



Team Journal – Part 9

Friday 20th August

When we arrived back at the hotel yesterday evening the team officers sat down to select the team for the Commonwealth match (10 at 800m and 900m). After the team was announced (now posted elsewhere on the site), half the team went across the road to Mario's to be faced by enormous North American portions.

Another early start for the Hinchliffe bus because Nick was shooting the Gatineau at 8 a.m. The rest of the bus then retired to Ralph's, an excellent eatery back towards the hotel, for breakfast before returning to the range for their own shoots.

The **Gatineau** (15 at 900m) is the last competition in the **Grand**. To ensure fairness, the top 75 in the **Grand** are squadded together at 9.45. This also can result in an elevated level of drama - and so it proved today. Conditions were very fine - a clear blue sky and a reasonably tricky left hand wind running 5 - 8 minutes. The question before the match was whether David could hold onto his lead of 2 points over the second placed man, Jim Paton of BC. As it happens, your correspondent was squadded with Jim on target 26 and therefore may bear some responsibility (in terms of indicating to his shooting partner what the wind was doing by missing some crucial changes) for what follows. David scored 71 and Jim put a very good 74 on the target to edge past David by 1 point and win the **Grand Agg**. The whole GB team was behind target 26 when we finished our detail and the team heartily congratulated Jim upon an excellent shoot.



A cheery Jim Paton - winner of the Grand

At 11.30 it was time to shoot the **Patron's** - an extra 900m shoot (15 to count) for the top 75 in the Grand. By now the wind was getting up and, frankly, becoming devilish tricky. A post-mortem afterwards disclosed that the highest windage claimed was 16½ minutes (left) and the lowest 7½ - a 9 minute spread - for the non-shooter a difference of about 7½ feet on the target - well over 3 times the diameter of the bull. It is a measure of how difficult the shoot was that none of the team broke 70 - top score from the team was Andy Luckman with 69.5.

And so, at 1.15 p.m., we came to what promised to be the most fun event of the day - at least for all the team bar one - the tieshoot for the last place in the **Final** between Jon Cload and Toby Raincock. The tie was shot off at 600x. There was an interesting divergence of tactics - Jon shot quickly and by the time he had finished (with 24.1) Toby had only fired his sighters. Toby used his full allotment of time and shot very steadily, managing to avoid falling out of the bull to win with a score of 25.1. A good result for the bookies who had had Jon as the favourite.



Toby and Jon after the tieshoot

In the afternoon it was down to the important business of the day - the Commonwealth Match against Canada, the US and Germany. This match is shot at 800m and 900m, 12 firers shooting 10 rounds to count at each range. At 800m the wind had steadied and dropped from its peak during the Patrons match - the call appeared to be mainly 6½ - 7½. At 800m the team dropped only 4 points. Canada, from whom we anticipated the greatest threat would come dropped 9. At 900m the GB team dropped 15 - but the Canadians, 23. The result was, therefore, that the GB team won from the Canadians by 13 points (1181.95 - 1168.96). The US team scored 1161.95 and the German team 1076.45. Top scorer for the GB team was Jon (100.9) - some consolation for him for the tieshoot result.

In a marvellous coincidence the captain of the Canadian team, Des Vamplew, and our Captain were, 30 years ago in 1974, captains of the Canadian cadet team and the Athelings team respectively. Their record then was one win each so today's match was a best-of-three decider.



After the match, and a little consultation between the officers, the Captain announced the team for the Canada match tomorrow. This evening the officers are off to the Grand Aggregate winner's dinner. Before they did so there was a small ceremony to mark the fact that today is the wedding anniversary of both the Captain and Alwyn.



The Results in full

Gatineau

	800m	
		v
Jon Underwood	74	8
Alwyn McLean	74	7
John Webster	74	5
Jon Cload	74	5
Ross McQuillan	73	8
Andy Luckman	73	5
David Calvert	72	9
Jeremy Langley	72	7
Jane Messer	72	5
David Richards	72	3
David Luckman	71	7
Nigel Ball	71	6
Parag Patel	71	6
James Watson	71	5
Nick Hinchliffe	71	0
Martin Millar	70	6
James Lewis	70	5
Erica McMullan	70	5
Alistair Speirs	70	4
Mary Boston	69	3
Toby Raincock	69	3

Patron's

	800m	
		v
Andy Luckman	69	5
Jon Underwood	67	8
Jane Messer	67	6
Jeremy Langley	67	3
James Watson	66	3
Alistair Speirs	66	1
Jon Cload	65	2
Martin Millar	65	2
Nigel Ball	64	4
David Luckman	64	4
Alwyn McLean	64	4
David Richards	64	2
John Webster	64	0
Toby Raincock	63	3
David Calvert	63	3
Ross McQuillan	63	2
Parag Patel	62	2
Mary Boston	61	2
James Lewis	61	1
Nick Hinchliffe	dns	
Erica McMullan	dns	

The Commonwealth Match

Captain: John Webster
Adjutant: James Lewis
Chief Coach: Nick Hinchliffe
Sub Coaches: Jeremy Langley, Jane Messer & David Richards
Reserve: Martin Millar
Spares: Ross McQuillan, David Calvert

Firers	800m	v	900m	v	TOTAL	v
Jon Cload	50	3	50	6	100	9
Toby Raincock	50	4	50	1	100	5
Parag Patel	50	5	49	3	99	8
James Watson	50	4	49	4	99	8
Andy Luckman	50	3	49	4	99	7
Jon Underwood	50	7	48	3	98	10
Erica McMullan	50	6	48	3	98	9
Alistair Speirs	49	4	49	4	98	8
David Luckman	48	5	50	3	98	8
Alwyn McLean	50	4	48	1	98	5
Nigel Ball	49	4	48	5	97	9
Mary Boston	50	5	47	4	97	9
Totals:	596	54	585	41	1181	95

Grand Agg final scores

		v
David Luckman	823	112
Jon Underwood	823	103
John Webster	822	91
David Calvert	818	108
Andy Luckman	818	79
Nigel Ball	817	79
Jane Messer	817	77
Parag Patel	814	89
Jeremy Langley	814	75
James Watson	812	81
Toby Raincock	811	85
Mary Boston	810	89
James Lewis	810	79
Alistair Speirs	810	72
Alwyn McLean	810	70
David Richards	809	74
Martin Millar	805	70
Jon Cload	804	74
Ross McQuillan	803	72
Erica McMullan	799	73
Nick Hinchliffe	785	44