



WINGSHOOTER

Magazine of the SA Wingshooters Association

Vol. 30 No. 1 – March/April 2024



The
2024
Hunting &
Sport Shooting
Calendar Edition

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Helmeted Guineafowl (*Numida meleagris*). The helmeted guineafowl was formally described by Swedish naturalist Carl Linnaeus in 1758. The genus name *Numida* is Latin for "North African". Photograph by André van der Westhuizen.

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A WORD IN YOUR EAR



Upside down...

Life is challenging when you are young and sometimes becomes annoying as you get older. Not really life itself, but rather people and politics, which then feels like life is to blame. Akin to the movie "Life is beautiful" directed by Roberto Benigni, one wants to shield oneself against all the irrational, untruthful and plainly idiotic ideas, misleading agendas, and lies that are spread so commonly these days – coming from governments, ideological movements, news channels, social media, to name but a few.

If at all possible, work and stress less, as life is too short and valuable. Once you realise there is no rerun to this show and this is the one and only ride, then it might hit home. This is just what member Gustav Vermaas is doing. Read about his adventures in Life 2.0 on page 8.

Joseph Goebels said "Repeat a lie often enough and people will believe it". This is indeed the case and it's happening all around us. We as hunters and sport shooters are inundated by lies regarding lead (Pb) in ammunition, the so called evilness of trophy hunting and the CO₂ crisis to name a few. We need to stand up and fight against this anti-hunting and anti-firearm ownership wave.

How do we do that? With facts! Setting slanted arguments straight and questioning so called "scientific research" (the outcome of which is based on who sponsors the research), which can be shot down (pun intended) with facts, logic and real research. Read the article in this issue on lead (Pb) and how birds are maintained on a diet of food shot with lead ammunition for decades already, and these birds are doing better than ever. It will take time but logic will prevail.

There are more shooting venues and shooting activities in this year's calendar than you can shake a stick at, so make sure you book on some of the events or shoots, so you can stress less and enjoy your life. The calendar on pages 17 to 27 lists many activities for members so there are no excuses. The calendar is usually sent out earlier in the year, around the start of February, so that members can plan their year. We also publish it in the first magazine of each year, in case members missed the eNewsletter earlier or for the benefit of new members who joined recently.

This year the rain seems to have vaporised and we can only believe that some rain will still fall soon, as reports from our farmers and venue hosts paint a bleak picture for our food production, and will cause havoc with food prices and food resources for our fauna and flora. I personally love dry, desert conditions, but it's not conducive to high populations of anything. Have a splendid season!

Waidmannsheil! – André



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Junior member wins the Africa FITASC Compak Championship 2024:

The Africa Championship Finale and Beretta Africa Cup Fitasc Compak 2024 clay target shooting was held on the 8th and 9th of March 2024 at the beautiful Maccauw Clay Target Club in Bloemfontein.

This prestigious event was attended by shooting competitors from other African countries and many around the world.



There were teams from Zimbabwe, Russia, Czech Republic, Germany, France, Netherlands, United Kingdom and Portugal, to name a few, and of course many South African clay target shooters.

The championship finale comprised of eight well designed and setup ranges, totaling 200 clay targets over two days. It was nice and warm, with temperatures hovering around 35°C.

Some tricky simultaneous doubles,

mixed with fast and then slow single targets and on-report doubles on all ranges – to mess around with shooters' timing and rhythm – made the shooting technical and not easy, but very enjoyable.

Junior SA Wingshooters Association member Luke Steyn, who comes from a family of Protea Colours clay target shooters, kept composure and displayed outstanding marksmanship and skills, powers of concentration and firmness of temperament to take the overall win! Luke is the 2024 African Compak Sporting Champion! Just marvellous Luke!

Luke shot a sterling 192 out of 200. SA Wingshooters member Alexi Cavaliers shot equally well and finished with a 192 score as well, but Luke won on the customary count back procedure in the event of a tie.

Another Junior member of SA Wingshooters Association, Anderson White, came a superb 2nd in the juniors and 5th place overall with a fantastic score of 186 out of 200. Great shooting Anderson!

No less than seven of the top ten finalists are SA Wingshooters members! We are tremendously proud of you top juniors and all the other members who participated in this great event and won various divisions and categories.

Well done and congratulations from all at SA Wingshooters!

– SA Wingshooters

High-Brass vs Low-Brass Shells: Exploring Shotgun Ammo Differences

Many shotgun users, whether they're hunters or sport shooters, are often left wondering about the differences between high-brass and low-brass shotgun shells and how they can impact performance. Shotgun shells are an essential component for any shotgun user. They consist of several parts including the primer, powder, wad, and shot. The primer ignites the powder, which in turn generates gas pressure and propels the wad and shot down the barrel. The brass, which is the metal part at the base of the shell, contains the primer and helps ensure safe and efficient firing. It is crucial to note that the brass does not

affect the power of the load but plays a significant part in the overall construction and functionality of the shell.

The terms high-brass and low-brass refer to the height of the brass base on the shotgun shell. High-brass shells have a longer brass base compared to low-brass shells. Initially, this design was adopted to provide additional strength to the shell for handling higher pressures generated by powerful loads. Nowadays, the brass height is more of a marketing tool, but its implications on the shell's functionality remain.

The type of shotgun shell used can significantly influence the shooting experience. Different shells are suitable for various applications, including hunting, target shooting, or self-defense. Understanding the characteristics of high-brass and low-brass shotgun shells can help



users make an informed choice for their specific needs.

High-Brass vs Low-Brass: Key Differences:

The primary difference between high-brass and low-brass shotgun shells lies in the height of the brass base. However, this height difference is not just an aesthetic variation. High-brass shells often contain more powder and larger shot sizes, making them ideal for hunting larger game or shooting at extended ranges. They are typically more powerful and provide further reach than low-brass shells.

Low-brass shells, on the other hand, have a shorter brass base and are often



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associated with less powerful loads. They typically contain smaller shot sizes and are popular for target shooting and hunting smaller game. These shells offer less recoil, making them a comfortable choice for prolonged shooting sessions.

However, it's important to remember that the composition, not the height of the brass, determines the power of the shell. Some high-brass shells might contain the same load as low-brass shells, and vice versa. Therefore, always check the shell's specifications before making a decision.

How High-Brass and Low-Brass Shells Affect Performance:

High-brass shells, due to their powerful loads, offer better performance when shooting at longer distances or when hunting larger game. Their extended reach and penetration power make them a preferred choice for hunters who need extra power in their shots. However, the increased power also results in more recoil, which might not be ideal for all shooters.

Low-brass shells, in contrast, are perfect for close-range shooting or target practice. Their lower recoil makes them comfortable for extended use, and their smaller shot sizes are ideal for hitting smaller targets. However, the reduced power might not be effective for hunting larger game or shooting at longer distances.

The choice between high-brass and low-brass shells ultimately comes down to the shooter's needs and preferences. It is always advisable to experiment with different types of shells to find what works best for each individual scenario.

Choosing the Right Shotgun Shell: High-Brass or Low-Brass?

When choosing between high-brass and low-brass shells, the user must consider their specific requirements. For hunting larger game or shooting at longer distances, high-brass shells, due to their higher power and range, are often the preferred choice. They offer better performance in terms of penetration and reach, making them ideal for these applications.

For activities like target shooting or hunting smaller game, low-brass shells are a suitable choice. Their lower recoil and smaller shot sizes make them comfortable and effective for these purposes. They are also typically less expensive than high-brass shells, making them a cost-effective option for regular use.

However, remember that the height of the brass is not always indicative of the shell's power. It's essential to pay attention to the shell's specifications to ensure it matches the desired application. Experimentation and practice are key in finding the most suitable

shell for each user's individual needs.

Whether high-brass or low-brass, the choice of shotgun shell can significantly influence the shooting experience. Understanding the differences between these two types of shells, and how they affect performance, can help in making an informed decision. While the brass height might initially seem like a minor detail, its implications on the shell's functionality and performance are substantial. Remember to always consider your specific requirements and preferences, and don't be afraid to experiment with different shells to find the perfect one for your needs.

— Courtesy *Shotgun Life Magazine*
shotgunlife.com

Wyoming and Climate Change study: CO₂ Should Be Celebrated, Not Captured

Claims that carbon dioxide is a pollutant posing an "existential threat" are contradicted by scientific data. Today's levels of CO₂, while representing a recent increase, are significantly lower than they have been during nearly all of Earth's history.

Pre-Industrial Revolution CO₂ levels were approximately 280 parts per million (ppm) and began accelerating in the mid-20th century during the post-World War II economic boom. Current levels are about 420 ppm, a 50% increase during the last 200 years. Though elevated compared to the recent past, modern concentrations of CO₂ are one-sixth of the average over the last 600 million years. Viewed in this geologic context, we are at near-historically low levels of CO₂. Data for Wyoming contradict the 4th National Climate Assessment (NCA4) assertion that "the frequency and intensity of extreme high temperature events are virtually certain to increase."

Our data analysis shows that high daily temperatures peaked during the Dust Bowl years of the 1930s and have been in a 90-year decline. This is confirmed by reviewing the percentage of days that were reported to be hotter than 100°F (37.8°C) by Wyoming temperature stations. There is no discernible increase, and the largest numbers occurred in the first half of the 20th century when CO₂ levels were 70% of recent measurements. There has been, however, a beneficial increase in the minimum nighttime temperatures, which has led to a lengthening of the Wyoming growing season. Since the late 1800s, these nighttime temperatures have increased about 2°F (1.1°C). In summary, the slight increase of about 1.2°F (0.7°C) in the average temperature in the last 120 years is being driven by reductions in extreme cold rather than increases in extreme heat. This research concludes that Wyoming – like the planet – is benefiting from warming that began more than 300 years ago. Efforts to reduce CO₂ emissions are unnecessary and exorbitantly expensive and would make no measurable difference in temperature.

— Courtesy <https://co2coalition.org/publications/wyoming-and-climate-change-co2-should-be-celebrated-not-captured/>

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Life 2.0



"I do like to go to the mountains when it is very rough, to feel the nature scratching you. It's good..."

by Gustav Vermaas

The quail covey explodes in front of Roga's nose, the Wingshooter's equivalent of the firework display at Times Square. We are finally in Texas, the Lone Star State. Texas is known for its dove and Quail populations. Texas' resident mourning dove population is estimated at around 20 million, 10 million white-winged doves and about 3.5 million exotic Eurasian collared doves. In 2020-21, Texas hunters shot nearly 5.9 million doves, and all of this adds to a feathered cash cow believed to generate more than \$450 million annually for the Texas economy.

Texas is, however, a long way from South Dakota - Roga and I must first complete our South Dakota adventure, go to the mountains, and collect a few scratches. Medicine Creek didn't merely provide me with my



first Pheasant; it had yet another adventure in store. Ninety-five days of traveling with a relentless hunter on the fringes of civilization always promise an element of surprise, whether it's Roga flushing a Whitetail deer in the hotel parking lot or the discovery of a Coyote den in the middle of a Toronto public park. The next incident was not a matter of 'if' but 'when'. But here we were, deep within a hunting preserve; what could possibly go wrong?

By the second day, our newfound Texan friends have wholeheartedly embraced the South African pack. We have developed an effective strategy, with the Labradors working the Milo fields and Roga patrolling the nearby grasslands. The Pheasants were under constant pressure and had no escape. Staying in the Milo fields meant facing the team of seven hunters with their close-working Labradors, and darting into the adjacent grasslands would lead to Roga, along with a

two-hunter stopper group, ready to point, flush and retrieve.

Towards the end of the session, Roga, positioned 25 meters ahead, points midway down a Milo field, but it's one of those "maybe" points. We've all been there; it lacks intensity, tail moving, a slight twitch of the ear... It's definitely not a bird. What could it be? The thick Milo cover cunningly concealed the mystery, and Roga leaps forward. We can all hear the distressed bleating of an animal. I rush ahead, the witness to a chaotic scene of wolf and prey

the South Dakota prairies. I have no idea what to expect next. Have we crossed a line with our newfound Texan companions?

"This is %\$@# awesome. You predators from Africa know how to hunt!" Tyler's hearty shout breaks the tension, and we all collapse in the Milo field, laughing with relief. That night, in the Medicine Creek lodge, the story is recounted countless times. As with all war stories, it grows with each retelling, and by the early morning hours, the doe had transformed into a 600kg Moose,

ning area – this is a place we could have happily stayed forever.

