



Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia

Hunting & Conservation Branch (SA) Inc

PO Box 188 Kent Town SA 5071



# THE H&C NEWS

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## DECEMBER 2002

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Insurance Waiver.** At the request of our insurers and their underwriters certain initiatives have taken place. It is necessary to make the individual aware that when taking part in our field exercises there is an onus on that person to act responsibly and be responsible for their own actions. Secondly compliance to the signing of the "Waiver" form will see the per capita fee remain at \$2.00 for our sick and accident policy; without it the Hunting activity of a SSAA member's public liability' may attract a separate premium. The waiver (copy below) will be required to be signed and dated on an annual basis by all members. It will be incorporated with the membership renewal advice in 2003. Until that time it will be printed on the back of cull application forms and for these activities that do not require an application a separate waiver will be required.

### **Condition of Participation**

#### **Field Activity Participants Release and Waiver**

I am aware that participating in any, SSAA Hunting and Conservation Field Activity is a potentially dangerous undertaking and that I participate in any activity at my own risk.

I acknowledge that the activity organizers (which term includes all persons involved in the execution of the activity, the SSAA H&C branch, its executive, committee, the activity coordinator, members, servants or agents) cannot control a range of matters in remote wilderness areas or anywhere else that may create or vary risks to my health and safety.

Such things include the weather, altered topography and track conditions, personal attributes such as my fitness, level of expertise and my approach to challenges presented.

I am also aware that any person participating in any field activity is only allowed to do so on the distinct understanding that they do so at their own risk.

My signature below acknowledges that of my own free will and desire I have contracted with the organizers to participate in the field activity and that I have read and understood the warning, and release from liability and waiver stated above, and agree to be bound by it as a condition of participation.

#### **REPORT VICE PRESIDENT KAZ H FLINDERS RANGES NP CAT & FOX CONTROL & MONITORING PROGRAM**

Many thanks from Nicki de Preu (DEH ecologist for the Flinders) and myself, to those who have taken part in another (the 8<sup>th</sup>) year of this program.

I would like to re produce the full 2002 annual report by Nicki, but this would take too much space, so here is a summary.

For foxes during 2002 - in regularly baited areas, 3 shot / 5 seen (0.3/100km) in adjacent unbaited areas, 38 shot / 49 seen (6.8/100km) in distant unbaited areas, 91 shot/ 164 seen (16.6/100km)

For cats during 2002, in regularly baited areas, 33 shot/ 58 seen (3.3/100km) in adjacent unbaited areas, 10 shot / 11 seen (1.5/100km) in distant unbaited areas, 1 shot / 2 seen (0.2/100km)

Nicki, comments that last two years fox cub survival is up, probably due to good seasons, while the effectiveness of baiting is well demonstrated by the knockdown effect even in adjacent buffer areas.

Cat numbers have risen recently, particularly in the FRNP and adjacent areas, probably due to the increase in rabbit numbers, mild summer and low rainfall having affected Myxomatosis and RHD.

A full copy of the report is available, so contact me if you would like to read it.

**REPORT VICE PRESIDENT KAZ H cont**

**GUN LAWS.** Pistol shooters are about to be hit with a “buyback” costing the community some \$200M. As with the previous long arms buyback and restrictions on ownership, nothing significant will be achieved. For those who think otherwise, please obtain a copy and read the study report prepared by Prof Reuter (Maryland USA) and Ms Jenny Mouzos (Australian Institute of Criminology). I have obtained a copy through our new SA State president, and found that John Howard has totally misrepresented its contents in claiming that it confirmed the “success” of the 1996 NFA (National Firearms Agreement) buyback. In summary, the report states the NFA buyback results to have: “modest effects on the extent of suicide and violent crime”, “suicides did not fall”, “firearm homicides – did not fall”, “mass murders – statistically insignificantly lower rate than pre-1966”, etc.

I have passed this information on to my Federal MP whose comment was that it all appeared a minor matter, as there was little public reaction. Haven't you done YOUR bit?

Yes! – there are some controls which do produce results, but these are not arrived at by political grandstanding based on ignorance and misinformation.

