



PO Box 42, Helensvale, Qld, 4212

Volume 1 Issue 1 December 2015

# Sporting Clays Australia A new name A new focus The way forward



National President thanks our sponsors

Left to right: Greg Chan (Beretta), Clive Pugh (Winchester), Ray McFarlane (SCA), Filippo Petriella (Perazzi), Rod Laidlaw (Outdoor Sporting Agencies), Bruce Burns (GB Corsivia), Steve Chilton (NTDS), Phil Rendell (SCA), Tony Trainor (SCA)



Assembling for the final shoot off



for our sport

2015 National Champion - Damien Birgan



### The choice of World Champions





Women's Olympic Skeet Silver Medal World Championship 2015 Silver Medal World Cup Acapulco 2015

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Volume 1 Issue 1 December 2015

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#### DECEMBER 2015 CLAY TARGET NEWS

The year has gone so fast, by the time you read this it will be Christmas once again.

2015 has turned out to be an excellent year shooting wise, with successful competitions taking place throughout the country and overseas, with Australian teams and individuals winning medals at the World Championships and abroad, excellent results for all that travelled this year.

On the local front, an outstanding Nationals was put on by the Geelong club with superb sponsorship, once again thank you to our sponsors. You would go a long way to find a better array of trophies anywhere.

Congratulations to all sponsors who have supported the Federation throughout the year, whether it is a club shoot or a Nationals, your support is greatly appreciated by all who run and attend these shoots.

#### **SCA PRESIDENTS REPORT**

Well you have seen the magazine cover, our official name is "Sporting Clays Australia Assoc." (SCA).

This was decided by a unanimous vote by the Board at the recent AGM.

A number of decisions were made that will bring our organisation into the modern era.

- 1 A new Constitution was accepted.
- 2 A new website will be unveiled in the next Month
- 3 Registering and paying for major competitions will also go online.
- 4 From 1st July 2016 new members and membership renewals will also be online.
- 5 Confirmation of travel insurance at half price for members going overseas to major competitions.
- 6 Future Nationals to be run to the new format.

All in all a very successful meeting, thanks must go to Glen Rider and Kathy Cain who have excelled in their positions of Secretary and Treasurer, the background work that they have done in the past year is extraordinary, also thank you to the rest of the Board for your support.

We have been through all the successes that were achieved by our members this year in international competition, these successes do not just happen, they come because of the quality events that we conduct around the country each week, this gives our elite competitors the training and exposure to competition that is required to perform at the top

The Australian Sporting Clays Nationals were held at the Geelong Sporting

Clays Range. It was conducted to a new format, which is a cross between "Old Style FITASC" and the Linear System that FITASC adopted from 1988 onwards. A total of eight 25 target layouts were provided. Once you had shot a layout that was the end of it for the competition, it was shot 75, 75 and 50 targets per day.

The shooting, shoot-offs and presentations were completed prior to 5-30pm on the Sunday.

Everything went like clockwork, the buses run to a timetable that worked perfectly.

A lot of the success of this event must go to our office staff, John MacKenzie with his event program, together with Anita and Lorraine made this a very easy event to conduct. No sooner was the last squad in than we had all the shoot-offs ready to go. This then meant that we had a large crowd watching the shoot-offs and staying for the presentations.

Our generous Sponsors also made this a Nationals to remember. Thanks to Outdoor Sporting Agencies, GB Corsivia, Beretta Aust. Winchester Aust. and Perazzi Aust. Your support and attendance at this event was exceptional and we would like to welcome you all back next year in Brisbane.

All the feedback has been positive with many claiming it to be the best Nationals that they had experienced .

This concept has now been run at Geelong and Laang and has proved extremely enjoyable to shoot and very efficient for the organisers.

President SCA

**Ray McFarlane** 

Well done to all the volunteers who have worked tirelessly all through the year setting up, packing up, cleaning up or making lunch it's all part of making our sport very enjoyable.

You, the shooter are starting to get it right with shooting stands looking better with empty shells finally making it into the bin, remember you are on someone's land, so keep it tidy.

2016 there will be big changes to the Federation; I think we are going down the right road.

There will be a report in this magazine about the changes that will happen.

Finally, I hope everyone has a successful 2016 with selection shoots taking place starting early January.

Also, don't forget the Nationals in Brisbane, sure to be a tremendous shoot, so get in early.

I hope every person has a safe and wonderful Christmas and we'll see you all around in 2016

**Stephen Chilton NTDS** 

#### **DECISIONS MADE AT THE 2015 AGM/GENERAL MEETING EXPLAINED**

After the final sign off at the "Sporting Clays Australia" (Field & Game Federation of Australia Inc) AGM held on 7th and 8th November 2015, SCA have made a concerted effort with a press release to the available media postings at our disposal informing our members of the changes that occurred with the agreement of the SCA (F&GFA) Board members at the meeting. From the feedback received from our members already, the new direction outlined in the Press Release has been successful and many of our members have already made positive comments and embraced the new look and direction.

The following bullet points below will give a description of the main items of Interest and the benefits to you as a member.

#### **System Overview**

Our previous membership system operated with too much manual entry with a doubling or tripling of data entry from club to State up to National level. Unfortunately manual entry is fraught with problems let alone going through so many separate data entry and in this process some membership has been slipping through the cracks.

This scenario has negative implications for everyone, for Instance, the member not receiving the Associations Magazine. Although this is more of an Inconvenience to the person who has paid their membership it is not a liability risk issue. The main "Risk" exposure for the association(s) and the member themselves is for Insurance cover with recognition for Public Liability and Voluntary workers Insurance when participating at the Club or out hunting. The new Centralised membership system eliminates this issue. You control your recognition status as a member the instant you go online, enter your details and pay your membership.

Under the new system, if you are registered in the SCA Centralised membership system/ list you are recognised as a member and will be covered for Insurance purposes. Future members (new) under "pending" will also be considered as covered for Insurance purposes. If you are not registered on the Centralised membership list, you are not covered.

Visitors to the shooting range (not out hunting) will be covered for Public Liability Insurance providing they meet all of the legal requirements for your State and Club as a visitor. The term "Visitor" means exactly that, the visitor status it is not open for semi professional visitors to keep using the umbrella of "Visitor" to continue using the facility who does not, or will not join the association. This is not the interpretation of the SCA. The Insurance broker has had cause to review the "Visitor" practice with another Association. Please be aware the "Risk" exposure you are placing your club under if you allow the same person(s) to keep signing on as a visitor to your facility on a regular basis. Your third party liability Insurance cover is being placed at risk should there be an accident.

We have discussed the procedures required for new members applying for membership in some State, Club or with their respective State Police policies that require further checks to be made before your membership can be fully recognised. This condition will be noted on the State membership page with any conditions advised before "new" membership is approved. Although membership details can be completed and fees paid online, SCA cannot authorise membership status until these checks have been ratified. Any "new" members will be informed instantly their membership has been accepted or rejected and in the case of the latter, their membership fee will be returned back to them less an administration fee of \$30.

#### **New Website- Australian Sporting Clays**

A new SCA Website will be available for members Information as from the end of November 2015.

This website will be the portal to connecting onto our Membership section and SCA Competitions (See further Information explained below).

The Website will also have pages for each State body with Information regarding each club, along with each State's Competition calendar in PDF download capability. Other areas of Interest will be the explanation for each of our disciplines with the corresponding Rules for each, SCA quarterly Magazine in PDF capability. An area to be expanded in the not too distant future will be SCA merchandise (T shirts, Hats, etc), we will make an announcement once this service is online.

#### **Centralised Membership**

This is possibly the greatest move for our members that they will see and be actively involved in.

The present system relies on an annual renewal system that kicks in on the 1st January every year (apart from Victoria). Most State bodies have a two staged membership application that gives a price reduction to new members joining halfway through the year. After the half year period any new member is disadvantaged with them receiving a new membership renewal for the following year on 1st January. This is a major flaw for us and it is ultimately costing the Association new members. Imagine the Scenario. You are a prospective new member; you visit a club and decide Sporting Clays is a sport for you. Your visit occurred towards the latter part of the year and you make the decision to join on the spot. When they are made aware their membership comes up for renewal on 1st January, it makes them rethink this decision once they realise they will be expected to renew their membership in a couple of months. In these modern times it should be expected that at the date of joining you will not have to renew until a full 12 months has passed. Our new system allows for this, the date you join is the date for your renewal. This alone is a very positive step forward for all our existing and future members.

The second and equally important measure of this system is contact with our membership. In the past some members have made comment regarding the lack of a computer, smart phone access or knowledge of both to be able to do go online and register, let alone pay for services. A few year on with the inroads of new technology and exposure our members have indicated this is the way they want to go. For those who do not have access to these devices, someone in your family, a friend or your club will be in the position to assist. Some clubs that have 240v power available have made the comment that on the days they operate they will have a lap top available with web access for members to go online for new (or to renew their membership) or enter SCA competitions online. This helps the volunteers on the day from getting bogged down with these applications, making their lives much easier to concentrate on the focus of the day's activities. State and Club Secretaries will no longer have to advise each other on new members or the payments made.

The membership renewals for existing members will run as usual for the January 2016 renewal period of membership and your details will be sent out to you by your State bodies as per previous years.

From 2017 onwards (for existing members) the centralised system will require all members to go online and register your details and pay your membership.

New members joining our Association after July 1st 2016 will go through a different procedure and applications will be made by them online direct after 1st July 2016.

The membership details for each State, existing or pending, can be reviewed instantly through this site by an authorised membership secretary. The site works with an encrypted security system that ensures all information is secure.

The entry application will have contact areas for mobile phone numbers and Email addresses to complete. These areas are there for your benefit and will be used by your State body and SCA to contact you for the reasons explained in the following paragraphs.

**Membership renewal** - Prior to your membership running out you will be contacted via Email and SMS reminding you to go online and renew. If the membership is not renewed on the first nudge you will contacted and reminded again.

**Accessing the new system** - You the member will be given an access code when you first register your details online and pay your membership fees. You will not be registered on the system until membership payment is made. Your access code will be individual to you and like any access code should be written down for future reference. This code allows you access to your membership page registered online and you are able to update any contact changes to your particulars, Mobile phone, Email and House address. For obvious reasons this information is important to allow the services we provide to you to keep coming. In the past members have contacted the National Association to advise on address changes, usually when they have not received their magazine. The old system did not allow SCA (Federation) to go in and update member's details. This new system cures the issue, you the member will be in control of your information and the system is instantly updated the moment you update.

The State and Club secretaries are looking forward to this new system coming online as it relieves the pressure from this role and allows them to concentrate more on the running of the association, improving the services from State and Club filtering back to you as a member.

Note - The new membership system will not officially be available online until 1st July 2016.

#### **Sporting Clay Australia - Competition Entries**

We also have members ringing up requesting to be put into a competition, no entry form or payment supplied; some of these members that made late entry applications did not show up on the day to compete. This is not fair on the members who register in time or upon the volunteers organising the event. There are other organising issues with leaving the event open until a few days before the kick-off. Squad lists could not be completed and posted in good time to inform the members who had supplied their entries and payment by the specified time to know their start times etc, the system had to change to make it fair for everyone.

The SCA Competition entry will be similar to the membership system although it is the intention to bring this forward to allow competition entry prior to 1st July 2016. Each Competition will be set up through the new SCA website that allows entries and payment to be made online. The SCA competitions will only be open to members. There will be a transition period for competition entry up until July 1st when the membership system comes online full time.

Once you have entered the competition and there are press releases, Squad lists or detail changes to the competition, the members on these competition entry lists can be contacted quickly through Email and SMS to advise them. This strengthens why your contact details should be kept up to date on the new membership system once implemented.

# Note – Entries to any SCA event in 2016 will only be accepted "online". If you do not enter the competition and pay online prior to the closing date advertised, you will not shoot.

Our previous system was a concern with many members to the SCA being lax on supplying entry forms and paying entry fees. The previous system that allowed for late entries was starting to be abused by some members and they started to treat this

lax procedure as a normal practise, making our hard pushed volunteers lives harder than it should be.

#### **SCA New Constitution**

This may not seem an important area to the Individual member, but these documents are very important in outlining the way we operate with our procedures in the case of a disagreement that cannot be addressed through normal dialogue. Any constitutional change is a long drawn our process. The Constitution reform agreed to at the 2015 AGM has been in the system for a couple of years with a significant milestone achieved by all involved to induct this document for use and sets out how the SCA and it's membership will operate going forward.

- A simple issue like, payments via electronic transfer. The
  old constitution did not allow for this process. It stated all
  payments had to be made by cheque. This was one small
  area that had to be addressed.
- The main change to the Executive and Delegates. The "Delegates" from each state are now replaced with a Board structure rather than Individual State delegates. When the Board now meets, it is with the intention to make decisions that are for the improvement of the SCA and Sporting Clays in general
- Board and Members behaviour towards each other are explained with the expectations of each role. Over the past few years there have been a few issues that have occurred that have exposed the members and association to legal "Risk". The new document outlines the procedures to be followed in the case of any disagreements that cannot be addressed through normal dialogue. This area can now be addressed civilly without putting undue stress on our members.

#### Sporting Clays Australia - Facebook page

This is another contact medium that gains traction very quickly when information has to get out. Members are hungry to be kept up to date with the latest information. This is another area for SCA to promote news. This year was a prime example; scores from the National sporting clay event were up on a Facebook page as soon as the last scores came in. The website postings take longer to post scores on.

At present our Facebook page allows for postings to be made by our members and it will be monitored for unacceptable comments. The site is not there for grievance reviews by our members (or others) and it will be administered under the terms of our Constitution and the SCA Code of Conduct. If you wish to post please keep your comments courteous and in keeping with the image we expect of our sport.

#### **AGM Board Members**



Back Standing left to right: Ross Christian, Greg Dawes, Graeme Witchard, Phil Rendell, Colin George, John Torresen, Brian Stokes, Howard Barks, Ray Williams, Mark Farrow, Ralph Ali

Seated Front: Steve Chilton, Glen Rider, Ray McFarlane, Tony Trainor, Kathy Cain



#### A New Dawn, A New Start – Like a Phoenix rising. The "Sporting Clays Australia Assoc" is born

Hello members - Exciting times ahead.

We have extremely good news to report regarding the future direction of the Field & Game Federation of Australia Inc following the outcome of our AGM and General Meeting held on 7th and 8th November 2015 in Victoria. For a number of years the board members that attend the Associations meetings have been trying to reorganise the Federation into a modern Association that will lead us forward into the modern age. Many of our policies and procedures had become outdated in today's world.

One of the agenda items raised was a change of name to "Sporting Clays Australian Assoc", this decision was not taken lightly. The proposal for a name change was accepted unanimously by the Federation board members present and this now paves the way forward to begin a new chapter in our history.

The main questions and answers that surfaced will define our future. What is our purpose for existing and where do we see ourselves in 10 or 20 years? We have peeled back the many layers that have defined us as the Federation, to review "what are we today?"

Our Identity has been a concern for many years with the FGA (formerly VFGA) taking on a name very similar to ours. This problem in its own right has slowed our progression forward with confusion not only in the shooting world, but also with our own members. Many of our members are not aware of the history surrounding the VFGA when they broke away from the Federation. The very name that defined us when the first foundations of Federation were laid down is now holding us back in this modern day.



#### **SCA OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2016**

Ray McFarlane - President

Tony Trainor - Vice President

Kathy Cain - Treasurer

Glen Rider – Secretary

Steve Chilton - National Target Director

Howard Barks - H&H Director

Tracey Grayer - National Coaching Director

Disability Officer - Mark Farrow

#### **SCA Representatives to FITASC**

Ray McFarlane - Oceania Vice President -

Glen Rider – Sporting – Commission Parcours de Chasse

#### Board members to Shooting Australia (Formerly AISL) -

Kathy Cain

Glen Rider

During discussions one of our board members quoted – "Are we a Duck Hunting organisation that occasionally shoots Clays or are we a Clay target Association with some members that occasionally shoot ducks?

The answer for us is the latter. We are now a target shooting organisation, whose members embrace international competition through our affiliation with FITASC but also hunt during the proclaimed game seasons. Many States' unfortunately no longer have proclaimed game seasons due to Government legislation that has been passed (QLD – NSW- WA).

Proclaimed game seasons are not always guaranteed from year to year in those remaining States that have retained a season. (VIC – SA – TAS)

This is a problem in its own right, trying to attract new people into the sport (especially Ladies and Juniors). Many people at the weekends are looking for a sport that they can participate in on a regular basis rather than a fixed couple of months during the year. If you are going to invest thousands of dollars in equipment, many today could not justify having this investment locked up in a cabinet gathering dust waiting for another season to start. Other leisure options become available in the down time away from shooting that offer participation to them on a regular basis and when this happens we risk losing members to these other sports.

