

18th December 2010

Christmas Shoot Abandoned

Well, conditions could not have been more Christmas-like for this year's Christmas Trophy Shoot - early morning snow had turned our ground into a real winter-wonderland. Unfortunately, the trap gremlins that caused problems at the last shoot resurfaced with a vengeance and today's shoot had to be abandoned without a shot being fired. Apologies to all who battled through the snow only to have a wasted journey.

The Christmas Shoot will now take place on our next scheduled shoot date, which is 15th January 2011. So that shoot will now be a 25-birder and the Christmas Trophy will be at stake. We will still be doing the "bring-a-prize-take-a-prize" so don't forget to bring your prizes too.

The January 10-bird shoot will now take place in April and will be the final shoot in this year's Winter Series.

27th November 2010

Winter Series Lives Up To It's Name

Despite the beautiful winter sunshine, this was a bitterly cold day and the slight covering of snow was a reminder that the Christmas shoot is only three weeks away now.

An exceptionally good turnout and some gremlins in the trap meant that progress was a little slow to start with, but it was John Tennison who took the early lead, scoring 41/45 on his first card. This lead stood for some time before Daryll Worman overhauled it with an impressive 43/45, just the two second-barrel kills.

John's response was typically efficient, shooting 44/45 on his next card. Russell Pierpoint and Gary Crofts also went on to register 44/45 scores, so it was all looking a bit tense. Then from out of nowhere, Tom Crowther managed a full-house score of 45/45 on his last card of the day.

The gremlins in the trap then decided to come to Tom's aid, and with the cold starting to bite and the light beginning to fail, shooting was abandoned for the day with three cards remaining unshot.

So, for the Winter Series, it was three points to Tom and one point each for John, Gary and Russell.

Full-year and Winter Series rankings can be viewed on the [Downloads](#) page. And finally, don't forget your prizes for the Christmas Shoot on 18th December.

30th October 2010

Normal Service Resumed By Gary Crofts

We are lucky to have one of the most picturesque shooting grounds in the country, but today in its full autumn glory it was really spectacular. So much so that Keith decided to polish up his photographic skills and the results can be found on the "Photos" page.

Anyway, the shooting was no less spectacular either. Points for the Winter Series Trophy were at stake so the competition was serious. Early on, we were shooting directly into the sun, which seemed to peg back the scores a little. The lead changed hands several times before Gary Crofts carded a 15/45 full-house - only his fourth one this year! And it seemed that that would be that. Until on his fourth and last card of the day, Daryll Worman produced some sparkling form and matched Gary with a full-house of his own.

The ensuing shoot off resulted in a win for Gary and so he now takes joint leadership in Winter Series with David Tudor, each on 3 points. Daryll's second place earns him 2 points. Third place was

shared between John Tennison, Russell Pierpoint, Eddie Wilkinson and Tom Crowther who each get one quarter of one point for their efforts - every little helps! Well done to all.

So, with just 2 shoots left this year, it looks like Mr Crofts will be retaining his crown as Club Champion and I, for one, won't be betting against him in the Winter Series. All the score summaries and rankings can be found on the "Downloads" page.

25th September 2010

Winter Series Gets Off To Sunny Start

The most beautiful sunny September day saw the start of the 2010/11 Winter Series today, and what a cracker of a shoot it was too. And well attended, with some 25 shooters enjoying a long day out in the sunshine.

John Tennison, our most consistent shooter this year, opened the bidding with a very creditable 43/45, just two second-barrel kills on his first card. But with at least 6 or 7 of the other shooters having proven ability to register a full-house, this led to a nail-biting few hours for John. Many cards came and went and nobody seriously threatened John's lead. The nearest anybody came was John himself who repeated his 43/45 on his third card.

But then, as so often happens, somebody stepped up to the plate and, late in the day, recorded a 45/45 perfect score - this time it was Dave Tudor who deservedly took all the honours and the first 3 points in the Winter Series. Excellent shooting and well done to Dave.

Late on, Colin Tudor managed to put in a 43/45 score too and so he and John Tennison ended up sharing second place and each gets 1.5 points in the series. Well done to both.

