

are loaded with stuff like that when nothing happens to the quarry. One little story to wind up. There was a fair one evening near a training camp. A new recruit fed up and far from home, wandered along seeking solace. At the shooting booth the terror of his life (the R.S.M.) was knocking the little balls off water-spouts with ease and regularity. Espying our recruit the fear giver ordered him to come and have a go. Rookie did so with much reluctance closing both eyes and pulling hard. When he opened his eyes all the balls had gone. Bursting with pride and pleasure he turned to the R.S.M., when a quiet little man in the crowd tapped his shoulder and softly whispered in his ear. "I should push off if I were you—you've shot the old woman who pumps the water."

Afraid this letter is like a plover, flitting here and there, finding several places to stop and never doing so. Trouble is I cannot readily put the

brake on when talking shooting matters. Straight powder, good luck and good shooting to all members of the Association.

The following additional acknowledgments of the receipt of Gift Parcels have been received since last issue:

T. H. Hughes (London), H. G. Eleye (Hampshire), Captain Bellew (Eire), Peter Radcliffe (Colchester), Paul Catterall (Lanc.), D. Gregory (Slough), Mrs. Grosvenor (Norfolk), R. Gosling (London), L. H. Ink-spear (Dorset), M. Barlow (Kent), H. B. Smith (Notts), C. B. Dean (Putney), M. Perkins (Cornwall), O. Davy (Norfolk), L. S. Boyland (Bournemouth), H. W. Chappell (Lincolnshire), A. Clark (Suffolk), F. G. Kelley (Wales), J. Monk (Hastings), H. Heath (Warwick), R. J. Cooper (Lincoln), F. Gaslick (Blackpool), J. F. Mallabar (London), A. J. Taylor (London), F. D. Horam (Staffs.), E. R. Sears (Herts.).



Late News

Lionel Bibby rang from Sydney late last month and advised that his firm, Slazenger's (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., had decided to sponsor the Pennant Trophy for the Australian Teams Championship, shot in conjunction with the Champion of Champions Cup (Australian National Championship at first 30 birds) on March 12. Lionel, who has not been in the best of health since his last trip to Adelaide, advises, "Nothing under a 12 footer, make the Pennant worthy of Slazenger's." Lionel himself is already preparing one of his breeziest speeches for the presentation and also for the Association dinner at night.

A Londoner, L. G. Hearn, wife and two young children, has written seeking a sponsor for migration to Aus-

tralia. He is a gun fitter and has wrote a book on shooting, which L.G. four of his own try guns. His father has modernised. Anyone desirous of sponsoring Mr. Hearn and his family should contact the secretary, A.C.P.T.S.A., for further information. Len. Robinson, secretary at Sale (Vic.), has written advising that March 26 is found to be a big day among the dogs at Sale, and as most of the shooters are interested in the canine flesh, the proposed date of the title event mentioned in another part of this issue would not be suitable. Len. mentions as an alternative that March 19 would be more satisfactory. Full advertising will appear in next issue. Len. adds that there will be plenty of duck, a lot of refreshment, and quite a fleet of boats to take visiting shooters, who remain for the week-end, to the shooting areas.

Australian CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING NEWS

February, 1949.

Vol. 2.

No. 5.

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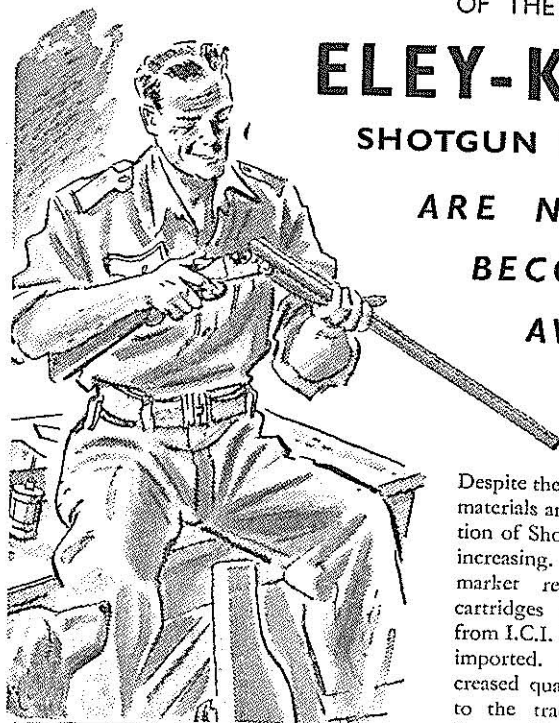
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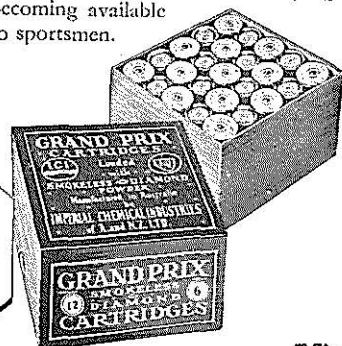
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Executive Committee: Messrs. E. G. Biggs (Elsternwick, Vict.); J. O. Cox (Mangoplah, N.S.W.); A. F. Johnson (Balwyn, Vict.); A. E. Poxon (Launceston, Tas.) and D. B. O'Callaghan (Brighton, Vict.).

Address all correspondence to Secretary-Editor: W. McCullough, Box 2038 S. G.P.O. Melbourne, C.1. LF 6986.

Copy Closing—Not later than 1st of month of publication.

Club Affiliation Subscription. £1/1/ per annum. Shooter's Registration Fee 10/- per annum. All fees become due on 1st January each year.

Clubs seeking information on lay-out, formation, etc., will receive immediate attention on application to Secretary A.C.P.T.S.A.

THE EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

March 12 and 14 should again produce brilliant shooting and outstanding competition when the 1949 Champion of Champions Cup—this event now having the added importance of being classified jointly as "Australian National Championship"—and the Third International Teams Match are listed for decision. These two big events are the blue riband series for the shooting year under A.C.P.T.S.A. auspices and it seems certain that a big muster of shooters representative of all the Australian Eastern States will again line-up.

The East Burwood shooting grounds of the Australian Club—the venue of the series—are continually being improved and appear to be the ideal setting. Three automatic traps will be in operation and entrants in the first of the major contests (Cup-National title) will be required to shoot at 60 birds from the International mark of 16 yards, double-barrel, both barrels equal value and using the International shell load of 1½ oz. shot. The first twenty highest scorers in this event will automatical-

ly win a place in the Australian International Team and providing they take their respective places in the marathon 100 birder on March 14, will be awarded coveted 1949 International badges.

Competitors should note that under the improved system of mustering squads of shooters no squad "hustlers" will be used. In the 60 birder Cup-National title each competitor will be required to shoot 20 birds over each of the three automatic traps in two visits to each track. The main requirement for competitors will be for each man to fix firmly in his mind his particular squad number and then watch the Official Indicator boards which will provide the necessary directions of squad shooting order. Competitors names will not be called after the first announcement of names and squads allotment. Competitors who fail to observe this rule will be liable to have lost birds recorded against their names if not in position to shoot when squad turn arrives. A brief study of the squad shooting order plan, prior to the com-

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PROGRAMMES

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12th, 1949

Anniversary Shoot

5 BIRD DOUBLE BARREL SWEEPSTAKE—Entry 4/-

10 BIRDS, D.B. "JOCK WILSON" CUP

To be won twice. Entry 7/. First, Second, Third, 13/14 yards and 12 yards Trophies. Ladies Trophy.

10 BIRDS POINTS DECISION

Entry 7/-

First, Second, Third and 12/14 yards Trophies

5 BIRDS SILENT RISE SWEEPSTAKE

Entry 4/- Gun to be held below elbow.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26th, 1949

5 BIRDS DOUBLE BARREL SWEEPSTAKE

Entry 4/-

"Donald Mackintosh" Cup

20 Birds. Double Barrel. Gun to be held off shoulder. Special Trophy presented to the winner by Donald Mackintosh, Esq.

First, Second, Third, 12/14 Yards and Ladies Trophies.

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mencement of shooting, will ensure no misunderstandings. Should any announcements be required same will refer to "Squad Number" only.

The official Association dinner will be held in its usual rendezvous adjacent to the shooting grounds, and will commence as soon after shooting finishes as is possible on March 12. The dinner will be restricted to donors and competitors and admission will be by ticket only. Tickets will be available from A.C.P.T.S.A. Secretary when entries are completed.

The A.C.P.T.S.A. is endeavouring to arrange for a bus or van transport which will leave the State Theatre, Flinders Street, Melbourne, between 7.45 and 8 a.m. on Saturday morning, March 12. Visiting shooters desirous of using this means of transport to the shooting grounds should advise the A.C.P.T.S.A. Secretary at least 10 days prior to March 12.

The March issue of "A.C.P.S. News" will revert to the normal publishing date of 10th of each month and this date will be adhered to for future issues. Advertising and copy matter should be forwarded to Box 2038 S, G.P.O. Melbourne, not later than 30th of preceding month.

Club affiliation (£1/1/-) and registration fees (10/-) for 1949 are now due and should be forwarded to A.C.P.T.S.A. Secretary, Box 2038 S, G.P.O. Melbourne, C.1., without delay. Those remaining unfinancial at 31st March will be removed from the registration and "News" lists and will not be eligible for reinstatement until all dues have been paid. This action has been authorised under Executive Committee direction. Those who are good enough to forward payment of fees early in the year greatly facilitate the administration of the Association and it is hoped that all sportsmen will keep this important factor in mind.



Bill Finnegan and Gloucester Cup which he won recently at East Burwood.

(Photo courtesy A. J. Russell)

Hobart Gun Club

(Affiliated A.C.P.T.S.A.)

TASMANIAN DOUBLE BARREL CHAMPIONSHIP

SATURDAY, 19th FEBRUARY

Commencing at 11 a.m.

EVENT No. 1

5 BIRD DOUBLE BARREL HANDICAP SWEEPSTAKE
Entry 5/-

EVENT No. 2

TASMANIAN DOUBLE BARREL CHAMPIONSHIP

25 BIRDS—SHOT FROM 20 YARDS CENTRE TRACK—
5 BIRDS EACH VISIT

Four Club Trophies, First Prize, 5 piece Silver Tea Service
Second, Third and Best 12/13 yard Trophies
Nomination 20/- with Optional Sweepstakes
10/- and 5/- Divided 60% First, 30% Second,
10% Third.

