

AUSTRALIAN Target RIFLE®

The Official Magazine of the National Rifle
Association of Australia Limited

May/June 2019

Issue No. 140



**Tasmania
Queens
results**

**Australian Rifle
Team dominate
at World
Championships**

**NRAA
welcomes
new board
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"To promote and develop the sport of target shooting in Australia"



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World Long Range Championships

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Australian Veterans

See Page 15



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INFORMATION

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COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING.

All enquiries in respect to advertising should be directed to the Editor.

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CLUB AND ASSOCIATION ADVERTISING:

By virtue of recent NRAA Council discussions and a Board decision there will be no further free advertising for clubs and associations from ATR #55 onwards.

Advertising rates will be \$300 per B&W page or part thereof, ie, \$150 per half page and \$50 per one sixth page. GST Included.

Payment must accompany the ad material otherwise the advertisement will not be run. The NRAA will NOT invoice you.

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Change of Address

Change of address details should be sent to your club secretary and state rifle association.

The Editor has no mailing lists so please don't send him address information.

DEADLINE

According to the Concise Oxford Dictionary the definition of "deadline" is, "a time limit for the completion of an activity". No definition that I could find listed "deadline" as a signal to contact the editor and ask how much more time there is to submit copy or book an ad. Ed.

Front cover

Australian Rifle Team were the winners at the World Championships in New Zealand.



Chairman's Message

The first few months of 2019 have heralded a positive beginning to what I believe is a renewal of optimism and direction of the NRAA.

What better way to start the year than with the outstanding results of our teams and individuals at the TR World Long Range Championships, held at the Seddon Range, New Zealand in February. While the details of our successes are included within this edition of the ATR, it would be remiss of me to not recognise the success of all the Australian teams. The prestigious Palma Match was won by Australia for the first time since 1988, the Australian Veterans team took out the Veterans World Teams Championship, repeating their victory of 2011, Gold went to the Under 25's, while the Under 21's won Silver. Overall, Australian Teams won five Gold medals and one Silver.

Individually, Australians were prominent in all matches, with an Australian medal count of four Gold, three Silver and two Bronze. NRAA members who arrived

home with the title of World TR Champion included Steve Negus (Open), Mark Buchanan (Veterans) and Christopher Schwebel (Under 25's). In addition, Jim Bailey won the Bellinger Belt in the NZ Championships.

Add to these the recent F Class World Championships results, both individual and teams, and one can only conclude that Australian shooting is currently experiencing a resurgence in the international arena.

This sense of optimism and reinvigoration is also reflected in the workings of the new board. At the April board meeting, an extra day was set aside for a rigorous workshop that set out to develop a realistic and updated way forward for the NRAA. Five tasks were identified to be developed and completed in time to present to the November AGM. They are: Development of the strategic plan; investigate a new ammunition supply policy; introduce new disciplines; and develop a comprehensive national database, including a membership renewal system and the development of a Centre of Excellence, which will offer courses and exemplars covering for example, coaching, safety and high performance.

The 'new' board has started with enthusiasm and vision and its members bring with them a wealth of skills, backed up with appropriate qualifications, both formal and practical, that I believe will set the NRAA on a firm path towards a stronger future.

Thanks need to be directed to the retiring Chairman, Gordon Duncan, for his stewardship over the past five years in the role.

As the incoming Chairman, I will endeavor to always Advance Shooting as A Positive Sport (ASAPS), and ensure that the NRAA provides the best possible leadership and service to members. I intend to enhance the NRAA's connection and communications with state associations, and will always be open to comment and advice. There will also be an added emphasis on Directors forming sub-committees within their specified portfolios with the aim of improving the scope and quality of decision making.

I ask each member to assist in our development by contributing in a positive way, both at club and association level.

George Wittorff - Chairman

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Off the Shoulder

The Publisher reserves the right to accept or to reject any letter submitted for publication, without explanation. The Editor reserves the right to edit letters for grammatical correctness and conformity with the style of the journal without consultation. The Editor will consult with authors before making more extensive alterations, such as the cutting of portions of letters. Contributors are advised that material of a defamatory nature will not be published and that, while fair comment and constructive criticism with regard to the running of the NRAA in general are welcome, and to be encouraged, comments of a personal nature or singling out individual officials or members will not be published.

Member 'gradings' and 'badge allocations'

After considering the current NRAA "grading system" and "OPM aggregate badge allocation", I would like to suggest some possible changes to the NRAA board and to the committees that organise Open Prize Meetings (OPMs) that, I think if adopted, could enhance our great sport in the area of competition.

These relate to possible changes to the way the NRAA determines a shooter's average and grading, and a recommendation on how aggregate badges could be allocated in national, state and territory or OPM events!

Current Situation regarding average calculation

The NRAA shooter's averages are based on an average of their most recent eight competition results where the top score of the competition represents 100%.

My proposal

Average to be based on an average of their most recent five competition results where the top score of the competition represents 100%.

My rationale

In the event that a member only shoots a single or two-day OPM event yearly, it may not necessarily reflect his

or her current skill level for some extended period of time.

Whereas a rolling five-year average would more realistically reflect his or her current skill level earlier.

Current situation regarding shooter grading

The NRAA defines "TR" shooters with a rolling average of 97% or more as "A" grade, a shooter with a rolling average of 92% to 96.99% as "B" grade and shooter with a rolling average of below 92% as "C" grade for each competition entered.

The NRAA in "F" standard defines a shooter with a rolling average of 95% or more as "A" grade and the remaining as "B" grade.

My proposal

Maintain the NRAA current procedure to determine each shooter's average, but delete the means of determining A, B and C grades by a set percentage.

Replace this practice by introducing establishing grades based on the number of entries at any OPM.

In the case of TR competitors, a third of entries at any OPM, state, territory or national competition on the day of competition become A grade, the next third become B grade and the last third become C grade based on their NRAA averages. This is similar to the "Division System" used by the West Australian Rifle Association (WARA), but still retains the traditional A, B and C grades.

In F standard, 50% of entries would be in A grade and the remainder in B grade again based on their NRAA averages.

My rationale

OPM organisers try to have trophies of similar value for each grade of competition, but with the existing percentage based system, too often there is an imbalance between TR A, B and C grade entries. This is generally depicted by lower A grade entries than the substantial B grade entries and often only a few C grade entries. Similarly, this approach could be adopted in F Standard to determine A or B grade entries.

By the adoption of an equal numbers in each grade, the cost associated with presenting similar value trophies in all grades is vindicated.

Current situation regarding allocation of aggregate badges

The allocation and number of badges presented as "aggregate badges" in all disciplines and grades is currently left to the discretion of the organising bodies.

The fairness of the number of badges allocated in each



Continued from page 4

grade is often an area of contention by competitors. As all disciplines and grades pay equal entry costs, many complain that the current badge allocation within grades in a many events does not reflect this fact.

My proposal

That the NRAA adopts and recommends to all state and territory rifle associations, and that they in turn recommend to their state OPM organising bodies, that in fairness to all competitors in all disciplines and grades that an “established minimum percentage” (to be determined, but a suggested percentage could be one third of all grade entries) of competitors in each discipline grade be awarded an aggregate badge.

To overcome the problem of establishing how many badges should be purchased, initially I would like to suggest that initially only a first, second and third badge be ordered for each discipline grade and presented, the remaining agreed percentage of competitors would be presented with an “I.O.U.” badge. After the event, the required number of badges would be ordered and when received, forwarded on to the winning recipients.

My rationale

In many cases currently, the value/merit in winning an aggregate badge has no correlation to competitor entry numbers in each grade, and therefore has varying values as to their worth (degree of difficulty in winning the badge).

By establishing aggregate badge allocations based on competitor numbers in each discipline by grade, all badges become equally hard to win and therefore of similar value in the eyes of fellow competitors.

I would welcome all comments in favour or against my suggestions from the NRAA board members responsible for grading and competitions, or the committees of any organising bodies of OPMs on any of my suggestions, which I put forward in the interest of further improving our target shooting competitions.

Yours sincerely,

Gordon Harrison

Member of the Murray Bridge Rifle Club

George Wittorff was appointed the NRAA Director responsible for administering the NRAA's Standard Shooting Rules (SSRs) at the beginning of this year.

This is the first of a series of articles that will appear from time to time in the ATR. The aim is to explain new and amended rules and to generally inform members and keep them up to date with the SSRs.

Rules Matter

Article by George Wittorff

Since being appointed as the NRAA Director responsible for the administration of the SSRs, I have been somewhat surprised at the constant flow of emails requesting information, interpretation and adjudication on a wide range of areas of the rules. They range from questions relating to Blow-Off shots, artificial rests, pointing and meplatting, muzzle brakes, shooting mats and sights, as well as questions relating to policy matters relating to Match Rifle and Service Rifle Assessment.

