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## Editorial

Well, we hope that you all enjoy reading this Newsletter.

Please don't be shy or slow in sending any little tidbits that you think may be interesting to other members. We would love to hear from anyone. Photographs are especially welcome - it depends on you, the members. Any 'For Sale' or 'Wanted' ads?

Please have any input for the April edition by 1<sup>st</sup> March 2006.

Here's hoping that you all enjoy your sport during the rest of 2005.

Your Eds,

*Dennis & Cath*

# Dates for your Diary 2005/6

## 3rd Wednesday of every month

Social Shoot at Kelbrook Shooting Ground, Colne.  
from 10.45 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.  
followed by informal pub lunch at the Anchor Inn at Salterforth

21 September	2005	19 October	2005
16 November	2005	21 December	2005
18 January	2006	15 February	2006
15 March	2006	19 April	2006
17 May	2006	21 June	2006

Don't forget that non-members are welcome to join us at these shoots.

25 <sup>th</sup> September	2005	(Sun) Family Fun Day	Stan's Shooting Ground, Lindale, starting at 2.30 p.m. (see page 7)
2 <sup>nd</sup> October	2005	(Sun) Inter-Provincial Shoot	at Knaresborough Starting at 10.30 hrs. (see page 11)
4 <sup>th</sup> December	2005	(Sun) Turkey Shoot	The Dolphin Shooting Ground Starting at 11.00 hrs. Presentation in Dolphin Pub.
12 <sup>th</sup> February	2006	(Sun) Worsley Grange - Friendly Shoot	Starting at 10.30 hrs. Lunch at John Birkett Inn
31 <sup>st</sup> March	2006	(Fri) Sportsman's Dinner	Wellington Park, Leyland Contact Ian Heyes - 01772 611071 (See page 10)
18 <sup>th</sup> June	2006	(Sun) National Shoot	Leighton Hall, Carnforth (see page 9)

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at  
Wellington Park Leyland

On  
24<sup>th</sup> MAY 2005

## Present:

W. Bros. T. Blackburn, P.G.Swd.B., B. A. Jackson, P.J.G.D; P. Gunning, P.A.G.D.C.; P. Levick, P.A.G.D.C.; G. Wrennall, P.Pr.D.G.Supt.Wks; D. Chester, P.Pr.J.G.W; K. Nuttall, P.Pr.S.G.D.; I. R. N. Heyes, P.Pr.S.G.D; D. Read, P.Pr.A.G.D.C.; R. McBride, P.Pr.A.G.Supt.Wks; J. R. Taylor, P.Pr.J.G.W; D. Glover, P.Pr.S.G.D; M. Casey & Bro. L. Alston.

## 1. Apologies were received from:

W. Bros. M. A.Clowes, P.Pr.S.G.D; J. Hammond, P.Pr.J.G.W; K. Langshaw, P.P.S.G.D. & A. McDougal, P.Pr.S.G.D.

2.The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.35 by thanking everyone for attending and asked members present to introduce themselves.

## 3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

Bro. L. Alston proposed and W. Bro. K. Nuttall Seconded a proposition that the previously circulated Minutes of the last A.G.M. held on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2004 be a true and correct record of that meeting. All members present accepted the proposition.

## 4. Matters Arising

There were no Matters arising from the minutes

## 5. Reports

### Chairman's Report.

W.Bro. B. A. Jackson thanked all the members for their support especially during the last National Shoot. He was somewhat disappointed to hear that some volunteers had complained that they felt they had not been thanked properly for their efforts.

He said that the Society has enjoyed several shoots and more were planned for the coming year.

### Secretaries Report

The Chairman informed the meeting that the present Secretary, W.Bro. K. Langshaw was stepping down after 9 years of loyal and valuable service. He intended to write personally to W.Bro. Langshaw expressing the appreciation of the Society, offering best wishes and hoping that Kevin would join us on future shooting occasions.

