



A MAP of the
WEST-INDIES &c.
MEXICO or NEW SPAIN.
Also of Trade Winds, and of several Tracts made by the Gallions and Flota from Place to Place. By H. Moll Geographer



GREAT BRITAIN RIFLE TEAM

WEST INDIES 2013



GREAT BRITAIN RIFLE TEAM 2013

Nigel Penn - CAPTAIN	GB, England & Northants Leics and Rutland
Charles Brooks - VICE CAPTAIN	GB, England & Hampshire
David Rose - ADJUTANT	GB, England & Northants Leics and Rutland
Nigel Ball GC, SM, SC	GB, England & Norfolk
David Calvert GM, SC	GB, Ireland & Ulster
Matthew Charlton	GB, Scotland & London
David Crispin	GB, England & Surrey
* Chloë Evans	Wales & Norfolk
Deborah Fenn	GB & Suffolk
* Jonathan Hull	England & Hampshire
David Luckman GC2, SM, SC4	GB, England & Somerset
Jane Messer GC, SC	GB, England & Sussex
Ross McQuillan	GB, Ireland & Ulster
Gareth Morris SM	GB, Wales, Cambridgeshire
Tom Rylands SC	GB, England & Cheshire
Ian Shaw	GB, Scotland & Surrey
* Jonathan Tapster	England & Surrey
Martin Townsend	GB, Ireland & Hertfordshire
Jon Underwood GM, GC2, SM2	GB, England & Surrey
Chris Watson	GB, Wales, Northants Leics and Rutland
Chris Weeden	GB, England & Kent

* Denotes New Caps

ITINERARY

JAMAICA

Wed 24th April	London Gatwick to Montego Bay (Party "A")
Thu 25th April	Acclimatisation
Fri 26th April	Shoot
Sat 27th April	Shoot
Sun 28th April	Shoot

Hotel: Kingston Pegasus

GUYANA

Mon 29th Apr	Norman Manley to Cheddi Jagan (via Piarco) (Party "A")
Tue 30th April	Shoot
Wed 1st May	Shoot
Thu 2nd May	Shoot
Fri 3rd May	R & R (organised)

Hotel: Georgetown Pegasus

TRINIDAD

Sat 4th May	Cheddi Jagan to Piarco (Party "A") Grantley Adams to Piarco (Party "B")
Sun 5th May	Shoot
Mon 6th May	Shoot
Tue 7th May	Shoot
Wed 8th May	R&R

Hotel: Crews Inn

BARBADOS

Thu 9th May	Piarco to Grantley Adams (Party "A") Piarco to Grantley Adams (Party "B")
Fri 10th May	Official Practice; Meet & Greet
Sat 11th May	WIFBSC Individual Competition (Grand Aggregate) – Day 1
Sun 12th May	WIFBSC Individual Competition (Grand Aggregate) – Day 2
Mon 13th May	WIFBSC Individual Competition (Grand Aggregate) – Day 3
Tue 14th May	WIFBSC Individual Competition (Grand Aggregate) – Day 4
Wed 15th May	WIFBSC Team Competition (Long Range)
Thu 16th May	WIFBSC Team Competition (Short Range)
Fri 17th May	Australia Match Practice
Sat 18th May	Australia Match
Sun 19th May	(Reserve Match Day); Closing Ceremony & Prize Giving Dinner
Mon 20th May	Grantley Adams to London Gatwick

Hotel: Southern Palms Beach Club





CLARENCE HOUSE

As President of the National Rifle Association, I am delighted that the Great Britain Rifle Teams continue to compete strongly throughout the Commonwealth and beyond. These exchanges do much to cement relationships and understanding between countries, forged through a shared history and culture. Added benefits include the broader personal perspectives which arise from experiences in the international arena and the friendships which grow from a mutual commitment to amateur sport in its purest form.

It gives me great pride to see such a strong team leave these shores, and I have no doubt that it will be shown a warm welcome by its West Indian hosts, as well as challenging competition on the ranges. I am particularly pleased to learn that the team has a balance of youth and experience and this will no doubt be a wonderful opportunity for the older shots to pass on their knowledge to the next generation and to ensure that the high standards of the Great Britain Rifle Team are maintained in the future.

I wish the team every possible success and all participants the very best of luck, and look forward to hearing all about the tour upon its completion.



© Hugo Burnand 2008

H.R.H The Prince Of Wales

I am privileged and delighted to have this opportunity to captain the Great Britain Rifle Team to the West Indies as it is the greatest honour for any sportsman or woman to lead their country in their chosen sport.

I was first capped for the Great Britain Rifle Team in 1986 for a tour to the West Indies. At that time all team matters seemed to be resolved in two letters from the then Captain, Graham Jackman. How times have changed, with all team members now making a significant contribution to organisation, fund raising, numerous email circulars, as well as participating in several training weekends over an exceptionally cold winter – team shooting has come a long way.

As regards organisation, I must make special mention of my officers, Charles Brooks (Vice Captain), David Rose (Adjutant) and Deborah Fenn (Treasurer) who have provided huge assistance in making arrangements for this tour.

The West Indies tour offers an enviable destination albeit with a challenging climate for shooting. It is by far the most complicated to organise due to international travel to four territories. On this tour we are competing in Jamaica, Guyana, Trinidad and Barbados – what a wonderful experience for the team to visit these countries and enjoy the hospitality of each country's Rifle Association. The tour to the West Indies is perhaps the only tour when we invite wives and partners. My lovely wife Sarah, who I thank very much for her support, together with six further wives and partners, are joining us in Trinidad and Barbados.

The team comprises the best Great Britain shooters available for this tour and includes six members who have represented their country in the Commonwealth Games. I must thank the National Rifle Association for the privilege of leading this team, as well as for their financial support through the Overseas Teams fund.

The ultimate event of our tour is the Australia Match. For an Australia Match to take place, it has to be ratified and approved by the Australian National Rifle Association, and it is the first time that the West Indies have been selected to host this prestigious match. Apart from Australia and ourselves, the West Indies Full Bore Shooting Council has also invited teams from Canada and the Channel Islands to compete – we relish the challenge.

Nigel Penn

Captain, Great Britain Rifle Team



It is with great pleasure that I wish Nigel Penn and his Great Britain team every success in their tour of the West Indies culminating in the Australia Match in Barbados which the West Indies have the honour of hosting for the first time. The competition will be all the more keen on this tour due to the prestige of the Australia Match.

The individuals in the team are to be congratulated on their selection as the West Indies is such a lovely part of the world and so is always a very popular place for a rifle team to tour. In addition these tours are always a huge pleasure because of the hospitality and friendships that are renewed or made for the first time and which last a lifetime.

I wish you all a very successful tour.

Robin Pizer
Chairman NRA

On behalf of the West Indies shooters I wish to extend a hearty West Indian welcome to the Great Britain Rifle team. This is an historic occasion as it is the first time the prestigious Australia Match will be shot in the West Indies. I also would like to welcome all participating teams from Canada, Australia, Channel Islands and of course those from the various Caribbean territories.

The riflemen of Jamaica, Antigua, Bermuda, Guyana and Trinidad are looking forward to showing you a good time both on and off the shooting range before you venture onwards to Barbados. It has been a while since we last saw the GB team in the Caribbean and for those of you who may not recall or are first-time visitors, I'd like to take this opportunity to advise that our shooting conditions are mainly hot and humid, often accompanied by a bit more heat and humidity and a shot of rum...absolutely wonderful...that is if you're at a pool or at the beach.... which we can also offer particularly to the accompanying partners as the men would be sweating it out on the ranges.