Hopefully, I have been able to either give a satisfactory answer, or direct the questioner to the correct rule.

The Golden Rule - 11.2.3.2

A number of members who enquired were quick to inform me that that they had been told by ‘the club RO’, or ‘so and so, who has shot for Australia’ “that if the rules don’t say you can’t, then you can”.

WRONG!! The Rules are clear on this point.

Rule 11.2.3.2 states: “Where any condition or matter arises which is not covered by any of these rules such condition or matter shall be deemed to be not approved.”

Due Process

The rule goes on to say that “application for approval can be made through a state or territory association to the NRAA provided the required notice is given”.

This process applies to any rule that a member may see as needing amending, deleting or adding. Once I receive a submission, my policy will be to circulate it to each state/territory association for comment, and then upon receipt of feedback and after any appropriate editing, I will take the matter to the board for approval and inclusion in the SSRs.

Interpretation of the rules

My official contact is rules@nraa.com.au.

While I am always available to members for discussion, I strongly suggest that firstly you read the rules, which can be accessed by going to the internet address www.nraa.com.au and then accessing the link to the rules. If in doubt, your first port of call should rightfully be either your Club Captain or Club RO. Next edition I hope to introduce a new discipline – Sporting/Hunting.

World Long Range Championship Australian Rifle Team Success

The Australian Rifle Teams have had enormous success at the World Championships in New Zealand. This was emphasized by taking gold medals across all bar one of the individual and team categories at the 2019 Long Range World Championships, the ICFRA Palma Team Match, the 158th New Zealand National Championship, the Ballinger Belt and associated events.

The last time Australia held the ICFRA Palma Match title was in its bicentenary year in 1988.

The championships commenced on Monday, January 28 on the Trentham Rifle Range in Upper Hutt, New Zealand. Many countries participated, including Australia, Great Britain, the United States of America, South Africa, New Zealand, Canada, Channel Islands and individuals from many other countries including Japan.

The World Under 25 Individual Champion was won by Chris Schwebel, World Veterans Individual Champion was won by Mark Buchanan, as well as the crown jewel in long-range shooting, and the Individual Long Range World Championship was won by Steve Negus.



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Australian Rifle Teams at the World Championships in New Zealand

Chris Schwebel was the most successful of the Under 25's, having taken gold in the Under 25's Individual World Championship and Under 25's Team World Championship. He finished with three world championship badges and shot into the top 10 for the open world individuals.

Mitchell Bailey, son of Jim Bailey who won Gold in the Ballinger Belt, claimed the Silver medal behind Steve Negus in the Individual Long Range World Championship, and also excelled in the team shooting, leading the scoreboards with his results.

This was the first time Australia has fielded a full contingent Under 21 Team lead by Andrew Sims.

Andrew has done a tremendous amount of work to ensure the team was prepared and successful in New Zealand.

Nicholas Sims and Sebastian Hopkins medalled in the Under 21 World Individual Championships taking the Silver and Bronze, and Australia finished with six in the top 10. Success also came with the team finishing with Silver in the World Teams Matches and Gold in the Haddon Donald Teams Match.

15-year-old Josh Pratt from Queensland shot outstandingly well in the World Long Range Individual championships finishing 16th overall in the open category.

The NRAA board are extremely proud of all the Australian Team members and their success. Below is the medal winner's summary.

Individual:

Jim Bailey, Gold Medal. 158th Ballinger Belt winner

Nicholas Sims, Silver Medal, Under 21 World Individual Championships

Sebastian Hopkins, Bronze Medal, Under 21 World Individual Championships

Christopher Schwebel, Gold Medal, Under 25 World Individual Championships



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Continued from page 7

Mitch Baily, Silver Medal, Under 25 World Individual Championships

Mark Buchanan, Gold Medal, Veterans World Individual Championships

Jim Jeffery, Bronze Medal, Veterans World Individual Championships

Stephen Negus, Gold Medal, ICFRA World Long Range Individual Championships

Mitch Bailey, Silver Medal, ICFRA World Long Range Individual Championships

Teams:

Gold Medal, New Zealand Teams Match (Palma Team)

Gold Medal, Tony Loughton Teams Match (Veterans)

Gold Medal, Under 25 Teams Match

Silver medal, Under 21 World Teams Championships

Gold Medals, Under 25 World Teams Championships

Gold Medal, Veterans World Teams Championships

Gold Medal, Palma World Long Range Championships

Full Results:

U/21 World Teams Match - New Zealand 1st, Australia 2nd, USA 3rd

Veterans - Tony Loughton Teams Match - Australia 1st, GB, NZ, USA, Canada



Steve Neegus takes home Individual Long Range World Championship title

New Zealand Teams Match - Australia 1st, Great Britain, USA, South Africa Red, South Africa Green, New Zealand, Channel Islands, Canada team 2

U/25 Teams Match - Australia 1st, GB, NZ, USA, Canada

Ballinger Belt (New Zealand National Championship) - 1st Jim Bailey (Aus), Ben Emms (Aus) 6th, Gillian Web Enslin (Aus) 7th

U/21 World Individual Championship, N.Sims 2nd (Aus), S Hopkins (Aus) 3rd (6 Australians in top 10)

U/25 World Individual Championship 1st C. Schwebel (Aus) , 2nd M Bailey (Aus) (5 Australians in top 10)

Veterans Individual Championship 1st MI Buchanan, 3rd J Jeffery (3 Australians in top 10)

International Teams Match - U/21 - 1st Australia, NZ, GB

World U/25 Teams Match - 1st Australia, GB, NZ, USA, Canada

World Veterans Teams Match - 1st Australia, GB, NZ, USA, Canada

2019 Long Range World Championship - Individual - 1st S Negus (Aus), 2nd M Bailey (Aus) (5 Australians in Top 10)

2019 International Palma Teams - 1st Australia, 2nd Great Britain, 3rd USA, South Africa, New Zealand, Canada, Channel Islands

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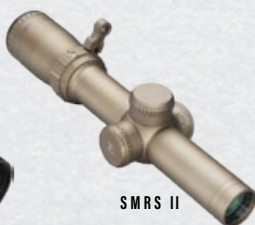
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Australian U25 Team

Article by Dean Enslin

The Under 25 Team that travelled to New Zealand was by far one of the strongest teams Australia has ever put together and our coaching and mound strategy prevailed well above every other team. Being embraced by the Palma Team and using barrels and ammunition developed by the Palma Team put our Under 25 shooters well above every other team which showed in not only their team placement but in their placements during all individual competitions.

South Africa 2017 was the first time the Australian Rifle Team had pushed to integrate the Under 25's and it really showed how much it could do for the team. The way the Australian Rifle Team supported and embraced the Under 25 team this time was at an even further level, finally redeveloping and changing the attitude the Open Team holds towards younger shooters, recognizing their importance on our sports future.

I would like to thank Darren Enslin and his management team for pushing so hard to make this happen and for finally making us all feel a part of the one Australian Rifle Team. I can't tell you how proud I was to be an Australian and have the entire Australian Team



U25s Individual winner Chris Schwebel



Australian Under 25 Rifle Team

Continued from page 10

behind us on match day prepared to help in any way they could. It made a huge impact on every other team and will hopefully change the way countries and teams focus on Under 25 matches.

It has been a huge honour to have been given the opportunity by the NRAA to Captain the Australian Under 25 Rifle Team to both the U25 Australia Match in 2017 and to the U25 World Team Championships in 2019. I am incredibly proud to have had the rare privilege of being the first Captain to bring home gold for Australia at both these matches and be the first Australian Under 25 team to become world champions!

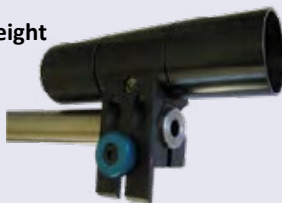


Josh Pratt being presented with medal by Lindsey Peden, ICFRA Secretary General



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History has been Made

Article by Darren Enslin,
Captain of the ART Palma Team

The first international match shot was the NZ Match. This is the Australia Match format. The Veterans and U25s shot alongside in their respective matches. Our Veterans and U25's in the Palma team shot with their respective teams which worked well. The Open Australian team have been victorious the previous two years for the NZ Match and this win completed the hat-trick, setting a new record for Australia in NZ.

I do not believe that Australia have had such a convincing win over Great Britain in an Australia Match format in the past few decades. Australia won every range and kept building the lead overcoming their nemesis at 1000 yards where Australian Teams traditionally come unstuck.

The NZ match win certainly set the tone for the rest of the competition with unparalleled dominance by the Palma Team members in all of the NZ championships and World Individual Championships.

This certainly rattled all of the Palma teams and was quite evident in the fact that, personally observing GB over the last five Palmas, they have never once turned up on the Palma practice day. They did this year!

