSRA 200 Club

This years winners (to date) in the 200 club are listed below.

January	A Taylor	£20.40
February	JP Liddell	£27.60
March	Miss FM Rankin	£27.60
April	WF Brown	£27.60
May	MJA Buchan	£27.00
June	Miss SJ Smith	£28.20
July	WA Murray	£27.60
August	RN Young	£27.60

The 200 club still has lots of space for more members. If you want the chance to win, like those named above, then contact AS Bruce, [REDACTED] Remember - the more that enter, the more you will win!

Grand Prix Series 1990 (3-Positions)

The 3-P Grand Prix series was shot through the summer months, once again all at Linwood. Although neither of our medal-winning pair from the Commonwealth Games managed to attend these meetings, the standard at two of them was fairly high. Both Will Low and Donald McIntosh shot personal bests to win the 1st and 3rd of these events respectively. Unfortunately these events have not been that well attended, with the NSRA Dewar Trials clashing with the June event. Despite this, as the scores indicate, the series proves worth while in providing our up and coming 3P shooters with some - much needed - outdoor experience.

Grand Prix 1 (May)

	P	S	K	Tot	Points
W Low	387	350	380	1117	9
CWC Ogle	395	336	382	1113	6
RA Sellar	385	342	375	1102	4
DAM McIntosh	386	337	370	1093	3
SJ Smith	388	328	360	1076	2
WF Hamilton	387	302	343	1032	1
JR Ward	376	232	287	895	

Grand Prix 2 (June)

DAM McIntosh	385	348	363	1096	9
RA Sellar	381	329	378	1088	6
SJ Smith	382	345	358	1085	4
LJ Marlow	380	292	367	1039	3
EJ Jones	369	279	312	960	2
JR Ward	373	230	299	902	1

Grand Prix 3 (July)

DAM McIntosh	392	357	373	1122	9
CWC Ogle	395	347	378	1120	6
RA Sellar	391	320	362	1073	4
LJ Marlow	374	267	366	1007	3
EJ Jones	386	271	348	1005	2
JR Ward	380	240	287	907	1

Final Order of Merit

	1	2	3	Total
	-	-	-	-----
DAM McIntosh	3	9	9	21
RA Sellar	4	6	4	14
CWC Ogle	6		6	12
W Low	9			9
LJ Marlow		3	3	6
SJ Smith	2	4		6
EJ Jones		2	2	4
JR Ward		1	1	2
WF Hamilton	1			1

GILBEY'S ULSTER GAMES 15 - 17th June 1990

The SSRA once again sent a team to Comber, Northern Ireland for the Ulster Games' International Smallbore Rifle Match. The Ulster Games Foundation organises various sporting events during the summer, of which this is one, with the express purpose of bringing high quality competition to Northern Ireland. It has therefore been found in the past to be a very valuable and worthwhile event to attend.

This year the team selection and acceptance proved particularly difficult, as the dates chosen to hold the event coincided with NSRA GB Trials at which a number of our shooters were to attend. As a result the teams sent took on a new look. That said, we were all still hopeful of bringing back a stack of medals, as all the team members had demonstrated at the 3-Position Final and Denwood grand Prix that they were currently on form (other submitted scores having also been considered).

For those of you who read the tabloids the gossip of the trip was... na it'd be unfair to tell you about our newly discovered Romeo. Other bits of interest of a less libelous nature - I nearly missed the boat and as I had the tickets so nearly did everybody else, rather like last year really; Ian Thomson and Bill Vaughan who were travelling on the following day did miss the boat. Apparently it was such a beautiful drive down through the Borders... they simply didn't realise the time and distance to Stranraer until even Ian's best rally driving couldn't make up enough time. Fifty percent of the English participants couldn't come, as having arrived at the airport they found that they had been booked on the wrong return flight by the agent meaning that they couldn't get back for work on Monday.

Now to the team performance. There was an excellent team spirit and I know everybody really tried to produce their best. In the individual competitions which ran concurrently with the team match we had a very good representation in the Olympic style final. This is perhaps the only event where our shooters have an opportunity to try this discipline and I know that they all benefited from the experience. The performance of Ronnie Sellar in the prone final must be given special mention as he shot his way up from 8th to 2nd place over the ten shots. Donald McIntosh was however less fortunate and his form unfortunately deserted him going into each final. Having been in 1st place in the 3P and 2nd in the Prone going into the finals he slipped to 3rd and 4th respectively.

