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Archery Action

National
Safari
report

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Perspective: Why I bowhunt



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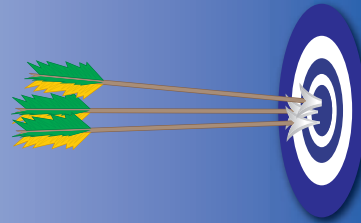


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Trophy Bowhunters of Australia Club



2019 TBA Muster

**14th and 15th September 2019
at Renegade Bowmen, Cumner Rd, Ipswich, Qld**

The TBA Muster is proudly supported and hosted by the Renegades club

JUNIOR BOWHUNTER EDUCATION WEEKEND

This is an opportunity for new and young bowhunters to learn from experienced and senior members of the Australian Bowhunters Association with tips on bowhunting techniques.

This is also an opportunity for new ideas and suggestions to be shared around amongst old and new bowhunters

This event is open to everyone who is into archery and bowhunting.

Non-ABA members welcome

What's On

Information sessions on bow hunting
Learn about the ABA Game Claim process

3D Sneaker Round

Mounted Trophy Display

TBA Raffle - Major Prize NEW BOW
(you must be there to claim it)

Bring your photo albums and trophies

Introduction to measuring game

Loads more info

There is plenty of camping available at no charge, however the Renegades club will require confirmation of your attendance if you require a campsite:

The Renegades camping contact is Dave Hughes: Email camping.renegades@gmail.com

Club Canteen will be run for the weekend

There is no charge to attend the Muster however there will be a small fee for the Sneaker Round.

**Contact Ralph Boden
fulldraw@bigpond.com • 0413 054 722**

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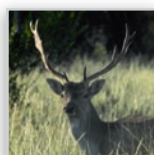
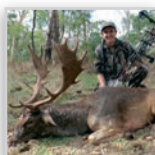
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◀ COVER PHOTOGRAPH

Scott Meadows, Record Class goat, 116 3/8pt.

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Winter in the great outdoors. Chilly evenings warming yourself by a campfire. Shivering in your sleeping bag if you don't have one with the right insulation for the temperature. Mornings that are so crisp that the grass is frosty and crunches underfoot ... and you need to hug a steaming cup of coffee in your hands to get any semblance of warmth. Cold fingers but burning legs as you power up a hill early in the morning.

Hunting in winter certainly has its joys and its challenges. But hunting itself, whatever the season—why do people do it? We are, after all, a long way from the time of our forebears where hunting was a necessity in order to eat well.

In an interview with last year's Bowhunter of the Year Marc Curtis and followed up in a subsequent magazine with



a story by David Luxford about Marc's attitude to hunting, it was quite clear that he didn't kill anything and everything he saw. He would wait patiently, sometimes over a number of hunts, for the exact animal he wanted. So we would all have to agree that for him the trophy is really important.

Then there are the people who are really in it for the thrill of the chase. They find their satisfaction in pitting their stalking skills against the instinctive wisdom of the animals they're pursuing.

For this issue I have interviewed a teacher from New South Wales for whom it is all about conservation and ethical meat eating. You can read Clint Perry's story (Page 70) on what bowhunting means to him.

Speaking of the Bowhunter of the Year, this year's recipient is Rohan Walker and I'm hoping to have an interview with him for you in the next issue. So stay tuned.

And whether you hunt or not, I hope you can make every shot count and that the rest of winter brings you the warmth of satisfaction that comes from involvement in a great sport.

Jenel Hunt
Editor

DEADLINES

Please submit articles and advertisements by these dates:

editor@archeryactionmagazine.com

ISSUE	DEADLINE
2019	
Vol 45 No. 1 September-October	1 August
Vol 45 No. 2 November-December	1 October
2020	
Vol 45 No. 3 January-February	1 December
Vol 45 No. 4 March-April	1 February
Vol 45 No. 5 May-June	1 April
Vol 45 No. 6 July-August	1 June



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FREELANCE CONTRIBUTIONS

are welcomed by this magazine and articles should be addressed to: The Editor, Archery Action, at the above address. The Editor accepts no responsibility for unsolicited material. Colour photographs or high resolution scans are suitable for publication. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your articles to enable notification of acceptance or otherwise and return of article if required. Photographs returned only if stamped, self-addressed envelope is enclosed.

Emailed contributions should be sent in plain (editable) text only and any photos should be sent as separate attachments, not embedded in the story text.

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REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS
Traditional Trails—Nick Lintern
Bushcraft and Survival—Scott Heiman

WHAT
dreams
ARE MADE OF





Anthony Atkinson

For a bowhunter, this is the stuff of dreams.

I'd booked my holidays at the beginning of the year so I would be all set and ready to go for the 2019 fallow rut. I had booked two weeks off before Easter and couldn't wait.

The two weeks would consist of hunting and fishing as well as a couple of days relaxing here and there.

The weeks leading up to the rut were both stressful and exciting, with a lot of work to be done including the task of sighting in a new bow and setting up a brand new ute. That meant it was a last-minute packing job on the Friday night before hitting the road on Saturday morning.

On Monday, we had a 4.30am start to get to our hunting spot and give us enough time to walk into a large clearing before daylight. As soon as we stepped foot out of the car, we could hear several bucks croaking in the distance in the direction we were heading.

Upon arrival, I could hear three or four bucks croaking on the clearing as well and a few back into the bush. I positioned myself on a small mound in a semi-cleared section next to the clearing in the hope that the deer would funnel their way up and into the bush at daylight.

My plan worked a treat: Once the sun was up, the deer made their way back up into the bush. The only problem was that I was about 80yd away from where the majority were funnelling through. As soon as the coast was clear, I made a quick dash across the ferns making sure not to be seen by the oncoming deer. This had me positioned under a low hanging tree in range of what seemed to be the two main corridors which I hoped would provide me enough cover to stay unnoticed.

It didn't take long for a few more does to feed through and then there he was, a big chocolate buck croaking his way up towards me in hot pursuit of a couple of does. Everything was coming together perfectly: The does worked their way up towards me and came within 25yd of

the tree I was under. Undetected, I knew that I was in for a good chance once the buck came through. Sure enough, the buck fed through and as I drew my bow a little doe call stopped him in his tracks at 30yd. This was it; all I had to do was pull off the perfect shot and I'd have my buck. Unfortunately that wasn't to be. I pulled my shot and hit him too far forward, watching him run off into the scrub. I was kicking myself, I gave him 10 minutes before walking in and having a quick scout around. There was plenty of blood but I didn't want to push him as I knew it wasn't an ideal shot so I backed out with the idea of having a better look the next morning.

I met up with my hunting partner and we hunted together for the rest of the morning. We walked a lot of kilometres over some very harsh terrain. We laid eyes on a lot of deer throughout the morning—a lot of smaller animals along with a couple of decent buck. After going to a few rutting stands and assessing the critters, we decided to spin around and head in the direction of the car as it was early afternoon and starting to heat up. It didn't take long for us to get sidetracked and start chasing croaking bucks again. We were closing the gap on a buck ... and then everything went quiet.

We stood still for a little while and then the crash of antlers echoing through the bush got our full attention. We raced through the bush to get a look at these deer, closing the gap to 30m before standing back to watch them brawl before deciding the chocolate fella was the bigger of the two.

I nocked an arrow and waited patiently while my mate began his stalk with the longbow. After watching them at 8m, he decided that I would appreciate it more as I hadn't taken a decent buck with the bow. I stood there next to him and waited for the perfect shot to present itself.

Once it did I slipped a 125-grain Killzone through both lungs, which

saw this old battle-scarred brute expire within 25m. I was over the moon! After taking lots of photos and caping him out for a shoulder mount, we walked to the nearest track and dumped our gear there. While my mate walked back to the car, I walked back into the bush to collect the rest of the meat while the croaking bucks around me had me tempted for a look.

Once home, the hard job started. We cleaned the cape and salted it ready for the freezer the next day as well as boiling the skull. There were a lot of stories to be shared around the dinner table that night. My buck was later officially scored at just over 207 Douglas points. I can't wait to have him mounted next to my big rifle-shot buck from last year's rut.

The next few days were much the same. No more deer were taken, for although we had plenty of opportunities with deer well within bow range, we didn't feel the need to nock an arrow. There was only one deer that I wanted to shoot but he had a busted palm on his left side; hopefully he lives through to next year and I get an opportunity at him then. I hunted the mornings and fished the afternoons. Lots of bream and mullet were caught and released in the following two weeks, great fun on light spinning gear.

Later that week we were out amongst the action putting stalks in on deer and videoing them. By that time, the action had sort of died down compared to earlier in the week. Not as many croaks, there had been a lot of gun shots over the week which had them on high alert and pushed back deeper into the thicker bush—it was as if they knew that if they made a sound they would be in trouble.

But this story isn't finished! Back to Tuesday: We hadn't seen my deer from Monday morning, so a plan was agreed on that after the morning's hunt we would make a really concentrated search before heading home.

We looked for a while but had no



A nice animal for meat.

luck so we began walking up the track towards the car. We scared a few crows up off the ground to our left, so we walked in and not 80yd off the track that we walked every morning to and from the car lay my chocolate buck. If he hadn't have been dark chocolate we would have been able to see him from the track. I was pretty stoked to have picked him up too. Unfortunately, I didn't get a good photo with him as the crows, eagles and flies had already had their way with the carcass. He fell just short of the 200 mark coming in at just over 198 Douglas points.

The following week was pretty quiet in the way of croaking and deer in general. I spent a bit of time whistling foxes and chasing goats with no success. I did manage to arrow a nice meat animal broadside from 30m right on first light as she walked past me with a spiker and one of last year's fawns. I had seen them running around and acting agitated on a clearing before the sun had risen, I didn't know what was going on until after the shot when I spotted a young buck coming across the clearing. He looked to have been beaten up pretty badly by a more dominant buck as his front left leg had been busted. I put in a stalk on him to try to put him out of

his misery, but he got into the thick stuff and I was unable to locate him.

I was pretty happy with my doe on the deck and with photos taken, I was able to drive my ute across the clearing and pull up right next to her. It's not often you get the opportunity for an easy carry-out, but this time I was able to get all the meat off her and into the tub for the drive home.

That about wraps up my 2019 rut trip. After taking good bucks with the rifle and bow in the past two ruts, I'm thinking next year's rut may have to get swapped for a trip up north chasing chital for a couple of weeks. I can't wait for the next adventure to come around.



The writer of this story wins a threepack of **TUSKER SPIRIT** broadheads



The chocolate buck.



Australian Bowhunters Association INC



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COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL

The protocol for contacting officers is: Member speaks to relevant club officer. If the club officer cannot answer the query the officer passes it to the Branch representative who then contacts the relevant National Officer if required.

If you have any queries for National Officers, please direct your communication to the National Office (contact details as above).

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SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT (Acting)
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VICE-PRESIDENT, BOWHUNTING
Mark Burrows
VICE-PRESIDENT, FIELD (Acting)
Bruce Kelleher
TREASURER
Amanda Skinner
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Central Queensland	Andrew Little	0420 925 834
South Queensland	Brett Willaton	0484 322 966
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Tasmania – see Victoria		
Trophy Bowhunters of Australia	Ralph Boden	(02) 4392 6810

BOWHUNTING DIVISION REPORT

by Mark Burrows
(Vice-President Bowhunting Division)



RECIPIENT OF COVETED AWARD, IMPERIAL ISHI

Congratulations to David Luxford on recently obtaining his Imperial Ishi. David is only the second ABA bowhunter to achieve this milestone and I know how much work he has put in to get there. David has been on the cusp of this award for some time but a red deer was holding him up. He has taken red deer

in the past but a red at trophy class level has been elusive. This year he again made the trip north during the roar to try his luck and was successful in taking a great trophy. Again, a huge congratulations from all TBA members.

This is an ideal time to run through the major species



awards on offer to TBA members. The Royale Ishi is available to any ABA member who has claimed all 18 species available on the ABA list. This includes the 14 measurable species and the four game award species. Sambar deer, rusa deer, hog deer, fallow deer, chital deer, red deer, buffalo, camel, pig, goat, fox, feral cat, shark, stingray, scaled fish, donkey, hare and rabbit.

Only four bowhunters have achieved this milestone—Mark Burrows (2005), David Luxford (2006), John Scott (2012) and Troy Morris (2018).

However I am aware of several members who are only one species away from being added to this list.



The Imperial Ishi is available to all TBA members who have claimed all the measurable species at Trophy Class or better as well as the four

game award species. Only two bowhunters to date have obtained this level. Mark Burrows (2017) and David Luxford (2019).



The Supreme Ishi is available to all TBA members who have taken all measurable species at Record Class level. No one as yet has all the species at Record Class level although there are a few that only need a couple of species.

Summary of Australian Bowshot Records

Species	Holder	Australian Record	Record Class	Trophy Class
Boar	Michael Dacre	37 2/8	29	25
Goat	James Finlay	151 2/8	110	95
Buffalo	John Lopes	108 2/8	86 4/8	80
Camel	Kimberley Nicholas	32 6/16	29	25
Fox	Graeme Duff	11	10 2/16	9 3/16
Cat	Tim Pitt-Lancaster	8 5/16	7 10/16	7
Red Deer	Dan Smith	315 3/8	200	175
Fallow Deer	Darryl Bulger	276 4/8	190	150
Chital Deer	Dan Smith	204	160	140
Hog Deer	Stephen Tilley	111 7/8	70	55
Sambar Deer	Dean Scott	203 5/8	162 7/8	140
Rusa Deer	Jay Janssen	236	170	150
Shark BHFF	Barry Feeney	35 2/8	20	15
Shark BF	John Van Den Heuvel	51 6/8	41 4/8	15
Stingray BHFF	Barry Feeney	11 3/8	7 4/8	6
Stingray BF	Gleewyn Butson	14 3/8	11 4/8	10

Ladies Best of Species

Boar	Kristan Bell	34 4/8pt	2017
Goat	Katherine Agale	127 1/8pt	2010
Buffalo	Christie Pisani	87 4/8pt	2017
Camel	Christie Pisani	30 7/16pt	2014
Fox	Helen Duff	10 14/16pt	2016
Cat	Lorna Hopkins	7 12/16pt	1984
Red Deer	Christie Pisani	268 3/8pt	2014
Fallow Deer	Jennifer Vanderburg	205 5/8pt	2018
Chital Deer	Leny Smith	159 3/8pt	2010
Hog Deer	Cheryl Morris	60 5/8pt	2018
Sambar Deer	Nil		
Rusa Deer	Emma Johnson	195 6/8pt	2016
Shark BHFF	Lynda Fell	25 4/8pt	2016
Shark BF	Lynda Fell	23 5/8pt	2000
Stingray BHFF	Carolyn Rundle	9 7/8pt	1987
Stingray BF	Gleewyn Butson	14 3/8pt	1986

TBA Bowhunter of the Year

I know the recipient of this award was acknowledged in the previous issue of *Archery Action* but I am going to highlight him again in this issue. In my opinion this award is the most prestigious award that Trophy Bowhunters Australia can give out. Not enough recognition, or acknowledgement, is given to the winner of this award. The bowhunter who wins this award must be highly committed to the cause for the whole year. The TBA Bowhunter of the Year for 2018 was Rohan Walker. Rohan claimed seven species of which six were Trophy Class or better. This award doesn't come easy. On top of the proliferation of species, Master Bowhunter is the first prerequisite and that award requires a minimum of 15 Trophy Class animals. Rohan is to be congratulated on a great effort.

Bowhunting Awards

By now all the Bowhunting Awards should have been well and truly received by those who supported the system by claiming all their game. Congratulations to all who collected awards and thanks also for your continued support of the ABA bowhunting claims system.

This is a big job and a lot of actions still have to be processed manually. I am pretty confident we have got most things right. If you think you should have got something and you didn't then please contact me, or the ABA office, and I will endeavour to have any problem rectified.

AGM election year

This is a reminder that at the AGM this October all National Executive positions will become vacant. This is the first year of the split election.

Half of the executive positions will be for four years and half will be for two years. After the initial two years are up, those positions will be again back to four years. This is to preclude the possibility of losing a whole executive in a single cycle.

By now all Branches will have

nomination forms for this election and I hope that they are considering nominating. If you are interested in the future of the ABA then make it a point to stand for your Branch executive positions so you can go on to help in the running of the Association.