In preparation for the Palma, I had made the NZ

championships non-compulsory, however the WILRC was mandatory in order to ramp up performance and was used as the final selection tool to establish the 16 shooters for the Palma Match.

Of the six matches making up the Palma course of fire, Australia only lost the initial 800 yards by three points to the USA. The weather forecast led me to believe that day one was going to have the heaviest gusts and wind strength. I asked the shooters for patience and the coaches for discipline and we were rewarded for the day. I was of the opinion that whoever led on day one should capitalise on 'easier' conditions on day two, but let's remember this is Trentham after all and nothing is predictable.

Conditions at the 800 yards, where Australia were the only team to go clean with a significantly higher V- Bull count, was just a teaser. The 900 yards was difficult but patience allowed us to enter the final 1000 yards 45 points clear of the USA, 51 ahead of GB and a hefty 80 ahead of Republic of South Africa (RSA). Having an almost three points per shooter cushion going into 1000 yards was a great confidence booster for the team.

We came out after lunch expecting everything to calm



Australian Palma Team

Back row L-R Lee Robinson, Brett McCauley, Hamish Pollock, David Smith, Alexander Davies, Matthew Pozzebon, Matthew Shepherd, Duncan Davies, Brendan Parkins

Middle Row Kathryn Kent, Andrew Wilson, David Black, Ashley Bidgood, Robert Sweepers, Ben Emms, Christopher Schwebel, Ben Picton, Mitch Bailey

Front Row Rob Cadden (Coach), Rob Rush (Coach), Geoff Grenfell (Master Coach), Jim Bailey (Vice Captain, Coach) , Darren Enslin (Captain), Catherine Berry (Manager), Stephen Negus (Coach), Donna Negus, Gillian Webb-Enslin

Continued from page 13



Australian Palma team scoresheet



Happy faces all round for the Australian Palma team

down and have an easy waltz to victory, but it did the opposite.

After numerous cautious stops and starts with brutal heavy gusts surging over the right shoulder and time beginning to erode, we made the decision to attack at the top of the surge builds as well as the bottom using a pilot shot and volley fire in short bursts.

As confidence grew, we were able to sustain lengthier short bursts. It took discipline to pull up the coaches and wait with three bulls and an inner or bird on our targets compared to mostly two inners, a bird and an outer on the other teams targets, whilst the dramatic wind changes favoured our final score line.

A win by 77 points and 165 centres over the GB team and almost 100 points over the USA was a comprehensive win of almost five points per shooter.

This is Australia's third ever win of the Palma trophy in 143 years, and has been reported by all of the Palma nations as probably the most dominate overall championships by any single nation ever!

A significant part of our win was the fact that all 27 members of the team worked extremely hard preparing for NZ and the management group left no stone unturned formulating the winning code.

It has been a great honour and a privilege to have led such a committed team with a fitting reward.

Victory to Australian Vets

Article by George Wittorff, Captain of the Australian Veterans Team 2019.

The Australian Veterans Rifle Team's clean sweep at Trentham, coupled with the scores achieved serves as a stark testament to the depth, talent and skills within the Veterans' fraternity in Australia.

Australia made it a trifecta, winning the World Championship in the World Veterans Team Match, the Tony Loughlan Memorial Match and the Trans-Tasman Cup.

To add icing to the cake, Australia's Mark Buchanan won the ICFRA Individual World Championship, with team mates Jim Jeffrey coming third and Geoff Grosskreutz placed tenth.

Scores

Veterans World Championships Australian Scoreboard

Australia	1932.182
Great Britain	1924.155
New Zealand	1919.150
USA	1906.156
Canada	1849.120

Veterans TR World Team Championship Trentham, New Zealand, 2019					
Australia					
Coaches: Tony McGUGGAN Rob CADDEN					
	300	600	900	1000	Total
1 JIM JEFFREY	50.10	50.10	49.4	45.3	194.27
2 KEN YOUNG	49.6	49.3	49.4	44.4	191.9
3 MIKE CHAD	49.4	50.5	49.3	47.5	195.17
4 GEOFF WELBURN	50.6	48.3	50.3	47.1	195.13
5 GRAHAM AITCHISON	50.7	49.5	47.4	47.3	193.19
6 MARK BUCHANAN	50.8	50.7	48.4	43.1	192.20
7 PETER MAHER	50.9	50.7	48.1	43.6	193.23
8 COLIN JONES	48.2	49.3	49.2	47.3	193.9
9 GEORGE EDGER	49.5	50.7	50.3	47.3	196.18
10 GEOFF GROSSKREUTZ	50.5	49.4	50.6	41.1	190.16
Reserves: ERIC CHRISTIE	49.5.62	49.4.58	48.6.34	45.7.30	
BARRY WOOD					
Team Captain: GEORGE WITTORFF	Team Total: 1932.182				
Adjutant: JOHN CASKE					
Master Coach: ROB RUSH					



Trans Tasman Trophy

Tony Loughlan Memorial Australian Scoreboard

Australia	1895.138
Great Britain	1895.133
New Zealand	1871.136
USA	1847.117
Canada	1723.094

Veterans Tony Loughlan Memorial Team Match Trentham, New Zealand, 2019					
Australia					
Coaches: Tony McGUGGAN Rob CADDEN					
	300	600	900	1000	Total
1 JIM JEFFREY	50.3	49.7	49.3	48.5	196.18
2 KEN YOUNG	50.3	49.5	45.2	41.2	192.12
3 ERIC CHRISTIE	50.5	48.3	43.3	39.0	176.11
4 GRAHAM AITCHISON	50.5	48.3	46.2	42.1	186.11
5 MIKE CHAD	50.5	48.3	46.2	36.1	180.11
6 MARK BUCHANAN	50.6	50.5	50.3	46.4	196.16
7 PETER MAHER	49.6	47.3	50.3	47.3	193.15
8 GEORGE EDGER	50.7	50.6	48.4	45.0	196.20
9 COLIN JONES	48.2	47.2	49.4	45.0	189.8
10 GEOFF GROSSKREUTZ	49.5	46.4	46.3	45.4	187.16
Reserves: JIM KEEFER & LEO HALL	49.5.47	47.8.41	47.3.29	44.8.21	
Team Captain: GEORGE WITTORFF	Team Total: 1895.138				
Adjutant: JOHN CASKE					
Master Coach: ROB RUSH					

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Continued from page 15



WLRC with trophy

Australia's first competition, the Tony Loughlan Memorial turned out to be of huge benefit for the major match in that as the day progressed, the notorious Trentham winds became evident.

Australia bounced out of the blocks at 300, dropping only four points to establish an eight-point lead from New Zealand. A great psychological boost was gained when Squad A, under coach Tony McGuigan, came through without dropping a point.

After the 600, Great Britain had overrun NZ, and was only two points behind Australia. The longs saw constant wind direction changes, which tested all coaches.



WLRC Coaches



Tony Loughlan on range 1

Continued from page 16



Tony Loughlan presentation

At the end of the 900, Australia had increased the lead to nine points. This was a saving range for us, because the Brits came on hard at the 1000, dropping 43 points to Australia's 52.

In the end, Australia narrowly won by five centre bulls. Team member George Edser, supported by his wind coach Rob Cadden, topped the range with a score of 198.20.

Between the running of the two team events came the ICFRA Veterans Individual World Championship. 113 Veterans from eight nations competed and, as reported above, Australia boasted three shooters in the top ten.

Mark Buchanan won scoring on 480.48, beating N Ball of Great Britain by nine centres. This was a wonderful achievement, as was Jim Jeffrey's third place and Geoff Grosskreutz's 10th position.



Mark Buchanan receiving his Veterans World Champion Award

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WLRC On Range

The World Championship Match was approached with quiet determination and optimism. We knew we had the shooting and coaching ability to handle the conditions, and that proved to be the case.

Great Britain was our major risk, but the Australian coaches and shooters proved their worth, gaining six points at the 300, holding to a loss of six points for each team at the 600, conceding two points at the 900 and another two at the 1000.

At the conclusion of the match, Australia won with 1932.182; eight points and twenty-seven centres in front of second placed Great Britain.

George Edser, under Rob Cadden, was top scorer for the team. A solid pair of 50.10s at 300 and 600, shot by Jim Jeffery and coached by Tony McGuigan, was a 'stand out' moment during the match. Both coaches and Master Coach Rob Rush excelled in their task.

As Captain, even before we left for NZ, I was aware that I was leading a very strong team. Our selection process and team practices had been as extensive as possible, given the far-flung locations of the team members.

Our expeditionary visit to Trentham in 2018 had given our coaches an advance hands-on experience of conditions and prepared those who attended for the real event.

Our uniform use of the same sights, as prepared by Neil McIntosh, was undoubtedly an advantage to the coaches, as were the wireless headsets we used both in 2018 and 2019.

Good gear, in-form shooters, canny wind coaches with a masterly main coach, great team spirit and a relaxed but focused approach made for what turned out to be a wonderful winning side.

