

# The *Tubilee* top 10

To mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee **Douglas Tate** selects his top 10 British guns of the last 60 years, without sparing the horses!

## AA Brown Coronation Gun

I thought immediately of the Supreme de Luxe Coronation gun A. A. Brown created, featuring the Rogers principle cocking mechanism; the gun was engraved by Geoffrey Casbard. According to Robin Brown: "This Coronation gun celebrates her coming to the throne in Westminster Abbey, one side the State coach (pictured) and the other side, the investiture in the Abbey. The underside has a 1952 portrait of HM in Coronation regalia. Tudor roses are carved on fences and appear here and there along with thistles, daffodils and shamrocks to complete symbols for the four nations. There is a portcullis on the trigger guard. National flags are also depicted and other Royal motifs. On the bar of the action are Windsor on one side and Buckingham palace on the other."

Though I'm no fan of scrimshaw style picture engraving what I loved about the guns was the shapes Robin Brown had filed into the action. "Our signature shape came from modeling our Badminton action on the general shape of the early (1910 to 1930) non self-opening H&H Royal," he said. They feature flattened, ball-beaded fences and a fluted double bar to the front of the action. These were all signature features of the sidelock guns A. A. Brown built for Westley Richards during their tenure at Bournebrook where they rented space between 1960 and 1974.

