

# NEWSLETTER

April,  
2005



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SPORTING SHOOTERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (NSW) INC.

## From the Executive Director

**S.H.O.T. Expo 2005** – Wow!!! How great was that!!!! With over 6000 visitors and a hall full of great exhibits and displays the S.H.O.T. Expo was by any measure a great success. I never thought I would have to apologise because we had too many visitors, but I do. Attendances were way above our expectations, queues were longer than anticipated and at times we experienced overcrowding. These problems, and others, are being addressed so that they will not occur again next year. In fact, the response from visitors and exhibitors has been such that we'll clearly need a much bigger exhibition hall in 2006.

For me the best part of the Expo was the "vibe", the positive feeling everyone seemed to share. The Expo was more than a great trade show, it was a celebration of our sport. There were thousands of us in the same hall sharing that feeling – all proud to be shooters. The Expo saw importers, wholesalers, manufacturers, retailers, taxidermists, outfitters and a host of clubs and associations working together to promote our sport and what a great promotion it was. To everyone involved, thank you, you did an outstanding job.

**Shooters Party Conference** – The Shooters Party State Conference was

held on February 26 and I attended as the SSAA's representative on the Party's State Executive. It is with both regret and bewilderment that I report that David Leyonhjelm has been defeated for the position of Party Chairman by Robert Brown.

David has worked solidly for shooters during his 5 year term as Chairman and it is largely through his efforts that the SSAA and the Party have enjoyed such a positive working relationship in recent times. That his colleagues would choose to remove him now, having run the successful campaign to re-elect John Tingle in 2003 and just two years from the next election, was beyond many of us. Nevertheless, that's politics.

This year's conference debated a number of substantive motions including a motion that the party contest both upper and lower house seats in both Federal and State elections. Unfortunately this motion was defeated. The SSAA view is that recent assaults on shooter's rights have originated in the federal arena and it makes sense to respond politically at more than one level. Furthermore, the C.L.A.S.S. 2004 Federal election campaign again demonstrated the power that can be exercised by leveraging shooter votes, standing candidates in marginal electorates and using preferences to influence the final outcome. Both the Democrats and the Greens have been using this tactic for years with the result that they have wielded far more political influence than the size of their

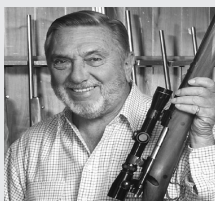
party would otherwise warrant and the Shooters Party could be doing the same.

I was very pleased to enjoy the support of the majority of conference delegates for a motion to oppose any move to make game licences compulsory or a genuine reason for obtaining a firearms licence. A compulsory game licence would be an unjustifiable expense for the vast majority of shooters and the SSAA believes that any move to make game licenses a genuine reason for obtaining a firearms licence risks significant loss of members for the state's hunting clubs and a subsequent diminishment of our lobbying clout. However, the party's new Chairman (and former Game Council Chairman) Robert Brown has made no secret of his willingness to make game licences a genuine reason, so under the circumstances, I decided it would not be appropriate for me to continue as a member of the Party's State Executive.

Nevertheless, and as disappointing as some of the conference outcomes were, both David Leyonhjelm and I remain strong supporters of the party. David continues to serve as the chairman of the Party's Drummoyne Branch and I, as the Chairman of the Party's St. Mary's Branch. Any SSAA members interested in becoming more involved in the Shooters Party are invited to contact either David or myself on 9833 9444 or the Party Secretary, Bob Shaw on 9686 2396.

Roy Smith

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## From the Discipline Coordinator.

The 2005 State Titles calendar is now in full swing with the disciplines holding events throughout NSW. For the SSAA NSW competitive shooter there are events available for each discipline. The host clubs and organisers put a lot of effort in to making these tournaments both enjoyable and successful. All SSAA members who hold the appropriate licenses are eligible to participate in any SSAA NSW Title Match.

I have had a number of enquiries regarding the use of SSAA NSW titles Medallions.

The SSAA NSW policy is that SSAA NSW Medallions can only be used for SSAA NSW Titles with the following requirements fulfilled.

1. Advertising to reach all members through the SSAA NSW Newsletter and the Australian Shooter with nomination forms and information circularised to all SSAA NSW branches and affiliated clubs.