T/C and upward and/or First Kill/Species

Bnch/Hunter	Club	Game	Award	FK/FKOS	Size
B Toby Gall	Mackay District Bowmen	Chital	TC		147 1/8
B Toby Gall	Mackay District Bowmen	Pig	TC		25
B Toby Gall	Mackay District Bowmen	Pig	TC		25
B Toby Gall	Mackay District Bowmen	Pig	TC		27
B Christie Pisani	Twin Rivers Bowhunters	Cat	TC	FKOS	7 2/16
B Christie Pisani	Twin Rivers Bowhunters	Cat	RC		7 10/16
B Dan Ferguson	Twin Rivers Bowhunters	Chital	RC		196
C Rob Fowler	Emerald Archery Club	Red	GA	FKOS	160 5/8
C Brett Fittock	Full Draw Field Archers	Fallow	RC		197 7/8
C Elissa Rosemond	Full Draw Field Archers	Fallow	RC		205 7/8
D David Wallace	Lakeside Bowmen	Pig	RC	FK/FKOS	30
D Shane Chater	Lakeside Bowmen	Fallow	TC		168 2/8
D Shane Thomas	Pacific Bowmen	Rusa	RC		195
D Shane Thomas	Pacific Bowmen	Rusa	RC		229 6/8
D Jeanette Dowd	Renegade Bowmen	Hare	GA	FKOS	0
D Tony Sullivan	Renegade Bowmen	Red Deer	GA	FKOS	102 2/8
F Stephen Robinson	Capital Field Archers	Goat	GA	FK/FKOS	80 1/8
F Clint Perry	Wagga Wagga Field Archers	Rabbit	GA	FKOS	0
G Andrew Robertson	Boola Valley Field Archers	Hog	GA	FKOS	51 6/8
G Damien Hollingsworth	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Rabbit	GA	FKOS	0
G David Luxford	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Fox	TC		9 12/16
G David Luxford	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Fox	TC		10
G David Luxford	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Fox	TC		9 7/16
G David Luxford	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Fox	TC		9 13/16
G David Luxford	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Fox	RC		10 2/16
G David Luxford	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Fox	TC		9 12/16
G David Luxford	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Cat	TC		7 6/16
G David Luxford	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Fox	RC		10 4/16
G David Luxford	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Fox	TC		9 8/16
G David Luxford	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Fox	TC		9 10/16
G David Luxford	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Fox	TC		9 13/16
G David Luxford	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Fox	TC		9 4/16
G David Luxford	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Red Deer	TC		195 6/8
G David Luxford	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Fox	TC		9 11/16
G Doug Cahill	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Rusa	GA	FKOS	144 4/8
G Doug Cahill	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Chital	GA	FKOS	0
G Doug Cahill	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Hog	GA	FKOS	0
G Doug Cahill	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Hog	RC		91 2/8
G Jamie Harrington	West Gippsland Field Archers	Fox	TC		10



President's Report

2019 is an election year. As you read this you may not realise that nominations for positions on the National Executive are being called for and are due in to ABA Office by August 9—not that far away!

It will be the first time that a split Executive will be voted in and the last time that all of the positions on the National Executive fall vacant at the same time. After this year, elections will be held every second year (instead of every four) and only half of the Executive will be eligible for election. See the box below for what the rotation looks like.

In the coming election, positions in Rotation A will be elected for two years and Rotation B will be elected for four years. After two years (2021) there will be another election and all of the positions in Rotation A will fall vacant. In 2021, those positions will be



elected for four years and, unless there is a change to the Constitution, every position will continue to be elected for a four-year period.

Confusing, I know, but this new system will mean that we are not trying to fill every position on the Executive at every election and will ensure that there is some continuity of

the Executive when new members are elected.

So, just to be sure you understand: At this year's election all positions on the National Executive are vacant.

It is also important to understand that a number of these positions have very specific requirements in the Constitution. For example, for the positions such as the President, Senior Vice-President and the positions of the Bowhunting Division, the nominees must have a recorded history of game taken with the bow and arrow.

If you read "Section 10. Elections (a) Election of National Executive Officers" on pages 11 and 12 of the Constitution, you will see all of the requirements laid out for you. If you don't have a copy of the Constitution, you can download one from the ABA's website (URL shown on the next page).

So, why am I explaining all of this?

Rotation A	Rotation B
National Senior Vice President National Vice-President, Bowhunting Division National Communications Officer National Score Recorder National Assistant Measurer	National President National Vice President, Field Division National Treasurer National Measurer National Assistant Score Recorder

There is no doubt that a number of positions on the Executive will not be recontested by the people now holding those positions.

While it is not my position to indicate exactly which positions will be up for election, I can tell you that there are a number of current Executive members who will not seek re-election.

I can certainly tell you that the position of National President is one of these. After 20 years on the National Executive in the positions of Vice-President Field Division, Senior Vice-President and now President, it is time for me to stand down. While I have enjoyed my time on the Executive and have seen, and been part of, many changes to both archery and ABA, it is now time for someone else to take the reins. An injection of new blood, mingled with the experience of those who stay, is needed to ensure that the direction of ABA remains strong and viable well into the future.

I think it's fair to say that I've had my turn!

Rules of Shoot

I would recommend that you read *Coaches Corner* by Tom Cornell (*next page*).

Tom's article was brought about because of the number of archers

who presented at Bow Check at this year's Safari with gear that did not comply with the Rules for National Archery Games. What was even more mystifying was the response from many archers when an equipment discrepancy was pointed out: "I didn't know that that was a rule!"

As an archer for many years (admittedly responsible for the Rules at different stages), I have made a specific point of knowing the rules under which I was competing. And, in particular, the rules pertaining to the bow division in which I was competing. It doesn't matter if it's ABA or IFAA—the responsibility for knowing the rules and ensuring that both my equipment and I comply with those rules lies with me, the archer!

Since then I have heard stories of coaches and senior archers applying their own interpretations to different rules and encouraging ignorance of specific regulations because they thought them inappropriate or unfair. This doesn't help at all! The responsibility for rule interpretations lies solely in the hands of Vice-President Field Division (Bruce Kelleher) and it is only by his recommendation that rules can be interpreted.

So what if a group of people think that a rule is inappropriate, or unfair or just not applicable anymore?

Well there is a process to follow ... and it's not by encouraging people to flout the rules.

The issue should be raised at a Branch level and recommended to the National Executive. If the rule requires immediate change due to safety factors, and change is warranted, then change will take place immediately.

But it is more usual that a rule change will be recommended to the Field Technical Meeting of the AGM where representatives from all Branches will discuss the recommendation at length and make a ruling that is appropriate for the sport as a whole.

My recommendation to all of you, in the meantime, is to take the time to look at the ABA's Rules for National Archery Games. It is downloadable from the website: <http://www.bowhunters.org.au/index.php/your-profile/category/37-rules-ton-explanations-branch-champion-info>

By ensuring that both you—and your equipment—comply with the Rules, it will make the game that much easier to administer and, I'm pretty sure, that much more enjoyable!

(It's worth looking at the IFAA rules as well.)

<http://www.ifaa-archery.org/index.php/documents/rules/iffa-book-of-rules-2019>



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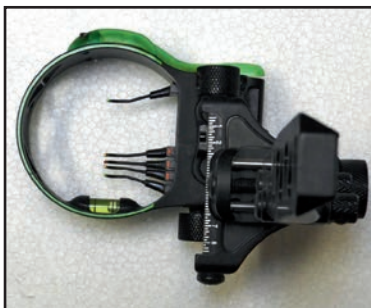
COACHES CORNER

with **TOM CORNELL**
National Director of Coaching

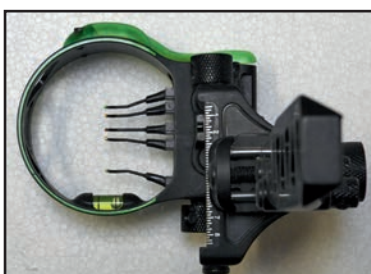
At this year's Safari I was surprised at the number of Bowhunter Limited (BHLtd) and Bowhunter Unlimited (BHUnLtd) archers who presented at Bow Check with illegal equipment and were sent away to adjust their pins so they could shoot these divisions.

It is quite clearly stated in the Rules for National Archery Games how the pins have to be set:

e) Pin Guards/brush guards may be used provided that the distance between the bottom of the top guard and the top pin must be greater than the distance between the top pin and the next highest pin. The same clearance as for the top sight pin applies also to the bottom pin and the bottom guard.



In this example the gap between the housing and the first pin is smaller than the gap between the first two pins—illegal.



In this example the gap between the level (bottom of housing) and the bottom pin is smaller than the gap between the last two pins—illegal.



This set of pins complies with the rules as the gaps between the housing and the top and bottom pins is greater than the gap between adjacent pins!

What it comes down to is this: We have rules and they have to be followed. Our rules follow an international standard (IFAA) so when our members compete in these types of shoots, either internationally or in Australia, they are not at a disadvantage and they are ready to compete.

Some would say, "How come we follow the IFAA rules?" The answer is simple. ABA hosts numerous IFAA events on an ongoing rotation that must comply with IFAA rules. We had the World Field Archery Championships at Wagga Wagga in 2016, the Pacific Regional Championships at Renegades in June this year and we have the World Bowhunter Championships at Mallee-Sunset in 2021, just to name a few. Many clubs participate in the World Indoor Mail Match and Australia



hosts the Pacific Regionals every four years.

To run two sets of rules for two bow divisions would be a very unsatisfactory way to do things.

Remember, you always have a choice as to how to set up your equipment. If you want to set your pins contrary to the Bowhunter rules you can always shoot in Freestyle.

Another problem this year was the number of archers presenting for Bow Checks with unmarked arrows. Again, the Rules for National Archery Games are very clear:

c) An archer's arrows must be clearly identified with one, two or three rings on the back half of the arrow.



Markings of one, two or three rings on the shaft.

The markings should always be on the shaft of the arrow. Markings on the fletching or vanes

are inappropriate as fletching and vanes can be damaged or removed by other arrows. Marks on the shaft of the arrow are more appropriate. You can even purchase 'wraps' for your arrows that include a numbering system should you wish.

So what am I reminding you of with all of this? It is the archer's responsibility to ensure that his or her equipment is compliant with the rules. It is also their responsibility to ensure that they have completed all of the requirements when presenting for bow check. Bow, arrows and binoculars

should all be appropriate for the archer's bow division when submitting their equipment.

As the Rules say, "Every archer is responsible for maintaining their own equipment." Take it a step further and know the division you compete in and what is required to shoot that division.

I have contacted all Branch Coaches in recent times to advise them of the need to be more diligent at club and Branch level. You need to do your part, too!

Bowhunting achievements to end May 2019

Master Bowhunter

David Luxford

Trophy Bowhunter Award

Nil further since last report

Bowhunter Award

Toby Gall

Bowhunter Royale

Douglas Cahill

Bowhunter Imperial

Nil further since last report

Bowhunter Supreme

Nil further since last report

Senior Member of TBA

Nil further since last report

Members admitted to TBA Club

(membership granted after taking first Trophy Class or better animal)

Blaine Drinkwater

Darren Crain

Darcy Galliano

Shane Chater

David Wallace



Trophy Bowhunters of Australia Club



Introducing NEW TBA MEMBER Shane Chater

Where do you live?

Brisbane.

How long have you been an ABA member?

I've been an on-and-off member since 2011.

What club do you belong to?

Lakeside Bowmen.

Do you hold a position in your club?

I don't really hold a position but recently Lakeside helped me become a Hunter LEAP provider as a NSW R Licence facilitator which is good for the club to bring in new hunters to such a great club. I'm passionate about getting people into the bush hunting and doing this will make it easier for people to cross the border to access

some awesome country.

How long have you been hunting?

I've been bowhunting with a compound since 2009.

What got you into bowhunting?

I got into bowhunting to get back into the bush more, back to where I want to be. I grew up on a dairy farm as a kid so love the outdoors and animals.

Where do you go hunting?

My main hunting area is Glen Innes and surrounds and I prefer to chase deer over other species. They're challenging and it keeps me excited every time I get in close.

*What equipment do you use?
(compound/recurve/longbow)*

I've always shot a compound bow

for accuracy as I don't like to miss and I also shoot and import my own branded arrows and BHD Eliminators. I run a small archery business on the side of my normal plumbing job called "Bowhunters Domain"

Do you have any hunting goals that you would like to achieve/bowhunter awards et cetera?

TBA has made me think about knocking off the Australian six deer species with the bow and maybe even do it all Trophy Class. I have taken other species but wasn't a member at the times of these events, so I'm starting over.

The TBA Committee congratulates you, Shane.



The hunt:

This particular deer was shot pre-rut as it was the only time I had a chance to get onto our property.

The afternoon before, I had found four or five fresh deer scrapes which I knew were getting regular visits. I planned I would hunt this particular treeline in the morning.

The next morning I watched a small group of does feed below me while a bigger buck 300m to 500m behind also fed in my direction. Twenty-five minutes passed and the does had fed past me enough for me to slip in between them and the buck which was slowly following behind. I watched him rut the ground and rub trees as he approached the area I had set up in. By now 40 minutes had passed and I still had full sight of the stag which was slowly making his way towards me, coming in to 70m in an open clearing below a treeline. I decided to use two large gum trees between him and me to get into a comfortable shooting range of 40m while he was still feeding.

I had all the time in the world to range him and to wait for him to turn broadside as he grazed on what looked to be good feed. Eventually he made a mistake and opened up the opportunity for a shot. I settled my 40m pin on him and waited for the perfect moment. He popped his head up, took two steps forward and went back to being super relaxed so I let the arrow go. The BHD arrow and Outback head hit the spot we all dream of. I could still see him as he ran then expired. Fast, ethical and a memory that will last for many years to come.





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A photograph of an archery competition taking place on a dirt trail through dense, green, bushy terrain. Several archers are visible, some standing and others in motion. In the foreground, a bow is partially visible. The background shows a hillside covered in similar vegetation under a clear blue sky.

Greenough **OPEN** 2019



words
Jennifer Fox

photos
**Jeff Hudson,
Jennifer Fox**



ABOVE: Lady archers at the Greenough Open.

LEFT: One of the sand dunes.

Greenough Archery is a field archery club situated in the sand dunes of the Hamlet Ranges, 30km out of Geraldton, Western Australia. The club has three courses permanently set out for ABA, 3D and IFAA. In 2018, they celebrated their 40 year anniversary by hosting the ABA State Titles as part of their annual interclub event known as the Greenough Open. The event, always held on the June long weekend (WA Day) and run as a three-

day competition, was well attended in 2018 and many competitors said they would love to return again as it was so different and challenging.

The 2019 competition did not disappoint. As the long weekend approached, the nominations rolled in and once again the club hit a record with the most competitors turning out for an interclub so far this year in WA. Archers from eight clubs were in attendance, some as far away as Busselton (600km south), with ladies

making up 22 per cent of the shooters.

The club has a campground, clubhouse with kitchen facilities and an ablution block with showers and toilets. There are no shire services or utilities so a generator provides power and the roof of the clubhouse collects water for the toilets and showers.

The shoot-off started Saturday afternoon with a 3D event consisting of two rounds of 14 targets, then Sunday's shoot was a sanctioned ABA grading event. Monday's shoot was a fun event—two rounds of African safari targets with the rules made up at the time to suit. After competition finished on Day 2, a couple of archery

games were played including a long shot from the top of a dune 92m away from a 60cm IFAA field target on the practice range below, followed by a game of d'artchery which had five teams play off for a winner.

Greenough is unlike other clubs that have ATVs or quad bikes with trailers to cart equipment out on course, as everything has to be carried by hand due to the sloping sandy terrain so it is very labour intensive. The courses provide quite a challenge as a certain amount of fitness is required to traverse the dunes, but once on the top, the scenery is well worth it. One of the hills is affectionately

known as 'cardio hill' because it will have the heart pumping and the legs burning by the time you reach the top. Strong morning easterlies also proved challenging for some of the archers, as it was nigh on impossible to keep their compound bows still long enough to get 'that' shot. Even some of the traditional arrows got blown off target by the winds, especially on some of the long shots.

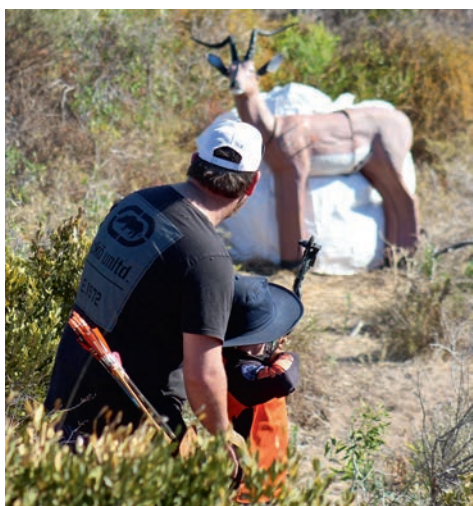
The event provided a great experience for both repeat archers and those visiting for the first time. Everyone left with smiles on their faces—some with stiff muscles, it must be admitted, from the steep terrain.



LEFT: Look at this: Her first arrow on the last target of the last day.

BELOW LEFT: Cameron Van Veen with his daughter Evelyn at a target. Ready, aim ...

BELOW: The happy faces of Team Peel.



Wide Bay *Invitational* Shoot

The weekend of May 18 and 19 was a good one for people attending the Wide Bay Invitational Shoot. People started arriving after work on Friday and more came later in the night.

There were about 45 shooters in all from Full Draw, Saxon, Capricorn, Gympie and Wide Bay. Friday night was lovely and cool enough for a campfire. At one fire the kids were toasting marshmallows and having a great time. A group of the campers watched the Broncos win on a phone—they sure are devoted football fans.

Saturday morning brought a cool, cloudy morning, with everyone up and about ready for the day's shooting. There were plenty on the practice range getting ready for the bow check at 8am.

Nine o'clock saw the start of the first day's shooting—a three-arrow round in the morning and a one-arrow round in the afternoon. The morning ended having good weather, with just a light sprinkle of rain which did not interfere with anybody's shooting. After an awesome lunch provided by a chef and a quick change to the range, it was out to do the afternoon one-arrow round.

Dinner that night was yummy and afterwards everybody sat round the fire and talked about the day's shooting.

Sunday morning was quite chilly with a few small showers of rain.

The shooters went out on the range to an Aussie round (IFAA targets at ABA distances). Everybody found this quite a good shoot, very different and quite challenging. Once the raffles and presentations were over, we all headed home.

Wide Bay has awesome grounds and a great facility and is improving on them all of the time. It was a great weekend.





