

Terry Hamilton

Terence James Hamilton (aged 75) "Terry"

It is with sorrow that we learn of the sudden passing of Terry on the 22 August at his home.

Terry, the stalwart of the Trentham Camp Archery Club for many years, started his archery in 1958-59. He was a regular attendee at both the Hastings Highland Games (now North Island Championships) and the ANZ National Championships. He served for many years on the WAA Committee in several roles, including that of President on several occasions.

He was awarded Life Membership of the Wellington Archery Association several years ago.

Terry also organized the Postal NZ Indoor Championships, was an ANZ Judge, International Judge Candidate, Level 3 coach and WAA Coordinator of Coaching at times. He, along with wife Dianne, were presented with the Archery New Zealand Service Award.

To Dianne, son James and family, we extend our sorrow and sympathy at your loss.

Bernie Fraser

Many of the more senior archers will almost certainly have come across Terry at some stage and will recognise him as "one of a kind". As far as archery was concerned Terry knew it all – he owned and shot steel bows, saw the transition from one piece to takedown bows, saw the introduction of metal risers, the replacement of linen strings with the newest range of materials. He saw the introduction of carbon fibre into limbs, arrows and even bow risers. He saw the introduction of compound bows, though he was a bit inclined to believe them to be an invention of the devil and not a real bow.

He knew the rules of all styles of shooting which was of great help in setting out ranges, field courses and, of course the knowledge was invaluable when he was an ANZ Judge and FITA international judge candidate. He managed several overseas teams and was highly respected for his ability to sort out problems that arose with team transport, accommodation, meals and on the tournament shooting line.

He spent time with the NZ Territorial Army and his "sergeant major's" parade ground voice was used to good



advantage when addressing large groups of people, or to bring a beginner back to reality when not shooting the way they had been taught.

Terry was a very generous person – he would lend equipment to people and was always there to offer help and advice. One thing that many people did not know that Terry was an NZQA accredited tutor and practitioner of Bowen Massage and many times at major tournaments I have seen him in the lunch break working on competitors whose shoulders had given up in the morning session, and who, without Terry's help, would have not been able to continue shooting in the afternoon session.

Terry was a recurve shooter – he enjoyed field shooting which was done using a barebow. Freestyle (knob twiddlers had no place in his book). He did use sights in target tournaments, but in his later years he even shot target competitions barebow. Over the past few years there had been a noticeable decline in his health – he was not able to get around the majority of field courses and

Tribute from Rob McMillan

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Rob McMillan, President of the Wellington Archery Association and a long time friend of Terry and Diane.

On behalf of the WAA I would like to pass on our sincere condolences to Diane, Jim and families.

Terry has been a real stalwart of the WAA, in fact all archery. Terry and Diane really devoted all their time and their lives to archery, whether it be shooting, administration, judging or coaching, especially coaching where you would often hear him say "do as I tell you, not as I do".

Terry was also a long serving member of Archery NZ and committee and life member of WAA where he had held several positions, including president, and was the district coaching co-ordinator at the time of his passing.

Terry was always a very formidable figure, whether he was behind the line, on the line, or at meetings and was never short at having his say – in his own way of course.

As a shooter Terry was avid about field shooting and clout and at each shoot he attended he would always seem to have the knack of putting a stray arrow, or two, into a shed, or a wall, or even the timing lights, or for that matter anything else that might be in the way of his arrow. You would then hear other archers say "I bet that was Hamilton again. Terry would then let out a few expletive words and reply "yes that was me" with a wry smile.

When it came to prize giving T, as I called him, was willing to present the trophies even though half the time it was not his job, however he would pick up the first trophy, look at it, then proceed to give us the history of it even though we

had heard it many times before, before presenting it. Then he would continue the same way with all the other trophies. Sometimes it felt it took longer to have the trophies presented than it took to shoot the shoot.

For over 35 years T, Diane and Jim have stayed at our place many times, plus we had most enjoyable times in motels and hotels all over the country. Even when T wasn't shooting stray arrows bad luck seemed to follow him around. At a BBQ one evening T decided to investigate a tin of paint which he dropped – try getting black paint off a pool table and white clothes! Another time we were staying at a motel in Huntly. When I left I went one way and T the other, 500m down the road T aquaplaned and wrote his car off. Recently some of us got an email saying that T was in England, had lost his wallet and needed \$1500.00 to get home, and could we send it urgently to him, but after some investigation found the email to be a scam.

Well T, you always gave us a laugh, you always managed to have the last say, but this time my friend I am having it. I will miss all the times you called me ugly, your nickname for me, all the times you stayed with me, the laughs you and I had, the fun, the abuse, the discussions (sometimes heated) and in general the great friendship we had. I will miss your phone calls and your great input into archery. You knew it all T, much more than I could ever know. You will be sadly missed but wherever you are I know you will be watching us to make sure we don't shoot at sheds etc. Rest in peace T, because you sure deserve it.

Terry, you could never be forgotten.

Rob McMillan, President of the WAA

his strength had decreased to the point where he had difficulty in shooting a target tournament. I suggested that he bought himself a low poundage compound (as I had to do when a medical condition and the treatment for it had caused loss of muscle bulk) – he really didn't like the idea, but as he thought about it was the only way he would get back into competition shooting.

So about 9 months ago he purchased a compound bow and "went over to the dark side" as he put it. As it turned out he shot very few arrows from it – he didn't like the scope/peep arrangement and so shot it barebow. We all had a chuckle at his expense when he shot his first arrow at a 15m target. It was a case of "about there" for sighting, but he hadn't taken into account the increased arrow speed from a compound bow – the arrow flew high above the butt and landed near the 90m line!

One other story that I have to relate alludes to the mention in Rob McMillan's eulogy about the scam email. Terry's Hotmail account got hacked into by a person unknown and the password was changed so Terry couldn't access it. Then the email, purporting to come from Terry was sent. When I got it I knew it was a hoax as I had just spoken to Terry on the phone the previous evening and there was no way he could have got to London in the intervening 12 hours. I alerted Terry and sent an email to all his archery colleagues warning them to ignore it. I can see Terry smiling now when I told him that I had received a reply to my email from one person who said they knew it was not authentic as the spelling in the email was too good!

Vale Terry, friend and mentor – you will be sorely missed.

Cedric Gorman