



2017 Annual Report

Sporting Shooters Association of Australia (Victoria)



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Executive Summary

The Association is going from strength to strength. It reported strong finances; range attendance is well up; and membership continues to grow steadily.

Over the past four years, the Association's finances have gathered significant momentum – with operating surpluses rising from an average of \$84,000 for the years 2011-2013, to well over \$1m this year.

It means that we are now in a position where we can consider exciting opportunities that were previously out of our reach. They include buying land for ranges; making our volunteer Range Officers employees with benefits and safeguards; better supporting branches, sub-clubs and hunters; and having considerable financial reserves to meet any challenges that arise.

Our assets are now in excess of \$7.5m for the first time ever. It represents record growth in just four years.

It has been a great year for the Association. Through the Combined Firearms Council of Victoria and our own efforts, we've been able to stave off major changes to firearm

legislation which could have come about from the National Firearms Agreement 2017 update. We're also part of a ministerial committee looking at the update of the Firearms Regulations, which sunset in 2018.

Undoubtedly however, the highpoint of the year was the signing of the contract at the end of April, to buy the Springvale Range outright. This one achievement means that our only major shooting facility near the city, and in the east, has been secured for generations to come. It is a major win for the Association.

Most importantly, we would like to thank everybody involved in achieving such a successful year – our Board members, the State Office staff, our employees in the field, our volunteers, our branches and sub-clubs and their committees, and, of course, all the members who supported the Association with their membership and attendance at our ranges and club events.

Denis Moroney, President
Jack Wegman, Chief Executive Officer



Board of Directors



DENIS MORONEY
President



GREG MOON
Senior Vice President



LUKE SILVERBACK
Junior Vice President



ROSS FARMER
Secretary



ANDREW HEPNER



DAVID ZIELINSKI



COLIN WOOD



DAVID SCHERECK



JEFF KUYKEN



LANCE EASTWOOD



PHILIP BROWN

State Office Staff



CAITLIN PEARSON
Marketing and Communications
Manager



LEE-ANNE ROMANS
Events Co-ordinator



JACK WEGMAN
Chief Executive Officer



SHAUN DOYLE
Facilities Manager



DAVID LAIRD
Hunting Development Manager



ANDREW PHILBEY
Assistant Range
Manager Eagle Park



RAYMOND TAN
Assistant Range
Manager Springvale



RHYS COOTE
Conservation and Pest
Management Manager



DAVID CROFT
Training and Programs
Co-ordinator

Springvale Purchase

In June 2017, SSAA Victoria took ownership of the Springvale Shooting Range, after leasing the land since the 1970s. The long and convoluted process involved several Victorian Government departments, two different State Governments and several senior bureaucrats.

WHAT DID IT TAKE?

- Three different valuations
- Governor-in-Council x 3
- Victorian Upper House
- Sport and Recreation Victoria
- Department of Health
- Treasury and Finance
- Valuer-General's Department
- Solicitor-General's Department
- Surveyor-General's Department
- Government Land Monitor
- Melbourne Water
- Southern Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust
- City of Greater Dandenong
- Two health ministers
- Half a dozen senior bureaucrats and as many ministerial advisors

In February 2006, a truck ploughed into the side of the Springvale Range, causing extensive damage.



1972 Melbourne is selected to host the 1973 World Shooting Championships. SSAA Victoria was chosen to host the Moving Target events. The Association moved to build a brand new multi-purpose shooting range at Springvale.

1973 SSAA Victoria signed a 30-year lease with City of Springvale. A team of volunteers worked around the clock to develop the land. The range, on Princes Highway, was ready just in time for the World Shooting Championships.

2003 SSAA Victoria made its first attempt to buy the land. The first lease also expired in 2003. After the original lease, successive leases were signed. The last lease was due to expire in June 2017, with no provision for renewal.



In 2015, SSAA Victoria obtained a \$100,000 grant for works at Springvale through the Shooting Sports Facilities Program (SSFP).

Improvements continued at the range following the successful acquisition of another \$100,000 SSFP grant.

SSAA Victoria President Denis Moroney (right) and Chief Executive Officer Jack Wegman celebrating the purchase.



Aug 2013 SSAA Victoria met with the Health Minister, Minister for Sport and Recreation and the Southern Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust. The meeting resulted in agreement that the Association would undertake efforts to buy the range.

Apr 2016 The Land Revocation Bill passed through Victorian Parliament. It had been the last major hurdle stopping SSAA Victoria from purchasing the land.

Jun 2017 SSAA Victoria takes ownership of the Springvale Shooting Range with support from a State Government grant of \$495,000.

The Year's Highlights

What did we achieve in 2016-17?

- A \$1.14 million operating surplus.
- Prepared our first Annual Report.
- Launched a new modern website.
- Invested more than \$650,000 in SSAA Victoria ranges through the Shooting Sports Facilities Program.
- Increased visitation at the metropolitan ranges by 32 per cent.
- Increased private range bookings at Springvale by 44 per cent.
- Capital works at Springvale: installed a new draining system and ventilation system in range one; refurbished the entrance and amenities; commenced painting of the facilities; erected a sign on Princes Highway; and upgraded the projector in the bistro.
- Capital works at Eagle Park: increased the main range one capacity to 101 benches; purchased three new clay throwers; repaired the main range roof; and installed a disability ramp.
- Rolled out new staff and Range Officer uniforms across the metropolitan ranges.
- Revalidated all Range Officers.
- Revalidated Conservation and Pest Management (CPM) accredited members.
- Purchased new equipment for the CPM program.
- Employed a full-time Hunting Development Manager.
- Introduced SSAA Farmer Assist.
- Prepared submissions for the Parliamentary Inquiry into the Control of Invasive Species on Crown Land and presented at the public hearing.
- Prepared submissions for the Parliamentary Inquiry into the RSPCA and the 2017 duck hunting season.
- Attended Elmore Field Days and National 4X4 Show.
- Supported the development of the Buchan Rifle Range.

Plans for 2017-18:

- Hosting the 2017 SSAA SHOT Expo.
- More improvements to the Conservation and Pest Management (CPM) program, including:
 - Accrediting new CPM members.
 - Purchasing more equipment.
 - Expanding the number of operations.
- Presenting at the public hearing for the Parliamentary Inquiry into the RSPCA.
- Working with the government to ensure it delivers on the Sustainable Hunting Action Plan.
- Developing new education courses for hunters and sporting shooters.
- Advocating for more hunter access.
- Partially funding new research that deer hunters have been calling for two decades.
- Supporting Kyneton Branch to extend the Cobaw Range's hours of operation for centrefire.
- Securing recognition by Sport and Recreation Victoria to open up grant opportunities.
- Capital works at Springvale: extensive works on range three to divide it in two; new furnishings in the conference room and bistro; further signage; new PA system on the main range; and repairs to the range five rear fence.
- Capital works at Eagle Park: installing a boomgate to sub-club ranges; carrying out earthworks across the range; redeveloping range nine; installing shelters over the range nine firing line and the five-stand range; painting; and redeveloping the office.

Membership Achievements

SSAA Victoria's membership increases each year, as interest in the shooting sports grows. The Association places particular importance on female and youth engagement, which increased in the 2016/17 financial year.

Membership growth

In the 2016/17 financial year, SSAA Victoria increased its membership by 3.28 per cent – from 34,481 to 35,613. In the previous financial year, the membership base grew at a rate of 3.08 per cent. It means SSAA Victoria is meeting and exceeding its strategic plan objective to 'retain the current membership'.

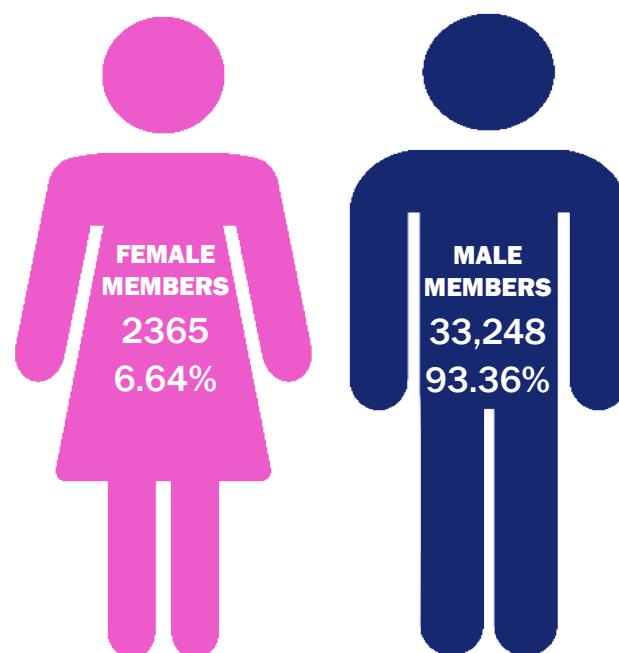
MEMBERSHIP	2015	2016	2017
TOTAL	33,452	34,481	35,613
INCREASE		3.08%	3.28%

Female engagement

On April 30, 2017, SSAA Victoria had 2365 female members, which represented 6.64 per cent of the membership. At the same time last year, the Association had just 2176 female members, representing 6.31 per cent of the membership. Female membership grew at a rate of 8.69 per cent in 2016/17, which was higher than the rate of male membership growth (2.92 per cent).

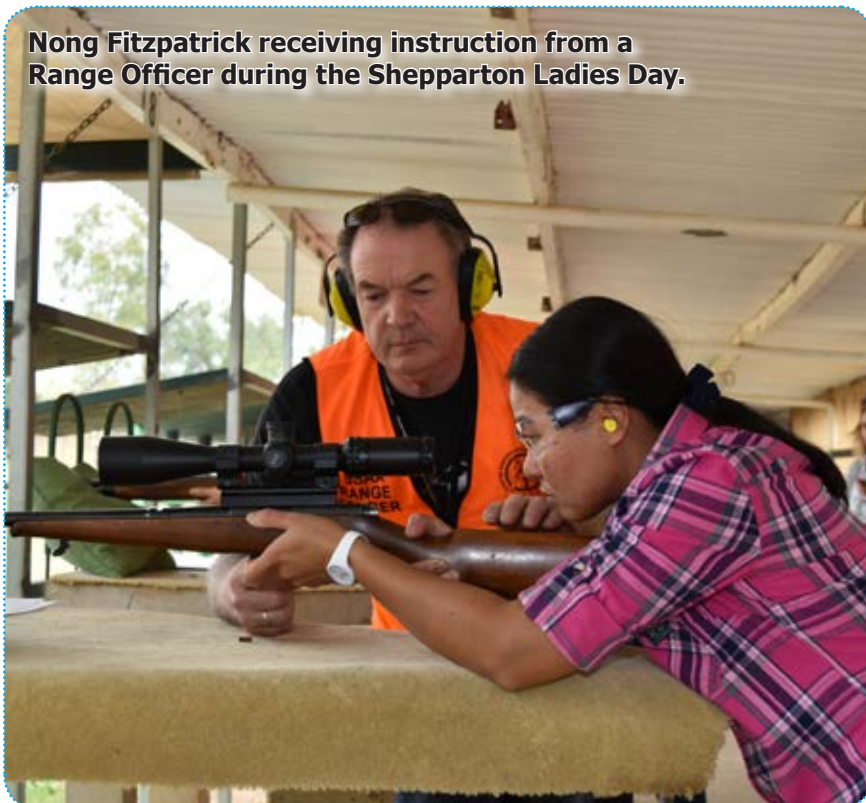
One of the objectives of SSAA Victoria, in the strategic plan, is to increase the number of female members as a percentage of the total membership. Many tactics were employed to achieve the objective, including increased promotion of women in the sport through marketing campaigns, media releases, *Victorian Shooter* articles and social media posts specifically targeting women. An example of the promotion of women in the sport was the International Women's Day campaign, in which SSAA Victoria produced a profile piece on a female hunter, sent it to

**MEMBERSHIP
INCREASE**
↑ **3.28%**
to 35,613



more than 200 media outlets across the state and followed it up with requests for female members to share their stories on social media.

Nong Fitzpatrick receiving instruction from a Range Officer during the Shepparton Ladies Day.



Member firearm insurance

The SSAA Insurance Broker's member firearm insurance continued to gain popularity in the 2016/17 financial year. Offering \$25,000 of insurance for firearms and fixed accessories for just \$25 on top of the standard membership price, it offers better coverage for a lower premium than other shooting industry groups offer.

On April 30, 2017, 7950 members had added the insurance to their membership. That figure equates to 22.32 per cent of the membership. It means Victoria's uptake of the insurance option is higher than the national average. Across the country, 20.28 per cent of SSAA members had the firearm insurance.

Diversity of members

The median age of the SSAA Victoria membership on April 30, 2017 was 46-50, but it included members aged from 1-14, right through to 91-100. The diversity of members' ages shows that shooting is one of very few sports that individuals can participate in from their junior years, right through to a senior age. In fact, on April 30, 2017, SSAA Victoria had 6117 members at retirement age (65 or above), of which 622 were over the age of 80.

Introducing people to the shooting sports at a young age teaches them to respect firearms and appreciate the competition involved in target shooting. SSAA Victoria had 1046 members aged below 18 on April 30, 2017.

**STATS AT A
GLANCE**

**MEMBERS
WITH FIREARM
INSURANCE**

7950

**PERCENTAGE OF
MEMBERSHIP
WITH INSURANCE**

22.32%

**MEMBERS
AGED 65+**

6117

**MEMBERS
BELOW 18**

1046

SSAA Victoria branches and sub-clubs across the state operate junior-specific programs and competitions to attract the younger generation. The Youth Training Schemes at Springvale and Eagle Park, the Geelong Grammar School program at Eagle Park, Wodonga's Interschool Competition, Shepparton's Schools Shoot Day and Bendigo's SAFFE (Safety and Family Firearms Education) program are just a few examples.

Advocacy and lobbying

The 2016/17 financial year was a challenging year politically for firearm owners. The year was plagued by misinformation in the media in relation to the review of the National Firearms Agreement (NFA); the continuation of the Adler A110 shotgun debate that began in 2015/16; and controversy relating to duck hunting.

SSAA Victoria worked closely with key industry partners and the government in the lead-up to the 2017 duck hunting season and in the aftermath of disappointing behaviour by some shooters on opening weekend. Advocacy work also involved lobbying for greater access for hunting, preparations for the Victorian Firearms Regulations review and fighting to have Victoria Police's proposed changes to Firearms Regulations released to the public.