Fallow follies

DAVID BREWER

April can bring out the worst in hunters. We skip work, finish early on the Friday, arrive late Monday, forget the lawn and the other household chores, start making funny roars or grunts with the single focus of getting a fix for stag fever. Personally, I think I'm at the top of the game, one of the best when it comes to chasing the elusive fallow bucks. I don't think there would be many around with the success I've had on what has become one of my favourite quarries. Now just to quantify, my boast isn't on taking the biggest, the best or the most fallow. It's on my own special successes on what I call the three Fs: Foul-ups, freak-outs and follies.

I had a few years of bowhunting under the belt prior to my first run with fallow; how hard could this be? Listen for the grunts, follow them up, get into bow range and get the job done. Simple really. My first time out, in the field before dawn, keenly

listening. There seemed to be deer in every direction, which one first? Checking the wind I picked what seemed the closest and moved into the valley below just as the sun started to peek over the horizon. This was exciting stuff, me and the beast, buck in the bag ... slowly heading toward the croaking stag. Here came the first folly, apparently stags like to lay in bed and a while. My only glimpse of this stag was as he exploded out of his scrape not 20yd in front of me. Guess this wasn't going to be quite as simple as I'd thought ...

Making my way back I got lucky, another fallow was croaking, and this one was a big fella, deep guttural rolls in the early morning. I was off, taking a little more care this time as I worked the creek edge moving slowly in on this monster buck, taking careful steps and checking regularly for sign of a bedded buck. Another moan; I was getting closer and the blood in my

head pounded with anticipation. This guy was truly a monster—one of the biggest Brahman bulls I'd ever seen. For the last hour I'd been stalking a Brahman 'deer'. An epic foul-up for my first time chasing fallow.

Another year I chasing fallow again, this time with a mate who had just a little more experience than me—about 50 years' worth. The first morning, we were closing in on two stags that were blissfully unaware of their impending doom and their ticket validated for entry into my chest freezer. Ranging the closest stag, I got a reading of 35; easy money, stag in the bag. Coming to full draw and settling a pin I heard a whisper in my ear, "He's at 40 ..." so I put my yellow pin behind the shoulder and squeezed off the shot. The arrow flew true, cutting a few hairs off the back of the stag. Not sure which this was, a folly, freak-out or a foul-up but I did learn to check that both hunters were using the same system. I was in

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metres, my mate in yards; no meat for the freezer that day. The next day we were in on two duelling stags. The fighting was furious and I was able to move in without being seen; I got the arrow away and it hit hard, straight into the tree stump that the stag was standing behind. This was a real freak-out, complete with kicking and screaming.

Another year another stag, a chocolate fallow, was entertaining his ladies. This stag was parading proudly and announcing his successes with continuous grunts for all to hear. The only issue was that he was out in the

open with no way for me to cover the open ground. For the first time I had an electronic grunter, and I thought, "Let's give this a go ..." I made one call and this stag came in fast, straight at me—and there I was with a stag running in, a caller in my hand and a bow over my shoulder. I had to chalk that up as another foul-up as the stag blew out, taking my dignity with him. I guess I should have learned as only the day before I had my bow over my shoulder and my hands out front while dealing with one of the early morning nature calls. I hadn't seen or heard a stag all morning and the only one all day walked past at 10yd while I was concentrating on watering ants.

My experiences were growing and I was getting a few successes along the way. I was learning about scrapes and patterns, finding more deer and confidence was booming. Getting in on these fallow seemed to be a little easier than it used to be.

Finding a nice menil stag in a creek one day, I think to remove my shoes to get within bow range and keep my noise down in the dry undergrowth. All went well for the first few steps until I freaked out with three thorns, all better than an inch long, going through my socks into the arch of my foot. Freak out big time, even a tear I think and the last time my boots were

going to come off while hunting! Those thorn holes took quite a while to heal, almost as long as it took to get all the thorns out of my knees on another foul-up crawling in on a stag in western Queensland. We have some very approachable plants up this way.

Over the years I had spent quite a bit of time working my way in to stags only to find they weren't what I was after (vocal stags but small in the head-gear department). So I decided I'd get some cameras, see what was about, and hunt where the big boys were. That would help ...

Maybe I should add frustration to my three F's! Now I could see these great stags were around, how often they would visit a scrape, what time of day. Time to make some memories, maybe some commiserations would be a better descriptive word because now I knew what was about but finding them and getting them was a whole different story. One morning, it all came together. A big chocolate stag was in his scrape croaking away before dawn, I was in the right place, right time, wind was good, today was the day! I spent a few hours in and around this stag and finally had an opportunity, here was this huge stag at 40, only one hind being entertained, maybe I should have taken the shot but the hind stayed in front and the rut had only just started and I reckoned I'd find him again.

The next day I left for a week for the opportunity to chase camels (that's a whole other story), and when I got back it was like I had never left. I found the stag again, got in nice and close, no hinds to interfere, just one foul-up: During my week away my prize stag had taken the opportunity to break an antler. I was devastated. The stag walked past at under 20 without a care in the world and stopped in the scrape. I gave him a pass. That was the last time I ever saw that stag. He hasn't even come up on a camera in the years

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since. Hopefully he left his calling card for the future generations.

A few years ago I met Ghost. This stag was pure white, the only white stag I had ever seen and he was all I could think about. I spent an entire week on this stag with plenty of freak-outs, foul-ups frustrations and follies, enough to fill pages on its own. Try as I might, I couldn't get a shot on this stag. So many close calls. The closest came at midday, checking my cameras I hear a single grunt ... could it be? Carefully I moved around the shrubbery trying to locate the source of the sound, finally I saw a hind, the same hind that had taken the stag away hours earlier ending my morning hunt. He had to be here and he was, bedded less than 20yd away under some low trees. I had

the opportunity for an open shot—only foul-up being my bow was in the truck ... freak-out time!

I learned from this and the next year while checking cameras, with my bow this time, I heard a single grunt, late in the morning and from what was the only patch of scrub on the slope I was working. Anticipation high, I moved in hoping this was the stag I had captured on one of my cameras. He was tall and wide with great palms. I guess I was daydreaming a little as I blew a hind out from cover. Seconds later the stag stepped out in clear view looking after his forlorn love. Drawing, I put my top pin straight where his broken heart beat. He looked my way on release but it was all to late. The arrow was away. What happened next still

has me scratching my head, for one reason or another the arrow was in three pieces by the time it went past the stag, a foul-up that left the stag prancing away after the hind.

The next morning had me in better spirits. It had been a good morning watching three stags take turns fighting each other. (Watching the antics of fighting stags is one thing I'm very grateful to have witnessed a few times.) These stags would run from one side of the hollow to the other at breakneck speed, sometimes passing, other times clashing antlers and spinning up a duststorm. I tried rattling and calling to bring them to me but they were so intent on each other I just couldn't get a look in, and rather than cover the open ground I chose to





The writer of this story
wins a threepack of
TUSKER SPIRIT
broadheads



sit back and watch what was one of the greatest experiences I'd ever had while chasing fallow—it was truly a memorable morning. At some point they must have decided on a winner as they parted in differing directions—frustratingly, not in my direction. Gathering my kit, I followed up on one of the stags. A few hours later with a smile on the dial after what had been a great morning, I headed back to the truck. Walking along the creek I saw one of the stags from earlier in the morning on the same trail I was on. He was heading straight at me, oblivious. Already having a full pack I thought I'd pull out the iPhone instead and get some footage. This was great, this poor stag was certainly not the winner of the fight, I don't speak fluent deer but it didn't take a genius to work out this poor guy had been subjected to a flogging. Head down, moping along brooding about his bad morning. I'll never forget watching this guy walk right up to me, the closest I've ever been to a live stag. At a mere few yards he became aware of me leaning against a tree and his stag genes kicked in as he powered away. This was great footage, or at least would have been if I'd remembered to hit record. Just another folly.

I enjoy my time chasing fallow. I wish I could say that this is the extent of my foul-ups, freak-outs and follies but unfortunately there are many more ... but each one brings with it memories to remember and experience to learn from. Last week we added a few extra with my son's first rut with them. I'm happy to report he's keeping up the family tradition of freak-outs. When (by his description) a monster stag passed at close quarters, this was his response: "Dad I was shaking so hard, it was sick." He didn't get an arrow away unfortunately but he now has that bug that will see some more foul-ups, freak-outs, follies and hopefully, a few stags in the years ahead.

2019

National Safari

Red Cliffs



report


Bruce Kelleher

Vice-President Field

photos

Kerry Chandler

Mark Burrows

A large group of people, mostly men, are sitting in folding chairs outdoors. They are gathered in a dirt clearing surrounded by trees. Many are wearing hats and casual clothing. In the background, there are some buildings and more trees. The scene is set up for an outdoor event, likely the National Safari mentioned in the text.

This year's National Safari was hosted by Mallee Sunset Field Archers at Red Cliffs near Mildura. Some of the crew were out on the range on Wednesday afternoon, and by Thursday morning the National Executive had arrived *en masse*.

On Thursday morning, Mark Burrows and I helped the boys from Mallee to measure and set out the 3D courses, ready for the 3D component of the Safari. Other National Executive officers Jeff, Alan, Steve and Tom looked after things back at the clubhouse, carrying out bow checks, looking after practice ranges and handing out score cards to the willing competitors

arriving ready to start the ABA competitions on Friday morning.

Those of us preparing the targets were off the courses by 3.30pm, ready to go the next morning. People were making use of the spare range that Mallee Sunset Field Archers had set up for a quick social shoot while they were waiting for the event to get under way.

There was a buzz in the air on Friday morning as we all gathered in front of the clubhouse. Old friends were warmly met and new ones were being made as groups were assembled and the event commenced.

See
Kids on Safari
pictorial
next issue



The day was warming up and people were reminded to ensure they had enough water with them for the afternoon rounds. The rounds were completed and the scores posted as soon as possible.

Saturday was a beautiful morning, although we were down a couple of National Executive members as Jeff Bell

and Tom Cornell had to return home. The rest of the crew looked after things and everything ran smoothly .

At the conclusion of Saturday's event we held presentations for the ABA. The competition had been close, with some very tight battles across the board .

I would like to thank everybody for their patience while we organised the results. It is a tough job and I would like to thank Alan and Steve for their efforts looking after the scores and the groups.

The 3D was held over the Sunday and Monday and it was pleasing to see how well the 3D round was accepted—a lot of new archers got to experience shooting two-up at the same time, which is something I would like to see clubs introduce more to help teach the etiquette involved. It definitely speeds up the rounds and we had both two-arrow rounds completed in under five hours—a truly great effort by all concerned to keep both courses flowing.

The final day dawned with everybody eager to hit the ranges for the final two rounds of the 2019 3D Championships, and it all went off without a hitch. Presentations were held straight after the event. I would like to thank the crew from Heiman Habitat for donating prizes for the club to raffle off on the last day .

Thanks to all the members of the Mallee Sunset Field Archers, especially Glenn and Mal for all their efforts .

In closing, thanks to all the members of the National Executive, the members of the Association who attended for their support and patience as I took on my first National Safari as Vice-President Field.

Following are the results for both events. Congratulations to all the winners and our national champions.

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The moose target was quite a hit with archers young and old. In fact, he might have been the most photographed 3D target of the competition! In one group there was a little guy who had a longbow and wasn't getting his arrows to land exactly where he wanted them but he was still excitedly anticipating seeing the magnificent antlered fellow. "When will we be getting to the moose?" he asked more than once. And sure enough, the moose was his saviour. Yep, he arrowed it ... then proudly told the group that his arrows were moose killers!



National Safari RESULTS

ABA

Cub Girls Freestyle UnLimited C Grade

1	Jasmine Stone	1532
2	Bianca Everett	1162
3	Keili Courtney	1126

Cub Girls Freestyle UnLimited A Grade

1	Shaylen Lowe	1572
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Cub Girls Bowhunter Compound C Grade

1	Jasmine Jacques	712
2	Abbigail Keating	238

Cub Boys Freestyle UnLimited C Grade

1	Charles Smith	1416
2	Cormac Dunshea	1414
3	Jordan Evans	1334

Cub Boys Freestyle UnLimited A Grade

1	Alexander Szybel	1574
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Cub Boys Traditional Longbow C Grade

1	Brendan Richards	372
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Cub Boys Bowhunter Recurve C Grade

1	Declan Kelly	1022
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Cub Boys Bowhunter Recurve B Grade

1	Scott Ellis	1260
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Cub Boys Bowhunter Recurve A Grade

1	Clayton Kelly	1320
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Cub Boys Bowhunter Compound C Grade

1	Anthony McLaren	960
2	Logan Richards	494

Cub Boys Bowhunter Compound B Grade

1	Lewis Williams	1030
2	Alex Richards	750

Junior Girls Bowhunter UnLimited C Grade

1	Jazmyn McDonald	1322
2	Adinah Courtney	1212
3	Jazmin Everett	1102

Junior Girls Freestyle Limited Recurve B Grade

1	Talia Langton	1318
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Junior Girls Freestyle UnLimited B Grade

1	Julia Clements	1516
2	Ella Tilbrook	1462

Junior Girls Bowhunter Recurve B Grade

1	Tahlia Blake	870
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Junior Girls Bowhunter Compound A Grade

1	Zara Doak	1282
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Junior Boys Bowhunter UnLimited C Grade

1	Logan Seamer	1258
1	Callan Webster	1258
2	Braydon Keating	1056

Junior Boys Bowhunter UnLimited B Grade

1	Dylan Powell	1510
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Junior Boys Bowhunter UnLimited A Grade

1	Ethan Wilkinson	1592
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2	Tyson Trace	1578
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3	Thomas Fiebig	1568
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Junior Boys Freestyle UnLimited B Grade

1	Tylah Munday	1462
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Junior Boys Freestyle UnLimited A Grade

1	Nicholas Scarlett	1548
2	Max Tilbrook	1542
3	Sam Mufale	1538

Junior Boys Modern Longbow B Grade

1	Benjamin Blake	910
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Junior Boys Bowhunter Recurve C Grade

1	Bodie Sutcliffe	946
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Junior Boys Bowhunter Recurve B Grade

1	Liam Cumming	946
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Junior Boys Bowhunter Recurve A Grade

1	Hugo Lobb	1402
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Junior Boys Bowhunter Compound A Grade

1	Toby Jacques	1304
---	--------------	------

Veteran Ladies Sighted

1	Fenny Thompson	1410
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Veteran Mens Sighted

1	Randall J Wellings	1544
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2	Anthony McCallum	1492
---	------------------	------

3	Richard Hand	1388
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Veteran Mens Bowhunter

1	Ray McHugh	950
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Trad Peg Ladies Traditional Longbow

1	Tammy Murray	638
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Trad Peg Ladies Bowhunter Recurve

1	Judith Myers-Rooke	1140
2	Melanie Jones	696

Trad Peg Mens Historical Bow

1	Ross Fleming	1260
2	Peter Rogers	810

Trad Peg Mens Traditional Longbow

1	Victor Pope	1010
2	Frank Ciampa	1008
3	Adam Murray	894

Trad Peg Mens Bowhunter Recurve

1	Chris Manners	1372
2	Ron Williams	1278
3	Barry Oldland	986

Ladies Bowhunter Limited A Grade

1	Joanne Bogie	1396
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Ladies Bowhunter UnLimited C Grade

1	Stacey Boundy	1420
2	Kirsty Dunshea	1416
3	Kathryn Andrews	1406

Ladies Bowhunter UnLimited B Grade

1	Julie Mercer	1478
2	Amanda Tilbrook	1406
3	Karen Connolly	1402

Ladies Bowhunter UnLimited A Grade

1	Jeanette Dowd	1546
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Ladies Freestyle Limited Compound B Grade

1	Raylene Starke	1302
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Ladies Freestyle Limited Recurve C Grade

1	Zara Langton	882
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National Director of Coaching Tom Cornell was taken to hospital during the National Safari because he "wasn't feeling real flash" but he says he is now feeling fine and firing on at least two of his four cylinders.

