



CLI .303 CLUB OF CAPE TOWN

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NEWSLETTER

June 2005

The folk of Prince Albert must always look forward to our visit, as for the second year running we bring much welcomed rain to this Karoo dorp. During the Black Powder National held on the Thursday and Friday before the weather was absolutely perfect, but on Saturday morning the clouds looked menacing. Not again I thought, a 450km drive just to sit in the rain and wait. There was a mad rush to get the show on the road before the heavens opened.

The shoot was opened in the traditional way with a much-appreciated prayer by our permanent, butts officer Sgt. Major John Ecclestone and the first 300m detail was ready on the line dead on time. Near the end of the first detail a few drops of rain had begun to fall. During the second detail it was a persistent drizzle and when the third detail got going it was raining. Humphreys and John Austin stuck it out in the rain and we finished the 300m before beating a hasty retreat to the Ou Kelder.

Our hosts were really fantastic and were able to serve us lunch probably an hour early. The lunch was again so good I wondered if I would be able to eat again that night. It sure takes a lot to beat the good Karoo hospitality and the excellent home baked bread and preserves. There goes the diet in a big way. The rain miraculously cleared and despite the temptation of staying at the bar for the rest of the day, forty shooters set off for the range for the 500m.

The target used for the 500m at first glance looked easy. They are very old targets and the bull and four were bigger than what we normally use, but they were pasted on 300m frames. The result was that there was no two and the three was much smaller than usual. Any poor or pulled shots resulted in a miss, which was really punishing and discouraging to say the least.

Our numbers this year were a bit down on the normal turnout for this event, but a good few of the regulars were committed to matric dances and such like so were unable to attend. It was a pleasure to have some of the Target Rifle contingent joining us and I certainly hope the interest grows. Thanks to Eddie Stigant, Syd Goslin, Gary Willemse and Petrus van Rensburg for attending and I certainly hope that you enjoyed yourselves. Gary took up the challenge and shot a .303 and recorded a score good enough for 3rd place and a medal on the 500m. You never know, but we may still get the rest of them shooting the old work-horse with us in future, recoil and all.

I was most impressed with Corena. She takes the entries, sorts the money out, records the scores and then proceeds to shoot each distance with a target rifle and a 303. That, I must mention, is after two days of intensive Black Powder shooting as well that resulted in a purple shoulder. All I



can say is that you are either very blond or very tough. Bare thinks that he is in charge, but I don't fancy his chances with this iron lady around.

The results were as follows:

TARGET RIFLE

300m			500m		
1.	Petrus van Rensburg	50.4	1.	Petrus van Rensburg	50.8
2.	Eddie Stigant	49.7	2.	Eddie Stigant	50.7
3.	Gary Willemse	48.5	3.	Gary Willemse	49.7
4.	Corena de Beer	48.3	4.	Corena de Beer	48.8
5.	Syd Goslin	48.1	5.	Syd Goslin	48.5

A CLASS

300m			500m		
1.	Johan de Beer	48.1	1.	Sebastian Barkhuysen	46.3
2.	Hannes Willers	42.1	2.	Mike Di Bona	44.3
3.	Darryl Carver	42.0	3.	Gary Willemse	44.3
4.	Mike Di Bona	41.1	4.	Freddie Troost	44.1
5.	Koos Brink	41.0	5.	Koos Brink	44.0
6.	Sebastian Barkhuysen	39.2	6.	Darryl Carver	43.3

B CLASS

300m			500m		
1.	Jason Di Bona	42.2	1.	Daniël Erasmus	41.0
2.	Elané de Beer	35.0	2.	Jason Di Bona	40.3
3.	Johan Geyer	33.0	3.	Johan Geyer	40.0
4.	Lem Melidonis	32.0	4.	Marlize Volschenk	36.0
5.	Marlize Volschenk	32.0	5.	Elané de Beer	35.0
6.	Jan Frederick van Niekerk	29.0	6.	Jan Frederick van Niekerk	35.0

J CLASS

300m			500m		
			1.	Marc Jordan	35.0

The combined scores for both distances are as follows;

TARGET RIFLE			A CLASS		
1.	Petrus van Rensburg	100.12	1.	Johan de Beer	86.1
2.	Eddie Stigant	99.14	2.	Sebastian Barkhuysen	85.5
3.	Gary Willemse	97.12	3.	Mike Di Bona	85.4
4.	Corena de Beer	96.11	4.	Darryl Carver	85.3
5.	Syd Goslin	96.6	5.	Koos Brink	85.0
			6.	André Volschenk	82.4
B CLASS			J CLASS		
1.	Jason Di Bona	82.5	1.	Marc Jordan	35.0
2.	Johan Geyer	73.0			
3.	Elané de Beer	69.0			
4.	Marlize Volschenk	68.0			
5.	Lem Melidonis	64.0			
6.	Jan Frederick van Niekerk	64.0			



In the target rifle class Petrus shot an incredible 100 with no less than 12 V-Bulls. That type of score we never see! Well done to all the Bisley guys on very good scores. All of the target rifle scores were more than 10 points above our best. The difference could be that their rifles are 50 years newer and hopefully not because they shoot much better than we do! We look forward your participation next year.

