



ON TARGET

Newsletter of the Buffalo Rifle Association of Australia *Issue 22 - Oct. 2014*

APERTURE

BAD THINGS HAPPEN IN THREES

It is generally believed that bad things happen in sets of three. Natural disasters, celebrity deaths, household mishaps, all manner of things designed to upset our equilibrium. Anecdotal evidence seems to support it too. Two weeks in February 2014, saw the deaths of actors Philip Seymour Hoffman, Shirley Temple, and Sid Caesar. And how about those household appliances that we rely on so much these days? Just to add some excitement to our normal domestic bliss, we have had some of our own in the last week or so.

First the fringe, now positively ancient at a massive 6 years old and just out of warranty I might add (tongue firmly in cheek) developed incontinence and had to have some surgery. Well I'm pleased to say, that on this occasion, \$150 got us up and running again (dry too). Remember when we had those old Silent Knight fridges, bloody brilliant! My first fridge was one of those and I dragged it out from under my sisters house, got a re-con sealed unit fitted and was still using it as a bar fridge 25 years later. Planned 'obsolescence' ?

Next the remote control for the ceiling fan in the office was happy to turn the fan on, but NOT off, occasioning the need to climb into the roofspace and disconnect it - bloody hot up there too! OK so the supplier said it was out of warranty by 14 milli-seconds, but when I un-holstered the 357 he gave it to me at a much reduced price. That's why you only get 12 months warranty on those items, they are designed to last about 52 ½ weeks. Planned 'obsolescence'?

OK so the third in the saga was the big flat screen TV on the wall. We now have pink snow on anything white in the picture, lovely. "But..., I said to the repairman (two actually), ... It's a Panasonic and ok it is about 5 years old" "Yes ... was his replybut it's hard to get parts" ... yada, ... yada ... yada. "Bring it in and we will have a look at it for \$60" yeah right, the bloody thing weighs about a ton and a half and there are no guarantees. Planned 'obsolescence'?

What's this all got to do with Buffalo Rifles, not much, but let's see. Most of us are shooting modern replicas of mid 1800's to 1900 rifles and pistols, the design is still sound and there are a lot of people still shooting originals, some nearly 150 years old - I wonder if they are out of warranty yet? The replicas will also be around for a good few years to come yet. Like most of you I have guns that are 50 and 100 years old and still functional.

These days most things around us are designed and built to last a relatively short time, but guns are for keeps - I love 'em.



..... S/f

BULLET-IN

- **Please note the inaugural BRAA Christmas Dinner at Cooyal on November 22nd - BE THERE!!!**
- **Nioa** now have a carrier who approved to transport powder in NSW. They distribute the Alliant brand which also now includes a pyrodex style BP substitute called BLACK MZ. Also Vihtavuori powders for benchrest etc. They apparently have good stocks of all their powders.
- **TECHNOLOGY Bah!**
A man received the following text from his neighbour:
"I am so sorry Bob.
I've been riddled with guilt and I have to confess. I have been helping myself to your wife, day and night when you're not around. In fact, more than you. I do not get it at home, but that's no excuse. I can no longer live with the guilt and I hope you will accept my sincerest apology with my promise that it won't, ever happen again."
The man, anguished and betrayed, went into his bedroom, grabbed his gun, and without a word, shot his wife and killed her.
A few moments later, a second text came in:
Bloody autospell! I meant "wifi, not "wife" . . .

CLASSIFIEDS (Reply to Editor)

For Sale (All at very reasonable prices)

- **Parker Hale** Volunteer in .451"
- **Pedersoli Rolling-block** in 40-65 WCF, with reloading dies and case forming die.
- **Armi Sports Sharps** in 45-70
- **Lee 1000** progressive press, minor parts missing.
- **H&R Buffalo Classic** in 45-70, shoots well, hardly used, great BPCR starter gun, LR sight, carry case.
- **Marlin 336** Lever Action in 30-30, carry bag, Williams adj. rear sight, 200 cases, dies, projectiles and the harbor bridge.

Wanted

- 20-60 x 80 Power spotting scope.

THE POSSE

President: Gary Vandersluis
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 Captain: Jim Skyrn
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SHOT TO BITZ

As you all know the BRAA October shoot at Cooyal was cancelled. So a few of us went to Rankins Springs in southwestern NSW to attend a **metallic silhouette** shoot hosted by one of our members Dan (aka TAPS-hot & cold). It was a fantastic event and it was great to see nine BRAA members and two associates, waving the flag, making smoke and occasionally knocking down some metal. It was also good to catch up with old friends and make new ones. People came from as far away as South Aust., Central Coast and Tamworth in northwestern NSW, attesting to the popularity of the event and the distances people will travel to attend their chosen sport. All in all, 22 competitors lined up and it soon became obvious who had the experience with this kind of competition.



