



CLI .303 CLUB OF CAPE TOWN

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NEWSLETTER

February 2005

The perfect weather saw 69 competitors signed in, targets in place up and ready to go by 08h30. This must be all time record for the club, perhaps it's because our new chairman is just so well organised or maybe it's because the secretary has more control of the chairman's actions now. We somehow managed to complete all the details and returned to the clubhouse with plenty of time to spare. There was even time for some of the guys to shoot a bit of black powder from the 300m range. There would have been more if someone had not left the sights for Bare's rifle behind.

We opened with the traditional prayer, in afrikaans this time, by John Ecclestone our newly appointed permanent butts officer. I must commend John on a job well done down there. The butts were clean and tidy with everything packed away neatly after the shoot. Don't muck with the equipment or you will experience the wrath of the WO1 in future!

The 200m shoot looks easy, with a big black aiming mark, but the bull is still small enough to be elusive so it is quite a challenge to record a good score. At one stage Barry Mellor thought that he was using fragmenting ammunition. Every second shot was a double. After everyone around him was accused of shooting on his target the butts reported that some of the old patches were falling off causing the confusion. That was enough to wreck his day. He took even longer than normal to complete! Again there were many shots on the wrong target. It's a costly mistake and can wreck someone else's day if you don't own up so please take care. Then there was Andre Volschenk. After how many years of shooting he proceeded to fire five sighters instead of three and then to crown it he convinces Jacques Verster to do the same. Both lost two highest values.

The range officers had to reprimand the competitors more than once. Remember folks, the rules are for our safety no matter how stupid they may appear to be. Competitors are not to pack their equipment on the firing point or remove a firearm from its bag until instructed by the range officer. Accidents happen too easily so let's keep it safe. Mike had to show Bare how to use the load hailer but I am sure that Bare wrecked it. When I took it over the damn thing had a mind of its own, screeching and squawking without me even touching it. I gave it over to Jason very quickly.

The results were as follows:

CHAIRMAN: Mr Johan de Beer; VICE-CHAIRMAN: Mr Darryl Carver; TREASURER: Mr Francois du Toit;
SECRETARY: Dr Corena de Beer; MEMBERS: Mr Graeme Leon, Mr Ronnie Blake, Dr John Austin;
CO-OPTED MEMBERS: WO1 J Ecclestone



A Class

1.	Johan de Beer	46.4
2.	John Austin	44.2
3.	Hannes Willers	44.2
4.	Darryl Carver	44.1
5.	Werner de Wet	43.4
6.	Colin Twine	43.1

B Class

1.	Ronnie Blake	42.2
2.	Jason Di Bona	42.1
3.	Raphael Arellano	35.0
4.	Louis Laubscher	34.0
5.	Chris Twine	34.0
6.	Jan Frederick van Niekerk	34.0

J Class

1.	Marc Jordan	41.1
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Firstly, the A Class. Scores were very close with 3.3 between first and sixth. Bare is still on top form with John in second place and still in the prize list. Nice to see Hannes back in the top three again, good shooting. Well done to Werner on a good score. Colin Twine was very close behind. Good shooting all. I was very happy with my score, besides the fact that it's been along time since I was last there (excluding the 100m event) as I was using my 1908 No1 Mk 111. It's completely standard with no packing of the action and a barrel that I can push my largest barrel gauge through with ease and it shoots like that. What's it mean?

Ronnie Blake won the B class with an excellent 42.2, closely followed by Jason Di Bona with 42.1. It's A Class next year for both of you, that's a promise. Jason again beat Mike "I am giving up chairman to concentrate on my shooting" Di Bona. Raphael was third with 35 and Louis Laubscher, Chris Twine and Jan Frederick van Niekerk following on 34. For Louis, our winner of last years dismiss trophy, that's a big improvement, keep it up. Raphael's third place is commendable, but he was thrashed unmercifully by Marc and Conny. Marc scored a stunning 41.1 and won the J class. Heck, he is only half as tall as the rifle and doesn't weigh much more. How do you handle the recoil Marc?

The new prizes need special mention. I tried as hard as I could for more than a year to win a chair, but never made it. Heck, I don't want a chair anymore - I will buy my own, I want a medal. Huge thanks again to Mike for supplying the dies for the club. The medals are absolute top quality and will be treasured by all fortunate enough to win one. I hope I manage one this year.