In the A Class Bare trashed John Moore's record with an incredible 48 1 at 300m. That was an awesome effort; it's just a pity that the wheels fell off at 500m, but not badly enough to stop him winning the combined score. Bas scored a good 46 3 that put him in 1st place at 500m and gave him a 2nd overall. All the familiar names were in the top 6 at both distances and in the combined score. Mention must be made of Freddie's excellent 44 1 at 500m and of our new 303 competitor, Gary Willemse scoring a good 44 3. Nice to shoot a real gun, isn't it Gary? The final scores were very close with V-Bulls separating 2nd to 5th place. How Koos managed not to shoot any V's on the 500m target is a mystery. Congratulations must go to Mike as he at last managed to beat Jason and finished a fine 3rd overall.

The B Class saw some surprises with Daniël winning the 500m event with a fine 41. Jason suffered the indignity of having a miss on that funny 500m target, but still managed a good 40 3. Bad luck Jason, Mike would have been in trouble again if that had not happened. Jason still managed to win the overall with Johan Geyer in 2nd and Elané de Beer in 3rd. Well done to both of you as well as Marlize, Lem and Jan for making the top six.

The J Class saw Marc Jordan scoring 35 at 500m. Rafael was again beaten by another very good effort from Marc. Poor Rafael, at first he was being beaten by a lady and now its by a mere child as well.

The Italian blood was still running hot despite the cold weather from the two previous days' stress. Mike, still on the boil and having had two days of being range officer, commandeered the loud hailer and took over the range. Well done Mike, you did an excellent job. I should have offered to take over and give you a rest, but having witnessed your wrath on the previous days I was honestly too afraid to even speak. Mr-"*I know nothing, ask the person in charge*"-Di Bona. Bare and Graeme had a chance to run the range, but only when Mike was shooting!

There were some notable incidents at Prince Albert. I personally witnessed Ken Coleman wearing long trousers at the BPSU prize giving on Friday night. It sounds unbelievable, but it's true, Ken does own at least one pair of long trousers.

My brother Brian travelled all the way from Pretoria to participate and continued a long family tradition of losing the front sight halfway through a detail. He was awarded the coveted "piece of wire" prize which is an exact replica of the one awarded to me a few years ago at the same event. Keep it in the family brother.

Our permanent butts officer who never wants a mention will of course get one. A big thank you goes to John Ecclestone for manning the butts and sorting the markers out. I must mention that John was exhausted after the shoot and wonder if he should not have an assistant next time as he spent his day running from one end to the other.

Special thanks must go to our resident member Richard Smythe for putting so much effort into the range preparation and for training, organizing and fetching and carrying the markers. The neat



range and spotless butts were a pleasure to use and it was much appreciated by all. Thanks again Richard for making our event possible.

I would like to thank the Mayor David Rossouw and the people of Prince Albert for their hospitality and for making this event possible again. We hope that the facility will be available again next year that we can experience the Karoo lifestyle another time. Thanks also to our hosts at Die Ou Kelder for the wonderful meal at the prize giving. The boerekos is really enjoyed by the sounties from Cape Town. Prince Albert is almost becoming our second home.

The last rounds of thanks go to all who helped on the day. Mike and Bare as range officers, Corena and Elané for taking the entries and scoring and Francois and Graeme for doing everything else.

Once again it was a truly wonderful event and I hope we have a repeat next year!

Our next shoot and meal is:

Date: **Saturday 30th July 2005**
Time: **08h30**
Venue: **Good Hope Range**
Distance: **600m**
Ammo: **10 to count + 5 sighters (ONLY 3 convertible)**

Keep safe

Darryl

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK:

I want to formally suggest that next year, the CLI.303 Club shoot precedes the black powder shoot, because for the second year in a row, the black powder had excellent weather, and we ended up with the rain on the Saturday! Don't you agree that it is a great plan?

Congratulations to the black powder WP Team who won some of their matches against the Vaalies - too bad the trophy went up north! Since we congratulated the other club members who were selected to represent South Africa in the South Pacific Zone B shoot, Darryl was also included in the team - well done and congratulations to you too, Darryl.

Now to our club shoot. Brian Carver drove all the way from Gauteng and spent a great weekend with us at Prince Albert. Brian is a bit more reserved and much quieter than Kleinboet Darryl, but is an equally great guy. A lot was said about this family trend of losing sights while shooting ... and Brian felt truly embarrassed about it. Graeme suggested that their father, being an enthusiastic and successful shottist himself, taught them when they were still young "See boys, when you tighten a screw, you turn it anti-clockwise". This way they could never beat him (like Jason so often does to his father[s]!!). It seems as if this father-and-son competition is not unique to the Di Bona generation!

