



Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia

Hunting & Conservation Branch (SA) Inc

PO Box 188 Kent Town SA 5071



THE H&C NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2003

2003 AGM Don't forget the AGM this Wednesday September 17, 7.00 pm at the Gaza Sports and Community Club 232 North East Rd Klemzig. The rifle raffle will be drawn on the night and also a great custom knife door prize. **Come and join us prior to the meeting for a meal at the OG Hotel** (next to Gaza, corner of OG and North East roads) meals to start around 6.00 pm. If you would like to be included in the booking contact ChrisG 0407 608858 all hours chrisg@bettanet.net.au

PRESIDENTS REPORT 2003

"From the Top"

The year of 2002-3 can best be summed up as steady. Last year we closed with a membership before renewal of 291 and then incurred the usual 10 percent non-renewal rate which for whatever reasons seems to inflict itself on all manner of clubs. This year I am glad to report that for the first time we have exceeded the 300 mark by 7 memberships, a small increase but gratifying when we rely solely on word of mouth to recruit new members.

Members have again enjoyed a full calendar of events but for whatever reasons participation has remained at a low level. I would encourage new and or non-active members to register for the major culls even if you don't have access to a team. The activity co coordinators can supply you with names of members in the same situation whom you may contact, meet and form liaisons for your mutual benefit. Many teams have been formed this way, some endure while others disintegrate or modify personnel to suit personalities and or work leave requirements.

While talking 'Calendar of events' we publish one each year, usually the first newsletter after we meet with NPWS for their planning meeting in November. Please take the opportunity to pin it to your reloading cabinet or beer fridge so you have an ongoing reference of our activities. All of my hard working committee are volunteers who also have work, family and other social commitments, they take objection to members who ring them up

just to find out what's going on. We pride ourselves on being capable, well organised and self-reliant, don't let the team down.

This year saw Ted N take over the merchandise and has done a great job, he also organized the Rifle raffle, I believe that if you don't have your tickets by now your too late- it will be drawn at the AGM. I would urge you to show some pride in the organization, we are and continue to be the trendsetters in the H&C fraternity. Ted has polo, long & short sleeved shirts, fluoro red safety caps w/- neck shield, woollen cap w/- logo, cloth patches and metal hat badges, support your club, buy and wear yours with pride.

The special winter cull in the Gawler ranges was organized by Brian W while Stormy Normy organized the restoration of Kolay hut and supplied much of the material requirements- thanks Norm.

Our next range day on October 11th will foreshadow the GRNP cull in November, registration of interest forms will accompany the Membership renewal notice which will be posted to members during the last week of September. The availability form and the Activity participant's release and waiver forms will also be enclosed. Please ensure that you complete all areas and all of the forms.

Your prompt attention to these details will enable the incoming committee to facilitate your needs. Please fill out all forms in full so that we may verify that our records are correct, even if you have a multi year membership, please verify your expiry date.

The committee would thank you for your assistance in these matters.
See you at the AGM.

Cheers
Gil

VICE PRESIDENTS REPORT 2003

“IT’S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN”

Another year has passed for the Branch, so it’s AGMs, reports, reviews, elections, renewals, etc. I have been faithfully providing reports of activities and concerns in past News’, so I hope this ongoing report will suffice for the AGM.

FLINDERS RANGES PREDATOR CONTROL AND MONITORING

This program of three monthly spotlighting has continued, with results only changing on a seasonal basis and reflecting the effects of the drought.

Virtually zero foxes in regularly baited areas and 1 to 2 cats per 100km of driven transect.

In unbaited areas fox numbers are down probably due to low survival rate of cubs under drought conditions.

Weather has been “somewhat cool”, but shooting has been of a very high standard – possibly due to practice on the increasing numbers of rabbits (\$9 at the Central Market).

This activity has now been timed with the baiting of the Bunkers CR to provide more standby manpower, transport sharing and efficient use of Oraparinna accommodation.

DUTCHMAN STERN CP – AUGUST GOAT CULL This was very successful with a tally of 93 goats by 5 shooters over 4 days. One “first timer” suffered the results of boots that produced blisters, but carried on bravely – goodonyah! Many thanks to Len W for looking after signage, records and organization.

YELLOW FOOT MEMBERSHIPS The treasurer advises (with great relief) that all memberships have been taken up, and in fact, we now have a waiting list. If you have lost interest or need the cash, let the treasurer know.

NARRUNG PENINSULA Bill Gemmell has received funding for the continuation of the feral pest eradication program and will be looking for our involvement again. It is close to Adelaide and is a great opportunity for some spotlighting experience. Contact details will be published as soon as they are finalised.

