

Committee of Management 2022

Patron: **Russell Wilkin** – London
President: Peter J Smith
Vice President: Max Lee
Secretary: Judith Kent
Treasurer: Greg Menzies

Committee Members:

John Rowe Clive Haug
Paul Minogue Rod Fox

Email: judithk@bigpond.com

Mailing Address: The Secretary
PO Box 269
Carnegie Vic 3163

Website: www.vintagers.org.au

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Shoot Calendar 2022

Sunday 19th June 2022

Melbourne Gun Club – 10:30am

Saturday 16th July 2022

Kilmore Field & Game – 10:30am

Sunday 14th August 2022

Frankston Australia Clay Target Club – 10:30am

Sunday 18th September 2022

Melbourne Gun Club – AGM @ 10:00am

Sunday 20th November 2022

Melbourne Gun Club – Vintage Cup @ 10:30am

President's Report

As you may recall if was necessary to reschedule our Melbourne Gun Club shoot from the 17th April back to the 10th April to accommodate for the Easter period, and this did have an direct effect on our attendance with only 39 members nominating for the 50 target event. As is customary, it was a bright and sunny day, and no rain as per usual.

This was followed by our annual rifle shoot at the Marong (SSAA) picturesque complex with 28 attendees with a strong variety of Category A and B firearms in support, many of which were both very collectable and quite historic.

Our shoot on the 15th May was the regular annual Westernport side-by-side shoot in remembrance of Mark Brenton (one on our foundation members) and attracted 59 nominations, 15 of whom were Vintagers battling it out for the hip flask. In order to win the prize, the shooter had to compete over 75 targets with a side-by-side gun which was at the very least 10+ years older than the shooter. Unfortunately, none of us Vintagers despite our best efforts with age and gun age criteria could make the grade under the intense conditions and the prize was awarded to Matt (a Field and Game member) using his Simson and Co of Suhl German ejector with Gamebore 1 oz number 7.5 shot who shot a very impressive 56/75. Congratulations Mat!

Looking forward to seeing you all on the 19th of June at the Melbourne Gun Club



Victoria Police**Licensing and Regulations Division (LRD)**

Firearms Amnesty: Victoria has seen around 1600 firearms handed in. Crime Stoppers has also launched its second phase, National Illicit Firearms Campaign, encouraging people to report illegal firearm.

The Victoria Police recruitment freeze continues to impact business and time frames. LRD was however granted an exemption to recruit for some positions, which will be filled in the following months.

Informal Catchups: The Licensing and Regulation Division (LRD) is continuing to organise informal catch-ups with key firearm stakeholders. These catch-ups commenced in north-east of Victoria, with visits to firearm dealers in Seymour, Shepparton, Benalla, Mansfield, Wangaratta and Wodonga. The intent of these meetings is to foster relationships with the industry and gather feedback regarding the industry's concerns and issues.

The commercial delivery of firearms was impacted by FedEx withdrawing their service. As a result, Australia Post and Star Track are now providing this delivery service.

Firearm safety course: LRD continues to consider options for the Firearms Safety Course. The current proposal is to allow the industry to own the delivery of the course, with the requirement of a suitable individual with firearms knowledge and relevant instructional qualification (currently certificate 4 in training or higher). While the course content will continue to be set and modified by LRD another recommendation to the firearm safety course is that it holds a manual component, excluding live fire. The delivery of the firearm safety course will remain as is until consideration from the Chief Commissioner of Police (CCP) and Minister has been obtained.

Firearm Licensing: Processing times for new applications are 40 days. Processing times for renewal applications are 5-7 days.

Permits, Transactions and Approvals: Permit to Acquire processing time for online is four days; Permit to Acquire processing time for manuals is two days.

Compliance and Enforcement: Between the 1 July 2021 and 31 December 2021 there were 679 suspended firearms licences and 636 cancelled firearms licences.

Firearms and Other Amendments Act 2021: The following changes will be implemented on the 30 August 2022.

- Chief Commissioner to allow for 'Grandfathering' of temporarily or permanently reclassified firearms
- Proof of identity, removing references to the Financial Transactions Reporting Act 1988
- Dealer requirements to confirm current licence before releasing firearm
- Hiring and loaning of firearms by licensed firearm dealers is limited to an initial 30-day period with the option to extend the agreement for an additional 30 days with a written agreement.
- Requirements for dealers who send firearms and firearm parts by post must track package an ensure packaging does not indicate it is a firearm or firearm related. To clarity, registered staff members can receive and sign for the packages it does not have to be the licence holder.
- Handgun participation reporting requirements will be introduced to enhance efficiencies.

