

The C&WM News

December 2017

General Meeting - Wednesday 13th December

7:00 pm at GAZA Sports & Community Club

Corner of Main North East Rd and Wellington St, Klemzig

Vet Day at Monarto

It is not often that we, as a group, have the opportunity to impart our collective firearms knowledge to the younger generation. Such an opportunity occurred recently on October 20th, at Monarto shooting range, when we hosted 27 final year veterinary students from the University of Adelaide's Roseworthy Campus.

As a country vet, or even a city vet who happens to be travelling on a country road, he/she may be called upon to deal with an injured animal, or animals, injured in an accident. In such a situation, the vet is unlikely to be carrying a suitable firearm, but it is likely that a local farmer will have an array of firearms that the vet will be able to use. The vet then needs to be able to choose the appropriate firearm, in calibre, ammunition, and action, to satisfactorily, and legally, use, to humanely, and safely, kill the animal.

The day begins with a talk on safety by Kaz Herbst, followed by Kym McKenney speaking about the types and actions of firearms that the vet is likely to find in a farmer's armoury, which ones may be suitable to use, and which ones would be legal to use.

Andy Doube followed up with information on calibres, projectiles and points of aim. Then, out on the range, beef heads, and sheep carcasses were opened up to demonstrate the correct points of aim for head and heart shots.

In the afternoon, out on the range again, the students had the opportunity to gain some experience using rifle and shotguns, of the calibres likely to be encountered on a farm; .22LR, .222 / .223, .243, .30 calibre (.308, .30-06, .30/30, .303), and 12ga shotgun.

The final exercise of the day was to shoot individual beef heads with one shot of each calibre. The heads were then opened up to demonstrate the damage done by each calibre, particularly pointing out the damage done by expanding hunting projectiles, compared with FMJ military projectiles.

David Handyside demonstrated the massive energy that an 8ga paradox firing a 1,100gr projectile does to a beef head, and the person firing the firearm! I doubt that the new vet is likely to encounter one of those firearms on your standard farm!

They were a great group of students, and all our members were very diligent in instructing them in the proper handling and use of the firearms. Thanks must go to all of our 21 members who gave up their day, travelled to Monarto, and allowed the use of their personal firearms. *Andy Doube*



From the President

Hello all,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the CWM members that spend their hard earned money and time in the pursuit of conservation and feral animal control for this State, yes it may be a pastime for many, but the result remains the same, a positive for SA.

C&WM recently had an activity in the Vulkathunha – Gammon Ranges National Park that possibly equaled the early days of H&C, with over 1,700 goats removed from the countryside, I think a “Well done” to those members attending is in order.

Whilst the Upper and Lower South East Deer activities will be in full swing next year, please be reminded that all CWM activities where the specific activity is spotlighting, it may only be undertaken by members who have been kangaroo accredited. This is not just about kangaroo control, it's about the safe handling of firearms under limited light conditions, as well as firearms accuracy.

2017 has been a big year for all of us. The new program for 2018 is now available so make sure you look through it and get those activity registrations in. Leave yourself plenty of time, because you can always opt out if for some reason you can't make it, but once the cut-off date has passed, that's it, the coordinator cannot accept late registrations.

Perhaps environmentally, one of our more important activities is the Quoll Protection Program in the Ikara-Flinders Ranges National Park, where we reduce the number of predators, including cats, foxes and wild dogs. Our Coordinator, Peter Rowe, is always looking for members who can commit to it. Dates are locked into moon phases and it's very important if you nominate for the activity, you commit. We have four dedicated members who have vehicles suitable for spotlighting activities as well as a number of members who shoot and spotlight. We would like to see more vehicles and members involved. If you can help, please speak with Peter.

On Thursday 24 November the Secretary and I met with Grant Pelton from DEWNR as part of our scheduled yearly review. From that meeting I can report that there have been some programming problems, but things in general are running smoothly and nothing needed to be changed in the current MOU (Memorandum Of Understanding), we can also expect a greater amount of information sharing.

