

# Copper Jacket

## Bassingbourn Rifle & Pistol Club Newsletter

Issue 11

January 2005

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### From the Secretary:

Well, another New Year starts with more shoots at Bassingbourn Barracks on the 100m range. It seems that this is definitely a popular shooting range with excellent attendances on the two shoots that were held there in 2004.

With regards to the Barton Road range, it is intended to specify shooting distances for each meeting so that we can make sure that we make full use of distance shooting, so there won't be any shoots at 100m. Therefore, please ensure that you zero your rifles at Bassingbourn Barracks before any competitions.

You will remember the articles in the last newsletter regarding the recent shooting incidents? BASC have, in light of the Hunting Act and the accidents, re-issued a code of practice covering shooting at night (lamping). This article is covered in this newsletter and is also available on the BASC website at <http://www.basc.org.uk/content/lampingpractice>.

Also in this issue of the newsletter is information regarding the 2005 Annual General Meeting. Please could you make every effort to attend and bring your cheque books as subscriptions are due.

### Web Site

Please contact Jackie on [webmaster@brpc.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@brpc.org.uk) if you have any comments on the web site and any thoughts on what you would like to see on it

**IT'S YOUR NEWSLETTER, YOUR SPORT,  
YOUR VOICE**

### 2004 Club Dinner

The 2004 Club Dinner was held on the evening of Saturday 13 November at The Duke of Wellington in Bourn.

20 members and partners had a great evening, great food and wine was eaten and drunk by all. It was a shame that more members didn't want to go, especially as the Club now has over 55. Maybe more will go next year.

Talking of next year, a Club BBQ may be held during the summer. What are your thoughts? Would this be better attended than a dinner in a restaurant? Please could you let the Secretary know your thoughts?

**See us at [www.brpc.org.uk](http://www.brpc.org.uk)**

28 February 2005 is the Deadline for April 2005 issue

## 2005 Annual General Meeting

The 2005 Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 24 February in the Corporal's Mess at Bassingbourn Barracks. Dress code in the Mess is casual.

Please arrive at the Barracks car park for 7.00 pm ready for a 7.30 pm prompt start. Please ensure you have your current membership card and one other form of identity for security purposes for accessing the base. If vehicle registrations have changed since November 2004, contact Jackie Parker so that an up-to-date list is given to the Guardroom.

Many FACs are due for renewal during 2005. So that the Secretary has an idea of when to anticipate paperwork through from Firearms Licensing Departments, please could you bring your FACs with you so that the **Valid To** date can be noted, or let the Secretary know at the AGM or the next shoot.

Membership fees are due to be paid at the AGM. Please don't ask the Secretary what it will be in order to pay early—there aren't, unfortunately, any discounts for early payments! These will be discussed and agreed at the AGM, so please could you make every effort to attend and bring your cheque books/cash.

Anyone who hasn't paid or contacted the Secretary by 10 March 2005 will be deemed to have resigned from the Club and thus, if they are FAC holders, their respective Firearms Licensing Department will be advised as per the Home Office rules. This is very important for those members who have "Bassingbourn Rifle & Pistol Club" down as their "Primary Club" as a condition on their FAC.

In previous years, the meeting is usually over in about an hour, leaving plenty of time for a buffet and a couple (or so) beers and a good old chat in the warmth as opposed to on a cold range. The beer is cheap as well—about £1 a pint—can you resist?

Please confirm your attendance to Jackie Parker (telephone 07880 720810 or email [jackie.parker@brpc.org.uk](mailto:jackie.parker@brpc.org.uk)) so that catering arrangements and room layout can be finalised.

**Please could all current Trophy holders bring their trophies to the AGM, clean and shiny as they will be presented to the 2004 winners at the end of the meeting.**

**Please make every effort to attend this year. Attendance hasn't been too high over the past couple of years. It is your Club and it is a great time to socialise in the warmth.**

**The Committee looks forward to seeing you there.**

## Membership Fees and Photographs for 2005 Membership Cards

Membership fees are due at the AGM and new Membership Cards will be issued for 2005. If anyone wishes a new photograph to be used, please could they get 2 replacement photographs to Jackie Parker by the middle of February. Send to Mrs J Parker, PO Box 474, Somersham, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE28 3WR.

