

THE BLACK POWDER SHOOTING UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Formerly The Historical Firearms Shooting Union Founded in 1958



www.bpsu.co.za

Affiliated to:

MUZZLE LOADERS' ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

WORLD LONG RANGE HISTORICAL RIFLE SHOOTING ASSOCIATION

SOUTH AFRICAN BISLEY UNION (SABU)

8 October 2010

NEWSFLASH NO 11 OF 2010

Dear BPSU members

We have received the following from John Austin, chairman of the Cape Town Muzzle Loaders' Association.

OBITUARY – ROBERT WOOD MANN

It is with much sadness that I have to report to members of the BPSU and CTMLA that our shooting comrade “Bob” Mann died peacefully in the Hermanus Medi-Clinic shortly before 7pm on the 7th October.

Bob was the oldest active shooter of the CTMLA until he was diagnosed with an untreatable and disseminated form of cancer in April this year when undergoing an operation for a bowel obstruction. With great courage and good sense he chose not to have chemo - and radiotherapy, accepting that they would not change the outcome of his disease.



Over the last months he bore the inevitable passage of his condition with great courage, fortitude and dignity.

He was a member of the CTMLA and BPSU for over 30 years and until recently hardly ever missed a national or provincial shoot or the opportunity to represent SA in international and world championship matches.

In July this year, after he had recovered from his operation, the older members of the CTMLA took him and his wife Annetjie out to lunch at the Houwhoek Inn

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near Grabouw for what was to be our last get-together with him. It was a memorable occasion with much toasting, hilarity, risqué jokes and the re-telling of stories of the many legendary days we had spent together with him travelling to shoots and on ranges in SA and abroad.

He was an accomplished blackpowder rifleman who had many successes in competitive shooting. He also was a founder contributor to the transition to long range historical rifle shooting in the late 80's and 1990's and contributed greatly to the sport with the scale plotting sheets and windage correction charts which he developed, based on trials he made to determine the ballistic coefficients of muzzle and breechloading bullets.

His Scots ancestry was part of his character and played a key role in the formation of the Farquharson Society of Cape Town – a gentleman's dining and rifle club which was formed in 2007 to foster long range blackpowder shooting and to savour fine whisky. The legendary Farquharson function on the De Wet range after the second day of the 2004 National BP Championship at which John Farquharson was toasted with a quaich and Dimple Haig, Chivas Regal, Glenfiddich and JW Red label were served in crystal glasses with just a teaspoonful of spring water to bring out the taste, will always be remembered.

His passing will be a loss to blackpowder shooting in SA and to us all. We will miss him.

John Austin

Kind regards

MERWE VAN RENSBURG

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