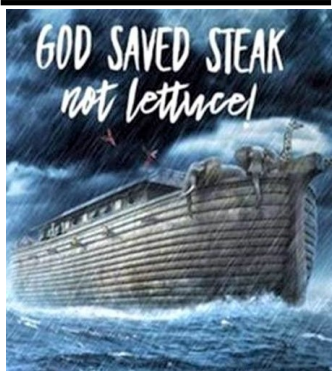


On Target

March 2021

Special points of interest:

- Simpler Times
- Savage Arms Recall
- Vic Hunting Pressure
- Range Volunteers
- Centrefire



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"

Items for On Target (Contributions)

Members, this is your newsletter and the content of each issue is included in the expectation that it will provide you with information, notifications and hopefully some entertainment.

We, your Committee, and myself work hard collecting bits and pieces for your reading enjoyment, but we must be sure that we don't get too much of an imbalance, such as too much of the "don't do this or that" or too much of one person's ideas, writings and opinions (*I'll try to hold back on this one, DBT*). To achieve a nice balance, we need input from various sources and I think we can achieve this, but to ensure the standards are maintained we would like you to think about what you have seen, done or are planning to do and let us know about it, "contribute" to **On Target**. To be part of the newsletter just submit your article to me at derekb@tpg.com.au, in MS Word and I'll do the rest. I can't guarantee it will get in un-edited (we do have standards to uphold) or in the next issue, but we will do our best to fit it in.



DBT (On Target Editor)

Item from the SFF in Dec 2020

The Government launched another attack on legal firearms owners with their Firearms and Weapons Legislation Amendment (Criminal Use) Bill 2020. What this bill attempted to do was make it a criminal offence to be in possession of anything the police considered precursor to making a firearm.

This could be anything from a can of WD40 to a vice in your work shed. It made criminals out of your everyday legal firearm owner and so Party Leader, Robert Borsak established an inquiry into this bill that will conduct hearings in 2021. Along with this bill, the SFF is dealing with the constant influx of firearms and firearm registry related issues on a daily basis. The SFF team has written many times to the Police Minister to resolve the many complaints and will continue to fight for every law-abiding firearm owner in this State. (*Ensure the safety of your sport and vote where it will have the best outcome for shooters. DBT ED*)



Due to Covid19 restrictions we will continue practising social distancing about the range, however we are now able to utilise each bench for shooting. This means we will have all benches available for seated shooting, and two benches available for standing shooting. We have just received our notice from Council to allow us to shoot for the full day, and our approval for centrefire. Shooting will commence from 10.00am until 6.00pm. Due to the restrictions from Council, the last centrefire detail will be shot at 3.30pm to comply with the Council determination. The last detail of the day for rimfire will be 5.30pm. Please only book a time if you intend to actually attend, and then make sure you make a note of the time you have requested. Don't put your name down and then not turn up. Repeat offenders will not be able to book, and will have to take pot luck on the day. If you need to cancel, please make sure you let us know. If you haven't booked a spot, and would like to shoot on the day, please ring to find out if there are any spaces available. As usual our gourmet BBQ will be in full swing, we hope to see many of you at the shoots. **Ensure you have your current and valid shooters licence with you.**

Any excuse to target law-abiding shooters

1st September 2020. In Politics

Firearms owners in Victoria have been threatened yet again by Victoria Police. The Licensing and Regulation Division emailed Victorian firearms owners to say they will “reprimand, suspend or cancel” licences of registered firearms owners who blatantly and deliberately breach the current directives of the state’s Chief Health Officer.

(WHAT THE? What does COVID-19 have to do with firearms? Why target firearm licences as opposed to fishing licences, drivers’ licences or any other professional or recreational licence? ED.)

Shooting associations in Victoria are challenging the legal principle of this new policy and the implications it will have for Victorian law. On the face of it this seems like an over-reach from police and, what’s worse, it’s not the first time.

Earlier in the pandemic the Queensland Government was lobbied to re-open gun shops after a knee-jerk reaction to close them resulted in dire consequences for the many licenced firearms owners who rely on them. Thankfully, common sense and the lobbying eventually prevailed.

Back in March, firearms were unfairly targeted in Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia when those State Governments chose to add additional restrictions on firearm sales for sporting and recreational purposes. On March 31st, Victorian police minister Lisa Neville said the measures were to “keep the community safe”, saying there had been a doubling of attempts to access certain firearms and ammunition.

So, again we’re left wondering what COVID-19 has to do with firearms and firearm licences? “No other segment of society is facing additional punitive measures for breaching current COVID-19 restrictions. Yet again it would appear legally licensed firearms owners are being singled out and being treated unfairly,” said a Victoria shooting association spokesperson. “Why are the same standards and demands not made of Victorians in other sports or recreational pursuits?”

Already some firearms owners have had their licences challenged after receiving fines for breaching Stage 4 COVID-19 restrictions and a Victorian shooting association is looking into these cases.

