

On Target

December 2020

Special points of interest:

- Gun Control Study
- Work Bees
- 2020 AGM
- Boost to the Economy

Bored during lockdown? Call a women's rights group and ask to speak to the man in charge

Don't believe everything you read in public toilets, Sharron is not up for a good time. What an awkward phone call that was

WorkBee Participation PFA hold one W/B weekend a month so its easy to do your bit. But you can alternatively arrange to attend a W/B at other times by arrangement with Committee, too easy.

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.

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

Welcome to all PFA Members to "On Target"

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 all for complying and assisting in the safe smooth flow of our shooting day.

Gun control study finds firearms expertise not utilised in Australia

29 January 2020

A University of Queensland study into the cost of gun control in Australia has found the stigmatisation of firearms dealers has caused them to be excluded from important discussions about firearms safety.

The Cost of Gun Control for Licensed Firearms Dealers in Australia study aimed to better understand how changes in firearms regulations can affect businesses - both financially and socially. Key findings include: The level of bureaucracy makes it difficult for dealers to perform their mandated duties;

The expertise of dealers is not being utilised in contributing to better regulation of firearms;

Views of dealers are important given that the law-abiding firearms community play a critical role in maintaining gun registries and safe storage compliance; Law enforcement officers working in firearms compliance need more training so as to have a better understanding of the issues, dealers have;

Dealers have a vested interest in keeping firearms out of the hands of those who are not legitimate;

Dealers play a critical role in why Australia has had a successful experience with gun control;

The law-abiding firearms community has logical and sensible ideas to contribute to gun control policy.

Senior lecturer in criminology at the University of Queensland and lead author of the study, Dr Suzanna Fay,

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said much of the stigmatisation is influenced by negative media attention on the firearms community.

"Those negative stereotypes often paint gun owners and dealers as irresponsible and dangerous and not having society's best interests at heart. We did not find any confirmation of that," said Dr Fay. "Stigmatising groups this way in society is almost never productive."

One dealer involved in the study noted his personal experience with this matter. "My biggest issue in this industry, as a firearms dealer, is there is a 'them and us' attitude," he said. We're all working for the same end as far as I'm concerned."

One shooting association representative said the study shows there are options to improve workable gun control in Australia.

"The findings of this report clearly indicate that a culture of division is denying Australia the best possible opportunities of practical and workable gun control," he said. "Our licensed firearms dealers care about the work they do and they care about keeping people safe." **Dr Suzanna Fay, University of Queensland**

International News

Shooting Australia recently (Oct 2020) announced the 2024 Junior World Championships for Pistol, Rifle and Shotgun disciplines will be held at the Sydney International Shooting Centre (SISC) at Cecil Park.

The 2020 PFA Inc. AGM was held at the club rooms on the 12th Dec 2020 at 10am on the dot. Warmer weather was steadily building outside with the clubrooms remaining comfortably cool for the duration, very nice. A quorum was achieved with a good cross section of members attending, young, not so young, men and women, nobody can say shooting isn't inclusive or not for everyone. We had a really good turnout for the 2020 AGM.

The meeting opened with the minutes from the 2019 AGM being read to the members then Moved and Seconded as being correct and carried unanimously by a show of hands.

During the Chairman and Secretary's Report we heard of some



interesting and exciting changes to come, assuming approvals are received, I understand we can be optimistic. Centrefire approval has been sought following extensive on-site testing, all of which was carried out legally following approvals from FAR and Council to do so. Now the reams of paperwork put forward with our application carry our optimistic hopes of approval soon. Our hours of shooting may be modified, starting at 10am through to 5pm and 6pm in daylight saving time. If approved it will mean more members shooting BUT also the need for more members to assist in the running of the shoot days, which will mean additional trained ROs will be required.

The "pond" (dam/billabong/reservoir) at the rear of the mound was found to be a "bit off centre" so it had to be moved, it will be shut down and the functionality/facility it was to provide is currently being restructured to the rear of the mound and more to the South West, Tony G drew up the required engineering drawings for this project, saving the club several thousand dollars. The Treasurers report was presented by the Secretary with the Treasurer unavailable as he was heavily involved in some house moving duties. We are in a financially sound position (could always be better) and we are doing OK with no increases in membership fees called for. Good news.

Amendments to the PFA constitution was proposed and the rationale for these changes were discussed with the meeting. Members and their rights to vote and hold committee positions being the main points of discussion, life and full adult members being allowed full voting and the holding of committee positions whereas junior and social (associate) members are specifically excluded from these abilities.

The proposal was made, seconded and voted on from the floor with a show of hands and passed unanimously. Bruce Crowe, who unfortunately had to leave the meeting early was thanked for his expertise and assistance in making the constitution reflective of our club as a whole and ensuring that it does everything expected of it.

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Only a couple of mobile phones **were't turned off** or on silent with one member getting such a surprise when his "went off" he slipped off the edge of his chair, all survived without injury.

The low attendance at club work-bees was brought to the attention of the meeting several times highlighting the importance of these days and the considerable amount the volunteers time saves the club. More club work-bee participation is required so we can minimise the cost for the club's maintenance.

We now have several whipper snippers, lawn mowers and even a couple of ride-on mowers all donated by very generous members, for our use at work bees. Some of these needed some TLC which was provided by Tony G to get them into reliable working order. Our thanks to those members for their donations and Tony for his efforts.