Over time the focus of many clubs has shifted from our original intention as a Duck and Quail hunting Federation into Sporting Clays.

Sporting Clays is where our main expertise lies and where we excel without question.

Members are able to find a Sporting Clay range to go to most weekends and continue shooting throughout the year. People need to have a regular fix for their passion and Sporting Clays fits into this mould perfectly.

Although our name has changed to "Sporting Clay Australia Assoc" our national body will still provide the framework and support for our Duck and Quail hunters to continue hunting and conservation work. The same options available to our members under the previous Hunting and Habitat umbrella are still with us and we are fortunate to have an active Director steering this portfolio.

The Field & Game Federation of Australia Inc name may have been replaced, but it will not be forgotten and will always remain a part of our history. The future is ours to define and your continued support will ensure the "Sporting Clays Australia Assoc" will continue to grow and promote Sporting Clays in Australia.

These are the main dot points of the decisions ratified at the AGM/General meeting –

- A new name "Sporting Clays Australia Assoc"
- Online membership. This will be available from 1st July 2016
- Online registration and payment for all "Sporting Clay Australia" competitions
- A new Website
- A new Constitution

This is just the start with the new look and focus for "Sporting Clays Australia Assoc". The board are presently working on other services to offer our members that will be rolled out over the coming year.

Regards

#### **National Office**

Sporting Clays Australia





#### **HUNTING & HABITAT**

Hunting, Fishing, Conservation & Research

#### FINAL REPORT

#### **STATE SELECTION GUIDELINES**

All States are to conduct each year a "State Selection Series" the purpose of which is to select the following.

- (a) The 4 Open, 1 Veteran, 1 Lady and 1 Junior that will form their representative State Team that will compete in the State Team event at the Australian Sporting Clays Nationals.
- (b) Will provide to the Federation all the Qualifiers for National Team Selection, they will then compete at the Nationals for inclusion in the National Training Squad
- (C) The series must have a minimum of 5 State Selection Events which may or may not include their State Championships at the discretion of the relevant State
- (d) To qualify participants must attend a minimum of 4 State Selection Events
- (e) Number of qualifiers per State
- Open South Australia and Victoria 15
  All other states 10
  Ladies, Veterans, Super Veterans, Juniors and Sub Juniors, all participants who have attended 4 State Selection events that year
- (f) The National Training Squads will be chosen from the scores achieved at the Australian Sporting Clays National Championships by the individual State Qualifiers.

Open:- Top fifteen plus ties
All other categories :- Top six plus ties

#### **Points Allocation**

Points can only be allocated to financial members of the particular State

#### **Seniors**

Senior High Gun and ties are awarded 100%.

A percentage is then awarded to each of the Top Twenty participants at the event.

ie High Gun score is 90/100 he gets 100%, your score is 88/100, your points would be 97.77% and so on.

#### **Juniors**

Similar to above, high gun junior would receive 100 points, rest of juniors would have points allocated similar to above.

ie Junior high gun 85/100 gets 100 points, next junior 84/100 would get a score of 98.82.i

**Veterans, Super Veterans** Similar to above **Ladies** Similar to above

**Sub Juniors** Are treated as Juniors U/21

This is the system that FITASC use for Oceania and World Cup calculations.

For Veterans, Super Veterans and Juniors care should be taken to record their scores in the year prior to them becoming eligible to represent Australia in the next Category, (this ensures that they do not waste their first year in either category) 2015 has been a year of great change – keeping abreast of the downsizing and departmental changes with the loss of many good people who've taken packages and moved on. This change gave rise to a seemingly never ending re-education process with new personnel in meetings, forums, workshops and phone conferences to bring them up to speed on the local field of practical conservation, habitat and hunting where many issues relating to hunting and access were settled at the coalface to protect our values and heritage. Our representations have proven worthwhile and successful - not to mention time consuming.

I also wish to acknowledge Howard Barks tireless efforts with ongoing success with the WA Government departments on WAFGA's issues of the day. Peter Darke representing Tasmania; it's disappointing that he's moved away, however, it is important to recognise the good things that he has achieved; and with both entities, it's been an excellent working relationship over the years to keep the state's hunters hunting. I wish Howard well and will help in his new role of Conservation Hunting and Habitat.

Improved newsletter, quarterly newsletters now struggle against e-news of the day whether it be by Facebook, internet or smartphone where happenings of the day are virtually instant. There's always difficulty gaining suitable newsletter field / photo articles. "Rambo" pictures do not do anything for our creditability image but good event stories with a touch of humor are.

#### Joint SA Vic Duck and Quail Spring 2015 Survey

The SA annual October SA Waterbird and Wetland surveys are now completed, some water bodies are holding a lot of birds. The 2014 survey indicated a total abundance and was the highest recorded since the surveys commenced in 2003 with the widespread availability of favorable habitat, including ephemeral wetlands and wetland pasture present across the southern basin.

The outlook for the 2016 open duck season is concerning due to many of the eastern state's dry areas especially Victoria, the South East of SA and northern pastoral zones now too deficient in rainfall to support permanent habitat for waterfowl, most waterbirds are resident on the Murray corridor's wetlands and on permanent coastal wetlands – which indicates restricted bag limits imminent for both states. Some later rains have fallen on the Eyre Peninsular and the northern pastoral zones - but as usual with ducks being highly mobile - "are here today and gone tomorrow".

The 2016 open season, species and bag limits will depend on Interstate agencies information exchange from surveys, meteorological forecast reports at the annual December 9th Stakeholder Reference / Assessment Panel on which I currently sit.

The final 2016 open season declaration will hopefully be made early before Christmas.

The Murray Darling Basin Riverine Recovery Program has put into effect environmental watering programs across the basin as well as trial weir pool raising up to 60cms for several months (into early December) along the River Murray between lock two and five with many of the ephemeral wetlands now flooded holding many birds including breeding pairs during early November, the trial will cease in late December. Richard Kingsford's Aerial Survey of Wetland Birds in Eastern Australia - October 2015 Annual Summary Report will be interesting to see what wetlands are holding birds on the set aerial transects.

#### ► Upgraded Waterfowl Identification Test - (WIT)

The newer version of the Duckwise program (formally WIT Program Ducks In Sight) by the Victorian Game Management Authority all registered hunters by now would have received the CD, appears to be working well assisting new duck hunters prepare for the Waterfowl Identification Test.

#### Feral animal programs;

Feral animal programs are continuing across the Basin's wetlands with intense fox baiting by management teams with many F&G members assisting with good co-operation by landholders (in one location 82 baits taken from 150 laid).

Field and Game Federation is also recognised as a NSW approved Hunting Organisation under the NSW Game and feral Animal Control Act for all Federation members to participate in shoots in State Forests and public land in that state, further information is listed on our website.

#### **CHASA**

The Conservation and Hunting Alliance of South Australia is working well with all member organisations endorsing the new CHASA Strategic Plan 2020, with joint meetings collectively discussing and contributing to concerning issues of the day, with present focus on the draft Firearms Legislation Review Draft Bill for member bodies to individually respond. CHASA has successfully negotiated an agreement with the SA government through SA DEWNR (Dept Environment Water & Natural Resources) to undertake training and testing for accreditation under WIT (Waterfowl Identification Test) and is currently in the process of establishing a network of instructors/testers in the metropolitan area, the Riverland, South East and "Iron triangle" regions of the State, with changing times will continue to play a leading role on behalf of its member organizations in negotiations with departments and governments.

The new Duck and Quail Hunter Report Cards introduced in 2015 are most important to assist departments with field hunter numbers and offtake percentage during an open season.

Politicians attending the recent CHASA 2015 Wine & Wild Food Dinner complimented the high professional standard and function of the alliance (also being complimented in Parliamentary Hansard). Both SAFGA and FGFA are represented - Field & Game Australia have now joined CHASA, bringing even greater wealth of experience in conservation and wetland habitat management across borders.

#### **Stepping down:**

Due to recent health issues I'm stepping down from Federation, this will also overflow to other community organisations that I'm associated with; the health issue came as a shock to me, but I am dealing with it and will have to live with it. Most importantly, the roles I've played with SAFGA and Federation as well as other organisations over the years have been immensely rewarding keeping the hunters hunting.

Looking back over the role of Conservation Hunting & Habitat, there's been many credible achievements that have now surfaced from recent years in networking representing F&G in meetings, forums, workshops and phone conferences.

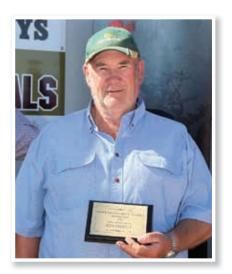
The use of science for quality research advice helped greatly in threading through the minefield with the "anti everything groups" to keep the duck hunters hunting. One hallmark was setting up the united alliance approach by all the SA hunting organisations as duck hunting was on the verge of extinction. Networking within the parameters of Federal, State and science agencies with water reform for sustainable development has helped in underpinning the environmental values of the basin's riverine environs with the Living Murray Entitlements Program now delivering environmental water to the basin's wetlands for waterbird habitat across all basin states. These "artificially" watered wetlands now act as breeding factories for all waterbirds (naturally a bonus to support the continuation of duck hunting) and where through the Basin's Native Fish Strategy there has been achieved a refocus by dedicated scientists in their own field to recognise and support the values of waterbird environs. I've always been a strong advocate for time proven American / Canadian "Ducks Unlimited" set up for an Australian chapter.

I trust that the pursuit of previous endeavors which reflect the Hunting and Habitat heritage of this organization, including the important freshwater fishery and environmental issues will continue and appropriate resources will be dedicated to protect the work that has been done to date. After all, this is the reason that our pioneers founded the Field and Game "movement" in the first place.

I wish Federation well for the future and have been proud to be part of it. This is my final Newsletter - It's time for me to sit back and reflect on my logo and enjoy what it represents - Peter.



A Merry Christmas and a happy New Year to all Cheers,
Peter



Ken Triffet – 2015 Sporting Clay Achievement Award

# CONGRATULATIONS TO KEN TRIFFET

The National Sporting Clay Achievement award for 2015 has been presented to Ken Triffet for his many years of hard work & achievements in promoting Sporting Clays at a National level & in Tasmania.

Ken has always been a stalwart with his passion for our sport at a National level & in the State of Tasmania. He held the position of National Coaching Director for our National Association from 2008 to 2009. He also represented Tasmania for many years as their Clay target Director. In 2006 at the World FITASC Championships held at the Minnesota Horse & Hunt Club he represented our Association & Australia as part of our Veteran team. He was also instrumental in the formation of Northern Midlands Sporting Clays in Tasmania. A worthy recipient has been recognised. Well done Ken.

#### 39TH AUSTRALIAN SPORTING CLAY NATIONALS -GEELONG 16TH - 17th - 18th OCTOBER 2015

The Geelong Branch had once again put their hand up to run one more National Sporting event for Federation. Unbeknown to all, this would be the last year the event would be run under the Federation banner. Like the associations new name the event for this year was also a change in the way the event would be conducted. The new format has been trialled at the Grand Prix for the past couple of years and after discussions at the 2014 Target Directors meeting it was agreed this new format would be put into practise for the first time at the 2015 Sporting Clay National title event.

SCA is attracting more attention from the shooting Industry as a whole, this new format of eight separate Parcour layouts allows for more sponsors to come on board & provide exposure for their products with naming rights.

The new format is a cross breed between a World FITASC event and the old style FITASC system. We now have 200 targets, the same as a World Title event. There are eight separate shooting grounds (albeit divided into two sections), also the same as a World title event. This is where we start to differ from an International event. The competitor no longer visits each of the three shooting grounds each day, instead they visit three of the Parcours for the first two days (75 + 75 targets), finishing up with two Parcours on the last day (50 Targets) to complete the 200 targets for this event. Each Parcour is made up of two separate shooting grounds with two stands on each. It sounds complicated but once you have shot this system it is fairly easy to get to grips with & offers the competitor a cross between "Old Style FITASC" & New Style. The idea of only visiting a Parcour once during the competition makes the event more interesting. It does make keeping an eye on the leader board more difficult with everyone shooting on different grounds with each Parcour offering different degrees of difficulty, some kinder than others. This generates for a grand finish on the last day where the scores all come together and the different Parcours are gradually filled in to complete the final tally.

The 50 targets on the last day was also a positive. Under the old system the last day became stressful with the organisation and trying to finish the competition, then having to complete the shoot offs, followed by the presentations & closing ceremony which usually resulted in darkness. This was not a result to best advertise our sponsors or for winners and the competitors to remain in numbers and make this the pinnacle of the weekend. With this earlier finish, the shoot offs are completed in a more relaxed fashion (no relaxing for the competitors shooting off, that will never change) the closing ceremony and important exposure for our sponsors. The result of this was that this year it was achieved in front of a large and enthusiastic crowd long before the sun went down, allowing everyone still there time to have a lively discussion and a few refreshments before a leisurely trek home.

The weather was kind to everyone this weekend, a factor that always tests the target setters grand plans, wind and rain are a target setter's nemesis. The Thursday before the nationals kicked off was beginning to paint a familiar picture developing with a very hot westerly getting up steam as well as strength, making the target setter's job very difficult in predicting what will happen over the next few days. Decisions had to be made quickly on the expected conditions for the weekend. There is no resetting the targets for the second or third days under this new system. Once the 16 Stations are set and locked in there is no going back if conditions take a turn for the worse. Just like a FITASC International event they are set for the duration of the competition. Get it wrong at this point and it could be a disaster. Conducting this competition as the first National competition set up under the new system it was prudent to err on the side of caution with the target difficulty and credit must go to the Ground setters, they set the grounds up to a standard that performed and even in the windy conditions that arose occasionally, for most of the time the targets behaved themselves making it a fair competition for all.



Left to Right: Colin McPherson - GB Corsivia, Silver - Brian Deadman, Gold - Damien Birgan, Rod Laidlaw – Outdoor Sporting Agencies, Bronze - Adam DuRose, 4th - Robert Hall, 5th - Blake Nankervis

The Parcours set up had everything from user friendly to medium and onto more difficult with a mixture of all in the layouts allowing everyone to enjoy the experience. The Tower birds on Parcour seven had most looking up in awe at the height this boom lift reached. There would not be many towers in Australia that reach the height seen here. Then at the opposite end of the spectrum you had targets that literally just spat the target out of the trap travelling a maximum of fifteen metres. You can guess which target caused the most problems.

A fair measurement test of a competition is to review the average scores in each grade and also the O/A winning score when the final whistle has been blown.

At the world FITASC Championship this year in Minnesota USA, George Digweed took out the event with a 190/200, Damien Birgan followed up in Silver position (second O/A) with a 189/200. The winning high gun score here at the Nationals, 188/200. This reflects the course setters had hit the mark in difficulty and a medium with our member's expectations.

Congratulations again to the Geelong Club for a well-run event, to all of our SCA members that participated and finally to our members that made it onto the Podium.

Well done to all involved. The reviews received from our members present were very favourable, both with the new concept & the target difficulty. This should make for even better attendance at next year's event in Brisbane once word gets out regarding the quality of our organisation and the targets SCA is now producing. **Onwards & upwards SCA !!!!** 

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| an our  |

Super Veterans: Simon Gunther (GB Corsivia), Silver – John Torresan, Gold – Tony Power, Greg Chan (Beretta Australia), Bronze – Brian Rafferty



Veterans: Silver – Ronnie Rhook, Clive Pugh (Winchester), Gold – John Leach, Bronze – Alan Backman, Simon Gunther (GB Corsivia)





Juniors: Simon Gunther (GB Corsivia), Silver – Cameron Kivenen, Gold – Adam Shale, Rod Laidlaw (Outdoor Sporting Agencies), Bronze – Jeremy Paglia



Sub-Juniors: Silver – Bryce Paglia, Gold – Billy Cain, Rod Laidlaw (Outdoor Sporting Agencies), Bronze – Matthew Wilesmith

|      | NATIONAL 2015 RESULTS - STATE TEAMS |      |  |  |  |
|------|-------------------------------------|------|--|--|--|
| 1st: | VICTORIA                            | 1232 |  |  |  |
| 2nd: | QUEENSLAND                          | 1134 |  |  |  |
| 3rd: | SOUTH AUSTRALIA                     | 1111 |  |  |  |
| 4th: | NEW SOUTH WALES                     | 1093 |  |  |  |
| 5th: | TASMANIA                            | 1062 |  |  |  |
| 6th: | WEST AUSTRALIA                      | 1034 |  |  |  |

#### **A Special Mention to our Sponsors**

We had a great line up of Sponsors this year. We had a combined total of **12 firearms** to hand out amongst the winners of each grade & category that made it onto the Podium, along with a vast quantity of cartridges to keep the successful members shooting for many competitions.