## Controls on Firearms Consultation Paper

I often wonder, as Secretary of the Club, just how many Club members responded to the Controls on Firearms Consultation paper?

From the discussion in the shelter at Barton Road back at the end of September, about half those who attended did. If anyone has read the article of last month's (November) GunMart, they would have found that the Home Office only received around 4,500 responses.

On 10 December, I decided to email the Home Office asking if they could advise when a Summary would be available.

Their response was:

***"Thank you for your e-mail dated 10 December about our review of firearms controls. We are analysing the considerable response to last May's consultation paper and will be***

***producing a summary of the views expressed, and our thoughts on what we intend to do next, as soon as we are able to.***

***There is no fixed timetable but we do want to discuss our emerging findings with key representative organisations, including those from the legitimate shooting world, before deciding how to proceed.***

***As I am sure you appreciate, firearms legislation is a complex area and it would be wrong at this stage to pre-empt what the outcome of this review might be. However, I can assure you that we will be looking to achieve a balanced and proportionate system of control that is simple and enforceable but still ensures public safety."***

Back to watching the website—  
[www.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk)

## Targets

It has been noticed that many of the Club members are arriving on the range without any targets. With this in mind, the Club is now selling targets on range dates, but if you are able to purchase or download (if you have access to the internet) targets of your own, it will be more fun on the range and more of a challenge. Swapping targets will be interesting as well.

For those with internet access, there is a page of target links on the BRPC website ([www.brpc.org.uk/targets.html](http://www.brpc.org.uk/targets.html)) where you are able to download off the internet.

Some examples of these are:

*Free Targets Online—<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/TPHaller/page3.html>*

*Targets—<http://ebrooks77.50megs.com/targets.html#USBR>*

*Free Targets for Shooters! - <http://www.targetz.com/fun01.htm>*

## Change of Club Address

Following recent problems with Club post being correctly delivered, the address to be used with immediate effect is:

Mrs J Parker  
PO Box 474  
Somersham  
Huntingdon  
Cambs  
PE28 3WR

## Use of Breach Flags

To make it easier for the RCO to clear firearms on the firing point, the Committee is recommending that members purchase breach flags (available from Fenland Rural Shooting Supplies, Warboys and other shooting stores). They cost around £2.50.

The flags are placed in an empty chamber as a visual confirmation that the chamber is clear and are made of a highly visible and rugged nylon.

## Competition Entries

It has been noticed that there seems to be a general apathy with regards to Club members taking part in competitions.

In fact the competitions held in December had the best number of entries for the whole year.

When firearms are put on the FAC for target use, they are generally for competitions as well and the Firearms Licensing Department will be looking for evidence.

As FAC Renewals start in earnest at the beginning of 2005, it is in your interest to use your firearms in competitions because, as Secretary, I do get asked for Club Member's range attendances over the last couple of years—I may well get asked what competitions have been shot as well.

Please also remember that in order to shoot in competitions, the firearms must have the condition on your FAC that it is for target use and/or vermin control.

Please do your best to enter the competitions. If you have any ideas of new competitions that could be run, then please let either Doug or Steven Voak know as the Competition organisers.

## Open Day at Mepal Range

Having reached an agreement with the Isle Target Sports Club, BRPC will be holding a Guest Day on the afternoon of Saturday 29 January 2005 from 1.00pm until 4.00 pm light permitting.

Firearms that can be used on the range are:

- 🔫 All black powder firearms of any calibre (within reason)
- 🔫 .22RF rifles
- 🔫 Rifles of a pistol calibre (0.44, 0.45, 0.38/0.357 etc) commonly called gallery rifles.

**Full bore rifles cannot be used.**

There won't be any "green" fees for this shoot.

Please support this as best you can as we won't be using the 25m range at the Barracks due to low attendance figures and there are a number of members of the Club who have firearms that can be used on this range.

For information on the location of the range please contact the Secretary on 07880 720810 or see the website if you have internet access.

