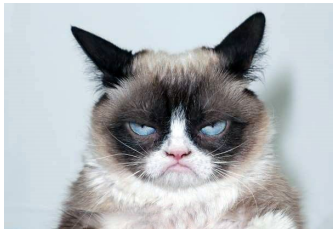


On Target

December 2019

Special points of interest:

- Sound level tests
- 1st Official shoot
- Tim Bowker, the First
- 2019 PFA AGM
- Range Volunteers
- Honey for PFA
- Hunting & economy
- Email reminder
- Vale Anthony Mathews



Don't get upset because you missed out on a shoot make sure you book in for the next one by using the club's new system of reserving your bay and time, great stuff.

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"

Notice for all members.

Change to licensing requirement to hunt wild deer on private land in NSW. From Friday 6th of September 2019, you no longer require a game hunting licence to hunt wild deer on private land in NSW, to support land managers struggling with drought and abundant wild deer herds.

a NSW Game Hunting Licence is no longer required to hunt wild deer on private land

you still require permission from the landholder and a firearms licence (if hunting with firearms) to hunt wild deer and other species on private land

you still require an R-Licence and written permission to hunt wild deer and other approved species on public land in NSW

affected G-Licence holders are eligible for a free upgrade to either a G-Licence endorsed for native game birds or an R-Licence (*training requirements apply). Pro-rata refunds are also available.

Member's Notice

As you all know we have a reporting period for shoot attendances to comply with our licence obligations and requirements. What better way to accomplish your mandatory shoots than by attending our very own range, this is the ideal answer, and all at the comfort of your own range. Meet with fellow members, have a shoot and stay on for a coffee/tea, sausage sanger or BBQ lunch. But don't leave the reporting of activities to the last minute, you don't want to be caught short. Our reporting period is from the 1st of November 2019 to the 31st of October 2020 (1st Nov to 31st Oct every year) Please also report your away shooting activities **as you do them** to lighten the work load of our Registrar, currently our Secretary who is doing the extra duties.

Is this the future of shooting?



VR (virtual reality) devices are used for all manner of practices these days, some practical, some fun and some just plain weird, BUT could shooting be the next frontier? The image above seems to be the stance of an **archer** so maybe not shooting just YET.

*** Always keep your words soft and sweet, Just in case you have to eat them.**

Honey Fund Raiser.

For all of you that love some honey on your cereal, in your tea or coffee or just lashings of it over a well buttered fresh slice of bread or toast, you can now satisfy your need for this delectable delight and help raise money for your club. The club has a member Apiarist who has several hives located on site (PFA) with many bees working hard to produce the most delicious honey. It is being put in jars and sold to members, family and friends to help raise funds to support the club.

Available at the range, at shoots and work-bees, It is delicious and for a good cause. Mine from the AGM is going down, maybe I should have bought two when I had the chance. Yummo.



September 29th, 2019 started well with a beautiful, sunny day promised (and delivered). It was the first un-official test Sunday PFA Inc. scheduled shoot for members on our own range.

Following a Saturday morning Committee meeting at the clubhouse, all Range Officers (RO) and some members of Committee were involved in training and testing of the target system and shooting range, familiarisation being the order of the day, which went very well with everyone complimentary of the system and the range.

Sunday was a day full of expectation and excitement, mixed with feelings of anticipation, all went well, busy, smiling people everywhere, not quite the crowd expected, (school holidays, maybe) but it may have



been a blessing as it provided the opportunity to ease our way into the operation of the range and equipment. A full contingent of RO's were on hand, helping everyone that arrived to shoot, become familiar with the target system and have a good and enjoyable time, everyone enjoying themselves going by the smiling faces. The BBQ was fired up and the gourmet offerings were well received and "got a flogging" on the day with many partaking of the delicious food choices. *(I hope this remains part of our regular shoots. ED)*

Some members got involved in a few "work-bee" activities, jobs that were required, filling sandbags, levelling some dirt mounds, caused by light pole excavations, but as they say many hands



etc. and there will always be things to do. What do we need as time goes on? New, additional RO's and willing work-bee volunteers, you can help by contributing, be part of the club's operation and maintenance, pitch in and help out.

If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, It was probably worth it.



