

Welcome to the eighth edition of our newsletter. There's not a lot going on at the moment, but, as usual, the club's development continues.

Christmas Shoots

Unlike in 2018, this year we actually managed to stage our Christmas DTL competition. Hughie replaced 2018's torrential rain with blistering heat for this year's event, but we still had good numbers at both the DTL and our Christmas Sporting Clays. The club shouted free lunches at both competitions as a way of thanking the loyal shooters and visitors who have supported our club through a number of adversities in recent years.

Shipping Container

A new shipping container is being procured and will be installed alongside the existing container at the eastern end of Ground Two. The new container will be used as a traps workshop and spare parts store. It is hoped to link the two containers internally. The long-term goal is to have all trap parts and maintenance centralised in that area, leading to quicker repairs and improved efficiency.

Universal Skeet

As most readers will already know, we have not been able to use our skeet facilities for some years. This is a result of the strict conditions imposed by the EPA. The committee is determined to reinstate skeet at our club and is continuing to work with the EPA and the city council to pursue all options. Brian Reid, our hard-working Vice President, is always on the lookout for ways in which we can use the skeet equipment and, over recent months, he has been investigating FITASC Universal Skeet. FITASC, a French organisation, is the controlling body under which Sporting Clays Australia operates.

Brian believes that Universal Skeet might be a possibility at our club and that it would attract not only traditional skeet shooters, but also the Sporting Clays crew. Note that this is only a preliminary investigation at the moment. Describing Universal Skeet would be like describing chess to a Labrador, so we will save time by directing you to some links.

PDF: https://www.fitasc.com/upload/images/actualites/20191122_eng_communique_su_mailc.pdf

Animated video: <https://www.fitasc.com/fr/video/2139?TB...height=600>

NB: If you open this newsletter from the club website's NEWS page, the links will be live.

Online Scores (myclubmyscores)

The hard workers in our office on competition days will soon have another 21st century option for keeping shooters well informed. From January, the office team will be using the myclubmyscores website, so that scores can be viewed online. The website allows anyone anywhere on earth to see the scores within seconds of them being entered into the programme by the office staff. The site is accessible via Apple or Android mobiles and even via your good old fashioned computers. Go to <https://www.myclubmyscores.com/>, click on the **LIVE SCORES** tab in the top right corner and select your preferred platform.

Your Club Needs You



Lord Kitchener had a huge effect on recruiting. If only we could get him to visit Wang to drum up some volunteers. It's a bit late for Kitchener, but it's never too late for you to pitch in and help. There's always something to do at competitions and practice days.

Practice Session Closure

We recently had to cancel a Saturday afternoon practice session, due to the extreme heat, fire danger and dense smoke. Notification of the closure was posted on the club's website and Facebook page. We intend opening for practice as per our advertised schedule, but, should the need arise again, we will continue to use the website and Facebook to let everyone know. If the weather looks dodgy and you are in doubt, keep an eye on those two online sites. We will do our best to give as much notice as possible of any changes to our advertised times. Thanks in advance for your patience and understanding.

Trees

It appears that we have lost one grand old fellow in the car park. The huge old gum near the scoreboard seems to have succumbed to the drought. For the time being, that part of the carpark is out of bounds. Be mindful of the trees when parking at the club. Shade is good, but every tree in Australia will drop sticks at some point. The committee will look at options to have the dead tree removed. It is probably a good excuse to look at planting some other hardy, drought tolerant trees around the grounds, too.

EPA Update

The EPA requires the club to provide an auditor approved Clean Up Plan (CUP) by the 30th of January, 2020. A new Environmental Management Plan will be produced shortly after that date.

The Rural City of Wangaratta has engaged Eslers Land Consulting of Wodonga to conduct survey work on our club's premises. This work is required to establish safety boundaries and to ensure that shot fallout zones are kept within the club boundaries. The survey results are required before further works are considered in re-establishing any shooting activities lost as a result of EPA rulings since May 2016.

The results of the survey work will be known in due course. Once the results are known, the committee can then commence discussions on the best course of action for the club's future.

We hope you've enjoyed our newsletter. We look forward to keeping you up to date with the latest developments at our club.

Anton Motha

President, on behalf of the Committee Wangaratta Clay Target Club