



Great Britain Tour Diary 2006

Sunday 20th August

By That Correspondent

We got out of bed to the noise of rain on the hotel roof. We'd seen the forecast the night before and were hoping that it might blow over before we had to shoot. No such luck and the morning details were all varying degrees of wet, from a minor inconvenience to very soggy. Cue wet weather drill and enquiries about purchasing umbrellas and wet weather gear from those of the team who had been foolish enough to trust to luck.



Rain? Bad light? Sadly these umpires don't allow such things to stop play

The poor weather notwithstanding, there were some fine scores being made; Nick recovered from his brush with the law to put in the maximum 50.10 at 300 metres stage of the Tilton match, and there were a number of scores of 50.9 from other team members hot on his heels. At 600 yards, the vee counts were lower as the winds picked up and became more variable, but a number of the team still managed to put them all in. Nigel managed to put in a pair of 50.9s for a match-winning score of 100.18, followed by Rick Shouler and Davids Armstrong and Calvert each with 100.17.

Sunday scores (GBRT unless stated):

The Tilton (300/600x)

1st Nigel Ball 100.18

2nd Rick Shouler 100.17

3rd David Calvert 100.17

5th David Armstrong 100.17

6th Jon Underwood 100.16

8th John Pugsley 100.16

9th Danny Coleman 100.16

10th Michael Walton 100.16
11th James Watson 100.15
19th Kitty Jack 100.13

Halfway through the morning, a crisis hit the team. Nigel needed a lift over to the 600 yards firing point at the far end of the camp, but the keys had injudiciously been left in the van, which promptly locked itself. Rapid inquiry soon outed the offender for suitable chastisement, and I'm told that the Captain will give himself a severe telling off later. Happily, the situation was resolved with a quick call to the rental company which sent out a rescue vehicle who swiftly broke in and retrieved the keys, much to Martin's relief.



Clockwise from top left: Hinch working out what he's holding; Kitty looking gorgeous; a relaxed Pugsley; Dix (even if it looks like the opposite); and the start of a tan

With the end of the warm-up shoots was also decided the Champlain aggregate. With the relatively benign conditions, the scoring was again high and GB shots featured well. Danny Coleman took the trophy a single point off on 374.52, two vees ahead of Jon Underwood.

The Champlain Aggregate (600x/900m)

1st Danny Coleman 374.52
2nd Jon Underwood 374.50
3rd Alain Marion (Canada) 374.48
4th David Luckman 374.48
5th David Calvert 374.59
7th Ross McQuillan 373.40
9th Michael Walton 372.48
9th Rupert Dix 372.47
11th Jane Messer 372.36
13th Andy Luckman 372.34
14th Ed Compton 371.48
15th Toby Raincock 371.43
16th David Dyson 371.42
17th John Pugsley 371.42
20th Gaz Morris 371.39

And so to the Grand...

The MacDougall match again saw high scoring despite the intermittent rain and the fact that the wind had started to move more than we had seen previously. Jon Underwood put in an almost perfect 100.19 to head the listings.

The MacDougall (300M/500y)

- 1st Jon Underwood 100.19
- 2nd David Dyson 100.16
- 3rd James Paton (Canada) 100.16
- 6th Andy Luckman 100.15
- 7th Rupert Dix 100.15
- 8th Michael Walton 100.15
- 10th Ross McQuillan 100.15
- 12th David Calvert 100.15
- 14th Jane Messer 100.14
- 15th Nigel Ball 100.14
- 17th David Armstrong 100.14
- 19th Mary Boston 100.13

Across the team, there were no fewer than eight scores of 200 ex 200, and with the weather looking to return to its former warmth tomorrow, simple winds and fine ammunition, the scoring is set to remain high. To close today's entry I'll leave you with a final thought from Toby uttered over a cracking Chinese buffet and a bottle of Saint-Emilion: "I've always wanted to be a bird."



"Thanks Hinch"