LUNCHEON RECESS

EVENT No. 3

£10 DOUBLE BARREL HANDICAP, 10 BIRDS

Nomination 7/6. Divided 60% First, 20% Second, 10% Third
10% Best 12 Yarder

EVENT No. 4

5 BIRD DOUBLE BARREL HANDICAP SWEEPSTAKE
Nomination 5/-

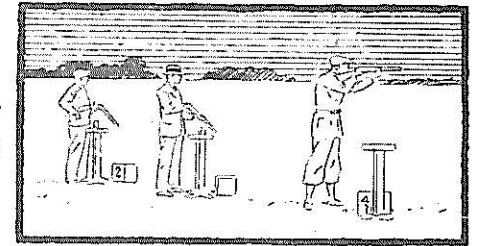
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AROUND THE CLUBS AND MEETINGS...



ELTHAM (Vict.)—The new club known as the Eltham District Gun Club, held its opening shoot on its spacious grounds just above Research (Vict.) on Saturday, January 22. The attendance was well over 200, included were 84 actual competitors. This response augurs well for the future of the organisation. President, Fred Squires, Secretary, Ben Taylor, and a committee of hard working sportsmen have turned an almost virgin bush area into one of the best lay-outs in the State. Concrete tracks, a magnificent stairway approach to the shooting marks, booths, wooden pavilion and secretary's office have all been provided from the outset. Much hard work has been done and the committee intends to continue with its efforts to improve the set-up. From a publicity point of view the shooting area could not have been better placed. On a holiday traffic road and just off the edge of scenic rise, there are few prettier spots to stop-off and perhaps "have a shot." The club intends to shoot fortnightly. A.C.P. T.S.A. President, Jock Wilson fired the first official shot and unlike so many previous occasions that can be brought to mind, he powdered the disc first barrel. It was a straightaway. The shooting back-ground is good, although it is expected that several tall gums on the right side will eventually be found lying on someone's wood-heap. Marksmen shoot over a valley and the echo produced through the timber produces an effect reminiscent of duck shooting in the timbered swamps along the Murray and beyond. Some good efforts were produced on opening day and results

were: No. 1, 5 birds, Geo. Simpson (Pirron Vallock) 10/10, C. Mudford 11/13, "Bendigo" 12/13, "Ogle" 10/12. No. 2, President's 25 guinea Trophy, tie shoot, F. A. Borley (Essendon) 22/22, "Bruino" (Bill Scott) 21/22, A. H. Brenk 19/20, 12 yarder, Ben Taylor (Club Secty.) 16/17. A presentation of a gun case was made to Bill Squires for his great assistance during club formation and lay-out.

ROMA (Qld.)—The two day meeting of the Roma club late last year provided the best series of competition the club has yet presented. Results on opening day were: No. 1, 5 Birds, S.B., J. W. Raleigh (Morven, Qld.) 5/5, Boyce Siddens (Dirranbandi) and K. Cameron (Roma) 4/5. No. 2, 1948 Maranoa District Championship, Keith Cameron (Roma) 22/25, J. Bayliss (St. George) 21/25, C. Thompson (St. George) 21/25. No. 3, 5 birds, S.B., div., J. Bayliss and C. R. Fletcher (Bindango) 5/5, Dr. W. Feather (Roma) 7/8 second. No. 4, (same), div., B. Siddens, C. Mitchell and K. Cameron 7/7. No. 5, 3 pairs double-rise, J. W. Raleigh 3/5, J. Bassett, C. Thompson and G. Ferrier each 2/5. (Second day), No. 1, 5 birds, S.B., div. D. W. Cameron, R. Thomas and K. Cameron 7/7. No. 2, (same) div., D. W. Cameron and D. R. Cameron 5/5. No. 3, £50 Handicap, S.B., at 20 birds, D. W. Cameron (St. George) 19/20, K. Bassett, N. Bassett (Roma) and M. Cameron (Roma) div. second and third money 18/20. No. 4, 5 birds, S.B. div. H. Rothwell and N. Bassett 5/5. No. 5, £25 Handicap, 15 birds, double-barrel, K. Cameron 28/30, M. Cameron



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27/30, third div., N. Bassett and J. Bayliss 30/34. The club's referee, D. M. Pack received many congratulations for his excellent exhibition in control throughout the two days. He is intending to later become an official Association referee. Mrs. D. Fletcher, the club scorer, is credited with never missing a shot and being very busy throughout the arduous two days shooting.

TOWNSVILLE (Qld.) — The Queensland Mixed Birds championship shot under Townsville Club supervision in December was won by R. H. Winn of Home Hill. The winner has only taken up competitive shooting since the war and it was his first major success. Shooting conditions were good, apart from a stiff breeze. Results: No. 1, 5 birds, S.B., J. Smith (Home Hill) 5/5. No. 2 Qld. Mixed Birds championship, R. H. Winn (Home Hill) 16/20, J. E. Melville (Townsville) 14/20 and D. Peberdy 13/20 third. The latter defeated W. Hanran, R. White and Jim Smith in a shoot-off for the placing. No. 3, £10 handicap, 10 birds, S.B., M. Johnston (Yarwun) /10 (first), G. Neilson, D. Peberdy, W. Hanran, J. Carrington and S. Ball (Powlathanga), each 8/10 div. second and third. No. 4, £50 Handicap, 20 bird single-barrel, J. D. Pratt (Townsville) 18/20 (first), B. Collis, D. Peberdy and Jack Melville, div. second, third and fourth money, each 17/20. M. Johnston and D. Casey, div., 5th and 6th each 15/20. Special 12/14 yarder trophy, G. Neilson 15/20. Final sweepstake, 5 birds, S.B., div., W. Carrington, R. White, J. Bray, E. Neilson and S. Ball, each 5/5. Fred Blackman, Townsville club secretary spent a few days in Sydney last month, arriving by plane on 12th and returning north on 22nd. His mission concerned something of the affairs of a new car recently produced in Australia. He kept his weather eye open for supplies for his up-to-date Northern club as well.

TAMBO VALLEY (Vict.)—Ensay was the rendezvous for the Tambo Valley Club's late 1948 meeting. Although clays were not available in extensive quantities the club management arranged a most enjoyable programme for all competitors. Results were: No. 1, 5 birds, outright to T. J. Sandy 5/5, 12 yarders prize, T. J.

McCarthy 4/5. No. 2, 5 birds, in conjunction with aggregate for cup, won outright by F. Voke 4/5. No. 3, 5 birds, "Tambo" (Bob O'Day) won from T. J. Sandy (Secretary) 7/9. No. 4, missout, also won by "Tambo" (Bob O'Day) 5/6. The club reports great improvement among several of the younger shooters. Twenty-five guns competed.

ROCKHAMPTON (Qld.)—Warm sultry weather with a gusty south easterly breeze made conditions difficult for competitors at Rockhampton when the State premier double-barrel championship was decided. The winner was J. Harris, now a resident of Maryborough (Qld.) who formerly lived at Rockhampton. Harris won clearly with a score of 23/25 from J. Smith (Home Hill) and H. Goodson (Rockhampton). The latter pair tied and Smith won the shoot-off. The place-getters were well ahead of the rest of the field. Others to secure cuts during the day were: E. Pierce, W. McLaughlin, C. Clarke, W. Waldron, B. Lisle, J. Wigginton, P. Rosel, J. Inslade, S. Bourke and J. Brumm. The club's recently appointed Secretary H. H. Whitnee, who took over after the lamented passing of the late Keith Moffat, is fitting into the job in first class style. He has spendid

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administrative ability and uses it to the satisfaction of all.

HAY (NSW)—Mid- December saw the official opening of the Hay Club's new shooting area which is laid out on the local showgrounds. The club's initial major event was the 1948 New South Wales Double-rise championship and this attracted shooters from many centres. The efforts of Secretary Jack Houston and his many assistants were plainly observed when the new appointments caught the eyes of competitors and spectators. The title event went to the only Melbourne competitor, Roy Johns, who returned the very good score of 10/12 pairs. The Griffith champion duck-shot, Don Muir, was runner-up with 7/12 and the front-marker, "Red" (W. L. F. Robertson), son of the former Deniliquin president, W. F. Robertson, revealed the best form he has yet shown, by running third with a score of 6/12. E. V. Cox (Hay) won the front-marker trophy after a shoot-off with E. Evans, Stan Briggs (Yenda) and Leo. Ridge (Deniliquin). Other events resulted, £25 handicap,

(43 nominations), won outright by L. Bowditch (Griffith) 19/20, eight others divided the remaining prize money, they were, R. Johns, J. Houston, Don McNeil, E. V. Cox, M. Crowe, A. Kirby, E. Lugsden and Leo Ridge. Jack Lord, Deniliquin club's official referee had charge of the shoot and carried out his duties with his usual efficiency.

HOLBROOK (NSW). — The two day meeting at Holbrook on December 27 and 28 was a most attractive meeting and shooters who competed for the first time were generous in their praise of the hospitality of the President (Ollie Cox) and the club generally. Sultry conditions made shooting scores a little disappointing. Results (26th), Eastern Riverina D.B. Championship, W. C. O'Brien 17/20, first, G. L. Bragg (Albury) 16/20, (2), Fred Skate (Blackburn) 15/20, (3), front-marker, Alex Burns (Wangaratta). £25 handicap, Ray Hall (Wagga) first, Bob Ferris (Jerilderie) second, Norman Plunkett, Reg Plunkett and Lox Creasy (Mangoplah) equal third. No. 3, 5 birder, div., L. L.

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Creasy, R. Ferris, G. Bragg, C. Wise, F. Skate, N. Plunkett and W. C. O'Brien. No. 4, 5 pairs Deauville Doubles, won outright by Fred Skate—"Pop" Shipard (Brocklesby). No. 5, 3 pairs Double-rise, div., E. H. Brenk and L. Creasy. No. 6, missout, outright to Geoff Bragg. (27th)—No. 1, 5 birds, div., "John" (John Cox), "Doch-an-Doris," L. Creasy and N. Plunkett 9/9. No. 2, round of skeet, L. L. Creasy 13/20, Fred Skate 12/20, G. L. Bragg 11/20. No. 3, £50 handicap, E. H. Brenk 19/20, Allan Gray, Bill O'Brien and Fred Skate, each 18/20, div. second, "Doch-and-Doris," Ted Matthews (Bowna), G. M. Osborne (Tarcutta) and Fred Fitzallen (East Melbourne) each 17/20 divided remaining prizes. The front marker's award in the £50 handicap was won by "John" (John Cox) with 13/20. "John" is still attending school at Wagga and is the only son of the club President Ollie Cox. His success was very well received and there was no more delighted spectator witnessing his son's first success than Ollie himself. Dave Watson, as visiting President of the Australian Club at East Burwood, was called upon to present the trophies, and this duty he carried out in his most jovial manner. His thoughtful remarks when handing "John" his first trophy revealed a depth of feeling and pleasure at the young sportsman's success.

