

English Twenty Club



secretary@englishtwenty.org.uk

Spring Newsletter, April 2016

A message from our President.

Dear Fellow Members of the English XX Club,

Within this Newsletter you will find a full report following the Clubhouse questionnaire that was sent to you late last year.

Sadly, responses were only received from a small percentage of the annual membership. Martin our Hon Secretary, has very kindly coordinated them into an accurate summary and I leave those findings to your own judgement.

Despite this, I would record that the Exec. Committee continues the search for any last-minute partnership with whomsoever. Should you know of any possible contacts who might be interested, please let me know with a degree of urgency.

Finally, I wish you all a highly successful shooting season and I look forward to seeing you at our Spring Open Meeting later next month.

Kindest regards,

Mick Barr.

President of the English Twenty Club.

The first item in the newsletter is a summary of your responses to the clubhouse survey that we ran over the winter months and details of the conclusions that we have drawn from your responses.

As you will be aware, the costs of running and maintaining the clubhouse have increased and cannot be sustained with the current annual subscription of £15. It was therefore decided that in order to keep the clubhouse a significant increase in subs was needed. There is a break in the lease in 2017 at which point we have the option to vacate the clubhouse and return it to the NRA.

In order to act in line with the wishes of the members, a working committee was formed to create a survey. This survey was sent to all members with a known email address early in November 2015, about 660 in total. In addition it was sent via DSs to members not on email, or where the given email address was undeliverable.

The survey was closed on 31st January 2016 and I would like to thank all members that took the time to respond. The analysis of the responses is set out below.

Q1 Results: Keeping the Clubhouse: Would you prefer to pay an annual subscription fee in the range £45 - £60 from 2017 onwards to retain the clubhouse plus normal member privileges?

Table 1: Collated responses for Q1

Membership Type	Believed a response not appropriate	Believed a response appropriate		No response received	Grand Totals
		NO	YES		
annual	5	152	84	389	630
junior life	0	0	0	53	53
life	18	17	18	126	179
Grand Total	23	169	102	568	862

Q2 Results: Giving up the Clubhouse: Would you prefer to give up the clubhouse and continue to pay £15?

Table 2: Collated responses to Q2

Membership type	Believed a response not appropriate	NO	YES	No response received	Grand Totals
annual	6	90	145	389	630
junior life	0	0	0	53	53
life	18	20	13	128	179
Grand Total	24	110	158	570	862

Q3 Results: If you vote NO to Q1, would you continue your membership at the higher subscription level if the majority voted YES to Q1?

Table 3 below is split into membership response types to Q1. The key piece of information from the table is that of the **169 that said NO** to Q1, **104 also said NO** to Q3.

Table 3: Collated results for Q3

Q1 response	Q3 response	Total
NO	N/A	2
	NO	104
	YES	63
NO Total		169
YES	N/A	70
	NO	2
	YES	28
YES Total		100
Grand Total		269

Some life members responded to say they would be willing to pay an annual subscription, or a one off amount, unfortunately this number was very low and would make no material impact to the outcome of the survey.

Since annual members are those who will have to bear any increases in fees, further analysis shows that off the **630 annual members** asked if they would pay an increased subscription:

- 13% (84) said yes
- 24% (152) said no
- 62% (389) did not respond

Other observations regarding the survey outcome include:

- i. The number of annual members willing to pay an increased subscription falls considerably short of the 300 needed to pay £60 (or 400 members to pay £45), this was the minimum considered to be viable by the Hon. Treasurer and formed the basis of Q1.
- ii. Many members that responded also provided comment and opinion on the future of the clubhouse and actions we could take. Many of these coincided with initiatives attempted by the Facilities Committee during the last 10 years.
- iii. There was a suggestion that we approach all life members and ask them if they would be willing to pay a subscription, however, even if the 126 life members that had not previously responded all agreed to pay an increased annual subscription, the total number willing to pay would be 228 (including the 18 life members that responded YES to the survey). The total of 228 is still not enough to secure the income to retain the club. The decision has therefore been taken not to poll life members as a separate exercise.

You have been given the opportunity to decide the future of the clubhouse and Council will now act on the information you have provided.

