



Frankston Branch News

Official Newsletter of Frankston Field & Game A.B.N. 97 827 331 728

Aug 2010 - Sept 2010

FIRST TIME EVER - FRANKSTON BRINGS HOME THE MINYIP CUP!

FEDERAL ELECTION

MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT!

With the upcoming federal election only weeks away and state election scheduled for later this year I made contact with friend of the branch, Neil Jenkins of the Country Alliance Party. Neil advises me he has written an extensive article in the current issue of Feathers and Fur magazine which will "blow member's socks off".

Neil has also kindly taken time out from his busy schedule to provide Frankston FGA members the following discussion of how we hunters and outdoors enthusiasts can make our votes count at the polls if we want to keep the Greens and other unfriendly parties at bay

Neil advises his advice is fairly open given that at this point in time only so much is (and is not) known.

It's vitally important you go to the polls informed so watch for further info closer to election day and be sure to vote wisely.

We thank Neil for his contribution and also for his kind offer to provide additional advice in our next newsletter with respect to the Victorian State election.

VOTING AT THE FEDERAL ELECTION

[The federal election will be held August 21st.](#)

[How should I vote in the Federal Senate?](#)

All members need to understand that there is a real danger of the Greens getting control of the federal Senate mainly because of the favourable preference deal they struck with the Australian Labour Party.

Simply put, a vote for Labour in the Senate "above the line" (which requires voters to number just one box for Labour on the large white ballot paper) increases the chances of helping the Greens hold the balance of power – and they'll do whatever they can to stop recreational hunting. They could for example, demand immediate restrictions on what firearms can be imported through Customs – cutting off our supplies!

Vote for Labour "above the line" and you might as well kiss your guns goodbye. However it is still possible for you to vote Labour without

From the President . . .

As I write this article the branch's 2010 annual general meeting is but a memory. Its fair to say 2009/10 was a big year with substantial change implemented. We worked hard to build the branch following difficult recent years and felt our way over much unfamiliar ground. I can happily report though, twelve months down the track Frankston FGA has enjoyed much success.

Reading my working files I've concluded newsletter space won't allow me to cover-off on everything discussed at the AGM. I've noted some of the major matters discussed but extend to all members an invitation to contact the committee or I to discuss any specific questions.

Committee was particularly proud of our clay target activities in 2009/10. Our relationship with sister club the FACTC is now very close and both clubs are focussed on the common goal of building up our shared facilities. Reviewing our competitions, we made many operational changes this time last year. When a ten year lease was signed for the grounds, investment of a more substantial nature was appropriate and major redevelopment works of a capital nature undertaken.

All this seems to be working with attendances building and a four fold increase in competition turnover reported. We're still a way-off but are listening to members and working hard. The ground is alive with a positive atmosphere and we can't wait to build on it further when Spring gets here.

On the field hunting front, our endeavours had mixed results. We continued regular bi-monthly hunters hangouts and an annual duck fever night. The latter was huge but the former sadly averaged only a half dozen attendees per night. We again facilitated WIT tests for juniors and new hunters and did our best to organise branch hunts. In total we held one duck trip, a quail weekend and two fox hunts. Unfortunately while the hunts were great fun, attendances were generally poor.

We've often called for comment on how to build branch hunting activities. Limited replies from members leave us reiterating our appeal for support, fresh ideas and a volunteer to fill the vacant hunting officer's position. I'm here to tell you we don't have all the answers and will make mistakes. To those who'll bemoan this, I encourage you to please put your hand up and help.

From a financial perspective we had a tremendous year. Treasurer Larry Lambrou delivered a detailed and very professional financial report to the AGM, noting enhanced profitability of our clay target activities, improved control of overheads and the implementation of comprehensive new accounting and banking systems. The branch 2010 financial accounts are available on request.

Thanks to the membership and specifically my committee for their input and support: Larry Lambrou, Jess Walker, Mick Eddey, Guy Pilkington, Dave Jencke and Graham Lewien. All have stood and been re-elected unopposed for 2010/11. Thanks also to Ben Drakeley for his work on our new website, Brittany Walker for manning our office and John Plant, John Humphries and Laurie and Marg Howell for working practice and comp days.

To conclude AGM news, I'd also like to thank newcomers to committee, Daryle Eames and Brett Murray. New blood on committees is essential in ensuring fresh perspective, ideas and contributions. It also guards against stagnation and is vital for long term leadership succession.

R.I.P.

It is with heavy hearts the Committee of Frankston Field and Game note the recent passing of three great friends of the branch, Barry Brookes, Lynton (Bluey) Male and John Duchman.

All three were keen sportsmen and contributed much to our branch over many years. They were well thought of and many members enjoyed close relationships with them. They'll be sorely missed and our condolences are with their families and friends at this difficult time. We pray they've retired to a better place, are at peace and enjoying warm barrels, broken targets and full bags.