GRIFFITH (NSW).—The local club's Christmas and Championship combined meeting was one of the most successful club fixtures ever held. A special championship shield presented by Mr. Geoffrey Bush in memory of his brother, Norman, was sponsored for the first time. A great battle for club championship honours and also being the first to have his name inscribed on the shield, resulted in Secretary Ted Fromholtz winning from veteran Bill Gibbs. "Frommie" is described as "unbuttoning his top button" and shooting like a real champion to win 17/20. Jack Semmler (Barellan) was third. Others close-up were Don Muir, Ron Gow and Lloyd Bowditch. Jack McWilliams won the novice award 7/10. The Christmas awards which followed saw the majority "take something home."

BOWRAL (NSW).—Shooters from Gunning, Wollongong, Young, New-

W. Ruddy of Wollongong 19/20 from Rueben Evans (Gouburn) 18/20. W. Stonex (Turrumurra), S. Shepherd (Bowral) and Sid Lamb (Goulburn) tied for third with the placing going to Stonex 1/22. Bruce Hill won a five-birder from Ruddy and Mal Fuller 12/13, 11/13, 8/10, respectively. Cec Medway Gunning won first money in the £25 handicap 15/15 from Bruce Hill 14/15 and Fuller and W. McCloy equal in third place. Shooting was held up on two occasions by rain and sharp thunderstorms. As rain was then badly needed there were no complaints.

LATROBE (Tas.).—The Christmas shoot at Latrobe was very well attended and Secretary Mac Johnstone was in best organising form after a fortnight's fishing at Great Lake. Results were: No. 1, 5 bird novice, div., W. Moody and J. Burnes 5/5. No. 2, 5 bird, Mitchell Trophy, won by Neil Frith (Launceston) 14/15 from Cyril Poxon (Launceston) 13/15. These two returned the only possibles. No. 3, Thos. Bonney Memorial Trophy, 10 birds, won outright by C. Poxon 10/10 from W. Taylor and Rex Powell each 15/16. No. 4, £10 handicap, outright first by D. A. Brett (Devonport) 10/10, D. Forsyth, N. Frith and Alf Poxon equal 11/12.

PEAK HILL (NSW).—The Boxing Day meeting at Peak Hill again drew a good attendance. The Western Districts of New South Wales double-rise championship was the main event. The 1948 N.S.W. single barrel title holder, W. J. McPhee of Dubbo, won outright with a score of 7/12 pairs. Three tied for the places, Clem Corcoran (Peak Hill Club Secretary), D. Aitken and Fred Brook (Gulgandra and Hon Association Vice-President), each with 6/12 pairs. Corcoran won the tie shoot, 7/13 from Aitken and Brook, each 6/13. J. C. Lindsay (Dubbo) and F. Elliott (Peak Hill) staged a brilliant shoot-off in one of the minor events, Lindsay winning 35/38 to Elliott's 34/38. A ten birder was cut by Ken Cross, Fred Brook, W. J. McPhee and Clem Corcoran 10/10.

GRIFFITH (NSW).—The New Year's Day meeting at Griffith attracted the record attendance for a Riverina fixture of 88 guns. Organisation facilities were taxed to the utmost—

COBURG GUN CLUB

GROUND LOCATION: MATHIESON STREET, NORTH COBURG

Saturday, 5th February, 1949

EVENT No. 1

7 BIRD SKEET

CASH. Entry 5/-

EVENT No. 2

CLUB SKEET CHAMPIONSHIP

First, second and third, 14 yds. Trophies

Sash to winner. Entry £1

EVENT No. 3

10 Bird Double Barrel

First, Second, third Trophies.

Entry 8/-

The Club will also shoot on the following dates:

SATURDAY, 19th FEBRUARY, 1949

SATURDAY, 5th MARCH, 1949

Programmes to be announced later.

CR. S. COLE, J.P.,
President.

C. J. COLLEDGE, Secretary,
12 Adler Grove,
Merlynston, N.14.

castle, Sydney and Goulburn, with a good sprinkling of local talent competed last month for the South Coast and Tablelands double barrel championship at the Wongabri grounds of the Berrima (Bowral) Club. The championship was won outright by so much so that the club is contemplating the installation of a second trap and lay-out in order to cope with the growing interest. The principal event, the New South Wales double-barrel championship, 25 birds from 20 yards, is the blue riband State title. The day's shooting resulted in a complete triumph for Essendon shooter, Jack A. McCraith. He won 24/25, missing on the 23rd round. Apart from the miss he used first barrels only. Geo Biggs, who missed his first two releases over the original course of the match, and Roy Johns tied for the places, each 23/25. Johns missed on rounds 4 and 17. The tie shoot lasted five rounds, Johns broke the lot and Biggs failed to cover his final disc. Thus the placings were, Johns, second 28/30, Biggs, third, 27/30. Eddie Daley of Deniliquin won the 12 yarders award 26/35. The second event of the day was shot at 15 birds from Association handicaps for the magnificent Rice Miller's Trophy. Again Jack McCraith won outright, with the solitary possible of 15 straight. "Nimrod" (Harry Roberts of Glen Iris, Vict.), Leo Ridge (Deniliquin) and Tom Whilans (Narrandera, NSW) each returned totals of 14/15 and divided the attached money for the second, third and fourth places. Walter Woods, Peak Hill Club's President, won the 12 yarders trophy. Fifth prize went to Mervyn Webb of Leeton (NSW).

BATHURST (NSW). — The two day meeting at Bathurst late in 1948 produced good fields throughout. First day results were: No. 1, sweepstake, div., J. N. Brazier, A. Morris, J. Berry, T. Ginty, A. Weine, V. Eather, Edwards and Ridley. No. 2, (same), div., J. Ryan, R. Evans, H. Picker, Ridley, Bressington, J. C. Lindsay, J. Berry, M. Wotton, Humphries, L. O'Donaghue and Eather. No. 3, £20 trophy, E. Weine, second, div., H. Lupp and Berry. No. 4 (sweepstake), div., Brazier, H. Picker, Bressington, J. Berry, L. Hughes, Weine and Byers. (Second day). — £20 trophy, R. Evans,

sweepstake, div., Eather, Lindsay, Ford, C. Corcoran, Goodfellow, Ginty, Byers, Mason and Morris. No. 2, div., W. McDonald (Sydney), Ridley, Bressington, Corcoran, Morris, Berry, Campbell, W. Picker and F. Fish. No. 3, div., Ridley, Corcoran, Humphries, Campbell, W. Picker, Mason and J. O'Donaghue. Missout, div., H. Picker, Byers, Eather and W. J. McPhee. £75 handicap, div., R. Evans (Goulburn), G. Bell (Young), Jim Ryan (Bathurst), L. Humphries (Bathurst), A. Campbell, A. Ford. £25 trophy, W. A. McDonald (Sydney). Sweepstake, div., H. Lupp, A. Campbell, E. Ginty, L. Ridley (Bigga), R. W. Picker (Bigga), G. Bell (Young), G. G. Beaumont (Young), Ted Bruce (Canewindra). Missout, won by Geo Bell (Young).

COBURG (Vict.). — The Club's two track lay-out was taxed to capacity to cope with the big muster of shooters which attended the Christmas shoot. Many side attractions were added for the interest of competitors during the day. Events were all five birders and these resulted: No. 1, "Peters" 17/18, Frank Cautero 16/18. No. 2, J. J. Dawson 11/11, Hendrickson 10/11. No. 3, "Peters" 15/15. No. 4, J. A. McCraith 13/13. The opening shoot for 1949 was held on January 8. The five events resulted, No. 1, 5 bird, D.B., div., J. Hyett, F. Sydenham, 8/8. No. 2, 10 birds, D.B. R. Sydenham 14/14, "Oigle" 13/14, J. Hyett 11/12, special trophy to E. A. Forley. No. 3, 5 birds, J. Hyett 9/9, K. Steedman 8/9. No. 4, 5 birds, div.,

Riverina Hotel HOLBROOK. N.S.W.

The Districts Leading Hotel.

First Class Cuisine.

Only Best Quality Stocked

On the Highway between
Sydney and Melbourne

Where Shooters Congregate

N.R.M.A. House

P.O. Box 4. Phone Holbrook 23

WILLIAM C. (Bill) O'BRIEN,

—Proprietor—

ELTHAM DISTRICT GUN CLUB

(Affiliated A.C.P.T.S.A.)

GROUND LOCATION—16 MILES FROM
MELBOURNE G.P.O.

Saturday, 5th February, 1949

EVENT No. 1

5 BIRD DOUBLE BARREL SWEEPSTAKE
5/- Nomination

EVENT No. 2

10 BIRD DOUBLE BARREL HANDICAP
First Trophy, 10 Guinea Mantel Clock, Second, Third
and Front Markers Trophies. Ladies Sweepstake on
Trophy winners for Stockings
Nomination 10/- 5/- Optional Sweepstake.

EVENT No. 3

5 BIRD DOUBLE BARREL HANDICAP
First, Second, Third and Front Markers Cup Trophies
Nomination 5/-

FIRST EVENT COMMENCES 1.30 SHARP

Watch for Programme our next shoot—February 19

Afternoon Tea Available

Many thanks Shooters for making our opening a success.
Watch for details of Big Return Thanks Shoot to be
arranged.

CR. F. V. SQUIRE, J.P., Pres. B. T. TAYLOR, Hon. Secty.,
Sherbourne Road, Kent Hughes Road,
Montmorency, Vict. Eltham, Vict.
Phone JL7119 Phones: Elt 117, JW 4775

SHOOTERS!!

CLUB SECRETARIES

I have a fine selection of guaran-
teed second-hand trap and field
guns by first class English and
American makers at reasonable
prices. Inspection invited.