Sound Matters

On the 16th of October 2019 a group of PFA committee and members combined with field technicians from a sound specialist company to carry out sound tests at the PFA range. Quite extensive tests were required to be carried out which consumed not only the best part of a full day but copious amounts of ammunition, in excess of 400 rounds to be exact. Sound measurements were taken during the course of the day from four (five actually as the final one was measured over two adjacent spots) separate nearby locations and suburbs, each test taking 50 rounds each of centrefire and .22Magnum

ammunition. The equipment the technicians used was quite obviously very high tech from its appearance and looked like small, hand held computers with large microphones attached, strange but effective. The test day was concluded with all required tests having been done and no barrels warped, bulged or burnt out but a couple of very satisfied shooters after being able to fire off so many

rounds on our new target system, very nice. Some very nice groups were shot as a by-product of the exercise. The outcome/results of the tests are not yet officially known and how they will affect PFA in the future, all to be confirmed soon. We are quietly confident of it being beneficial and in PFA's favour and to our future, ongoing use on the range. **ED, DBT**



Finnegan: My wife has a terrible habit of staying up 'til two o'clock in the morning. I can't break her out of it.
Keenan: What on earth is she doin' at that time?
Finnegan: Waitin' for me to come home.

Big Day Today for PFA

Sunday 27th October 2019 came with a rush that was actually 20+ years in the making. PFA's official "first shoot" and how exciting was it, to be part of it, to be there and just to know that we are now underway, fantastic. Members, Range Officers and committee arrived early to set up and get everything prepared and ready for the big day, so a small crowd was already building when I arrived at 10.45am for the



11.30am raffle draw. The numbers continued to grow and there was a healthy number in attendance at the raffle to select the member who was to have the privilege of firing the first shot on this, **our official first day**. The raffle was drawn at 11.45am with Tony Hamilton being drawn out 3 times in a row (must have purchased heaps of tickets. ED).

The member, however, had to be present to win (quite obviously) but Tony had requested that if he wasn't at the draw and his ticket won, he wanted the win to be passed to the youngest member there on the day,

BINGO, because who should be there but young **Tim Bowker** who arrived with his Dad to shoot together on this special day (which turned out a bit extra special for Tim). The question was



asked of him, "would you like to take the shot" and with a very big smile, he said "yes", Dad was pleased also and why not, to be part of the PFA story and its history, fantastic. We all then moved onto the range where Tim set up his beautiful Lithgow on the bench and went, calmly about preparing to take his (our) first shot, very relaxed and composed, considering he had everyone in the range watching him, "No Pressure Tim", he didn't appear to be affected by all the fuss, well done Tim, you're in the PFA history book now.

Great fun and enjoyed by all to great applause from everyone in attendance.



Cont.

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When 12.45pm arrived, with other things to do today, I finally surrendered to my nagging need to return home to watch the motorsport on TV and then on to visit my brother in hospital who unfortunately wasn't able to be present for this event, I did, as asked, take lots of photos so he could at least see it all, which he did in his hospital bed. (much improved and on the mend now).

Statistics for 1st Official Shoot Day, 27th Oct 2019
Number of Attendees 84 (including 6 visitors and 19 workers)

Number of Workers included Range Officers, Chef, Desk, Working Bee, Videographer and Newsletter Editor

Number of Details Shot, 8, Number of shooters 56 (3 people shot twice)

Item Sales, Gun Hire 11 (rifles), Ammunition 12 (boxes), Coffee 3 (cups), Drinks 14 (soft drinks & water), Food 32 (sandwiches)

Memberships (new) 4, Donations 6 (various amounts), Raffle Ticket 1

**Tim Bowker Shot the first official shot on the range
Age: 13, Joined PFA in August 2018**

On future visits to the range, to avoid long or excessive waiting times and queues, a detail booking system has been devised, enabling you to nominate a time you would like to actually shoot. Each detail goes for 30 minutes.

1st detail 12.00 noon, 2nd 12.30pm, 3rd detail 1.00pm etc, I'm sure you get the idea, it should work well for everyone, providing 8 details across our 20 bays, with all going well up to 160 people can be accommodated in the normal days range period (unlikely we'd have that many, but it's possible).