SSAA Victoria is involved in several advocacy and lobbying groups, including:

- Firearms User Group
- Victorian Firearms Consultative Committee
- Public Land Access Council
- Shooting Sports Council of Victoria (SSCV)
- Combined Firearms Council of Victoria (CFCV)

SSAA Victoria supports SSCV and CFCV through financial subscriptions, sharing of resources and personnel support. Uniting with other interest groups allows the shooting industry to lobby for change more effectively. The Association's connection with CFCV was particularly important throughout the NFA review.

The NFA review, which began in the previous financial year, was a running dialogue throughout the year. In February 2017, the Commonwealth Government released the new National Firearms Agreement, without fanfare. The document contained many changes; brought across many errors from

FIGHTING THE NFA

SSAA Victoria teamed up with **FIVE** other industry bodies to fight the National Firearms Agreement.



Junior shooter Jorja Bogle participating in the Wodonga Schools Shoot.

the previous agreement and highlighted the government's lack of regard for consultation.

Following the release of the NFA, the CFCV prepared a response paper using the combined power of six shooting industry bodies. The paper was discussed with Federal Justice Minister Michael Keenan's Chief-of-Staff by SSAA Victoria Chief Executive Officer Jack Wegman in March 2017.

Individually, SSAA Victoria worked closely with government, politicians, regulators and industry partners for better outcomes for firearm owners in 2016/17. The Association met with many politicians on both sides of State Parliament; engaged in joint education and training campaigns with government departments; provided expert advice to government departments and the Police Minister on hunting and storage/transport issues; and much more.

Hunting Development

In 2016/17, one of SSAA Victoria's strategic objectives was to re-establish itself as Victoria's top hunting organisation. The goal, while ambitious, is certainly achievable. Efforts to increase hunting and training opportunities for members is a priority. Active involvement in government policy-making and programs, alongside building stronger connections with industry partners, are ongoing initiatives.

Hunting focus

In October 2016, the Association introduced the Farmer Assist program. The online portal brings SSAA members and farmers together for private, voluntary pest control projects. The program, developed by SSAA National, was introduced in Victoria to provide members without connections to farmers the opportunity to lend support.

To further aid the Association in reaching its goal, a new senior management position was created and first advertised in late 2016. The Association hired an external recruitment agency to assist in finding a new Hunting Development Manager. The appointment of David Laird (pictured right) was announced in February 2017.

On a day-to-day basis, the Hunting Development Manager role involves:

- Supporting the Chief Executive Officer in advocacy;
- Analysing and preparing responses to proposed government legislation;
- Preparing submissions on and developing hunting policy;
- Representing the organisation externally;
- Managing the hunting development team; and,
- Overseeing the hunting development function.

A major objective in the 2017/18 financial year will be to develop a strategic plan for SSAA Victoria's hunting development function. It will be based on a proactive



Hunting Development Manager David Laird

approach to hunting issues, hunter education and training, and increasing hunting opportunities for members.

Top hunting issues

The Parliamentary Committee Inquiry into the Control of Invasive Animals on Crown Land occurred in the 2016/17 financial year. SSAA Victoria prepared a submission for the inquiry and was invited to present at the public hearings in September 2016. Chief Executive Officer Jack Wegman and Training and Programs Co-ordinator David Croft presented to the committee. A report on the inquiry was due to be completed in June 2017.

The Sustainable Hunting Action Plan 2016-2020 was released in December 2016. This document outlines the State Government's vision for sustainable hunting in Victoria over the next five years. The plan is very positive for SSAA members, but ensuring the government fulfils its

commitments will be a major priority for the Association. SSAA Victoria provided input to the government during the development phase of the plan. It will also be involved in the plan's implementation in 2017/18 and beyond.

Throughout 2016/17, SSAA Victoria closely monitored the Great Forest National Park proposal. If introduced, it will result in large areas of land being closed to hunting. Through its involvement with the Public Land Access Council, SSAA Victoria worked with stakeholders to lobby against the proposal. While the proposal has been shelved for now, SSAA Victoria will continue to monitor the situation during the 2017/18 financial year.

Finally, SSAA Victoria prepared a submission for the Parliamentary Inquiry into the RSPCA. The RSPCA has campaigned heavily against hunting in recent years, paying particularly close attention to duck hunting. The Association prepared the report to highlight the many issues with RSPCA's anti-hunting campaigns. It was also invited to present at the public hearings, which were due to occur in the 2017/18 financial year.

Building connections

Within SSAA Victoria there are three hunting-specific sub-clubs – Working Gundog Association of Australia, Field Hunters Club and Deerstalkers Club. In the 2016/17 financial year, the hunting development team worked closely with these sub-clubs and regional branches to manage the CPM program and tackle hunting issues. Visits to field trials, committee and member meetings, and hunter education days all fostered the close relationship the State Office has with these clubs and branches.

In 2016/17, SSAA Victoria worked closely with several external stakeholders, including Game Management Authority (GMA). GMA regularly consulted SSAA Victoria on a wide range of topics, including the Hunter Respect Campaign, Shotgun Education Program and duck hunting season. The Association meets and communicates regularly via phone and email with GMA.

Further, SSAA Victoria has been working closely with GMA on the implementation of a Waterfowl Conservation Harvest Model. The aim of the model is to take the emotion out of declaring duck seasons and bag limits, and base those decisions on scientific data. The Association is supportive of

Working Gundog Association of Australia Training Officer, Kevin Phelps, with his Labrador, Aussie.



this approach in principal, but is still waiting for specific details to be provided. Work will continue in this area in 2017/18.

The strong relationship between Parks Victoria, Australian Deer Association and SSAA Victoria continued in 2016/17. The three organisations work closely on a day-to-day basis conducting the Conservation and Pest Management program. The relationship between Parks Victoria and SSAA Victoria will be strengthened even more in 2017/18 with the introduction of a landmark deer research project, due to be announced early in the new financial year.

Training and education future

The State Government's Sustainable Hunting Action Plan 2016-2020 highlights the importance of hunters being competent and acting in a legal, humane and ethical manner. With growing numbers of new game hunters in Victoria, the demand for formal hunter training and education has never been greater. SSAA Victoria has identified that there is a lack of formal education courses and it must take a lead role in this area. The Association's hunting sub-clubs offer fantastic hunter education courses specific to their areas of interest, and the state Association plans to expand on them.

Over the next 12 months, SSAA Victoria members will see huge growth in the Association's training and education function.

- Prepared by Hunting Development Manager, David Laird

Conservation & Pest Management

Conservation and Pest Management (CPM) operations are carried out at several iconic Victorian places, including the historic Werribee Mansion and the popular tourist destination Wilsons Promontory. Each operation is designed to control pests or invasive animals, including foxes, pigs, goats, rabbits, hare, cats and deer.

CPM funding boost

In the 2016/17 financial year CPM-accredited members spent 8359 hours volunteering for the program. The CPM program, first introduced in 2003, provides invaluable animal management assistance to Parks Victoria. It relies heavily on volunteers to participate in more than 20 operations across the state.

The current CPM operations include:

- Plenty Gorge Park (foxes)
- Point Cook Coastal Park (rabbits, foxes)
- Werribee Park (rabbits)
- Dandenong Ranges National Park, Sherbrooke Forest (Sambar, Fallow deer)
- Warramate Hills Nature Conservation Reserve (Sambar, Fallow deer)
- Yellingbo Nature Conservation Reserve (Sambar, Fallow deer)
- Point Nepean National Park (foxes)
- Murray Sunset National Park (goats)
- Several Bendigo reserves (foxes, rabbits)
- Wallaby Gully Nature Conservation Reserve (foxes)
- Barmah National Park (pigs)
- You Yangs Regional Park (goats)
- Serendip Sanctuary (rabbits, hare)
- Mt Napier State Park (goats)
- Jarvis Creek Regional Park (goats)
- Mt Mittamatite Regional Park (goats)
- Wilsons Promontory National Park (Hog deer)
- Alpine National Park, Bogong High Plains (Sambar deer)

- Warrandyte-Kinglake Nature Conservation Reserve (foxes)
- Grampians National Park (Red deer, goats)

Prior to the 2016/17 financial year, SSAA Victoria worked hard with the Minister for Environment, Minister for Agriculture and Parks Victoria to secure additional funding for the CPM program. In April 2016, the State Government announced that it would fund the program for an additional four-year term and double its financial commitment to \$800,000 – a huge boost to the program. The first instalments were paid in the 2016/17 financial year.

The additional funding has allowed SSAA Victoria to invest in new equipment, to be used by volunteers while undertaking CPM operations. This financial year, SSAA Victoria purchased thermal rifle scopes, thermal monoculars, night vision gear, new firearms and more equipment to enhance the program. Looking ahead, the additional funding will allow SSAA Victoria to continue to expand the CPM program, accredit more CPM volunteers and invest in more state-of-the-art equipment.

The additional funding has already allowed for the introduction of a new Grampians National Park goat and Red deer program, which was introduced in March 2017. Control took place over seven hunting sessions, lasting four days each, in several areas of the National Park. Another operation is scheduled for later in 2017.

In the 2017/18 financial year, new programs will be introduced at Cardinia Creek Reserve and Critchley Parker Junior Reserve. The Fallow and Sambar deer control programs will mainly consist of night operations, using new thermal imaging equipment.

CPM STATISTICS

OPERATIONS
20

GOVERNMENT
FUNDING
\$800,000
OVER 4 YEARS

VOLUNTEER
HOURS
8359

VOLUNTEER
POSITIONS
594

Taking care of Werribee Park



James Brincat, Parks Victoria
Area Chief Ranger Werribee Plains

The Conservation and Pest Management (CPM) operation at Werribee Park could be SSAA Victoria's most unique. Taking place at the grounds of the historic Werribee Mansion and world-renowned State Rose Garden, Parks Victoria was highly dependant on the success of the rabbit-control program.

"We had that many rabbits that we couldn't plant anything without either guarding it for the first two years of its life, or accepting that there was a 70 per cent chance we would lose it," said James Brincat (pictured above), Parks Victoria's Area Chief Ranger for Werribee Plains. "The rabbits were having a huge economic impact on the grounds. We're a botanic garden and we display plants. We sell space here for weddings, which raises money for the gardens, so if we have a display here that's not working, we don't get the bookings."

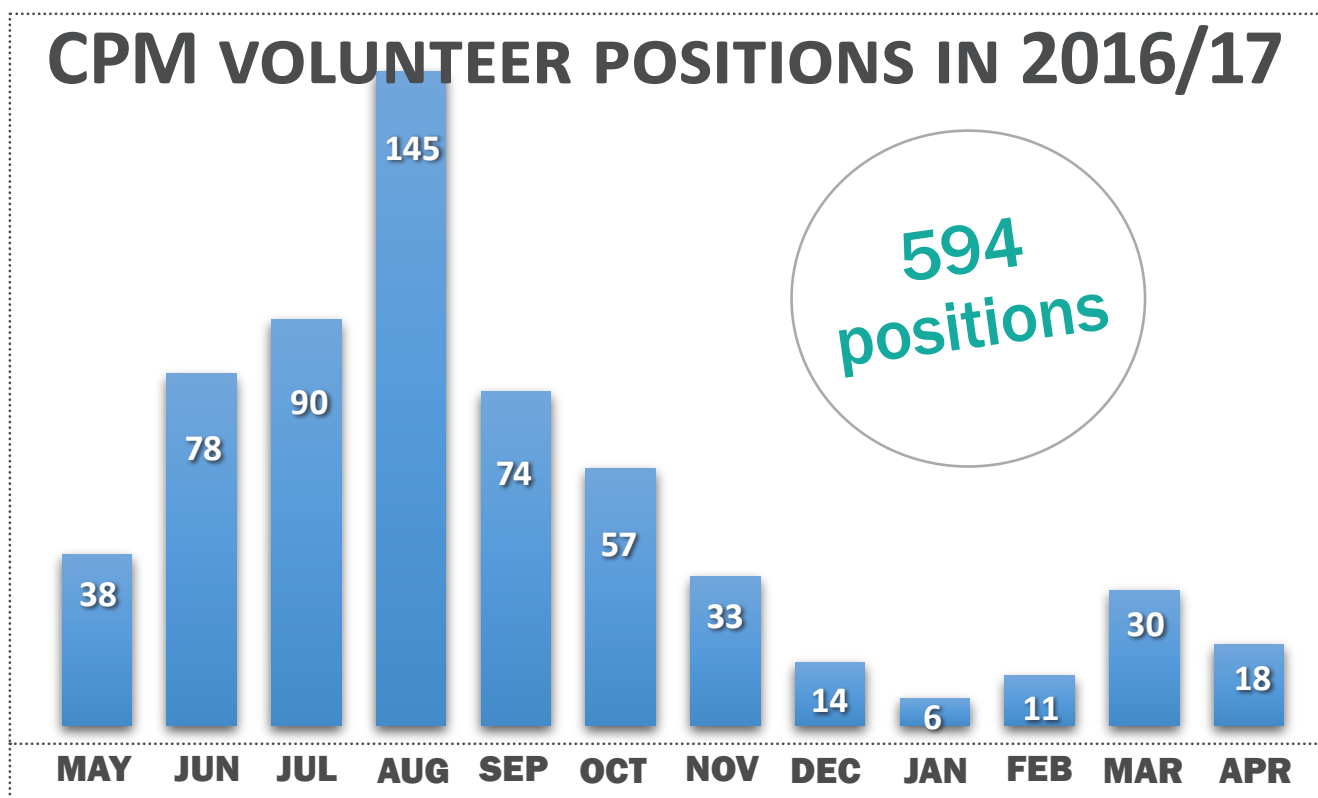
When Parks Victoria teamed up with SSAA Victoria in 2013, it became the first Victorian public garden to introduce a ground shooting program. Using night vision gear, CPM volunteers dispatched an average of 60 rabbits per night when the program was first introduced. That number is down to just 15 a night, on fortnightly shoots.

"It's really hard work," James said. "All the rabbits must be head shots. With the rose garden, it requires a shooter sits in the freezing cold all night until rabbits go into the garden. We have to use the most accurate shooters."

But the success of the program is not down to ground shooting alone – a special ferreting program, supported by settled refugees, complements the shooting. "Both techniques back each other up," James said. "You can do them on their own but you don't get the effect – you can't shoot down a burrow. Now it's difficult to get a rabbit. We have to keep interested because if we stop, within about three months the damage will return."

The Karen people bring their ferrets into the grounds before they open to the public. Using GPS co-ordinates, Parks Victoria directs the volunteers to rabbit burrows, where their ferrets can find and chase out the rabbits. "They removed 360 in the first year of ferreting," James said. "On average, they will get five or six in a morning before the gardens open."

