

Copper Jacket

Bassingbourn Rifle & Pistol Club Newsletter

Issue 14 July 2005

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From the Secretary:

Well, this afternoon is gorgeous and the Club BBQ should have been getting merrily underway. Unfortunately even though there was plenty of interest shown at the AGM, only 11 tickets were sold (equates to 6 out of 66 members!!!), so it was cancelled.

There will, however, be the usual meal towards the end of the year, so we look forward to seeing you then.

For those of you who are due for renewals and send the forms to the Secretary, please could you check the weight of the envelope before posting? Unfortunately because of all the paperwork involved, it may be that the envelope weighs more than the normal First Class weight (30p upto 60g) so the cost goes up to 35p Second Class and 46p First Class. If the correct postage isn't paid for, the Secretary (therefore the Club) ends up with a bill of the difference plus £1.00 handling fee which isn't gratefully received. Many thanks for your assistance.

IT'S YOUR NEWSLETTER, YOUR SPORT, YOUR VOICE

Web Site

Please contact Jackie on 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

Isle Target Sports Club Range Update

The ITSC range will have a Grand Re-opening Ceremony on Sunday **21 August 2005** with **Clay Shooting** and a **Hog Roast**. The range will be opening at 10.00 am with the hog roast from 1.00 pm. A round of clays will cost £5 so come along and try if you haven't already done so.



The range has been refurbished and extended so there will be 8 benched firing points at 25m with 2 firing points at 50m—all of which are covered. The range will also be certified for full-bore shooting—full details will be available when the range safety certificate is issued.

Please support ITSC in this event, as BRPC will be holding shoots there, probably as Guest Days, so we that can encourage more shooters to join the Club and encourage more people into shooting.

This range can also be used to chronograph your loads so you don't waste valuable shooting time at Bassingbourn Barracks or Barton Road, and you know that your loads are legal!!!

See us at www.brpc.org.uk

15 September 2005 is the Deadline for October 2005 issue

RCOs Urgently Needed (Reminder)

The Club is in urgent need of more RCOs, so it is intended to run an NRA RCO course later in the year, probably in September 2005 over a weekend. The cost of the course per person will be around £25 and passing it will lead to an NRA Range Conducting Officer qualification which will enable you to run a Target/Match/Gallery ranges for 6 years before renewal. The instruction will be carried out by an NRA RCO Assessor and will last one day, with a practical assessment on a range.

Please contact the Secretary if you are seriously interested along with weekend dates that you would be available in August, September and October.

Remaining 2005 Range Dates

The remaining dates for 2005 are:

- ☛ 31 July—**Barton Road** — 600m - **NOT** a Guest day - no visitors please
- ☛ 14 August—**Barton Road** — 100m and 200m including the **Any Rifle, Any Sights competition (at 200m)** - **NOT** a Guest Day—no visitors please
- ☛ 24 September—**Barton Road** — Long Range Shoot—**NOT** a Guest day (members—£10 range fee)
- ☛ 25 September—**Bassingbourn Barracks** — **Varmint competition** (max 5.56/.223)
- ☛ 9 October—**Barton Road** — 100m and 200m—Guest day
- ☛ 16 October—**Bassingbourn Barracks** — **Club members only** (max 5.56/.223)
- ☛ 30 October—**Barton Road** - **Service Rifle Competition** —100m, 200m and 300m — **NOT** a Guest day
- ☛ 12 November—**Barton Road** — Long Range Shoot—**NOT** a Guest day (members—£10 range fee)
- ☛ 27 November—**Barton Road** — 200m and 400m - **Buffalo competition** — Guest day
- ☛ 11 December—**Barton Road** — 100m and 200m - **Xmas competitions** — **NOT** a Guest day

Please note changes in Guest Days

These may be subject to change and will be advised on the website and in the newsletters. Please check these.

Change in the Running of Barton Road Range (Reminder)

Just a reminder that Barton Road shoot will be split into two groups as normal with the first party doing butts/sentries for half the morning and then swapping over. As there was a very positive response to this after the June shoot (well done Russell!!!) all shoots will follow in this manner which should mean that there will be more shooting time available for everyone.

Keeping Up-to-Date without Internet Access

If, at anytime, you become an Internet surfer, therefore able to access the Newsletters online, please contact the Secretary so that the Club can save money on postage. You will then receive an email when the latest newsletter is available for reading. Until then, please ensure that you call **07092 051804** to keep up-to-date with the range dates.

Keeping Up-to-Date with Internet Access

The website at www.brpc.org.uk now gives you the opportunity to be automatically informed when pages change.

When you next visit the website, you will find that the Home, Members Only, Shooting Dates and Competitions pages all have links so that you can receive an email when they are changed. This is through a website called ChangeNotes.com



Other pages can be added to your list by typing in the website address of that particular page (or by selecting it in the address bar, copy and paste it into the ChangeNotes page).