Our upland hunt began at the hunting lodge, where we met Bob, our guide, received the safety briefing, glasses, ear protection, shells and rental guns. The Dakota winds were howling as the first cold fronts swept through, creating an ideal day for an extended, thrilling hunt. The Pheasants, crafty and experienced, used their wits to evade the dogs, hunkering down when cornered and then using the wind to escape. Clearly, it's not their first rodeo.



playing out as it has for countless millennia on the prairies. Roga has pounced on a mule deer doe. She is down, and he has clamped his teeth into her upper leg. The 50kg doe is no match, and I knew we were in trouble. The regulations from the hunting training race through my mind: it's not deer hunting season, I have no license... not... no... a hundred "no's." Panic sets in. Oh dear, what do we do?!

In a moment of stupidity, I reach into Roga's mouth to try and free the doe, but Roga changes his grip, and I find myself on the growing collateral damage list. Realizing he has bitten me, Roga releases the doe, and she dashes away with her own war story and a scar to remember. A hushed silence descends upon

and Roga the saviour of mankind.

The following morning, we bid farewell to Medicine Creek and our Texan BFFs. Our next destination – Sutton Bay, the epitome of outdoor recreation for the discerning gentleman. The Sutton Bay Ranch traces its origins back to 1896 when Ed Sutton acquired 1,484 acres from the Chicago Land Company. Over the years, it grew to encompass over 50,000 acres and 25 miles of Missouri River shoreline. Today, Sutton Bay offers 5,000 acres of hunting land, a top-rated golf course, and the finest walleye fishing destination in the country. Lake Oahe stretches over 550 square miles, with 2,250 miles of pristine river bluffs and shoreline. Roga even enjoyed his own private heated kennel with an outdoor run-

By 11:30, our bag limits are met, and we find refuge in the warmth of the hunting lodge, knowing that this was only day one. Our three days at Sutton Bay blurred into a tapestry of exceptional hunting, accompanied by a generous serving of bourbon and mouthwatering cuisine, regularly featuring pheasant, deer, and bison. Late nights are spent in the cigar lounge, where the aroma of fine cigars mingles with the rich flavours of the single malt whiskeys. As all good things must come to an end, it was time to head to our next wingshooting destination – Texas.

They say the shortest path between two points is a straight line, and a mere 1,676 km separate Sutton Bay from Greystone Castle in Texas. However, much like the adventur-



ous spirit of Red Riding Hood, the inner wolf compelled a more scenic route. The 6,210 km journey will take us 35 days via the Badlands, all the way to San Francisco on the West coast and from there to some of the most iconic hiking spots in the US - Yosemite, Zion, Bryce and the Grand Canyon.

Sue, who had completed her stay with our granddaughter in Toronto, flew into Rapid City, near the Badlands, and our pack was once again complete. Five days after leaving Sutton Bay, we arrived in the Black Hills near Deadwood, a town founded in 1876. Deadwood, with its saloon girls, gambling, and plenty of gun-slinging, was where the true Wild West was born.

It was where Wild Bill's luck ran out and where legends like Seth Bullock, Calamity Jane, Poker Alice, Potato Creek Johnny and others etched their names into history. A hundred kilometres away lies the site of the Battle of Little Bighorn, where Colonel Custer had his last stand against Sitting Bull. The late fall season weather was typical, with warm spells during the day and a crisp chill in the air as the sun sets.

Huge was our shock when we opened the door of the hotel in the morning to find our car and the



mountains unexpectedly blanketed in thick layers of snow. We faced three options:

One – Immediately head south to escape the snow;

Two – Seek refuge in a cozy restaurant and spend the day by a roaring fire;

Three – Put our big boots on and

hike the 10 km Black Elk trail to the highest point in Black Hills

There was only one option, and what a hike it turned out to be. The woods were eerily quiet, save for the crushing sound of our boots in the ice. It was easy to imagine the Sioux warriors navigating this hostile terrain many moons ago - the Black

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Hills being a Sioux sacred place.

With our plans to reach Yellowstone now shattered – the roads this far north can remain closed for weeks due to ice – winter has truly arrived, and we had to make our scenic passage towards the South. After a 4,325 km journey spanning 28 days, we finally reach Greystone Castle, near Dallas, Texas.

This 6,000-acre ranch offers an unparalleled array of sporting and hunting activities, coupled with luxurious accommodations and gourmet dining. The activity menu presents options like wingshooting, fishing, clays, and even exotic game hunting. Ever dreamt of shooting a Springbok for \$9,250 (R 175,000)? Well, here is your chance.

Johan, who had hunted with us at Sutton Bay, rejoins the pack, and our afternoon hunt began with a drive to the nearby grasslands in a converted Ford F250. The terrain resembles the “Bosveld” with patches of grassland, a stark contrast to the open prairies of South Dakota.

The guide hunts with a GSP and Cocker Spaniel combo. Roga and I decide to scout the side and first check the lay of this land. A few hundred meters into the walk, the GSP goes birdy and then points – a perfect statue. The spaniel is summoned and works the area in front of the GSP.

Three chukars take flight. Johan's 20-gauge delivers a deadly spread of pellets, and two of the chukars don't

make it to the tree line. The GSP is released from its point, and the retrieve begins. The Spaniel races through the grass, delivering two chukars to hand...impressive. Roga shoots me a look with his yellow eyes, as if to say, “Why am I expected to point, flush and retrieve? Clearly, I'm overworked and underpaid. I also want an assistant.”

Thankfully, there are no labour unions for dogs to negotiate on his behalf. In Texas, quail shooting takes centre stage. The coveys are massive, often featuring 30 or more birds exploding into the sky. Quail hunting demands quick reflexes and decisive target selection – changing your target mid-swing was a surefire recipe for a miss. The hunt concludes that evening with a gourmet dinner in the Castle.

Included is a starter of deep-fried deboned Quail – absolutely exquisite. There's something special about savouring the fruits of your own hunt. As we reflect on the day in the cigar lounge, listening to a local country singer, a quote from Robert Jones comes to mind:

“Each time we kill a bird, we die a little ourselves, and in that death renew our love for what we have killed.

Each time we kill a bird, we pledge our eternal troth to it, as at a wedding altar...

and each time we partake of the flesh of the birds we've killed, we become one with their essence.

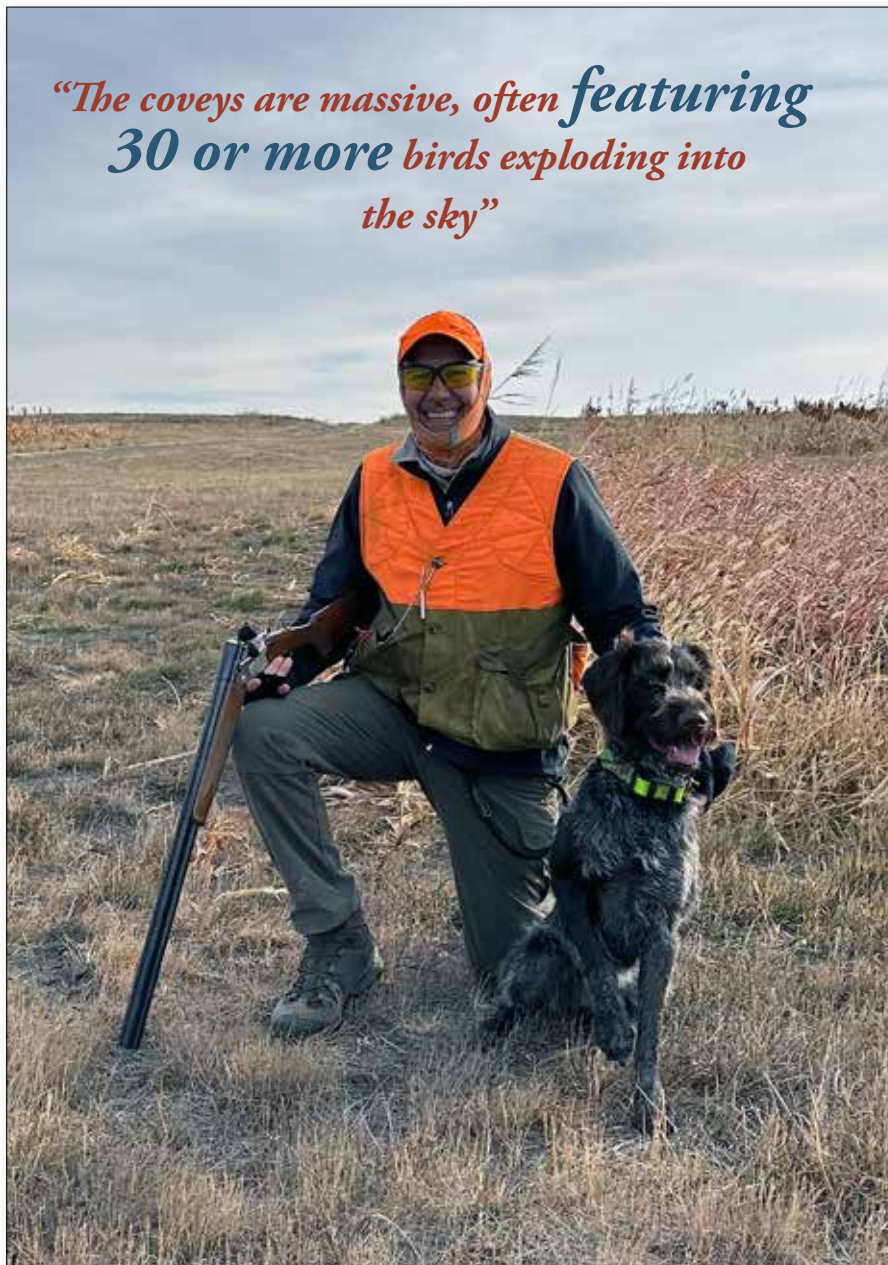
Hunting is incomplete without death. That's why it can never be a mere gallery game”.

Some interesting links:
The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks: gfp.sd.gov
Suttonbay: <https://suttonbay.com>
Greystone Castle: <https://greystone-castle.com/>

A video of the Sutton Bay hunt: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=da8a0V0S54s&t=2s>

A video of the Greystone castle hunt: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BKWDvsvT-o0>

A video of Medicine Creek <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oHTSTlBCCDg>





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LEAD!

An inconvenient truth

I base my life on hard and often inconvenient truths so I will give you the facts based on my experience.

By Arnold Slabbert

I am a qualified nature conservator and have further qualifications in ecology and wildlife crime investigation and other related fields.

I have just on 37 years of experience working in environmental conservation in government institutions and privately. I own my own business and specialise in problem animal control and wildlife/environmental consulting. My interests are falconry, hunting and wildlife rehabilitation, specifically raptors.

I have trained and competed with GSP's for over 20 years in Field trials. I am a fully qualified bird ringer and permitted wildlife rehabilitator and may capture and relocate/rescue even endangered species.

To date (over 37 years), I have had 5,000 plus birds of prey pass through my hands from eagles to little sparrowhawks. My success rate runs on a yearly basis between 60 and 80 percent, with success being released back into the wild.



Forget the lead – tackle the real culprits killing thousands of raptors daily in every country... Agricultural pesticides and rodenticides.

All unreleaseables are euthanased.

I have no affiliation with any organisation and am totally privately funded.

Okay, enough background...

So let us get into the reasons these raptors end up in my care. Between 30 and 50 percent yearly are from poisoning of one kind or another (averages out at 40 percent over the 37 years).

Then about 10 percent are deliberate persecution, 20 percent are juveniles/fledglings, and the rest can be divided into motor vehicles, powerlines, fences, viruses and accidents like flying into glass windows.

Poisoning is the Number One reason, so let us break it down further –

The main form of poisoning is secondary rodenticide, there is no doubt about it, and it occurs right through the raptor spectrum from little spars to secretary birds. Logical, as rodents are a food source for even specialist bird hunters like peregrines.

Then we have agricultural chemicals like organophosphates and others. Here I see mainly fish eagles, which again makes sense as the chemical run-off into rivers and estuaries from agriculture and industry is extensive and not really controlled anymore.

And now we come to the elephant in the room: lead. Yes I have received raptors suffering from lead, but not ingestion. Rather the kind of lead that comes from the muzzle of a firearm – they were shot.