The members of the 3P team also shot Air Rifle (having previously agreed with SARPA that they could). I don't think they would thank me for publishing their scores, but for the record both Mac and Ronnie shot personal bests. I finally list the teams and results and would like to

thank all the team for the road map of Ireland and the coloured water.

Prone Results

A Team - 1st					B Team - 3rd				
Ian Shanks	195	194	192	583	Trevor Hastings	193	192	190	579
Ronnie Sellar	196	194	195	585 *	Bill Vaughan	193	197	196	586
Donald McIntosh	195	195	198	588 *	Eric Lovie	190	195	193	578
Ian Thomson	193	198	196	<u>587</u> *	Lynda Marlow	194	191	192	<u>577</u>
					</				

The Army Match 1990

The SSRA hosted the annual match against the Army at Linwood on the 28th and 29th of July.

Prone :-

Although on paper the Scotland prone team looked to have the edge, it was clear that the Army could "turn it on" when under pressure - the closeness of last years result at Bassingbourne was adequate proof of that. The Army team was not quite at full strength and included a couple of new faces, including the only female competitor - Kim Thurlow. Scotlands team was quite strong but noticable youthfull - (with a couple of exceptions!). Lance Graham was the only 'new boy' in the squad, a policy of letting less experienced newcomers get a taste of 'big match action' being very useful.

In this match teams of eight, with only the top six scores to count, shot 3 English matches (ie ex 10800)

Scotland		Army	
WF Hamilton	1756	A Cheese	1759
W Low	1752	P Underhill	1745
I Shanks	1750	A Glasby	1733
WHJ Mitchell	1746	M Bagot	1725
H Simpson Jnr	1743	K Thurlow	1713
DAM McIntosh	1740	D Johnson	1700
	-----		-----
	10487		10375
	=====		=====
R Law	1739	J Kenny	1695
LR Graham	1716	M Santos	1692

3P :-

This match looked like stretching the Scots rather more than the prone. Teams of 3 shooting a full course each left no margin for error in our shooters, given the potential of the Army team. However, the Army did not have one of their good days and Scotland's consistent performance was enough to win the day. Robin Law produced the best overall and standing scores while it was left to Scotlands youngster, Donald McIntosh to take the Kneeling honours.

<u>Scotland</u>					<u>Army</u>				
	P	S	K	Total		P	S	K	Total
R Law	386	367	373	1126	M Bagot	389	348	370	1107
W Low	389	351	375	1115	P Underhill	389	311	365	1065
DAM McIntosh	392	341	377	1110	A Glasby	385	320	365	1070
				----					----
				3351					3242
				=====					=====

The matches were shot in good spirit and enjoyed by all. The trophies, after being presented to the wrong people eventually ended up in the following hands - (the top scorer in the winning team should hold the trophy, but Robin said he'd had it already and Willy already has the trophy from the Oxford match).

Prone	WF Hamilton
3P	DAM McIntosh

P S In case anyone starts to get compacent, Cheese, Bagot and Underhill all shot exceptionally well at the Bisley National Meeting. If they find their form next year and field a full strength team, we will surely not find things so easy.

Home Countries Internationals

Strathpeffer 1990

1. Main team

The Home Countries International Match at Strathpeffer proved that practice does not necessarily make perfect. After a week of constantly changing winds there was more of the same for the match, but most people still couldn't get it right. Even the "Grand Slam" Aggregate winner, Bill Murray, lost his wheels at 50m, but recovered well to have the equal best score at 100yds. The exception to all this was Harry Milne who had the only single figure score on the range, being the top scorer by 5 points. But we all know Harry shoots mainly from memory these days!

Overall Scotland won both distances, the 100yds - usually our bogey distance - by 25 points. This was, of course, due primarily to the expert (?) wind coaching duo, back by popular demand for second year, Alistair Horne and Cliff Ogle. The most encouraging aspect of the team was their relative youth, supported of course by the experience and wisdom of Harry and Jack Lavety (we'll let Bill Hamilton sit on the fence for this one). This bodes well for the future, especially if the "wrinklies" rise up to slap the "youths" back in place. Then maybe it will be the English who get to celebrate their occasional victory at Bisley.