In addition, our Manager John Caske took care of every conceivable detail, making both the Captain's and the team members' task so easy.

My recognition and thanks to our team supporters who travelled with their partners.

Importantly, a huge thank you to our major sponsors, Berger Bullets, Hex Systems and MacIntosh Precision.

I am sure that each and every member of the Australian Veterans Team will long remember Trentham, 2019.

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122nd Tasmanian Queen's Prize Meeting

Article and photos by Rodney Winwood

The 122nd Tasmanian Queen's Prize Meeting was held in almost perfect weather for the six ranges of the lead-up to the David Llewellyn Series and the 10 ranges of the Queen's.

However, gentle variable winds were the norm, varying in both strength and direction with quite a few ranges involving fish-tales from the north east to south east. Temperatures were very moderate in the low 20s and high teens, a change from the hot days of the Match Rifle Championships. Numbers of competitors were the same as 2018.

Our SMT targets were again used throughout the prize meeting and again performed exceptionally well. New and much brighter tablets were provided for the shooters, and it is hoped we will have new tablets for the scorers next year as well.

The David Llewellyn Series was shot over the six ranges of 500, 600, 700, 800, 900 and 1000 yards in very settled and calm conditions. Results are in the accompanying table.

The first day of the Queen's Badge competition on Saturday, March 9 saw fine and mild weather, but with developing light and highly variable winds.



Three Tassie champions



The winner Michael Millen

The Monday morning and the final two ranges of 900 and 1000 yards saw a return to some of the weather normally associated with this time of the year with a cool and brisk southerly.

The A Grade target rifle winner of the Queen's was Michael Millen from Mosman Neutral Bay, NSW for the second year in a row on 497.56, only dropping three points out of 500!

Second was Nicholas Cock from Grafton, NSW on 494.54.

The F Class Standard A Queen's Aggregate was won by Robert Pedersen of Wodonga with 571.37 ahead of Brendon Hunt from Sandford, Tasmania on 560.27.

The F Class Standard B Queen's Aggregate was taken out by Cedric May from Canberra on 551.31, with Alan Routledge from Launceston VDC finishing second on 528.17.

The C Grade target rifle Queen's Aggregate was this year won by George Cheney from The Scots College, Sydney on 463.24, followed by Peter Hannaford (Launceston VDC) on 450.16.

The B Grade target rifle Queen's Aggregate was won by Anthony Logan of Ipswich, Qld on 486.41, ahead of Peter Mitchell from West Wallsend, NSW on 475.39.

The F Open competition was won by Darryl Stehbens of Smithton, Tasmania on 563.33 followed by Terry Sheedy from Townsville, Qld on 558.33.



Continued from page 19



Barrels down range

Dennis Formiaitti of Canberra won the FTR Queen's Aggregate competition with a score of 572.27 ahead of Paul Monaghan of Central Tasmania on 554.24.

For the first time the new Hunter/Tactical Class was included in the program and was won by Kevin Thomas from Campbell Town, Tasmania on 523.14.

The Association welcomed to the presentation our patron Henry Foster, whose land the range is located, and David Llewellyn.

The TRA is looking forward to seeing all our old friends and new competitors in March 2020, when we will again be running a five-day competition, six range lead-up with the 10 range Queen's.



Loaded chamber



Gil and Kerry



Down range

Merton Vale 1500 yards Championships

Articles and photos by Rodney Winwood

The day after the Match Rifle Championships at the Campbell Town Rifle Range, the Merton Vale 1500 yards Championships Aggregate was held.

Conditions were about as rough as you could get, and staying on the target most of the time was a job in of itself.

In total, 12 shooters had a go with three trips to the mound with 15-shot matches.

In Match Rifle Open, Lew Horwood was the winner with 72-02, 57-02 and 57-00, and an aggregate of 186-04. In second place was Paul Monaghan with 63-00, 67-05 and 48-02, and an aggregate of 178-07. In third place was Mark Walters with 59-02, 62-01 and 52-01, and an aggregate of 173-04.

In Long Range F Class, Terry Sheedy shot 64, 70, 48 and an aggregate of 182.

For Long Range FTR, Cliff Austen hit 66, 62 and 39, with an aggregate of 167.

After the lead up to the Queens, we had our 1000-yard Championship, with 30 shooters having a go.

In A Grade, Michael Millen was the winner with a score of 70-04, in second place was Mark Wilson with 69-01, followed by David Rich on 65-02.

In B Grade, Rae Thomas was the winner with a score of 67-04, next was Anthony Logan with 59-02, and then Bob Phillips on 57-03.



Michael and family

In C Grade, Peter Hannaford won with 61-04, then John Cooper with 49-01.

For FO Class, Darri Stehbins was the winner with 83-02, followed by Terry Sheedy with 82-02, Stephen Clark on 71-00 and Gil Walker with 66-01.

In FS Class, Bob Pedersen was the winner on 83-02, with Brendon Hunt next with 66-01, followed by Rod Jarvis on 64-00 and Kevin Epps with 60-01.

For FS B Class, Kerry Hamer was the winner with 68-00 followed by Alan Routledge on 62-00.

Finally, in FTR Dennis Formiatti was the top shooter with 71-00 followed by Sarri Andrews with 54-00.



On the mound

Tasmanian Match Rifle Championships

Article and photos by Rodney Winwood

The Tasmanian Match Rifle Championships were held at the Campbell Town Rifle Range on March 2 and 3.

In total, 18 shooters from around Australia came down for what was a hot and, at times, windy challenge for all the shooters. We had a good turn up, most staying on for Australian Team practice after the match concluded.

On day one we shot three ranges with 15 shots at 1000, 1100 and 1200 yards.

In Match Rifle Open, Philip Bain was on top with 75-10, 68-04, 68-05 and 211-19. Lew Horwood was second with 75-09, 69-04, 67-0 and 211-16. Peter Maher finished third on 74-08, 68-02 and 69-04.

In F Open Long Range, Terry Sheedy topped the table with 87, 80, 73 and 240, followed John Collis with 88, 69, 67 and 224.

FTR saw Cliff Austen win on 85, 79, 62 and 226, Alan Routledge second with 66, 74, 66 and 06.

On day two, the weather was much cooler and, for most of the day, overcast. Hardly any wind was felt on the first 1000-yard range with some nice scores being posted. The last range on the day was a 20-shot match at 1200 yards.



John with Match Rifle winner Paul Monaghan



Checking the scores

Continued from page 22

In Match Open, Paul Monaghan shot 74-09, 73-09 and 97-05 with a second day-aggregate of 244-23. Shane Courtney was next with 75-09, 70-02 and 94-07, and an aggregate of 239-18, followed by Lew Horwood on 73-02, 72-05 and 90-04, with an aggregate of 235-11.

In F Open Range, John Collis topped the table with 85, 82, 105 and 272, with Terry Sheedy next on 84, 82, 105 and 271.



Philip Bain third place



Shane Courtney fourth place



Gil Walker

Continued from page 23



On the mound



FTR winner Cliff Austen

For FTR, Cliff Austen hit 86, 75, 106 and 267, while Alan Routledge scored 79, 76, 98 and 253.

With all the shooting done and scores added up, the winner of Match Rifle Open was Paul Monaghan with 452-41, next was Lew Horwood with 446-27, followed by Philip Bain with 445-33.

For F Open Long Range, Terry Sheedy was top with 511 then John Collis on 496.

The FTR winner was Cliff Austen with 496, followed by Alan Routledge 459.

Many thanks to the markers, who had some hot



Lew Horwood second place

conditions to work in, and the catering, which as usual was top.

Our boys in a couple of months head off to Great Britain for the 2019 Woomera Match. With four Tasmanians in the team, I would like to wish them all the best.



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OUR PARTNERS



Know Your Board Members

Since November, three new members have joined the NRAA Board. The Director's activities within their respective portfolios can be read in the Members' Updates, sent to all S&Ts and published on the NRAA website.

In keeping with our 'new' board's aim to be transparent as well as proactive, we thought it would be appropriate to let members know something of the members.

Board Member: George Wittorff



Area of Responsibility:
Chairman of the Board & Director Responsible for Rules

Work History: Senior High School Principal (Retired)

George was a Secondary Principal for 28 years and an Acting District Director of Education for two years. He managed school planning, budgets, staff development and educational leadership.

Qualifications: M.Ed.Man., B.A., THC, FIEA

Home Club: Bunbury Rifle Club (WA)

Discipline(s) Shot: TR and F/TR

Board Member: Craig McGowan



Area of Responsibility:
Competitions

Work Description: Maintenance Manager for RFDS - Qld Section. Craig currently manages \$50 million in his maintenance budget; Owner/Director of "7mm" firearms importation business.

