Walking out of the patio doors from our rooms this morning, there was a distinct chill in the air and plenty of cloud cover. There was also plenty of wind, but that didn't seem to stop David Luckman, who managed to put in a sterling 50.10 at 300 metres in the Tilton during the 8am detail.

On the other side of the camp, the 600 yards stage of the Tilton was proving tricker, with relatively few possibles coming off. The strong wind swung from about four left down to zero, with some people also seeing brief gusts of right wind. One shooter in the team had a less than perfect store and was heard to remark that it wasn't an ideal start to his Grand; although he did cheer up considerably, when DC pointed out that the Tilton isn't actually included in the Agg. The polo trophy went to Rick Stewart with an excellent display of wobbling them in for a sterling 50.1, and the hard luck award went to one of the American juniors who managed a brilliant 50.10 in tricky conditions only to have five points deducted for a trigger that just wouldn't quite take the weight.

After the morning's shooting, the usual lunchtime lethargy set in before the start of the Grand with the MacDougall at 300 metres and 500 yards. Some fiddled with their computers or mobile phone, others did the crossword, while Cloadie and Jackie bounced around on the team space-hoppers (actually some form of physiotherapeutic equipment prone either to cause catastrophic spinal injury or stabilize your core muscles, depending on the skill of the user.)



After a small set of team announcements in the early afternoon, a presentation was made to Pete Holden in honour of his 26th birthday. Aside from the usual cake, he was given a feather boa to be worn on the firing point for the rest of the day by express order of team management!



On the shooting front, the afternoon continued to be windy; although it seemed to be the 300 metre stage of the MacDougall which was causing the problem rather than the 600 yard range. At least one of the members of the team picked up a magpie when the wind switched on them while in the aim. At then end of the day, Toby came out as one of the very few people clean on the day, scoring 100.26, with only Emil Praslick III of the USA doing better by a single vee.

After all of the shoots had been completed, the team quickly nipped back to the hotel to scrub up for the meet 'n' greet back at the ranges. The team got the chance to renew old friendships with other shooters over a steak dinner and maybe a beer for those not on first detail in the morning. Off to bed for the second day of the Grand.

Results

The Tilton (2+10 @300 & 2+10 @600)

1= DE COSTA, GERARD, LITCHFIELD, NH.USA	100v14
1= CHARLTON, PAUL, IRELAND	100v14
1= PRASLICK, EMIL III, COLUMBUS, GA. US	100v14
1= WHALEN, RONALD, AUSTRALIA	100v14

5. RAINCOCK, TOBY, GBRT	100v13
8. PUGSLEY, JOHN, UK	100v12
13. CHARLTON, MATT, GBRT	100v9
15. BALL, NIGEL, GBRT	100v9
16. DIX, RUPERT, GBRT	100v8
24. DYSON, DAVID, GBRT	99v12
26. UNDERWOOD, JON, GBRT	99v12
38. BRASIER, NICK, GBRT	99v9
48. LUCKMAN, ANDY, GBRT	99v7
50. STEWART, RICHARD, GBRT	99v6

The MacDougall (2+10 @ 300 & 2+10 @ 500)

1= RAINCOCK, TOBY, GBRT #217 MMXXT 100v13 1= WARRIAN, GREG, AUSTRALIA #361 MMOXT 100v13 1= PRASLICK, EMIL III, COLUMBUS, GA. US #445 MMXXT 100v13

 13. PUGSLEY, JOHN, UK
 #310 MMXXT 100v8

 22. BALL, NIGEL, GBRT
 # 9 MMXXT 99v13

 25. CALVERT, DAVID, GBRT
 #201 MMXXT 99v13

 27. MESSER, JANE, GBRT
 #214 MFXXT 99v12

 31. LUCKMAN, DAVID, GBRT
 #212 MMXXT 99v11

 50. MC QUILLAN, ROSS, GBRT
 #213 MMXXT 99v9