



ON TARGET

NEWSLETTER OF THE BUFFALO RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA 87 SEPTEMBER 2022

NIOKA IN AUGUST

So it was that seven intrepid souls presented for the August shoot at Nioka. As always with wood to move, steel targets to relocate and paint and a 'revisited' (again) Creedmoor target to hoist into place, Friday afternoon disappeared fairly quickly.

Sugarfoot, aka Paul Radin ventured down from the north and joined the throng comprising Gary Beling, Ken Hawes, Peter Tooley, Happy Hans, myself and we even managed a day with our resident steel fabricator, Luke Dignam.

Luke was commissioned to cut the 1000 yd steel plate to a six foot square to keep it in line with international target specifications for long range, black powder target rifle competition. Then cutting a 42" circle in the centre of the target and setting the 44" bisalloy 'bears head' in place behind.

It sits perfectly in place and rings beautifully when hit. There is still some fine tuning to be done but we are headed in the right direction. Many thanks Luke for your time and skills.

There was no set out format, so it was decided to put targets out at our 'normal' distances with a rectangle at 220 yds, a 2 ft diamond at 340 yds and the new 42" circle at 570 yds. The revitalized Creedmoor plate was to be our 1000 yd goal. Ken H kindly brought his generator but it wasn't needed for lighting as we were able to piggy back some solar power from the Miegels new surveillance camera system and run some LED lighting courtesy of Peter T. Believe me, Ken H and Peter T need a lot of light around the bbq. Actually sometimes they just need a lot of barbecue! BRAA will have a microwave in place for the next shoot at Nioka and hope to have it on hand for any future BRAA gatherings there. So there should be the option to bring prepared meals, either from home or takeaway and 'nuke' them. Saturday dawned a beautiful day and a couple of hours were put over for sight settings, load testing and just blowing out the cobwebs. Peter T was trialing a new paper patch mould and loads and clearly things seem to be working. I notice that Gary B was also going the 'P.P.' route. Well done. We decided to score the best eight out of ten for the day



On the line at the Nioka August shoot. Not sure who the shooter in the small box is?



Nioka continued

There was no offhand so we started at the 220 from sticks with five of the seven getting their 8 scorers. Several even had some spares. Up to the 340 yd diamond and again four with 8, two with 7 and one at 4. The 42" circle, a change from the recent 3' diamond had us working a little harder with two scoring their 8, with Peter T on 7. The match was called for the day with a little practice being done before dinner and some shuteye.

Sunday dawned another perfect, almost 'bluebird' weather day (to quote Brian Hick-ey) and we moved into it gently after a good breakfast and finishing the balance of Di- anne Miegels chocolate cake. Really ...really really yummy.

Well the 1000 was ..as the 1000 often is. Quite testing. Very few misses were seen and even the hits were difficult to spot. There was, however, no issue with the noise. Luke had to leave on Saturday night so there were but six left to shoot. We decided to opt for five sighters and eight for score. Windage seemed more of an issue than the breeze would suggest and most misses were right of the target. Three hits being the top scores at 1000 yds and this by three players. The end result? Gavin on 27 from Peter T on 25, kept honest by Happy Hans on 24 with Sugarfoot on 22. A great weekend in near perfect weather with good friends. Best wishes to Ken Hawes and his lady as they head overseas to Canada and the U.S. We wont see you in September but we're looking forward to the stories. Until next time.

Stay well and keepyapowdadry.



Talking of Powder

If you think Swiss Powder is expensive in Oz it is even more so in the UK as a recent price list from UK gun dealer Henry Krank and Co shows. Their own product sounds better value if it goes Bang!



Top. Luke Dignam has made the new 1000 yd target at Nioka. Seen here (Centre) being mounted. Bottom. Great visibility



Swiss No 3 2fg 1kg bottle 91 Pounds (\$A154.50)

Henry Krank Black Powder Fine/medium or Coarse

2 x 500g 57.80 Pounds (\$A 98.14)

250kg Box 1358 Pounds (\$A 2305)

Nioka Range, NSW.

September 23, 24 & 25 2022

2022 Billy Dixon and NSW State Title for Long Range Black Powder Cartridge Rifle Shooting

22nd Billy Dixon Match and the longest running buffalo rifle match in Australia

Friday 23 September Range open from lunchtime
22 Sidematch pm

Saturday 24 September Practice am

Creedmore match pm

Four targets (200/300/600 and
1000yd)

Five shots at each. No sighters. 200 yd Offhand

Single shot only at the Coyote Dung target set over 1100 yd*

After shooting AGM of Buffalo Rifle Association

of Australia inc

Sunday 25 September Buffalo match am

Three targets (800/900/1000yd)

10 shots at each. Best seven to count

Trophies will be awarded for the Creedmoor Match, the Buffalo Match and for the Overall/Combined Champion. There is also a Trophy for the top scoring shooter using a Pedersoli rifle.

The match is self catered but a BBQ and a microwave will be available

Shower and toilets on site and plenty of camping areas.

Shooters with any queries such as wishing to access the range before lunchtime Friday should contact Gavin Dignam on 0429003389 or Bill Sherman 0418257330 so that they can confirm with the Range Owner



*The Billy Dixon name as Members will know is named in honour of frontier scout, Indian fighter, buffalo hunter and winner of the Congressional Medal of Honour, Billy Dixon and the Coyote Dung shot is to commemorate his shot at the Indian Medicine Man of that name that he shot at 1538 yd to end the 2nd Battle of Adobe Walls in 1873.

In the Battle a small group of 28 Europeans, in the Trading Post at Adobe Walls held off some 700 Indian warriors for four days. Coyote Dung was observing the Battle, with the Warrior Chiefs, from an escarpment when Dixon was able to kill him with what he always said was a lucky shot using a Sharps 50:90