Competition Rules

Pre-1939 Rifle Competition

Any full-bore rifle, cartridge or muzzle loading, with open or original battle sights (no peep-sights).

100m, 13 shots, 10 to count, at PS1 target. Shooting will be "Bisley-style" (i.e. no part of the rifle, shooter's hands or forearm to be in contact with the ground). Weapons to be scrutinised by a Club official. Prone or weapon pits - no bags or bipods.

Any Rifle, Any Sights

Any rifle of any calibre, with any sights (from fixed iron to laser). 200m, 10 shots, 1 target. Bench-rest conditions will apply, i.e. any kind of rest, apparatus etc. may be used, subject only to range regulations..

Varmint

Any .22 calibre rifle (subject to range safety certificate), any sights. 100m, 10 rounds with 2 sighters at targets to be decided by the Competition organisers. Bench-rest conditions will apply, i.e. any kind of rest, apparatus etc. may be used, subject only to range regulations.

Service Rifle Competition

The Service Rifle competition can be shot with any Service Rifle that has issue sights. Issue slings are permitted, but no rests eg bipods. The course of fire will be:

100 metres - 2 sighters, 10 shots in 1 minute, standing, kneeling or sitting. Compulsory reload after 5 shots

200 metres - 2 sighters, 10 shots prone unsupported - 5 minutes maximum. Compulsory reload after 5 shots

300 metres - 2 sighters, 10 shots prone unsupported - 5 minutes maximum. Compulsory reload after 5 shots

Maximum of 5 rounds on the gun. Stripper clips are allowed.

Buffalo

Any rifle over .40 calibre on targets with scoring zones to be shot at 200 yds (shoot off at 300 yds if a draw). Shot from a sitting position - crossed sticks allowed - no bipods.

12 shots including 2 marked sighters - best 10 to score.

Money Shoot

£1.00 to enter (paid at start of morning), winner with highest score wins the pot.

Turkey Shoot

10 rounds at 100 yds, Any Rifle, Any Sights. Standing, unsupported, sling may be used - no sticks/bipods allowed.



RIFLE MAINTENANCE

by Andrew Evans-Hendrick (Riflecraft Limited)

(Website—www.riflecraft.co.uk)

This is a subject very close to my heart. Done correctly it can prolong the accuracy of your rifle to give you many years of trouble-free shooting. Done incorrectly it is worse than no maintenance at all and usually shortens the rifles accurate life considerably.

THE BEGINNING

From new the rifle must be treated with care. It must be "run in" like a good quality sports car. Initially you should follow a policy of "shoot one and clean" for the first 20 -30 rounds. Then move onto cleaning every 5 rounds for the next 50 rounds. Finally you should clean every time you shoot no matter how many rounds. This will ensure your rifle is given the best possible chance of serving you well.

CLEANING POLICY

Try to follow the same routine every time you clean your rifle. Use good quality equipment and never be rushed into doing a poor job. You are protecting a valuable investment. You will need the following:

- **A Bore Guide.** This is the single most important piece of rifle cleaning equipment and yet is usually the piece most people do not own. It is responsible for preventing the type of bore damage that leads to 90 of all re-barrelling jobs undertaken by rifleshooters.
- **A Good Rod.** A plastic coated cleaning rod is next. The coating prevents damage to the bore, although they must also be cleaned to stop them becoming impregnated with fouling and in turn becoming abrasive themselves.
- **Jags & Brushes.** Spear pointed jags are far easier to use and are kinder to the bore, but if not available the standard type will do. All brushes must be phosphor bronze with a bronze core. (nylon brushes have some use in conjunction with JB paste) steel brushes are to be avoided at all costs.
- **Patches.** If you are using spear pointed jags these should be specific to the calibre of your rifle. If not, you may buy it in rolls and cut it off as required. Always get good quality.

Solvents & Oils. There should be no need to get a "chemist's shop" full of cleaning solvents, all you need is one good Nitro/Copper solvent. The oil chosen should be capable of both protecting and lubricating.

The cleaning regime begins with the removal of any external dirt/water on the rifle. Replace the lens caps on your scope to prevent the "blooming" from being accidentally removed by solvent, and place a cloth over your stock behind the action to catch any stray solution. Place the rifle in a rest, assemble your equipment and follow the routine below.

- Insert the bore guide, place the jag on the rod, and push one solvent soaked patch through the bore and leave to soak for 5 minutes.
- Place the Phosphor bronze brush on the rod, apply the solvent and cycle 10 times, (1 cycle is through and back). Ensuring the brush only partly exits the muzzle. Leave to soak for a further 5 minutes.
- Replace the jag on the rod and push 2-3 cleaning patches through the bore to remove the solvent. Stop when the patches emerge clean.
- If the fouling is still present after the above then use JB paste as directed. This is only periodically - necessary on new guns but becomes more frequent as the rifle wears.
- Push one oil soaked patch through the bore prior to storage.
- Prior to taking your rifle out again push a patch soaked with meths through the bore followed by 1-2 dry patches, this will prevent your first round from being wild.

