

# ACTA Skeet <u>Hall of Fame</u> Dinner

The Range Function Centre, National Ground, Wagga Wagga March 6, 2023

Monday night of the Skeet Nationals was very much anticipated. It was a review and celebration of the many achievements made by the Skeet community in the previous shooting year. Due to the new date of the Skeet Nationals there was a beautiful sunset with light filtering into the ACTA Range Function Centre which made a wonderful spot to enjoy some pre-dinner drinks before the Skeet Hall of Fame formalities commenced.

To see the great turnout of over 120 attendees mingling and enjoying each other's company was a wonderful thing to witness. The ACTA

ACTA President, Malcolm Dyson welcomes members & guests to the 2023 Hall of Fame

Range Function Centre provided a fantastic venue and the atmosphere was tremendous with people dressing up and socialising with Skeet shooters from all over the country and enjoying the food and service at the amazing venue.

Jim Kalaboukas was the MC for the evening and he introduced ACTA National President, Mal Dyson, who welcomed the gathering and made special comments regarding the Skeet shooting community. Mal also thanked the sponsors for their support of the Skeet Nationals and thanked the ASSA for their behind-the-scenes work to assist the ACTA to compile and organise the Skeet Hall of Fame.

The 2023 year in review looked back at the 2022 shooting year. There were some wonderful shooting achievements. We kicked off by recognising Skeet shooters who had achieved either their first State title or first National title in 2022.



Michael Buttigieg, awarded the 20g Long Break award, with Nigel Hughes

#### First State Title Winners

Danny Sachetta VIC, SA Handicap 2022 John Rodden NSW, NT COC 2022 Rob Wylie NSW, NSW State Handicap, 2022 Francesco Buttigieg VIC, Tas Skeet Doubles 2022 Steve Makris QLD, QLD State Doubles 2022

#### First National Title Winner

Shane O'Brien WA, National 28G Skeet 2022.



Nigel Hughes presents Shane Bennett with his 12g Long Break Award



Michael Buttigieg & Shane Bennet shared the 12g Long Break Award

### Annual Long Break Awards 2022

20 Gauge Michael Buttigieg, 190 Break Doubles

Michal Buttigieg, 269 Break

12 Gauge, Michael Buttigieg and Shane Bennett shared the award as both shooters had tied at 257 Break.

#### Grand Slam Award

The Grand Slam in Skeet shooting is 200 target breaks in 12g, 100 target break in 20g and 100 target break in Skeet Doubles.

There were no Grand Slams awarded for the 2022 shooting year.

#### **National Record Presentation**

Michael Buttigieg shot an amazing 269 straight Skeet Doubles at the Bairnsdale 400 in March 2022, eclipsing his existing 225 break long-run. This was awarded at the 2022 Skeet Hall of Fame.

#### **AA Elite Award**

Lorraine Hughes, AA Elite 43

### **Adrian Cousens Award**

The finalists for the evening were:

Michael Buttigieg VIC 40 Points
Jack Stockdale VIC 80 Points
David O'Sullivan VIC 60 Points

The Adrian Cousens Medal was won by Jack Stockdale from Korumburra Gun Club in Victoria.

## 2023 Skeet Hall of Fame Inductee – Glenn Clarke

Glenn Clarke first started shooting with his father in the



Michael Buttigieg was awarded the Doubles Long Break



Lorraine Hughes, with her AA Elite 43 Award



Jack Stockdale, winner of the Adrian Cousens Award, with Nigel Hughes

field, shooting rabbits. His father was a Pilot in the RAAF and was mainly used to military style firearms and Glenn's first shotgun was a Winchester 1200 pump action shotgun with a short barrel. Whilst this was fine in the field it was no good for clay target shooting.

Glenn's father took him to the Lysterfield FGA club in Melbourne when he was 13 years old and unfortunately the club wouldn't allow the use of the short barrel shotgun but a suitable over and under was offered by the club. Not being used to the over and under the first clay target shot from Glenn ended up shooting the traphouse!!

