



# NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND INC.

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## 2022 NRANZ AGM Chairman's Report

**Ross Mason**  
**January 2022**

We have all staggered through another year of Covid.

The usual maintenance has been sustained throughout the year. The Wednesday Gang lost a member to sunny Nelson when Wally Hewitt retired to the south. The gang is getting older but the retirement and consequent recruitment of Rob Morgan has lowered the average age significantly. We continue to be impressed with the longevity of the spritely John Hand and his expert carpentry skills. Rags Owens, Lee Stacey, Kevin Win and Andre Doyle also keep the lunching, tea and coffee drinking entertaining.

The NRANZ shed door has been replaced and it is luxury to get the door up and down with the push of a button.

Work is underway investigating a new ride on mower. Our second one is desperately short of parts and has no reverse.

### **Executive and Range Director**

Helen Morgan continues to keep the office ship shape. Aply supported by Coby and they continue to impress with their mutual support for each other. Coby has made great strides to ensure the audit and stocktaking is carried out efficiently and this is shown by the shrinkage in shrinkage in the books. Deputy Chair Andre keeps me in check for the rest of the time. The newly decorated Alan Whiteman continues his sterling mowing and range work coordination with NZDF and local contractors. Alan had a few sessions with the local hospital system this past year and it is great to see him in a better state of health.

### **Target Shed Roof.**

If you head down to the butts this week have a look at the flash new roof providing extra light into the place. It has been the haven for Possums this year but the dead count with the traps is now 4 with more likely. Wellington Rifle Association have taken to contribute the majority of the \$15,000 cost with the NRANZ making up the rest.

## **Range Inspections**

In July accompanied by my ever-suffering shooting widow, we undertook a 10 day trip top to bottom around the North Island getting seven ranges inspected and checked over and certified. Kris and I enjoyed the sightseeing trip. It is great to see clubs undertaking the necessary work to upgrade their ranges to or towards certification status. As of July, this year, all ranges will need to be recertified by Police every five years. Sadly, the certification clubs now have will not be accepted by Police. But very significantly, our NRANZ Range Manuals are accepted by Police as the primary manual in the new certification process. The new Police Manual will provide a secondary role. One point to note is the inclusion in Seddon Range RSOs for the need to appreciate the lead issue on our ranges. This aspect should be taken into account when clubs edit their next RSOs. We are pretty sure all NRANZ ranges have now been inspected and certified over the last 5 years. This should make the recertification process a lot easier. I recommend Clubs pursue improving the safety features of their ranges, especially stop butts, firing points and procedures.

Along with John Snowden I have also been on the Pilot Police Range Inspectors Course held at Taupo. My involvement with TSNZ means I am undertaking recruiting RIs for Target Shooting New Zealand and John Snowden is recruiting NRANZ RIs.

## **Clubs and Police**

All shooting clubs will need to be approved by Police. It is the Govts view that shooting clubs need to be seen to be acceptable and providing security for Firearms, provision of ammunition and the continued fit and proper cooperation of the club members. The new regulations are slowly emerging from the government system and I urge clubs to access them to become aware of what is accepted.

## **FCAF**

On behalf of NRANZ I have been a member of the NZ Police FCAF (Firearms Community Advisory Forum) since March 2019. The forum meets 3 times per year. It includes importers, dealers, collectors, COLFO, Shooting Association, Customs, Hunting and Fishing. The forum is a sounding board for Police which enables them to keep an ear to the firearms community. Chatham House rules apply which means no names are attached to minutes of meetings and I can assure you there is robust discussion around legislation, regulations and operations of Police. The new regulations have been given a serious look at by participants.

## **E Targets**

Sorting out the first extensive testing of the E Targets in March took some effort analysing the results in a useful format for ease of understanding. Whether that was achieved or not is still being debated. Further tests were carried out and better results seemed to be achieved. Two further E Targets have been ordered as explained in Rob Morgan's PET report.

## **NZ Defence Communication**

Our communication with Defence continues to improve. NRANZ has managed to make some modifications to the Seddon RSOs that now include 303 shooting over all distances to 1000yds, the inclusion of 0.22 shooting from 100 and 200yds, and we are all now allowed to rehydrate on the range while shooting. Apparently, it was deemed to be a H&S issue. The lease from the UHCC for the extension of the RDA has also been completed after the discovery that NRANZ did not need to obtain permission from a private landowner after all.

Finally, the Executive endeavour that the Seddon Range and the environs remain in a fit state for the benefit of all members to enjoy. Especially for the week of the Nationals. The Executive and WRA put in enormous hours getting the range and all the ancillary equipment like targets in a fit state ready for the first day of activity. We hope you all appreciate that the Executive has the member needs to the fore in all we undertake.

But just to make sure of understanding, Powder and projectiles supplies are out of our hands and we really appreciate your forbearance for the delays in delivery.