“We support the directives issued by the Victorian CHO, it’s extremely baffling as to why firearms are constantly being targeted. It seems like an emotional response when all that’s ever been asked for is logical and fact-based policy making”.

(So far it appears that NSW is not following the example set in other states and for that we can be thankful and remain confident that common sense prevails in NSW. DBT. ED)



AUSTRALIAN HUNTERS IN VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT’S SIGHTS

(Extract from Sporting Shooter Magazine, Jan 2021)

VICTORIAN hunting could be largely curtailed or eliminated altogether if a new Animal Welfare Act, pushed by animal welfare and green organizations through the Andrews’ Labor Government, reaches its intended goals.

This bodes ill for hunters Australia wide if their goals are seen as templates in other states.

For decades, Victoria has been the enlightened hunting state in Australia, and more so because Australians from all states travel to Victoria to avail themselves of the best sambar hunting in the world.

To explain, game hunting is undertaken in accordance with the Wildlife Act 1975.

Hunting is exempt from cruelty provisions under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1983 (PoCTA). One of the proposals is to replace the current PoCTA and also remove the current exemptions for game hunting. This will have potentially negative effects not only on hunters, but on farmers as well, the new standards will be built on the principle that “all animals are sentient, meaning they have emotions, such as happiness and the ability to feel, perceive and experience what happens to them”. The impact on hound hunters and duck hunters will be catastrophic if this act, at its logical conclusion, is legislated, and deer stalkers will not be exempt.

(Michael Gibson covered this new anti-hunting development on the SportingShooter.com.au website. Type in “animal welfare” in the search bar and you will see a more comprehensive coverage.)

Never has our lifetime pursuit and culture been more threatened in Australia. If you need more background, contact the Victorian Branch of the ADA. If you wish to make your feelings known, you can have your say here:

<https://engage.vic.gov.au/new-animal-welfare-act-victoria>

Marcus O’Dean. Editor. Sporting Shooter Magazine.

VACANCY (unpaid but rewarding position)

We need dedicated PFA members who are able to commit a small

amount of their time to the club by assisting with work about and around the club ranges throughout the year. The role requires you to assist with regularly required jobs for a few hours to carry out general maintenance at the club, such as gardening, weeding, grass control and small repairs or anything you specialise in that will improve the range/club.. You can arrange a time/day to suit yourself with the Secretary. The more volunteers that do it, the less we each have to do.



Concerned Shooters Petition.

February 2021

A BIG thank you must go to all shooters, non-shooters and other concerned members of the general population who committed their signatures to a petition proposed by the SSAA.

With their support the target of 20k signatures was well exceeded in less than a week!

At the end of the first week, the petition to oppose the negative consequences of the Firearms and Weapons Legislation (Criminal Use) Bill 2020 hit the target of 20,000 signatures and continued to grow!

In the face of such legislation and the potential widespread impact on the entire shooting community, our sport/industry has come together as one, unified front. Thanks to all for your commitment to our sport and culture.

Your support has ensured that this issue will be debated on the floor of Parliament.

As it currently stands, our petition is the fastest growing and the second largest in the history of NSW petitions. ***(strength in numbers and we have a lot of numbers, we just need to be activated. ED)***

We may have hit our target but, the more signatures we have, the more powerful our message will be! Your individual impact as a concerned

citizen is extremely powerful. It is important that you too make your voice heard to oppose the negative effects of this Bill on farmers, workshops/volunteer groups, businesses, hunters, sports shooters and all legal firearms owners.

The petition is still open (see [link](#)) for signatures until **4th of May 2021** so let's make it the biggest ever!

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/la/Pages/ePetition-etails.aspx?q=JpTzyEP80KdFYyKx2rXO8w==>

Continue to pass this petition on to any NSW resident, they do not have to be a firearm licence holder or member of Pistol or Rifle Club or SSAA NSW. If you haven't signed the petition (or you know someone who hasn't signed it) now is the time to do so!

Oh Joy, Oh Joy, at last we have the final tick of approval that completes our fabulous range. We have received approval to shoot centrefire on the range. ED Derek BT. Shoot Notification. + special announcement.

We have approval to shoot centrefire on our range, both from Council and the Firearms Registry.

So, on the 28th of March 2021 we will have our inaugural centrefire shoot.

Shooting will commence from 10.00am until 6.00pm. Due to the restrictions from Council, the last centrefire detail will be shot at 3.30pm to comply with the Council determination. The last detail of the day for rimfire will be 5.30pm.

We are able to shoot the ballistic equivalent of .308 Win (7.62 x 51) or up to 3605 joules or 2,658.912 foot pounds. If in doubt, there will be a chart available at the range which shows what we can actually shoot.

With the easing of some of the Covid 19 social distancing restrictions we will be able to use every bench, access to the clubhouse will still not be available, and you will still be required to maintain social distancing at all times, and if you are feeling unwell, or have a temperature, please stay home.

And please remember:

10 KM PER HOUR SPEED LIMIT on the dirt road, and within the PFA grounds

You must have a current valid shooters licence

Make sure your firearm is transported safely.

