



Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia

Hunting & Conservation Branch (SA) Inc

PO Box 188 Kent Town SA 5071



THE H&C NEWS

DECEMBER 2007

QUARTERLY MEETING

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 12th 7pm

At GAZA Sports & Community Club

Corner of Main North East Rd and Wellington St Klemzig

SSAA-H&C-ACTIVITY PROGRAM-2008

DATE	ACTIVITY	COORDINATOR
January		
07 - 11/01/08	Redbanks/Caroona/Tourilla CP – cull	Shane F
14 - 18/01/08	Dutchman Stern CP - cull	Kaz H
22/01/08	COM	Committee
27/01/08	Range Day at Monarto - 10am – 4pm	Committee
February		
02 - 08/02/08	Flinders RNP – cull	Gil H
08 - 11/02/08	Flinders Feral Predator Program (FFPP)	Kaz H
	SSAA State Meeting 12noon at CWA	Committee
19/02/08	COM	Committee
23 - 29/02/08	Gawler RNP - cull	Rick F
March		
12/03/08	H&C General Meeting 7pm at Gaza Comm Club	Committee
15/03/08	Accreditation Course (theory)	Gil H
	PESTCAM (Chowilla) – cull	Kaz H
April		
01/04/08	COM	Committee
19/04/08	Range Day at Monarto – 10am – 4 pm	Committee
21 - 25/04/08	Bimbowrie CR - cull	Phil J
May		
02 - 05/05/08	FFPP	Kaz H
11 - 16/05/08	Vulkathunha-Gammon RNP – cull	Gil H
	SSAA State Meeting 12noon at CWA	Committee
27/05/08	COM	Committee

June

16 - 20/06/08	Flinders RNP – Wildlife Surveys	Kaz H/ DEH
18/06/08	H&C General Meeting 7pm at Gaza Comm Club	Committee
23 - 27/06/08	Dutchman Stern CP – cull	Kaz H
24/06/08	COM	Committee
July		
22/07/08	COM	Committee
August		
01 - 04/08/08	FFPP	Kaz H
02/08/08	Range Day at Monarto – 10am – 4pm	Committee
09 - 15/08/08	Gawler RNP – cull	Rick F
19/08/08	COM	Committee
	SSAA State Meeting 12noon at CWA	Committee
30/08/08	Accreditation Course (theory)	Gil H
September		
31/8 - 5/09/08	Vulkathunha-Gammon RNP – cull	Gil H
23/09/08	COM	Committee
16/09/08	H&C AGM 7pm at Gaza Comm Club	Committee
October		
13 - 17/10/08	Bimbowrie CR/Boolcoomatta – cull	Phil J
21/10/08	COM	Committee
November		
	PESTCAM – cull	Kaz H
10 - 14/11/08	Dutchman Stern CP – cull	Kaz H
16/11/08	Range Day at Monarto – 10am – 4pm	Committee
18/11/08	COM	Committee
26/11/08	H&C General Meeting 7pm at Gaza Comm Club	Committee
28/11 - 1/12/08	FFPP – cull	Kaz H
	SSAA State AGM 12noon at CWA	Committee
30/11 - 5/12/08	Vulkathunha-Gammon RNP – cull	Gil H
December		
09/12/08	COM	Committee
NB: - All cull dates cover shooting from first sunrise to last sunset excepting FFPP and PESTCAM which are from first sunset to last sunrise.		

OFF PROGRAM (IRREGULAR) ACTIVITIES

Barossa/Hills – quick response/SA Water/Forestry SA	Graham H	83 37 53 88
Fleurieu – Forestry SA	Jim A	83 90 18 82
Telowie/Burra	Shane F	86 34 43 62
Everard/Thackaringa/Mantung	Rick F	84 47 69 05
Kangaroo Island	Jorge N	83 57 09 03
Buckaringa	Mark P	83 80 53 36
Midweek Range (Monarto)	Kaz H	83 39 35 07
Mid North and Northeast Areas	Phil J	0408431750

Every effort will be made to avoid changes, but the timelines for printing and distribution of this edition of **"The H&C News"** mean that the program, as above, may be subject to emendation. PLEASE CHECK ACTIVITY PROGRAM FOR UPDATES ON WEBSITE. Dates of SSAA State meetings will be announced early in new year,

Youth Initiative

The Sporting Shooters' Assn of Australia will pay for junior membership of the National body for your children, grand children etc.