Qualifications: Craig trained and worked initially in aircraft maintenance -Qantas; Certificate IV in Aircraft Maintenance

Home Club: Brisbane Rifle Club (Qld)

Discipline(s) Shot: F Open and Shot Gun

Work History: Gordon owned and operated a public accountancy practice in Bunderberg (QLD) for 30 years. He is now retired.

Qualifications: Gordon is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Company Secretaries (FICS) and Fellow of Institute of Chartered Accountants (FICA)

Home Club: Central Rifle Club (QLD)

Discipline(s) Shot: TR

Board Member: Piers Cambridge



Area(s) of Responsibility:

Strategic Planning, Treasurer and Ammunition

Work Description: Piers is a serving Army Officer and manages the modernisation of business information systems (enterprise resource planner and logistics systems). His background is in logistics, strategy, leadership, financial and project management.

Qualifications: Piers is a graduate of the Royal Military College, Duntroon and the Joint

Board Member: Gordon Duncan



Area of Responsibility:
Finance



Continued from page 26

Command and Staff Course. He also has qualifications in logistics, acquisition, capability modernisation and project management. He is a graduate of the Company Directors Course.

Home Club: Canberra Rifle Club (ACT)

Discipline(s) shot: TR – but also dabbling in F Open

Board Member:
Albert van Wyk

Area(s) of Responsibility: IT, Membership

Work Description: Director of Business Development at GBG

Home Club: Rosedale Rifle Club (Vic)

Discipline(s) Shot: F Open



Australian Target Rifle

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Submission Guidelines

Australian Target Rifle Magazine welcomes contributions covering shooting events, topics of relevance to target shooting and technical articles.

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atr_editorial@nraa.com.au.

Requirements

All written material should be sent as plain text. No tables, headings or spreadsheets are needed – just a basic word document or email is best. All headings, tables and formatting are added in later as part of the typesetting process. Text in Times New Roman font at 12 point is preferred.

Photographs should be sent as a .jpg or .tiff format and can be submitted either as a separate attachment to an email or on CD mailed directly to the ATR Post Office Box. Please provide captions for all photographs – either as the filename of the photograph or listed in the report. Do not embed photographs into documents as this renders the photograph unusable for publication.

Prize Meetings

Reports of any shooting events should include details of where and when the event was held, the conditions and competitors on the day and a summary of key scores such as aggregates. Additional material regarding the equipment used by the winners and photographs of the event are also welcome.

Queens Prizes

Reports of Queens Prizes should include information about the conditions and competitors, the lead-up, Queens, teams and other associated events. Scores should be provided for all badge winners and included in the report as text. (i.e. Not in table or spreadsheet form).

Good photographs allow us to feature an event. Cameras should be set at as high a resolution as possible. It is often advisable to have more than one photographer and to include a variety of photographs by email or CD including shots of: the range, the competitors, the winners and trophies. Presentation photographs can also be included, but often the presentation area has poor lighting and doesn't allow adequate time to set up good photographs for publication purposes, so additional photographs of the event can be important.

Cover photographs

Photographs suitable for a cover should be provided at very high resolution. (300 dpi and 2Mb or above). When taking cover photographs, consider the framing of the photograph with the subject in the foreground and allowing some background (sky or range) for the positioning of the ATR banner.

Deadlines

Think ahead. Good publishing is all about planning. If you are advertising an event, it can be helpful to prepare and submit advertising material up to four months ahead. This allows time for the editing and publication process and assists readers to plan their attendance at your event. Deadlines for the next two issues of ATR are published in the front of each magazine.

Contributions to ATR are genuinely appreciated and these guidelines are intended to assist in making the process as easy as possible. If you have comments or questions about sending material please contact us at **atr_editorial@nraa.com.au** for any clarification.

Crows Nest-Goombungee and District Prize Shoot

Article and photos
by Dennis Bidgood

Saturday, February 16 kicked off on the Bill Dukes Rifle Range at Crows Nest in near perfect weather, however the country is the driest in the memory of the property owner who has been on the property for more than 60 years.

The dam was, for the first time in recent memory, completely dry, while the only green grass on the firing mounds were at the five- and 600-yard marks, both protected by shade cloth covers and electric fencing to keep cattle out.

The Sweepstakes Shoot attracted 65 Competitors from the region within Clermont in Central Queensland, Muckadilla in the west and Grafton, northern NSW, to the east coast.

A sign of the times, and the way our movement is going, saw 21 TR entries versus 44 in the Field Class.

A 2 x 10 shot match at 500 yards was shot in very dry trying conditions with a varying right to left wind of 1-4 minutes.

Colin Cole from North Arm got it right each shot in TR A, with the possible 100.8, ahead of Shane Abood from the Albert District on 99.12.

TR B saw Peter Tollis from Inverelle win with 99.10 points ahead of local Nikk Ellis from Crows Nest-Goombungee on 97.8.

TR C was won by Dan Brisky from Crows Nest-Goombungee with 93.7, while fellow local Tom Smith from Crows Nest-Goombungee finished second on 92.3.

Meanwhile, FS A was taken out by Andrew McKillop of Bundaberg/Burnett with a score of 117.13 ahead of Margie Kerrin of Clermont with 116.7.

Jason Schroder of Crows Nest-Goombungee took out FS B with a score of 113.5 ahead of Peter Birch from North Arm on 111.8.



The only green grass in sight



The Range from 600 yards

FO was won by Tony Berry from Beaudesert, who shot a possible 120.10, while second-place Pud Heironymus from Goondiwindi scored 118.5.

FTR had a good attendance of 11 entries with Gary Towers of Bundaberg/Burnett showing the way on 116.6, ahead of Robert Fry

from Crows Nest-Goombungee on 115.4.

On completion of the statistics compiled by Aileen Hayden and her trainee, new treasurer Jane Toms, the financial rewards were presented to the lucky winners by Captain Shawn Birch.



Continued from page 28

As the sun dropped below the dry brown parched land on the Dukes property, the Ladies of the Club served up a very nice dinner to ensure all guests were well catered for in addition to the amber liquid that was sampled at the bar. All Sweepstakes scores are available on the NRAA website.

The sun rose Sunday morning over the dry landscape and a few red eyed campers, who the night before thought they would break the drought with the liquid they consumed.

Come 8:15am, the first shot was fired at the scheduled 2 x 10 shot matches at 600 yards. The conditions were a carbon copy of the day before, with the air temperature a couple of degrees hotter at around 30 degrees.

Four of Saturday's competitors didn't front, however by 9:30am the entry numbers rose to 82, which assured a busy day for RO Glenn Ellis and his assistant Max Bidgood.

Although 13-14 competitors per target was going to be a challenge, the Silver Mountain ET's again this year expedited time on the mound for the competitors. The attendance split between TR and Field Class was 33 and 49.

Very few range possibles were recorded, hence wind arms/dials



Vice Captain Rob Fry keeping the batteries charged

were kept warm. By 1:15pm the second 600 was completed and the decision was made to have a short break then shoot another 10 at 600 yards in lieu of the scheduled 10 at 500 yards.

A few moans and groans were heard, however logistically it proved to be a good move as time was saved in moving as well as refacing targets. Thanks to senior members Doug Toms and John Lawson, the scoreboard at the Clubhouse was updated constantly for competitors to check out the opposition and ponder their strategies for the next range.



You're not coming in here!!!!

After 3 x 600-yard matches there was a shoot off in TR A between local Ash Bidgood and Josh Turner from Bundaberg/Burnett, both on 147.13. However, it was Ash who proved victorious.

TR B was won by Dennis Hilton from Grafton on 143.7 ahead of Emily Cronin of Clermont on 141.8.

TR C was taken out by Lester Robinson from Ipswich with 128.7, as Thomas Smith from Crows Nest-Goombungee finished second on 127.3.

Meanwhile, Andrew McKillop from Bundaberg/Burnett took out the top spot in FS A after Tim Pilcher declined a shoot off after both scored an identical 171.8.

FS B was won by Peter Birch of North Arm on 169.10 ahead



On the slope at 600 yards



2018 Ravenshoe/Mt Garnet Annual Prize Shoot

Article by Liz Wilson

Photos by Murray Wilson

Ravenshoe/Mt Garnet Rifle Club held its annual 2018 prize shoot on Sunday, October 7 following a great shoot on the previous day at the Herberton prize shoot.

Numbers were very good, with 40 shooters across the six disciplines attending from various clubs ranging from Mossman to Bowen, Collinsville and Ayr, as well as all the Tableland ranges and Cairns.

Some had to travel hard, making the miles from the Raglan shoot to

Cairns. The day turned out to be very warm with temperatures in the low 30s, and rapidly changeable and erratic winds. Well, if it was easy shooting, they'd all be doing it!

First range - 500 yards - started with ecstatic conditions and some of the scores reflected this. Some, not so lucky, were caught with later winds.

