



TENpointNINE



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SCOTTISH SMALL-BORE RIFLE ASSOCIATION AUTUMN 1999

View from the Hot Seat

Welcome to the last issue of TENpointNINE of this millenium. Quite a thought really.

It must be more than quarter of a century since this Association was formed. It started off quite small with limited responsibility, simply the not unimportant task of selecting Commonwealth Games teams. Membership grew to a peak of over 400 and shooting as a Commonwealth Games sport has produced more medals for Scotland than any other. Quite a formidable record to live up to.

While membership has declined over the last 10 years or so, our activities continue to grow. We are now viewed by sportscotland as a fully fledged National Governing Body of sport and as mentioned in previous issues of TENpointNINE, this brings with it certain additional responsibilities. These responsibilities cost money and the only way for SSRA to raise independent finance is from the membership. It is therefore essential that we reverse the trend of recent years and actively increase membership numbers.

In addition there needs to be more and better communication between clubs, counties and SSRA to halt the decline in shooting participation, to fight the closure of our ranges, to resist efforts by local authorities to remove rates relief and to create a stronger infrastructure which will see this sport continue well into the next century.

This will not happen overnight and some clubs may well lose their fights. If this happens we need to regroup, not to simply give up and disband the clubs but to get together and make what is left stronger.

We need to encourage youth into our sport. Yes, this has been made more difficult after the tragedy at Dunblane. Some parents may

well be sensitive to the idea of their children taking up shooting as a sport. But if this is done sensibly and responsibly, possibly in co-operation with another youth organisation then there is no reason why another generation of competitive shooters should not enjoy our sport. Indeed from speaking to people totally outside the sport, the common sense view seems to be that target shooting disciplines were not to blame for Dunblane and should not be victimised because of it.

We must build on this and look forward, start promoting our sport again and not be ashamed of it. This is more than just advertising, it is about education, letting people know what our sport is about and letting those in authority get to know us as normal human beings. As athletes we need to get involved in the wider sporting community, particularly at local level. A mine of information can be obtained from local sports councils and the time commitment may not be particularly onerous.

As a national governing body of sport, SSRA has a responsibility to look after the grass roots development of the sport, but it cannot do it alone. It needs enthusiasm from the clubs and a will to succeed from its members. As I said in the first issue of this new style newsletter, if we want to have a sport in the next millenium, we have to stop the rot now. The future is in your hands, please don't squash it!

Shirley McIntosh
Secretary

In This Issue

In this issue of TENpointNINE we include a roundup of the summer competitions including:

Prone Grand Prix Series
3P Grand Prix Series
Scottish and Bisley Meetings
British and Scottish ISSF Championships
Scotland v Police AA
Outdoor inter region match

We also have details of the team which has been selected to represent Scotland at the Commonwealth Championships in November as well as those who have made the British squads for 2000.

We also have a new feature, looking back at the shooting world of yesteryear.

Enclosed with this issue are membership renewal forms for 1999/2000 and winter competition entry forms. You are reminded that membership expired on 30 September 1999.

At the EGM held at the Scottish Meeting (see inside) it was agreed to move the AGM to the Scottish Meeting each year. This will come in to force in 2000. However, we still need to elect a new Council in October and present this year's prizes so the final October AGM will be held on 24 October 1999 at the City Mills Hotel, Perth. A formal notice has been sent to members.

Membership

Enclosed with this issue is a membership application and competition entry form.

The membership application / renewal form asks for some additional information this year. Previously only those claiming junior or veteran ages were required to give their date of birth, this year all members are asked to supply this. It would be helpful for Council to have some idea of the age groups we represent and we are often asked to give this information to sportscotland. Anyone shy about their birthday can just put in an age!

The form also asks for e-mail address if you are happy for this to be used by the Association. More and more of our correspondence is being dealt with by e-mail and we are also developing a web site which we hope to launch early next year. Demand for this could be better assessed if we knew how many members use e-mail.

Some guidance is given on eligibility for membership as there has been some confusion in recent years.

The final addition to the form is an occupation box. It would be helpful to know what skills are available within the membership which could be of use to Shooting as a whole. Obviously if you don't want to fill in this box, please leave it blank.

The entry form has all competitions on it although your attention is drawn to the different closing dates for entries. Obviously the earlier you get your entries in for the individual competitions, the longer you have to shoot the cards!

Any queries or requests for additional forms should be sent to the Secretary.

Scottish Meeting 1999 Logie Steading, Forres

This year the NSRA Scottish Meeting returned to Logie Steading near Forres under the watchful eye of Duncan Garrow, the local organiser of Dallas Rifle Club.

The meeting attracted 350 competitors from all over the UK, although it has to be said that there were far more travelled up from the south of England than came from the local area. This is a fall in the entry from last year and continues a steady decline in the numbers attending the meeting over recent years. This decline will have to be reversed if we are to continue to have the benefit of our own National Meeting. The weather is always a good topic of conversation for these meetings and Forres provided a good variety of conditions to talk about including pouring rain and bright sunshine!

The main event of the week, at least for the Scots present, was the Earl Haig trophy for the Scottish Long Range Championship. For those who have not experienced a Scottish Meeting, this event is confined to NSRA eligible Scots and is shot in two stages. The first stage is shot in squads on the first Sunday of the meeting over a dewar course of fire with proportionate numbers from each squad going through to make 20 in the

second stage. The second stage is shot on Friday afternoon after the Home Countries International Match over a Scottish Match (3 20 shot cards at 100 yards). Competition is usually fierce and this year was no exception. Only 8 points separated the top 10 competitors with Cyril De Jonckheere from Dumfries coming out on top with 580, 20 years after he first won the competition. What are the chances of him successfully defending it for a second time?! Only one point behind was Sinclair Bruce of Alloa. Callander's Gordon Motion (Loco to his friends!) finished third on 576 with Bill Brown (Chobham) beating Hugh Simpson (Wick Old Stagers) on countback on 574. Lance Graham (E U Alumni), Bill Vaughan (Selkirk) and Simon Clark (Bon Accord) tied on 573 with Tom Hodgson (Dumfries) and James Brown (Perth) making up the ten on 572.

Bill Vaughan won the B, C & D competitors section and Simon Clark won the Adam Gordon Quaich for the best Junior (U21).

In the aggregate competitions there was some representation by members in the prizes but in the Grand Aggregate, the visitors seemed to have the best of it. Only Cliff Ogle (E U Alumni) managed to get amongst them in X Class with second, Simon Clark was third in A, Peter Dingle was third and Bill Vaughan 5th in B Class, Susan Mackay (Watten) was fifth in C Class and David Simpson (Wick Old Stagers) and Jamie Cole-Hamilton (Bon Accord) finished third and fourth respectively in D Class. All of these competitors (with the exception of Cliff) have earned promotion to the next class up.

Barbara Mackay was the leading Scot in the Ladies events but didn't manage to walk away with the silverware this time. The Junior (U18) competition was won by Stuart Ruthven (Queen Victoria School) with Scots taking all but one of the remaining 6 prize spoons. The U15 competition was won by Georgie



Scottish Long Range Champion, Cyril De Jonckheere of Dumfries being chaired by the beaten finalists.

Right - Scottish Ladies
Team - L to R Front
Row: Karen Nilsen,
Sheena Sharp (Capt),
Lucy Martin, Back
Row: Barbara Mackay,
Mary Melvin, Susan
Mackay.

Below - Scottish Junior
team - L to R Front
Row: Susan Mackay,
Neil Stirton, Simon
Clark, David Simpson,
Back Row: John Silcox
(Capt), Ian Thomson.



Above - Scottish Main Team - L to R Front Row: Barbara Mackay, Bill Vaughan (Sec), Gordon Motion, Ron Nilsen, Bill Long, Back Row: Jim Cole- Hamilton, David Duncan (Capt), Sinclair Bruce, Simon Clark, Lance Graham, Bill Brown

GB Squads 2000

The NSRA have recently announced the British squads for 2000. Eight Scots have made the squads and this may be increased when the Junior squads are announced shortly.

In the Men's Air rifle, both Robin Law and David Rattray have qualified in second and third places respectively.

