

Around the Trad

The final weekend of July saw 45 traditional archers enjoying the warm Queensland sunshine at Chevallan Archery Park near Gympie. The overnight temperatures dropped rather low, making those who had travelled from the Darling Downs and Gold Coast Hinterland feel right at home. Many invited from Brisbane also made the pilgrimage, and all enjoyed the 25 X 3D field course. We had the very long clout range, two 30sec speed rounds, the Hunt Round, along with the moving target. There was one particular target, a large antelope, placed at 28 metres out in the open on flat ground, which seemed to be more difficult to hit than it should have been.

It was great to see Tom back on his feet following his heart surgery, shooting a bow again, and everyone laughing and enjoying the Mid-Year weekend shoot.

-A small gathering of well rugged up Victorians attended the Trad shoot at Dunolly's Golden Triangle Archers over the first weekend of August. Some archers from the Hunter Valley club also drove down. There was a field course, a novelty or two, including an interesting version of Dartchery, and something about flying teddy bears I believe. The mind boggles. Everyone was grateful the rain held off during the shooting.

-Leading into the weekend of August 22 / 23 south east Queensland had started getting a few rain events and many of us thought "oh no, not again" as this is the weekend of the Hinterland Field Archers Trad shoot and last year was very damp indeed. The 68 archers who had travelled from the Sunshine Coast, Darling Downs, a few even travelled down from Gladstone, plus a family from Coffs Harbour, were very happy when the rain stayed away the entire weekend. We had the 3D by 20 target field course, one of which meanders through the semi rainforest and includes a seated toilet shot, a speed round, rolling disk, running pig and their signature event Hog Hollow. This is a 60 sec speed round which is made up entirely of 3D pig targets. We ran out of time to have a go on the rocking horse and castle, so we shall save those two for next years' event which I believe is being moved to September.

-The next shoot on the Traditional calendar was being held on the following weekend of 29 / 30 Aug, in Mildura VIC, at the Mallee Sunset Field Archers. There were 4 camps left at the Hinterland grounds on the Sunday evening, of which 3 were travelling down to Victoria. We also knew there were 2 other vehicles heading to Mildura from Qld as well. It would definitely be interesting conversations as we compared travel notes. There were 9 of us in total and we definitely noticed the difference in both the landscape and the coolness. Thank goodness for thermal layering. There were also 15 from Twin City Bowmen at Albury, a few from Sydney / Newcastle and surprisingly not many from Melbourne itself. In total 60 archers enjoyed the challenging courses. The innovative stylized targets, from corflute traffic lights to styrofoam candles, with some interesting target placements. There was also 2 speed rounds, moving target, a popinjay, the clout range, the target range which consisted of 4 not-so-easy-to-shoot targets. This was also where we had the Top 6 shootout. The club also has the Challenge Round similar to the Wiseman Ferry shoot, where you take only 3 arrows onto the course. One of the club members, who does not shoot a Trad bow, was learning a lot this weekend. In 2016 the club at Broken Hill will possibly be holding a Trad shoot on the final week of August and the Mildura shoot the first weekend of September. Both these dates still need to be confirmed.

-When the Warwick club cancelled their Trad shoot which was to be held on 19 / 20 Sept, an Impromptu fun Trad shoot was organised at Chevallan Archery Park and invitations sent out rather hastily. We enjoyed the marvellous spring weather shooting around the 25 3D target field course, speed rounds, moving targets, clout range, Hunt Round. Some of the groups filled in score cards, however there were no

trophies; instead key-rings were handed out to various participants for humorous and other non-archery related reasons. A good time was definitely had by all and we are all looking forward to the next one at the end of October.

-In the next article you will find information from the Trad shoots held at Lilydale Bowmen, Melbourne Vic – Charity shoot at Hunter Valley Traditional, Newcastle NSW – Coffs Harbour Archers, Woolgoolga NSW.

The Trad shoots draw to close for the year with the final shoot at Chevallan Archery Park, Gympie Qld, on the weekend October 31 / November 1 being a combination Celebration and Halloween Trad shoot.

You will find further information and available flyers for the Traditional Shoots at the following websites.

www.ozbow.net > Traditional Archery Events > 2015 Calendar – for dates on all the years shoots. You will find each club has their own forum Thread when the flyers become available.

www.wallacetradwoods.com > Shoot Information – (link to flyers)

www.traditionalarcheryaustralia.org > Shoot Information – (link to flyers)

Traditional Archery Australia Closed Group is also now on Facebook.

If you have any queries or would like to be added to the Qld Traditional Archery data base for direct shoot information please feel free to contact me by email at swallace@wallacetradwoods.com and I'll see you 'round the Trads. Cheers.