### Treasurer's Report.

W.Bro. D. Glover reported that all members had received a financial report and that basically the Income was £8,040.00 and Expenditure was £6,080.00. There was approximately £2,400 in hand or in the Relief Chest as further contributions had come in since the accounts were prepared.

## **A.G.M.**

(cont'd)

W.Bro. I.Heyes on behalf of both Auditors reported that they had examined the accounts, which had been found to be an accurate record of the Societies financial situation.

On a proposition by W.Bro. Heyes, seconded by W.Bro. Peter Levick the accounts were accepted 'nem con' by the members.

### Shooting Captains Report.

W.Bro. M. A. Clowes had sent his apologies. W.Bro. Casey read out his report which included;

- Details of the Inter Provincial Shoot at Bowscar, on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2004 which West Lancashire won.
- Details of the Northern Group Family Fun Day, on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2004, which raised £113 for the Association. Thanks were given to W.Bro. A. McDougal and his wife Christine for organising this.
- A report of the Christmas Turkey Shoot on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2004.
- A Report on the Provincial Shoot on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2005.

He informed the meeting that members were still welcome at the monthly shoots at Kelbrook Shooting Ground.

He also informed the meeting about forthcoming shooting events, details of which were on the Provincial Web Site.

## **6. Election of Officers**

### Chairman:

W.Bro. B. A. Jackson was proposed by W.Bro. T. Blackburn and seconded by W.Bro. P. Levick

### **VICE CHAIRMAN**

W.Bro. Jackson explained to the meeting that W.Bro. Gunning was not seeking re-election in view of his appointment as Vice-Chairman of the Ormskirk Group of Lodges and is stepping down. Because of the increased workload and in consequence of this he would not want to feel that he was not giving the time and effort to the Society that is required.

W.Bro. Gunning proposed W.Bro. G. Wrennall. This was seconded by W.Bro. D. Read. W.Bro. T. Blackburn congratulated him on his appointment and thanked W.Bro. Gunning for his long and outstanding service to the Committee.

W.Bro. Jackson then asked W.Bro. Wrennall to 'Chair' the National Shoot Sub Committee.

### Secretary

W.Bro. Blackburn proposed W. Bro. M. Casey who was seconded by Bro. L. Alston.

### Treasurer

W.Bro. D. Read proposed W. Bro. D. Glover this was seconded by W.Bro. P. Gunning.

## **SHOOTING CAPTAIN**

W.Bro. Jackson proposed W.Bro. M. A. Clowes who was seconded by W.Bro. Gunning

## **NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

It was proposed by W.Bro. Gunning that: Mr. and Mrs. D. Read shared this job between them.

W.Bro. K. Nuttall seconded this proposition.

W.Bro. Jackson asked W.Bro. D. Read to convey the thanks of the Committee to his wife Cath, for the work she had undertaken on behalf of the Society.

The Members of the Society present elected all these Committee Members 'nem con'.

## **MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

The following were duly proposed, and seconded:

W.Bro. P. H. Gunning; W.Bro. I. R. N. Heyes; Bro. L. Alston; W. Bro. J. Hammond, & W.Bro. R. McBride.

All members present accepted them.

W.Bro. Jackson asked W.Bro. P. Levick, W.Bro. K. Nuttall and W.Bro. D. Chester, all of who expressed an interest, if they would like to be Co-opted members of the Committee.

All three were pleased to accept on agreement of all the members present.

## **Auditors**

It was agreed to ask W.Bro. M. Kinsella to again act as Auditor together with W.Bro. D. Potts. The Secretary was asked to write to them.

## **7. Subscriptions**

The Treasurer W.Bro. D. Glover proposed that the Annual and Life Subscriptions remained the same at:

Life Member =	£50,
Full Member =	£6.00
Associate Member =	£6.00.

W.Bro. M. Casey seconded this proposition.

A discussion took place regarding the merit of Subscriptions and after consideration W.Bro. R. McBride proposed that a Standing Order Form should be available for all members.

This was duly seconded and agreed by all present. The Treasurer was happy to organise a supply of forms after consultation with the Bank.

