

BOXALL & EDMISTON

A new gunmaker emerged at the CLA Game Fair, held this past July at Ragley Hall, in Warwickshire, England. Peter Boxall, formerly the manufacturing director at Holland & Holland, and James Edmiston, formerly the managing director of the Sterling Armament Co. (maker of the Sterling submachine gun), formed a partnership to launch a totally new British shot-gun. Pooling their considerable experience in gunmaking and high-quality machining, they have brought to market a high-quality boxlock game gun, reasoning that although there are plenty of factory-made over/unders available, virtually no one is offering a well-made, reasonably priced side-by-side.

Components for Boxall & Edmiston guns are made entirely in-house, with the wood for stocks and forends being the only externally sourced materials. Made with high-tech machinery operating at extremely fine tolerances, the guns require a modest amount of trade work to assemble. The aim is to produce not only an entry-level Anson & Deeley boxlock but also a sideplated version that can be personalized to a high degree.

The gun on display was a side-plated model that many experienced ob-

servers mistook for a sidelock. One visitor to the stand, a highly knowledgeable and well-respected member of the gun trade, remarked: "It combines the grace and elegance of a sidelock with the strength and durability of a boxlock."

Strength and durability were built into the gun at the design stage. For example, it features advanced diamond-shaped extractor/ejector legs—the larger surface area making them stronger than conventional thin, round, Southgate-type legs. The action body has been deepened for added strength with modern ammunition. There is more draw where the rear lump contacts the action slot, making the gun unlikely to shoot off the face.

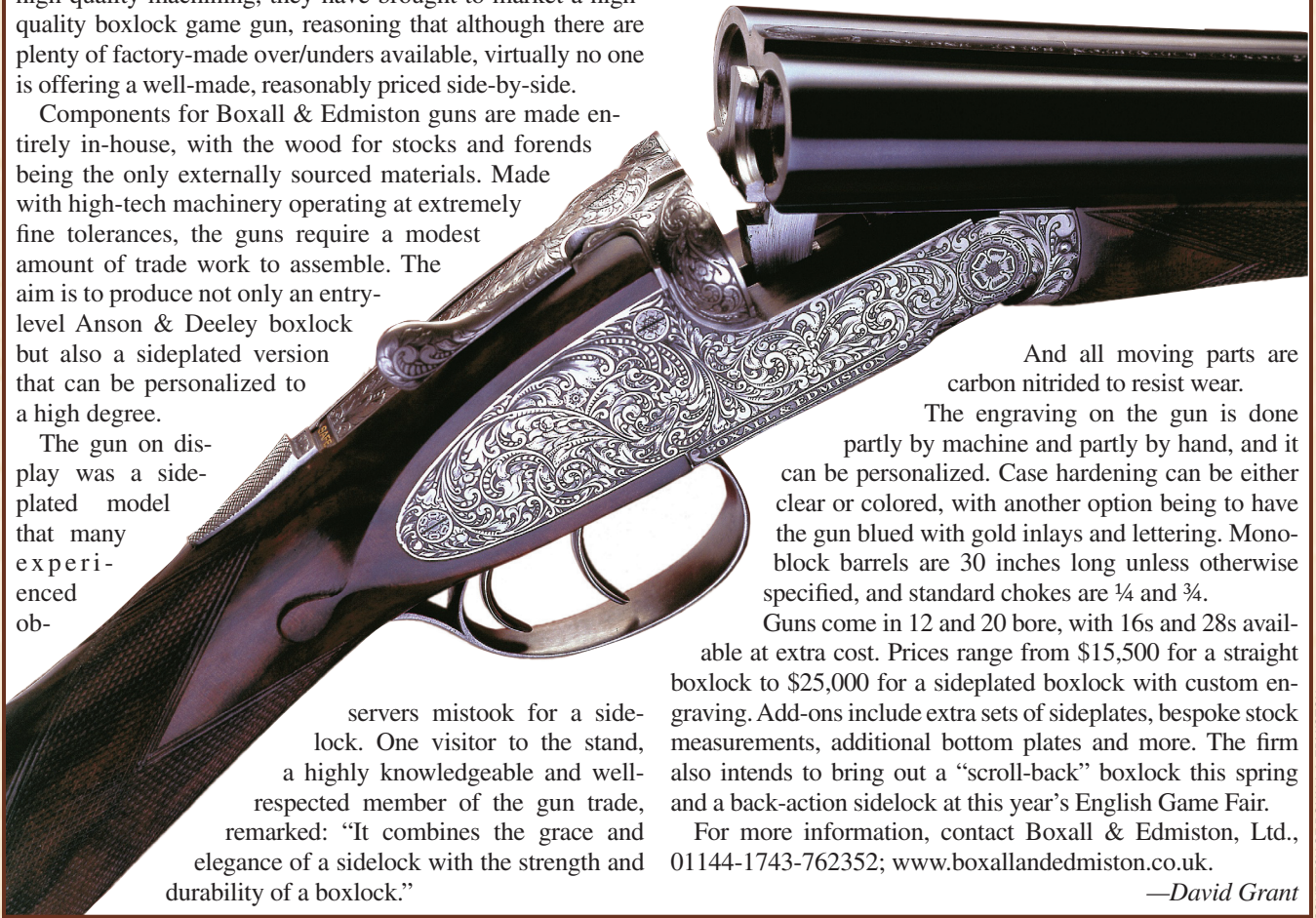
And all moving parts are carbon nitrided to resist wear.

The engraving on the gun is done partly by machine and partly by hand, and it can be personalized. Case hardening can be either clear or colored, with another option being to have the gun blued with gold inlays and lettering. Mono-block barrels are 30 inches long unless otherwise specified, and standard chokes are $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$.

Guns come in 12 and 20 bore, with 16s and 28s available at extra cost. Prices range from \$15,500 for a straight boxlock to \$25,000 for a sideplated boxlock with custom engraving. Add-ons include extra sets of sideplates, bespoke stock measurements, additional bottom plates and more. The firm also intends to bring out a "scroll-back" boxlock this spring and a back-action sidelock at this year's English Game Fair.

For more information, contact Boxall & Edmiston, Ltd., 01144-1743-762352; www.boxallandedmiston.co.uk.

—David Grant



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