

# @n Target

Volume 4—Issue 1  
January 2009

*Special points of interest:*

- Chairman's Message
- 2008 AGM Report
- PFA Range Update
- \*New PFA website\*

**PFA member alert**

Don't forget that this newsletter belongs to you, the members of PFA so if you have something to say, something to sell, something of interest or have something that we all should know about feel free to submit it to "On Target" via **PFA PO Box 574 Narra-been 2102** or direct to the Editor on [derekbt@tpg.com.au](mailto:derekb@tpg.com.au) and we will make every effort to have it included in the next issue of "On Target", subject to the usual restrictions on offensive or questionable content.

See ya, DBT

**"MYSTERY BUS"**

The bus that arrives at the pub on Friday night while you're in the toilet after your 10th schooner, and whisks away all the unattractive people so the pub is suddenly packed with stunners when you come back in. Amazing but true.

## Welcome to all PFA Members to "On Target"

### OUR RANGE UPDATE

At the AGM, Tony Garland presented a report regarding the progress on our Range. A series of Architectural concepts were presented to the meeting showing the suggested layout of the 100M range. The two level clubhouse design externally suggesting an Australian Colonial design with covered verandas on three sides and a versatile internal design allowing for general meetings, training rooms and administration and general comforts. All include disabled access for both upstairs at the club level and the lower level for shooting. The range is designed to have 20 shooting bays and will allow for bench rest, standing and prone shooting. How the range will proceed from here will depend on availability of funds and the co-operation of the various authorities. At this point the Firearms Registry Range Liaison Officer has given approval in principle to our range as a **No Danger Range** suitable for Centre fire up to a calibre to be tested and determined in the not too distant future. More than likely the range will be built in three stages.

**Stage 1** Being what I call **the concrete bunker** which is actually the firing line and benches, **the range side retaining walls** which will be 150mm concrete for the length of the range and disappearing into the **10M to 14M high buttstop or the mound or the Berm** which is the official terminology.

**Once stage 1 is complete, we should be able to commence shooting on our own range.**

**Stage 2** Possibly the clubhouse level on top of the concrete bunker with all utilities.

**Once stage 2 is complete we can sit on the veranda and watch the wildlife, the shooting or the sun go down in comfort and maybe have a cup of tea?**

**Stage 3** The car park, roads and surrounding facilities.

**Once stage 3 is complete we can rollerblade in the carpark and put in parking meters.**

This is all subject to funding as I have said previously. Costings are being looked at while you are reading this article with engineering drawings to be prepared for submission to the Warringah Council for our development application. Any help that can be given by any member at this point would be greatly appreciated.

Anyone wishing to view the proposed plans is welcome at The Stockade.

### It was all smiles at the 2008 PFA AGM



Winners are Grinners and boy oh boy what a smile on the face of **Tony Griffiths** when he received his trophy for winning the Vet class of the competition held at the regular PFAshoots at the SIPC range.

*The trophies are quite unique being handcrafted by **John Webeck**, made from wood and glass with the competition details engraved into the wood and the PFA logo etched into the glass, very classy indeed, thanks John.*



On the left is a picture of some of the PFA members that turned up to hear about their club and participate in the running of it over the next year and beyond, "our future is looking very good" said one member. Some good discussion was shared by all.

On the right is John Pashley, the PFA Chairman delivering the good news about the club to the assembled PFA members at the 2008 AGM



### Chairmans Message and It's All Good . . .

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2008 saw the PFA Annual General Meeting held at the Belrose Bowling Club. A well attended and often spirited affair, the Meeting was a credible representation of the Clubs progress over the past year – and what it takes not only to keep the ship afloat, but keep it progressing also.

All reports were received with interest :-

#### **Membership – Tony Mathews:**

Steady increase as more young Shooters join the fraternity.

#### **Finances – Andrew King:**

Looking healthy as we move towards Range construction.

#### **PFA Range – Tony Garland:**

Maintenance of momentum as we work our way through the preparatory stages of design approval with Police and Council. How good was it to see the concept drawings of the range and clubhouse? fantastic.

#### **Newsletter – Derek Barratt-Thompson:**

No easy task – articles, photos and stories from you, the Members, are eagerly sought.

#### **Constitution – Bruce Crowe:**

Two amendments to simplify proceedings.

#### **Secretary – Tere Alexeeff:**

Every 'i' dotted and 't' crossed.

#### **Chairmans Report – John Pashley:**

Summary of where we have come from, the victories won, and the challenges ahead.

