

SASS June 2025

What a scorching month June turned out to be. We have done a fair bit of travelling during the month and had some cracking shooting. Added to which was the sim game day on another gun burning day and a short committee meeting to brush up after the AGM and membership finalising. A big thank you to Dynamite for sponsoring the SASS website. Also below, guns for sale and an apology to Badger over the size of a .410 bore. July has a balanced mix of distance and local shoots. Starting in the East with Mill Farm, then locally at Popham. Ending the month with Hangmans and then Chalky Hill for the side by side challenge sponsored by Robbo. If you don't have a sxs, someone is sure to let you borrow one. Just remember not to use 28s in an old gun, happy shooting.



Mill Farm, 1st June

Six guns met at the Arms and travelled to the Petworth shoot in two vehicles. There were the same sat-nav differentials as the last time we visited this shoot. We met three more guns at the shoot and shot as three squads of three. The experience of our last visit was, to say the least, a little frustrating. The committee agreed to give Mill Farm the benefit of the doubt and try the shoot again. Glad we did, it was a similar layout, but without any breakdowns, and a fantastic shoot. Very well done Unick for the highest actual 41/50 and winning the cartridges. After the shoot Dynamite treated us all with beverages and snacks before we set off back. At the Arms Bar we had to close out the order because, unusually, Sturat was not in close behind us. We were starting to get concerned as he was behind us on the M27, turned out that he got in the outside lane on the contraflow and ended up at junction three before he could turn around.

Mill Farm, with handicap

1st	Unick	55
2nd	Hunter	52
3rd	Dynamite	51
4th	Pikey	50
5th	Albert	49
5th	Robbo	49
7th	Spiced	47
7th	Sturat	47
9th	Big Mac	46



COMMITTEE MEMBERS
R. ROBSON, P. JENKS, T. MORGAN, S. ROBSON & M. McNAMARA

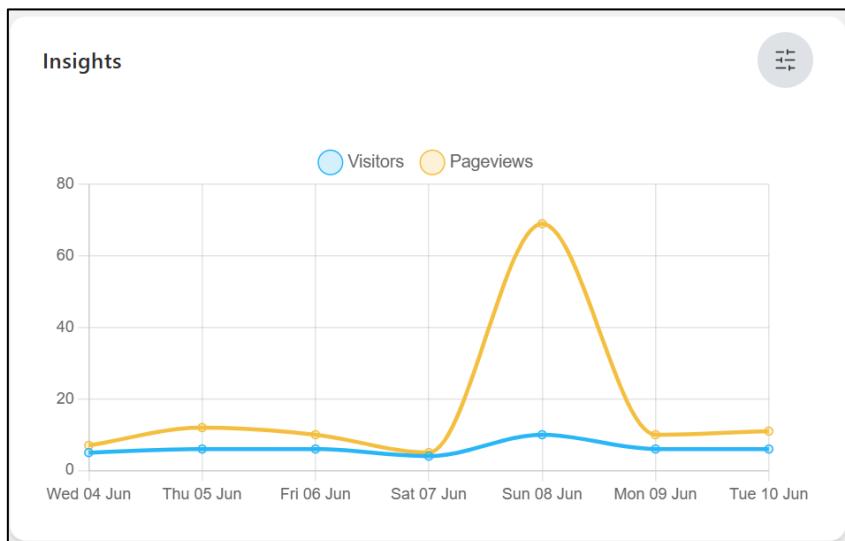
Blackdown, 8th June

Back out Petworth way again this week, the guns had already started by the time we arrived and the committee agreed that we should leave the Arms at 8.45 for both of the Easterly grounds. This is a difficult ground and the wind made it even more testing. There was a nice mix of on report and simmo pairs for the two squads of four. There was a simmo pair from a manual trap which were varying distances apart. Although there were a lot of guns there, we did not have much queueing. Well done to Hunter for winning the cartridges and to Sturat for the highest actual 37/50. Big thanks once again to Dynamite for the beers and pasties, much appreciated. Then back to the Arms for more beer with roast potatoes and gravy.