Thirty-seven years and thousands of raptors later and not one suffering from lead poisoning.

Now I know the clever ones and the keyboard warriors will come creeping out of the woodwork and say, but you are not a vet! Agreed, but let me let you in on a secret, and vets will concur, my diagnosis is almost always correct. Immaterial actually, as all my birds are vet checked.

Let's look at some case studies:

Juvenile male Peregrine falcon:

He came in after some pigeon fancier had shot him. Once we x-rayed him we could clearly see a number one pellet resting against his spine.

The Doctor said too risky to remove so let's leave it and see what happens. Three weeks later I rung and released him with pellet in situ.

Five years later said peregrine has the misfortune of colliding with a motor vehicle. The finder contacts me and I take him in for an x-ray. Pellet encapsulated and in situ.

So a 500gram bird lived for five years with a lead pellet in his body.

Black sparrowhawk male:

He came in with concussion so we had him x-rayed. We counted no less than 11 Number 4 pellets in his body. The Vet removed one and then said no reason to do anymore as they have been in there for years. Also about a 500 gram bird.

Let's move on to falconry –



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The Official Courier for SA Wingshooters

I have ten hawks and falcons, which are my personl property.

Aside from them, I have at any given time up to 70 raptors in rehab. All those birds need food which is supplied by? You guessed it... hot lead.

*"So I gave in and
**fed them to
my hawks**
and to this day
still do"*



I shoot thousands of pigeons and doves yearly to feed my birds, my oldest retired hawk is now 16 and she has had thousands of pellet gunned pigeons. Living testimony to lead's (Pb) residual effect? Because believe you me, these PCPs are wicked and lots of lead shrapnel is left in that hawk food.

So, being a conservationist and indoctrinated in lead fear, it took need to overcome my wariness. On wingshooting trips it grieved me to leave the nice shot francolin, partridge necks and heads, when no hawk can resist them. So I gave in and fed them to my hawks and to this day still do. They are just fine!

So let's come back to lead (Pb):

Let me tell you about the people who want lead banned.

They are the same people who ignore the indisputable hard facts about pesticides and poisons, the greatest threat to all wildlife's survival. They would rather tackle small minorities in "unpopular" pursuits and vilify them while covering up for corporates, such as Giant Pharma etc, who, through shell companies support some of them financially.

Some will quite happily endorse

toxic products and Greenwash them. They are happy to support projects like dumping tons of toxic rodenticides on islands, spraying noxious chemicals in river courses and poisoning mallard ducks, put-

the bad science and the speculation that goes into all of this.

That there are lead poisoned birds is no doubt, but are hunters solely to blame or is it environmental pollution?



Various raptors poisoned by agricultural and pesticide chemicals

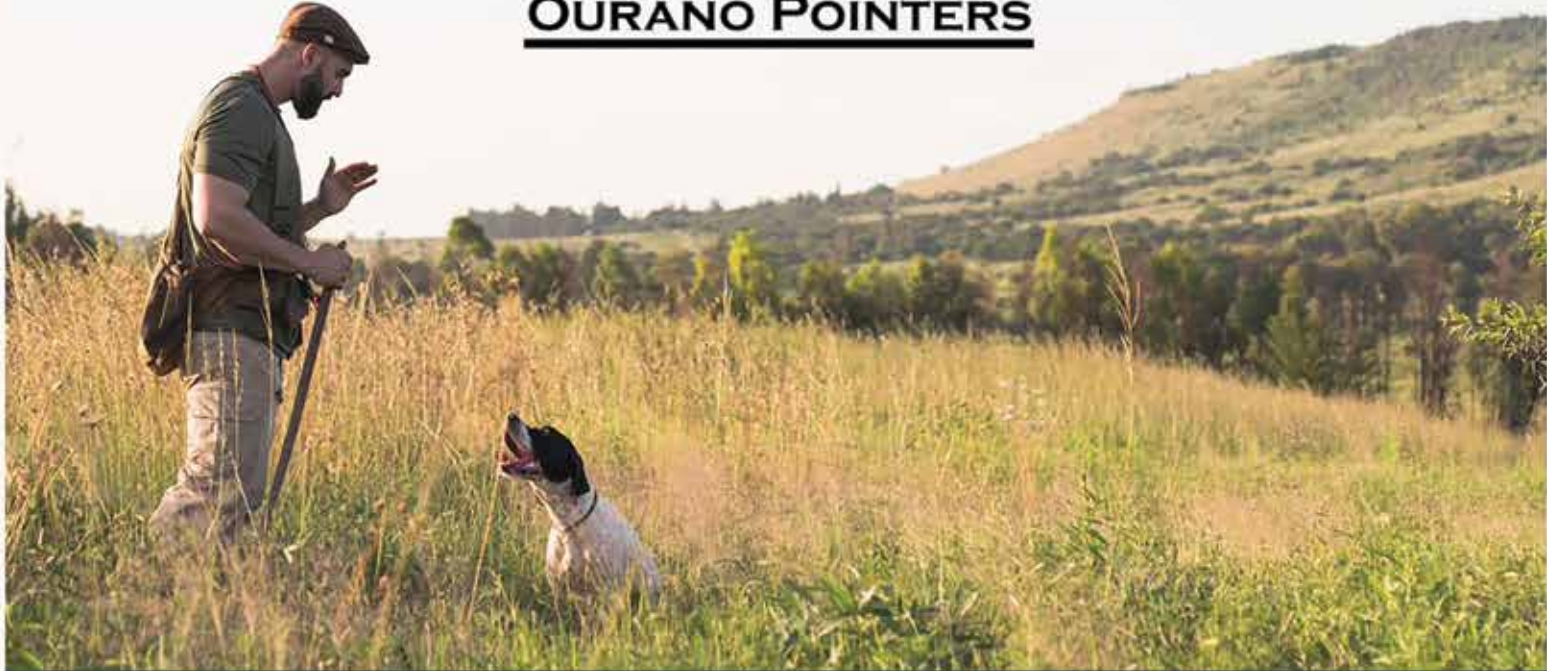
ting whole ecosystems at risk.

And for a lot of them it's a cause, to give them prestige and reason to sit in endless meetings, and with that of course comes financial reward.

We could go on *ad nauseam* into

Do your research and make an informed decision! My very informed decision backed by hard facts says remove the beam from your own eye before you try to take the splinter out of mine!





- OURANO PREMIER GUN DOG TRAINING -

The vital few months just before the rigorous hunting season commences are of paramount importance in ensuring your trusty companion is dialled in on birds, conditioned, and sharp and ready for the approaching hunting season. I, Chris, embark on exposure trips from February all the way until May, ensuring dogs are exposed to a multitude of environments, habitats and most importantly, game birds. These trips are by far proving most popular with our growing list of clients and friends.

To avoid disappointments, please get in touch soonest to ensure your dogs booking confirmation.



ALWAYS CHASING THE HORIZON



THE

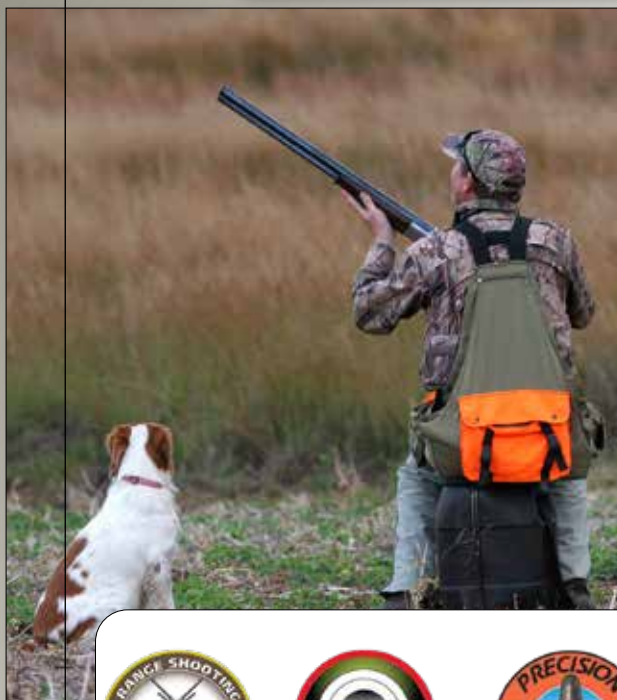
2024



Hunting & Sport Shooting CALENDAR



Thousands of possible gamebird, waterfowl, plains game and sport target shooting days arranged at venues and ranges countrywide, as well as internationally... just for you – the members! Book now and enjoy the season!



Members may not hijack shooting rights for themselves or their syndicates on any of the properties being advertised through SA Wingshooters – thereby effectively blocking other members. That's unsportsmanlike behaviour.

WINGSHOOTING (BIRD HUNTING)

Gauteng:

When new pigeon, upland & waterfowl shoots become available throughout the year – members are notified via e-mail newsletter of new venues.

IMPORTANT:

ALL PIGEON SHOOT VENUES AND DATES ARE SENT OUT DIRECTLY TO MEMBERS VIA EMAIL.

Please note – below each venue & shoot description, the available dates will be listed without the repeat of the venue explanation.

EXCLUSIVE INVITATION

Advanced Tactical Handgun Course Timbavati 20 – 24 June 2024

Full course, meals, tent accommodation, 4 nights.
Exclusive to members! Small team – limited space
Contact the office for full info



North West:

29 May

RUSTENBURG MID-WEEK DAY

Wednesday Shoot:

OFFICIAL SHOOT –

Upland/Walk-up Shoot – Rustenburg, North West.
Co-hosted by André van der Westhuizen

Book with André on this day shoot (option to sleep over). R2350 p/p/d (R3150 including sleep over). Fully catered all inclusive – just bring your gun and ammo. 6 Guns minimum and maximum. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

12 June

RUSTENBURG MID-WEEK DAY

Wednesday Shoot:

OFFICIAL SHOOT –

Upland/Walk-up Shoot – Rustenburg, North West.
Co-hosted by André van der Westhuizen

Book with André on this day shoot (option to sleep over). R2350 p/p/d (R3150 including sleep over). Fully catered all inclusive – just bring your gun and ammo. 6 Guns minimum and maximum. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

17 July

RUSTENBURG MID-WEEK DAY

Wednesday Shoot:

OFFICIAL SHOOT –

Upland/Walk-up Shoot – Rustenburg, North West.
Co-hosted by André van der Westhuizen

Book with André on this day shoot (option to sleep over). R2350 p/p/d (R3150 including sleep over). Fully catered all inclusive – just bring your gun and ammo. 6 Guns minimum and maximum. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

14 August

RUSTENBURG MID-WEEK DAY

Wednesday Shoot:

OFFICIAL SHOOT –

Upland/Walk-up Shoot – Rustenburg, North West.
Co-hosted by André van der Westhuizen

Book with André on this day shoot (option to sleep over). R2350 p/p/d (R3150 including sleep over). Fully

catered all inclusive – just bring your gun and ammo. 6 Guns minimum and maximum. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

18 September

RUSTENBURG MID-WEEK DAY

Wednesday Shoot:

OFFICIAL SHOOT –

Upland/Walk-up Shoot – Rustenburg, North West.
Co-hosted by SA Wingshooters

Book with André on this day shoot (option to sleep over). R2350 p/p/d (R3150 including sleep over). Fully catered all inclusive – just bring your gun and ammo. 6 Guns minimum and maximum. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

23 to 25 September

RUSTENBURG HOLIDAY 2 day

Shoot 6 x hunting session:

OFFICIAL SHOOT –

Upland/Walk-up Shoot – Rustenburg, North West.
Co-hosted by SA Wingshooters

Book with André on this 6 session shoot. Monday 23rd 14H00 to Wednesday 09H00. R5500. p/p. Fully catered all inclusive – just bring your gun and ammo. 6 Guns minimum and maximum. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Limpopo:

WARMBAD/BELA BELA:

Tuli Safaris Upland/Walk-up Day Shoot – Springbok flats – Limpopo. Inspected Venue.

This is a day shoot and no accommodation available. The farms are around Bela-Bela (Warmbad). Bring your own lunch and bird dogs for best results. Various farms. Cost is R1100 per gun, unguided. Min. 4 guns, Max. 6 guns. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

Shoot dates available:

1 June;

15 June;

29 June;

13 July;

17 July.

Continued overleaf...

