

# Send IT Road Trip

By Charl Gous

*"When in doubt, go straight - and then I missed."  
- Hendrie Brink*

*"Danie, imagine shooting 15 shots at the wrong target?"  
- Pieter Eksteen*

*"It's a Toyota Venture that went to private school."  
- Danie du Preez on the Mercedes G-Wagon*



**Kings, princes and dukes – it was time for Impact Xtreme Shooting's King of 1 and 2 Mile event in South Africa. The Send IT team (Charl Gous, Danie du Preez, DJ van Zyl, Hendrie Brink and Pieter Eksteen) hit the road from Cape Town to attend the match – a mere 1 250 km up-country. Unfortunately, Michael Hitchcock could not tag along. Boëta, you would have loved the trip!**

The destination was Clarens, a small town in the foothills of the Maluti Mountains, nicknamed the 'Jewel of the Eastern Free State'. Our visit coincided with the annual Cherry Festival, providing a vibrant and jovial atmosphere in this beautiful little town.

It was our second excursion up-country this year. We attend these matches to have fun, meet new people and learn from other event organisers to improve our own offering. This time was no different, and judging by the restaurant and bar tab, we had an awesome party. We have a simple rule: *The day that the scores become more important than having fun, we are done.*

## Wonderful people

We met wonderful people on this trip. Bernard Classen from Helber Rifles

shared insights into products he is working on for the local firearm industry. He has innovative ideas and can bring new concepts to the market to support local ELR shooters. Dewald Hattingh and his wife Simone provided endless laughs and made sure we saw the best restaurants Clarens had to offer. Danie still owes her new jeans – but that is another story.

Leon and Michelle Henrico from Ballistic Beast Precision SA attended the finals. Leon is responsible for building numerous top-class ELR rifles, a couple of which were on display at the event. If you are in the market for a beautiful custom-built rifle, he is the man to contact. And then there were the competitors – what a great bunch of guys and girls! We frequently get to talk on the phone or social media, but it was fantastic to shake hands and look each other in the eye.

## Challenging 2 Mile event

At the 2019 event, DJ van Zyl was crowned the King. We had a responsibility to be there to support him this year. For most of us, the 2 Mile event was more challenging than expected, but Danie du Preez managed 3<sup>rd</sup> place to be declared the Duke. In the finals, Danie fired 15 shots

at the wrong target, with neither his spotter nor the rest of the scoring staff realising his error. Nonetheless he ended up on the podium. But we will make sure he never forgets those 15 shots.

The 1 Mile match proved better for the Send IT team. Charl Gous finished 2<sup>nd</sup>, DJ van Zyl 4<sup>th</sup> and Hendrie Brink 6<sup>th</sup>. The week ended off with a gala dinner and prize-giving at the Andes Guest Farm. These events require a massive amount of organising, funding and commitment to put together. The Impact Xtreme Shooting team did a tremendous job of hosting all the competitors and delivered a professional match that was world-class. Well done, boys and girls – we will be back next year!

**Until next time, get ready to ... Send IT!**



Send IT, ELR Shooting - event dates 2021	
DATE	VENUE
24 April	Darling, Western Cape
22 May	Darling, Western Cape
2 October	Darling, Western Cape
6 November	Darling, Western Cape
Send IT, ELR Shooting - Rimfire ELR event dates 2021	
DATE	VENUE
6 February*	PEKS Range, Wellington
4 September	PEKS Range, Wellington



DJ van Zyl - KO1M SA 2020