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Always clean from the chamber end, even with lever action or semi-auto rifles as to enter the bore via the muzzle could easily damage the crown and render the rifle inaccurate until the crown is re-cut.

The external surfaces can be protected with a "light" film of oil. Be aware that oil and solvents can damage some synthetic stock materials and all bedding compounds.

PERIODIC CHECKS

From time to time you should go through a "checklist" to prevent minor problems becoming major ones.

This list is also useful if for some reason your rifle fails to perform as it usually does, or it takes a knock and you want to check it over.

- Check the muzzle crown with a torch.
- Check the barrel still free floats.
- Check all scope mounting screws, including bases.
- Check stock / action screws.

If none of the above clear the problem:

- Remove the rifle from its stock and inspect the bedding area.
- If the scope is in doubt, replace it with another scope.

If the problem still persists take the rifle to a good "**RIFLESMITH**". This is a grey area for most people who are used to trusting their High Street gunsmith. Unfortunately very few real rifleshooters and many charlatans inhabit the world of precision rifle accuracy. You must be guided by your peers and your own good sense as to whether the firm you take your rifle to are competent or not, but a good indication is how much very accurate rifleshootering work they perform. This would include bench rest, target, 1000 yard and varmint rifle building, accurising and servicing.

"This must not be seen as painting an impossibly poor picture of the state of rifleshootering in the UK. There are many excellent rifleshooters around; you just need to know how to find them.

**With permission from Andrew Evans-Hendrick
Riflecraft Limited**

Future Newsletter—How to shoot in your New Rifle to get the best out of it—courtesy of Riflecraft Limited

RIFLE TRAINING COURSES

Instructed by Riflecraft Limited

MODULE 1

GENERAL RIFLE 2 DAY THEORY AND RANGE WORK

**(ABRIDGED 1 DAY VERSION
AVAILABLE ON ONE TO ONE
BASIS)**

The Cornerstone of the course, described by Police as "the desired level of knowledge displayed by all Firearm Certificate holders".

- Safety
- Law
- Equipment
- Maintenance
- Ballistics
- Distance Judging
- Zeroing
- Shooting Positions

MODULE 2

LONG RANGE 2 DAY THEORY AND RANGE WORK

The Module builds on the knowledge gained in Module 1, to take the shooter to a level where they can locate and engage targets, at any range, in any conditions, with accuracy up to 600 metres.

- Advanced Distance Judging
- Advanced Ballistics
- Wind Judgement and Corrections
- Advanced Observation Techniques

MODULE 3

PRECISION 2 DAY THEORY AND RANGE WORK

To take the rifle shot further we cover the equipment and techniques needed to develop your shooting to the next degree, including hitting moving targets.

- Precision Accessories
- Moving Targets

Contact Riflecraft on 01379 384230 for further details and course dates. Please mention Bassingbourn Rifle & Pistol Club when you enquire.

Items for Sale

Parker Hale Safari 7 x 57 incl rings

For sale at £300

243 Tikka deluxe in wood stock including mounts

Rifle originally cost £700 new plus mounts, will sell for £500

(Also included all reloading dies, brass and spare bullets)

CZ .17HMR with heavy barrel and T4 moderator with some ammunition

Has only fired 100 rounds—Originally cost £600, will sell with a Simmons Whitetail scope as fitted for £500 ono

Also for sale - a quantity of 7mm Remington Magnum brass and reloading dies – ask the seller for more details if interested

If interested, contact Roger Benson

roger@springers17.fsnet.co.uk

Ruger 10/22

An excellent condition and well cared for Ruger 10/22 for sale, customised with:

- Hogue stock
- Tasco 4*40 Golden Antler tv view scope
- Volquartsen
 - auto bolt release / exact edge extractor
 - extended magazine release / recoil buffer
- Butler Creeks
- 2 x 30 + 2 x 10 round magazines
- Speed loader for magazines
- Rimfire Magic magazine service kit and Sling

Priced for quick sale at £300.00

Contact Jackie Parker on behalf of the seller

Email: jackie.parker@brpc.org.uk or Call: 07880 720810

Winchester .357

- Standard Winchester
- Will supply weaver sight mounts and telescopic 3-9x40

Priced at £350 ono

Remington 870

- Volley sights (slug sights) /Poly choke
- Hand guard for speed loading
- Sling and sling swivels
- 12 rnd mag tube and 5 rnd mag tube with short and long springs
- New ejector / Wooden stock

Priced at £200

Contact Richard Larman on 07950 254731 regarding either rifle

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 .223/5.56mm, 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	Ed Walters
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

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