The bottom car park is reserved for the range staff.

Please use the top car park. The overflow car park is closed due to the wet weather.

There is to be no food or drink consumed within the range area. Hearing, eye protection and enclosed footwear are mandatory.



Cont.

When making a booking please only book a time if you intend to actually attend. If you haven't booked a spot, and would like to shoot on the day, please ring to find out if there are any spaces available. As usual our gourmet BBQ will be in full swing, and we hope to see as many of you as possible.

The Committee of Management

PFA Members,

Our thanks to the one person who turned up to do work on the scheduled workbee Saturday in March and to those three other people that have volunteered to come at an alternative time.

However due to the lack of participation at the working bee on Saturday, the decision has been made that we will no longer hold scheduled working bees.

Anyone wishing to help out with working bee related matters is still welcome to do so, and will be able to do it at a time that suits them, by liaising with Tere or Tony. The jobs for this will include weeding both by hand and spraying, oiling of timber work, construction of the compost bins, and any other jobs that arise.

Therefore, we are calling for tenders from those members who have a garden maintenance business, with the relevant insurances and so forth, to quote for the whipper snipping of the PFA grounds. The tender will be for the whipper snipping of all the relevant areas on a monthly basis.

Please contact Tere on 0431 581 259 to make an appointment to assess what is required. Tenders close on 31st of March 2021. Should there be no successful tenderers, then we will approach some of the local garden maintenance companies to get quotes from them.

The Committee of Management

Cont.

Simpler Times

Here's a picture from the distant past, a bygone era. Some of us may even remember the times when it was OK to carry a rifle in the "open", when nobody saw anything wrong or threatening in doing so, ah, those were the days, I remember them well. (ED DBT)



Sunday Telegraph 22/11/2020

(details submitted by a Mr J Cuthill)

A young, 21 years old Robert Cuthill is pictured on his 1956 AJS 600cc motorcycle and yes that's his mum Emily on the pillion seat. In the background is his dad Jack who is looking on and looks disappointed he's not going with them.

They are about to depart Lewis St in Epping with Robert and his Mum off on a trip to visit friends at Cudgegong (nr Mudgee) in 1959.

Robert thought he would do some rabbit shooting while he was there, as you can see, he has his rifle strapped over his shoulder, probably a box of bunny busters in his pocket. (what calmer and relaxed days they were). Epping to Cudgegong on today's roads is 226 kms taking approximately 2hrs 56mins, in 1959 on the roads of the day it would be considerably longer, all with a rifle over his shoulder.

The 1959 township of Cudgegong is no longer, it is beneath the waters of Lake Windamere. The village of Cudgegong was flooded for the construction of Windamere Dam (completed in 1984).

I wasn't allowed to say anything until today, but it's now okay for me to share that I have volunteered for the Covid-19 vaccine from Pfizer. The vaccine is the one that has been developed in Russia. It is in 6 different stages and I received my first dose this morning at 06:20 am, and I wanted to let you all know that it is safe and I'm ok, with no side effects whatsoever, and that I feelshki я чувю себя немного стрно и я думаю, что вытл осные уши. чувствую себя немго страо. Comrade.

PFA Contact Details

PO Box 571 Terrey Hills NSW 2084
www.pfainc.org.au, Telephone, **0431581259**

RECALL NOTICE REMINDER 9th September 2020 **SAVAGE ARMS B.MAG BOLT (17 WSM)**

REMINDER: THIS PRODUCT RECALL HAS BEEN ACTIVE SINCE 24 AUGUST 2015.

Savage Arms has discovered that the bolt on some B.MAG rifles may inadvertently catch the safety button and slide it forward into the "fire" position. This condition is primarily present if downward pressure is applied to the bolt too early while pushing it forward. While Savage has received no reports of accidents due to this condition, we have decided to offer free retrofits of all B.MAG rifle bolts out of an abundance of caution and in our ongoing commitment to quality and safety. To avoid possible unintentional discharge or injury, do not use your B.MAG rifle until your bolt has been retrofitted with a new bolt handle and cap. For instructions on receiving your free bolt retrofit, see the information below. The bolt retrofit includes the replacement of the existing bolt handle and bolt cap with a revised bolt handle and bolt cap. The correct, revised parts are easily identified in the images below.



PRODUCTS AFFECTED BY RECALL

Savage Arms B.MAG Rifle Bolts with a serial number below J800930 are included in this recall. No other Savage firearms are affected by this condition.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

To avoid possible unintentional discharge or injury, do not use your B.MAG rifle until your bolt has been retrofitted with a new bolt handle and cap.

Determine if the bolt is subject to the recall

If the serial number matches the recall, you can request your free retrofit kit or send back to NIOA to be replaced at no cost to you.

*Fish bite twice a day
Before you get there.
And after you leave*



Shoot Dates for PFA Inc. in 2021.

Last Sunday of each Month.

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

Check www.pfainc.org.au for any updates or changes. Shooting is set to start at 10.00 am with the last detail commencing at 5.30pm (AEDT) (4.30pm AEST)

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