We cannot thank each and every one of them enough for supporting the SCA and our members in contributing to our prize table. We say it every year, but their generosity adds the final touch to a great event which would be much the poorer & lacking without this support. It is only fitting these Sponsors take centre stage and receive our thanks. Remember to support these companies, as they are supporting you without conditions:-

#### Sporting Clay Australia Sponsors at this year's 39th National Championships

Outdoor Sporting Agency (OSA) – Rio Oceania – Beretta – Perazzi – Winchester

The following SCA members will be eligible for Australian team selection to be contested and finalised at the Grand Prix event to be held at the Geelong Sporting Clay complex - 26th & 27th March 2016

**Open:** Damien Birgan - Robert Hall - Blake Nankervis

John younger - Chris Brown - Jack Gibbs Socrates Pilipasidis - Frank Vella - Lee Marriott
 Jeremy Kent - Anthony Panetta - Jeff Zammitt
 James Clancy - Matthew Libbis - Adam Shale -

Peter Hall.

**Ladies:** Renae Birgan - Brittany Cole - Natasha Lonsdale -

Tasha Bellinger - Marre Birgan - Felicity Paglia

**Juniors:** Billy Cain - Cameron Kivenen - Bryce Paglia -

Matthew Wilesmith - Daniel Falco - Mitchell Cain

**Veterans:** John Leach - Colin Johns - Chris Ball - Allan

Backman - Neil Peart - Mike Birgan

**S/Veterans:** Tony Power - John Torresan - Richard Dean -

Keith Cruickshank - Warwick Cumberland - John

Argilla - John Monaghan.



2015 National Champion – Damien Birgan

The final team will be selected from the combined scores of the 2015 SCA Nationals and The Grand Prix event held at Geelong in March 2016. We expect the team places to be well contested with the event returning back to Italy next year.

#### **WORLD FITASC SPORTING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2016 - ITALY**

Advised dates & venue - 14th to 17th July 2016 at the Piancardato Gun Club in Perugia. Nominations for this event will be open for online registration Nominations are now open only on the FITASC website. We advise any member going to this event to nominate early. The last time the World Championships were held in Italy the event sold out quickly and competitors went on to a waiting list for spaces. This situation of a waiting list is OK for locals, but causes problems for us in Australia when we need to plan ahead with time off work, flights and accommodation. We would advise not leaving your nominations too late after the registration opening has been advised.



Ladies: Simon Gunther (GB Corsivia), Silver – Brittany Cole, Gold – Renae Birgan, Greg Chan (Beretta Australia), Bronze – Natasha Lonsdale



The Mixo Rabbit looked so easy – how could we miss?





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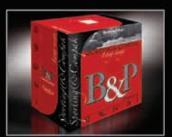
- Gold MedalsGold MedalsGold MedalsGold MedalsGold Medals



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# Perazzi

#### Passion, Pride, Perfection

#### By Gary Przibilla

#### Photography by Leigh and Gary Przibilla

"This article was originally published in GUNS&GAME magazine Number 81, January-March, 2014".

I had long considered the purchase of my fine game guns. I wanted two over and under shotguns, not a pair. My original intention was to order a portfolio gun - an investment gun - and an additional fine gun which could be used with care, but without undue worry. For O/U guns, "all roads led to Rome" ... northern Italy, at least. The Perazzi factory nestles in picturesque Botticino Mattina, near Brescia. Armi Perazzi S.p.a. is directed by Mauro and Roberta Perazzi, son and daughter of the firm's beloved founder, Daniele Perazzi, who sadly passed away in late 2012.

My friend, Pavel Zeman, had collected the 132-page catalogue (more so a high quality book) from the Perazzi display at the IWA Outdoor Classics Exhibition in Nuremberg, Germany. For a touch of irony, I'll add that Pavel was a sales executive for the former Zbrojovka Brno. The complete catalogue can be viewed on the Perazzi website: www.perazzi.it

June, 2012. I telephoned Italy. Bianca Revello, Perazzi's Sales Manager, took my call. During the next half-hour, or thereabouts, I learned more about what makes a Perazzi shotgun tick than I had hitherto in my entire life. Right down to the type of solder used to attach the side ribs - and why - Bianca knows her guns. Later, I invoked my investment gun. Bianca had rolled out the red carpet well beforehand. I rang off feeling good about Perazzi.

The well-oiled machine clicked into gear. Bianca had contacted Filippo Petriella, Perazzi Australia's Managing Director. Filippo's care, knowledge and patience rivalled Bianca's. I ordered two guns: MX28 and MX28 SCO/Gold Sideplates. In Italy, the latter model is known as MX28 SCO/Oro Cartelle, and "MX28 SCO/OC" is stamped inside the gun. SCO means Sovrapposto (over/under) Competizione (Competition) Oro (Gold). "Oro" - in this context - identifies the gold wash plating which protects the SCO and higher grade guns' highly polished firing mechanisms from corrosion. Perazzi Australia can be contacted at www. perazzi.com.au

Perazzi O/U frames (receivers) are scaled for 12, 20, 28 and .410 gauge shotshells. 28 gauge guns can be ordered on the larger 20 gauge frame. The Very Small Frame MX28 (and MX410) guns were introduced in 1993 and, at this writing (2013), Mauro Perazzi estimated that approximately 350-400 pieces had been manufactured. The MX28 frame is 52 mm deep, and the MX410, 50 mm ... that's finesse. Limited production and scaled down elegance has its price: When I visited the Perazzi factory in April, 2013, MX28 retailed for EUR 16,243. An elaborately engraved 20 gauge gun - MX8/20 in SC3 grade - had a slightly lower price ticket. MX28s and MX410s come with SCO grade deluxe walnut stocks and SC2 (pattern No. 101) engraving. Even so, aficionados of Perazzi's Very Small Frame guns must have noted the price differential (not discrepancy). A new model - MX28B - was brewing ... .

MX28 and MX410 are miniature versions of the Perazzi MX12, introduced in 1987 (single selective, non-detachable trigger system with coil springs). MX8 is the unrivalled competition gun, designed for the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico City (single selective, detachable trigger mechanism with flat springs; coil springs are optional). MX8 and MX12 frames are shaped alike and share many parts. Both have the famed



Perazzi factory entrance.



Showroom. Fabulous.



Pattern No. 313 engraving by Creative Art.

Perazzi jointing and bolting, inspired by the Boss and Woodward guns. Larger bearing surfaces favour the Perazzi; appropriate for a high shot volume competition gun.

Mexico '68 was abridged to name the MX8. Other Olympians were MT6 (Montreal '76) and MS80 (Moscow '80). MX prevailed, and became synonymous with the famous Perazzi marque; so too has the company colour scheme - Italian racing red - which reflects its competition pedigree. MXS has just been announced.

For the Sideplates gun, and with Mauro Perazzi's guidance, I specified 72 cm length (28 3/8 inches) barrels with a flat, parallel, 7 X 7 mm rib; 70 mm (2 3/4 inch) chambers: fixed chokes of 4 and 8/10 mm constriction (English coding 1/4 and 3/4); solid side ribs which were optional, and a game sight. Catalogued barrel lengths were 68, 70, 72 and 75 cm. Interchangeable chokes could be ordered, but on a fine, game shotgun I preferred the fixed ones.

▶ I ordered the frame and parts - trigger guard, fore-end iron and top lever - to be finished white. Blued or nickeled frames were optional. A pierced (skeletonized) top lever completed the metal options. MX28 was specified identically, and consecutive serial numbers were allotted.

Perazzi gunstock wood is graded according to commonsense (... seemingly lacking in some walnut houses). The seven walnut grades - Standard, MX2000, SC2, SC3, SCO, SCO/ Sideplates and Extra - reflect the guns' models. Of course, there are exceptions to the rule. As noted, MX28s have SCO grade stocks, and any gun can be ordered with upgraded wood. I ordered SCO/Sideplates and Extra grade. The gunstocks' specifications would be decided later ... on location.

If ever you order a fine gun, never skimp on the timber. Furthermore, an astute decision now could, one day, pay you back handsomely. Great walnut befits a fine gun, and only the finest guns should be engraved. Admittedly, the better grades of walnut are very expensive; nevertheless, the additional cost pales into insignificance when compared with the price of master engraving. Although the wood cannot possibly outshine the artwork, investing in high grade walnut is something you'll never regret. I have just described the shrewd collectors' pragmatic approach. If you can't justify the commissioning of an elaborate engraving pattern, or simply prefer plainer guns, you should at the very least consider buying the better walnut.



My first viewing of the MX28 SCO/Gold Sideplates (MX28 SCO/OC) gun. Pattern Nos. 341 and 313 engraving by Creative Art

I have carefully penned the words, "better walnut." Beautifully coloured and strongly grained (structurally) stock wood is practical for a using gun. Fabulous Extra grade, exhibition walnut isn't. Overdoing the wood can overwhelm an understated gun. In "Perazzi Shotguns" (1994), Karl C. Lippard described how AAAAAA (6A) walnut blanks can be dangerous to even cut for a gunstock. A straight-grained, slim wrist is already fragile; one exploding with colour and multi-directional grain is fraught. Exhibition walnut is de rigueur for guns which are intended to be exhibited, and seldom (if ever) shot. In the context of this article, Mr. Lippard's 6A is Perazzi's Extra grade. His words were prophetic: I have personally "remodelled" a magnificent walnut rifle stock into a two-piece one. The gunstock has since been repaired at great effort by the original maker (which is what you do with rare exhibition wood). Nevertheless, Extra grade walnut was mandatory for my portfolio gun (MX28 SCO/OC), and MX28 was my insurance policy.

Over three decades, I had learned to personally select my walnut blanks. Photographs are good, sometimes necessary, but are nowhere near as informative as holding the wood in your hands, turning it and watching how the light affects the colour, contrast ... . I had no need nor desire to pore over photos. Italy beckoned. Perazzi's fabulous showroom, and others with rows and rows of Turkish walnut. Venice. Rome.



Lovely MX28B (top). One-of-a-kind MX28 has SCO gold-plated lock components and minimalist engraving by Creative Art.

Mauro Perazzi had written me a letter: "... I would like to thank you also for the order of your guns. I will personally take care of their production. I really hope to meet you in our factory for wood selection and gun fitting ... together, we will select special wood for your shotguns." What more could I have even wished for? My guns were in the very best of hands.

I had taken delivery of my very first custom rifle in 1979. I was 23 years old, and thought I knew everything. The gun was a glitzy, engraved model from a famous Los Angeles manufacturer. I was smitten, and ordered another. In 1981, I visited the factory. Rifle No. 2 was progressing well. I browsed the factory gun display and learned a poignant lesson about engraving. The great man's personal guns were elaborately engraved, but not like mine, or those depicted in the catalogue. The penny dropped. I had seen good engraving. Proper engraving. My disappointment matured over the years and, unlike a well-aged Chivas Regal, didn't improve. I eventually sold the guns. I would still have them had they not been engraved. In 2013, Perazzi and Creative Art quietly laid my 32-year-old engraving ghost to rest.

Importantly, and in particular for an investment grade gun, the Perazzi catalogue states: "From the standard models to the deluxe versions, each engraving - from the simplest to the most sophisticated - is undertaken by internationally renowned, master engravers, to satisfy the individual tastes and style preferences of each of our clients. All engraving is done by hand, not by machine or laser."



Rows and rows of exquisite Turkish walnut blanks.

On many of the pictured engravings, and if you've got an eagle eye, the engravers' signatures can be identified, including: Badillini, Bonsi, Campana, Cortini, Creative Art, Galeazzi, Pedersoli, Terri and Zacchi. Perazzi commissions other master engravers. I had the unexpected privilege of meeting the quietly spoken Dassa brothers. You need to see their masterpieces, which cannot be described in words. Incisioni Dassa Workshop: www.incisionidassa.com



Mauro Perazzi and Gary Przibilla selecting Sideplates grade walnut.

I'm attracted to game scenes. And gold. In about 1976, gun shop proprietor Barry McDonald imported a gold-inlaid Merkel O/U shotgun. I was 19 or 20 when Barry showed me the gun which I would never forget. Nor his words: "I had to send my own gold!" Exportation of the precious metal was prohibited by East Germany. A friend dusted off some photographs (one, a Polaroid). I remembered the golden game animals and deep relief engraving. Fine scrollwork adorned the frame, breech and upper barrel. Unfortunately (with the crystal clear vision of hindsight), I hadn't noticed. I was bedazzled by the glitter.

I admired engraving pattern Nos. 341 (left side), 342 (right), and 313 (under) on page 76. The artist wasn't identified. Although it's not apparent in the catalogue, Bianca Revello had earlier informed me that the game animals on the SCO, SCO/Sideplates and Extra grade guns can be ordered gold inlaid. I was also very attracted to what I call the "minimalist" engraving pattern (101) on the SC2 grade guns. Pattern No. 101 (pages 50 and 51) is the standard MX28 engraving, and is the perfect example of simple elegance, where less can indeed be more. Over many weeks, I had habitually returned to page 76 for the SCO/Sideplates patterns. The decision was made. Almost ....





Extra grade walnut selected for MX28 SCO/OC. About half of the wood ends up on the workshop floor ... a most important consideration when evaluating the walnut blank.

I had spied the higher contrast border engraving (the so-called Rose and Scrolls) on the gun pictured on page 77. The gun was engraved by Creative Art. Now things were becoming tricky; I preferred the game scenes on one gun, and the border engraving on another. Just how finicky a client could the Perazzi people bear? The answer, dear readers, can be found in this story's title.

The guild of Italian master engravers, Creative Art, was established by Giacomo Fausti and Ugo Talenti in 1987. Giacomo Fausti and Mauro Perazzi are longtime friends, and it transpired that Creative Art would engrave both guns - MX28 SCO/Gold Sideplates and MX28 (SC2). Creative Art's list of clientelle includes Armi Perazzi S.p.a., Fabbri s.n.c., Holland & Holland, James Purdey & Sons Ltd, A. Galazan, et al. Creative Art: www.creativeart.it

I learned much about engraving. I had seen very similar scrolls and scenes on other makers' guns, and by other master engravers. My most valuable lesson learned is an appreciation of how well the particular engraving is executed and, of course, who did the work. Two engraving scenes might at first look the same. Other shotguns might look like Perazzis. Like the guns, there is no budget engraving on a Perazzi. Less sophisticated patterns depending upon the model, yes. Lower quality, no.

MX28 was becoming problematical, and a very good one to have! Creative Art engraves only the Perazzi SCO and higher grade guns. My "using" gun was becoming collectible. Unique. In the interim, I had compounded the mess by upgrading the firing mechanism to SCO grade (gold plated lock components). When Mauro Perazzi proudly handed me the gun, he said, "It's the only one we've ever built that way."



MX8 parts production sequence.

During a late night telephone call to Steve Fjestad (Blue Book Publications, Inc.), I mentioned that Creative Art were engraving both guns. Steve knows more than a little about Gun Values, and he suggested that it would be advantageous if Creative would also sign MX28. He also remarked, "You certainly picked the right gauge!" I telephoned Mauro Perazzi. Creative Art signed both guns. They would have, anyway, but it was good to check. I also mentioned my dilemma.

My timing for the telephone call wasn't exactly perfect. It was the evening before the Perazzi factory - and much of Italy - closed for the summer holidays. Mauro Perazzi was about to depart for the London Olympic Games, where Perazzi shooters won 12 of the 15 shotgun competition medals. Perazzi knows how to build an O/U shotgun! I apologised, but Mauro insisted we chat. Mauro mentioned the new model - MX28B (Basic) - which was introduced in 2012 to provide a Perazzi Very Small Frame gun at as low a price as possible. MX410B also joined the ranks.



Michela checkering. Beautiful buttstocks await their turn.



Fabrizio Salvini, the Customization and Service Manager, attending to a customer. That's how it is at Perazzi. Open factory. Direct contact. My walnut blanks are in the foreground.

In Europe, and at this writing, MX28B retailed for approximately 40% less than MX28. Mauro Perazzi explained that the savings were achieved by applying a less ornate engraving pattern, well figured walnut for the stock and foreend, and less time spent on finely polishing the parts. When I closely examined a dismantled MX28B, I noted the domed and finely polished ends of the lock dowel pins, parts which rarely see the light of day. The engraving was signed by "Terri," a specialist in fine English scroll. The lady's signature can also be seen on the beautiful case colour hardened SCO/Sideplates gun which is pictured on page 132 of the catalogue. MX28Bs are fine guns. MX28B ... Bella!