On a more serious note, we are delighted to have you upon our shores and hope you have a very enjoyable shooting tour here. We will try our utmost to see that you can spend some time sightseeing and enjoying our tropical forests and beaches. Each territory is unique in what we have to offer our visitors and I urge you all to avail yourselves as much as possible. We look forward to seeing you all soon.

Norris Gomez.
President W.I.F.B.S.C.



TEAM PROFILES



NIGEL PENN
(CAPTAIN)

Nigel started shooting small-bore at Winchester House Preparatory School when he was nine, to be followed at the same school and in subsequent years by Chris Watson. Nigel progressed to full-bore at Bedford School in the CCF and has never stopped shooting – he has shot 37 consecutive Bisley Grand Aggregates. This will be Nigel's fourth tour of the West Indies, who was a new cap in Graham Jackman's team of 1986, and subsequently Adjutant to Martin Townsend in 2002. Nigel was also a member of the late David Hossack's goodwill team in 2006. Nigel has toured South Africa, with GB and England, and has been twice to the Channel Islands, the second time as N.R.A. Captain in 2003. Nigel works for a national property company based in London and when not shooting at Bisley, or elsewhere, he can be found watching rugby or cricket. He is joined for the second part of the tour by his wife, Sarah, who travelled alongside the 2006 goodwill team. Having experienced the enthusiasm of West Indian Shooting, and the unique & generous West Indian hospitality, Nigel looks forward to this tour with a great deal of excitement. The highlight of the tour will undoubtedly be the Australia Match, the final shoot in Barbados.



CHARLES BROOKS
(VICE CAPTAIN)

This will be Charles's sixth GB tour and second to the West Indies. After a gap of 35 years from his first tour (in 1978 as the sprightly 22 year old babe of the team under Lawrence Hoddle) he hopes it will not be another 35 years before he returns to the country again. Charles has toured Canada and the Channel Islands as well and brings a wealth of experience gained shooting for and coaching Hampshire, England and GB over the years, winning a number of trophies at Bisley as well as a good collection of HM Queen's Prize and St George's badges. Charles will be joined by his wife Penny on tour, who will be known to many Bisley tourists for her role at the British Commonwealth RC where Charles has held the positions of Secretary and Captain/Chairman and is now Vice President. Charles is delighted to be on his first tour with Jon Underwood: they both went to the same preparatory school, Aldro School, (although at different times) and benefitted from the shooting tutelage of the late Barry Gardiner.



DAVID ROSE
(ADJUTANT)

David, 32 (a.k.a. Adj) is deeply honoured to be taking up his first team official position and is working hard to do it justice! Starting his shooting at Epsom College in 1994, he went on to win the Ashburton twice, culminating in a dominant season for the College in 1999 without a loss in any competition. Continuing his shooting at Southampton University enabled him to tour twice with the GB U25 team. This will be David's 5th senior tour to go with trips to Canada, South Africa, New Zealand & Australia. He is looking forward to competing in some challenging conditions and is working hard on his fitness to handle the heat and humidity. Bisley being almost a second home, David can usually be found on the ranges or occasionally sinking a pint of IPA in the Surrey. Having led his club the Old Epsomians to success many competitions including the Astor last year (first time in 30 years) he is passionate about involvement in the sport at all levels and is keen to take his club on tour ("let's get this one over with first"). Away from shooting David works in London as a Contracts Manager for an international recruitment business who are very understanding about his time away touring.



NIGEL BALL
QM, GC, SM, SC

Nigel has been around the shooting scene for several years now both as a Service Rifle shooter during his time in the Royal Navy and more recently as a Target Rifle competitor. He now uses this experience to train the next generation of marksmen and women as Shooting Master at Wellington College in Berkshire. His first GB target rifle team was to Canada in 1991 and other

tours include visits to Zimbabwe, South Africa, USA, Australia and New Zealand. This will be his first visit to the West Indies and he is relishing the prospect of shooting on new ranges and meeting old friends who visit Bisley regularly. Nigel has a selection of Grand Aggregate crosses, George's Final badges and Queen's Final badges but enjoys shooting big team matches most. He has been involved with GB Australia Match teams for the last 16 years and ranks them as one of the highest team shooting experiences, but any chance to represent his country is an honour he will readily accept.



MATTHEW CHARLTON

Matt started shooting at RCS Guildford when he was 13 and still hopes to learn to do so tolerably well. Wind coaching is his main strength and was his role on previous GB, Scotland and club tours to Canada, Australia, South Africa, USA and New Zealand. This is his 8th GB tour and his first to the West Indies, although he has fond memories of Barbados from when he was 10. He has

coached GB to wins in America, Palma, Protea, Kolapore and New Zealand matches in the past 7 years. Matt has 33 National and Mackinnon appearances under his belt and, as Scotland captain, is working to try and achieve similar performances in the Mackinnon to those in the National which, in 2010 and 2011, secured their first back to back victories for 110 years. An Oxford linguist, Matt's work has latterly been as an institutional stockbroker. He rows – until recently competitively – and enjoys cycling, skiing and snowboarding when there's time. In Guyana he will be shooting on his 6th continent - only Asia to go!



DAVID CALVERT
MBE, GM, SC

David started full-bore target rifle shooting in Northern Ireland at Campbell College School, Belfast in 1965. He shot for Ireland 3 years later as a member of the Ireland National Match team, and first represented GB on the 1975 tour to Canada. He was selected for Lawrence Hoddle's GB team to the West Indies in 1978, but had to pull out due to RAF 'operational commitments', so is really looking forward

to finally touring the 'Windies', albeit 35 years 'late!' After a 15 year gap for work and family, and having "sorted out his work/shooting balance", he has toured with GB teams most years since 1991, including a shoot in Barbados that year with the GB 'pre-Palma' tour en route to the USA. He has now shot competitively on 5 Continents, touring with GB, Ireland, the Royal Air Force and Northern Ireland, totalling around 40 overseas shooting tours. He has no doubt that the 'Windies' tour will be one of the highlights, enhanced by the legendary Caribbean hospitality! Back in UK, David is currently a part-time flying instructor with the RAF Reserve. His main activity interests, in addition to shooting and flying, include golf and skiing.



DAVID CRISPIN

David works for an American IT company as a Technical Account Manager specialising in Network Attached Storage. This will be David's fourth GB tour having been to New Zealand, Canada and South Africa. He's been to the Bahamas before but never gone as far down as the West Indies. His main goal is to shoot exceptionally well and be a member of

the final Australia Match team. He hopes to be able to help the local economy through rum consumption. He spends a lot of time at Bisley as Chairman of the Surrey Rifle Association and is accompanied on this tour by no less than four members of the SRA committee and believes that this is karma for all the good work they've done. David has a private pilot's licence and flies a single engine Piper Archer from Fairoaks airport in Surrey. He will be joined by his fiancée, Shaaron, in Trinidad and Barbados.