H Milne	2	6	8	Captain
WHJ Mitchell	5	8	13	J MacRae
J Lavety	7	7	14	Secretary
H Simpson, Jnr	7	7	14	M Wunder
WA Murray	10	6	16	
RA Sellar	6	10	16	Reserves
JDA Oliphant	7	10	17	AJ Horne
GJB Winch	6	11	17	SJ Smith
TS Hastings	5	15	20	W Moonie
WF Hamilton	12	11	23	I Shanks
			-----	JR Sinclair
			158	Wind
England			190	CWC Ogle
				AJ Horne

2. Ladies team

Despite (or because of ?) Mr Chairman's somewhat dubious attempts at encouragement before the match the Ladies team went into the match with a very positive attitude. The conditions were very difficult, although not as bad as they had been early in the week, with the strong left to right head wind switching in strength and direction very quickly. Shirley Smith found a wind very quickly at the 50m and with 196 had the 3rd best card on the range. On the other side of windcoach Mac, Tricia Littlechild struggled to work out what was going on - not helped by the fact that the wind was changing faster than he could call it ! Lucy Martin too was fining the going tough at 50m, but the others held it together. At 100yds the switching wind makes everything that much worse - and although nobody had a disaster the only really good card coming from Lucy. This 194 was the equal best card on the range, and kept her and windcoach Bill working right up to the buzzer.

The English Ladies however had produced an excellent lead after the 50's

and despite losing it slightly over the 100's they took the trophy again. It's not all gloom however - the team is looking stronger every year and with more of the Scottish ladies reaching 'X' and 'A' classes the psychological barrier of seeing an English team that looks better on paper should disappear. Here's to the double at Dumfries next year.

SJ Smith	4	10	14	Captain
LD Martin	14	6	20	AK Aburrow
LB Buchanan	10	10	20	Secretary
C Tighe-Ford	9	11	20	LJ Marlow
P Littlechild	16	16	32	
		-----		Reserves
		106		K Thomson
				J Chamberlain-Mole
England		91		Wind
				W Moonie
				DAM McIntosh

Bisley 1990

1. Main team

Team Captain Anne made her instructions to the team concise and to the point - "One: Don't throw away stupid points on cross-shots, extra shots or shots on the wrong diagram. Two: Get out there and kick ass!"

It worked. Scotland not only won, Scotland triumphed and with a 32 point winning margin over England, made their team captain regret his pre-match commiserations in anticipation of Scotland's achieving second place. (A 'in deepest sympathy' card was sent to the England team the following morning.)

Conditions were very difficult, with a strong 9 - 11 o'clock wind - quite similar to conditions in the previous day or two. There was relief among the reserves not to have been given the opportunity to mess it up again! The scores reflect an excellent overall performance in the conditions, and there were some outstanding cards (Bill Murray's 196 and Ian Shanks' 195 at 50m come to mind). Congratulations to everybody on a rare achievement.

The scores do not fully reflect the drama of the 100 yards detail when Cyril De Jonckheere's bolt jammed shut after 4 shots to count. (This is the true story - disregard anything you may have read in the press about this). It just wouldn't budge. Secretary Bill went to assist and Captain Anne made sure the Range Officers were aware that there was a breakdown in the Scotland team and that they noted the time. Meanwhile Cyril held the rifle down while Bill pulled the bolt handle up with difficulty. It finally opened without anything seeming to break. They then dismantled the bolt searching for any obvious cause of trouble. No obstruction was apparent so the bolt was summarily cleaned and reassembled. It was then found to operate sufficiently well for Cyril to continue. He's a seasoned campaigner though, and he had kept his cool well so far but time was clearly going to be a cause of anxiety given the difficulty of the conditions. Captain Anne ran (no kidding!) to the centre table to negotiate with the Chief Range Officer for extra time if it was required. This was granted and the news was communicated to Cyril by shoving a bit of paper under his nose. The knowledge that extra time would be available if necessary eased the pressure he was under to keep the tens coming and even to manage to complete the card within the original 20 minutes, providing Scotland's second best card at 100's to boot.

It was to the great credit of the other team members that they kept their

heads, kept their heads down and their eyes in front while this disruption was going on around them.

Scotland's last win was in 1979, when Bob Normand captained the side. Irvin Kerr and Cyril were the only surviving shooting members of that side. Other wins for Scotland since the match was first fired in 1907 (twice in that year for no given reason) were in 1921, 1923, 1925, 1935, 1948, 1949, 1951 and 1956 with interruptions from 1915-1919 and from 1939-1946. WE STILL HAVE A BIT TO GO TO LEVEL THE SERIES! (Wales won in 1909).