In Men's Prone, Bill Brown re-enters the squad after a break of a few years, Martin Sinclair has diversified from 3P and both will join Jonathan Hammond who maintains his place from last year.

Martin finished second in the selection table for 3P with some very consistent shooting over the summer.

In Ladies Prone, Susan Bell stays in from last year. Janis Thomson and Lynda Sinclair have both qualified to join her.

Janis' personal best in the Hampshire 3P match at the start of the season helped her to qualify as one of only 3 in the Ladies 3P squad. *(When are more women going to take up this discipline - Ed!!!)*

Congratulations to all of the above on their qualification.

Next year is Olympic year and Britain has one quota place for Men's prone as well as 4 for Clay target shooting.

As there are no further quota places available at the World Cups next year, there may not be many major matches on offer to the non Olympic squad members. However, our shooters may be offered other minor matches abroad which will offer them good experience against a higher calibre of competition.

Freuchie 1999

The Freuchie for the uninitiated is the Wilkinson Sword trophy for the Scottish Matchplay Championship. Shot during the lunchtimes of the Scottish meeting, the competition starts with 81 competitors competing in groups of three knockouts with a stage shot on each of Monday and Tuesday lunchtimes with the semi-final on Thursday lunchtime. The final is shot on Thursday afternoon. All matches are shot over 1 card at 100 yards.

Historically the event was restricted to Scots and it used to be a fight to get one of the 81 start places available. However, over the years, interest has dwindled and the competition has been opened to non Scots, although only members can win the trophy. Even so, there were a large number of byes in the first round with only 53 competitors entering.

Of the three finalists only Jim Cole-Hamilton was eligible for the Wilkinson Sword and so it was really a battle for the whisky. English shooter Tony Lincoln from Bedford came out on top, with Jim and P Gurn tied on 9.

A separate final for the best C & D class scores is also held for the Sgian Dubh trophy. Once again the winner A Cerrino was not eligible for the trophy but walked off with a bottle of whisky. The Sgian Dubh went to Mary Melvin with David Simpson finishing third.



Christie of Ardvreck.

The Team competitions were sponsored by Lapua this year with ammunition prizes being awarded to winning teams. This could best be described as a Bon Accord benefit event as they won all but one of the team competitions. Bedford managed to secure the Forteviot but Bon made up for it by taking first and second in the Pullar Targe. It was good to see two of our best juniors, Simon Clark and Neil Stirton, taking up key places in the Bon Accord first teams and we look forward to seeing them go far. They also helped Aberdeenshire to win the County Sextette.

The Home Countries International results for the main and ladies teams were disappointing. Sinclair Bruce had the best score on the range (394) but the top end of

Scotland			
	50s	100s	Total
Sinclair Bruce	197	197	394
Bill Brown	193	197	390
Simon Clark	195	193	388
Trevor Hastings	193	192	385
Gordon Motion	193	192	385
Jim Cole-Hamilton	193	191	384
Barbara Mackay	195	189	384
Ron Nilsen	190	189	379
Lance Graham	191	188	379
Bill Long	192	184	376
			3844
Captain - David Duncan			
Secretary - Bill Vaughan			
England			3858
Wales			3819

the English team proved stronger and they won by 14 points. The ladies lost by 24 points but we believe that Barbara Mackay and daughter Susan have become our first mother and daughter combination in a Home Countries International. Let's hope Susan will soon start challenging her mother for the top slot in the team.

Our Junior team of Simon Clark, Neil Stirton and David Simpson continued the run of successes for our Juniors with a win by a margin of 19 points.

Next year the meeting will be held at Onich near Fort William against the backdrop of Ben Nevis. This is a new venue for the Scottish and let's hope that it will be successful. *(And that the weather's good - Ed!)*

Scotland Ladies			
	50s	100s	Total
Barbara Mackay	195	189	384
Sheena Sharp	192	190	382
Karen Nilsen	190	190	380
Lucy Martin	190	180	370
Susan Mackay	184	185	369
			1885
Captain - Sheena Sharp			
Secretary - Bill Vaughan			
England			1909

Scotland Juniors			
	50s	100s	Total
Simon Clark	195	193	388
Neil Stirton	195	190	385
David Simpson	185	186	371
			1144
Captain - John Silcox			
England			1125

Scotland v PAA

Each year during the week before the start of the Scottish Meeting, the Police Athletic Association host their Championships on the Scottish Meeting range. Recently a challenge match between the Police and a Scotland team has taken place on the Friday before the start of the Scottish. Each side usually fields a number of shooters, sometimes 10 or more, and the best 6 scores count towards the team score.

This year some of those participating under the Scotland banner were some of our promising Juniors. Competing in this sort of event will give them valuable experience for the future.

At the end of the day, Scotland lost by the

narrowest of margins. The scores were tied after a Scottish match and an English match and the PAA won by virtue of a better 100yds score. We did manage one coup though. One of the stronger PAA shooters is Scottish and he elected to shoot for Scotland!

Scotland			
	50s	100s	Total
Hugh Simpson	574	582	1156
Jim Cole-Hamilton	580	568	1148
Simon Clark	578	566	1144
Mel Mutch	577	566	1143
Bill Long	574	563	1137
Neil Stirton	574	559	1133
James Brown	572	560	1132
David Simpson	566	550	1116
Stuart Ruthven	555	552	1107
Hugh A Simpson	564	535	1099
Best 6 to count	3457	3404	6861
PAA	3451	3410	6861

Scottish ISSF Championships

The Scottish Small-bore Rifle Association have held Air Rifle and 3-Positions Championships, run under ISSF rules, for a number of years now.

Following on from the introduction by the

NSRA of a British "Championship" under ISSF rules for all small-bore rifle events, the SSRA decided this year to expand the 3P Championships into a full small-bore ISSF Championship, with the addition of prone events for Men and Women. The events were held at the Denwood Target Shooting Centre in Aberdeen, using the few target changers currently operational in Scotland.

The Men's 3-Positions event was the first to be fired, and the new UK No. 2, Martin Sinclair produced an excellent 399 prone (shame about the 38th shot), with defending champion Donald McIntosh close behind with 395. Martin really forged ahead during the standing however, with two strings of 97 in the middle of his 370. Steady kneeling produced new PB of 1152 - the best score shot in the UK this year. This gave him a 23 point lead over Donald McIntosh (1129), with Robin Law - firing his first 3P match since the 1998 Commonwealth Games - back in third with 1122. The final produced a tussle for second and third, and with Donald starting badly, but retaining second place after Robin fell away over the last three shots.

The Women's Prone match was also shot on the Saturday, and saw Susan Bell starting to recover from a poor season to date, her 590 just pipping club-mate Lynda Sinclair by a point. Championship organiser Shirley McIntosh came out of stats long enough to

hold off the challenge of Barbara Mackay for third place.

Sunday proved to be much colder, and in the



fight for the medals, as there were only three entries. Janis Thomson came out on top, thanks to more consistent standing than her opposition, and hung onto that lead during the final, despite Shirley's good score of 95.8 (far better than any of the men, and without any training for nearly a year).

The Men's Prone contained an elimination round, with two Aberdeenshire juniors to the fore in the first squad, Simon Clark top of the heap with 589, despite the range netting blowing across his target for much of the detail, followed by Jonathan Hammond on 585. The second squad upped the ante a little, with 590s from both Martin Sinclair and Cliff Ogle. Simon continued his good run into the main match, top score with 592 a point ahead of Donald McIntosh, with Bon Accord veteran Jack Lavety a further three points behind. Donald produced an excellent final of 105.1, including a 10.9 and two 10.8s, leaping ahead of Simon to secure the Championship, and in doing so securing a hat trick of Scottish Championships, having won the Air Rifle in 1996 and the 3P in 1998.

From 2000 onwards the event will be run as an open, with competitors from throughout the UK welcome to sample the delights of Aberdeen in the summer. The event has also been granted authorised meeting status by NSRA for the purposes of GB squad selection and scores.

