

Victorian Pistol News



December 1997
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of the
Victorian Amateur
Pistol Association
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Victorian Pistol News

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NOTICE TO READERS

The contents of this issue have been selected in an attempt to extend knowledge, improve practice and promote communication within the field of pistol shooting for members of the Association.

The editor may at his absolute discretion, reject any contribution, hold it over for later publication, or edit out any unsuitable material.

Opinions expressed are those of the original authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Editor or the Association.

Persons acting on any opinion, advice, fact or advertisement published in this issue do so at their own risk.

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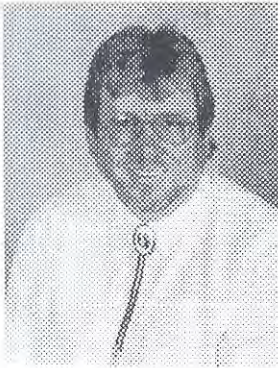
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EDITORIAL

Mark Behan



Welcome to a new look VPN. In an attempt to make the magazine more user friendly we / I decided to give her a bit of a face lift. Firstly there is the new cover which will feature a picture as well as the more prominent **VPN** as part of the logo / emphasis. Why? Simply because most of the shooters I speak to still get confused when referring to the Victorian Pistol News and if I had a dollar for every time it was referred to as the Bulletin ... (and vice versa). Perhaps we can work on calling it the VPN and the acronym might stick. As for the photo, well I simply want the cover to be more visually exciting. Anyway we'll trial it for a few editions and see if you the members like

it. We might yet revert to our tried and true cover if everyone hates this new one.

I've also attempted to increase the amount of photos on the inside. To that end V.A.P.A. now owns a digital camera (really easy to use and downloads into a computer without any film) so if you're going to a shoot or some other event and need a camera just call and arrange to borrow it - I really want to see more photos. Of course I will still accept normal photos, I'll even accept rolls of exposed film and I'll arrange and pay for, the processing. I'll also be trying to include photos of all my regular contributors with their articles so that you can put a face with the name. I'm even going to start including my name on the articles I write so you can work out who's saying / writing what.

Needless to say I'm also very keen to have articles contributed and this is especially true of any opens you might attend. In this edition we have a couple of such articles and I'd really like to see more. Add photo's to the results and we will have a much better idea of how the competition circuit is operating and who is doing what.

I really can't emphasize how important it is to have a strong and relevant state magazine to promote our sport. I know I've asked before but I'll do it again. If there is anything you want to read about - ask me, I'll try to accommodate you. If there is anything that you want to report on - send it to me, I'll almost certainly print it. If there is anyway you can get more members to read the VPN - try. Only by being involved and taking an interest can our sport grow, and it starts here!



Could contributors (or those desperate to contact the President) please note a change of address for the VPN and me. Sometime in the new year (possibly before Christmas - but you know builders) I will be shifting to Melton. The new address is a box number (found on page one) effective immediately, BUT the phone number / fax are still my old ones, until I move ... after that they will be Ph. 9743 5274. Fax 97435276. Well at least that is what Telstra has told me, but they also say it might be subject to change. If you can't find me? Try ringing the Secretary and he'll do what he can to get us in touch. On second thoughts try my mobile (0412 078 098) first - Eddies so prickly when you use him as a directory!

PRESIDENTS PAGE

Mark Behan

Several matters have cropped up over the last few months but none more important I think than the way the Association operates. As President, and before that Junior Vice President, I am very familiar with ... well ... V.A.P.A. I sometimes lose sight of the fact that individual members, club committees and even some members of the V.A.P.A. committee of management aren't aware, or fully so, of the amount of work that goes on behind the scenes in running an association such as ours.

To that end I would like to take you on a cook's tour of a typical few weeks behind the scenes of V.A.P.A. I suppose I should start with a definition of how I will refer to 'work' in this context. I'm not going to include or refer to those day to day items that happen every week, such as the processing of new members etc. Rather it is those things that are not part of the secretariats underlying everyday function. Work will also include the need by myself and others to attend meetings. They are time consuming, rarely exciting, sometimes not even relevant but always compulsory - the one that you miss will be vital in some way for the Association.

A great deal of the work starts life as incoming mail. We deal with several organizations regularly and there are, at times, masses of mail just from them. Typically we will have eight to ten missives from the police, a half dozen from Pistol Australia, as many again from the Shooting Sports Council, then two or three each from Vicsport, Sport and Recreation, etc. Then we will receive the mail from the clubs and this can vary from one or two up to maybe a dozen - and these are just the queries and problems and don't count (remember?) the new members etc. etc. Then there is always a smattering of individual queries and problems. All this of course lands in the Secretary's lap (or if he's really quick some other member of the Executive).

Some are dealt with by the secretary or other member of the Executive alone, others are discussed with the full Executive (over the phone if they are urgent) and then dealt with, to be brought before the C.O.M. at the next meeting. The rest, along with all those dealt with in what ever manner, are brought before the C.O.M. for discussion, decisions or just as information / notification. One letter can of course create mountains of work (often the case with those emanating from the police) others might only require a polite acknowledgment.

The Committee of Management meetings of course generate their own work. Running sheets, correspondence lists, motions on notices, etc. and of course when it is all over the minutes and inevitably more letters to write, more work to do. I remember well when the C.O.M. moved that "we" send out information on the new Act to all members. Easy to say and pass at the meeting but who is "we"? Details and explanations had to be drafted, copies run off, letters folded and envelopes stuffed and addressed. "We" turned out to be Eddie, myself and about a dozen volunteers. It was done (in about four numbing hours) but it illustrates well the meetings ability to casually create work. Meanwhile the Treasurer, Executive Officer, Technical Inspector, and Directors and Managers of various arms of the Association, VPN Editor, etc. are all working away doing what their particular role requires - often creating more work and new problems and decisions.

Then there is the phone. Whatever work is created by the incoming mail, it hardly matches the work generating power of the phone. Conversations between the Executive, others with roles in V.A.P.A., all of the groups who send us mail, clubs and individual members as well as many outside bodies such as the media, take up hours every week. Some of it is hard core issues that must be communicated, some is P.R. and of course (and unfortunately) there is a fair share of politics. Every organization has politics. V.A.P.A. has it's share and then there are seventy odd clubs generating more.

Now we don't operate in a vacuum either. Some jobs are ongoing, or are carried over from the month before or in some cases even from the year before. Outside influences introduce extra burdens. For example the new Firearms Act had two effects (well at least two!). Obviously the volume of work skyrocketed but also the priority of all work had to be re-examined. Some issues raised by the Act back in 1996 are still unresolved and continue to create work. Others have come and gone whilst new issues are raised weekly. In an effort to be pro-active the Executive undertook a political style campaign of sorts and tried to involve the clubs and members. The result was more work and the effectiveness and outcome are still uncertain.

The Executive of course generate much of our own work internally. We have a responsibility to develop direction and policy for the Association. This might be

in concert with others but the well being of the Association is always uppermost in our minds. Sometimes it is a simple idea or direction that can be swiftly developed and implemented. At other times, such as the development of the Five Year Plan it is a long work intensive process. (An aside here if I may. It was pointed out the other day to me that we have not been referring much to the Five Year Plan of late. Whilst this is true I must say that this is in part due to the effect of the new Firearms Act. A real example of how its introduction re-prioritized so much of our work and plans).

The Executive also meet regularly each month to sort through and distill the business of the Association. There is no way the TOTAL business of the Association can be laid before each meeting - and the meeting wouldn't want that. The Executives job is to deal with the obvious, then give the meeting recommendations, choices and priorities. The Executive must anticipate what the meeting might need in the way of additional information or background and make sure it's available. Take it as read that the Executive put in more meeting time before the C.O.M. than at the meeting itself.

All this might make appear that the Association is run by the Executive but not so. Fortunately for us we have a structure that puts the real power well and truly in the hands of the individual member. Through their club the member can access the V.A.P.A. C.O.M. and that is the ultimate body of the Association. As I said before **everything** that goes on cannot (and it would be useless to try) be put before the C.O.M. but anything that needs to be can, and will, be discussed. Does anything ever get forgotten? Yes. Does any matter ever get given short shrift? Occasionally. Are members ever kept in the dark? Not deliberately. Can mistakes ever be rectified? Always. In the end it's down to you the member. You can find out as much as you wish and be involved as much as you want (C.O.M. meetings are not closed and all members have observer status). I know I speak for myself only, but I'm willing to bet in this case that I speak for all those office holders and workers in V.A.P.A., when I say that we don't do it for personal glory or personal gain. Rather we do it for the love of the sport and we would hope for, and dare I say expect, your support as we do the best job we can.