Ladies Freestyle UnLimited C Grade		1 Jonathan Layton	1106
1 Narelle Lucas	1334	2 Andrew Postma	1098
2 Katherine Heather	1332	3 Alain Gouault	1076
3 Stacey May	1258	Mens Bowhunter Recurve A Grade	
Ladies Freestyle UnLimited B Grade		1 Gary Moore	1268
1 Leanne Moore	1516	2 Bruce Kelleher	1254
2 Dianne Houghton	1430	3 Norman Webster	1218
Ladies Freestyle UnLimited A Grade		Mens Bowhunter Compound C Grade	
1 Kerry Chandler	1506	1 Kameron Rowntree	1020
Ladies Bowhunter Recurve C Grade		Mens Bowhunter Compound B Grade	
1 Christianna Lee	690	1 Shannon Hitchen	1306
2 Caitlin Dwyer	596	2 David E Jarman	1198
Ladies Bowhunter Recurve B Grade		3 John Ellis	1166
1 Pauline Hunter	930	Mens Bowhunter Compound A Grade	
2 Jenny Goorden	592	1 Alex Spath	1504
Ladies Bowhunter Compound B Grade		2 Alvyn W Bell	1478
1 Hazel Kirlaw	1126	3 Brett Raymond	1430
2 Barbara Kelly	964	Cross Participant Bowhunter Recurve	
3 Lorraine Black	898	1 Douglas Jones	734
Ladies Bowhunter Compound A Grade			
1 Wendy Gallagher	1252		
2 Ann Stubbs	1242		
Mens Bowhunter Limited A Grade			
1 Allan Hall	1230		
Mens Bowhunter UnLimited C Grade			
1 John Dunshea	1498		
2 Mark Szybel	1446		
3 Graham Scarlett	1440		
Mens Bowhunter UnLimited B Grade			
1 Peter John Bush	1516		
2 John Mahoney	1512		
3 Stuart Everett	1502		
Mens Bowhunter UnLimited A Grade			
1 Ryan Tilbrook	1556		
2 Bradley Wilkinson	1550		
3 Mark Burrows	1538		
Mens Freestyle Limited Compound B Grade			
1 Stuart Leyh	1352		
2 Russell Orgill	1344		
3 Richard Starke	1292		
Mens Freestyle UnLimited C Grade			
1 Thomas Lawlor	1458		
2 Carl Jacques	1440		
3 Graham Wilson	1302		
Mens Freestyle UnLimited B Grade			
1 Luke Stone	1530		
2 Bradley Huxtable	1516		
3 David McDonald	1502		
Mens Freestyle UnLimited A Grade			
1 David Cross	1582		
2 Tyler Atkinson	1580		
3 Bradley Stephan	1572		
Mens Modern Longbow C Grade			
1 Mark Carlile	798		
2 Jonathan Blake	714		
Mens Modern Longbow B Grade			
1 Brett Drever	1052		
2 Stephen Blake	940		
3 Brian Cumming	924		
Mens Modern Longbow A Grade			
1 Geoffrey Blake	1142		
2 Lindsay Yuile	1066		
3 Reece Tweedale	1012		
Mens Traditional Longbow C Grade			
1 Raymond Morgan	786		
2 Peter Ellul	606		
Mens Bowhunter Recurve C Grade			
1 Sam Greville	832		
Mens Bowhunter Recurve B Grade			



ABA Adult Branch Team Winners

1 South Queensland

Score	6078
Bradley Stephan	1582
Alvyn W Bell	1508
Troy Hughes	1392
Jeanette Dowd	1596

2 South Australia

Score	5932
Shannon Hitchen	1356
Brett Raymond	1440
Shaun Bedford	1566
Darren Everett	1570

3 Greater Victoria

Score	5762
Bruce Kelleher	1284
Wendy Gallagher	1302
Tyler Atkinson	1610
Kenneth Smith	1566

ABA Junior Branch Team Winners

1 Greater Victoria

Score	5602
Sam Mufale	1548
Toby Jacques	1354
Talia Langton	1368
Zara Doak	1332

2 South Queensland

Score	2884
Ethan Wilkinson	1642
Adinah Courtney	1242

Cub Girls Freestyle Unlimited C Grade

1	Jasmine Stone	2002
2	Bianca Everett	1432
3	Keili Courtney	1130

Cub Girls Freestyle Unlimited A Grade

1	Shaylen Lowe	2260
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Cub Girls Traditional Longbow C Grade

1	Jamie Heiman	244
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Cub Girls Bowhunter Compound C Grade

1	Abbigail Keating	436
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Cub Boys Freestyle Unlimited C Grade

1	Cormac Dunshea	1888
2	Lachlan Jones	1546
3	Thomas Webster	1518

Cub Boys Freestyle Unlimited A Grade

1	Alexander Szybel	2208
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Cub Boys Traditional Longbow C Grade

1	Brendan Richards	298
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Cub Boys Bowhunter Recurve C Grade

1	Douglas Jones	512
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Cub Boys Bowhunter Recurve B Grade

1	Declan Kelly	1080
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Cub Boys Bowhunter Recurve A Grade

1	Clayton Kelly	1522
2	Scott Ellis	1356

Cub Boys Bowhunter Compound C Grade

1	Alex Richards	708
2	Logan Richards	538

Junior Girls Bowhunter Unlimited C Grade

1	Jazmyn McDonald	1462
2	Adinah Courtney	1332

Junior Girls Freestyle Limited Recurve C Grade

1	Talia Langton	1488
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Junior Girls Freestyle Unlimited B Grade

1	Ella Tilbrook	1844
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Junior Girls Bowhunter Recurve B Grade

1	Tahlia Blake	872
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Junior Girls Bowhunter Compound A Grade

1	Zara Doak	1438
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Junior Boys Bowhunter Unlimited C Grade

1	Callan Webster	1588
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2	Logan Seamer	1388
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3	Braydon Keating	860
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Junior Boys Bowhunter Unlimited B Grade

1	Tyson Trace	2184
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2	Dylan Powell	2030
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Junior Boys Bowhunter Unlimited A Grade

1	Ethan Wilkinson	2330
2	Will Tilbrook	2140
3	Thomas Fiebig	2118

Junior Boys Freestyle Unlimited B Grade

1	Sam Mufale	2118
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Junior Boys Freestyle Unlimited A Grade

1	Nicholas Scarlett	2158
2	Max Tilbrook	2014

Junior Boys Bowhunter Recurve C Grade

1	Bodie Sutcliffe	900
2	Liam Cumming	860

Junior Boys Bowhunter Recurve A Grade

1	Hugo Lobb	1880
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Junior Boys Bowhunter Compound C Grade

1	Toby Jacques	1684
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Veteran Ladies Sighted

1	Fenny Thompson	1942
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Veteran Mens Sighted

1	Randall J Wellings	2188
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2	Anthony McCallum	2002
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3	Bryce Robertson	900
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Veteran Mens Bowhunter

1	Ray McHugh	1032
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Trad Peg Ladies Traditional Longbow

1	Tammy Murray	554
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Trad Peg Ladies Bowhunter Recurve

1	Melanie Jones	666
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Trad Peg Mens Historical Bow

1	Ross Fleming	1236
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2	Peter Rogers	628
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Trad Peg Mens Traditional Longbow

1	Victor Pope	1130
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2	Elroy Pek	972
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3	Adam Murray	792
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Trad Peg Mens Bowhunter Recurve

1	Chris Manners	1566
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2	Wayne Wilson	1216
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3	Barry Oldland	1058
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Ladies Bowhunter Limited B Grade

1	Joanne Bogie	1728
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Ladies Bowhunter Unlimited C Grade

1	Kathryn Andrews	1646
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2	Kirsty Dunshea	1640
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3	Tracy Pickering	1636
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Ladies Bowhunter Unlimited B Grade

1	Amanda Tilbrook	1782
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2	Karen Connolly	1746
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3	Lindy Allen	1616
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Ladies Bowhunter Unlimited A Grade

1	Jeanette Dowd	2040
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2	Stacey Boundy	1980
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Ladies Freestyle Limited Compound B Grade

1	Raylene Starke	1596
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Ladies Freestyle Limited Recurve C Grade

1	Zara Langton	788
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Ladies Freestyle Unlimited C Grade

1	Dianne Houghton	1684
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2	Narelle Lucas	1496
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3	Karen Power	1272
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Ladies Freestyle Unlimited B Grade

1	Leanne Moore	2018
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2	Katherine Heather	1604
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Ladies Freestyle Unlimited A Grade

1	Kerry Chandler	1926
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Ladies Bowhunter Recurve C Grade

1	Judith Myers-Rooke	722
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2	Christiarna Lee	706
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3	Caitlin Dwyer	608
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Ladies Bowhunter Compound B Grade

1	Ann Stubbs	1436
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Shooting the 3D Championships.

2	Lorraine Black	1090
3	Barbara Kelly	1080
Ladies Bowhunter Compound A Grade		
1	Wendy Gallagher	1426
Mens Bowhunter Limited B Grade		
1	Allan Hall	1506
Mens Bowhunter Unlimited C Grade		
1	Brett Maxwell	1894
2	Darren Risson	1746
3	Paul Haslem	1670
Mens Bowhunter Unlimited B Grade		
1	James Brookes	1990
2	Peter Fiebig	1916
3	Peter John Bush	1904
Mens Bowhunter Unlimited A Grade		
1	Bradley Wilkinson	2216
2	Ryan Tilbrook	2202
3	James Bush	2188
Mens Freestyle Limited Compound B Grade		
1	Richard Starke	1654
Mens Freestyle Limited Compound A Grade		
1	Russell Orgill	1780
Mens Freestyle Unlimited C Grade		
1	Jason Attard	1926
2	Thomas Lawlor	1834
3	Paul Langton	1680
Mens Freestyle Unlimited B Grade		
1	Giacomo Meadows	2070
2	Bradley Powell	2012
3	Cordell McGuire	2006
Mens Freestyle Unlimited A Grade		
1	Bradley Stephan	2276
2	Shaun Bedford	2272
3	David Cross	2268
Mens Modern Longbow C Grade		
1	Jonathan Blake	694
Mens Modern Longbow B Grade		
1	Paul B Williams	1048
2	Darrin Dwyer	820
3	Stephen Blake	814
Mens Modern Longbow A Grade		
1	Lindsay Yuile	1258
2	Geoffrey Blake	1056
3	Reece Tweedale	1024
Mens Traditional Longbow C Grade		
1	Peter Ellul	490
Mens Traditional Longbow B Grade		
1	Raymond Morgan	650
Mens Bowhunter Recurve C Grade		
1	Sam Greville	752
Mens Bowhunter Recurve B Grade		
1	Peter Stubbs	1252
2	Stewart Houghton	1228
3	Norman Webster	1226
Mens Bowhunter Recurve A Grade		
1	Jeremy Gannon	1546
2	Jonathan Layton	1412
3	Bruce Kelleher	1408
Mens Bowhunter Compound C Grade		
1	John Alexander	1000
Mens Bowhunter Compound B Grade		
1	James Dowson	1452
2	John Ellis	1380
3	Shannon Hitchen	1234
Mens Bowhunter Compound A Grade		
1	Alex Spath	1996
2	Troy Hughes	1936
3	Alvyn W Bell	1930



3D Adult Branch Team Winners

1 South Queensland

<i>Score</i>	<i>7690</i>
Kerry Chandler	1976
Jason Chandler	1448
Bradley Stephan	2326
Alvyn W Bell	1940

2 South Australia

<i>Score</i>	<i>7592</i>
Darren Everett	2220
Shannon Hitchen	1244
Brett Raymond	1826
Shaun Bedford	2302

3 Northern New South Wales

<i>Score</i>	<i>7422</i>
Daryl Phillips	2194
Bradley Wilkinson	2266
Ann Stubbs	1486
Brian Taylor	1476

3D Junior Branch Team Winners

1 Greater Victoria

<i>Score</i>	<i>7370</i>
Sam Mufale	2168
Talia Langton	1538
Toby Jacques	1734
Hugo Lobb	1930

2 Northern New South Wales

<i>Score</i>	<i>4018</i>
Ethan Wilkinson	2380
Callan Webster	1638

Full results are available at ABA's website, www.bowhunters.org.au in the downloads section.



BORDER BOWMEN TWO-DAY ABA SHOOT

FRANK CIAMPA

On the weekend of May 18 and 19, an inter-club shoot was held in Bordertown. Despite the small number of members, successful working bees were held prior to the shoot to clean up, gather firewood, rake leaves, set up target butts and find markers. On the Friday, last minute tasks included picking up the mobile toilet, preparing the barbecue trailer and organising ice and drinks.

All the lighting had been done prior by the Border Bowmen President David Hampel and his wife Careen, who camped at the grounds as caretakers and did lots of jobs around the course. Leading up to and including the weekend, the weather was good—20° days, but with cool nights and mornings.

As it was an ABA-sanctioned shoot and nominations had been received the week before, archers were placed into groups on Friday night. The first archers arrived around 1.30pm Friday and others slowly trickled in. Dedicated Branch Controller Brett Raymond and Branch Treasurer

Hazel Kirlew arrived quietly around 11pm.

The next morning the campfire was lit early so archers and followers could have breakfast, a cuppa and chin wag and keep warm at the same time.

A dear friend of ours from Red Cliffs near Mildura, Jan Watkins, arrived on Wednesday and helped Denise with preparation of food and salads and was an enormous help to the club, which was greatly appreciated. Unfortunately long-time member of Border Bowmen Chris Barrett had an injury and hasn't been able to shoot of late. He would have been disappointed to miss the weekend as he loves his archery.

Saturday morning muster was at 9.15, followed by a three-arrow round, Lunch consisted of salad rolls and cake, then the one-arrow round was held. All went smoothly and we finished in good time.

As is our tradition at Border Bowmen, Denise Ciampa commenced her entertainment in the late afternoon. First



Border Bowmen club President David Hampel with Branch Controller Brett Raymond and Branch Treasurer Hazel Kirlew.



Rosco from Mildura (front) and Frank Ciampa, Bordertown.

up was the Bacon Buster Challenge where the archers had to shoot through the centre of a metal pig (made by me quite a few years ago). After each round, a new smaller hole was inserted until we got down to a 50mm hole. Archers have learned to use an old arrow for this event because if you hit the pig, it's goodbye arrow. We had two joint winners in Noel Mewburn (Yogi) and Darren Everett. Winner of the cubs section was also a tie with Jack Gaston and Tyson Benton-Punter. The lucky winners took home a prize of home-made biscuits.

A barbecue evening meal was served with salads followed by pancakes and some more entertainment around the campfire which was enjoyed by all. Approximately 50 people attended.

Sunday morning dawned with a weather forecast for possible heavy showers in the late afternoon. The organisers had planned what they called a loop shoot so archers could start and finish at the camp, going in a clockwise direction and save time so as to beat the rain. This system worked very well and after the two rounds of shooting was completed lunch followed and the scores were tallied. Presentations of medals, a table raffle draw and a group photo followed. A thank-you gift was given to our Branch Controller Brett Raymond and Treasurer Hazel Kirlew for all they do, often unseen. It was then time to farewell competitors and families from afar. We cleaned up and everything was all wrapped up by 3pm. Yes, the rain did come at 6pm and what a beautiful sound it was on the roof as it has been so dry for so long in our neck of the woods.

Border Bowmen would like to thank all the archers and their families who attended our successful shoot.



Glenn Hannemann and Noel Mewburn from Mildura.



Darren Everett and Lindy Allen from Mildura.

Moranbah Bowhunters and Field Archers ABA Invitational



Despite a wet start, the archery at Moranbah was of a very high standard on the weekend of June 8 and 9 for their ABA Invitational. It was challenging, friendly, and a whole lot of fun.

It is good to see cubs and juniors shooting—after all, the younger ones coming up through the ranks are the future of all the clubs.

On Saturday we woke to a very wet and cold day. It was going to be difficult to stay motivated in the wet and cold. The shooters who didn't mind a bit of water and being a bit cold registered to compete in an awesome challenge.

One course had to be closed as it was too wet and slippery to use but that did not deter the shooters from using the other range and having a blast. If you were up for a challenge

then you were in the right place. After a nice hot bacon and egg breakfast and hot coffee, the shooters were ready to take on the challenge.

After bow check it was time to head out. The rain had died down to showers but it was still very cold and the showers coming through were quite heavy. A number of shooters decided to go home.

There were shooters from Saxons, Emerald, Full Draw, Capricorn, and Moranbah.

It would have been one of the biggest shoots this year within the Branch. Even after about 20 went home we still had 52 shooters. It just goes to show everyone loves shooting at Moranbah! The ranges are hilly and there are some really awesome shots.

Because of the wet it took longer than usual to complete the day's shoots. All who stayed and shot said they had a fantastic time.

Knife and Axe was started in the afternoon with a good number participating. The competitors were from cubs to seniors. It's pleasing to see the younger members taking an interest in this sport.

The wet made it a bit difficult for the new score recorder Bec because of the wet score sheets, but she did a brilliant job and had it all completed, with scores up in a good time for all to see. Saturday night dinner was awesome—well done to the folks who prepared the food and kept the hungry mob fed.

On Sunday we woke to a much



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more acceptable day; still a bit cloudy but the sun was actually shining on occasion. The temperature was a lovely 23 degrees. After an inspection of the ranges again, it was decided the closed range was now safe for use. After another great breakfast, the shooters left for another day of shooting, and this time no umbrellas or coats were needed.

Over the weekend there were some very close scores and some personal bests shot. The ranges and the hospitality were brilliant.

Listening to the archers talking, it was pretty obvious that everyone had really enjoyed themselves. It was so good just to sit and listen to the laughter, the kids running around the grounds playing, and the friendly chatter at the clubhouse and smell the smoke from the fires.

Thank you, Moranbah, for a cracking weekend.

The Gold Pen Writers' Award

Archery Action

Submit your story and photos to the Gold Pen Award competition until the end of June 2019 and be in the running to **win a red deer hunt with Trophy Bowhunts Australia valued at \$2000** and a gold pen as well as the writer's fee you receive when your story is used.

Send your entries to
Archery Action Gold Pen Writers' Award, PO Box 638, Stanthorpe, Qld 4380 or email
editor@archeryactionmagazine.com
 Subject: Gold Pen Award entry

All hunting stories are automatically entered in this competition

Around THE TRADS

To receive trad shoot information direct, email a request to:
swallace@wallacetradwoods.com

Sue Wallace

✿ It's a fair drive from the Sunshine Coast in Queensland to Newcastle in New South Wales and I was keeping a keen eye on the weather, as there was one cyclone looming over the Gulf in Queensland and they were not sure of its inland path and another over Western Australia, plus a low pressure system off the coast of New South Wales. Was the HVTA hex going to strike once again? The shoot was now a week away and the forecast was for minimal rain over Saturday down there, so accommodation was booked, vehicle packed and off we went.

We weren't sure about access to the Hunter Valley driveway as the Roads Department was doing continual works on the freeway. We discovered the club track was at the very end of the roadwork barrier wall. Just as we arrived, one of the club members pulled up behind us so we didn't need to call for someone to let us in.

