

- The Single Shot Black Powder Cartridge Rifle Club of Great Britain -

Affiliated to the N.R.A. - No. 1285

NEWSLETTER

No.1 - April 2002

The First Editorial

Welcome to the first of our Club newsletters. Hopefully as we grow from strength to strength, it will be followed by many more.

As with nearly all clubs and organisations, the quality of what comes out is usually governed by what goes in. This also applies to newsletters, so feel free to contribute anything at any time. Send in and share with us any interesting articles, tips or advice you think other members may benefit from. If you've got something to sell or you are looking for something to buy, use the newsletter to get your message over. We'll set up a classified section specifically for this purpose. Feel free to ask questions if you want to know something. There's bound to be someone who has the answer! By encouraging lively discussion we can probably all learn something to our advantage. Something which might help to make us better shots or increase our appreciation of this most satisfying and enjoyable side to shooting, or both.

Since the Club was formed only in the latter part of last year, it's still very much in its infancy. We have only really become active in the true sense of the word, since the first of the two annual silhouette shoots held at the end of March. If all other events run as smoothly, then we have nothing to worry about. Clive Taylor and I breathed a sigh of relief that everything had gone to plan! Even the weather was on our side, although the wind did start to get a little gusty in the afternoon. This just added to the challenge of hitting that turkey and ram at 500 yards. It would also be fair to say that there was a feeling of satisfaction among all those present at the end of the competition, knowing we had the makings of some really exciting competitions and fun times

ahead. But more importantly, the vision and decision to form The Single Shot Black Powder Cartridge Rifle Club of Great Britain had been the right one.

Apart from the success of the inaugural shoot, we now have our own web site which went live on 1st April. All thanks for the design layout and hard work must go to Clive, although I do take some responsibility for encouraging him (some would say nagging). If you get a chance, check it out at www.ssbpcrc.co.uk

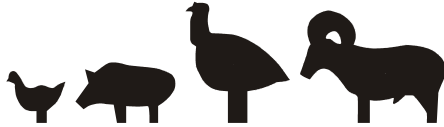
If you live out in the wilderness and haven't yet hooked up to Internet technology, you can always access the Club site at most libraries. You'll find links to all sorts of other sites from around the world. Similarly, our web site is advertised on some American club sites and the comments appearing in the 'guest book' are most encouraging. The site will be regularly updated with news, competition results and photographs. Please let us know if you have any ideas or additions. That's about it for this issue. Thank you for your interest and support...more later.

Phil Morgan

Bisley target bookings

Target booking at Bisley has become very expensive. The cost for a single target with NRA marker is about £110. Because of the timing and nature of our competitions, we are restricted to a maximum of 6 per lane for the Silhouette shoot and 7/8 for the Buffalo. As the Club grows, we shall be in a position to book extra targets as we need them. However, for now, it is vital that everyone pre-books the competitions. If you don't, there's no guarantee that you will shoot.

Spring Silhouette Shoot



The very first Spring Silhouette Shoot couldn't have gone better. The weather was great and allowed all shooters to quickly get on target at 300 yards for the pig and chicken. To facilitate sighting-in, we shot at the pig first. This presented a bigger sight picture which enabled those without sight settings for this distance to get on target quicker. Geoff Hoden brought along his own spotter, Mike, who had enough optical capability to see the moons of Jupiter. That's what's it's all about Geoff ... team work!



Geoff Hoden waiting for his ram to 'fall'.

At 500 yards it was easy to get the elevation sorted out quickly. However, because of an unpredictable and gusty cross wind from the left, only Clive Taylor managed to nail 6/10 rams with his big .45-120 (3¼"). I knew it would come in handy for something, Clive. He also managed to 'straight' all 10 pigs and while he was on a roll, scored 6 out of 10 chickens to win the coveted High Chicken award. Now there's a prize worth winning.



Nick Steadman letting go at a chicken at 300 yards – boy are they small at this distance!

Results

The final results for the Spring shoot on 30th March were as follows:

Competitor	C	P	T	R	Total	Class
Clive Taylor	6	10	1	6	23	AAA
Geoff Hoden	3	6	4	4	17	AA
Phil Morgan	4	7	0	4	15	A
Nick Steadman	1	8	1	2	12	A



An historical day – The Famous Four on Century range. From left to right: Nick Steadman, Phil Morgan, Clive Taylor and Geoff Hoden. Mike took the picture.

A fine 'gaggle' of rifles ...

Thought you'd like to see some of the rifles used at the first comp. From the top they are:-
 Pedersoli Sharps "Quigley" in .45-120 (3¼")
 Pedersoli Remington RB "Custer" in .45-70
 Shiloh Sharps "Hartford" in .45-70
 Shiloh Sharps "Long Range Express" in .45-70



The Autumn shoot is on 28th September so get practising. The annual trophy is well worth the effort. To wet your appetites, this and the Buffalo trophy are pictured below. The Buffalo trophy is kindly sponsored by Geoff Hoden. If anyone would like to sponsor the Silhouette trophy, let us know.



The Buffalo and Silhouette Trophies – awarded annually for the highest score of the year.

Don't forget the first Buffalo shoot is on 18th May.