The Karen people who are involved in the program through ferreting or cooking for the volunteers take the rabbits home to cook.



Revalidation

In 2016/17, SSAA Victoria introduced the CPM revalidation. This process required all CPM-accredited SSAA Victoria members to notify the Association if they wished to continue volunteering for the program. Revalidation of CPM was vital due to incredibly high demand from members wanting to become involved in the program. Over time, the Association accrued more than 600 accredited members but there were simply not enough available positions to cater for each of them. With that in mind, SSAA Victoria initiated a review of the database and introduced a three-year accreditation.

The revalidation process involved sending out a newsletter to every single CPM-accredited member outlining the new vision for CPM, how to retain their accreditation and a tear-off revalidation slip. After returning their slip to the State Office, each accredited person was issued a new CPM accreditation card, which expires after three years. To revalidate in June 2020, all CPM-accredited members will have to demonstrate that they have actively participated in the program. They will also be required to complete a mandatory shooting assessment and navigational assignment.

The revalidation process was completed in June 2017. SSAA Victoria now has 230 CPM-accredited members across the

state. In the 2017/18 financial year it will start to accredit new volunteers as needed.

New accreditation course

Throughout the 2016/17 financial year, SSAA Victoria reviewed the CPM accreditation course, and developed and tested a new CPM course. The former CPM accreditation course was developed in 2003 and it remained the same for 13 years. The modernised course was imperative to ensure all newly accredited volunteers were equipped to meet Parks Victoria's objectives.

The new course incorporates the rules and responsibilities to Parks Victoria, minimising risk, shot placement and navigation. The one-day course includes a theoretical and practical component. The practical component, which involves sighting-in techniques and a new shooting assessment, must be completed every three years.

The new course was first tested at the Mildura Branch of SSAA Victoria in January 2017. Participant surveys indicated that it provided valuable information to members and was an enjoyable course. The course will continue to be rolled out in 2017/18.

- Prepared by CPM Manager Rhys Coote

Metropolitan Ranges

The 2016/17 financial year saw major investments in the metropolitan ranges, with combined funding from the State Government and SSAA Victoria. Eagle Park and Springvale ranges were transformed to increase functionality and security, improve amenity and modernise the facilities.

Transformation of the ranges

In 2015 and early 2016, SSAA Victoria successfully obtained funding through two consecutive rounds of the Shooting Sports Facilities Program (SSFP). While the announcements for both rounds were made in the previous financial year, the State Government funding allowed for extensive capital works in the 2016/17 financial year.

The \$100,000 grant received for Springvale under round one of the program was matched by \$50,000 from SSAA Victoria. The funds allowed the Association to initiate several projects on ranges three and four, the installation of a drainage system on range one and new seating on the main range.

Both Springvale and Eagle Park ranges were awarded \$100,000 grants each under round two of the program, which was buoyed by a further \$100,000 investment from SSAA Victoria. Several metropolitan sub-clubs and regional branches also received funding through both rounds of the program. The grant funding, when combined with the required Association investments, will result in \$685,000 worth of capital improvements at SSAA Victoria ranges in 2016/17 and 2017/18.

Grant works from the round two funding kicked-off during the 2016/17 financial year. A new entry and security system was installed at the Springvale Range. Painting of the range commenced in April 2017 to give the facility a new lease of life. A ventilation and cooling system was also installed in range one. Finally, the amenities had a well-deserved upgrade. In 2017/18, improvements will include new signage across the Springvale Range; and the installation of new brick walls at range two and three.



Springvale sub-club, Sporting Shooters Pistol Club, also received a \$100,000 grant through SSFP for improvement works on the pistol ranges. SSPC is also donating \$50,000 for the project.

In 2016/17 several Eagle Park projects were completed with the grant funding. Concreting, roof works and new benches boosted the main range capacity to 101, and an accessibility ramp improved access. New clay target throwers on the five-stand and main ranges also improved the facilities for shotgun shooters. In 2017/18, grant works will continue. The range office will be redeveloped; a boom gate will be installed to provide security access for the sub-club ranges; and new signage will be displayed across the range.

Eagle Park sub-club Military Rifle Club received a grant through round two of the SSFP to extend its clubhouse and introduce an electronic target system on main range two.

The Victorian Government announced round two of the Community Shade Grants Program in the 2016/17 financial year. SSAA Victoria's successful application will allow it to erect a shelter over the Eagle Park five-stand range and the Little River Raiders to build new retractable shade sails.

SSAA Victoria would like to acknowledge the support received from the Victorian Government's Department of Health and Human Services, which made many of these projects possible.

Visitation

Both metropolitan ranges experienced increased visitation in 2016/17. Springvale saw a 51 per cent increase in visitation when compared to the previous year. It meant 20,756 members and non-members visited the range, compared with 13,780 the previous financial year. Visitation at Eagle Park increased by 19 per cent, from 19,148 up to 22,789 visitors in 2016/17. This increase in popularity was evident, with the main range filling numerous times throughout the year. Main range two was opened on occasions to cater to demand. It should be noted that range pass entry data started to be collected in the 2016/17 financial year.

In 2016/17, the Springvale Range was most popular among adult non-members. Visits by adult non-members rose 46 per cent, from 4916 to 7201. SSAA member visitation also increased by 14 per cent, from 6739 to 7686, excluding range pass entries. To cater to the increased visitation, SSAA Victoria extended the range's trading hours on Sundays by two hours – opening at 10am, instead of 12 noon.

The busiest month at the Springvale Range was January 2017, when 1857 people attended the range. It was marginally higher than the February visitation, which was 1855. Eagle Park's busiest month was January 2017, when 1972 people visited the range. The figures for March 2017 were just behind, at 1969.

When combined, visitation at SSAA Victoria's metropolitan ranges increased by 32 per cent in the 2016/17 financial year. Sub-club entries accounted for 22 per cent of visitors in 2016/17, the main ranges accounted for 66 per cent of the traffic, and 12 per cent of visitors used range passes. Junior attendance at the metropolitan ranges increased by 18 per cent in 2016/17.

SPRINGVALE RANGE VISITATION

↑ 51%
20,756

EAGLE PARK RANGE VISITATION

↑ 19%
22,789

Corporate relationships

Both Springvale and Eagle Park provide important training facilities for several groups, through corporate agreements and regular bookings.

Various departments within Victoria Police used Eagle Park Range for training throughout 2016/17. Rangers from Melbourne and Werribee zoos hired the facility to train new staff and run practice sessions for existing staff.

	SPRINGVALE			EAGLE PARK			COMBINED		
	14/15	15/16	16/17	14/15	15/16	16/17	14/15	15/16	16/17
ADULT	9454	11,655	14,887	14,019	16,416	18,296	23,473	28,071	33,183
JUNIOR	1153	1270	1575	890	947	1036	2043	2217	2611
PENSIONER	692	826	725	1533	1634	1736	2225	2460	2461
FAMILY	66	29	33	810	151	115	876	180	148
RANGE PASS	-	-	3536	-	-	1606	-	-	5142
TOTAL	11365	13,780	20,756	17,252	19,148	22,789	28,617	32,928	43,545

A bench for John

John Pretlove has been shooting at Springvale Range once or twice a week for about three years now. The Range Officers always keep a bench free for John, who “just loves” shooting his .22 rifle.

“I used to be very active and I played squash and golf, but as you get older and you have replacement parts, you have to give up a lot of sport,” he said. Fortunately, John’s daughter introduced him to shooting with an air rifle three years ago, and he found a new sport that he could participate in. The retiree said he found the whole experience relaxing, including his coffee at the bistro afterwards. “They make a great sticky date pudding so I take it home to my wife,” he said.

Over the past three years, John has seen a lot of change at the Springvale Range. An influx of Asian clientele, and the presence of more women around the range are welcome changes, he says. The recent facility upgrades have also made a difference to his experience. “It used to need of a bit of TLC,” he said. “They’ve done some painting and have some new Range Officers and it’s a nice place to shoot.”



Eagle Park also hosted Australian Border Force, Australian Customs, Australian Federal Police, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, and private security companies in 2016/17. Strong relationships with Geelong Grammar School and Cadets from the Werribee Secondary College also ensure juniors have easy access to the facilities.

Springvale has a standing booking with a security company, for training of security guards. The company ran weekly training throughout 2016/17.

The Springvale Range offers longarm and handgun group bookings for corporate groups and members of the public. In the 2016/17 financial year, SSAA Victoria experienced an increase of 44 per cent in bookings, with 1060 people attending. The group bookings included 184 juniors, most of which were from local Scout groups.

Range Officer training

SSAA Victoria now has 473 accredited Range Officers. Dozens of new Range Officers were trained under a new course – introduced in the previous financial year – in 2016/17. Courses were held at Bendigo, Wodonga, East Gippsland, Eagle Park and Springvale, with attendees and presenters praising the content. In the 2017/18 financial year

SPRINGVALE GROUP BOOKINGS

↑ 44%

courses will be run in Mildura and the Western District.

In December 2016, SSAA Victoria introduced Range Officer revalidation. It was a requirement that all existing Range Officers be endorsed by their branch or sub-club to renew their accreditation for a further three years. A new Range Officer database was also developed in 2016/17.

Staffing

SSAA Victoria would like to thank the staff, Range Officers and volunteers that serviced the ranges throughout the 2016/17 financial year. Their dedication, professionalism and commitment to the ranges is vital to their success. Sadly, Springvale Assistant Range Manager Raymond Tan resigned from his position at the end of April 2017. Raymond will continue as a casual employee at the range.

Sponsorship and Grants

SSAA Victoria proudly supported several Springvale and Eagle Park-resident sub-clubs with sponsorships or grants in 2016/17. Throughout the financial year, SSAA Victoria donated \$8700 to metropolitan sub-clubs.

Big Game Rifle Club in August 2016 received \$3000 funding to represent SSAA at the International Big Game Rifle Shoot in the United Kingdom. As part of the funding conditions, the club provided SSAA Victoria with a report for publication in the *Victorian Shooter* magazine. It was printed in the June 2017 edition.

In June 2016 the Springvale Youth Training Scheme was awarded \$1500 to support junior shooters in attending the National Junior Rimfire Challenge at Bateman's Bay. The event allowed juniors to connect with other young shooters from across the country, and increased the likelihood that they would continue participating in the sport.

Practical Pistol League of Australia was awarded two grants, with a combined total value of \$1500. In August 2016 the club received a grant to assist in running the 2016 National Practical Rifle and Shotgun Championships. In March 2017 the club was awarded funds to support a team travelling to the National IPSC Championships in Perth.

Sporting Shooters Pistol Club successfully applied for a \$1000 grant in March 2017, for a team travelling to the same competition in Perth.

The Third Military District (3MD) Pistol Club was awarded a \$750 grant to repair and/or replace target frames in June 2016.

The Little River Raiders' Jenny Cole Memorial Shoot was bolstered by a \$500 grant in September. The event raised money for the McGrath Foundation, which funds breast cancer research and support services for families.

The Working Gundog Association of Australia successfully applied for two grants – in August 2016 and April 2017 – totalling \$450. The grants assisted the club in hosting competition trials for gundogs.

SSAA Victoria's now strong financial position has allowed the Association to support the above grant applications through the Sponsorship and Grants program. Read about SSAA Victoria's support of regional branches on page 23.

- Prepared by Facilities Manager Shaun Doyle



Regional Branches

SSAA Victoria has 13 regional branches across the state, which are home to 17 different sub-clubs. During the 2016/17 financial year, many of those regional branches undertook important maintenance and improvement works, hosted community events and received grant funding.

Honorary Life Membership

SSAA Victoria's regional branches are often run by just a few dedicated members, who work tirelessly to ensure the grounds are maintained, the clubrooms are comfortable and the social events are well attended.

At the Shepparton Branch, long-standing President Geoff Morton does all of the above with a supportive band of fellow volunteers. In May 2016, the Board of SSAA Victoria acknowledged Geoff's efforts by awarding him an Honorary Life Membership.

In considering his life membership, the Board read through nominations from five Shepparton committee members and the local Divisional Firearms Officer. They all highlighted Geoff's tremendous fundraising efforts over more than a decade, and his welcoming nature.



Often Geoff is so busy running the clubrooms, that he has no time to participate in the events he organises. He rarely misses a function, including school shoots, corporate shoots, duck nights, firearm licensing nights and any other functions at the clubroom. The branch has grown under Geoff's leadership from about 20 active members to more than 200 active members, with a thriving community atmosphere at the range.

Victorian Government grants

Two of SSAA Victoria's regional branches – Shepparton and Warrnambool – successfully applied for grants in the first round of the State Government's Shooting Sports Facilities Program. The funding was announced prior to 2016/17. However, this financial year Warrnambool completed its carpark and tracks project and Shepparton began working through its pistol range improvements.

In early 2016, another round of Shooting Sports Facility Program funding was announced. The Warrnambool and Wodonga branches, and the Wodonga Handgun Club were all successful in their applications.

In the 2016/17 financial year, the Victorian Government announced the second round of the Community Shade Grants Program. SSAA Victoria submitted an application on behalf of several branches and sub-clubs. Due to the success of that grant, the East Gippsland Branch's Buchan Rifle Range will receive a fully funded shade sail.

SSAA Victoria would like to acknowledge the support received from the Victorian Government's Department of Health and Human Services, which made many of these projects possible.

**GRANTS AND
SPONSORSHIP**

**EAST
GIPPSLAND
\$10,000**

**WODONGA
HANDGUN CLUB
\$10,000**

**PORTLAND
\$2000**

**SHEPPARTON
\$1940**

**HAMILTON
\$1000**

Annie's raising the bar



SSAA Victoria East Gippsland Branch's Annie Norman does it all. The tireless volunteer champions fundraising efforts; manages the catering and cooking on range shoot days; distributes promotional flyers to local gun shops and co-ordinates the Conservation and Pest Management (CPM) program for the branch.

Like all regional sporting clubs, which rely heavily on selfless volunteers, the East Gippsland Branch owes a lot to Annie. Since moving to the Buchan area in January 2015 from Sydney, Annie and husband, Allan, have become an integral part of the branch.

"The amount of time I dedicate to the branch is dependent on when our functions are," Annie said. "We have an executive meeting on alternate months and then we have the monthly meetings. We have a lot of working bees and we have the two regular monthly shoots. But I also go out and buy the food, then I cook it up at the range when something is happening."