If gun owners do not react and force politicians to establish a system of study, monitoring and review of gun ownership controls by a competent and independent group, the future of our sports will be very bleak.

Do your bit. Contact your politicians and let them know that you know the real facts. If you need help – contact me.

WINE. Unfortunately I have developed an allergy to this form of grape juice, but I seem to receive correspondence on your behalf from the “Cleaskin Clearing House”, tel: 08.83572266 & at [www.cleaskins.biz](http://www.cleaskins.biz). So go your hardest!

Best wishes for Christmas and 2003, especially those with the odd ailment!

**Kaz H. Vice President****Gammon Ranges Report from Brian F**

2nd to 10th of November 2002. 50 members attended. Some 643 goats, 9 rabbits and 5 donkeys were dispatched back to mother nature. Conditions at present are bad for the flora and fauna, with gum trees dropping limbs, native pines shedding needles and most teams seeing dead or starving roos in their area.

**MEMBERSHIP OFFICER**

H&C now has a Membership Officer. Membership enquiries should be directed to Phil B on 82616463 AH or [PhilB@hunt-cons.asn.au](mailto:PhilB@hunt-cons.asn.au). Some memberships have not been paid to date. Please check your records and if you have not paid please send your remittance (cheque or money order) including you renewal form (very important the renewal form is included, so that membership records can be checked and updated) to H&C PO BOX 188 Kent town SA 5071

**Can H&C contact you by FAX** from time to time it is essential that members be contacted quickly on the day, whether it be for firearms related issues, activity information i.e. date changes or other urgent matters. Electronic E-mail is by far the quickest and many members have E-mail. Sometimes mail outs cannot reach members in time. H&C has the means to bulk fax members. Not only is it the next fastest means of communication it costs about half of a mail out. If you wish to be contacted by Fax, H&C needs to know your Fax details. Members can get their details to H&C by ringing any of the committee members or drop us a line, including your name, address and fax number to H&C PO BOX 188 Kent town SA 5071.

Hunting and Conservation is creating a **For Sale and Wanted web page**. This service will be up and running in the New Year. If members and non-members have anything that is hunting and or firearms related or items that may be of interest to members i.e. firearms, (rifle, pistol and shot gun), camping gear and accessories, four wheel drive vehicles, accessories, fishing gear etc, etc, etc it may be advertised. Items will be listed for three months, unless contact is made prior to continue the listing. As is the norm when advertising firearms the sellers license number and firearm serial number must be included in the advertisement. For security reasons only first names E-mail address and phone numbers will be used. If your E-mail address is you name and can in any way be related to the telephone directory etc, the web pages contact E-mail address will be used and replies forwarded onto the advertiser.

The **2003 PROGRAM** is included or can be down loaded from the H&C web site. ( [www.hunt-cons.asn.au](http://www.hunt-cons.asn.au) ) If you do not have access to the web site, please keep your program in a convenient place i.e. staple it to one of those pesty, real estate fridge magnets (staple from the back so that it sits flat) and leave it on the fridge or wherever. Members will be notified by mail / E-mail if there are any changes to the 2003 program.

A **CULL REGISTRATION** form is included and can be downloaded from the H&C website. ([www.hunt-cons.asn.au](http://www.hunt-cons.asn.au)) There is only one form and you can nominate for one two or all three culls on the same form. The cull dates and cull nomination preferences are on the back of the form. The waiver must be signed as a condition of participation. Separate fees apply for each cull (\$20.00). January 31 is the closing date for the three New Year culls.

Recently I received a letter in the post from the World Wildlife Conservation Society asking for a donation. I asked a fellow H&C member about the credibility of such an organisation and how did he think they would feel about and view H&C's activities as a conservation group. His reply, "I am sure they do a great job however why not donate to the Yellow Footed Rock Wallaby Association". Egad!! I thought, what a wonderful idea, after all I am a member and all donations above \$2.00 are tax deductible and I would know exactly what is happening with my hard earned money. The Bunkers Reserve campsite is close to completion and soon to be open to Yellow Foot members. H&C has a limited number of memberships for sale on a time payment basis. Be quick, don't miss out on this, once in a lifetime opportunity to be a part owner of this groundbreaking concept. Contact H&C for details.