Please bear in mind that Council members also attend activities and are sometimes out of contact range. If you have a question of one of us, be assured we will get back to you as soon as we can.

That's about it from me, follow what you have learned from experience or from others, be safe in all you do and remember “If it doesn't feel right, Don't do it”.

On behalf of Council, we wish you a safe and happy Christmas and look forward to seeing you in 2018.

Thank you for your support.

Chris Carroll, C&WM President

Activity Summary for the 2017 AGM

(1 Oct 2016 – 21 Sept 2017, inclusive)

Table 1. Total C&WM member contribution

Number of activities undertaken	74
Kms travelled	178,385
Member participation	379*
Hours contributed	8,591

*includes members who have participated in multiple activities

Table 2. Total number of animals controlled from all C&WM activities

Species	Number taken
Camels	0
Horses	0
Donkeys	1
Deer	55
Pigs	1
Goats	3,487
Sheep	6
Kangaroos	75
Wild dogs	3
Foxes	31
Cats	80
Hares	4
Rabbits	109
Birds	1,731

Activities were undertaken for:

- Private landholders
- DEWNR – 5 regions; *South Australian Arid Lands, South Australian Murray Darling Basin, Northern & Yorke, Eyre Peninsula, Adelaide & Mt Lofty Ranges*
- Forestry SA
- SA Water
- Nature Foundation SA
- Australian Wildlife Conservancy
- Conservation Volunteers Australia
- Natural History Society of South Australia
- Port Pirie and Northern Areas Councils
- Operation Flinders
- Bush Heritage Australia
- Boral
- Greening Australia
- BirdLife Australia

While the majority of activities focus on animal control members have also participated in; maintenance works, fox baiting and malleefowl surveys, as well as running an introduction to firearms day for University of Adelaide (Roseworthy Campus) Veterinary Students.



AMMO DEALS



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www.adelaidegunshop.com.au



Cats driving decline in native birds

More than one million native Australian birds are killed across the country by cats every day, new research shows.

The study, published in the journal *Biological Conservation*, estimates feral cats kill 316 million birds a year, while pet cats kill 61 million birds annually. More than 99 per cent are native birds.

"Everyone knows that cats kill birds, but this study shows that, at a national level, the amount of predation is staggering, and is likely to be driving the ongoing decline of many species," said lead researcher Professor John Woinarski, of Charles Darwin University.

Australian National University Associate Professor Sarah Legge says the researchers combines data from previous studies.

It's the first study to look at the nation-wide impact cats are having on Australia's birds, Assoc. Prof. Legge says.

"We also looked at the traits that were more likely to make a bird susceptible to cats," she told AAP.

Small-to-medium sized birds, birds that nest and hunt on the ground, and those found on remote islands or arid areas are most at risk of being killed by cats.

The scientists estimate there are about 11 billion native birds across the country, suggesting cats kill about four per cent of the population annually.

"We found records of cats killing 338 species of native birds, of which 71 were threatened species," Assoc. Prof. Legge said. "That's about 60 per cent of the threatened species in Australia".

Acting Threatened Species Commissioner Sebastian Lang says the government has already sunk more than \$30 M into projects to reduce the feral threat.

"Responsible pet owners can help reduce the impact of domestic cats by desexing them and keeping them indoors or in a cat run. These are great ways to protect our wildlife that can also improve the wellbeing of domestic cats," Mr Lang said.

Damage being done by cats

- 377 million birds killed annually
- 99% of birds killed are native Australian birds
- 373 million native Australian birds killed annually
- 316 million birds killed by feral cats annually
- 61 million birds killed annually by domestic cats
- 338 species of native Australian birds had been killed, including 71 threatened species.

www.sbs.com.au/news/article/2017/10/04/cats-driving-decline-native-birds

Fat Cat Award

At the recent AGM the Quoll Protection Program team of Peter R, Nick N & Tony J took out the inaugural *Fat Cat Award* with a 6 kg male ginger tabby feral cat.

As the name implies the award is meant to be a bit of fun and reward the team that takes out the heaviest feral cat for the year.