THE 2024 SHOOT CALENDAR – for members only

Limpopo continued... WINGSHOOTING (BIRD HUNTING)

13 July

Laerskool Tuinplaas Guinea-fowl Shoot – Limpopo

Upland community day shoot.
To book contact: Lorette van der Merwe, or Tersia Giannacopoulos
Tel: 014 792 0820/ email: laerskooltuinplaas01@gmail.com

15 June

The Springbok Flats Farmers Association 27th Annual Shoot – Settlers district

Upland community shoot. R1300.- per gun. To book please contact: Estelle Paul: 079 5166 269 or email: svbv@senco.co.za

1 June

Tuinplaas Boerevereniging Shoot

Upland community shoot. 10% Discount to SA Wingshooters members. To book please contact: lstuinplaas@telkomsa.com or Altus Joubert: 082 551 5761 altus@jubaweni.co.za

DENDRON:

5 to 7 July

Dendron Community Shoot, Limpopo. Their 25th annual shoot. A great bushveld upland bird shoot. Call Cilanie du Toit: 083 737 8548 or email: tarentaaljagdendron@gmail.com

27 July

Laerskool Warmbad Community Shoot – Warmbad, Limpopo

A well organised community shoot to the benefit of the school. Cost is R1200 per gun (SA Wingshooters members get 10% discount). To book please call: Helena Grobler: 082 550 2472 or email: lsw.birdshoot@gmail.com

12 to 14 July

Roedtan Opvoedkundige Forum Shoot – Roedtan

Community shoot to the benefit of the school. To book call Santie Smit: 082 944 9309.

SETTLERS:

Beulah Shoot – Upland birds, Waterfowl & Pigeons

Situated on the Springbok Flats in the Limpopo province. Complete wingshooting experience. The open grasslands is ideal to train and enjoy your hunting dogs. 10% Discount to SA Wingshooters members. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

SETTLERS:

27 & 28 July

St. Hubert Hunting Event

All SA wingshooters members are invited to the South African Field Trial Club (SAFTC). This is a field hunting event for you and your dog/s. Please email for more info: secretary@saftc.co.za

OHRIGSTAD/LYDENBURG AREA:

Guinea-fowl and Francolin shoots

6 to 8 guns. Self-guided venue. Choose your own dates. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

SETTLERS / BELA-BELA

Guided bird hunting on offer – Upland birds and Pigeons

Guineafowl and pigeons available during the open season. Guided hunts, own bird dogs welcome. For booking info and more information please contact SA Wingshooters office.

GROOTFONTEIN SHOOT:

Inspected Venue

Warmbad (Bela-Bela), Limpopo Guinea-fowl shoots

Great upland walk-up and driven day shoots. Bring your own lunch/braai/ soft drinks.

Own behaved dogs welcome. R1400 per gun only for this superbly guided shoot. Only R700 for Students & Scholars.

Dates:

4 May

1 June

3 August

Call SA Wingshooters for info.

Free State:

14 July

WINDHEUWEL INTERNATIONAL SHOOT

Gamebird Shoot – Petrus Steyn, Free State

Superb 5-star Guinea-fowl shoot hosted by owner Peter Wales. Call SA Wingshooters for more info.

25 July

JIMMY WALES INTERNATIONAL SHOOT

Gamebird Shoot – Petrus Steyn, Free State

Superb 5-star Guinea-fowl shoot hosted by owner Peter Wales. Call SA Wingshooters for more info.

TWEELING

Upland Shoot – Tweeling, Free State. Weekend shoots

Guinea-fowl, francolin & partridge on 350 ha. Farmhouse accommodation. Can accommodate 4 guns. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

Weekend Shoots available:

Arrange your own weekend in the hunting season. All weekends still available. 18 weekends to choose from.

STEYNSRUS:

OFFICIAL SHOOT – Inspected Venue

Vals River Shoot – Steynsrus, Free State

Mixed bag along the Vals river. Shoot waterfowl & gamebirds on the river. Self-catering. Accommodation on the river bank. Day shoots also available. Call SA Wingshooters for info

Weekend Shoots available:

Choose your own weekends in season: 15 May to 15 Sept.

ZASTRON:

Waterfowl/Mixed bag Shoot – Zastron, Free State. Weekend shoots

Waterfowl (geese, duck, etc) and Guinea-fowl. Accommodation available. Max. 6 guns.

Members may not hijack shooting rights for themselves or their syndicates on any of the properties being advertised through SA Wingshooters – thereby effectively blocking other members. That's unsportsmanlike behaviour.

Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Weekend Shoots available:
Arrange your own weekend in the hunting season. All weekends still available. 16 weekends to choose from.

VREDEFORT

Inspected Venue

Witklip Upland Shoot, Vredefort, Free State. Weekend shoots
Game birds, mostly Francolin. Shoot hosted and organised by the farmer and his wife, and includes lunch. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

Weekend Shoots available:
Choose your own weekends in season: 15 May to 15 Sept.

VILJOENSKROON – Day shoots

Inspected Venue

Grassmere Wingshooting – Viljoenskroon, Free State
Francolin walk-up shooting over pointing dogs (extra cost). Own dogs welcome and up to 6 guns. This is a day shoot only. Arrange your own accommodation in the area. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Weekend Shoots available:
Call for available dates.

VREDE

Inspected Venue

Mooibrak Shoot – Free State
Upland & Waterfowl shooting. Clean and nice accommodation. Limited bird numbers. R1200 for the weekend per person, self catering (2 nights accommodation). Call SA Wingshooters for info.

Weekend Shoot dates:
Choose your own weekends

VREDE

Little Long Creek Shoot – Free State – Inspected Venue
Greywing, swainsons, water-fowl & guineas. Walkup and dogs essential. Arrive Thursday and hunt Friday and Saturday and depart Sunday. Quality self catering lodge. R3000 per person for the weekend, self-catering. Excludes firewood. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

Weekend Shoots available:
Choose your own weekends from 1 June to 15 Sept.

PARYS

OFFICIAL SHOOT – Inspected Venue

Grootfontein Shoot, Parys, Free State. Weekend day shoots
Good size farm for day hunting. Swainson's, Guinea-fowl, Orange River Partridge. Saturdays only. 4 guns maximum. R600 per person. Bring your own lunch. Own dogs needed – sheep farm, so make sure your dog is under control!

Choose your own weekends in season: 15 May to 15 Sept.

BRONNIE BIRD HUNT HOËRSKOOL HEILBRON

23 to 25 August

Upland Community shoot
A well organised community shoot to the benefit of the school. R1600. Various accommodation options on farms and p/p. For complete info brochure and booking please contact Louise Snyman: 082 965 4964. Email: louise@snymanrek.co.za

HEILBRON

Mixed bag birds – Free State

Several thousand hectares. Privately owned & exclusive bird shooting venue. Upland birds - Guinea-fowl & waterfowl. For booking info, please contact SA Wingshooters office.

WINBURG

Inspected Venue

Upland birds – Jasper Shoot, Winburg, Free State

Mostly upland game birds on a beautiful Winburg venue. Accommodation on farm available. Self-catering. Well trained dogs welcome. Call SA Wingshooters for info on how to book.

PARYS / VREDEFORT / MAFIKENG / MAKWASSIE

Guided with good pointer bird dogs

offers mixed bag, day hunts across May to August, and certain weekends in August can be accommodated in the following areas: Parys/Vredefort, Mafikeng, Makwassie. Call SA Wingshooters for more info.

KROONSTAD

Inspected Venue

Rawhide Shoot, Free State
Professionally guided upland and waterfowl bird shooting on various farms. Catering/lunch also offered on day shoots. Call SA Wingshooters for more info.



NEW VENUES ARE ADDED AS WE ARRANGE THEM THROUGH THE SEASON

Members will be notified via email eNewsletter, our National WhatsApp and social media.

New venues

We are always looking for new venues in all provinces! If you have venues, please call us and we can discuss custodian shoots. If you have a venue, the venue will remain yours, and all shooting activity will be confirmed and allowed though you as the custodian. So rest assured that you will not lose the venue.

Mpumalanga

MIDDELBURG

Inspected Venue – Dates to be confirmed

Waterfowl Shoot – Middelburg, Mpumalanga – Dubula Shoot

Good waterfowl and Upland game bird venue. Lodge accommodation available. Own dogs welcome! Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Continued overleaf...

THE 2024 SHOOT CALENDAR – for members only

Mpumalanga continued... **WINGSHOOTING (BIRD HUNTING)**

DELMAS – to – KENDAL

Official Shoot –

Inspected Venues

Upland and waterfowl shoots day shoots

These upland shoots (and waterfowl when available) are guided shoots on various farms around Delmas-Kendal areas. R1300 per gun. 4 to 6 guns. Full lunch, water and cold drinks provided. Own dogs welcome! Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Official Shoot Dates –

Wednesday 3 July

Wednesday 31 July

Kendal venue



VOLKSRUST

Inspected Venue

Mpumalanga

Four star selected wingshooting for two on a special farm in the Volksrust district. Must have bird dogs. Very pleasant and hospitable farmer. Inspected and accredited landowner. Accommodation available (2 bedrms). Call SA Wingshooters to book

Choose your own weekends in consultation with the venue custodian

AMERSFOORT/ERMELO:

Inspected Venue

Amersfoort Vaalriet Shoot, Mpumalanga.

Weekend shoots only. Waterfowl and land birds. 2- 4 Hunters @ R2800 pppd for guided hunts. Bird dogs welcome. Self-catering. Shared basic accommodation @ R700/day and bass dam available.

Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Arrange your own dates

Northern Cape

HOPETOWN/ORANIA:

Inspected Venue

Gkhui Gkhui Shoot, Northern Cape.

Wingshooting on the Orange River. All birds that are open in their various season dates, plains game hunting and fly-fishing. Excellent lodge accommodation and superb catering. Lodge accommodation for SA Wingshooters R1350 p/p/night. Wingshooting R500 per day unguided to R1000 guided, plus some extras, depending on what you want to hunt and do.

Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Weekend Shoots available:

Arrange your own weekend

HANOVER - KAROO

CONSERVANCY

Northern Cape –

Egyptian Geese hunting in the Karoo (Hanover). Exclusive for members only. Goose shooting available close to Hanover in the Karoo on lucerne pivots. Many accommodation options in lodge and other on the same farm available. Dogs are not required as you will be shooting from blinds and pit blinds in the fields. R800 per night if you stay in the lodge, hunting included.

Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Western Cape

CERES:

Inspected Venue

Waterfowl, Ceres, Western Cape

Waterfowl (Duck and Geese) on a great venue near Op-die-Berg. Good shooting and accommodation hosted by our Western Cape Shoot Captain. Catered. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Weekend Shoots available:

Arrange your own weekend in the hunting season.

RAWSONVILLE:

Inspected Venue

Rawsonville, Western Cape

Waterfowl and Cape Francolin on a great venue near Rawsonville. Good shooting day shoot. Hosted by our Western Cape Shoot Captain. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Shooting available on certain dates.

GOUDA / PICKETBERG AREA:

Inspected Venue

Waterfowl, Western Cape

Good shooting day shoot. Hosted by our Western Cape Shoot Captain. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Shooting available on certain dates.

BREDASDORP:

OFFICIAL Venue

Bredasdorp Walk-up – Bredasdorp, Western Cape

Guineafowl & waterfowl. Accommodation & restaurant on site. Self guided hunting. Call the office to book.

Weekend Shoots available:

Arrange your own weekend in the hunting season.

STRANDVELD

OFFICIAL Venue

Strandveld Waterfowl & Upland birds – Western Cape.

Walk-up shoot close to Elim/Voëlklei. Guineafowl, Spur-wing, Egyptian geese and duck in season only. No accommodation – arrange yourself in the area or ask André at the SA Wingshooters office where to stay. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Arrange your own dates in the hunting season.

TOUWS RIVER:

Exclusive Venue

Souttrivier Shoot – Western Cape.

Walk-up shooting between Touws River and Montagu. Accommodation and camping available. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Weekend Shoots available:

Arrange your own weekend

Members may not hijack shooting rights for themselves or their syndicates on any of the properties being advertised through SA Wingshooters – thereby effectively blocking other members. That's unsportsmanlike behaviour.

HEIDELBERG:

Exclusive Venue

Nonarosa Shoot Waterfowl & Upland birds – Western Cape.

Walk-up shoot close to Heidelberg. Guinea-fowl, Spur-wing, Egyptian geese and duck in season. Accommodation for 6 guns self catering. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Weekend Shoots available:

Arrange your own weekend in the hunting season.