Clay Traps available

HARRY WATTS

50 O'Heas Street, Coburg, Vic.

Phone FL 1569

"Blackie" and L. Wall 8/8. No. 5.
missout, outright to C. Mudford.
(22/1/49) A good break of 34 straight
by J. Hyett of Sunshine was the best
effort on Jan. 22. Results were: No.
1, 5 birds, W. Booth 6/6. No. 2, 15
birder, D.B., tie shoot, J. J. Dawson
15/16, "Peters" 14/16, J. Hyett 15/17,
14 yarder, S. Eldridge (Colac) 14/17.
No. 3, 5 birds, J. Hyett 17/17, H. Eld-
ridge (Colac) 16/17. No. 4 (same), J.
Hyett 8/8. No. 5, (same), div., "Ingi",
Dawson and Eldridge.

AUSTRALIAN (Vict.).—The Aus-
tralian Club's Christmas shoot atten-
dance attracted the record club field
of 99 competitors. As a result only
one event, a 20 birder could be staged.
Strange as it may seem only one
shooter, Frank Brown of Dandenong,
was equal to a possible score of 20
straight and this won him the first
ham. Others with close-up scores
were: A. H. Brenk, "Doncaster",
"Bendigo," J. P. Vale, Mjr.Gen. W.
Bridgeford 19/20, F. Tuck, John
Bryant, G. R. Cummins, "Peters," R.
Longmore, "Nimrod," "Pampas"
18/20. H. Knight, W. Delaney, F.
Skate, C. Thorn, A. C. Tie, H. Bur-
rows, R. Johns, W. Bloomfield, C.
Daish, Geo and Gavan Daniels 17/20.
The opening 1949 shoot on Jan. 15

was also well attended. E. G. Biggs
and Eddie Brenk returned breaks of
45 and 34 respectively, despite the
hazard of occasional heavy rain. No.
1, 10 birds, A. H. Brenk 15/15, "Ingi",
14/15, "Bruino" 13/14, 12/14 yarder
"Double-H," novice, E. S. Smith. No.
2 (same), E. G. Biggs 20/20, A. H.
Brenk 19/20, "Eskdale" 17/18, novice,
Jan Evans (Griffith) 5/10, 13/14 yard-
er, L. Byrne 14/15. No. 3, (same),
"Eskdale" 24/24, "Dick" 22/24, Biggs
16/17, novice, J. Hodge (Parkes,
NSW), 12/14 yarder, J. McInnes.

SALE (Vict.).—Over 30 shooters
attended the recent shoot conducted
by the Sale Club. Attendances are
continuing to improve at each fixture.
Results were: No. 1, 5 birds, div., L. J.
Robinson (Secretary), and P. Barlow
5/5. No. 2, 10 birds, D.B., div., R.
Glover, Perce Taterson and G. Park-
inson 9/10. No. 3, 10 birds, D.B.,
div., A. Harrison, R. Barlow and R.
Glover 9/10. No. 4 (same), div., G.
Williams, R. Glover and Stuckey
10/10. Glover won the three trophies
attached to main ten birders.

FOOTSCRAY (Vict.).— Frank
Litchfield's organising efforts brought
a bumper field at Footscray Club's
Christmas fixture on December 18.
Prizes were available for all com-
petitors and none left without "fluid
in glass enclosures," or at least some
token of Christmas reminder. No. 1,
5 birds, J. Hyett 10/10, "Double-H,"
9/10, E. Rogers 8/9. No. 2, 5 birds,
Norman Guy 7/7, K. Veall 6/7, F.
Sydenham 5/7. No. 3, 5 birds, M.
Zenner 11/11, D. Watson 10/11, J. A.
McCraith 10/10. No. 4, S.B., missout, N.
Guy 6/6, F. Cauntero 5/6. Average
fields of 40 competed at the opening
1949 shoot. The programme consist-
ed of two £10 bird handicaps and
missout, each at 10 birds. No. 1, div.,
Jack Moore, F. Sydenham and A.
Hendricksen 10/10. No. 2, J. Hyett
16/16, J. Moore 15/16, third div., F.
Sydenham and Hendricksen 11/12. No.
3, div., J. Hyett, E. Rogers and Hen-
dricksen.



"Tips" and "Tails"

Sale Club (V.) now one of the premier organisations in East Gippsland proposes to conduct one of its Gippsland title shoots on its own grounds on Saturday, March 19 next. President, Lou Bourbaud, who is a leading tonorial artist in the Gippsland centre, proposes to entertain visitors on the "blackies" after the shoot and the following day. He is the owner of a smart launch which will carry at least 20 shooters and their equipment. Lou is looking forward to a good muster and would be particularly interested in the appearance of some metropolitan shooters. Among his many additional activities Lou interests himself in orchestral work and last year with his team polled very well in the National Amateur Hour competition.

A recent letter from the English Association, Australian was complimented on its introduction of "official referees." Australia's lead is likely to be followed abroad in this regard.

A special "Visitors' Day" shoot has been arranged for Friday, March 11, commencing at 1.30 p.m. by the Australian Club at East Burwood grounds (Vict.) to cater for visiting and local shooters desirous of having a practice series prior to the big Association days on March 12 and 14. The programme will include a 30 birder from Association handicaps. As this will be the venue of the Champion of Champions Cup (Australian National Title) and International Match shooters are advised to take this opportunity for practice.

The Mayor of Hay (Ald. J. P. Flood) declared the new ground open when the Hay Club, held its opening shoot recently. Clay pigeon shooting is a new sport at Hay and with its present official backing looks to have a bright future. One large party of locals and visitors enjoyed a good

day's wild pig hunting by courtesy of Mr. O. K. I. Tyson, of Ulonga Station, on the day following the club fixture. To a number this type of hunting was entirely new and one or two found it necessary to "find a gallop" at most inopportune moments when an infuriated pig got to close quarters.

Griffith Club's hospitality lived right up to the enviable reputation it has built up when shooters were entertained on the evening of New Year's Day shoot. Considerable organisation was necessary to ensure that the record number of competitors and spectators were well supplied. Secretary Ted Fromholtz and his co-ordinator, Claude Carnell, worked with their usual verve and acumen and the result was a most enjoyable evening. The club house at Griffith—now one of the best in Australia's Ma State—lends itself admirably to the entertainment and social side of club activities and the favourable comments on this very fine structure were legion.

Dr. Joe Sertori, Griffith Club President, is fitting into his job like a veteran. During the entertainment provided following the Griffith shoot, the genial doctor produced his 8 m.m. projector and his most interesting series of films. An unusual form of entertainment the films were of current interest, including shots of various shooters at earlier shoots both at Griffith and other Riverina centres. The throwing on the screen of the short, "The Mongoose and the Death Adder" was apparently so real and life-like that it had a few shuffling in their seats and one or two were noticed "back-peddling" towards the counter position held by host Fromholtz.

It is always pleasing to hear from long-standing supporters of the Association and recently the Geelong veteran, Walter Wilkinson, dropped a brief note which conveyed, "My best wishes to you and the Clay Association for 1949." Few words, but full of meaning and very much to the

point. (Thanks W.B.W., we hope to see you competing again in the big shoots.—Ed.).

Ed. Brenk the Burwood (Vict.) shooter journeyed with Dave Watson to the Holbrook Club's two day meeting at the end of 1948. Brenk found his best form and won congratulations for his good shooting in winning the £50 handicap outright.

Allan Gray of Tiverton (Holbrook) was another under persistent notice at the Holbrook meeting. Good sport Allan and one of the best of the Holbrook Club's newer members.

Bill O'Brien's win in the Eastern Riverina double barrel title at Holbrook on Boxing Day was warmly applauded. It was his first title success and the varied remarks punched in his direction gave the impression of utmost cordiality. Bill is a certain competitor in the forthcoming Champion of Champions Meeting (Australian National Championship) and on present form is certain to give a good account.

Geoff Bragg, Ollie Cox, Bill O'Brien, Terry Green, Allan Gray and Ted Matthews, made the usual

"spirited" arrival by plane at the Griffith fixture on 1/1/49. The Scotch and Three Star mascots could be clearly noted as the pilot circled the ground on arrival and in farewell. Geoff Bragg took over the controls at one stage but brought down the "sportsmen's wrath" on his head for "finding too many clouds."

Griffith Club presented Ted Fromholtz and Claude Carnell with specially engraved cartridge holders in appreciation of the great effort by both men to bring the Club and its grounds to its present state of perfection and efficiency. The presentation was made by Club President, Dr. Sertori. Both sportsmen were taken completely by surprise and feelingly responded. The presentations were a justifiable token of appreciation by members.

Harry (H. P. L.) O'Shea the Ballarat veteran, like Walter Wilkinson, usually one of the "first out of the barrier" with registration after the start of each year—this year was no exception. In a brief note he remarks, "I find Australian Clay Pigeon Shooting 'News' very interesting and wish to compliment yourself and all associated with its production. With

AUSTRALIAN CLAY TARGET CLUB

INCORPORATING BLACKBURN—NOBEL CLUBS
(Affiliated A.C.P.T.S.A.)

GROUND—BURWOOD ROAD, EAST BURWOOD

VISITORS' DAY

FRIDAY, 11th MARCH, at 1.30 p.m.

THREE TRAPS OPERATING TO CATER FOR

International and Australian National Championship and all Visiting Shooters.

AFTERNOON TEAS AND LIMITED "AMMO" ON GROUND

EVENT No. 1 — 5 BIRD SWEEPSTAKE
EVENT No. 2 — 30 BIRD HANDICAP

Association Handicaps

First, Second, Third Trophies, also 13/14 yarders and 12 yarders Trophies

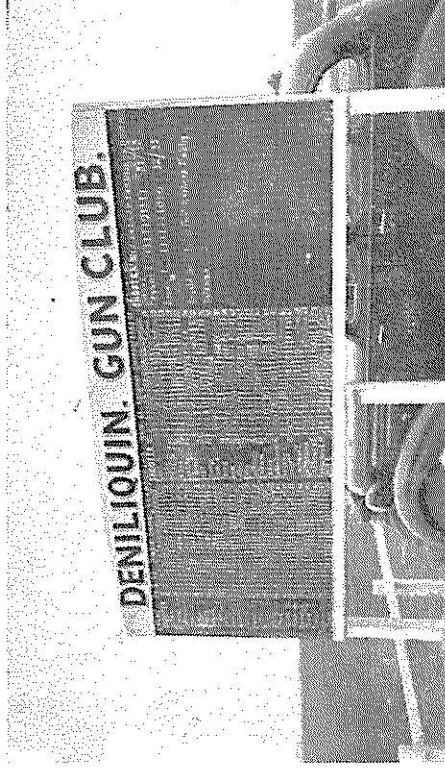
(First Trophy is Gents Cyma Wrist Watch).

