



Shoot

Bury Rifle Club Newsletter

January 2025 - Issue 23

EDITORIAL

Dear Member

Welcome to the latest edition of Shoot – our 23rd publication in the series.

Firstly, we would like to wish you all a Very Happy New Year. We wake this morning to a generous layer of snow, so before I dig out the thick woolly coat, de-ice the car and prepare our pathways, I thought what better time to tuck myself into my warm office and publish the next edition of the newsletter.

This issue includes sections on some legal matters which affect us all, opening times, Cumbria dates, Membership subscriptions and plenty of other stuff to keep you informed about.

As usual if there's anything you want to know and it isn't covered in this newsletter, please feel free to ask any member of the committee and they will be all to happy to help. Also, if there's anything you wish to be included, then please let me know either by sending me an email or having a word with me next time you are at the club.

In the meantime, happy reading and lets look forward to another great year of shooting.

With best wishes from not only myself but the rest of the committee

Wayne

Ps: If you do not wish to receive this or have any comments/suggestions or would like something included in the next issue, then please let me know.

REMINDER OF CLUB OPENING TIMES!

<u>Monday</u> 19:00 – 22:00 .22 rimfire followed by Airguns	<u>Wednesday</u> 18:30 – 20:30 Airguns only	<u>Thursday</u> 14:00 – 16:00 .22 rimfire	<u>Friday</u> 19:00 – 22:00 .22 rimfire followed by Airguns
---	--	--	---

We are asking that members please observe the opening times above and NOT arrive too early. Arriving early is placing unnecessary stress and strain on our range officers. Turning up early does not necessarily mean early shooting or even early entry to the club – this is all at the discretion of the range officer if and when present.

Thank you.

CUMBRIA COMPETITIONS!

The summer 2025 season is now well underway, shooting dates for each round are shown below:

Round 1 = 28th Oct 2024
Round 2 = 11th Nov 2024
Round 3 = 25th Nov 2024
Round 4 = 9th Dec 2024
Round 5 = 30th Dec 2024

Round 6 = 13th Jan 2025
Round 7 = 27th Jan 2025
Round 8 = 10th Feb 2025
Round 9 = 24th Feb 2025
Round 10 = 10th Mar 2025

Cards are available in your pigeonholes and the required shoot by dates will be indicated on the top of each card.

Prone Individual = 1 card x 10 shots

Prone Team = 2 cards x 10 shots each (must be shot on same night)

Benchrest Individual = 2 cards x 10 shots each (must be shot on same night)

Benchrest Team = 2 cards x 10 shots each (must be shot on same night)

Air pistol Individual = 4 cards x 5 shots each (must be shot on same night)

Air pistol Team = 4 cards x 5 shots each (must be shot on same night)

Should you have any concerns regarding any of the dates shown above, please speak to one of the club captains - Brian Fletcher (.22) or John Wilding (Air pistol) as soon as possible.

Good luck to all those who have entered.

CLUB ETIQUETTE!

Just a small reminder of club etiquette and strict club/health and safety rules. These are simple things which we ask members to observe so that all members can enjoy the club with no distractions or issues.

- **DO NOT** – under any circumstances shoot alone. There is a strict health and safety requirement that there must be two people onsite at the club for one person to shoot on the range. This applies to both .22 rimfire and airguns. We all know the potential consequences of something going wrong, therefore anyone found to be breaching this rule may be subject to a committee disciplinary hearing and at worst suspension/expulsion from the club.
- We ask that all mobile phones are either switched to silent or left in the club room when in the firing range. Members do not really want to hear constant beeping, buzzing or ringing whilst trying to concentrate.
- Please do not hold conversations when you are in the firing range, members are in there to shoot and some are trying to concentrate on their competitions, therefore they would appreciate complete silence. I appreciate that some of the people shooting may be new to the club and are having 1-2-1 tuition, in that case, you could use hearing protection to reduce the noise or wait until another detail. But if you have completed your shooting, please remain in the position, either sat at your bench or prone and remain silent. Do not start standing up or shuffling around.
- Please do not start grappling round trying to pick up your empty shells when others are still shooting, this is a big distraction. Please wait until all other shooters have confirmed finished.
- If shooting benchrest, please do not be harsh with your movements, it's been noted that all movements can be felt through vibrations in the main support beam. And when finished, please ensure all empty shells are picked up and placed in-front of the firing point to be swept up later on. Rapid firing can also be a large distraction, slow and steady is appreciated – there's no rush.
- Please **DO NOT** throw empty shells halfway down the range, be considerate. People sweeping up at the end of the night do not want to be walking up and down the 25 yards collecting empty shells. Please place them just in front of the firing point.
- Please do not leave mats and scopes on lanes, please remove them, help keep the firing point tidy for the next member. They may have their own equipment. If you have finished with a benchrest, put it away, the next member might want to shoot prone. Please leave the lane as tidy as you would expect to find it.
- This is a controversial subject, but the same rule applies to .22 rimfire rifles and air rifles. All rifles must be removed from the range when target changes take place. Safety first, never assume a gun is safe/clear. We cannot have one rule for .22 and one for airguns. Stands/benches etc can remain in place if returning, just remove the gun. Anyone found to be leaving a rifle on the range with persons changing targets will be asked to remove the gun into the clubroom.
- The range officer on duty will **NOT** be responsible in any way for cleaning up the range when shooting is finished. Please leave the range as you would expect to find it on the next night.
- On a Wednesday, if members are shooting, please **DO NOT** enter or leave the range, please refrain from talking on the range until all members have completed their shooting. If more than 5 people are shooting then please do not hog a lane, shoot your details and then swap over, let somebody else have a turn, we do not expect the range officer to intervene and ask people to leave their lane so that others can shoot their cards – regardless of what types of cards are being shot.
- As we do with .22 rimfire, we ask that magazine fed rifles are not used, they can be a distraction to others, especially when competition shooting is taking place.

