



Event report

German Open Action Weekend, Leitmar, 12/ 13 November 2011



This was the first time Team Derby members had travelled to the German Open. GB shooters have been competing for several years and all the accommodation and other arrangements are well established so Jim and Rob hitched a ride with Mark from Llandudno and Taff from Crewe. The overnight ferry from Hull to Rotterdam was a good idea as it saved a lot of driving allowing us to arrive reasonably fresh.



A small family hotel in nearby Marsberg was taken over by GB shooters and after settling in we were able to visit the ranges and check that the rifles had not lost zero. The first night was a get together in a Italian restaurant with not too much of the local brew being consumed.

Saturday was an early start but the ranges are only 5 miles away and everyone soon settled in sorting out their gear and preparing for the many matches available. Jim and Rob had decided to limit themselves to 1500, T&P1 & Multi-target with under-lever and .22.

The ranges are all underground but the lighting is good, however large fans at the back of all 4 ranges were sucking in air from the outside that was minus 3. So plenty of warm clothing needed.



1500 CF was first and with just over an hour scheduled to complete the match it was all a bit of a rush. Rob could not get into his stride and decided not to waste any more ammo. Jim suffered also but others did too and he managed to finish with 1483 which eventually won him A class (or Master as they still call it)

1500 SB went much better in the afternoon with only one point between Rob and Jim on 1472 and 1471..



But the icing on the cake was that they had entered a Match 5 pairs event under the name "Team Inselaffe" and came third, just one point behind the winners. The team name caused much amusement at the prize giving as Inselaffe is a disparaging term Germans call Britts.

The shorts were unsquadded and Jim thought he would do his under-lever events but should have left them to another day. A twitch in T&P1 pushed a 9 to the right – game over. Then he started too well in his current favourite, Multi-target. Stage 1 – the first six shots were X's. Stage 2- the first 5 shots were X's then, delay, aim , red mist, panic, a 3 !!!!!!! It was all uphill then but 117 only placed him 6th.



On Saturday evening everyone was invited to Anna and Dietmar's house and they were generously fed and watered. It was a very good humoured evening mainly due to Dietmar's home brewed cider. Perhaps that is how Rob was persuaded to try a dried mushroom crisp from a bowl that turned out to be potporri. Rob as vowed revenge on those concerned. It was decided to drive back to Marsberg so the drivers could have a drink and a friendly bar was found. It was a wonder anyone managed to get up in time to shoot the next day!

Sunday was spent finishing off unsquadded shorts. In T&P1 Rob was going for a high X count and took too long in stage 2 leaving one in the gun. (excuse 31b) Jim did the same with small bore but blamed having two targets per board.(excuse 43) Jim treated himself to a match using one of their club M1 carbines and thoroughly enjoyed it. Also some of the visiting Brits have pistols and revolvers stored over there and once all the events had finished they were allowed to play. Jim fell in love with a Sig, Rob sold his soul to play with Gwyn's 38 S&W Race Gun. During the day the bar was selling hot food and delicious beer. Not that anyone really needed more.



The International CF Match took over the 50m range in the afternoon and Jim helped out fussing around making sure everyone was OK.

Great Britain were victors in both Matches, and Jim was happy that his 1471 counted in the International small-bore event.



There were so many medals to be awarded it was well after 6pm before people made their way to prepare for an evening at a Greek restaurant with the Irish and Anna and Dietmar.



Thinking of the drivers some left the Greek and found another friendly bar near to the hotel. They were soon joined by the Irish team who had the same idea and by 2.30 had increased the bar takings so much the Landlady presented all with steins.

When eventually got back to the hotel some foolish behavior ensued involving the Welsh shooters and a full sized toy sheep. (Photos available soon at £5 copy)

Monday. As the return ferry was not until 7.30pm it was planned to visit the Airborne Museum and war graves at Arnhem. It was very interesting but also moving to see where the paratroopers attempted to take the bridge during WW2.

It was a boozy night on the ferry to ensure everyone slept OK but no need, as it was a very smooth crossing.

A very enjoyable weekend.