D. WATSON,
President.

A. F. JOHNSON, Hon. Secretary,
69 Victoria St., Melbourne.
Phone FJ 2760

DENILIQVIN GUN CLUB

(Affiliated A.C.P.T.S.A.)



Easter Saturday, 16th April

AT 10 A.M. SHARP

RIVERINA MIXED BIRDS CHAMPIONSHIP

A.C.P.T.S.A. RULES AND CONDITIONS

— To be followed by —

£50 Handicap 20 Birds £50

Easter Monday, 18th April

AT 9.30 A.M.

FIRST EVENT

Commonwealth Deauville Doubles Championship

A.C.P.T.S.A. RULES AND CONDITIONS

First, Second and Third Trophies (6 Trophies in all)

— To be followed by —

£50 Handicap 20 Birds £50

SWEEPSTAKES TO FOLLOW — TIME PERMITTING

Excellent Luncheon and Afternoon Tea Arranged
Booth and Soft Drinks Available

FOR ACCOMMODATION WRITE OR RING 467

GARRY DALY, President.
Phone 155

LEO RIDGE, Hon. Secretary,
49 Cressy Street, Deniliquin, N.S.W.

best wishes for 1949." (Thanks Harry, your comments greatly appreciated.—Ed.).

Jack Dawson of Beaumaris (Vict.) is probably the greatest dog-fancier trap-shot in a combined sphere in Australia. He attended the Griffith fixture and as might be expected he brought along his well appointed trailer which was veritably "full of class dog." His Australian champion (retired) Labrador was an attraction in himself. This splendid dog has never been defeated in any Agricultural or Dog Show in Australia, and his progeny have been worth considerably over four figures in sales to amiable John Dawson. Feeding time "at the trailer" usually attracted most of the nearby shooters and as many local enthusiasts as could find room to get a glimpse. Jack has long been a worthy supporter of the Association and served for a period as a member of the Executive committee.

Jim Theodore, Griffith Club committee-member and real clay pigeon shooting enthusiast, brought out his big guns of organisation and fed the record field at his Garden of Roses Cafe on New Year's Day in record time. There are few more popular sportsmen in the Riverina than Jim and his co-operation with Griffith Club does much to relieve any misgiving that may arise in the way of food supply to big crowds.

J. M. Scott of Mount Beauty introduced a complimentary note in a recent letter which accompanied his registration fee. He writes, "allow me to express appreciation of the good work your publication 'Association News' is doing for shooters in outlying districts. It keeps us up-to-date with all shoots that are being held and no doubt saves Club Secretaries quite a lot of work in sending out circulars, etc. All the best for 1949."

Fourteen-year-old Ian Evans, of Griffith (NSW) won a 12 yarder trophy at East Burwood on January 15. It was his first attempt in open company. The lad has a bright future in the shooting world. He is a son of Eric Evans of Griffith.

The Champion of Champions Cup (Australian National Championship) is likely to be graced in 1949—for the

first time—with a lady competitor in Miss Nyla Fankhauser, daughter of the famous "Dubbs" (Vic Fankhauser). The young lady secured her matriculation pass at recent final University exams. Miss Fankhauser has registered the shooting name of "Nyla" and will in future use this nom-de-plume. She intends taking up school-teaching as a career.

Jack McCraith's form at Griffith on New Year's Day augurs well for a repeat performance for 1949 International High-gun. In 1948 he gained this honour by stopping 98/100 in the marathon International. His unruffled style gives him the appearance of having complete confidence at all times, especially in big matches.

Another noticed showing greatly improved form at Griffith was J. C. Lindsay of Dubbo. With sufficient practice Lindsay could quite easily attain International standard. He has had considerable experience as an instructor in the use of firearms. A real student of clay pigeon shooting his success in the sport seems assured.

Rand Clay Bird Shooting Club (NSW) has formed up and is now affiliated with the Association. This club looks forward to receiving support from strong nearby Riverina clubs.

Another New South Wales Club to affiliate is Ganmain. Young in experience Ganmain hopes to instal the latest equipment and sponsor a really big club.

FOR ALL

Shooters

Requirements

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PTY. LTD.

Wagga Wagga, N.S.W.

Deniliquin Club's two day shoot extending over the Easter vacation in April is advertised in this issue, as per the double page medium. Easter Saturday (April 16) will commence with the Riverina Mixed Birds title followed by a £50 handicap. Easter Monday (April 18) the Commonwealth Mixed Birds championship and a further £50 handicap is listed. Club officials point out that there are 11 hotels in Deniliquin, but those desirous of securing first class accommodation should book without delay. Reservations can be secured by ringing Leo Ridge at Deniliquin 467 or President, Garry Daly at Deniliquin 155. The club is preparing special entertainment for visitors and competitors and the weekend promises to be a memorable occasion.

Saturday, February 19, has been set down for the deciding of the Tas-

manian Double-barrel Championship under the supervision of the Hobart Gun Club at Brighton (Tas.). The usual A.C.P.T.S.A. conditions will prevail. The minor events will include a £10 handicap at 10 birds. Two five birders are also listed. Shooting will commence at 11 a.m.

The Young (NSW) veteran, George Bell, showed his best form at Bathurst recently and was rarely out of the prize money. George reached International standard in 1948 at East Burwood and on his present form should go close to winning another International badge this year. Another to secure a major trophy during the meeting was W. A. (Bill) McDonald Sydney's leviathan book-

★ ★ ★

GUN GOSSIP

(By "NORTH COUNTRY.")

Continued from December Issue

As for the 28-bore with choked barrels, it proved a sure killer at well over 30 yards. Indeed, a friend who once used this gun exclusively for a whole season's game shooting assured me that he noticed no difference between its killing power and that of his ordinary 12-bore. This was high praise for a small gun, for which the maximum load was 5 oz. of shot. All the same this does not mean that equal power is possessed by the small bore. That cannot be, and no purpose can be served by making any such claim. What is does show is that in the hands of a good shot (which my friend most certainly was) this small load can be effective for any normal work. And in my opinion it points the moral to the more effective use of light loads for general shooting.

A small bore needs to be choked if it is to hold its own against heavier and more powerful guns. At the same time it needs to be used by a good shot who can place the narrower (choked) pattern on the target.

For the 12-bore man can be comfortably using wider improved cylinder pattern and commanding all the range he needs.

Opinions seem to differ widely on the subject of first guns for youths. Some men advocate a light 12-bore from the start, with the idea of getting a boy accustomed to the kind of gun he will use in adult life. At the same time they consider that it is better for a boy to have a man-sized gun capable of killing at all sporting ranges and one which will not give room for any sort of inferiority complex. Provided the gun is really light enough, a 12-bore will do. But I think a 20 or 28-bore is, on the whole, preferable, the former being the more suitable. But in the case of a boy and a small-bore gun, I suggest that if he is about 13 and using a single-barrel, the boring should be improved cylinder.

A friend, as a youth, began his shooting with a fully choked single 28-bore. This imposed a handicap on a great deal of his shooting and at

the same time rather encouraged the taking of long shots. Neither situation is satisfactory.

What the young shooter wants is a light weapon which will give a generous pattern at 25 yards so that he can enjoy the best chance at 75 per cent. of his shooting.

Questions are frequently asked about the actual difference in the degree of construction between improved cylinder and full choke, and it does not seem to be sufficiently known that the former is in reality a very slight choke itself. This point should be better known than it appears to be for it would encourage and give confidence in the use of improved cylinder bored guns. The actual degree of constriction in a cylinder may be as much as five-thousandths of an inch in the diameter of the bore, and will be in

the form of a gradual taper. If you have this full measurement of constriction in your gun, you should realise that you have a greatly improved bore over that of the old true or plain cylinder. It is this which explains the superior killing power of some guns which are not designated as chokes. They are narrowed down by a good five-thousandths of an inch, and they may also be recessed or slightly enlarged behind the constriction, so as to give an extra effect to the taper at the muzzle. A gun like this is still officially an improved cylinder. But it will be a very deadly killer without the smashing effect which seems to characterise many official choke bores. The owner of such a gun should always feel confident that he is powerfully armed. To go to the other extreme and have a full choke means that the degree of constriction will be forty-thousandths of an inch. This is the maximum, though I dare say certain guns of Belgian or Continental manufac-

ture may go a few thousandths higher. If they do, it is doubtful whether any useful purpose is served. Certainly not in ordinary game shooting. In any case the essential quality for a pattern is regularity and consistency. I have known very tightly choked guns that were inclined to ball parts of the charge. Which means, in other words, that while far too many pellets are clustered in sections of the pattern, far too few are in the remaining sections. This is the worst kind of pattern. I am not, however, trying to infer that first-class patterns cannot be expected from very heavily choked guns.

The best shooting I have experienced from heavy chokes has been from guns in which the cone leading to the constriction has been of fair length. I prefer a good $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch here and a fair length in the parallel. The extremely abrupt cone and short parallel right at the muzzle seems to cause too much of a sudden jar to the charge and probably disruption and abrasion. This leads to generally unsatisfactory results, erratic patchy patterns and bad shooting. High percentage shooting and very regular patterns may be obtained where guns are bored generally a bit on the wide side in relation to their charge. This may mean some slight reduction in the ballistics, but it is in a quarter where a small concession can easily be afforded. Some of the excellent results obtained from the two-inch chambered 12-bores have been due to a combination of similar factors. In the after case, actually, it is not a matter of a generously bored barrel in relation to the charge, but of a small charge in a normal barrel of its designation. The results, however, are similar in that good, regular and well-distributed patterning is experienced. But the boring of barrels is always subject to the proof regulations.

Mention of the mis-use of full chokes, recalls a statement by a correspondent concerning a duck rising from a channel 50 yards away. He says, 'Nine men out of ten would 'have a rattle' at that duck. Would they kill it? No. The chances are they would knock out some feathers and turn with a grin saying, 'Stung that one a bit, eh!' Only too true.

But what else have they done? They have scared away every duck, snipe or bird in the vicinity with nothing to show for it. The man who has his barrels bored improved cylinder would have known that so far as he was concerned, that duck could not be killed. But since it has betrayed itself, he would have marked it down for future reference so to speak, yet in the meantime walking steadily along, he would have had a reasonable chance of more ducks, or even a couple of snipe or maybe a hare with equally reasonable chance of killing either. Which is about what I imagine every one desires to do. I am convinced that the knowledge that his gun is fully choked, a man is tempted to take shots far beyond killing range." There is a lot of good sense in range.

