



CLI .303 CLUB OF CAPE TOWN

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NEWSLETTER *July 2006*

This time there were no latecomers, but your efforts were all in vain. The mist was so thick that I had difficulty even finding the range. The turn out was excellent for 800m distance as we normally get a fall off in numbers as we go further back, but not any more or so it seems.

When the mist has cleared a bit and there was about 300m of visibility we rushed off to the 800m mark. We spent another cold and damp time there waiting in vain for the mist to clear, but it just grew worse. Back to the clubhouse we went to wait. The cooks now had 40 assistants giving them advice, which they very rudely chose to ignore.

By 11 o'clock the unanimous decision was taken to abandon the shoot. The disappointment was huge; our Swellendam contingent have eventually got Parker Hales fitted and wanted to try them out, Claude has been cleaning the barrel of his new No 4 all week and was eager to fire it and Jason was keen to redeem himself.

The bar was opened and the spirits of the miserable members soon lifted and all had forgotten about shooting very quickly. A flagon of OB disappeared in record time. The bar trade was brisk and I am sure that Riaan had inside information as the bar was just coincidentally too well stocked.

At half past 11 the mist suddenly cleared and the perfect shooting conditions prevailed, but it was too late. The only people capable of shooting by then were our tea-drinking twins.

Despite all the interference from the spectators our cooks, Mike, Ronnie, Francois and Graeme succeeded in producing a chicken and turkey potjie that was again truly excellent. The crowning glory was the bottle of chilli sauce that Francois produced to combat the cold. It was of the "not for the faint hearted" type and was liberally applied to the food of those of us on the lunatic fringe.

It was also a day of surprises. Ken Coleman, believe it or not, was wearing jeans of the full-length type just to show us he does own a pair of long trousers. It probably won't be long until he cuts the legs off that pair as well. Our most dedicated shooter must be Colin Edge. Colin had a heart attack just a couple of



weeks ago and there he was back on the range again. Trouble is that Bare nearly gave him another heart attack when he presented him with his certificate for the Dismiss Trophy from last year. Also present after a 5-year absence was Cor Stofberg. Stoffies was presented with a certificate from his last shoot, the 100m in 2001. For those of you that don't know, Stoffies was our first Club Chairman. I hope we see you more often Stoffies. Rafael was looking very distinguished sporting his new moustache that I am certain is the reason why he was unable to shoot any wild pigs on his last hunt. It must have frightened them away!

Thanks must go to our cooks for the fine meal, the souls who put the targets up, those who took them down again and to Riaan for stocking the bar so well. Although no shooting was done this was one of the best social events we have had in a long time. There was plenty of time to mix and the stories and jokes rolled the whole time. It was a great day.

Corena leaves on Thursday 3rd August for Bordeaux for the short-range muzzle loading world shoot. We all wish you the best of luck and hope that you bring back the gold to Cape Town. The whole club is mighty proud of you for your achievement and we hope that you have place on your jacket for our club badge.

The WP Bisley is just two short months away, so if you are going to attend you better start preparing your ammo. You will need about 170 rounds for the event. It sounds like we are going to have an excellent turnout of 303 shooters this year. The shooting is always great at this event, but the stay at the range is always memorable. The entry forms have been mailed so get them back as soon as possible. We will try to arrange to have one big tent available, but just how many will stay in it for the duration after all the bad publicity and hearsay from the nationals, is debatable. Bas and I still say nothing.

Talking about reloading, I must say that to give the magic load that will suit every rifle is nigh impossible. My own humble opinion is that one should try and duplicate the standard military load velocity of 2440fps. Any less than that velocity and you struggle to reach 900m and any more will cause too much barrel whip and hence be erratic. Some loads, which I take no responsibility for, that have been used and seem to work to various degrees of success are 39,5gr S35, 41gr S341, 42,5gr to 43,5gr S355 and 45gr to 46gr S365, so take your pick. Some have tried S321 and even S361. I personally would give S341 a miss from past experience. If you use PMP cases it is not always possible to get the amount of S355 and S365 needed into the cases without some degree of powder compression, which I have yet to find out if it is good or bad.

Our next event is

Distance: 800m
Date: 26th August 2006
Time: 08:00
Venue: Good Hope Range
Ammo: 5 Sighters (**only 3 convertible**) + 10 to count



A final splash of chilli sauce finished off a great day on the range. I had better close now, as my stomach is making strange noises.

Keep Safe
Darryl

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK:

Thanks for all the good wishes; I appreciate your support and I'm going to give it my best!

Congratulations to the following members on their birthdays in August:

19th: Francois de Waal

21st: Ken Coleman

And now, this is what you've all been waiting for. The reason why the shoot rained / misted out - Ken in long pants!!



Until next time, keep well.

Corena de Beer

