



On target

NEWSLETTER OF THE BUFFALO RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA 108 July 2024

No Cooyal July

Well wasn't it strange not to go to Cooyal this month. It had been extremely busy over the last two months, hosting the Long Range Muzzleloading Nationals and our final weekend, so I hope everyone enjoyed a weekend off.

We had been hopeful of an excursion to the new range at Dubbo but our SSAA contact was just back from the USA where he had been competing. SSAA are still waiting for Dubbo Regional Council and Registry to finalise the paperwork so it isn't an official range ...yet. Cross everything!!



Sunrise at the Quigley

Membership

Thank you to those who have rejoined. Membership fees are due the 1st July for the 2024-2025 year. Currently full membership is \$75, associate \$25. You must be financial to vote at the AGM in September. Please complete and return the membership form, payment details are on the form.

August Shoot

Our next shoot is scheduled for 24-24 August at Nioka. There has been an increase in range fees so please respond to emails re attending. Match details will also be sent via email

Secretary's Report

This was the last month for attendances for this reporting year which finished 30th June. Members and the club must comply, if you do not have enough attendances you will be reported as non compliant. No exceptions! If you have pistol attendances at other ranges but have BRAA listed as your primary club, please send proof of attendances to the Secretary.



Secretary's Secretary's Say

For those who ordered shirts they are ready. I will get them to you at the Billy Dixon shoot in September unless you need them earlier.



No match report this month but we have a Quigley report from our travellers.

Quigley 2024.

.. And so it came to pass that 'but two 'intrepid' B.R.A.A. shooters ventured across the Pacific this last June to participate in the Matthew Quigley Buffalo Rifle match held outside Forsyth, Montana.

Paperwork in order we negotiated Border Force without issue.. almost with a gold star truth be told. We once again had chosen to overnight in Sydney the night before the flight, rather than risk a missed connection to the trans Pacific flight on the morning of our departure. After our flight cancellation the previous year and our national airline making sure we paid the price as a result, we again deferred to one of the U.S. airlines all the way in and all the way out of the U.S. Less dollars and less hassle.

Arriving in Bozeman a week and one day before the initial match, we again collected our car and much to my companions disgust, it was another F-150 ! What can you do ? We endeavoured to persevere ! A brief stop at the Rib & Chop house in Livingston and we overnighted at Big Timber. The following morning, Lucinda Bryan, one of the joint owner/operators of the Shiloh Rifle Co. had agreed to give us a brief tour of the facility and while most of the workshop was closed, it is always interesting to walk around and see what is actually involved from the raw material to the finished product. This wasn't as extensive a tour as our first foray in 2009 but was enlightening all the same. Encouraged to order a #77.. but I resisted... For now.

By Friday night we were in our room at the Sundowner and regrouping. The following day would have us visiting with our friends the Cokers to collect our stored gear and freshly ordered supplies & then the reloading workshop was set up. A bit of a delay as I chose to experiment with setting up the press and powder measure on two plates for the Inline Fabrication stand. A bit of a fiddle but with two of us at it, we 'goterdun'. We had sufficient primers in storage and commenced our reloading without issue.

Monday morning we lobbied at the Quigley range to register. Welcomed by the head scorer 'Misty' at the registration table, it was good to catch up with old friends and new. Both we BRAA representatives had hot and cold results during practice but the weather held in the main and we were 'reasonably' comfortable when squaddled up for the weekends shoot.

During the week we had caught up with our good friends Kirk Christensen, Mike & Frank at their campsite & enjoyed their generosity and hospitality for most of that week and into the next ! Phenomenal people who help us out at every turn. A trip to Forsyth is not complete without a trip to Rita and Bill Fitzgerald's to catch up and have dinner. Rita owned and operated Fitzgeralds Diner in Forsyth up until it closed its doors even before the 'ethereal years of contagion' . A lovely dinner was had and I again was sent away with a complete raspberry pie. No..I did share...but reluctantly I might add.

Well match day arrived and we were squaddled with our friends and commenced on the buffalo at 805 yds. My compatriot was caught on the hop to come to the line but responded with a good result at the 805 and I followed shortly after. Though it cost me quite a few shots to find the steel. Can't throw away hits on steel.. you just don't get a 7 or a 6 if you miss the mark ! Then down to the 'stop sign' where I managed to not drop off an edge for the duration. I couldn't maintain that for the match though. This continued through the larger rectangle and the diamond. Both of these latter targets were all but silver when it came to our turn and the winds that had been 15-20 mph were raising their voice. We were off the line earlier than a couple of the details which were left to shoot both the offhand and the buffalo in winds of over 40 mph. Timing is everything they say and while we were clearly more lucky than that group , we weren't as fortunate as some others. Still, that's how it always is.

Sunday had us back to shoot the smaller rectangle and the offhand to finish the match. Winds again up at +20mph and gusting. Just standing still was a challenge, let alone suspending a rifle out front.

Our match now finished we retired to our friend Kirks' 34 ft trailer (house on wheels) to compare notes. Kirk had been quite ill around Christmas time and opted out of several of the details to assist with his recuperation. As for Internationals ? ..well, the Canadians were in greater numbers this year, though not as large as anticipated. Getting into and out of Canada as a resident shooter has clearly become more of an issue it seems. So much for a 'free society'. The end result you ask ?

Well the scores have yet to be posted but the match winner was announced with 42 and several in the top ten were at 37. Depending on when they shot what distances on which day.. that was a very good effort. Going by our notes, we managed a 33 and 25 respectively and the International plaque came back to 'Oz' for 2024.

At this stage we have six BRAA members planning to contest the Quigley match next year and four of those to back up for the Big Hill shoot at Baker the following weekend. Always room for more though.. so give it some thought. The Big Hill shoot at Baker is every bit as much fun and definitely more of a challenge but I might leave that report or another issue.

see you when my sights are down.

regards.. Gavin/ J.B.



BUFFALO RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

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Please return completed form and payment to Secretary/Treasurer

**Fees: Payable by cash, cheque or direct deposit (preferred) to Buffalo Rifle Association of Australia
Bank Reliance Bank BSB 882000 ACC 1001 60322 Reference: your name**

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION YEAR 2025

I wish to apply for: Full \$75 Associate \$25 Junior \$25 membership

NAME.....DATE OF BIRTH.....

ADDRESS.....

.....POST CODE.....

TELEPHONE.....MOBILE.....

EMAIL ADDRESS.....

Do you consent to having your name and image published? YES NO

SSAA Membership is a pre-requisite for membership of BRAA

SSAA MEMBERSHIP NUMBER.....EXPIRY.....

IS BRAA YOUR PRINCIPAL CLUB - RIFLE PISTOL

OTHER SHOOTING CLUB MEMBERSHIPS

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FIREARMS LICENCE NO.....

EXPIRY DATE.....CATEGORIES A B H

PLEASE NOTE:YOU MUST HAVE TARGET SHOOTING AS A GENUINE REASON ON YOUR LICENCE

NEXT OF KIN (required)

NAME.....RELATIONSHIP.....

ADDRESS (If different from your own).....

.....

PHONE.....EMAIL.....

2ND CONTACT IF YOU WISH

PHONE.....EMAIL.....

SIGNED.....DATE.....