There they are, all those little chooks, piglets, turkey dinners and rams, lined up in rows, just waiting to be 'plucked', 'skinned', 'roasted' and 'fleeced' - well, let me tell you, it isn't that easy. That's what it looks like in the early morning when they stand out against the mounds - but wait - as the sun rises the mounds take on a much lighter hue and the little fellows all but disappear! Now here is what it really looks like.....bugger!



The weather was fine and warm with little wind and bordering to hot on Sunday. The overhead cover is a must for this event so conditions for the shoot were spot-on. The shoot was very well organized and ran smoothly for the two days. Whenever targets needed to be 'stood' and re-painted there was always a willing crew to assist.

I don't have a detailed report of the individual or overall match results but for the BRAA participants, Gavin had a reasonable score together with Dan who took out the best BRAA shooter for the weekend. Overall our results were poor with the constant lament 'can't see the b---y thing', but it was the same for all the shooters there.



Damn chickens - where are they?



Motley Crew

For my part the Rankins Springs Metallic Silhouette shoot is highly recommended as a challenging and rewarding match and I hope to do it all again.

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

Nov. 22/23 Cooyal "B" 6,7,8+9 s/e Pistol tba
Dec. No match.

CALENDAR 2015

Jan. 24/25 Cooyal "B" 7,5,3+9 s/e Muzzle Loaders
Feb. 21/22 Cooyal "P" 8,6,4+10 s/e Shotgun
April 5/6 Canberra "P" s/e (4th) SSAA Silhouette tbc
April 25/26 Cooyal "B" Mini Quigley s/e Quigley Bucket
May 23/24 Nioka "B" 'Champagne Shoot' s/e .22 rifle
June 27/28 Cooyal "P" 7,6,4+10 s/e Lever Rifle
July 25/26 Cooyal "P" 6,5,4+7 s/e Shotgun
Aug. 22/23 Cooyal "B" 8,6,3+10 s/e Lever Rifle
Sept. 19/20 Nioka Billy Dixon+AGM s/e .22 rifle
Oct. 24/25 Cooyal "P" 8,7,6+9 s/e Pistol tba
Nov. 28/29 Cooyal "B" 6,5,3+9 s/e Shotgun
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!).

NOVEMBER SHOOT at COOYAL

The next BRAA shoot will be at Cooyal on 22 & 23 November



LOCATION

Who doesn't know where Cooyal is ??? If you don't, you should be bloody well ashamed of yourself! If you get this newsletter monthly then WHY haven't you been to one of our shoots??? No excuses, come on, come and have some fun - that's what we're here for, shoot smokeless if you like.

ACCOMMODATION

Usual accommodation is on the range; bunkhouse, camping, caravanning, etc. Also the Cooyal Pub Ph. 6373 5353 offers a range of accommodation and Yarrawonga Cedar Cottages are close by yarrawongacottages.com.au. There is many other alternative 'digs' in the Mudgee area.

COSTS

As in the past the cost for the shoot will be \$30 covering the range fees, targets, paint, and other sundry items required to maintain the facility. Meals will be catered for at \$5 each for a hot breakfast and/or lunch. The evening meal on Friday will be taken at the pub. Saturday night the 22nd will be as follows;

SET-UP & PRACTICE

Generally people start arriving early afternoon on Friday. There is always plenty to do in setting up the range for the weekend shoot and any assistance would be greatly appreciated by those (very) few who always seem to be the ones setting up. As soon as we are set-up, un-official practice can begin providing the usual range safety rules are observed and there is more than one person on the firing line.

THE MATCH

This is scheduled as a 'long-range' shoot starting at 600 yds and continuing through 700 yds and 800 yds on Saturday. On Sunday we will finish with a 900 yd event. All will be shot on the "B" Buffalo Plate making it a gong shoot. Subject to availability of spotting/VDU viewing equipment, scoring will be as usual, 3 for a hit on the plate and 5 for a centre "heart" hit.

*** SPECIAL EVENT ***



BRAA CHRISTMAS DINNER 22nd Nov 2014

Don't miss the inaugural BRAA Christmas Dinner on Saturday night the 22nd November at the Cooyal Range.

Our plan is to have a roast turkey dinner and some entertainment afterward. The roast will depend on a few logistics, like availability of an oven, but things are looking good in that department. If you have a favorite Western style DVD bring it along.



SIDE EVENT

The scheduled side event for Cooyal in November is a pistol shoot. Match details will be provided on the day however if you have a centre fire or rimfire or even a muzzle loading pistol it will be eligible for the match.

If you do not hold an 'H' classification on your Firearms Licence/Permit you will still be eligible to shoot the match using a registered pistol supplied by and under the supervision of 'H' licenced shooters. The regulation form must be completed and signed by all non-accredited shooters.