21st August 2010

Classy Shooting Wins Russell Jones The Rob Ankers Double-Rise Trophy

Today marked the last of our summer trophy shoots, and at stake was the Rob Ankers Trophy which is our only double-rise event, being shot over 10 pairs. Conditions were just about as good as they get for clay shooting and this proved to be one of our most enjoyable and exciting shoots.

Russell threw down the gauntlet on his first card with an impressive 16/20, and history suggested that might be enough to win the day. And so it seemed, with card after card going by with Russell's score remaining unequalled. Those second birds were proving just too difficult for many shooters.

But all the excitement came on the last card of the day, with both Gary Crofts and Tom Crowther finally showing a bit of form to provide a nail-biting finish, each scoring 15/20. So, close but no cigar for those two! Russell was also shooting on the last card and, just to reinforce his superiority on the day, he scored yet another 16/20 and so deservedly walked away with the trophy. Congratulations and well done to Russell on a truly impressive win, and one he's been threatening for some time.

So that's all of the summer trophies decided and, amazing as it may seem, the next shoot on the 25th September marks the beginning of our Winter Series - how time flies!

31st July 2010

Yet Another Stylish Win Secures The Albert Nixon Trophy For Gary Crofts

Maintaining his dominance of all the trophy shoots, Gary Crofts bagged the Albert Nixon trophy today with yet another classy 45/45 score.

Last years winner, Tom Crowther, showed that he wasn't going to surrender the trophy without a fight by carding 44/45 on his first and second cards. But in perfect shooting conditions, it was always likely that only a full-house score would be good enough to secure victory.

And so it proved, with Gary overhauling Tom's lead with a 45/45 on his first card, a feat that was to remain unequalled for the rest of the afternoon.

Third place was shared by John Tennison and Russell Pierpoint, each on 42/45.

Congratulations to Gary and well done to Tom, John and Russell.



26th June 2010

Champion Performance By Gary Crofts To Retain The Phil Morgan Trophy

Phew, what a scorcher! Again. The hot and sunny weather drew one of our best attendances for some time today and once again, many shooters struggled under the baking sun. The only exception being Gary Crofts, who carded a 15/45 full-house on his first card. Then, just to prove it wasn't a fluke, he did exactly the same again on his next card. Perhaps that explains why he's Club Champion!

In any event, it was a performance more than good enough to allow Gary to hang on to The Phil Morgan Trophy for the second year running. Well done Gary.



Gary's most serious threat came in the form of Russell Jones who shot well all afternoon but ended up with a brilliant 15/44 on his last card - just the one second barrel kill.

Third place was shared by "all the usual suspects" - John Tennison, Steve Harding, Daryll Worman and Russell Pierpoint, all on 41 points. Excellent shooting and well done to all.

22nd May 2010

Hot Shooting Wins Darryl Worman The Ken Dodd Trophy

The hottest day of the year so far saw the start of the summer trophy season, with today's trophy being our oldest and most prestigious of all – the Ken Dodd Trophy. This is a 25-bird event and we've been shooting for this cup since 1966!

The exceptionally hot weather seemed to cause problems for many of the shooters today and Darryl Worman landed an early psychological blow by scoring 74/75 on his first card – just the one second-barrel kill. Many brave challenges just melted in the heat and nobody else seriously threatened to deny Darryl the victory he deserved.

The closest anyone came was John Tennison who twice carded 69/75 points - a remarkable achievement in itself. Club Champion, Gary Crofts was having an off-day by his own very high standards, but he still managed to achieve third place with 67/75 points.

Congratulations to Darryl and well done to John and Gary.

Next time, we'll be shooting for another old favourite – The Phil Morgan Trophy.



Darryl Worman (right) being presented with his trophy by runner-up John Tennison

24th April 2010

Pierpoint Hangs On For Well Earned Victory

This was one of those beautiful spring days where the very best place in the world to be is rural South Cheshire. The sun was shining; it was sunny but not too hot and a month without rain had dried out the field to perfection.