GUN LAWS AND BUYBACK Last Newsletter contained my little article on this subject, urging you all to let your local “pollie” know that you know that your money is being wasted due to their ignorance, incompetence and/or dishonesty. I received ONE request for assistance in preparing for an interview and would like to think that everyone else did it without help. Many of us may not lose a short barrelled or over .38 calibre pistol, but wasting resources and restricting access to recreational interests by

responsible community members, is a win for ignorance, incompetence and dishonesty - opposing that should be a matter of principle! Jeanine B and others are doing their best, but unless each MP receives at least 20 approaches or letters, then it is just not regarded as an issue. Do your bit or expect more buybacks and restrictions!

If you have no clues as to where to start, and you want a few facts, here they are:

- The 1996 buyback has not achieved any benefit – Report by Prof P Reuter (Univ of Maryland) and Ms J Mouzos (Aust Inst of Criminology) comments: “modest effects on the extent of suicide and violent crime”, “suicides did not fall”, “mass murders – statistically insignificantly lower rate than pre-1996”, “other violent crime such as armed robbery, continued to increase”, “homicides **continued** a modest decline”, etc. All this after spending \$500M of our money? – It could have been MUCH better spent!
- The UK total handgun ban has had even less effect, in fact, all violent crime has increased, including handgun homicides!
- In the USA, the University of Maryland has carried out a Congressionally-mandated study to scientifically review some 500 crime prevention projects as to “what works”, “what doesn’t”, and “what’s promising”, and, in its Report to Congress, the first summary list of 23 programs that **have been proven not to work**, includes – **gun buybacks!**

If these are not enough, look up the SSAA website ssaa@ssaa.org.au, talk to Jeanine B or myself.

EXPLOSIVES COURSE Brian W is organising a Course close to Adelaide for our members, so contact him if you are interested. It may be a one day (cheaper) course if it is limited to rabbit warren destruction, which covers the essentials of fuse cord(s), detonators, detonating cord and basic explosives. Comprehensive notes are provided and a detonator crimping tool is usually for sale.

MANY “THANKYOU”S Firstly, thankyou to members of the Committee who put in a lot of time and effort into keeping the Branch going, most work for a living (and could easily spend the time elsewhere), but choose to do their best for us.

I also have a great appreciation of our members “doing the right thing” – being safety conscious, helpful, courteous, considerate and competent (i.e. Professional).

These make it so much easier to satisfy our "clients" and save our Activity Coordinators and Committee a lot of hassles and spitting of dummy.

VICE PRESIDENTS REPORT 2003 *cont*

A little understanding and generosity go a long way. Competition is good but make it supportive rather than antagonistic, good will and harmony are appreciated.

If you have a query, please ASK!
If you have a suggestion, please TELL!
If you have a criticism, please make it courteous and constructive!
If you can help, nominate and or volunteer!

Kaz H

"CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU ALL"

Gawler Ranges 4/8-8/8 2003

Thank you to all who attended and the contribution all made to the fantastic transformation of Kolay Hut. It is inconceivable that so much could be achieved by so few in such a short time.

A special mention must go to Norm for his of tools, bits & pieces, knowledge and commitment to the project.

As a result of this work Active H&C Members will have the use of Kolay Hut at no charge for periods of up to 5 days. Longer periods can be negotiated with the Senior Ranger Craig Nixon. All booking are to be made direct with Craig. The Team still managed to do our bit in reducing the Feral animal population with the final tally at 160 Goats; 2 Foxes; 1 Cat and 28 rabbits. Each goat eats an average of 10kg of vegetation per day so we have saved 554,000 kg of vegetation over the next twelve months. "Makes you think doesn't it."

Fox Drive 23/8/2003

We managed to pick the wettest and coldest Saturday for many weeks and a big thank you to the 22 Members who turned up despite the conditions. We did 5 drives and saw only one fox. If I were a fox I would not have left my nice warm den for anything, even to get shot. It was disappointing to hear from the Property Owners that following our visit they were approached by a Member to see if he could gain access for a private shoot. He did not gain permission and was referred to yours truly. He did not ring me, funny about that. If we discover who that Member was he will be asked to front the Committee to discuss his actions.

Fox Drive Saturday 1st November 03

We are going to try again. Same location different day and hopefully better weather. The foxes are

still there so lets hope we have better luck this time. If not it's still a good day out for the Family and to have a chat around the campfire. Let me know if you are interested.

Brian W
Mobile 0408854124
E-Mail briancw@ozemail.com.au

First Aid Course.

We are close to finalising a Date and Venue and all successful applicants will be advised shortly.

Explosives Course.