Men's Prone					
	Name	Club	Qual	Final	Total
1	D A M McIntosh	E U Alumni	591	105.1	696.1
2	S J Clark	Bon Accord	592	99.8	691.8
3	J Lavety	Bon Accord	588	102.6	690.6

Men's 3 Positions					
	Name	Club	Qual	Final	Total
1	M Sinclair	E U Alumni	1152	91	1243
2	D A M McIntosh	E U Alumni	1129	87.2	1216.2
3	R Law	Alloa	1122	91.9	1213.9

Women's Prone			
	Name	Club	
1	Miss S M Bell	E U Alumni	590
2	Mrs L J Sinclair	E U Alumni	589
3	Mrs S J McIntosh	E U Alumni	587

Women's 3 Positions					
	Name	Club	Qual	Final	Total
1	Mrs J W Thomson	Appleton	551	93.9	644.9
2	Mrs S J McIntosh	E U Alumni	548	95.8	643.8
3	Mrs L J Sinclair	E U Alumni	542	89.3	631.3

10 Years Ago

Most of the newspapers these days seem to do features on events in the past. If it's good enough for them then it's good enough for TENpointNINE.

So what was happening in the Scottish shooting world 10 years ago.

The Scottish was held at Lauder in the grounds of Thirlstane Castle and the Haig was one by Bill Gibbon. Our main team soundly defeated the English in the Home Countries international although the ladies narrowly lost. At that time there was no Junior international. The Freuchie was won by Shirley Smith (now McIntosh) *(was it really that long ago! - Ed)*

At Bisley both the main and ladies teams lost the Home Countries internationals. This was also the year where the NSRA took the hint and included a 3P match which unfortunately we lost. It became a part of the official programme two years later with full international status.

The SSRA Grand Prix series finished in a tie (what a coincidence) between Gordon Winch and Hugh Simpson Jnr.

Manor Powis near Stirling was being investigated as a potential site for a national facility.

The 3P Championship was won by Robin Law and the Speedway by Cliff Ogle. We won the New Zealand match.

International teams were sent to the Gilbey's Ulster Games in Northern Ireland and to Bassingborne in Cambridgeshire to take on the Army. The Minigames were held in Wales and the team consisted of Bill Murray, Gordon Winch, John Knowles, Bill Hamilton, Robin Law, Donald McIntosh and Shirley Smith.

100 Club

Unfortunately since the last issue, we have been unable to do a 100 Club draw. Due to Gremlins in the Treasurer's computer we have been unable to extract the relevant information to do the draws since the early part of the summer. The Gremlins have now been removed and it is hoped that the computer will make a full recovery in time for the AGM where the outstanding draws can be made. Full details of the draws will be in the next issue.

WWW.

As mentioned before, the Association is developing its own web site. It is hoped to make this as informative as possible and include links to many other sites of interest to target shooters. We would also like to publish photographs of events and activities and include news articles of interest to the wider shooting public.

Anyone who has any photos for publication or would be prepared to write articles either for TENpointNINE or for the web is asked to contact the Secretary. She would also like to hear of any links you may have discovered. We do know of a number of other good sites across the web, but there is always the chance that there is one which has not yet been found by the McIntosh household.

One page which we think is important is the history of the Association. Not having been around at the start makes it difficult to fully document the past. If anyone reading this has recollections of the early days, we'd really like to hear from you.

A reminder of the address:
scottish.smallbore@lineone.net

Martin Sinclair, winner of the Men's 3P Championship receives his trophy from Association Vice Chairman, Bill Moonie.



Janis Thomson, winner of the ladies 3P Championship receives a bottle of Whisky

Donald McIntosh, winner of the Men's Prone, receiving his bottle of whisky.



Ladies prone Champion, Susan Bell, was unfortunately unable to stay for the prize giving. However, she appears on page 12 with the winning team in the Outdoor Inter Region match.

Commonwealth Championships 1999

As mentioned in previous issues, a Scottish Team will travel to New Zealand in November to participate in the Commonwealth Championships which are being held in Auckland, Wellington and Hamilton. Additionally, Scotland has accepted an invitation to attend the Oceanic Games in

Sydney, Australia which is being held over the 10 days immediately prior to the start of the Commonwealth Championships.

The team selected by the member bodies of STSF is as follows:

Name	Event	Name	Event	Name	Event	Name	Function
Susan Bell	Prone & air rifle	David Ratray	Air rifle	John Meston	Trap	Alastair MacDonald	Team Manager
Bill Brown	Prone	Lynda Sinclair	3P & Prone	Richard Grisenthwaite	Fullbore rifle	Bob Aitken	Assistant Team Manager
Jonathan Hammond	Prone	Martin Sinclair	Prone & 3P	Alice Ogilvie	Fullbore rifle	Robert Nibbs	Coach - smallbore
Tricia Littlechild	Air rifle	Janis Thomson	3P & air rifle	Ian Shaw	Fullbore rifle	Joan Watt	Physio
Robin Law	Air rifle & 3P	Mike Thomson	Skeet	David Lewis	Air pistol		
Barbara Mackay	Prone	Ian Marsden	Skeet	Kevin Gray	Air pistol		
Donald McIntosh	3P, air rifle & prone	G Bramley	Trap	Bob Carrol	Air pistol		

The trip is a fairly intensive 3 weeks of shooting, particularly for those doing more than one discipline. Each competition will consist of two matches. In Australia this will be a team of 3 match and an individual match while in New Zealand it will be a pairs match and an individual

match. However in New Zealand, provision is made for a third team member to shoot during the pairs match for a separate "badge" event. Training will be available on the days when the athletes are not competing

and in the majority of cases, the athletes will be on the range virtually every day. When they are not competing or training they will be there to support their teammates (both morally and with carrying heavy kit bags!) so there won't be much time for sightseeing.

These matches will be against some of the best competitors in the world and as well as being important competitions in their own right, they are important training for the Commonwealth

Games in 3 years time. Our athletes will be able to experience the atmosphere of a Commonwealth Match, including

international judging and will be competing against many of the athletes who will be at the Games proper. For a few it will be their first trip to an event of this level but there are quite a few old hands in the team with two of the team being veterans of 3 Commonwealth

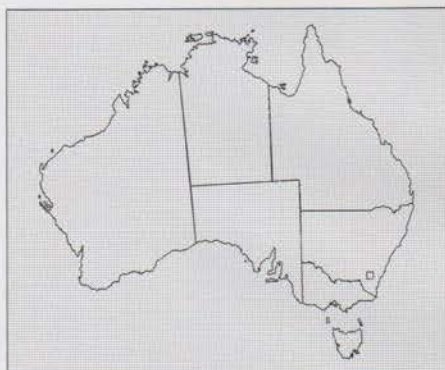
Games and going for a fourth.

Funding for the trip is coming from a number of sources. Those athletes who receive Lottery awards are fully funded by the Lottery unit. The remainder are being funded by a mixture of sportscotland High Performance funding and personal contribution. Sponsorship is being sought to try and reduce this

personal contribution but the response to date has been poor. The Scottish Target Shooting Federation has also organised a raffle with the first prize of dinner, bed and breakfast at the Dunkeld House Hotel and a days shotgun tuition with Ian Marsden. Most clubs will have received books of raffle tickets to sell and it is hoped that the rest of the shooting fraternity in Scotland will get behind this team and help in the fundraising effort.

The Council of this Association would like to take this opportunity to wish the team the best of success. They have all worked

hard to gain selection, let's hope they can also bring back some medals.



Blind Shooting

In the early part of 1998 Jonathan Hammond had discussions with the Grampian Society for the Blind with a view to introducing them to "Blind Shooting".

In July 1998, following further discussion with the Society, Ken Nash of the NSRA came to the Denwood Range in Aberdeen and gave a demonstration of the equipment that was used for "Blind Shooting". This consists of an air rifle fitted with special telescopic sights that detect light intensity and convert that to sound. The distance covered was 10m.

Ten members of the Society turned up on the day to have a go, and they greatly enjoyed the day. It was clear from the success of the day that the venture was well worth pursuing. The event was also well publicised as Jonathan had called at Grampian Television's studios earlier in the week to tell them about the project. They said they were very interested and they duly appeared on the day to film the event and interview participants and the result was televised that day in a news report.