Target Rifle 1 (TR1) was only divided by a point between first and third between Bob Boulter (Atherton), Stephen Durham (Mareeba) and Mark Beecham (Mareeba).

Target Rifle 2 (TR2) was won

by Rick Mischlewski (Mossman), followed by Gary Moss (Atherton) who was one point behind and Frank Chester (Mareeba) in third place just two points behind.

In F-Standard 1 (FS1), there was hardly a super centre between first, second and third positions. Travis Kohn (Atherton) won with 60.7, while Craig Matthews (Townsville) on 60.5 and Charlie Lazarus (Cairns) with 60.5 took second and third place respectively.

F-Standard 2 (FS2) was taken out



Continued from page 29

of Ron Bowman from Gatton/Glenoregrove on 166.7.

Dave Reddan from Gatton/Glenoregrove scored 174.9 points to take out FO from Tony Berry of Beaudesert on 172.9

Finally, FTR was won by Gary Towers of Bundaberg/Burnett on 174.9 points ahead of Frans Knox from Brisbane on 170.8. All results are on the NRAA Website.

Captain Shawn Birch gave a welcoming speech to attendees and gave an overview of his Target Marking experience at the Worlds in NZ.

Shawn congratulated Club Member Ash Bidgood on his fourth placing in the Individual World Long Range Championship as well as his representation in the winning Australian Palama Team. Shawn went on to congratulate Ash and myself on being nominated by Club Members to be awarded Life Members.

Club Patron, and Toowoomba Regional Council Mayor, Councilor Paul Antonio was introduced and gave a rousing speech in support of our sport and movement in general, then presented Range Medallions and Aggregate Badges/Trophies.

The all-important drawing of an entry for the Benchmark SS barrel was won by Josh Turner from Bundaberg/Burnett, which was a nice consolation prize for his loss in the shoot off.



Front left Property owner Porge Dukes, with Kay Tyler. Front Right CNG Member Ian Dascombe and Life Member Neville Smith



Goondiwindi Members L-R Pud Heironymus and Bob Nix planning a strategy under the BARN Sponsorship Banner

Continued from page 30

with a 57.4 score by John Mercer (Townsville), who is returning to competitive shooting. "Mozzie" Williams (Mareeba) had a great 57.4 score for second place and Murray Wilson (Ravenshoe) finished third with 57.3 points.

F-Open was a very hotly contested field. North Queensland has some of our best F-Open shooters, as shown in recent world championships. David Stewart (Herberton) showed he is to be reckoned with a score of 60.7, winning ahead of Marty Lobert (Cairns) on 60.6. Mark Azzopardi (Cairns) meanwhile, was not to be outdone with a score of 60.4.

There were some very interesting developments in the FTR scores. Joshua Cox, target rifle shooter from Cairns, decided to "sock 'em to the scopies" with an incredible score of 60.7. Steve Lazarus (Cairns) shot a 58.5, with Karl Vorderwinkler (Cairns) finishing on 58.2.

As the day progressed, the wind became more erratic. Ravenshoe does not give shooters a perfect opportunity for long and many suffered.

At the first 600 yards TR1 was led by Stephen Durham with a score of 49.2, Bob Boulter hit 48.3 and Dudley Ford (Mareeba) was close behind with 48.2 points.

In TR2 it was Frank Chester who won on 49.5 points, Gary Moss second with 44.2 and Rick Mischlewski third on 41.2 points.

Meanwhile, Peter Munro (Townsville) prevailed over Travis Kohn and Bowen-Collinsville's Wayne Swift in FS1, while Dennis Russell (Cairns) beat Murray Wilson and John Mercer in a tight contest.

At the second 600 yards it was a trifecta for Mareeba shooters Dudley Ford who took the honours from Stephen Durham and Mark Beecham in TR1.

Gary Moss, Frank Chester and Rick Mischlewski finished first, second and third respectively in TR2, while Travis Kohn, Wayne Swift and Craig Matthews beat the field in FS1 and Dennis Russell, Lance Matthews (father of Craig) and Lynette Coupar (Cairns) took out the podium in FS2.

Cairns shooters Mark Azzopardi

and Marty Lobert were first and third with Howard Simpson (Ayr) coming second in F Open, and it looks like target rifle shooters are showing the 'scopies' how it's done with Jason Kuchel (Atherton) defeating Karl Vorderwinkler and Joshua Cox in FTR.

The final results were, for some, a god-send and for others, not so good. In TR1, Stephen Durham finished first and showed his home range advantage (although his club is Mareeba, he shoots most weeks at Ravenshoe). Dudley Ford proved he is a force to be reckoned with coming second and Bob Boulter finished third.

In TR2 it was Frank Chester, Gary Moss and Rick Mischlewski who finished on the podium.

F-Open finals saw Mark Azzopardi win with a score of 178.13, David Steward place second on 177.16 and

Peter Burg (Atherton) rounding out the podium with 177.8 points.

Final aggregate scores for FTR saw Karl Vorderwinkler finish with 174.11, Joshua Cox achieve 173.11 and Jason Kuchel with 166.8.

Ravenshoe range presents some challenging conditions to shooters and we look forward to seeing more shooters testing their skills.

The Ravenshoe/Mt Garnet Rifle Club appreciates all the support we get from our sponsor, Ravenshoe Hardware, and thanks all the shooters who attended the competition.

Special thanks to Paul Padgett who took on the RO job for the entire competition, the markers who did a great job in very hot conditions and our catering team including Sandy Wood, Rebecca and Ashley Langley and Yvonne Burg.

Ravenshoe/Mt Garnet Prize Meeting 2018

Match 1 - 500 yards - 500 yards

Target Rifle - A

1	BOB	BOULTER	ATHERTON RIFLE CLUB INC.	QLD	5545VV5V	V	49.5
2	STEPHEN	DURHAM	MAREEBA RIFLE CLUB INC.	QLD	55545545V	V	48.1
3	MARK	BEECHAM	MAREEBA RIFLE CLUB INC.	QLD	VV45V55V44		47.4

Target Rifle - B

1	RICK	MISCHLEWSKI	MOSSMAN & DISTRICT RIFLE CLUB INC.	QLD	555454V55		48.1
2	GARY	MOSS	ATHERTON RIFLE CLUB INC.	QLD	4445VV5V55	V	47.3
3	FRANK	CHESTER	MAREEBA RIFLE CLUB INC.	QLD	4454V4555V	V	46.2

F Standard - A

1	TRAVIS	KOHN	ATHERTON RIFLE CLUB INC.	QLD	66XXXXXX6X		60.7
2	CRAIG	MATTHEWS	TOWNSVILLE MARKSMEN R.C. INC.	QLD	XX6X66X66X		60.5
3	CHARLES	LAZARUS	CAIRNS RIFLE CLUB INC.	QLD	6X666X6X6	V	60.5

F Standard - B

1	JOHN	MERCER	TOWNSVILLE MARKSMEN R.C. INC.	QLD	X55X656X6X	V	57.4
2	MOZZIE	WILLIAMS	MAREEBA RIFLE CLUB INC.	QLD	66XX5X55X6		57.4
3	MURRAY	WILSON	RAVENSHOE/MT GARNET RIFLE CLUB INC.	QLD	6666XX565	V SV	57.3

F Open - FO

1	DAVID	STEWART	HERBERTON RIFLE CLUB INC.	QLD	66XXXXXX6	V	60.7
2	MARTY	LOBERT	CAIRNS RIFLE CLUB INC.	QLD	XX66XX66X		60.6
3	MARK	AZZOPARDI	CAIRNS RIFLE CLUB INC.	QLD	6666XX6X		60.4

F/TR - A

1	JOSHUA	COX	CAIRNS RIFLE CLUB INC.	QLD	X6XXXX6X6		60.7
2	STEPHEN	LAZARUS	CAIRNS RIFLE CLUB INC.	QLD	55XX6X6X6		58.5
3	KARL	VORDERWINKLER	CAIRNS RIFLE CLUB INC.	QLD	6666X6X656		58.2

Belmont Prize Meeting

Article by Craig Pratt

The revived Australia Day prize meeting at Belmont again proved to be a great start to the annual full-bore season.

Having a two-day shoot with a 10am start over a long weekend allowed many country travellers the opportunity to travel at civilised hours, and they did.

The event is primarily focussed on raising funds for the development of our junior shooters and we would like to thank Emile Daniel for opening the prize meeting with the first shot, Mr John Johnson (OAM) for his role as master of ceremony and, last but not least, Syndicate 1 for the generous target donation for the event.

Whilst many were across the ditch competing at the Long Range World Championships, the locals far and wide took the opportunity to attend and hopefully snare a medallion, with the high attendance and support pleasing given the large contingent overseas.

For the second year running, the much coveted Australia Day medallion was on offer as a reward for the daily aggregate and grand aggregate. This event is getting bigger each year and plans for next year include fireworks.