2. SSAA provides medallions only for first, second and third in each event.

3. Disciplines requiring medallions for aggregates and other shooter rewards are able to obtain them from the State Office. This is a smaller round medal with the SSAA logo on the front and available in gold, silver and bronze.

4. Branches and affiliated clubs are also able to purchase quantities of the small medallion to use at branch and club level presentations.

A reminder to discipline chairmen that a copy of your discipline AGM minutes should be forwarded to me as soon as possible upon completion of your discipline State Titles. Please send them to R. Gawned, P.O. Box 732, Taree NSW 2430.

Richard Gawned

SSAA NSW Discipline Coordinator

## SSAA NSW Event Calendar for 2005.

**Benchrest; State Titles.** Fly, Peel Valley RC Tamworth, 11-12-13 June 2005.

**State Titles.** Unlimited/Experimental & Sporter, Silverdale, 2-3 July.

**State Titles.** Light & Heavy Varmint, Silverdale, 6-7 August.

**Banacoast Open Titles.** Dairyville Range, Coffs Harbour, 27-28 August.

**State Titles.** Rimfire Traditional & Custom, Dairyville Range Coffs Harbour, 8-9 October.

**State Titles.** Newcastle, Hunter Class C/F, R/F Traditional & Custom, 3-4 December.

**Metallic Silhouette (Rim-fire and Air Rifle); State Titles.** Silverdale, 16-17 April. (Light Rimfire and Air Rifle, 16th, Heavy Rimfire 17th)

**Military & Service Discipline; State Titles.** Anzac Range Malabar, 1-2-3 October.

**GP3. Anzac Day Memorial.** Coffs Harbour, 23-24 April.

**GP4. NSW Club Challenge.** Tamworth, 13-14 May.

**GP5. Border War Open.** Casino, 10-13 June.

**GP6. Sydney Cup Open.** Sydney, 2 July.

**GP7. South Coast Open.** Batemans Bay, 22-23 July.

**Muzzle-load (shotgun); State Titles.** Shoalhaven Clay Target Club, Misty Mountain, 14 August.

**Muzzle-load (long gun & rifle); State Titles.** Taree-Wingham, 10-11 September.

**Pistol; State Titles.** Grafton Pistol Club, 12-13-14 August.

**SASA; State Titles.** Newtec Pistol Club, 16-17 July.

**Shotgun 5 Stand; State Selection Shoot.** Tamworth Gun Club, 8th May.

**State Selection Shoot.** Griffith Gun Club, 19th June.

**State Titles.** Mudgee Joint Shotgn Facility, 9-10 July. (**NOT June as shown last issue**).

**National Championships.** Newcastle/Lake Macquarie Gun Club, 17-18 September.

## 5 Stand Developments for 2005.

The 2005 Program got underway with some important changes on the way.

Rule amendments adopted at the National AGM involve several changes.

\* SSAA Medals will be awarded to winners at each of the State Selection Shoots, and the State and National Titles.

\* This year we're trying out menu boards but scrambling the order in which the targets listed on the boards are thrown. Shooters will know which traps will present targets at each station but there will still be an unknown factor with the order of presentation. This change will suit those shooters who prefer menu boards and also those who like the challenge of unknown targets.

\* Changes to the grading system will mean that shooters who have reached higher grades cannot return to lower grades unless there are exceptional circumstances.

\* Guidelines have been included to govern the types of targets to be presented at shoots.

\* Additional sponsorship is being obtained to add to the pool of prizes at shoots.

\* Two additional States have agreed to compete at the Nationals. We are hoping to also have an NZ team compete.

\* A weekend to train club members in the use of the 5 Stand Trailer has been planned for 30 April/1 May at Mudgee. (*See Advert this issue*).

\* At the recent S.H.O.T. Show, John Nichols and Warren Brown created plenty of interest with the 5 Stand Trailer and a display 5 Stand Shooting.

## SSAA State Discipline Chairmen

**Benchrest;** Dave Billighurst; 4621 1769.

**Big Game;** Peter Cameron, 9624 3740.

**Colonial Action;** John Pond, 6372 2827.

**Field Rifle, 3P;** Mark Muray, 4943 6611.

**Junior Development;** Pamela Reeves, 9833 9444.

**Gundogs;** Rod Ayers, 6857 1178.

**Lever Action;** Richard Gawned, 6553

8081.