Following the event Jonathan decided to try and raise the cash for the equipment for one lane. He approached Ian Shanks, a well known member of the Bon Accord Rifle Club, who worked for British Telecom. He wrote a persuasive letter highlighting the need for the equipment to BT, which Ian very kindly guided to the right person.

As a result funds were provided for the purchase of the equipment.

It has taken some time to get everything organised by at last shooting for the Blind is taking off at the Bon Accord

Rifle Club. Six visually impaired shooters have entered a national individual league for visually impaired shooters and several others want to have a go. A regular evening has been organised, with members of Bon Accord helping the Blind shooters. It is hoped that the venture will be a great success and that it will encourage Clubs in other parts of Scotland to set up similar facilities.

This is the sort of venture which will undoubtedly enhance the image of target shooting.

Anyone who would like further information on "Blind Shooting" should contact Council Member, Jim Hammond on [REDACTED]

More Weddings

Continuing the "blast from the past" series, former Scotland Internationalist Simon Riley recently married Debbie Johnston on Arran. Simon was one of our best shooters for a number of years, winning both the Air Rifle and 3P Championships twice in the mid-80s before taking up work first in Canada and then Australia. He has been back in Edinburgh for a few years now and is shooting with E U Alumni. Efforts to persuade him to take it up seriously again have so far proved fruitless but we can but try....



1999 Prone Grand Prix Series

The final three prone grand prix of the season lived up to expectations producing an exciting end to the series.

The third Grand Prix of the series was held in Wick on 24 July as part of the Caithness Open Meeting. The weather was wet and windy and this gave quite some variation in the scores shot. The first stage of the Grand Prix was shot on an unsquadded basis as part of the Caithness competitions. Some consternation was caused by Association Secretary Shirley McIntosh in her first outdoor shoot for many months. Shooting in B Class after a poor result in the only Grand Prix shot during the 1998 season, her last card in one of the worst details of the day was 199 to finish with 590. This left her 10 points ahead of the next best in B Class and the meeting organisers and Association officials unilaterally decided to reclassify her into A Class. Unfortunately for Sinclair Bruce his score of 586 was not enough to maintain his lead. Local expert Hugh Simpson finished third with 584.

This left Barbara Mackay as winner of B Class with a score of 580 just one point ahead of local shooters John Campbell and John Sinclair. Both were tied on their last cards, so the tie was broken on the second last card, John Campbell's 195 beating John Sinclair's 192.

More ties in C Class were resolved on countback. Robert Campbell's 193 finish for a score of 573 was better than range officer Jim Swanson's 191 and so he took the gold medal. Mary Melvin's 562 gave her third place. D Class was the battle of the Simpson boys with younger brother David's steady 574 (which would have won C Class) taking gold ahead of Hugh's 563. Henry Ross and Jamie Cole-Hamilton tied for third place on 563.

Needless to say, after applying the handicap to these scores, Hugh and David walked away with the Pairs.

In the Grand Prix qualifier, Sinclair Bruce took his revenge with a 588, two points ahead of Jim Cole-Hamilton who in turn was a further two points ahead of John Sinclair. John Campbell and Donald McIntosh came next on 583 with Shirley McIntosh on 582 in

sixth place, proving that unless you practice shooting 9 cards in a day, you can't expect to maintain your form from start to finish. Barbara Mackay on 581 and Graeme Sutherland on 580 meant that the 10 shot final was going to be a close run thing.

Jim started off well and had quickly demolished Sinclair's lead, but Sinclair held on and after the 10 shots the two were tied. A sudden death tie shot decided the winner and Jim's 10.4 secured victory ahead of Sinclair's 10.0. Further down the order Donald, Barbara and Graeme were all shooting well. Donald put himself ahead of John C after the first shot and took John S's lead after the second with a 10.9. He continued to shoot steadily and retained third place. Meanwhile Barbara and Graeme were having a battle to themselves, with Graeme quickly clawing back Barbara's lead. However, Barbara finished strongly to stay in fourth place with Graeme in fifth. John C, John S and Shirley propped up the order.

In the C & D final, David Simpson continued his good form to win with a 386 finishing with a 99. Sheena Sharp shot steadily for 381 and second place with Robert Campbell a point behind in third.

The Grampian Grand Prix on 29 August was well attended for a change. This was largely due to the fact that the unveiling of the memorial to Adam Gordon was scheduled for



Jim Cole-Hamilton of Bon Accord, winner of the Caithness Grand Prix (and bottle of whisky)

that day. It is a shame that it takes an event such as that to get some people to turn up for a competition, however, it was gratifying to Adam's memory.

Cliff Ogle led the way in A class in the qualifying competition with a fine 595 showing what a difference a jacket can make. After struggling for many months with a new jacket (which incidentally was the same make as the old one), he decided to try the old one again to see if it made any difference. The result would seem to be the proof that it did. Jim Cole-Hamilton finished second with 592 and Gordon Winch in third proved that his gun hasn't rusted away completely with a 591 beating Cyril De Jonckheere and Robin Law on countback.

B Class was won by Barbara Mackay continuing her consistent season with a 590 from Tony Credland's 586 and Trevor Hastings on 584. C Class was closely fought with Gold being decided on countback also. W Jones from the Isle of Man scored 574 but his 97 last string was better than Erling Watt's 95. Third place went to Sheena Sharp on 572. In Class D, Lawrence Cooper's 571 was far ahead of the pace with Jamie Cole-Hamilton coming second on 563 and George MacGregor third on 556.

The Junior event was won by Simon Clark and the Ladies by Barbara Mackay. This event and Caithness are the only two meetings on the GP circuit which have ladies competitions and this year Barbara has won them both.

In the pairs, an A Class pairing of Cliff Ogle

and Donald McIntosh tied with the Cole-Hamiltons with Robin Law and Sinclair Bruce taking third.

The Grand Prix qualifier was one of the highest standard shoots we have seen all year in Scotland with a score of 589 being counted out of the 10 shot final. Cliff Ogle and Gordon Winch led the way with 595, Cliff taking the number 1 slot on countback. Next came a battle between our two best ladies, Susan Bell and Barbara Mackay on 592 with Hugh Simpson (591), Robin Law, Donald McIntosh (both 590) and Jim Ward (589) making up the eight finalists.

At the same time as the Grand Prix qualifier was taking place, the top 10 in C and D class shot in their own final. Patrick Jess finished on 384 with Sheena Sharp a point behind. Jamie Cole-Hamilton finished strongly for 381 and third place.

The final itself was very exciting with places changing after almost every shot. Thanks to Neil Stirton's laptop computer, spectators were able to watch the scores changing. After a fine string of good 10s Gordon pulled ahead of Cliff by just 0.3 to take the 9 points for first place. Barbara shot the second best final of the day of 102.8 to take third place. Donald's 103.6 pulled him up to fourth place while Susan dropped to fifth. Hugh picked up the final point with Robin and Jim finishing seventh and eighth respectively. In fairness Jim's score of 99.4 was marred by a 7.6 caused by the fright he got at finding a rather large spider crawling down his shooting hat!

This left the points table very tight at the top

Air Rifle Grand Prix Series 1999/2000

The 1999/2000 Air rifle Grand Prix series kicks off on 12 December 1999 with a match at Glenrothes TSC.

In response to demand by competitors, the programme of events has been extended. As well as the Grand Prix itself, which consists of a 60 shot match followed by a ISSF 10 shot final for the top competitors, there will be the option of an additional 60 shot match for prizes only.

It is hoped that this measure will encourage more shooters to enter, particularly those travelling from further afield. However, please bear in mind that most of the venues used for these events have limited firing points and it will be in your interests to make your entries early.

Entry forms will shortly be sent out to those who have indicated an interest in air rifle shooting and to clubs. Additional forms can be obtained from the Secretary on request.

The programme will continue in the new year with events at Callander, Dumfries and Denwood. The Callander event is a new match in the series following the club's extension of its existing facilities with the addition of a dedicated air weapons range consisting of 6 firing points at 10m. Please note that the dates and order of these events is provisional at the time of going to press. Those receiving entry forms will be provided with confirmed dates.