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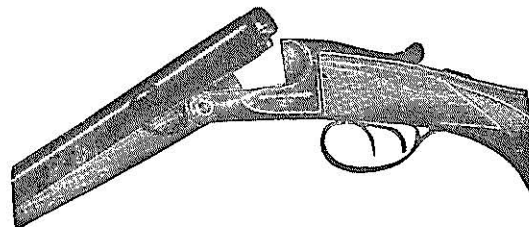


Ten Years Ago

In January 1939 three outstanding items are recalled. "Calrossie" (J. W. Sutherland) won his 79th title—he later brought this figure to over the 100. Fred G. Tricks, Sandringham's Town Clerk, who shot under the name of "Shoubra" won the premier title of the Victorian C.T. Club at Bentleigh, with a run of 20/20. (Fred was National Champion in 1934). Frank R. Hockey (Association patron) left on a tour of South Africa. In February 1939 the Tasmanian Gun Club, then shooting on its King's Meadows grounds, conducted the Commonwealth double-barrel championship for the first time. A big contingent of Melbourne shooters attended and those who journeyed across the Stormy Straits which commemorate the name of the famous navigator, Bass, in the Straits steamer "Taroonna," can still remember, with no great enthusiasm, the pork dinner and similar farewell presentations which seemed to permeate much of the proceedings. The championship was won by J. Bryant (Vict.) 23/25 from the late Lew Bertram. Equal

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Good Arms**



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Phone MA 3540

"FISHING TACKLE TO TACKLE FISHING"

third was Pat Reid (Seymour, Vict.), H. Munnings (Kempston, Tas.), others close up were Bob Holmes (Moree, NSW), Harry McIntosh (Seymour, Vict.), Bill Rainbird (Launceston), Ted Holmes (Moree, NSW), and "Calrossie" (Vict.) 21/25, Ron Green of Launceston 20/25 was next. The mainland party of shooters presented a special trophy for the best Tasmanian performer of the day and this went to Ron Henry of Weegee, now a member of the Latrobe Club. A £25 handicap on the same programme was divided by Ron Henry, Ron Green, Alf Poxon and late L. Bert-ram, each 10/10.

Shooting at Benthleigh during the same month the Commonwealth Mixed Birds title went to Les L. Schilling of Ormond, 29/26 after a double tie shoot with "Walsrode" (late Jim Wildman) 27/36. It was in this event that the then prominent New Zealand jockey Turoa Webster held a winning lead up to the final section at double-ribe. Needing only a very moderate score to win outright, Webster failed to stop a solitary pair—although he

broke all the right-hand birds. (Web- is now a trainer in his home country New Zealand).



Association Donors

The Association desires again to ex- end its grateful thanks and apprecia- tion to the undermentioned donors of cash and trophies for the forthcoming Champion of Champions Cup (Aus- tralian National Championship) and International Meeting to be held on the Australian Club's grounds at East Burwood (Vict.) on March 12 and 14 next.

Imperial Chemical Industries A. & N.Z. Ltd.—clay pigeons; Donald Mac- kintosh, Champion of Champions Per- petual Cup and replica; Hartley's Ltd., Perpetual International High-gun cup and trophy valued £5/5/-; John M. Wilson, Esq. (President A.C.P.T.S.A.) £10/10/-; Fred Brooks (Esq. (Gil- gandra, NSW), £5/5/-; W. E. H. Rainbird, Esq. (Launceston, Tas.),

£5/5/-; J. J. Dawson, Esq. (Beau- maris, Vict.), £5/5/-; A. E. Poxon, Esq. (Launceston, Tas.), £5/5/-; J. R. Schutt (Footscray, Vict.), £5; Evans & Balfour Pty. Ltd. (Melbourne) Trophy valued £5/5/-; A. F. John- son, Esq. (Balwyn, Vict.), trophy valued £4/10/-; A. E. Richards, Esq., (Echuca, Vict.), £3/3/-; Harris-Wil- liams Press Pty. Ltd. (Melbourne), £2/10/-; G. L. Bragg, Esq., (Albury, NSW), £2/2/-; F. E. Brown, Esq., (Dandenong), £2/2/-; J. O. Cox, Esq. (Mangoplah, NSW), £2/2/-; Frank R. Hockey, Esq. (Toorak, Vict.), £2/2/-; V. L. Fankhauser (Burwood, Vict.), £2/2/-; H. G. James, Esq., (Melbourne) £2/2/-; Wm. C. O'Brien (Holbrook, NSW), £2/2/-; John M. Tyquin, Esq. (Hobart, Tas.), £2/2/-; D. B. O'Callaghan, Esq. (Brighton, Vict.), £2/2/-; J. N. Brazier, Esq. (Bathurst, NSW), £2/2/-.

Any additional donors names re- ceived within the next month names published in next month's issue.



U.S.A. Shooting

Continued from Last Issue

The Veteran event is restricted to shooters over 70 years of age. The Junior Championship is restricted to shooters under 18 years and the Sub-Junior title to shooters under 15 years. The Amateur Championship is shot at 200 targets per man. The Pre- liminary Handicap is shot at 100 targets, handicap marks from 16 to 25 yards. The same conditions apply in the premier event, The Grand American. Entry fee for the latter event is 25 dollars. The winner re- ceives 1,500 dollars, second 1,000 dol- lars, third 500, fourth 400, fifth 300, sixth 200, 100 dollars each to the next ten high-guns, 75 dollars to following sixteen high guns, 50 dollars each to next twenty-six high-guns, 40 dollars to next fifty high-guns and 30 dollars to next seventy high-guns. All money is guaranteed.

In 1947 the A.T.A. guaranteed \$10,000 prize money. Special trophies are awarded to the first ten high-guns.

An important inclusion in this com- prehensive programme is a full page allocated to what is known as

"Shooter's Responsibility." This will be detailed in a latter issue of "News." It makes interesting reading and will be a useful guide to club organisers in Australia.

Among the many interesting items received from U.S.A. during the past month is an intimation that A.C.P. T.S.A. Editor/Secretary, as a com- pliment to Australian shooters, has been appointed a Life Member of the "Hiyu Indians" Trapshooting As- sociation (U.S.A.), and entitled there- by to be known as "Hiyu Chief."

The "Hiyu Indians" Trapshooting Association comprises a band of "real sportsmen" known as "the tribe" who conduct an annual shoot at Hayden Lake, Idaho, for trophies and Indian Blankets only, no money, and purely for fun. From all accounts "Chiefs" and "Braves" plus "Squaws" have a really grand time. If a good shooter misses them by the "hatfull" his year- ly average does not suffer. As there are only four "Life Members" in this sporting body the U.S.A. sportsmen have done Australia a deeply appreci- ated singular honour.

Our U.S.A. correspondent also writes on "Your magazines arrived. Thanks a lot. I want to compliment you highly, they are very interesting- and well made up. There is nothing that promotes the sport of trap-shoot- ing as much as proper publicity. You are evidently doing a grand job, one that I feel is very much appreciated by the trapshooters of Australia, and the fortunate ones that get a copy of "Clay Pigeon Shooting News." The ads. of the different shoots, or pro- gramme as we call them are nice, but the small number of targets that the events call for would not mean much here. A one day programme here is usually 200 or more targets per man—so you see what I mean. It would be like touching the tip of ones tongue to the cork taken out of a bottle of good Old Scotch "Whuskey"—not enough satisfaction!"

I thought I knew every kind of event known to trapshooters, but your Deauville Doubles have me stumped. It may be another name for one of the events we shoot. If it is what I think it is, we call it a "Protection Race."

Wongabri Gun Club - Bowral N.S.W.

(Affiliated A.C.P.T.S.A.)

(Name changed from Berrima District Gun Club—Bowral)

Next Shoot

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26th, 1949

AT WONGABRI GROUNDS

Main Event

South Coast and South Tablelands Single Barrel Championship

followed by

£25 Open Handicap £25

Other events time permitting. Automatic Trap — Afternoon Tea

NOTE.—All shoots will be held on Fourth Saturday each month, unless otherwise notified.

C. H. Metcalfe
President

W. A. Palmer, Secty.,
Bowral, N.S.W.

THE PREMIER CLAY PIGEON SHOOT OF THE YEAR

Champion of Champions Cup

(AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP)

— AND —

Third International Teams' Match

Conducted by THE AUSTRALIAN CLAY PIGEON TRAP SHOOTING ASSOCIATION under its Rules and By-Laws and International Match by agreement and direction of the International Committee of Great Britain.

SATURDAY, MARCH 12th AND MONDAY, MARCH 14th, 1949

(Victorian Eight Hours Day Holiday)

GROUND LOCATION—AUSTRALIAN CLAY TARGET CLUB'S GROUNDS AT EAST BURWOOD, VIC.
(Thirteen Miles along Burwood Road from Melbourne G.P.O.).
THREE AUTOMATIC TRAPS

FIRST DAY — SATURDAY, MARCH 12th, 1949

COMMENCING AT 8.45 a.m. sharp.

THE A.C.P.T.S.A.

Champion of Champions Cup

(AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP)

60 CLAY PIGEONS, FROM 16 YARDS, double barrel, either barrel to be of equal value, highest scores to count. Five track shooting system, 3 automatic angle traps. Five shooters in each squad, positions by ballot. Competitors shoot at 20 clay pigeons from each trap. In the event of ties to be shot off in batches of five clay pigeons until finality.

The event is open to any shooter registered with the Australian Clay Pigeon Trap Shooting Association who is a member of an affiliated club in any part of the Commonwealth of Australia. No championship qualification is necessary.

PRIZE LIST—CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS CUP (AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP)

The winner of the Champion of Champions Cup (Australian National Championship) event will hold the Donald Mackintosh Perpetual Silver Cup (valued at 75 guineas) for 12 months and will also receive the following awards—

Replica of Champion of Champions Cup (Australian National Championship)
A.C.P.T.S.A. Champion of Champions (Australian National Championship Sash).
Special Winner's Trophy.

Trophies will be awarded to the next highest scorers, down to eighth position. Four special trophies will be awarded to competitors registering the best performance whose Association handicaps come under the following categories—12/13 yards, 14/15 yards, 16/17 yards, 18 yards and over (a competitor finishing anywhere in the first eight will not be eligible for the sectional handicap trophies).

