

# On Target

Volume 3—Issue 2  
May 2008

*Special points of interest:*

- **Chairman's Message**
- **A comment from-State Parliament**
- **2008 shoot dates**
- **Secretary's Notes**
- **Range Update**

**Range Update.**

We have the survey pegs in the ground, and all around the PFA lease, outlining the exact area which is included in our lease.

The next and one of the most important projects that we have to do is the fencing, using brightly coloured, topped, star pickets, all around the area.

While this is a light, but labour intensive job, it's one of those "many hands make light work" type of jobs, so if you have some time available, even if it's only part of a day, we'd like to hear from you so we can co-ordinate a workbee to get this job done as soon as possible.

Your club Chairman, John Pashley is in charge of getting the materials (star pickets) and would be pleased to have you join him and help out. Also worth a mention is that it will be an attendance for you, so let's hear from you soon and get the show on the road. See ya, **Derek BT**

*Live and enjoy today because tomorrow is not promised*

## **Welcome to all PFA Members to "On Target"**

**Chairmans Message**

**Not Quite Dead Yet**

Ronald Reagan, the 40<sup>th</sup> President of the USA, was born in 1911. Despite the gains of his first Presidency 1981-1985, when he stood for re-election the liberal leftist media did its absolute best to present him as a dementia-addled geriatric - well past his 'use by date'. Reagan was returned to a second term by the largest majority ever recorded in a Presidential election. The day after the final results were announced, the returned President gave a press conference at the White House. He held aloft a copy of the Washington Post, whose headline read: **Reagan Wins - Media Loses.** Worldwide, Australia included, the liberal leftist media would have us believe that the days of the shooting sports were numbered - supported only by a dinosaur-like group of rednecks and 'those out of touch with mainstream community values'. Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May I attended the SHOT Show at the Sydney Showgrounds, Homebush. What a great day - what an opportunity to examine all the latest in technical, practical, and just downright interesting aspects of shooting in a very professional presentation. Close to a hundred displays, all manned by enthusiastic and knowledgeable people only too pleased to share their interests.



The 18<sup>th</sup> Battalion Living Display clearly demonstrates part of the role firearms have

played in Australia's history, leading to the freedoms we enjoy today.



The NSW Police and Australian Customs stands did a steady business clarifying the logistics of owning and travelling with a firearm. The Representatives were patient and very helpful - apply in

plenty of time, provide the requested information, and (so they told me) it all falls in to place.



The young ladies collecting signatures for a petition to

permit feral pest hunting in National Parks were kept busy by enthusiastic shooters keen to sign up.



Product and Organisation stands had their hands full not only promoting their products but answering a myriad enquiries in a friendly and professional manner.



The Laser Shooting Screen - not just an upgraded pub game, rather one future in training aspiring shooters and hunters, lots of fun for all who attended.



A visitor to the Shot Expo inspecting a range of rifles with interchangeable barrels



Last but not least - the Shooters Party. Great to catch up again with Robert Brown, one of our elected representatives in the NSW Parliament. Shooters need to appreciate the great job, often unrecognized, that Robert and Roy Smith do in protecting and promoting our sport.

Is shooting 'past its use by date', are its only adherents 'dinosaurs'? Judging by the intensity of the show, the attendees who covered every age, ethnic and community demographic, there is lots of life, and a great future, in our chosen sport.

#### **John Pashley**

A Muslim was seated next to an Irishman on a flight from London. After the plane was airborne, drink orders were taken. The Irishman asked for a whiskey, which was promptly brought and placed before him. The flight attendant then asked the Muslim if he would like a drink. He replied in disgust, I'd rather be savagely raped by a dozen whores than let liquor touch my lips. The Irishman then handed his drink back to the attendant and said, Me, too.

#### **I didn't realise we had a choice**

#### **A Letter to the Daily Telegraph** (England)

##### **Middle-class drink**

Sir – I am reminded of a memorable piece of graffiti in relation to the current concerns about middle-class drinking (report, October 17).