It might sound like these are petty things but put together they will all help to make our experience at the club a safer and more enjoyable one. It's the little things which make a big difference. If you have any other thoughts on this subject, I'd like to hear them.

Thank you for your understanding.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS 2025!

As of October 2024, it was requested that all quarterly payments be made within 1 month of being due. The reason for implementing a 1 month payment window for each quarter was that over the past few years, the club has spent quite a lot of time chasing members for arrears, which makes it confusing to keep track of who's paid what and for when.

Emails were sent out in October giving details of what the fees for 2025 are and how and when they should be paid. It's not exactly been a smooth start to 2025 but thank you to everyone for completing either their first quarter payments or payments for the whole year.

Moving forward, for those paying quarterly the cut off periods for each quarter are detailed below:

Quarter 2: January – March

Payment to be made by 31st January 2025.

Quarter 3: April – June

Payment to be made by 30th April 2025.

Quarter 4: July – September

Payment to be made by 31st July 2025.

Failure to make payments by the dates shown above may result in the suspension of your membership until payment is received. As details are included in all the newsletters no reminders will be sent.

The club also reserves the right to request that any outstanding membership fees for the year to be settled in full should payments continue to be missed.

Please also note that as the club now incurs bank charges for certain transactions, we ask that payments for membership be made via bank transfer, details can be provided if requested.

It is also requested, as mentioned at the recent AGM, that if a member is paying for 2 or more persons, that they split the payments and add comments accordingly to each payment. For example, if Mr Bloggs attends with his son, it is requested that Mr Bloggs makes two payments, one for himself and one for his son, but each payment must indicate who it is for. This will not only help keep track of the membership fees moving through the year, but also make the end of year audits so much easier.

LEGAL MATTERS

Now for something a little more serious, a couple of legal matters.

The first is a simple matter and is one of the most basic rules we have within the club, ALL persons entering the club room, regardless of whether they are shooting or not must sign in at the desk before doing anything else, this not only helps us keep an accurate attendance record, but it's also a legal requirement.

The second issue is the requirement that all members who are in possession of their own rifle must attend the club and shoot a minimum of six times over a period of twelve months. The twelve month period is based on a club year (Oct-Sep) and not a calendar year (Jan-Dec).

Should you have any questions regarding any of these matters, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

CLUB VOLUNTEERS

As we all know, there is a saying within the club which goes “the club is run by its members for its members”, and something which crops up quite regularly, is the subject of Range Officers.

There are a small number of us who continuously donate some of our evenings to help keep the club running, the club would not be able to open without these people.

Most range officers have their preferred nights, but it becomes ever so difficult to arrange cover when somebody has a holiday, taken ill, or have prior commitments for that evening. Not everyone can cover all nights. Which unfortunately means some end up doing more than others, but we do tend to try and arrange “swaps” as and when required.

However, for the club to run more efficiently and give the current range officers more time in the range and not sat behind the desk, we ideally need another two range officers – one for Mondays and one for Fridays. Having more range officers and being able to spread the load a little thinner means that the number of evenings rota’d would be less.

The rota is created and sent out in advance. As always there are swaps, changes and alterations taking place, it’s not set in stone. All we ask is that if you do need to change an evening or can’t make a scheduled evening, then please try to arrange cover as soon as possible rather than last minute, but we do appreciate that personal life matters do sometimes take priority, and if you do change an evening, please remember – be fair and pay it back. Either by swapping nights on consecutive weeks or maybe holding an IOU for later in the year.

So, for all you out there who keep saying you’d like to get involved, here’s your chance, why not consider it. Sadly – no you don’t get paid 😊, it’s reward enough knowing you’ve kept the evening safe and well organised 😊.

The only requirement is – you hold a valid firearms certificate.

Please let me know if you are able to jump on board and help out.
Thank you.



It is recommended that members who have an active Facebook account find and join our group. It’s another way of keeping up to date of all news/events and non-urgent notifications. Feel free to make/share posts. It’s a live forum related to the club, but to be honest anything shooting related is acceptable as long as it’s legal.

Simply find the group “BURY RIFLE CLUB” and hit the join button. A great place to catch up with what’s going on and keep in touch.

Note: sales of firearms, airguns & ammunition is not permitted on the group due to Facebook policy. If unsure then please check with the groups Admins.