

On Target

March 2017

Special points of interest:

- GCA exposed
- Vale Van Maclean
- Range donations
- PFA range update
- Show Your Licence

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Don't forget to bring your shooter's licence and PFA membership cards to the range to have a shoot.

IT IS LAW that you ***must*** show your licence before shooting. ***NO licence, NO shoot. If you do not have your licence you will be refused the opportunity to shoot, even if you know the range staff. Anyone caught shooting on any range without their licence WILL put the club, range owners and the member at risk of having their licences withdrawn. DON'T risk it, and embarrass yourself and the range staff by asking to overlook it.***

“On Target”

PFA's newsletter timing. It is our intentions to have the PFA newsletter completed and distributed 3 times a year in March, August and December. Frequency and timing may change occasionally subject to content and the timing of important messages etc. Our aim is to keep you, the members informed and hopefully, entertained. **Derek BT.**

Disclaimer: Please note that the items and views expressed are not necessarily those of PFA Inc.

Welcome to all PFA Members to “On Target”

Peninsular Firearm Academy Inc needs Range Officers (RO) to run our shoot days.

The shoots that we all need to do to assist us in maintaining our licence and guns. As you know we are currently utilising the range at St Ives Pistol Club, very soon we will be meeting our commitments on our own PFA range.

The more qualified RO's we have the fewer times ROs need to attend, simple.

PFA currently hold ten (10) organised shoots a year requiring approximately four (4) ROs to run the range for the afternoon, which means that if we had forty (40) ROs they would each only need to run the range once a year, using the same calculation, if we have only four (4) ROs the poor buggers will be required to attend every shoot, unfair? a bit out of balance? ABSO-bloody-LUTELY.

If we can encourage a few of you to take up the challenge and become qualified ROs (not too hard) then participate in the regular running of our shoots we can all share the load and everyone has a great time, and the currently overworked members (ROs) who are there to help you have your complying shoots will be able to have some time off and have a shoot themselves.

PFA run the RO course free of charge and it's very straight forward and practical.

It's not rocket science, most of it is common knowledge and common sense, too easy and you'll enjoy yourself doing it.

Fulfilling the duties of an RO is fun, you're with your friends and fellow club members doing what we all love and it also complies as an attendance/shoot for your licence requirements, so it's a good thing all round. Contact your club **NOW**, [0431581259](tel:0431581259), secretary@pfainc.org.au and leave your details and take the next step towards a better club for all of it's members.

Range Donation Scheme

One of our members, Phil J, has come up with a novel idea for raising funds for the building and continuing maintenance of the range, and he has put his wallet where his mouth is. His suggestion is simple. Decide on what is your most favourite calibre, and then donate that amount to the club specifically for the range fund. His choice was .243, and he dutifully donated \$243.00 at the AGM. How about we all follow suit if we can. Regardless of the fact that we have received a government grant to build the range, the upkeep and continuing maintenance of the new premises will come at a price.

The names of all those that have donated will be posted at the club house for time immemorial to thank those that have participated. **(Let's hear from you. ED)**

News comment, October 2016

EXPOSED: GCA's Roland Browne misfires on firearm stats. Gun Control Australia's Roland Browne has again put his foot in it by falsely telling The Daily Telegraph that former Prime Minister John Howard's gun laws have seen “dramatic



decreases in suicide rates and gun death rates” - the same day the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) released figures showing self-harm rates using firearms remain steady. In his latest gaffe, Mr Browne also neglected the domestic violence epidemic, saying there has been a “reduction in violence in the home”. He has once again downplayed how other forms of violence have real effects on victims in his quest to paint all firearms as the biggest threat to society. **(Never let the truth stand in the way of a good story, they say, or an outright lie, say I. ED)**

VALE: Van Maclean

Van Maclean was born on the 11th August 1945 and passed away all too soon in 27th of October 2016.

A sad loss to all that knew and loved him, he will be missed by many. In the months prior to his passing, Van had completed several rounds of chemotherapy successfully, but as the



cancer become more aggressive he was moved to radiotherapy, this did not have a good effect on his body, nevertheless he still insisted in travelling back and forth between Sydney and Hong Kong for his work.

Van was a real character among characters and will be remembered by all who enjoyed his company and we are many. He was a joy to be around, always smiling and enjoyed his shooting immensely.

Van had his sense of humour until the end constantly being Van and making jokes.

Van was a very active shooter and was also a long term and dedicated member of PFA where he served on Committee for many years assisting with the running of the club.

While maintaining all the required attendances for pistol and rifle, he was also a keen shotgunner and could be found regularly at the local Terrey Hills shotgun club often in company with his close friends, Tony G. and Tere A.

Van also managed to regularly find time to fit in his Hi-Cal shoots at Ku-ring-gai PC in Hornsby.

Van was also a long standing (13 years) member of St Ives Pistol Club and enjoyed participating in several disciplines including Centrefire, Air, .22 Rimfire and Veteran Service and could also be found regularly at 25yard Service on some Saturday mornings.