Driving toward the club grounds along the track we were wondering if anyone else had arrived. After we had gone through the second gate, the camping area came into view. We pulled over to one side to look for a spot. There was one chap setting up camp, who we knew, so we wandered

over to say G'day. He was there with his grandson who was doing his first trad shoot. We found a good spot nearby and set up our camp. We didn't have to wait too long for others to arrive and set up camp.

For the Thursday evening meal we all contributed to a different part of the menu, resulting in a small feast. We celebrated our safe arrival and toasted a great weekend in our friend Andy Firth's honour, with good wine, single malt and cigars.

Friday morning boasted blue skies, sunshine and a gentle breeze. We eased ourselves into the day and after lunch as others started to arrive we wandered over to the practice butts for a few shots. Howard had given his grandson Jesse lots of instruction and he was starting to shoot quite well, and we tried to help by giving him an idea of different distances.

Our Friday evening meal was a mixture of contributed foods and it went down a treat, followed once again by some fine quality drinking liquids. There were by bedtime many many campers set up, all looking forward to the weekend.

Around 1.00am spits of rain started, light at first, which dulled the

traffic noise, and then a little heavier, and it was still raining when we got up. It looked like it was setting in. One lot of campers woke up, packed up and left. .

There were quite a few of us huddled under the tarp waiting for the rain to ease so we could go down to the club to get some breakfast and as the weather report indicated that the afternoon would be clear, the shoot was going ahead. Most of us had paid our nomination fees on Friday so only the shooter who arrived on Saturday needed to pay. It was decided to hold the Muster around 9.30am to tell everyone what the plan was; the main part being for everyone to be back in at 3pm to raise a glass as Nick Lintern gave a fabulous speech that the weekend was to honour our friend Andy Firth whose life was cut short rather suddenly by cancer.

Muster was over and the rain had started to ease. Having checked the radar ourselves, we decided to all sit down and have a cuppa, wait for about an hour and then go out. Well that paid off as it started to rain again. Soon the skies started to clear and with brolly in pocket we departed. The score cards had 30 targets, bow



HVTA panther.



Kurwongbah twin goats.



Kurwongbah warthog.

bird, moving target, speed round and hunt round on it, and as we had started rather late, we figured we wouldn't get it all done, so started on one of the courses.

The first 10 targets on the course we did were all rather small, so the young fellow did well to get them—the closer ones can be tricky at times. The last few targets were larger and set back a bit further, so with a bit of guidance he was hitting them regularly, sometimes when we, the more experienced archers, were not.

As the targets were spaced a fair way apart, it took quite a while to walk around, so once we had finished we went back to camp for a late lunch, then thought we'd do the hunt round. There was some confusion between the signage, the markers and scoresheet, so I ran over to the clubhouse for some clarification.

Back I went, explained the 'rules' and we started to shoot. Everyone was done except me. But where was my glove? I always keep it attached to one of the belt loops on my shorts or trousers, where on earth could it be? Well I didn't have time to find it, so I did the event with bare fingers—ouch, ouch, ouch!

As there were eight of us in the group it took a little while to run through, so once we had scored all the arrows, everyone retraced my steps back to the clubhouse where I had run before, then back to camp. I hear you ask, did you find your glove? Yes, about 3ft from camp. I had stopped the fellows to take a photo, had taken my glove off and shoved it under my arm, (as you do), and I guess it fell out and there it lay on the wet leaves until I returned. I was thankful to find it—I didn't want to be breaking in a new glove. I apologised to everyone for my bloneness.

Then it was time for a tribute to Andy Firth – gone yet not forgotten. After that, we ventured off to do the second course. This too had smaller targets. One particularly large glob of silicone, which we think used to be a rat, was a little difficult to hit without shooting through it into the tree, which wasn't terribly kind on arrows. We finally finished this field course, which also had the targets fairly well spaced apart, and with the wind now blowing in gusts we decided to skip the bow bird and do the speed round. It was now rather late in the day, so I took the score cards up to the shed

and asked if we could finish the following day.

Meanwhile back in camp Saturday dinner was being planned by the chaps over a tall glass of stout. We had jacket potatoes wrapped in alfoil and cooked in the coals, with various brands of fancy sausages from Europe and South Africa, plus some steaks and breadrolls with cooked tomato, onion and sliced speck. This was followed by South Australian triple cream brie with the biggest bag of corn chips I have ever seen.

The next day no more rain had been received or was expected, so the chaps went to the clubhouse for a bacon and egg burger before we set off to the running pig from the previous day's sheet, so I could then get the score sheets for today. For the Sunday, if people wanted to shoot, they gave you scorecards that were pink. They were not entered as a separate score to be included in the total; they were used as a comparison to your previous field course scores only. We just wanted to shoot some more, however one of our group had had enough of the long walking distances between the targets around the courses and packed up to drive home. The rest of

us did the two courses and I handed in the sheets.

A lot of people were packing up waiting for the presentations, but as we were not leaving until Monday morning, we sat down for some light refreshments before heading down when muster was called.

Our group, which was made up of travellers from as far away as Southern NSW, the Shoalhaven area in NSW and the Sunshine and Cooloola Coasts in Queensland, did quite well in the overall scheme of things at the presentations including the young fellow who claimed his first trophy in a competition.

With the comparison scores they were giving out certificates and chocolates, and members of our group received all of them—Most Improved Adult Male, Most Improved Adult Female, and Most Improved Junior. Mr Towball had written two numbers on the top of his head, -10 and -25. These negative numbers were for a prize given to the archer who didn't shoot quite as well on the pink score cards, and one of our group won that as well.

We headed back to our camp and over a couple of stouts, organised our dinner. After our meal the night's entertainment arrived. His name by the end of the night was 'Way'. He had regaled us with many hilarious tales of his exploits when he was a

pest exterminator, and his experiences with foreign customers not being able to pronounce the letter 'R'. As you can imagine we were still calling him 'Way' the next day, and will continue to do so should our paths cross again.

On Monday we packed up and hit the road for the drive home.

🌿 The Kurwongbah Open was originally down as a two-day shoot, and even though not strictly a trad shoot, the targets are set at hunting distances. A few of us had already made plans to stay with a friend who lived near the club, and when the club changed the shoot to just the Sunday, we decided to stay Saturday night anyway. As there were three shoots in a row some travellers from Southern NSW and also Newcastle were going to this shoot too.

We had a wonderful time on Saturday night with our friends then on Sunday morning after a hearty breakfast of bacon and eggs, we headed out to the Lakeside club's course.

A total of 36 archers were there for the day, and only nine of them were not shooting trad gear. We received instruction and then set out for the course.

All 24 of the 3D targets were set in very realistic situations. We were to shoot two arrows at each target, unless there were two targets set up,

in which case we were to shoot one arrow at each target. This was made a little challenging at one of the target pegs, as the second goat was situated just behind the first goat, so you'd land the arrow in the first one, then if you didn't quite get it right, you'd land the second shot also in the first one, and well, that's a miss. At the first target, there was a rather large wildebeest with a slightly smaller deer in front of it, and the animals were facing different directions. There were only two in our group who landed an arrow in both targets.

Once we had done the field course we grabbed some lunch before doing the speed round. This was set up just near the underground septic tanks, which were a little on the nose as they were supposed to have been emptied, so it certainly got the groups moving along. You needed to go for the green cube first, whether you hit or missed, and then carry on with the rest of the animals.

The hunt round was set up at the side of the camping area and the targets were set up along a meandering path which you followed and then had to shoot each target from its own peg. This event was timed for one minute. Scoring for all the targets including the speed and hunt round was 10, 8 and 5.

While the scores were being tallied, an 80yard shot at a very large



Turkey amongst the tyres



Garden target.



White Rose fort.

pig was set up in front of the practice butts. It was \$2 for three shots and ended in a tie, one chap using a recurve and one chap using a compound with sights and release aid.

The presentations were then done and the men's recurve winner, Mr McGuire, was also the overall points winner. Top marks to the range captain and his helper for the realistic target placings.

The Lakeside club has its the Jules Shield Trad shoot coming up on July 6 and 7.

* The North Albert Field Archers Traditional Rendezvous is held over the Easter long weekend, which was April 19 to 22 this year, so some of us take advantage and head down Thursday. We were tootling down the freeway toward Brisbane under grey cloudy skies, knowing the forecast was for possible showers through to Saturday. We were going regardless of the weather, as camping with friends over a long weekend is always

great, and even better when it's at a traditional archery event.

There wasn't much in the way of rain on Thursday during the day, and there were six campsites set up, which was great. Even though we had a couple of showers during our dinner, the almost full moon was shining brilliantly in the sky as we headed off to bed.

Friday dawned with overcast skies and a bit of drizzle. There had been one brief heavy shower of rain and the club had kindly left one of their regular courses open with vinyl type targets on them, so we wandered, rather casually, around the course and got back to camp just as the rain started again. After lunch and a couple of brief showers we went to the practice butts for a little shot at the different distances, ducking under the cover when another burst of rain fell. We enjoyed our evening feast of fish, which had been caught on the south coast of NSW especially for the occasion and expertly battered by

the chef of the evening, along with potato scallops and salad. A few more showers fell. By Friday evening only another four campsite had been set up—it seemed the rain was keeping people away. After the downpour we received through the night, we wondered if any more would turn up for the shoot.

On Saturday morning the sun was shining and the carpark was starting to fill with archers who had decided to be day visitors instead of camping. By muster time we had 58 archers ready to go, which included travellers from Tooma in Southern NSW, Shellharbour and Newcastle NSW who were doing three or four of the trad shoots during the month.

At North Albert there were two courses of 15 3D targets. On Saturday and on your first course of choice you shot two arrows, then you only shot one arrow on your second course of choice (or you could do it the other way around, as long as you shot two arrows on one course and only one

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arrow on the other course). Then on the Sunday you shot both courses the other way around—no I don't mean you walked backwards, you shot one on two and two on one, opposite to Saturday—trust me it's easier when you're there!

We chose to do the course across the road as our two-arrow round on Saturday morning. We made sure we had brollies just in case, and at Target 2 it started to drizzle, only stopping when we put up our brollies. We found a target strategically placed at the end of a tyre tunnel which you had to shoot through to get to a fat turkey. Still one fellow hit the tyre instead.

One of the targets on this course was at the bottom of a gravel-filled-tyre downhill walkway, and even when we were standing on the peg it took us a little while to find the very well camouflaged Stegosaurus target in the long grass. The gamble shot was the big white oxen of some description and a wolverine in the quarry.

Another target had branches strategically placed not far from the shooting peg. Some of us vertically challenged people had to kneel while taller people could shoot over the top, and those who weren't overly tall had to do a little bit of arrow weaving!

When we got to 15, the target seemed to be around the wrong way

so the chaps went to investigate, only to find that it was facing correctly—a bright pink backside of a baboon nestled in between two tree trunks.

The second course was a one-arrow round. The Jackalope was an interesting looking target and the gamble shot on the course was a very big lion at a distance—or you could try for the closer beaver. All our group took the gamble shot, and all with success.

There were a couple of bear targets set in the woods and a very small white bear was the final target. It was to be shot through a hole in some shade cloth, which was quite interesting. Following the completion of this course, we stopped for lunch and would do the novelties later in the afternoon.

There was already a group at the 30-second speed round so we went to do the rolling discs. The disc came down at a sharpish angle and the ground level was also downhill, so the disc rolled at a pace. The next event was the running pig.

The hunt round was set up along a wide track, with four targets down one side and four targets down the other side. Right-handed archers start and run up one side then down the other, then back up again if they have time, whereas left-handed arch-

ers could start on the other side. The club had even gone to all the trouble of double numbering the target spots for both left-handed and right-handed persons. The targets were all set at very gettable distances ... it was the settings that made the difference. A rather large orange cane toad in the middle of a green bush, a huge cobra between two trees in the open, a pig that had its vitals visible just over the top of the lantana were only a few of the targets in this 60-second event.

The 30-second speed round was found to the side of the water tanks, with six targets set at different distances which were to be shot from a static spot. Once this event was done, we only had the bow bird to compete where someone stands behind a solid barrier and throws discs into the air, which we needed to hit with flu flus. One group of shooters had a very successful round with four hits on three discs. There was one flu flu lodged in the foliage of the big gum tree which we figured would come down eventually. (Just like the one that was in the same foliage clump as last year, and the fellow collected at this shoot).

Around 6.30pm the heavens just opened up and it rained quite heavily on and off during the night, however as we walked around the two courses on Sunday, we were quite surprised to not see water lying around. The only place there was a huge puddle, well, a pond, was right behind the long gamble shot target on our one-arrow course, and of course a couple of our arrows ended up in the pond.

There was one group that must have started later, and was a little slower than the rest, so the presentations were delayed slightly. It was really good to see that all the archers from Saturday had returned for the Sunday as well, despite the heavy overnight rain. Great work was done by the range captain and his helpers. It was a shame that more didn't show,



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but great to hear that the shoot will most likely be on again next year. So please mark your calendar for Easter weekend April 11 and 12 in 2020.

This year there is also a second trad shoot being held over the weekend of October 26 and 27.

✿ As we sat under dreary skies having a cup of tea, we were contemplating how many would pull out for the upcoming shoot at Chevallan Archery Park. It was being held over the weekend April 27 and 28 and most of those coming had already experienced a dampish shoot the previous weekend.

The rain did ease off a little as we arrived, with one camp already set up, and we were pleasantly surprised when, by 5pm, all archers had arrived and managed to set camp. Just before dinner a couple of people arrived by pushbike to camp for the weekend. They were from Germany and were taking 12 months to cycle around Australia. The German couple were quite interested in our archery chatter and we suggested they follow us around the course tomorrow.

Saturday morning had clear blue skies and sunshine—a complete contrast from the previous day. After a hearty breakfast I did the registrations and a couple more archers arrived, some just to shoot for the day. Around 8.30am I did the muster then everyone set off for the day.

The travelling archers from Southern NSW had joined us for the weekend, so the shoot group was quite large and they wanted to do the field course first. Thankfully the way the field course is set out, you can bypass as many targets with archers on them as you like and just start shooting at one that is unoccupied, then do the ones you missed on the way back. There were 25 two-arrow 3D targets. The creek was up a little as it had been raining on and off, quite heavily at times, all week, so most of the tar-

gets on the course were placed high and dry. The dappled sunlight coming through the wet leaves and reflecting off the wet ground was making some of the targets challenging to see and the large group meant that the score zones on some of the targets were getting a little crowded.

The infamous Target 81 for this shoot was a walking leopard set as a downhill shot, with the sitting leopard as Target 19.

After a stop at the tea tent for morning cuppa and biscuits, we finished the field course, which had the gamble shot as the final target. As the field course runs around the edge of the property, to get back up to the shed you have a choice to either do some of the novelties on the way back or leave them and come down later after lunch. We chose to do the hunt round, the moving pig and two targets we had missed before lunch.

The hunt round for this shoot was a completely different set up—you started on the blue X, moved to first orange plate and shot the first target, then walked to the first target to find the orange shooting plate and shoot the second target, then walked to the second target to find the orange plate to shoot the third target and so forth until you got to the sixth target, then you walked to that target, found the plate and turned around to shoot back at Target 5 and so forth until time runs out. We set the time at 90 seconds to give all a fair chance of at least getting to the end of the first run, and there were a couple of us who did make it back to the first target.

The two German tourists enjoyed their morning walk and also joined us for lunch.

Once we'd had a break we walked across toward the rolling disc, which was being done by another group, so on to the owls on the popinjay. Our group usually does the clout and popinjay first up in the morning while the

sun is lower in the sky, however, as we had done the field course first, by now the sun was shining rather brightly straight into our eyes. Then we did the clout range and this too was a little light challenging.

This was then followed by the rolling disc, the 30-second speed round, which for this event was set up in the round yard, with six targets of various sizes being shot from one static position just inside the gateway, followed by the horizontal popinjay, which we

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shot with flu flus. The round hinged discs had been spray painted very bright colours.

By now it was getting late in the afternoon, so while I keyed in all the scores everyone else settled back with some refreshments.

A couple more campers had arrived during the afternoon and they also joined us for dinner. One lady was from Holland, and the other two were Canadians who now live in Brisbane, and also the German couple too.

After dinner we started the fire and also sat around the table nearby enjoying our refreshments and celebrating life.

On the Sunday we don't do a muster and the groups can go out when they are ready. A couple of the locals had also joined us.

Our group had grown by two more shooters this morning as the German couple hired some archery equipment and set to go around with us. This made the group a little too big, so at the second target one fellow who was giving marvellous verbal instruction, chose to take the beginners on to the next target, shoot his arrows, then let them shoot and collect their arrows while leaving his in the target. We could score his after we had shot, then one of us couriered his arrows on to him, while the Canadian visitors walked around and watched the rest of us shooting.

Today we had the field course, the moving target, 30-second speed round and the rolling discs to shoot.

There was only one couple still munching on lunch when I started the presentations, and I wanted to get them over and done so those heading back to the Brisbane area could get away. It was great that everyone turned up, despite the weather's best intention to dampen our enthusiasm.

☀ The Gladstone Longbow and Recurve Muster was held over the

weekend of May 4 and 5. Friday was muggy as it rained, and Sunday was beaut. There were about 35 people, food was good, on Saturday there were two 20-target courses—one as a three-arrow round and the other as a one-arrow round. Novelties included a flying pig shot with flu flus at the practice butts, a hunt round and the Catastrophic, where you shot at a cat before the pendulum type apparatus came back. On Sunday there were also the two target courses, just the other way around. Novelties were a rolling ball, the speed round and a windmill where you had to hit a target between the blades.