During the premiership of Pierre Mendès, France in the mid-1950s, there was a poster campaign against what he saw as the worrying consumption of alcohol in France. One proclaimed: L'alcool tue lentement – alcohol kills slowly.

Underneath someone had added: Tant mieux. Nous ne sommes pas pressés! – Fine. We're not in a hurry!

**Contributed from, Kettering, Northamptonshire, UK**

#### **Stories from the S&W Customer Service Department.**

##### **Caller:1**

"Would it be safe to fire my Smith & Wesson 4506 in the bathtub?"

Customer Service: "We would consider firing any Smith & Wesson product submerged in a bathtub -- or elsewhere -- to be a hazardous practice. Our products are tested and warranted safe under Earth-normal atmospheric conditions, including such variations of temperature as might be found anywhere on the planet. We strongly advise against firing any of our handguns under water and believe that the water volume in the standard household bathtub is insufficient to safely contain the projectile even if nothing else of a serious nature occurs."

##### **Is This Covered In The Warranty?**

Some things have nothing to do with defects in materials or workmanship.

##### **Caller:2**

"I went fishing and took my Walther TPH .25 ACP with me in the boat. I used to have a Fisherman's Billie in my tackle box but, in this state, it's illegal to carry a club. So what I figured was the .25 auto would be perfect for finishing off big fish. I gotta' license and all.

I was out in the middle of the lake and caught a fish. He was slippery. When I went to shoot him, the Walther squirted out of my hand like a bar of soap and went to the bottom of the lake. These guns have grips that are too slick. Is this covered by the warranty?"

Customer Service: "In order for the warranty to be in effect, you would have to have at least SOMETHING to send us."

#### **Ray BT, Vice Chairman**

#### **R Licence**

It's fantastic, it's great, it's wonderful, at last I have one, but bugger, what do I do with it, I've waited so long for the opportunity to sit the exam, which I did recently and after passing, apply for the R licence, that I've forgotten what it's all about (not really).

Now let me see, wasn't it something to do with being licenced to shoot on recently opened public land that previously wasn't available to me, yes, that's it I'm sure, wasn't it about proving that I'm a fit person, knowledgeable about the treatment of the environment and animals and therefore allowed access to land previously excluded to me, yes I'm sure this is it. Aah that's it then, it's an opportunity for us to prove (once again) that we are fit and trustworthy people, fit enough to be allowed access, for hunting on public land to assist the environment by controlling feral and game animals in sustainable numbers so the environment (native Flora and Fauna) can survive for future generations of general and hunting public's enjoyment.

Go for it, get the R licence, contact PFA, book a test, and then go and book a hunt, maybe closer than where you travel now, have a great weekend, week or maybe longer and encourage others to do the same, help our sport survive by being part of it and enjoy.

Contact PFA direct for more details and book in for the licence test, it's thorough, but if you are already a hunter, you will already know most of what you need to know to achieve a pass in the test.

**See ya Derek BT**

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### **Attention all shooters**

The Police Ministry has asked the Firearms Registry (FAR) to send out a questionnaire to 1,000 shooters who have applied for a Permit to Acquire (PTA) in the last month. This questionnaire asks the reason why you want another firearm. This is all about the 28 day cooling off period.

The Shooters Party is in discussion with The Ministry regarding removing the cooling off period after you are licensed and have your first firearm.

If you receive one it is important that you fill out the questionnaire and send it back ASAP. There is room on the form for other comments. Let them know that you think the cooling off period is discriminative and a waste of time. Try to avoid the answers that mention your firearm is broken (question 1a) or no longer working (question 1d).

Remember this is to try and help us shooters. Try not to bag the FAR, they are on our side, we keep them in a job.