This year's event was a little bit out of the ordinary with a mixed pair shoot to kick off Saturday at 10, followed by 500 and double 600 yards, with 1000 and double 900 yards on the Sunday.

With a predictably warm weekend forecast, organisers made sure there were ample amounts of cold water at the mound, and every shooter at every range shot under shades. Winds were rapid in direction changes and certainly caught more than a few with rapid pick-ups and drop-offs, but that's what keeps us coming back.

Saturday winners include Geoff Grant of Brisbane Mariners (147.011) in TR/A, Nikk Ellis of Crows Nest



A beautiful day on the range



Craig McGowan

Continued from page 32

Goombungee (145.013) in TR/B, Ian Errington of Natives (123.004) in TR/C, Andrew McKillop of Bundaberg/Burnett (178.016) in F Standard A, Wayne Blair of Natives (166.009) in F Standard B, Peter Broom of Beaudesert (178.008) in F Open and Craig Pratt of Natives (173.008) in F/TR.

After the days shooting it was time for presentations and a complimentary spit roast dinner. The committee has listened to previous visitors comments and ensured that a full breakfast was available each morning, as well as lunch options and a fully catered evening meal, which by all accounts was greatly appreciated.

Day two dawned and again after a leisurly breakfast the events kicked off at the feared 1000-yard mound. Weather conditions were hot, dry and blustery just what you want to test your wind and mirage reading skills.

With no tears being shed, our Sunday aggregate winners were Joshua Turner of Bundaberg/Burnett (140.013) in TR/A, Lester Robinson of Ipswich (131.007) in



Behind the scenes

TR/B, Ian Errington of Natives (114.006) in TR/C, Andrew McKillop of Bundaberg/Burnett (165.003) in F Standard A, Brad Ruthven of Natives (153.004) in F Standard B, Craig McGowan of Brisbane (171.009) in F Open and Frans Knox of Brisbane (166.003) in F/TR.

In a tough match right to the end, final aggregate placements went to Joshua Turner (286.023)

in TR/A, Nikk Ellis (270.019) in TR/B, Ian Errington (237.010) in TR/C, Andrew McKillop (343.019) in F Standard A, Wayne Blair (317.014) in F Standard B, Josh Reid (343.020) in F Open and Craig Pratt (330.015) in F/TR.

In all, the weekend was a true reflection of why we keep going to prize meetings with much laughs and comaraderie to go around.

See you all next year.



Craig Pratt



Andrew McKillop



Brad Ruthven



Chewing the fat



Con the RO

North West Open Prize Meet

*Article and photos
by Rodney Windwood*

The North West Open Prize Meet was held at the Campbell Town Rifle Range on the January 12 this year and, as expected, the range was very dry.

Rain is not only needed in Tasmania, but all of Australia as the farmers are all doing it hard.

We had a small but good turnout of shooters with for the first time the new Hunter/Tactical Class was being shot.

In total, we had five shooters in the new class and with some luck it will pick up, while 23 more shooters made up the other grades.

On the range it was a hot and fine day with a very fresh frontal breeze and a nasty hard to read fish tail at the 600-yard mark.



Micheil



On the mound

Continued from page 34

A double 500 yards was on the cards first up and then 600 yards after dinner.

In TR A Grade, John Hope finished on top with 49-02, with James Gillies next on 49-01, then Micheil Sweet with 42-01.

At the second 500 yards, James scored 47-03, followed by John on 46-03, then Micheil with 35-00.

James won the Short Aggregate with a score of 96-04, John was second on 95-05 and Micheil third on 77-01.

At 600 yards, James and Michiel both shot a well-earned 46-00, with John on 44-02.

In F Class ST A, Phillip Oliver was on top with 57-06, Rod Jarvis was next with 57-04, then Bob Pedersen (Pedo) on 57-02, Rob Armstrong on 56-04, Neville McKinnell with 53-02 and Gerald Upchurch on 50-01.

Second time down Pedo finished on top with 57-04, then Rob with 52-02, Phillip on 52-01, Rod with 52-00, Gerald on 49-00 and Neville scoring 48-00.

Bob won the Short Aggregate with 114-06, with Phillip next on 109-07, followed by Rod on 109-04, Rob with 108-06, Neville on 101-02 and Gerald with 99-01.



Stephen



Gil relaxing before the shoot



James with his win



Pedo

Continued from page 35

At 600 yards Pedro shot a 54-03, with Phillip and Neville both on 52-01, and Rod and Gerald on 44-01 and 32-00 respectively.

For the target rifle B/C Grade, Peter Hannaford was on top with 48-04, then Andrew Halley with 47-04 and Kerry Hamer on 44-01. Second time down Andrew was top with 46-02, with Kerry next on 46-00, followed by Peter on 44-04.

The Short-Range Aggregate winner was Andrew with 93-05, then Peter with 92-08 and Kerry on 90-01.

At 600 yards, Andrew won with 43-03, Peter scored 41-01 and Kerry finished on 36-00.

For F Class ST B, George Crisp nabbed 59-04 points, Ray Halley scored 52-01, Alan Routledge finished with 52-00, Les Scholz pegged 50-00 and Stephen Tamassey reached 44-01.

Second time down George and Les both shot a 52-02, Alan scored 52-01, Ray finished on 49-01 and Stephen hit 46-00.

For the Short-Range Aggregate, George won on 111-06, followed by Alan on 104-01, Les with 102-02, Ray on 101-02 and Stephen with 90-01.

At 600 yards, George was on top with 51-02, Alan shot 50-01, Les hit 50-01, Stephen finished with 43-00 and Ray scored 40-00.



James scoring



Checking the scores



Rob scoring



George lining up

TARGET 4	SS1
R. ARMSTRONG	4855
	655
D. HALLEY	48V5
G. WALKER	48V5
	5X X6
B. HUNT	64 X6
	4865
G. CRISP	5555
	4X X6
B. PEDERSEN	4555
	8666
N. MCKINNEL	4865

Continued from page 36

In F Class Open, Stephen Clark was top with 59-05, Gil Walker shot 58-03, Brendon Hunt scored 57-03, Darl Stebbens finished with 57-02, Louise Thomas accrued 55-01 and John Collis shot 54-01.

Second time down, Brendon was top with 58-03, followed by Gil on 56-04, Stephen with 56-02, John on 55-02, Daryl with 54-01 and Louise on 53-02.

Now for our new Hunter/Tactical Class, Kevin Thomas scored 56-03, Adam Thomas hit 51-01, David Dalrymple shot 51-00, David Jongbloed finished with 49-02 and Rod Newnham shot 45-00.

Second time down, Kevin hit 56-02, Adam scored 54-02, David D shot 54-01, Rod made 51-01 and David J finished with 47-01.

At 600 yards, Kevin finished on top with 50-01, followed by David D on 50-01, Adam with 48-01, Rod on 47-00 and David J with 44-02.

The Short-Range Aggregate saw Kevin finish first on 112-05, Adam second with 105-03, David D third on 105-01 and David J fourth with 96-03.

In Target Rifle A, James was the winner with 142-04, John next on 139-07 and Micheil with 123-01.

For F Class ST A, Bob (Pedo) was the winner with 168-09, Philip was second on 161-08, Rod third with 153-05, Neville fourth on 153-03, Rob fifth with 150-06 and Gerald sixth on 131-01.

In TR B/C, Andrew Halley was the winner with 136-08, Peter was next on 233-09, followed by Kerry with 126-01.

For F Class STB, George Crisp won with a score of 162-08, followed by Alan on 154-02, Les with 152-03, Ray on 141-02 and Stephen with 133-01.

In F Class Open, Stephen Clark was the top shot with 169-09, next was Brendon with 167-07, followed by Gil on 164-08, Daryl with 164-06, John on 163-04 and Louise with 162-04.

For our new Hunter/Tactical Class, a good shoot by Kevin Thomas saw 162-06, followed by David D with 155-02, Adam on 153-04, Rod with 143-01 and David J on 140-05.



Alan checking his score



Bob and Rod



Catching up



John and Rod

Australia Day Shoot at Castlemaine

*Written by Chris Jolme
Photos by G. Keel*

The Castlemaine Rifle Club held its annual 'Australia Day Shoot' on Saturday, January 26.

With temperatures well into the 40's in the preceding week, the club organisers were concerned as to what the day would bring on Saturday. It turned out to be hot, about 36 degrees, but with the South Bendigo Rifle Club helping

out by supplying extra shade tents, it was a very enjoyable day.

A good number of competitors from around the state turned out for the shoot, which was shot from the 500-yard mound. It consisted of three rounds of 10 shots with a very light breeze and lots of mirage, which made for a very interesting day.