To be eligible for the perpetual trophy;

- the cat must be taken during the current membership year (AGM to AGM)
- it must be shot during an approved C&WM field activity and cannot be as a result of a trapping/baiting program
- the weight and description of the cat are to be recorded on the datasheet that accompanies the activity
- a photo with something to indicate the size and weight of the cat must also be submitted.

Entries can be formally submitted to the Secretary (secretary@conservation-wildlife.asn.au).



6.0 kg ginger tabby feral cat taken from the IFRNP.

2017-18 Council

Details and contact information for our Council of Management, including our Membership Secretary and the Member Protection and Information Officer, can be found on our website, please visit:

www.conservation-wildlife.asn.au/committee.htm



Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia

Conservation & Wildlife Management (SA) Inc.

PO Box 188 Kent Town SA 5071

www.conservation-wildlife.asn.au



Secretary's Scribble

As 2018 comes into view, it is important that if you are going to participate in any activity on DEWNR land, that you submit the latest *Shooter Participation Declaration*, together with the *Application for endorsement to use handloaded ammunition* (if you haven't submitted one in the past, or your loads have changed) and an *Application for endorsement to use firearms for DEWNR activities* forms.

Do not use old copies of these, as they have been recently updated and will be rejected. Only original copies or pdf versions will be accepted.

They must be sent to Marcus the Assistant Secretary for processing (assistant.secretary@conservation-wildlife.asn.au), not DEWNR.

Please make sure you get your renewal and fees in by 31 December 2017. As was the case last year, no late renewals will be accepted and members will deem to be expired and will have to re-join, with all appropriate fees and training; including practical and theory accreditation.

For those members without email addresses please have a think about it. It is easy to set one up and would only require a visit to your local library every couple of weeks or so to see if we have sent you anything. I understand many don't want it, but our work load is multiplied where we have to process special mail outs with labels, stamps etc. I'm sure someone will help you set it up and it's free.

On behalf of Council, I wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and New Year, see you in 2018.

Rob Parkes, Secretary

Treating snake bites and sprains

We have a number of *Setopress* compression bandages available for members to purchase. These have been recommended for treating snake bites as well as sprains.

The bandages have a coloured rectangle on them that become a square once correct tension has been applied when treating the limb.

Further information can be found in this article: www.baysidebush.org.au/system/files/articles/SetopressBandage.pdf or searching the internet for *Setopress* compression bandages.

They are available for purchase at quarterly meetings for **\$16.00 each**, or can be purchased with a pick-up organised in the CBD if required (email: merchandise@conservation-wildlife.asn.au).

2018 Activity Program

Due to the size of the current program it is too large for publication in the Newsletter.

Please visit: www.conservation-wildlife.asn.au/yearly_program.htm to view or download a copy.

C&WM Merchandise

We have a selection of items available for purchase with stickers (\$2), cloth badges (\$10) and caps (\$20) being available at General Meetings.



Orange - nylon



Clay - brushed cotton

Limited selections of shirts (\$50) are on display at meetings, with orders being able to be placed and paid for on the night. All items can be ordered by downloading the order form: www.conservation-wildlife.asn.au/club_merchandise.htm and posting to C&WM with your payment or emailing to: merchandise@conservation-wildlife.asn.au along with a bank transfer reference. As items are ordered as required, please allow at least eight weeks.

We have added two new styles of shirt to the list, these being a long and short sleeved Bisley, full-button shirt. They are of the same quality as the closed front shirts, being 190 gsm, 100% cotton drill, pre-shrunk, 50+ SPF, however they are only available in khaki. Please be sure to quote the correct shirt code when placing an order.



Bisley: long sleeve full button (BS6433), short sleeve full button (BS1433) (Khaki only)



Bisley: Khaki, Royal, Orange long sleeve closed front shirt (BSC6433)

Sizes available for all shirts: S – 6XL.



Logo: embroidered above left chest pocket - 8 cm diameter.

All shirts are \$50.00 each embroidered.