Three Interstate competitors (resident outside Victoria), (one to each State of Queensland, New South Wales and Tasmania) registering the best performance in the Champion of Champions Cup (Australian National Championship) and not winning any other award, will be allotted special trophies.

A special trophy will also be awarded to the best Victorian Country performer (resident over 50 miles from Melbourne) not winning any other trophy.

A special trophy will be presented to the Lady drawing the winning shooter.

ENTRANCE FEE.—Entrance Fee for the Champion of Champions Cup (Australian National Championship) will be 60/- (birds free). Optional sweepstakes of 20/- and 10/- will be conducted in conjunction with the Champion of Champions Cup (Australian National Championship). In addition an optional 5/- sweepstake, restricted to shooters whose Association handicap does not exceed 15 yards will also be available. All sweepstakes above will be divided (without deductions), First 60 per cent., Second 30 per cent., Third 10 per cent.

Australian Teams' Championship

(To be shot concurrently with the Champion of Champions Cup (Australian National Championship))

Teams of Four Men. The first thirty birds released to each competitor in the Champion of Champions Cup will be counted as scores for the Australian Team's Championship. The Winning Team will be awarded the special A.C.P.T.S.A. Australian Teams Championship Pennant—1949. Entrance fee, 20/- per team. (Entries must be lodged prior to commencement of Champion of Champions Cup (Australian National Championship). No practice birds will be available owing to restricted supply position.

Continued over leaf

SECOND DAY — MONDAY, MARCH 14th, 1949

Commencing at 9.15 a.m.

Australia's Third International Teams' Match

Competing teams, England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and Australia, for the DONALD MACKINTOSH INTERNATIONAL TROPHY, Valued at 100 Guineas. (Results by cable).

The Australian Team of 20 men for the International Match will comprise the 20 highest scorers in the Champion of Champions Cup (Australian National Championship) event 1949, plus 5 others to be chosen by the A.C.P.T.S.A. Selection Committee as emergencies. In the event of any selected shooter being unable to take his place in the team his place will be filled by another shooter agreed upon by the Selection Committee.

CONDITIONS

100 Birds per member from 16 yards, five track shooting system, in four stages of 25 each. Automatic angle trap, double-barrel, "kills" only to count. 2½" Cartridges loaded with not more than 1½ oz. of shot, No. 6 English size.

Best 15 scores will count in the competition. Five lowest scores will be counted out.

PRIZE LIST—INTERNATIONAL MATCH

Highest scorer in the Australian Team will hold the special Hartley International High-Gun Cup (presented by Hartley's Ltd., Melbourne) valued at £20 for 12 months (or until the next International Match) and will be awarded a special replica trophy valued at £5/5/ (also presented by Hartley's Ltd.) and the International High-Gun Sash. Second and third trophies will be awarded to members of the team registering the next scores to high-gun. In the event of ties, to be shot off in batches of ten clay pigeons until finality.

Every member of the Australian Team will receive the special "International 1949" Badge.

ENTRANCE FEES—The Entrance Fee for each member of the team will be 50/-, including birds. Optional sweepstake of 10/- will be conducted in conjunction. Sweepstake money divided 60%, 30%, 10% without deductions.

PRACTICE BIRDS—Members of the International Team will be permitted ten practice birds before the competition, in accordance with the International conditions. Practice birds 2/-.

For those shooters not engaged in the International Match, the following programme has been arranged:—

No. 1 (Morning)—15 BIRD HANDICAP—Three Trophies.

No. 2 (Afternoon)—20 BIRD HANDICAP—Five Trophies.

OTHER EVENTS (Both Days) time permitting

CARTRIDGES—Special cartridges will be available to competitors only, at current rates. Only these cartridges may be used. This rule will apply throughout both days. All competitors' cartridges will be subject to examination by Association officials at any time.

PROTESTS—In the event of any protest or protests, 20/- accompanying each protest, which are required to be written in ink, must be lodged with the Secretary A.C.P.T.S.A. during or within 15 minutes of the conclusion of the competition concerned. The Executive Committee's decision shall be final.

REFRESHMENTS—Refreshments and light luncheon will be available on the ground throughout the day.

NO LIABILITY—The organisers, whilst taking every precaution, do not accept responsibility for any accidental damage to any person or property on the ground, or for safe custody of guns, ammunition, clothing etc., deposited in the pavilion or elsewhere.

DINNER TO DONORS AND COMPETITORS—A dinner to donors and competitors will be tendered by the Association on Saturday evening, March 12.

ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF ENTRIES—In order to assist shoot organisation and catering arrangements intending competitors are invited to advise the Secretary, A.C.P.T.S.A., at least fourteen days prior to March 12.

ENJOY THE BIGGEST AND MOST INTERESTING WEEKEND OF SHOOTING IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE

President,
J. M. WILSON, Esq.,
Wellington Park, Ringwood, Vic.

All enquiries—Secretary,
W. McCULLOUGH,
Box 2038 S, Melbourne, C.I. (LF 6986)



Major H. Aasnaes, O.B.E., of Norway receives the World Championship Medallion from U.S.A. Actress, Miss Delores Gray, Star of the London production of "Annie Get Your Gun" at the Charing Cross Hotel, London, late last year. Major Aasnaes won the title at Bisley, England with a score of 291/300.

HOW TO ERECT A TOWER

Following the A.C.P.T.S.A. application to the English Clay Pigeon Shooting Association for particulars as to tower erection, it is pleasing to record the reply forwarded by that body. (Clubs contemplating the introduction of Tower Shooting will note that this information does not refer to the 120 feet tower at the London Shooting Grounds at Greenford, Middlesex, but the dimensions quoted may be satisfactory for club shooting).

The actual particulars are repeated exactly as received. "The main structure is composed of four 45 ft. fir poles sunk in concrete to the depth of 5 ft., cross bracings of 4 in. x 2 in. timber and ½ in. steel bolts. Platform base, 4 in. x 3 in. timber, cover-

ed by 1 in. planks spaced ½ in. apart for drainage. Base area 8 ft. 6 in., tapering to platform area of 7 ft. 6 in. Front, corrugated iron, 4 ft. 9 in. in height and sides 4 ft., all hinged to fold down flat when not in use (to obviate wind resistance). Three slanting ladders, the lower one being portable and a hinged trap-door to platform. The whole of the woodwork should be treated with creosote for protection against weather."

The following commentary on the above was received in an accompanying letter. "This particular tower (as measurements above), however, only produces a very low bird. 70 to 90 feet towers are more usual over here, whilst at one particular shooting ground near London they go up to

120 feet, which is definitely high. We understand that the manufacturers of steel towers in America are Fairbanks, Morse & Co. and they offer to supply details and prices—it may be that they have agents in Australia."

Since writing the foregoing a further letter under date of 10th December 1948 has been received from the English Clay Pigeon Shooting Association extracts from which read, "As regards tower shooting, we have given you some details about this in our earlier letter, but you may like to have the following information which has been given us by the West London Shooting Grounds, Northolt, Greenford, Middlesex, about the distances between firing stands and the various towers at their school:—

- 20 ft. tower, 40 yards.
- 40 ft. tower, 43 yards.
- 60 ft. tower, 45 yards.
- 70 ft. tower, 48 yards.
- 90 ft. tower, 50 yards.
- 120 ft. tower, 53 yards.

You will appreciate that these distances can be varied a little according to the nature of the ground, trees, etc., and we will try and send you a photograph giving an example of shooting at tower birds."

The letter concludes, "We are very grateful to your Association for its most generous action in sending parcels and you can be sure that they will be appreciated."



The Grosvenor Corner

"Hints to Hits" (By late W. P. Grosvenor, continued from December "News.")

3. If targets are high, hold higher above the trap-house (than ordinarily) in order to shorten swing and obviate hurry and a possible swing-over.

4. If targets are low, hold low, and your head down on the stock hard, and be sure your gun is levelled.

5. If targets are "jumping," don't try to snap them, take time and be ready for a jump or a dip. The same goes for a "ducking" target. Pull trigger quickly when you are sure you are on.

6. Remember that a tail wind depresses targets—a head wind raises them—a left quarter wind raises left

targets and depresses right angle targets and a right quarter wind acts vice-versa. Watch the effect of wind and be ready for its effect on the specific target you are shooting at.

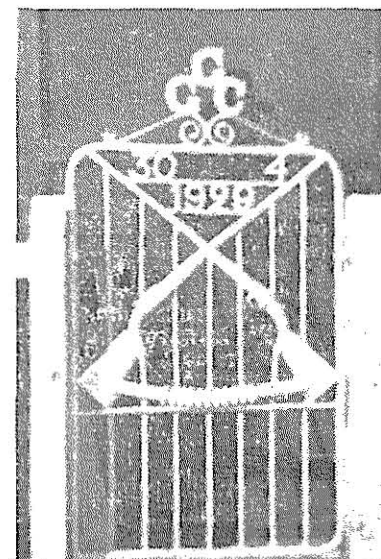
7. Shooting glasses are a great help, with blinkers to keep powder and dirt out of the eyes when the wind is blowing. In hot weather, the blinkers are better left off as it allows better circulation of air and less probability of glasses fogging from perspiration. The glasses should be clear of the face at all points.

8. Don't wear glasses unless necessary (through prescription) in rainy weather, as they are usually an annoyance.

9. If you wear glasses for shooting, be sure to put them on at least one squad (15 minutes) before you are ready to shoot and keep them on. The eyes must be allowed to adjust themselves to the difference in light.

10. Keep your shells and gun breach dry in rainy weather, so as to preclude swelling and sticking of shells. This can be done by wearing the shell pouch (or belt) under the rain coat and tucking the breach under after each shot.

(To be continued).



The picturesque entrance gate at Griffith ground N.S.W. It was built by Aub. Davis in his forge at Leeton, N.S.W.