## Shooting Dates for 2005

### Isle Target Sports Club (Mepal)

(Shooting times are 1300—1600)

- 🔫 29 January (Saturday)
- 🔫 6 March (Sunday)

### Barton Road

(Shooting times are 0830-1230—Open Days)

- 🔫 10 April—200 & 400 m
- 🔫 12 June—300 & 500 m
- 🔫 31 July—600 m
- 🔫 30 October—100, 200, 300 m
- 🔫 27 November—200 & 400 m
- 🔫 11 December—200 m

### Bassingbourn Barracks

(Shooting times are 0830-1230—Club members only)

- 🔫 27 February
- 🔫 20 March
- 🔫 22 May
- 🔫 21 August
- 🔫 25 September
- 🔫 16 October

## Competitions for 2005

### Barton Road

30 October—Service Rifle

### Bassingbourn Barracks

20 March—Pre-1939

22 May—Any Rifle, Any Sights

25 September—Varmint

18 December—Xmas Shoot

## Range Fees for Barton Road FAC-Holder Visitors

The Committee has been approached by members of other Clubs to see if they can shoot at Bassingbourn Club meets at Barton Road where the shooting distances will be greater than 100m. The Committee has decided that FAC-holder visitors will be charged a range fee of £25 and be expected to assist with sentry/butt duties. This is excellent value for money when you think about the costs of hiring a lane with markers at Bisley along with travel time and fuel. It also brings some extra funds into the Club.

Please note that all visitors should be invited by BRPC full members and not just turn up.

## Proposed New Legislation on Manufacture and Storage of Explosives

HSE intends that new regulations on the manufacture and storage of explosives will come into force on 6 April 2005.

The draft regulations are at <http://www.hse.gov.uk/explosives/draftregs.pdf> .

The draft Approved Code of Practice and Guidance document is at <http://www.hse.gov.uk/explosives/draftacop.pdf>

It is important to note that as both documents are still subject to discussion and have yet to be submitted for Ministerial and Parliamentary approval. Consequently, they currently have no legal status.

For those without internet access, The **Explosives Policy Section** can be contacted at :-

Health & Safety Executive  
5SW Rose Court  
2 Southwark Bridge  
London, SE1 9HS

Tel: 020 7717 6262

## NRA Individual Membership

In a recent NRA newsletter, the NRA stated that it needs to be able promote full membership of the NRA better than it currently does. It also states that it will be asking clubs for details of their members so that they can market membership and inform them what the future looks like with their support by becoming a member. BRPC has not passed this information onto the NRA, as it feels that this would breach the requirements of the Data Protection Act. It is felt that if members of the Club wish to join the NRA, then they will of their own accord.

However, there are ways that we can help the NRA.

### Recommend a new Member

Every new member helps the NRA to invest in the future of target shooting. For every member that is recommended as an individual or as a Club, a £10 voucher credit voucher will be sent to the recommender which can be used for Membership or Affiliation renewal purposes or to cover costs when shooting at Bisley.

### New Members Promotional Discounts

New members can join the NRA with a 50% discount on full-rate Membership for 2005. Full Membership has many benefits. These can be found on their website [www.nra.org.uk](http://www.nra.org.uk) or in the Membership Application packs. The most important issues of all relating to full membership are: that the individual is directly supporting the future of shooting. They also have the benefit of comprehensive cover offered by the NRA Insurance Scheme.

### NRA Competition Discounts

The NRA is offering a 50% reduction in entry fee costs to first-timers for 2005.

### How can full membership of the NRA benefit BRPC?

Full members of the NRA do also assist in reducing the costs to Bassingbourn Rifle & Pistol Club through the reduction of the Club NRA Affiliation Fee. The current costs to the Club are a club charge of £71.50 with a fee per non-NRA member of £4.15. The more NRA full members BRPC has, the less the Club has to pay.

Please could all members who are currently full members of the NRA let Jackie Parker so that records can be updated. If anyone becomes a full member of the NRA, please could they let Jackie know, again so that records can be updated ready for the next NRA Renewal.

