



CLI .303 CLUB OF CAPE TOWN

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Newsletter

March 2007

Well, it looks like I have been assigned the job of "dog's body" once again!

What, with our Honourable Chairman and the rest of his merry crew in Bloemfontein, I got the anxiously awaited sms, "***Hi Mike, will you please run the range on Saturday?***". It was so nicely worded, that it was impossible for me to refuse!

So here I am once again writing a newsletter. Let's hope that the time that I have had off till now, will allow me write an informative one!

I must admit that I did my level best to palm it off, but the excuses I received varied from "***I have never done anything like that before***" to "***I did not really pay attention to what was happening, so I would not be able to give an accurate account of the shoot***". Both being excellent excuses, I decided to write it myself!

39 shooters attended this shoot. The conditions were short of perfect! If I recall, I told the first detail that the conditions were zero! You could see a fly on target at 300Mtrs! I was convinced that records were going to tumble. How wrong can one be!!

We started our shoot with our traditional prayer, expertly given by Hannes at very short notice. Thereafter details 3 and 4 went to the butts.

I then informed everyone of the format of the shoot. I must admit, it was strange when one or two people still got it wrong. Please guys and girls, if you have any doubt, raise your hand and I will explain it to you again. Thank goodness no points were deducted!

The following shooters attained the first 6 positions.

A Class			B Class		
1.	Francois du Toit	41.0	1.	Jermaine Lewis	41.1
2.	Hannes Willers	41.0	2.	Jaron Pratt	41.1
3.	Colin Twine	40.1	3.	Alan Williams	39.1
4.	Mike Di Bona ***	39.2	4.	Ben Durandt (snr)	39.1
5.	Henri Laurie	39.1	5.	Johan Cilliers	39.1
6.	Arnold Beneke	39.1	6.	Conny Arellano	35.0

*** (with Jason's rifle, which has a trigger straight out of hell!!)

Veterans			J Class		
1.	Hannes Willers	41.0	1.	Ben Durandt (jnr)	27.0
2.	Alan Williams	39.1			
3.	Robert Ellis	38.1			



Before anyone asks me why the scores are so low, I have absolutely no idea! It was said that because all the big guns were away, the scores were down. Thank goodness I am not a big gun, otherwise I would have had to answer to an angry crowd!

It is so nice to see Francois in the medals again! And gold no less! Last month he achieved second place and now a 1st! He did say to me, now that his eyes are starting to deteriorate, his shooting has improved. If you can make any sense of that statement, good luck! We are a strange bunch, not so? Also, very uncharacteristic of him, he forgot to collect the medals. Maybe all of these things are helping him concentrate. Again, please do not try and make any sense of this!

It looks as if Hannes is also starting to peak! His eyes must be failing as well! Thank goodness he remembered his rifle! I hope I am still alive after these two people read this newsletter! Well done to the two of you! As you can see Hannes was counted out. Last month Francois was counted out, now it was his turn to be lucky!

Well, what can I say about Twinkie! He stole my 3rd place, that's what he did! And I am also glad to see he is not a big gun, otherwise he would also have been asked to explain himself!

In the B Class we had another count out! Jermaine winning the cutlery this time. Jaron has been very consistent this year. Always in the top 2! It's good to know that I am not the only one who has to eat humble pie. Wayne has been having plate fulls these last few months! Also fantastic to see Alan up in the medals! Practice makes perfect!

Well done to all those in the top 6, especially to Jermaine, Jaron and Alan!

We only had one shooter in the J Class. Ben Durant brought his son, Ben (Jnr) along, and he did fairly well for a new shooter. Let's hope we see lots more of him in the future.

In the Vets, we have Hannes, Alan and Rob keeping the flag flying! Good luck and good shooting to all those in the top 6!

The following people helped to make this shoot run smoothly.

Wayne Pratt, Francois du Toit, Ronnie Blake, Riaan Coetzee, Riaan Muller, Brent Bennett, and at least 3 other people who helped me on the range and also in the butts. I am sorry I did not take the names as I had a rather busy time on the range, while our Honourable Chairman and his merry crew were slaving over a hot curry pot with beer in hand, in Bloemfontein!

Once again, thanks to all those shooters who volunteered for duties. Where do you find a club where this happens? Not any other club that I have, or still belong to! Thanks guys and girls, you are an excellent bunch of shooters with unflinching camaraderie!

The meal was excellent! Riaan, Francois and plenty helpers, braaied meat and wors for us. There was also large salad with bread rolls. These were the braai packs that Riaan sells on the range for R20.00! There is so much food, you cannot go back for seconds! There is no way I will be bringing meat to the range ever again. A large chop, chicken kebab and boerewors, and also braaied for you if you arrange it with Riaan. Thanks Riaan for helping out your club with an excellent braai at your cost!

I had a rather funny incident happen when I was helping Riaan finish off his liquid refreshment in the club house, long after the shoot ended. One of our very senior shooters, namely Rob Ellis, comes over to me and asks if I have a small key. A rather



strange request, so I asked what is it for. ***"To open my car. I locked my keys in the car"*** was his reply. Why a small key I asked myself? Anyway, I ambled over to his car and was met there, by other enthusiastic people, who were more than willing to smash the driver's window so he could retrieve his keys. I must admit, Rob was not in favour of the smashing idea and he let us all know in no uncertain terms!

Crowbar, wire, etc., we all heard as likely tools to open the car. Only then did I take out my bunch of keys, took my work filing cabinet key, put it in the door lock and promptly opened the car! Rob immediately bounced in the car and started the frantic search for the keys. As my drink was getting warm, I retreated to the clubhouse. After about 2 minutes, Rob appears with the offending keys. ***"You did not have to open the car, they were in the boot lid"*** was his reply when asked where they were.

