

SASS January 2025

January can be a dark, bleak, and long month especially if you resolve to abstain from something you enjoy. Thankfully, I did not, so with plenty of shooting, good company, beer and meat, the month has flown by. In this issue we have had a little dusting of snow. There were once again, forecasts of high winds, which never really came to anything in southern England. There is news of a new arrival to the Soloman Family, hopefully a shooter of the future. On the downside, there is an increase to full cost for license applications and renewals. If we can look for a positive, full recovery should enable police forces to fund an acceleration of the backlog of applications, pint glass half full! See you in February.

Hangmans Stone, 5th January

There was a yellow warning for snow (used to be where the Huskies go), but the morning was 12°C and raining. Only the hardcore guns came out to play. The journey to Hangmans was very wet, with a lot of standing water on the roads. Once we got off the A34 there were remnants of snow on the verges and the shoot had snow on the open ground. After bacon rolls, thank you Pikey, we challenged ourselves with stands eight and nine in the open. After a little drizzle the rain stopped and the five guns shot the layout backwards as one squad. When we got to stand four, we met a Mr Grumpy who told us to be quiet because he could not shoot in an aviary, tuned out he just could not shoot. Well done Sturat for a great start to 2025 with highest actual 44/50, winning the cartridges and, at this not so easy shoot, being the only gun to shoot above his handicap.

Thank you, forwarded by Dynamite

Thank you so much for your donation of £306.00 towards our work at Mountbatten Hampshire. We are very grateful of your support. Your donation enables our expert teams to carry on caring for people who are facing death, dying and bereavement across our community. We are currently supporting a growing number of people who require our care and our aim is never to ignore anyone who needs us. As an independent charity it costs us over £10,500,000 per year to meet the requirements of everyone who needs Mountbatten's expertise, whether on our inpatient unit or through day care and rehabilitation services within our hospice building, or within people's own homes, where we care for hundreds of people each and every day. We also support a growing number of people through our specialist bereavement services. Thank you again for your thinking of us and we wish you well.

With all good wishes



Nigel Hartley
Chief Executive Officer, Mountbatten.



Hangmans Stone, with handicap

1st	Sturat	51
2nd	Pikey	47
3rd	Hunter	45
3rd	Robbo	45
5th	Badger	38



Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Soloman on the birth of their second child, Willow.

CPSA club affiliation renewal, 2025

Sturat has put up the new CPSA Certificate on the board at the Arms, and has uploaded the certificate to the website in the membership area to replace the one that expires at the end of the month.

Chalky Hill, 12th January

Seven guns met at Chalky on this chilly Sunday morning. There were some remnants of snow on the ground, but no wind. Duncan had mixed the traps about a bit for this fifty-bird shoot which is always interesting. There were a lot of post-Christmas “have a go” shooters, which while sometimes frustrating is encouraging for the future of our sport. Well done Badger for winning the cartridges and Sturat for the highest actual 45/50

Shotgun license fee increasing (fee for full cost recovery)

On January 15th the Home Office published the new “full recovery” costs for firearms certificates, go to the link below for full details.

[Circular 001/2025: Firearms \(Variation of Fees\) Order 2025 - GOV.UK](#)

Section 43 of the Firearms Act 1968 gives the Secretary of State the power to amend firearms licensing fees by order.

Firearms licensing applications received by the police on or after 5 February 2025 will incur the new fee. If an application and related payment has been received by the police on or before 4 February 2025, the police will honour the fee that has been paid. Applications to renew firearm and shotgun certificates should continue to be made within the usual timescales (please check the police force website for this information). Applicants should not apply ‘extra early’ in order to avoid paying the new fees. In these cases, the police may return applications and request that the new fee is paid. The National Police Chiefs’ Council has advised that most forces accept renewals up to four months before expiry date.

Fee costs excerpt on the next page:



Petersfield, 19th January

Five guns met at the Arms on this chilly and damp morning. There being no other members at Gunners Wood, we shot the sixty-bird layout as one squad. Petersfield have increased the cost by a pound to £25.00. the layout was not an easy one, there were several simmo pairs, but it was a very enjoyable shoot. It was busy, with a little queueing, which was encouraging because the shoot has not been well attended recently. There were a lot of youngsters having a go and more than a few ladies too. The two cancellations due to storms last year look like they were a good call as there were several fallen trees within the wood. Well done to Hunter for winning the cartridges and to Sturat for the highest actual 42/50. Special thanks to Dynamite, who was unable to shoot, but took our drinks order while we were on the road back and they were all on the table when we arrived back at the Arms.

Chalky Hill, with handicap

1st	Badger	53
2nd	Sturat	52
3rd	Hunter	51
4th	Robbo	50
5th	Unick	49
6th	Capp	48
7th	Smudger	47



Petersfield, with handicap

1st	Hunter	50
2nd	Sturat	49
3rd	Robbo	48
4th	Unick	47
5th	Badger	46

From 5 February 2025 the new fees will be:

Licence type	Fee for full-cost recovery
Grant of firearms certificate	£198
Renewal of firearm certificate	£131
Grant of shotgun certificate	£194
Renewal of shotgun certificate	£126

Popham, 26th January

Four guns met at the Arms on this windy morning. Rain was forecast for the afternoon but it was dry to start with. Robbo brought out his new car and drove to Test Valley Shoot because it was the closest Sunday to Sturats birthday, Happy Birthday Sturat. The threat of poor weather seemed to put many guns off, but we were five at the shoot and went around as a single squad. The rain held off but came in sideways on the last three of our stands, luckily no queueing so it was not long before we were back in the cars. Well done to Spiced for the highest actual 45/50 and for winning the cartridges.

Popham, with handicap

1st	Spiced	56
2nd	Robbo	55
2nd	Unick	55
4th	Hunter	53
5th	Sturat	49

Date	Shoot	Address	Post code	Leave	Cost	Clays
02 February 2025	Hangmans Stone	Hangmans Stone Lane, Newbury	RG20 7EX	9:00 AM	£38.00	100
09 February 2025	Chalky Hill Clay Shoot	Chalky Hill, Medstead, Alton	GU34 5QA	9:00 AM	£17.00	50
16 February 2025	Petersfield Gun Club	Gunners Wood, Colemore	GU34 3PU	9:15 AM	£25.00	60
23 February 2025	Popham	Test Valley CPC, A303 Popham, Winchester	SO21 3BE	9:00 AM	£28.00	70
12 March 2025	AGM, Southampton Arms	89 Moorgreen Road, West End, Hampshire	SO30 2HG	7:00 PM		