Steve Harris

WANTED - PHOTOS, STORIES & HUNTING REPORTS

WWW.FRANKSTONFGA.COM.AU IS YOUR WEBSITE AND THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER

WE WANT YOUR REPORTS, STORIES AND PHOTOS!

CONTRIBUTE BY EMAILING frankstonfga@gmail.com

Frankston Field & Game - Hunting

KERANG FOXES - MINYIP QUAIL WEEKEND

Report on Kerang Fox Drive 10-11 July by Frankston FGA member Jim Marsden

My brother Allan and I decided to drive to Kerang on Friday afternoon as the start time for the first drive was 8.00am on Saturday. We found the campsite easily on the north shore of lake Bael Bael among some trees, about a dozen boys from Bendigo were already settled in and about to light a fire. The weather at this stage was good but the forecast for Saturday was for strong winds and rain. We had a pleasant Friday evening getting to know some of the others while sharing a roaring fire and a drink or two.

We woke Saturday morning to an overcast sky and a strong northerly wind. After breakfast we all gathered for a safety briefing and details of the day's activities, the first item was the reading of a severe weather warning provided by Lisa from Parks Victoria. We were split into two team's one of shooters, the other beaters, throughout the day the two teams alternated between shooters and beaters. The general approach was that the two teams would form two parallel lines 1-1.5km apart depending on the area to be covered, once everyone was in position the beaters would start walking towards the shooters making as much noise as possible. We completed five drives on Saturday resulting in a bag of nine fox's. (I think it was 9). By about 4.00pm after being out in the wind and rain since 8.00am everyone had had enough and we retired to the roaring fire and dinner.

Sunday dawned with ideal weather, clear skies with a light wind. However the small amount of rain the previous day was enough to dampen the top layer of clay, this meant you got 5mm higher with every step. We completed four drives on Sunday morning resulting in (I think) four more fox's. One of the drives on each day was at the request of a local farmer who was most grateful for the service

Midday Sunday saw everyone back in camp for lunch, followed by packing up and heading for home. I would like to particularly thank Mark who did a great in arranging the drives and keeping everyone moving.

Jim Marsden.

The Frankston FGA committee thank Jim for his report and would also like to congratulate Mark and Bendigo FGA for their efforts in organising this tremendous initiative. Having built a strong relationship with DSE and Parks Victoria they've accessed many areas otherwise unavailable to hunters, performing invaluable vermin hunts on areas including the Kerang Marshes, Lake Bael Bael, Hirds, Johnsons and Yasson Swamps.

Minyip Quail Weekend - FFGA wins the Cup!

In late June some 15 members took to the highway and headed to Minyip for our annual quail weekend with the local FGA branch.

Unfortunately the massive rains up north saw to it that few quail were left in the region but it was

no matter. The crew were still offered access to some possibly productive quail paddocks, but were also offered the alternative of fox drives on previously un-shot areas.

After a great time in the field, a few foxes and quail were bagged, our members were treated to a tremendous camp oven dinner and went on to have a great time over a few drinks with the Minyip crew late into the Saturday night.

Come Sunday, Frankston again shot in the 50 target inter-branch sporting clays event which has seen victory elude us for the entire history of this event. Well, somehow we managed to pull it off and Frankston captured the cup from Minyip branch! Well done to all and a great thanks to all from both branches who worked so hard to organise the weekend.

Federal Election Notes

As this newsletter goes to print, an August 21 date has been set for the 2010 federal election. If early media reports of a Labour / Green preference deal are accurate, we're in trouble! The preference system really does stink!

The growth of the Greens is one of the single greatest threats to our way of life that we'll face in our times. Please, be in no doubt about this, the Greens want to take your guns and oppose all forms of hunting. In due time fishing, 4wd's, horse riding and dirt-biking will also be attacked and importantly too, they'll pursue an agenda of locking up public lands.

Committee Details

President: Steve Harris

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Vice President: Michael Eddey

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Secretary: Jessica Walker

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Treasurer: Larry Lambrou

0439 350 852 - llambrou@homewrap.com.au

Clay target Coordinator: Dave Jencke

0417 545 661

General Committee:

Graham Lewien - lewien@netspace.net.au

Guy Pilkington 0417 398 362 - gryp@betterrentals.com.au

Brett Murray

Daryle Eames

Branch mail: C/- 8 Westminster Ct, Somerville 3912

Up Coming Events

AUGUST

- | | |
|------|--|
| 5th | Hunters Hangout |
| 14th | 75 Targets - thanks to Scerri Bros Billiards |
| 19th | Committee meeting |
| 28th | 75 Target sporting clays |

SEPTEMBER

- | | |
|------|--------------------------|
| 11th | 75 Target Sporting Clays |
| 16th | Committee meeting |
| 25th | 75 Target sporting clays |

OCTOBER

- | | |
|------|---------------------------|
| 7th | Hunters Hangout |
| 9th | 100 Target Sporting Clays |
| 21st | Committee meeting |
| 23rd | 75 Target Sporting Clays |

All members are welcome to attend committee meetings. Committee meetings are held 6:30 PM Thursdays Watch www.frankstonfga.com.au, future newsletters and attend Hunters Hangouts for date confirmation/changes.