So what of the "cooks tour"? I'm sure there are plenty of things that I've missed and I know I could have given more examples but I'm also sure, if you've read this far, that you're getting the drift. Behind the calm facade there is a hardworking group of very busy people making your sport happen. I cringe when I hear that plaintive cry "what does V.A.P.A. do for me?" The answer is of course, **more than you could ever imagine** - we just do it without the fanfare. Indeed V.A.P.A. is very much like that proverbial duck. Calm, efficient, even graceful on the surface and going like hell underneath.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To whom it may concern

We hereby wish to voice our opinion with regards the classification system of shooters, A, B, C, D. The current system used for competitions is unfair on behalf of the lower grades or class, trying hard to compete and upgrade their skills.

The higher grades or class shooters should not be allowed to enter into the lower grades, thus the competition in the lower grades are evenly matched. The above concern was referred to the organizing body or committee, but to no avail. The answer given was that its left to the shooters. We find this unsatisfactory.

Concerned Members

EDITOR - Technically this is not a letter to the Editor. In fact it came in the mail (no name, no address) to V.A.P.A. and it was passed to me, as President, by the Secretary. He believed the members who wrote it were really asking for help and perhaps did not fully understand the grading system and as we had no way of getting back to them, was the VPN a possible conduit? I really don't like to make a habit of replying to anonymous letters but in this case ...

The problem here seems to be a misunderstanding on how the grading system works. There are two places that it comes into play firstly at an open and, in a different way, perhaps at club level. I'll deal with the open situation first. Having shot a match at a competition the shooter is then graded according to the score shot. In these cases the competition could be an open but by the same token might be the weekly shoot at the competitors club as part of the postal competition. Most shooters start off in D grade but a few might conceivably put in a higher rating score in their first shoot. The competitor then shoots in that grade until such time as he puts in a score in a higher grade ie. they "break grade". Their grading card is signed off by the club scorer or perhaps the club secretary or even organizing secretary.

*Once the competitor is in a grade they must remain there until they either shoot a higher score or apply for a down grading. To down grade a shooter must comply with certain guidelines. They must not have shot an equivalent grade score for the preceding twelve months and they are allowed to down grade **only one level** in any given year. An example of this might be a person who is in B grade in say Rapid Fire. In competitions in the last twelve months they have not shot a B grade score in this event. They then apply to their club committee to be down graded to C grade. If this is approved then the club scorer etc. can alter their grading card accordingly. As soon as they*

shoot a B grade score up they go again. These are the rules as laid down and followed by all V.A.P.A. clubs. The whole point is to make it as fair as possible to all shooters in the state so the rules are not flexible.

The second area where grades are used is in intra-club competition in some clubs. Now here I am not an expert as my club, Melton, does not use them, but I do know many clubs do. The rules as they might be applied at any particular club is really in the hands of that particular clubs committee. If they allow their members to swap from grade to grade, or shoot in a different grade at club level to their V.A.P.A. grading, then that is their business. I would however suggest that there are much better ways to organize shooting so that all members, regardless of their experience, have a chance to win.

If I can use Meltons system as an example. Each week there is a trophy (usually a glass) for the best handicap shooter. Our system takes the average of the best three scores out of the last five shot, and their handicap is that number which brings their score up to the possible (ie. 400, 600, 650, 900 etc.) for that match (there is an upper limit set ie. the maximum handicap is one third of the possible score). Sounds complicated? Not really and the big advantage is that everyone has a chance to win. In fact it tends to favour the new shooter who is prone to sudden spectacular improvements. I've seen the glass won with scores of better than 630! Difficult for a top shooter to beat when their handicap might only be 25.

In this day and age of course all of the calculations are taken care of by computer and in the case of Melton Eddie Evans has written a program that does all the work and prints out each persons handicap on demand. Melton also awards handicap (as well as "off gun") trophies at the end of the year presentation dinner. These are always hotly contested and, the computer having done its calculations in camera, the results are always a surprise and once again the newer shooters feature strongly. I know one other major Melbourne club is looking at introducing the system and has been supplied a copy of the program by Eddie.

The last thing I'd like to mention is that the whole object is to make the Saturday shoot something that is fun to be involved in. All the above is on a white board at the club and only scores shot at the club on the day are allowed. This adds to the fun as there is a result each week. During the postal competitions there is also the added fun of having someone break grade - and often still not win the glass! I hope this helps out our letter writers but if I've been no help, or misinterpreted your letter then please contact me by phone, and I'll do my best to sort it out. If anyone has any questions about the handicap system then contact Eddie Evans or the competition controller Neil Stewart.



Dear Sir,

I have enclosed some material on Black Powder 50 meters which I believe is long overdue for discussion.

The Demise of the 50 Meter Black Powder Match

The match when first instituted was designed for percussion revolvers and muzzle loading pistols. When the match was shot with the appropriate pistols it was a most challenging and rewarding event.

Alas the intended "spirit" of the match has been lost and you may well ask how this occurred? The rules, when written, governed the type of pistols that could be used, obviously contained too many loopholes that could be exploited, and of course they were.

The period of exploitation was gradual over the preceding years and has now reached a point where .22 caliber B.P. pistols fitted with wrap-around grips are the current flavor. The only difference between these .22 caliber pistols and the U.I.T. Free Pistol is the method of containing the powder used and the mechanics of ignition.

In addition to the .22 caliber variants there are Thompson Contenders and the like, converted into wad-cutting 'free pistols' of other caliber's such as .32, .38 and 9mm. all of which are currently being used.

The situation that now exists between competitors is whether a person who uses a Ruger .44 B.P. or similar can compete on 'equal' terms against another person who uses .22 caliber B.P. pistol or other variants in the same match? It is certainly not surprising that a lot of B.P. shooters have given up or have simply by-passed the 50 meter event.

Obviously the 'Rules' must be looked at and revised by the appropriate body who must be well aware of the situation that has developed but so far has ignored it.

It seems apparent that a recommendation by V.A.P.A. and the other states to Pistol Australia, is indicated to either 'tighten up' the existing rules, or to amend them.

A recommendation could well be that the 50m B.P. match is shot in two divisions.

Restricted A replica percussion revolver or single shot muzzle-loading pistol not modified in any form with the exception of grip extension as allowed in the 25m match rules.

Unrestricted A percussion pistol of any caliber in which the propellant is not encapsulated, the percussion cap is fitted to an adapter and the projectile is loaded separately.

These suggested rules would certainly cater for all current B.P. shooters and perhaps bring back some of the 'spirit' into what was once an excellent and fair match.

Athol Tonkin
D.V.P.C.

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**VICTORIA WINS FIFTH CONSECUTIVE ACTION PISTOL
TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP.**

**ANITA MACKIEWICZ
IS NATIONAL LADIES CHAMPION.**



by Neil Stewart

Set off for Adelaide in fine weather, with the prospect of a warm to hot nationals. On crossing the border into South Australia I wished I had a set of South Australian number plates, or any state other than Victoria. They seem to hate anything Victorian over here, I don't think I will spend too much time in the Team Uniform off the range.

They say Adelaide is well laid out and easy to find your way around. The CBD may be, but not the rest of the place. After a pleasant hour or so driving around North Adelaide we finally found the hotel, though not where it was marked on the map. These Nationals were not like all the others, a room at the hotel had been set up as the Nationals Office and registration etc. were all done at the hotel rather than the range. The office didn't open until the next morning so after getting settled in it was time to explore the local area and see what's around. The area is quite pleasant and within walking distance of central Adelaide and the Torrens River. The main street through the area is O'Connell Street, very much like Chapel Street, with trendy boutiques and footpath cafes, it is also a perfect place for Sam Newman to do Street Talk for the Footy Show, there are some weird types around here.

Checked in at registration and got a map to the range. The range is about 30 kilometres away and it looks pretty straight forward on the map. Did I say it looks pretty straight forward, at many intersections the right lane, and in some cases two right lanes suddenly become right turn only lanes. At other intersections the same thing happens with the left lanes. After playing the innocent tourist and many illegal lane changes I finally found the range.

For those who have never seen State Shooting Park it is huge. The pistol range has four 50 metre ranges and eight 25 metre ranges, add to this a Metallic Silhouette range, two Western Action ranges and a shotgun complex and you have an idea of the size of the place. The only trouble is all the pistol ranges are in one long line and is about 500 metres from one end to the other. Having found the range and made sure all Team Members were happy it was back to the hotel for the

Opening Ceremony and competitors briefing. The Opening Ceremony took the form of a semi formal cocktail party, with the competitors briefing between the ceremony and the party. It would have been a better idea to hold the briefing first, as most of the points raised were inane, but went on for ages, meaning a rather late night.

Out to the range for the start of competition, I only made a couple of illegal lane changes today. There are that many National flags flying it's almost like a United Nations meeting. In addition to the three Australian teams New Zealand has also entered three teams, with teams from Japan, South Africa, USA, Germany and Italy. Checked out the State flags and lodged our first protest. There were not enough flag poles so they put two states on each pole, with Victoria underneath Queensland. The protest was directed to the P.A. First Vice President who comes from?, you guessed, Queensland. Protest dismissed.