**Military/Service;** David Waters 4739

6422.

**Muzzleloading;** Jim Cross, 6553 1174.

**SASA;** Tony Cohen, 9975 7983.

**Shotgun;** Warren Brown, 6962 3161.

## Shotgun Shooters

### SSAA 5 Stand Trailer

### Trapper Training weekend

Trapper Training will provide the opportunity for a member of your SSAA Branch or Affiliated Club to hire the 5 Stand Trailer for your competition.

### Training Weekend 30th April – 1st May

SSAA Mudgee Joint Shotgun Range

Windamere Shooting Complex

Course Content: Ibis Traps; Setting a 5 Stand Course;

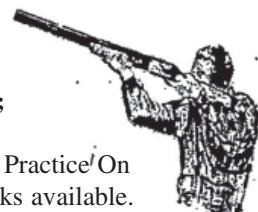
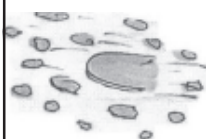
Managing a 5 Stand Trailer

100 Targets included in the weekend events for shooting Practice On Range, camping provided. No meals available. Cold drinks available.

Saturday night BYO BBQ

SSAA SHOTGUN SHOOTING it's SERIOUS FUN

Contact SSAA NSW (02) 9833 9444 – John Nichols (02) 6372 6263



## Sydney Field Rifle & 3P Championships.

April 9 & 10, 2005

**Hosted By:** SSAA Sydney Branch at the ANZAC Range, Malabar.

**Program:** Saturday.

**Event 1:** Rimfire Field Rifle, 8.30am warm-up, 25m standing u/s, 25m standing u/s, 50m standing post, 50m sit/kneel. (42 rounds plus warm-up).

**Event 2:** Rimfire 3P, 12 noon start. Warm-up, 50m prone, 50m sitting/kneeling, 50m standing u/s. (60 rounds plus warm-up),

**Sunday.**

**Event 3:** Centrefire Rifle, 7.30am sign-in, 8.00am start, 25m standing u/s, 50m standing u/s, 100m standing post, 200m sitting/kneeling post. (42 rounds plus warm-up).

**Event 4:** Centrefire Rifle, 8.00am start, 100m prone, 100m sitting/kneeling, 100m standing u/s. (60 rounds plus warm-up).

**Nominations:** Pre-nomination not required. However, competitors must sign on at Range Office before handling firearms.

**Fees:** \$20 per event. \$25 per day or \$40 for the weekend. Juniors, under 16, half price.

**Prizes:** Door prizes, trophies and patches.

**Canteen:** BBQ Sausage Sizzle each day included in fees. Drinks and snacks extra.

**Special Note:** For complete details, and further information about this event; rules, program, nominations, accommodation & camping, catering etc., Contact David Waters, phone A/H, 4739 6422, or email, <firlsrifle@ssaasyd.com>

This Newsletter is produced by the Sporting Shooters Association of Australia (NSW Inc). Post all correspondence and contributions to; Newsletter, PO Box 1001, St Marys, NSW 1790.

## Tenterfield Branch.

From Tony Small.

After forming a new branch here at Tenterfield in December 2003 we are all looking forward to big things, having made arrangements with the local NRA Club to have quite reasonable access to their range.

Then we had all our hopes dashed by the Inspector of Ranges. In March 2004 he told us we couldn't use our high power centrefire rifles any more as the safety zone went over a public road. This was really disappointing news especially to the Big Bore fellas as they had been shooting there for more than 50 years.

He told us we could still use .22s and if we put up another bullet stop and shoot from near the clubhouse we would be able to use "Pistol Cartridge Rifles" within the template he could fit between us and the road.

I got as many concessions as I could out of him and we are now allowed to use any Rimfire, Pistol cartridge in rifle, muzzleloaders to 1500 fps and .75 cal., and shotgun. This is the best we could hope for under the circumstances.

As we use the Tenterfield NRA Club's range we had to convince them to keep going and start shooting Small Bore. If they had closed down we would not have had anywhere to shoot until we could find and organise our own range.

It took a bit of persuasion on our part but the Big Bore fellas didn't try the .22s until they joined us or their scheduled Christmas shoot. To our great relief and their surprise they thoroughly enjoyed themselves. They finally realised that what we had told them was true, about how challenging Smallbore can be.

They promptly started organising shoots for themselves for this year.