☀ Who would have thought that on the last weekend in May in Irymple Victoria, I would be wearing a short-sleeved shirt, waiting to shoot one of the many targets to be found at the White Rose Archery Klub Inc? The day was glorious, with clear blue sunny skies and the temperature in the high teens.

Four of us had set off in two cars from the Sunshine Coast/Brisbane area for a road trip to Mildura on the Wednesday before the May 25 and 26 weekend trad shoot. We arrived on Friday afternoon and set up camp. I had seen photos of the set-up, so thought I had an idea of what to expect, however, I hadn't realised how many targets were set up in what can best be described as a very large backyard. The course was set on less than an acre in amongst 24 acres of sultana grapes of the neighbouring property, with many citrus trees which were all full of very ripe fruit.

There were archers from Queensland, Mannum and Renmark SA, Broken Hill and Bega NSW, Swan Hill, Ararat, Mildura Victoria, and we had all gathered to celebrate Roadie's Birthday Trad Shoot. Once the muster was done, we started with five arrows at the rolling disc; two people shoot-

ing at a time. Where else, I wondered, could you recline in an armchair to watch archers shooting from the doorway of a shed while you waited your turn? To make it more interesting, the rolling discs were various sizes as well.

The next event was the windmill, which had two arms that rotated from behind a cover and each end had a 2D duck attached to it. A little tricky at first, and a whole lot of fun shooting six arrows in total. We then moved across to the indoor range which had a FITA 60cm coloured target face, an ABA colour turkey target and a 2D duck, and we shot two arrows at each target from different distances, two archers at a time.

The next section had a 3D fox, a 60cm cardboard square which had three small red/yellow circle targets and the two white/black circle targets which if hit had points deducted from the score and another 2D duck. We shot two arrows at each of this group of targets from different pgs, also two archers at a time.

In the next alcove, which we shot from in front of the pear trees and tank area, were a 2D turkey, a 3D cat with bird in mouth, and three rats in the vertical position which were shot with two arrows, also from different pgs. We were then treated to lunch before we continued onto the other side of the yard, where we found three 3D targets of a rabbit, cat and small pig lying in front of a paper Bundy bear, then a sitting deer, then, along a little, was a paper pterodactyl with a very small red circle to shoot at, a 3D cat, a 3D dodo hidden in the grass, and an interesting 2D crocodile, which were all first shot from various positions with one arrow at each, two archers at a time.

Some of us then walked up the stairs of the 'fort' and shot down to the Bundy bear, pterodactyl, 3D cat, dodo and 2D croc again, while some

stayed near the base of the castle and shot across at another set of targets consisting of 2D carp, 3D cat, 3D lying down rabbit and a rabbit square, from between the pear trees, all with one arrow only, then with one flu flu at each of the three coloured bottles hanging down, which were shot from the very base of the fort stairs.

We then had a short break before piling all our gear and ourselves into a few vehicles and heading up to the Elmtree Gardens Nursery, which closes to the public at 3pm which meant we had the place to ourselves, and where we found 20 targets set in various locations, all strategically placed around the grounds. There was a mixture of 3D targets, 2D targets, paper targets, including a pig in a tutu, three little pigs (one in a house of straw, one in a house of sticks and one in a house of bricks) with the straw house target closer to the archer and a big door to shoot through leading to the third pig in the brick house sitting about 5ft behind a smaller hole cut in the front of the 'house'. Beside this there was a wolf with a heart and lung shot. At some pegs were found two or more targets so all targets were shot with one arrow, then scores added together for the one score onto the sheet, including a dinosaur collection of five 2D targets.

We split into two groups and worked our way around—one group starting in the front grounds of the nursery, the other group at the paddock toward the back of the nursery. It certainly took a little while to go around the entire course and as the shadows were getting longer and the wind was becoming a little fresh, we finished up and headed back to Roadie's place for some nibblies. Once it was dark, some archers had a few shots at the rolling discs with glow sticks attached—which was a whole lot of fun. We then had Heather's homemade soup and a dinner of vari-

ous different sausages, with mashed potato and a wonderful onion gravy, plus dessert which was a big birthday cake for Roadie.

The evening was made complete with a fabulous fire and even some roasted chestnuts. It was a little windy and cool, and we had at least 12 drops of rain, just enough to cause us to scamper to the verandah briefly.

It was brisk the next morning and we had an early start, as we needed to be at the nursery by 8am to complete the course before opening hours (which somehow we did). Our fingers were really cold which made loosing the string a little painful at times, and the sun was certainly taking its sweet time warming up the day.

The final event was the carp challenge, where you shot three arrows and needed to hit the target in the big circle to move into the next round, which was then shot from a little further back until the final round where the winner was the archer closest to the centre of the middle circle. The event was taken out by one of the Queensland archers. Way to go, Dezi.

Once the carp challenge had been run, we collated the scores and held the presentations so those who needed to travel today could get away. The rest of us got the fire going and brought out nibblies to graze on from about 1pm through to dinner time. We did go for a walk mid-afternoon into the citrus grove and filled a bag full of mandarines and oranges, then had some freshly cooked pizza when we returned before cooking a barbecue dinner.

Some well needed rain fell in the wee hours of Monday morning, which meant some of our gear was a little wet when packed.

Everyone had a fantastic time; it was a really enjoyable weekend and Roadie has done great work in marking a most interesting course in his

yard. A big thank you must also go Lance at the Elmtree Gardens Nursery for allowing the use and access for the extended course.

Keep your eye out for the flyer for the August or September shoot and if you're travelling in the Mildura area then I am sure Roadie will be happy to accommodate you.

✳ Trad shoots confirmed for August-September are North Burnett Trad (Queensland) and Dunolly (Victoria) Trad Shoot August 3 and 4, Stanthorpe Trad Shoot August 10 and 11, Sunshine Coast Bowmen August 18, Swan Hill August 24 and 25, Townsville and Chevallan Archery Park Full Day August 25 (date may change), Tully (Queensland) 31 August-September 1, White Rose Irymple September 7 and 8.

✳ Reports from : HVTA The Gathering, Coffs Harbour Trad shoot, Chevallan Archery Park Memorial Trad Day, Jules Shield Lakeside Bowmen, Chevallan Archery Park, Bega European Match-play should be in the next magazine.

You will find the further information and available flyers for the traditional shoots on the following websites:

Wallace Woods: www.wallaceradwoods.com > Shoot information (proposed 2019 calendar, and will have the link to the shoot flyers as they become available)

Ozbow: www.ozbow.net > Traditional Archery Events > each shoot has an individual thread

Chevallan Archery Park: www.chevallanarcherypark.com—for the 2019 proposed traditional shoot calendar, IBO approved African 3D targets now with replaceable centres, customised archery medals.

Traditional Archery Australia: www.traditionalarcheryaustralia.org > Shoot Information.

I look forward to seeing you en'round the trads in 2019.

ROY ROSE

Meanderings



Recurvers switching to a compound—a new and exciting shooting experience

There are a number of valid reasons that recurve archers decide to go to the 'dark side' and switch to the compound discipline. Firstly, a desire to elevate your scoring potential can be enough to entice an experienced recurver to make the change. Perhaps injury may necessitate the need for a much lighter holding weight and thus enable an avid competitor to continue. Age too can be a defining reason, allowing a veteran shooter to explore a new discipline and an opportunity to continue to be competitive.

Whatever the thinking, it is certainly a new and exciting archery adventure, and the skills one has honed as a recurve exponent remain valid. Invariably, quality recurvers make quality compounders, and recreational recurvers enjoy the rise in scores which the move to the compound bow will yield.

We all shoot with a universal objective to repeatedly hit what we are aiming at, and the changeover to compound has the obvious advantage of potentially raised accuracy levels. The obvious question is, why?

There is one dominant reason and a number of lesser—but significant—pluses. Holding a reduced poundage, having a peep sight on the string for alignment, utilising a lens sight to assist aiming, are all positives—but the major plus is the advantage of the release aid.

For a recurve archer, the finger hold at anchor and the subsequent release of the string, no matter how precise, causes, oscillation, and a bending of the shaft around the bow. This, in super-slow-motion, is quite horrendous to view. This phenomenon, known as the archer's paradox, can very easily cause inaccuracies left and right specifically if the archer's alignment is poor or the actual release is suspect.

Today's compound bow manufacture, married to a one-point release directly behind the nock via a string loop and a release aid, virtually eliminates the archer's paradox and, logically, enhances accuracy.

So what specifically does the newcomer to compound experience and what recurve traits put the archer in a positive position to be quite quickly effective?

Well, the pillars of recurve form and execution (namely comfort, alignment and an unanticipated release), are the same attributes which the compound archer exploits in his or her quest for accuracy.

A compound bow, once the new archer experiences the draw past the peak weight into the valley and anchor, is clearly a more comfortable proposition. The holding weight is down to 80 per cent, the anchor is more comfortable, the alignment has the guarantee of the peep sight, the target size is magnified and correct use of the release aid facilitates an unanticipated and fluent release. It is imperative that the initial efforts with a release aid of any type are correctly taught and absorbed. Attaining a surprise release by the utilisation of the meticulous operation of whatever release aid is being employed is a critical starting point. Punching a light trigger may initially result in decent and encouraging accuracy, but proper release aid execution right from day one is imperative to avoid aiming and panic issues in the future.

The first experience with a release aid shot in an unanticipated manner is quite different from recurve release when a clicker triggers the shot. However, it quickly becomes

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a comfortable experience and the resulting upgrade in accuracy levels is most enjoyable and encouraging.

One quite immediate decision is the choice of a release aid. There are four main model types and each can be shot in the correct unanticipated fashion and each type has its specific uses (and elite proponents who achieve superior results).

The hunting fraternity usually favours the index finger models, while the thumb trigger and hinge releases are the general domain of the target hierarchy. The set pressure evolution-type models are predominantly employed as a training aid to teach archers the pulling motion to obtain surprise execution.

For the recurver crossing to compound, the purchase of a release aid is considerably dearer than the recurve tab. If at all possible, this choice needs to be made after an opportunity to test the various models to determine which creates the best level of execution comfort. Many elite compounders retain their original release model for the entirety of their careers.

Recurvers used to the standard long rod and V-bar set up in evidence universally across major competition may need to experiment with the various options popular among the


leading compounders. The recurve combination is used by some compounders but the usual format is a single side rod and a long front rod. The side rod can be positioned in a lower position on the handle or at the long rod bushing.

One situation to be aware of is the settling of your specific draw length, because a number of bow companies have a particular draw length module, while others vary from a trio of draw length adjustment options up to a wide range of settings.

Cost wise, surprisingly, there is not a major difference—particularly at the high end—in the change from recurve to compound except for the purchase of your release aid option.

Finally, I must repeat the absolute necessity to have a coach or quality club member demonstrate the unanticipated operation of your release aid choice. Start out correctly, and your chances of anticipation issues in the future will be largely minimised.

As someone who in his later years made the change, I can promise you that many new and positive experiences—and a resurgence in your archery interest—await you. And that will add decades to your involvement and shooting pleasure.

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WES O'BRIEN

I arrived hot and tired after a long flight and was picked up at the airport in Jo'burg by my professional hunter, John. We drove to the farm where I would be staying in Limpopo. I would be camping and hunting in the same area. I met the team running the farm; Adriaan, John, Peiter and Fanie and Elliott. After I'd settled in at the camp, John showed me around including a tour of the hunting ground where I saw a heap of game as well. The place was fantastic! There was a

great living and eating set-up as well.

The next morning, no alarm was needed as the resident rooster started crowing at 3.45am at one end of the farm and then the other rooster at the other side of the farm joined in, which then started the turkeys up. Then the farm dogs came to check on me ... so much for sleeping in. A quick breakfast, then out to one of the hides to wait. After about an hour the animals started to arrive, blue wildebeest, impala and a blesbok. After about 20 minutes

they settled and I just had to wait for a good side-on shot. The blesbok turned. Awesome! The distance was about 25m so I took aim and released; a perfect shot—heart/lung. He ran about 40m then expired (I had been practising for three months before, up to 30m with heavier arrows.)

That animal was taken back to the farm and butchered. That fed us for the whole week—nothing goes to waste. We went back to the farm, had lunch and a rest then back to the hunt about



ABOVE: The first animal taken, a blesbok.

FACING PAGE, TOP: The sun sets and the search for the wildebeest is over for the day.

FACING PAGE, BOTTOM: The games room, bar and kitchen area.



The head of the wildebeest was salvaged, but the jackals got the rest.

when one turned at a perfect angle. It was about 35m. I took the shot but it was about an inch off heart/lung and the animal took off. We tracked it for a while but when it became too dark to see we went back to camp.

The next morning the rooster alarm went off nice and early. We found the previous day's beast and managed to salvage the head and horns. Nothing else left as the jackals had come in during the night.

We went to a different hide and watched the wildebeests starting to arrive, along with some impala. They were about 40m out so it was a waiting game. Suddenly a big wildebeest appeared about 24m away. I held my

3pm. I settled in the hide and after about an hour the wildebeests came in. They were very flighty and we had to wait for about 20 minutes for them to settle. The sun was just going down

breath, just waiting for it to get in the right position for a shot. Damn, about 40m out I could then see two kudu bulls checking the safety of the waterhole before approaching. No luck: They returned to the safety of the bush. Then the wildebeest offered me a great shot. Got him! Celebrations! He was an inch and a half over trophy size and one of the hardest animals to hunt.

I had taken three animals in the first two days and that night I was feeling like the 24-hour trip was well worth it. Adriaan cooked a great meal and a few beers were drunk after a long day in 35-degree heat. I wasn't sleepy and as the night was mild, a snooker match was on. All meals were cooked outside on an open fire where we sat around and planned the next day's hunt. The more we talked and drank, the bigger our animals got.

The next day we set off early again out to a different hide. It was a long wait and I'd had a late night so I had a short nap. I was lucky not to get eaten by a lion as my guide fell asleep too—or maybe he was just resting his eyes! I saw a few animals but they did not give me a heart/lung shot so we returned to camp, had lunch and watched Australia beating South Africa in the rugby. Oops!

Back at the hide, we again had about an hour's wait. A few animals came in, including several impalas but they were all female. About 100m out two gemsboks were heading for the waterhole and after a half-hour wait they were in range, about 40m. John told me to wait so I would get the perfect shot, 10 minutes later they were within 20m, side on, so I drew back and let it go with a spot-on shot. The gemsbok expired within 30m and was taken back to the farm, butchered and placed in the cool room. (The animal is skinned and the trophy taken then the meat is given to the local charities.)

The next day I was looking for an



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This wildebeest was a great trophy. Pictured (from left): the outfitter Adriaan, professional hunter John and Wes.

impala, zebra or warthog. Baboons were free if you could get one (but they were too smart and you could not get within 500m). John and I sat in the hide most of the day, not seeing any of the animals that I was still after. Three giraffes came in and I could not get over their size—what amazing animals! I just sat and drank it all in for about an hour.

We went back to camp and I was looking forward to a good meal, a few beers and to play pool. Then I started talking to Adriaan, who runs the hunt, and he asked me about shooting a kudu. This was not in my package so after a couple of hours and a few beers, we agreed on a price. I was thinking that they would not come in close enough to get a shot. So next morning John and I set out again. We were all set up in the hide before the impalas started to come in. After about an hour, I saw a good buck on his way for a drink. He was 38m out

when I took the shot. He jumped the string so my shot was an inch or two low and he took off. The local tracker Elliott tracked the blood trail; he was great to watch. Then we went back to camp for lunch and a couple of hours' rest.

John and I set out for the afternoon hunt. I was pretty happy with how things had gone so far and I still had a couple of days left. After a little time, a few wildebeests came in and had a drink then off they went. Next we could see a herd of impala approaching the hide, we could see a really big impala buck with the herd, trophy size for sure. I was thinking, "So this will be my last animal." He was about 40m out from the water when John tapped me on the shoulder and pointed to a big grey ghost (a kudu) coming in behind the impalas. The kudu waited for another 10 minutes. Checking everything out to make sure he was safe to come in. After a little bit

of time he came in within 18m, perfect position to take a shot, pulled back, aimed and released. I hit him dead in the heart and he expired within 20m. I think John was more excited than I was! John thought it was the biggest target I had shot for the week.

There were still two days to go on my safari and I had shot all the animals in my package deal and more.

John and Adriaan suggested that we should go over to the other farm. They needed some meat to make some jerky and sausages, and warthogs were the target. They told me I could have the skulls and tusks if we got any. They were hunting with their rifles. The only thing we saw was a baboon, which was out of range, zebra and impala, so no skulls for the club. This cattle farm is going to be turned into a hunting farm as well as apparently there's not much profit in cattle.

I had a day and half left, and resting before the flight home sounded good.



ABOVE: The gemsbok.

But that changed when Adriaan asked me what type of music I liked and I said ACDC thunder. So in the middle of the South African bush we had ACDC pumping. I hadn't thought he would have that type of music—I was only joking!

The next day was Friday, so it was time to pack up. We went shopping



LEFT: Another antelope down.



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After Wes took this kudu it was butchered for its meat.

for some gifts and stuff as I had not left the farm all week. On Friday afternoon they told us that Peiter, one of the guides, was getting married the following week and so we had a buck's night for him. Well, what a great night. The next day we would be off to the airport early—the last rooster alarm for me. I had a bit of a hangover so it was going to be a long trip home.