R Law	9	7	16	Captain
H Simpson, Jnr	6	11	17	AM Hamilton
I Shanks	5	12	17	Secretary
WA Murray	4	13	17	WF Hamilton
CG De Jonckheere	11	8	19	
JDA Oliphant	8	11	19	Reserves
WHJ Mitchell	8	14	22	WJ Long
R Rennie	10	18	28	WF Hamilton
DAM McIntosh	14	15	29	SJ Dunlop
IA Kerr	16	22	38	NG Lemon
		-----		WF Brown
		222		Wind
				J Lavety
England		254		ACI Stewart
N Ireland		279		
Wales		294		
Jersey		314		

2. Ladies team

If the effects of the strong gusts on the members of the main team - even the large ones - seemed drastic to them, then imagine how the much lighter members of the ladies team felt. Lorna Buchanan and Fiona Rankin especially were lucky to still be on the firing point by the end of the details. With wind coaching provided by Shirley Smith - who had arrived on the camp only one hour before the match started and was press ganged immediately - Lorna and Jackie Hunter got a reasonable grip of the wind at the 50's, and their cards were well up on many a main team member. Unfortunately the other ladies struggled with the murderous conditions, and could not match the performances of the strong English ladies team. At the 100yds the conditions took an even greater toll on our team and there weren't any spectacular performances. The strength of the English Ladies on their home turf is quite daunting for some of our team members, but as Strathpeffer showed, it is possible to get close to them. Some of this year's Scotland team don't have that much International experience yet, and they will improve given time. A double at Bisley must be our aim for next year.

LB Buchanan	9	16	25	Captain
G Adams	17	15	32	C Tighe-Ford
P Littlechild	18	20	38	Secretary
J Hunter	11	28	39	LD Martin
FM Rankin	20	22	42	
		-----		Reserves
		176		FE Thomson
				LJ Marlow
England		146		Wind
				SJ Smith

3. 3-Positional team

In 1989 the NSRA ran an experimental 3P International concurrent with the British Championship. This seemed to meet with overall approval and the

indication was that this would turn into a full international in 1990. Conversations prior to Bisley with NSRA staff indicated that, although the shoot would not have full international status this year, it would take place on the same basis as last year.

A team was duly entered and performed very well - especially since Bill Murray and Robin Law took 1st and 2nd places respectively in the British Championship. Donald McIntosh and Ronnie Sellar's performances didn't come up to their expectations but they still held up when compared to the scores of the people likely to be in an English team. We reckoned that we were in with a good chance of beating the English (a first !) and were very disappointed to learn that the NSRA had not been in communication with any of the other shooting unions on the subject, and had even refused to take a team entry from Northern Ireland.

Our displeasure was communicated to the NSRA by an irate team member, and they have promised to make sure that something gets sorted out by next year. We will remind them, and, although the prospect of bigger teams reduces our chances, we shall do our best to take them to the cleaners again. A moral victory to the 3-P team !

Individual scores :- WA Murray - 1122; R Law - 1117; DAM McIntosh - 1078; RA Sellar - 1073; Team total - 3317 (RA Sellar counted out).

Watsonian Rifle Club

Open 25yd indoor rifle meeting - 24th/25th November and 1st/2nd December 1990 at George Watson's College, Edinburgh. 4 classes plus Ladies, Veterans, Junior (U18), Junior (U15), Club team of 3 and Junior Club team of 3. Trophy and Cash prizes. SAE please for entry forms to S J Dunlop,

The Eley Inter Regional Match

This year the sponsorship of the Inter-Regional Squad match was taken over by Eley. As before the match was fired on the Bisley Rim-fire range the day before Bisley. The match is also fired on automatic target changers, something we don't do enough of. In the absence of a Scottish Regional Squad the NSRA asked the SSRA to nominate teams, which we did - using the two Grand Prix Orders of Merit. This resulted in Donald McIntosh and Ronnie Sellar shooting in the 3P, joined by Billy Mitchell for the prone.