Perhaps the best moment was presentation of trophies for the Target Competition. Congratulations to the Winners:

Youth (Under 18 years): Jacob Lawaetz.

General (18-55 years): James Curtis.

Veterans (over 55 years): Tony Griffiths.

How pleasing to see Jacob and James, who are both relatively new Shooters, taking out the trophies. A special congratulations to Tony Griffiths – won his competition shooting iron sights only. Thanks also to John Webeck for his excellent trophies.

As always, a special 'Thanks' to all on the Committee.

One day we will look back on all this and smile.

**John Pashley**

### **"PERCUSSIVE MAINTENANCE"**

The fine art of whacking the crap out of an electronic device to get it to work again.



On the left is Tere Alexeeff, our hard working PFA Secretary having a few words to the members and answering questions from the floor

To the right is Andrew King the Treasurer who had a good, solid and sound financial position of the club to present to the members at the 2008 AGM and while there were some questions asked, all were answered to everyone's satisfaction



Above is John Pashley, Chairman, Van McClean, Committee, Tony (The Stockade) Garland, Committee and Tere Alexeeff, Secretary all preparing for the 2008 PFA AGM just prior to it's commencement at the Belrose Bowling Club.

## Priorities

A husband and wife came for counselling after 20 years of marriage. When asked what the problem was, the wife went into a passionate, painful tirade listing every problem they had ever had in the 20 years they had been married.

She went on and on and on: neglect, lack of intimacy, emptiness, loneliness, feeling unloved and unlovable, an entire laundry list of unmet needs she had endured over the course of their marriage.

Finally, after allowing this to go on for a sufficient length of time, the therapist got up, walked around the desk and, after asking the wife to stand, embraced and kissed her passionately as her husband watched with a raised eyebrow. The woman shut up and quietly sat down as though in a daze

The therapist turned to the husband and said, "This is what your wife needs at least three times a week. Can you do this?"

The husband thought for a moment and replied, "Well, I can drop her off here on Mondays and Wednesdays, but on Fridays, I play golf."

## Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

to all PFA members, family and friends. The committee and staff (unpaid) hope that you all had a wonderful 2008 and trust that 2009 is set to be bigger, better in every way, and that it will provide you with everything you wish and hope for. The last issue of **On Target** was far too early for festive greetings so we are saying it now and as the saying goes, "**its better late than never**". PFA has a big year ahead with work on the range development going ahead at one million miles an hour, drawings and plans being done in preparation for DA and BA requirements, meetings with FAR to ensure all the right criteria is used in our range compliance. There are also a lot of jobs needing to be done to prepare our range for use, jobs that YOU could assist with, clearing the land, pegging and fencing, signs etc, and if you can and want to help, contact the club via the website on e-mail, ring 9990-5771 and leave a message with your contact details or just mention your willingness and availability to help during your next visit to the Stockade, we look forward to hearing from you.

## *Training – Your Thoughts Please*

An essential component to the survival of the shooting sports is the demonstration, especially to the legislative bodies, that Shooters are responsible in the pursuit of their sport.

One way to do this is through recorded and assessable training. An essential component of the PFA vision is to provide such training, and to excel in this area.

Shooters, Hunters and Outdoorsmen are active conservators of our natural heritage.

PFA is seeking your input regarding such Shooter-relevant training that you would find useful, and would be prepared to undertake and support.

Please indicate your interest in the list provided :-

- Survival. Food, Water, Shelter, Fire, Signalling.
- Medical. Basic care of yourself, and those entrusted to your care.
- Navigation. Map & Compass. Improvised navigation.
- Bushcraft. Living safely and comfortably within the environment.
- Hunting skills. Utilising wisely what you have harvested.
- Survival Kits: Improve, Adapt, Overcome.
- Any specific area not mentioned above.

.....  
.....

Name: ..... PFA Member No: .....

Contact details: (Phone / home) ..... (fax) .....

(mobile) ..... (e-mail) .....

Please fax completed list to John Pashley at  
(fax) 9913-7924. (e-mail) as an attachment to john.pashley@optusnet.com.au

## **ANOTHER COURSE ANNOUNCEMENT.**

### **R Licence**

Another Game Council R licence course was conducted by the PFA Inc at The City Christian Centre at Oxford Falls on the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2008 at 7.00pm with 17 people attending and successfully passing the course. The evening ran smoothly and was conducted by John Pashley and Andrew King and was finished by 9.00 pm.