Later, I wrote to Mauro concerning Perazzi shotguns in general. I had coined the terminology, "raw shotguns." Mauro's reply slots very nicely into this article: "The raw shotguns are the same, we use the same steel for all our models, and the same production methods. What makes the difference between a standard and an upgraded model is the embellishment of it, for example, the side plates, engravings, special selection of the wood, and of course the many, many hours we take to finish the gun (polishing of the parts, the blueing, etc., etc.)" I had assumed as much, but it's good information concerning the steel and production methods.

We talked for a long time. I learned that the 28 gauge is gaining in popularity. Mauro Perazzi's favourite game gun is a 28 gauge. He had just given his original gun to his son, and now had another. "A Baikal!" I told my friends. I was quietly pleased about Mauro's favouring the 28 gauge (except for the larger birds, or game shot at longer distances), and I remembered Steve Fjestad's words.

Six weeks passed. I ordered MX28B. By now, Mauro Perazzi knew my Achilles' heel, and added SCO/Sideplates wood.



Leigh Przibilla, Mauro Perazzi, Gary Przibilla and Bianca Revello. (Roberta Perazzi photo.)



The following afternoon. MX28 was waiting, stocked to the finely-sanded stage, and ready for a tryout on the test-pattern plate.



Mauro Perazzi's new MX28 SCO/Sideplates gun (top) and his former MX28, which now belongs to his son. SCO/Sideplates grade Turkish walnut blank was chosen for my MX28.

Everything else, including the white parts finish, is factory standard MX28B. Almost as an afterthought, I inquired as to the availability of the third consecutive serial number. No matter if it weren't. Serial numbers are closely regulated by the government, and can't be conjured up for convenience. Mauro had pigeon-holed the number before he'd left for London! I had run out of things to do. Only the waiting remained ... .

November, 2012. News. The shotguns had been serialized. Mauro added, "The three barrels are ready, and now we are going to start the assembly of all mechanical components." In December, Perazzi delivered the two receivers to Creative Art.

March, 2013. Mauro wrote, "I have good news for you ... The two MX28s are ready and the SCO/Sideplates will be ready in 3-4 weeks. Creative Art did an excellent job! It is time to plan your trip to Italy." My brother, Leigh, decided to sample Italy; particularly Rome. We booked the plane.

April, 2013. Steve Fjestad had told me about the Exa Expo, an outdoor sports and activities show which is held annually in Brescia. Mauro Perazzi and Bianca Revello were busily entertaining their guests, and the many passers-by who were admiring the fabulous Perazzi gun display. Nevertheless, we were instantly recognized, greeted warmly, and immediately made to feel at home. A sideplated gun with a mallard game



Creative Art had signed the MX28.



Admiring the Perazzis' personal MX28s.

scene in gold and enamels caught my eye. Mauro said that the engravers - Incisioni Dassa Workshop - have a display booth just around the corner. I disappeared around there for a little while. If you're in Brescia in April, don't miss the Exa. Two days later, Andrew (our driver) dropped us outside the red gates.

Through the automated entrance doors, and we were greeted at the reception desk. We waited briefly in the fabulous Perazzi showroom which contains examples of the principal hunting and competition models and a Perazzi competitors' Hall of Fame. The lounge suites were extremely comfortable, and showed little to no wear. Perhaps that's because the guns displayed around the showroom's perimeter can be both viewed and handled by the clients. We'd spend considerable time here, later, and also visit "Perazzi Style," the new clothing and accessories showroom.

Onto the factory floor. Mauro Perazzi introduced us to Fabrizio Salvini, the Service and Customization Manager. My guns' barrels and frames were already laid out for viewing. I admired them briefly while Fabrizio attended to a customer. That's how it is at Perazzi. Open factory. Direct contact. Customers and even interested passers-by can drop in for a visit, admire the many fine guns on display, and observe others taking shape behind the benches. Brilliant. Concerning the barrels and action components, everything had exceeded my expectations. MX28's golden lockwork gleamed. Mauro hadn't "gilded the lily" when he wrote about Creative Art's engraving; if anything, he had left room for wonder. And I didn't have to bring my own gold.

Mauro produced the 20 gauge try-gun, consulted with Fabrizio as I shouldered the gun, and the duo made a few quick adjustments to the gunstock. No tape. I was sized-up by experienced specialists. Results on the automated - for both distance and target rotation - pattern plates confirmed that the try-gun was a near perfect fit. A few more fine adjustments finalized my stock specifications. Returning the gun to its rack, Mauro said that I'd just shot the same gun as did the King of Spain!

"We're going to select two stock blanks from this room [SCO/ Sideplates], and one from in there [Extra]," said Mauro. I need not have worried about being able to find superb walnut at Perazzi. The walnut blanks come from far east Turkey, near the Iran and Iraq border, and Perazzi's collection is extensive. Wonderfully so. We swapped ideas and, together, admired many exquisite blanks. After more than a little while, I said to Mauro, "It's not working. I'm becoming more confused by the minute. I'm going to have to invoke my own rule." Over many years, I had given much advice to prospective walnut buyers. One of the most valuable lessons learnt is that it is indeed possible to see too much great walnut at once. I revisited the five or six walnut blanks which had first caught my attention. From those, I selected my three beauties.



My very first shots with the MX28.

Mauro showed me his son's MX28, and his own new one, a sideplated gun. And no, it wasn't a Baikal! The Perazzis' personal MX28s have the interchangeable chokes, so if you decide to order a gun with them (instead of the fixed chokes) it's fine by me. I hadn't asked Mauro to show me the family 28s, but he had remembered our telephone conversation. I noted the two beautiful guns had the schnabel (beak) fore-ends, and ordered the same. This little detail wasn't apparent in the catalogue, but I had seen the various buttstock and fore-end types in the impressive factory display. I also ordered the English style buttstock.

Mauro asked me to select one of my guns. He suggested the "middle" gun - MX28 - and I concurred. We all said our goodbyes, for now.



 ${\it Mauro carefully checking the stock's measurements after a test firing.} \\ {\it Many guns are on the racks.}$ 

We were back the following afternoon. Debora, who had often answered my telephone calls, was at the desk. MX28 was waiting, stocked to the finely-sanded stage, and ready for a tryout on the test-pattern plate. The bare walnut, now gracefully contoured, was alive with colour and contrast. Luca Candio had stocked the gun, and would later repeat the magic on MX28B. Roberto Zucchinelli would transform the remaining blank into a sideplates gunstock. Perazzi stockmakers are specialists in their respective fields.

MX28 fitted like a glove and, as with the try-gun, the test results had borne this out. I took my bag limit of pattern plates. Next came a highlight of the trip. Leigh hadn't fired a solitary shot from any gun whatsoever for about 38 years (when we



Mauro Perazzi proudly displays the MX28. "I'll stand here," he said, "with the pictures of my father in the background."

were kids, shooting with Dad's .22). We coaxed him into having a shot. Mauro coached on holding the gun, and sight picture, etc. "Bang!" Big mistake. Mauro and I exchanged glances. You can see the result in the photographs. Leigh thinks he's a crack shot, Mauro thinks he makes great guns, and I think the pair are just plain lucky (for want of a better word).

We retired to the showroom and said our goodbyes. Roberta Perazzi took our group photograph, and we were off to Venice, Rome, and home.

Almost a year to the day that I had telephoned Bianca Revello, the trio arrived safely. The sideplated gun had soaked up the time; and not due solely to its decoration, although you do have to wait patiently for the artists. I asked Mauro Perazzi another question concerning the "raw" guns. Mauro estimated that the construction of a Sideplates model - only the gun - involves about 40% more time or work than an equivalent (in level of finish) SCO grade gun. I had noted that my MX28 and MX28B were proof tested in 2012; and the sideplated gun, early the following year. Mauro's information puts many factors into perspective. I would also suspect that very few MX28 SCO/ Sideplates parts are held in inventory. By the way, a years' wait is nothing; I've waited much longer for lesser guns.

Why Perazzi? First and foremost, I desired a great gun. Furthermore, Perazzi is here, and now ... family, real people. I didn't want to commission the building of a gun which is famous in "name" only - a costly apparition from the past. Revered gunmakers have been acquired by investors and venture capitalists, or as a boutique curio for a major manufacturer. In 2009, Remington bought the Miller Arms trademark from Dakota Arms. The lineage was already tenuous. I have a rifle built on a Miller action from the personal inventory of Cyle Miller, son of the firm's founder, the late Dean Miller. Mine is a genuine Miller, a "Miller Miller." Additional to the Perazzi guns' perfection, I invested in the Perazzi family's passion and pride. Its value? Inestimable.

How to conclude my tale? Easy. Every aspect of my adventure - the people, the factory, and the guns - had exceeded my highest expectations. Leigh's not a shooter, but he loved visiting Perazzi. I had spent a fair amount of money and received the goods plus interest. I firmly believe that I ended up with the better part of the deal.

I wrote a thank you letter to Mauro, who replied, "We made every effort to produce the guns in the best way possible. We still have good workers. I am proud of all of them!"

So am I.



Although Perazzi's revered competition guns are constantly, and deservedly, in the limelight, it's the firm's inconspicuous game guns which invariably wear the fancy duds.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Information and help from the following people made this article possible:

Mauro Perazzi, Bianca Revello, Filippo Petriella, Creative Art, Pavel Zeman, Steve Fjestad, Kathleen Attwood, Leigh Przibilla, Peter Rockliff, Keith McAuliffe, John Palermo and Pasquale Palermo.

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Leigh Przibilla fired his one and only shot for about 38 years. Cheshire cats! Leigh thinks he's a crack shot. Mauro thinks he makes great guns. I think it's ridiculous.



Safely home.



Creative Art's finesse. The pintail spans approximately 24 mm. I'll let you calculate the size of the arrowed inlay. If only the thoughtless duck hadn't landed behind the reeds ...



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Event 2<sup>†</sup>
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100 TARGETS

† Held in conjunction with

Sat 26 and Sun 27 March 2016

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#### Event 1 10.00 am Friday 25 March 2016

75 TARGET
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#### Event 2 8.30 am Saturday 26 March 2016

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STATE SELECTION AND ADRIAN
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FIELD AND GAME INC

100 Target Sporting Clay Shoot. Run in conjunction with Event 3 and includes the Adrian Hayes Memorial Teams Shoot.

Sashes and prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in all grades. (Sashes for Federation Members only).

Nomination fees are covered by fees for Event 3, or \$60 for all grades and \$50 for juniors who enter Event 2 only.

#### Event 3 8.30 am Saturday 26 & Sunday 27 March 2016

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Vets and Ladies \$115
Juniors and sub-juniors \$85
(These fees also cover entry in the State Selection Shoot on Saturday.)

#### Event 4 9.00 am Monday 28 March 2016

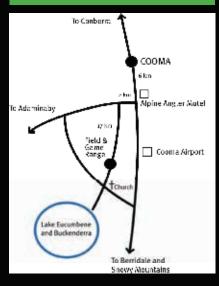
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#### NSW STATE CHAMPIONSHIP 2015 HOSTED BY MUDGEE SPORTING CLAYS

Over the weekend of September 26th and 27th Mudgee hosted the NSW state championship on our Windamere range. Shooting conditions on Saturday were overcast with light winds but Sunday was perfect shooting weather. Two ranges had been set by our local members with five stations on each layout. Three traps on each station. The shoot ran smoothly over the two days with the only problems being the odd flat battery, although this did not hold up the squads. Approximately ninety shooters had nominated to shoot the program. Twenty three was the highest of any competition round on each day. When the final results were in at 3.30pm Sunday evening it was Dubbo shooter Peter Kay with 169/200 being crowned the winner and NSW STATE CHAMPION. Well shot Peter. A shoot off for first and

second in AA between Steve Atkins and Bart Brighenti saw Steve take out first followed by Bart then Dan Baskerville in third.

Mudgee members would like to thank those travellers who arrived on the Friday to help. Many thanks to our sponsors NSW Field & Game Ass, NSW Firearms & Training, Horsley Park Gun Shop, John Dickey, Mudgee Bearing Centre & Mudgee Transport.

The Adrian Hayes teams event went to Mudgee.

| NSW STATE CHAMPIONSHIP 2015 RESULTS |      |                 |     |
|-------------------------------------|------|-----------------|-----|
| High Gun                            |      | Peter Kay       | 169 |
| AA Grade                            | 1st: | Steve Atkins    | 163 |
|                                     | 2nd: | B Brighenti     | 163 |
|                                     | 3rd: | Dan Baskerville | 161 |

|            |      | 1                |     |
|------------|------|------------------|-----|
| A Grade    | 1st: | Andrew Sinclair  | 163 |
|            | 2nd: | Leo Pezzano      | 159 |
|            | 3rd: | P Crittenden     | 157 |
| B Grade    | 1st: | Jason Mullins    | 154 |
|            | 2nd: | Luke Criss Cross | 148 |
|            | 3rd: | Bill Weber       | 141 |
| C Grade    | 1st: | George Roth      | 118 |
|            | 2nd: | Chris Sadler     | 114 |
|            | 3rd: | Ali Ismail       | 113 |
| Seniors    | 1st: | B Wilesmith      | 153 |
|            | 2nd: | Ross Christian   | 149 |
|            | 3rd: | John Sidoti      | 137 |
| S/Jun      | 1st: | Matt Wilesmith   | 152 |
|            | 2nd: | Jack Roth        | 133 |
|            | 3rd: | Tom McGrath      | 125 |
| S/Veterans | 1st: | Alec Ceccato     | 151 |
|            | 2nd: | Dave Brenton     | 141 |
|            | 3rd: | Doug Brenton     | 135 |
| Ladies     | 1st: | Em Munro         | 145 |
|            | 2nd: | Amy Buys         | 122 |
|            | 3rd: | R Wilesmith      | 119 |
| Juniors    | 1st: | Mark Wilesmith   | 140 |
|            | 2nd: | Jay Crittenden   | 133 |

#### **BROKEN HILL FIELD AND GAME NEWS**

By "Shellshocked"

On 10 and 11 October the Broken Hill Field and Game Association hosted its premier simulated field clay target shoot for the year, the thirty second annual 150 target Silver City Championships. Organisers were very pleased with an excellent turn out of more than 80 shooters from across New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia, particularly from Sunraysia and the Riverland, who competed for an impressive range of sashes and trophies.

The weather conditions over the weekend varied from hot to wet to mild to warm, but always with a reasonably brisk and persistent breeze. The conditions were still pretty good for shooting clay targets, but the shooters certainly appreciated a cold drink at the end of the day.

Range marshal Brian, and his enthusiastic band of helpers, worked very hard to provide a double range layout with an excellent variety of targets. The targets were pretty straightforward, with just a few that were a bit more challenging, which was a very sensible thing to do in the windy conditions where more difficult targets could easily have become impossible. The scores were well above average, with some real show stoppers in B Grade and C Grade, and just about everybody went home with a big grin on their face.

The best overall score for the shoot was an excellent total of 139 recorded by Sunraysia AA Grade shooter Brian

McGaffin who won the Silver City Shield High Gun sash by a pretty comfortable margin at the finish. This is Brian's second Silver City Shield, the first was in 2010. He also won the AA Grade sash for the 100 Target Championship, and got a second place in the Handicap Championship, and finished off a good weekend of shooting with a perfect 25 first up on Sunday morning.

Colin Nunn from Renmark was the only other AA Grade sash winner and his score of 132 was good enough for first place and the 150 Target sash, and he also won the Handicap sash.

The sashes in A Grade were spread out pretty well among the competitors. Bradley Harris from Sunraysia shot equal second best overall score of 133 to win the 150 Target sash, Broken Hill's Craig Lawrence shot equal top score of 92 on Saturday to win the 100 Target sash, and Tim Heinrich from Sunraysia shot 55 to win the Handicap sash.

The result in B Grade was an absolute boilover with Broken Hill shooter Kym Files shooting his best ever and most consistent scores to take a clean sweep of all the available sashes. Kym shot the fifth best overall score of 131 to win the 150 Target sash, the fourth best overall score of 88 to win the 100 Target sash, and also won the Handicap sash. The only person at the range with a bigger grin than Kym was the handicapper, welcome to AA Grade.

Broken Hill C Grade shooter David Barker also had a very successful weekend



Broken Hill Toyota Silver City Championship Overall High Gun winner Brian McGaffin from Sunraysia (at left) is presented with the perpetual Silver City Shield by Club President Rod Weaver.

and like Kym he shot extremely well to finish comfortably clear of the next best shooters in his grade. David took a clean sweep of the grade sashes, he shot 121 to win the 150 Target sash, 81 to win the 100 Target sash, and 62 to win the Handicap sash.

It is always encouraging to see a good field of shooters in the Lady, Veteran and Junior categories and some excellent shooting as well.

Sunraysia shooter Sarah Harris was easily the best of the Lady shooters and she took a clean sweep of the two Graded Championships with excellent scores of 99 and 69, comfortably clear of her nearest rival. Rachael Moss from Waikerie shot 59 for a first place finish in the Handicap Championship.