The other extension to the programme is to start the matches earlier in the season. Given that a large proportion of our air rifle shooters will be away on international duty this



Competitors on the firing point at the Caithness Grand Prix held on the Wick Old Stagers range. See how many shooters you can recognise from their positions and/or jackets!!

November, it has been decided to delay introduction of the additional match until the 2000/2001 series.

Anyone who would like more advice or information on air weapons shooting, please contact the Secretary.

Advertising

TENpointNINE is issued three times a year at present and is sent to all individual members of the Association. For the current year, complimentary copies are being sent to all club secretaries for display in their clubs. Additional copies of entry forms are also being sent to club secretaries for their members use. Please remember that virtually all of our competitions are open and we welcome enquiries from other parts of the country.

Advertising space can be made available for a small fee or donation depending on the size of the space required. Previous issues have included for sale and want adverts and the Editor receives frequent requests for information on kit for sale.

The next issue will be published in March and anyone wishing to have an advert included should provide details to the Secretary by the end of February at the latest.



with Donald McIntosh leading Barbara Mackay by 1 point with Jim Cole-Hamilton a further 4 points adrift. Gordon Winch's reappearance moved him right up to joint 4th with Martin Sinclair and it was theoretically possible for any of these shooters to win the series.

As it was, only Donald, Barbara and Jim were able to make the Gagie Grand Prix on 5 September. In the qualifying stage, Cliff Ogle again demonstrated the worth of his old jacket with a 591 to win A class with Jim Cole-Hamilton second on 590 and clubmate Neil Stirton third with 589 and first place in the junior event.

In B class Gordon Motion finished first on 585 ahead of Barbara Mackay on 581 and Bill Vaughan on 579. C class was won by David Henderson with 582 followed by organiser, Peter Gray with 576 and Karen Nilsen on 573. D class was won by Hugh Simpson (the young one!) with 579 from Lawrence Cooper on 568 and Jamie Cole-Hamilton on 565.

The Simpson boys cleaned up the pairs again with Hugh's score becoming 603 when adjusted for the handicap!

In the Grand Prix first stage Simon Clark and Alasdair Horne led the way with steady 592s, Simon qualifying in first place for the final on countback. Cliff Ogle's 591 put him in third with Donald McIntosh fourth on 589. The other main contenders for the series had mixed results, Barbara's 588 put her in 6th but only a point behind Donald going into the final. Jim unfortunately didn't make it through to the last 8.

Before the Grand Prix final was shot, the C & D Grand Prix final took place. After picking up points at each of the first three Grand Prix,

David Simpson was leading the series, closely followed by Sheena Sharp. Unfortunately nerves seemed to get the better of David and it was brother Hugh who won the final at Gagie with David failing to pick up any points. However, Sheena was unable to capitalise on this and managed only 5th place at Gagie and 2 points. This left her on 14 points for the series with David on.....15. Gavin Walker finished third in the series with 12 points and Hugh Simpson's win at Gagie propelled him to 4th place in the series.

The main Grand Prix final was every bit as tense. Simon and Alasdair were neck and neck for most of the final and after 9 shots were tied for first place. Alasdair's 10.5 for his last shot was good, but Simon's 10.6 was better and he walked off with the whisky. Cliff was clear in third place but further down the range a battle was going on between Gordon Motion, Barbara Mackay and Donald McIntosh. With the series in the balance all was going well for Donald as he managed to stay ahead of Barbara. With no Jim C-H in the final all he had to do was to stay ahead of Barbara to win. With two shots to go it looked to be in the bag, but with shots of 9.6 and 9.7 his lead looked to be in danger. Barbara countered with 10.4 and 10.2 to finish in 5th place with two points and Donald finished 6th with one point. Those of you quick with figures will have worked out that this meant a tie for the series between Donald and Barbara.

Simon's win at Gagie moved him up to 3rd place in the series only a point behind Donald and Barbara and in spite of not picking up any points at Gagie, Jim finished fourth.

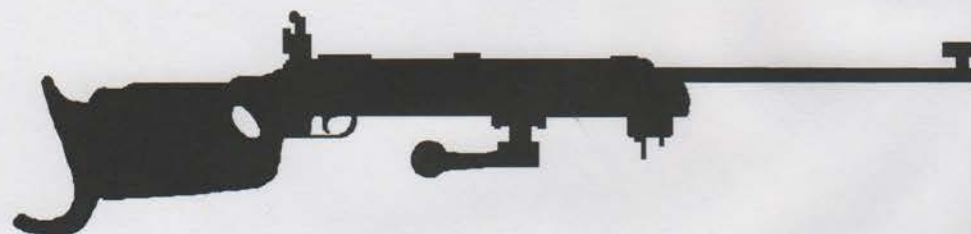
Both series have produced some close results this year and let's hope that the year 2000 will produce even more good competition.

SSRA 50m Prone Grand Prix Series Championship

	Name	Club	Denwood	Angus	Caithness	Grampian	Gagie	Total
1	Barbara Mackay	Watten	2	6	3	4	2	17
1	Donald McIntosh	E U Alumni	-	9	4	3	1	17
3	Simon Clark	Bon Accord	6	1	-	-	9	16
4	Jim Cole-Hamilton	Bon Accord	-	2	9	-	-	11
5	Cliff Ogle	E U Alumni	-	-	-	6	4	10
6	Martin Sinclair	E U Alumni	9	-	-	-	-	9
6	Gordon Winch	Alloa & District	-	-	-	9	-	9
8	Alasdair Horne	Balerno & Currie	-	-	-	-	6	6
8	Sinclair Bruce	Alloa & District	-	-	6	-	-	6
8	Gordon Motion	Callander	-	3	-	-	3	6
11	Cyril De Jonckheere	Dumfries	4	-	-	-	-	4
11	Robin Law	Alloa & District	-	4	-	-	-	4
13	Jonathan Hammond	Bon Accord	3	-	-	-	-	3
14	Graham Sutherland	Wick Old Stagers	-	-	2	-	-	2
14	Susan Bell	E U Alumni	-	-	-	2	-	2
16	William Campbell	Halkirk	1	-	-	-	-	1
16	John Campbell	Halkirk	-	-	1	-	-	1
18	Hugh Simpson	Wick Old Stagers	-	-	-	1	-	1

C & D Grand Prix Series

	Name	Club	Denwood	Angus	Caithness	Grampian	Gagie	Total
1	David Simpson	Wick Old Stagers	2	4	9	-	-	15
1	Sheena Sharp	Bon Accord	-	-	6	6	2	14
3	Gavin Walker	E U Alumni	9	3	-	-	-	12
4	Hugh A Simpson	Wick Old Stagers	1	-	1	-	9	11
5	David Henderson	Balerno & Currie	-	9	-	-	-	9
6	Patrick Jess	St Andrews	-	-	-	9	-	9
6	Erling Watt	Bon Accord	4	2	-	2	1	9
8	Mary Melvin	Bon Accord	6	-	2	-	-	8
8	Lawrence Cooper	St Andrews	-	1	-	1	6	8
8	Karen Nilsen	St Andrews	-	-	-	3	4	7
11	Angus Jackson	E U Alumni	-	6	-	-	-	6
11	Robert Campbell	Halkirk	-	-	4	-	-	4
13	Jamie Cole-Hamilton	Bon Accord	-	-	-	4	-	4
14	Bruce Farquhar	Huntly	3	-	-	-	-	3
14	Jim Swanson	Wick Old Stagers	-	-	3	-	-	3
16	Simon Batchelor		-	-	-	-	3	3



3P Grand Prix Series 1999

The 1999 3P Grand Prix series produced a battle for first and second place over the 3 matches held over the summer.

The second match was held just after the end of the Scottish meeting and this improved the entry by adding 3 visitors from south of the border. A steady shoot from Martin Sinclair produced 1139 and another GB squad qualifying score for him. Second place went to visitor, Geoff McHugh with 1131 with Cliff Ogle third on 1125. With gaps in score like these it is still possible for the placings to be overturned in a 10 shot finals shot in the standing position. But on this occasion the finalists all shot similar scores and the result was unchanged. Lynda Sinclair won the 3x20 match with a score of 549.