Many of your responses showed a real passion and enthusiasm for the heritage and history of the clubhouse, this is fully understood and echoed by the Council of the club, unfortunately that is not sufficient to keep the clubhouse and our reserves are dwindling rapidly.

Consideration is now being given to several areas:

- i. **Sharing a clubhouse:** During the last year the English Twenty Club has been seeking a tenant to share our clubhouse, however in spite of a notice in the journal, printed notices around camp and enquiries with clubs, we have been unable to find anyone. Many members responded to the survey advising of other clubs that may be in a similar position and therefore interested in a sharing agreement, these suggestions are actively being pursued.
- ii. **Virtual club plan for members:** Council is considering how the Club will be run and how we will service members. This needs to be clearly defined and communicated to members.
- iii. **Assets:** Storage will need to be found for the memorabilia, championship boards and match boards.

As a result of giving back the clubhouse in 2017, the English Twenty Club is changing.

Looking forward, our primary areas of focus will be on helping young shooters progress to national standard and facilitating England teams for matches and tours. Whatever future facilities we may have the costs of the club will not be known immediately; we expect a rebalance of membership numbers. In the meantime let me reassure you that our actions will have your interest as the foremost priority. I would like to thank you for your continued support.

M. Liversage Hon Sec.

Other news

Badges and Medals

I have been catching up over the winter months with ordering overdue medals and badges.

KGV medals from 2013 onwards have been produced and will be available for collection by DSs at the Spring Meeting and Imperial.

Medals for the Club Championship have also been procured from 2013 onwards.

Badges for the European Long Range Matches from 1996 to 2008 have been order for those that requested them.

I also have a quantity of prize money still to be distributed from previous Championships and Spring Meetings. A list of those needing to collect medals and prize money will be placed on the notice board inside the clubhouse. I will have the medals and badges available from the Spring Meeting.

We also now have England team blazer badges and shoulder flashes for those that have had their first England cap during recent years.

England Tour to Guyana

The English Twenty Club has been invited to send an England team to Guyana from 9th to 15th of October 2017. If you have someone you wish to nominate for the Captain of this tour, please complete the form at the end of this newsletter and return to Hon Sec before Saturday 14th May 2016. Due to range capacity it will be a small team, with a possibility of incorporating other meetings in the region.

The Yearbook

This is the first year we have made the yearbook available on the website and only provided a printed yearbook on request. This is saving the club a significant amount of money. We do have a small number of printed books available for £3 each, if you need one please contact Hon Sec.

The yearbook this year has been thoroughly overhauled by Carol Painting and I hope you'll agree that the result is a very thorough publication. Council is now seeking a member willing to take on the role of yearbook editor for 2017 onwards. Please contact the Hon Sec if you're interested in this very rewarding role.

You will notice that the 2016 yearbook has names highlighted in italics for those members that are not paying the full subscription of £15. During the Spring Meeting and Imperial a list will be available on the noticeboard inside the clubhouse of those underpaid, please check that your name isn't on it. If you are underpaid then your payment is treated as a donation to the club and you will not be entitled to the privileges of membership.

The Clubhouse

This year the Club will be opened for the traditional periods of Spring Meeting and Imperial Meeting along with supporting members during section events such as Gallery Rifle. If Counties require supper on the Saturday evening of the Inter-Counties then please advise the Hon Sec as soon as possible. If we do not get at least 2 teams booking a meal then it will be unlikely that the club will be open for that weekend, as it would probably make a loss.

Given sufficient warning and planning the Club may be booked for events such as training weekends at a £100 charge to cover costs of special bar licenses, staff wages and other overheads. Full catering can also be arranged.

Spring Meeting 2016

This year the Spring Meeting will be held 28th to 30th May. Ammunition will be available for purchase by competitors if they so designate on the Entry Form. Entry forms will be available on the web site and in the Bisley Clubs, however online entry is encouraged as it assists with the squadding and admin, making the organising much simpler. If you wish to enter online, but still pay by traditional means, please send your cheque to Tom Rylands and indicate that you have entered online.