As I said, we are a strange bunch! Needless to say, this enormous effort made him extremely thirsty, so he had to quench his thirst and calm his nerves! By the way, if anyone wants to borrow a car while on the range, give me a shout, you can rent the key for R50.00 and hour!

Well folks, that's all I have for you. I am going to leave the rest of the information, like the date of the next shoot, to our Honourable Chairman to sort out. As it stands right now, it falls over a long weekend! Oh well, that's what he is there for, to make these important decisions!

Till we see each other on the range, be good and good luck!

Keep those eyes in and barrels oiled!

Yours in shooting

Mike

FROM THE CHAIRMAN:

Thanks again Mike for all the hard work and congratulations to all that made the list. How many of you turned up the next Saturday for the club shoot? Please make a note of the dates when you read the newsletter as just sometimes we are not booked for the last Saturday of the month.

The news from Bloemfontein is that some very good scores were shot at all the distances. It is just a matter of time before someone shoots a full score at the nationals as there were a few 48's even at 900m. I am sure Corena will give more stats in her report.

The infamous tent was occupied by no less than 5 souls. There will have to be some sort of award for Bruce, Colin and Koos for staying the distance. Well done guys. There is very little to report from the tent as our rule is "You don't talk out of the tent". All of us would however like to thank Bas for his excellent catering; his crumbed steak and chips are out of this world, the onion soup which turned into a stew the next day and then into bean soup the next day were excellent. Those who were put off by the pair of underpants that were used for a cloth are reminded that they were clean, we think. The only negative aspect was that the whisky thief was again up to his tricks. Next year we will catch him.

Everyone that attended is keen to attend next year and I hope that we will have an even larger group of CLI members. It is a long way and it does cost a fair amount of



money, but it is an experience all should have even once. It is well worth the break. It is of concern that only Brian attended from GP and we hope that he is able to get the rest of them back on track again so that we can have some competition next time in the club events.

Bas managed to shoot before the General had given the command to start at the one distance. The General ordered him to report after the detail. We all demanded that he be given an "afk@k parade" but he got away with only a warning. Mooi Bas.

The black powder nationals which took place the week after saw Corena shoot a record 99 at 100m in the .303 competition, only to have Bare shooting a 100 at the 200m the next day! Well done to both of you for excellent shooting. At the long range things went a bit pear shaped for me and I ended up giving up before the 900m, totally broken, tired and crippled after being kicked repeatedly by that beast of a rifle. I was not alone in retiring however, but I will not mention names. Thank goodness for the long weekend, I may just manage to go to work tomorrow.

Until the next event

Keep safe

Darryl

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK:

As you can surely gather from Darryl's few comments, we had a very good and enjoyable 2 weeks shooting in Bloemfontein. We literally had all the seasons in a single day and typical Free State thunderstorms almost every night. Only once were we caught shooting in the rain, but the Brigadier-General said he will not stop the shoot unless he feels there is a danger to the people (that was before Bas upset him by shooting prematurely!). The spotting scopes, sights and specs were all wet, and it was a real challenge seeing the target through those huge raindrops.

Darryl came third in the Thomas Theron (Grand Aggregate), but Bas sneaked past him to be the 3rd member to shoot the 3rd Stage of the State President, enabling him to end 3rd overall in the SA Championship. Well done to all of you, I must admit that the competition was really tough – all of us had an equal chance of winning almost up to the 3rd Stage. But Bare took the honours in both the Thomas Theron and the SA Championship! Well done to all of you. Thank you all for your good sportsmanship and company. I promised I will not say anything about the tent ...

However, we had a huge surprise with our black powder shoot last week. It must have been our chairman's evil twin shooting the Bisley, because he was on such exemplary behaviour during the Black Powder shoot that even his brother Brian would have been proud of him! And I am convinced that the presence of his wife Ingrid, had NOTHING to do with it!!!

Quite a number of our members enquired about a possible cancellation of our next club shoot, which falls right in the middle of a nice long weekend. We sent out an email asking the members' input and the majority of those on email felt that we should cancel the shoot. However, one of the bisley clubs (Peninsula Rifle Club) offered to move their shoot and we were able to secure the range for Saturday, 5 May 2007, for our club shoot. It is therefore not necessary to cancel the shoot as we were able to move it. Please make a note of this date and try to attend.



Our next event therefore is:

Distance: 500m

Date: **5 May 2007**

Time: 08:00

Venue: Good Hope Range

Ammo: **5 sighters (3 convertible) + 10 to count**

Congratulations to the following members on their birthdays in April:

3rd: Dennis Sherwood

7th: Nic van Wyk

8th: Richard Gie

10th: Sakkie Burger

20th: Julian van der Westhuizen



The infamous CLI tent and some of its inhabitants



The even more infamous underpants ...



Poor Bruce was labelled very quickly "Moan Gat"



We even converted Brian to a CLI Club member



The (unofficial) WP Team and their coach



Top 3 scores on the SA Championship with Bare 1st and Bas 3rd



Bruce decided if you can't beat them, join them! Cheers!!



During the Black Powder National Shoot, one of Dave Taylor's shots mysteriously disappeared, but then his marker (our chairman) started snoring! Must still be the after-effect of the CLI tent – or is it???



Who said a 303 can't group? Bare shot a magnificent 100/100 at 200m!!! (In Black Powder short range you shoot 13 shots and discard the lowest 3) This is the same 200m target we shot the club shoot in February – who will be the next to shoot a full score at the club?

That's all from me for now.

Corena de Beer (082 826 0453)