Shoot: Rûens College Shoot

Quarry: Cape Francolin/Guineas

Date: 25 May

Contact person: Marica

kampus@ruenskollege.co.za

Shoot: Suideroord Old Age Home

Quarry: Cape Francolin/Guinea Fowl

Date: 27 July

Contact person: Karin Dickason

Tel: +27 (28) 424 1080

Email: bestuur@suideroord.co.za

Shoot: Caledon Shoot

Quarry: Guinea-fowl/Francolin

Date: 20 July

Contact person: JD van Niekerk

Tel: 076 831 0375

Email: jdvanniekerk6@gmail.com

Shoot: Greyton NG Church

Quarry: Guinea-fowl

Date: 17 August

Contact person: Piet Matthee

Tel: 072 606 1579

Email: pdkmatthee@gmail.com

Greyton NG Kerk Shoot



Eastern Cape

BARKLY EAST – GREYWING –

Hosted by Ourano Pointers

Greywing Partridge dates available:

June 20 -23 –

Greywing Experience – concession to be discussed with group

June 27 - 30 –

Greywing Experience – concession to be discussed with group

July 11 - 14 –

Greywing Experience – concession to be discussed with group

July 18 - 21 –

Greywing Experience – concession to be discussed with group

Call SA Wingshooters for more info.

LADY GREY AREA:

Memo Shoot – Lady Grey, Eastern Cape



Memo, Lady Grey venue

Grey-wing, Red-wing & Orange river partridge, as well as Swainson's, Guinea-fowl, Duck and Geese. Basic, self-catering accommodation on farm for 8 people. Shooting fee is R600 pp per day and includes accommodation. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Weekend Shoots available:

You can select your own dates

RHODES:

Grey-wing Partridge – Eastern Cape

Professionally guided Grey-wing

hunting, as well as Plains game. Accommodation and food/meals can be arranged. Call SA Wingshooters for booking info.

Choose your own shoot dates within the various bird seasons.

EAST LONDON:

Douglasvale Shoot – Eastern Cape

Lodge facilities at R500p/p/n self catering this includes cleaning. Braai facilities available and both units have full self catering appliances, linen and abolutions. Various plains game – Impala, Bushbuck, Nyala, Warthig, Bushpig etc. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

STUTTERHEIM:

Eastern Cape

Waterfowl, upland game birds, rock pigeons, etc. Self-catering or catered. Accommodation, can sleep 8-10 people. Braai area. Gamebirds and plains game available. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

DORDRECHT:

Eastern Cape

Superb Greywing and other bird shooting with professional guides and FT Champion bird dogs! A five star shoot and venue for sure! Call SA Wingshooters for info.

KwaZulu-Natal

KOKSTAD:

Upland and waterfowl

Upland gamebirds, Waterfowl and Pigeons available during the open season. Can arrange accommodation. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

Week & weekend Shoots

available: Select your own dates

WINTERTON:

Upland and Waterfowl

Professionally guided wingshooting on various farms. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

Continued on next page...

THE 2024 SHOOT CALENDAR – for members only

INTERNATIONAL HUNTING & CLAY TARGET SHOOTING

International Wingshooting:

ARGENTINA – South America **Duck, Dove, Pigeon, Perdiz and mixed bag hunts**

Tailor made hunting and personalised service – every shooting trip is individually designed around each client. We specialise in custom itineraries based on your group's wishes and budget. Luxury lodges and great shooting. Call SA Wingshooters for booking info.

TEXAS, USA:

Waterfowl hunting

This stretch of Texas, commonly referred to as the Coastal Bend region, is home to incredible numbers of ducks and geese. However, it's the large populations of migrating Gadwall, Widgeon, Pintail, Canvasback, Redhead and Teal that keep our duck hunting customers coming back year after year. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

CANADA, Saskatchewan:

Waterfowl hunting

The area is perfect for waterfowl hunting. We offer spectacular goose and duck hunting. Each year the sky fills with migrating waterfowl eager to replenish their energy stores for their flight south – and they pile in! As the premier waterfowl outfitters, we pride ourselves in offering the absolute best goose and duck hunting in Canada. The sheer numbers of ducks and geese that converge here is truly something to witness. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

TEXAS, USA:

Upland and other

From mid-September through March, Upland Bird Hunting is the main attraction at Joshua Creek Ranch. Texas bobwhite quail are found in great numbers on the ranch as are pheasant and chukar. Starting in December each year, hunters can

also harvest Hungarian partridge. Traditional walk-up hunting with guides and dogs is the most popular style of hunting at Joshua Creek Ranch. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

SOUTH DAKOTA, USA:

Discover why our pheasant hunting lodge earned two Beretta Tridents. As the only lodge in the state who offers our guests unlimited pheasants (up to the state limit) with every package, it won't take long to see why we earned the title of the 2017 Sporting Classics Lodge of the Year. Family-owned and operated, they provide all-inclusive packages that make pheasant hunting, fishing and waterfowl hunting especially rewarding. Call SA Wingshooters for booking info.

SPAIN:

Bespoke partridge and wild partridge shooting. The setting of the estate is incomparable for partridge shooting. This estate provides some of the most challenging partridges in Spain.



UNITED KINGDOM:

Pheasant, Grouse, Snipe, Woodcock, Wildfowl and Duck –

The 'GunsOnPegs' provides access to shoots for guns that are looking for shooting. Guns can get access to a wealth of opportunities that previously were only available by word of mouth. Those last minute opportunities no longer have to be given away! GunsOnPegs has now become the largest shoot finder service in the UK. Visit their website www.gunsonpegs.com and choose your next UK bird shoot.

Clay Target Shooting:

Saturday 23 November – Hippo Creek Shooting Centre. **SA WINGSHOOTERS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CLAY TARGET SHOOT.**

Our annual year-end clay target shoot – 29th anniversary shoot!

We will host our annual Christmas clay target shooting, consisting of 50



fun clay targets, a lunch and prizes for members. Space is limited. Call Anél at the office to book!

STERKFORTEIN SHOOTING ACADEMY – Olifantsfontein, GP **Club access to SA Wingshooters members only –**

The club is open from 09:00 till 16:00 Wednesday to Sunday. SA Wingshooter members have access to the club. Call SA Wingshooters for more info.

CLAY TARGET SHOOTING COUNTRY-WIDE

Call the office for info on a club near you.

Throughout the year **CLAY SHOOTING COACHING**

SA Wingshooters has experienced shotgun shooting training coaches. If you are new to shotgun shooting or want to improve your shotgun shooting ability. We'll set up a coaching session for you. We also send out pre-arranged coaching days/dates via our email newsletter throughout the year. Call SA Wingshooters.

THE 2024 SHOOT CALENDAR – for members only

SPORT SHOOTING – TARGET & STEEL

4-Gun & 3-Gun (Handgun, SLR Rifle, Bolt, SG) Shooting:

MULTI-GUN RIFLE, SHOTGUN & HANDGUN MATCHES

At our LRSC shooting facility –

We offer 4-gun, 3-gun and 2-gun combined rifle and handgun shooting events. Multi-stage events include handgun shooting from 10m to 100m and transition rifle shooting up to 1200m. This division is for semi-auto rifles, shotguns and handguns. Call SA Wingshooters for more info.



PSP Handgun & Rifle Shooting:

THE PSP Target shooting Competition for rifles & handguns is open to members

**of the PSP. Send your targets for
entry into this annual competition
to us before 1 October 2024.**

Any handgun shooting course dates, presented by our in-house IDPA Master Class Instructor, will be sent out via our official eNewsletters. All welcome at these training days. Download the PSP rifle and/or handgun targets from our website: <http://www.wingshooters.org.za/ALL-DOWNLOADS/>. Then simply post or scan and email your shot targets to us. Your best target (score) of the year will be automatically entered into the competition. Call the office to join the PSP.



LRSC – Long Range Shooting Club:



The Long Range Shooting Club (LRSC) is part of SA Wingshooters.

Come and join us at our shooting days on various ranges, where we host long range shoots, etc. Our ranges are set up and the distances range from 100m metres to 1200m. The range is currently available 7 days a week by prior booking.

This facility is not a public shooting facility and is available on invitation only. Should you be interested, visit the site below or call the office. www.longrangeclub.com
Events and Matches hosted for members



during the year is sent out on email. Long range shooting is challenging but fun. There is also an 'open' division, so you can compete with your hunting rifle in any calibre, even though it is not the preferred setup for long distance shooting.



LRSC – LONG RANGE SHOOTING CLUB MATCH EVENT DATES 2024:

The 2024 LRSC (Long Range Shooting Club), TPS 4-gun, 3-gun and 2-gun, .22PSBC and handgun Official Match event dates for 2024 are as follows:

10 February:	LRSC Rifle Training
16 March:	LRSC Rifle match 1
20 April:	LRSC Rifle match 2
18 May:	LRSC Rifle match 3
8 June:	LRSC Rifle match 4
6 July:	LRSC Rifle match 5
17 August:	Annual .22PSBC Small-bore match.
14 September:	TPS 4-gun, 3-Gun and 2-Gun multi-gun Match.
12 October:	TPS 4-gun, 3-Gun and 2-Gun multi-gun Match.
9 November:	Year-end Fun Shoot and medal/certificate ceremony. Not counted towards LRSC Match points.

Participants may enter multiple calibre division at most events, with a maximum of three calibre divisions per match, as per the LRSC calibre divisions.

We invite new members to come and participate in these events, as our focus is on having fun and helping new members at all events.

As always, all event invitations/notifications will be emailed to members in advance, in order to facilitate bookings for events. The TPS and .22PSBC event points do not count towards annual LRSC Rifle match points.



Continued on next page...

THE 2024 SHOOT CALENDAR – for members only

PLAINS GAME HUNTING

Plains Game Hunting:

ADANSONIA ECO LODGE –

Musina, Limpopo – Member owned

Plan on a hunting trip, no need to search further. Phone us for an unforgettable time. We have a fully equipped lodge with a one in a



million chef. Daily serviced rooms. Guides to accompany you on hunting & skinning. Cold rooms available. For the game prices contact us. Member owned. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

EASTERN CAPE – Jansenville/

Somerset East – Member owned **Donkerkloof Farm**

Plains game hunting in the beautiful Eastern Cape. Member owned. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

Otterskloof – Phillipolis, Free State

A variety of plains game (including Buffalo) at a fantastic Game Hunting Reserve with luxury accommodation. Trophy and biltong hunting available. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

Ulunu Safaris –

Alldays Inspected Venue.

The Farm is 7,200 hectares and situated near Alldays, Limpopo Province (close to the Botswana border). Lodge & farmhouse accommodation. Rifle and bow hunting is offered. Hard hunting! Call SA Wingshooters for info.

IVY SAFARIS, MUNNIK/TZANEEN

– Member owned **Inspected Venue**
Great rifle hunting, bowhunting and

wingshooting available. Various lodge accommodation to choose from, fine food and professional service. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

HOPETOWN/ORANIA

Inspected Venue

Gkhui Gkhui Shoot, **Northern Cape.**

– Member owned
Plains game hunting. Excellent lodge accommodation and superb catering. Lodge accommodation. SA Wingshooters receive a discount. Prices vary depending on what you want to hunt and do. Member owned. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

AL THANDIWE, MOKOPANE

Limpopo – Member owned

An easy two hour drive from Pretoria just off the N1 north. This is a Malaria Free Zone the ranch falls in the Mokopane district of the Waterberg, Limpopo. Various accommodation options from luxury to tented camp and many species available. Many activities for the family. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

STS-Meletse Hunting

Askham, Northern Cape

The hunting experience on STS-Meletse consists first and foremost of hunting free animals in their natural African habitat. Whether per vehicle or on foot, our savannah delivers unprecedented access to an authentic hunting adventure. Call SA Wingshooters for more info.

THABAZIMBI

Limpopo.

Rifle hunting & bowhunting. Various species and comfortable accommodation, self-catering. Minimum 3 hunters for 3 days. Call SA Wingshooters for more info.

DWAALBOOM

Limpopo. – Member recommended **Retief Rieker Hunting Safaris.**

Wildebeest, Impala, Kudu. Day fee R400 p/p per day. PH fee R1500 p/d per group. Hunting camp sleeps max 6. Call Retief: 071 110 8319.