Newly elected committee member Ted N has submitted this recipe; sounds good give it a try at Christmas,

**Top Tasting Treats.** Those who have been fortunate enough to taste my Taziki dip at one of the Bar B Qs at Grindles hut will agree that its a handy little number to have around. Yogurt dips are easy to keep and do not spoil in a hurry. If you are subject to a funny tummy then they are perfect for getting you back on track.

Purchase a 500 gm plastic container of European style Yogurt and empty it in to a clean cotton Tea Towel then tie each corner and hang to drain overnight over a sink. This drains of lots of moisture! Place the drained Yogurt into a mixing bowl then add crushed Garlic minimum 6 Cloves or more to your taste, Stir and add a few drops of Olive oil (be sparing with the oil so not to make the mixture too runny), peel one Lebanese Cucumber and grate it into the mix now it should be easy to stir! Place the ingredients back into the original plastic container and keep refrigerated. The mixture improves with age and is best left for a day before attacking! Japanese rice crackers are great or Damper bread .in fact it goes well with most food.

Teds Top Tips

**MERCHANDISE** H&C has a range of merchandise available to members at keen prices. Caps, polo shirts, shirts, cloth and metal badges as well as high visibility gear etc. Contact Ted N 82718341  
0416219506 M  
[norman@adam.com.au](mailto:norman@adam.com.au)

**H&C nametags** have been issued to all members. If you have not received one or the tag info is incorrect, please contact ChrisG on 82810662 H, 0407608858 M or <mailto:ChrisG@bettanet.net.au> There is a clip to attach them to clothing etc for each one. Clips will be available at Quarterly meetings. Those members who cant make it to the meetings i.e. country members should contact ChrisG and one will be forwarded on. Remember to bring them along to the quarterly meetings and in addition wear them at all functions to further the cause and make you easily recognisable.

#### FOR SALE

Anschutz Model 1515-1516 .22 Magnum Fully restored to 'as new' condition. Stock refinished by Syd Miller. All metal parts glass beaded and reblued. Brand new Anschutz 1403 fully adjustable trigger fitted. Barrel lapped and recrowned. Will shoot sub MOA with appropriate ammo. Has been valued at \$700 for insurance purposes. Price is \$600 firm. No time wasters, please. Serial # 98648815 Contact Brendan A Ph 8332 0290 or [acko@senet.com.au](mailto:acko@senet.com.au)

#### WANTED

Scope 4 x 32 or 36, 1.5-4 X 32 or 36, 2-7 X 32 or 36 Zeiss, Kholes, Pecar, Burris, Nikon, Bushnell, Elite or Leupold. Contact NORM B 0413 127451



**Death from bee sting:** *“At a recent Quarterly meeting the guest speaker from the South Australian Museum stated that more people die in Australia each year from bee stings than from snakebite.”*

After a hard days shooting while on the Gawler ranges cull I returned to camp after having a wash at a nearby tank to find one of my team members undergoing bee sting removal surgery by another team member. He had picked up his can of soft drink taken a mouthful, only to discover he had swigged down a bee, before he could spit it out the little blighter (not the words he used) had stung him on the roof of his mouth near the back of his throat. Fortunately he had no allergic reaction to the sting and it was removed successfully. The irony of all this is that we had at our disposal and some of the team were using them at the time, a neat little gadget called a can top. Simply put the can top is a food grade plastic gadget that clips onto and seals off the top of the can. It is shaped similar to the top of the old style echo bottle and has an ingenious filter in the neck to stop bees etc from entering the can. I witnessed this first hand on the same trip, bees trying to enter the top of the can, only to be thwarted by the filter in the can top. Not only does it prevent little nasties from entering the can it takes away that metallic taste associated with drinking from cans. No more getting the moustache or beard caught under the ring pull. It also has the added advantage of minimising spillage in the advent the can is knocked over. Just as the First Aid kit is must on camping trips, can tops should be included or you may have to use it. Reasonably priced at \$2.50 or 3 for \$6.00 and available in four fluro colors. CanTop can be purchased from Ken W on 0429 393119.

