

# SASS June 2024

June was filled ,occasionally, with some beautiful blue sky. We shot quite a lot of it, sometimes missed it and hit a clay instead. As I write the finishing touches to your newsletter on this election day, I wonder what the future of shooting will be like. If one of the anti-hunting parties get into government will shooting be next? I, for one will not wait and see. Rest assured that any threats to our sport will continue to be included in this monthly update so that you can make your own decisions. Apologies for this one coming out in July, if you have not re-joined SASS this year this is the last newsletter you will receive directly. You can still access all newsletters by visiting the website: [www.sass.uk.com/newsletters/](http://www.sass.uk.com/newsletters/) updated every month by Sturat. See you on Sundays.



## 3 Lions, 2<sup>nd</sup> June

Unick very kindly picked up Robbo and Hunter on his way to the Arms. No one else was there so we proceeded to the shoot. We got a text from Thumb Boy and a call from Capp en-route to say the traffic was bad on the Ashley Heath Road. There is not really a route around so we had to sit in the tail back caused by a car boot sale. We then queued for nearly half an hour for the person at registration to take our money. Even the 3 Lions members were getting agitated with him for taking so long. We watched many of their members blanking stands ahead of us. No SASS guns shot to their handicap. This is a shoot that we have not attended for a while. There were some interesting clays but little regard to the background, making some very difficult to see. On a positive note, it is a wonderful location and the weather was absolutely lovely. Well done Unick scoring the highest actual 33/50 and winning the Sunday 25 cartridges.



## 3 Lions, with handicap

1st	Unick	48
2nd	Pug	44
3rd	Capp	43
3rd	Robbo	43
5th	Thumb Boy	42
6th	Hunter	38



## Petersfield, 9<sup>th</sup> June

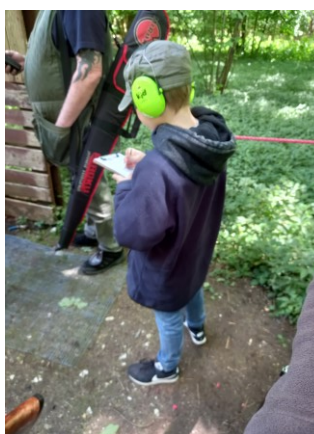
Four guns met at the Arms on this glorious morning. Badger was already at Gunners Wood when we got there, on call, so he had to travel alone. There was a different lady at sign in, very pleasant and amenable. We shot as a single squad starting at stand six. There was a problem with stand seven and as the trap was in front of stand six we were asked to start elsewhere. It was a testing layout, but nothing that was un-hittable. Well done Robbo for winning the Sunday 25s and to Sturat for the highest actual 40/50.

## Petersfield, with handicap

1st	Robbo	51
2nd	Unick	49
3rd	Sturat	46
3rd	Hunter	46
3rd	Badger	46

## Popham, 16<sup>th</sup> June

Six guns and a non-shooting scorer met at the Arms and travelled to the Test Valley ground in two cars. There we met Spiced and Soloman and teamed up into two squads for the seventy-bird shoot. It was quite busy so we started mid-way and shot the first stands last. As ever it was a great layout, however, they appear not to have considered the growth of the trees as a lot of clays were hitting the trees before reaching the kill point. Thank you and well done Igor for keeping the scores. On the last stand, Spiced tried to nobble Unick with three pairs instead of four. After liberating a pair of Dynamites cartridges, Unick made them both count. Still, a very enjoyable local Sunday morning shoot. Very well done Badger for the highest actual 43/50 and winning the cartridges.



## Popham, with handicap

1st	Badger	51
2nd	Dynamite	50
2nd	Robbo	48
4th	Spiced	46
5th	Hunter	40
5th	Soloman	38
7th	Unick	44
8th	Sturat	51

## Bisley, 23<sup>rd</sup> June

Hunter picked up Unick and lent him a gun as requested by text on the Saturday evening. When we got to the Arms everyone wondered where Sturat was, then Unick remembered that he may have asked Sturat to collect him too! Unsurprisingly he got called a few names when Stu eventually got to the Arms, not as many as might have been if Badgers daughter, Lauren, was not there! We shot a hundred clays starting the other side of the gate to do the far end of the layout first. Unfortunately, the grouse butts were closed off because the army were doing some distance shooting on the ranges. Lauren had a go with her dads gun (also with Dynamites semi, but she did not like that). She took an impressive score card home to show her mates. There were no Bisley pies because Robbo and Denise were on holiday. Dynamite stepped in with pork pie and beers, which was much appreciated. Thank you Dynamite and well done for winning the cartridges, well done to Sturat for highest actual 41/50.