Blackdown, with handicap

1st	Hunter	49
2nd	Dynamite	48
3rd	Robbo	47
4th	Badger	46
5th	Big Mac	44
5th	Sturat	44
7th	Spiced	40
7th	Unick	40

Website statistics, week preceding the committee meeting



Hangmans Stone, 15th June

Seven guns and Igor made their way to the Four Counties Ground. When we got there Igor asked what the stone was. So for Igor, our new members and those of you that cannot remember: There are over a dozen places in England with a large boulder called the Hangman's Stone, or a gate called Gallows Gate, all explained by the following tale:—a sheep-stealer was carrying a live sheep home with its legs tied together, when he stopped to rest against the boulder (or gate); the sheep slipped and struggled, causing the rope to twist round his neck and throttle him. Thus, fate ensured that he would be hanged for his crime (from A Dictionary of English Folklore). It was another testing but thoroughly enjoyable shoot. Igor ably managed the scoring, thank you, young man. The lower field was not as hard as usual, although it did have a distance rabbit which needed a bit of lead. Stand seven was a pair of loopers going away to the left which proved to be Hunters nemesis where a smiley was earned and with there being five pairs there was no chance of recovery. Well done Robbo for shooting way above his handicap and winning the cartridges, and to Sturat for the highest actual 44/50.

Committee Meeting, 11th June

A short committee meeting was held at the Arms, post membership renewals. For the 2025-26 season there are currently 23 members, 2 of who are honorary life members, so there are 21 paying members. Shoot venues were discussed, with the absence of Petersfield and Ower until October, it is incredibly difficult to keep it local at the moment. The website that is maintained & updated weekly by Sturat, is regularly scrutinised at committee meetings as it is a significant expense. The hit rates on the graph from the site demonstrate significant use, presumably by members, prior to shooting and some for scores. This determines that the website is a valued resource for the club and is money well spent.

Hangmans Stone, with handicap

1st	Robbo	56
2nd	Big Mac	52
2nd	Sturat	52
4th	Badger	51
5th	Spiced	50
5th	Unick	50
7th	Hunter	48

Simulated Game Day, 21st June

Seven guns ventured out to Forge Farm on this longest day of the year. There was a last-minute change so we met on the farm instead of the Binstead Arms. Tea, coffee, and bacon rolls were served in one of the barns before we set off down the hill to the first drive. There were fourteen guns in pairs on seven pegs, one loading, one shooting and we swapped after five hundred clays had been launched into the hot summer air. After the second drive we stopped for elevenses where there was plenty of water and cold drinks, savoury and sweet snacks served from the back of a Land Rover. We climbed the other side of the valley for the third drive and it was getting hot. Not quite as hot as last time on the hottest day of the year, but close. Back in the valley for the fourth and final drive, it started to rain a little which was blissfully received. We made our way back up to the farm, some of us in the Land Rover, where we were greeted with lamb burgers, beef burgers and sausages from the farm. All finished off with a pint at the Binstead Arms. During the day we were presented with four thousand clay targets and shot around four to five hundred cartridges each.



Popham, 29th June

Five guns met at the Test Valley ground in Popham on this warm sunny morning. It got hotter during the day, but in the shade of the trees, now in full leaf, it was a pleasant shooting temperature. We shot as a single group and went to start at the bottom of the slope at stand six. Finding six not working we moved to start at seven which also was inoperative. With a quick un-plug and reconnect, Badger got the trap to spring into life (that is also what keeps the oil industry flowing). There were a few no-birds, but nothing that we had to call the trappers out for this time. By the time we got around to stand six again it was working fine, so we finished right by the exit at 11.30. Well done to Hunter for winning the cartridges and for equal highest actual with Badger of 46/50, also, a personal best for Hunter.



Firearms Licencing out to Tender

The national firearms database for police in England and Wales may be replaced, as a £17 million contract goes out to tender. The National Firearms Licensing Management System (NFLMS) will be run by the Police Digital Services agency. The NFLMS holds data on around 643,000 firearms licences. The current system has been criticised for complicated processes, long waiting times, and incompatibility with online payments, forcing some forces to still require paper forms and cheques. The Cloud-hosted Law Enforcement Data Services (LEDS) system, which the NFLMS will feed into, is due to go online in March 2026. The new NFLMS should be operational by 2027. The Home Office aims to award the contract by October 2025. (ShootingUK, 12th June 2025).