Online entry can be made at <https://www.shootingcompetitions.org/>

This meeting is the premier Club event of the year and members are encouraged to participate. In recent years, the clubhouse has been well attended especially on the Saturday when a special evening meal is available and a true club spirit prevails thanks to Debbie and her staff. Please do support your club by entering; costs have been kept down as far as possible but it means we do need an entry of 120 plus to break even.

The AGM for 2016 will be held on Sunday 29th May in the clubhouse during the Spring Meeting.

Gallery Rifle Division

The 2015 season witnessed the new Gallery Rifle captain, Morné van Dalen, repeat full England attendance at the main three national meetings in the competitive calendar. Our meetings at Derby, Haverfordwest and Bisley all host Home Countries head to head matches. Thanks go to the organisers of these events who put aside range time and help arrange Range Officers and officials for the matches. Full results are in section **Gallery Rifle Matches** below.

An England touring team completed their first victory on Welsh soil, by just two points. Wales came out on top at the main event of the year - the Home Countries National Match at Bisley. This is their second win in the flagship event of the national Gallery Rifle calendar following their 2013 victory.

One objective the England squad set themselves for 2015 was to encourage more competitive pistol shooting. Within the mainland of the UK this, of course, is restricted to Long Barreled Revolvers (LBRs) and Long Barreled Pistols (LBPs). At the Phoenix meeting and the Gallery Rifle National championships, concurrent pistol matches for two new trophies took place. These trophies have been provided by current and previous team captains to promote competitive pistol and revolver shooting.

From an England perspective our current captain and vice-captains are very enthusiastic and fully committed to providing more opportunities for competitive pistol (LBR/LBP) shooting. Our four Bisley GRAW meetings (as well as many regional meetings) offer excellent opportunities to register scores on the national circuit. All our classified meetings count towards the season-wide rankings as well as the chance to compete for England.

Overseas shooting is on offer – we have enough interest. Despite our restrictions on the purer form of pistol shooting, 26 British shooters attended the WA 1500 World Championships at Stockholm, Sweden in August. Revolvers and pistols of the more traditional kind were borrowed and hired. An England team comprising English Twenty Club members Colin McMichael and Peter Watts competed in the Revolver Expert class finishing ninth from 15. Details of this major international event are on the website: <http://www.ppc1500wc2015.se/>

Another site of interest to GR and P shooters is: <http://galleryrifle.com> this is the main web site; a Facebook site of the same name is another source of information.

We also have a Facebook page (England Gallery Rifle) and Twitter stream (EGRifle) for the England Gallery Rifle team. Follow both to keep up with the news.

N.J. Francis

**England Teams for National and Lawrence Matches, 2016
Message from the Captain, Dick Winney.**

Dear Fellow Members

I am honoured to have been appointed by the Council of the English Twenty Club as captain of the England teams for the National Match and for the Lawrence Trophy Match. I have asked Dave Allen to be my Adjutant and Bill Richards to be my main coach.

As you may know, the English Twenty Club sets selection conventions for the National Match (this year on Thursday 21 July), requiring the inclusion of five shooters who have never fired in the match before and five that have only shot once in the match. In addition, the five reserves must not have shot in, nor been reserves for the match in previous years. We do have historic records, but they are not infallible and it always helpful to be reminded of potential candidates. We are, therefore, looking for first-timers and those that have shot just once, who have confidence, self-belief and an excellent shooting record. The same applies for potential target coaches.

In addition to their performance during the July Bisley Meeting, there are two other occasions on which aspiring individuals have the opportunity to show their skills. The first is the RAFTRC match scheduled for Saturday 14 May. If you would like to be considered for a place in the English Twenty Club team please contact Dave to register your interest now. The second match is at the Scottish Open meeting at Blair Atholl in Scotland, scheduled for 10-12 June, at which the Lawrence Trophy is contested (on 11 June). I am particularly keen to wrest the trophy from the Scots, who have held onto it for too long! For those who haven't been to Blair the experience is well worth the trip. The Scots are always thoroughly welcoming hosts, the range is magnificent and the use of electronic targets is very agreeable! Could those planning on attending please let Dave know as soon as possible, so that we consider all interested shooters.