First up is Brian on Practical and Anita on the mover. Anita has not been happy with her mover of late and was very pleased to finish with 471/24 and get the difficult match out of the way. Brian shot one eight with the weak hand for 478/35. Tom is next on practical, and through binoculars it could be a 480 or 476, depends on the scorers. Go with Tom to check the scores and it is a 476. After a close look at the targets one shot was challenged and the Referees scored it as ten, giving Tom 478/36. Anita went to the Practical range and showed the boys how to shoot with 480/39, while over on the plate range (about 350 metres away) Brian shot 48 plates with ease.

The last Victorian for the day was Tom on the mover. In Tom's words he may as well have used a shotgun at 25 yards and finished with 472/31. At this stage it is too early to tell how teams are going, however Mickey Fowler had a malfunction on the plates and only got 470/47.

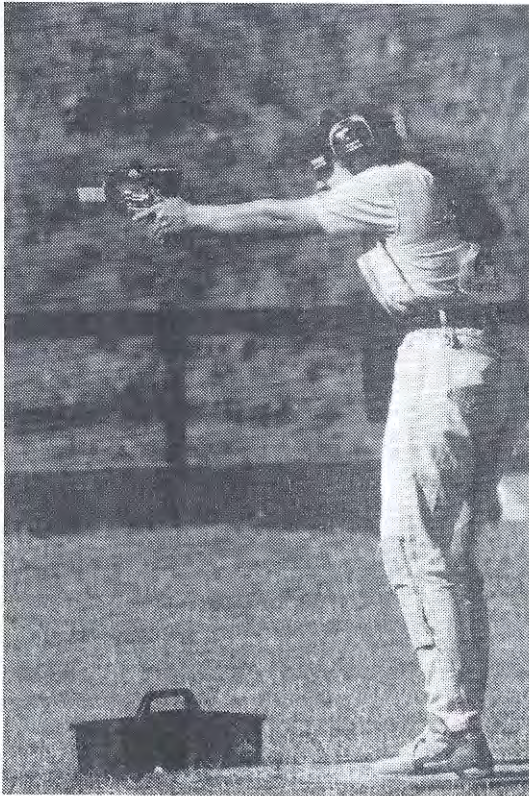
Managed to stay in the correct lanes today and did not upset any locals on the way to the range. Probably because Roy was shooting at 8.20 so there wasn't so much traffic about. Roy managed 480 on Practical but wasn't happy about the 32X. Soon after both Tom and Anita felled 48 plates each. Roy then went to the Barricade range and cleaned it with 44X.

Decided to check out the canteen and see what they had for lunch. Almost put in an S.O.S. to Graeme, Rory, Albert and the rest of the Yarra crew to take over. Waiting 15 minutes for a hot dog is a bit much. Shooters were also complaining that the canteen didn't open until 10.00 am, so you couldn't even get a cup of coffee until then. It's a bit stupid when shooting started at 8.00 am.

After lunch Tom shot the Barricade as his last match. Tom cleaned the event with 46X giving him a total of 1910/161X for the match. A couple of details later Mickey Fowler started the second string at ten yards, as he fired his first shot the

magazine fell out. Mickey's Barricades was 430/43X, the American Team is virtually out of the World Championship. Brian was in the detail after Mickey and cleaned Barricades with 48X..

At the end of the second day Team and Individual scores are starting to take shape. Grahame Harriman and Adrian Hunter from Queensland and John Pride are all clean with Barricades (Grahame), Plates (Adrian) and Mover (John) to complete, with Grahame having a handy lead on X count. Roy is in with a chance, clean after Practical and Barricades, but a long way behind on X count.



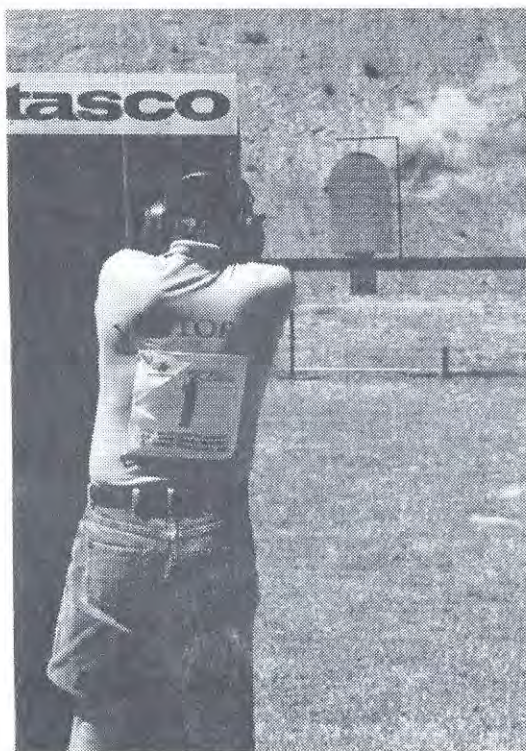
Anita is looking good for the Ladies Champion, leading her nearest rival by 2 points, with most of the Ladies still to shoot the Mover. The ridiculous situation of the NRA World Championship rules now arises. To be World Champion you must be a member of a team nominated by your National Association. It is highly possible that both Grahame and Anita will win the National Championships but are both ineligible to win the World Championship. Team wise Victoria has dropped 14 points, Queensland 18 points and N.S.W. 2 points but all N.S.W. Team Members still have to shoot the mover. All other states are out of contention

*Anita Mackiewicz, new
National Ladies Champion in
action*

The last day of competition and it's stinking hot, about 35 degrees. Adrian Hunter cleaned the Plates to finish with 1920/150x and Anita cleaned the Barricades with 47X, giving her a total of 1911/158X and an unbeatable score for the Ladies National Title. Meanwhile two NSW team members have shot the mover and dropped a total of 17 points between them. Grahame cleaned Barricades with 48X to finish with 1920/179X and is almost assured of the National Title. Roy shot 48 plates easily, but Alan Howell (Qld) only shot 47.

John Pride stepped to the mover knowing he must shoot 480/13X to win the

World Championship and 480/42X to win the National Title. One eight at 25 yards ended Johns title hopes and the Queenslanders were ecstatic, Grahame is Australian Champion and Adrian is World Champion. Brian was the next on mover and also shot an eight at 25 yards to finish the match with 1916/169X. The team situation is really tight. Queensland have finished with 5732/491X, dropping a total of 28 points. Victoria and NSW each have one shooter to complete the mover, Victoria has dropped 14 points and NSW 19, too close for comfort.



Roy dropped 4 eights on the mover to finish with 1912/150X and Victoria has 5738/480X, ahead of Queensland and 477 points ahead of NSW, with one NSW member to shoot the mover. The range was packed as Craig Ginger stepped to the line with both Craig and the crowd knowing what score was required. One eight at 15 yards and the tension and nerves are rising, and I've run out of fingernails to chew. Another eight at twenty yards and Victoria have won the Team Title by **ONE** point.

Roy Bannister showing how it's done

The International Teams was also tight. Australia Silver won by four points over Australia Bronze, with

Australia Gold a further one point away in third place.

Individual results and what a farce. We now have the situation where Grahame Harriman, is the National Champion with 1920/179X, while the World Champion, Adrian Hunter only scored 1920/150X.. The same situation occurred in the Ladies event with National Champion Anita Mackiewicz scoring 1911/158X while the World Champion, Robyn Eastrich only scored 1900/129X. There are moves afoot to lobby the NRA to change the rules. It probably will not happen until an American shoots the highest score but is not a member of the American Team.

A BBQ had been arranged tonight at Sturt Pistol Club, a fantastic venue in the Adelaide Hills. I don't think too much shooting would be done at this club, the view of the city and bay is just magnificent.

Though the main competition is all over there is still the top twenty Man on Man speed shoot to go. I believe it happened but I didn't see anything of it. I got roped into classification to help put the final scores together. We were that busy with the main scores I do not even know who won the speed shoot.



*Two National
champions -
Grahame &
Anita.*

Back to the hotel to get ready for the Presentation Dinner. Start with a few presentations and await the entree. Nothing's happening with the food so we have a few more presentations and wait a bit longer. Heading to the bar about 8.30 I noticed a couple of enterprising tables had been to the local fish and chip shop for something to keep them going. About 9.30 the entrees finally appear, and the rest of the meal follows straight on. Some one stuffed up badly. Apart from the long wait for food the Presentation Dinner was a good night.

All in all it was another good Nationals. The ranges were well run and organised, and in most cases the ranges were running on or ahead of time. Most of the problems occurred off the range and concerned catering.. The Yarra Catering Van would have done a roaring trade.

Congratulations must go to all Team Members for the way they performed and conducted themselves. I would also like to thank all the Victorians that attended for their support of the Team. Victoria has now won the Team Title for five consecutive years and six out of the nine times it has been contested, yet Action appears to be waning at Club Level in Victoria. There are fewer and fewer

Opens each year, and even participation in the Postals is dropping. Clubs are not running Opens because of the lack of entries, so why aren't people entering Opens? Is it because of the cost to be competitive? Do we need a Stock Gun Class similar to I.P.S.C. with very limited modifications to the pistol? Is it because there are so many High Masters, with only 4 or 5 with a chance of winning? Do we need a Super High Master Grade, say above 1910? If anyone has any thoughts I would appreciate comments.

