



ON TARGET

Newsletter of the Buffalo Rifle Association of Australia *Issue 16 - April 2014*

APERTURE

I try not to get too political in this publication, but I received this email from Robert Borsak MLC and thought it worth airing.

“Law abiding firearm owners will not be defined by the actions of a mad man.

Eighteen years ago today, we know that Australia witnessed one of the most senseless acts of violence in our history.

A criminal, described by the sentencing Judge as a “pathetic social misfit” took the lives of thirty five people using illegally acquired firearms. Every Australian mourned the loss of those lives at the hands of a deranged individual.

But the Shooters and Fishers Party find it despicable that groups like Gun Control Australia continue to use this national tragedy to further their own agenda, and we will not accept it.

There are more than 220,000 licensed, law abiding firearm owners in New South Wales who use firearms safely and responsibly every day. Whether for target shooting, hunting or collecting, these people who come from all walks of life have nothing in common with a mad man who rightly continues to rot in a jail cell.

I do not, and will not, allow the actions of a criminal to define me.

The past eighteen years have seen Governments at all levels, ably assisted by groups like the Greens and Gun Control Australia, continue to use this tragedy to further restrict the rights of Australians rather than tackle the more difficult problems around illegal firearms and mental health.

Until we see a Government with the courage to tackle these issues, extremist groups like those mentioned above will continue to use tragedies like Port Arthur to advance their own agenda.

And it's a disgrace.

Robert Borsak, MLC

Shooters and Fishers Party” <http://www.sfp2015.org.au>

What do you think?S/f

BULLET-IN

BEST PIC? Here's a challenge from Luke, a junior member and very competent shooter, with a camera as well as a rifle it seems! It also says something about the rifle and the load as well. The bullet? ... well it's long gone.



Send in your best pic and see if you can top this.



CLASSIFIEDS

Nobody want's to sell anything!
Nobody want's to buy anything!
Nobody want's to trade anything!
Nobody want's to give anything away!
Bugger it - I give up!

THE POSSE

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SHOT TO BITZ

April Federal Shoot at Canberra

I wasn't at the Canberra shoot but it looked cold in the pictures kindly sent by Wendy. Thanks always to Kellie for the spotting and scoring prowess as usual. It seems that we had seven shooters on Easter Sunday and Monday.



It looks bright and sunny in this pic - it's a shame that we only had one rifle to shoot at Easter! Good onya Brad.



By all accounts it was 'shoot-em-up' Shiloh who won the day with 'bulls-eyes' everywhere. Having no detailed report, this is how I believe it went down.

At the 1000 yd line John clipped their wings with a very creditable score of 35, obviously the best of the longest distance shot on the day. Ken was next in line with 30 and up close was Jim on 29 points.



The 800 yd line saw a change in fortune for John but Ken was the leader this time with 43. Paul M was right on his heels with 42 points.

Mr. Consistency Ken was again on top at the 600 yd line with 48 points, Jim & Terry right up there with 46 points and Paul M not far behind on 44.



Good scores all round were the go on the 400 yd line but outstanding again were Ken & Jim on 60 points. Closest to them was John on 55 points.

The 300 yd off-hand always sorts the men from the boys and the 'men' at Canberra were Ken & Bill with a creditable 41 points, but not far behind was John with 40 points.



Final scores were;

NAME	1000y	800y	600y	400y	300y	TOTAL	POSN.
Ken	30	43	48	60	41	222	1
Jim	29	35	46	60	31	201	2
John	35	23	36	55	40	189	3
Paul M	27	42	44	50	25	188	4
Terry	23	17	46	46	36	168	5
Bill	8	31	39	40	41	159	6
Brad	5	0	38	50	38	131	7

The 'Bulls' were recorded too;

Ken had 1 at 300, 2 at 400 and 1 at 800 yards. A total of 4, very small 'bulls eyes' - good shooting Ken.

Jim was pretty good as well with 2 at 400 yds.

John also had a 'bull' at 400 yds.

I might add that these 'bulls' are 6" dia and bloody hard to see at any distance.

As I always say you can't win the golf day if you stuff up just 1 hole. You have to be consistent!

THE SIDE EVENT - there was no side event this match but with extra time available the guys decided on another 800 yd shoot. We didn't record the results.