Please let us know of your interest in either or both of these events. Individuals should let us have their email address and a telephone number (home and/or mobile). Email is preferred but a telephone call is fine, or button-hole any of the three of us if you see us on the firing point. It is impossible for us to know every up and coming star and we would welcome an approach at any time. Contact details for Dave and myself are set out below.

The other crucial point is that anyone aspiring to selection for the National Match must be a paid up member **and** have entered the English Twenty Club Championship; **otherwise you cannot be selected**. Please check now that your annual subscription is up to date with banker's order or alternative payment!

**Match v United Kingdom Armed Forces (formerly Combined Services) and Home Countries 2016
Message from the Captain, Simon Cox.**

I have been honoured with the Captaincy of the English Twenty Club team to compete against the UK Armed Forces (formerly Combined Services) and the other Home Countries in 2016. I am pleased that John Deane has accepted the invitation to be my Adjutant and that David Young has agreed to be my Chief Coach. The team will consist of twelve firers and three coaches, with the course of fire as for the Kolapore: one sighting shot and ten to count at each of 300, 500 and 600 yards; the match will be held on the Second Friday of the Imperial Meeting, alongside the Kolapore.

I invite members of the English Twenty Club who wish to be considered for the team, either as a shooter or as a coach, to contact me, John, or David, at the earliest opportunity. We are keen to include members representing a mixture of ages, of experience, and of Counties. A sheet will be posted on the notice board on the clubhouse veranda at the start of the Imperial Meeting, inviting members to submit their names for consideration. Those who are selected as Reserves for the National Match have first refusal for places in this team.

Captain	Simon Cox
Adjutant	John Deane
Chief Coach	David Young

KGV Heats

To encourage the widest possible participation in the KGV please note that if holding a Queen's II match is not possible, then a match covering at least two ranges between 200 and 600 yds, with at least 21 shots per firer can be held.

Please also note the ruling for the heats regarding ammunition, which is to allow ammunition as agreed within the group,

rather than it be issued by the organising DS. This is only when all teams agree, if not then the organising DS must supply ammunition in the traditional manner.

Certificates of Competence

Please note that the English Twenty Club is not a primary club and so will not be issuing Certificates of Competence for any member who wishes to fire TR, MR, F Class or Gallery rifle disciplines on MOD ranges INCLUDING Bisley. These MUST be obtained from your primary club.

For those without email, I would ask District Superintendents to attempt to circulate their "e-less" members with hard copies...many thanks. In addition, **we would ask any member who has changed his or her address recently and has not alerted the Membership Secretary, to do so immediately and, if he/she is now on email, to inform the Club of this please (membership@englishtwenty.org.uk).**

Significant Dates, 2016

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 14 May | Short Range Match v RAFTRC, Scotland and Wales |
| 15 May | Long Range Match v RAFTRC, Scotland and Wales |
| 28 – 30 May | English Twenty Club Prize Meeting |
| 28 May | Council Meeting, 19.00 in the City Rifle Club clubhouse* |
| 29 May | AGM in the clubhouse at 19.00* |
| 14 July | English County Rifle Championship for the King George V Challenge Cup, 13.30 (subject to confirmation) |
| 16 July | Aggregates for Club Championship and Varley commence. Entries close in the clubhouse at 12:00. |
| 17 July | Meeting of District Superintendents, 18:45 in the clubhouse |
| 18 July | Council Meeting, 20:15 in the clubhouse |
| 19 July | County Short and Long matches |
| 20 July | H.M. The Queen's Prize, First Stage |
| 21 July | Aggregates for Club Championship and Varley finish
National Match |
| 22 July | Kolapore
UK Armed Forces match
Queen's Prize, Second Stage |
| 23 July | Mackinnon
H.M. The Queen's Prize, Final |

*these dates have changed since the yearbook was issued

Best wishes for the 2016 season.

Martin Liversage, Honorary Secretary, secretary@englishtwenty.org.uk

.....ooooOoooo.....

To Captain the England Team to Guyana in 2017 I propose:

Name of person you are nominating: _____

(Please ensure your nominee has agreed to their nomination)

Proposed by: _____

Seconded by: _____

Please send your nomination to the Hon Sec using the details at the top of this newsletter by 14th May at the latest.