The final event in August produced a poor

turnout. Donald McIntosh's score of 1127 with below par standing left him 4 points ahead of Cliff Ogle going into the final. Tony Credland finally managed to break his 1100 duck and moves into the expert category (after shooting about 4 1099's this season). Donald increased his lead in the final with a score of 97.4 which included 10s for his first 6 shots. Lynda Sinclair again won the 3x20 match with a score of 544.

Entry into our leagues from Scottish resident shooters indicates that there are a lot more 3P shooters out there who don't come to these events. These competitions are a good way of gaining experience and improving your standard and it is hoped that next year these events will be much better supported by the Scottish shooting community. The future of these events is in your hands.

3 x 40 Grand Prix Series - final result

			May	July	August	Total
1	Martin Sinclair	E U Alumni	9	9		18
2	Cliff Ogle	E U Alumni	6	6	6	18
3	Donald McIntosh	E U Alumni	4	4	9	17
4	Tony Credland	Glenrothes	3	3	4	10
5	Jim Ward	Horsham	2			2

3 x 20 Grand Prix Series - final result

			May	July	August	Total
1	Lynda Sinclair	E U Alumni	9	9	9	27
2	Janis Thomson	Appleton	6			6

Coaching

The first issue of TENpointNINE contained an article on the current coaching structure in GB.

In recent months there have been several requests for assistance from clubs requiring the services of a coach either on a one off or on a regular basis. Unfortunately there are very few coaches in Scotland who are either able or have the time to take up any of these enquiries.

As mentioned in the last article, SSRA is taking more of a co-ordinating role in organising GBTSF coaching courses in Scotland and has received a small amount of funding from sportscotland to assist with the costs involved.

It is hoped to run one or two basic level courses before the end of January for any interested parties. The location will depend largely on the applicants. The basic level course consists of one weekend of tuition by a qualified coach followed by an assessment.

It is important that all clubs have at least one person qualified as a coach even to help with the basics of brining novices into the sport. Many people have the necessary experience to allow them to do this technically quite well. What the course will help with is how to coach people in such a way that hopefully they will stay with the sport and progress gradually.

The cost is relatively low - £30 is a rough guide, but obviously this will depend on numbers attending and the location of the course. This is a good investment to help develop our grass roots shooters and hopefully the next generation of international shooters.

Anyone who is interested in taking a basic coaching qualification is asked to contact the Secretary as soon as possible.

European Police Championships 1999

Scottish Internationalist and double Commonwealth Games medalist David Rattray, recently took part in the Air Rifle event at the European Police Championships which were held in Munich, Germany at the end of August.

David is coming to the end of his first year as a fully fledged police officer after undergoing training and a probationary period with Strathclyde Police. It is therefore a measure of his abilities that he has achieved selection as a very junior officer.

Many of you may not be aware that, in many countries of the world, the only way to compete competitively as a target shooter is through either the armed forces or police force and so many of the top shooters in the world are coincidentally police officers.

David has trained hard all year for this match and his hard work paid off with a personal best score of 589 in his match which gave him a creditable fifth place. The winner of the match was Hubert Bichler of Germany who is also one of their top internationalists of recent years, having competed at the highest level and who has won medals at World and European Championships. The winning score was 594.

This competition will have given David valuable match practice in his preparation for the Commonwealth Championships in November.

Outdoor Inter Region Match 1999

In an effort to drum up more entries for this competition, it was decided that it should be held concurrent with the Grampian Grand Prix held at Denwood on Sunday 29 August. As previously mentioned, this coincided with the unveiling of Adam Gordon's memorial and so a good entry was expected.

In the end 5 teams entered - Highland, Grampian, Fife, Central and Lothian. The competition was shot concurrently with the Open shoot which doubles as the first stage of the Grand Prix. Teams of six were entered with the best five scores counting towards the team total.

With the calibre of competitors within the teams, competition was expected to be close and it was. However at the end of the day, Lothian came out victors ahead of Central.

It is perhaps a good time to remind members that this competition was started after Bob Normand's untimely death from Cancer and the trophy was purchased from donations

made in his memory. It does no harm to remember two of the strongest personalities our sport has experienced in the one day although it was of course, primarily Adam's day. The profit from the Inter region match will be donated to Cancer Research in memory of Bob which is in line with his family's wishes for the original collection.



The Lothian Team with the Bob Normand Memorial Trophy. L to R kneeling: Alasdair Home, Lynda Sinclair, standing: Susan Bell, Angus Jackson, Sinclair Bruce and captain Cliff Ogle.

Scottish Records

In the Spring issue of TENpointNINE we listed the Scottish Records which had been set since last publication of the full list. On the next page are details of the records set since April this year.

It's nice to see a new names on the list and we have now added two more juniors in Simon Clark and Susan Mackay.

Sarah MacDonald's name appears as a correction. The score she shot at a junior as shown in the table was shot in a competition open to senior and so also counts as a senior record. Apologies to Sarah for taking so long to notice!

A few team records have been set including our international Ladies and Junior teams. The Junior record is also a British Record.

Mention should also be made here of Alloa's performances in the Scottish League. Division 1 of this league has been won by Bon Accord for the last 23 years without a break. This year the Alloa A team looks set to break this run as with the results of only two rounds to come, they are 6 points ahead of the next best team. Full details in the next edition.

Congratulations to our new record breakers.

Scottish International Teams				
Event	Team Name	Team Size	Course of Fire	Score
Bisley 1999	Scotland Ladies	5	Dewar	1920
Bisley 1999	Scotland U21	3	Dewar	1159
Prone Club & County Teams				
NSRA Scottish League 1999 Rnd 2	Alloa & District	5	Dewar	1967
NSRA Scottish League 1999 Rnd 3	Alloa & District	5	Dewar	1969

Female Junior					
40 Prone at 50m	Jun-99	Susan Mackay	Scottish Meeting	Forres	392
Female Senior					
40 Prone at 100yds	Jun-93	Sarah MacDonald	Scottish Meeting	Blairgowrie	389
40 Prone Dewar	Aug-99	Barbara Mackay	National Meeting	Bisley	395
Male Junior					
3x40 at 50m	Aug-99	Jonathan Hammond	National Meeting	Bisley (Melville)	1112
40 Prone at 50m	Aug-99	Jonathan Hammond	National Meeting	Bisley (Melville)	397
40 Prone Dewar	Aug-99	Jonathan Hammond	National Meeting	Bisley	392
Prone Final at 50m	May-99	Simon Clark	SSRA Grand Prix	Denwood	104.6
Male Senior					
3x20 at 50m	Aug-99	Donald McIntosh	National Meeting	Bisley (Melville)	570
40 Prone at 100yds	Aug-99	Donald McIntosh	National Meeting	Bisley (Century)	394

British ISSF Championships 1999

The third British Championships to be run under ISSF rules were held over the weekend of 11-13 June on the Rimfire Range at Bisley. Four events are held - Men's and Women's Prone and 3P with all events except Women's Prone being decided after Olympic finals.

16 Members made the journey to Bisley. The first event to be decided was the Women's Prone. First place was a battle between Helen Vincent and Beccy Spicer on 591 and with Helen's 100, 100 finish being better than Beccy's 99, 100 finish, she took the trophy. Lynda Sinclair finished top of the 588s with a 100 finish. Barbara Mackay was extremely unlucky to have a bad round for her first shot which only narrowly made it onto the target. The shot lost her 6 points straightaway but she didn't drop any more in that string and fought on to the end to finish with 582 and 13th place. Janis Thomson also finished on 582 but with 15th place on countback. Susan Bell didn't have a good day and the less said about it the better.

In the Men's 3P match, Ronnie Sellar did his usual trick of not shooting for months and then winning big competitions. His 1143 was 9 points ahead of Ken Parr going into the final and although Ken shot and extremely good final, Ronnie managed to hold on to first place. Martin Sinclair finished in fourth place with Donald McIntosh in eighth. Mike

Rodigan, Tony Credland and Angus Jackson propped up the order but seemed to enjoy the experience. Tony and Angus have certainly improved since the event so let's hope for better performances next year.

