



# **Seal Island Gun Club**



## 2018 News Stories

### **Black Jack Trophy**

Bright sunshine, high winds and bitter cold temperature made for an exciting start to the year and a great turn out for the Black Jacks Trophy.

Despite a plea for a stewards enquiry from those that attended, our club Chairman finished in 1st place. Well done Dexter!

The top 3 shooters on the day were:

- 1) Dexter Williams - Shooting 46
- 2) John Buckland - Shooting 44
- 3) Andy Belcher - Shooting 41

Here is a picture of Dexter and the trophy (looking really smug!)



## **Bob Hutchins Memorial Shoot**

It was meant to be... the beast from the east had gone, the snow melted away and the temperature up to a nearly tropical 8 degrees...the scene was perfectly set for a fabulous shoot!

The set up team worked wonders and produced a great lay out for the Bob Hutchins Memorial Shoot that turned out to be an amazing competition with the first three places producing some incredible scores!

This is how the winners and runners up scored:

1st - I. Bradford - Shot 51 - H/Cap Score 81

2nd - P. Rule - Shot 55 - H/Cap Score 79

3rd - L. Woolven - Shot 55 - H/Cap Score 76

A few snaps of the morning events...





### **Its Snow Joke... 18<sup>th</sup> March**

High winds, snow and biting cold temperatures, what else could any clay shooter want or need on a Sunday morning? (except for a hot cuppa and maybe a bacon sarnie!)

We all woke up on Sunday 18th March to find a thin later of white show, freezing temperatures and strong winds, but none of these factors were enough to put off over 30 shooters who turned out for a morning of fun and challenging stands.

And despite the weather conditions, some good scores were posted with Phil Pitham walking away with 1st place. Well done Phil!

The top shooters results were:

1st - Phil Pitham (52)

2nd - Rob Drake (47)

3rd - Ian Perkins & John Buckland (46)

A few pictures of the brave in the cold...



## **Spring Handicap**

A handicap shoot never fails to get the hearts thumping and this years spring handicap was no exception!

It may have been a mild Sunday morning, but a hotly contested shoot soon got underway. The set-up team did a great job and provided six stands that created a really close competition.

Special thanks to Steve Craig for all his hard work on the handicap system, it creates a really level playing field and gives shooters of all levels a great chance of claiming the top spot. Congratulations to Mark Hardy who shot extremely well and went home with the trophy and a bottle of wine to have with his Sunday roast!

The top shooters results were (scores shown are clays shot, and then the handicap total score)

1st - Mark Hardy (41 - 72)

2nd - Andy Belcher (52 - 71)

3rd - Ian Perkins (43 - 68)



## **Mixing with Royalty**

Four members of Seal Island Gun Club represented the Club at a recent charity shoot held for the benefit of Brainwave on the Cowdray estate.

Phil Rule, Dave Purves, Mark Woolven and Kevin Shilling turned on a fine shooting performance alongside royalty in the form of the Countess of Wessex and various dignitaries from London.

Many of the other competitors had very fancy guns and clearly knew what they were doing but the four 'Seals' shot well and came away with the top team prize and Phil Rule was top gun. Mark also picked up prize money for winning the Pool Shoot.

The shooting was followed by a lovely lunch and celebrations in the wonderful Cowdray House.

It was an excellent day and much to the 'Seals' surprise we have been invited back next year to see if we can retain our trophies. Could be said that we have a Royal appointment





## **SIGC AGM**

A good crowd turned out for the clubs AGM on Wednesday 30th May.

Held at the Selsey Club, and hosted by the committee consisting of Dexter, Jeanette, Charlie, David and Steve, the evening went past in a flash.

Attendees enjoyed enthusiastic conversations about the future of our great club, along with a nice beer and some light refreshments.

A few snaps (excuse the quality) from the evening.



### **Pairs Handicap – 3<sup>rd</sup> June**

A sunny and very warm morning greeted us for this years Pairs Handicap.

The set-up team created a very challenging shoot, with all guns declaring how tricky the lay out was.

We also had a big turn out, and the competition was close, very close!

Two pairs scored exactly the same finishing on a total of 127 points, these were:

C.Hobbs and D.Sturgeon

A. Channell and C. Forsyth

Unfortunately when all the scores had been calculated the traps had been put away, so in long standing tradition a coin was tossed.

This time lady luck favoured tails, meaning that Charlie and Dominic took the 1st prize!



### **Going Green 5<sup>th</sup> August**

A fantastic set up faced the shooters on a baking hot August Sunday morning, and a brand new trap to test us...

The new trap proved to be a fantastic investment, testing the shooters ability and eyesight as it launched clay's straight up into the next universe! But all agreed that is a great addition to the club.

Overall the results were quite close, but the top 3 obviously were on form this week:

Ian Perkins (50)

Luke Woolven (46)

Andy Belcher (44)

After the shoot, James was working hard to get the used cartridges into the recycling bags...





## **Charity Shoot**

On Sunday 16th September we held our annual charity shoot.

This years shoot was in aid of The Sussex Snowdrop Trust. A local charity that offers nursing care at home for local children with life threatening illnesses.

The turnout was amazing with a large number of members and guests supporting this fabulous cause.

The team from The Sussex Snowdrop Trust were on hand to give an insight into the charity as well as sell us some really delicious cakes and sandwiches. They also managed the raffle which many members had donated prizes to.

On the day there was even a chance to try your hand at archery!

Overall the morning was a great success and we raised £1000 for the charity - so great work everyone!

However the set-up wasn't very charitable and was positively tricky... but fun.

Whilst there were many raffle ticket winners, there was one clear winner for the shoot, and 3 runners up with the same score:

1st place went to Luke Woolven with 46/60

The runners up were Phil Rule, Steve Craig and Jeannette Burgoyne all shooting 41/60



### **Phil Fields Trophy**

A glorious sunny morning greeted the shooters for the Phil Fields Trophy shoot.

The 60 clay lay out was a really tricky affair with lots of crosser's and super fast clays to keep everyone on their feet.

And after a challenging and fun competition, Phil Pitham came out on top - great shooting Phil!

The top 3 scores for the day were:

1st - Phil Pitham (48)

2nd - Ian Perkins (45)

3rd - Jeannette Burgoyne (44)



### **Dave White Salute**

Unfortunately, Dave White, one of our great members, passed away on Saturday 3rd November 2018.

Dave was a regular at the club and was well liked. His passion for shooting and encouraging others to enjoy the sport has encouraged many members over the years and he will be greatly missed by many.

We were lucky to be joined by Dave's three sons for the shoot on the 4th November, and there was plenty of laughter which is exactly what Dave would have expected.

Following the shoot, Charley arranged a gun salute for such a great friend to the club. Rest in peace Dave, we hope you heard us!





## **Christmas Handicap**

As per tradition at Seal Island, we finished the year with our Christmas Handicap shoot on Sunday 16th December.

It was a great lay out, and very challenging with changeable weather varying from bright sunshine, biting cold winds and heavy downpours of rain!

The handicap shoots are a great way to level the field and give all members the opportunity to win. A massive thank you to Steve Craig for his efforts and hard work to maintain the handicap points system.

So, after a fun final fling for 2018, a winner was declared! Congratulations to James Condron for shooting his personal best of 44 to secure 1st place.

The top 3 finishers are as follows:

1st - J. Condron - Shot 44 - Handicap Total - 75

2nd - C. Sharp - Shot 44 - Handicap Total - 71

3rd - M. Lee - Shot 49 - Handicap Total - 7