At the first round, A. Grade went to Bendigo's Greg Tomorad with

a 'possible' of 50.4. Castlemaine's Malcolm Laurence won B. Grade with 49.5. F. Class A went to Castlemaine's Max Elson with 60.1 using his Precision Service Rifle. Bryce Gouldson from Geelong won F. Class B with 57.2. South Bendigo's Rod Mahon won F. Open with 60.6.

For the second round the day



Shooters preparing for the day's event



The targets from the firing mound

Continued from page 38



Aussie Day winners L -R Alan Mills, Castlemaine; Greg Tomorad, Bendigo; Maree Edwards, Club Patron and MLA for Bendigo West; Rod Mahon, South Bendigo; Andrew Cook, Geelong and Max Elson, Castlemaine

became hotter with more mirage. Greg Tomorad from Bendigo shot another 'possible' to win A. Grade with 50.6. Castlemaine's Richard Ruddick won B. Grade with 49.1 In F. Class A, Will Bell, from Castlemaine, was the winner with 58.4. F. Class B went to Bryce Gouldson from Geelong with 59.4. Birchip's Alistair Lamour won F. Open with 60.5.

Before the third range, a lunch break was held giving competitors a chance to cool down in the clubhouse. After lunch conditions did not improve, but some really good scores were recorded.

A. Grade was again won by Greg Tomorad with a score of 47.4. B. Grade went to Castlemaine's Alan Mills with 50.5. F. Class A was won by Castlemaine's Max Elson with 58.3. F. Class B went to Andrew Cook from Geelong with 57.2. Finally, F. Open was won by Iain Parks from Geelong with 60.4.

We were again pleased to have our patron, Maree Edwards, member for Bendigo West to present the impressive 'Australia Day Medallions' to the winners.

Target Rifle A was won by Bendigo's Greg Tomorad with 147.14 from



Alistair Lamour, Birchip rifle Club



Some of the Australia Day Medallions



Continued from page 39

Maryborough's Doug Ratcliffe with 130.6.

Target Rifle B was won by Alan Mills from Castlemaine with 145.13, ahead of Richard Ruddick from Castlemaine with 142.4 and Malcolm Laurence, also from Castlemaine, on 138.10.

F. Class A was won by Castlemaine's Max Elson with 171.7, with Will Bell from Castlemaine second on 164.8 and Tyrone Keel, again from Castlemaine, third with 158.2.

F. Class B went to Andrew Cook from Geelong with 170.9, with fellow team mate from Geelong Bryce Gouldson second with 166.8 and Clive Bodle from South Bendigo third with 162.4.

F. Open was won by Rod Mahon from South Bendigo with 178.17, Alister Lamour from Birchip was second with 176.11 and Iain Parks from Geelong finished third with 174.10.

The day's celebrations concluded with an enjoyable barbeque in the clubhouse. It was a great way to celebrate Australia Day.

The next major event to be held by the club will be the first round of The Victorian Precision Service Rifle Series to be staged on Sunday, March 10.

For any information on future events you can call the captain on 03 5474 2552.



Thanks to South Bendigo for their shade tents which were well received and appreciated by all



Shooters on the mound



Geelong Rifle Club was well represented and very successful

ACT**November**

13 Canberra Queens

NEW SOUTH WALES**May**4 & 5 NSW Match Rifle and Long Range
F Class State Championships (Ungarie)**June**

8-9 Wingham OPM (Wingham)

July6-7 DRA Week-end including the
Country VS City Team Match (Anzac)**October**

5-6 Coonabarabran OPM (Coonabarabran)

8-10 NSW Match Rifle and Long Range
F Class Ultra Long Range Challenge (Coonabarabran)

9-13 NSWRA 143rd Open Championships (Anzac)

December

1 Lithgow Rifle Club OPM (Lithgow)

QUEENSLAND**May**

4 Western District RA Muckadilla Shoot

4 Clermont Prize Shoot

6 Billy Sing Marksman Challenge

14 NQ TMRC & TDRA PM

15 NQRA Wilson and Queen's

21-22 NQ Veterans Team

18 Darling Downs DRA PM

June

1-2 Bundaberg-Burnett Rifle Club PM

8-9 Qld Match Rifle Championships, Raglan

15-16 Natives Rifle Club PM

19-23 NRAA President's Match and NRAA Queen's

29-30 Darling Downs Rifle Club .303 Fromelles Shoot

July

13-14 Monto Sweepstake Shoot

21 Beaudesert Rifle Club PM

28 Ipswich & District Rifle Club PM

August

3 Brisbane Rifle Club PM

4 MDRA, Belmont PM

5 Archer Trophy & F Class Challenge

6 QRA Duncan Series

8 QRA Queen's

17-18 Gemfields Rifle Club

24-25 Barcaldine Rifle Club PM

September

31 Aug 1 Goondiwindi Rifle Club PM

28-29 South Burnett DRA PM - Wondai

October

4-7 Central Qld Championships

26 North Arm Rifle Club PM

27 LDRA PM

December

14 Raglan Christmas Shoot

NORTH QUEENSLAND**May**

11 MDTRA Prize Meeting, 1st stage, Mt Vince (Mackay)

12 MDTRA Prize Meeting, 2nd stage, Mt Vince (Mackay)

14 Townsville Marksman Prize Meeting, HRSC (Townsville)

15 - 16 NQRA Wilson Aggregate, HRSC (Townsville)

17 - 19 NQRA Queens, HRSC (Townsville)

21 - 22 VETERANS TEAM MATCHES

June

29 - 30 F Class Long Range Bisley Challenge (Atherton)

July

6 - 7 Cairns Prize Meeting, Wangetti Range (Cairns)

27 - 28 Pennants, HRSC (Townsville)

August

31 C&IDRA Prize Meeting (Atherton)

September

1 Atherton Prize Meeting (Atherton)

October

12 Herberton Prize Meeting (Herberton)

13 Ravenshoe/Mt Garnet Prize Meeting (Ravenshoe)

November

3 Mossman and District Prize Meeting (Mossman)

SOUTH AUSTRALIA**May**

12 F Class Team Trials (Lower Light)

18-19 Pt Augusta OPM (Pt Augusta)

June

1-2 West Broken Hill OPM (Broken Hill)

July

3-7 SARA Queens (Lower Light)

8-9 Junior F Class State Team (Lower Light)

28 Match Rifle (Lower Light)

August

17-18 Whyalla OPM (Whyalla)

24-25 SA Match Rifle Champs (Lower Light)

October

13 No.2 DRA OPM (Mt Barker)

VICTORIA**May**

15-19 NQRA Queens

25 Pennant Reserve

26 Council Meeting Wellsford

June

8 No 2 ORA Open Prize Meeting - Day 1 (St Arnaud)

9 No 2 ORA Open Prize Meeting - Day 2 (St Arnaud)

29 Pennant Reserve

July

3-7 SARA Hunt and Queens (Lower Light)

27 Pennant Reserve

28 Council Meeting

WESTERN AUSTRALIA**May**

3 Moora Rifle Club PM (Moora)

4-5 Midlands DRA PM (Moora)

18-19 Metropolitan DRA Prize Meeting (Pinjar)

June

1-2 Eastern Goldfields DRA (Kambalda)

10 Billy Sing Service Snipers (Pinjar)

30 Bindoon Rifle Club PM (Bindoon)

July

7 WARA Council Meeting & Annual Meeting

of Council Clubroom (Pinjar)

6-7 Karratha Rifle Club PM (Karratha)

13-14 Meekatharra Rifle Club PM (Meekatharra)

27-28 Chapman Valley Rifle Club PM (Chapman)

August

2 Geraldton Greenough RC PM (Greenough)

3-4 North West DRA PM (Greenough)

17-18 Carnarvon Rifle Club PM (Carnarvon)

September

14-15 Central Wheat Belt DRA PM (Merredin)

21-22 Northampton Rifle Club PM (Northampton)

23-24 2019 F Class National Championships (Pinjar)

25 WA Veterans Championships (Pinjar)

26 Ray Miles Teams and DRA Teams (Pinjar)

27-28 Duke of Edinburgh (Pinjar)

29 WARA Annual General Meeting (Pinjar)

28-30 Queens PM (Pinjar)

October

20 Dowerin Rifle Club PM (Dowerin)

27 Corrigin Rifle Club PM (Corrigin)

November

2-3 Busselton Service Rifle (Coolilup)

9 WARA Council Meeting (Pinjar)

10 City of Subiaco Prize Meeting (Pinjar)

December

15 East Perth Rifle Club PM (Pinjar)

TBC WARA Office Closure

Is Your Club Planning an Event in 2018?



For events in July, August, September or October send your event details by May 17.

We will help you put an ad together.

Contact **Tung** for more information

0411 198 227 or
atr_editorial@nraa.com.au

Queens Series 2019

June 19-23.....NRAA Queens

May 15-19.....NQRA Queens

July 3-7SA Queens

August 6-10QRA Queens

September 27-30.....WARA Queens

October 9-33NSWRA Queens