ON THE LINE

Note! The following dates and arrangements are subject to change from time to time depending on prevailing conditions etc. Every effort will be made by your Committee to advise any changes well prior to the event. It is also advisable to check this calendar with each issue of "On Target"

CALENDAR 2014

Jan.	25/26 Cooyal "B" 7,5,3+9 s/e LA 3 o/h
Feb.	22/23 Cooyal "P" 6,4,2+8 s/e Pistol tba
Mar.	22/23 Cooyal Quigley "B" Six Dist. tba (no side event)
April	20/21 Canberra "P" s/e SSAA Silhouette tba
May	24/25 Nioka Champagne s/e Shotgun Clays
June	28/29 Cooyal Silhouette s/e Q/ Bucket
July	26/27 Cooyal "P" 7,5,3+9 s/e Swap meet
Aug.	23/24 Cooyal "B" 6,4,2+8 s/e R'fire (any cal)
Sept.	27/28 Nioka B/Dixon+AGM s/e LA 3 o/h
Oct.	25/26 Cooyal "B" Buffalo s/e Shotgun Clays
Nov.	22/23 Cooyal "B" 6,7,8+9 s/e Pistol tba
Dec.	No match.

Note! In each match;

- "B" means shot on buffalo plate
- "P" means shot on paper targets
- the 'numbers' are (hundred) yards.
- the match will be shot in that order
- '+' separates Sat & Sun
- "s/e" means side event (duh!).

The next **BRAA** shoot will be our '**Champagne Shoot**' at the **Nioka Range** on the weekend **May 24-25**.

Nioka Range is 42 kms from Manilla on the Boggabri Road and has excellent facilities for camping or caravanning. Bar-B-Q's plus hot and cold water for showers and clean pit toilets are provided. There is also accommodation available at the Manilla Motel and also at Boggabri and Gunnedah.

This is great opportunity for BRAA members across the State to get together.

You will need to bring your own food for Friday lunch and evening. Breakfast and lunch will be available on Sat and Sun from the Meigels on the range, each meal is \$5, Sat Evening meal is usually a roast or similar prepared by the Meigels for \$10 and highly recommended.

The shoot will commence about 9-30am on Saturday 24th May and finish at about lunchtime on the Sunday. It will be shot over 200 off-hand, 300, 600, 1000 and one additional distance (TBA on the day) off sticks with a maximum 15 shots at each distance of which the last 10 only will score ie the first 5 are sighting shots and if you have two hits your sighting session ends. The practice shots are optional. If those present agree, informal practice can take place on the Friday afternoon but please be sure that there are at least two shooters on the range and that the usual safety arrangements apply.

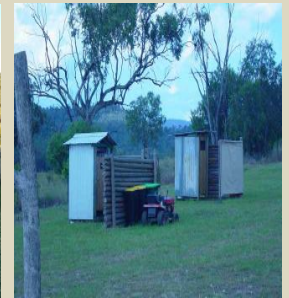
If you have a spotting scope please bring it and ideally your own spotter for the match. We will shoot two details to allow for those who are not shooting to be spotting for the shooters.

As usual it would be appreciated if you would dress appropriately as a Buff Hunter of the late 1870's would have.

The cost of the **Champagne Shoot at Nioka Match** will be \$50.00 to cover two days which includes both days range fees, target paint, and prizes for the best score at the farthest distance and overall best score.

Please **contact Bill Sherman** to advise attendance and meal requirements on bsher40@bigpond.com or 0418 257 330

Oh and one more thing. There are always lots of things to do when setting up the range for the shoot and all too often this is left to the 'willing few'. If you are intending to get to the range on Friday, please try to get there early to assist in the set-up and also don't forget the tidy-up on Sunday after the shoot. We are all keen to get away to home after a weekend shoot but it's not fair on those few who are always left to finish up.



Side Event - Shotgun Clays

Brad's going to bring along his clay thrower so we can have a little fun with our shotguns on Saturday arvo. So if you have a shottie or can borrow one bring it along on the weekend. If you can't bring one then bring along a box of shells and you can borrow one to try.

Two shots at the bird and if you hit it you go into the next round. Miss and you're out. But don't worry we may have more than one round.

Coming Up

The **Cooyal** shoot in **June** will be organized and run by BRAA member Dan on swinging metal silhouette targets. Chickens @ 200m, Pigs @ 300m, Turkeys @ 385m and Rams @ 500m.

We plan to have about an hour of sighting in before the match so everyone can get their settings for the distances. You get sighters before each animal during a match also.

Match consists of 40 shots plus sighters. Chickens are shot off-hand. All others can be shot from any position. You get 5 minutes for 5 shots at an animal, with an extra two when you first come to the line for sighters/fouling shots. 10 scoring shots at each animal gives you your 40 shot match.