If you need any further information or clarification on this or other related issues, contact **Tony** at The Stockade 94863221  
Regards, **DAG**

### **A short note from the Secretary**

Your club was successful in recently obtaining a Club Approval Number for the purposes of Collecting. So, those of you out there who have collecting on your licence, or wish to add collecting to your licence, can now nominate PFA as your genuine reason for having collecting on your licence. It will cost you a little extra on your membership (\$12 a year) as affiliation is through a different organisation than for hunting and target shooting.

With this issue of On Target you will receive a note about your current attendance status with the Club. The Club's reporting year is from 1 November to 31 October of the following year, therefore this period is from 1/11/07 to 31/10/08. The notice will show the activities we have you recorded for and how many attendances you have recorded. As a reminder this is what is required:-

Target shooting = 4 attendances a year

Hunting = 2 attendances a year

A combined licence, showing both target shooting and hunting = 6 attendances.

If your record shows 2+, 4+ or 6+ it means you have exceeded the requirements for your attendances for this reporting period and don't need to do anything more.

Please, don't leave it to the last minute to get your attendances in order. You have until the end of October to get all your shoots in place and recorded.

The Club's monthly shoot, held on the last Sunday of the month should give you ample opportunity to comply with the requirements of your licence. The dates for the rest of the year are listed elsewhere on this newsletter.

On another note, your Committee comes up for re-election in November, with nominations needing to be submitted in September. Now is a good time to start thinking about nominating if you wish to help out the Club in how it is run. The members of the current committee have served three terms and some of them wish to retire to make way for fresh blood to help run the Club. If you feel you would like to contribute to the running of the Club and would like to talk about it, please come and see me, and we can discuss things. Remember, any club is only as good as the members make it.

If you have fresh ideas on how to make things better for the members and the running of the Club, don't just keep them to yourself. Put your hat in the ring and help the Club out. Until next time.

**Tere Alexeeff**

**The Herald Sun (HS) on March the 13th, 2008** reported the following statement from Senator Bill Heffernan. When you read and understand what "someone" was trying to do, you have to question how much of a chance people, shooters included, stand against the "mighty dollar" it's refreshing to see and hear about officials like Bill Heffernan taking the stand that he has. Editor, HS

### **"LIBERAL senator Bill Heffernan has revealed how an unnamed person tried to offer him a \$1 million bribe in connection with a controversial Sydney development.**

Senator Heffernan was speaking in parliament today during upper house debate on the address-in-reply to the governor-general's opening speech.

Raising the issue of integrity in positions of power, he said he did not like crooks and liked to think he did not have a price.

Political parties could solicit donations from people without being corrupted, he said.

However, some people would try to corrupt proper process. "The first time I was offered a million-dollar bribe was only two or three years ago," Senator Heffernan said.

"I rang up (newspaper columnist) Alan Ramsey and said: 'Ramsey, put this in your diary, I've just been offered a \$1 million bribe'.

"It was to do with the redevelopment of the Malabar Rifle Range in Sydney.

"The bloke who came to see me ... he just sort of said in the conversation: 'Senator, and there's a million in this for you'.

"I said to him: 'Well old mate, I've got a surprise for you, I actually do this job for nothing'."

Senator Heffernan said he immediately informed "the appropriate people" of the approach.

"The bloke never came back because he was obviously looking for someone he could facilitate with a bit of money," he said. "When will we know the truth about what is going to happen at Malabar" Editor HS.

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**Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me, I want people to know "why" I look this way. I've travelled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved.**

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### **Shoot Dates for PFA in 2008**

#### **Held on the Last Sunday of each Month**

**29th June, 27th July, August shoot CANCELLED**

**28th Sept, 26th Oct, 30th Nov.**

**Shooting is set to start at 12,15pm with the last detail commencing at 3.30pm**

**August shoot is cancelled due to competitions at SIPC**

**PFA Contact Details** PO Box 574 Narrabeen 2101, www.pfainc.org.au Telephone 02 9990-5771

# All you need, locally

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