I managed to shoot six good trophy animals and the guys will be arranging all the cleaning and taxidermy for me plus the shipping pack to Australia. All I have to do is convince the missus to let me put them up in the house.

I'd like to thank Bow Hunting Safaris South Africa and the team for their hospitality and making me feel so welcome. I went over as a client and left as a friend. Now I want to go back next year! I'm still working out what animals to hunt next time.



Look who's hiding among the trees.



Nick Lintern TRADITIONAL TRAILS

Hi to all our readers and welcome to the next instalment of Traditional Trails. As I sit down to write this issue's article I have just arrived home after the Hunter Valley Traditional Archers (HVTA) annual Gathering. This year was the 20th anniversary and it was well attended. There were around 190 people on site and over 150 shooters. The biggest excitement, though, was the huge number of kids who were there, all shooting and having a great time. Encouraging families to attend these events and getting the kids shooting is the most important thing we all can do. At HVTA we have always done that very thing, getting families shooting together and encouraging the youngsters. After all, they are the future. We want to pass the baton on to the kids in order to keep this amazing way of life with all of its benefits going into the future. The larger HVTA shoots always have extra novelties for the kids and special awards. I think if we all focus some energy on looking after families and kids, we can ensure that archery can be strong long after we're all in our dotage.

Traditional bow tuning revisited

In this issue I have decided to revisit a subject I wrote about many years ago, but in a slightly different, step-by-step fashion: Traditional bow tuning. I want to cover this again as there is still a large amount of confusion out there about how to set up a traditional bow and get arrows coming out straight and true.

Also, in truly traditional bows there is no adjustment on the bow that can be tweaked to improve arrow flight et cetera. The only bow adjustment is the nocking point. There are no pressure buttons et cetera. So we have to get our arrows right in order to get that perfect flight. I've seen many a bad mismatch of bow, archer and arrow so let's have another look at how to tune a traditional bow.

What's going on?

In order to understand bow tuning, we need to have a look at what's going on when we shoot a bow. I'll do this from a right-hander's perspective but it makes no difference for a lefty. You just see it in reverse; the principle is the same.

Let's start from full draw. It's when we release an arrow that the excitement begins. When an arrow is released, a sudden violent force is imparted to the back of the stationary arrow. The arrow naturally has a point of some kind which creates resistance to movement (inertia). The effect is that the shaft of the arrow bends away from the bow initially and as the inertia is overcome, it then accelerates forward and bends back the other way in response to the first bend out. Then as the arrow speeds on its way to the target, the to-and-fro action continues until the arrow is flying straight. This is the archer's paradox. Many high speed videos and pieces of film have been made of this phenomenon over many years to try to gain a deeper understanding of it, and help archers get the best performing bow/arrow set-up they can. The trick is to get the timing of this bend perfect for your given bow. We don't want the arrow bending back for the second bend until it is just clear of the bow. This is what arrow spine is all about. If the arrow is too stiff it will come back too soon and hit the bow, pushing it left as you shoot. If too weak, it will bend excessively, and the paradox will continue too long, resulting in arrows flying all over the place. Wooden shafts/arrows are sold in 5# spine increments to suit all weights of bows. The static spine of these shafts has been established by placing a 2# weight in the middle of the shaft while it is supported 26in apart. Also as an international standard, there is an assumption of 125 grains of point weight and 28in to the back of the point. This has been proven in most cases to be accurate and correct so the spine values—or deflections with a 2# weight—have been set according to that base standard. Later in the article, we will look at varying point weights and arrow lengths and different bow types and look at the effect this has. It is really simple. There really is no need to overthink it or stress out about tuning your bow.

Where to start

Let's look at setting up and tuning our bow in a step-by-step fashion. Tuning a traditional bow is very easy. The number one rule is don't overthink it. This is not a complicated process. Let's start with a 50# longbow with a 28in draw with a 125 grain field point or broadhead. Let's also assume a split finger draw and also assume that the brace height is around 6in to 6½in with a straight-end longbow or



Nock aligning the quarter-sawn edge of the shaft.

6½in to 7in with a deflex/reflex bow.

The first thing is to put a nocking point on the string. Grab yourself a bow square and clip it on your string and rest the square on your arrow rest. Make sure the square is sitting lightly and freely on the rest. Now at a point that is 3/8in up from square, set your nocking point. I like dental floss and a blob of super glue over a copper nock, as copper nocks can be harsh on your glove or tab and are a little prone to moving. They are good for tuning, though, as they can be adjusted easily. You could tune your bow with the copper one and when you're happy, go to dental floss.

This 3/8in up nock position will mean your arrow is sitting about 1/8in up from square, which is about right. If there is already a nocking point in place, check that it is close to that position. The next step is to get some 50/55 spine shafts. Check they are straight and fit a nock to say, three of them. Ensure the nock correctly aligns the grain, that is the side of the nock aligns the quarter-sawn edge of your shaft (*see photo above*). If this small—but very important point—is missed, your arrows won't stay at the right spine for long and all your tuning efforts will be in vain. Cut them to length; probably at 29in depending on your point taper depth and fit your point. This is where Top Hat points really come into their own. No glue, quick on and off. But a glue-on point is fine. Now fit three 5in feathers—15 inches of guidance is good for a 50# bow but you can go to three 4in feathers if you prefer. Any shape of feather is fine—parabolic, shield cut et cetera. You now have a basic arrow ready to shoot. Now on to our tuning. Go out to your target and simply shoot all three arrows at about 5m to 10m.

Okay, let's look at the results: If your arrows flew straight and true and you could group them fairly tightly, happy days! Just make more arrows the same way. If however, the arrows waved at you or 'porpoised' on their way to the target, you will have to move your nocking point up or down a tad. Start by going up an 1/8in and see what that does. As soon as the waving stops and the arrow is flying true and flat, your nocking point is correct and you can move on. It is very rare that the 3/8in up position is wrong. If it is very wrong, you would need to look at the bow's tiller as it is probably poorly balanced. Your bow should have the top limb weaker than the bottom by around 3/16in. Measure

this at the fadeouts if your nocking point is way out on 3/8in up for a split-finger shooter (*see photo this page*). If your arrows flew all over the place, left and right, this is due to the shaft being too weak. Test shoot a few times to be sure it's not just you shooting poorly, but you can generally tell when it's your fault. If they just won't group and they scatter around, you will have to stiffen your shafts. Go up one spine value to 55/60 firstly and go from there. Again, like the nocking point, it's extremely rare that a 50# longbow will need a shaft outside the 50/55 to 55/60 realm. If your arrow is constantly pushing left, it is overspined. This means it is bending too little at paradox and coming back too soon and hitting the rest or riser of the bow and being pushed left. It's a simple fix again. Go down one spine value to 45/50 and go from there. That's really all there is to it. If it's all pretty close you can make minor changes by increasing or decreasing your brace height. If you increase your brace height, that is, shorten your string, you can improve the line of an arrow that is slightly pushing left as it allows for a slightly straighter arrow to rest angle and lets the arrow off the string a tad sooner. Generally, an increased brace height will sweeten a bow but take some cast due to a smaller power stroke and reducing brace height will increase cast slightly but make spine selection more critical as the arrow to rest angle becomes more acute. Again though, if we stay in the recommended brace height range, there is seldom a need to alter brace height in the tuning process. Now let's look at some other variables and how they affect your arrows flight.

Allowing for variables

So we have looked at a basic tune-up for a 50# bow at 28in draw. Simple. Now let's look at some variables. Just to reiterate on the earlier spine info, the 2# weight centred over 26in supports is what's known as static spine. It is a great place to start your arrow selection from. Dynamic spine is what occurs when you actually shoot the arrow and covers what is happening then. Let's look at some basic variables and how to allow for them.



Measuring the tiller balance at the fadeouts.

Lengthening or shortening arrows: For every inch we *take off* an arrow's length we stiffen it one spine value. So a 50/55 spine shaft that is cut down to 27in to the back of the point will become 55/60. If we cut it down 2in to 26in, it will become 60/65 and so on. If we *add* length it has the opposite effect. So if we cut the shaft to 29in back of point the 50/55 shaft becomes 45/50. Very simple, eh? That's all there is to it.

Adding or subtracting point weight: Again here, 125 grains is the base standard. For every 20 grains you *add* to a point you *reduce* spine by one value. So a 50/55 shaft cut to 28in with a 140 grain head will become 45/50. Likewise if we take 20 grains *off* a points weight it *adds* one unit of spine. So the 50/55 shaft will become 55/60 and so on. Let's throw some examples in there to show how easy this is to work out:

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Example 1

Let's say you are shooting 45# at 26" and you want to use 100 grain heads. What shafts do you order? Okay, the 26in length means the shaft will be stiffened two units so you would want 30/35 or 35/40 spined shafts. But you also have a light head so that adds another spine value so the right shaft for you would be 25/30 or perhaps 30/35.

Example 2

You want shafts for 60# at 29in with a 160 grain head. You will need 60/65 or 65/70 to start with to cover the added length. Then the 160 head weakens the shaft another two values, so you are going to need 70/75 as a minimum but more likely 75/80.

Actual example

I have a client who has a genuine 32in draw. His bow is 45# at 32in. The arrows I made him were 60/65 spine with a 100 grain head. They shoot like lasers—dead straight and true. He shoots IFAA and there are long shots. So when we look at this extreme we can see that due to his longer draw the 60/65 spine comes down to 40/45 and the lighter point adds spine back so he ends up with 45/50 spine shafts, give or take. His incredible list of wins with those arrows shows that the system works.

Further dynamic variables

There are further variables that we can look at. If you have a full centreshot bow, you can go for stiffer shafts. This is because the arrow has a large amount of clearance as it paradoxes, meaning that even if the shaft is too stiff and it bends out too little in the first stage of paradox, it will still clear the bow as it comes back because again, there is more clearance. If you are shooting an English longbow or Asiatic style bow which are generally both shot off the hand with no rest, you generally will need a lighter spine. This is the exact opposite of a centreshot bow. In this case, as the arrow bends back, there is no shelf cut into the bow at all, meaning the arrow has to get around the whole bow. In order to get the timing right here, the arrow needs to be a tad weaker. So for a 50# English longbow I would go for 45/50 spine shafts or even 40/45 with a 125 grain head. Some other variables are gloves and tabs. Depending on what you prefer to shoot with, a glove may cause more side pressure on the arrow upon release than a tab. Then there is variety in different gloves and tabs. Also, higher performing bows may need a stiffer shaft. Then there is personal

shooting style. All these variables, though, are very minor and if you stick with the info above you'll have your arrows shooting straight. Once you have established what shaft/point/feather combo works well for you, write it down and stick with it.

Bare shaft tuning

The idea of bare shaft tuning is to shoot an unfletched arrow which will be hyper critical of any poor shaft match to your bow and shooting style. This is due to having no feathers to stabilise and potentially cover up any slight mismatch. In theory, it's a good idea. In my experience though, bare shaft tuning can be very misleading with longbows that are not centreshot. I recommend not to bother with it. I saw a guy a few years ago on the practice butts with a bow I'd made him, bare shaft tuning. It was a 55# bow and had carbon strips in it. It was a fast bow. His arrows were flying all over the place, but predominately left. I asked what spine the bare arrow was, it was 80#! He reckoned that the lighter spines were not stable and weren't grouping well. I asked for a shot and using my 60/65 arrows grouped six arrows in roughly a 6-inch circle at 10m or so. That's all there is to it, no need to overthink. If the arrows are shooting straight where you are looking, that's it, no further physics needed, no science degrees, just common sense. Many archers I've known for years and I have won big shoots, taken game and pulled off some pretty good shots with arrows that were perfectly balanced and tuned with the feathers on. Don't torment yourself. If you have a full centreshot, highly strung bow bare shaft tuning may have some value, but not in my experience.

Synthetic shafts

The above principle still works even if you are shooting aluminium or carbon. Just follow the same principles of changing point weight or shaft stiffness until your arrows are flying straight. I've heard many archers say that they can't get wooden arrows to fly out of their bow. I have never found that to be true. At the end of the day, all arrows are just shafts that deflect when shot. Some synthetics may respond faster et cetera, but that would just require a stiffer wooden shaft to match it. The important thing is that the tuning principles are the same.

That is all you need to know to get your arrows coming out straight and true. Don't settle for anything less than perfect flight. It is achievable and it's easy.

Until next time, feel free to keep those questions coming in to norseman_longbows@hotmail.com ... and keep traditional.

COMPETITION

Email your game photos (minimum 1MB in size) to editor@archeryactionmagazine.com (Subject: Northern Comp) to be in the running to receive a six-pack of ...



**NORTHERN
BROADHEADS**

This issue's WINNER



Stephen Robinson,
80 1/8pt goat.



Brett Raymond, scaled fish.



Toby Gall, TC pig, 27pt.



Shane Thomas, RC rusa,
229 6/8pt.



David Wallace, RC pig, 30pt.



Jamie Harrington, TC fox, 10pt.

JUNIORS

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LEFT: Brett Fittock, RC fallow, 197 7/8pt.

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BACK TO BASICS

OPTIMISM BIAS

Positive thinking?

It's that feeling you get when you step up to the red peg with a 40lb longbow and wooden arrows, looking at a Group 5 3D target standing in front of a granite boulder that seems to be at maximum distance through dappled shadow over a gully shooting through a fork in a tree. Despite all objective logic, you think, "I can do this."

Some call it positive thinking. Others call it optimism bias. This is a term that's used to describe a state of mind that leads some people to believe that they are more likely to experience good rather than bad events.

Put another way, it's that enduring, against-all-odds belief that things are going to work out for you. And it's a nice feeling when your best mates are Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny.

Unfortunately, it can also lead people afflicted with optimism bias to take on unnecessary risks.

It won't happen to me

Every day we hear about someone missing, injured or dead in the Australian outback, bush, oceans and rivers. And these people come from all walks of life, including hunters, fishers, bushwalkers, birdwatchers, rouseabouts and soldiers.

The Joint Rescue Coordination Centre in Canberra responds to approximately 7,000 incidents a year nationally. And this doesn't take into account other incidents dealt with by local responders like police, SES and search and rescue agencies.

In fact, incidents happen so often that numerous global studies (across search-and-rescue databases and missing person files) identify that there are 11 common groups of people within the statistical groups who become

MISSING PERSONS CATEGORIES

A	Children 1-3 years of age	G	Developmental Problems
B	Children 4-6 years of age	H	Alzheimer's and Dementia
C	Children 7-12 years of age	I	Hikers and Walkers
D	Youths 13-15 years of age	J	Climbers
E	Despondents or Suicide	K	<u>Hunters</u>
F	Psychological Illness		



H2Whoah!

As a nation of beach lovers, it can be easy for us to take water safety for granted. But when it comes to spending time in the water, the magic number seems to be 72. That is: 72 per cent of all drownings in Australia last year were male. And 72 per cent of these blokes were 25 years old or over. In fact, the 25 to 44 age group accounted for 30 per cent of all drownings. This means that 42 per cent were aged 44 years or older. Now consider that one in three people drowned in inland waterways...

It's true to say that none of us is getting any younger. Indeed, the average age of an ABA member is 40.71 years old and the percentage of members over the average age of 40.71 is 54.22 per cent. So when was the last time you seriously considered your water skills? Ask yourself, would you be able to pass a school-level survival swim test designed for a 12-year-old child? If you don't know what I'm talking about, this is what it requires: Perform a slide entry, walk 5m through the water, continuously swim 25m, using any stroke, then tread water for one minute in deep water, call for help

Accidents can happen anywhere.

'missing persons'. The categories are shown on the previous page.

Let's face it, you don't have to be a nitwit to get in trouble in the bush.



The majority of drownings in Australia are not kids in pools but middle aged blokes. How far can you swim?

Bow fishing has different risks.



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once within the sequence, and then exit the water unassisted.

Think you've got it licked? Well how about doing it when you're tired, dehydrated or muscle fatigued after a day's hunting? And we all know alcohol and swimming don't mix. So, why is it that 17 per cent of the drownings that we've talked about in this column involved alcohol? Maybe, we don't get smarter as we get older after all.

Stay'n Alive

Heart attacks (or what the boffins call cardiovascular disease) can occur anywhere! Over four million Australians (one in six) will be affected by car-

diovascular disease in their lifetime. And 45,000 deaths in Australia (nearly 30 per cent of all deaths) are the result of dramatic heart failure each year. That's 51 people each day.

So, if you're keen on keeping yourself and your hunting party safe, it's a good idea to know how to apply CPR. After all, the time to start wondering whether it's 30 compressions and two breaths is not the moment that you're looking at your mate whose heart has stopped after you missed the warning signs having been clammy, short of breath, pain in the chest, back and upper joints from a suspected heart attack. When there is no sign of a

pulse, get on with the compressions to the beat of The Bee Gees classic, Stay'n Alive.

But do yourself a favour and get some proper first aid training before you set off. Options include getting nominated as your workplace First Aid Officer. That way, your employer will pay for your first aid training. Or, for travellers who expect to spend time in remote areas, consider a Remote Area First Aid course. Indeed, if you reckon you'll be hunting anywhere that would take a rescue asset an hour or more to reach you, don't simply consider doing a Remote Area First Aid course. Just do it.

Accidents happen

Don't take your driving skills for granted. Your ability to detect potential hazards, and to have adequate time to do something about them, comes down to a number of factors. Speed, weather the conditions of your lights are all important. But most of all, eyesight is key. Eyesight provides for visual acuity, peripheral vision and for depth perception.