The 10th Action Nationals will be held in Darwin on September 3,4 & 5. This is earlier than usual so note the dates in your diary. It promises to be a great Nationals, with heaps of prizes on offer, including overseas trips. Why not combine a Top End Holiday with the Nationals. In the meantime attend every Action Match Open in Victoria and give the top 4 or 5 some competition.



*World Champion Adrian Hunter is awarded
by Winchesters Gary Matchan*

WARNING!

FOR ALL VICTORIAN PISTOL CLUB COMMITTEES

Mark Behan

With the introduction of the new act it becomes **LAW** that no junior (12 - 18) may handle a pistol, let alone shoot a competition, without a license. The act, in the spirit of uniform national gun laws (if not the reality), recognizes interstate licenses for those visitors shooting within Victoria. Hence for a junior to shoot in Victoria they must have a junior license / minors permit issued in their home state. The rub of course is that not all states issue junior licenses. Hence it is **illegal for some juniors to shoot in Victoria** and it is your responsibility to ensure that any junior shooter on your range is properly licensed. To help I am supplying the following information - this can also be found with the December V.A.P.A. C.O.M. minutes.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

There are no junior licenses as part of the South Australian Act therefore **NO SOUTH AUSTRALIAN JUNIOR MAY SHOOT IN VICTORIA!**

N.S.W.

Yes N.S.W. does have Junior Target Pistol Permits. They are permitted to shoot here BUT be sure you sight the permit.

QUEENSLAND

Tricky this one. Queensland does have a minors license BUT it is optional (ie. if they want they can shoot supervised without a permit). Hence some juniors from Queensland may shoot in Victoria BUT they must have, and you must sight, their minors license. Do not assume that they will automatically have one.

TASMANIA

Yes Tasmania does have a Minors Permits. They are permitted to shoot here BUT be sure you sight the permit.

NORTHERN TERRITORY

This is a little unclear at this point. It would appear that there is in existence a "Firearms Club Junior License" but that it "will only be granted to applicants who are representing the Territory in competitions". So, if the junior can produce a license then they may shoot, otherwise **no Northern Territory junior will be legal in Victoria.**

WESTERN AUSTRALIA & A.C.T.

Although we have requested information from these states at this point we have received nothing. I therefore would advise, that you treat juniors from this state & territory as not having a license and **not legal to shoot** unless they produce a junior license (if such a thing exists in their case?).

Obviously any club will have a requirement, as it does with our own juniors, of actually sighting any license / permit but I hope the above information will assist. If you are an organizing Secretary of ANY shoot please check with any junior, at the time of entry, and establish they are licensed and remind them to bring their license with them.

This situation is of course one that does not sit well with the V.A.P.A. We have made several submissions in an attempt to change the Act and have been bringing the anomaly to the attention of anyone who will listen, especially the politicians. We have also requested that P.A. publish a complete rundown of the situation in the Australian Pistol Bulletin. Hopefully, as it wasn't in this one, it will make it into the next edition. We have also supplied information to P.A. and other state bodies on our Act, as have other states, so hopefully we will all soon know what the situation is in each state in regard their Acts - keep an eye on the Bulletin.

Remember, it is a changing situation and I would encourage all clubs to keep an eye on the V.A.P.A. minutes as this is where the most up to date information will be found. Rest assured that we will continue to try to bring some sanity to the current situation, but it is a big Act and there is much to be done. Lastly I would like to point out that trying to effect change is a time consuming and arduous task (see the Presidents page) and that special mention should go to our Secretary Eddie Evans who along with other members of the Executive is doing all that can be done so that the sport suffers as little as possible while the new Act goes through its teething stage.

COACHES CORNER

by Des Boseley

This is the final series of questions from the old Level One Coaches Re-Accreditation exam paper. There is one last question on "Trigger Control" together with questions on "Follow Through". Select your choice of answer before looking at the given answers.

Question 1. How may Trigger Control be practiced ?

(a) Shoot a lot more until trigger control is mastered. (b) Shoot at a blank target and note shots either side of centre. (c) Practice finger exercises as shown in the training manuals. (d) Dry fire where it is convenient and watch the sights. (e) Do all the above.

Answer. All the suggested answers will improve your trigger control so (e) is correct. If you have an unlimited supply of ammunition, practice your shooting until your trigger control is perfected.

Strengthening your trigger finger with exercises will always help. Dry firing is the best known way to overcome flinching. Try to keep a coin balanced on the foresight whilst doing this. Firing on a blank target till you get your shots in a vertical band, is a sure sign that you have your trigger under control. The absence of the bullseye makes you watch the sights and not jerk the trigger when the sight picture is right. The secret to getting good scores in most events is "Trigger Control".

Follow Through.

Question 1. What is "Follow Through" ?

(a) The end of a golf swing. (b) Analysis of a football game on video. (c) Ringing up to see if your license application arrived. (d) Watching the sights till the shot has gone off (e) All the above.

Answer. For pistol shooters (d) is what we want, but all the examples given are types of "follow through".

Question 2. Why is Follow Through important ?

(a) It shows that everything was right when the shot went off. (b) It shows what was wrong when the shot went off. (c) It allows shot analysis and subsequent technique correction. (d) It makes you concentrate on the foresight and trigger control. (e) All the above.

Answer. For answer (e) take 10 points, answer (c) take 5 points and each of the others score 3 points. We get poor shots because we are doing something wrong. If we find out what we are doing wrong, we can do something to correct the

error and improve our scores. "Follow Through" is the means of finding out what we are doing wrong.

Question 3. How can it be determined if Follow Through is being practiced?

(a) The pistol is not lowered immediately after the shot. (b) The shooter shakes their head sideways after the shot. (c) The shooter gets a good score. (d) The shooter can call where the shot went, before scoping it.

Answer. If you can say, with reasonable accuracy, where the shot went before looking into your scope, then you are practicing "Follow Through" and answer (d) is the correct one.

I hope this series has been of benefit to you. This is what our Coaches have been taught to pass onto their club members. It may appear very basic to the seasoned shooter but if the foundations are not solid, the house will be very shaky and disappointing.

Tip for the Month. To get the last few grains out of a central capped powder tin. Use a can opener to cut a small slot around the top seam, prise it wider with a screwdriver and all the remaining powder can be put to good use.

SHOOTERS ADS

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Feinwerkbau Air Pistol R/H grip

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Cased with all accessories

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S/N 03302

LIC. 40674340F

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VGC

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.38	158 gn RN	\$80 PER 2000
.38	158 gn FMJ RN	\$200 PER 2000
.45	230 gn RN	\$75 PER 1400

ALL PACKAGED IN M19 AMMO TIN
or 500's in White Box

BRASS

.38 special NEW ADI unprimed brass	\$12 PER 100
.223 / 5.56 mm new unprimed brass	\$14 PER 100
.308 / 7.62 mm once fired brass - clean	\$12 PER 100
.50 cal brass once fired - clean	\$80 PER 100

RIFLE PROJECTILES

.224 cal 40 gn Soft Points	\$11 PER 100
.224 cal 45 gn Soft Points	\$11 PER 100
.224 cal 50 gn Soft Points	\$11 PER 100
.224 cal 55 gn Soft Points	\$11 PER 100
.224 cal 60 gn Soft Points	\$11 PER 100
.224 cal 62 gn FMJ BT CAN.	\$8 PER 100

03 9369 1360

.308 / 7.62 mm 144 gn FMJ CAN.	\$13 PER 100
.308 / 7.62 mm 144 gn FMJ PLAIN	\$13 PER 100
.308 / 7.62 mm 130 gn Hollow Points	\$25 PER 100
.308 / 7.62 mm 150 gn Hollow Points	\$25 PER 100
.308 / 7.62 mm 170 gn Soft Point	\$25 PER 100
.308 / 7.62 mm 144 gn FMJ BT	\$25 PER 100
.50 cal 660 gn FMJ BT	\$70 PER 100

OTHER

'V' Competition Targets Waterproof	\$5 each
TASCO ESI Sight RED DOT	\$45 each

PLEASE ADD EXTRA FOR FREIGHT

LATE ADDITIONS

9mm FMJ 115gn	\$14 per 100
303 single flash hole primed	\$25 per 100

CLUB INQUIRIES WELCOME

Pistol Applications

A New System (as at 4 November 1997)

by Eddie Evans (Hon Sec)



When the new Firearms Act was proclaimed in April, our political masters and the police turned everything upside down. This has caused quite a few problems with applications for Permits to Acquire handguns. We have been struggling ever since to try and get a bit of sanity and common sense back into the system.