## Bisley with handicap

1st	Dynamite	51
2nd	Badger	50
3rd	Sturat	48
4th	Hunter	46
5th	Unick	40





### Chalky Hill, 30<sup>th</sup> June

Four guns and Igor met at the Arms on what was forecast to be a showery last day of the month. At Chalky, one of the few remaining fifty bird shoots, we met Pug. We all shot as one group with Igor as chief button pusher. There were more no-birds and trap malfunctions than usual but they were all resolved by Duncan and his team reasonably swiftly. As always, a nice layout with variations in the limited space. The shoot was well attended which caused a few queues, probably something we will have to get used to as there are fewer local shoots to cater for guns in the area. Highest actual was very close right to the end, Badger was in with a shout but Sturat pipped him by one shot for 42/50, well done both. The cartridges were won by Pug, who was on fire with an impressive eight kills above his handicap, well done Pug.

### Weekend away, by Polly

Ashcombe was different in those days, Ricky was on very good terms with the owners of the shoot. He booked, I think, about 10 of us in. I think that is all they could sleep for two nights. We all met at the Arms at 0700hrs and off we went. We all bought Ashcombe T shirts and had the year photo. Val took his pickup with all of the cartridges on board (lot of weight) we piled in the cars of those who were willing to drive that year. We picked up the A303 at Andover and drove down to the Ashcombe turn off which slid under the road. Just the other side was a greasy spoon café, we all had a full English then

off to Ashcombe. After booking in we sorted out our cartridges and sorted out who was sleeping where. The cabins were very primitive (two pre-war iron beds) and a box shower, (very small). I had the speed cop in with me his feet were hanging out of the end of the bed so far that you could not open the door properly. But it was great fun we were all mates together and prepared to rough it. We then went outside and shot the first layout, back in for lunch and a few beers then back out for the next layout. Back in for dinner, they prepared a great meal for us then the piss-up started. After 2 or 3 bottles I was gone fast asleep, the bastards all took photos of me. Nobody got much sleep so for what it was worth the shower was welcome, but some of them could really drink. In the morning the biggest breakfast spread you ever saw. Then a full day shooting only stopping for lunch then out again. By then we had shot 500 cartridges and were ready for dinner. Then the drinking started again, Ricky by the way brought with him various cheeses, olives and nibbles for the drinking sessions. Then to bed, up next morning to a big breakfast then home Sunday morning, believe me it was great fun plenty of banter and challenging. So, if any of you have never been I highly recommend it, the layouts were all there to shoot, high towers and all. I think the accommodation setup is changed, but for us it was all there on site. I think that is all for that one. Polly

### Chalky Hill, with handicap

1st	Pug	58
2nd	Badger	53
2nd	Hunter	53
4th	Sturat	49
5th	Dynamite	46

### Events and Fixtures

July shoots start with Hangmans Stone which is exactly an hour from the Arms. Big Mack has kept everything local thereafter. In September plans are afoot to have a weekend away at Sporting Targets in Bedfordshire. There is still time to join in this one if you are interested. Polly has written about how Ashcombe used to be in the beginning. We look forward to seeing you out wherever you can this summer.

Date	Shoot	Address	Post code	Leave	Cost	Clays
07 July 2024	Hangmans Stone	Hangmans Stone Lane, Newbury	RG20 7EX	9:00 AM	£37.00	100
14 July 2024	Chalky Hill Clay Shoot	Chalky Hill, Medstead, Alton	GU34 5QA	9:00 AM	£17.00	50
21 July 2024	Petersfield Gun Club	Gunners Wood, Colemore	GU34 3PU	9:15 AM	£24.00	60
28 July 2024	Popham	Test Valley CPC, A303 Popham, Winchester	SO21 3BE	9:00 AM	£28.00	70
6-8 September 2024	Sporting Targets	Knotting Lane, Riseley, Bedfordshire	MK44 1BX	TBA	TBA	TBA

Images below from Sporting Targets website: [www.sportingtargets.co.uk](http://www.sportingtargets.co.uk)