Contact S.S.A.A. S.A. State Treasurer Steve Nicholas on 0419 805299.

Saturday Afternoon AGM Proposal

It has been suggested to the Committee that Annual General Meetings be held on a Saturday, around 1 pm, instead of a Wednesday evening.

This would give country members greater opportunity to attend, vote for committee members, put their views and catch up with colleagues.

Please express your opinion on this proposal by making your views known to the Secretary, kazoom@esc.net.au

Flying Doctor Collection at AGM

The collection for The Flying Doctor Service at the AGM in September came to \$312.60. The H&C Committee doubled this amount and the treasurer has sent a cheque for \$625.40 to the RFDS.

Hunting Story

Two hunters got a pilot to fly them to Canada to hunt moose.

They managed to bag 6.

As they were loading the plane to return, the pilot said the plane could take only 4 moose.

The two lads objected strongly.

'Last year we shot six. The pilot let us take them all and he had the same plane as yours.'

Reluctantly, the pilot gave in and all six were loaded.

However, even on full power, the little plane couldn't handle the load and went down.

Somehow, surrounded by the moose bodies, Trevor, Dave & the pilot survived the crash.

After climbing out of the wreckage, Trevor asked Dave 'Any idea where we are?'

'I think we're pretty close to where we crashed last year,' said Dave.

The Feral Herald

If you would like to be informed why there is opposition in conservation circles to the proposed introduction of European Bumble Bees to pollinate broad acre tomato crops, how rabbits are destroying Macquarie Island and endangering the habitat of penguins and other sea birds; the weed risk posed by plants proposed to be grown for bio-fuels, go to invasives.org.au and download articles from *Newsletter of the Invasive Species Council, Australia* which bears the catchy title of "The Feral Herald"

Hunting Tip

It is often a good idea when hunting in remote areas to carry a spare scope and the appropriate Allan keys to fit it should the need arise.

Conservation of native bees

Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) has greatly reduced bee colonies in Europe and the US and caused great concern to ecologists, apiarists and farmers whose crops are dependent on bees for pollination. No bees means no tomatoes, almonds, melons just to pick 3 from a very long list of plants that can't produce unless bee pollinated. However, there are native bees which often do the very same job, do not create huge hives which colonise tree hollows and the like which would otherwise serve as nesting places for birds and small native mammals, and above all are stingless which means one can keep native bees in the suburbs without fear of children being stung.

Aussie Bee the online journal of The Australian Native Bee Research Centre <http://www.zeta.org.au/~anbr/index.html> will advise how to obtain and care for a hive of native bees; what bees live in your area and why all effort should be made to preserve native bees.

Websites of interest

Yellowfoot Rock Wallaby Preservation Association.

Our sister association's website

<http://www.yellowfoot.org/>

has been recently upgraded with the addition of photographs of the Bunkers Reserve and improvements made by YFRWPA members.

Coalition of Law Abiding Sporting Shooters Inc www.class.org.au has a most detailed and informative website.

Jeanine.baker@grapevine.com.au

Is the e-mail of Dr Janine Baker whose peer reviewed research paper **GUN LAWS AND SUDDEN DEATH** *Did the Australian Firearms Legislation of 1996 Make a Difference?* JEANINE BAKER and SAMARA MCPHEDRAN published in **British Journal of Criminology** October 18, 2006*rebutals in 15 well argued and referenced pages the emotional arguments of the ban all guns brigade. (See next item)

Jeanine will, if requested, send you an e-mail copy of the paper.

DPP antics

"If the law supposes that," said Mr. Bumble, ... "the law is a ass—a idiot." CHARLES DICKENS, *Oliver Twist*, chapter 51, p. 489 (1970). First published serially 1837–1839.

The Director of Public Prosecutions, Stephen Pallaras QC, during an interview with Radio 891's Matt Abraham and David Bevan on Tuesday 16th October when discussing several nightclub shootings that had happened the day before, said all guns should be banned. He stated that if all guns were banned, there would be no more criminal shootings. This amazing logic prompted a number of letters to the editor of "The Advertiser." Here, are several sent in by one of our members.

