



CLI .303 CLUB OF CAPE TOWN

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NEWSLETTER JUNE 2010

Our club day this month dawned somewhat shakily under a heavy Cape Peninsula mist. Undeterred by the weather, most of our members were up and about and heading for the range at break of day. The 700m event is always well attended. It presents the biggest target to shoot at in our shooting calendar with a bull width of almost two and a half MOA. Not surprisingly, close to 70 competitors turned up and once again enjoyed a great day of fun, competition and camaraderie.

This is what makes the .303 club special in Cape shooting circles. I suppose it's because it lifts ones spirits after a week's hard graft for most of us. On the way to the range in misty conditions I found myself humming Paul McCartney's "Mull of Kintyre" and ad libbing the words... "Go-o-od Hope Range... Oh mist rolling in from the sea... My desire is... to be there and shoot .303". A bit fanciful? Well maybe, but after more than a decade of attending CLI club shoots and enjoying the friendship of its members, I would be more than happy to just be able to come to the lunches and the prizegiving. Shooting as well in such good company, is a real bonus.

With the registration of all entrants completed the club's officers by about 08.45 (they are really good guys to put their efforts into organising things so well) we headed for the range under a thick mist being carried in from False Bay by a light South Easter. The sun was breaking through intermittently and was soon to burn off the mist and leave us with a clear sunny day and almost perfect wind free shooting conditions. That was, for the first two details and the lucky guys squadded to shoot first. Conditions later when the third and fourth details were shot was a different story.

John Ecclestone opened the day on the range with his usual gentleness and sincerity. His prayer reminded us of the fellowship that bonds us together and the privilege that we enjoy in our sport. It also reminded us of the need for humility in our lives and our dependence on the higher power that guides us and protects us.

Thereafter, and without further ado the first two details occupied the firing point and the rest (most of them crammed onto Ken Coleman's new Buttsmobile) headed for the Butts to pull targets. It always is pleasing, when we kick off at a shoot, (sorry must be a WCC influence in the jargon) to see everyone knowing what to do and getting on with it.

Our range and butts officers this month were Michael Beardwood, Jason and Mike Di Bona, Riaan Coetzee, Daryl Carver, Henri Laurie, Tjaart Muller and Arnold Beneke. Thanks guys for your dedication and service to the club. We all always appreciate it. As usual, the radio comms were good and things rolled on proverbially, like clockwork, on both the firing point and at the butts.

As the second detail ended the balmy conditions for shooting suddenly changed. A strengthening and fluctuating South Easter which generated seven to ten minute windage changes suddenly arrived out of nowhere. That had most shooters in the third and fourth details being caught out with unexpected magpies and hits (twos) out to the left and right. These are devastating to scores and are real heartbreakers. It was challenging stuff to shoot in, even for the most accomplished of our members, but despite this, it was fun.

The top scores recorded in the different classes are as follows:

CHAIRMAN: Mr M. Di Bona; **VICE-CHAIRMAN:** Mr R Coetzee; **TREASURER:** Mr CF du Toit
SECRETARY: Mr. S Hattingh; **MEMBERS:** Mr RAT Blake, Mr C Williams, Mr WJ Duckitt
CO-OPTED MEMBERS: WO1 AA Muller, Mr C Claus
<http://www.wpbisley.co.za/cli/index.htm>



X CLASS		VETS	
1	Jason Di Bona 46.4	1	Koos Brink 43.5
2	Mike Di Bona 44.4	2	Humphreys Colyn 42.1
3	Koos Brink 43.5	3	John Austin 42
4	Jean de Villiers 43.2		
5	John Austin 42.0	J CLASS	
6	Darryl Carver 42.0	1	Charl du Toit 35.2
		2	Justine Cordier 21
A CLASS		B CLASS	
1	Michael Beardwood 43.3	1	Amanda van Niekerk 44.1
2	Francois du Toit 43.3	2	Joe Koen 40.1
3	François de Waal 43.1	3	Mike Shortt 39.1
4	Julian van der Westhuizen 43	4	Jeff Panos 36.2
5	Humphreys Colyn 42.1	5	John Ecclestone 35.2
6	Rupert McNaught-Davis 41.4	6	Chris Williams 35.1

As usual in the X class Jason is still in front with a very good 46.4/50 Good shooting Jason! Another fantastic score was achieved by Amanda. Well done with your 44.1/50. It looks like Jan-Frederick has something to worry about when he returns! To rest of the shooters in the top 6, well done to all of you.

Our Cooks were François, Cedric, Julian and Riaan and they did us proud with really exceptional chicken potjies in the usual mild and hot spiced versions that had the guys coming back in droves for seconds. No better way to compliment the cooks than to eat all their food. And this eating was done very well this month. Well done to our cooks, we depend on you greatly. After all, the .303 club is also a dining club and our regulars and visitors are not just on the range for the shooting. There is also the drinking and eating to be enjoyed.

