

# On Target

April 2024

*Special points of interest:*

- Diamond's Full Stop
- Happy New Year
- Mr Drains
- Range Volunteers
- Deceased Estate
- 28th January 2024
- WA Limits Guns
- Work Bee
- 44.40

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*If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.*

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*Your future self is watching you right now through memories.*

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*The biggest joke on mankind is that computers have begun asking humans to prove they aren't a robot.*

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**Range Officers (RO) needed to assist in the running of our shoot days. The more qualified RO's we have the fewer times ROs need to attend, simple.**

Have you some time to spare? Take up the RO's course and assist at our regular shoots, the more the merrier and the lighter the load. Volunteer now, contact the club and nominate, put your name down to become an RO.

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

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

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*A Reminder To All PFA Members And Visitors On Shoot Days.*

*Please leave your firearms safely secured in your vehicle until you have completed the booking-in process and are preparing for your detail.*

*Thank you for complying and assisting in the safe smooth flow of our shooting day.*

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### DIAMOND'S OLYMPIC DREAM OVER

*Anton Rose. Sunday Telegraph 7<sup>th</sup> Jan 2024*

Olympic gold medal shooter Michael Diamond has been refused a gun licence, ending what he says is his dream of making a comeback at the Paris Games later this year. The embattled marksman has now exhausted virtually all legal avenues to have a firearms ban overturned after a years-long battle with the NSW Police. Diamond had argued in the Civil and Administrative Tribunal last month he needed the ban overturned by January 14th in order to compete at the Australian National Titles. The event is an Olympic qualifier and would have paved the way for Diamond to make a sensational comeback to the Games for the first time in 24 years. Diamond won gold at the 1996 and 2000 Olympics in Sydney as well as medals at the Commonwealth Games. In 2016 he was charged with firearms offences and drink driving after a domestic dispute with his brother which ended in his licence being automatically revoked. That meant his dreams of competing in Rio that year were over, despite the convictions later being quashed on appeal he has never returned to a major competition.



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### Short Personal Note from the Editor. (recycled from Maerch/2023)

I'd like to take this opportunity, although somewhat belated, to wish you all a safe, healthy and very Happy New Year.

My thanks go out to all that worked so tirelessly for the club throughout the past year and thanks also to those who assisted in the running of the club and the range shoots. My thanks also to the few that made

contributions for the club newsletter, it makes it all worthwhile and helps make it easier for me. My thanks to all the volunteers who gave freely of their time in the maintenance of the range, a most important requirement, but more volunteers are always needed and always appreciated.

A big welcome must go to all the new members that have recently joined this wonderful club of ours and can now join in and contribute to the activities that is PFA.

A sad farewell also to those few members we have lost over the past years, sadly moved on or just moved out, we will miss you and we wish you well at your future club/range, enjoy your shooting.

I look forward to seeing you at the club, on the range and having a shoot, whether competitively, attempting a PB or just for plain fun, enjoying whatever your style. Have a great 2024, **Derek BT ED.**





# FREE DRAINAGE INSPECTION FOR PFA MEMBERS SAVE UP TO \$300!

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Mr Drains Plumbing Services is excited to offer all PFA Members a **FREE DRAIN INSPECTION** valued at \$300. Our team of expert plumbers are dedicated to providing you with high-quality plumbing solutions, ensuring the smooth functioning of your drains, and identifying any leaks, blockages or damage as soon as possible, avoiding costly future expenses.

**CLAIM YOUR FREE DRAIN INSPECTION CONTACT US TODAY - MENTION THIS ADVERT WHEN BOOKING**  
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**The Shooters Fishers and Farmers Party (SFFP)** has been working since October 2020 on an issue where the NSW Firearms Registry had consistently altered the process of acquiring inherited firearms from Deceased estates. One particular case related to an estate transfer of over 100 firearms that had been left by a father to his son in his Will as part of his estate. What was involved was not just the transfer PTAs and fees, but also the requirement that the firearms be removed and put into storage at some very significant cost for an indeterminate length of time and rental cost. The Registry used to allow people who were bequeathed firearms to acquire them without a PTA or fees. The Registry then moved the goal posts and removed this from their fact sheet, without consultation, which meant that people who had been bequeathed firearms had to apply for a PTA for each and every inherited firearm and pay the PTA fee. After numerous representations to the Deputy Commissioner of Police, the NSW Firearms Registry has now corrected this issue and removed the need to pay a fee to transfer ownership of a firearm from a deceased estate. "This is a win for common sense and saves unnecessary costs and drama during an already difficult time". "We are glad to see things restored to what had previously been normal and a long term accepted practice. We are at a loss to know why the change was made in the first, place?" Mr Borsak of the SFFP said. To transfer firearms from a deceased estate to a NSW firearms license holder all you need to do is have the Executor/Administrator and the Beneficiary complete the relevant Deceased Estate Firearm Ownership Transfer Form which can be found on the NSW Police website which will act as a PTA but more importantly there are no fees to go through this process. If you are the beneficiary of firearms in a will and you wish to keep them, you must apply for a licence if you don't already have one. If you are licensed for the correct categories of firearms, you must fill out the relevant Deceased Estate Firearm Ownership Transfer form/s.



