

On Target

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A woman called a local hospital ... "Hello. Could you connect me to the person who gives information about patients? I'd like to find out how a patient is doing" The voice on the other end said "What is the patient's name and room number?" "Sarah Finkel, Room 302." "I'll connect you to the nursing station". "Third floor nursing station. Can I help you?" "I'd like to know the condition of Sarah Finkel in Room 302.", "Just a moment. Let me look at her records. Mrs. Finkel is very well, In fact she had two full meals, her blood pressure is fine. She is to be taken off the heart monitor in a couple of hours, and if she continues to improve, Dr Cohen is sending her home on Tuesday." The woman said "What a relief Oh, that's fantastic. That's wonderful news." The nurse said, "From your enthusiasm, you must be a close family member, or are you a very close friend?" "Neither. I'm Sarah Finkel in Room 302. Nobody tells me shit".....

Welcome to all PFA Members to "On Target"

Special points of interest:

- **Chairman's Message**
- **A word from Tony**
- **Secretary's Report**

A RANGE IN OUR SIGHTS

Well the range (our range) is still progressing. Even after the news that the military safety template was under review and would possibly require approximately another 1000 metres of backdrop, and then the National Parks and Wildlife service refusing to even entertain our request to use the Kur-ing-gai Chase for our safety zone. We have decided after consultation with the Firearms Registry Range Consultant to proceed with what is called a "No Danger Range". This should enable us to position the range to maximise the best practical use of the space available without having to worry about an external safety zone and permission from adjacent land owners or managers. Unfortunately this means that the range will have to have impenetrable side walls (concrete) as well as the usual butt stop (clean earth) that will withstand the largest calibre that we will be shooting. At the firing line we will have what is called an eyebrow baffle to restrict undue barrel elevation to prevent one from going "over the top." The conceptual design is being put together in consultation with concrete construction engineers and architectural design people. Hopefully we will have something to show the members at the AGM on the 8th of November. It would be of great benefit to the club if we have any resident engineers able to help with the design input and drawings that will be necessary to present to the relevant authorities once the concept is finalised. Any body that may have experience in these areas and wishes to help please contact Tony Garland at The Stockade on 9486 3221 or email info@thestockade.com.au
Tony Garland

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Welcome once more to this edition of On Target. Probably the most important thing we need to discuss at the moment is:-

COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

The present Committee members have served a term of 3 years and some of them would like to step down and make way for "new blood" so to speak. Because of the phase the club is entering, ie, the construction of the range, we would like to have any structural engineers and architects put up their hand to help.

So if you have expertise in this area, and would like to help out the Club, please come and see me at the shop and we can discuss your nomination or how else you can help the Club.

Those of you who also wish to help out the Club please put your hat in the ring and have your say – come and talk to me and I'll give you a run down on what we do on Committee. You have until early October to nominate, but please don't leave it to the last minute. Even if you do not wish to sit on Committee, but have experience in those areas, please come and talk to us.

ATTENDANCE REPORTING

Any of you that have not yet complied for the current reporting year will receive a reminder with this newsletter..

Please note that the reporting year finishes on 31 October 2008. The "non compliant" attendance report will be sent to the Firearms Registry following the Annual General Meeting. This report has to be supplied to the Firearms Registry by law.

It is the responsibility of the Secretary to send this report to the Registry in a timely and accurate manner. Therefore, all attendance reports need to reach me no later than 8 November 2008.

Again, please don't leave things to the last minute.

Tere Alexeeff, Secretary

Chairmans Message, Sanity Prevails!

I have just finished reading the first print of the Firearms Amendment Act 2008. Thanks to the untiring efforts of Robert Brown and Roy Smith in the NSW Parliament a breath – be it small – of sanity now prevails regarding law abiding licenced firearm owners. This amendment provides a more balanced approach to some of the unnecessarily cumbersome and restrictive requirements of the Firearms Act 1996 and Firearms Regulations 2006. Notably :-

Removal of the 28 day waiting period when adding an initial A or B class firearm to an existing A or B class licence. A and B licences are taken to be the same licence in this instance.

