



# Great Britain Tour Diary 2006

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August**

*By That Correspondent*

For those shooting in the Canada match there was an early night and then an early morning, to be behind the 300 yards firing point for 07:20 in the morning. There was a fresher wind than we had seen previously, which was only going to add to the interest; however it did appear to be fairly steady from the right, making the coaches' job slightly easier.

Reggie had the right target with Gaz as a plotter, and Matt Charlton the left backed up by Henry, with the Nick Hinchliffe and Martin running the show from the rear. The firers made a good start, with a number of 50.9s being scored, and only a single point was dropped at the shortest range. We did get a bit of a minor shock when we found out that the Canadians had gone clean with all of their eight shooters, while the Americans had dropped two points. There were more shocks to come unfortunately.

After another of the generous breaks that we seem to get between ranges here in Canada, we kicked off 500 with another round of 50s, but at this point, a very large spanner was thrown into the works. The left-hand target's second firer's coach and plotter watched his final shot go into the target in the general vicinity of the previous one; however shortly before he fired, the spotter fell out. When the target was pulled, it stayed down for an inauspiciously long time, before re-emerging with a very low-right magpie. Err... RANGE OFFICER!

The right-hand target decided to ignore the hiatus which followed and crack on with as little disturbance as possible, while on the left the coach, Adjutant and Captain entered into a hurried discussion with the range officer and then the chief range officer as to the likely provenance and prognosis of the wayward shot. It was believed that as the spotter had been missing and the shot had been seen to go into the bullseye, another round could be allowed; however in the end we had to accept the magpie and get on with it. The good news was that the team kept a very cool head and kept everything else in the bull to allow the team to overtake the Canadians by a point. By this point, the USA Palma and German BDMP teams had dropped back a little.

Moving back to six hundred, normal operation resumed and the whole team got back into the groove of coaching, shooting and plotting to great effect. Only another two points were dropped at six hundred to see GB extend its lead over the Canadians and US teams. Winning by three points in such a tight match, despite having had the unexpected bite was an enormous joy and relief.

The Canada Match (300, 500, 600 yards)

1. GREAT BRITAIN 1195.157
2. CANADA 1192.135
3. USA 1186.129
4. GERMANY 1153.89

As it happened, we were never in danger of losing, apparently. Kitty shared with us the secret of our success; she had worn her Union Flag knickers for luck!

The Athelings also managed to put out a team to compete against the Canadians in the Under 25 short range match; however they were not quite so lucky and lost out to a very good score, by 1162 points to 1185.

A long break for lunch ensued. Many of those not shooting in the Governor General's final disappeared back to the hotel for a shower, a nap and to change for the prize-giving later in the afternoon.

The fresh winds of the morning continued into the afternoon, and appeared nearly as steady. This was borne out by a number of fine scores at 800 metres, with DC, Dave Luckman, Henry Jeens and Nigel Ball coming back to the final range still clean. Emil Praslick III and Jim Paton also carried back the full complement of 225 points.

At 1000 yards, the conditions were generally very good, and the wind streamed from the right with around seven minutes required to keep them all in the bull. There were some excellent scores going down, but gradually each of the shooters who had gone in clean dropped one or more points, except one. The winner of the Governor General's Prize also had the highest score of the day in addition to their 150 from the President's match. At the end, only Dave Calvert was left with an outstanding 300.42 ex 300.60 to win the Patron's match and the Governor General's Prize; an outstanding achievement given the conditions and the accomplished field against which he was competing. Dave Luckman took the silver medal, a fine addition to his gold cross.