Handicap Adjustments

2758	Baker, H. (Berrima) ..	14	2081	McCraith, J. A. (Coburg)	20
560	Bell, G. (Young)	19	2145	Medway, C. E. (Gunning)	16
3421	Borley, E. A. (Aust.) ..	14	2422	Rutty, W. J. (Hornsby)	16
3010	Brenk, A. H. (Aust.) ..	16	2770	Shepherd, A. Berrima)	16
866	Byers, W. (Bathurst) ..	15	1928	Shepherd, G. H. (Ber'ma)	15
2146	Cautero, F. (Coburg) ..	15	2999	Shipman, J. Berrima) ..	12
8	Cook, B. (Aust.) .. .	17	2771	Sullivan, O. (Berrima) ..	14
2841	Daly, E. (Deniliquin) ..	13	3233	Sydenham, C. (F'tsray)	13
2881	Evans, R. (Goulburn) ..	16	3120	Sydenham, F. (F'tsray)	15
3261	Fahey, L. (Berrima) ..	12	3318	Sydenham, J. (F'tsray)	13
2346	Hall, Ray (Wagga) .. .	17	3141	Sydenham, R. (F'tsray)	15
3171	Hyett, J. (Footscray) ..	15	857	Watson, D. ("Doch-an-Doris") (Aust.) ..	17
396	Ingbritsen, C. H. ("Ingi") (Coburg)	19	3204	Wise, J. E. (Wangaratta)	14
2902	Lindsay, J. C. (Dubbo)	13	2636	Weine, E. H. (Well'ton)	16

New Registrations and Reinstated Names Received Since Last Issue (Jan./Feb.)

3490 Aitken, D. (Parkes)		3507 Holt, R. (Goulburn) ..	
3478 Beecher, K. (Griffith) ..		3486 Hutchinson, W. (Gil'dra)	
3497 Best, S. (St. George) ..		3492 Jamieson, J. (Parkes) ..	
2173 Black, S. G. (Irrewillipe)		3493 Jamieson, L. (Parkes) ..	
3463 Biggs, (Miss) Barbara (Aust.)	12	3484 Kearn, C. (Griffith) ..	12
3467 Brett, H. E. (Latrobe)		2227 Lake, R. E. (Berrima) ..	
577 Cameron, D. R. (St. Geo.)		3506 McCallum, E. (Goulburn)	
3449 Carnell, Barry (Griffith)	12	3496 McConnell, W. (Parkes)	
3475 Catlin, W. (Hay)	12	929 McDonald, D. F. (St. G.)	
2198 Catling, G. (Albury) ..	14	3500 McKay-Payne, H. (St. George)	
3511 Cronk, F. (Camberwell)		3480 McWilliams, J. (Griffith)	12
3476 Cudmore, M. (Griffith) ..	12	3465 Mackey, H. (Latrobe) ..	
3473 Duchatel, (Mrs.) J. C. (Griffith)	12	3466 Meagher, S. F. (Latrobe)	
3472 Duchatel, W. (Griffith)	12	3477 Meyers, P. E. (Nar'dera)	
3495 Elliott, J. L. (Parkes) ..		3509 Mills, A. (Goulburn) ..	
3494 Elliott, R. B. (Parkes) ..		3503 Mitchell, B. (Goulburn)	
1471 Elliott, R. W. (Parkes)		3504 Mooney, F. (Goulburn)	
3468 Elliott, T. A. (Peak Hill)	13	3491 Nock, H. C. (Parkes) ..	
3485 Evans, Ian (Griffith) ..	12	3510 Ohlback, E. (Goulburn)	
3505 Evans, J. M. (Goulburn)		210 O'Shea, S. J. (St. George)	
252 Evans, W. A. (St. Geo.)		1034 Ray, A. L. (Berrima) ..	
3513 Fankhauser, Mervyn (Aust.)	12	2316 Rourke, M. (Finley) ..	
3298 Fankhauser, (Miss) N. (Aust.)	12	3482 Sertori, G. (Griffith) ..	12
		3464 Sheehan, G. (Latrobe) ..	
		2103 Shepard, P. G. (Holbr'k)	
		3471 Smith, F. (Wyalong) ..	
		3512 Smith, S. E. (Aust.) ..	12
		3469 Spratt, J. (Peak Hill) ..	
		3489 Stansfield, N. J. (Parkes)	
		3481 Stephenson, R. (Wy'long)	
		3508 Storrier, J. W. (Goulb'n)	
		3410 Stott, P. (Griffith) ..	12
		3483 Thompson, J. N. (Griff.)	
		3474 Thompson, T. R. (Griff.)	
		3501 Wade, H. B. (St. George)	
		3470 Wilkinson, L. (Wyalong)	

My Second Home

By GEO. BIGGS

It is always with great pleasure that I look forward to a shooting trip to that delightful oasis in a desert, namely Griffith, NSW. I must add the letters N.S.W. because we Victorians are called Victorian pommies up there. I think a certain thick-set gentleman who is also an official of the Griffith Gun Club is responsible of this term. However we will not dwell too long on the subject, because we do not want any strained relations between the two States.

My first visit to this fair town of the Northern Riverina was in 1940, when war clouds were gathering over the whole country. It was then that I first fell in love with the place. At the time I was just a newcomer to clay bird shooting, and did not know any of the local men who were responsible for running the Gun Club. Since then a lot of water has flowed under the bridge. I have visited Griffith many times over the last eight years, and each time the hospitality of these fine people has increased until, today, one feels that when in Griffith he is as much at home as in his own home town.

On my recent visit over the New Year weekend, I was very happy to see a record crowd of 88 shooters to fight it out for the State D.B. title. I should think this number a record for any club outside Melbourne. This alone proves how popular this club must be. The grounds and general lay-out including the fine club building are a great credit to those fine sportsmen Frommie, Claude Carnell and Joe Sertori all members of the committee. I think one would go a long way before finding three such sportsmen, who work so well together for the benefit of the club. The next time we visit them I would not be surprised to find a two trap lay-out waiting for us, plus a fine skeet field.

On Sunday and Monday we were entertained on the creek and swamp in a way that we all love. The local chaps are grand at driving over check banks, through wheat stubble, and almost up the creek itself. Lionel Byrne and myself together with our

wives followed Jack Little and Lloyd Bowditch in their Ford, over check banks and channels, and Lionel's Pontiac had great difficulty in keeping clear of the ground, as the Ford had a greater clearance than our car, but we got there in the end.

I would vote Harold Anstee the best steak cooker this side of the black stump. If he ever wants a job in this direction I will get him one at the "Australia." The only thing at Griffith that does not seem to like us is those blasted Mossies on the 'box swamp after dark.' Ron Gow said they were so big that he sometimes goes out at night with a spotlight and shoots them for practice.

Well folks, I could go on for a long time on our experience over there, but Bill McCullough said don't make it too long, as space is getting short in this book, so we reluctantly say farewell to Griffith, town of Rice, Beer, Ducks, Oranges and hospitality.



A Lincolnshire Letter

(By R. E. COUCH, England)

Since last writing have been away at the seaside. Seaside holidays are very nice—in the winter when there is a bite in the north east wind and the greylag geese coming in riding the storm—alas, the only geese I saw were "two legged" without many feathers and the only twelve bores I met were old men who had never heard of shooting—may have weighed twelve stones in their youth and were most certainly "bores." I think it is very sporting of you Australians to think of us and make such efforts to send parcels along to English shooting men. This must have meant a very great effort, care and thought.

I love shooting of every kind and have a most interesting job which allows for diversions and have been able to meet every sort of man who loves a gun. The Twenty Club was started here in 1930 and consists of men who have had a clean round, or more, at Skeet. The C.P.S.A. issue a small silver clay with a 20 etched on it, rather smaller than a 3d. piece for use in the buttonhole when going

to shoots. Sorry you have no pheasants—there is nothing quite like a really fast high cock. Would it be possible to rear them if I could send some eggs? They would of course be wild stock for no rearing has been done since the war. A few pheasants would prove a wonderful addition to your sporting life. Some of the old men in the Fen country remember the day when there were no pheasants here at all, the land being supposedly too cold, bleak and treeless. One or two farmers started in a very small way with a few clutches of eggs. Pheasants soon found reeds, rushes, and deep dykes were their natural habitat and now they are to be found all over the Fen country, busy eating wireworm and other pests and providing the odd touch of substance to many a meal. During the war it was remarkable how the pheasants knew when the bombs were going off, before we could hear them. Often I have been out in the quiet dusk wondering what the night was going to bring when the whole Fen would resound with the roc-cock-coc; roc-cock-coc, of the innumerable pheasants. A distinctive sound quite unlike the noise a cock pheasant makes when going to roost—and a few seconds later would come the crump of a string of souvenirs from some enemy plane busy having a go at the highly important military objective of a lonely farm or small market town. I think the birds could feel the vibration before the sound could reach us, but I have never been able to confirm this. There are no "wailing willies" to disturb our peace just now and no more do I go out to watch the best men ever made going out over the seas and pray for their safe return. We owe this peace very largely to those who came to the help of Mother England so unstintingly and who gave of their best that we might live. Old Lady Britain is a little bent, at some unease, a shade tired. She is, however, extremely fierce if required—one of the ungodly once said he was going to wring the neck of a chicken. A comfortably built man with a taste in cigars suggested that it was some chicken and some neck! The same rule applies today and just across the paddock are some roosters too.

A wire bound gun is just the sort of thing I love. Once I was asked to shoot rabbits in a cornfield not far from where old Cromwell once stabled his troops. Very few rabbits came my way, most of them making for a wood just over the hill. From the top of the wood came at intervals the crump of black powder, just one, never two barrels. After a time I walked up the hill to the woodside and there saw an aged, leather-necked son of toil. Aged he was, bent he was, but his blue eyes were bright. Under his arm he cuddled a bright barrelled piece which might have been young when Cromwell called the roll. Rabbits lay about, some very far from where the old man stood. I asked him why he did not ever have two shots at the rabbits when he had a double-barrel at his command. The old eyes twinkled and almost hid under tufty brows, "It be a main sight too 'ot fer both barrels Master; she be alright to Christmas but too 'ot to-day." The ancient piece was pushed forward for my inspection—I could have pushed a tic bean through a hole in the left barrel just where the old man placed his palm! "In winter Master, I du wear an old 'orside 'edgeing glove so she doant burn me—but it be too 'ot for that today." God rest his tough and leathery soul, he could shoot rabbits came they fast or slow and his 'orside 'edgeing glove needed two patches every winter. His eyes needed no patch for as I picked his rabbits up I found that he had tipped 'em on the nose and there were no broken legs or bashed middles. The old chap's hands will prove stiff for a harp and I have no doubt that Gabriel has found for him a pair of horsehide gloves, both left handed and the where-withal to use them.

I use a good deal of black powder for wildfowling, where long range and killing power are essential and smoke does not matter. The other day when buying a bag I saw in a gunsmiths the longest punt gun ever. This was nearly eighteen feet with an enormous breech. Querying this I found that it was from the local gasworks. They use it for shooting soft fireclay into cracks at the back of the retorts, which saves drawing the fire and stopping gas-making. Sometimes I am sure my cartridges



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