It remains for me, on behalf of the club, to thank you all again for your attendance and the wonderful spirit in which the 700m shoot was conducted. Next month we will be tackling the 800m event. This is the first leg of the two really long range events which we try to shoot in winter to try and duck the summer winds that almost make these events impossible to shoot with .303's.

We look forward to having you all with us again. If you have friends or family interested in our type of shooting bring them along with you. We are always looking for new members to add to our ranks. They will always be made most welcome.

See you all at the range next month

Yours in shooting

John Austin

FROM THE CHAIRMANS DESK

Firstly many thanks to John Austin for writing the very informative newsletter. It is the willingness of our members to participate like this that makes this the best shooting club in Cape Town!

There is really not much for me to add to this newsletter, other than to thank all the members who brought a visitor along. It was wonderful to see so many new faces at the shoot. Let's see if we can double this amount at our next monthly shoot.

I will be sending out all the details pertaining to our away shoot at the end of July when I return from my annual hunt.

Until then, set those sights, keep your eyes in and trigger fingers supple!

Mike



FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

1. BIRTHDAYS :

We would like to wish the following members a happy birthday. We trust that this will be a memorable year in to your life.

1 JH Burger
3 Louis Bester
4 Francois du Toit
8 Tjaart Muller
9 JP Dippenaar
11 André van der Merwe
14 FJ Janse van Rensburg
17 Allan Williams
19 Barry Mellor
22 Mike Di Bona
23 John Carter; Jermaine Lewis
28 John Davis

2. TIPS AND HINTS FROM THE "OU TOPPIE"

MIRAGE: I must confess that I am not an expert here, but suffice to know that if you can not see the mirage with the naked eye, then ignore it! If you can see it, then the mirage is showing you the target where it is not!! Aim at the target, and you will miss, as the picture is not where the target is. (And you thought shooting was easy hey?) Best advice that Ou Toppie can give you, is to ask a seasoned shooter as to how many clicks you must apply, and in what direction. Naturally, if the mirage is running from right to left, you will have to adjust your rear sight to the right to counter the incorrect picture of the target that the mirage is giving you. HOWEVER, remember, or make a note of the strength / speed of the mirage so that you will know next time! After a few shoots, you will get the hang of a mirage effect. Sometimes a mirage "swirls" or even changes direction. Almost always the direction is the same as the wind direction indicated by the flags. Good luck!

WIND: This is a lecture all on its own. There are charts / tables to show positions of the flags in various wind conditions, and sight adjustment corrections to counter wind effects. Again, ask a seasoned shottist for help, that is what the club is all about, to aid and help. Members will be proud to be able to assist in any way they can. The most difficult wind condition is when it is blowing directly from behind, or even from the front, also when it is gusting. All these conditions frustrate all who are on the shooting point, so you are not alone. Do your best to concentrate on ever shot, and realise that shooting is like golf, there are good days and bad days. Gary Player tells us that in golf the flukes count, but the more he practises the more flukes he has!

3. GENERAL :

- 3.1. Thank you to all shooters who complete their score cards in full. Perhaps the committee will contemplate adding to your cumulative score for the year for complying.
- 3.2. Membership cards have been printed and are kept in the membership cards box where you register for the shoot. The following members have not yet collected their membership cards : A. Beneke; D. Brits; JH Bouwer; JTB Brink; M Boshoff; RAT Blake; BC Bennett; Bruce Bisbey; KM Coleman; C De Beer; W De Wet; CL Claus; D Erasmus; CH Hartog; CG Jacobs; GA Leon; J le Roux; J Lewis; GB Marais; MJ Melidonis; TJM Melidonis; JA Minnie; AA Muller; JA Pratt; WA Pratt; MD Russell; M Shortt; G Sykes; D van Aarde; J van der Westhuizen; BS van Oord; RG Walkerley; AJG Williams.
The following SABU cards are also lying around: BS van Oordt; BJ Mellor; M Boshoff; JA & WA Pratt.

4. QUOTE FOR THE MONTH :

Choose a side – the middle of the road is where you get run over.

Margaret Thatcher

Till next time ...

Schalk Hattingh



Here are some pictures of Saturdays shoot.



Colin and Ian having a good time.



Sakkie and Ecclestone junior taking a break.



Must Jan-Frederick start worrying?



Beardwood senior & junior pleased with themselves.



Just look at that table cloth!!!!



Rupert and John packing up after a good shoot.



Our next shoot and meal is:

Distance: 800Mtr

Date: 31st July 2010

Time: 08:00

Venue: Good Hope Range

Ammo: 5 convertible sighters and 10 to count

See you all at the end of July!

Yours in shooting

Mike