Grandfathering temporarily or permanently reclassified firearms: The introduction of a section 3C will provide the Chief Commissioner the ability to 'grandfather' a firearm that is permanently or temporarily reclassified in accordance with sections 3a or 3b. This means that should those in possession of a firearm which is subject to a reclassification but who do not hold the appropriate licence consistent with the new category may continue carry, use or possess the reclassified firearm. The decision to allow the grandfathering of certain reclassified firearms is discretionary. The Classification Review Committee will make a recommendation to the CCP about 'grandfathering' any firearms already owned. 'Grandfathering' will not apply to every reclassification.

Proof of identity: References to the Financial Transactions Act 1988 in the identification requirements throughout the Firearms Act will be removed and replaced with provisions for identification in a form and manner approved by the CCP. This change will mean that the CCP will be able to determine the most appropriate proof of identity documents and methods. It will also support Regulatory Services Division (RSD) to implement process improvements and reduce the regulatory burden on licence holders and applicants.

Dealer requirements to confirm current licence before releasing firearm: Currently, a licensed firearms dealer may dispose of a longarm or handgun if they reasonably believe that the firearm is being disposed of to a licensed person. The risk of this means that if the person can provide a PTA they are not required to present their licence. For example, if someone has had their licence seized but they still have a PTA in

their possession, there is a risk that a suspended/cancelled licence holder to obtain a firearm.

Following the commencement of the amendments, it will be a requirement for dealers to sight a valid licence as well as a PTA before releasing a firearm.

Hire and loan of firearms: Firearm dealers can no longer hire or loan a firearm indefinitely. Dealers will be required to limit the hire or loan to an initial 30-day period with the option to extend the agreement for an additional 30 days.

LRD will provide more guidance about how this change will look in practice. The firearm dealer reference guide will be updated.

Requirements for dealers who send firearms and firearm parts by post: There is currently no requirement for a dealer to track a package containing firearms or parts and no requirement to ensure that the package was received by an authorised person.

Dealer to dealer transfer of firearms/parts by post must be tracked.

Any package containing a firearm or firearms parts is labelled in a way that does not identify the contents of the package.

Delivery of the package requires the licensed firearms dealer to whom the package is sent to personally receive the package. Staff working at a firearm dealer may receive/sign for items delivered to the site. Items must be signed for and received in person.

Schedule 4 storage requirements: Category A, B, C and D long-arms and general category handguns must be stored in a purpose-built steel storage receptacle that is of a thickness of at least 1.6mm which complies with Australian/New Zealand Standard 1594:2002. This means that 'hardwood' receptacles or 'old school lockers' or similar will no longer be considered compliant.

Licence holders who do not have storage that meets these standards will need to upgrade their storage. The community needs robust and unambiguous rules for storing firearms. (Please see comparison table for more information).

Implementation considerations: RSD is working through how each of these changes will be implemented. We are developing a communication campaign to share more information with the public about how changes will impact processes. We encourage people to visit the Victoria Police, Firearms Industry News page for updates and information. We will also communicate with the firearms industry, clubs and dealers and provide information for you to share with stakeholders.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact: RSD-POLICY-PUBLICATIONSMGR@police.vic.gov.au

Renewal of your Firearms (Cat. A & B)

Licence

If your firearm licence expires this year and you have been sent a form from LRD, please don't leave it to the last week to send to apply, you must complete the form and get all the information that is required and send it a.s.a.p. Although LRD are trying to do their best to process the renewals as soon as they receive them however, they have thousands of Permits and Renewals to process, therefore it is important you complete your form and send in immediately with all documents required.

You are invited to celebrate the life of

Ross Jackson



5th August, 1953 – 19th July, 2020

Due to Covid restrictions in 2020, we were unable to give him the send off he deserved. Therefore, we invite you to celebrate his life with us, on what will almost be the 2nd anniversary of his passing.

When: Sunday 17th of July, 2022 at 1pm.

Where: Sandown Park Hotel

RSVP: By July 3rd to Gwenda 0407 348 514

Vintagers Annual Rifle Shoot

Marong Victoria, 30th April 2022

By Peter Drew

Saturday 30th April was a beautiful autumn day despite the Bureau of Meteorology predicting rain in the Bendigo area. The SSAA Marong club once again generously hosted our event and what a great day it was.

There were 28 keen Vintagers members in attendance all excited at the opportunity to shoot their various rifles and guns. The following is a summary of the various firearms that were used on the day. I won't mention names of owners out of privacy concerns, the attendees were all ardent Vintagers Clay Target shooters and we all know each other from our Vintagers shoots.

Some of the following firearms were used on the day.