Check this out <http://www.gunsaustralia.com.au/>

### **Royal Flying Doctor Service**

The Flying Doctor is always in need of funds. Included is a newsletter and a donation slip with a return envelope. Please give generously after all you may need to use their service one day.

**Merry Christmas** and a **Happy New Year** to all, from the H&C committee.



## **RISK MANAGEMENT GUIDE**

**PREAMBLE** This guide is intended as a fluid document and is at no time intended to be conclusive. The activities of the SSAA Hunting & Conservation groups will vary greatly and are dictated to by many variables. These variables include climatic and weather conditions, vegetation, topography, the target species, its habits, its humane removal, the fitness, mental state, skill and ability of the individual to assess and react to changing circumstances.

### **INTRODUCTION**

The SSAA Hunting and Conservation Groups as Firearms clubs hold the safety of its members, guests and the general public as its number one concern. Safety covers personal safety and well being, as well as the protection of property. At all times we seek to monitor and improve all aspects of safety.

### **PROVISION OF A SAFE ENVIROMENT**

Every member who wish to take part in our field activities **MUST** meet the following criteria.

1. Must be a financial member of the SPORTING SHOOTER'S ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA Inc. (SSAA)
2. Must be a financial member of a Branch.
3. Must have completed and passed the theory accreditation course and have achieved a satisfactory score in the Marksmanship proficiency test.
  - With the exception of 'fox drives' all hunting is done in self-sufficient teams.
    - a. Consist of not less than two people. (Preferably 3-5) working together.
    - b. Have a "captain", please refer to " team captain's responsibilities.
    - c. Have a person responsible for first-aid.
    - d. Have a person responsible for communications.
4. Animal welfare requirements apply to all target species and are covered in the accreditation course with the following basics.
  - e. Calibres used must be adequate to ensure humane destruction as covered by the relevant Codes of practice, SSAA guidelines or legal requirements.
  - f. The hunter's "code of conduct" requires that any injured animal or dependant juvenile must be followed up and humanely put down as soon as possible.
4. "Standing Orders - Emergency Procedures" compatible with Police, SES and NPWS are issued to each team captain to cover emergency situations such as a person being lost or injured.

### **MINIMISE THE LIKELIHOOD OF AN ACCIDENT**

1. This is covered in the Accreditation course with the following basics.
  - a. Safe firearm handling and use of firearms is demanded at all times.
  - b. Each target **MUST** be identified and background checked before shooting.
  - c. Team moves at the pace of the slowest member.
  - d. Participants must pace themselves to the conditions .ie. terrain, climatic conditions and their personal fitness.

### **MEMBERS ACCEPTANCE OF RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. On application for membership each members signs an agreement to accept the SSAA and Branch Constitution, Bylaws, Code of Ethics and Rules.
2. Any member refusing or neglecting to comply with the above is liable to disciplinary action which may include expulsion.

### **INDIVIDUAL'S "DUTY OF CARE"**

This is specifically covered in the accreditation course, explaining that a person must take the appropriate action to minimize or stop a situation that may cause injury or property lost or damage by their inaction.

### **TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. First-aid
  - a. Each vehicle must have an appropriate first-aid kit, and each participant must carry a personal kit.
  - b. Each team must have a person skilled in first-aid.
2. Communications.
  - a. Each team must have at least two UHF radios and be aware of the channels to be used.
  - b. A team must be aware of the location and how to contact that team(s) carrying HF radios.
  - c. Scheduled ('sched') calls- refer Team Captain's Responsibilities.
3. Emergencies- such as a team member injured or lost.
  - a. Refer "standing orders – Emergency procedures."
4. Camping areas
  - a. Select site out of water courses
  - b. Select site away from under gum trees.
  - c. Do not damage surrounding vegetation.
  - d. Bury human waste appropriately.

- e. Collect and remove all rubbish (including any existing)