## **8. Charity Nominations**

A proposition had been received from W.Bro. M. Clowes, which had been seconded by W.Bro. M. Casey that :-

The Society sends £1400 to the West Lancashire Festival 2010 on behalf of the New Masonic Samaritan Fund to convert our recent contribution into Grand Patronage and retain the remainder to add to next year National Shoot Contributions.

This was deemed by all present to be a good idea and accepted.

**A.G.M.**

(cont'd)

W.Bro. Blackburn, on behalf of the Provincial Grand Master, thanked the Society for their generous contribution.

### **9. Any other Business**

#### National Shoot 2006

W.Bro. Ian Heyes informed the meeting that Leighton Hall, Carnforth, had been booked for a third National Shoot on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2006. He gave a progress report on the arrangements.

W.Bro. Wrennall informed the meeting that the proceeds would once again be equally divided between Masonic and Non Masonic Charities. The main Non-Masonic Charity would be Brian House Children's' Hospice. W.Bro. Jackson suggested that The Masonic Contribution went to the Festival 2010. This was turned into a proposition seconded by W.Bro. Levick and agreed.

#### Sportsman's Dinner

W.Bro. Heyes also gave provisional details of this event to be held at Wellington Park on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006

W.Bro. Wrennall again gave a the list of forthcoming shoots but included Raby Gala to be held by the Province of Durham in June 2006

W.Bro. R. McBride, the archivist of the Society, reported that all the Minutes were now on CD Rom. and all photographs held by the Society had also been included together with all copies of the Society's newsletters. This Disc would be available for distribution shortly.

W.Bro. Jackson thanked W.Bro. McBride for his efforts.

W.Bro. Wrennall presented W.Bro. Gunning with a bottle of Malt Whisky in recognition of his 20 years service on the Committee.

All members were invited by the chairman to join in at Kelbrook Shooting Ground on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month.

**The meeting closed at 8.20 p.m**

# COACHING CLINICS

The WLMCPSS has recently launched its own tuition section called “Coaching Clinics” under the watchful eye of our own resident ex-UK team coach W.Bro. Mike Casey (Tel: 01253 403731 or [gwmikecasey@gmail.com](mailto:gwmikecasey@gmail.com)) and Bro. Lawrence Alston (Tel: 01772 456177 or [alstonenvirosafe@aol.com](mailto:alstonenvirosafe@aol.com)) who are both willing to coach individuals or for that something special event why not try a Lodge ‘Have a Go’ Fun Day, along with refreshments at many venues around the Province. More details available direct from either Mike or Lawrence.

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## Family Fun Day

Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> September

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> highly popular family ‘have a go at clay pigeon shooting’ day will this year be held at Stan’s Shooting Ground, Lindale, near Grange-over-Sands with an easy 30 bird sporting shoot and tuition stands to help even those who have never held a gun before. So if you fancy your chances or it’s something that you’ve always wanted to try, come along - it starts at 2.30 pm. Followed by the usual super Roast Beef Dinner (at an additional cost of £6.00 per head - to be booked in advance) from about 5.30 p.m. at The Angler’s Arms, Haverthwaite, near Newby Bridge where there will also be the Prize Giving and a Raffle .**

**For any enquiries please telephone Alan McDougal (the event organiser) on 01229 861407 or Glynn Wrennall on 015394 43903 or [glynnwrennall@btopenworld.com](mailto:glynnwrennall@btopenworld.com). The shoot will be signposted from the Lindale Inn.**

## **Mission Statement**

Since its inception on 25<sup>th</sup> June 1986 under the leadership of our popular first Chairman, W.Bro. Frank Cowburn , P.Asst. Pr.G.M., the West Lancashire Masonic Clay Pigeon Shooting Society, has provided enjoyment and friendship for many clay pigeon shooters, not only from within the our Province but also from neighbouring Provinces by way of an Inter-Provincial Shooting Competition which has always been held on the first Sunday in October each year.