***** Hey don't miss the Penrith Panthers Gun Show next weekend 8 th and 9 th November *****

BISON TALES

Great Buffalo Hunters of the old West

#2 Henry Ward Harris

Henry Harris was born in 1839 on a farm near Nashville Tennessee but grew up in Memphis. When he was 19 the family moved to Texas. After a two year stint-farming Henry joined the Texas Rangers as part of Lawrence Sullivan Ross's Ranger Company. Ross later became the Governor of Texas. Whilst with Ross's ranger company he was part of the group who "rescued" Cynthia Ann Parker the mother of Quanah Parker leader of the Comanche who raided the settlement at Adobe Walls.

In 1861 Henry joined the Confederate Army serving in Company D, 19th Regiment Texas Cavalry taking part in some 30 Civil War engagements. His troop surrendered at Galveston on June 2 1865.

In 1868 he moved to Waco Texas with his new wife where he became a Sherriff.

In 1876 he was hunting Buffalo on the Texas plains with a man named Smith about whom he said "he was the nicest man and the best Pal I ever had. We tried killing buffalo together awhile and selling the meat and hides, but as the winter season was over it was not profitable. Smith was married and his wife stayed with my family while him and me was killing buffalo. Smith was a very quiet fellow, he never talked much but still he was very pleasant. He looked to be about 30 years old I always imagined he had been in some kind of trouble in the past. He always went well armed and never talked of the past. He always seemed to have plenty of money and he spent it freely. He was an extra fine shot. Him and I both knew how to use our guns.

It wasn't until some years later that Henry discovered that "Smith" was actually Jesse Woodson James. Confederate Raider Outlaw and Buffalo Hunter.

As a result of his wife's pleadings for him to give up the guns, Henry became a Cattle Rancher in West Texas where he died quietly in 1908.

GUNSMITH

2014 Quigley Results

The Fall 2014 issue of **Black Powder Cartridge** magazine has tabled the results and shooting details of the first 10 shooters at the 2014 Quigley shoot in Forsyth Montana.

Bill has kindly dissected it and collected the data into components for our review.

Paul has deciphered handwriting and laboriously typed it out and is not, repeat NOT, responsible for any typos, miss-spells, mistakes or any other b----y thing for that matter!

First ten places:

1. EDWARD TILTON (btw that's 2 years in a row!)
Edward shoots a '74 Shiloh Sharps #1 Sporter in 45-90, 1:18 twist, homemade big groove money bullet, 528 grains, 20:1 lead, DGL lube, .013 poker card wad, 83 grains of Swiss 1 1/2, .200 compression, CCI BR2 primer, Starline brass, Parts Unknown sights and blowtube.
2. CURT HARDCASTLE
3. HARLAN SAGE
4. RAY HANSON
5. CORKY ATKINSON
6. MIKE BUCKHOLZ
7. STEVEN BOCKMAN
8. JOHN VENHOUS
9. RANDY ANDERSON
10. BRUCE STEVENS

Rifles:

Shiloh #1 Sporter
Axtell Lower Sporting
Ballard No 7 Long Range
Remington Rolling Block Heavy
C Sharps
Browning High Wall
Shiloh 74 (3)
Browning 1885

Barrel:

1:18 (7)
1:17
Badger (3)
Green Mountain
Remington
Krieger

Cal:

45-90 (3)
45-70 (6)
40-65 (1)

Projectile:

Money bullet
Paul Jones (2)
Saeco #745
Sagebrush 459/550
Saeco
Steve Brooks (2)
Buffalo Arms Creedmoor
Buffalo Arms 459520M1

Wad:

.013 poker card
.030 poly wad (4)
.060 Sagebrush (2)
.060 Walters veg (3)

Proj. Wt.:

528 (2)
525 (2)
540 (2)
554
537
545
418 (40-65)

Lead:

20:1 (3)
30:1 (3)
25:1
90/10 wheel wts &
linotype

Powder:

Swiss 1 1/2 (6)
Swiss 3F
Duplex (Reloader/Swiss 1 1/2)
Swiss 1
Accurate Arms 5744

Primer:

CCI BR2 (2)
Fed Gold Match Lge
Fed 210 (2)
Fed 150
Fed LR Mag Match
Remington 2 1/2
CCI 200

Powder Qty:

83 (2)
55
61
67.5
65
74
60.3
16.5

Brass:

Starline (4)
Winchester (4)
Remington (2)

Lube:

Homemade (2)
SPG (3)
DGL (2)
Sagebrush
F. Dunks
Arizona Lizard Blood

Compression:

Nil (4)
.030 (2)
.200
.060 (2)
.025

Front Sight:

Home made
Axtel
MVA Winchester Type
Baldwin
MVA (4)
Browning

Rear Sight:

Home made
MVA Mid Range
MVA (4)
Baldwin
Kelly

Well that's it - go figure and good luck.Hickory W & S/f