But it's during CPM operations that Annie's efforts really ramp up. Liaising between the SSAA Victoria State Office and East Gippsland members, Annie ensures the rosters for all local operations are filled. "I've been doing that for about 18 months now," she said. "When we have a CPM operation I could spend five or six hours each week on branch work."

Through her work, Annie has introduced the wider community to the Buchan Rifle Range, and encouraged them to donate funds towards it. She manages a meat raffle at the Nowa Nowa Pub and runs the 'pick-a-box' raffle that raises another \$100 monthly.

Surprisingly, Annie does not consider herself a "passionate" shooter. The motivation for her contribution is to support her husband and partake in something they can do together. "It's Allan's passion," she said. "He has Parkinson's disease, so there will be a time when he can't do it anymore. I just want to support him now."

East Gippsland Branch President Tim Brooking said Annie was a valuable member of the local branch and the perfect person to be profiled in the SSAA Victoria Annual Report.

Sponsorship and Grants

Through the SSAA Victoria Sponsorship and Grants program, \$24,940 was donated to regional branches in 2016/17. The generous donations were possible because of the Association's current strong financial position.

The East Gippsland Branch was awarded a \$10,000 grant in June 2016 to put towards the development of the Buchan Rifle Range.

In November 2016, the SSAA Victoria Board approved a \$10,000 grant application from the Wodonga Handgun Club. The grant bolstered a \$20,000 Shooting Sports Facilities Program grant, and allowed the club to undertake major works. Using the combined funds, the club planned to resurface its carpark, provide greater disability access and introduce a new turning target system.

The Portland Branch was awarded a \$2000 grant in December 2016. The grant allowed the branch to replace one of its existing manual targets with an electronic version. The improvement made it possible for disabled and senior members to operate the target.

Shepparton Branch was awarded \$1940 in grant funding through four applications in the 2016/17 financial year. In August 2016 it received funding for the Pink Ribbon Fundraiser and in March 2017 it received a grant for its Ladies Come and Try Day. Grants also supported the Blue Ribbon Day fundraiser, which raised money for the local hospital, and the Ace School Shoot, which introduced juniors to the sport.

The Hamilton Branch received \$1000 in February 2017 to remove four large Cypress trees at its range. The trees posed problems for the branch because of their proximity to the clubhouse.

State Office support

SSAA Victoria provided additional support to regional branches throughout 2016/17. The support enabled range construction, Range Officer accreditation course delivery, working with Victoria Police's Licensing and Regulation Division to update range certifications, and assisted with grant acquisition and acquittals.

Members of the State Office team attended events, courses or meetings at Bendigo, Shepparton, East Gippsland, Mildura, Kyneton, Nhill and Wodonga throughout the 2016/17 financial

year. The Chief Executive Officer and State Office staff attended the opening of the Buchan Rifle Range, which was made possible by a \$10,000 grant.

One of the major projects the State Office supported was Kyneton getting its centrefire certification. The partnership worked through the certification requirements and inspections with Victoria Police's Licensing and Regulation Division in the previous financial year. Cobaw Range's new centrefire certification boosted range attendance in the 2016/17 financial year. Throughout 2017/18 the State Office will work with Kyneton Branch to extend its centrefire certification hours.

Other projects included supporting Bendigo Branch in efforts to purchase the Marong Range and 10 new firearms; Shepparton Branch in updating Range Rules; Wodonga Branch regarding planning permits and range design, and East Gippsland Branch in its preparations for the official opening of the Buchan Rifle Range.

State Conference

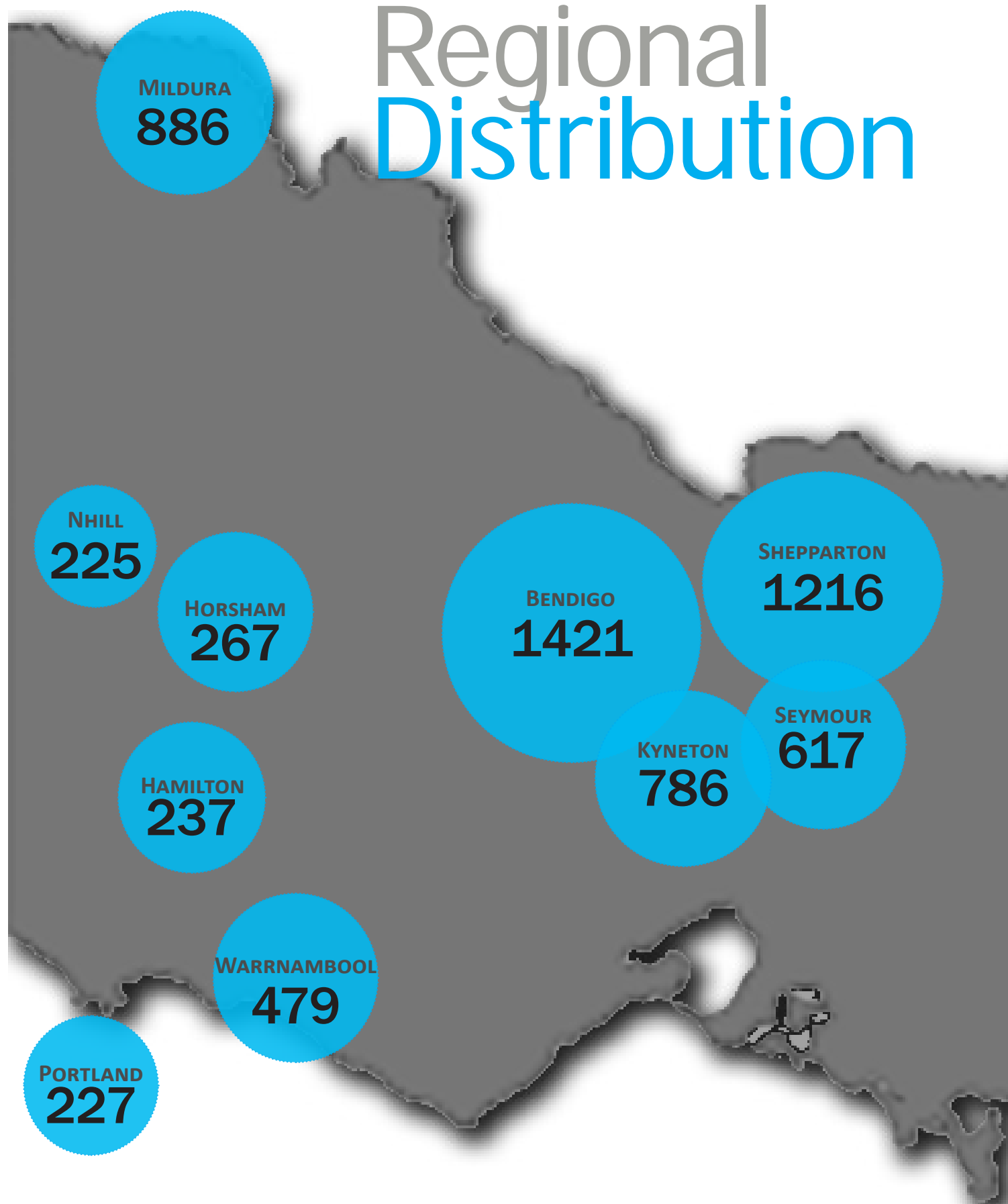
The 'We are Shooters' State Conference offered regional branches the opportunity to meet with SSAA Victoria's State Office and metropolitan sub-clubs in March 2017. Delegates from Wodonga, Nhill, East Gippsland and Shepparton, along with the Wodonga Handgun Club, attended the event on behalf of their members. The annual State Conference is a platform for branches, sub-clubs, the State Office and Board to get together, share ideas, plan for the future and discuss important issues.

A considerable amount of time was dedicated to political discussions during the conference. The delegates workshopped political issues faced by firearm owners and how the Association should approach the issues.

Some of the major concerns discussed were the sunset of the Firearms Regulations 2008, the 2017 National Firearms Agreement and the 2018 Victorian election. The delegates determined that motivating members to act – whether it be writing letters or meeting politicians – was a major challenge for the Association.

Overall the event provided a great opportunity for the Board, State Office staff and delegates to communicate face-to-face, which can be difficult given some of the distances between branches.

Regional Distribution



24% **RURAL AND REGIONAL MEMBERS**

More than 8600 SSAA Victoria members belong to our regional branches.

WODONGA
1294

BONANG
17

EAST GIPPSLAND
969

REGIONAL BRANCHES

SSAA Victoria has 13 regional branches, which provide shooting opportunities for people living across the state.

LARGEST REGIONAL BRANCH

The Bendigo Branch has the most members. With 1421 members, it represents 3.99 per cent of the total SSAA Victoria membership.

OPERATION OF BRANCHES

The regional branches are run by volunteer committees, with support from the SSAA Victoria State Office where sought.

SUB-CLUB PARTICIPATION

Several regional branches also have sub-clubs. These sub-clubs participate in a variety of disciplines, including shotgun competition, single-action and pistol shooting, and collecting.

Communications Efforts

SSAA Victoria promotes the shooting sports to the wider public, and shares messages with members in a variety of ways. Key messages are always tailored to suit the audience, whether it be the media, government, members or non-shooters.

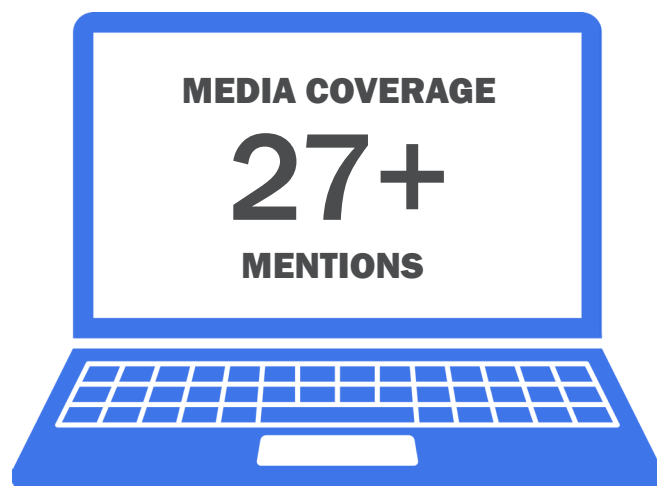
Faces of SSAA Victoria

SSAA Victoria launched a new marketing campaign – the Faces of SSAA Victoria – in the 2016/17 financial year. In July 2016, The Association invited members to apply to become one of the Faces of SSAA Victoria. Those who were selected were invited to attend a photoshoot at the Eagle Park Range in August 2016 and be interviewed by the Association.

The images of the Faces of SSAA Victoria were then published on the new website in September, and their stories were rolled out over several editions of the *Victorian Shooter* magazine. Throughout the 2016/17 financial year, as their stories were published in the magazine, they were transformed into media releases and sent to local or relevant outlets.

Later in 2016/17 a graphic design company was hired to create a poster of every one of the Faces of SSAA Victoria. Over the next financial year, those posters will be displayed at ranges across the state. The Faces of SSAA Victoria will also be invited to events and invited to speak with media on shooting sports issues.

The Faces of SSAA Victoria was an opportunity to share members' stories with other members. More importantly, however, the campaign showed the wider public that firearm owners were a diverse group, who were so much more than just shooters. Over the coming months and years, we believe the campaign has the potential to change the public's perception of the shooting sports.



Website redesign

In September 2016, SSAA Victoria launched its new website. The former website was outdated and difficult to navigate, making the project a necessity for the Association. The new modernised website is filled with engaging, professional photos and the Association's colours – blue and yellow. With an increasing number of people using the website from their tablets and smartphones, SSAA Victoria ensured it was responsive – that it automatically adjusts to fit the user's screen size.

The website redesign project, which began the previous financial year, involved rewriting the content on most pages, adding several new pages, creating a web page for every SSAA Victoria sub-club, and updating the information on the regional branches. Every sub-club is now represented on the website.

Since the new website was launched, an average of 558 people have used it every day. The highest traffic day was September 22, 2016, when 2334 people used the website. It was the day SSAA Victoria launched SSAA Farmer Assist, and sent media releases to outlets across the state. An e-newsletter was also sent on that day, directing members to the website.

The most popular web pages were the Springvale Range, which was viewed 34,980 times, followed by Eagle Park Range, which was viewed 17,624 times.

Travelling to expos

In the 2016/17 financial year SSAA Victoria attended two Expos to connect with members face-to-face, and to promote the membership, programs, branches and sub-clubs, and the shooting sports in general.

In August 2016, the State Office team attended the National 4X4 Outdoor, Fishing and Boating Show and in October 2016 it attended the Elmore Field Days.

More than 30,000 people attended the National 4X4 Show, many of whom were unfamiliar with the Association. The stand allowed SSAA Victoria to promote the metropolitan ranges, provide information for people interested in obtaining their firearm licence and showcase shooting and hunting disciplines on digital signage.

The Elmore Field Days provided a platform for SSAA Victoria to officially launch the SSAA Farmer Assist program. With support from Bendigo Branch volunteers. The team also promoted regional ranges, memberships and the member firearm insurance.

SSAA SHOT Expo preparations

The 2017 SSAA SHOT Expo on May 20 and 21 falls in the 2017/18 reporting period. However, extensive preparations occurred in the 2016/17 financial year.

A new family focus was to be introduced at the 2017 event, incorporating jumping castles, a petting zoo, face painting, archery and more. A large contingent of volunteers was also recruited in 2016/17 to work at the event. The results of the 2017 SSAA SHOT Expo will be reported the next Annual Report.

Facebook

SSAA Victoria's Facebook following increased by 55 per cent, from 4674 to 7226, during the 2016/17 financial year. The most popular post, published on February 1, 2017, was an online news article about the abolition of the longarms firearm registry. It reached 43,554 people, was liked by 1495 people, shared 185 times and had 97 comments posted on it. The Facebook page continues to be a valuable tool for spreading messages and connecting with members.