The Society is honoured by the support it receives from its President, Rt.W.Bro. Colin Penty Wright and its Vice President, V.W.Bro.Thomas Blackburn, P.G.Swd.B., Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

Currently under the Chairmanship of W.Bro. Brian Jackson, P.J.G.D., it has grown from strength to strength.

In 2002 the Society rose to the greater challenge of organising a National Inter-Provincial Shooting Competition for Freemasons and their guests at Hoghton Tower, near Preston. As we approach the 20<sup>th</sup> year since our formation, what better way could there be to celebrate our anniversary than to host the Third Masonic Inter-Provincial Clay Pigeon Shooting Competition?

This time the Competition is to be at Leighton Hall, an occasion on which we hope with the support of many other Provinces will once more be an outstanding success with an anticipated 200 or more guns participating and in excess of 25 Provinces being represented.

The Society's primary objectives are to actively encourage newcomers and established shooters within the sport, to advance relationships within this and other Provinces by providing a medium for the sport in a safe and friendly environment whilst never losing sight of Masonic and non-Masonic charities who it actively seeks to support.

We are proud that with the generous help of the Lodges and Chapters of our Province those charities have received in excess £60,000.00 to date.

Glynn Wrennall  
Vice-Chairman

## *National Inter-Provincial Clay Pigeon Shooting Competition*



The Third National Masonic Inter-Provincial Clay Pigeon Shooting Competition is to be held at Leighton Hall, Carnforth, Lancashire, by kind permission of the owners; the Gillow-Reynold's family.

The earliest records of Leighton Hall go back over 750 years to 1246 when it is known that Adam D'Avranches had a fortified manor there and even today the current owner is a direct descendant of him. The Hall enjoys a wonderful and colourful history and provides an excellent backdrop for our latest National Competition.

The event is to take place on Sunday 18th June 2006 when it is hoped, as on previous occasions that Provinces from all over the country will be represented and compete in a 100 bird Sporting Competition and as on previous occasions there will be representation from professional shooting bodies.

The 2006 competition is to be jointly in favour of The New Masonic Samaritan Fund for which the Province of West Lancashire is currently engaged in raising funds towards the 2010 Festival\* and Brian House (named after it's first President Brian Redhead, the famous writer and broadcaster) the newest children's hospice in the county and part of Trinity House – the Hospice of the Fylde. Brian House was founded as recently as 1996 and is in great need of financial support if it is to continue with its high standard of palliative care for children.

With your support this event promises to be, as on previous occasions, a prestigious sporting occasion, where many old friendships will be renewed and new ones created.

\* *WLMCPSS is a Grand Patron of the 2010 Festival*

# *Sportsman's Dinner*

31<sup>st</sup> March 2006

Reception 7.30 p.m. – Dinner 8.00 p.m.

Tickets - £25.00



**Stan Taylor (The Submarine Man)** Life President of the Comedians' Golfing Society, Stan has been a full-time speaker for over 25 years and travels all round the country and abroad speaking at major company dinners, trade and industry association banquets, sportsman's dinners, Round Table functions (over 600 of these) — in fact, there isn't a major town or city where Stan hasn't appeared.

His chief claim to fame is the hilarious "Submarine Sketch" which is a legend on the After Dinner circuit and is based on his experiences as a Submarine Officer. Stan is also a Lord's Taverner and a Barker in the V a r i e t y C l u b .

He, along with North Eastern comedian **Max Peters**, promises to provide the Leyland audience with a hilarious night to remember.

Tickets are available from W Bro Ian Heyes on 01772 611071 (evenings), Glynn Wrennall on 015394 43903 (anytime), any Clay Pigeon Society Group Representative or Committee member.

# The Inter-Provincial Charity Clay Target Shoot for the Watson Eden Trophy

**Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2005**

This year's event will be hosted by the Province of Yorkshire, West Riding at Knaresborough and District Gun Club, commencing at 10.30 a.m. It is a 50 Bird Sporting Competition. The Club is situated approx 1 mile north of Knaresborough on the A6055. The top six scores from each Province are to count towards the Competition.