Everyone will need a spotter so if you have a spotting scope, bring it. We'll score hits, then paint targets for the next shooter.

BISON TALES

- **ANIMALS** can often sense danger long before humans. On March 20, 2014 Bison were coming down the hills in droves and fleeing on the road to get away from Yellowstone. Is the volcano there going to erupt or is the grass greener down the road? Check it out on:

<http://hunt4truth.wordpress.com/2014/03/27/yellowstone-bison-running-for-their-lives>

- **Feral camels once roamed the plains of Texas.** One of the wackier ideas in American history, the U.S. Camel Corps was established in 1856 at Camp Verde, Texas. Reasoning that the arid southwest was a lot like the deserts of Egypt, the Army imported 66 camels from the Middle East. Despite the animals' more objectionable qualities—they spat, regurgitated and defied orders—the experiment was generally deemed a success. As the Civil War broke out, exploration of the frontier was curtailed and Confederates captured Camp Verde. After the war, most of the camels were sold (some to Ringling Brothers' circus) and others escaped into the wild. The last reported sighting of a feral camel came out of Texas in 1941. Presumably, no lingering descendants of the Camel Corps' members remain alive today.*No so in OZ thoughS/f*
- **Thanks to a Winchester rifle, we know Billy the Kid wasn't left-handed.** A famous tintype photograph of Billy the Kid shows him with a gun belt on his left side. For years, the portrait fueled assumptions that the outlaw, born William Bonney, was left-handed. However, most tintype cameras produced a negative image that appeared positive once it was developed, meaning the end result was the reverse of reality. There's another reason we know the picture was a mirror image and that Billy the Kid was thus a righty: he poses with his Winchester Model 1873 lever-action rifle. The weapon appears to feature a loading gate on the left side, but Winchester only made 1873s that load on the right.

GUNSMITH

The 'Q-Loader'by JB Books

So, are you a 'sitter' or a 'stander'? Do you do it standing up or in a chair? What? ...Why, reloading of course, what did you think I meant?

Generally I stand for most of my loading and made my work bench to a height I felt appropriate for the job. Lately however, I've found with longer cases and trying to line bullets up for seating, that I've been bending down a little so I can see what's going on. It's not the end of the world but why adapt to the bench? Why not set your press up in such a way that it's as stress and pain free to use as possible.

In the past I've always elevated my presses a little by placing spacer blocks of ply or similar material under them. That alone can make a difference but the press is still mounted on the leading edge of the bench and with some, the linkages below require that the under bench supports be set back enough to allow the linkages to operate unimpeded. This can be a problem when using an existing bench or table that wasn't designed with reloading in mind.



Well recently I was introduced to the 'Ultramount' by Inline Fabrication in the U.S.A. A simple, well made and solid solution to some of the problems mentioned above. The Ultramount is cut from 3/16" steel and comprises two legs and a base plate. The base plate measures 1/4" and is drilled specifically for whatever press you nominate in your order. All the screw and mounting hardware is included to assemble the mount and mount the press. The only additional hardware required are 4 x 1/4" bolts to secure the mount to your bench or table. These last fittings aren't included simply because everyone's bench is different and the variables too many.



As I've been experimenting with a good, portable reloading set up for use by all who make the U.S. pilgrimage, I decided to order the tallest Ultramount to test with my Redding T7 press at home. My parcel arrived a few days ago and I'm very impressed. This a quality product, well finished and very solid. On assembly, the mount and attached press could be stood on the bench and was quite stable even without being screwed down. The mount comes in three heights being 9 5/8", 6" and 4". To allow most of the larger presses to operate clear of the bench surface the 9 5/8" should be selected. On my bench this elevates the press to a level where the case workings and bullet seating are much easier to observe and control. Different base plates are available for just about every press and custom orders for specific mounting hole patterns don't attract any extra charge. Dave also offers a 'Quick Change' plate system that allows for one basic platform that is slotted at the rear. A separate base plate with metal tongue is purchased for each item and they can be changed simply with the release of two wingnut headed screws.

Another great item offered by Dave at Inline Fabrication is the roller handles for the different presses. Some ergonomic, and some straight. Some suited for sitting and others for standing. Once again if you have a specific design, he'll happily work with you to produce it. I'm actually thinking of a base plate to suit an MVA powder measure. I've included a few photos of the mount in position on my prototype-reloading platform and it's dead stable. On the bench I'll likely mount it with coach screws rather than bolts as I can't see it moving. Check out the website at Inlinefabrication.com as they have some pretty nice gear.

See you when my sights are down J.B