We, the SSAA Branch members, are indebted to the Rifle Club, because they spent \$1,500 on the earthworks for the new shooting position. We now shoot every Saturday afternoon and the Rifle Club Shoot ever second Sunday.

Sure, we are restricted, but at least we can now take part in our sport every week.

## MSD Calendar For 2005

<u>April.</u>	23-24, GP3, Anzac Memorial, Coffs Harbour.
<u>May.</u>	14-15, GP4, NSW Club Challenge, Tamworth 29, 3P, HP, Hornsby.
<u>June.</u>	11-12, GP5, Casino. 25-26, "Border War" Games, Brisbane.
<u>July.</u>	2-3, GP6, Sydney Cup. 23-24, GP7, Batemans Bay
<u>August.</u>	28, 3P & HP, Malabar
<u>October</u>	1-2, NSW State Titles. 15-16, Open Championships, Tamworth. 30, Sydney HP Titles, Hornsby.
<u>November.</u>	12-13, National Championships, Batemans Bay.

## SOLICITORS

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Contact SSAA Member  
Ian Connor

Phone: 9528 9133

Fax: 9528 6183

Email:

<iconnor@mcwlaw.com.au.>



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## St Marys INDOOR SHOOTING centre

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Regular club shoots held in rifle and pistol disciplines

- **Field Rifle League;** each Thursday and Friday night, 7.30pm
- **Junior Development** each Saturday
- **Western Action, Standard Pistol, Service Pistol, Bowling Pins, BR30**



## MSD GRAND PRIX, Rd 1. Grafton – 18, 19, 20/2/05.

From Nick Abraham

The 2005 Grand Prix began in great style at Grafton, one of the best ranges in NSW.

49 shooters signed on for what was to become a flawless weekend of enthusiastic competitive shooting.

The weekend kicked off with the Pistol GP held again at the Grafton Pistol Club. This beautiful range boasts every conceivable shooting facility and John Triggs and his crew did a great job. MSD Pistol is a great event, and our sincere thanks go to the many people who worked together to make it such a success.

Saturday began with the main Rifle GP scoring matches, the 3P Core and Rapid Fire.

Conditions were good, hot but not windy, enabling good scores to be posted.

Saturday closed with the optical rifle matches; 300 single and double snaps, on quarter size targets, and a 3P Core walk-down. The butts style ranges make events like the optical snaps possible. They are a huge amount of fun and generate a lot of interest. Whenever a butts range is used, the snap matches are a must.

Sunday followed with the Australian High Power Rifle Masters. Many now considered this an equally important event as the GP itself.

Special thanks go to SSAA Grafton Vice President Don Parsons who shot in the first details, then ducked back to the laptop to do a great job of scoring the events. Well done Don!

Organisers Brian Haynes and Nick Abraham and all the volunteer helpers made sure everyone had a hot shower, plenty to eat and drink and a commemorative scoring book to record their success, or otherwise. The success of the whole weekend was the result of great planning, co-operation and teamwork.

**Pistol GP: 3P & 3-Range Core Combined. (560).**

**Top Guns:** David Waters 523.16, Rob Irving 520.13, Wall Cameron 504.09.

**Rifle GP: 3P Core & Rapid-fire B Combined. (250).**

**Master Grade:** Peter Barnier 248.24, David Waters 244.28, Nick Abraham 244.21.

**A Grade:** Rob Irving 245.25, Darren Ottery 240.16, Steve Inskip 239.20.

**B Grade:** Peter Pitchford 229.11, Kerry Benson 228.19, Col Maloney 228.09.

**C Grade:** Ian Mathison 205.08, Col Green 197.04, Owen Graham 120.

**Junior:** Robert 'Nudger' Black 199.07.

**Rifle GP Cadet: (300)**

**Top Guns:** Rob Irving 286, David Waters 281, Wal Cameron 271.

**Rifle Optic: (250)**

## NZ 5-STAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

From Warren Brown.

The SSAA Australian Shooting Team competed successfully at the International 5-Stand Clay Target Championships at Christchurch, New Zealand, in February.

Team members looked resplendent in their SSAA Australian Shooting Team shirts as they competed and mingled with their Kiwi hosts.

Our team competed against several world and national champions and the best NZ shooters.