There will be a meal and prize presentations afterwards at the Bay Horse Inn, Goldsborough, - not far from the Shooting Ground.

It is to be hoped that we have a good turn out and an enjoyable day. All guns are welcome whatever their standard.

The object of these Inter Provincial Competitions is to foster brotherhood and friendship between neighbouring Provinces and to raise money for charity.

hope you can join us on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

## Whittington Annual Clay Shoot

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Whittington Clay Shoot was held on Saturday the 30<sup>th</sup> July 2005 by kind permission of Lord Wray, all proceeds to be equally distributed between North West Air Ambulance and the Countryside Alliance.

The competition consisted of a 40 bird-sporting shoot: 1). High Pheasant (very). 2). Whispering Woodcock. 3). Driven Grouse. 4). Mixed Bag which was a 200 mph virtual rabbit / wallaby between 3 and 4 feet off the ground and a disappearing snipe. There was also a 100 bird 4 man flush.

The event attracted over 140 shooters including nine members of the WLMCPSS - none of whom wish to openly discuss their scores. The top score for the sporting competition was 36 out of 40 and the Patton Bridge team, won the flush for the third year running, with 94 out of 100 (they were incredible to watch).

Nevertheless there was a wonderful hog roast by courtesy of Pigonaspit, adequate bar facilities and a splendid silent auction.

Congratulations to John Bell and Jason Dakin for putting on such a challenging competition and raising £2,200.00 we look forward to seeing you again next year.



Tom Blackburn, Ian Heyes, Phil Gunning & Eric Nixon



Ian Toomey, Stan Barr, Howard Whittaker, Neil Forsyth

# PROVINCIAL SHOOT

The annual West Lancashire Provincial Shooting Competition was held this year at The Dolphin Shooting Ground, Marsh Lane, Longton on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May.

38 members and guest turned up to compete in the 30 Sporting Bird Competition, which was shot over 7 different stands.

- The winner of the Members shoot was Bro. Lloyd Davies with a score of 23.
- The Guest trophy went to Mr. S. Gorry with a score of 27.
- The Veteran's Trophy was presented to W Bro Mike Casey (the Society's Secretary) with a score of 19.
- The Novice Trophy was presented to W.Bro. Dave Potts with 5

It was decided that because of the large amount of support received from the South Blackpool Group of Lodges to the Society that the Group Trophy would be presented to them in the presence of their Group Chairman on some future occasion.



Lloyd Davies, David Potts, Mike Clowes & Mike Casey



David Potts with his Trophy



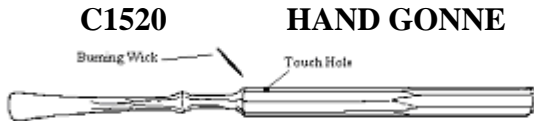
Mike Casey & Mike Clowes



Mike Clowes & Lloyd Davies

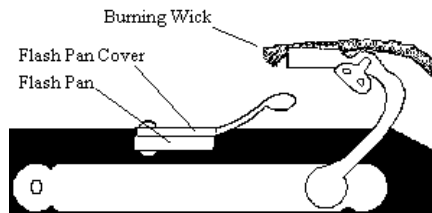
# THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MODERN SHOTGUN

Shotguns, as we know them, owe their development to their original use. Guns were developed as an efficient killing machine and the time and money spent developing them would not have been possible unless vast quantities were to be sold. Unfortunately large armies needed a lot of guns and then the need was for more efficient weapons. Sporting shotguns owe their development to the development of the weapons for war most of which were purloined when the armies were disbanded and then used for sporting purposes. We can trace the modern shotgun back to the early 15<sup>th</sup> Century.