As from 1 January 1998 the Registry will return any application for a 'Permit to Acquire' that has not been stamped by your club to indicate;

- 1 That you are a financial member.
- 2 That the application is recommended.
- 3 That your safekeeping complies with the Firearms Act.

This system will be used by all clubs (including the SSAA and Police pistol clubs), and is not meant to screw you. The big, bad VAPA will have nothing to do with your applications, and has in fact been working hard to ensure that you get them processed as quickly as possible. The system has been negotiated (with your club's input) to:

- 1 Smooth through your application for a 'Permit to Acquire', (there is still work to be done on this in regard to your 'Genuine Need').
- 2 Prevent any delay's in issuing your 'Permit to Acquire' by checking your safekeeping, rather than having to wait for the police to do it (the police will still do random checks).
- 3 Keep club's informed on the handguns that members are applying for (there may be restrictions at some clubs, and they need to let you know if there is).

To those of us that were members prior to April, there is really nothing new. Just a re-vamp of a system that has worked well for many years. The main difference is that your application will go directly from your club to the Registry. The Registry will accept them weekly, but check with your club for any club rules that apply. Also you must keep in mind that there will be a minimum delay of 28 days once the application is received by the Registry (Firearms Act requirement).

The system is:

- 1 You complete a 'Permit to Acquire' application (available from a police station).
- 2 You complete a Form 3 (available from your club secretary).
- 3 You give both forms to your club secretary.

- 4 Your club secretary endorses the application and sends it to the Registry.
- 5 29 days after receipt (if you are lucky) the Registry will send you a 'Permit to Acquire'.
- 6 You pay for the permit at a bank and pick up the handgun from the dealer. Private sales are still permissible, but they must be processed through a dealer.

A member that already owns handgun(s) must have;

- 1 A minimum of three (3) practices or competitions in the three (3) months prior to any application.

A first time applicant must have;

- 1 A minimum of ten (10) practices or competitions, and;
- 2 A minimum of three (3) months club membership.

As mentioned earlier the Chief Commissioner can insist that we have a 'Genuine Need' for a handgun. At present the Registry is randomly rejecting applications unless the applicant can provide 'Genuine Need'.

The Police tell us that there is a policy in place, but only that: Quote "*it is based on the number of firearms owned, and will remain so until we can develop one based on shooting disciplines and get shooters to submit their applications accordingly (Your co-operation in this would be appreciated).*"

We have co-operated by providing the police with an extensive table of calibres suitable for various disciplines. It was compiled over a couple of days, and is not complete. It will need expanding by experts in various disciplines. If you can help, send your input to the V.A.P.A. Secretary at the address on page 1.

We have also explained that serious competition shooters would not travel to a competition without a 'back up' gun in case the first has a breakage, and further, that shooters often buy a handgun to 'work up' for a competition prior to deciding which one to use.

This information was sent to the police 25 September. At this time we are still waiting for a response, but the paperwork seems to have been received favourably. We have been notified by Acting Superintendent David Dettmann that he will call a meeting after he has received advice.

For the time being it would seem logical that your 'Genuine Need' for the first handgun of any calibre would be "Target Shooting". For additional handguns of a calibre that you already own it might be advisable to give a discipline as your 'Genuine Need', ie. Service Pistol, Rapid Fire etc.

This information should be inserted under "Reason To Acquire Firearm" on the application form for a 'Permit To Acquire'.

HAMILTON SERVICE OPEN

Mark Behan

I've been going to Hamilton to shoot Service for ... well quite a few years. With so few Service opens these days it's nice to be able to support one of our country clubs in what has almost become a tradition. I know that a few years back the club was thinking seriously about letting the open lapse but thankfully there were enough members, and enough shooters, interested to keep it going.

When I think of Hamilton Service I always think of rain. Not that it always rains but some of the wettest opens I have ever shot at were at Hamilton. In fact the wet weather gear that now goes everywhere with me in my shooting bag was bought at the golf shop in the main street of Hamilton. That year the morning was proving so wet that a trip back into town seemed a possible alternative to drowning by simply moving outside. That was also the year we took breaks during the shooting to check out the river and watch it slowly rising. By the end of shooting on the Sunday it lapped threateningly at the base of the toilets. Then there was the year that as you ejected your brass it disappeared under ankle deep water – and your shooting boxes floated away while you shot.



A competitors eye view

But there was also the sunny years, when the attractive range was just a pleasure to be at. I even spent one year camped on the range in a tent (if you ever contemplate the same thing may I offer one little hint – it's possums running all over your tent roof not muggers!). The other thing that I like about Hamilton is that there is always more than the usual matches' shot. Some years back it was a speed shoot. These days it's an American handicap shoot.

It means that, if you want, you can shoot twice each day - which makes the trip more worthwhile.

This year the weather was good. It poured as we drove up Friday night, but by Saturday, although it threatened early in the day, the sun came out and Hamilton was again at its best. There were some good scores shot (not by me I'm sad to say. Is this what you call a slump?) with both Sid Pattison (A) and Phil Blake (M)

top scoring, each with a score of 875 in Service Unrestricted. And although there were only about twenty odd shooters everyone had a good time in a really friendly atmosphere, and shooting twice meant the day was a full one finishing around four o'clock.

The next day was also a good one weather wise and competition continued hotly with the outright best score going to a shoot off between Paul Hutchins (M) and Phil Blake (M). In the end Paul was to prove successful but it does go to show the level of competition and competitor. I would also be remiss if I didn't mention that there were equally hotly contested competitions in the other grades as well. On Saturday Eddie Evans was beaten for top spot by one point in B grade then on Sunday was successful by one point in A grade. Talking of scores, it would not be complete without mention of Alex Eagle's effort on Saturday. Great groups at 50 yards Alex - just a pity that the sights were set at 25! Still an 82 made my pathetic score look good, thanks mate.



Lance hard at work running a range

The harried organising secretary

My congratulations to the organizing secretary, Margaret Hurley, the Hamilton Pistol Club and of course all the others who made the weekend such a success. Special thanks should also go to the canteen staff who not only kept people well fed but did it all with a smile.

RESULTS

Service Pistol Unrestricted

M	P. Blake	875
A	S. Pattison	875
B	G. Shoebridge	862
C	A. Paton	771
D	M. Shoebridge	775

Service Pistol

M	P. Hutchins	859
A	E. Evans	836
B	G. Shoebridge	828
C	M. Shoebridge	756
D	J. Quinlivan	653

U/R American Handicap

D. Hall	897
S. Pattison	895
L. Mallia	893

S.P. American Handicap

P. Hutchins	896
A. Eagle	887
G. Shoebridge	886

Aggregate

P. Blake	1734
P. Hutchins	1729
E. Evans	1697

Time to talk pistols



MELTON PISTOL CLUB INC.

NEWTON MEMORIAL UIT OPEN 1997

11th & 12th OCTOBER



By Sid Pattison

The weekend was specially ordered, little wind, no rain and mostly blue skies. There was a good turn up of shooters from all over the state, 75 in all. Scores were good in all matches and will rearrange a few of the top 10's. Les Moncrieff of Mildura Pistol Club broke grade in Standard Pistol and Centre Fire, Jose Iglesias of M.I.S.C. made Master grade in Men's Air Pistol - congratulations to both shooters and well done. I'm sure the shooters would agree that the range staff did a great job all weekend keeping the details on time and running smoothly. Our canteen staff led by Marie kept the food and drinks coming from morning to dusk great job everyone.

One small detail to those who picked up a trophy - a V.I.T. open is the same as a U.I.T. open. In time these will become collectors items (small misprint). Once again many thanks to all the shooters and those who worked on the ranges or in the kitchen to make this a great weekend. Hope to see you all again next year.