## Draft proposals for maximum velocities/energies for Barton Road

A letter was received by the Secretary at the end of November advising that there was a **draft proposal** out which proposed the reduction of the maximum muzzle energy and velocity from **7,000J** and **1,000m/sec** to **3,600J** and **950m/sec**. Standard service ammunition will meet these new criteria but it was questioned as to the implications for Police and Civilian Clubs. It isn't clear whether Barton Road range will be affected by this proposal, the Committee will keep its members informed, so please read all newsletters.

If this does become reality, it may be that the Club members who home-load will need to have self-certification certificates verifying that they have tested their loads with a chronograph and they are compliant with either the current limits or the new proposed new lower limits.

## Xmas Shoot Competition Results

### Money Shoot

<b>Name</b>	<b>Score</b>
R Taylor	£88.82
A Moncrieff	£88.80
A Sutton	£88.70
S Voak	£88.62
A Gibney	£88.50
T Gibney	£87.83
J Parker	£87.68
G Elwood	£87.68
P Cox	£87.62
D Voak	£87.10
C Whistler	£87.05
D Parker	£87.00
L Stevens	£87.00
T Brown	£87.00
J Parker	£85.73
W Westlake	£85.50
R Buckland	£85.02
A Brown	£85.01
R Tournay	£85.00
M Treadwell	£85.00
K Green	£80.05
G Taylor	£65.70
S Deverell	£16.00
D Holmes	£15.05

### Turkey Shoot

<b>Name</b>	<b>Score</b>
S Voak	87
J Parker	84
G Ellwood	84
W Westlake	82
R Taylor	80
T Gibney	76
R Buckland	74
R Tournay	73
D Voak	72
J Crimes	69
C Whistler	69
A Moncrieff	68
A Rogers	67
B Barrett	63
B Eastwood	61
T Brown	59
S Deverell	50
S Mutton	37
D Parker	11
A Brown	10
D Draper	9



Xmas Shoot—2004

## Facilities

### Barton Road



### Bassingbourn Barracks



100 m - 1200 m

Maximum calibre of .577", and a maximum muzzle velocity of 3275 ft/sec (1000 m/s), and a maximum muzzle energy of 5160 ft lbs.

100 m

Maximum calibre of .577", and a maximum muzzle velocity of 3275 ft/sec (1000 m/s), and a maximum muzzle energy of 5160 ft lbs.

### Isle Target Sports Club (Mepal)



Firearms that can be used on the Mepal Range are:

- All black powder firearms of any calibre (within reason).
- .22RF rifles.
- Rifles of a pistol calibre (0.44, 0.45, 0.38/0.357 etc) commonly called gallery rifles.

All firearms may be used from 25m down to 10m.

**Full bore rifles cannot be used.**

## Article Submission

If you would like to pen any short stories or humorous incidents please submit them to the editors. We would, of course, prefer that they be in some way shooting related and not cause offence or law suits! The editors' decision as to what may be printed is final. We would prefer that articles are supplied electronically where possible, to cut down on the amount of work involved. However we do appreciate that not all members have access to computers etc so if you submit a hand written article please use legible block capitals to give us a chance! Accompanying photographs are fine so long as they are in a format we can scan, ie No negatives or slides please and maximum size A4.

## Barton Rd Sentries Needed

Do you know anyone at a loose end one Sunday morning a month? If so, would they be willing to do sentry duties at Barton Rd Range. All they need to do is to man the sentry post for a few hours and read a book.

## Do you know your Committee members?

Chairman	Peter Cannon
Secretary	Jackie Parker
Vice Secretary	John Parker
Treasurer	Alan Brown
Shooting Captains	Doug and Steven Voak
Chief Range Officer	Russell Taylor
Ordinary Members	Chris Whistler Terry Gibney

## Classified Advertisements

Advertisements are accepted in good faith, but Bassingbourn Rifle & Pistol Club takes no responsibility for the accuracy of any statements made by the advertiser. Club members' adverts are free of charge, for trade adverts, please call for current tariffs.

To place private or trade advertisements, please contact John on 07880 733129

### 2-Gun Rifle Cases

Aluminium construction with 2 combination locks plus 2 padlock shackles

Fully padded with internal Velcro straps

Cost - £70

Contact Trevor on 07887 547600 or email [tbrown3638@aol.com](mailto:tbrown3638@aol.com)



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