Frankston Field & Game - Sporting Clays

Clay Target News

It's again been a busy period however the cold weather remains a dampener on shoot numbers. The overall trend is certainly up on previous years but there are far fewer people shooting than in the warmer months.

The grounds are particularly muddy lately. It's all good though with the substantial rain greening up the place. We even have resident families of black ducks with chicks in tow. Hopefully we'll see many more before duck season 2011!

Competition results:

Saturday 22nd May 2010 75 Target Sporting Clays

Despite gorgeous, mild and sunny May weather, we had a very quiet day with only 36 shooters attending. Verbal reports were coming thick and fast of mates chasing quail (and having a good show if it too). Many duck hunters were also giving it another try this weekend in advance of the closing of the 2010 season in one week's time. With that in mind and with no other major comps on in Melbourne, we assume members are out in the field. I know that's where I'd have been if there'd been no comp at Frankston.

Anyway, a tremendous day was had by all and competitors were very social too after the shooting finished. We heard many a tale told in the club rooms over a cold beer conversing on all things related to clays and birds.

AA: Graham Eames
A: Max Caselli, Matthew Bryan
B: Larry Lambrou, Ben Drakeley, Tom Tryp
C: Ron Turley, Rudi Paoletti, Shaun Brick
Vets: Rob Carter, W. Robinson, John Robbins

Saturday 12th June 2010 75 Target Sporting Clays

Despite a cold morning, the day developed into one which was about as close to perfect as you can get for sporting clays in the winter.

With a tremendous turn-up of some 71 shooters, we had a great competition on our hands. Everyone seemed to enjoy the targets and good company of the day. On a sad note, a number of shooters and grounds crew mourned the terrible news of the overnight passing of their great mate and friend of our branch, Barry Brookes. He will

be sorely missed and remembered fondly by all his friends at Frankston. Our wishes are with his family and close friends in this difficult time.

AA: B. Gonzales, P. Maltezos, J. McWilliam
A: Rod McIlroy, Mark Wright, James Unsworth
B: L Lambrou, Vince Kikenney, Michael Kellam
C: Rob Glenn, Anthony Palmieri, Ben Ferrari
Vets: W. Cumberland, Bob Phillips, Rod Evans
Juniors: J. Paglia, Doug McIntyre, John Cloke

Saturday 26th June 2010 75 Target Sporting Clays

Shooters are a fantastic bunch! While a freezing cold, wet day greeted us and our ground was partially flooded, we still had a turn-up of some 40+ competitors. An interesting ground was set by our crew and reports came back that the sojourn out into the weather was well worth it.

AA: Paul Maltezos, Terry Mitrakis
A: John Marsan, Vince Fidelle, Eric Mills
B: Max Caselli, James Grech, Guy Pilkington
C: Chris Gleeson, Mick Piccolo, D Scantlebury
Vets: W Robinson, John Robbins, Terry Preston
Juniors: C Milano

Saturday 10th July 2010 75 Target Sporting Clays

Some 57 shooters attended on this windy cool day to shoot it out at Frankston. Pleasingly we had some tremendous shots in attendance including Brenton Irons, Peter Onley, Andrew Opie and Brian Mortenson. Thanks to Guy Pilkington and Ben Drakeley for running shoot offs and presentations as I was scheduled to be fox hunting in Bendigo.

AA: Brenton Irons, Peter Onley, Andrew Opie
A: Ves Debucanin, Frank Vella, Mark Wright
B: James Grech, Greg Lenz, Larry Lambrou
C: C. Markopoulos, C. Kyriakou, Matej Kandui
Vets: Len Box, Rob Carter, John Robbins
Ladies: Min McDonald, Mel Hogan
Juniors: Chris Lenz, Doug McIntyre

Saturday 24th July 2010 75 Target sporting clays

Some 45 shooters attended the branch on what was a freezing cold, rainy morning. The ground was particularly muddy given weather in preceding days and we were presented many challenges in terms of setting stands where they could throw a good variety of targets i.e.

without putting them too far in the open where the electrics would be flooded or the quad bikes bogged while servicing them during the day.

We appreciated the fantastic turnout of many regulars despite the trying conditions as do we thank our grounds crew and shoot organisers who were at the ground early despite our AGM having run the evening prior till 10pm. From all reports the shoot was a lot of fun and we congratulate our winners on their success. In conditions like this they had to dig deep!