Removal of the 28 day waiting period when adding an additional A or B class firearm to an existing A or B class licence.

Unlicenced persons now permitted to use a non-prohibited firearm on a licenced range under the supervision of a licenced person for the type of firearm being used. Thus a person interested in ‘trying before they buy’ can experience shooting prior to applying for a licence. *This regulation is an absolute boon in introducing prospective Shooters safely and legally into the shooting sports.*

Unlicenced persons now permitted to use a non-prohibited firearm on a licenced range for the purposes of undertaking a firearms safety course under the supervision of a licenced person for the type of firearm being used.

Despite the outraged – and totally ill-informed as per usual – cries of the Greens that this would put high-powered high-capacity magazine pistols into the hands of children, the rationale of safer training prior to firearms possession saw the amendments passed. PFA are looking forward to extending a welcoming hand to those responsible persons wishing to experience the pleasures of the shooting sports with a view to on-going participation. I am a member of an international organization, headquartered in Sydney, with a fair number of active Hunters and Shooters – as there are Fishermen, Boaties and 4WD Drivers. In Sept 05 I attended our international conference in Hawaii. Lots of attendees, both male and female, asked me to ‘show them how to shoot’ as they know that ‘what you see on TV isn’t the real deal’. There are Shooting Clubs on most streets where anyone, without a firearms licence, can shoot under supervision – the Proprietor, a former US Marine, allowed me to instruct and supervise several of our groups. Our Oxford Falls contingent shot S&W revolvers in .38special & .44magnum; Glock pistols in 9mmP & .45ACP; semi-auto 9mmP UZI & H&K MP5; M4 carbine in 5.56mmNato and AK47 in 7.62mmx39mm. No accidents, no injuries, just a great time had by all.

I doubt PFA will ever be able to stage an Open Day of that calibre (pardon the pun) but we will do our best.

When sanity prevails, everyone wins.

John Pashley

Father Murphy walks into a pub in Dublin, and says to the first man he meets, "Do you want to go to heaven?" The man said, "I do, Father." The priest said, "Then stand over there against the wall."

Then the priest asked the second man, "Do you want to go to heaven?" "Certainly, Father," was the man's reply. "Then stand over there against the wall," said the priest. Then Father Murphy walked up to O'Toole and said, "Do you want to go to heaven?"

O'Toole said, "No, I don't Father." The priest said, "I don't believe this. You mean to tell me that when you die you don't want to go to heaven?" O'Toole said, "Oh, when I die, yes. I thought you were getting a group together to go right now."

Sunday Herald, Sydney, 3rd August 2008

Garrett bans “wildcat”

A domestic cat with the temperament and genes of a wild African animal has been banned from Australia because of its threat to wildlife and the environment. Environment Minister Peter Garrett has banned the hybrid Savannah cat. The first group of 15 Savannah cats (descended from an African wildcat, the Serval) had been due to arrive in Australia later this year and are in quarantine. Mr Garrett has changed the definition of domestic cat to rule out cats with the genes of the Serval. “The risks associated with allowing this crossbred cat into the country, when we already have as many as 12 million feral cats wreaking havoc on native fauna, are simply too great,” he said. **(12 million, sounds like a bit of an exaggeration to me, must be getting his “facts” from the Greens, Ed)**

A GREAT PARTY WITH SHOTS ALL ROUND

Well done The Shooters’ Party Roy Smith and Robert Brown on the passage of the Firearms Amendments Bill which will become legislation in October this year. It’s about time the ridiculous 28 day cooling off period was sensibly altered. Also a win for those prospective shooters who would like to try out target shooting with out the hassle of having to get a licence first and then maybe not liking it after all or waiting for those “once a year open range days”. I was also fortunate enough to get Roy to include some important changes for Theatrical Armourers in his Amendment Bill at the same time which will again tidy up some ridiculous anomalies in the Regulations. Thanks from all of us Robert and Roy.
Tony Garland

PFA Contact Details

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Shoot Dates for PFA Inc in 2008 Last Sunday of each Month, 28th Sept, 26th Oct, 30th Nov. Shooting is set to start at 12,15pm with the last detail commencing at 3.30pm