**CHLOË
EVANS**

Chloë started shooting in 2007 under the leadership of Freddie Grounds at Gresham's and was appointed Captain in 2011. Her achievements include coming 3rd in the English XX spring meeting in 2011 and reaching St George's final in 2011 and HM Queens final in 2012. Chloë toured Jersey in 2011 with the UK Cadets and then Canada in 2012 with the Athelings. She

coached all 4 Athelings & U25 matches in Canada with victories in all apart from the Faraday. She also won the Grand Aggregate in the National Cadet Fullbore Championships. Chloë shoots for Norfolk and Wales including the past 2 National matches with hopes to achieve many more 'Big 5' appearances! In her spare time Chloë plays rugby for Wymondham Wasps Ladies in Norfolk and is aspiring to join the Police in the near future. As the youngster of the team at 19 this is her first GB cap but hopefully not her last and she is greatly looking forward to touring the West Indies with the senior team and competing for a place in the Australia match and all the experience that she will gain from it!



**DEBORAH
FENN**

Deborah was lucky enough to be taught to shoot by Nigel Ball (also on this tour) at Gresham's School 16 years ago. Since then, she has toured Canada (once), the Channel Islands (twice) and South Africa (four times) as an individual and as part of various club, cadet and GB U25 teams. This is Deborah's second GB tour, the first having been to Perth, Western Australia for The

Australia Match in 2001. Outside of shooting, Deborah lives in London and is a Private Banker at Barclays. Her other hobbies include game shooting (quite well) skiing (badly) and running (very occasionally). She is also quite good at climbing mountains, having been to the base camp of Mount Everest in 2003 and the top of Mount Kilimanjaro in 2011.



**JANE MESSER
GC, SC**

A keen advocate of team shooting, Jane has toured widely, including to Barbados, Canada (where she captained a successful GB team in 2010), New Zealand, South Africa, the USA and Zimbabwe. This will be Jane's second visit to the West Indies: she was a member of Colin Cheshire's team in 1991, shooting on Paragon Ranges, Barbados and then visiting St Lucia (the

surprise upgrade of the entire team to a brand new luxury hotel there is well remembered by all who went on the tour!). Since then, Jane has shot and coached in all the 'Big 5' team matches (National, MacKinnon, Kolapore, Australia and Palma), including six consecutive Palma matches. Jane is also an accomplished individual shot, having won a number of important individual competitions at Bisley and elsewhere, including the Grand Aggregate and St George's Vase. Aside from the shooting on tour, Jane and is looking forward to visiting Trinidad for the first time - and revisiting the botanic and orchid gardens in Barbados. Her own garden is sadly neglected due to shooting commitments and bears some resemblance to a jungle - at least it can be considered to be trendy wildlife friendly!



**ROSS
MCQUILLAN**

Ross learned his shooting at Belfast Royal Academy and the University of Edinburgh. This is his seventh Great Britain tour. He is the current Ireland National Match Captain, and has been shooting for Ireland since 1995, gaining a total of 33 National and Mackinnon match appearances to date. He has toured New Zealand, Germany, South Africa, the USA and the Channel

Islands with either Ireland or GB, was a member of the GB teams which won the 2007 and 2012 Palma Matches and represented Northern Ireland at the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi. In individual competition Ross won the St George's Prize in 2006, the Canadian Silver Cross in the same year and the Canadian Silver Medal in 2012 and has won the Irish Open Championship three times. Ross is a property manager at Broadgate in the City of London. When not at work or on the range, he enjoys making a mess in the kitchen, a taste of whiskey (or whisky), cycling, watching football and rugby, and his daily (and occasionally victorious) battle with the Guardian crossword.



**JONATHAN
HULL**

Jonathan returned to shooting four years ago having 'retired' 25 years previously due to an overseas posting. It has been a rewarding time with membership of Hampshire and England teams, reasonable finishes in Grand Aggregates and one Queen's Final appearance. His one previous tour has been with the NRA Channel Islands Team in 2011 and Jonathan is greatly looking forward

to his first GB cap, especially in the sun and tropical heat of the West Indies. Previous experiences of the region when an Army doctor in Belize will hopefully stand him, and the team, in good stead as Jonathan is also the team medic. Although a consultant orthopaedic surgeon at Frimley Park Hospital, Jonathan hopes he will not be required to practice his recently revised tropical medicine skills on the tour. When not replacing hip or knee joints, doing on-call duties, shooting (a lot), and being Chair of Governors of Farnborough Hill School, Jonathan tries to keep busy.



**DAVID
LUCKMAN
GC2, SM, SC4**

David is looking forward to shooting in the West Indies for the first time and to catching up with local friends as well as familiar faces from the other touring teams. This is David's 14th tour for Great Britain and is potentially his 7th Australia Match (he has achieved a maximum score of 200 in 3 of the last 4 matches). Back home, David's UK successes are numerous and include 18 consecutive Grand

Aggregate crosses (having won twice and come second four times), 16 Queen's badges and he is the current holder of the St George's having scored 150.30. Amusingly he remains the oldest person to have ever won the World Individual Long Range rifle championship. David started shooting with Sedgemoor Target Shooting Club and has captained the Somerset county team for the last decade. He lives in Bristol, is married to Susie and has a little boy, Thomas, who will turn 2 in a few months' time. When he has time, David is a keen sports player and enjoys cycling, tennis, swimming and surfing.



**GARETH
MORRIS
SM**

Gaz was recently horrified to discover that he's been shooting for twenty three years, having started at Uppingham School in 1989. After the Athelings tour in 1994, the step up to senior honours had to wait until a return to Canada in 2006 with GB. His proudest moments include representing Wales at the 2006 and 2010 Commonwealth Games, and he's looking to make it three in a row in 2014. Gaz has

won four Welsh Championships and the occasional pot during the Imperial Meeting. Team achievements include shooting all of the 'Big 5' in 2011. Of particular excitement on this, Gaz's first trip to the West Indies, is the opportunity to catch the selectors' notice for a third Australia Match. Away from the range, Gaz is husband to Katrina and father to Samuel and Isaac. He looks forward to the day that they are old enough to watch Star Wars with him for the first time. Non-ballistic hobbies include cookery and wine.



**TOM
RYLANDS
SC**

This is Tom's first trip to the West Indies and he has been promised plenty of sunshine, unlike Bisley! As one of the more senior (age only!) members of the team, Tom's first Bisley was over 30 years ago and his first GB cap in 1988. He won't be partaking in early morning fitness sessions at the gym or running! Tom does however have a reasonable track record in Australia matches; shot

four, won four, and two record scores along the way, currently sharing that achievement (200.26) with B.S.Litz from USA. With 3 Palma Teams and GB Tours to South Africa, Canada, Australia and Zimbabwe, along with England tours to the USA and South Africa, the latter as captain, Tom has a wealth of experience to draw on. Tom is currently studying for a Masters; he also coaches shooting at Ellesmere College and brought them back to Bisley for the Ashburton this year after a break of some 23 years. He has taken on the role of armourer for this trip and hopes he will be allowed out occasionally to enjoy the legendary West Indian hospitality!



IAN SHAW

Ian is a marksman of considerable pedigree and experience. He began shooting at Epsom College and has toured extensively with GB and Scotland. He has competed in the last 4 Commonwealth Games, made 43 'Big 5' appearances, including 2 Palma teams and 2 record breaking Kolapore teams, but is yet to compete in an Australia Match, something he is trying to rectify.