RECORD OF MEDIA COVERAGE

May 2016

..... Dandenong Journal: Land Revocation Bill

July

..... Casterton News: Olympic Games letter to the editor
..... Geelong Advertiser: Olympics letter to the editor

August

..... Geelong Independent: Eagle Park grant media release
..... Dandenong Journal: Springvale grant media release

September

..... The Weekly Times: Farmer Assist media release
..... The Weekly Times: Hunting guide for farmers

October

..... Herald Sun: NFA debate highjacked interview
..... Camperdown Chronicle: Farmer Assist media release
..... South Gippsland Sentinel Times: Farmer Assist release
..... Gippsland & Maffra Spectator: Farmer Assist release
..... News.com.au: Photo used in NFA debate story
..... Daily Telegraph: Photo used in NFA debate story
..... Herald Sun: Photo used in another NFA debate story
..... Geelong Advertiser: Gun statistics letter to the editor
..... Myrtleford Times: Deer harvest figures media release

January 2017

..... Mojo (Monash Uni newspaper): Invasive Species Inq.
..... The Weekly Times: Longarms registry interview
..... The Herald Sun: SSAA Victoria's firearm registry stance outlined in editorial

March

..... North East Farmer: Advertorial on duck season's economic boost.
..... Warracknabeal Herald: Duck season media release
..... Shepparton WIN News: Duck season interview
..... Shepparton News: Duck season interview
..... Sunday Herald Sun: Provided lengthy comment for duck season article, which was pulled
..... ABC radio: Duck season opening weekend interview
..... The Guardian: Duck season opening interview

April

..... ABC Central Victoria (radio and online): Interview regarding junior participation



Email newsletters

SSAA Victoria sends regular email newsletters to more than 23,000 people, media releases to more than 150 outlets and breaking news alerts or special alerts to Conservation and Pest Management-accredited members. In the 2016/17 financial year the Association sent 41 email newsletters. Regular newsletters reported an open rate of 32.5 per cent, meaning almost one third of people opened the email. It

is well above the sports industry average of 23.4 per cent. Email newsletter provider, Mail Chimp, researched the average open rate across more than 45 industries, including real estate, travel and retail, and SSAA Victoria's open rate exceeded everyone else's. The closest industry average was religion, which had an average open rate of 26.46 per cent. It means members are receiving regular news updates and are interested in the information provided.

- Prepared by Marketing and Communications
Manager Caitlin Pearson



Where there's a will there's a way

Christine Naus is one of the Faces of SSAA Victoria. She was chosen because of her unique story.

Christine was a normal 26-year-old. She worked in administration and practised karate in her spare time. She was "happily plodding along" when it came to her career and her karate. She secured her black belt two years before what she thought was a simple foot injury led to a life-changing course of events.

"I was diagnosed with cancer in my foot in 2010," she said. "Unfortunately, due to the type of cancer I had, the only treatment available to me was amputation of the leg below the knee."

The cancer diagnosis and amputation had a profound effect on Christine, whose whole perspective on life changed. "Until that point I was just enjoying life, but not really living life," she said. "But after cancer ... I actually started thinking about what I could involve myself in and get passionate about."

While surfing the internet one day, Christine came across the Paralympic Committee website's shooting coverage and it piqued her interest. She had memories of target shooting many years before. So, she asked her friend David to take her out for a shoot, and once again experienced the thrill of hitting a target.

Now a regular hunter, Christine often surprises her companions, and even herself, with what she is capable of doing. Christine and her friends regularly shoot rabbits and foxes, providing much-needed support to farmers. "I feel like I'm making a difference," she said.

Christine encouraged other people who had disabilities to refuse to allow them to be a barrier. "It might be a challenge and you might have to find other ways to do certain things, but that's part of the challenge and part of the fun," she said. The all-inclusive nature of the shooting sports is what attracts so many people from different walks of life.

Branch and Sub-club reports

REGIONAL BRANCHES

Bendigo Branch

Interest in the shooting sports remains strong in the Bendigo area, with 35 to 40 firearm safety course applicants each month. Local retailers reported strong sales over the duck season and continued interest from new shooters.

SSAA Victoria's Bendigo Branch has seen this trend extend to the use of the Marong Rifle Range in 2016/17. Many general shooting sessions were pretty much at capacity. Volunteers were kept very busy helping people sight-in scopes; advising on the running in of new rifles; or just giving pointers to first-time benchresters. This friendly assistance is always appreciated, and these sessions are getting a reputation as a treasure trove of information.

Our SAFFE (Safety and Family Firearms Education) sessions have been going well, with father/son or mum, dad and the child groups now outnumbering solo juniors at our classes.

Our competition days became more focused in the 2016/17 financial year, with less disciplines being shot, but attendances and scores really improving.

The Marong Pistol Club has been very successful in recruiting new members while maintaining the existing social family atmosphere. An increase in the disciplines shot, plus an increase in shoot days has seen both the membership, and the enjoyment factor, go from strength to strength.

The SSAA Bendigo-Ravenswood fox driving group is going strong, with some days reaching double digit scores on foxes.

Vic Alexander
PRESIDENT

East Gippsland Branch

It has been another year of achievement for the East Gippsland Branch of SSAA Victoria. After much hard work and planning, the Buchan Rifle Range range was officially opened in November 2016 by Member for Eastern Victoria, Jeff Bourman. Many thanks to those who put much effort into organising on the day and, in particular, Annie Norman and Garry Proudlock.

Branch President Tim Brooking thanked the committee and all those people outside of the committee who donated their time and experience to work on improvements and construction at the range. Painting of containers, building kitchen facilities, tree removal, earthworks, building target frames, and general maintenance were just some of those tasks. He also thanked the Range Officers who set up the range on shoot days and kept the range working safely on shoot days throughout 2016/17.

Branch Treasurer, Brian Kerry, retired from his position in the 2016/17 financial year. His drive and efforts, which would have amounted to months of work over the past two years, helped transform the range.

Attendances at shoot days increased in 2016/17 to the extent that there is often a wait for benches on Sunday shoots. The Wednesdays shoot also increased in popularity. The branch introduced a black powder shoot on the first Sunday of each month and it is expected to become popular throughout the 2017/18 financial year.

Over the past year, the range has been hired by Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Federation Training and the East Gippsland Biathlon Club for training purposes. All have commented on the quality of the facilities and service provided.

The branch ran Range Officer accreditation courses in 2016/17. The club now has 13 qualified Range Officers and five extras who are completing the number of sessions required to be signed-off.

The branch is in a very strong financial position. Range fees, the lunch time sausage sizzle, pick a box raffle and meat raffle, run by Annie Norman, plus hiring out the range, have contributed to a gross income of approximately \$7500 a year. This income, plus capitation, allows the branch to continue developing the range and its facilities.

In 201/18, the vision is to keep improving the range and facilities. Access tracks, target lines and drainage will be developed to make the range 100 per cent "all weather". To improve the social aspects of the range, many projects are planned, including providing full protection from the elements; more seating and benches; lighting; fire pits; improved camping areas.

Tim Brooking
PRESIDENT



Kyneton Branch

Kyneton Branch's Cobaw Range continued to grow in the 2016/17 financial year, with regular shoot days growing in popularity. The introduction of centrefire shooting had a significant impact on visitation throughout the year.

With a new Secretary at the helm, the Kyneton Branch committee has been working hard on getting the range name out there, to further increase attendance. Through 2016/17 encouraging members to attend working bees remained challenging.

The 2017/18 financial year is expected to bring many positive changes for the branch. The committee is in the process of setting up a Facebook page, which will ensure Cobaw is promoted to shooters.

The branch is also working with the SSAA Victoria State Office to increase its trading hours. After three years without noise complaints to local police, the committee expects a positive outcome.

In 2017/18 the committee will install 10 new benches and baffling, apply for a grant to upgrade its facilities to include a container and seating for those not shooting. The works will be good for families and friends who are interested in the Association, but not yet members.

Jeanette Dol
SECRETARY

Shepparton Branch

In the 2016/17 financial year, our focus was on spending the Shooting Sports Facilities Program grant money. Wet weather and some other circumstances slowed the works down, but the delay was ironed out.

The Shepparton Branch's Pink Ribbon Day was a big success, with about 90 people turning up on the day. Some people just came for a meal and to support the cause. The branch raised \$2700. The Ladies Come-and-Try Day in April was so large that we struggled to cater to everyone. The competitors had a good day, enjoyed the family atmosphere at the club and many have returned.

The Annual Blue Ribbon Day was once-again well attended, with about 100 people turning up and 80 shooting. The branch raised \$7000 for the Blue Ribbon Foundation.

The Flush Shoot weekend, which includes a seafood banquet and white box was really popular in 2016/17. Competitors shot centrefire, rifle, pistol, .22 silhouette and shotgun during the event.

The inaugural Doug Rogers and Stan Kemp 100-target shotgun event was well attended. It will now join the many popular events on the annual calendar.

Tony Connell
SECRETARY

Wodonga Branch

The Wodonga Branch is growing from strength to strength. In the 2016/17 financial year, attendance at range shoot days increased, along with enquiries from new shooters. By the end of the financial year, the shooting bays were filling up most open days. The Sunday profits have also doubled in the past year.

The growth in popularity spurred the branch committee to look at expansion options and apply for a Shooting Sports Facilities Grant. The grant funding allowed for major works on the branch's multi-purpose range. The 100m range is set up for biathlon and moving target and previously people were unable to use the multi-purpose range at the same time as the main range.

Telemark Nordic Ski Club, which regularly used the Wodonga range for biathlon, also carried out works at the site. Wodonga City Council provided a grant for the club to seal the roller ski track.

In 2016/17 the branch continued to host the interschool shoot, which was attended by 350 students in July 2016. The Big Bore Shooter in May 2016, provided people the opportunity to see big guns in action.

The Wodonga Collector's Club remained low-key throughout 2016/17 but it also experienced an increase in membership.

The Wodonga Handgun Club increased its membership from 148 to 153 in the 2016/17 financial year. Currently the club has six junior member and 21 adult females.

A major achievement for the handgun club in 2016/17 was the installation of its new turning target system. The system consists of six bays of five turning targets. The club committee extended it thanks to Top Shot Engineering and fellow members for assisting with the installation.

In 2017/18 the handgun club plans to run a social shotgun, rifle and handgun shoot with its neighbours, Albury Wodonga Field and Game and the Wodonga Branch. In February 2018, it will host the IPSC Victorian State Titles.

Josh Knight
PRESIDENT

METROPOLITAN SUB-CLUBS

Big Game Rifle Club

The Big Game Rifle Club (BGRC) is now in its 35th year. The club enjoyed a strong and steady membership in the 2016/17 financial year. It included a number of interstate and international members who joined BGRC as a result of friendships made through competition with, and interest in, large bore sporting rifles.

The diversified range of monthly events ensured club members were able to give their large and smaller bore rifles (both black powder and nitro) a good work out in 2016/17. Regular competition sharpened the shooting skills and the last year saw many members take to the field for successful hunts in all states of Australia, as well as Scotland, New Zealand, South Africa and North America.

In September 2016, four BGRC members attended the International Big Game Rifle Shoot at Bisley, England. The Australian team won and the Aussies won or were placed in all events. In 2018 the next International Big Game Rifle Shoot will be held in Pretoria, South Africa, and the club will have a strong contingent of members attend.

The BGRC has continued to build relationships with friends in the Australian Deer Association (ADA), with many holding reciprocal membership. In February 2017 the clubs held their sixth Annual BGRC – ADA Friendly Shoot, which is a relaxed day of competition in which those who are fond of large-calibre rifles can shoot shoulder to shoulder. BGRC won for the sixth time. The club also assisted the ADA with an annual gun clinic and shooter accreditation for its property-based game management program.

Neil Hibble
PRESIDENT

Deerstalkers Club

The Deerstalkers Club maintained a membership of 270 in the 2016/17 financial year. It, again, delivered 11 information-packed meetings and newsletters.

The club's Hunter Training Program saw 20 members involved in the free course and field trips throughout 2016/17. Deerstalkers Club also conducted a number of member hunts, which saw deer harvested and some great campfire talks.

The annual Alpine National Park Working Bee was well-attended, with more than 20 people coming along. The great 'pig on the spit' communal dinner was hosted on the same weekend. The event has been running for more than 35 years and is a highlight for many members.

The club and its members will build on its achievements in 2017/18 and looks forward to helping more people on their deer hunting journey.

Trevor Dennis
PRESIDENT

Eagle Park Youth Training Scheme

The Eagle Park Youth Training Scheme – otherwise known at the Eagle Park Rimfires – continued to host junior target shooting competitions each third Sunday from noon throughout the 2016/17 financial year. Numbers remained modest and variable, but averaged about 10 shooters. In February 2017, 18 new starters showed up and stretched the club's training capacity.

During 2016/17 an official committee was formed, which added structure. The club also introduced vests for helpers, to improve visibility. Youth Training Scheme thanked Big Game Rifle Club, which hosted last year's end-of-year family shoot and club presentations, and entertained the crowd by showcasing their discipline.

Members travelled to compete at the Junior National Championships in NSW last year as well as the State Field Rifle Championships at Springvale and the Field Rifle National Competition at Eagle Park at Easter 2017. Persistence with 3-Positional early in the year finally netted a Junior Proficiency Award, a sitting position winner at Nationals, and strong placing at the Junior Silhouette Championship.

Throughout 2016/17 the club participated in a variety of disciplines, including 3-Positional, Field Rifle and Metallic Silhouette as well as Secondary Biathlon, Duelling or Reactive Target competitions to build confidence.

Dean Taylor
TREASURER

Field Hunters Club

The 2016/17 financial year has been a challenging one for the Field Hunters Club (FHC). A couple of big committee changes caused disruption throughout the financial year.

New President Andrew Ogilvie was forced to resign due to the stress involved with taking on his position in the aftermath of such a shuffle. Then in January 2017 our new President, Gordon Freese, fell ill and was limited in his capacity to act as President.

Due to the changes in committee and lost records, hunting trips were limited in 2016/17. After a challenging few months, the new committee is working hard to re-establish contact with properties and rebuild the club.

Andrew Yeomans
PRESIDENT

Little River Raiders

Little River Raiders single action club has a strong commitment to educating members. It has conducted several courses, including RO1, holster proficiency and handgun safety, for its own members and members of other single action shooting groups.

The clubs signature two shoots – Rawhide and Battle of Walkers Creek (black powder), and the Annual Jenny Cole Memorial Shoot – were, once again, successful in 2016/17. These events are an opportunity to host members from other clubs,

In the 2016/17 financial year, club members took part in several working bees, resulting in terrific improvements to the ranges and clubhouse. Its membership is growing and attendance at monthly competitions (on the third Sunday of the month) continued to increase throughout the 2016/17 financial year. Many of the Little River Raiders' new members were introduced to the club while



visiting Eagle park for other disciplines.

Finally, club President Tony Garipoli was re-elected at President in 2016/17. That makes 11 years. Newer members were also elected to committee positions, bringing life experience and a passion for single action shooting.