1. 375 Magnum Cogswell & Harrison from the 1950's,
2. a few 303 Lee Speeds,
3. 2 x 1903 6.5 Mannlicher Schonauers,
4. a 1905 model in 9x56,
5. a cased 1908 model in 8x56; and
6. an absolutely wonderful 1910 model in 9.5x56 owned and shot by a lady Vintagers member
7. Ruger M77 in .22-250 fitted with a 4 – 12 Leupold scope, mfg. 1970
8. F.N. 98 action Sako in .270 with a Schmidt & Bender 1.25 – 4 x scope, mfg. 1954(ish)
9. Walther KkJ .22 fitted with a Leupold 4 -12 scope, mfg. in 1957
10. Samuel Marson rook/kangaroo rifle in .44 Winchester c.1880
11. A variety of Brno Model 1 & 2 in .22R/F.

By way of back ground, membership of The Vintagers, not only offers you the opportunity to shoot side by side shotguns at the Vintagers club meetings, but also, enables members to use membership of The Vintagers .Org as an approved shooting club or organisation and as such provides club members with a genuine reason to own Cat. A & B long arms for the purpose of Hunting, Sport, and Target shooting... What members may not be aware of is the requirement of Victoria Police that The Vintagers conduct at least one day per year of

long arms Cat A & B shooting events in order to retain accreditation as an approved shooting club or organisation. In other words, the Marong shoot is not just a day for the privileged few. Although those of us attending certainly felt privileged to be able to attend. If our club (the Vintagers) does not provide this annual event, the Vintagers will no longer be an approved shooting club or organisation recognised by Victoria Police. It stands to reason that the annual shoot deserves our support.

Our club (the Vintagers) pay the SSAA Marong for hire of the grounds for the day. The SSAA Marong club provides range officers (3) as well as target boards, ear protection, and spotting scopes at no additional cost to our club members. Try getting these at any other SSAA venue!!! Additionally, there are bar-b-que facilities for the ardent cooks/chefs amongst the attendees.

The actual range is situated on the Marong-Serpentine Road and is in a bushland setting. For those members who love the outdoors this setting is just perfect.

In conclusion, can I say that any of you members that enjoy the use of rifles (whether rimfire or centrefire) the Vintagers Annual Marong rifle shoot is a great day!

Marong Rifle Shoot

By Steve Oliver

Another great day at Marong for the annual Vintages rifle shoot a good turn up from members and some very interesting rifles came out of the woodwork one member brought a number of Snider sporters along and his loads were definitely showing us what these fine old 140 year old pieces are capable of, having reloaded for a lot of different calibres from 303, 450/400, 500 BPE, 12 Bore rifle, 10 Bore Paradox etc., the challenges of getting some of these to shoot with a degree of accuracy is at times an exercise in frustration anyone owning a classic rifle who is having problems getting one to shoot is encouraged to talk to members who have a passion for these pieces and help can be given with building up SAFE & accurate loads, Graham Wrights book Shooting The British Double Rifle has been the bible for many years also.

Some other interesting pieces that showed up included 2 Holland & Holland Paradox guns, 1 a Royal built in 1892 on the early Scott action the other a Dominion built in 1904 one of the first built for Nitro loads, others include a 375 Magnum Cogswell & Harrison from the 1950's, a few 303 Lee Speeds, 2 x 1903 6.5 Mannlicher Schonauers, a 1905 model in 9x56, a cased 1908 model in 8x56 and an absolutely wonderful 1910 model in 9.5x56 owned and shot by a lady Vintages member on a regular basis who unfortunately was stuck at work at a remote mine site in outback SA. This rifle is retailed by Joseph Bourne, in it's full length leather case, it's a real treat, proofed for the 270 grain projectile it is a bit of a handful she shoots a hand load with a 235 grain Speer which gets the job done this rifle which will be the subject of a later article it has a very interesting history, it's original owner being born in Toorak.

All together a great day thanks to the SSAA team at Marong and everyone else who helped out, please if you own a rifle of any sort try and make an effort to join us next year.

Photos of the Rifle Shoot at Marong



Photos at the Marong Shoot (Cont'd)



Photos at the Westernport F&G Shoot Celebrating Mark Brenton



Dress Code Policy

It is with great disappointment that some members and their friends who they invite to the events are not adhering to our Dress Code Policy. Since the year July 2000 when the club commenced we have had this policy in place and members must take note that the requirement is smart dress.

The following **must not be worn**:

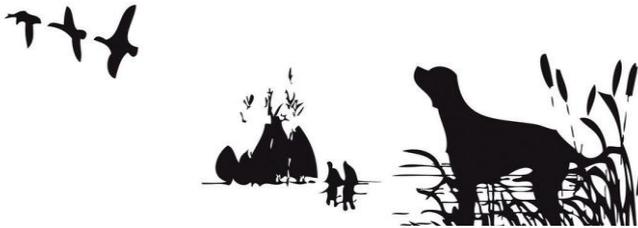
1. No denims
2. No camouflage of any kind
3. No T-shirts with promotions on the front
4. No sleeveless tops
5. No thongs

If you are inviting friends and/or family please advise them of our dress code.