Conditions on rim-fire can be very strange - there didn't appear to be much wind, but even the South-East's resident hot-shot Bill Murray (!) was having problems. Billy and Donald managed to get a hang of the conditions enough to produce steady 584's, but Ronnie was completely baffled by the whole thing. Donald started badly in the standing but then settled down reasonably steady score. He struggled with the kneeling however, and was not a happy man by the end of the day. Ronnie was still fighting the conditions, and although he wasn't happy with the standing he pulled up a bit in the kneeling. This left the prone team 3rd, to the Northern Irish and South West teams. The 3P team was tied for 1st place with the South East. A challenge on the copying/addition of Donald's prone scores proved successful and should have given the Scots victory. Some slightly dubious conduct by the (South East Regional Squad) organisers meant that their team's cards were examined in great detail, throwing up an error in the marking - thus we were back to a draw. The medals were then awarded to the South East pair, leaving Donald and Ronnie with 200 Eley Match each !

Prone Scores :- WHJ Mitchell - 584; DAM McIntosh - 584; RA Sellar 573; Total 1741. 3P Scores :- DAM McIntosh 1104; RA Sellar 1097; Total 2201.

Regional Squad Trials

In the absence of a NSRA Regional Squad in Scotland, the SSRA were approached to nominate two people per discipline to shoot in the Regional Squad Trials at Bisley and Headley Park over the weekend of 1st/2nd September. In addition, some people had taken the opportunity to submit scores shot in authorised meetings (our Grand Prix series for example) and thus be invited to attend these trials.

For the senior male prone Gordon Winch, Bill Mitchell, Hugh Simpson and Donald McIntosh were to attend. Will Low and Donald were to attend the senior male 3-P trial, and Sarah MacDonald was to attend the Junior Female Prone trial. For assorted personal reasons Gordon, Will and Hugh were unable to go, and Donald had to pull out because of a wrist injury sustained near the beginning of the Bisley meeting. Only Bill and Sarah went to the trials in the end, joined also by Lance Graham who - although already in the National Junior Squad - had been requested to attend by the NSRA.

The results of trials (ie the new National Squads) have not yet been announced, but there is hope that Sarah, who shot very well on the second day, will gain a place in the Junior Squad. In addition to those travelling from Scotland, Bill Murray was also shooting at the trials and posted scores that must surely see him gain a place in the Senior Male Squad.

DRUGS

A number of people have asked us to clarify how taking a banned drug affects their entry into SSRA competitions.

Anyone taking a banned substance **can** enter any SSRA organised competition. However they **will not** be awarded Grand Prix Points during the summer Grand Prix series. This is because we select team representatives & those who are invited to compete in trials from this order of merit.

Individuals who take banned substances **will not** be selected for SSRA or Scottish teams.

Drug testing can be carried out by the Scottish Sports Council at any of the Grand Prixes, Speedway Finals, New Zealand Match, National meetings etc. This list cannot be exhaustive as they have a fairly wide ranging arm.

We would ask people that on entering a competition such as the Grand Prix series that they declare any substance that they know is banned, so that this information may be taken into account for instance in awarding Grand Prix points. This information **will be kept entirely confidential**. If you are unsure if something you are taking is banned, **then declare it**. We will take expert advice before any decision is taken.

If anybody is found to have taken a banned substance and has not declared it then the Association will have to take appropriate action.

This rule is not designed to discourage our grass roots shooters, it is aimed at ensuring that those representing us at higher levels are complying with the international regulations, and will not, therefore, disgrace either themselves or Scotland.

Council Meetings - Topics and Attendance

There have been four council meetings this year. The table below shows if your local representatives have been attending. It is felt that this may be useful to you in deciding who you want voicing your opinions on the council.

	12/11/89	18/2/90	20/5/90	2/9/90
Cyril De Jonckheere (SW)	Y	Y	Y	Y
Cliff Ogle (SE)	Y	Y	Y	Y
Peter Oatley (C)	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lynda Marlow (SE)	Y	Y	Y	N
Bill Vaugan (SE)	Y	Y	Y	Y
Sinclair Bruce (SW)	Y	Y	Y	Y
Donald McIntosh (SE)	Y	Y	Y	Y
Gordon Winch (C)	N	Y	N	N
Brian Duncan (N)	N	N	Y	N
Mike Melvin (N)	Y	N	N	N
Mary Melvin (N)	Y	N	N	N
Jim Ward (C)	Y	Y	N	N

Within the council we have discussed a variety of topics. A brief summary of topics discussed is given below. The order is in no way significant.