Rob Shawyer from Renmark is a two time winner of the Silver City Championships, and the reigning Veteran Champion from last year. This year he shot equal second best overall score of 133 for a very good first place and a well deserved 150 target sash. Phil Stowe, also from Renmark, shot 86 to win the 100 Target sash, and

Peter Ellis representing Broken Hill shot 58 for a first place finish in the Handicap Championship.

Renmark junior shooter Matthew Redway improved on his second place at last years championship and shot an excellent 114 to win the 150 Target sash, and 78 to win the 100 Target sash. Kyle Mahoney from Broken Hill shot 55 to win the Handicap Championship.

The Claypan Penguins Handicap Team Championship was won by the Broken Hill "Ross's Heroes" team comprising Kym Files, Ross Howse, Michael Barker and David Barker. With two grade champions in the team they shot a very good total and were pretty comfortable winners at the finish. A mainly Waikerie team finished in second place with another Broken Hill team in third.

The Silver City Championships was also the final round of the Tri State Interclub Championship, both a club and individual championship, between the Sunraysia, Riverland and Broken Hill Clubs. The Tri State was very well supported by all clubs in 2015 and it is hoped that this will continue to be the case into the future.

The winning club for 2015 was Broken Hill with a score of 449, followed by Sunraysia with 437, and Riverland only a bit behind with 435. The Broken Hill shooters were Ross Howse, Richard Murphy, Rod Weaver and Peter Hoare. The High Gun prize for the best individual shooter was won by Brian McGaffin from Sunraysia who shot 406/450, and the prize for the Handicap High Gun was won by Mark Moss from Waikerie with 473/450. Certainly a good effort by these shooters to maintain very good results over three different shoots.

At the conclusion of the shoot Association President Rod Weaver thanked all shooters, particularly the visitors, for their attendance and presented the trophies to the lucky

BROKEN HILL TOYOTA SILVER CITY CHAMPIONSHIP 150 TARGET HANDICAP Brian McGaffin High Gun Sunraysia 139 AA Grade 1st: Colin Nunn Broken Hill 132 Gavin Pav Sunraysia 129 Leigh Norton Sunraysia 125 3rd: A Grade 1st: **Bradley Harris** Sunraysia 133 2nd: Stephen Barnes Sunravsia 128 3rd: Anthony Pay Sunraysia 127 B Grade 1st: Kym Files Broken Hill 131 2nd: Mark Rover Renmark 3rd: Ian Chapman Daylesford 124 C Grade 1st: David Barker Broken Hill 121 2nd: Mark Moss Waikerie 115 3rd: **Grant Boylen** Broken Hill 101 Veterans 1st: **Rob Shawyer** Renmark 133 2nd: Peter Ellis Broken Hill 127 3rd: Phil Stowe Renmark 126 Ladies 1st: Sarah Harris Sunraysia 99 2nd: Rachael Moss Waikerie 94 3rd: Elissa Tweedie Broken Hill 84 Juniors Matthew Redway Renmark 1st: 2nd: Kyle Mahoney Broken Hill 98

winners. Rod thanked all who had helped with the organisation and running of the shoot including the range marshals, the cooks, and especially the lovely ladies in the office who do a brilliant job every year. Rod extended a special vote of thanks to the Association's sponsors;



Veteran Champion Rob Shawyer from Renmark completes his shoot.



Broken Hill Toyota 150 Target Silver City Championship grade winners (left to right), Bradley Harris (A Grade), Sarah Harris (Ladies), Kym Files (B Grade), Matthew Redway (Juniors) and David Barker (C Grade).



Western Auto Electrical 100 Target Championship grade winners (left to right), Brian McGaffin (AA Grade), Sarah Harris (Ladies), Kym Files (B Grade), Matthew Redway (Juniors), Craig Lawrence (A Grade), and David Barker (C Grade).

| WESTERN AUTO ELECTRICAL CHAMPIONSHIP<br>100 TARGET GRADED |                               |                |             |    |
|---|-------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----|
| AA Grade  | 1st:                          | Brian McGaffin | Sunraysia   | 92 |
|   | 2nd:                          | Gavin Pay      | Sunraysia   | 87 |
|   | 3rd:                          | Craig Scheele  | Sunraysia   | 87 |
| A Grade   | 1st:                          | Craig Lawrence | Broken Hill | 92 |
|   | 2nd:                          | Bradley Harris | Sunraysia   | 90 |
|   | 3rd:                          | Rod Weaver     | Broken Hill | 88 |
| B Grade   | 1st:                          | Kym Files      | Broken Hill | 88 |
|   | 2nd:                          | Mark Rover     | Renmark     | 85 |
|   | 3rd:                          | Ian Chapman    | Daylesford  | 82 |
| C Grade   | 1st: David Barker Broken Hill |                | 81          |    |
|   | 2nd:                          | Mark Moss      | Waikerie    | 79 |
|   | 3rd:                          | Roy Skelton    | Sunraysia   | 72 |
| Veterans  | 1st:                          | Phil Stowe     | Renmark     | 86 |
|   | 2nd:                          | Rob Shawyer    | Renmark     | 85 |
|   | 3rd:                          | Tom Gemits     | Sunraysia   | 81 |
| Ladies  | 1st:                          | Sarah Harris   | Sunraysia   | 69 |
|   | 2nd:                          | Elissa Tweedie | Broken Hill | 64 |
|   | 3rd:                          | Rachael Moss   | Waikerie    | 61 |
| Juniors   | 1st:                          | Matthew Redway | Renmark     | 78 |
|   | 2nd:                          | Kyle Mahoney   | Broken Hill | 65 |

Broken Hill Toyota, Western Auto Electrical, Broken Hill Credit Union, the Claypan Penguins, Broken Hill Repco and John Redway for their continued support which is essential to the success of the Silver City Championships.



Broken Hill Credit Union 50 Target Handicap Championship grade winners (left to right), Tim Heinrich (A Grade), Kym Files (B Grade), Kyle Mahoney (Juniors), David Barker (C Grade), Rachael Moss (Ladies), Peter Ellis (Veterans).



Shoot organiser John Redway (centre) presents the Tri State Interclub Shield to Broken Hill Club President Rod Weaver (at left). Brian McGaffin (at right) was the highest scoring individual shooter in the event.

| CLAYPAN PENGUINS TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP<br>150 TARGET HANDICAP |                                |   |     |  |
|---|--------------------------------|---|-----|--|
| 1st:  | Broken Hill<br>"Ross's Heroes" | Kym Files<br>Ross Howse<br>Michael Barker<br>David Barker         | 677 |  |
| 2nd   | Waikerie<br>"Baretta"          | Rachael Moss<br>Mark Moss<br>Johan Potgieter<br>Ross Howse        | 667 |  |
| 3rd   | Broken Hil<br>"Edgey's Boys"   | Steve Mahoney<br>Gerard Mahoney<br>Kyle Mahoney<br>Josh Edgecumbe | 633 |  |

| COMMUN   |      | REDIT UNION CH |             | IIP |
|----------|------|----------------|-------------|-----|
|          |      | TARGET HANDICA |             |     |
| AA Grade | 1st: | Colin Nunn     | Renmark     | 52  |
|          | 2nd: | Brian McGaffin | Sunraysia   | 51  |
|          | 3rd: | Leigh Norton   | Sunraysia   | 49  |
| A Grade  | 1st: | Tim Heinrich   | Sunraysia   | 55  |
|          | 2nd: | Kevin Nickolai | Renmark     | 53  |
|          | 3rd: | Gerard Mahoney | Broken Hill | 53  |
| B Grade  | 1st: | Kym Files      | Broken Hill | 59  |
|          | 2nd: | Bob Tweedie    | Broken Hill | 59  |
|          | 3rd: | Steve Mahoney  | Broken Hill | 58  |
| C Grade  | 1st: | David Barker   | Broken Hill | 62  |
|          | 2nd: | Kieran McEvoy  | Broken Hill | 60  |
|          | 3rd: | Mark Moss      | Waikerie    | 58  |
| Veterans | 1st: | Peter Ellis    | Broken Hill | 58  |
|          | 2nd: | Ross Howse     | Broken Hill | 56  |
|          | 3rd: | Rob Shawyer    | Renmark     | 54  |
| Ladies   | 1st: | Rachael Moss   | Waikerie    | 59  |
|          | 2nd: | Elissa Tweedie | Broken Hill | 48  |
|          | 3rd: | Sarah Harris   | Sunraysia   | 44  |
| Juniors  | 1st: | Kyle Mahoney   | Broken Hill | 55  |
|          | 2nd: | Matthew Redway | Renmark     | 46  |

On 1 November the Broken Hill Field and Game Association conducted a 75 Target Simulated Field Graded Championship shoot. The day started hot and sunny, quickly changed to cool and overcast, then a heavy thunderstorm, and finished hot and sunny and sticky. But still okay for shooting clay targets. Organisers were pleased with a very good attendance of 28 shooters.

The range was set by Brian and Richard and the Josh twins and comprised a sensible and effective compact layout that was shot three times to make up the 75 target competition. There was plenty of variety in the targets, they were not particularly difficult, they were good fun, and the scores were mostly a little bit above average.

The shooter who managed the targets best was Michael Barker who started below his best but finished very strongly with a pair of 24's for an excellent score of 67. This was good enough to win the High Gun trophy by a couple of shots at the finish, and Michael added another High Gun sash to his collection of five for the year.

Clay Johnston was second best shooter off the gun and his score of 65 was easily deserving of the first place prize in AA Grade. The competition in A Grade was very close but, courtesy of a very good second round 23, Jeff Glasson just managed to keep his nose in front and shot 63 for the grade win. The close shooting was repeated in B Grade but Tim Millsteed just managed to stay at the top of the field and a score of 61 was good enough for the first place prize. Vic Galea shot 23 first up and got away with a blinder in C Grade, the competition



Veteran shooter Les Birrell, club stalwart and the very best example that getting older is no barrier in the sport of clay target shooting.

couldn't catch him, and he was an easy winner with a total of 59.

Cassie McEvoy arrived home from university, grabbed her shotgun, and headed to the range. It is reassuring to know that young people can get their priorities right. Cassie shot very consistently, and improved from round to round, to finish with a score of 51 and a well deserved first place in the Ladies Grade. Junior Grade shooter Kyle Mahoney also shot consistently for a total of 41 and an equally well deserved first place prize.

Information for any event is available from Association Secretary Ross Howse on telephone 08 8088 1486.



You don't have to be mad but it helps. A squad of wet shooters continue their competition as a heavy shower of rain clears away.



Grade winners of the 75 Target Graded Club Championship, left to right, Jeff Glasson (A Grade), Cassie McEvoy (Ladies), Tim Millsteed (B Grade), Michael Barker (High Gun), Kyle Mahoney (Juniors), Clay Johnston (AA Grade) and Vic Galea (C Grade).

| BROKEN HILL - 1 NOVEMBER<br>75 TARGET GRADED CHAMPIONSHIP |      |                  |    |
|---|------|------------------|----|
| High Gun  |      | Michael Barker   | 67 |
| AA Grade  | 1st: | Clay Johnston    | 65 |
| A Grade   | 1st: | Jeff Glasson     | 63 |
|   | 2nd: | Richard Murphy   | 62 |
|   | 3rd: | Rod Weaver       | 61 |
| B Grade   | 1st: | Tim Millsteed    | 61 |
|   | 2nd: | Peter Ellis      | 60 |
|   | 3rd: | Ross Howse       | 59 |
| C Grade   | 1st: | Vic Galea        | 59 |
|   | 2nd: | Ian Featherstone | 50 |
|   | 3rd: | Barry Foley      | 44 |
| Ladies  | 1st: | Cassie McEvoy    | 51 |
| Juniors   | 1st: | Kyle Mahoney     | 41 |

#### **BERMAGUI FIELD AND GAME**

#### **Sunday 25th October 2015**

The sun was out and so were 42 shooters to partake in Rainer's Challenge Handicap shoot sponsored by Rainer. The days course was set up by Willy and his crew, showcasing a range of fun but challenging targets.

Ethon Jubb took out highgun with an outstanding score of 113



C Grade Winners Pat Tennant, Dick Brown and John Lehmann.



Handicap Highgun Winner Ethon Jubb, with a score of 113 receiving his prize.

Outstanding scores across the board with exceptional scores from grade winners: Gavin Moulding in AA Grade, Chris Raabe in A Grade, Pat Jubb in B grade, Pat Tennant in C grade, Barbie Magrin in Ladies and Jarrod Ringland in Juniors.

Standout efforts from Mark Gschwend receiving a 25 possible badge in the last round. A special thanks to our trapper for the day Gary Martin . Willy White was unsuccessful in taking out the club shoot raffle and kindly left the money for next month.

|          | BERM | AGUI RESULTS    |     |
|----------|------|-----------------|-----|
| Highgun  |      | Ethon Jubb      | 113 |
| AA Grade | 1st  | Gavin Moulding  | 91  |
| A Grade  | 1st  | Chris Raabe     | 108 |
|          | 2nd  | Mark Gschwend   | 103 |
|          | 3rd  | Daniel Bruinsma | 99  |
| B Grade  | 1st  | Pat Jubb        | 102 |
|          | 2nd  | Jimmy Drakos    | 97  |
|          | 3rd  | Collin B'Brien  | 97  |
| C Grade  | 1st  | Pat Tennant     | 112 |
|          | 2nd  | Dick Brown      | 110 |
|          | 3rd  | John Lehmann    | 107 |
| Ladies   | 1st  | Barbie Magrin   | 95  |
| Juniors  | 1st  | Jarrod Ringland | 133 |
|          | 2nd  | Holly Gschwend  | 96  |
|          | 3rd  | Grace Gschwend  | 94  |

**Sunday 22 November** was the annual Christmas shoot for Bermagui Field and Game. A great turnout of 74 shooters showed up for the 60 target event and the novelty George Digweeed Challenge. This month's course was set by Chris Raabe and his crew setting



Club Off the Gun Champion Gavin Moulding and Handicap Champion Patrick Jubb

an enjoyable course for all. Many

for the year.

Champion.

generously sponsored prizes were

The winners of the overall highest

scoring shooters for the year went

Gun Club Champion, Patrick Jubb

receiving Handicap Champion and

Grace Gschwend winning Club Junior

to Gavin Moulding receiving Off the

awarded, including the club Champions



Phil Craig, this year's winner of the George Digweed Challenge

The winner of this year's "George Digweed Challenge" Goes to Phil Craig, outstanding effort to all those who participated and bought back to donate to the worthy cause of the Bermagui School.

Phil and Shelley Craig were recognised for their efforts within the club over many years, and the three most important people at our club, Secretary Barbie Magrin, Treasurer

Patrick Jubb and BBQ Lady Shirley Brady, were also recognised for their efforts over the previous year. Adam Shields was also presented an inscribed cup for winning last year's George Digweed challenge.

A special thanks all our sponsors throughout the year, our hard working committee, office men and women, our lunch providing ladies, committee, visiting shooters and to all our much valued members.

|          | BERM | AGUI RESULTS    |    |
|----------|------|-----------------|----|
| AA Grade | 1st  | Darren Redman   | 54 |
|          | 2nd  | Bill Warriner   | 53 |
|          | 3rd  | Gavin Moulding  | 52 |
| A Grade  | 1st  | Neville Brady   | 53 |
|          | 2nd  | Barry Dunn      | 52 |
|          | 3rd  | Craig field     | 51 |
|          | 4th  | Mark Gschwend   | 50 |
| B Grade  | 1st  | Chris Robinson  | 48 |
|          | 2nd  | Colin Brownlie  | 46 |
|          | 3rd  | William White   | 45 |
|          | 4th  | Richard Seears  | 43 |
| C Grade  | 1st  | Jarrod Ringland | 49 |
|          | 2nd  | John Lehmann    | 43 |
|          | 3rd  | Graham Peterson | 42 |
|          | 4th  | Justin Mann     | 42 |
| Ladies   | 1st  | Jan Redman      | 50 |
|          | 2nd  | Holly Gschwend  | 44 |
|          | 3rd  | Robin Perkins   | 39 |
|          | 4th  | Carol Cook      | 36 |

**Next shoot:** 10am Sunday 10th January 2016, 100 tgt OTG Grumpy's Challenge Sponsored by "Grumpy"

**Set up crew:** Mark, Holly & Grace Gschwend, Adam Shields, Ron Manly, Justin Mann, Tony Crome.

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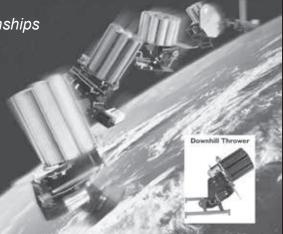
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Promatic have released a new Sporting Trap to add to the huge range of machines available to our sport.

