



Sporting Shooters Association of Australia (NSW) Sydney Branch Inc.

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August Newsletter

Outcome of 2013 Branch AGM.

The focus of the AGM was the election of officebearers. James Walsh was elected President, Pam Reeves continues as Secretary, Mark Godwin was returned unopposed as Treasurer. Pauline Smith and Peter Thomson were elected to the two ordinary Committee positions.

In General Business the meeting requested the Committee to investigate the feasibility of developing a system of pre-purchasing multiple range visits, and to review the benefits available to volunteer Range Officers across all ranges.

Casual Vacancy on Committee

Prior to his election as President, James Walsh already held an ordinary Committee position. He has now resigned from that ordinary position, creating a casual vacancy. Under our constitution this is to be filled by appointment by the Committee. At the June 2013 Committee meeting, following the AGM, it was decided that in the event of a casual vacancy on the committee, members would be advised of the casual vacancy, and expressions of interest sought from those willing to be considered for appointment to this position.

If you do wish to be considered for appointment to the Committee, please send a brief description of the skills and experience you would bring to the Committee, and your dedication or history of involvement in the Association and shooting generally. Please send this to the Secretary by **4 September**, for consideration by the Committee at its September meeting. Candidates will also be invited to briefly address the Committee at that meeting. Information on what is expected of Committee members and the time involved in being on the Committee is available from the Secretary. Email is secretary@ssaasydney.net

Call to Action – Shooters Rally

The disbanding of the NSW Game Council has deprived thousands of hunters of access to public lands for both recreational hunting and the control of invasive feral species. This represents a major backflip from the NSW government on a program of significant benefit to shooters and the natural environment.

Beyond hunting, the rushed introduction of the Ammo Bill is crippling many pistol clubs and burdening dealers with excessive paperwork. Coupled with calibre restrictions and the closure of some shooting ranges, competitive shooters and those simply needing to sight-in are being hampered by unreasonable barriers that have no impact on reducing crime.

It's time for Sydney shooters to say enough is enough!

The SSAA Sydney Branch committee encourages all members to participate in the upcoming Shooters Rally to take place at NSW Parliament House on **Wednesday 14th of August 2013**, to send a clear message to the government that law-abiding shooters deserve honest representation, equal access and a fair go.

You can learn more about the rally here:

<http://www.savehuntingonpublicland.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/events/292062594271944/>

<http://www.sportingshootermag.com.au/news/hunting-rally-gathers-momentum>

Branch Contact Details have changed: Please note the change of contact details in the header.

Advance Notice of SSAA (NSW) Sydney Branch Special General Meeting

A Special General Meeting of the Branch will be held Thursday, 10 October, 2013, in the Auditorium of the Wentley Leagues Club, commencing at **7.00 pm**. The principal purpose of the meeting is to consider the adoption of the revised Branch constitution. The wording of the revised standard Branch constitution, which all NSW Branches are expected to adopt, is available on the SSAA (NSW) website at www.ssaansw.org.au or by requesting an electronic copy from the Secretary. Any additional agenda items should be submitted in writing to the Secretary by 14 August to allow inclusion in the formal meeting notice which will be sent out at a later date.

SSAA Sydney Branch Strategic Plan

One of the projects that our new Executive Officer, Greg Bondar, is working on is the development of a Strategic Plan for the Branch. *This is an opportunity for you to have an input into the direction of the Branch.* Please start by completing the questionnaire that Greg has put together, and return it asap to the Executive Officer. You will find the questionnaire on our website, www.ssaasydney.net – click on the Downloads tab or the button on the front page.

