3 DAY FORENSIC AWARENESS

Helston Forensics
FORENSIC BALLISTIC LABORATORIES

Introduction

The course covers aspects of firearms and ammunition of interest to Forensic Scientists and Crime Scene Personnel. The course includes basic instructions on Health and Safety in the handling of firearms.

Aims/Outcomes

- To demonstrate to the student the need to approach all firearms and ammunition related investigations with appropriate caution
- To consider safety, preservation and recording of evidence
- To understand the potential complexity of firearms investigations

Agenda

- Health and Safety
- Safe handling
- Weapon systems (methods of operation)
- Internal ballistics
- External ballistics
- Stripping and assembly
- Airgun types/testing
- Inspection and gauging
- Manufacture of ammunition
- Deactivation
- Improvised firearms
- Firearms Law
- Gun Barrel Proof Acts

Notes

1. The course duration will be 0900-1730, finishing at 14:30 on the third day.
2. Refreshments and lunch to be provided.
3. All safety equipment will be provided.
4. Assistance with hotel bookings will be available from our office staff.
5. This is a CPD-related course. This can contribute to your Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and will be evidenced through multiple-choice summative assessment and the award of a course completion certificate.
6. The course includes handouts, practical sessions and discussion periods

9 mm bullet and cartridge case recovered from the scene, what can they tell us?

Microscopy lab with a range of microscopes used for specialist examinations

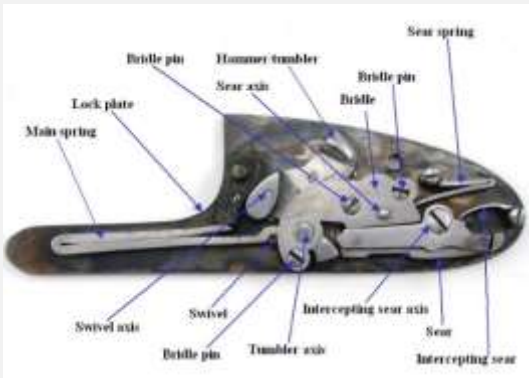
Field stripping an AK47 is a simple operation

A disguised silencer to fit the "nut & bolt" gun

Homemade firearms can be sophisticated or crude

Manufacturing an improvised barrel can be achieved in any well-equipped workshop/factory

Understanding the mechanism is fundamental when conducting internal examinations.

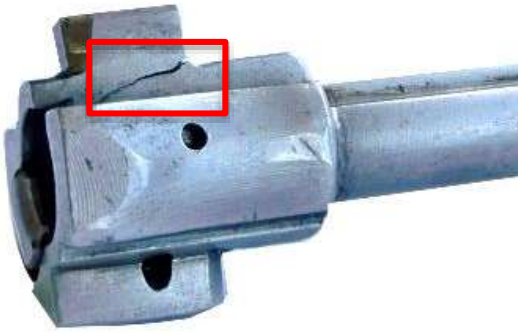


Understand what the components are called and how they work

Mechanisms can tell a story, be careful how you interpret it them!

Lots of information can be obtained from a fired airgun pellet if carefully handled.

How to use gauges to check the weapon for safety is discussed in the modules which cover proof testing and gauging



Identifying damaged or faulty components as part of the inspection process

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