As well as all this Van was also a keen sailor, something he enjoyed immensely, a very active man.

Van assisted with many projects while a member of both shooting clubs, including being the member responsible for the PFA clubhouse concept drawings which are proudly and prominently displayed at the PFA AGMs, unfortunately Van will not be with us to see the end result of his work and efforts.

The family did not have a funeral in Sydney, however a memorial was held in Hong Kong in late November, it was at this time that Van's family placed his ashes into the South China Sea where he loved to sail when in that part of Hong Kong.

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Due to a request for privacy from the family, and the distance involved, sadly we were not able to be present at Van's service and pay our respects but we take this opportunity to express our sadness in his loss and forward our sincere condolences and best wishes to Van's family, his wife Janet and two daughters, Emma and Caitlin.

Van's daughter expressed a wish that all members that knew him be informed of his passing.

Van had many friends in the wider shooting family and he will be missed by all that knew him.

Goodbye and God bless Van.

Sunday Telegraph 5th Mar 2017

National gun amnesty aims to rid streets of weapons
THE first national gun amnesty since the Port Arthur massacre 20 years ago will start from July amid concerns over gun violence and illegal imports.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull will grant a three-month amnesty in the hope of removing about 260,000 illegal guns off the street. It comes as Australian Border Force is netting about 33 guns or firearm parts a week. Most were detected in overseas mail.

Some gun nuts and criminals are importing silencers from the US and are trying to escape law enforcement attention by labelling their airmail package as something else. Others are breaking down firearms into small parts and sending them through the mail in multiple consignments. It can also be revealed the government will this month try to reintroduce mandatory minimum sentences for gun traffickers. Justice Minister Michael Keenan said the national amnesty, which would not include a buyback, would run until September 30. "This is the first national gun amnesty since 1996, when the Howard government took action following the devastation of the Port Arthur Massacre," he said. "While there have been state-based amnesties over that time, it is time we give every Australian another opportunity to hand in their unwanted firearms without fear of being prosecuted."

(Once again, gun owners, if there are any left, will dutifully hand in their guns that the Govt don't want them to have and the villains, the criminals will go on bringing them in and using them for criminal activities, regardless of any Govt amnesty. DBT Ed.)

Shoot Dates for PFA Inc. in 2017. Last Sunday of each Month.

***26th February, 26th March, 30th April, 28th May
25th June, 30th July, 27th August, 24th September,
29th October and 26th November.***

Check www.pfainc.org.au for any updates or changes. Shooting is scheduled to start at 12.15pm with the last detail commencing at 3.30pm

NO SHOTS IN JANUARY AND DECEMBER

PFA Contact Details

PO Box 571 Terrey Hills NSW 2084

www.pfainc.org.au, Telephone, **0431581259**

PFA RANGE PROGRESS REPORT

MARCH 2017

Well, 20 years after the PFA was started we finally have progressed to our own range.

Eleven years in the planning have culminated in the design of what we believe will be a state of the art rifle range.



We started in September by clearing the site and accumulating dirt for our mound, we now have the footing and trenches dug for the footprint for the building and the surrounding walls and we are waiting to have the concrete footings poured for the clubhouse when the weather lets us. Then some walls coming out of the ground. We are breaking new ground (excuse the pun) with the

design of the footings for both the mound and the precast side walls because of the fact we are building on top of a filled quarry and the ground



needs to be stabilised to handle the weight. Thanks to Graeme Turner, our illustrious builder's design, we have been able to overcome the concerns of our geotechnical engineer.

The Bunker, as we are calling it or the firing point will be quite noisy, but we intend to make it as comfortable as possible for both the shooters and any observers with various noise mitigating systems. The shooter will be able to observe his or her target via a smart phone or tablet which you can bring along or hire from the club. The target frame senses your point of impact and will send a signal via WiFi to your screen where your target will be displayed and the point of impact. This will obviously remove the constant need to go forward and patch and change targets. This information is recorded on a server and can even be used for competing with other shooters in other clubs anywhere in the world that has a similar target system.

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The targets themselves are again state of the art, with a self sealing panel on the front of the target face onto which we can attach any target up to 2.5 metres high by 1



metre wide. These targets are designed to prevent the projectile from exiting the target frame. The projectile is trapped and shredded inside the target and the fragments of the projectile are dropped into a tray below the target and become scrap metal rather than pollution in the mound. This means a massive saving every 5 years when we don't have to remove the contaminated soil from the mound, which is a requirement of our Development Application and the EPA.

Because we will not be connected to town power, we are going to be completely off grid with solar. After much research looking at the latest technology regarding storage batteries we have made a decision and placed an order for the system we will use which will give us up to 26kwh of power both day and night. Of course all of our lighting will be the latest LED configurations that will be as bright as if not brighter than conventional fluorescent lighting.