SSAA (NSW) Sydney Branch Committee

President: James Walsh

Senior Vice President: Carl Smith

Junior Vice President: Barry Warwick

Secretary: Pam Reeves

Treasurer: Mark Godwin

Ordinary Committee members

Pauline Smith

Peter Thomson

Mitch Radomir

Nick Diakos

Stan Baranski

Anthony Foate

Simon Taranto

Executive Officer: Greg Bondar

If you haven't yet joined us on Facebook or Twitter, please have a look. You will find us at <http://www.facebook.com/SSAASydney>
If tweeting is your thing, follow our Twitter account at @SSAA_Sydney

Volunteer Range Officers needed:

SSAA Sydney encourages members to volunteer as a Range Officer at their local range. Volunteers must have a current firearms licence for target shooting, be experienced range users, and available to be rostered on once a month and reliably turn up. Hornsby and Silverdale ranges in particular need extra volunteers.

If you are interested, please email your details and contact number to the Executive Officer.

Range News and Upcoming events:

Silverdale

Thanks to new Committee member, Peter Thomson, the metallic silhouette targets at Silverdale are now repaired and in use. Peter's background as an electrical engineer has also been appreciated in identifying and sourcing a backup generator for the Silverdale Range. This will be installed prior to the World Benchrest Champs. and allow this and future events to proceed whatever the vagaries of the mains power supply.

Silverdale Range is offering a deer-caping and butchering course on Saturday 31st August, 2013, commencing at 9am sharp. This course offers complete instruction on caping of trophy deer heads, and butchering of carcasses. These skills are easily transferable to other species. Cost is \$50 and includes a barbecue lunch. Pre-bookings are essential. Contact Silverdale Rifle Range on (02)46531440 to reserve your place. The holding of further courses will depend on the fate of the educational functions of the Game Council.

Deer caping and butchering course 31 August
State Rimfire B/R Champs. October 5-6
World Benchrest Championships Oct 15-25
Rimfire Rifle Silhouette shoot 4th Sunday @ month

Hornsby

The Range calendar for the current financial year has now been agreed, and we again have the use of the main range at 300yds on some Sunday afternoons. This range will be run concurrently with the 100m range. If you wish to utilise the main range you should ensure that your rifle is sighted in at some known distance (such as 100m) first, to make it quick and easy to get you on target at 300. Calibre limit is 8mm, and shooting on the main range will be from the prone position.

Hornsby continued.

The next three main range dates are: 25 August, 15 September, 13 October.

Sydney Rifle Ranges Contact Information:

Holroyd Rifle Range and Pigeon Club, Hylands Road Greystanes, is open Fridays 7pm – 10 pm. .22 long rifle standard velocity only. Club rifles and Safe Shooting courses available.

Ph. 0417 428 412

Hornsby Rifle Range, adjacent to Mt Wilga Hospital, Rosamund Road, Hornsby Heights, is open most Sundays. Four 1/2 hour details are held, commencing at 1pm. Please arrive prior to 3.30pm if you wish to shoot. Calibres up to 8mm. Targets at 50m and 100m only, expect when we occasionally have the use of 300 yds on the main range. Safe Shooting courses available.

Ph. 02 8230 2574 to check it is open.

Hurstville Smallbore Range, 100 Roberts Avenue Mortdale, is open for rimfire shooting each Monday and Thursday nights, 6pm to 10pm. Note – this range now opens at 6pm – an hour earlier than previously. Rimfire .22 long rifle standard velocity only. Club rifles and Safe Shooting courses available.

Ph. 0488 772 751

Silverdale Rifle Range, Avoca Road Silverdale, is open 9am to 3.45 pm, 7 days a week. Closed every 3rd Sun, public holidays, Easter and Christmas. Calibres with retained energy of no more than 3000 ft lbs at 200m. First Sunday @ month Competition Shooting only. Club rifles and Safe Shooting courses available.

Ph. 02 4653 1440

St Marys Indoor Shooting Centre, 30 Power Street St Marys, is open 7 days a week, 10am - 10pm Mon-Fri, 12pm - 10 pm Sat and 10am - 6pm Sun. Club rifles, and Safe Shooting courses available.

Ph. 02 8889 0406

SSAA (NSW) Sydney Branch Report to members, July 2013
Feedback welcome to executive.officer@ssaasydney.net