Ronnie and Riaan our master chefs with the new apprentice Mike Di Bona (fire stoker) served up a spectacular curry warthog pot. One pot was not for the faint-hearted; heat range was close to insanity, while the other was for normal mortals. The hot pot was in my opinion, definitely one of the best yet. This meal has caused some concern, as one committee member wants to sanction that Francois be present in future at all times to control the heat as even the mild pot was too hot for them! You guys are moffies! I still wonder sometimes if most of the members come to shoot or to eat.

Thanks to Floris, Jason and Bas for assisting with the range duties. Bare, John and I appreciated your help in making the shoot run smoothly. Congratulations Johan on your first event as chairman. The shoot was a great success, which bodes well for the future. Thanks



also to Corena who works so dam hard to keep things running in this club behind the scenes. It is most appreciated by all.

Riaan Muller asked that we please do not write on the targets. It gives him a lot more work as the whole target has to be recovered and not only the black portion. Please remember markers, or you will have two Sergeant Majors after your hide.

A decision was made that in future, instead of a small group of willing individuals (the same each month) rushing off to the butts to put the targets up, the targets will be put up by details 3 and 4 when they go to the butts. The targets will then be removed by details 1 and 2 at the end of the shoot. Please remember as well to help with taking the flags down before you rush off to the clubhouse.

I would like to personally thank Mike for his efforts during his term as chairman. The club owes a lot to you for your passion, enthusiasm, dedication and hard work. I assure you that we would not be the club we are today without Mike's past effort. Although the Italian blood was sometimes hotter than our last curry, it was great to have you as chairman.

There is still accommodation for one person at Bloemfontein for the Nationals in an army tent. Trouble is you will be sharing with Bas, André and I and we snore terribly amongst other things. A scary thought I know, but let me know by 4 March to reserve a good army bed and mattress for you.

Our next shoot and meal is:

Date: 2nd April 2005
Distance: 300m (5 sighters - **3 convertible**, 10 to count)
Venue: Goodhope Range
Time: 08h00

Corena, Johan, Jason, Bas, André and I will be at Bloemfontein shooting in the nationals so take the opportunity to have great time while most of the committee is away.

Keep it safe

Regards

Darryl

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK:

Well, I have been within hearing distance the previous time we went to Bloemfontein, and you can take it from me - the noises that came from Darryl and Bas's room, were NOT limited to snoring! On the other hand, if your stomachs could survive Saturday's MILD pot, your noses should be able to withstand something like that as well!



Please remember that there will not be a club shoot at the end of March or April due to Easter Weekend in March and the unavailability of the range in April. We will however, have a shoot on the 2nd of April, otherwise we will not be able to finish our program this year. Read on to find the provisional (weather- and circumstances-permitting!!) program later in the newsletter. I am looking for a volunteer to write the newsletter for this shoot ... Any takers? Anybody, please ... Please let me know soon, so that I can make other arrangements if necessary. Thank you.

For sale:

2 x Lee Enfield .303 rifles (1 Musgrave and 1 Bull burnish barrel), 1 with peep sight, 1 with battle sights. Make an offer - Mr Brice, Tel 021 685 3229.

Happy birthday to the following March babies:

9th: Brent Bennett

19th: Wesley Clarence

23rd: Bruce Mizen

27th: Pierre de Wet

The .303 Shooting Calendar for the rest of the year looks as follows:

300m: 2nd April 2005, Goodhope Shooting Range

500m: 28th May 2005, Goodhope Shooting Range

Away: 18th June 2005, Prince Albert

600m: 30th July 2005, Goodhope Shooting Range

700m: 27th August 2005, Goodhope Shooting Range

800m: 24th September 2005, Goodhope Shooting Range

900m: 29th October 2005, Goodhope Shooting Range

Family shoot: 26th November 2005, Goodhope Shooting Range

That is all from me. Enjoy your shoot and hold thumbs for those who will compete in the Nationals - we won't have home ground advantage there! Corena de Beer (082 826 0453)



Marc is just half the size of the "hardebaard manne", but he shoots like a pro!



Ronnie's smile almost went all the way around after his magnificent score! Well done!!



Bare claims that he did not break the load hauler as claimed, and by the way Darryl is hiding it, I can only wonder ...

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