To achieve this, it will be necessary to book the time preferred, whether you are right or left-handed (we have 4 ambidextrous benches), if you would like to shoot seated or standing (we have 2 standing bays)

If the time you nominate is already taken up, you will be placed in the detail that most closely fits in with the (your) nominated time.

All bookings will be done via email, and confirmation will only be sent if there are any changes to what you have requested. If there are no changes, then you can be confident that your nominated time, etc. has been allocated to you.

Please be aware that whilst in the range shooting area the following are mandatory: -

Hearing Protection, Eye Protection, Enclosed footwear, Appropriate attire (no hot pants, singlets or midriff tops), Valid Firearms Licence (no licence - no shoot) What do we need as time goes on? New, additional RO's and willing work-bee volunteers, you can help by contributing, be part of the club's operation and maintenance, pitch in and help out. If, while at the range, you wish to lend a hand on any of the many jobs still left to be done, mention it to the Duty Officer.

PFA Inc AGM, 7th December 2019

Another year rolls around with our PFA AGM now over, this year being our most significant one however, the first one held at our range after receiving approval to participate in shooting activities.

10am arrived but the start was slow as we were waiting for some stragglers to turn up, but by 10.15am we kicked off anyway, with just short of a quorum. A motion was put to the attending members to continue with the meeting, which was voted unanimously in support to proceed, there was a good crowd, just not quite a quorum.

The usual AGM business proceeded as normal with several individual reports given by committee to all assembled, with



some very encouraging points made and exciting prospects for the long-term future of the club and its tenure at the range.

No nasty issues were raised, with minimal questions from the floor, thanks were given to the volunteers and past committee for their hard work and commitment to the club.

A range maintenance levy was proposed to the meeting and voted on and passed unanimously in the positive. The levy will provide income to the club to help employ trades to carry out required work and maintenance on the range where volunteers are unable to carry it out. The \$100 levy, applied at renewal time can be offset by carrying out range duties and work bees, a \$25 discount will be applied for each Work Bee and/or Range Duty up to a total of \$100, so if the member does 2 range duties and 2 work bees the levy is fully discounted.

The meeting ended at approximately 11.11am and an invitation to socialise was

given and eagerly taken up by most members. Our resident Apiarist has several hives located on site (out of the way



but please avoid them). Honey from the hives is bottled for sale and the proceeds going directly to PFA. We have our own label which is great to see, quite a few 500g jars were sold on the day and after getting home it was given a trial run on very fresh bread and cold butter, beautiful, I could eat it from the spoon, it was so nice. A raffle was also underway for a 1Kg jar with many tickets sold on the day, not sure I could do 1Kg justice but if I win, I'll give it a red, hot crack. See you at the range. **DBT ED.**

RANGE & GENERAL RULES

For your protection and the protection of all, please read and adhere to the rules below.



1. Instructions issued by the Range Officers must be strictly followed.
 2. The following items are mandatory to be able to shoot.
 - 2.1 Firearms Licence
 - 2.2 Hearing Protection
 - 2.3 Protective Eyewear
 - 2.4 Enclosed Footwear
 3. Unlicensed shooters are required to produce photographic ID.
 4. Unlicensed minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Proof of age is required for the minor, and photographic ID is required for the parent/guardian.
 5. The range is currently restricted to air rifles and rimfire rifles.
 6. There is a 10 KPH speed limit on the access road to the range. This is not to be exceeded at any time.
 7. Shooting at wildlife or anything other than the targets will result in immediate expulsion from the range, and may lead to cancellation of membership.
 8. The range and building are **NO SMOKING** areas. Smoking is permitted in the car park.
- If you are unsure of procedures at any time, ask for guidance.

The safety of all who attend the range is the responsibility of everyone present. If you are uncomfortable with anything, please speak to one of the Range Officers or the Range Staff.

The Committee of Management Peninsular Firearm Academy Inc.

Subject: Mobile Phone Info

To check your mobile phone's serial number, key in the following on your mobile: star hash zero six hash as ***#06#** a 15 digit code will appear on the screen.

This number is unique to your handset. Write it down and keep it somewhere safe.