The "Osprey" is the latest addition to the range and it was tried out at Geelong for the first time.

The unique design allows for targets to be tilted much further to the left and right than was possible prior to this release

It can throw targets from the conventional flat target to curling from both left and right, teal targets and chondels.

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#### **COOMA FIELD & GAME**

#### **Sept 2015**

Sunday's shoot sponsored by Snowy Plain Merino Stud saw a good turn out on a day reflective of the Monaro spring

The first leg of the Coomagui Cup was shot in conjunction with Mick Hedgers "Rabbit Challenge".

The Coomagui Cup is an annual event held between Cooma and Bermagui Field and Game clubs and is in its 12th year.

The event helps to boost shooter numbers for both clubs and provides a good humored, competitive, team atmosphere to the two shoots that it is run over. The first leg is traditionally run at the Cooma range at Middlingbank with the following weekend shooters attending the Bermagui Range.

Cooma have made the most of the home ground advantage in the first leg with a 57 target lead. It should be noted however that at the same time last year Cooma held a 22 target lead only to lose the cup by 13 targets after the second leg.

The event was run in conjunction with the "Rabbit Challenge" High Gun went to Mark Corbett of Cooma who also won the "A" grade rabbit challenge.

Mark Corbett and Bill Warriner shot well on the day, to shoot a perfect round of 25.

|          | ı   | RESULTS                    |    |
|----------|-----|----------------------------|----|
| High Gun |     | Mark Corbett               | 95 |
| A Grade  | 1st | Bill Warriner              | 94 |
|          | 2nd | Phil Craig                 | 92 |
|          | 3rd | Gavin Moulding             | 92 |
| B Grade  | 1st | Andrew Fairfield-<br>Smith | 84 |
|          | 2nd | Terry Thistleton           | 81 |
|          | 3rd | Chris Robinson             | 76 |
| C Grade  | 1st | Ken Jones                  | 82 |
|          | 2nd | Sean Newlin                | 69 |
|          | 3rd | John Lehmann               | 64 |
| Ladies   | 1st | Robin Perkins              | 72 |
|          | 2nd | Michelle Craig             | 67 |
|          | 3rd | Katrina Hedger             | 61 |
| Juniors  | 1st | Oscar Mower                | 76 |



Adam, Phil, Bill and Andrew

| RABBIT CHALLENGE RESULTS |     |  |  |
|--------------------------|-----|--|--|
| High Gun                 |     | Mark Corbett                           |  |
| A Grade                  | 1st | Jake hedger                            |  |
| B Grade                  | 1st | Andrew Fairfield –Smith,<br>Adam Mower |  |
| C Grade                  | 1st | Ken Jones                              |  |
| Ladies                   | 1st | Robin Perkins                          |  |
| Juniors                  | 1st | Oscar Mower                            |  |



Robin, Ken, Oscar Jake & Mick, Mark, Adam and Andrew

The Cooma team will be heading to Bermagui this weekend on a bus kindly donated by Cooma Coaches. With a good lead we are hoping to regain the cup lost last year by the smallest of margins.

#### Cooma Wins Coomagui Cup

Cooma Field and Game headed for Bermagui to complete the second leg of the Coomagui Cup. With a lead of 59 targets from the week before they were quietly confident that even if they lost the day, they may be able to win the cup back. Bermagui won the cup last year under similar circumstances with a come from behind performance that proved they would not be likely to relinquish the cup without a fight. However Cooma proved too strong across all grades with a win in each Grade A, B and C to extend their lead by another 13 Targets.

The final score -

Cooma Field and Game 942/1200 Bermagui Field and Game 870/1200. As mentioned the winners of each grade all from Cooma were –

| RESULTS |     |               |    |
|---------|-----|---------------|----|
| A Grade | 1st | John Starr    | 84 |
| B Grade | 1st | Craig Bottom  | 72 |
| C Grade | 1st | Sean Newlin   | 74 |
| Ladies  | 1st | Robin Perkins | 64 |



#### October 2015

It was a big weekend at the Cooma Field and Game with action on both Saturday and Sunday. Saturday was the second running of "Come and have a go day" which went off without a hitch. 30 new and beginner shooters shot a mixed bag of targets spread out over 6 stands. It was a casual day and all who attended seemed to enjoy themselves, with everybody hitting targets throughout the day.

The monthly shoot was on Sunday. The event was sponsored by South East Tile

and Bathroom and saw an excellent turn out of shooters with 58 attending. The set up crew really went out on a limb, setting up the whole range at the furthest point from the club house. So as not to wear out the shooters, it was decided to set up temporary facilities at the end of the range as well. This involved organizing the office, score boards, kitchen, and rest areas. A big effort and thanks to all who contributed.

The result was worth the effort with a picnics atmosphere to the day with stands close together squads could discuss the pros and cons of a good competitive days shooting.

Bill Warriner continued his good form taking out High Gun. Bermagui once again did more than their fair share supporting the day by taking home plenty of placings across all grades.

| RESULTS  |     |                      |    |  |
|----------|-----|----------------------|----|--|
| High Gun |     | Bill Warriner        | 88 |  |
| AA       | 1st | Craig Bottom         | 72 |  |
| grade    | 1st | Phil Craig           | 81 |  |
|          | 2nd | James Jonklaas       | 77 |  |
|          | 3rd | Geoff Smith          | 74 |  |
| A Grade  | 1st | Tony Crome           | 83 |  |
|          | 2nd | Doug Alcock          | 78 |  |
|          | 3rd | Craig Field          | 76 |  |
| B Grade  | 1st | Terry Thistleton     | 71 |  |
|          | 2nd | Col O'Brian          | 71 |  |
|          | 3rd | Col Brownlie         | 64 |  |
| C Grade  | 1st | Glen Weston          | 73 |  |
|          | 2nd | Sean Newlin          | 62 |  |
|          | 3rd | Ben Rowbotham        | 62 |  |
| Ladies   | 1st | Robin Perkins        | 71 |  |
|          | 2nd | Shelly Craig         | 63 |  |
|          | 3rd | Rhonda White         | 58 |  |
| Junior   | 1st | Oscar Mower          | 71 |  |
|          | 2nd | Steve Clark          | 61 |  |
|          | 3rd | Jack Fairfield smith | 54 |  |

#### Flying high at Cooma Field and Game

Cooma Field and Game has gone out on a limb and laid claim to being the highest gun club in Australia.

We are confident enough with the claim that we have erected a new sign at our front entrance.

Eddie Tierney owner of Cooma Signs and long-time club member thinks the claim is pretty safe. At 1250 m, we are pretty high Ed said.



Cooma Field and Game started in 1980 on a different site at Rock Flat and was originally called "White Rock Gun Club". They soon out grew the smaller site and moved to the current location in 1992.





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**The Easter Classic 2016** will be the 33rd year we have run the event and will host the inaugural "NSW Tri Gun Championship" held in conjunction with the usual NSW 20ga and SXS championships as well as the NSW state selection shoot.

The event will see the combined score over three days of the three types of shotguns used to determine the champion.

#### **November 2015**

"Bring a Mate Day"

Cooma Field and Game's shoot for November,

"Bring a Mate Day" went off without a hitch on Sunday.

Although due to a larger than expected turnout some people had fairly basic fare for lunch.

The "bring a mate day" has been running now for 8 years and has not lost its popularity.

The "targets only" shooters were there in numbers which must be a testament to the popularity of Field and Game shooters; they obviously have a lot of mates.

Total numbers added up to 65 shooters which is excellent given the club has two shoots this month witha Compaq shoot being held on the 29th.

The shoot was sponsored by long time member Ed Oslins. Ed not only sponsored the event, he set up the range and worked tirelessly throughout the day making sure everything ran smoothly. This was an excellent effort as Ed has had some health issues in the last 12 months which it would appear are behind him and he is well on the road to recovery. The event was a handicapped event which gives the entire field an opportunity to get amongst the prizes. Shoot secretary Rhonda White was able to put her office duties to the back of her mind and took out a well-deserved



Adam, Rhonda and Andrew

High gun.

| RESULTS  |     |               |     |
|----------|-----|---------------|-----|
| High Gun |     | Rhonda White  | 122 |
| AA grade | 1st | Darren Redman | 97  |
|          | 2nd | Phil Craig    | 93  |
|          | 3rd | Bill Warriner | 88  |

|         | _   |                   |     |
|---------|-----|-------------------|-----|
| A Grade | 1st | John Starr        | 105 |
|         | 2nd | Nev Brady         | 104 |
|         | 3rd | James Byrne       | 103 |
| B Grade | 1st | Chris Robinson    | 118 |
|         | 2nd | A-Fairfield Smith | 111 |
|         | 3rd | Glen Weston       | 111 |
| C Grade | 1st | Russell Rowling   | 122 |
|         | 2nd | Ken Rowbotham     | 105 |
|         | 3rd | lan Armstrong     | 104 |
| Ladies  | 1st | Jan Redman        | 112 |
|         | 2nd | Robin Perkins     | 103 |
|         | 3rd | Michelle Craig    | 102 |
| Junior  | 1st | Jack-F- Smith     | 116 |
|         | 2nd | Oscar Mower       | 104 |
|         | 3rd | Jake Hedger       | 83  |

November 29th. This will be a Compaq shoot which is a condensed version of sporting clays. It is more spectator friendly than traditional sporting clays. So, all are welcome to come and see the action or take part.

Our Christmas shoot this year is on the 20th December and is a SxS and U/O event. Come and enjoy Christmas lunch with us.

For details go to the Cooma Field and Game website or call Andrew on 0413 013 689 or Adam on 0410 507 279.

#### **ROCKY GULLY SPORTING CLAYS**

#### **November 2015**

Well that's the year that was. With only the December shoot to go we are now winding up the year and what a great year it has been. The highlights being the South Australian Old Style Championship, shot over the Easter weekend, the National Compak Championship and the South Australian Sporting Clays Championship. No wonder Committee is feeling a bit washed out. At this time of the year all club committees are looking for a bit of break before the New Year and we are no different.

2016 is going to be another big year with Rocky Gully hosting the 28th FITASC Oceania Championship over the Anzac Day weekend from the 20th to the 24th April. Patrick Torrens is heading up the target setting team and preliminary design work is being done already to ensure the 8 Old Style courses provide competitors Sporting Clay targets of the highest order. With only 168 places available we are hoping for a full house. The Club is going all out to make sure this is a memorable event for all the right reasons. The latest news about the Oceania event can be found on the Rocky Gully website. If you are planning on booking in to accommodation in Murray

Bridge you are strongly encouraged to BOOK NOW as there are a number of big events in the town on that week.

#### October Shoot – Club Championship & Round I Monarto Cup

This was one of our bigger shots for the year being both the Club Championship and Round I of the Monarto Cup. The Monarto Cup is an annual competition between our Club and the Hellenic Shooting Sports Club just up the road. Our Greek cousins have held the Cup for the last few years so we were really looking forward to getting it back. With this shoot being our Club Championship it brought out all of our top shooters and we were able to establish a solid lead in the first round and to get our hands on the Cup; but it would take another good performance in Round II to keep it until 2016.

The format of the shoot was our usual 100 target with a shotgun start with eight stands set for shooters to enjoy. This was the first time that we had more than 8 squads which required some squads to be backing up when shooting started. The plan was that while squads were walking to the next stand the squads backing up would be shooting and complete their series before the next squad arrived thus preventing

#### **SOUTH AUSTRALIA**



Alex Button the Hellenic President hands back the Cup to our President Emilio Calicchio. We could tell from the look on his face that he thought this would be a temporary arrangement.

a backup and delays once shooting started. We are happy to report that the plan worked. Theoretically we should be able to have 16 squads out on the ground at any one time.

The shoot was sponsored by one of our biggest supports John Torresan.



Club Championship

This event was also the Club Championship and Shane Terry shot a blinder to take out the Overall Club Champion award. Jim Bologiannis took out A Grade, Allan Marden won B Grade, Glenn Benham C Grade, Grant Baum Veterans, John Torresan Super Vets, Jill Marden Ladies, Tom Graham Juniors and Daniel Falco was Sub Junior Champion (just check his score).

|          |      | RESULTS           |    |
|----------|------|-------------------|----|
| High Gun |      | Shane Terry       | 85 |
| A Grade  | 1st: | James Bologiannis | 83 |
|          | 2nd: | Wendel Litchfield | 80 |
|          | 3rd: | Alex Button       | 77 |
| B Grade  | 1st: | Allan Marden      | 75 |
|          | 2nd: | Luc Palumbo       | 74 |
|          | 3rd: | Adam Brewer       | 74 |
| C Grade  | 1st: | Glenn Benham      | 68 |
|          | 2nd: | Ryan Baum         | 61 |
|          | 3rd: | Mark Pohl         | 57 |
| Veterans | 1st: | Grant Baum        | 84 |
|          | 2nd: | Greg Dawes        | 82 |
|          | 3rd: | George Sourbis    | 63 |
| S/Vets   | 1st: | John Torresan     | 84 |
|          | 2nd: | Richard Dean      | 84 |
|          | 3rd: | John Monaghan     | 81 |
| Ladies   | 1st: | Jill Marden       | 55 |
|          | 2nd: | Marlene Pohl      | 52 |
|          | 3rd: | Adriana Buonsanto | 24 |
| Juniors  | 1st: | Tom Graham        | 28 |
| Sub Jun  | 1st: | Daniel Falco      | 81 |

#### **Round II Monarto Cup**

On November 8th, and with a couple of our best shots attending the (as it is now) Sporting Clays Australia AGM, we took the drive to the Hellenic Range with some trepidation. Although the Hellenic team won Round II we had built up a sufficient lead in Round I to hang on by the narrow margin of 17 targets. So we have bragging rights for the next year.

All our shooters really enjoyed the great targets put on by Alex and his small target setting team and the lunch was, as ever, really great. Thanks to all the Hellenic workers for putting on a great shoot. The shoot was sponsored by SUNFRESH SALADS who also supplied the delicious and very fresh salads for lunch.



Was Club President Emilio pleased? Yes he was

| RESULTS X 75 |      |                    |    |
|--------------|------|--------------------|----|
| AA Grade     | 1st: | Shane Terry        | 64 |
|              | 2nd: | Alex Button        | 64 |
| A Grade      | 1st: | Wendel Litchfield  | 66 |
|              | 2nd: | Bj Jensen          | 60 |
|              | 3rd: | Rob Marcoionni     | 60 |
| B Grade      | 1st: | Emilio Calicchio   | 62 |
|              | 2nd: | Max Lussetich      | 55 |
|              | 3rd: | Trevor Forgan      | 54 |
| C Grade      | 1st: | Wessam Daou        | 45 |
|              | 2nd: | George Coris       | 44 |
|              | 3rd: | Todd Angus         | 44 |
| Veterans     | 1st: | John Monaghan      | 63 |
|              | 2nd: | George Borg        | 54 |
|              | 3rd: | Peter Katsabis     | 42 |
| Ladies       | 1st: | Amanda Smallacombe | 27 |
| Juniors      | 1st: | Daniel Falco       | 60 |

| Monarto Cup 2015            | Leg 1 | Leg 2 | Total |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Rocky Gully                 | 557   | 568   | 1125  |
| Hellenic Shooting<br>Sports | 519   | 589   | 1108  |

Rocky Gully wins the Monarto Cup 2015 by 17 targets.

#### RIP BILL GAWLEY

We have just been informed of the passing of Life Member William (Bill) Gawley. Bill was a stalwart of SAFGA Southern Branch for decades during its time at Currency Creek. We extend our deepest condolences to his wife Dot and the other members of the Gawley family.

#### **November Shoot**

Our November shoot was a bitter sweet event in that, while we enjoyed a great shoot, we also said farewell to our great Club Mate and Committee member Angelo Falco. Ange passed away a year ago and before this shoot commenced, and in accordance with his wishes, some of his ashes were scattered on our ground via a shotgun volley where the shells contained his ashes. Ange will always be with us – we miss you mate.

Ange would not have wanted us to mope around so we got into the event but, unsurprisingly, there were some very ordinary scores shot in the first round as people's minds were elsewhere.