So it was slightly surprising that the shooting got off to a slightly flakey start, the only person on the first card to show any form at all was John Tennison who managed to kill all 15 birds, but three second barrels pegged him back to 42/45 points – a score that would ultimately secure him third place for the day.

Despite faltering slightly on the first card, Russell Pierpoint regained his customary form on his second card and registered a “full-house” 15/45 score – fantastic shooting that was to remain unequalled for the rest of the day.

The nearest anyone came to Russell was Tom Crowther with 44/45, earning him second place for the day.

Well done to Russell, and now we can all look forward to the summer trophy season, which starts with the Ken Dodd Trophy shoot on 22nd May.

27th March 2010

Pure Poetry From Tennison!

Despite the recent spell of gloomy weather this turned out to be one of our better and most exciting shoots. The sun shone and there was a definite hint of spring in the air, so conditions were just about perfect for shooting.

Combine that with recent performances and you would have thought that only a 45 point “full-house” would have been good enough today. But 42 seemed to be the limit. Card after card went by with nobody managing to get that elusive last bird. Going into the 14th and final card it looked like we were heading for a four-way shoot-off between Gary Crofts, Russell Pierpoint, Rob Law and Tom Crowther all stuck on 42/45 points.

But then, on the very last card of the day, John Tennison showed nerves of steel to overcome an early second-barrel kill to go on and finish on 43/45 points and so win the day. Excellent and really exciting shooting. Well done John.



Gary Crofts being awarded the Winter Series Trophy by Today's Winner, John Tennison

Sadly, for John, although this was the last shoot of the Winter Series his victory was not enough to wrest the series away from Gary Crofts. Gary went into today having an unassailable lead in the series and was duly crowned this year's winner, with 10.5 points. Runner up was Russell Pierpoint with 5.3 point. A full table of the Winter Series points scorers can be found on the Downloads page.

27th February 2010

Anyone for Rallycross?

Where else would you get to combine the sports of clay shooting and rallycross in a single morning? The recent snow and rain had turned our field into its customary winter quagmire, which made driving onto and off the ground a very exciting business. John Tennison was voted the undisputed rallycross champion and you can see by his car (below) that he took the competition a bit too seriously.



However, the trophy he is holding (left) was not for his driving skills but for being the most improved shooter in the year 2009. John managed to improve his average score from 63% to 87% during the year, an amazing achievement.

John also went on to claim joint third place in the days shoot, tying with Russell Pierpoint and Dave Tudor. Second place went to Mark Hughson with a score of 43 points – a feat he repeated twice just for good measure.

No prizes for guessing the winner again this week! Yes, Gary Crofts triumphed once again with 44/45 points, and not to be outdone, he too achieved that score twice in the morning.

And so, with just one shoot remaining, Gary is now in an unassailable position in the current Winter Series with 9.5 points against Russell Pierpoint, his nearest rival, with 4.3 points. Well done Gary.

16th January 2010

Another Victory For Club Champion Gary Crofts

Maintaining his recent run of unbeatable form, Gary Crofts won the day again today with what else but a 10/30 full-house score.

The snow and ice had been replaced by milder temperatures and overnight rain. But the rain stopped about an hour before the shoot started and, apart from a good stiff breeze, conditions were pretty much perfect for an excellent shoot. Attendance was slightly below normal, presumably because of the weather.

Dave Tudor was the first to declare his intent, carding 10/29 on his first line. Then the seemingly inevitable happened and Gary responded with 10/30 on his second card - and nobody else could match that for the rest of the day. So it ended with Gary 1st, Dave Tudor 2nd and Russell Pierpoint 3rd with 10/28. This result puts Gary in a fairly commanding lead for the Winter Series with 6.5 points, 2.5 points ahead of his nearest rival, Russell Pierpoint.



Gary also bagged yet another trophy this afternoon - being crowned Club Champion for the year 2009. This is a new trophy that we are introducing and is given to the person who records the highest average score over the whole calendar year. All members are eligible, but there is a minimum requirement to have attended at least four shoots in the year. Gary, pictured above holding his trophy, recorded an average of 95.5% over the year and is a very worthy winner. Steve Harding was the very close runner-up with 95.4%. Some shooting!