1. Submission of Authorised scores to the Selection Committee.
2. Drug testing - results from Northern Grand Prix 1989
- SSRA policy
3. Grant Aid Submission Plan, 1990
4. Training Squads - 'Junior' Squad
- 'Senior' Squad
- 3P Squad
5. Fundraising
6. Federation
7. Winter programme
8. Summer programme
9. Representative Matches
10. Team Administrator
11. Proxy Voting
12. Firearms Legislation
13. Facilities
14. Commonwealth Games - consideration of managerial and competitors reports
- preparation for Victoria 1994
15. Junior Competitions
16. Scotland team clothing
17. The Mini-Games 1990
18. International Events in Europe

The Council would like to take this opportunity to thank all those people who have helped in the running of the Association, especially those who organised the winter competitions and the Grand Prix Series'. Thanks also to those who have contributed to this Newsletter, and to those who have helped in its preparation after the Editor's wrist was finally diagnosed as being broken.

Junior League

A competition will be added to this year's winter programme - an Individual Junior league. Details will be circulated with the entry forms after the AGM, and details can be had from Sinclair Bruce (see 200 club article for address).

Annual General Meeting

Enclosed is notice of the AGM, but here is a reminder anyway - the AGM will be held in the Perth City and County Rifle Club range on Sunday 28th October. Please attend if at all possible.

SCOTTISH SMALLBORE RIFLE ASSOCIATION 1990 INDOOR FINALS

Silver Medals & Salvors

Pts. Off	Class A
0	A Gordon R A Sellar <u>Tie shoot</u> to decide Medal & Class Salver
1	J Lavety
2	T Kidner J Swanson
3	H Simpson Sr. C I H Thomson
4	R R Simpson W G Campbell I Shanks H Milne
5	C W Shepherd
6	A S Bruce Miss F E Thomson
7	D G Morrison
10	B G Allan
	Bon Accord Watsonians Portlethen S.P.P.M. Watten Wick O.S. Watsonians Greenock Bearsden Bon Accord Bon Accord Banchory Stirling R.I. Selkirk Bon Accord Portlethen

Pts. Off	Class C
4	T Robinson (Salver) Glasgow Rail
9	A Nicholson P Smithard Wick O.S. Dunfermline Rly.
10	N Holmes G Brand Kinlochlaggan Banchory Durriss
11	N McMillan J C Craig Greenock Portlethen
12	I Bear Alloa
16	N MacDonald Bearsden
20	Mrs D MacDonald Bearsden
21	C Davies S.P.P.M.

Class B

3	G J Fraser J Simpson L Graham <u>Tie shoot</u> to decide Salver
4	N Alexander
6	S A Guild
7	W A Bright
8	A D Findlay
9	Mrs L D Martin
	Orkney Glasgow Rail Watsonians Peterhead Watsonians Glasgow Rail Stirling R.I. Marlow

Class D

13	Miss J Bryce-Stafford (Salver) Watsonians
14	G Sutherland J McKay Wick O.S. Kinlochlaggan
15	Miss P Curtis Perth C & C
17	D MacLeod Watsonians
18	G McIntosh Kinlochlaggan
24	W Cormack Westfield
25	D Guar Alloa
26	R McNaught Dollar

Junior

9	D Langlands Jr (Salver) Kinlochlaggan
11	Miss S MacDonald Watsonians
12	R Bryce-Stafford Watsonians
13	Miss J Bryce-Stafford Watsonians
14	M Gunn Halkirk I Bear Alloa
15	Miss P Curtis Perth C & C
22	D MacLeod Watsonians

CanDicap

1	J Stewart K Edward Mrs MacDonald <u>Tie shoot</u> to decide Salver
2	C Davies B Scrivener W Kane D Gavin S.P.P.M. (6) 7.5 (6) 5.7 (6) 6.4 (7) 7.9
3	N McMillan G M Steven G Brand N MacDonald D Walker Greenock Pentland Banchory Bearsden Larkhall (5) 7.6 (7) 4.7 (5) 4.3 (8) 10.7 (6) 8.7
4	W Halliday Arbroath (10) 13.9
6	W Cormack Westfield (6) 2.8

Veterans

0	A Gordon (Salver) Bon Accord
3	H Simpson Sr Wick O.S.
5	J Stewart Larkhall
6	S A Guild Watsonians
7	I E Baird Bon Accord
10	T Finlay Selkirk
16	W E Ross Kemnay C M Y Trotter Chobham R B Fraser Alloa

Speedway

Winner:

N G Lemon Glasgow Rail