Popham, with handicap

1st	Hunter	61
2nd	Dynamite	60
3rd	Badger	56
3rd	Big Mac	56
5th	Spiced	54



New SASS website sponsor



Any Other Business

Hi to you all

Owing to my difficulties in breathing and low energy and my age creeping on I been unable to get to the shoots with you which I have really been disappointed with myself I have made many friends since we started the club and hope to keep that friendship going you never know, with that in mind I have decided to let my two guns go, both are Berttas, one is a 28" 5686 special fixed choke, the other is a 30" M/C sv10? Perennial with a Walnut stock, all the engraving, quite expensive when new neither has been used very much,

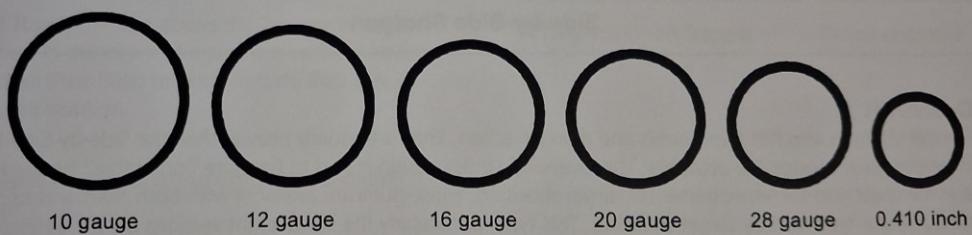
I would like £1100 for the pair, they must go as a pair,

Polly 02380 693148

A huge thank you to our valued member Dynamite for his generosity in sponsoring the SASS website. With rising costs, it can be hard to maintain a non-profit club but it is with great pride that one of our members has stepped up and offered to sponsor our site for the 2025/26 season. Members are the core of our little society and from all of us at the Southampton Arms Shooting Society we thank you Dynamite.

SHOTGUN BORE DIAMETER

Shotguns are manufactured in a variety of bore sizes or gauges, some of which are not used for clay target shooting and are virtually obsolete. The following illustration gives the common range of sizes. The bore or gauge of a shotgun is based upon the diameter of a single Lead ball, the number of which makes up a pound of Lead. Therefore a 12 bore is the diameter of a single Lead ball weighing 1/12 of a pound; a 20 bore is the diameter of a Lead ball weighing 1/20 of a pound etc. 67 gauge, is traditionally referred to as a four-ten (0.410") which is a calibre in inches.



Following a debate at the simulated game day which carried on at the Binstead Arms, your safety officers, Hunter, and Sturat, concede that Badger was indeed correct. The excerpt above from the CPSA Safety Manual says that a .410 bore is equal to 67 gauge. Badger, please accept our humble apologies.

Events and Fixtures

Date	Shoot	Address	Post code	Leave	Cost	Clays
06 July 2025	Mill Farm	Lurgashall, Petworth, West Sussex	GU28 9ER	9:00 AM	£28.00	70
13 July 2025	Popham	Test Valley CPC, A303 Popham, Winchester	SO21 3BE	9:00 AM	£28.00	70
20 July 2025	Hangmans Stone	Hangmans Stone Lane, Newbury	RG20 7EX	9:00 AM	£35.00	100
27 July 2025	Side-by-side Competition	Chalky Hill Clay Shoot, Medstead, Alton	GU34 5QA	9:00 AM	£17.00	50
5-7 Sep 2025	Weekend Away	Sporting Targets, Bedfordshire	MK44 1BX	TBC	TBC	TBC
Oct 2025 TBC	Empress Shield	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
18 October 2025	RN and RM shoot	Barbury Shooting School, Wroughton, Swindon	SN4 0QH	TBC	TBC	100+25
28 December 2025	Christmas shoot	Test Valley CPC, A303 Popham, Winchester	SO21 3BE	9:00 AM	TBC	TBC