Individually Ian has won the Ballinger Belt and Grand Aggregate in New Zealand, the British Open Target Rifle Championship at Bisley and a few other competitions over the years. He last toured the West Indies in 2006 and is looking forward to renewing old friendships and making new ones.



JONATHAN TAPSTER

Jonathan has been shooting for over 30 years, starting at St. John's School, Leatherhead where he now coaches shooting part-time. Jonathan has previously only toured to the Channel Islands in 2003 in the successful team managed by Nigel Penn and Charles Brooks. Jonathan's touring plans then ended abruptly with the birth of his two daughters in 2004 and 2006. When not shooting or

coaching, Jonathan runs his own plumbing and heating business based in Surrey. He is also the Secretary of both the Surrey Rifle Association and the Old Johnian Rifle Club. This is Jonathan's first senior tour at the ripe age of 46 but he has a solid reputation for team shooting, with two National caps to his credit and regular appearances for Surrey. This will be Jonathan's first trip to the West Indies but he thrives in hot humid weather and is looking forward to a scrap with the Aussies and the other competitors in the Australia Match.



CHRIS WATSON

Chris is becoming a well-travelled GB shooter, now adding a tour to the West Indies to his list, following trips to South Africa, New Zealand, Australia, USA and Canada. He has 11 consecutive representations for Wales in both the National and the Mackinnon Match, and two tours to South Africa. He is one of only three Welsh shooters ever to complete the Big 5 matches, shooting all in

the same year in 2011. Chris prefers having a coach to worry about the wind, though with nine Queen's final badges (six consecutive), a 4th place in the Canadian Grand Agg last August, the individual silver and the pairs gold in Jersey at the CSF (ED) last September, his wind reading skills may not be as bad as he thinks! Chris and his very understanding wife, Vicki, are well known on "The Common" for their involvement in the rejuvenation of the Surrey Rifle Association clubhouse in recent years. With their young family growing up fast, Chris realises that touring may have to "go on hold" in the next few years, though he thoroughly appreciates Vicki's support while he concentrates on GB shooting and training for the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow 2014 at which he hopes to represent Wales.



CHRIS WEEDEN

This will be Chris's first GB Tour of the West Indies as well as his first GB tour for 13 years! Previous tours include GB to Canada (twice), Zimbabwe & South Africa; NRA to Europe and Channel Isles (twice). He will enjoy meeting, shooting and "socialising" with friends from the hosts and other visitor nations. His goal for the tour is to shoot in the Australia Match (this would be his

second time) and obviously to be on the winning team! At Bisley he has attended 13 St George's finals and 9 Queen's finals. Chris believes he will win a final...one day! When not shooting, Chris works hard for IP Integration Ltd as Director of Sales. Chris will be supported on the tour by his wife, Jules, for the last week. Jules's goal for the tour is to keep Chris on the straight and narrow... when she is with him!



MARTIN TOWNSEND (MAIN COACH)

A well-known Coach, if not a shooter, both at Bisley and overseas, Martin has steered his shooters to success for more than 20 years. Highlights include the Centenary Match (1990) and several Kolapore, Australia, America and Protea Matches together with the winning 1992, 1995, 2003, 2007 (Captain) and 2011 Palma Matches. This is Martin's 18th GB Team tour and will be his 6th Australia Match. Poppy Lodge at Bisley is where he

and his wife Pearl spend most of their summer weekends although when not on the ranges, Martin works in the philatelic world where he is one of the UK's leading dealers in the stamps and postal history of Great Britain.



JON UNDERWOOD GM, GC2, SM2

Jon started shooting age 11 at Aldro School, went on to learn fullbore under John Crathorne and Peter Hicks at RGS Guildford and continued his shooting career whilst at London University. This is his 15th GB tour, having first toured in 1993. An unflappable team shot, he has made 48 'Big 5' appearances for England and Great Britain to date, a large number of them as last man down.

He also represented England at the most recent Commonwealth Games in Delhi in 2010. Jon has also had some individual success; he won the Grand Aggregate at Bisley in 2005, and then again in 2009, and in 2006 he won Her Majesty the Queen's Prize, becoming the first person to win the Bronze, Silver and Gold Medals in the same year. Jon looks after his family's business interests in Surrey, which include a tool and plant hire business. In his spare time he also coaches shooting at the RGS.

THE BISLEY V CLUB CONGRATULATES CHLOE EVANS ON HER SELECTION TO THE GB RIFLE TEAM.

WE WISH HER AND ALL THE TEAM AN ENJOYABLE AND SUCCESSFUL
TOUR OF THE WEST INDIES IN 2013.

The Bisley V Club supports young full-bore shooters by organising the Schools & Cadet Long Range Target Rifle Match (usually the last Thursday before the Cadet meeting in July), and by offering scholarships from our Freddy Payne Memorial Fund to those in need of financial help in applying.

THE BISLEY V CLUB

Founded 1987
President: Arthur E Clarke GC2. SC. CGC.



Future GBRT Captains should contact The Bisley V Club via
jdwarburton@btinternet.com and dereklowe2008@googlemail.com



WEST INDIES

The West Indies are so named because of their discovery (from a European perspective) as a western route to Asia was sought.

Largely located on the Caribbean Plate (named after the Carib people who inhabited the Lesser Antilles and neighbouring parts of South America when Europeans first arrived), they consist of the Greater Antilles to the north, the Lesser Antilles to the south and east (including the Leeward Antilles), the Bahamas and the Turks and Caicos Islands (the Lucayan Archipelago, which does not border the Caribbean Sea) and non-insular countries such as Belize in Central America and Guyana in South America, which are historically and culturally part of what were the British West Indies.

Among the West Indies are more than 7000 islands and islets, organised into over 30 territories, some of them being sovereign states but others overseas departments and dependencies. Between 1958 and 1962 there was a short-lived political union established by the United Kingdom, called the Federation of the West Indies and composed

of English-speaking Caribbean territories that were then UK dependencies. The West Indies cricket team continues proudly to represent many of those nations, as does the West Indies rifle team. They also

share the University of the West Indies as a regional entity, which has campuses in Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad & Tobago, with a smaller campus in the Bahamas.

These days the region is represented by the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), which contains not just the island nations but also Guyana and Suriname in South America and Belize in Central America as full members. Atlantic islands Bermuda and the Turks & Caicos are associate members, while the Commonwealth of the Bahamas is a full member.



All the islands at some point were, and a few still are, colonies of European nations; a few are overseas or dependent territories. More numerous European countries were involved than many realise:

British West Indies – Anguilla, Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Bay Islands, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Croix (briefly), Saint Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, Trinidad & Tobago (from 1797) and the Turks & Caicos Islands;

Courlander West Indies – Tobago (until 1691).

Danish West Indies – present-day United States Virgin Islands;

Dutch West Indies – Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, St. Eustatius,

St. Maarten, Bay Islands (briefly), Saint Croix (briefly), Suriname, Tobago and Virgin Islands;

French West Indies – Anguilla (briefly), Antigua & Barbuda (briefly), Dominica, Dominican Republic (briefly), Grenada, Haiti, Montserrat (briefly), Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, St. Eustatius (briefly), St. Maarten, St. Kitts (briefly), Tobago (briefly), Saint Croix, the current French overseas départements of Martinique and Guadeloupe (including Marie-Galante, La Désirade and Les Saintes), and the current French overseas collectivities of Saint Barthélemy and Saint Martin;

Portuguese West Indies – present-day Barbados, known as Os Barbados in the 16th century when the Portuguese claimed the island en route to Brazil; they abandoned it in 1533, nearly a century prior to the British arrival to the island;

Spanish West Indies – Cuba, Hispaniola (present-day Dominican Republic, Haiti (until 1609), Puerto Rico, Jamaica (until 1655), the Cayman Islands (until 1670) Trinidad (until 1797) and Bay Islands (until 1643), coastal islands of Central America (minus Belize), and some Caribbean coastal islands of Colombia, Mexico, and Venezuela;

Swedish West Indies – present-day French Saint-Barthélemy, Guadeloupe (briefly) and Tobago (briefly);



AMONG THE WEST INDIES ARE MORE THAN 7000 ISLANDS AND ISLETS.