The Pat Newton Trophy for Women's Sport Pistol was won by Linda Ryan with a 575

STANDARD PISTOL

M Linda Ryan	M.I.S.C.	550
A Jose Iglesias	M.I.S.C.	555
B Herbert Birr	Yarra	526
C Viv Homewood	Oakleigh	529
D Les Moncrieff	Mildura	518*

MEN'S AIR PISTOL

A Jose Iglesias	M.I.S.C.	576*
B Daniel Repacholi	Melton	548
C Leigh Dalziel	W/ambool	538
D Les Moncrieff	Mildura	495

WOMEN'S AIR PISTOL

M Linda Ryan	M.I.S.C.	373
A Helen Ryan	D/Valley	362
B Helen Power	Echuca	353
C Viv Homewood	Oakleigh	347
D Julie Wells	Melton	312

JUNIOR AIR 60

B Daniel Repacholi	Melton	507
C Ashley Gribble	Yarra	469
D Shane Troy	Mountain/D	444

JUNIOR AIR 40

A	Ainsley Alexander	M.A.P.C.	352
C	Rebecca Dunbar	Beacons/d	313

RAPID FIRE

A	Greg Howard	Yarra	566
B	Linda Ryan	Yarra	554
C	Don Rodwell	Melton	523
D	Les Moncrieff	Mildura	470

FREE PISTOL

A	Jose Iglesias	M.I.S.C.	532
B	Greg Howard	Yarra	520
C	Rod Davis	M.I.S.C.	488
D	Viv Homewood	Oakleigh	443

CENTRE FIRE

A	Jose Iglesias	M.I.S.C.	564
B	Andrew Scougall	Mid Murray	541
C	Les Moncrieff	Mildura	541*
D	Brian Sharkey	Geelong	432

WOMEN'S SPORT PISTOL

M	Linda Ryan	Yarra	575
A	Ainsley Alexander	M.A.P.C.	561
B	Helen Power	Echuca	532
D	Rebecca Dunbar	Beacons/d	459

JUNIOR SPORTS PISTOL

A	Ainsley Alexander	M.A.P.C.	559
B	Jarrod Pattison	Melton	469
C	Rebecca Dunbar	Beacons/d	459
D	Craig Richie	Ballarat	417

THE LYSTERFIELD REGULATORS

By Kid Marcus

Who are the Lysterfield Regulators and why do they keep turning up in the little town of, and where is, Leaning Pine? Well on Sunday the 9th November I had a chance to find out thanks to an invitation by the Marshall of Leaning Pine, Turkey Creek Pete.

It transpires that the Lysterfield Regulators are those intrepid members of the Yarra Pistol Club shooting Western Action. And Leaning Pine is their club? Yep, just check out the storm damaged pine tree leaning over, down near their dam. So what was Sunday like? Well the Regulators certainly know how to enjoy themselves; let me tell you about it.

The shooting was due to start at high noon (when else!) but the fun began at eleven with a meal of sausages, baked beans, sour dough bread and beef jerky all courtesy of the glamorous "Rawhide Rita". Then it was off to the range. Now I liked the range set up - corrals, a horse, shack windows to shoot through and even a disabled (poor bugger was shot by Mad Dog McCreedy's gang) partner.

Now the day was a series of six scenarios, "Out of ammo", "Ride to town", "Livery stable", "Horse shoes", "Save ya pard", and "Time for a drink". They



Paleface in action

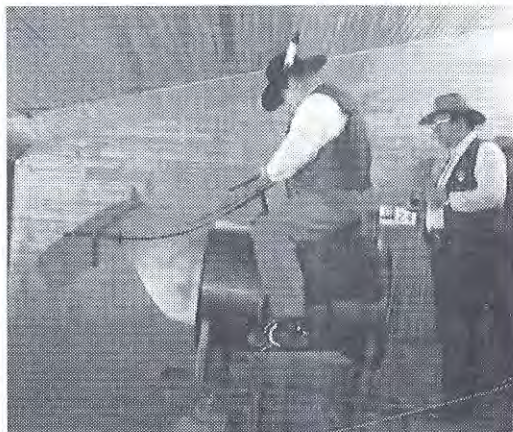
ran in sequence and due to the restrictions at the Yarra range were all shot with revolvers. There were only four of us shooting and all had brought our trusty .45's. Just to give you a taste of how the scenario system works I'll run through one - "Save your pard". The scene (remember it's just part of a whole story) is, and I quote ...

"The Doc is stuck deliverin the baby so you have taken a buckboard and have raced back to the line shack to bring your pard to town. As you arrive six polecats are waiting for

you. Sending five scurrying back into the brush you go to the shack only to see five more sneaking around the back. Quickly reloading you send lead in their direction to cool their ardour. Grabbing your pard you help him to the buckboard as one last polecat from McCreedy's gang tries to stop you. One round sees him running for cover as you head the buckboard back to town."

Which translates to the following course of fire:

"Start seated on buckboard (*a couple and chairs topped with some barricades*) with pistol on seat. Pull reins (*rope to falling plates*) at the same time calling Whoa (ten second procedural if not called). Engage five targets from left to right. Move to shack and reload five and engage five targets through window. Grab dummy (*that's your wounded pard*) and take to buckboard. Climb aboard, reload one round and engage remaining plate target. Pick up reins and shout Har! (10-second procedural if not called).



How did we go? Well Turkey Creek Pete won this stage with Luke the Drifter second, Paleface third with Kid Marcus coming forth (sounds better than last). All the scenarios had both a story which translated into a course of fire and plenty of opportunity to screw said course of fire up. Slowly a pattern emerged over the day. Turkey Creek Pete and Luke the Drifter fought hard and tied for first (Pete

winning on count back - winning four scenarios to Luke's one) with Kid Marcus third and Paleface fourth.

The story wouldn't be complete without the following tale. After the competition the other shooters and some of the other club members present took the opportunity to try out a Derringer (not used in any scenarios at this comp). All had fun with the pistol except ... wait for it ... Turkey Creek Pete! Seems this particular Cowboy must be a closet U.I.T. shooter and the heavy trigger on the Derringer hurt his finely tuned trigger finger. In fact it hurt so much he couldn't get the little pistol to go BANG. In the end he did manage two shots but the pained expression and complaining!!



*Gathering at the
chuck wagon*

My highlight? Winning the last scenario decisively, even with a procedural error. Oh and of course just having a good time (once I'd figured out where my Vaquero was shooting). Closing comments? My thanks to Turkey Creek Pete for the invitation and for all the preparation put in by him, Rawhide Rita and Luke the Drifter and a recommendation for anyone who thinks this sounds like fun to give it a try - it is.



Some of the desperados

The Firearms Act, Your Club, And Your Politicians

by Eddie Evans (Hon Sec)

What is the V.A.P.A. doing? Or what have they done? Common questions, and difficult to answer. Some concerned people have done quite a lot, and are still pursuing various issues vigorously. But let's get something straight from the start about this mystical V.A.P.A.

The V.A.P.A. is YOU. You elect an Executive to take care of day to day issues, and they are instructed by YOUR CLUB DELEGATE'S at the monthly Committee of Management Meetings. There are no employees, no office staff, only volunteers. In August your Executive decided on two strategies to try and have the Act changed;

We would send to each club;

A submission on changes to the Act.

A letter asking the club to send two members of their committee to interview their local politicians.

A pro forma report for the meeting, to be sent back to the V.A.P.A. Secretary.

We would send to each politician;

A submission on changes to the Act.

A letter explaining the submission.

This was all done, now let's have a look at what happened.

Your club:

The following (**only 15**) clubs took the situation seriously, interviewed at least one local politician and returned a report;

Bairnsdale, Ballarat, Cerberus, Diamond Valley, Echuca, Latrobe Valley, Maryborough, Melbourne International, Mountain District, Outtrim, Pine Grove, Sale, Shepparton, Traralgon and Warragul Drouin.

When you next go to your club (if it is listed above) thank your committee for looking after your interests.

If your club **is not included in the list above**, ask the committee if they made any effort to try and protect your sport.

Members:

The following members deserve thanks for making the effort to visit local politician's and send a report;

Bob Lester, Mal Marsland-Kelsey and Sid Pattison.

Your politicians:

68 out of 132 bothered to respond to V.A.P.A.'s letter (actually that's a better response than I got from the clubs), some of them quite favorably. You might wish to remember the following names for the next election. Better still, if you want to continue in this sport you should make an appointment to see your local politicians (there are two remember, Council and Assembly), and ask them why they are not concerned about your ability to participate in your chosen sport. At the same time, you can tell them how you will feel about voting in the next election.

If you are unsure about your electorate (Council & Assembly) your local council office will tell you.

Politicians that responded, and showed some interest;

Name	Electorate	Name	Electorate
Louise Asher	Monash	Gerald Ashman	Koonung
Bruce Atkinson	Koonung	William Baxter	North Eastern
Ron Best	North Western	Barry Bishop	North Western
Andrew Bridson	Waverley	Bruce Chamberlain	Western
Philip Davis	Gippsland	Peter Hall	Gippsland
Roger Hallam	Western	Rob Knowles	Ballarat
Neil Lucas	Eumemmerring	Jeanette Powell	North Eastern
Rosemary Varty	Silvan	Steve Bracks	Williamstown
John Brumby	Broadmeadows	Leonie Burke	Prahran
Neil Cole	Melbourne	Robert Dean	Berwick
Bernard Finn	Tullamarine	Mary Gillett	Werribee
Phillip Gude	Hawthorn	Andre Haermeyer	Yan Yean
Keith Hamilton	Morwell	Ken Jasper	Murray Valley
Paul Jenkins	Ballarat West	Michael John	Bendigo East
Jeffrey Kennett	Burwood	Don Kilgour	Shepparton
Lynne Kosky	Altona	Hurtle Lupton	Knox
William McGrath	Wimmera	Patrick McNamara	Benalla
Robert Maclellan	Pakenham	Noel Maughan	Rodney
Denis Napthine	Portland	John Pandazopoulos	Dandenong
David Perrin	Bulleen	Tony Plowman	Benambra
Tom Reynolds	Gisbourne	Russell Savage	Mildura
Helen Shardley	Caulfield	Ian Smith	Polwarth
Alan Stockdale	Brighton	Jan Wade	Kew
Kim Wells	Wantima		