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The form acts in the place of a permit to acquire (PTA), which is a legal pre-requisite to acquire a firearm. Completion of the form satisfies the legislative requirement for the acquisition of an inherited firearm. There is no fee for this transaction.

## 28<sup>th</sup> January 2024

A top day, weather was perfect for spending some time at the range. It was certainly a bit cooler than the couple of previous days and without the almost oppressive heat and humidity.

Having visitors staying over the Australia Day long weekend I didn't get to the range until after lunch, but still plenty of life left in the day and well worth the trip. Attendance was good with quite a few members milling around and having a chat, friendly faces were the order of the day, all seemed to be happy to be back at the range and kicking off the 2024 year.

When I arrived, there was a detail already on the line shooting and the next group were booking in for their turn, all going smoothly, and after the pre-shoot safety presentation was given, everyone was ready to go. The changeover happened, members coming and going, once again smiling faces, friendly banter, quite obviously people were having a good time and enjoying being out and about and at the range doing what they love.

It was pleasing to see that pre and post shooting, members were milling around chatting and socialising, what a great atmosphere, sharing those times with fellow members, our shooting family.

I truly hope that this connection between members and club continues and grows, it is what will make our club great and the one to be a part of, the one all will want to join, not just the facilities but the members.

The personal, face to face way our club is, needs to remain unchanged, our people, our members need to be part of the operation and always feel connected and never disconnected. Stay friendly, stay a **member's club** and not just a club with members.

Come down to the club's next shoot day, even if not to shoot, come for a visit, register an attendance, have a coffee, have some very tasty BBQ food and stay for a look around and have a chat, you'll enjoy yourself and have the opportunity to meet some of the other members.

**Derek BT ED.**



## WA's PROPOSED OVERHAULED GUN LAWS REVEALED. (James Carmody and David Weber, 16 Oct 2023)

The WA government and police say the discovery of a suburban weapons cache highlights the need for reform. Western Australia is set to become the first jurisdiction in the country to limit the number of guns someone can own under proposed firearm law reforms. The Firearm Act review would see Recreational shooters limited to owning five guns and Farmers restricted to 10. Competitive shooters will also be limited to 10 firearms but can apply to own more if they are competing at a national or international level. WA Police Minister Paul Papalia said it would be up to those who own more guns than the new laws allow to choose which firearms they kept and which they dispose of to be within the limits.



WA Police Minister and Commissioner Col Blanch are determined to toughen WA's gun laws. "Public safety is paramount, and that has been the key consideration when drafting the proposed legislation," he said. "If there are fewer firearms in the community, there are fewer opportunities for them to be used illegally." Currently there are 360,916 licensed firearms in WA, more than double the amount in the state in 2009. The value of compensation for surrendered guns will be calculated based on the type of firearm and when it was first licensed in Western Australia. There will be no compensation paid for ammunition or accessories surrendered with firearms. The government would also not pay for any unlicensed guns, but they can be surrendered under amnesty legislation.

"My job and the job of my officers is to keep the community safe, and illicit firearms pose a significant risk to the safety of the community and to my officers, especially when in the hands of serious and organised crime groups," WA Police Commissioner Col Blanch said. "We know that licensed firearms can quickly become illicit firearms and be traded in the underworld. The president of the Shooters Union, Graham Park, slammed the proposal to restrict the number of firearms owned, describing it as "totally unreasonable". Adequate systems are already in place for safe gun ownership, the Shooters Union says. "It will not have any effect on crime, it will merely cause more bureaucracy and cost for the government, and basically have no effect other than to give them a press release," he said. Bringing this in is ridiculous." "In a relatively free Western society, we've normally been guided by the safety factor, if you're not doing any harm with it, we leave you alone. WA Farmers CEO Trevor Whittington said, "We've consulted with our members and the feedback is 10 is a reasonable number to have,". Outgoing WA Premier Mark McGowan says the "property letter" system will be overhauled as part of the state's gun law reform.

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Trevor Whittington was critical of the government's method. "We think they've gone about it the wrong way, they've gone after the recreational sector and capping their numbers," he said.

### **New licence types to be introduced**

Under the proposed laws, there will be eight specific licence types. The licence categories will be:

### **Primary producer, Individual, Trade, Business, Club, Ranges, Collector, Government**

An individual licence will be required for recreational hunting or target shooting and restricts the holder to owning five firearms.

Competitive shooters who are current members of a licensed shooting club, can own up to 10 firearms and shooting clubs will have to apply for a club licence.

Farmers will fall under the primary producer licence type and can own up to 10 firearms, but the guns can only be used for primary production purposes.