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HPS wishes the 2013 Great Britain Rifle Team to the West Indies every success in all their matches!!

JAMAICA

Jamaica was the first Caribbean country to gain independence, in 1962

Ackee (fruit) with saltfish is the national dish of Jamaica and rum is (of course) the national drink. It was the first commercial producer of rum in the Caribbean

Jamaica's is one of only three national flags with no red, white or blue. A prize to the first person to name the other two!

Jamaica is home to the two fastest sprinters in the world and has by far the highest ratio of track medals to population

The name Jamaica comes from "Xaymaca", meaning "land of wood and water"

Ian Fleming designed and built his home, "Goldeneye", in Jamaica and wrote ten of his James Bond novels there

Jamaica is the third largest island in the Caribbean and the largest English-speaking one

Jamaica was the first tropical country to enter the Winter Olympics, inspiring the film "Cool Runnings"

The Blue Mountains in Jamaica are named for the mists that often cover them, which look blue from a distance

"Jamaica Time" is said to be anything from 10 to 50 minutes after the appointed time

The national bird of Jamaica is the swallowtail hummingbird

BARBADOS

Barbados has never been successfully invaded and flew the British flag until achieving independence in 1966

When first settled in 1625, Barbados was almost totally covered in dense jungle, with a large population of wild pigs

The first slaves in Barbados were white people deemed enemies of the Crown and placed in indentured servitude. The practice was so prevalent during the period 1640 to 1650 that the punishment became known as "being Barbadoed"

The name 'Barbados' is derived from the Bearded Fig Trees once found in abundance on the island and was given to the island by the Portuguese

The Lord Nelson Statue, erected on Bridgetown's Trafalgar Square (now National Heroes Square) on 22 Mar 1813, is older than the statue and square of the same name in London

South Carolina, in the USA, was originally settled by Barbadians, and its first Governor was a Barbadian

Bridgetown, was originally named "Indian Bridge" for the crude bridge which had been constructed over the river (now known as the Careenage) by the Indians. Most of the south of the town was once a huge swamp

It is very well known in Barbados that the mongoose never crosses the road unless someone is watching

Barbados is home to Mount Gay Rum, the favourite tippie of the Surrey Rifle Association at Bisley

Jamestown was once referred to as "the Hole", which evolved into "Holetown" because of the mucky state in which the offloading and cleaning of ships in a small channel adjacent to the town used to leave the area

Commonly thought of as Caribbean, Barbados is completely surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean

GUYANA

Guyana was settled, in order, by Amerindians, Europeans, Africans, East Indians and Chinese. Europeans discovered it in 1498

Cheddi Jagan International Airport was named after the late Cheddi Jagan, former President of Guyana.

The ground snake (atractus tamessari), glass frog (hyalinobatrachium ignioculus), and the armoured catfish (corymbophanes) are found uniquely in Guyana

In 1978, Guyana hit the headlines because of a mass murder/suicide that claimed the lives of over 900 people, 303 of them children, who were members of a cult - the People's Temple - led by Jim Jones, who brainwashed them into taking cyanide

Guyana was created in 1831, 68 years after Cuffy led the slave revolt, when the separate, formerly Dutch, colonies of Essequibo, Berbice and Demerara were merged into a single colony called British Guiana. In 1966, Guyana gained its independence, and in 1970 it became a Republic in the British Commonwealth of Nations

Guyana is an Amerindian word meaning "land of many waters"

The Victoria Regia Lily is the national flower of Guyana and the Canje Pheasant the national bird

In common with many Caribbean islands, Guyana's national sport is cricket, which can be seen being played on any open plot of land. Guyanese greats include Kallicharan, Chanderpaul, Hooper, Harper and the legendary Clive Lloyd

Guyana's flag is known as the Golden Arrow Head. The green background represents agriculture and the forests. The gold outer triangle denotes mineral wealth and its white border symbolises rivers and water. Finally, the red of the inner triangle portrays zeal and nation building, while its black border signifies endurance

Arthur Chung was, in 1970, Guyana's first president, which also made him the first ethnic Chinese head of state in a non-Asian country

More than 70% of Guyana is covered in forest, much of it rich rainforest

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Trinidad and Tobago is home to Calypso and Soca music as well as Caribbean Steel Pan and limbo dancing, and is renowned for its pompous carnival celebrations and popular dance form Limbo

Like Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago gained its independence in 1962

Cricket is the national sport of Trinidad & Tobago, with soccer the second most popular sport

Trinis love "liming"

Petroleum and petrochemicals have replaced the sugar and cacao plantations as economic mainstays of Trinidad & Tobago

Trinidad is bigger and more densely populated than Tobago which only claims 6% of the total area and 4% of the country's population

Tobagonians and Trinidadians (or Trinis) are together referred to as "Trinbagonians"

Janelle Commissiong, the first black Miss Universe, is a Trinidadian, and was crowned in 1977

Little Tobago is home to the world's largest brain coral that measures up to 10 ft by 16 ft

It is believed by many that Daniel Defoe and Robert Louis Stevenson based their novels "Robinson Crusoe" and "Treasure Island" on Trinidad & Tobago

Trinidad was named by Christopher Columbus, who discovered it in 1498



THE AUSTRALIA MATCH

The Australia Match is the biggest fixture on the international fullbore circuit to be shot at both short and long range and ranks second only to the Palma Match in importance.

In 1906, Great Britain received a cordial invitation from the Rifle Association of Australia to send a team in 1907 to compete in an "Imperial Match". On learning of the intended tour, the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association made a pressing invitation for the team to visit Canada en route to shoot for the Palma Trophy in Ottawa.

The seventeen men of the Great Britain Rifle Team to Canada and Australia 1907 were led by Major P.W. Richardson and sailed from Liverpool on 9th August. Having shot in the Palma match, they sailed onto Sydney, Australia, and shot for three days in Queensland. The first Imperial Match was held over the two following days. Later, it

was renamed the Empire Match. In 1988 it was again renamed, as the Australia Match. A splendid silver trophy was presented for the competition. Mounted on black marble, it weighs more than 2 cwt.

Since 2010 the match has been shot on ICFRA targets. The Great Britain team won the match that year, scoring 1972.207 (out of 2000.400) to establish the new record score. Tom Rylands (Great Britain, 2010) and Bryan Litz (USA, 2011) hold the highest individual score of 200 with 26 v-bulls. The team record on the previous targets was held by Australia, scoring 1977.217 at Brisbane in 2005.

The Australia Match is shot for by teams of 10 firers. Each shooter fires 2 sighters and 10 shots to count at 300, 600, 900 and 1000 yards. The Match can be held in any country when the NRA of Australia decrees. This year's iteration will be the first time the Australia Match has been held in the West Indies.

