

# BEHIND THE SCENES

Bisley Grand Prix, May 11-16 at the NCSC.

## A shoot for all skills

The main aim of the Bisley Grand Prix is to encourage all comers to compete in an international standard event. John-Joe Vollans spoke to the organiser, Sarah Daly, to find out more.



After a day's shoot four years ago with friends, Alfie Oldring suggested to Sarah Daly that it would be an idea to organise their own shoot. The shoot would be less about ability and more about accessibility, allowing anyone to try the sport. So the Bisley Grand Prix was born. In 2003 the event was limited to Olympic Skeet, with the objective of bringing existing talent and novice competitors together to encourage a more social shooting atmosphere.

This ethos has continued and grown over successive years, with the 2007 event involving two new disciplines: Olympic Trap and Double Trap.

Sarah started her own shooting career at a local farm shoot, having spent much of her life involved with horses, often mixing with people who enjoyed country pursuits. "A friend sold shooting equipment and told me a lot about the sport," she says. "Another close

friend taught me to shoot, but sadly he died and I found it hard to return to shooting." Eventually trying her hand at Olympic Skeet she rediscovered her love of the sport. Sarah's other passion for dogs also brought her into contact with the shooting world. She would often accompany friends on shoots, picking up with up to five dogs (labs and a springer).

### About the Grand Prix

For a modest £65 entry fee, the price includes a welcome pack, with lots of items commemorating the event, as well as a meal, with a choice of hog or fowl roast.

The total value of prizes and prize money is worth approximately £11,000. The sponsorship for the event is coming from a number of sources. "Without the sponsors the event would not happen, it's as simple as that," Sarah explained. "The main sponsor, Gemini Fire Management

Systems, has nothing to do with shooting but the MD, John Reaks, started shooting nine months ago and is putting forward £8000 of the £18,000 sponsorship raised so far."

There are also prizes for the most improved senior man, lady and junior shooter in the Skeet, awarded to whoever has added the most number of targets to their 2006 BGP score. This will be open to the Trap and DT events from 2008 onwards.

The emphasis is on novice and more competent competitors shooting together. As the event is non-profit making and with special guest David Davis MP attending on Sunday afternoon, the focus is on promoting the sport with the public and with government.

All competitors are assisted at every opportunity to achieve their maximum potential, to enjoy the experience and take away some thing of value, be it a medal or the satisfaction of

personal achievement. The Bisley Grand Prix is held on May 11-16 at the NCSC, Bisley. An entry form is online at [www.bisleygrandprix.co.uk](http://www.bisleygrandprix.co.uk), or call Sarah on 07967 328 945.



Sarah Daly on the Olympic Skeet range at the NCSC.