



# ON TARGET

NEWSLETTER OF THE BUFFALO RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA 39 MAY/JUNE 2017

I am having it easy this month. Gavin Dignam not only ran the May match, he also sent in this piece covering the action. Thanks JB. Good One. Ed

Gavin and Gary V are off to Montana USA in a week or so to compete in the Quigley Match. I'm sure you will all join with me in wishing them Good Shooting and a top trip

## ***Well, our champagne shoot at Nioka turned into a whiskey shoot at Cooyal !***

Despite a few of our regulars being either away on trips or otherwise occupied, we were heading for a group of twelve strong to shoot at the Miegels range at Wean.

Last minute delays with approvals coming through from the Firearms Registry meant that the shoot could not legally be held at Nioka for the weekend of 27th & 28th of March.

Whilst only a technicality, we all know only too well that a 'technicality', however trivial, has put ranges and dealerships to rest and we certainly don't want to go there. Last minute emails and texts were sent to cancel the shoot but luckily our secretary was able to liaise with the owner of the Cooyal range and we were given the okay to change venues.

The late cancellation and venue change however dropped our numbers from the potential twelve to seven, with two newcomers, a father and son team from Grafton. The shoot was on ! Rick and his son Payden travelled close to eight hours to get to Cooyal after the venue change and that cut short their range time but they appeared to enjoy themselves and were happy to assist with any chores that needed doing.

As is now the norm, we cooked our own meals at the club house on the Friday evening, and after some libation ( way too much by some ! ) and story telling, retired for the night. After a hearty breakfast we started off at the 350 yd range shooting at the Quigley diamond. We had elected to start at the shorter distance to give our two newest shooters the opportunity to get on target , rather than start from 900 yds.

At the shortest range we had elected to score a 'hit is a hit' and worry about bullseyes when we moved to the buffalo target . With a potential score of 20, the top two level pegged on 14 pts, followed by two @ 12, another two @ 6 and Payden with 4. There was no offhand distance on this weekend and all shooting was from cross sticks. With the 600 and 700 yd ranges it became evident that the light, be it either too much in the sight.. or none on the target was making anything resembling consistency, a fairly tall order. With the Cooyal , buffalo bull at about 14" or so in diameter, it is considerably smaller than the 36" centre that had been planned for Nioka. Suffice to say, we didn't need a lot of white paint !

/over

Rick and his son Payden had to leave at lunchtime and only managed to complete two distances and this left five shooters. We called it quits for Saturdays long range and practiced with 22 rifles and centrefire hand guns to unwind before dinner.

Dinner ! ... Yes... what can I say about dinner ? ...No...sorry... words fail me. Early to bed after breakfast Sunday morning we set about the last two ranges. We commenced about 08:45 and the winter sun was struggling to put any light on the target for the first range. Paul R. led with 8 hits including one bull giving him 9 pts. Dan was close behind with 7 hits but no bull. We moved back to the final range at 900 yds and once the smoke had cleared it was Dan at 45 pts from Paul R. with 43. Given the overall possible was 100 pts, I think you can guess that between the wind and the light ( and some interesting ammunition from a few ! ), there was no 'easy win' here

A great weekend and thanks to all who came and indeed helped make it a success despite the last minute renegotiations. Looking forward to making some more smoke when next we meet. Take care and keep your powder dry.

“ see you when my sights are down “

**Gavin aka J B Books**

## **Amnesty**

As you will be aware there will be an Amnesty providing an opportunity for illegally owned guns to be handed in without any questions being asked.

We don't have many details yet except that it will commence on July 1 and that you will not be paid for any guns you hand in.

BRAA will be assisting the Police in this matter as Club Armourer, Paul McCarthy, will be authorised to receive guns at our July shoot

## **Attendance Advice**

The change of venue for the May match highlighted a little problem that has been developing of late—that is Members not advising the Secretary when they will be coming to matches and what meals they will require.

It happened this month and disaster was only diverted because another shooter knew of the offenders plans.

Imagine if somebody had turned up at Nioka asking for breakfast when everybody else was enjoying their meal at a Range far away.

Oh Dear...enough said I hope!

**JUNE MATCH  
COOYAL RANGE  
JUNE 24/25  
METAL TARGETS  
DISTANCES ETC TO BE  
CONFIRMED SHORTLY**