PREVIOUS WINNERS (VENUE IN BRACKETS):

1907 (A) Australia	1960 (GB) Great Britain	1976 (GB) Australia	1994 (A) Great Britain
1909 (A) Australia	1961 (NZ) New Zealand	1976 (NZ) Australia	1995 (NZ) Great Britain
1910 (GB) Great Britain	1962 (A) Australia	1978 (GB) Australia	1996 (GB) Great Britain
1913 (GB) Great Britain	1963 (GB) Canada	1979 (A) Great Britain	1997 (A) Great Britain
1919 (GB) Great Britain	1964 (GB) Canada	1981 (NZ) New Zealand	1999 (SA) Great Britain
1920 (A) Australia	1965 (A) Australia	1982 (GB) Canada	2000 (C) Canada
1924 (GB) Australia	1968 (GB) Australia	1984 (A) New Zealand	2001 (A) New Zealand
1928 (GB) Great Britain	1968 (A) Australia	1985 (GB) Great Britain	2003 (GB) Great Britain
1937 (GB) Australia	1972 (A) Australia	1986 (A) Australia	2005 (A) Australia
1938 (A) Great Britain	1972 (NZ) New Zealand	1987 (C) Great Britain	2010 (GB) Great Britain
1948 (GB) Australia	1974 (GB) Great Britain	1988 (A) Great Britain	2011 (A) Great Britain
1956 (GB) Great Britain	1974 (A) Australia	1992 (NZ) Great Britain	
1958 (A) Australia	1975 (A) New Zealand	1992 (C) Great Britain	

Total wins: Great Britain 22, Australia 18, New Zealand 6, Canada 4
Venues: Australia 20, Great Britain 20, New Zealand 6, Canada 3, South Africa 1

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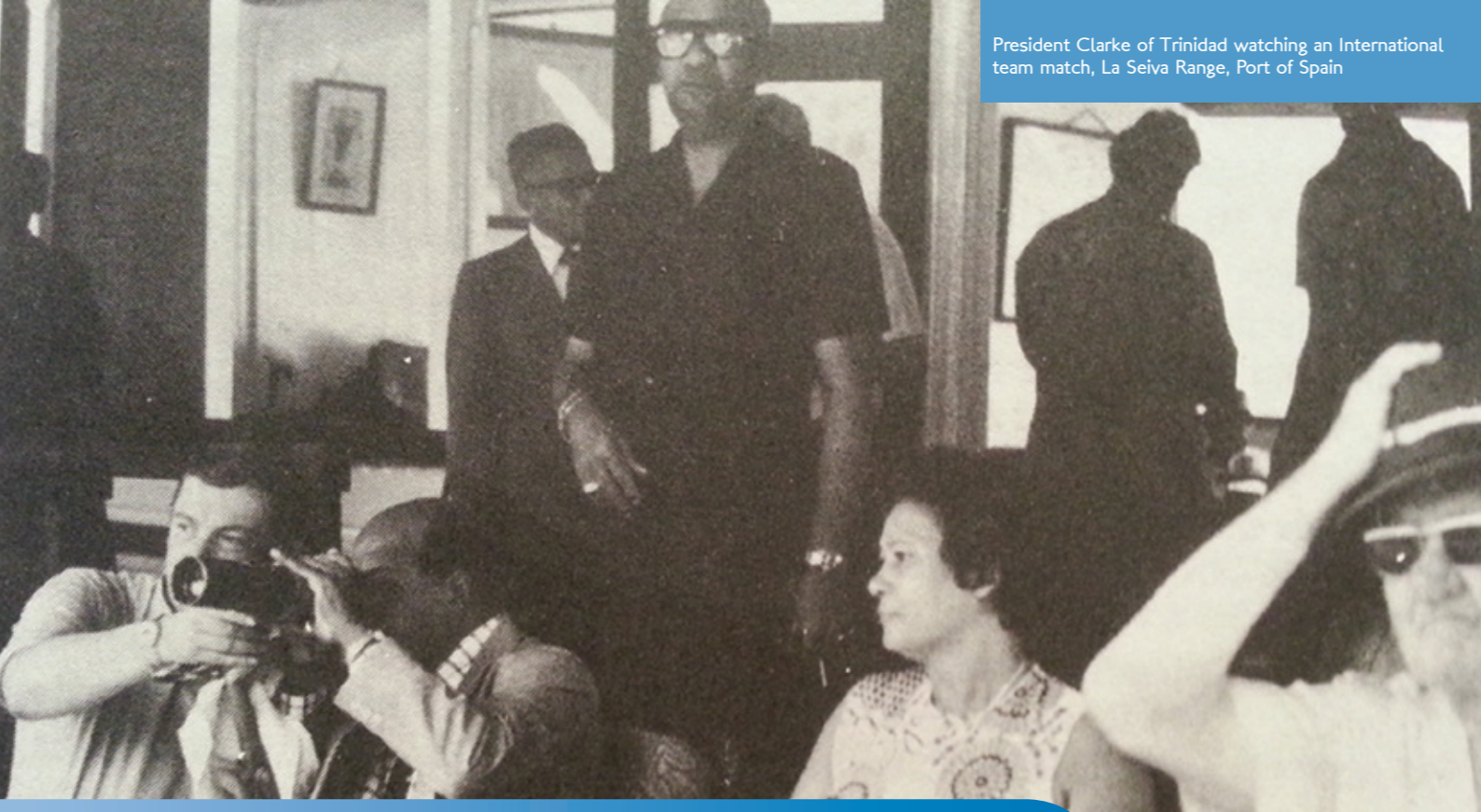
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President Clarke of Trinidad watching an International team match, La Seiva Range, Port of Spain

PREVIOUS GB WEST INDIES TOURS

Great Britain captain Nigel Penn is a veteran of the 1986 and 2002 GB teams to the West Indies; and current vice-captain Charles Brooks won his first GB cap on the 1978 West Indies tour, aged 22.

This account of past West Indies tours is far from exhaustive – the 1986 tour on which Bill Richards and our captain made their GB debuts is not covered, for instance – but it draws on interesting aspects of the tours in 1973, 1978, 1980, 2002 and 2006, to give a flavour of the Caribbean touring experience and to highlight some of the things that may have changed over time.

1973 – GB GOODWILL TEAM TRINIDAD, JAMAICA & BARBADOS

Major N.W. McCaw captained the first 'Great Britain' tour we know of to the West Indies in 1973. Because of the following year's Commonwealth Games in New Zealand and tour to Australia, no OTF funds were available for a full GB team, so Major McCaw gathered a team of those willing to pay their own way (to a great extent the norm these days). They numbered only ten, so were rather stretched in the matches for eights. McCaw's two "members who are young

The very start of that report offered some anachronisms – the team flew with BOAC, and were looked after in the VIP lounge with rum punch provided while luggage cleared customs in Trinidad. Next up: a cocktail party given by the Deputy British High Commissioner. La Seiva Range – another anachronism, sadly - was described as high on a plateau with a view of the Venezuelan coast, with a natural stop butt of tropical trees and vegetation, a single firing point with clubhouse and drinks nearby, and targets at different positions for each distance on the other side of a ravine. The wind blew back off a hill so that



1973, GB Goodwill team

firing point and range flags could easily show opposite directions. In those conditions, using FN ammunition, Messrs Pilcher, McCaw and Goodall managed to finish in the top five of the Trinidad Grand. The match against Trinidad and Canada at 3, 5 and 600 yards was shot in intense heat followed by a freak thunderstorm. Trinidad's team of six won with 849 to GB's 844 and Canada's 827; and they also beat GB's team of 8, by 1131 to 1125. Pilcher and Jackman were GB's

top scorers on 145, matched by Trinidad's Paul and Chan. Prizegiving was accompanied by a cocktail party – appropriate for a venue where "a party [had been] organised every night." Will that be matched this year...?