Tracey-Lee Stewart
SECRETARY

Melbourne Benchrest Club

In April 2017, the Melbourne Benchrest Club hosted the National Fly Championships at Eagle Park. The championship consisted of three events over three days – 200yd rimfire, heavy gun 500m, and light gun 500m. Forty-five local and interstate shooters participated in the event. Three range records were set, with one of them being a new national record. The first 60-point target in the 27-year history of fly shooting was shot in registered competition at 500m in the light gun event. It required putting five shots into the 1.5" 10 ring, with the group measuring less than 1.0".

While membership of the club has remained steady, at 30, the committee anticipates bolstered membership numbers next year. It is due to increasing interest from visitors in the 2016/17 financial year. To cater for the demand, the club introduced a training day on a non-competition day to teach new members how to use their equipment to reach their potential.

President Peter van Meurs stood down from his post after 12 years in the role and 15 years on the committee. Melbourne Benchrest Club would like to acknowledge the contribution he has made to the club and thank him for his efforts.

It also continued to hold monthly competitions at the Eagle Park main range two in the 2016/17 financial year. The club shoots various disciplines at distances from 100m to 500m.

Nick Aagren
SECRETARY

Practical Pistol League of Australia

The 2016/17 financial year was momentous for the Practical Pistol League of Australia (PPLA). Its membership increased and the club saw a record breaking interest in the IPSC disciplines, including rifle and shotgun disciplines.

The club produced extensive training programs for new members to ensure that they were properly trained in the use of sporting firearms – handguns in particular.

The monthly IPSC competitions averaged 90 + entries by the end of 2016/17. The club also introduced a steel speed shooting competition for members and it grew every time it was held. The membership greatly appreciated the extra competition. The PPLA is considering increasing the number of rifle and shotgun IPSC

competitions in response to demand from members.

Two PPLA members were selected for the Australian Team to compete in the IPSC World Rifle Championships in Russia recently. Another member also made it onto the Australian Team to compete in the IPSC World Handgun Championships in France in August 2017. Several senior Range Officers will attend the match as competition officials.

The PPLA continues to hold many State Level competitions. In the 2017/18 financial year, the club will host the IPSC Australian Championships. More than 400 are expected to compete, including teams from the Philippines, New Caledonia and New Zealand. There is also a chance that a high-level competitor from the USA may attend.

The PPLA is a very successful club and it is doing everything possible to maintain this success.

Bill Campbell
PRESIDENT

Sporting Shooters Pistol Club

The 2016/17 financial year was a massive one for Sporting Shooters Pistol Club (SSPC). The club increased its membership by 62, with a further 88 in the pipeline.

It successfully applied for a Shooting Sports Facilities Program grant from the Victorian Government for \$100,000 to put towards the upgrading of range three at Springvale.

SSPC tripled the onsite storage for club props and included lighting and shelving to its storage to reduce OH&S risks. It also donated new 5k brightness lights for range four. The club worked with the SSAA Victoria to roll-out a new lead extraction system for range one and helped resolve a water seepage issue on the range.

We have also rolled out a competency based training programme for all new members. Further, we took steps to secure the clubs financial future with a fee increase as the fees had been the same since 2004, and we rolled out a club code of conduct.

The club processed more than 1800 pieces of paperwork and put 645 Notification of Receiving Instruction (NORI) forms through for the year. It also had 168 people complete the handgun safety course.

SSPC rolled out a Marksmanship Fundamentals course in the 2016/17 financial year, which attracted 96 attendees. The new Introduction to Reloading course attracted 60 attendees.

The club's focus for the 2017/18 financial year is on delivering the range three upgrade and investigating the installation of new bullet resistant bays for range one at Springvale.

Mark Oliver
VICE-PRESIDENT

Third Military District Pistol Club

During the 2016/17 financial year, Third Military District Pistol Club (3MD) continued to provide a place for serving and retired members of the Army and Australian Defence Force to participate in shooting sports.

3MD attracted six new members in 2016/17, including one female and one senior shooter. The club has expanded the days it shoots to give greater opportunities for training and practice of its main matches – Police and Services (matches 27 & 61) and Metallic Silhouette Field Pistol (matches 22 and 51) and Rimfire (match 20). The matches are shot on the first and third Saturdays of each month at Eagle Park's range eight.

In 2016/17 the club provided two teams to compete in the Police and Services Annual Championship in Canberra, and came away with seconds in both division 2 and 2A. While it was not a bad effort, the club will strive for better results in Adelaide in 2017/18.

The club was also successful in receiving a Department of Health and Human Services grant to partially cover the cost of a "new" container. The container is now in place and providing much-needed extra storage space. 3MD would like to thank the Victorian Government for the funding.

Jim Brown
SECRETARY

Victorian Muzzle Loading Club

The membership of Victorian Muzzle Loading Club has remained quite static for many years – at around 55 to 65. The membership consists of only adult members, three of which are female members, and one of those women attends club competition shoots. During the second half of the 2016/17 financial year, 12 to 18 members attended the monthly club competition days.

Eight club members are on the executive committee – George Liptak, Ross McLeod, Jim Morraitis, Lorna Rogan, Thomas Rogan, Gordon Rush, David Tooth and John Wakely. Executive committee meetings are held every month during the VMLC competition days.

The VMLC booked a booth at the SSAA Shot Show 2017 and spent the last quarter of the 2016/17 financial year working on an engaging stand design.

The club hosted an open day at Eagle Park in early 2017, with several cannons. The open day attracted a lot of interest from visitors. Another Open Day will be held later in 2017.

One of the biggest challenges over the decades has been the process of scoring competitors' targets; checking them; writing them on score sheets; calculating the winners; preparing score cards; publishing results in the Ramrod Newsletter; and keeping track of new record scores, proficiency awards attained, new aggregate

records, and handgun attendances.

The amount of work required on the day for one person, has always excluded them from participating in competitions. Over nine months of the 2016/17 financial year, VMLC member Gordon Rush developed a new computer application that keeps track of all of the previously mentioned items. Gordon's app even prints out the Award Cards for the day's competitions, as well as records handgun participation in the format required by Victoria Police. The only things it is not capable of doing is keeping track of new record scores, proficiency awards attained and new aggregate records, which are tracked by an application written by John Wakely. The development of the two applications has dramatically reduced the workload on club members and has the potential to assist other SSAA Victoria sub-clubs.

While the club has been coming in leaps and bounds technologically, there are two issues facing the club moving into the new financial year: Attracting new members, particularly juniors and women; and encouraging members to attend the monthly competition days.

Jim Morraitis
PRESIDENT

Working Gundog Association of Australia

The Working Gundogs National Discipline has continued over the past 12 months, with activities that highlight the various roles the gundog performs. With ever increasing pressure on firearm ownership and hunting, the trained gundog presents a positive of where our food comes from.

In the 2016/17 financial year, the ever-popular Working Gundog Association of Australia (Victoria) training days have continued, with hundreds of handlers attending. The club moved to the Sunbury area to allow for more activities that offer better hunting scenarios.

The WGAA demo team performed at the Perth and Sydney SSAA Shot Expos and were well-received at both expos. Retrieving, pointing, obedience – the WGAA dogs once again did the SSAA proud with their abilities showcased before large crowds. The club also prepared for the May 2017 SSAA SHOT Expo in Melbourne.

The traditional WGAA Field Assessment Day in September 2016 featured a land retrieve, a water retrieve and a field run.

WGAA conducted two highly competitive retrieving trials with quality runs at excellent venues in 2016/17. WGAA wishes to thank all those who assisted the club in finding the venues and in negotiating with landowners. WGAA relies on the generosity of landowners to hold all their events and it thanks them all.

WGAA Victorian club turns 20 in 2017 and it would like to record its appreciation of former SSAA Victoria President, Sebastian Ziccone, for his help and foresight in making this possible.

Barry Oliver
PRESIDENT

Financial Summary

SSAA Victoria's accounts are reviewed by independent auditors after the end of each financial year. In 2016/17, the auditors stated that the year's financial reporting (page 35 onwards) was a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at April 30, 2017.

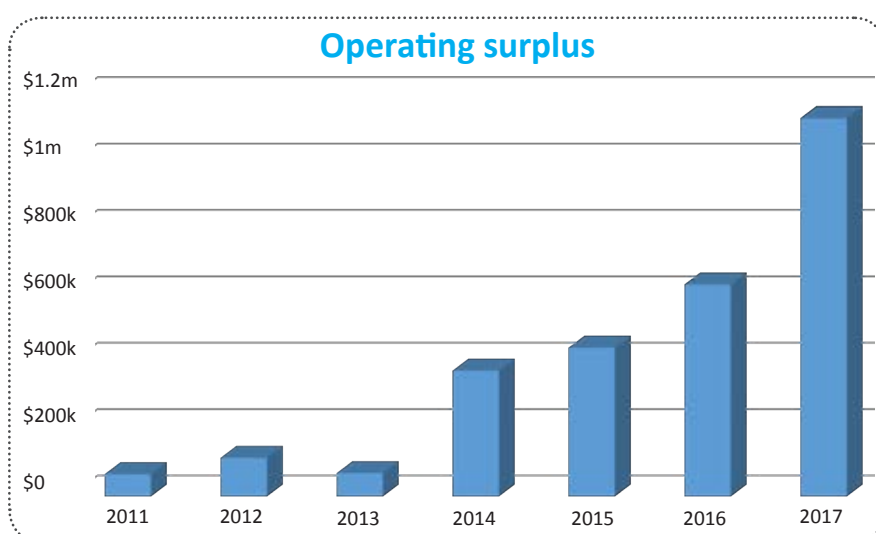
REVENUE
\$5.56m
↑ \$741k
since 2015/16

Operating surplus

SSAA Victoria's operating surplus was \$1.14m in the 2016/17 financial year. It was a \$501,262 increase on the previous financial year. The Association also reported \$5.56m revenue for the year ending April 2017, which was a \$740,725 (or 15 per cent) increase on the previous year. As a result of financial discipline, the Association's costs increased by only 5.7 per cent, from \$4.18m in 2015/16 to \$4.42m in 2016/17.

Since the beginning of 2014 there has been a strong focus on building up the Association's finances. In 2011 the Association reported a surplus of just \$67,000 (see above graph). When measured against the \$3.2m revenue reported that financial year, it was a 2.1 per cent net operating surplus. By 2013, the net operating surplus had dropped to 1.8 per cent (\$70,000 surplus from \$3.77m revenue).

However, the finances began turning around in 2014. The net operating surplus rose to \$379,000 in 2014 from \$4.28m revenue (8.9 per cent). By 2016/17, the net operating surplus had grown to 20.5 per cent (\$1.14m from \$5.56m revenue).



OPERATING SURPLUS

\$1.14m

MEMBERSHIP RECEIPTS

\$2.64m

Further, SSAA Victoria's revenue has grown by \$2.36m million since 2010/11 (from \$3.2m to \$5.56m) – a 73.8 per cent increase.

Net assets

The value of the Association's net assets increased 20 per cent in 2016/17, from \$5.7m to \$6.9m. The previous financial year, the Association's net assets rose by 14 per cent, from \$5m to \$5.7m. The recent increase can be compared to 2010/11 and 2011/12, when the net assets rose just 2.5 per cent and 2.4 per cent respectively.

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)

(A Company limited by guarantee)

Annual Financial Report

For the Financial Year Ended

30 April 2017



M V ANDERSON & CO
Chartered Accountants
Culture Commitment Confidence

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)

A.B.N. 88 005 020 422

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED APRIL 2017**

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Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)
A.B.N. 88 005 020 422

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2017**

Your directors present this report on the company for the financial year ended 30 April 2017.

Directors

The names and information of each person who has been a director during the year and to the date of this report are:

Mr D. Moroney	Director
Qualifications & Experience	Small Business owner, SSAA (Vic) member since 2005.
Mr J. Kuyken	Director
Qualifications & Experience	Building Contractor, Executive member since 1990, past President Field Hunters Club. SSAA (Vic) member since 1988. Junior Vice President, SSAA.
Mr G. Moon	Director and Senior Vice President
Qualifications & Experience	Snr Sergeant Victoria police, SSAA (Vic) member since 1981. Board member since 1987.
Mr A. Hepner	Director
Qualifications & Experience	Engineer and Business Owner. Licensed firearms dealer. SSAA(Vic) member since 1984.
Mr L. Eastwood	Director
Qualifications & Experience	Electrician and business owner. President, Big game Rifle Club for 8 years. SSAA (Vic) member since 1975. Eagle Park Advisory Committee member since formation.
Mr R. Farmer	Director and Company Secretary
Qualifications & Experience	Chartered Accountant and CPA. Director, CFO and corporate advisory services. SSAA (Vic) member since 2003.
Mr L. Silverback	Director
Qualifications & Experience	Degree (IT), IT pre-sales, project management and engineering.
Mr P. Brown	Director
Qualifications & Experience	Scientist, Retired Public Servant. TAFE lecturer, SSAA (Vic) member since 1982, Director 1999-2005, 2006-2012. Range Officer and Firearm Safety Officer since 1995. CPM Program 2002.
Mr H. Rogers	Director
Qualifications & Experience	B Arts, retired Commonwealth Officer, SSAA (Vic) member since 1992
Mr. D. Zielinski	Director
Qualifications & Experience	IT specialist consultant. Former Secretary Deerstalkers Club; Former Treasurer Arms and Militaria Collectors; Range Officer

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)
A.B.N. 88 005 020 422

Mr. C. Wood	Director
Qualifications & Experience	Former SSAA Victoria Hunting and Conservation Manager; Former President Deerstalkers; Former President Victorian Game and Deerstalkers Association; President Shooting Sports Council; Former President SSCV hunting committee; Senior Manager Defence Force.
Mr D. Schereck	Director (appointed 18 September 2016)
Qualifications & Experience	Degree (IT, Business), Retired Senior Public Servant. Retired military officer, SSAA (Vic) member since 2002. Former Club President and Club captain of pistol and rifle clubs. Past Regional co-ordinator for IPSC Vic.

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the company during the financial year were the maintenance of a sporting club for the use of members of the company and the promotion and advancement of the shooting sports in the public and political arena. No significant change in company activities occurred during the year.

Short-term and Long-term Objectives

Short-term Objectives

The short-term objectives of the Association include continuing to consolidate its position with respect to membership, infrastructure and finances.

We will continue to grow cash holdings to the level where consideration can be given:

- i) To exploring options for securing an accessible centre-fire-range in the east of Melbourne, and
- ii) the continuing significant improvement of infrastructure at our suburban shooting ranges.