No Gun Slips are allowed on the grounds. Thank you for your understanding.

Classifieds

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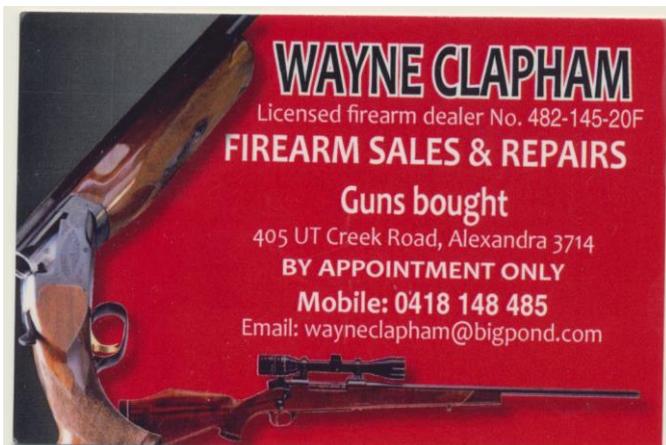
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WANTED

I am looking for a copy of a book called "Men for all Seasons: The Hunters and Pioneers", by Anthony Dyer. Printed by Trophy Room Books in about 1996.

Also, any Holland & Holland memorabilia cloth badges, lapel pins, old On Report in house magazines etc.

Please contact Steve Oliver. Ph: 0400 031 464

WANTED

Charles Boswell Damascus Barrel

About 10-12 years ago, offered for sale through RF Scott's in Ballarat were the following:

Charles Boswell damascus barrelled side-plated boxlock 12 gauge shotgun, cased in an oak and leather case; embossed on the case was the name "W. Weatherley";
Henry Atkin damascus barrelled boxlock game gun, cased in an oak and leather case; embossed on the case were the initials "H.P.M."

Both were at the time in excellent condition. I was recently talking with a descendant of those guns' original owners, who would dearly like to re-acquire them for the family. If you are able to help, please get in touch with me, and I will put you in touch with the descendent.

Robert Geddes
0419 863 651
rjwg78@gmail.com

Disclaimer

The articles, opinions and sometimes unusual views expressed in Hammers Back are not necessarily those of the Editor, or the Vintagers (Order of Edwardian Gunners) Inc., and are not to be taken seriously.

Classifieds



- Licenced Dealer 62503 -

- Gun fitting
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- Stock refinishing
- Rib laying
- Action tightening
- Blacking
- Browning
- Blueing
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Hammers Back Newsletter

Issue 83, September 2022

Closing date for all articles and advertising (at no cost) are required by
16th August 2022

An Ode to an Aussie Farmer

The day was hot already – it was only 8 o'clock
Jack took off in his ute to go and check the stock.
He drove around the paddocks checking wethers ewes
and lambs,
The float valves in the troughs, the windmills and the
dams.

He stopped to turn a windmill on to fill a water tank
And saw a ewe down in the dam, a few yards from the
bank.
"Stupid bloody sheep" he thought, "they really have no
sense,
Won't go through a gateway but they'll jump a bloody
fence.

The ewe was stuck down in the mud and he knew
without a doubt
She'd stay there till she carked it, unless he got her
out.
As he reached the waters edge, the startled ewe broke
free
And in her haste to get away began a swimming spree.

Jack knew once the fleece was wet, the weight would
drag her down
And if he couldn't rescue her the stupid ewe would
drown.
Her style was unimpressive, her survive changes slim.
He had no other option, he would have to take a swim.

Jack peeled his shirt and singlet off, his trousers, boots
and socks
And as he hated wet clothes, he also shet his jocks.
He jumped into the dam and away that cocky swam
And caught up with her somewhere near the middle of
the dam.

The ewe was quite evasive and kept giving Jack the slip
He tried to grab her sodden fleece but couldn't get a
grip.
At last he got her to the bank and stopped to catch his
breath
She showed him little gratitude for saving her from
death.

She took off like a Bondi tram around the other side
And he swore that if he caught that ewe he'd hang her
bloody hide.
Around and around the dame they went and though he
felt quite puffed
Jack thought he could run her down as she must be
almost stuffed.

The local stock and agent rep came out to pay a call
that day.
He knew Jack was on his own as Jull had gone away.
He didn't really think he'd get fresh scones for morning
tea
But neither was he ready for what he was to see.
He rubbed his eyes in disbelief at what came into view.

For running down the catchment was a frantic looking
ewe
And on her heels in hot pursuit and wearing not a
stitch
Was Jack yelling wildly, "come back you lousy bitch".
Well, the stock rep didn't hang around, he took off in
his car
Now Jack's reputation has been damaged near and far
So bear in mind the Work Safe rule when next you
check your flocks
Spot the hazard, assess the risk ad always wear your
jocks.

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