

## Our Fifth Edition

Welcome to the fifth edition of our newsletter. After a long period of reconstruction and major changes, things are finally settling down at the club, but there's still plenty of news.

## Centenary Celebrations

Our June DTL competition coincided with the club's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations and, if you'll excuse the pun, things went off with a bang. Over 81 shooters took part in the events and it was pleasing to also see a few dozen spectators enjoying the show. Congratulations to Declan Palmer for winning the major prize, a Fabarm shotgun.

Councillor Harvey Benton represented the Rural City of Wangaratta and Jeff Bourman, MLC for Eastern Victoria, was also present. It was great to see Norm Dunn competing on the day. Norm is a vastly experienced advisor to a number of high level political entities and his support and advice throughout the club's dealings with various State Government authorities in relation to environmental matters have been invaluable.

The club received sponsorship for the day's three events from **Raytrade, Laporte & Spartan Global**. The fabulous prizes reflected the generosity of those companies. **Wangaratta Kebabs** sponsored the High Guns, so, the next time your tummy rumbles, you know what to do.

A huge amount of work went into the planning and preparation for the centenary celebrations. Trying to name those who did that work would risk leaving someone out, but the club can be proud of the positive boost to our reputation resulting from their efforts.

## Ernie Williams

Club stalwart Ernie Williams had a health scare at the July 14<sup>th</sup> Sporting Clays competition and was hospitalised overnight. Ernie's family has contacted the club and we are happy to report that he is on the road to recovery and is expected to be back in action in the near future. A fake Ernie has been spotted at the club running the practice book. God help that imposter when the real Ernie comes back and finds any mistakes in his book.

## Kitchen Finished

The club's new kitchen has been in use for a while, but the finishing touches have finally been made. The electrical system and plumbing are all installed, the exhaust flue fitted and Bob Pigram even painted the walls. A very chic tea & coffee bar has been installed, too. Perhaps the new canteen deserves a name. Café Clay? Down the Line Diner?

## Toilets Finished

Wow, how flash are the new toilets? The reaction has been universally positive, especially from our female friends. At last, we can be confident in providing the best possible facilities to our shooters, spectators and visitors. Brian Reid played a huge part in the funding application for the toilets, so he deserves a pat on the back next time you see him. (Outside!)

## Annual General Meeting

The Annual General meeting will be held at the clubrooms on Sunday the 28<sup>th</sup> of July, 2019 at 11:00am. There will be a free BBQ after the meeting. Do your best to attend the meeting and cast your vote for the office bearer positions.

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## Club Shirts & Caps

Thanks to Anita and Linda, we now have spiffy new club shirts & caps. They're very reasonably priced and can be purchased at the clubrooms on competition days and practice days.

## Help Your Club

There's always room for more helpers at the club, so please keep your ear to the ground and do your best to pitch in at working bees. Setting up for competitions and practice days also requires a lot of work, so set your alarm clock an hour earlier and get on out there.

## Traps & Equipment Replacement

The two new Laporte Twinlap DTL traps are installed and in use. Laporte sent two of their official installers, Andrew Brady and Rusty Loeche, to Wang in June to weave their magic on the traps and make sure our new toys were ready for action at the centenary shoot. The Laporte boys came up from Gippsland and spent the weekend in Wang, so let hope they enjoyed their time in the big smoke.

## Shipping Container & Plants

The shipping container on Ground no.2 has been lifted up to protect against water ingress and a garden established alongside it. The garden has all Aussie native plants, something like Grevillia Crittendoniums, I believe.

## EPA Update

We are still awaiting the Clean Up Plan (CUP) and a replacement Environmental Management Plan (EMP). We've been expecting them for a while and thought we'd have them by now, but the most recent update suggests that it will happen in the next few weeks.

It may seem that things have died down and the whole EPA saga is over and done with, but nothing could be further from the truth. Our environmental behaviour is as critical as ever and we must continue to be vigilant and to meet our requirements.

## EPA Chief Scientist's Visit

The club welcomed a group of EPA officers, including Victoria's Chief Environmental Scientist, Dr Andrea Hinwood, to the grounds on the 15<sup>th</sup> of July. Our Vice Pres. Brian Reid met the visitors and updated them on our environmental situation and the compliance measures put in place by the club since May 2016, when the EPA first informed us of the lead contamination problem. Brian was pleased to have Dr Hinwood also ask about the affect our problems were having on the wellbeing of the club's members. As a result of the visit, the Victorian EPA's management continues to be informed of the club's position and our efforts to maintain compliance with the Environmental Management Plan.

*We hope you've enjoyed our newsletter. We look forward to keeping you up to date with the latest developments at our club.*

Anton Motha  
President, on behalf of the Committee  
Wangaratta Clay Target Club