The monumental stupidity of Steven Pallaras in calling for gun ownership to be banned to stamp out gangster shootings beggars belief! Instead Steven, why not ban that greatest of scourges in society? That which gangsters fight over and ruin countless lives to produce, procure and promote?... Yes, DRUGS! Why not ban drugs? That will stop violence, street crime, break-ins, overdoses and the very foundation of criminal economics! Wait a minute though... I think they are banned? They are... they are completely illegal and yet somehow Utopia eludes us still! For an educated man, Steven Pallaras seems curiously dim witted when it comes to real life. Ban something and it just becomes more profitable to criminals - who don't care about laws anyway.

Patrick K

The Law says it is illegal to tailgate another vehicle. In reality though, it is only illegal to tailgate a Police car. How else will these hoons ever be caught? The Law can be curiously selective at times. Firearms laws are very similar in that they only apply to licensed shooters and I find that very strange. Do you know how many firearms offences Paul Nemer was charged with after shooting someone with an illegal handgun? None - because he wasn't licensed! Firearms offences alone could have sent him to prison for far longer than he eventually was - after public outrage forced the DPP to get off its butt and slap his wrist. Much easier then just

to ban firearms, according to Steven Pallaras. While you're at it, you should ban hoons, cars and tailgates just to be sure!

Patrick K

Until now, I've had no opinion in the ongoing war between Mike Rann and the DPP, Steven Pallaras... until now! If his statements concerning the banning of private firearm ownership to curb gangster crime are anything to go by, I can see what Mike has had to put up with. I guess it all goes back to those pesky Americans and their Space Race with the Russians. They just had to go and put a man on the moon, which inevitably paved way for the likes of Steven Pallaras. After all, if they can put a man on the moon it's easy to put an idiot in the DPP's office.

Patrick K

Steven Pallaras QC, DPP, DIMWIT, suggests we stop crime by banning private ownership of firearms. Quite apart from all the law-abiding recreational shooters whose sport and passion he is willing to crush in his ruthless pursuit of Law and Order, has he considered our poor, struggling farmers? Who is going to control all the feral nasties that bedevil their livelihoods and the State's agricultural base? Rabbits and foxes alone account for millions of dollars of lost agricultural production annually - not to mention native fauna and habitat destruction. The firearms laws we have now are a huge disincentive to hunting the pests that plague the countryside and banning firearms will tip the balance completely! Is the next step to employ the Army to bomb rabbit warrens? Will the Police stage raids against fox fortresses? Stick to what you know, Steven. .. whatever that is!

Patrick K

Steven Pallaras just can't be as stupid as he sounds, after calling for firearms to be banned to stop gangster crime! What both he and law-abiding firearms owners need is a law that triples the jail time for any felony committed where a firearm is used. Further, there should be no judicial discretion allowed, which typically sees drug habits and the like being used as mitigating factors in sentencing [where in fact they should count as aggravating factors!]. If a firearm is used in

the commission of a felony, the maximum sentence should apply - tripled - with the standard maximum sentence being the minimum sentence. Sporting shooters do not commit these crimes that so vex our DPP, criminals do. A sentencing regime that locks gun-using crims away until they're old and feeble will cut the crime rate - not banning firearms ownership by hunters.

Patrick K.

Shooting Sticks

In the field a steady rest is a great help when placing a shot. If you come upon a solid rock or a stout log you can pad with your backpack or similar you have a better chance of placing an accurate shot than you do free standing.

However, there isn't always a rock or log available when you most need one. Bi-pods are often too short to allow an unobstructed view of target through vegetation.

This is where shooting sticks, or poles come in. Three sticks or poles are bound together at the top to form a tripod at the bottom. You can have three sticks of equal length, about as tall as the shooter, or two sticks "shooter-high" and a third stick a little shorter. The sticks are joined by a flexible wrapping (a strip cut from an old inner tube works perfectly) 10 centimetres down from the top. If the sticks are of equal length you have a tripod both top and bottom and must fit your rifle into the web where the three sticks join. If you use one stick shorter than the other, you have a tripod below and an obvious fore-end rest created by the tips of the two longer sticks.

You must not rest your fore-end (and certainly not your barrel) directly on the sticks. Instead, you place your supporting hand on the intersection, grasping both the sticks and the rifle. Getting the height right is absolutely critical and also takes practice.

With the tripod legs spread you want the intersection a bit below shoulder height so you can spread your own legs slightly, leaning into the rifle with your body and pulling back on the sticks with your supporting hand,.

Shooting sticks are fast and wonderful for normal shooting distances--say, 100 to 250 metres--when it's just too far to shoot unsupported.