We are in the process of arranging an Explosives course. There are limited dates available before the fire season. It will be a one day course held mid week (probably on a Wednesday) and will concentrate on rabbit warren destruction. There will be no charge and will be held on a property in the Callington area. I have some registrations of interest but more are required to make the course viable.

Brian W
Mobile 0408854124
briancw@ozemail.com.au

UHF Radios. Anyone looking for UHF Radios should check out. www.prestige.com.net.au

Yellow Footed Rock Wallaby Preservation Association. H&C no longer has any Memberships available in the YFRWPA.

Brian W
Mobile 0408854124
briancw@ozemail.com.au

Report from Brian F

GAWLER RANGERS. 4/8th AUGUST. The KOLAY HUT working bee was attended by some 19 members. All got stuck into the renovations, and by Friday transformed it inside and out. Painted, tiled, repaired, wired, it looks great. All involved can be pleased with the results. They also got to look around a bit, and just happen to manage to shoot 160 goats. Even though handicapped by someone (no names) forgetting both rifle BOLTS. The WHYALLA SECTION has also been busy with a return visit over CEDUNA way, where they had 4 nights spotlighting. Once again their efforts were warmly welcomed.

Report from Ted N

"2003 Knife Show" For those of you who have not attended a Custom Knife show and experienced the fabulous creations that are produced will have the opportunity to view two such knives at the AGM. John Kilby from Victoria has made a drop point hunting knife with a Fiddleback Gidgee handle

with a ropelay file work on the spine, valued at over \$200.00 this knife will be our \$2.00 raffle prize of the night, (or three tickets for \$5).

Report from Ted N *cont*

Tasman Kerley from WA who has won numerous National Hunting knife is represented by a drop point knife with an inlaid handle of Melomite. This knife will be raffled off on a subsequent evening in the future.

Toyota 3Litre Diesel or 3 litre Turbo Diesel Twin Cab

My vehicles are used predominantly in the metro area where I collect Bee Swarms and do not wish to collect speed camera fines between jobs. I need to be able to dribble along under the 60km or is it 50km without the engine labouring, get reasonable fuel economy and have a high resale value on the vehicle when I have finished with it, usually in three years.

My Toyota HiLux Twin cab 3 ltr diesel was a particularly good all rounder with low gearing as standard and great fuel economy, hills required a few extra revs but generally speaking it handled all that was asked of it. Its off road performance was quite outstanding in low range as it pulled from low revs and was perfectly matched to the vehicles gearing. I retained this vehicle for a little over 50thousand kilometres and in that time had no problems. I wore through a set of tyres and replaced the front brakes.

My current vehicle is a Toyota HiLux Twin Cab 3litre Turbo diesel which I purchased without a test drive believing that the factory would have up rated the engine for the Turbo charging and the vehicle would be about the same. Having dealt with Japanese Motorcycle companies for the past thirty years I should have known better, that if they can they will change all kind of things which they did. The Turbo is great on the open road as the gearing is higher than the non turbo model but get it into the boonies and slip it into low range it requires lots more revs which often results in wheel spin and sliding. The standard gearing is ok for the road but I miss the non turbo lower gearing around town and on muddy roads.

Apart from the gearing both vehicles are similar and given the price difference I believe the Non Turbo offers a better package as a great all rounder, a good town vehicle and a great off roader.

Ted Norman the merchandising man will be bring along a range of short and long sleeved cotton shirts to the forthcoming AGM, these shirts are available in green or khaki and of rugged design with Velcro and zipped pockets.

The price is \$40.00 for short and \$45.00 for long sleeved.

We have some stock left of the polo shirts which are monogrammed in H&C and these will be sold on a first come basis of only \$10.00.

As summer approaches there are the world famous Cammo stubby holders at only \$5.00 they are a great talking point but get a bit hard to find at the end of an evening.

Attending a cull in an H&C monogrammed shirt creates the impression of a well-organised and professional organization, which is what we strive for.

How do we make a good organisation better?

We sing our own praises of the work we do thereby creating more opportunity for our members to hunt an increasing range of game, and open more areas up to our members for recreational hunting.

Remember that the squeaky wheel gets the oil and who better than us to be given the opportunity to hunt more areas more often, educating more people of what we endeavour to do is one way of creating more hunting.

While we are at it! What about a goal of purchasing a pastoral property around the Morgan area (Pine Valley) comes to mind. These properties are still affordable as demonstrated by the Bird watching association that purchased Glue Pot station a few years ago. Just remember Yard-by-Yard it's to Hard but Inch-by-Inch it's a Cinch.