Now that Springvale has been acquired, long term infrastructure planning for that range, as well as Eagle Park, can be a focus.

With the appointment of a Hunting Development Manager, the overall objective of restoring the SSAA Victoria to its position of the State's premier hunting organization can be progressed. The Manager's key focus in the short term will be to produce a 1-year tactical plan, a longer term 5-year hunting strategy, input into the implementation of the State government's Sustainable Hunting Action Plan, and explore options for the SSAA Victoria to take on hunter and firearm education, as commercial opportunities.

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)
A.B.N. 88 005 020 422

Secondly, with respect to membership, it has been an on-going challenge for most member-based organisations to grow their bases. A particular element of growing a base involves organisational capability to retain members. The SSAA is no different. In the short term the Association will seek to implement strategies to minimise the 'churn' or loss factor affecting our growth.

Long-term objectives and strategies

The company's vision is *a community that values shooting as an enjoyable, safe and inclusive sport.*

Our mission is to *promote, facilitate and protect responsible firearm ownership in all the shooting sports.*

To meet the vision and mission, the company previously adopted as long term objectives and strategies. Given that, by definition, these are long term objectives, they remain largely unchanged:

- To attract and retain quality staff and volunteers who are committed to upholding the highest standards of ethics and behavior.
- Have staff work in partnership with a range of government and sector stakeholders, as evidenced by ongoing support of the Association's projects and initiatives. The company will seek to ensure that stakeholders understand and are committed to the objectives of the Association through ongoing education, promotion and advocacy.
- Have Staff committed to creating new programs and maintain existing programs in support of the Association and sector.
- Have the organisation strive to
 - i) meet consistent standards of best practice, and
 - ii) provide clear expectations of accountabilities and responsibilities to all stakeholders, thereby demonstrating operations in the best interests of the Association.

In doing so, the company will be able to achieve its objectives.

Key Performance Measures

The company measures its own performance through the use of both quantitative and qualitative benchmarks. The benchmarks are used by the directors to assess the financial sustainability of the company and whether the company's short-term and long-term objectives are being achieved. Chief among the measures is the operating surplus which this year is significantly higher than it has ever been.

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)
A.B.N. 88 005 020 422

Meetings of Directors

During the financial year, 11 meetings of directors were held. Attendances by each director were as follows:

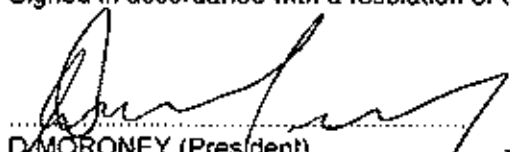
Director Name	Meetings Attended	Meetings Eligible to Attend
Mr D. Moroney	10	11
Mr K. Kuyken	5	11
Mr G. Moon	8	11
Mr A. Hepner	10	11
Mr L. Eastwood	8	11
Mr R. Farmer	11	11
Mr L. Silverback	8	11
Mr P. Brown	11	11
Mr H. Rogers (injured)	10	11
Mr. C. Wood	6	11
Mr. D. Zielinski	10	11
Mr D. Schereck	6	7

The company is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a company limited by guarantee. If the company is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$20 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the entity.

Auditor's Independence Declaration

The lead auditor's independence declaration for the year ended 30 April 2017 has been received and can be found on page 6 of the financial report.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.



D. MORONEY (President)

Dated this 22nd day of August, 2017

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION
UNDER SECTION 307C OF THE CORPORATIONS ACT 2001 TO THE
DIRECTORS OF SPORTING SHOOTERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (VICTORIA)**



M V ANDERSON & CO

Chartered Accountants

www.mvanderson.com.au

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 April, 2017 there have been no contraventions of:

- (i) the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

M V Anderson & Co

M V ANDERSON & CO

Chartered Accountants

Level 5, North Tower,

485 La Trobe Street,

Melbourne Vic 3000

Graeme S. Day

GRAEME S. DAY

Partner

Dated: 21 August, 2017

*Culture
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Confidence*

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SPORTING SHOOTERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (VICTORIA)

(A.B.N. 88 005 020 422)



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SPORTING SHOOTERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (VICTORIA)

M V ANDERSON & CO

Chartered Accountants

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Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria) (the company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 April, 2017, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria) is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 April, 2017 and of its financial performance for the year ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, which has been given to the directors of the company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the company's annual report for the year ended 30 April 2017, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibility of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

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SPORTING SHOOTERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (VICTORIA)

(A.B.N. 88 005 020 422)

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably expect to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from an error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



M V ANDERSON & CO
Chartered Accountants
Level 5, North Tower,
485 La Trobe Street,
Melbourne Vic 3000



GRAEME S. DAY
Partner

Dated: 22 August, 2017

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)
A.B.N. 88 005 020 422

**STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2017**

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
Income			
Revenue	3	5,555,997	4,815,272
Total income		5,555,997	4,815,272
Expenses			
Changes in Inventories of Finished Goods & Work in Progress	4	(2,993)	1,023
Raw Materials and Consumables Consumed	4	295,926	229,154
Employee Benefits Expense	4	1,189,716	1,126,714
Occupancy Expenses	4	61,996	54,553
Depreciation and Amortisation Expenses	4	202,057	190,462
Finance Costs	4	11	12,532
Other Expenses	4	2,668,925	2,561,737
Total Expenses		4,415,638	4,176,175
Profit (Loss) before Income Tax Expense		1,140,359	639,097
Income Tax Expense	1(a)	-	-
Profit (Loss) for the Year Attributable to Members of the Company		1,140,359	639,097
Other Comprehensive Income after Income Tax:			
Other Comprehensive Income for the Year, Net of Tax		-	-
Total Comprehensive Income for the Year Attributable to Members of the Company		1,140,359	639,097

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)
A.B.N. 88 005 020 422

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 APRIL 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	6	4,623,029	3,234,980
Trade and Other Receivables	7	296,206	169,825
Inventories	8	116,744	113,751
Total Current Assets		<u>5,035,979</u>	<u>3,518,556</u>
Non-Current Assets			
Financial Assets	9	1,000	1,000
Property, Plant & Equipment	10	2,704,567	2,513,552
Total Non-Current Assets		<u>2,705,567</u>	<u>2,514,552</u>
Total Assets		<u>7,741,546</u>	<u>6,033,108</u>
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	11	830,669	271,799
Short Term Borrowings	12	-	-
Short Term Provisions	13	40,126	34,137
Total Current Liabilities		<u>870,795</u>	<u>305,936</u>
Non-Current Liabilities			
Long Term Borrowings	12	-	-
Long Term Provisions	13	17,253	14,033
Total Non-Current Liabilities		<u>17,253</u>	<u>14,033</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>888,048</u>	<u>319,969</u>
Net Assets		<u>6,853,498</u>	<u>5,713,139</u>
Equity	20		
Retained Earnings		6,853,498	5,713,139
Total Equity		<u>6,853,498</u>	<u>5,713,139</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)
A.B.N. 88 005 020 422

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2017

	Note	Retained Earnings	Total
		\$	\$
Balance at 1 May 2015		5,074,042	5,074,042
<hr/>			
Comprehensive Income			
Profit (Loss) Attributable to Members of the Company		639,097	639,097
Total Other Comprehensive Income for the Year		-	-
<hr/>			
Balance at 30 April 2016		5,713,139	5,713,139
<hr/>			
Comprehensive Income			
Profit (Loss) Attributable to Members of the Company		1,140,359	1,140,359
Total Other Comprehensive Income for the Year		-	-
<hr/>			
Balance at 30 April 2017		6,853,498	6,853,498
<hr/>			

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)
A.B.N. 88 005 020 422

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Range Takings and General Receipts		1,404,259	1,409,846
Receipts by Sub-Entities		528,291	675,243
Payments by Sub-Entities		(527,535)	(650,784)
Payments to Suppliers		(1,060,684)	(1,207,041)
Affiliation Costs Paid to SSAA National		(1,337,593)	(1,177,635)
Payments to Employees		(1,180,507)	(1,112,057)
Capitation from SSAA National		2,746,113	2,531,636
Special Capitation from SSAAN National		406,302	221,947
Interest Received		51,416	38,128
Borrowing Costs		(11)	(12,532)
Government Grants		751,070	-
Grants-Springvale Sporting Hub		-	90,000
Net Cash Flows from/ (Used in) Operating Activities	16	1,781,121	806,751
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant & equipment		-	324,846
Payment for property, plant & equipment		(393,072)	(33,263)
Net Cash Flows from/ (Used in) Investing Activities		(393,072)	291,583
Cash Flows from Financing Activities			
Proceeds from Borrowing		-	-
Repayment of Borrowings		-	(341,176)
Net Cash Flows from/ (Used in) Financing Activities		-	(341,176)
Reconciliation of Cash and Cash Equivalents			
Net Increase / (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents		1,388,049	757,158
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Financial Year		3,234,980	2,477,822
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Financial Year	16	4,623,029	3,234,980

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2017

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements cover Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria) as an individual entity, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria) is a company limited by guarantee.

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *Corporations Act 2001*. The company is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

Accounting Policies

a. Income Tax

The activities of the company are such that under current legislation, no liability for income tax is likely to arise.

b. Acquisition of Assets

Assets acquired are recorded at the cost of acquisition, being the purchase consideration determined as at the date of acquisition plus costs incidental to the acquisition.

In the event that settlement of all or part of the cash consideration given in the acquisition of an asset is deferred, the fair value of the purchase consideration is determined by discounting the amounts payable in the future to their present value as at the date of acquisition.

c. Inventories

All inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Costs are assigned on the basis of weighted average costs. Stocks are made up of merchandise for sale.

d. Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on property, plant and equipment, including freehold buildings but excluding land.

Depreciation is calculated on a diminishing value and a straight line basis so as to write off the net cost or revalued amount of each asset over its expected useful life.

Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the period of the lease or estimated useful life, whichever is the shorter, using the straight line method. The following estimated useful lives are used in the calculation of depreciation:

Leasehold Improvement	5-13 years
Buildings	40 years
Plant & Equipment	2-13 years
Capital Improvements	7-13 years

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2017

e. Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the entity's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee benefits that are expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled. Employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. Those cash flows are discounted using the market yields on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cash flows.

f. Revenue Recognition

Income - Membership Fees and Range Fees/Passes

Membership Fees and range fees/passes are brought to account as income to the extent that they relate to the year of income. Under the articles no refunds are applicable and hence no portion is shown as Membership Fees paid in advance.

g. Account Payable

Trade payables and other accounts payable are recognised when the company becomes obliged to make future payments resulting from the purchase of goods and services.

h. Receivables

Trade receivables and other receivables are recorded at amounts due less any provision for doubtful debts.

i. Leased Assets

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a basis which reflects the pattern in which economic benefits from the leased asset are consumed.

j. Goods and Services Tax

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except:

- (i) where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority, it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of an asset or as part of an item of expense; or
- (ii) for receivables and payables which are recognised inclusive of GST. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables.

k. Financial Instruments

Recognition and Initial Measurement

Financial Instruments are initially measured at cost on trade date, which include transaction costs, when the related contractual rights or obligations exist. Subsequent to initial recognition these instruments are measured as set out below.

Derecognition

Financial assets are derecognised where the contractual rights to receipts of cash flows expires or the asset is transferred to another party whereby the entity no longer has any significant involvement in the risks and benefits associated with the asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised where the related obligations are either discharged, cancelled or expire.

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2017

k. Financial Instruments (Cont.)

The difference between the carrying value of the financial liability extinguished or transferred to another party and the fair value of consideration paid, including the transfer of non-cash assets or liabilities assumed, is recognised in profit or loss.

Classification and Subsequent Measurement

Financial assets at fair value through the profit or loss

A financial asset is classified in this category if acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short term or if so designated by management and within the requirements of AASB 139: Recognition and Measurement of Financial Instruments. Realised and unrealised gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value of these assets are included in the income statement in the period in which they arise.

Held to Maturity Investments

These investments have fixed maturities, and it is the entity's intention to hold these investments to maturity. Held to maturity investments thus included IMMS Debenture. Any held to maturity investments held by the entity are stated at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Available-For-Sale Financial Assets

Available for sale financial assets include any financial assets not included in the above categories.

Available for sale financial assets are reflected at fair value. Unrealised gains and losses arising from changes in fair value are taken directly to equity.

Financial Liabilities

Non derivative financial liabilities are recognised at amortised cost, comprising original debt less principal payments and amortisation.

Impairment

At each reporting date, the entity assesses whether there is objective evidence that a financial instrument has been impaired. Impairment losses are recognised in the income statement.

l. Sub-Entities

The financial statements of the company (SSAAV) incorporate the operating results, assets and liabilities of all the sub-entities which it controls. The sub-entities comprise unincorporated branches and clubs, each with their own elected committees in charge of carrying on the day to day operations of the sub-entity in accordance with the financial and operating policies set by the company.

All members of the sub-entities are members of SSAAV, and SSAAV through its Board of Directors has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of the sub-entities so as to obtain benefits from the activities of the sub-entities. These benefits include to promote pistol shooting discipline to members.

Under the rules of SSAAV, sub-entities are unable to enter into legally binding agreements. Legal agreements that are approved by SSAAV affecting sub-entities are undertaken by the company for the benefit of the members of SSAAV.

Upon the winding up or other dissolution of a sub-entity, all assets revert to the company.

- m. Where necessary comparatives information has been reclassified to achieve consistency disclosure with current financial year amounts and other disclosures.

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2017

NOTE 2: Date of Authorisation for the Issue of Financial Report

The financial report was authorised for issue on 22 August 2017 by the Board of Directors

	Note	2017	2016
		\$	\$
NOTE 3: REVENUE AND NET GAINS			
a. Revenue from Operating Activities			
Income Sub Entities		528,291	675,243
Sale of Goods		436,742	394,235
Membership Fees		2,644,592	2,390,605
Special Capitation		406,302	221,947
Range Fees & Passes		814,130	722,255
Other		381,289	228,957
Shot Expo		-	143,902
Government Grants		293,235	-
Total Operating Income		5,504,581	4,777,144
b. Other Revenue			
Interest			
- Other – Bank		51,416	38,128
Total Other Revenue		51,416	38,128
Total Revenue		5,555,997	4,815,272

NOTE 4: PROFIT FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES

Profit from ordinary activities before income tax expense has been determined after:

Expenses

Cost of Sales	292,933	230,177
Finance Costs		
Other Persons	-	-
SSAA National	11	12,532
	11	12,532
Depreciation of Non-Current Assets		
Plant and Equipment	153,223	148,206
Amortisation of Non-Current Assets		
Improvements	48,834	42,256
	202,057	190,462

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
NOTE 4: PROFIT FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES (CONT.)			
Remuneration of Auditor			
Audit or Reviewing the Financial Report		27,700	25,395
		<u>27,700</u>	<u>25,395</u>
Occupancy Expenses			
Light & Power		1,826	3,740
Rent		60,170	50,813
		<u>61,996</u>	<u>54,553</u>
Other Expenses			
Affiliation Costs SSAA National		1,337,593	1,177,635
Expenses by Sub Entities		527,535	650,784
Shot Expo		-	4,623
Other		803,797	728,695
		<u>2,668,925</u>	<u>2,561,737</u>

The following significant revenue and expense items are relevant in explaining the finance performance:

a. Special distribution of membership capitation from SSAA (Inc.)	406,302	221,947
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NOTE 5: REMUNERATION AND RETIREMENT BENEFITS

Directors' Remuneration	-	-
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Income paid or payable to all directors of the Company. The directors do not receive any remuneration.