NSW team members were Dean Delaney (Dubbo), Jo Nicholas (Mudgee) and Alf Gugliemino and Warren Brown (Griffith).

The South Island and NZ National 5-Stand Championships were shot over two days at the North Canterbury Gun Club, Christchurch and comprised 200 targets and four layouts.

More than seventy shooters competed. All targets were well presented with many challenging simultaneous pairs requiring a very fast second shot. NZ has just changed to a maximum of 28g loads for this event.

Overall winner of the Championships was Michael Bergin, a Queensland member who shot 182/200. In the South Island Championships Alf Gugliemino was 4th in A Grade with 87/100, Jo Nichols was 2nd in Ladies with 77/100 and Warren Brown was 2nd in the Veterans with 80/100.

In the National Championships, Jo Nichols was third in A Grade with 81/100, Paul McGowan (WA) 2nd in AA Grade 90/100, Robert McDonald (Qld) 1st in C Grade 79/100 with Renae Bergin (Qld) 1st in Ladies 83/100.

Alf Gugliemino shot one of the five possibles scored during the events. He was also part of the Australian Five Member Team who shot against a similar NZ Team. The Kiwi Team won narrowly by five targets with a score of 110/125.

We are hoping to attract a NZ Team to our Nationals in September and are proposing a Trans Tasman Trophy for competition between the two countries.

**Top Guns:** Dean Dewhurst 246.27, Nick Abraham 245.35, Greg Mills-Thorn 245.31.

**Hi-Power Rifle: (600).**

**Spec Service Std:** Nick Abraham 537.05, Dave Waters 530.03, Brian Haynes 496.03, Rob Irving 488.02, Darren Ottery 487.03, John Webber 483.03.

**Spec Service Iron:** Peter Barnier 565.12, Dean Dewhurst 530.03, Philip Prangley 520.04, Rob Faunt 540.03.

**Spec Optic:** Don Brown.

## SSAA NSW Handgun Rendezvous for 2005.

Grafton Pistol Club's 40th Anniversary,  
12, 13, 14 August 2005

**Hosted by:** Grafton Pistol Club on their Range at 30 Old Lilypool Road.

**Program:** 10 STAGES, incorporating modified rules from Service Pistol, Silhouette, Colonial Action, Skittles and Action Match.

6 CATEGORIES; Percussion Revolver to 45 Cal., Open Handgun, Rim-fire & Centre-fire, Single Action Revolver in Rim-Fire & Centre-Fire, Double Action Revolver in Rim-fire & Centre-Fire, Semi Automatic Pistol in Rim-fire & Centre-fire.

**Friday 12th:** (Percussion Only) 10.30am. Registration & Briefing. 11.00am Competition begins.

**Saturday 13th:** 8.00am Registration and Briefing. 9.00am Competition begins. 5.00pm BBQ at Range. 7.30pm Discipline AGM.

**Sunday 14th:** 8.00am Briefing. 8.30am Competition continues.

Presentations will take place at the close of competition.

Raffles will be run.

**Nominations:** Close 14/7/05. (Late nominations may be accepted but WILL incur a \$10 penalty).

**Fees:** \$40.00, \$60.00 Couple, \$10 Junior. (under 18) includes BBQ Saturday night.

**Prizes:** SSAA medals for 1st, 2nd & 3rd in each category. Aggregate trophy for Juniors under 18.

**Ammunition:** 200 plus. Lead projectiles only. (Rim fire MAY need to be High Velocity!)

**Discipline AGM:** 7.30pm Saturday.

**Canteen:** On range, open shooting hours for soft drinks, tea, coffee, cakes and sandwiches. A cooked breakfast for \$4 available Saturday and Sunday. (Pre-ordered on entry form). Light lunches & BBQ.

**Accommodation:** Plenty of hotels, motels and caravan parks in town. Contact the Hon. Sec. for a list and phone numbers.

**Special Note:** Competitors will be required to assist with range duties during events. ALL competitors must wear Eye and Ear protection and covered footwear during matches. Club reserves the right to increase or decrease number of events should circumstances demand. NSW Firearms Laws apply. Shooting from holster permitted if Holster Accredited.

For complete detail, and further information about this event; rules, program, nominations, accommodation, camping or catering etc., Contact;

The Secretary, Grafton Pistol Club Inc., P.O. Box 201, South Grafton 2460, phone 6649 4207.