

Life Membership Awarded to Bernie Warren

It was with great pleasure that Captain of the Hamilton Rifle Club, Daniel Sandford, presented Bernie Warren with Life Membership at our Xmas Dinner held at the Botanical Motel on Saturday the 17th December 18, 2011.

It is probably very appropriate for Bernie to received this award at our last shoot for 2011, as in 2012 Bernie will celebrate 50 years in Fullbore Target Shooting, a fantastic achievement.

Bernie Warren joined the Hamilton Rifle Club in 1962. Bernie won his first trophy in 1963, his VRA Badge. His name first appears on the HRC Centenary Role in 1962/63 when he recorded a score of 100 with his .303 rifle. He continued to have his name added to the role every year until 1969 when the era of the .303 ended.

Bernie was Captain of HRC from 1964 -66.

He loves his team shooting and was a member of the No.13 DRA team which won the Union Teams Championship in 1964. In 1966, he was a member of the HRC team when they won the Lambie Memorial and the Templeton Cup at the Victorian Queen's Prize Meeting. In 1992, Bernie was a member of the Victorian State Team to go to Tasmania, and then later as a member of the Victorian Veterans Team he competed at Sydney, Adelaide, Canberra, North Queensland and Bendigo.

In 1972, Bernie and Joan moved to Melbourne but he continued to have a great interest in the HRC. In 1984, Bernie researched and wrote a History of the Hamilton Rifle Club in time for the Centenary of the Club.

The 1980's appear to have been kind to Bernie, during this period he won 3 A grade Queen's Badges at his beloved Williamstown Range. Those years being 1980/81 and 88. In 2001, he added another Queen's badge to his tally.

Bernie has also won 4 Syme Badges, 2nd in 1986, then getting 3 in a row in 1997/98 & 99.

I can well remember as a HRC member shooting at my first Queen's in 1991, when Bernie in his own quiet way, introduced himself as an ex HRC member and kindly gave me some valuable tips.

Following his retirement, Bernie and Joan moved to MacArthur and Bernie quickly slipped back into the HRC, taking up the position of secretary, which he still holds today. During this time he has spent countless hours performing this task with his meticulous attention to detail and dedication.

Bernie has continued to be an outstanding rifle shooter, becoming Club Fullbore Champion in 2005 and winning it every year since. He has been successful in winning the No.13 DRA Champion of Champions on a number of occasions and has represented us well at state level.

As a club member, Bernie has really excelled, if there is a working bee then Bernie will be there, Club dinner and Bernie will definitely be there. Need a range officer, scorer or marker and you can always rely on him to take on the task and all without asking.

Need a coach for a team shoot? HRC has one of the best available in Bernie.

This is just a short record of Bernie's achievements, and here is where mention must be made of his lovely wife, Joan, without her patience and understanding, many of these things would not have been possible.

Bernie and Joan, the Hamilton Rifle Club says thankyou.