

BSRC on Century – Wednesday 25th April 2018

Fifteen shooters met in the NRA range office car park for the first of this year's long range days on Century Ranges: zeroing and shooting game and vermin targets whilst falling back in incremental stages from 200 to 600 yards.

We were greeted by a beautiful springtime morning – birdsong, bright sunshine - the emerging spring-green leaves on the trees and some early woodland flowers just beginning to colour the woodland floor – there was an amazing fragrance in the air too from recently cut grass. Despite a persistently strong, cool breeze everyone was able to start off confidently – although this was not to last! With the wind gusts and general strength steadily increasing and also varying in direction constantly and the first of a few squally showers threatening, it became very difficult to maintain any real consistency on the target particularly as the range increased.

Two **HPS's** were recorded at **200yds** – well shot by all - and a further single **HPS** at **300yds** and once again only one more **HPS** at **400yds** – great shooting from **Alby Lyons** (6.5x47 Lapua/123gr Hornady AMax) in, by now, very unfavourable conditions. These were the last top scores to be recorded as wind gusts and foul weather at times began to blow and soak everyone into oblivion to some degree or another.

Due to slick changes from all on the firing points, we were able to squeeze in a **Quick Brown Fox** once again. It was really great to take this opportunity although this test is often a high score destroyer as, although all are previously zeroed, it's straight in at 400 yards without sighting shots – a tough duel - as usually the conditions have changed slightly – to note: no **HPS** has ever been recorded in this event in ten years - although a very notable **49** from **Richard Zirps** (.300 Win Mag/190gr Sierra MK.) came as close as anyone can – well shot!

For the afternoon session, the expectations for the **Blue Ribbon event** of the **Prairie Dog** (½ MOA bull @ 500yds) were justly hesitant as the conditions were now all over the shop and wind varied from at least 8 mph for some and by up to 17mph for others – with rain for some and sunshine for others and big wind gusts for all!

Astonishingly, in the rain and sun and winds, **six** of the competitors earned or re-qualified for the prestigious **BSRC 500 Yard Club award** – **Adam Hooley** (.30-06 Spf/155gr Sierra MK.) winning for the first time (and first attempt too) to join this elite cadre – still now with only **thirty six** members world-wide! And further congratulations also go to **John Bowerman, Alby Lyons, Michael Morris, John Watson** and your scribe all re-qualifying for a second, third and fourth (and I've lost count of how many times **Alby** has done it) each.

Michael Morris shooting a Shooting Services Nimrod on the AI AX AICS chassis chambered for the 6.5x47 Lapua firing the Lapua Scenar L 136gr bullet carried the day with consistent scoring on every stage across the course to take a well-deserved high gun score of **236** and also scored on the **Prairie Dog** too, in what I'd say, is certainly the most difficult conditions we've ever experienced on Century since these competitions began exactly ten years ago virtually to the day – very well shot!

Please note that numbers for the Century days will be restricted to a maximum of eighteen shooters, time is simply against us (especially with certain lane changes now inevitable) making it far more difficult to complete the course of fire for all in the time available. To note: this competition was nearly oversubscribed within five days of the notice being published! To avoid disappointment, if you wish to enter any of the long range events, please post / email confirm your entry when the calling notice is first published.

Many thanks from all to **John Watson, Garth Buckle** and **Ray Collins** for all the help with setting-up and RO'ing and the very able and consistent marking from **Andy** and **John**. The next Century game/varmint event will be Wednesday, **October 3rd 2018**. The following scores in no particular order are:-

The Scores:-

Names:	Fox 200yds	Fox 300yds	Fallow 400yds	Q-B Fox 400yds	Fallow 500yds	P'Dog 500yds	Red Deer 600yds	Total HPS 300
S. Lewis	50	50	0	41	26	1 Hit	39	206
J. Rossiter	48	14	38	DNS	0	miss	27	127
G. Buckle	45	47	6	30	19	miss	DNS	147
R. Nowinski	48	48	38	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	134
J. Bowerman	17	48	8	3	19	1 Hit	0	95
M. Morris	48	32	40	41	29	1 Hit	46	236
A. Lyons	49	48	50	DNS	44	miss	9	200
K. Scott	49	26	25	DNS	5	miss	9	114
A. Russell	48	30	44	18	37	miss	36	213
A. Hooley	48	16	42	DNS	23	1 Hit	48	177
S. Wallis	47	41	34	28	35	miss	DNS	185
R. Collins	46	48	18	25	8	miss	48	193
A. Christmas	43	31	20	35	28	miss	38	195
J. Watson	50	37	46	DNS	24	1 Hit	0	157
R. Zirps	49	49	26	49	8	miss	27	208

Steve Lewis. Event Organiser.