The earliest 'hand gonne' was developed in the fifteenth century. It was a small cannon with a touchhole for ignition. It was unsteady, required that the user prop it on a stand, brace it with one hand against his chest and use his other hand to touch a lighted match to the touch-hole, and had an effective range of only about thirty to forty yards

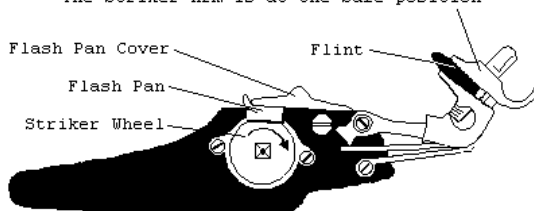
## **1498 - 1700**                      **MATCHLOCK**



First real gun ready for use. Match difficult to light & keep dry Longbowmen could shoot faster

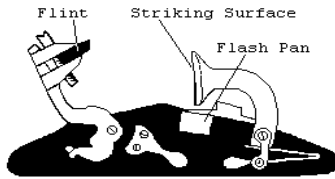
## **1517 - 1700**                      **WHEELLOCK**

The Striker Arm is at the Safe position



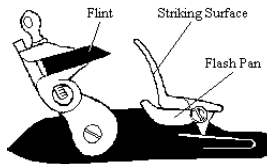
Big Improvement. Based on a spring loaded lighter. Simple mechanism

## C1570 SNAPHAUNCE



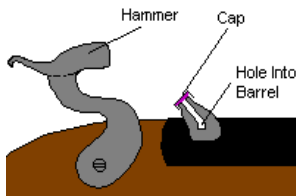
Earliest form of Flintlock. Simple mechanism

## 1612 - 1750 FLINTLOCK



Even simpler. Less expensive. More reliable

## C1805 PERCUSSION CAP



Major advance in reliability. No exposed flash pan. Gun always ready

## C1828 PINFIRE



First cartridge to be made. Better than muzzle loading. Unfortunately the pins break off

## C1840 HAMMER SHOTGUN



Beginning of the modern gun. Last development on centre fire cartridges with fibre wads.

**C1860**

**SIDELOCK**



Developed from flintlock and Percussion Guns. Mechanism built into side plates. Made as either Non Ejector or Ejector.

**C1875**

**BOXLOCK**



Patented in May 11, 1875 by John Deeley. The action used the leverage of the opening barrels to cock the hammers. In regards to simplicity, the average boxlock only has four individual parts.

**C1892**

**SEMI-AUTOMATIC**



Semi-automatic Shotguns are able to fire a shell after every trigger pull, without any of the manual reloading typical in most shotgun designs. The weapon uses the force of exploding gunpowder to both propel the projectile down the barrel, and to cycle the action and load the next round thus reducing recoil

**1923**

**OVER and UNDER**



Developed in 1923 by turning the side by side barrels 90° This is by far the most popular gun with Clay shooters as there is only one plane to look down. The single plane means that 'Gun fit' is not as important and the increased weight gives less recoil. Also available with engraved side plates.

Acknowledgements: 'The Gun' 9<sup>th</sup> Edition by W W Greener, 'Gough Thomas Gun Book' & Internet research

# COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Bro. Lawrence Alston  
W.Bro. Phil Gunning, P.A.G.D.C.  
W.Bro. John Hammond, P.Pr.J.G.W.  
W.Bro. Ian Heyes, P.Pr.S.G.D.  
W.Bro Robbie McBride, P.Pr.A.G.Supt.Wks.

## Co-opted

W.Bro. Peter Levick, P.A.G.D.C.  
W.Bro. Keith Nuttall, P.Pr.S.G.D.  
W.Bro. Danny Chester, P.Pr.J.G.W.

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## Members,

Please, please, please  
if you are on the 'WEB'

send your e-mail address to  
the Secretary at

[gwmikecasey@gmail.com](mailto:gwmikecasey@gmail.com)

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## Internet Site

Don't forget to visit the Provincial web site for all the current  
information for the Society.

Information changing all the time !  
[www.westlancsfreemasons.org.uk](http://www.westlancsfreemasons.org.uk)

Whilst every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this Newsletter,  
no responsibility can be accepted by the Society or its Officers in respect of any loss or  
damage sustained as result of information contained in this Newsletter.