



Mid and Long Range Shooting

March sees the commencement of the mid (200-600 yards) and long (900/1000 yards) range match series for military and target rifles at Bisley. The first event will be the National 200 yard Rifle Competition on 13 March. The remaining matches are scheduled for April and May, culminating with the 900 and 1000 yard matches on the Schutzenfest weekend. If you shoot 100m rifle events, then you certainly have all the equipment necessary for the mid-range events. Matches for military rifles, typically Enfield's, are held at ranges out to 600 yards. Small-bore (.451) rifles are used at ranges out to 1000 yards (and on occasions 1200 yards). Even if you are a novice at these disciplines do come along. Many friendly, helpful, and experienced members who can offer advice and encouragement will welcome you.



Yes there are targets down there!
David Minshall takes aim at 1100 yards.

The mid-range matches offer opportunity to gain valuable experience in shooting on open ranges at progressively greater distances, prior to the long-range matches. Besides knowing how to get the best from your rifle you also need to learn how to cope with the prevailing atmospheric conditions; light, temperature, humidity and of course wind all conspire to make the bulls-eye at 1000 yards rather elusive at times!

This year the MLAGB is hosting the 5th MLAIC Long Range World Championships at Bisley in September. The final Great Britain team selection will not be made until after the MLAGB's 1000 yard National Championship match in May. A training squad has, however, been formed from whom the team selection will ultimately be made.

Arms Fair

Both collectors and shooters are reminded of the MLAGB arms fair to be held at the Association Club House, the Exhibition Hut, at Bisley on Saturday 5 March. Doors open at 9:00am for dealer set up, and tables are available at £15. Doors open to all at 10:00am and the entry fee is £2. A bar and food will be available. There will be a table available free to Association members but the limit is two items only per person. Enquiries and table bookings should be addressed to: John Marsh, tel. 01923 243201.

OTF Fundraiser Matches



The 'healthy' recoil of the flint musket!
Not for the faint-hearted, but terrific fun...

The dates for the Rifle and Pistol Secretary's popular matches in aid of the Overseas Team Fund (OTF) are the weekend of 9/10 April. Now expanded to two days this competition at Wedgcock has a full program of musket, rifle and pistol events. Coming at the start of the competition season the event offers chance to clear out the cobwebs or evaluate your winter training progress as your fancy dictates! This competition is shot in a relaxed atmosphere and is a good way to renew acquaintances and hopefully meet new shooters. As in the past there will be prizes and not medals for the winners.

The OTF fund exists to contribute towards the substantial costs incurred by shooters who represent Great Britain and the MLAGB in international shooting events. Please support this worthy cause and enjoy a weekend shooting in pleasant company and a friendly atmosphere.

See the MLAGB web site calendar for entry forms.

Pistol & Rifle Shooting at Bisley

The MLAGB has a series of range bookings at Bisley throughout the year for both pistol and rifle shooters. Pistol shoots are on Cheylesmore Range and rifle on Short Siberia (at 100m). They are ideal for those who wish to enjoy a relaxed shoot with friends or those competitive spirits who wish to undertake regular training sessions to fine tune their skills. These bookings are made for members and are self funded. Forthcomings dates appear in the calendar of events below and the full program for the year is available via the MLAGB web site.

DTL Training at Sywell

New dates for Down the Line (DTL) have been booked at Sywell Ranges, situated on the A43 Northampton/Wellington Road. These you will find listed in the MLAGB calendar of events. Sywell offers excellent facilities and new shooters are welcomed, and encouraged, to try this demanding discipline. Full training or coaching can be given if desired by World Champions such as Peter Capewell or Mike Munnerley. Contact Jane Capewell at dtl@mlagb.com.

Welsh Open

A regular fixture for March for the past few years has been the 'Welsh Black Powder Rifle and Pistol Open Championships' at Pickwick Club Range, Ewenny, Nr Bridgend. This year the event has been moved to 2/3 July. Organized by the Welsh Muzzle Loaders Association the match includes pistol and rifle disciplines at 25m and 50m. Prospective international shooters should make a note of this event as it is one of the matches at which qualifying scores may be shot for consideration of selection to the MLAGB team to compete in the 2006 World Championships in France. An entry form can be found on the events calendar on the MLAGB web site (www.mlagb.com) or obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to: Bob Everitt, Upper Mill, Cefn Coch, Welshpool, Powys SY21 OAH. (telephone 01938 810381 or email bobeveritt@aol.com).

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