### **RCO's Course**

The following week on the 19<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm the PFA conducted the first part of a Range Officers (RCO) Training course at the same venue with 14 people attending including myself, Tere and John. The evening was an interactive seminar on the formalities and duties relating to the various activities and responsibilities of a Range Conducting Officer (RCO) and a Duty Officer (DO). The course was conducted by Tony Garland with the assistance of Tere Alexeff and John Pashley. All 12 applicants showed much enthusiasm and put forward sensible and knowledgeable commentary and input. The seminar was completed with a short recollection test with all applicants achieving a solid pass mark. The final completion of this course will result in the participants receiving an Identification card that will introduce them as a qualified RCO under a recognised and approved training scheme. The evening was completed by 9.00pm. These applicants have since completed their first practical part of the Course on our last range day for the year on the 30<sup>th</sup> November at St. Ives Pistol Club. The weather was perfect for shooting and each of the training RCOs took turns under supervision at controlling the range practice details. There were no complications and each of the participants showed the ability to control the range in an efficient and correct manner. A number of situations arose that required decisions to be made by the RCO such as inspecting a lever action and a pump action rifle to ascertain whether it was clear of ammunition, clearing both a jammed empty case and a jammed unfired case, introducing new unlicensed shooters to the range under supervision and organising coaching and scope sighting for novices. Each applicant was also introduced to the **Front Desk** and took turns at booking members and guests onto the range, allocating shooting positions, collecting monies, booking out club guns and selling raffle tickets. All of these activities are of major importance to the running of the club and certainly to the enjoyment of our day at the range. These Rookie RCO's will be appearing on the Range Practice days in the future. These members are showing the usual Australian volunteering spirit and will help to reduce the workload of the mere handful of our members that have run the Range Practice days in the past.

### **The Rookie RCOs are:-**

Stephen Brown, Brad O'Connor, David Hokke, Druitt Peterson, Michael Inch, Luke Peterson, Paul Kelso, Ian Robertson, Oliver Le Goavec, John Webeck and David MacDonald. As you come across these new RCOs on the range remember they are there to help you have an enjoyable and safe day on the range.

Help them achieve this by being attentive and responsive. This will result in PFA continuing to have an enviable reputation as a club that knows how to respond to the members wishes and how to do it in a manner that satisfies *nearly* everybody.

If you are interested in participating in either an R Licence course or becoming a PFA RCO please call in at The Stockade and put your name down for future courses.

**The PFA website has now been reorganised to include new contact facilities including the newsletter, attendance recording, email to the secretary, picture gallery, general notices etc <http://www.pfainc.org.au>**

**All members should know that if they enjoy a good read, and who doesn't, given the time, that Tony Griffiths, an active shooting member of PFA is also an author of some repute. Tony has written three books regarding the Lithgow Small Arms Factory and they are available and on sale at The Stockade. Tony Griffiths is shown in the photo on the front page of this issue receiving his trophy from John Pashley.**

### **THIS DIAMOND HAS LOST ITS LUSTRE**

Unfortunately another Diamond Python has met his demise by some thoughtless, dare I say person rather than animal. Discovered on the side of the track on the way down to our range day on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November. It had probably been there for a couple of days and looked as though it had just had lunch from the bulge in its stomach. It should be well noted that these snakes **are harmless to humans, a protected species** and a hefty fine and possibly a gaol term can be dished out by the courts to the offender.

A further reminder is that anyone found discharging a fire-arm on the property contained by the leases in this particular area around and adjacent to SIPC and PFA not in compliance with Firing Range Regulations will be cited and expelled from the club and reported to the Authorities, in particular the Firearms Registry and the Licensing Police.

A Muslim was seated next to an Aussie on a flight from London. After the plane was airborne, drink orders were taken. The Aussie asked for a whiskey, which was promptly brought and placed before him. The flight attendant then asked the Muslim if he would like a drink. He replied in disgust, I'd rather be savagely raped by a dozen whores than let liquor touch my lips. The Aussie then handed his drink back to the attendant and said, Me, too. I didn't realize we had a choice

**PFA Shoot Dates in 2009**, Last Sunday of each Month. Shooting starts at 12,15pm with the last detail at 3.30pm. **25th Jan, 22nd Feb, 29th Mar, 26th April, 31st May, 28th June, 26th July, 30th Aug, 27th Sept, 25th Oct, 29th Nov NO SHOOT IN DECEMBER.**

### **PFA Contact Details**

PO Box 574 Narrabeen 2101

[www.pfainc.org.au](http://www.pfainc.org.au) Telephone 02 9990-5771