

300 Metres

by Ian Shirra-Gibb

Our year is at an end apart from the friendly match versus Clermont (France) at Bisley in mid October; results of this will be in the next Journal.

We have had a busy year and since Simon Aldhouse's individual gold medal win in Italy in May, we have been to four other European countries; Switzerland, Denmark, Sweden with the Final in France. Since the Italian win, scores have been steady but not quite enough as a team to get into a medal position; we have found ourselves the bridesmaid on several occasions coming fourth with equal bronze medal scores but being counted out on last strings etc. However it is pleasing to see one member of the squad, Simon Aldhouse, retain his second position in the European ranking right to the end of season. This by our records is the best placing to date and his year's overseas score average the highest on record at 594.55 for nine matches or 99.9 a string ex 100!

On the home front we held the NRA British Championships in May on electronic targets for the first time since the event started. This has led to more interest from TR shooters who have an event they can shoot in these Championships and we look forward to a bigger entry in that competition in May of 2005.

The ladies have been a little in the background of late but Mary Pugsley has made an end of season push,

making the European Championships Final in France, finishing a creditable fourth with 592. A week later at the same range, she shot well in the French Championships with a team score of 593 on the Saturday and an individual score of 596 on the Sunday which happened to be second highest score on the day.

Training throughout the season has definitely been enhanced with the use of electronic targets and this has allowed the shooter to get the event shooting rhythm correct to what he or she will experience outside Britain. We have had more weekends and odd days available to us which has helped everyone balance their training over the competitive season without the normal marker shortage. Work continues to improve the interior of the firing point and hopefully it will be completed by early part of next year.

We still welcome those TR shooters who may wish to sharpen up their short range V bull average for the start of the 2005 season on Saturday or Sunday afternoons, firing points permitting. A full list of available dates of when the 300m range (butt 10) may be hired will be published in the next Journal; this should allow members or clubs to organise other shoots the same weekends. Should you have an interest in using our facilities next year please contact the Director of Shooting.