ROTAVI – BELA-BELA/ROOIBERG

Inspected Venue. – Member owned

Rotavi is a 3400-hectare private game reserve located 65km west of Bela-Bela in the Limpopo Province, South Africa. Rotavi, which shares a 7km border with the renowned Mabula Game Reserve, has an abundance of game including: Buffalo, Giraffe, Eland, Kudu, Blue Wildebeest, Red Hartebeest, Zebra, Waterbuck, Gemsbok, Nyala, Blesbok, Impala, Mountain Reedbuck, Warthog, Bushpig, Duiker, Steenbok, and a huge variety of birds and smaller animals. Call SA Wingshooters for more info.



PALMIETFONTEIN Game Farm –

Bloemhof, NW Inspected Venue.

– Member owned

Plains game hunting, many species to choose from. Luxurious airconditioned accommodation for up to 15 people, serviced daily. Cold room and slaughtering facilities. Member owned. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

THABAZIMBI

Limpopo. Inspected Venue.

4-Star tourism graded

Buffelspan offers 8 luxurious chalets, all with aircon, en-suite bathrooms, towels, hand wash & shampoo, fridge and coffee/tea station. The lodge consists of a big lapa, WiFi, DSTV, Snooker table, etc. Game drives (day end night) are included with our Land Cruiser Game Viewer. We have 5 luxurious bush hides all equipped with mattresses and toilets which cater for both rifle and bow hunters. Call SA Wingshooters for more info.

THE 2024 SHOOT CALENDAR – for members only

PIGEON & DOVE HUNTING

All Provinces:



Singita, Deneysville and Witkoppies Pigeon/Dove venues

All pigeon and dove shooting venues are sent to members via email and other online media. We have too many venues to list and new venues are added constantly.

We have many pigeon and dove shooting venues, in many provinces. Most of these venues are exclusive to SA Wingshooters members.

Our venues and shoots are for members only, as we work hard to acquire them, and believe that your contribution to the association – monetary and otherwise – is appreciated. Therefore, we do not want to spend your time and membership subscription money, to help people who are not members. If you want to participate, then join us! You receive many benefits and it is the right thing to do anyway.

Some of the venues that are open most of the year include, but are not limited to:

The Singita shoot venue, GP

Elandsfontein venue, GP

NW Wingshooting venue, NW

Somerset venue, FS

Rooikoppies venue, MP

Erdzak venue, MP

Deneysville, FS

Sasolburg venue, FS

Goedehoop venue, FS

Concordia venue, MP

Witklip venue, FS

Uitkoms venue, FS

Vlakfontein venue, GP

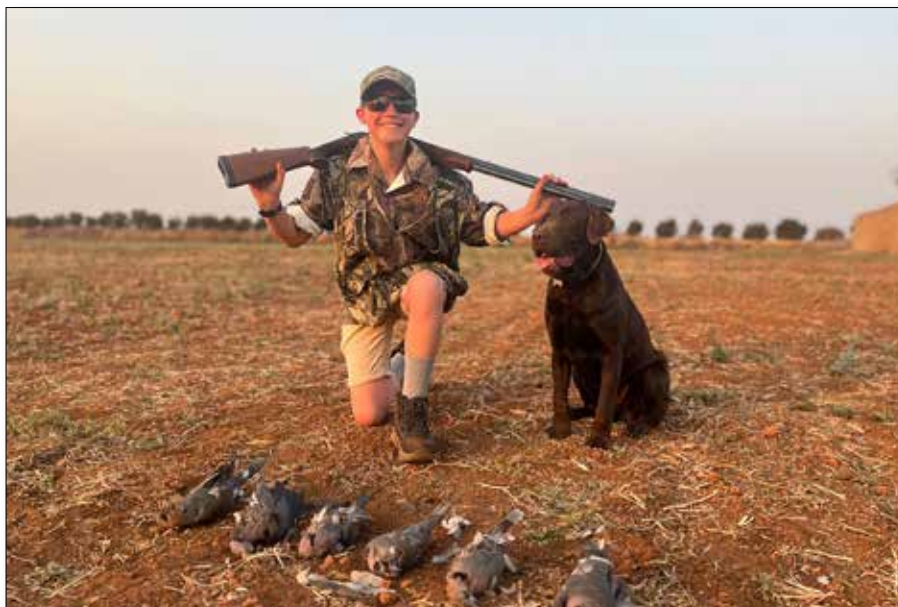
Lillydale venue, NC

Merinovlakte venue, Lim

Renosterfontein venue, GP

Geelong venue, FS

There are many more venues on our venue database. Call SA Wingshooters to enquire about any venue countrywide.



Hunting & Performance Testing – the current status of the Deutsch Drahthaar in South Africa

It is a hot and dry June afternoon in the Limpopo Bushveld, there is hardly a breeze to relieve the dogs and handlers from the sun's scorching rays as they crowd under the shade of the Acacia trees. Only enthusiasm and dedication are keeping this group of Versatile Gundog enthusiasts going, as dogs are put through their paces during a long weekend seminar in preparation for the 2024 Gundog Hunting Tests.



By Matthew Berry

Photos by
Brendan Cremer

In 2023, the Working Deutsch Drahthaar Club had a group of judges and Drahthaar specialists out from Germany for the second year running, assessing dogs and educating club members on the principles and training procedures pertaining to the higher-level hunting tests.

There was a secondary reason for this visit: take back information regarding South Africa's unique and varied game birds, waterfowl and game, as well as the hunting terrain, hunting conditions, hunting seasons, conservation and hunting laws.

This is an initiative between the Working Deutsch Drahthaar Club



Member Barrie Greenwood-Selby and his Drahtaar "Fallon"

and the Deutsch Drahtaar World Organisation, the Verein Deutsch Drahtaar and the JGHV, based on a privileged mentorship program which allows us to develop breeding standards and hunting tests in SA for the DD and other Versatile Hunting Dogs for South Africa, in accordance with international standards.

The WDDC developed the Gundog Hunting Tests with KUSA under Schedule 5C5 in 2020 with the blessing and assistance of the JGHV and the Verein Deutsch Drahtaar. It is important to remember that these organisations have been testing dogs since 1899 and 1902 respectively, and have collected all information

regarding health and performance tests so that breeders and hunters can make informed decisions regarding the next stud or hunting dog they wish to acquire. Gratefully we can piggyback on this wealth of information and draw future breeding stock from the fold.

Developing and implementing the "new tests" was not an easy task as tests were already on offer within KUSA to handlers and breeders of Versatile Hunting Dogs, so the WDDC needed to justify the "why and the what".

The Hunt, Point and Retrieve Trials (KUSA schedule 5C3) is a fantastic test of dog and handlers' ability

for assessing a top-class hunting dog by process of elimination with only the top handlers and dogs surviving the day. Unfortunately, this did not offer the WDDC a way of testing all breeding stock equally within the club against an objective standard, where evaluations across a broad base of innate and trainable behaviours could be made. The aim of the testing system is to test a high percentage of all the dogs bred within a 2-year cycle so that as much information can be made available for future reference.

We also considered the KUSA Natural Ability Test as a solution, and whilst this test has stood fast for around 30 years as the minimum standard for German Shorthaired Pointers and other breeds in South Africa, with hundreds if not thousands of dogs being evaluated, the fact is that NAT did not meet our criteria as it has very little search work in the field and utilised domestic birds in traps and dummies for retrieves.

The WDDC needed a testing system that evaluated a dog for all potential hunting situations. A system that gives the average rough shooter a better all-round dog in the field.

We reconsidered the JGHV tests and settled on adopting the system with a South African twist, which, over time, will become our own minimum standard for breeding DDs in SA.

This test is multi focused, assessing working ability as well as conformation and character, which are

recorded for all to see. Regarding hunting ability, the SA-HZP tests both natural abilities as well as some trainable abilities.

The SA-HZP includes a 20-minute search/hunt in the field, with a steady point on wild game bird(s) in a natural environment, looking for the dog's ability to cover ground effectively and use his nose efficiently.

The retrieve where cold game is used is tested firstly on land, with a single command game bird drag of 200m delivered to hand, and the same again with a rabbit drag at 300m. This gives a very clear indication of willingness to retrieve as well as ability to carry a variety of game.

The water work involves a stringent gun sensitivity test linked to the retrieve of a duck followed by a blind retrieve into cover, and finalised with an extensive search over a large body of water to prove the dog's absolute love of water and ability to use its nose and search in cover.

Dogs must be able to retrieve anything, and throughout the testing career of a Drahthaar a variety of retrieves are tested, which means the retrieve is powerful, compliant and without hesitation ultimately becoming a genetic component of the breeds DNA.

Since the Gundog Hunting Tests were introduced, the WDDC has identified and qualified not only dogs for potential breeding but also given Hunters a new standard to aim for with their dogs, with a lot more emphasis on "After the Shot" training, giving us reliability in the field and water.

South Africa currently has a few breeders of registered Deutsch Drahthaar. The dogs are registered as German Wirehaired Pointing Dogs with the Kennel Union of Southern Africa making no distinction between DDs and GWP's (unfortunately mostly unregistered with untraceable parentage and on an appendix register) as a breed, due to a decision in 2020 made by KUSA and the FCI to adopt the English version of the dog breed's name, rather than the name from the country of origin, and many breeds within KUSA



had to follow this rather unfortunate decision. Although on paper, the breeding dogs within the WDDC are registered as German Wirehaired Pointing Dogs, we follow the ethos of the Drahthaar World Organisation and the Verein Deutsch Drahthaar, and offer opportunities so that dogs can comply with most of the standards set out by these organisations.

In the age-old tussle of what is

the difference between a GWP and a DD, it comes down to the breeding and testing standards, as well as the uncompromising health tests that must be in place.

Ultimately it amounts to one simple concept... A Deutsch Drahthaar is a German Wirehaired Pointing Dog... but a German Wirehaired Pointing Dog is not a Deutsch Drahthaar.



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Pattern is King...

The other day I was given a few Shooting Times & Country magazines, dating from 1972-76. I had resumed wingshooting in 1973 after a hiatus of quite a few years and it was really enlightening to see what guns were selling for then and reminded me that I bought my first over and under – an Antonio Zoli – that year for R350.00 brand new and in the box. The exchange rate was then just under R2.00 to the British pound and another mid-range Italian O/U (OK, it was a Beretta) was selling for £160, to which the Zoli, at £175, tallied. One Rand since then, due to inflation, is the equivalent of R60.00 today, so its retail price would now be in the region of R21,000 – nothing much changes!

By Charles Duff

The redoubtable Gough Thomas (G.T.Garwood) had a regular column and in the July 1974 edition entitled 'The Image of War' he led off with observations on statistics of casualties compared with ammunition expended. At Salamanca in the Napoleonic wars, there were only 8,000 casualties after the expenditure of 3,500,000 cartridges, a rate of 1 kill per 437 shots, which was pretty typical for those times. In one American civil War skirmish, 80,000 cartridges were fired for a total casualty list of just 25, one kill per 3,200 shots. One can only contrast this with Vietnam where the Americans regularly used up 50,000 rounds of ammunition for a single dead Vietcong. To be fair, huge amounts of this ammunition were expended in un-aimed covering or suppressing fire. But little changes!

GT introduced the French General Journée, who, in the early days of the 20th century, was con-

sidered an expert on matters military, especially with regard to firearms. This worthy said that in the Crimean war the French expended 25,000,000 rounds and did not hit 25,000 men. They figured that a hit rate of 1 in 250 was probably reasonable and of these only 25% were killing shots, 40% of the remainder received serious wounds and 60% were only lightly wounded. Now you may well ask – where are we going with this?

Gough Thomas segues into what we need to do to get the most out of a shotgun, or just to ensure the greatest number of effective hits from round to round. He considered that there were two main approaches to this end – choke and small shot. Choke is not an easy answer, its use demands better than average marksmanship, due to the inferiority of choke patterns when held up against overall spread of the un-choked pattern.

The extra pellets within the 30" circle are proportionately more con-

centrated in the centre of the pattern, thus redoubling the emphasis on marksmanship. Provided we avoid maximum ranges, small shot with its increased pellet counts, offers promise. It is a matter of scoring effective hits and the chances of scoring on the more vulnerable parts of the bird's anatomy are higher. Compare No.4 shot with 170 pellets per ounce (28gm) has 63% or 100 less pellets than No.6 with 270 pellets per ounce. Provided we keep within the reasonable 40 yard (36m) range, the No.6s have more than enough oomph for 3 or 4 to take care of most gamebirds and the odds are well in favour of this happy event occurring.