Should your phone get stolen, you can phone your service provider and give them this code. They will then be able to block your handset so even if the thief Changes the Sim card your phone will be totally useless. You probably won't get your phone back, but at least you know that whoever stole it, can't use/sell it either.

24th Sept 2019. Hunting contributes \$2.4 billion to national economy, report finds

Australia's hunters and shooters contributed \$2.4 billion to the economy last year, according to a report commissioned by the Department of Health. Compiled by RG Consulting Group, the report said the benefits included \$800,000 in direct spending and \$1.6 billion in flow-on economic activity. It said if hunting was prohibited, some expenditure would be redirected to similar activities "such as camping, fishing, four-wheel driving", but that recreational hunting made a net contribution of \$335 million and added 3,300 jobs last year.

Opponents of hunting have questioned the data, collected through an online survey of more than 16,000 hunters which formed the basis of the report, along with information from the Australian Bureau of Statistics and Victorian Game Management Authority.

The report said there were more than 640,000 recreational hunters and shooters using firearms, knives, or bows to hunt game and pests and to shoot targets.

It also said hunters engaged in more physical activity and had "higher levels of wellbeing" when compared to the general population. More than 95 per cent of the survey respondents were male and there was an "even balance between living in regional and metropolitan areas", with most hunters aged 30 to 74. Barry Howlett from the Australian Deer Association said the report showed hunting was serious contributor to the national economy. "That \$335 million [net economic spend], that's about half the current budget deficit is for Australia," he said. "It's more than our export pork industry, it's more than our live sheep export industry.

"It's a significant amount of money." He said he was not surprised by the findings that hunters had "higher physical activity" and "higher levels of wellbeing" when compared to the general population. "There's big mental health benefits to hunting, we put that down to the community aspect," Mr Howlett said. "It's like a camo-clad, more active version of the Men's Shed." The report said more than 85 per cent of hunters found spending time outdoors was the most important aspect of hunting and shooting. "If we look at Australia being increasingly urbanised and people being increasingly disconnected, hunting gives a really good drive and outlet for being in nature," Mr Howlett said. He said he hoped the report would be used by governments to open up more public land to recreational shooting and hunting. "We'd hope governments take notice that there are economic gains to be had by opening up areas. Let the hunters in."



PFA Contact Details

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

VALE

Anthony (Tony) Mathews.

19/11/1953 - 17/9/2019

Tony passed away on Wednesday the 17th September 2019.

After a relatively long period of illness where Tony had at times been seeing some improvements, he recently experienced a downturn and he had a return to hospital and since, sadly passed away aged 65. Tony will be greatly missed by his loving family and his many close friends at PFA and the wider community of friends that knew him well.

A service was held in St Johns Church at Narraweena, at 10.30am, 25th September, where in excess of 100 of Tony's friends and family joined in an emotional service which was followed by a burial at the Frenchs Forest Cemetery, a sad day for all in attendance, saying goodbye is never easy.

A contingent of PFA members, past and present, attended to pay their respects and to say goodbye to Tony, a good attendance even though it was mid-week. Tony was a committed member of PFA and worked long and hard at and for PFA during his time with the club, which exceeded 16 years at the time of his passing, putting in many voluntary hours and much hard work "doing his bit" as they say, both on and off committee. Tony served on Committee as Treasurer, Licence Holder and Public Officer and finally as Registrar, resigning this position in June of 2018 due to the time and physical restrictions imposed by his ill health. Our thanks to Tony for his voluntary and valuable contribution to the club, Tony, you've done well, time for a rest now.

Sadly, we won't be seeing his big, blue, 4x4 Nissan parked at our PFA range, visiting in his retirement as anticipated, and keenly looked forward too.

Many of you will know Tony, some very well and some only by sight, but we all benefit from his time at PFA and his friendship.

Good bye Anthony (Tony) Mathews.

Shoot Dates for PFA Inc. in 2019 & 2020.

Last Sunday of each Month.

29th Dec 2019 (post Xmas shoot)

26th Jan 2020 (Australia Day Shoot)

23rd February, 29th March, 26th April, (post Anzac Day Shoot) 31st May, 28th June, 26th July, 30th August, 27th September, 25th October and 29th Nov, 27th Dec

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

Shooting is set to start at 12.00 noon with the last detail commencing at 3.30pm