Darryl has already mentioned Gary Willemse's 303 score. If you're good, you're good, there is no two ways about it, but when you shoot with a rifle that dates back to 19-voetsek and the front sight is held together with Prestic, his score was nothing short of brilliant!

CHAIRMAN: Mr J A de Beer; VICE-CHAIRMAN: Mr D Carver; TREASURER: Mr CF du Toit;
SECRETARY: Dr C de Beer; MEMBERS: Mr G Leon, Mr R Blake, Dr J Austin;
CO-OPTED MEMBERS: WO1 J Ecclestone



Another blaps on the range was when Marlize was about to kick husband André's proverbial backside on the 500 meter and her last shot was a magnificent bull (but the hole mysteriously appeared on the target next door!). Ouch!! There went second place out the window, but don't worry, Marlize, that has happened to many a great shottist in the past and is bound to happen again to most of us.

Hannes Willers is the first person in our club to be awarded Dedicated Sportsman Status by SABU. I am sure that there will be many of you to follow suit, but if you do not do the correct training (merely writing the exam is not sufficient for this application) and get your certificate from Postlec Seta (this can take up to 3 months), you cannot apply to SABU to become a Dedicated Sportsman. Once you have your Postlec Seta certificate, get your application forms from me, write a proper motivation and return the completed forms with all the necessary copies of licences, etc. I will then add the required scores and refer it to the WPBA chairman who will consider it and send a recommendation to SABU (if you meet all the requirements). As you can see, this is a rather lengthy and cumbersome process, and my advice to all is to get it over and done with as soon as possible. You have been given all the necessary information on the different trainers, format of the motivation, etc a couple of times in the past. I am going to lay this matter to rest now - Sela.

I have been raised with the idea that complaining / whining usually only comes from "ou tannies" - but I have been hearing so much moaning from our club members lately that I started to wonder if I have not landed up in an old people's home! Here are a few.

- *"People are not going to the Prince Albert shoot, because it is too expensive"* - please give us an indication if we have to try and organise another shoot there, or suggest somewhere else. Just bear in mind that we need a functional shooting range for shooting weekend.
- *"Only people who shot before the rain, got decent scores"* - it's great to have something to blame, isn't it? I shot a dismal .303 score, and I would like to go on record blaming my splinted arm, and bruised shoulder, and fatigue after shooting black powder for 2 days, o yes, and definitely the rain as well (though it was only a very light drizzle, but that is off the record!). Come on guys, we did not order the rain or do the squadding according to the conditions! (I am tempted to say "Take your defeat like a man", but I will not). Just for record, Mike and Jason both shot in the rain and shot quite respectable scores in the 40's!
- *"I always shoot in the last detail"* - certain people have additional duties during the shoots and it is just easier to let them shoot first. The rest is squadded on a first-come-first-serve basis. If you are unhappy, come earlier.
- *"Why do I have to do firearm training again, I have been shooting for donkey's years"* - unfortunately the new firearms act does not distinguish between Mike who is a 8-time Springbok/Protea and Joe Soap who does not know which side if the rifle goes "BANG".
- *"The chairman and committee do not arrange for our training"* - we have offered, begged and pleaded often enough for names to arrange group training, we cannot do anything more if you are not prepared to co-operate and at least answer to our calls.

Remember, this is your club and we would like it to be enjoyed by all. We, as firearms owners, also need to stand together if we want to retain our licences and continue our sport. Please help us so that we can address the problems.



Congratulations to the following people on their birthdays:

July 5 th : Ben Durandt	23 rd : Syd Goslin
7 th : Jacques Verster	24 th : Robert Ellis
17 th : Richard Smythe	25 th : Jaron Pratt
18 th : William Verschoor	31 st : Graeme Leon, Louis Beukes, Sherrit Kunneke
20 th : Glenn von Zeil	

And we wish Lem Melidonis a speedy recovery! To all the guys who are fortunate enough to go hunting, enjoy it and bring back bags of biltong. For those who have a break during the school holidays, enjoy it and take care, and for the rest of the Workers Class - keep up the economy!!

Everything of the best until the next shoot.

Corena de Beer (082 826 0453)



History repeated itself - the heavens opened when the CLI.303 Club had their shoot



Francois came prepared this year - raincoat and all



Brian Carver keeping a close look to see what kleinboet Darryl is up to!



Gary Willemse with Bas's 303 with the Prestic front sight, sorting out exactly how to do the scoring



Target rifle competitors, Eddie Stigant, Syd Goslin and Petrus van Rensburg, patiently waiting for their turn to shoot



Lunch at the Ou Kelder did the trick again - after lunch, the rain stopped and we were able to resume our shoot



After the rain subsided, Daniël Erasmus shot a magnificent 41.0 on the 500m, earning him his first medal in the club!



Mike (in a much more relaxed mood than earlier the weekend) and Richard Smythe, without whom the Prince Albert shoots will not be as smooth as it is.



Thank you, Bruce, same to you too!