The shoot was sponsored by our great supporter Joel O'Brien of O'Brien Pipeline Solutions. Joel's sponsorship included three wonderful smoked hams as luck door prizes. Of course to pick up a lucky door prize you have to be at the draw. I just don't have the heart to tell the two people whose names were the first drawn but, being early leavers, were on the drive home when the draw took place.

| RESULTS X 100 |      |                   |    |
|---------------|------|-------------------|----|
| A Grade       | 1st: | Greg Dawes        | 76 |
|               | 2nd: | James Bologiannis | 76 |
|               | 3rd: | Aaron Went        | 75 |
| B Grade       | 1st: | Wendel Litchfield | 78 |
|               | 2nd: | Peter Hicks       | 76 |
|               | 3rd: | Stephen Kelly     | 72 |
| C Grade       | 1st: | Edward Smyth      | 50 |
|               | 2nd: | Mark Dixon        | 49 |
|               | 3rd: | Matthew Marveggio |    |
| S/Vets        | 1st: | John Monaghan     | 80 |
|               | 2nd: | Richard dean      | 75 |
|               | 3rd: | Bryan Stokes      | 67 |
| Ladies        | 1st: | Marlene Pohl      | 60 |
|               | 2nd: | Jill Marden       | 60 |
| Juniors       | 1st: | James McNeil      | 47 |
| Sub Jun       | 1st: | Daniel Falco      | 65 |
|               | 2nd: | Jeremy Miller     | 43 |

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Contact

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#### LAKE BONNEY SPORTING CLAYS

#### **October Report**

A warm spring day encouraged 88 shooters out to the South West Freight 50 target event at Lake Bonney on Sunday October 18th. Course setter Tony Sellars and his team of helpers were praised for setting a good range of targets that really tested most shooters, presenting the 15 squads with a challenge at each stand. The shooters enjoyed the variety of targets and the opportunity to refine their skills. Our sub junior group continues to grow, 7 young shooters participating this month, winner Liam Bottomley returning after taking a break from shooting, finished with a score of 41, one target off high gun. The committee were also pleased to see a number of new shooters to the club as well as some old faces we haven't seen for a while and would like to encourage anyone who is interested or has been clay shooting in the past to come out and say hello you will always be made to feel welcome.

On behalf of sponsors South West Freight Ben Sims presented the prizes to the place getters, veteran shooter Barry Hill won high gun, Chris Wright finished 1st in AA, Jordan Cox was 1st in A grade, club life members, Cliff Lee and Wayne Gurney won B grade and Vets respectively. Charles Wallis took home 1st in C grade, with Ladies, Vicki Fabris and Junior, Sav Palma being the only competitors in their grades.

The Super Vets group competition continues to be tight with Peter Klieve shooting a score of 30 just in front of Stan Johnston and Frank Kentish who both shot 29.

During presentations president Mark Fabris wished club bar manager Steve Bellinger a very happy 65th birthday and reminded members that next month's shoot is the club championship and that directly after presentations the AGM will be held followed by a BBQ tea. Club members are encouraged to attend the AGM, 2016 is already shaping up to be a very busy but exciting year for the committee and club members, with a state qualifying shoot in March and state title shoot in September to be held at Lake Bonney, the club is also combining with Kingston and Burrungule clay shooting clubs to hold a 3 day event across the three shooting grounds in June, this event is already attracting a lot of interest from other shooting clubs both within the state and interstate as well as sponsors.

Congratulations to club member Tasha Bellinger who travelled to Geelong on the weekend to compete for the state in the national titles, Tasha shot really well finishing 4th in the nation. Well done Tasha, it is always good to see our local shooters competing at a higher level and Tasha has been enjoying the experience. Husband, Danny and father Brenton Ferguson went to Geelong with Tasha to support her but also participated at the event as well.



Ben Sims from South West freight presented High Gun winner Barry Hill with his prize.



B grade winners Cliff Lee, John Hill and Karl Altschwager

|                 |     | RESULTS           |    |
|-----------------|-----|-------------------|----|
| High gun Winner |     | Barry Hill        | 42 |
| AA Grade        | 1st | Chris Wright      | 40 |
|                 | 2nd | Malcolm Whitehead | 39 |
|                 | 3rd | Aaron Leopold     | 36 |
| A Grade         | 1st | Jordan Cox        | 40 |
|                 | 2nd | Andrew Hoare      | 39 |
|                 | 3rd | Ben Sims          | 38 |
| B Grade         | 1st | Cliff Lee         | 37 |
|                 | 2nd | Karl Altschwager  | 36 |
|                 | 3rd | John Hill         | 36 |
| C Grade         | 1st | Charles Wallis    | 32 |
|                 | 2nd | Chris Chant       | 30 |
|                 | 3rd | Gary Clifford     | 26 |
| Veterans        | 1st | Wayne Gurney      | 41 |
|                 | 2nd | Geoff Lowe        | 40 |
|                 | 3rd | Neville Kent      | 39 |
| SuperVets       | 1st | Peter Klieve      | 30 |
|                 | 2nd | Stan Johnston     | 29 |
|                 | 3rd | Frank Kentish     | 29 |
| Ladies          | 1st | Vicki Fabris      | 25 |
| Juniors         | 1st | Sav Palma         | 16 |
| Sub Juniors     | 1st | Liam Bottomley    | 41 |
|                 | 2nd | Jason Johnson     | 27 |
|                 | 3rd | Liam Lewis        | 26 |

#### **November Report**

Lake Bonney Sporting Clays held their annual BOC Gas, Sebastopol Machinery and In2 Monogramming 75 target club championship shoot on Sunday November 15th. Congratulations to those club members who were presented with championship medallions; AA grade-Danny Bellinger, A grade- John Hill, B



A grade club champ John Hill



B grade John Prance and Bill Agnew



C grade 1st Simon Mules, 2nd Cahrles Wallis and 3rd Scott Harlock

grade-John Prance, C grade - Simon Mules, Vets- Geoff Lowe, Ladies – Vicki Fabris and Sub-Junior - Ethan Hellyer.

A total of 86 shooters were presented with three 25 target courses including a 4 stand arrangement, the course setter's keen to trial this configuration in preparation for the June long weekend combined club event planned for 2016. The feedback from shooters was mixed with some liking the arrangement and others finding it time consuming and difficult to follow. The committee plans to take all feedback received into consideration and will make some changes to the layout and the timing of squads moving from stand to stand when setting this course configuration again early in 2016.

The targets set on the three courses provided shooters with a nice balance of predictable and challenging targets, with course B proving to be the one to separate shooters in each grade. The 4 stand set up showing how different a target from the same trap can look just by moving from one position to another. A count back was used to decide the place getters in Vets, with all three winners finishing on 66, 2nd and 3rd in AA grade and A grade were also determined by a count back of targets, this was instead of shoot offs due to time restraints. Congratulations to Victorian shooter John VanDoreen who shot a perfect 25/25 and was presented



Junior Campbell Serle

with a 25 badge. Field and Game Australia champion shooter Jeremy Kent complimented the course setters when presented with the High Gun award. Chris Wright and Malcom Whitehead keeping the competition in AA grade tight with Malcolm taking first from Chris this month by one target.

The clubs AGM was held immediately following the presentations, President Mark Fabris thanked all committee members for their commitment and pure hard work, this continuing support ensuring that the club maintains its reputation as a friendly and well run club. He also thanked the many local businesses and individuals who sponsor the shoots each year we are fortunate to have such generous sponsors whose support is much appreciated. Outgoing treasurer Aaron Leopold was thanked for his 2 year commitment to a role that can be very time consuming and challenging, his efforts were commended by the committee. The committee welcomed



Sub junior 3rd Declan Wright and 2nd Liam Lewis

back life member John Hill as this year's treasurer along with Vicki Fabris, Jordan Cox and Dale Fabris as new or returning committee members. A BBQ tea followed the meeting giving the committee a chance to relax and celebrate another successful year.

The annual Christmas novelty shoot will be held on Saturday December 5th the committee would like to extend an invitation to all members, sponsors and any other shooters who would like to join us for a fun day of festive shooting followed by an auction and tea. South East Branch-Burrungule will hold its Annual Sage Martienson Memorial Shoot next week-end; Sunday 22nd, sponsored by The Sage Family, Kincraig Motors and Fennell Forestry.

| RESULTS    |        |                   |       |
|------------|--------|-------------------|-------|
| High gun W | 'inner | Jeremy Kent       | 68/75 |
| AA Grade   | 1st    | Malcolm Whitehead | 67    |
|            | 2nd    | Chris Wright      | 66    |
|            | 3rd    | Danny Bellinger   | 66    |



Sub Junior club champ Ethan Hellyer

| A Grade     | 1st | John Hill       | 63 |
|-------------|-----|-----------------|----|
|             | 2nd | Ernie Scheidl   | 62 |
|             | 3rd | Bruce Parker    | 62 |
| B Grade     | 1st | John Prance     | 60 |
|             | 2nd | Bill Agnew      | 59 |
|             | 3rd | Bart Meinck     | 58 |
| C Grade     | 1st | Simon Mules     | 58 |
|             | 2nd | Charles Wallis  | 51 |
|             | 3rd | Scott Harlock   | 49 |
| Veterans    | 1st | Wayne Evans     | 66 |
|             | 2nd | Chris VonStanke | 66 |
|             | 3rd | John VanDoreen  | 66 |
| SuperVets   | 1st | Kevin Dyson     | 62 |
|             | 2nd | Peter Klieve    | 55 |
|             | 3rd | Stan Johnstone  | 51 |
| Ladies      | 1st | Maddie Redman   | 58 |
|             | 2nd | Vicki Fabris    | 47 |
|             | 3rd | Kellie Peterson | 36 |
| Juniors     | 1st | Campbell Serle  | 49 |
| Sub Juniors | 1st | Liam Bottomley  | 59 |
|             | 2nd | Liam Lewis      | 50 |
|             | 3rd | Declan Wright   | 36 |

#### SOUTH EAST BRANCH

#### Results of November Shoot for South East Field & Game

The 75 Clay target Sage Marteinsen Memorial Shoot was recently held at Burrungule Park.

A large turnout of 105 shooters nominated for the event sponsored by The Sage Family, Fennell Forestry & Kincraig motors.

Jamie Dunn shot 73/75 to claim the Gambier Shooting supplies High Gun, his third such win of the season.

Ron Rhook 71/75celebrated his birthday by taking out AA grade from Jeremy Kent 67/75 who had to shoot of with mark Fabris to decide the minor placings.

Danny Bellinger included a perfect round of 25 in his 70/75 to win A grade

Despite the best efforts of the young & old from the Scheidl Family they were unable to hold out Jeremy Hellyer who shot 60/75 to take out B grade.

Neville Kent 64/75 won the Veterans at a canter whilst Kevin Dyson 63/75 won a

tight tussle in the super vets.

Tash Bellinger 65/75 continued her red hot form to take out the Ladies from Liz Rymill.

The talented Tom Jenkins won juniors with 59/75 whilst former state junior champion Liam Bottomley 56/75 won the Sub Juniors.

The Sage Marteinsen open team shoot was won by the "Awesome foursome" of Mick Lamond, Wayne Evans, Malcolm Whitehead & Andrew Hoare. The handicap team shoot was taken by "Snapper spuds" Tim Widdison, Michael Edwards, Jason & Liam Bottomley.

This shoot also concluded the Gun club challenge between rival clubs Mt Gambier Gun Club & South East Field & game, despite holding a sizable lead after the previous weeks trap shooting the Mt Gambier Gun Club was unable to hold out the Field & Game who triumphed by 23 targets to win this prestigious event.



Field & Game president Ernie Scheidl (Left) receiving Gun Club Challenge trophy from Andrew Hoare (Right)



Handicap Team winner Snapper Spuds (Left to right) Tim Widdison , Liam Bottomley , Jason Bottomley & Michael Edwards



High Gun winner Jamie Dunn (Left) with sponsor Slim Fennell (Right)

The evergreen veteran Malcolm Whitehead took out The Trevor Reschke trophy for the combined high gun for the two events over the different discipline to prove the complete shooter he is.

The wheels appeared to have fallen off the Peter Caskey road train as Peter Klieve dominated the "Shooting for sheep stations" event this month

| GAMBIER SHOOTING SUPPLIES RESULTS |        |                 |       |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|--------|-----------------|-------|--|--|
| High gun W                        | /inner | Jamie Dunn      | 73/75 |  |  |
| AA Grade                          | 1st    | Ron Rhook       | 71/75 |  |  |
|                                   | 2nd    | Jeremy Kent     | 67/75 |  |  |
|                                   | 3rd    | Mark Fabris     | 67/75 |  |  |
| A Grade                           | 1st    | Danny Bellinger |       |  |  |
|                                   | 2nd    | Graeme James    | 65/75 |  |  |
|                                   | 3rd    | Leigh Dunn      | 64/75 |  |  |
| B Grade                           | 1st    | Jeremy Hellyer  | 60/75 |  |  |
|                                   | 2nd    | Cameron Scheidl | 59/75 |  |  |
| 3rd Al Scheidl Snr 57/75          |        |                 |       |  |  |

| C Grade     | 1st | Wally Wombwell  | 53/75 |
|-------------|-----|-----------------|-------|
|             | 2nd | Jason Bottomley | 51/75 |
|             | 3rd | Michael Edwards | 47/75 |
| Veterans    | 1st | Neville Kent    | 64/75 |
|             | 2nd | Wayne Evans     | 55/75 |
|             | 3rd | Bob Jones       | 54/75 |
| SuperVets   | 1st | Kevin Dyson     | 63/75 |
|             | 2nd | Greg Todd       | 63/75 |
|             | 3rd | Frank Kentish   | 62/75 |
| Ladies      | 1st | Tasha Bellinger | 65/75 |
|             | 2nd | Liz Rymill      | 56/75 |
|             | 3rd | Vicky Fabris    | 48/75 |
| Juniors     | 1st | Tom Jenkins     | 59/75 |
|             | 2nd | Campbell Serle  | 47/75 |
| Sub Juniors | 1st | Declan Wright   | 37/75 |
|             | 2nd | Willis Jenkins  | 41/75 |
|             | 3rd | Will Vickery    | 29/75 |

#### VICTORIA SPORTING CLAYS

#### **VALE**

2015 saw the passing on of two VSCA members who had a huge input into our sport over a long period.

Rodney Vallance (Bully) who was a inaugural member of Geelong Sporting Clays was the first to pass away after a long battle with cancer. Rod was the do anything man when GSCA started in 1996, we had no assets at that time and Bully was the man, he built hand traps and the old A frame trap sheds we used to start off with. Built towers, assisted with the rehabilitation of the club rooms etc.

While he was not bad with a gun, his best shot was when he missed catching a 3 lb. mash hammer from 25 foot high and it landed on my head, his comment was he could also fix that as he was proficient in sowing up wheat bags.

He shut the town of Portarlington down on the day of his funeral, a popular guy Next to pass on was the "Raffle Lady" as she was known throughout Australia, the countless thousands of dollars she raised for various clubs was amazing, of course as you all know I am referring to Therese Jane. You could duck and weave

#### **VICTORIA**

and try to hide but Therese always got her man.

She would say to me, Ray, I seen you yesterday and you looked so busy I thought I would not bother you, but I know you would be disappointed if you missed out on the raffle, so I saved you \$10 worth of tickets, what could you say. It was fantastic to see a number of Australian Team Members attending in

It was fantastic to see a number of Australian Team Members attending in their uniforms to honour the memory of Therese and support their team mate in Barry.

President VSCA Ray McFarlane

# PERTH METRO FIELD & GAME WANNEROO SPORTING CLAYS

Welcome to the new members Tony G, Jason, Steve W, Wayne C and Adrian P.

The rifle group had our Club Championships on 18 October, with 16 shooters on a windy, but otherwise fine day. High Gun 572 out of 600, which is a brilliant score.

Results are as follows:

| RESULTS                       |     |                 |         |  |  |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----------------|---------|--|--|
| High Gun Mark Williams 572/60 |     |                 |         |  |  |
| Open                          | 1st | JP de Beer      | 475600  |  |  |
|                               | 2nd | Owen Traynor    | 441/600 |  |  |
|                               | 3rd | Wayne           | 422/600 |  |  |
| Veterans                      | 1st | Hendrik de Beer | 460/600 |  |  |
|                               | 2nd | Tony Smith      | 410/600 |  |  |
|                               | 3rd | John Schnell    | 275/600 |  |  |
| Juniors                       | 1st | Z van der Walt  | 205/600 |  |  |

#### **English Sporting**

Wanneroo hosted a 50 pair English Sporting shoot on Sunday November the 8th. It is not often this type of shoot is presented, but, judging by the positive feedback, we need to run at least two a year. While the shoot could have been better attended, the 26 that turned up for it had a ball and the scores were fairly tight grades between the top shooters in A, B & C. There were three shoot offs for 3rd in A grade, 3rd in B grade and 2nd & 3rd in C grade.

High gun was 89 and first in A grade was 88, while Vets shooter Dave Knight was one behind with an 87.

