

Natives Rifle Club - 2014 – Captains Report

In 2014 Natives continued to grow and remain one of the larger MDRA clubs. We welcomed 5 new members to the club – Peter Knight, Adam Cullen, Daniel Cullen, Deb Gauld and Alex Gauld. Existing members are providing training and support for these members. The club membership has grown at around 10% per year for the last 3 years to bring our current membership to 57. 20 members are F class shooters. Without F Class, memberships of most clubs would look fairly ordinary.

In fixtures Pacific, Mariners and Brisbane were too good for us in A AR and F class but we did get the B grade flag. More work and commitment is required. The skill levels are there but something is missing.

Club champions for 2015 were A grade Kim O’Loghlen, B Grade Garry Henderson, C Grade Markku Ahonen, F Std Wayne Latham F Open George Constantinou, Junior F Class Daniel Cullen. Well done to you all.

Natives remain an associated sporting club of the Carina Leagues club and each year we receive a generous grant from this organisation. In October members attended the Carina Leagues sporting awards night. Awards this year went John Menzel in A grade, Kate Constantinou in B Grade, Marcia Canty in C Grade, George Constantinou F Class and Daniel Cullen picked up the encouragement award for F Class. Daniel has improved very quickly in F class and I am sure he will soon be winning Queens badges.

Two long time members passed away in 2014. They were Bill Mitchelmore and Dr Les Perrin both stalwarts of the game. We are fast losing links to our past.

Members attended most Queens throughout the country and numerous prize meetings with varying levels of success. Closer to home George Constantinou won the QRA Queens FS A and Wayne Latham won the QRA Grand Agg FS A. Many Natives were in the badge list.

Natives held a very successful prize meeting this year with members marking 50% of the targets. This enabled the club to make a sizeable profit from the two days shooting. Winners were Mirko Teglassi A Grade, Heather Jamieson B Grade, Jeff Leung C Grade, Brent Noble F Std A, Josh Reid F Std B, Lindsay Crombie F Open and Mark Fairbairn FTR. David Brown won the Affleck belt.

Natives had representatives in the National team, National Vets team, Qld team, Qld ladies team, and has reps in the Palma, Vets and u/25 teams to Camp Perry in 2015 for the World Long Range Championships. Wendy Latham was Captain of the Qld Ladies team and Kate Constantinou and Sharona Muxlow were team members. The Qld Ladies were successful in Western Australia. John Caske co captained the Australian Veteran's Full-bore Target Rifle team which travelled to Camp Perry in Ohio, USA in August to compete in the international veterans’ teams matches. Australia won the Gold medal in the Commodore Perry 4 member teams match by one point from Great Britain.

Natives is a part of the electronic target syndicate with a purchase of 4 targets. This purchase was made possible through the generosity of 2 club members providing long term interest free loans to the club. Like the other syndicate members we believe electronic targets will be a game changer for our sport.

My thanks go to Leigh Marett Vice Captain, Marcia Canty Treasurer, Sharona Muxlow Secretary, Steve Smith Stats, Brian Pickles Providore and the committee for their support throughout the year.

Thanks also go to all members who contribute to the running of the club on a week to week basis. The more members contribute the better the overall experience for all members. Thanks to Wayne Latham our website remains a great forum for obtaining information relating to club news and activities and individual members' achievements. It also helps the captain prepare his report!

I wish all members good shooting for 2015 and look forward to a year of competitive shooting and a better result in the fixtures competition.

John Menzel – Captain 2014