Unfortunately, just after Glenn's 13th birthday, his father passed away and he wasn't able to pursue

any shooting and the guns remained locked in the safe until Glenn had reached 18 years of age. Armed with a fresh adult shooting licence Glenn presented himself back at the Lysterfield



Chris Hughes congratulates Hall of Fame recipient, Glenn Clarke, watched on by Jim Kalaboukas, MC for the presentations

Gun Club with his trusty Winchester short barrelled shotgun only to be told it was not suitable to use at the club. A week later and a visit to Mialls Gun Shop in Frankston, a new long barrel with chokes was sourced and it was off to a start in clay target shooting.

Soon Glenn learned how to shoot American Skeet at Lysterfield and made friends with the local hotshot skeet shooters, Ben Dudenas and Brad Peters. Ben and Brad introduced Glenn to ISU Skeet format, but this was too much for a Pump gun. Several weeks later a Remington 1100 was procured from Clayton Firearms and it was full steam ahead for ISU Skeet shooting.

In a short time, everyone mentioned if you really want to shoot with the good shooters you have to go to the Melbourne Gun Club and Glenn duly did. Here his world opened up

seeing the great shooters of the time and he met people at the Melbourne Gun Club who would inspire him to pursue shooting in a big way. The great Ian Hale offered friendship and coaching and every Saturday Glenn would be at Melbourne Gun Club practising ISU Skeet in the morning and shooting the American Skeet competition in the afternoon. The first time Glenn did this he was in Squad 21 for a Saturday afternoon shoot!

Glenn's first American Skeet Nationals was in 1985 at Melbourne Gun Club and that was the year that Adrian Cousens set the 518 straight Long Break in American Skeet. Glenn was there to witness this feat and was inspired by Adrian and his ability. Glenn established a lifelong friendship with Adrian who encouraged Glenn to travel to America to compete. 1990 was Glenn's first trip to the World Skeet Championships, in Savannah Georgia. Adrian introduced Glenn to great American shooters such as Phil Murray, Robert Paxton, Todd Bender and Wayne Mayes. Glenn also purchased his New Krieghoff K80 from Robert Paxton and still shoots that gun to this day. Glenn continued to travel to the World shoot and attended in 1991, 1993 and 1997.

1992 was a great year for Glenn as he started to win his first State titles - the Queensland High Gun, the Victorian High Gun and Tasmanian Doubles. In 1993 Glenn made his first Australian team competing in NZ at the NZ Skeet Nationals.

Glenn married his wife Belinda in 1994 and shooting tapered down somewhat as he enjoyed married life and then the children started to appear, Lachlan, Sam and Jamie.

Glenn won his first National title in 2010 winning the 20g and it was a very special win as he was great friends with John Withers whose name is on the Perpetual 20g trophy.

More National and State titles came throughout the 2010-2020 Skeet seasons as he started shooting with Michael Buttigieg and travelled to many of the Skeets shoots on the circuit.

Glenn travelled to America ain 2012, 2016, 2018 and 2022, twice in the Australian Team and was able to win the 12g East event in 2016, shooting off against the world's best shooters under lights in the Stadium field in San Antonio.

More State titles were won during this time and several National Runners-up were also achieved.

Glenn won more National titles, the 410 Bore in 2017 and culminated in 2019 with the National Skeet title and the Overall High Gun at the Skeet Nationals.

Glenn involved himself with the Skeet Hall of Fame and has been the MC and presenter for the last 14 years, assisting to induct many talented Skeet shooters into the Australian Skeet Hall of Fame.

At the time of his induction Glenn had



Belinda & Glenn Clarke

amassed 220 Hall of Fame points in his shooting career.

- 4 National Titles
- 3 National Runners-Up
- 15 State Titles
- 10 x All Australian Teams
- 4 x Glenn Trophy Teams
- 9 x Trans-Tasman Teams
- 2 x World Teams
- 17 x Victorian Postal Team
- 7 x Victorian Shoulder to Shoulder Teams
- AA Elite Number 4

Inducted into Australian Hall of Fame 2022

Glenn is truly deserving of his induction into the ACTA 2022 Skeet Hall of Fame.















