



Team Journal – Part 2

Friday 13th August

An early breakfast at 7 a.m. with Mancunian weather outside the window - a steady downpour. A few team members (James Lewis, Toby Raincock and Jon Cload) distinguished themselves by putting an hour in the pool and gym beforehand; a reasonable precaution given the size of breakfast chosen by some of the team. After breakfast there was a team meeting and the handing out of team badges, starting with the new caps (Toby Raincock, Erica McMullen, Alistair Speirs and Ross McQuillan) and ending with, as the captain put it, l'eminence grise, Nick, with 18 caps.

With the rain subsiding, we drove to the range to be greeted by a ferocious squadron of mosquitoes; much spraying of Deet and covering of exposed flesh followed. The rest of the morning was taken up with putting our club house in good order and checking and cleaning rifles and other kit. Mary took a party to the shops and returned with a considerable load of provisions. Jon was in demand as a trigger-fettler; the adjutant's triggers in particular requiring a significant spring cleaning.

The ammunition which had been shipped from the UK arrived exactly on time at 1 p.m. just as practice targets became available. The team then braved the mosquitoes (who were massed, waiting to pounce, at the 300m firing point entirely oblivious of the sprays we had deployed) to have some practice shoots and to find zeroes for short and long range.

After a reasonable wait it was time to shoot the first competition, the Ottawa at 800m. First detail was at 6 p.m. with shooting continuing until 7.15. Following a conversation with Pat Vamplew about the oncoming rain, James Watson had the luck of no partner to shoot with and was able to complete his 2 & 15 in 6 minutes before the main rain set in and so remained dry. Unfortunately while all but two of the team waited, the weather worsened so that when the first detail got down to shoot they were greeted by a persistent drizzle, a strong wind from the front and poor light. Bad news for those with Eagle Eyes. Things improved a little for the second detail. The vice captain elected not to shoot. Five scores of 75 was a very satisfactory outcome given the conditions and suggests that the ammunition is working well. Toby Raincock's score of 49 was not entirely satisfactorily explained - five scoring misses to start and a good recovery for what it was worth. The vice captain was heard to point out with some satisfaction that Toby's first five shots failed to improve on the vice captain's opening and at least he kept dry.

We returned to the hotel at about 8.30, after a satisfactory day and looking forward to the better weather that the Captain has promised over the next few days.

The Ottawa Regiment

			Position
David Richards	75	9	1=
David Calvert	74	7	10
Jon Cload	74	7	11
Jane Messer	74	6	14
Andy Luckman	74	6	17
Martin Millar	74	5	18
Alistair Speirs	74	5	19
John Webster	74	5	20
James Lewis	73	8	24
Nigel Ball	73	6	27
Mary Boston	72	6	34
Alwyn McLean	72	3	40
Parag Patel	71	8	41
Ross McQuillan	71	5	42
Erica McMullan	75	8	5
Jon Underwood	75	8	6
David Luckman	75	7	7
Jeremy Langley	74	8	8
Toby Raincock	49	4	81
James Watson	74	8	9
Nick Hinchliffe	dns		-