Regards
Ted Norman

ACCESSORIES FOR SALE

For Toyota Prado (1st Generation / 90 Series):

Full size Roof-Rack with continuous gutter support, screw-down point for second spare wheel, front wind deflector, and heavy-duty zip-up fitted canvas bag. **\$700 o.n.o.**

Dual battery cradle to suit V6 engine bay (and possibly others). **\$40**

3. New Finer Filter element with 2 outer bands to suit 5VZ-FE 3.4L V6 (and possibly others) **\$60**
New Snatch-Strap, Medium-duty, 9,500kg rated **\$60**

5. Universal fit: Heavy duty KAMAR antenna bracket, universal fit for any door-mounted spare wheel with 6 studs. **\$60**

Contact Frank Martucci, 8386 1236 or Daniel Martucci, 0407 618 115

FOR SALE

Carl Gustav 6.5 x 55, M38 Mauser, black synthetic stock, sling, scope mounts, no scope. Also 6.5 x 55 Lyman dies, PMC factory &

reloaded ammo and cases. \$350 for rifle only.
Serial # 101568

Mauser 308, calibre, Mod 96. Custom Walnut stock, scope mounts, no scope. \$315. Serial # 2089.

Pass the word around, also looking for 2 set 308 dies, & 243 Necking die only contact John M, 82649091, 0409097783,

barcrushr@bigbutton.com.au

The items listed above are on sale on consignment in the Adelaide Gunshop, contact Rob Paradis for more info

303/25 SMLE MK III Sportco barrel, Nikko 4x32 scope, sling, projectiles, cases caseguard ammo boxes, serial # 7876 \$120.00 contact Ray K 84491048

SPOTTING SCOPE wanted, 20X plus, contact Ken W, 0429393119

“The transfer of possession of firearms must be done in the presence and witnessed by an authorised officer. It is the firearms owner (person selling the firearm) responsibility to ensure that the person purchasing the firearm that he/she has the appropriate licence class and purposes for use for that particular type of firearm. It is also the responsibility of the person selling the firearm to notify firearms licensing branch that he/she has disposed of the firearm. “

Orienteering

Any members interested progressing their knowledge of map compass and GPS etc may like to avail themselves of the services of the Orienteering Association of South Australia. More details can be obtained from Colin C 0416 109467, longjohn@internode.on.net

Mountain Hunt in New Zealand

An opportunity has arisen to hunt in the Southern alps of the South Island of New Zealand. The date is tentatively set for February 2004 and may be three to four weeks in duration. The target species is chamois, a mountain antelope. This is one of the few places to hunt chamois outside its home range of Central Europe. Other species in the area are Red deer and Thar. Hunting will be on public land (no cost) but will involve a helicopter flight (around \$120.00 Aus return.) that will place participants in a very good area chosen by a local hunter who will accompany the group. For more information please call Colin C on 0416 109467 or contact by E-mail longjohn@internode.on.net

Farewell to H&C member Ian Bittner who has taken up an overseas appointment. The committee and members wish Ian well for the future

Carto Graphics, members in the Eastern suburbs will be pleased to know that they can purchase all their mapping, maps, globes, travel guides, digital maps, GPS, etc from Alex McGregor at Carto Graphics, 147 Unley Rd Unley, 83571777, sales@carographics.com.au, www.cartographics.com.au, don't forget to mention that you are a H&C member.

COMING EVENTS

“don't forget the fox drives mentioned previously”

SEPTEMBER

Wed 17 AGM @ GAZA

OCTOBER

Sat 11 Range Day MONARTO 10am - 4pm - GIL H

Tues 14 C.O.M. @ GAZA

Fri 24 – Mon 27 Cat & Fox - KAZ H

NOVEMBER

Wed 5 Gammon Ranges Cull briefing - GIL H @ GAZA

Sat 8 – Fri 14 Gammon Ranges Cull - Gil H

Tues 18 C.O.M. @ GAZA

Wed 19 Gammons Ranges Cull debrief @ GAZA

Mon 24 – Fri 28 Dutchmans Stern Cull - KAZ H

DECEMBER

Wed 17 Quarterly Meeting @ GAZA

STOP PRESS

Enclosed is a copy of 1. Auditors Report, 2. Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ending 30 June 2003 and 3. The treasurer's report. Please read carefully, the treasurer has outlined in his report as detailed as possible explanations for certain items in the statement that members may have queries about. Please bring along to the AGM, as there will be minimal copies available.

“E-mail members please note that there will be no treasurers reports attached to the H&C News available for download from the web. Copies will be available at the AGM If you are not attending and would like a copy then please E-mail me HCNews@hunt-cons.asn.au and one will be forwarded on.”