The Women's 3P winner was a sure fire certainty. Beccy Spicer has shot extremely well this season, increasing the British senior and junior international records with a consistent series of performances. She was 10 points ahead going into the final and although her final was not as good as in previous years, she still finished well in front. Janis Thomson picked up third place and Lynda Sinclair finished seventh.

Finally in the Men's Prone 6 of the 11 members entered qualified for the second round of 24 competitors. Ronnie Sellar's 592 put him in second place going into the final but Simon Auldhouse shot strongly to pull up from fourth to second. Sinclair Bruce finished 6th, Martin Sinclair 7th and Bill Brown 8th.

Next year may be the last year that this event is held on Rimfire Range. Work on the new Bisley ranges is due to start shortly and it is hoped that they will be operational during the summer of 2000. Unfortunately, this is unlikely to be in time for the ISSF championships.

National Squads

During the 1998/99 season, it was the Association's intention to run three national squads.

Unfortunately due to a number of resource constraints and the likely impact of reorganisation of training at British level, the B squad never really got going.

It is SSRA's intention to have a more active B squad during the 1999/2000 season and a review of squad training and how the British squad situation affects this is underway. One suggestion is to integrate the training of all three squads to make best use of range time and coach availability. This will also have benefits financially as costs will be shared among a larger group of people.

All squad members must be individual members of the Association and membership forms can be obtained from the Secretary.

Our apologies go to those who applied for B squad membership this year, your names are held on file and your applications will be carried forward. Anyone else who would like to get involved in squad training should contact the secretary as soon as possible.

The Junior squad has met during the summer, but again has been limited by resources. Jim Hammond is currently in the process of contacting all existing squad members and those who have been identified as potential squad members. If there are any other juniors out there reading this, or if you know of any talented Juniors who would like to join the junior squad, please contact either the Secretary or Jim Hammond as soon as possible.

Clubs

The SSRA does not at present have any mechanism under its constitution for representing the interests of clubs and counties in Scotland.

In the last few weeks, following on from the distribution of raffle tickets for fundraising purposes, the Association has become aware of a number of clubs which are going to the wall. The reasons are varied. One club has had its range shut down because of an administrative error on the part of a government agency. Another has been given notice to quit its premises. Another is struggling for membership. On the county side we have also heard of county associations who are unable to raise the requisite six clubs to be able to remain as a registered county under the NSRA rules. Mergers are being mooted.

This only serves to emphasise that none of us, clubs and administrators alike, really know what is going on at the grass roots level throughout Scotland. This is primarily because there are no established lines of communication and this Association would like to rectify this. The NSRA have kindly provided a list of all the registered clubs in Scotland. However, reviewing this list has revealed that it is not entirely accurate. There are clubs listed which folded some time ago and there are clubs not listed who are still very active. It is also likely that there are clubs which are not affiliated to NSRA and are therefore falling through the net.

If you have received this newsletter, then you are on the SSRA database as an active club in Scotland. We would like to expand the database to include all clubs

Bisley 1999

This year the National Rifle Meeting at Bisley was held over the period 13 to 20 August on Century range as usual. Torrential rain and horizontal hail were probably the highlight of the weekend. This resulted in a delay of 45 minutes for one detail on the first Saturday and a lot of very soggy targets! Better weather returned to the meeting towards the end of the week and the hardy were rewarded with some sunshine (*sound familiar?* - Ed)

For prone shooters the weekend starts off with the weekend aggregate. Often people will travel to Bisley for the weekend only and this year a few made the journey. Although Alastair Horne, Donald McIntosh, Bill Brown and Mike Rennie picked up bars for top 5 placings in some of the individual competitions, none was able to combine good scores in all competitions for an aggregate placing.

Also going on over the weekend are the British Championship 3P matches and here we fared much better. This year the matches were held on Melville, the former pistol ranges. The 3x40 or full course event was held early on Saturday while the half course or 3x20 was held on Sunday. Unlike international competitions, both events are open (although there is a confined British Ladies Sport Rifle Championship concurrent with the 3x20) and are shot in 4 classes.

Scottish shooters have frequently won the 3x40 match but unfortunately this year, Scots were unable to overcome the English and the best result was Donald McIntosh's fourth place. However, Scots also took a number of other placings. In the overall competition, Janis Thomson was sixth and won B class, Jonathan Hammond was third in B Class, Robin Law finished ninth overall and Tony Credland won C Class with Angus Jackson third. Martin Sinclair's absence was sorely felt in the Home Countries international match which is held concurrent with the 3x40 and for once England had selected a winning team. Scotland's score of 3359 was defeated by England's 3365. The England team did not however, include the winner of the competition, Iain Potts, who turned up at the range totally jetlagged after arriving home late the previous night from the USA and shot a personal best of 1144 after not picking up the gun for months!

In the 3x20 Donald finished third behind two

English ladies with a score of 570, a new Scottish Men's record, Janis won B Class, Tony won C Class and Ruth Ronnie of SRI won D Class.

In the aggregate competitions, several Scots were mentioned in despatches. Hugh Simpson, Bill Brown, Carol McKenna, Ally Aitken, Tony Credland, Sinclair Bruce, Mary Melvin, Hugh A Simpson, Graham Rudd, Mark McGechan, Gordon Cox and Jim Ward all received bars. However, in the Grand Aggregate, only 3 were able to take placings. Sinclair Bruce finished a creditable 5th in X class, Tony Credland was 5th in C Class and Hugh A Simpson was third in D Class and walked away with a shiny new Anschutz 1913 to boot. Unfortunately, some did not fare so well and Cliff Ogle was one of those demoted from X Class.

The highlight of the week for the individual competitors is the British Championship. The entrants (475 this year) are reduced to 20 in number over two stages shot in squads over a dewar course of fire. The final is over a double dewar and this year it was a tie for first place between Neil Day and David Scanlon. Neil won after a 20 shot tie shoot which had to go to a regauge. Best Scot was Jonathan Hammond who finished 8th= with Hugh Simpson only a couple of points behind but 13th=. Jonathan additionally picked up the Anschutz 1913 rifle (which his Dad is now "testing" for him!!)

In the team competitions only four Scots clubs were represented. Alloa came second in the weekend aggregate, E U Alumni A won the 3P, the Alloa pairing of Robin Law and Sinclair Bruce won the Open Club Pairs with Mike and Mary Melvin of Bon Accord taking third in the C & D Class section. Bon Accord won the sharpshooter with George Watson's College A losing in the semi-final.

In the Home Countries International Matches, Scotland's main team score of 3877 was only one point off the Scottish record, but was soundly beaten by a strong England team which shot a new British record score of 3904. The ladies also suffered defeat, in spite of setting a new Scottish record score, and not just at the hands of the English. Wales also crept ahead of us by 3 points. The Juniors yet again rescued us from a whitewash with a superb performance. The team of Jonathan Hammond, Graham Rudd and Neil Stirton

shot a British Record score of 1159, 12 points ahead of the English. This improves on the record they shot last year and with Jonathan, Neil and Simon still having a couple of years left at U21 level, lets hope they and the others who have made up the teams, can continue to reach record scores.

As many of you will know, there is to be a major redevelopment of the Bisley ranges over the next year in preparation for the 2002 Commonwealth Games. It is hoped by the time of next year's meeting, the new international facility will be open and available for use for some of the competitions. If you've never experienced the meeting, or haven't been for some time, then maybe next year would be the time to go.

