



March Newsletter

World Championship 2008

Well the dates have now been fixed, 27th July – 3rd August, and we are slowly getting ourselves ready for the big one. How many countries are actually taking part is a bit confusing as some would say twelve and others reckon seventeen whatever the number is, it's going to be a great event and a lot of fun.

The team has been selected and we will be able to cover all the disciplines for the event and just so you know who is going, here are all the members:

Jim Andrews
Andy Simpson
Robin Brown
Garry Kingaby
Carl Boswell
Colin Renwick
John Farrell
Andy Dubreuil
Ken Stockham
Adrian Hasell
Christine Stockham
Brian Kelly

I hope all the clubs will give the team members as much support as they need in the lead up to the championships over the coming months.



Jim Andrews and the German Xanton Shoot

Our very own Jim Andrews was invited by Carlo Caricato to the Xanton shoot in Germany earlier this month and this is what Jim had to say about his time there.

'Xanton is a small rural town close to the Dutch border in the Rhein valley. The local club range is on the edge of a forest beauty spot which is well used by the locals. For safety reasons the actual range is underground and they have two 50m ranges, one being reserved for testing. The club house is a long, low building which also houses two S/F pistol areas, and two air rifle areas. All ranges have "haring" electronic target changers with a direct link to the scorer's desk, the first scoring being done by eye.



It should be noted at this stage that it is not the done thing to challenge the scores, and considering the shoot was an invitation match by the top 40 benchrest shooters in Europe; in fact, 38 turned up, with a 28 year old lady shooting her first target and achieving a 250 with 18 Xs. Her total of the

three targets was just two points off.

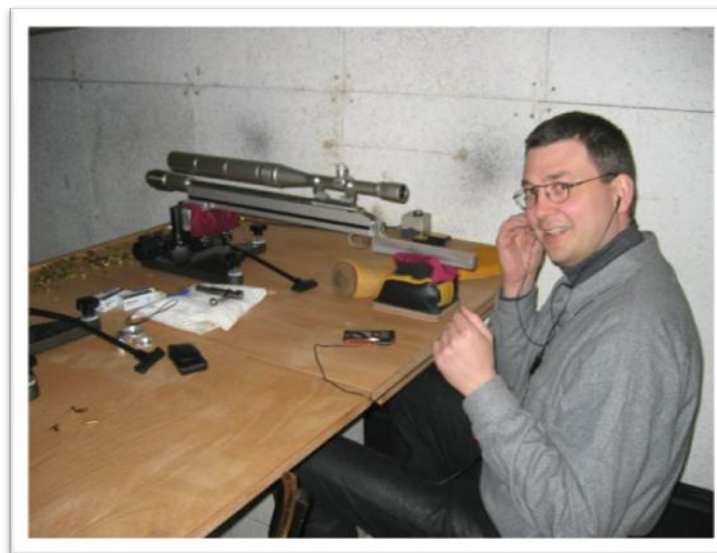


Not to be discouraged, and with a borrowed rifle and some Allermann training ammunition I managed to finish 17th place out the 38 visitors who shot the full course of fire.

A full Sunday roast lunch was laid on for all, and at the presentation, just 4 people managed to collect all seven

trophies. All in all, a very interesting day's shooting; everyone was very friendly, most making fun of my German pronunciation, likewise my fun of their English.

A nice country hotel, good food, and finishing in the top 20 of a bunch of great shooters left me feeling very pleased after a perfect weekend.



One very noticeable thing which stands out in my mind is every shooter there was willing to view others' targets and make polite observations and suggestions about guns, scopes and ammo; this is a good example of their attitude to shooting. The best rifle (unlimited class) I noticed was made to order and cost just of

over £2,700. Boy do they take their shooting seriously!'

Thanks for that Jim. It sounds like he had a good time; just a shame he was not able to take his own kit with him.



This brings me nicely onto the problems with some airlines when travelling with firearms. Jim told me he travelled with FlyB and they would not allow firearms on their aircrafts. If you do travel abroad you need to check that the airline will take firearms and ammo. You need to know what paperwork is required by the country you are visiting as you are in all senses exporting a rifle, even if it is just for a weekend. So for members of the team who are making their own flight arrangements, make sure you have all the information and make sure that you are able to take everything you need.

Eley roll out new ammo and packaging

For most of us here in the UK we have been using Eley ammo for benchrest shooting for a long time. But the next time you go out to stock up you may be surprised to see a new branding and more of a selection to choose from. So to make things a bit easier, here is a breakdown of the new branding.



This replaces the ultimate EPS.



This replaces the Match EPS.



This is an improved version of the Club.



This is the standard Club.



This is what Eley called entry level ammo.

There are a lot more to choose from but for benchrest shooters, these are the main ones to look out for. Check out Eley's new website for more details:
www.eley.co.uk



Phoenix Fare in May

At the beginning of the year we rolled out our first brochure to introduce clubs and their members to our sport. It has done really well, bringing nearly 30 new members to the Association and we are sure that there are more to follow. It's a great start to promoting our sport to those that are looking for something new, and for clubs to offer its members a new discipline to add to what they already do.

In May is the Phoenix Fare and we are considering possibly having a stand for two days of the event. We would like to hear from members that may be interested in giving some of their time to man the stand to promote our sport. If you are interested in helping out, even for just one day, then we would like to hear from you. We are looking for at least six members to help. All you have to do is show your gear off and be able answer questions from the public and give them a card if they are interested. To find out more please contact me by email (ukbr22info@talktalk.net).

Till next time... good shooting!

Andy Dubreuil