It takes practice to use the supporting hand correctly with shooting sticks. Ideally, the fore-end should rest on the hand, not on the sticks, so the fingers must grip the sticks as well as the rifle.

Adapted from: *Shooting Sticks* by Craig Boddington found at

http://www.rifleshootermag.com/shooting_tips/sticks_012506/

Cats disappearing in France -cat fur rheumatism remedy claim.

The French daily **Le Figaro** reported on November 14, 2007 that in the Haute-Savoie region of the French Alps bordering on Switzerland more than 550 felines have vanished since the beginning of the year. However, the French Animal Protection Society estimates at least three times as many have disappeared and not been reported missing to the authorities in Evian . It is believed that cats are being smuggled across the border to Helvetic tanneries which annually tan 10,000 legally obtained cat skins.

The Swiss believe that cat fur has therapeutic properties which reduce the effects of rheumatism.

Marcelle Marchand who at the beginning of the year had twenty cats is now left with only five.

"My house feels empty", she said." I feel very sad".

Post Script

The legal cat tanneries are, according to the article, in the cantons of Grisons, Lucerne and Vaud.

The Embassy of Switzerland is at 7 Melbourne Ave Forrest Canberra ACT 2603

To obtain an export permit: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, R.G.Casey Bldg, John McEwen Crescent, Barton Canberra ACT 0221

Kangaroo Counting Walks

Flinders RNP – Wildlife Surveys (16 - 20/06/08) allow you four days in Flinders Ranges and earn points for H&C from DEH. See Kaz H or George S for details.

Poetry Corner

Every Man Should Have a Rifle

So I sit and write and ponder, while the
house is deaf and dumb,
Seeing visions "over yonder" of the war I
know must come.
In the corner - not a vision - but a sign for
coming days
Stand a box of ammunition and a rifle in
green baize.
And in this, the living present, let the word go
through the land,
Every tradesman, clerk and peasant should
have these two things at hand.
No - no ranting song is needed, and no
meeting, flag or fuss -
In the future, still unheeded, shall the spirit
come to us!
Without feathers, drum or riot on the day
that is to be,
We shall march down, very quiet, to our
stations by the sea.
While the bitter parties stifle every voice that
warns of war,
Every man should own a rifle and have
cartridges in store!

Henry Lawson (1907)

JUST A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR (NEW) SECRETARY

Taking on a new function and responsibilities,
while changing computers, changing
database program, processing renewals, etc
is quite a challenge.

I won't complain, but prompt posting of
renewals, complete filling of forms, signing of
cheques, etc, etc, by members would help a
lot.

We WILL have to have a Membership
Secretary, and my respect for Chris G's
efforts in the past years has grown even
more!

This will be the last NEWS that you will
receive if you have not renewed your
membership, and please note that SAPOL
requires the Secretary to submit a monthly
report of un-financial members.

Those of you that have not renewed will
receive a last reminder – I do not claim
infallibility – so if I have made a mistake –
please let me know!

This **NEWS** includes the program of activities
for 2008, so send in your registrations as
soon as you can.

One of the items of interest is that the
helicopter will not be used in the Gawler
Ranges in 2008 – the cost per goat being

thought to be too high, which, of course
leaves the job to us (and contractors) doing
ground shooting.

Recent results are (sort of) encouraging (?) in
that the numbers of goats are not falling (last
Dutchman Stern – 139 goats, Bimbowrie /
Boolcoomatta – 580+ goats), with various
explanations, such as lower prices, coming in
from overgrazed properties, lack of water,
etc.

Last PESTCAM was very nearly a washout,
but the generosity of the Robertson family
(Chowilla) saved the weekend as the team
was permitted to hunt small goats north of
the river floodplains for a day, and then
proceeded back to the Reserve area where
enough pigs were found to keep everyone
happy.

The restriction to .224 centre fire and
shotguns was not a problem as shooting
ranges are quite short.

Kaz H

Buy

**Reloading setup for 308 Win Good quality
only please. I have brass but need
everything else Greg H
immelmannix@yahoo.com.au**

Sell

**LEE PRO 1000 reloading press 32 S&W
long. \$250; UIN- Rifle Bipod, New \$80
Alan W 0439 373 368**

**2008 Calendar produced by Friends of
Flinders Ranges National Park. A3 size
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