AA: Terry Mitrakis
A: Val Faoro, Darren Evans, Locky Irons
B: Tom Tryp, Larry Lambrou, Rob Pilkington
C: C. Markopoulos, Greg Harney, Terry Preston
Vets: Rob Carter, Vaughn Ruddick, Col O'Brian
Ladies: Mel Hogan
Juniors: S. Evans

Rules note

As most members are aware, we share our grounds with the ACTA affiliated Frankston Australia Clay Target Club (FACTC) with whom we have a tremendous working relationship.

A difference between FGA and ACTA rules has recently become an issue, the latter seeing a safety issue with the use of gun-slips on busy clay target ranges. The ACTA long ago banned them and all guns must be carried unloaded and broken, either underarm or over the shoulder barrels forward. While sometimes debated within FGA ranks, we currently allow them.

Recently I'm told a number of people including FGA members, have taken offence at the FACTC committee enforcing this. I'd remind you that while present FGA rules allow gun-slips and you are free to use them on our sporting ground. If you cross into the FACTC's 5-stand, skeet or trap ranges you must respect their rules.

Breaking News

As we go to print we have just received word Kingston Council have approved a funding grant of \$2,000 to the branch for upgrade of clay target traps. Fantastic news!

In between newsletters see up-to-date results, photos and more at www.frankstonfga.com.au and register for Claybuster the new full colour e-newsletter from Feathers and Fur Magazine. Visit www.claybuster.com.au to register

UP AND COMING COMPETITIONS

75 Sporting Clays - Sat August 14th, 11am - Scerri Bros Billiards

75 Sporting Clays - Sat August 28th, 11am

75 Sporting Clays - Sat Sept 11th, 11am

75 Sporting Clays - Sat Sept 25th, 11am

Location: FRANKSTON FGA, Rossiters Road Carrum Downs

Contact Dave Jencke and refer FGA shoot-book

HUNTERS HANGOUT

Thursday, August 5th - Start 8:00 pm

Fox hunting options
Discuss Hunters Hangout format moving forward

Club Rooms - Rossiters Road, Carrum Downs

Sponsor's Honour Roll

WATMASTER

WHITEHORSE ARMS

CARLSON CHOKE TUBES

SCERRI BROS BILLIARDS

DKS OUTDOORS PROMOTIONS

AUSTRALASIAN SPORTS HUNTING ALLIANCE

BRIAN WALKER FAMILY

BARRY HOWE FAMILY & FRIENDS

BENJAMIN KING MONEY PTY LTD CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Please support those who support your sport

THANKS TOO FOR THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF
BETTER RENTALS

FRANKSTON FIELD AND GAME ARE ON THE WEB!

Having opened late December 2009, the committee proudly invite you to visit our all new website:

www.frankstonfga.com.au

Featuring:

Latest events and competition calendar
Downloadable newsletters
Competition results
Branch info, history and contacts
Photo archives - Social, hunting and competition
Sponsor and supporter links

All that and more...

Thanks to volunteer web-master Ben Drakeley and many contributing authors and photographers for providing content

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helping the Greens.

Do not vote "above the line". Instead, spend a couple of minutes sequentially numbering the boxes "below the line" making sure that you put the Greens last.

We don't yet know what deals (if any) the coalition has made. They have also struck deals with the Greens in the past so until we can find out more, we recommend you 'play it safe', by again voting below the line, making sure you put the Greens last. However it's important that you number all the boxes, as tedious as it might sound.

If you don't wish to vote for any of the major parties or can't be bothered numbering all the boxes, then you might like to consider voting for the Shooters and Fishers Party "above the line" by putting a "1" in the box against their name. The party will put the Greens last and is the only way you can vote "above the line" to protect shooting interests with any real certainty.

More information will become available closer to the election when all the parties have to declare where their preferences will go.

[How should I vote in the House of Representatives?](#)

Your vote in the House of Representatives is cast on the smaller green ballot paper.

Who you vote for is entirely your choice. We just ask that if you are given a "how-to-vote" card, just make sure that you put the Greens last.

Even if you can't decide between the major parties, just make sure you put the Greens last.

It is possible that the Shooters and Fishers Party will run candidates in some lower house seats – that's still being worked out. If you see their name on the ballot paper, then by all means vote for them. However if you don't, vote for whoever you want but just make sure you ignore the "how-to-vote" cards and put the Greens last.

Neil Jenkins is the Secretary of the Country Alliance party

www.countryalliance.org

EMAIL ALERTS

Keep in the loop on this and other important issues. Visit the branch website www.frankstonfga.com.au and register your email address with the branch by sending a brief note to frankstonfga@gmail.com

We're building an email list for disseminating timely news inbetween newsletters. By registering we hope to keep you informed more promptly.

RITCHIES
SUPERMARKETS AND LIQUOR STORES