An onsite waste water treatment plant is incorporated as is water storage to the tune of 40,000 litres. That is 20,000 for the Rural Fire Service and 20,000 for our own use. For those of you that might want to do a bit of fly fishing, we will also have a dam.

We have had a preliminary on site meeting with the FAR late last year, and they are impressed with my design and the progress that we have made. They even made a couple of suggestions that will make some of the construction easier for us. They said that if we build the range to the detailed specification that we showed them they can see no reason why it wouldn't pass final inspection. They suggested it could be possible to shoot up to 8mm.

We plan to have the No Danger part of the project completed by the end of April 2017, with a total completion target date before the end of 2017, for the clubhouse, car park and landscaping. Initially once the range is suitable for shooting we will be conducting further acoustic testing complete with baffles and the mound, to satisfy the EPA noise level requirements.

The range shooting benches will cater for left hand and right handed shooters as well as physically challenged participants and the seating will be most comfortable.

Revegetation will be of the native variety to sustain native wild life.

We anticipate the clubhouse could also be used as a function centre.

Congratulations to all that have been involved in getting PFA to this point.

Your Chairman, **Tony Garland**



As the world goes round and somethings change, others remain the same, well, almost the same.

The Stockade has changed and gone online, no guns and ammo but heaps of related accessories and some really good deals (*so I'm told. Ed*).

With their accessory business Tony & Tere are currently concentrating on their Ebay store which is nice and easy to use and is working out quite well.

http://stores.ebay.com.au/TnT-Super?_trksid=p2047675.12563

(just copy and paste the link above)

Their new website www.tntsuperstore.com.au is currently under construction, a work in progress, but it is working, but because Tony is not used to putting these things together it is painstakingly tedious (*his words, I'm sure he will get quicker. Ed*).



Tony and Tere can be contacted through either of the web addresses and at their old email addresses

Tony@thestockade.com.au and

tere@thestockade.com.au.

Which are still active and keeping them both busy. There is plenty of great stock of just about everything, all of which has taken over most of their available space, no guns and ammo but plenty of firearm and shooting related accessories like mounts and scopes, cleaning gear, targets, safes, clothing, reloading gear, ammo boxes, multi tools, ear muffs, knives, bore sighters, binoculars, torches etc. etc. etc. So if anyone is looking for something The Stockade probably has it.



They are offering a PFA member's discount, so don't hesitate to ask, you could be pleasantly surprised. Tony and Tere forward on their thanks for all the support they've received and want to let you know they are both busy and working well and getting on with life and watching the light at the end of the tunnel getting bigger day by day.

Derek BT, for and on behalf of TnT

As a senior citizen was driving down the freeway, his car phone rang.

Answering, he heard his wife's voice urgently warning him, "Herman, I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on the M2. Please be careful!" "Hell," said Herman, "It's not just one car.. It's hundreds of them!"

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS NOVEMBER 2016 – OCTOBER 2017

To comply with the requirements of your Firearms Licence, and the Firearms Act, you must complete a certain number of attendances depending on the reason you gave for having your licence, if you have a **Target Licence** – you require **FOUR (4)** attendances at a shooting range

Hunting Licence – you require **TWO (2)** attendances or other suitable activities

Multiple Licence (both Target and Hunting) you require **SIX (6)** activities in total.

The Club must notify the Firearms Registry if a person fails to comply with their attendance requirements. To avoid being reported, please make sure that your attendances have been recorded by the Club. Just a reminder, that for the purposes of both your licence and insurance, you need to inform the club before you undertake any hunting activities. This can be done by Australia Post snail mail, by email to attendances@pfainc.com.au. Or to secretary@pfainc.org.au. Please note that it is your responsibility to obtain written permission from the landholder on whose land you are conducting hunting activities and keep those documents on file. If you are shooting your target activities at a club other than PFA, then you must retain the appropriate records on file. It is your responsibility to notify your reporting club, that is PFA, in writing, of any activities undertaken to satisfy your licence requirements which you perform away from the Club, that is, hunting on property or attending other target ranges. You have until 30 October to comply with your attendance requirements.

All members who received this newsletter in the mail. You're receiving this request because we (PFA) do not have an e-mail contact address for you. To make the distribution of club information, club news and the newsletter, easier, quicker and a saving on costs (your money), we are requesting that, if you have an e-mail address that you contact the club registrar at: registrar@pfainc.org.au or the club secretary at: secretary@pfainc.org.au and provide your e-mail address, PLEASE.

You will not receive junk mail or anything relating to things other than the club and shooting from PFA.

Derek BT, Editor.

Our apologies and thanks to those that have already notified PFA that they do not have an email address.

We always hold hands. If I let go, she shops.

Just a brief reminder that "On Target" is your newsletter and meant for you. Your contributions, letters, stories, your most recent away shoot, anything you find interesting can be submitted for other members to read. Give it a go and help "On Target" be what we all want it to be, interesting and useful to all members and a good read. Send all info to derekb@tpg.com.au