Jamaica's Twickenham Park Range, with 24 firing points ranging from 200 to 1000 yards built for the 1966 Commonwealth Games, was sheltered on both sides by trees, so was "unbelievably hot". Keith Pilcher was again top Brit in the Grand, which was won by local David Phillips. Short range and long range matches were shot against Jamaica (VIII) and Canada (VI). Four of the team coached as well as shot in the heat, with only a half hour break for lunch, meaning a hard day for half the team. Great Britain beat Jamaica by only 2 points – 1124 to 1122 – in the teams of eight short range match, with David Goodall strongest on 146. Scores for the teams of six are listed as GB 846, Jamaica 842, Canada 886; but the order in which they are recorded suggests that Canada's score may be a misprint. As for the long range match, Roger Mason was a late addition to the team and, along with Pilcher and Goodall, led the scoring on 96 as GB won by 735 to 726 against Jamaica, and by 554 to Jamaica's 547 and Canada's 537 for teams of six.

“TRANSPORT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN AN ENTERTAINING THEME”

In Barbados, the FN ammunition was replaced by RG and the team faced a buffeting fishtail headwind on a pleasant range running parallel to the shore (a description that fits Paragon Range). Keith Pilcher shot superbly, winning the Grand by a clear 12 points and then leading the scoring, along with Goodall, in the Kolapore course of fire match against Barbados and Canada. Great Britain triumphed by 1125 points to Barbados's 1100 and Canada's 1097.

1978 – GREAT BRITAIN TEAM JAMAICA, TRINIDAD & BARBADOS

The 1973 tour paved the way for a full GB team to visit in 1978, captained by Lawrence Huddle. The team of sixteen, escorted by seven wives and a participating supporter, contained a lot of recent luminaries of the sport and was a first GB cap for five shooters, including Lindsay Peden, Ken Chard and our 2013 vice-captain Charles Brooks (aged 22 at the time). David Calvert was also initially selected for the team but had to withdraw for Service reasons. The Summer 1978 NRA Journal contains a very full tour report – "diary", even – over seventeen(!) pages.

Transport seems to have been an "entertaining" theme. Flights for the tour with BA were only, eventually, confirmed two days before departure, following a strike announced by BWIA three weeks earlier. 34 rifles and the shooting kit were packed into four fibreboard boxes, which the captain had made himself, for transportation. The rifles were then taken from the team on arrival and secured in a locked armoury for the duration of the stay in Jamaica (a practice we still expect to encounter on this year's tour), and the team was loaned a police coach – a contrast to later in the tour, when transport to Paragon Range in Barbados was by a combination of taxis and Mini Mokes!!



1978, GB Rifle team

On leaving Jamaica, the BWIA strike meant 12 hours' travel via both Miami (complete with red carpet treatment) and Caracas to Trinidad. And the strike induced transport arrangements between Trinidad and Barbados saw an advance guard of six team members take all the rifles on that journey 36 hours before the rest of the team, who were nevertheless asked where the promised four boxes of rifles were when they came to check in. Fortunately, the reply of "already in Barbados!" was accepted.

As for the shooting, on the first two islands it consisted of one day of individual and one day of team matches, so there was plenty of leisure time available. At Jamaica's Twickenham Park Range, the short range Calico Cup match was won by Great Britain by 1165 to Jamaica's 1139, with GB's 398 at 500 yards owing much to the 600 yard centres accidentally used! Andrew Tucker was top Briton on 148 but Jamaica's John Nelson made 149. 'B' teams of 6 also shot, with GB winning 843 to 783. The long range match planned for the afternoon was cancelled because of rain.

La Seiva Range in Trinidad, we learn, faced closure (as it had done for a while). There, Andrew Tucker won the Grand from Richard Nicholson after a 21 shot tie shoot. The international match paused before 500 yards for the teams to be introduced to Ellis Clarke, President of Trinidad & Tobago, who had come to watch, having donated a trophy. GB beat Trinidad & Tobago by 40 points, with the team of 10 scoring 1435; Canada were a further 14 points adrift. The British High Commission offered to convey the Presidential Trophy back to Britain by sea, since it wouldn't be practicable to carry it by plane. Elsewhere in Trinidad, Maracas Beach and the scarlet ibis featured prominently in the team's experiences.

In Barbados, three days of individual shooting resulted in a Grand Agg win for Colin O'Brien, by a point from David Hossack – David's fifth 2nd place in ten competitions there! The Barbados Foundry match was for the same short range team shoot as the Benson & Hedges (open to the West Indian countries only), with GB and Canada added to the mix. Great Britain won by 11 from Canada with 1125 points, with Sullivan the top scorer on 146. Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago, Barbados and Guyana occupied the other places, all within a ten point spread. The final match was for the Barclays Bank International Match at 300, 600 and 1000 yards. The host West Indies team encountered problems at the longest range and dropped from a strong 2nd to 3rd on 1332 behind GB's 1409 and Canada's 1388. A feature of the Bajan leg of the tour appears to have

“VIP LOUNGE & RUM PUNCH PROVIDED”

and who have never been overseas before" were none other than the late David Goodall and Graham Jackman (1986 captain). With the tour starting in February, very few of the team had fired a shot since "the Bisley Meeting and the Club Championship in September" – the tour report reads very much like that of a North London RC team!



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(Cont'd...)

been some lavish hospitality given at the Brooks and Tucker residences, entertainment at "Sam Lord's Castle"... and also midnight swims. The celebrations after the final match are alleged to have gone on all night, in Bridgetown and the hotel pool. No problem, for there remained four free days during which to recover... Bliss.

**1980 – GREAT BRITAIN GOODWILL TEAM
TRINIDAD & BARBADOS**

1980's team was a GB Goodwill team rather than an official one, invited by the Trinidad RA for its centenary and also by Barbados. Andrew Tucker took a team of only eight light-blue-blazered fellows, with support from four non-shooting ladies; three of the eight only went to Barbados. After several days off on what appears to have been quite a leisure oriented tour, four days of individual shooting at La Seiva Range (pleasingly, still open!) culminated in Andrew Powell of Australia pipping Andrew Tucker to the Grand Aggregate in a tie shoot in which only one bullseye was scored! All five Britons placed in the top ten and the Trinidad leg ended with a 100-strong meal "with limitless drink" at the Gomez home.

In Barbados, Geoff Ayling of Australia won the Grand Aggregate by four points over Ken Brechin, one of four Brits in the top six. After a morning off (at the beach), Great Britain, Canada and the West Indies shot the international match at 300, 600 and 900 yards. Despite trailing Canada at the first and last ranges, Britain emerged victorious with 1105 to Canada's 1097 and the West Indies' 1075. Blackburn's and Kingston's 141s were the highest British scores. Having indulged in some poolside dancing the night before competition had started, the team somehow managed to squeeze in another seven days of leisure after the shooting finished, featuring more Brooks and Tucker hospitality, a return to Sam Lord's Castle, sailing, fishing, water-skiing, touring, sunbathing and rum punch. Bliss.

