

THE PREPARATORY SCHOOLS RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

NEWSLETTER

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The final victory?

This term sees yet another win of both the St Patrick's and St George's shields, together with the Lord Roberts cup, by **Ardvreck**. No surprise there, except that this may well be their last for a while. I recently learnt that sadly, **Tim Verlander** their coach for the last thirty years is retiring from the range as well as the classroom this term. In his time, Tim has coached his pupils to no less than 500 shooting trophies, both individual as well as team; a quite amazing record, never achieved before and, almost certainly, never to be equalled. From checking my records I see that 185 of these have been through PSRA competitions with 75 St Patrick's shield, 73 Lord Roberts cup, 27 consecutive St George's shield and 7 Pardoe cup victories. Not a bad haul really but that then shows that the majority of them, 315, have been in other avenues – at both National and International level. As if to further emphasise his unique pedigree, the school have yet to find another coach to step into his shoes. Mind you, it's a bit of a hard act to follow really!

Tim, we wish you all the very best in your retirement and hope that, at long last, you'll be able to enjoy life at a slightly gentler pace and, who knows, perhaps take your home brewing to the next level?!

Semi retired!

Another person set to enjoy a calmer pace of life is **Nigel Curtis**. Having retired from “the day job” as Chief Highways Engineer for Cheshire County Council, Nigel now runs his own Consultancy which means he has even more time to coach the youngsters at **Terra Nova!** This term shows that, far from resting on his laurels, he has raised the bar yet again! A new record of 774 overall and another emphatic 1, 2, 3 in the St David's shield shows that his “new formula” is undoubtedly a winning one. Nice one Nige!

Other success.

Congratulations to **Elstree** and their coach **Richard Smith**, on winning the Hammond cup this term. It is a while since they have been up on the leader board, and it is good to see their return to the score sheet. This category has certainly proved popular and has also produced a variety of winners as no less than six schools have won the trophy since we introduced this competition three years ago.

Scotland v England.

This annual match proved to be a closer tussle than last year's. In the event, the England team emerged with a narrow victory by 4 points over Scotland. This is only the second time the England team have triumphed in the last six years and it may well, unfortunately, be the last as continuation of this event hangs in the balance given the uncertain situation at Ardreck.

The Final scores were **England 594. Scotland 590.**

Team members included,

England.

Alex Barnham, Jennifer Phizackerley, Amelia Sellors and Amelia Schmid, (Feltonfleet), Jerry Sheng and Thomas Craig-Fleming (Holmewood House) Max Woolmer and Sam Linden (St Andrew's).

Scotland.

William Lithgow, Alice Warren, Archie Ewing, Ollie Strudwick, William Gospel, Rowan Spencer-Nairn, Rory Trafford and Rory Kavanagh. All from **Ardvreck.**

A new initiative.

We are always looking at new ways of encouraging youngsters involved in Prep School shooting. At our AGM in April we discussed the idea of awarding an annual prize to the **Best Prep School shooter** for both Rifle and Air Rifle disciplines. The prize is likely to be **£100 to EACH individual**. Final details will be announced next term but it is likely that a “**Top Ten**” will be selected in each category, based on their performance in the autumn and spring term competitions. Those selected, will then need to shoot a further **THREE** (postal) cards during the summer term and return their targets before the June deadline to decide who wins the top prize in both disciplines.

Price rises.

Unfortunately my stocks of shields have dwindled and the latest replacement batch cost much more so I have had to raise the prices for both the 4” and 5” PSRA shields. These will now cost £7.50 and £8.50 respectively plus postage (at cost).

Badges and certificates - changes.

Another change concerns these two items. From now on, you will need to order both from our Secretary, **Mary Eveleigh**. However, we are also making one other change. Both items will cost the same if bought separately, however, as an incentive, you can now buy a badge and certificate at the bargain price of £2.00 (instead of £2.50) which we hope will encourage you to purchase the same as they have been designed to complement each other.

Gold again.

Congratulations to our Secretary **Mary Eveleigh** who won the Ladies Gold Medal, for the second successive year, in the recent Super Shot Challenge over in Jersey.

A picture of Mary, together with husband Mike (on her right) is shown opposite.

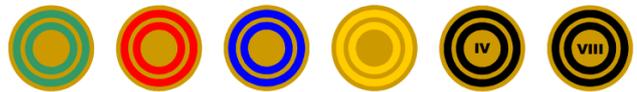


WHERE TO GET.....

**PROFICIENCY
CERTIFICATES
and BADGES**

Available from.

Mrs Mary Eveleigh,
Secretary PSRA,
e-mail: phoenixshooters@yahoo.co.uk



**PSRA SHIELDS
and MEDALS.**

Available from.

C.H. Laughton,
Chairman PSRA,
e-mail: claughton@standrewsprep.co.uk

Shields - (4 or 5 inch)



Medals – (40mm with ribbon)



NOTE PSRA WEBSITE
For Rules, Results and History.

Go to.....

<http://psra.weebly.com/>