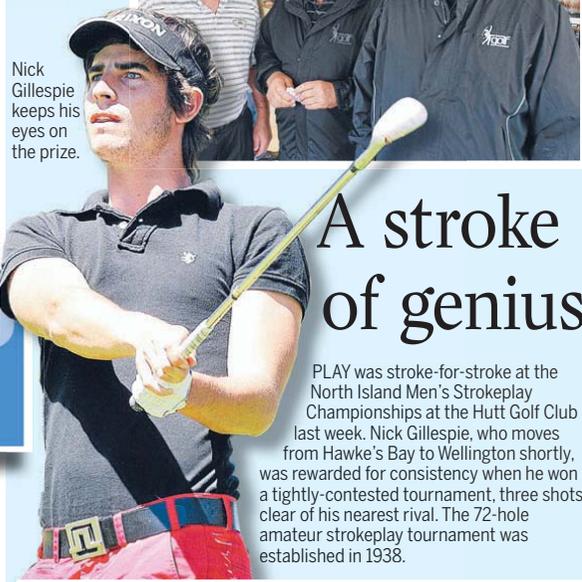


# 149th BALLINGER BELT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS IN WELLINGTON



Nick Gillespie keeps his eyes on the prize.



# With a belt in their sights

THE weather held out long enough for the country's premier rifle shooting trophy to be snatched up by an outsider, Briton Jon Cload taking out the 149th Ballinger Belt national championships. The Brits were all class at Saturday's event in Trentham, as 20 of their 21 competitors finished in the competition's top 50. Kiwis from around the country also flocked to the event. But fear not, the country's heirlooms will not be decorating English mantelpieces just yet. The belt is forbidden from leaving the country, so second-placegetter Ross Geange, from Otorohanga, will become guardian in Cload's place.



# Rsvp



Cathy Smith, of Wellington, in a pensive moment.