The Eley Shooters Diary shows that with a high velocity load of No.4 shot the striking energy at 40 yards is 2.85ft/lbs per pellet, while the No.6 shot delivers 1.55ft/lbs which is just over 50% less, but the minimum requirements for a clean kill is for medium sized birds is at least 3 pellets with 0.85ft/lbs indi-



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vidual punch, a total of 2.55ft/lbs; 3 No.6s will deliver a total of 4.65ft/lbs, way more. Large birds require 4 pellets, each of 1.5ft/lbs striking energy, or 6ft/lbs in total, and No.6 have 6.2ft/lbs in total – so both are over the minimum requirement.

*"I have never been
a disciple of the
'heavier the
shot the
better'
mind-set."*



Furthermore, any pellets that go straight through a bird are generally wasted. It is necessary for the pellets to stay inside the bird and dump all their lethal kinetic energy therein. The larger and harder the pellet, the more likely this is to happen, which is one of the reasons that steel shot is not a good idea on game.

In a paper by B.L.Pierce et al, published in 2014, comparing lead and steel shot loads for harvesting Mourning doves in Texas USA, it was stated that an estimated 100 million shots were fired at this bird annually and an estimated one bird was bagged for every 4 to 8 shots taken. So going with a mean of

six per bird, 16 million birds are shot per year. We can then deduce that American hunters are much more efficient than their army. In Pierce's trial, under carefully monitored conditions, 60 plus hunters took 5,094 shots, in 3799 attempts to hit a bird and bagged 1146 with 739 wounded but not picked up.

So the ratio of shots to kill was 4.4, which is not bad at all. Average shot range was 28 to 29 metres. The Mourning dove is similar in size to our Laughing dove and not anywhere near the Rock pigeons class with respect to speed and evasiveness. I will stick my neck out a bit and state that in my opinion, in our mixed dove and pigeon shooting, anyone taking a bird with an average of two shots is really good, 1 in 3 is still not too dusty and our average is also probably about 4 shots per downed bird.

Amongst the conclusions were that the hunters tended to overestimate the range at closer distances and underestimate it at the more distant targets I would agree.

But more importantly, it was stated that pattern density (choke selection, pellet count and overall ammunition quality) was the most important factor in influencing performance. Interestingly the Americans were using their No.7½ lead shot and No.6 steel shot, which correspond with British No.7 and No.5.

G.T. sagely concluded that *'for the best and most consistent results against a given kind of game at a given maximum distance, we need the smallest size of shot that will have ample, but not excessive, penetrative power at that distance, together with a charge weight which, in association with the choke boring chosen, will give a pattern density sufficient to ensure an adequate number of hits, as determined by experience with that kind of game.'*

He added *'I need only add an insistence on pattern quality as chiefly to be found among the more open borings.'* To which I can only add – amen! And he said this over 50 years ago. I have never been a disciple of the 'heavier the shot the better' mind-set.





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SHOOTING TIPS

*Some tips to help you shoot better –
Ask the instructor: Angled vs. Parallel &
Comb and Basic Gun fit...*

By Don Currie

Question: Can someone explain why having an angled comb makes sense? Why wouldn't everyone want a parallel comb? (100,000 trap shooters can't be wrong). Parallel combs are being offered on more sporting clays guns. And no, I can't buy the idea that drop is a good idea for correcting a sloppy technique on low and/or high targets.

Answer: Historically, shotgun stocks have been angled, which means they are higher at the peak of the comb (front end, toward receiver) and lower at the heel of the comb (back end, toward the butt). The reason behind this, as with almost everything shotgun related, has its historical origins in English style shooting.

Whether shooting game or targets, shooters did not premount the shotgun (unless you include pigeon/box shooting). For shooters that initiate the gun mount to the cheek and shoulder after the bird becomes visible (e.g. game shooting, FITASC, International Skeet), the sloped comb makes for a more successful mount and more consistent cheek/stock connection.

Since mounting a shotgun is dynamic (instead of static, as it is with premounted shooting), the shooter can much more consistently "slide into" the comb and make a good cheek/comb connection. For the disciplines of American Trap and American Skeet, premounting is commonplace. The mount is completed prior to calling for the target and thus an angled comb is of less importance. This is why we see more parallel combs in these disciplines.

There are two commonly held misconceptions about combs: 1) Parallel combs result in a more consistent cheek weld (placement of the cheek to the gun). Again, this is only true if the shooter premounts or has highly aggressive mount mechanics. 2) Angled combs are more likely



to cause cheek bruising. This is also not true. To cause cheek bruising, the shooter must either cram his head into the gun with great force during shot execution or lift his head off the stock as he executes the shot causing the recoil to force the gun into the cheek. As with high rib shotguns, parallel combs are not for everyone. Each shooter has to weigh the advantages and disadvantages against their style of shooting.

Question: I'm at the point in my shooting that I really want to improve. What should I do first: get instruction or get a gun fitting?

Answer: Both! A good instructor should be able to check basic gun fit and start you on a path of improvement in your shooting proficiency. While there is a big difference between the gun fitting expertise of the average instructor and that of a professional gun fitter, NSCA certified instructors are taught to evaluate basic gun fit and how to make modifications to a shooter's shotgun when practical.

Visibility and comfort are the two most important aspects of gun fit. If a shooter has a good "basic gun fit," this means that the shooter has good vertical alignment with the eye positioned well over the top of the rib so that the shooter is able to clearly see the target over the gun when

the gun is fully mounted. It also means that there is generally good horizontal or lateral alignment with the eye roughly centered over the rib. A good basic fit also includes proper length of pull, the straight-line measurement from the front face of the trigger to the butt of the shotgun.

Most off-the-shelf shotguns are designed to fit the average male shooter with an average build: 5 feet 10 inches tall, wears a size 40 suit and weighs 160 to 180 pounds. If you are smaller or larger in build, you might need to have your stock modified to achieve a proper fit. If length of pull is appropriate for you, the tip of your nose should be about 1 to 1½ inches from the base knuckle of your trigger-hand thumb when you are fully and properly mounted to the shotgun.

These are very general guidelines. For more on gun fit, watch bit.ly/DC-GunFit. Good instruction is critical to steady improvement in your proficiency, but a good instructor will also be able to evaluate the basic fit of your shotgun at the beginning of a lesson to make sure the gun is shooting where you're looking.

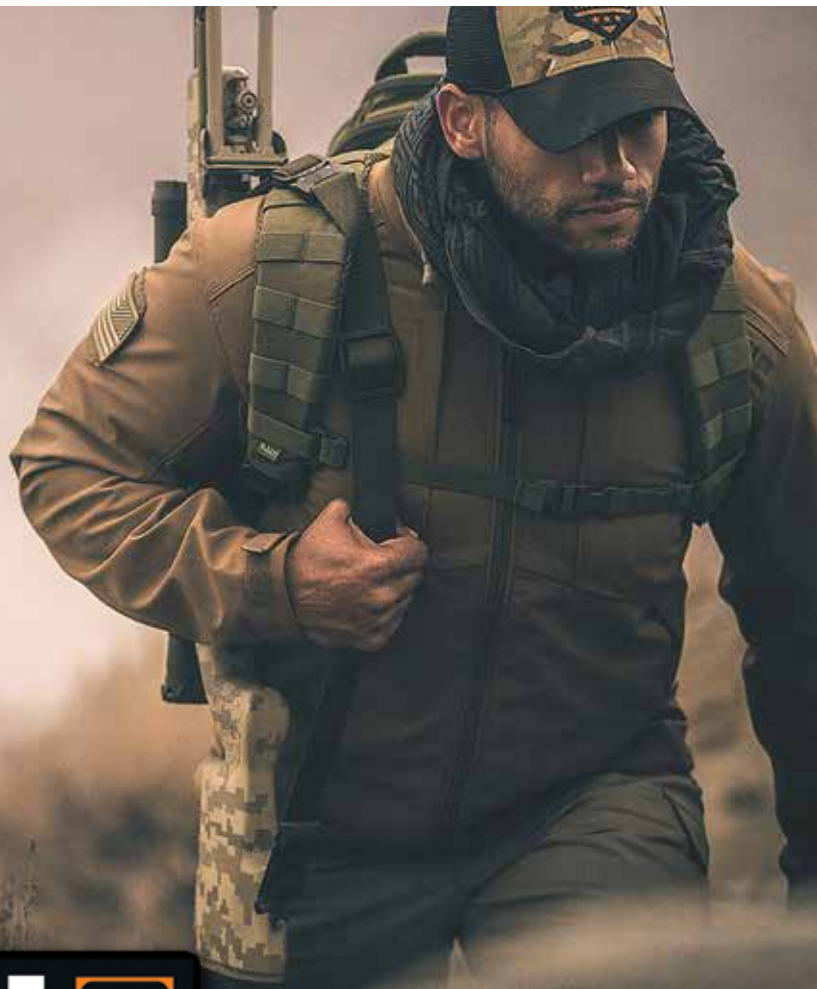
Who says you can't have your cake and eat it, too?

– Don Currie is NSCA's Chief Instructor, an Orvis Wingshooting School instructor, and Master Class competitor. Sign up free for his monthly newsletter. You can also see more tips from Currie at www.doncurrie.com.

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PROVINCIAL BIRD HUNTING SEASONS (and bag limits in brackets)

MPUMALANGA – Gazetted

All year	Rock pigeons (need licence).
1 May-31 Jul	Yellow-billed duck, red-billed teal, Egyptian goose, Spurwing, Guineafowl, Spurfowl, Crested francolin, Coqui francolin, Orange River Partridge, Shelley's.
1 June-31 Aug	Grey Wing, Redwing

FREE STATE – Gazetted. Same as 2023

All year	Rock pigeons, Cape turtle dove, Laughing dove, Red eye dove.
15 May-15 Sept	Greywing & O/River partridge, all Spurfowl, common quail, guineaowl, all Francolin (except Redwing), yellow-billed duck & red-billed teal, Egyptian goose, spurwing, Red KnbKoot
1 Jan - 30 Apr	Shelduck (1)
Note:	(maximum 10 land & 10 water birds pp per day)

GAUTENG – Not yet gazetted

1 May-30 April	All year. Rock Pigeons (need licence) (20).
1 May-31 Jul	Egyptian geese (5); Red-bill teal (5); Yellow-bill duck (5). Note: Spurwing remain closed!
1 Jun-30 Sep	Swainsons francolin (5). Helmeted Guineafowl (5).

N-WEST PROVINCE – Same as 2023 for now (Draft in process)

All year	Rock pigeons (No limit), Red eyed dove (20), Cape turtle dove (20), laughing dove (20) (licence required).
1 May-30 Sep	Francolin: Red-billed (3), Crested (5); Partridge: Coqui (5), Guineafowl (10).
1 May-30 Aug	Partridge: Shelleys (5), Redwing (5); Quail: Harlequin (5), Common (10); Rameron Pigeon (5).
1 Apr-31 Jul	Partridge: Orange River (5).
1 Apr-15 Jul	Namaqua Sandgrouse (5).
1 Nov-31 Apr	Sandgrouse: Burchells (5), Double-banded (5).
1 May-31 Jul	Duck: White-faced (4), Yellow-bill (4), Cape Teal (4), Red-bill (4), Cape Shoveler (4), Southern Pochard (3), Knob-bill (4), Spurwing (4).
1 Jun-30 Sep	Swainsons Francolin (5), Natal Francolin (3).
1 Jan-31 Jul	Egyptian Goose (4).
1 Jan-31 Mar	Shelduck (2).
Note:	A Maximum combined total of 10 land birds & 10 waterfowl per day.

LIMPOPO – Gazetted

All year	Rock Pigeons (licence) (50), Red-eyed Turtle Dove (50)
1 May- 30 Sep	Guineaowl (10), Crested Francolin, (6), Shelley's (2); Natal francolin (6).
1 May - 31 Jul	Egyptian (6) & spurwing (4), white-faced whistling duck (6), Yellow-bill duck (4), red-billed teal (4).
1 Jun- 30 Sep	Swainson's francolin (8).
Note:	Total combined daily bag of (10 land & 10 water birds)

WESTERN CAPE <https://www.capenature.co.za> – Gazetted

1 Jan-31 Dec	Spurwing (3) & Egyptian goose (10), rock pigeons (and Cape turtle dove, Laughing dove, Red eye dove, Speckled Pigeon) (40 in total), guineaowl (10), Yellow-billed duck, red-billed teal, shelduck, Cape teal, Cape shoveler, southern pochard (5 in all total combined).
1 Jan-30 April	Yellow-billed duck, red-billed teal, shelduck, Cape teal, Cape shoveler, southern pochard (5 in all total combined).
1 May-31 Jul	Greywing Partridge (3); Red-necked Francolins (3); Cape Franc. (6). 1 March-30 April – Common quail (2).

NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE – Gazetted Same as 2023

All year	Egyptian Goose (10); Red eyed, Laughing, Cape turtle Doves (10 each) and Rock Pigeons (50).
1 April-31 Dec	Helmeted Guinea-fowl (10);
1 Jan-31 Mar	Shelduck (5).
1 May-31 Aug	Spurwing (5).
1 May- 30 Jun	Orange River Partridge (5), Red-billed Francolin (5), Cape Francolin (5), Natal Francolin (5), Swainsons Francolin (5), Grey-wing Partridge (5).
1 May-31 Aug	Northern Cape Excluding Namaqualand Magisterial District Yellow billed duck (10), Red-bill Teal (10), Cape Teal (10), Cape Shoveler (10), Southern Pochard (10). Namaqua Sandgrouse (10). Burchell's Sandgrouse (5).
1 Apr-15 Jul	Namaqualand Magisterial District Yellow-billed duck (10), Red-billed Teal (10), Cape Teal (10), Cape Shoveler (10), Southern Pochard (10).
1 Jan -31 Mar	A maximum combined total of 10 land birds & 10 waterfowl per day.
1 Jan-30 Apr	
Note:	

EASTERN CAPE – Gazetted 2024

1 Jan-31 Dec	Red eyed, Laughing, Cape turtle Doves and Rock Pigeons. (need licence).
1 Jun-31 Jul	Rameron Pigeon (Olive Pigeon) (5).
1 Jan-31 Mrt	Shelduck (4).
1 Feb-30 Sept	Egyptian Goose (15).
1 Mrt-30 Sept	Spurwing (5).
1 May-31Aug	Red-billed Teal (3), Yellow-billed Duck (3), White-faced duck (2), Southern Pochard (2), Cape Teal (2), Cape Shoveler (2).
1 May-30 Sept	Guineaowl (5).
1 Oct-30 Nov	Quail (10). (Note: Different in former Ciskei)
1 May-31 Jul	Red-Wing Partidge (2).
1 May-31 Jul	Grey-wing (4), but in Queenstown (2), Orange River Partridge (4), Red-Necked Francolin (4).
1 Jan-31 Dec	Exotic Anseriformes

KZ-NATAL – Same as 2023

31 May-31 Aug	Ordinary Game Licence Required for all. Common Quail, White-faced Duck, Red-billed Teal, Yellow-billed Duck, Egyptian Goose, Spurwing, Helmeted Guineafowl, Rameron Pigeon. Francolin: Red-necked, Natal, Swainsons. Partridge: Grey-wing, Red-wing, Coqui, Crested & Shelleys.
Note:	A Maximum combined total of 10 land birds & 10 waterfowl per day.

Other game birds can be shot under a SPECIAL PERMIT during the open season, please contact KZN Hunting & Extension Department on 033 845 1652.

PLEASE NOTE that all members must still consult the respective provincial ordinances, as we do not list species that are not traditionally gamebirds. All exotic Anseriformes are open all year.

Please Note: You have to return your licence to the respective provinces, after each season, stating on the licence all the relevant details as asked. This applies to provinces who require this, such as NW Prov, and is stated as such on your licence.



WE NEED YOUR HELP URGENTLY!

The NGO Wildlife Poisoning Prevention & Conflict Resolution (NPO 132-047) was born from a need to address the problem of wildlife poisoning, initially in South Africa; but also across the sub-region since vultures and wildlife ignore human political boundaries. The training project over the past 5 years aimed to train 100 rangers and enforcers per year (target 500). This goal was addressed by fund-raising internationally; and the goal was exceeded by 20%.

The Annual Report of March 2020 shows 601 rangers trained. Whilst others claim to train many people, their training simply comprises anti-poison information, whilst we enable trainees to respond appropriately as first arrivals/responders at a toxic wildlife crime scene; in a scenario where mistakes lead to loss of court cases. Another significant observation is that poisoning of elephants in and around Hwangwe National Park, Zimbabwe has decreased annually since Zimbabwe Republic Police trainees conducted roadblocks, and confiscated almost 6 tonnes of Sodium cyanide from Zama-zama miners and their associates. Whilst there is no direct link to our training we feel this assumption is plausible.

We also are able to consult to and advise game ranchers and the wildlife industry on game ranch management, wildlife management, stocking rates and carrying capacities. We use game-birds as indicators of environmental health and can advise on their management. A key issue that we promote is Systems Thinking and its application to management; including predator and wildlife conflict management, with emphasis on non-lethal control systems.

Our projects may be viewed on <https://www.wildlifepoisoningprevention.co.za>

Financially, we operate solely as a non profit organisation, so any profit on income re-cycles through our activities. We rely heavily on international donors, since the exchange rate makes international donations very valuable and significant to us. Covid-19 has closed the gates of many zoos who are our primary source of funding; however, we are registered in South Africa as a Public Benefit Organisation (PBO 930047988), which enables us to issue certificates of donation in terms of Section 18(1)(a) of the Income Tax Act. This enables tax deductions in the hands of the donor, whether corporate or private. Such donations must be used within South Africa. As a non-profit, we are required to report annually to the Department of Social Development, both on activity and financially; and we follow good accounting practices, including Annual Independent Financial Statements. A business stress-test conducted in August 2020 indicates success as we have repeated financial surpluses, albeit with poor cash flows and poor sustainability indications. Perhaps this indicates a very frugal operation where all income reaches the projects?

<https://www.wildlifepoisoningprevention.co.za>

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2023 Christmas Shoot



Above: Genevieve and Anthony Coward.
Above right: Annabelle and Gino Cinquina.
Right: Tyron Theessen. Far Right: John Elliot.
Below: Jakkals Bothma ready to call the target.
Below Right: Dieter Grobler and his father Niell on the shooting stand.





Top: Bob Nixon, Marius Gericke and Jacques Mey.

Top right: Derek Garton and Brad Smith.
Right: Armando Marschin, Rudy Stam and Ant Chapman having a chat and taking a break.



Left: Marnus and Herman Bonsma.

Below Left: Roux Wildenboer.

Below: Graeme Milborrow, Rolo Nöffke, Mark Hoffman, Karl Gratz, Johann van de Giessen and Blikkies Blignaut

Bottom left: Mike Parton. Bottom right: Thehan Wehmeyer, Frans van Wyk and William Hill.





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Four small photos of dogs: a black and white dog, a black dog, a black and white dog, and a black dog.

ADANSONIA ECO LODGE
MUSINA-LIMPOPO

A photo of the Adansonia Eco Lodge, a small wooden building with a thatched roof, surrounded by lush greenery.
A photo of the interior of the lodge, showing a wooden table and chairs.

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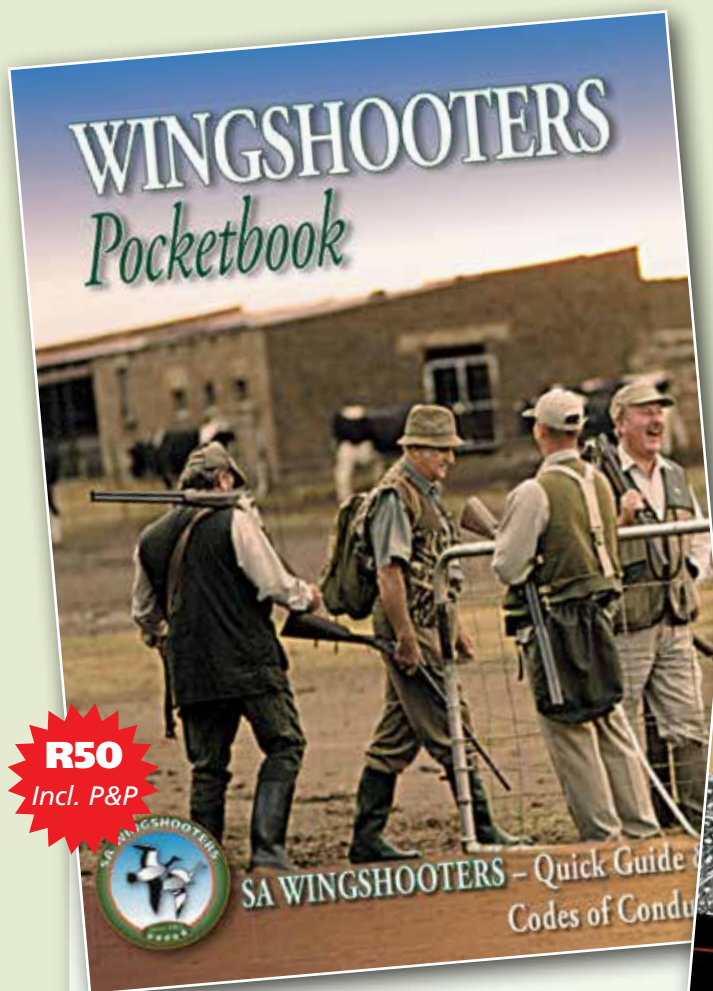
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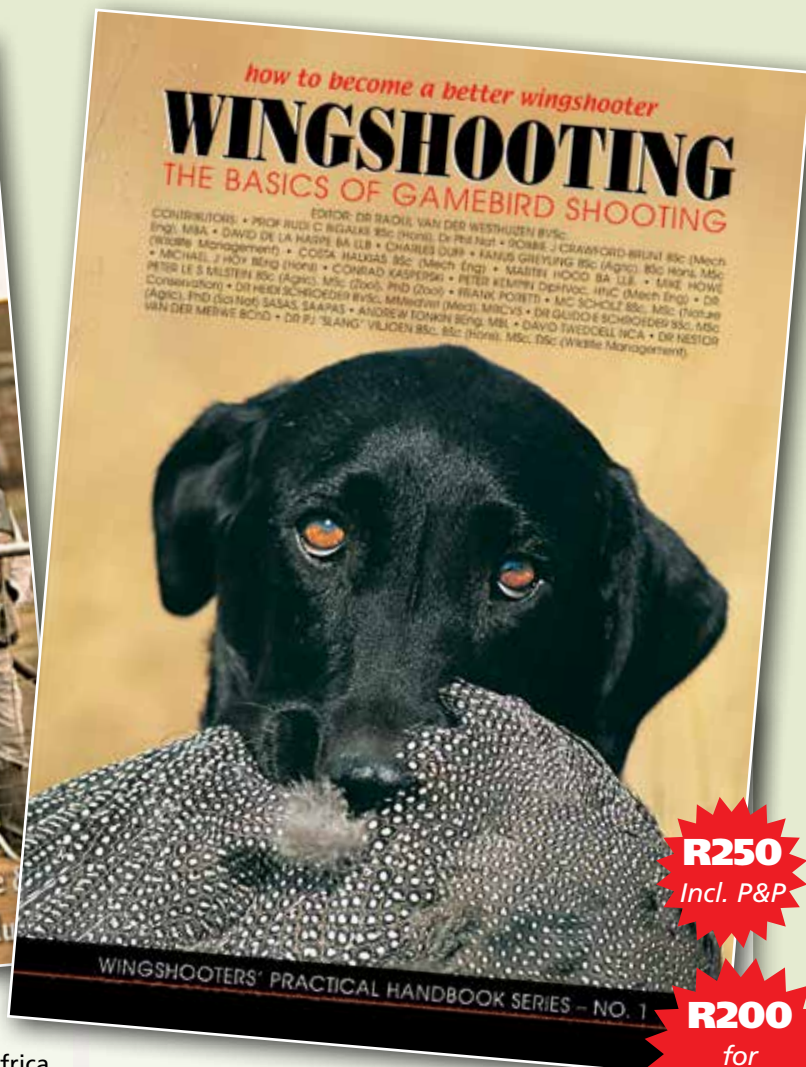
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Our on-line member portal –

You can do it on our new member online portal. Please go to our on-line member area and 'Register' with us:

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