After an overcast day on Saturday for the set up, however, Sunday was a very nice day with a warm 25c.

| ENGLISH SPORTING          |     |                         |        |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------|-----|-------------------------|--------|--|--|--|--|
| High Gun Ken Green 89/100 |     |                         |        |  |  |  |  |
| A Grade                   | 1st | Ist Doug Coleman 88/100 |        |  |  |  |  |
| 2nd Aiden Cooper 81/10    |     |                         |        |  |  |  |  |
| 3rd Nick Melanko 78/100   |     |                         |        |  |  |  |  |
| B Grade                   | 1st | lain Range              | 85/100 |  |  |  |  |
|                           | 2nd | C Pethrick              | 84/100 |  |  |  |  |
|                           | 3rd | Mike Hudspith           | 77/100 |  |  |  |  |

#### **WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

| C Grade     | 1st | Trent W            | 74/100 |  |
|-------------|-----|--------------------|--------|--|
|             | 2nd | Clayton Sonneman   | 73/100 |  |
|             | 3rd | Clyde Swartz       | 59/100 |  |
| Ladies      | 1st | Deanne Mascord     | 19/100 |  |
| Veterans    | 1st | D Knight           | 87/100 |  |
| Juniors     | 1st | M Robins           | 56/100 |  |
| Sub Juniors | 1st | B Plaisted - Jones | 48/100 |  |

#### Rifle Qualifier for 2016

A well attended shoot with 15 shooters, and some very good scores. The first ever full score in the 17 years that we have been running these shoots. Well done Mark.

| 1ST QUALIFIER FOR 2016 |     |  |         |  |  |
|------------------------|-----|--|---------|--|--|
| High Gun               |     | Mark Williams<br>(With two bonus points) 602/600 |         |  |  |
| Open                   | 1st | 1st Andrew Peters 56                             |         |  |  |
|                        | 2nd | Wayne<br>Cunningham                              | 410/600 |  |  |
|                        | 3rd | John Stevens                                     | 350/600 |  |  |
| Veterans               | 1st | Paul SInderberry                                 | 390/600 |  |  |
|                        | 2nd | Hendrik de Beer                                  | 335/600 |  |  |
| Juniors                | 1st | Jack Dutton                                      | 421/600 |  |  |

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#### ► End of another Year

It seems only a short time ago I was writing last year's end of year article. Time does go quickly. The shoots at Wanneroo have been exceptional this year and they can only be achieved by those that put the effort in and make it happen. To those that helped out, I sincerely thank you.

Thanks go to our small but very successful team that manage the rifle group at PWAC. Hendrik de Beer, Paul SInderberry, and Andrew Peters, all do a great job in managing the rifle group.

As I mentioned time goes quickly and when you're running your own business time is at a premium, it is not easy to find spare time to set up and run shoots, so special thanks go to Mike Hudspith, Dave Smith, Clyde Swartz and Peter Grayer for their individual efforts during 2015.

Recognition also goes to our members who have won places in State and Branch championship shoots and or have qualified for the State Team to represent WA at the Nationals, these are:

| 2015 PERTH METRO STATE WINNERS & STATE TEAM MEMBERS |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| Peter Grayer  | 8th place out of the Top 10, and B Grade winner |  |  |
| lain Range  | C Grade   |  |  |
| Morgan Robins                                       | Junior  |  |  |
| Danon Randazzo                                      | Sub Junior                                      |  |  |
| Tracey Grayer                                       | Ladies  |  |  |
| David Knight  | Veteran   |  |  |
| Dave Knight   | State team                                      |  |  |
| Tracey Grayer                                       | State team                                      |  |  |
| Danon Randazzo                                      | State team                                      |  |  |

Also to Kent Blizzard, Preston Smith, Wayne Mascord, Chris Flemmich and Mark & son Morgan Robins, for assisting in setting and packing up, and to Garry Murray for helping to run the kitchen. Also to Jeff lbbott for giving up time to help around the grounds.

The whole team at Wanneroo, Whiteman Park and the Rifle group have put in a huge effort for 2015 and it all the hard work is appreciated.

Thanks to our sponsors for 2015, Wanneroo's own Mike Hudspith from Enhanced Landscapes, Tony Trainor representing GB Corsivia and Kevin & Wife Meliana from BEST.

Wishing you all a merry Xmas and a great New Year.

Stay safe and I will see you around the traps in 2016.

#### **Mark Mansfield**

President

Perth Metro Field & Game

# WEST AUSTRALIAN FIELD & GAME OVERALL CHAMPIONS 2015

#### Wannamal 13th September 2015

The WA State qualifying series in 2015 has proved to be one of our best with 116 competitors attending over the 5 State qualifiers and the final State champs. We set a goal in 2014 to improve our target presentation, trap reliability and overall professionalism of the way we went about delivering clay target shooting to our members and we have delivered on all fronts. Thank you to all the clubs this year for everything you have achieved showing a 15% growth in attendance is testament to the hard work.

Well shot to Tony Trainor with overall High Gun for the year just shows you need to deliver when it counts, to the Grade winners well shot and keep up

WEST AUSTRALIAN FIELD & GAME OVERALL CHAMPIONS 2015 RESULTS

**Tony Trainor** 

Colin George

Peter Grayer

**Gary Turley** 

Arthur Page

Nick Melanko

Chris Brown

Dave Knight

**Grant Cooper** 

Tracey Grayer

Morgan Robins

Danon Randazzo

Billy Clarke

Iain Range

Michael McDonald

2nd: Ben Sgro

3rd:

1st:

2nd:

3rd:

1st:

2nd:

3rd:

1st:

2nd:

3rd:

1st:

482.67

478.68

475.25

473.94

451.91

430.63

420.97

409.62

388.14

383.06

465.47

431.13

400.44

394.16

356.58

393.89

Hiah Gun

A Grade

B Grade

C Grade

Veterans

Ladies

Juniors

Sub Juniors 1st:

the good work. A special mention to our Junior Morgan Robins & Sub Junior Danon Randazzo and it's great to see a couple of young men coming thru the system, I am looking forward to seeing you challenge for State Team spots in the coming years.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our members and their families a most enjoyable Christmas and a very happy New Year.

Regards

#### **Colin George**

WAFGA State President

| WEST AUSTRALIAN FIELD & GAME<br>TOP 10 2015 |                  |        |  |  |
|---|------------------|--------|--|--|
| 1st   | Tony Trainor     | 482.67 |  |  |
| 2nd   | Colin George     | 478.68 |  |  |
| 3rd   | Ben Sgro         | 475.25 |  |  |
| 4th   | Michael McDonald | 473.94 |  |  |
| 5th   | Rhys Howard      | 467.99 |  |  |
| 6th   | Dave Knight      | 465.47 |  |  |
| 7th   | Clayton Dennis   | 457.79 |  |  |
| 8th   | Peter Grayer     | 451.91 |  |  |
| 9th   | Doug Coleman     | 445.05 |  |  |
| 10th  | Glenn Povey      | 441.96 |  |  |
| 10th  | Glenn Povey      | 441.96 |  |  |

| WEST AUSTRALIAN FIELD & GAME<br>STATE TEAM 2015 |                  |  |  |
|---|------------------|--|--|
| Open 1st  | Tony Trainor     |  |  |
| Open 2nd  | Colin George     |  |  |
| Open 3rd  | Ben Sgro         |  |  |
| Open 4th  | Michael McDonald |  |  |
| Veteran   | Dave Knight      |  |  |
| Ladies  | Tracey Grayer    |  |  |
| Junior  | Danon Randazzo   |  |  |

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#### 2015 QUEENSLAND REPORT

The last twelve months has seen continued growth in members and participation within the Queensland Sporting Clays Association Inc. (QSCA) branches. As the year draws to a close, QSCA currently has 565 financial members, a twenty two (22) percent increase over the 441 members recorded in 2014.

Queensland Government funding has been used to build the participation rate in all clubs as well as supply the necessary training of referees, coaches and volunteers. QSCA has one more year of funding 2016 after that the 2017/20 funding programs will be available.

No Club Coach Courses were delivered in 2015 as suitable dates could not be found. Two Club Coaches did attend the Competition Coach Course presented by Shooting Australia (AISL) and did obtain their Competition Coach status - Ian Grant and Mark Farrow.

QSCA Congratulates 2015 National Champion Damien Birgan on a great win and also Congratulates Billy Cain 2015 Sub-Junior National Champion two get wins Well Done. The State Team: Damien Birgan, Mike Birgan, Dennis Dinte, David Evans, Maree Birgan, Leo Cao and Mitchell Cain were once again placed second after Victoria but well done also by the team.

A new look QSCA website has been created and will be fully operational in the next few months.

The QSCA Committee commends the enthusiasm and efforts of its members in developing the sport in Queensland, in particular – the small bands of dedicated volunteers who help to run each club. Without these people – the organisation would fold.

#### New name for Federation

I would like to thank all of my fellow board members of Field and Game Federation of Australia Inc. for their foresight in changing our name to SPORTING CLAYS AUSTRALIA (SCA) Well done and a great step forward.

#### **Brisbane Sporting Clays**

BSC continues to increase memberships and participation, and currently has 450 members compared to 328 recorded in last year's report (an increase of 27%). New members welcomed have included a number of female and juniors.

The club continues to open on Friday afternoons, Saturdays and Sundays for practice, and an earlier opening time (10 am) on Saturdays has provided more flexibility for members. Monthly competitions are attracting 50-70 shooters on a regular basis, with good support from a number of sponsors.

The club has also seen continued strong growth in its corporate packages, with a large number of people attending for various functions (buck & hens shows, birthdays, work functions, or come & try etc). The total number of targets thrown continues to increase, and ammunition sales have been positive.

The club continues to reinvest in facilities, through maintenance, opening new shooting areas, and provision of new traps, trailers and control systems. At present they are working hard to open up areas for the 2016 Nationals.

#### **Gympie Sporting Clays**

Gympie currently has 34 financial members, with a number of new junior shooters participating. GSC continues to grow through planning for new facilities (traps). A state selection shoot is planned at GSC in 2016.

#### **Fraser Coast Sporting Clays**

Fraser Coast currently has 39 members, with an increase in participation by junior shooters. Fraser Coast has also continued to invest in facilities, with several new traps being purchased. A state selection shoot is planned for 2016.

#### **Childers Sporting Clays**

This small club is still moving slowly ahead, although it currently has only 13 financial members, this club has dedicated workers who are dedicated to the clubs future. The club has run come & try days, and has put its hand up to run the Selection Shoot in 2016.

#### **Beaudesert Sporting Clays**

Beaudesert currently has 28 members although small the club has finally

created a Sporting layout after long negotiations with the rifle club and the Police. They held a successful selection shoot in August with 47 shooters attending.

#### Membership

Total MEMBERS 571 – RECORD FOR QSCA, BEAUDESERT 28, BRISBANE 457, GYMPIE 34, FRASER COAST 39 and CHILDERS 13, this the final number for 2015 so well done to you all.

The 2016 fees are now available at the club and renewals well be sent out in December.

In July 2016 a new centralised membership system will come into operation run by Sporting Clays Australia. This new system will allow 1 year membership from the date of joining and will lighten the load on our state secretary as the membership will now be run by SCA.

#### **2016 State Team Qualifying Shoots**

The dates allotted for the 2016 series are:

- 1. Brisbane 14th February
- 2. Childers 17th April
- 3. Fraser Coast 5th June
- 4. Beaudesert 28th August

#### **State Titles**

5. Gympie - 17th - 18th September 2016 SCA Nationals – Brisbane Sporting Clays 14th, 15th, 16th October

#### **OTHER STATE EVENTS**

English Sporting: 26th June 2016

Compak: 31st July 2016

Old style: 27th November 2016 All shot at Brisbane Sporting Clays

#### Notice of AGM of Qld Sporting Clays 2016

To be held at Brisbane SC range at 12.00pm on Saturday 13th February 2016.

Two nominations have been put forward for Life Memberships of QSCA these are Doug Austin (Gympie SC) and Mark Farrow (Brisbane SC) both members have had long term involvement in QSCA over the past 30 years.

#### **Mark Farrow**

QSCA President

**National Sporting Clay Championships 2016** 

200 Targets over 3 days - Brisbane Sporting Clays 296 Mount Petrie Rd, Belmont, Queensland 14th, 15th & 16th October 2016.









#### **PRESENTS**





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Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> & Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> 75 targets

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#### STOP PRESS - SCA INTERNATIONAL **& NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS -ONLINE REGISTRATION -**

The new "online" Competition registration system is still in the programming stage. All being well It is the Intention of SCA to have the On-Line Competition registrations up & running for 1st February 2016.

The first Competition open for registration will be the Grand Prix being held at Geelong Sporting Clays over the period 26th -27th March 2016.

Should we run into any unforseen complications for this registration process to begin in this short time frame to have the system set up & fully functioning, we will advise the alternative process for registration on the new SCA Web site & our Facebook page should this need arise.



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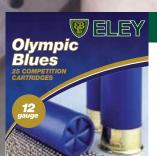
| Brand             | Gauge  | Symbol  | Length  | Velocity fps   | Shot Weight   | Shot Sizes  |
|-------------------|--|---|---|--|---|---|
| AA International  | 12   | AANL12  | 23/4  | 1325   | 24gr  | 7.5, 9  |
| AA Featherlite    | 12   | AA12FL  | 2 3/4   | 980  | 26gr  | 8   |
| AA Xtra Lite      | 12   | AAL12   | 23/4  | 1180   | 28gr  | 7.5, 8, 9   |
| ■ AA Target LE    | 12   | AALE1250  | 23/4  | 1250   | 28gr  | 7.5, 9  |
| AA Lite Handicap  | 12   | AAHLA12   | 23/4  | 1290   | 28gr  | 7.5, 8  |
| AA Super Sporting | 12   | AASCL12   | 23/4  | 1350   | 28gr  | 7.5, 8  |
|                   |  | AASC12  | 2 3/4   | 1300   | 32gr  | 7.5, 8, 9   |
|                   | AA International AA Featherlite AA Xtra Lite AA Target LE AA Lite Handicap AA Super Sporting | AA International 12 AA Featherlite 12 AA Xtra Lite 12 AA Target LE 12 | AA International 12 AANL12 AA Featherlite 12 AA12FL AA Xtra Lite 12 AAL12 AA Target LE 12 AALE1250 AA Lite Handicap 12 AAHLA12 AA Super Sporting 12 AASCL12 | AA International 12 AANL12 2 3/4  AA Featherlite 12 AA12FL 2 3/4  AA Xtra Lite 12 AAL12 2 3/4  AA Target LE 12 AALE1250 2 3/4  AA Lite Handicap 12 AAHLA12 2 3/4  AA Super Sporting 12 AASCL12 2 3/4 | AA International 12 AANL12 2 3/4 1325  AA Featherlite 12 AA12FL 2 3/4 980  AA Xtra Lite 12 AAL12 2 3/4 1180  AA Target LE 12 AALE1250 2 3/4 1250  AA Lite Handicap 12 AAHLA12 2 3/4 1290  AA Super Sporting 12 AASCL12 2 3/4 1350 | AA International 12 AANL12 2 3/4 1325 24gr  AA Featherlite 12 AA12FL 2 3/4 980 26gr  AA Xtra Lite 12 AAL12 2 3/4 1180 28gr  AA Target LE 12 AALE1250 2 3/4 1250 28gr  AA Lite Handicap 12 AAHLA12 2 3/4 1290 28gr  AA Super Sporting 12 AASCL12 2 3/4 1350 28gr |

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### HIGH PERFORMANCE SHOTSHELLS



#### **OLYMPIC BLUES**

- 28gram 1250fps -12ga 7½, 8 & 9 shot
- 28gram Fibre Wad 1250fps 12ga 9 shot (Extra Wide Pattern)
- 24gram 1315fps -12ga 7½, 8 & 9 shot



#### **OLYMPIC BLUES LOW RECOIL**

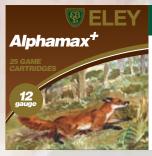
- 28gram 1180fps 12ga 71/2 & 8 shot
- Low Recoil



#### Now available at your **Local Dealer**



- 28gram 1336fps -12ga 7½, 8 & 9 shot
- Extra Hard Shot (5% antimony)



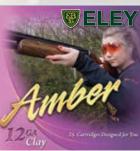
#### ALPHAMAX+

- 32gram 1312fps 12ga 6 & 7 Shot
- 36gram 1298fps 12ga 6 Shot
- Ideal Sporting Load



#### **FIRST**

- 28gram 1290fps -12ga 71/2 shot only
- 67mm Shotshell (Suitable for 2.5" Nitro-Proofed Guns)



#### **AMBER PINK**

- 24gram 1200fps -12ga 7½ shot
- Very low recoil
- Extra Hard Shot (5% antimony)



#### **VIP SPORTING**

- 28gram 1340fps -12ga 7, 71/2, 8 & 9 shot
- Extra Hard Shot (5% antimony)