Politicians that responded, but did not seem to care;

Name	Electorate	Name	Electorate
Ron Bowden	South Eastern	Geoff Craige	Central Highlands
Carlo Furlotti	Templestowe	Caroline Hogg	Melbourne Nth

Doug Walpole	Melbourne	Florian Andrighetto	Narracan
Christine Campbell	Pascoe Vale	Geoff Coleman	Bennetswood
Robin Cooper	Mornington	Demetri Dollis	Richmond
Robert Doyle	Malvern	Sherryl Garbutt	Bundoora
Ann Henderson	Geelong	Phillip Honeywood	Warrandyte
Geoff Leigh	Mordialloc	Andrea McCall	Frankston
Judy Maddigan	Essendon	Roger Pescott	Mitcham
Inga Peulich	Bentleigh	George Seitz	Keilor
Marie Tehan	Seymour		

Politicians that did not bother to respond at all:

Name	Electorate	Name	Electorate
Mark Birrel	East Yarra	Blair Boardman	Chelsea
Ian Cover	Geelong	David Davis	East Yarra
Richard de Fegely	Ballarat	Tayfun Eren	Doutta Galla
Bill Forwood	Templestowe	Monica Gould	Doutta Galla
William Hartigan	Geelong	Peter Katsambanis	Monash
Maree Luckins	Waverley	Jean McLean	Melbourne West
Donato Nardella	Melbourne Nth	Sang Nguyen	Melbourne West
Pat Power	Jika Jika	Barry Pullen	Melbourne
John Ross	Higinbotham	Kenneth Smith	South Eastern
Wendy Smith	Silvan	Eadley Stoney	Central Highlands
Christopher Strong	Higinbotham	Theo Theophanous	Jika Jika
Ronald Wells	Eumemmerring	Sue Wilding	Chelsea
Alex Andrianopoulos	Mill Park	Gordon Ashley	Bayswater
Ian Baker	Sunshine	Peter Batchelor	Thomastown
Robert Cameron	Bendigo West	Carlo Carli	Coburg
Robert Clark	Box Hill	David Cunningham	Melton
Susan Davies	Gippsland West	Martin Dixon	Dromana
Stephen Elder	Ripon	Lorraine Elliott	Mooroolbark
Rob Hulls	Niddrie	Craig Langdon	Ivanhoe
David Lean	Carrum	Michael Leighton	Preston
Hong Lim	Clayton	Peter Loney	Geelong North
Stephen McArthur	Monbulk	Denise McGill	Oakleigh
John McGrath	Warrnambool	Frederick McLellan	Frankston East
Edward Micallef	Springvale	Bruce Mildenhall	Footscray
Alister Paterson	South Barwon	Victor Perton	Doncaster
Wayne Phillips	Eltham	Sidney Plowman	Evelyn
John Richardson	Forest Hill	Gary Rowe	Cranbourne
Peter Ryan	Gippsland South	Anthony Sheehan	Northcote
Ernest Smith	Glen Waverley	Garry Spry	Bellarine
Barry Steggall	Swan Hill	Murray Thompson	Sandringham
Johnstone Thwaites	Albert Park	Barry Trainor	Ballarat East
David Treasure	Gippsland East	Janet Wilson	Dandenong North

This campaign waged by a few people has had an effect, but more needs to be done. All politicians, but especially those listed immediately above must be contacted and interviewed if we are going to get all the changes we need. The ball is now squarely in your court. If neither you, nor your club, can be bothered doing something to change the situation, I suggest that you trade in your handguns for a set of golf clubs while the guns are still legal (that is if you can get enough for your handguns to buy a set of golf clubs).

And once again, don't expect the mystical V.A.P.A. to fix all. **YOU ARE THE V.A.P.A. and your CLUB DELEGATE'S run the Association.**

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WESTERN ACTION

Mark Behan

Well what do you think of the new logo? To affiliate with the Single Action Shooting Society we needed to form our own "sub club". This was to meet with the S.A.S.S. requirement that any club that affiliates must have at least 65% of it's members as members of S.A.S.S. Now obviously V.A.P.A. does not have that but the new

Victorian Western Action Society will. It simply means that to be a member of the new sub-club all you need do is fill out the attached registration form (or just a note with the details as per the form) and forward it to Turkey Creek Pete. There are no charges involved, all you need be is a member of V.A.P.A. and the rest is really just a paper exercise. However there are some obvious advantages.

Firstly we will begin to compile our own register of members who wish to (or already do) shoot Western Action. This will also enable us to better keep those interested informed about upcoming shoots, competitions etc. We will also compile our own alias register from these forms, and with the co-operation of other bodies within Australia, try to avoid duplication etc. We will also be the initial clearing house for those wishing to join the S.A.S.S. Eventually we envisage people going directly to the S.A.S.S. roving booth, but for the time being while protocols and communications are being worked out, we'll do the forwarding for you. It also means that everyone will be shooting under the one set of internationally recognized rules. We were a while reaching this point but I'm sure you'd agree that V.A.P.A. running it's own show, whilst co-operating with other bodies who shoot this match in Australia, is the way to go. What is becoming a very popular discipline can only get better if we take the time to look after it's development in these the early stages.

Please include my name as a member of the Victorian Western Action Society.

Name: _____

Reg. Alias: _____ New/Preferred Alias: _____

V.A.P.A. Club: _____

S.A.S.S. Number (if applicable): _____ Phone Number: _____

Postal Address: _____

Please forward to: **Mr. Peter Butcher, A.K.A. Turkey Creek Pete,**
91 Temple Rd., Selby 3159.

VICTORIAN AMATEUR PISTOL ASSOCIATION
1998 OPEN COMPETITION CALENDER

JAN	3				24	MISC	
FEB	4 JAN 31		11	18	25	26	
			7	14	21	28	B/P YARRA.
			BALLARAT ACTION	Warragul Drouin U.I.T.		SERVICE STATE TITLES BALLARAT COLT CUP 22 SSA	
MAR	1		8	15	22	29	
	FEB 28	BLACK POWDER STATE TITLES YARRA	7	14	21	28	TRARK 90M
			8	15	22	29	
			U.I.T. STATE TITLES HORSHAM		GEELONG SERVICE & SNUBBY		
APR	4		11	18	25		
		U.I.T.P.A NATIONALS APRIL 4-12 BRISBANE	11	18	25		15-19 MISC
			12	19	26		
			U.I.T.P.A NATIONALS APRIL 4-12 BRISBANE	BALLARAT U.I.T. MELTON ANNIVERSAY	HAMILTON U.I.T.		
MAY	2		9	16	23	30	
		MELTON SERVICE & SNUBBY	9	16	23	30	MISC
			10	17	24	31	WARRAGUL 2002
			YARRA U.I.T.				U.I.T.
JUNE	6		13	20	27		
		MID MURRAY U.I.T. SERVICE BLACK POWDER	13	20	27		
JULY	4		11	18	25		
		REMOVED B.P. ?	11	18	25		
			12	19	26		
AUG	1		8	15	22	29	OAKLEIGH
		RAIENPDALES U.I.T.	8	15	22	29	POSTAL FINALS U.I.T. BLACK POWDER
			9	16	23	30	
			MISC RECORDS	ACTION STATE TITLES BENDIGO	POSTAL FINALS U.I.T. OAK.		
SEP	5		12	19	26		
		ACTION NATIONALS DARWIN 3rd 5th POSTAL FINALS PRACTICAL YACKANDANDAH U.I.T.	12	19	26		
			13	20	27		
			MAP POSTAL FINALS ACTION SERVICE SBC GOTTRIM	POSTAL FIN SERVICE MISC	FINALS PRACTICAL SALE		
OCT	3		10	17	24		
		YARRA U.I.T.	10	17	24		
			MELTON U.I.T.	HAMILTON SERVICE MISC SPORT	GEELONG U.I.T. WARRAGUL		
NOV	4		11	18	25	28	
			11	18	25	28	
	OCT 31	HORSHAM U.I.T.	7	14	21	28	YARRA SERVICE
			8	15	22	29	BF
DEC	5		12	19	26		
			12	19	26		
	6		13	20	27		
			13	20	27		

VICTORIAN TOP TEN 1997

COMPETITIONS INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE:

Postal Finals, Shepparton U.I.T., Yarra U.I.T., Yackandandah U.I.T., Melton U.I.T., Newcastle U.I.T.,

NSW U.I.T Championships, Canberra Gift, Oakleigh U.I.T. Action Nationals. Yarra Service.

