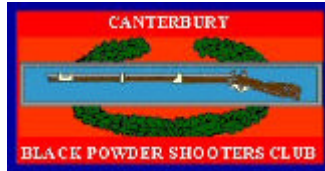


The Tai Tapu Report



Sunday 9 May 2010

We could not have asked for a better day for shooting, a cool morning with a small frost in the city progressed to become a glorious Canterbury Autumn day. 16+ degrees.

As usual we started and set up the range while Shakey and Warrick laid out the Gong range. We had to move the cone of fire to the left a bit for the gong range because someone is building a house on the next ridge about 1000 yards away. Not in the line of fire but just to widen out the safety angle.

We had a comprehensive start to the shooting programme with six 50 yard targets starting as usual with the 50yd precision group. Not that some of us quite managed to get one all morning. Unfortunately I forgot to measure the groups but in my case it wouldn't have mattered.

This was my first shoot with my own made powder and the results, (see score sheet) were not consistent to say the least. This was my first batch and it does show promise so theoretically can only improve. For a start I will dispense with the services of my technical advisor, Bernie Chatfield. He's bugging off back to whence he came anyway. Van Tiel may want to take him on!

If you are interested in making Black Powder, here is a couple of web sites to give you some ideas.

http://www.musketeer.ch/blackpowder/homemade_bp.html This is the base for what I have made.

This one is different but goes to a lot of detail as to Method.

http://www.freepyroinfo.com/Pyrotechnic/Black_Powder/How_to_Make_Black_Powder.pdf

Suffice to say, I accept no responsibility, even less if you engage Bernie Chatfield as an advisor.



Charcoal burner on Bar_B_Q. Note the gas flare

There is a couple of people making and using it now who may like to offer some advice.... BUT..... Don't ask Bernie Chatfield, He'll put you crook!

Be aware that you have to use twice as much home made powder than commercial stuff. I believe that this is because commercial black powder is made under greater pressures.

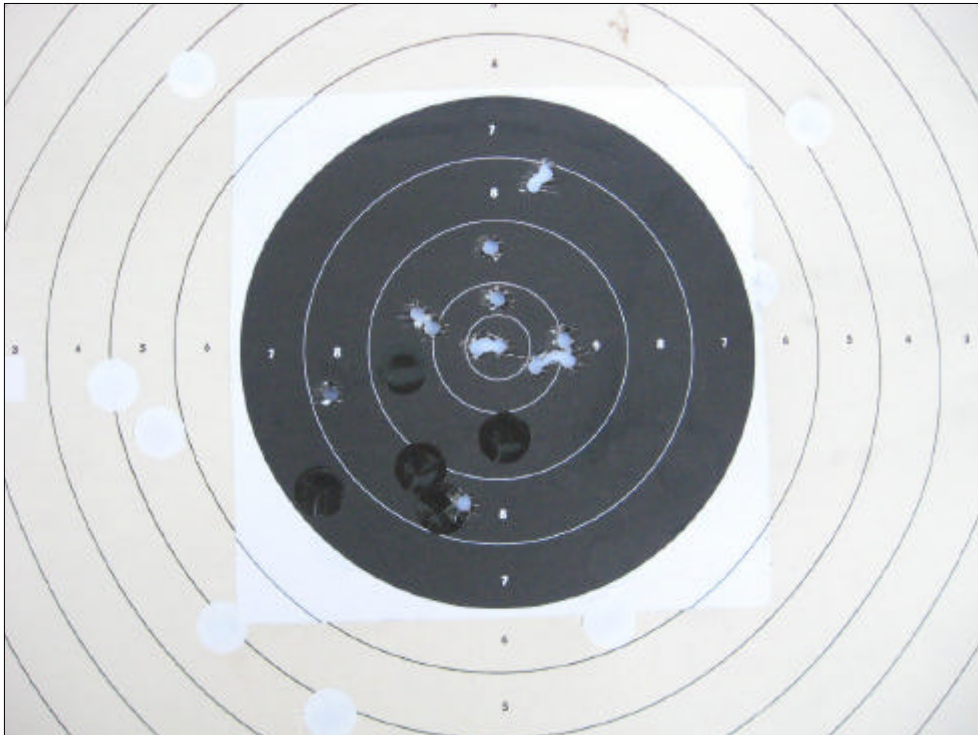
But I digress. We went on to shoot Five good targets before lunch. Note that Liz well and truly cleaned up Bernie in these shoots and Carol outshot Shakey on the Stag and Gopher. The stag, a new target would be the hardest of the animals and she reckoned she couldn't see the target at 50yds. Not bad Carol.

I will post all these targets on the web site www.nzrifle.com/bp_wodstock.htm. Always looking for new targets if you come across any you think may be suitable.

After a nice lunch in the sun we got stuck into a 50yd vetterllie, Bernie took this out with 81, Gill not far behind. I was reasonably please with 65, shows its got potential but I won't get advice from Bernie Chatfield for the next batch.

Next was Shakey's and Warricks gong range. They did a good job with a bit of flare, one close, on long, one easy, one hard. Then they blew it when it came to shooting it. You cant accuse them of setting a range too their own advantage. But anyway Don was on a possible on the last gong but missed the crucial shot.

We finished the days card with a 100yd Vetterllie, again some goods scores but second, me with 79 was fourteen back from Dons score of 93.2. This was a great score for such an improvised range. Please note, I shot my Whitworth for the 100 vetterllie with 80gr Goex. I was working on the premise that Bernie hadn't been over to them advising them on how to make Black Powder.... Or maybe, that's why the factory blew up last time!!!!!!!



Dons target, 93.2 (10.1, 10.1, 10, 10, 9, 9, 9, 9, 8, 8, 8, 8)

No shotgun this month, ran out of time and people, we'll pick it up next month and those that paid for shotgun don't need to pay.

RANGE SHED

We have enough money in the kitty to make a start. Gill has donated 20 sticks of 4x2 and I am onto some corrugated iron. We will have to have a weekend working bee to do this so when the call comes your help would be appreciated.

Another issue is Woodstock. We have to finish getting the stuff out of the tractor shed and bring the trailer home, tidy up and have a burn-up of the rubbish.

We will need a few hands for this also so I hope some will step up when we work out a weekend date.

On another issue, the financial report with he score shee only now goes out to the regular shooters, the "A" list. The Tai Tapu Report and score sheet published on the web site is done without the financial report. I feel that it is not the business of anyone who doesn't attend our shoots on a regular basis.

That's all folks....

Regards, Phil