**2002 – GREAT BRITAIN TEAM
GUYANA, TRINIDAD, JAMAICA, BARBADOS**



2002, GB Rifle Team

A full Great Britain team, captained by Martin Townsend and with this year's captain Nigel Penn as its adjutant, added Guyana to the itinerary and travelled to the same four countries in 2002 that we will visit this year. The tour report reads differently than the largely serious earlier accounts, its author attempting humour by means of cutting remarks about his team-mates and the odd dose of political incorrectness.

“AN AIRBOURNE
SIGHTSEEING
TOUR & A
VISIT TO THE
STUNNING
KAIETEUR FALLS”



Kaieteur Falls, Guyana

A notable feature was the security arrangements in Guyana and Jamaica. On arrival in Guyana, the team was accompanied by the Guyana Police Force and a military escort armed with AK47s and machine pistols and clad in Kevlar vests. And in Jamaica, a military escort Land Rover manned by three "fearsome" (and, while proceeding through Mountview, helmeted) military policemen toting assault rifles led them to JRA HQ with siren blaring, often through red lights, over kerbs and against the oncoming traffic. For some, those were lasting first impressions.

In Guyana, the team enjoyed the hospitality of the High Commissioner at a celebration of HM the Queen's birthday and Golden Jubilee, where they met not just GNRA officials but the Guyanese President. The R&R day saw an airborne sightseeing tour and a visit to the stunning Kaieteur Falls. The shooting was conducted in hot and sometimes tricky wind conditions, with a sudden heavy downpour hitting half the competitors at 1000 yards. Paul Charlton won the Grand, from John Carmichael and Guyana's Richard Fields. John also stood out, with 150.19, in the "best eight from ten" team match over 300, 600 and 900 yards, which Great Britain won by 1187.182 to 1150.118. Kelvin Ramsey managed to leave the continent with five (real) gold medals sponsored by El Dorado rum.

Trinidad started with a wonderful day on the Gomez boat; then more Gomez hospitality followed the first day on the very scenic Tucker Valley range – by then, shooting was no longer at La Seiva. After two further days on the range, Andrew Tompson came out on top in the Grand by one point from John Carmichael, with Trinidad's Clarion Tang Choon 3rd. In the team match, GB's best eight from twelve won by 1178.135 to Trinidad's 1151.107, with Hugh Kilpatrick the highest scorer on 149. Some protracted celebration afterwards ensured that certain team members were still awake for the 3:15am(!) departure from the hotel for the airport.



The Main Coach ready for the match

“ A CATAMARAN CRUISE & SNORKELLING WITH TURTLES ”

Jamaica offered a reception and some R&R – the highlight being Dunns River Falls – before shooting started. By now, Twickenham Park had acquired a neighbouring squatter settlement, some of whose occupants use the 500 yard taps... sometimes when shooting is taking place at 1000 yards! Andy Tompson once again showed great form to win the Jamaican Grand by two vee-bulls from Hugh Kilpatrick, a point ahead of Paul Charlton. The team match was again for the best eight out of twelve, at 300, 600 and 900 yards. Tompson led the scoring on 197.24 as GB won by 1561.187 to Jamaica's 1533.131.

Arrival in Barbados was swiftly followed by R&R and rum punch, with the first day on Paragon Range followed by a reception by the Governor General and a public rendition of Johnny B Goode (guitar and vocals) by Andy Tompson, who was having a great tour. Three days of individual competition followed, with Peter Barry winning the Grand by two points from Carmichael and Kilpatrick. An unusual format for the team match helped provide a close result – over 300, 600 and 900 yards, the best eight from sixteen British shooters scored 1157.126 to the West Indies' 1154.115. The next day, the Singer Cup at long range was won by Guyana on 1111.93, with Great Britain beating the West Indies in a concurrent/alongside match by 1123.108 to 1102.88 with Peter Barry strongest on 147. Finally, the BWIA Cup at short range was won by Jamaica on 1142.117; and in another alongside/concurrent match, GB overcame deficits at 300 and 500 yards to beat the West Indies at 600, again by three points – 1163.127 to 1160.115. John Carmichael was top gun on 148.16. There remained four days for R&R, with diving, fishing, touring and karaoke among the activities. The team had clearly loved the experience of such sportsmanlike shooting on ranges where fresh mangoes and raw sugar cane could be consumed, before retiring to swim or to watch turtles lay eggs at nightfall. Bliss!

2006 – NRA GOODWILL TEAM TRINIDAD & TOBAGO AND BARBADOS

The last senior British team to tour the West Indies was a goodwill team led by the late David Hossack, our dear friend to whose memory the Great Britain team will dedicate a trophy on this tour. As it stayed at the Crews Inn in Trinidad and the Southern Palms in Barbados, its positive reports on the accommodation are gratifying.

Practice in Trinidad saw dispute between the Townsend (tricky spiral) and Gomez (it's simple, just 1 left to 1 right) schools of thought on the range's wind patterns, before the team proved to have successfully

acclimatised by arriving at the Gomez house in a manner that could best be described as “Trini time”. During the Grand, the Brits returned the hospitality, complete with bagpipes, before taking the top three individual places with Ian Shaw's 2-off over three days being a range record. The subsequent team match resulted in a 15 point win for the visitors. Further Trinidadian hospitality was enjoyed at the Yacht Club, at a steel band rehearsal and on a yacht to Chaguaramas National Park.

Then, unusually for a touring team, Tobago provided the venue for three days of luxury R&R, with swimming, fishing, diving, eating and drinking on the menu.

Soon after arrival in Barbados, the team was hosted by the Prime Minister, the Rt.Hon. Owen Arthur. Shooting was on Paragon Range, where there had clearly been a great deal of preparation done for the visiting British and Australian teams, although there was no natural shade. Long breaks for lunch helped shooters deal with the midday heat, and three days of individual shooting concluded with Australia's Helen Griffiths winning by 2 and 3 points from Ian Shaw and Sarah Rennie. After a day off with a stupendous buffet lunch at Farley Hill provided by the Bajan team, the long range match followed. A storm saw the firing point abandoned and a second threatened, the avoidance of whose blustery wind was key; and the NRA Goodwill “A” team ran out victorious on 774.88 to 766, 764, 764 and 726 respectively by Australia “B”, NRA “B”, Australia “A” and the West Indies. The short range match was close and high quality, with NRA Goodwill “A” winning on 1185.152 to 1181, 1180, 1175 and 1174 respectively by Australia Green, NRA “B”, the West Indies and Australia “Gold”.

The tour finished with a catamaran cruise (and snorkelling with turtles), prize giving and a view from the plane of Paragon Range. It will be interesting to see how much shade is provided in 2013 by the trees that the 2006 team arranged to have planted!

A few things have changed over the course of these tours – airlines, ranges, security, hairstyles... and there are no more of those 1980 light blue blazers! But it sounds like the good shooting, company, hospitality and beauty of the venues remain.



2006, NRA Goodwill team

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BROCHURE DESIGNED BY KIMBERLEY PASTEAU kimberley.pasteau@hotmail.co.uk



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