Current membership numbers were provided which is in excess of 400+ active members, this number is very likely to increase with the introduction of centrefire and extended shooting hours should we be successful. It was reported that we experienced the loss of three members who sadly passed away during the course of 2019/20, as we know, it's a fact of life but still extremely sad to lose anyone especially someone you know. Our thoughts are with their family and close friends.

A couple of questions coming from the floor were answered and with no further business to discuss the meeting was called closed at 11.19am. A good meeting is a short meeting.

Everyone was invited to stay back and have a chat, some very tasty wraps and a tea/coffee with most staying on for a while. It's great to have a chat with other members, some who you maybe haven't met yet and of course some very familiar ones. Some new faces were to be seen, which is encouraging seeing new members taking part in the club and its operation.

Derek BT. ED.

Attention to all PFA Members

There is a Speed Limit of 10kph on the joint PFA/SIPC clubs Access Road (Driveway). One Sunday in August 2020 an Incident occurred, that could have been a lot worse, when two vehicles from SIPC were apparently "speeding" up the access road and almost caused a collision with a vehicle leaving the PFA Rifle Range.

To make it clear to everyone, the Speed Limit on the access road/driveway is **10 KPH**, no more. It should also be highlighted and noted that cyclists and occasionally horse riders using the bush trails regularly cut across the access road. If you have a vehicular or bicycle (horse) collision on a "Private Road" your Comprehensive and 3rd Party insurance may not cover you.

Be cautious, **Take care and Be alert.**



The club held a working bee on Saturday 17th of October and Sunday 18th of October which proved to be extremely productive even with the relatively low numbers that turned up. Maybe not quantity but certainly quality over the weekend, BUT more can always be better and get more done. The club thanks all of those who were able to give generously of their time over the weekend, who also received a \$25 credit towards their Maintenance levy payable to a maximum of \$100, a Win Win for all. Thank you one and all.

Saturday

Jason R. Bill M and his 12 year old son Ollie. Tony L. Matt K. Stiaan LeR.

Sunday

Jason R. Geoff J. Werner V. Terry J. Nick J. David DiB. Mark R. John W. Olivia B. Rob A.

Of course, we can't go without mentioning Tony G. and Tere A. who were also there on both days opening up, co-ordinating the day and also working towards making the two days worthwhile and a success.

We have regular working bees throughout the year, opportunities for members to participate in the maintenance and housekeeping of our club, many hands make light work and the more that attend the easier the work becomes. Hardly work, more a social event with some light, but necessary work chucked in.

The working bees are scheduled from 10.00 am till 4.00 pm on both Saturday and Sunday, so timing is flexible and easy to fit in with members other weekend plans. It would be pleasing and of a great benefit to see an increase in the numbers turning up and participating, and having the multi-benefit of getting heaps done and not always the same people doing the job. Doesn't matter how little or small the job you can do, it all helps and adds to the overall outcome.

Make a note in your diary when you get the next emailed working bee notification and come along and share some quality time at the club, **come one come all, plenty of room.**

Unfortunately our scheduled Working Bee for Nov held on the 14th and 15th To say that the participation rate was disappointing is a gross understatement. We had 6 members turn up for the whole weekend, with one person bringing along his 10 year old son and one of his friends. 3 were over 70 and therefore not required but came anyway. Unfortunately the bulk of the whipper snipping has not been done. The whipper snipping needs to be done on a monthly basis to keep the growth under control. If no-one comes to do the whipper snipping before our shoot day, you may have difficulty seeing your targets due to the height of the weeds on the baffles.

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PFA Contact Details

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It was encouraging, however that after the circulation of a work-bee follow up email to members pointing out the disappointing work-bee attendance quite a number of members made themselves available through the following week to make sure the work got done, a big thank you to all who were able to give of their time for the club.

The Committee

A BOOST TO THE ECONOMY.

Shooting delivers \$2.4 billion shot to Australian economy. 23rd September 2019

Australia's recreational shooters and hunters are happier, healthier and fitter than non-shooters, deliver a \$2.4 billion shot to the economy each year and create tens of thousands of jobs. The Economic and social impacts of recreational hunting and shooting report commissioned by former Federal Sports Minister Bridget McKenzie, now Minister for Agriculture, and successfully lobbied for by one of the shooting association of Australia has highlighted the benefits of the recreation to our nation. The report found 'hunting and shooting provides opportunities for physical activity as well as pathways for greater wellbeing' through connection with the great Australian outdoors. It also found shooters had greater confidence, enjoyed social networks, undertook more physical activity and had better nutrition than the average Australian. The economic benefit is more than five times that delivered by the Melbourne Cup each year and helps fight the monetary cost to Australia of \$3.7 billion in poor health and inactivity. A shooting association representative said: "Our Association's members should be congratulated for being environmental volunteers, removing pest animals which threaten our native flora and fauna."

The Team hard at work at the 2020 AGM



Shoot Dates for PFA Inc. in 2020 & 2021.

Last Sunday of each Month.

2020. 27th Dec.

2021. 31st January, 28th February, 28th March, 25th April, 30th May, 27th June, 25th July, 29th August, 26th September, 24th October, 28th November, 26th December.

Check www.pfainc.org.au for any updates or changes.

Shooting is set to start at 12.30 noon with the last detail commencing at 4.00pm