FREE PISTOL

State Record 555 John Gillman (1976)

1	QUICK Bruce	559
2	MILLER Andy	547
3	EDWARDS Norm	543
4	WRIGHT Jim	541
5	IGLESIAS Jose	538
6	MARSHALL Terry	537
7	BOYLE Kevin	532
8	HOWARD Greg	530
9	RYAN Noel	528
10	CLARK Les	527
	CROSSMAN Will	527
	HOLDEN Jack	527

CENTREFIRE

State Record 585 Bruce Quick (1996)

1	QUICK Bruce	584
2	RYAN Noel	579
3	WRIGHT Jim	572
4	TOMASSINI Paul	570
5	IGLESIAS Jose	568
6	DAVIS Wayne	567
7	MOTTON Ralph	565
8	WATTZ Alan	561
9	HORTON Geoff	558
	TAIT Peter	558
	VANETTEN Hank	558

RAPID FIRE

State Record 575 Peter Oliver (1990)

1	QUICK Bruce	569
2	WRIGHT Jim	567
3	HOWARD Greg	566
4	RYAN Noel	565
5	CROSSMAN Will	562
	YOUNG Gavin	562
7	BIRR Herbert	560
8	GALT Roger	556
9	HARVEY Graeme	554
	RYAN Linda	554

STANDARD PISTOL

State Record 578 Phil Adams (1995)

1	RYAN Linda	576
2	QUICK Bruce	571
3	HORTON Geoff	559
4	WATTZ Alan	557
5	IGLESIAS Jose	555
6	RYAN Noel	553
7	WOODWARD Annette	551
8	MILLER Andrew	549
9	CROSSMAN Will	547
	DAVIS Wayne	547
	HOWARD Greg	547
	MOTTON Ralph	547
	WRIGHT Jim	547

MEN'S AIR PISTOL

State Record 572 Jack Holden (1994)

1	IGLESIAS Jose	576
2	QUICK Bruce	573
3	MARSHALL Terry	569
4	ROBERTSON Colin	568
	RYAN Noel	568
6	CROSSMAN Will	565
	HOLDEN Jack	565
	MILLER Andy	565
	WATTZ Alan	565
	WRIGHT Jim	565

WOMENS SPORT PISTOL

State Record 578 Annette Woodward (1992)

1	RYAN Linda	584
2	WOODWARD Annette	575
3	TAYLOR Sally	569
4	MULLENS Joy	568
5	TURNER Val	567
6	BROMMER Janice	563
7	ALEXANDER Ainsley	561
8	LEE Cheryl	560
9	RYAN Helen	558
10	WILLIAMS Narelle	557

WOMENS AIR PISTOL

State Record 384 Val Turner (1997)

1	TURNER Val	384
2	RYAN Linda	383
3	WOODWARD Annette	379
4	TAYLOR Annette	377
5	BRYANT Charlotte	376
6	BROMMER Janice	374
	KUBIAK Carol	374
8	LEE Cheryl	372
	MULLENS Joy	372
10	RYAN Helen	371

JUNIOR SPORT PISTOL

State Record 578 Andrew Gonczol (1990)

1	SCHALLHAMMER Leigh	568
	TAYLOR Sally	568
3	ALEXANDER Ainsley	562
4	REPACHOLI Daniel	548
5	COOK Kim	539
6	MULLENS Col	537
7	WONG Tai-Lien	531
8	KORENY Yvette	523
9	PATTISON Jarrod	508
10	KORENY Chris	507

JUNIOR MEN'S AIR PISTOL

State Record 565 Greg Schultz (1996)

1	SCHALLHAMMER Leigh	548
2	REPACHOLI Daniel	533
3	MULLENS Col	514
4	KORENY Chris	504
5	BUIRSKI Alex	502
6	WONG Tai-Lien	489
7	TWITE Travis	487
8	PATTISON Jarrod	485
9	SHOEBRIDGE Michael	484
10	SWIFT Toby	483

JUNIOR LADIES AIR PISTOL

State Record 361 Shelly Turner (1991)

1	TAYLOR Sally	367
2	ALEXANDER Ainsley	360
3	COOK Kim	354
4	KORENY Yvette	341
5	McNAUGHT Rebecca	340
6	DUNBAR Rebecca	336
7	RIELLA Emma	332
8	MEREDITH Greta	316
9	KIBELL Fiona	311
10	BLACK Amy	255

BLACK POWDER 25 METRE

State Record 378 Noel Ryan (1980)

1	MITCHELL John	380
2	VINCENT Greg	374
3	SAMMARTINO John	373
4	CLARK Les	371
5	COLICCHIA Ven	367
	TAIT Peter	367
7	COX Jim	365
8	LUKSCHANDERL Rupert	363
9	HASTIE David	358
	McCANN David	358

BLACK POWDER 50 METRE

State Record 371 Les Clark (1994)

1	VINCENT Greg	360
2	CLARK Les	355
3	MITCHELL John	353
4	SAMMARTINO John	349
5	HANSEN Glen	345
	REDSTON Rocky	345
7	LUKSCHANDERL Rupert	342
8	BELL Graham	341
9	COX Jim	338
10	HASTIE David	330

SERVICE PISTOL

State Record 887 Peter Muscat (1992)

1	CLARK Les	876
2	ANASTASI Ercole	870
3	DOHERTY Joe	862
	HUTCHINS Paul	862
5	LOWE Greg	857
6	EAGLE Alex	854
	GORDON Glenn	854
8	MOTTON Ralph	851
9	BLAKE Phil	845
	EVANS Eddie	845
	WILLIAMS Clive	845

SERVICE UNRESTRICTED

State Record 886 Peter Muscat (1989)

1	BLAKE Phil	879
2	CLARK Les	878
	PATTISON Sid	878
4	ANASTASI Ercole	877
5	MALIA Len	875
6	WILLIAMS Clive	873
7	EAGLE Alex	870
8	GORDON Glenn	869
9	HUTCHINS Paul	868
10	BEHAN Mark	867
	LOWE Greg	867

SHORT BARREL MATCH

State Record 607 Ralph Motton (1996)

1	MOTTON Ralph	614
2	EAGLE Alex	608
3	GORDON Glenn	605
4	CLARK Les	602
	SCHUETTKE Dietrich	602
6	DOHERTY Joe	600
7	ANASTASI Ercole	597
8	BLAKE Phil	595
	DILG Bill	595
10	LOWE Greg	593

ACTION MATCH

State Record 1920 164X Brian Kilpatrick (1993)

1	TATE Bradley	1920	163 X
2	KILPATRICK Brian	1916	173 X
3	WHITEHEAD Tom	1916	157 X
4	BANNISTER Roy	1914	153 X
5	HARDY Brian	1912	143 X
6	MACKIEWICZ Anita	1911	158 X
4	MUSCAT Peter	1909	148 X
8	CRAMER John	1899	150 X
9	MACARTNEY Darren	1894	136 X
10	ANASTASI Ercole	1893	143 X

ANNOUNCEMENT
from Alan Howard of
MOUNTAIN DISTRICT PISTOL CLUB

CONGRATULATIONS TO: Mr. Peter Langford
of Launching Place Victoria.

Winner of the M.D.P.C. Annual Tool Box Raffle



Alan Howard (left)
(M.D.P.C. Vice President)
Ron Burgoine (right)
(Managing Director Kinchrome)



Alan Howard (left)
(M.D.P.C. Vice President)
Peter Langford (right)
(Winner)

A special thankyou to all who supported our raffle. I would also on behalf of our committee of management and members of Mountain District Pistol Club wish to extend our appreciation to Mr. Ron Burgoine of Kinchrome Australia for his generous support of our club over the past couple of years. I'd also take the opportunity to recommend to all shooters that if you require tools or equipment you support Kinchrome with your purchases as you will in turn be supporting the company that supports your sport.

VICTORIAN AMATEUR PISTOL ASSOCIATION FUND RAISING SUB-COMMITTEE

Some items currently available through the Fund Raising Sub-Committee are listed below:

SCOREPADS \$1.00 each For use in the U.I.T. Events only. Each pad consists of 50 scoresheets. Available in various colours (e.g. Yellow, Blue, Green, Pink). For use in all matches (e.g. Centre Fire, Rapid Fire, etc.)

\$3.00 each (Small quantity held). For U.I.T. Events "Shot Calling" Scorepads for training purposes ... consists of 100 pages printed double sided - scoresheet on front of page with 12 targets on back to enable plotting of shot groups during training or competition. For use in all U.I.T. matches.

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Club Name:

Committee Position:

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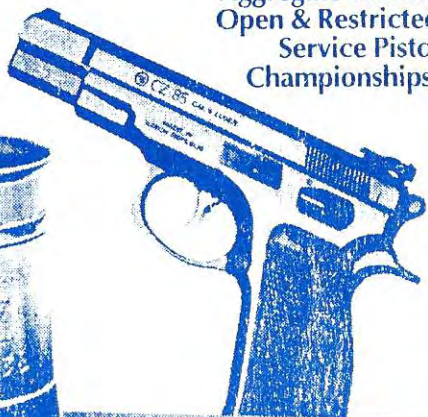
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