Premier Roger Cook argued the proposed changes would make WA a safer place. "WA is the last jurisdiction to rewrite its firearm legislation since the Port Arthur massacre." The new laws are a move to get illegal guns off Perth streets. A spokesperson for the WA Firearms Community Alliance, which represents the state's gun traders, recreational shooters and licensed owners, described the limits as "arbitrary" with "no evidence to suggest they have any meaning". "Why is 9 not dangerous? Why is 11 dangerous?" Paul Fitzgerald said on ABC Radio, "What we're seeing here is the police minister telling 100,000 people in Western Australia that 'we don't trust you.'"  
**END.**

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## **Important Club Notice - Please Read**

As you all know we are still in the process of getting Council permission to operate on more days.

For this to happen once we have permission, we will need to get more range officers.

Unless we can train up more range officers, we will not be able to operate more often.

Our resources are stretched pretty thin with just 1 day a month at the moment. I think you would all agree that it is not fair to expect the same

group of people to give up their time so the rest of us can have fun and shoot more often. So, if you have had your licence for a minimum of 3 years and are prepared to help out, please let us know as soon as possible. You will be trained on the job, and have your maintenance levy waived, and you get to shoot for free. If you already have an RO qualification with another organisation, please let us know, so we can get you on board for PFA also.

***Looking forward to being swamped with volunteers.***



Well, **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> of February** started off as usual with the exception that I had a job to do at the range. The re-enforced target face “wallpaper” we have been waiting for had arrived and we now also have the “glue”, good to go. Tony had arranged for a work-bee with a small group of other members to carry out scheduled maintenance work on the target frames at 100m, which worked for me as I could join in on the day but do the target covers (in the shade) at the same time.



The team on the target frames were working well and getting done all that was needed and preparing the frames for the next sessions of shooting. We had four members and Tony working on the frames and also the added bonus of Tere to help out as well, many trips up/down the 100m range was made on the day. After I worked out a process for measuring, cutting and laying the “wallpaper” it all proceeded quite well, slowly at first but then picking up some pace, well I managed to get five (5) done, I know it doesn't sound like many but progress, nevertheless. Lunch was called so we all retired to the clubhouse for some sandwiches (Thanks Tere) and cold drinks (coffee, thanks Tere) and had a break and chatted before returning to our respective projects to finish off for the day.

What a satisfying day, spent with so much achieved and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves while doing it. Thanks to all who participated on the day, job well done and appreciated. I can't wait for the next work-bee, come and join us, contact the club and put up your hand and be part of the next work-bee.

**Derek BT ED.**

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*Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars, but check when you say the paint is wet?*

*How do those dead bugs get into those enclosed light fixtures*

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### **PFA Contact Details**

PO Box 571 Terrey Hills NSW 2084

[www.pfainc.org.au](http://www.pfainc.org.au)

Telephone, **0431581259**

I noticed an article recently which grabbed my attention particularly as it was about the .44-40. I have a Winchester 44-40, Mod-92, which I have owned since my 20's, so for a very long time, it was my first C/F rifle and as I (as many others) was “into” Western movies it seemed that it was the one I had to own, I remember many a movie shooting scene where the 44.40 executed seemingly impossible (now) shots to bring down the villain, we refer to it now adays as “literary licence”. I have had it for many years now and



over the course of time have realised it's (our) limitations, don't get me wrong, I love it and would never consider parting with it, but it is not the most practical rifle (in my opinion) for field or bench work, it's just nice to have it in the family. Reading the article just added to my knowledge of the cartridge and the manufacturers, all very interesting, until I came on what I thought surely must have been a misprint or a tongue in cheek stretch, but this is a very serious magazine and it must have some foundation of truth, well, you decide and let me know if I'm wrong in treating this section of the article as a mistake, a stretch or even a misprint.

***“The cartridge now held 40gr of black powder instead of the previous 28 still behind a 200gr bullet which increased muzzle velocity from 1100 to 1300fps, resulting in a flatter trajectory and, according to Winchester, now effective and accurate to 600 yards. The cartridge was initially called the Winchester Model 1873 calibre .44-40, later described as the .44 WCF before becoming universally known as the .44-40 (.44 calibre with 40gr of black powder).”***

Now I've put quite a few rounds through my 44-40 over the years and some even determining at what effective distances I could use it, taking into account, my skill (or lack of) level. Am I being overly pessimistic considering my 44-40 to be a 50yds gun with a stretch to 100yds, **WOW** when I read this article and it was talking about “effective and accurate to 600yds”, I must be wrong, surely, should I be “aiming higher”? (much) I'll just keep it within the range that I'm comfortable with and use my other rifles for those longer shots.

**ED, Derek BT**

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### ***Shoot Dates for PFA Inc. in 2024.***

*Last Sunday of each Month.*

***28th April, 26th May, 30th June,***

***28th July, 25th Aug, 29th Sept, 27th Oct,***

***24th Nov, 15th Dec.***

*Check [www.pfainc.org.au](http://www.pfainc.org.au) for any updates or changes. Shooting is scheduled to start at 10.00 am and finish on the day at 5.00pm.*

**To ensure “on-time” detail start times please arrive 15min to 20min prior to your scheduled start time.**