Activity Summary

Port Pirie PMP: 18/06 - 9/07/17 (2 occasions)

Activity Coordinator: Alan Zubrinich

Members: 6

Animals taken: 164 feral pigeons

Brookfield CP: 4 - 8/09/17

Activity Coordinator: Ali Wilkie

Members: 11

Animals taken: 5 feral goats

Little Para: 20/09/17

Activity Coordinator: Brendan Atkinson

Members: 3

Animals taken: 29 Western grey kangaroos,
1 feral pig, 6 feral sheep, 2 hares

NAPMP: 21/09/17

Activity Coordinator: Alan Zubrinich

Members: 4

Animals taken: 44 feral pigeons

IFRNP - Quoll Protection Program: 22 - 24/09/17

Activity Coordinator: Peter Rowe

Members: 3

Animals taken: 3 feral cats

Waterfall Gully: Oct - Nov 2017 (15 occasions)

Activity Coordinator: Kaz Herbst

Members: 6

Animals taken: 1 feral deer

Bimbowrie: 9 - 14/10/17

Activity Coordinator: Phil Johns

Members: 8

Animals taken: 583 feral goats

Boolcoomatta: 9 - 13/10/17

Activity Coordinator: Phil Johns

Members: 6

Animals taken: 38 feral goats, 3 rabbits

Gawler Ranges NP: 21 - 27/10/17

Activity Coordinator: Rick Fisher

Members: 6

Animals taken: 161 feral goats

Vulkathuna-Gammon Ranges NP: 29/10 - 05/11/17

Activity Coordinator: Trevor Goodfellow

Members: 20

Animals taken: 1,730 feral goats

Mt Remarkable NP (Nelshaby-Napperby):

2 - 8/11/17

Activity Coordinator: Shane Fantinel

Members: 3

Animals taken: 34 feral goats

Telowie CP: 3 - 8/11/17

Activity Coordinator: Shane Fantinel

Members: 6

Animals taken: 43 feral goats

Mt Brown: 9 - 16/11/17

Activity Coordinator: Alan Zubrinich

Members: 4

Animals taken: 21 feral goats

Dutchmans Stern CP: 9 - 16/11/17

Activity Coordinator: Nick Nunn

Members: 7

Animals taken: 167 feral goats

IFRNP - Quoll Protection Program: 17 - 19/11/17

Activity Coordinator: Peter Rowe

Members: 3

Animals taken: 7 feral cats

Southern Mallee (Karte CP): 17 - 21/11/17

Activity Coordinator: Bob Pettitt

Members: 4

Animals taken: 12 feral goats

Karte CP – Malleefowl Survey: 18/11/17

Activity Coordinator: Scott Jennings

Members: 6

Annual malleefowl survey – 3 active mounds

Belair NP: 23/11/17

Activity Coordinator: Peter Rowe

Members: 5

Animals taken: 4 feral goats



An active malleefowl mound – southern mallee, 2017

Some recent articles from the ABC:

Feral pigs in the mid-North

www.abc.net.au/news/rural/2017-08-09/wild-pigs-found-south-australia-mid-north/8786908

Feral goats

www.abc.net.au/news/2017-11-18/the-lucrative-business-of-mustering-feral-goats/9149568

www.abc.net.au/news/2017-11-18/big-bucks-feral-goats-are-being-recognised-as-a/9165384



Photos

Occasional we require photos to help promote C&WM or associated organisations such as the Conservation and Hunting Alliance of South Australia (CHASA). We are interested in a range of photos; landscapes of the areas hunted, people in the field, around camp, general wildlife, etc.

If you have any suitable photos that you would be happy to share, acknowledging that they may appear in our material or that of CHASA or SSAA, etc., please email to: merchandise@conservation-wildlife.asn.au. Please label the photo with your name, date it was taken and location. Feel free to add any additional information, especially if a number of people occur in the photo, or there are any caveats around how the photo can be used. *Scott Jennings*

Yellow-foots, masters of camouflage; how many can you find?

Compare notes with John Drummond who took the photo.

