



Team Journal – Day 16

Friday 7th April



A picture that appeared after the presses had rolled yesterday - the exact moment when Richard realised that his lunch was missing.

We can report that the team had an excellent dinner at the Beef Baron last night. Pete 'Wonderboy' Holden warmed up with 2 x 250g steaks before polishing off Stuart's ribs. On the subject of Pete, those who know his shooting might have wondered why he has not been performing to his normal excellent standard. It came to light a couple of days ago that the bedding of his rifle had not survived BA's tender care. Overnight a kind South African shooter rebedded it (our thanks to Ozzy Penzhorn). This morning it was judged that the bedding would have dried sufficiently, however the results at 300m suggested quite firmly that all was still not well. Peter has therefore reverted to using Woody's spare rifle.

This morning we started with the Dalrymple (10 at 300m and 11 at 600m). The day started more overcast than previously this meeting. However, by the second detail we

had a familiar Bloem day - sunny, getting warm and with a fickle wind shifting through zero. There were four 105s - Nigel Ball headed the cast with 105.12, leading Paul Charlton and Jonathan Haward (11) and Jeremy Langley (9).

There followed the Municipal at 800m (10 to count). Now this was a tricky shoot. The wind ranged between ½ left and 6 right for the first detail - it looked easier for the second detail (as usual). There were no possibles from the team here - the top GB scores were 49.3 (Paul Charlton and Matt Button) and 49.2 (your correspondent).

An odd occurrence at 800m. The person on your correspondent's right (one Hennie Gerber from Pretoria) had fired two v-bull sighters (impressive itself in the circumstances) when a fledgling bird landed on the back of his shooting hat and began to peck at his left ear defender. Hennie enquired what was happening behind him and when told that his assailant was merely a small bird, carried on shooting. In all he fired three shots (including at least one more v-bull) while being pecked. An impressive illustration of the unflappability (as it were) of the South African shottist.



Hennie Gerber - bird rest and shottist extraordinaire



That bird undergoes treatment from the team vet - see how useful this often-overlooked team post has turned out to be - first a lion and now a bird

After lunch was the Dave Smith Cup - a 900m shoot which has the same capacity to be a Grand Agg slaughterer as our very own Corp (although it must be said that Corped works better as a verb than Dave Smithed). When it came to it, however, the wind had settled somewhat, although there were changes enough to push the unwary into the inner ring. Undoubtedly the star here was David Calvert who scored 50.9 (a very impressive shoot - even if he was on that easier second detail).

The results continue to reach our desk from as long ago as Monday - the Free State Pairs and Foursomes matches. The Pairs was won by the South African pairing of D Steyn and S Steyn (205.16) with David Dodds and Peter Bramley in second place (204.17). In the Foursomes match all of the first three places were taken by GB teams with the Langley/Shouler/Holmes/your correspondent team taking the top slot. In the Dalrymple Competition this morning four GB team members placed in the top 10 - Nigel Ball (5th - 105.12), Jonathan Haward (7th - 105.11), Paul Charlton (8th - 105.11) and Jeremy Langley (9th - 105.9).

The GB shottist-of-the-day daily agg was won by David, aided by that 50.9 to a total of 201.24 ex 205. Following hard on his heels was your correspondent (reporting from as close to the front line as possible) with 201.19. In third place was Jeremy Langley with 199.18.



Today's shottist-of-the-day pin-up is David (55), from Cambridge

This evening the team is hosting its charity dinner at the Lettie Fouché School for the Mentally Handicapped. We have sent 120 invitations, have brushed down our No.1s and the wine is on ice. Further details will follow tomorrow.

	DALRYMPLE 300	CUP 600	TOTAL	MUNICIPAL CUP 800	DAVE SMITH CUP 900	DAILY AGGREGATE
Captain	48.4	50.1	98.5	47.2	43.1	188.5
Chris Fitzpatrick	50.6	53.4	104.0	43.3	49.2	196.5
Jonathan Haward	50.4	55.7	106.1	47.2	46.0	198.2
Nick Tremlett	49.8	53.5	103.3	47.6	48.5	197.2
David Calvert	50.8	53.3	104.1	48.4	50.9	201.2
Stuart Collings	47.3	55.7	103.0	47.5	49.4	198.9
Nigel Ball	50.7	55.5	106.2	47.4	45.1	197.7
Matt Button	47.5	52.3	99.8	49.0	48.3	196.4
Paul Charlton	50.7	55.4	106.1	49.3	45.3	199.7
John Deane	50.4	54.4	104.8	47.4	47.2	198.4
Rupert Dix	50.4	54.5	104.9	47.4	48.3	199.6
Peter Griggs	50.5	51.2	101.7	47.2	46.0	194.9
Peter Holden	46.4	53.1	99.5	48.1	48.4	195.0
Jonathan Holmes	50.7	53.4	104.1	48.1	46.3	197.5
Richard Jeens	50.8	53.4	104.2	47.1	49.2	199.5
Jeremy Langley	50.4	55.5	105.9	48.5	46.4	199.8
Richard Shouler	49.5	54.4	103.9	47.4	48	198
Alistair Speirs	50.8	54.5	105.3	49.2	48.4	201.9
James Watson	48.4	53.3	101.7	46.2	49.6	196.6
Alexander Woodward	50.5	53.4	103.9	47.2	43	193
JUDY SCOTT LANSLEY	49.5	52.2	101.7	45.3	42.1	188.1

The scores of the day as recorded on the stats bus
(any errors or omissions are entirely the responsibility of others)