#### The Governor General's Prize

1. David Calvert 400.42
2. David Luckman 399.44
3. Alain Marion (Canada) 299.43
4. Jane Messer 299.41
8. Danny Coleman 299.37
9. Henry Jeens 299.29
10. Toby Raincock 298.40
11. Jon Underwood 298.39
14. Nigel Ball 298.34
16. Ross McQuillan 298.32
17. James Watson 298.31
22. Nick Brasier 297.35
29. Andy Luckman 296.34
32. Iain Robertson 296.29
33. Matt Charlton 296.27
36. Rick Shouler 295.38
42. John Pugsley 295.28
45. David Armstrong 293.34

It had been a great day for British rifle shooting, and there was a great haul of silverware and assorted other trophies lined up when the team photo was taken outside the DCRA building after the prizegiving. We all then retired to the clubhouse for the announcement of the team which would compete in the America match the following day, before heading over to the NCCRA for a celebratory beer with our Canadian hosts. Unfortunately, on the way, that which had threatened so many times finally happened; the bearers lost their footing and managed to fling the prizewinner out of the chair. Fortunately, Rick Shouler held everything in place long enough for DC to jump clear, avoiding probable broken bones, and other than a badly bruised shoulder for Rick, no harm was done. Nice one Rick. His reward is to be an observer in the butts tomorrow, with the all-female pit crew.

#### *Saturday's Results (GBRT unless otherwise stated)*

The Patron's Match (800, 900m, i.e. the Governor General's Final alone)

1. CALVERT, DAVID 150v20
2. WATSON, JAMES 150v14
3. MC QUILLAN, ROSS 150v13
5. LUCKMAN, DAVID 149v22
7. RAINCOCK, TOBY 149v20
9. LUCKMAN, ANDY 149v19
10. COLEMAN, DANNY 149v18
11. UNDERWOOD, JON 149v18
16. MESSER, JANE 149v16

17. ROBERTSON, IAIN (Scotland) 149v16
20. JEENS, HENRY 149v13
23. CHARLTON, MATT 149v11
24. SHOULER, RICK 148v20
25. BRASIER, NICK 148v18

Canadian Open TR Championship

1. LUCKMAN, DAVID 1077v149
2. MC QUILLAN, ROSS 1075v126
3. MARION, ALAIN (Canada) 1074v124
4. MESSER, JANE 1073v123
6. CALVERT, DAVID 1071v140
8. JEENS, HENRY 1071v123
9. UNDERWOOD, JON 1070v141
10. BALL, NIGEL 1068v114
14. RAINCOCK, TOBY 1064v135
17. COLEMAN, DANNY 1063v129
20. BRASIER, NICK 1062v119
21. WATSON, JAMES 1062v110
23. LUCKMAN, ANDY 1061v112
24. PUGSLEY, JOHN 1061v111
26. ARMSTRONG, DAVID 1060v130
30. ROBERTSON, IAIN (Scotland) 1058v96
37. SHOULER, RICK 1054v116
47. CHARLTON, MATT 1048v98

Aggregate for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

1. LUCKMAN, DAVID 1351v182
2. MARION, ALAIN (Canada) 1348v159
3. MC QUILLAN, ROSS 1348v156
4. MESSER, JANE 1345v151
5. CALVERT, DAVID 1344v182
6. UNDERWOOD, JON 1344v178
10. BALL, NIGEL 1338v149
11. JEENS, HENRY 1338v148
12. COLEMAN, DANNY 1337v168
13. RAINCOCK, TOBY 1336v166
16. BRASIER, NICK 1334v152
17. PUGSLEY, JOHN 1334v144
18. LUCKMAN, ANDY 1334v138
19. ARMSTRONG, DAVID 1332v168
21. WATSON, JAMES 1331v142
27. ROBERTSON, IAIN (Scotland) 1327v119
30. SHOULER, RICK 1323v154
38. CHARLTON, MATT 1313v126
49. MORRIS, GAZ 1188v132

Champion Pairs

1. THE IRISH 2146v266 (CALVERT, MC QUILLAN)
2. BALLCOCK 2132v249 (BALL, RAINCOCK)
3. THE GUILDFORD PAIR 2130v271 (ARMSTRONG, UNDERWOOD)
4. LITTLE & LARGE 2125v239 (JEENS, SHOULER)
5. COMPUTER BOFFS 2124v229 (BRASIER, WATSON)