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
NOTE 5: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS			
Cash at Bank		3,229,446	1,751,271
Parks Victoria Grant - Cash at Bank		87,315	85,439
Other Grants		247,125	-
Deposits at Call		-	393,864
Sub Entities - Cash at Bank		1,055,066	999,024
Cash on Hand		4,077	5,382
		<u>4,623,029</u>	<u>3,234,980</u>

Cash and cash equivalents are subject to interest rate risk as they earn interest at variable rates. Cash and cash equivalents are at variable rates. In 2017 the average variable interest rates were 2.06% (2016: 2.2%).

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
NOTE 7: TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES			
CURRENT			
Receivables		108,984	22,100
Less Prov. for Impairment of Receivables		-	-
		<u>108,984</u>	<u>22,100</u>
Other Debtors			
- Amount Owing by SSAA National-Capitation		100,554	101,521
- Others (Springvale Deposit \$60,000)		86,668	46,204
		<u>187,222</u>	<u>147,725</u>
Total Receivables		<u>296,206</u>	<u>169,825</u>
NOTE 8: INVENTORIES			
CURRENT			
Merchandise for Sale at cost		116,744	113,751
		<u>116,744</u>	<u>113,751</u>
NOTE 9: OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS			
NON-CURRENT			
Available for Sale Financial Assets:			
- Shares in Other Corporations at cost		1,000	1,000
		<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
NOTE 10: PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT			
Land and Buildings		1,166,685	1,074,685
Less Accumulated Depreciation		(96,000)	(88,000)
		<u>1,070,685</u>	<u>986,685</u>
Springvale Range - Leasehold Improvements		688,925	476,487
Less Accumulated Amortisation		(447,521)	(423,373)
		<u>241,404</u>	<u>53,114</u>
Springvale Equipment		195,865	192,185
Less Accumulated Depreciation		(168,704)	(161,125)
		<u>27,161</u>	<u>31,060</u>

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
NOTE 10: PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT (CONT.)			
Little River Plant & Equipment		834,829	789,753
Less Accumulated Depreciation		(647,860)	(612,894)
		<u>186,969</u>	<u>176,859</u>
Range and Club Equipment		155,788	155,788
Less Accumulated Depreciation		(128,093)	(126,036)
		<u>27,695</u>	<u>29,752</u>
Range and Club Capital Improvement		119,595	119,595
Less Accumulated Depreciation		(72,915)	(66,872)
		<u>46,680</u>	<u>52,723</u>
Office Equipment		348,555	317,567
Less Accumulated Depreciation		(262,120)	(252,378)
		<u>86,435</u>	<u>65,189</u>
Motor Vehicles		39,787	39,787
Less Accumulated Depreciation		(39,787)	(39,787)
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Sub-Entities' Property, Plant & Equipment		2,274,958	2,266,068
Less Accumulated Depreciation		(1,414,733)	(1,329,894)
		<u>860,225</u>	<u>936,174</u>
Cobaw and Marley Point Range Improvements at cost		343,439	343,439
Less Accumulated Depreciation		(186,126)	(161,443)
		<u>157,313</u>	<u>181,996</u>
Total Property, Plant and Equipment		<u>2,704,567</u>	<u>2,513,552</u>

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2017

NOTE 10: PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (CONT.)

Movements in carrying amounts

Movements for carrying amounts for each class of property, plant & equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year.

	Land & Buildings	Leasehol Improvement	Plant Equipment	Sub- Entities' PPE	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Carrying Amount at 1 May 2015	1,319,531	271,930	399,847	1,004,289	2,995,597
Additions	(324,846)	1,329	14,706	17,228	(291,583)
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation & Amortisation	(8,000)	(38,149)	(58,970)	(85,343)	(190,462)
Carrying Amount at 30 April 2016	986,685	235,110	355,583	936,174	2,513,552
Carrying Amount at 1 May 2016	986,685	235,110	355,583	936,174	2,513,552
Additions	92,000	212,438	79,744	8,890	393,072
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation & Amortisation	(8,000)	(48,831)	(60,387)	(84,839)	(202,057)
Carrying Amount at 30 April 2017	1,070,685	398,717	374,940	860,225	2,704,567

	Note	2017	2016
		\$	\$
NOTE 11: TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES			
CURRENT			
Payables		168,903	131,817
Affiliation Costs Payable to SSAA National		86,044	22,095
Grant in Advance		574,222	116,387
Other Liabilities		1,500	1,500
Accruals		-	-
		830,669	271,799

NOTE 12: BORROWINGS

CURRENT

Loan SSAA National Secured	-	-
	-	-

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
NOTE 12: BORROWINGS (CONT.)			
NON CURRENT			
Loan SSAA National Secured		-	-
		-	-

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
NOTE 13: PROVISIONS			
CURRENT			
<i>Employee Benefits</i>			
Annual Leave		33,458	28,070
Long Service Leave		6,668	6,067
		40,126	34,137
NON CURRENT			
<i>Employee Benefits</i>			
Long Service Leave		17,253	14,033
		17,253	14,033
Opening balance		48,170	64,596
Additional Provisions Raised During the Year		9,209	(4,041)
Amount Used			(12,385)
Balance at 30 April 2017		57,379	48,170

Superannuation commitments

In accordance with the requirements of the legislation, the entity has contributed 9.5% of staff wages to a complying superannuation fund nominated by each employee. Total contributed by the entity and charged to income statement \$85,230 (2016: \$81,144)

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
NOTE 14: CAPITAL AND LEASING COMMITMENTS			
a. <i>Non-Cancellable Leases</i>			
Payable no later than 1 year		-	23,991
Later than 1 year but not later than 5 years		-	-
Later than 5 years		-	-
Inclusive of GST		-	23,991
		<hr/>	<hr/>
b. <i>Capital expenditure commitments contracted for:</i>			
Capital Expenditure Project		600,000	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		600,000	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>

NOTE 15: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Practical Shooters Supplies	22,836	15,165
[Greg Moon is a principal]		
Pro-Alarms	8,006	748
[Lance Eastwood is a principal]		
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	30,842	15,913
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties.

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
NOTE 16: CASH FLOW INFORMATION			
(a) Reconciliation of Cash			
Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the statements of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position as follows:			
– Cash On Hand		4,077	5,382
– Grants - Cash at Bank		334,440	85,439
– At call deposits with financial institutions			393,864
– Sub Entities – Cash at Bank		1,055,066	999,024
– Cash at Bank		3,229,446	1,751,271
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		4,623,029	3,234,980
		<hr/>	<hr/>

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2017

	Note	2017	2016
		\$	\$
NOTE 16: CASH FLOW INFORMATION (CONT.)			
(b) Reconciliation of Cash Flow from Operations with Profit from Ordinary Activities after Income Tax			
Profit from Ordinary Activities after Income Tax		1,140,359	639,097
<i>Non-Cash Flows in Profit from Ordinary Activities</i>			
– Amortisation		48,834	42,256
– Depreciation		153,223	148,207
<i>Changes in Assets and Liabilities, net of the effects of purchase and disposals of subsidiaries</i>			
– (Increase)/Decrease in Receivables		(126,381)	151,528
– Decrease/ (Increase) in Inventories		(2,993)	1,023
– Increase/ (Decrease) in Payables		558,870	(158,934)
– Increase (Decrease) in Provisions		9,209	(16,426)
Cash Flows from Operations		1,781,121	806,751
(c) Non-Cash Financing and Investing Activities		-	-
(d) Credit Standby Arrangement and Loan Facilities		-	-

NOTE 17: FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

a. Financial Risk Management Policies

The entity's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of credit and liquidity. The board of directors are responsible for monitoring and managing the financial risks of the entity.

The Board monitor these risks through the annual budgetary process which is managed by it.

All major financial issues are examined by the Board at their monthly meetings.

The Board also meets monthly to consider recommendations made by the Chief executive Officer.

Monthly management accounts are presented and analysed by the Board.

Any changes to be implemented are communicated to management by the Chief Executive Officer who attends all Board meetings.

The entity does not enter into derivative financial instruments and does not speculate in any type of financial instrument.

b. Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the entity will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The entity monitors its cash flow needs on a weekly basis. In the event of a potential cash deficit, the entity has access to financial reserves.

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2017

NOTE 17: FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONT.)

c. Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the entity if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations. The entity has exposure to credit risk through its trade receivables, and funds placed with financial institutions.

The entity's maximum exposures to credit risk at balance date in relation to each class of recognised financial asset is the carrying amount of those assets as indicated in the statement of financial position.

The maximum credit risk exposure does not take into account the value of any collateral or other security held, in the event other entities/parties fail to perform their obligations under the financial instruments in question.

The Management manage the credit risk in:

- (i) trade receivables by assessment of each counterparty's capacity to repay and its payment history.

Any amount owed outside its repayment term must be approved by the Board of Directors.

- (ii) funds placed with other financial institutions by only depositing with financial institutions which have a Standard and Poor's rating of at least BBB+. This is managed by the Chief Executive Officer who reports back to the Board of Directors on a regular basis.

d. Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will affect the entity's income or the value of its obligations, and arises on variable rate debt.

The entity is not exposed to any significant interest rate risk.

e. Other Market Price Risks

Price risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will change because of changes in market prices. The entity is not exposed to any significant price risk.

f. Sensitivity Analysis

The entity has not performed a sensitivity analysis relating to its exposure to various market risks at balance date as the effect on the current year's results and equity, which could result from a change in these risks, is not material because its exposure is not significant.

NOTE 18: DIVIDENDS

No dividends have been paid or proposed during the financial year.

NOTE 19: CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

At the date of this report there is a Supreme Court matter in progress in which the Company is involved. By virtue for the operation of the Defamation Act 2005 (Vic) the matter is conducted in the name of the affected persons on the Board and the CEO. Advice from legal counsel indicates that it is not practical to determine potential liability.

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)
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NOTE 20: MEMBERS FUNDS

The company is limited by guarantee. If the company is wound up, the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$20 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the company.

NOTE 21: COMPANY DETAILS

The registered office of the company is: 3, 26-28 Ellingworth Parade. Box Hill, VIC 3128.

The principal place of business is: 710 Dandenong Road, Springvale, Vic, 3171

NOTE 22: ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

Australian Accounting Standards which have been issued or amended and which are applicable to the entity but are not yet effective have not been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements at reporting date. These are not expected to impact the entity.

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)
A.B.N. 88 005 020 422

NOTE 23: KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL COMPENSATION

	Short-Term Employee Benefits			Post-Employment Benefits	
	Salary & Fees	Bonus	Superannuation	Termination Benefit	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2017					
Total Compensation	387,244	12,540	36,787	17,124	453,695
2016					
Total Compensation	426,066	-	39,906	22,871	488,843

NOTE 24: FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT COMPOSITION AND MATURITY ANALYSIS

a. **Interest Rate Risk**

The table on the following page reflects the undiscounted contractual settlement terms for financial instruments of a fixed period of maturity, as well as management's expectations of settlement period for all other financial instruments. As such, the amounts may not reconcile to the statement of financial position.

b. **Fair Values**

The fair value of the entity's assets and liabilities approximates their carrying value. No financial assets and financial liabilities are readily traded on organised markets in standardised form. Financial assets where the carrying amount exceeds fair values have not been written down as the entity intends to hold these assets to maturity.

The aggregate fair values and carrying amounts of financial assets and financial liabilities are disclosed in the statement of financial position and in the notes to the financial statements.

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Victoria)
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NOTE 24: FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT COMPOSITION AND MATURITY ANALYSIS (CONT.)

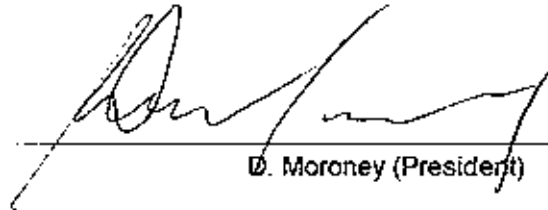
	Weighted Average Effective Interest Rate	Floating Interest Rate		1 year or less		Fixed Interest Rate		Over 1 to 5 years		Non- Interest Beari	Total Carrying Amount as per Statement of Financial Position	
		2017	201	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016		2017	2016
	%	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial Assets												
Cash & Liquid Assets	1.30	4,623,029	3,234,980	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,623,029	3,234,980	
Trade Receivables			-	-	-	209,538	22,100	209,538	22,100	209,538	22,100	
Investments			-	-	-	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Other Receivables			-	-	-	86,668	147,725	86,668	147,725	86,668	147,725	
Total Financial Assets		4,623,029	3,234,980	-	-	297,206	170,825	4,920,235	3,405,805			
Financial Liabilities												
Trade Payables			-	-	-	168,903	131,817	168,903	131,817	168,903	131,817	
Other Payables			-	-	-	87,544	23,595	87,544	23,595	87,544	23,595	
Grants in Advance						574,222	116,387	574,222	116,387	574,222	116,387	
Borrowings	3.20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total Financial Liabilities		-	-	-	-	830,669	271,799	830,669	271,799	830,669	271,799	

DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

In accordance with a resolution of the directors of Sporting Shooter Association of Australia (Victoria), the directors declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 9 to 24, are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* and
 - a. comply with Australian Accounting Standards; and
 - b. give a true and fair view of the financial position of the company as at 30 April 2017 and of its performance for the year ended on that date
2. In the directors' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Director



D. Moroney (President)

Dated this

22

day of

August

2017



Sporting Shooters Association of Australia (Victoria)

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