Scotland Ladies			
	50s	100s	Total
Barbara Mackay	199	196	395
Ruth Ronnie	192	195	387
Carol McKenna	193	194	387
Karen Nilsen	191	191	382
Gaye Adams	181	188	369
			1920
Captain - Mary Melvin, Secretary - Sheena Sharp			
England			1931
Wales			1923

Scotland			
	50s	100s	Total
Bill Brown	199	197	396
Jonathan Hammond	196	196	392
Cyril De Jonckheere	196	194	390
Sinclair Bruce	191	197	388
Robin Law	192	195	387
Carol McKenna	193	194	387
Jim Ward	194	192	386
Hugh Simpson	190	195	385
Graham Rudd	192	192	384
Bill Hamilton	192	190	382
			3877
Captain - Mike Melvin, Secretary - John Buchanan			
England			3904
Wales			3849

Scotland Juniors			
	50s	100s	Total
Jonathan Hammond	196	196	392
Graham Rudd	192	192	384
Neil Storton	192	191	383
			1159
Captain - Dave Nicoll			
England			1147
Wales			1145

Scotland 3P		Total
Donald McIntosh		1125
Robin Law		1121
Ronnie Sellar		1113
		3359
Captain - Lynda Sinclair		
England		3365
Wales		3287

Winter Competitions - conditions

The entry form for winter competitions is attached to the annual subscription form and an additional form is available for non members. All cartridge events are shot on NSRA 10 shot cards over 15/20/25 yards indoors. Air rifle events are shot at 10m on either NSRA 5 bull targets, 5 shot strip targets or ISSF single shot targets. Class averages re: A: 98.0+, B: 96.0 to 97.9, C: 93 to 96.9 and D: below 93.0

SSRA Medal competition for the Association Silver Medal - shot over two stages in 4 classes plus Junior and Veteran classes. The winner in each class receives a Silver with the Silver Medal to the top score overall. Each stage is a 3 card set (one hour). The top 10 (and equal) in the first stage contest the Final. Speedway for the Bill Dick Memorial Trophy and the Boston Bowl - shot in two classes - Open and C/D. The first round is 5 cards (not a set). The top 16 (any class) go through to a final to be shot in April 2000 in Perth. The best remaining 8 from C&D contest the C&D final. The final is a round robin event of 20 matches in groups of four. The top 8 eligible finalists in the A/B final are automatically selected for the annual postal match against North Island, New Zealand. The remaining 7

team members will be selected on the basis of performances during the indoor season.

CanDicap for the CanDicap Quaich is a CYOH competition (minimum handicap 5) restricted C and D class shooters. The first stage is a set of 3 cards (one hour) with the top 20 and equal scores qualifying for a postal final of a second set of 3 cards.

The Short Range 3 Positions Championship The year 2000 sees the introduction of a short range only championship. The competition is unclassified although prizes may be awarded to Junior depending on entry. The course of fire will be the aggregate of 2 half courses, one during each of 2 five week match periods in the first 3 months of 2000.

Leagues Divisions will be allocated on the basis of averages submitted. The points are allocated with the top scorer in each division being awarded n-1 points, second n-2 points etc where n is the number of shooters in that division. The Prone league consists of 2 cards during each of 8 match periods. The 3P and air rifle leagues consist of a half course/60 shot match respectively per month from November through to March.

Any queries, please contact the Secretary

in Scotland but to do this we need the help of County organisers and the clubs themselves. We would appreciate it if anyone out there who is involved with a County league or association would provide SSRA with a list of your clubs and club contacts. This way we can contact the clubs as a first step to ensuring that support and advice is available to all clubs which need it.

In addition to this, the Association is reviewing the facilities planning document for Scotland for the next 5 years. While one of the main targets for this period is the development of a national facility, there is also a responsibility to develop regional facilities and assist where possible in the development of club facilities. Unfortunately at the moment there is no method of providing information to SSRA about proposed developments although we are told that Lottery bids should generally conform to a national facilities plan. It would therefore be extremely helpful if any club either considering or actively pursuing development of its facilities could provide the Secretary with some brief details so that this may be incorporated into the national plan.

Your assistance is appreciated.

Next Issue

The next issue is due in March 2000 and will include winter competition results as far as are available, Summer competition entry forms, details of your new Council and the results of the Commonwealth Champs.

Articles/letters for publication should be sent to the Editor (AKA the Secretary) by the end of February

SSRA Contacts

The office bearers of SSRA Council are always available to respond to members queries or help in any way possible. If phoning, please be considerate and make calls before 10pm. The Secretary's phone has an answer machine on at all times if required. The Secretary cannot always be available to answer the phone so please leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Chairman
Angus Dick

Vice Chairman
Bill Moonie

Secretary
Shirley McIntosh

Treasurer
John Silcox

E-mail address
Scottish.smallbore@lineone.net

Photos

Thanks to our photo contributors:

John Silcox, pages 2, 3, 6
Shirley McIntosh, page 9
Donald McIntosh, page 8, 12
Unfortunately photos of Bisley winging their way north from Surrey were caught up in a postal strike and did not make it to this issue. We'll catch up in the next issue.

1999/2000 Calendar

Date	Event	Venue	Contact
12 Dec 1999	SSRA Air Rifle Grand Prix 1	Glenrothes	JRS
23 Jan 2000	SSRA Air Rifle Grand Prix 2	Callander	JRS
11-13 February	NSRA Air Rifle Championships	Aldersley, Wolverhampton	NSRA
20 February	SSRA Air Rifle Grand Prix 3	Dumfries	JRS
5 March	SSRA Air Rifle Grand Prix 4	Denwood	JRS
12 March	Final - Daily Record/Scottish Cup)	Denwood	NSRA
18-19 March	SSRA Air Rifle Championships	Inverclyde	SJM
1 April	C/D Speedway Final	Perth	SJM
2 April	A/B Speedway Final	Perth	SJM
9 April	News of the World Finals	London	NSRA
16 April	Scotland v NI New Zealand	Perth	SJM
16 April	SSRA Short Range Inter Region Match	Perth	SJM
6 May	SSRA 3P Grand Prix 1	Denwood	JRS
7 May	Denwood Open and SSRA Grand Prix 1	Denwood	HM
3 June	SSRA 3P Grand Prix 2	Denwood	JRS
4 June	Angus Open and SSRA Grand Prix 2	Gagie	PG
9-11 June	NSRA ISSF Championships	Bisley	NSRA
24-30 June	NSRA Scottish Meeting	Onich, Fort William	NSRA
2 July	SSRA 3P Grand Prix 3	Denwood	JRS
29 July	Caithness Open/SSRA Prone Grand Prix 3	Wick	JM
30 July	Caithness Open continues	Wick	JM
5/6 August	SSRA ISSF Championships	Denwood	SJM
11 August	NSRA/Eley Inter Region Match	Bisley	SJM
12-19 August	NSRA Bisley Meeting	Bisley	NSRA
26 August	SSRA 3P Grand Prix 4	Denwood	JRS
27 August	Grampian Open/SSRA Grand Prix 4	Denwood	HM
27 August	SSRA Long Range Inter Region Match	Denwood	SJM
2 September	SSRA 3P Grand Prix 5	Denwood	JRS
3 September	Gagie Open and SSRA Grand Prix 5	Gagie	PG
19 November	SSRA Air Rifle Grand Prix 1	Denwood	JRS
10 December	SSRA Air Rifle Grand Prix 2	Glenrothes	JRS

The above dates should be considered provisional at this stage with the exception of the NSRA dates. Confirmations should be obtained shortly and anyone seeking additional information on the calendar itself should contact the Secretary.

Contacts

SJM	Mrs Shirley J McIntosh	
JRS	Mr J R Silcox	
HM	Dr Harry Milne	
PG	Mr Peter Gray	
JM	Mrs Jean MacDonald	
NSRA	The Secretary	PO Box 122, Brookwood, Woking, GU24 0YW

...and finally

This newsletter is being issued a lot later than originally intended. Illness and the vagaries of the tax system as well as the demands of the Secretary's job generally have eaten away at the time available. As I sit here at 2.30am I have come to the conclusion that whoever decided there should only be 24 hours in a day was mad! Seriously though, I have in my own way enjoyed putting this newsletter and its predecessors together and I hope that they have provided some useful information to you. As always, the

Association is keen for members to express opinions and make suggestions about the way forward for our sport and Council looks forward to hearing your ideas.

I know it may be a little bit early but since I won't be in touch with most of you until next year, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all the best for the rest of the year anda Happy New Year!

See you in the new Millenium - Ed