The standard of vision required to drive any vehicle equates roughly to you being able to read (with glasses or contact lenses, if necessary) a car number plate from 20m away. On any given day if you can't do this you shouldn't be driving.

Contemporary knowledge of the



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L P E D
P E C F D
E D F C Z P
F E L O P Z D
D E F P O T E C
L E F O D P C T
F D F L T C E O
F E R O L C F T E



When was the last time you had your eyesight checked?

road rules is also important. So, consider: When was the last time you actually passed an 'L' or 'P' plate test? When it comes to driving, the theory goes that some of the knowledge we acquired when we first passed our 'L's' simply didn't stick deep enough. So, while we may have an unblemished 30-year driving history (or more), how many bad habits have become entrenched over that period?

Maybe it's not your driving skills that have kept you unscathed until

now. Maybe you've just been lucky. To be sure, test your knowledge of the road rules using one of the many online practice tests. You may be surprised at the results.

Road kill

Plan to drive to arrive. There are hundreds of thousands of animals killed each year after being hit by motor vehicles on Australian roads. While many are small and won't interfere with your driving, some pose a



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Stephen Robinson, Capital Field Archers, Feral Goat, 80 1/8 pts



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BEST GAME NOT TAKEN WITH A TUSKER

**Doug Cahill, Macalister Trophy Bowhunters,
Hog Deer, 91 2/8 pts, Record Class**



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Kangaroos are not the only animal risk on the roads.



greater threat. Deer, goats, kangaroos and camels can all make a real impact on your vehicle and your travel plans. And just imagine the possible outcome of striking a large red deer stag weighing 160kg or a cow that weighs in between 500kg and 1000kg.

In New South Wales over a 10-year period, more than 5,000 road accidents in the State involved animals. On a conservative estimate, 17,000 people were injured in these accidents and 22 killed. About 60 per cent of the animal-related road fatalities involved kangaroos and wallabies. Australia wide, animal crashes account for around 5 per cent to 6 per cent of all traffic incidents. Notably, it's often the case that it's not the furry roadblocks that cause the deaths and injuries, it's the trees that the drivers hit as they swerve to avoid them.

Measures to reduce the likelihood of animal strike include driving during times when there is a lower risk of animals being on the road. So avoid driv-

ing at dusk and dawn this is when the many crepuscular species are at their most active. We know this as hunters because it's when the deer are coming and going.

Take the next step and install a sonic device on your car and trailer to scare off animals. A product like ShuRoo, which electronically creates a pattern of high-frequency sound, will set you back about \$549. Alternatively, little wind-assisted sonic whistles called Sonic Animal Guards will set you back less than \$10 a pair. They work better when you fit multiple units to your rig. And the key thing is to install them parallel to the ground and free of obstruction 30cm behind the air intake.

Phone a friend?

Don't rely on technology. There's an increasing societal trend to let our mobile devices do all the thinking for us. With an app for this and an app for that, we can readily develop the misap-

prehension that help is always at hand.

However, Australia's mobile network covers 90 per cent of the population—not 90 per cent of the country. And when you consider that 90 per cent of the population lives within a 100km of the eastern seaboard, there are a lot of areas inland where we can find ourselves in trouble without communication coverage. Even within comms range, remember that your device runs on batteries and batteries can—and do—run flat.

Be alert and not alarmed

The intent of this column is not to point fingers, but rather highlight some issues of concern. Hopefully it will get chins wagging which will spread the message and highlight a few more. After all, we can all learn a little something from everyone and learning helps us more easily and readily adapt to new situations.



A big deer can make a real impact on your vehicle.



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Going bush involves an armada of risks.

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What bowhunting means to me

Some people hunt for the trophy.
Some hunt for the thrill of the stalk as they pit their skills against the instincts of wild animals.
Others come from a different angle—a conservation mindset. Or an ethical way to eat meat.

An interview by Editor Jenel Hunt
with
Clint Perry



A goat taken for meat at Milani.

Clint Perry has been an archer for about four-and-a-half years, and 18 months ago he started bowhunting.

This year, the high school music teacher is taking his bowhunting particularly seriously. Why? Because he wants eventually to be able to feed his family with mostly bowshot meat.

So how did this come about?

"I had a friend who was a vegetarian. He'd been on a podcast with Adam Greentree, who's an Australian bowhunter who really pushes bowhunting and conservation, and they were talking about the health benefits of eating game meat instead of factory farmed meat. My friend said one of the reasons he was vegetarian was that he didn't like factory farming," Clint said.

"It opened up the idea to me, and the more I researched it, the more I realised it was multi-faceted. Hunting can be about the meat, about the conservation side of things or about the challenge. It doesn't have to be just about the trophy."

Clint's friend asked him if he was interested in having a go at taking their own meat, and that's where the bowhunting journey really began.

"The more I thought about it, the more I liked the idea of healthy grassfed meat going straight from nature to us. Even the connection with our ancestors seemed something that we could honour.

"Plus, my wife and I have two boys and a girl. I wanted them to have an understanding of the connection between the meat and the animal, not just that you walk into Woolworths and buy meat in a packet. So far, they're taking it very well."

Clint is from Cootamunda (a little town about 400km southwest of Sydney) and his friend lives in Sydney.

"We both have the same problem. We find it a bit hard being new bowhunters and not having a family

background in hunting. Finding properties to hunt can be a challenge, but we've been hunting in State Forests as well. The conservation side of things is important; keeping pest animal populations in proportion.

"Still, I've been with people who've shot an animal and I've always thought, why isn't it going into the fridge? I know the animal's a pest, but I struggle with the idea of just leaving it there on the ground."

Clint said reverence for animals was an important part of the bowhunting experience for him.

"When you take the shot, you wait, relax; you don't run around hooting and hollering. It's a solemn moment.

"But my experience with shooters wasn't like that. I grew up on a farm and there'd be people with guns coming onto properties in utes, at night, without tags, doing the wrong thing, drunk. I thought hunters were a bunch of jerks. Back then I hadn't had the chance to see the difference between shooters who just kill things and people who are trying to do the right thing for conservation reasons.

"To me, it's all part of the learning process. You have to earn the right to take an animal's life.

"And I appreciate the ethics of the ABA and how all of the rules are there for a reason. Doing it ethically is very

important to me.

"Plus, there's a lot of learning going on! I really look for any archery tips for beginners in the magazine. That's one of the hardest things when you start—getting all the information you need.

"Doing my Bowhunting Proficiency really helped to get an understanding on what you can and can't do. I've got a history in hiking and backpacking, so I already knew about navigation, for example, but I still got a lot out of the course."

He is a member of the Wagga Wagga Field Archers and also has an R Licence.

"My local archery club is an hour and a half away, and sometimes I find it hard to talk to people about hunting. I might get a one-minute explanation, but really there's so much to learn that a minute isn't quite enough. I'll have to work on the way I ask my questions!"

Clint said he'd been really glad when he started archery to find such a good attitude amongst bowhunters.

"I have a lot of friends who are vegans and vegetarians, and who are passionate about the preservation of nature," he said.

"But this way they can see that hunters love animals too, and are helping to keep numbers at appropriate levels so native flora and fauna aren't decimated ... so rivers



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aren't decimated. That's why we spend hours and hours and hours in the bush."

Of course, game meat is not without its hazards but for Clint the research is an interesting part of the whole process—finding out how to handle the meat correctly, what to check for and how to cook it properly.

"I think if you check the liver and eyes of the rabbits, check for any parasites an animal might have and learn how to prepare the meat in the right way, it's safer than meat pumped with hormones and colouring. Once you've cleared your rabbits for Calis and Mixo, the meat is amazing.

"Doing the butchering has been

quite a learning curve. I've watched tutorials on YouTube and read a lot of books. What helped a lot was going bowhunting with a guy who was a butcher."

He said his freezer once had 10 boned-out goats in it. If goats are \$70 each to buy, you'd be looking at \$700 worth of meat!

"A couple of times a year I do a big cook-up and invite my friends from Sydney and Goulburn. It's surprising the people who are interested in trying game meat. I find it a good opportunity to get people together and it's a great chance to think about how meat can be a sustainable resource."

Of course, all the travelling, hunting and butchering is nowhere as easy as picking up some beef from the local supermarket. But the challenge is part of the fun. Clint said it was exciting and interesting and sometimes even downright frustrating. He chuckled as he recalled one time he spent a week hunting deer—and went home with three rabbits instead.

Clint often travels a couple of hours and camps overnight, giving him the best part of two days to do his hunting. He tries to get out for a weekend once a month and maybe for a week or so during the rut in March/April.

He said that for him at present the experience was often more about checking the forests and learning, rather than all hunting, but his priority

over the next couple of years would be to have game meat be the majority of meat that their family ate—for health reasons and for the connection with nature.

"But it's also very rewarding that you're learning to read the environment. This looks like a fresh rub. I think a deer might go past there—it's an education and you just keep learning, because while you might get a bit of an idea on one kind of animal, that knowledge doesn't necessarily transfer to a different environment and a different kind of animal. For example, I'm getting my head around hunting in pine forests right now. The deer in there might have different ways to deer up north.

"It's clearly not all about killing. It's fun, very enjoyable. You're spending 98 per cent of your time in nature and if you have friends to hunt with there's a social aspect as well.

"I think more people should do it. There are so many facets—the challenge of the pest control, the meat; there are so many ways to approach hunting. For me, it's about hunting animals that I can eat. The other day a farmer told me foxes had killed 21 of his chickens. I thought, I'd kill a fox to help out a farmer, but it isn't the primary issue for me.

"Feral cats are on the ABA list and I'd take one if it came across my path, but hunting for predators isn't



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my priority. I just wish all this was advertised in such a way that the general population could understand why people bowhunt. After all, if I wanted to just kill a bunch of things, I'd have a rifle."

For the same reason, he shoots a compound bow. Although he started

with a recurve because he liked the ease of it (put an arrow on, draw and shoot), it didn't take long to realise that it would be easier to get better distance and accuracy with a compound bow.

Still, compounds aren't without their problems. Not long ago he had

problems with his sight, so he pulled it apart and put it back together,

Then he saw a buck for the first time ever. Heart pounding but trying to stay calm, he concentrated on getting the shot process right and doing the follow through. It was an amazing perfect shot—25m heart and double lungs.

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AUSTRALIA

DG Frame Set

With input from SMEs in the back-country hiking industry, we have developed a frame that will flex at the same rate as the human back. Too little flex forces the hips and shoulders to fight with every stride, which is fatiguing. Over flexing forces the shoulders to fight angular momentum as the load swings wide with each step. The DG frame set flexes just right, hips and shoulders move freely, stride is longer and less exhausting. Active ventilation keeps things cool. The whole shoulder harness yoke assembly can be quickly extended up or retracted down with three height settings built into the webbing attachments.



DG3 Overnight

Our 55ltr overnight EDC pack comes in two variants—external or internal frame. This pack shares the same pedigree as its big brother the DG16 and has similar features—field replaceable buckles, removable stowage and bladder pouches. Colours: Ranger Green, Coyote. Camouflage coming soon.



Rocky Enhanced Jungle Boot (EJB)

Protection and comfort! Roll-Stop Ankle Stability reduces ankle injuries on uneven terrain. Avoid wet environment injuries with Advanced Sieve™ technology. It circulates air in and water out as you step. And comfort to boot! The Air-Port™ Cushion Footbed provides longevity and comfort, moving air around your foot as you walk. Dri-Lex® boot lining wicks sweat from your foot. It also has an Aegis® Microbe Shield that fights bacteria. Puncture resistant. A fibreglass shank gives you arch support. If it's time for a new military boot, this is it.



DG Mule

The DG MULE is our variable-capacity, do-a-n-y-t-h-i-n-g, carry-a-n-y-t-h-i-n-g pack adapter. It can be compressed into a low-profile, 1900 cu-in pack or expanded to 5000 cu-in. Fits Pelican cases, a 20 litre water or fuel jerry. Or venison. This adapter fits our DG Frame™ and is the adaptable load carrier you've been asking for.



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"I was 100 per cent convinced I'd hit it, so I spent the next 10 hours pushing through blackberries trying to find this animal. I was worried that I might have hurt him and not be able to recover him.

"I eventually worked out that I didn't hit the animal but my brain had filled in all these details that actually didn't happen. I realised that I'd put the sight back together incorrectly and that my 'perfect' shot had gone short. I'd shot under the deer. And eventually I found my arrow, perfectly clean."

And there's always the deer that

turns into something else. (Many hunters have had this experience.)

"You get to this point where you dream about what you're going to do when the deer comes out. You're sneaking around in the dark to get into position before light. You hear something and you think it's a deer, but then you realise it's a bunch of male kangaroos grunting. And of course you're not there to hunt kangaroos. Yes, sometimes your brain plays tricks on you."

He said one little tip he had learned was that when he had taken a shot, he

would snap a photo or a short video of the area on his smartphone.

"Sometimes by the time you get to where you thought the shot landed, it's not the right place at all. It helps a lot if you have a photo and you can see that tree, that rock, whatever, and orient yourself to get into exactly the right spot. It saves a lot of time searching around."

All in all, bowhunting is more than a set of skills and it's about more than killing animals.

"You know, you learn a lot about yourself as well."



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- ||| APA RISER FANG





Queensland State Series

IPSWICH CLASSIC

Ipswich kicked off the start of another year of some tough competition on May 4 and 5. We had a turnout of 97 competitors for the weekend, with some travelling from across the border, thank you all for coming up.

The weather gods stayed kind to us for the weekend, except for a light shower Saturday afternoon. We saw some really challenging courses — our range setters definitely didn't hold back this year, with the new 3DAAA-approved cougar targets making a debut, and making for some definite head-scratching shots. But that didn't stop Warren Swan, Brenton Addington, Brett Pirlo and Stefan Ivanišević from scoring 100 each for the weekend.

On Saturday afternoon there was also a great mentoring session held with Dustyn Oloman, Brett Pirlo, Richard Peters and Scott Hayden sharing their knowledge.

Saturday night saw some great food, with a spit roast and veggies for dinner and a good ol' bonfire with lots of laughs had by all.

Two more great courses were in store on Sunday, with plenty of tricky shots. Some fun for the kids thanks to Ray Knight and Brett Pirlo, also a big thanks to everyone who donated prizes for our raffles. And then it was on to the serious side of business with the Top 10 Shootout and presentations. Congratulations to Steve Shorten for taking out the aided, and Richard Peters for taking out the unaided Top 10 Shootouts.

Ipswich won the club team event with a score total of 1429.

We had two sponsored teams competing: Bohning Archery won with a score of 943, but Venom Archery was very close behind with 941.

A big thank you goes to Brett Pirlo and his crew for organising an amazing



feed Saturday night,

Thank you to our local Lions club for looking after the canteen; they did a great job as always, helping to keep Bernie's stress levels down! Thanks to Tiarnie Lowe and Monica Knight for keeping scores. Great job, ladies

Congratulations to all our winners and grinners and thank you all for coming.

New South Wales State Series

LAKE MACQUARIE 3D CLASSIC

Season 2019 of the NSW State Series surged forward over the weekend of May 18 and 19 when Lake Macquarie Field Archers hosted the 3DAAA community for the Lake Macquarie 3D Classic. The long glorious autumn

weather held out for us, presenting two of the most perfect days of shooting that we could have asked for. And the crowds responded with 144 shooters hitting the range.

Simeon Weir, with the assistance

of protégé Mick McRae and the rest of the team, called on all his mastery to prepare five diverse and challenging ranges that allowed no moment of complacency for the unwary shooter.

Solid scores were turned in, with

100s awarded to Grant Elsley (x2), Gerard Miles, Owen Kirkman, Mark Firth, Norm Sager and Jamie Gilroy.

Grant Elsley took out Semi-Pro with an impressive 485/500 for the weekend off the orange peg.

The highest female score of the weekend was Sarah Keene on 458 in FHC. The highest Unaided score was Libby White on 390 in FBU.

Pat White was the winner of the Unaided Top 10, with Blaine Scarr taking out the Sighted Top 10.

Donna Gilroy led an army of helpers to run a cracker of a canteen over the weekend, and turned out a four-course South African-themed feast on the Saturday night. It was enjoyed by an appreciative hoard. If you missed out, don't make the same mistake next year.

Our thanks to the many Lake Macquarie club members who contributed to the success of the shoot.

Lake Macquarie Field Archers hold



regular shoots roughly every second Sunday throughout the year and welcomes visitors. Check out the calendar at www.lmfa.com.au

There is also have a one-day medal shoot as part of the Lake Macquarie City Games on Sunday September 15.

And of course, the club plans to be back again with the Lake Macquarie 3D Classic again in May 2020. See you all there!

*Photos courtesy of
Spellbound Photography
and Colin Keene*



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Outside In the zone

Go bush

by Nils Spruitt

It was a perfect autumn morning. The entire western side of the valley was basking beneath warm morning sunshine whilst the eastern side still brooded sombrely under a blanket of shadow. Of course this would change as the hours ticked by and the sun slowly ascended towards its midday zenith before once again starting its descent en route to evening. The temperature was cool and comfortable. In a month or two it would be a different story. This was snow country.

Three years back, Digs and I had been caught here when a high pressure system situated somewhere in the Great Australian Bight forced a southerly cold front northwards. Snow had fallen and the temperature plummeted as a result. It wasn't life threatening as we were both well prepared equipment wise, but gee it got cold and the hunting was miserable—especially when you ambush hunt like I do. On that trip I simply could not sit still for any length of time despite wearing a thermal jacket, beanie and gloves on my numb fingers. We left a day early on that trip.

Now, with the sun warming my body beneath a light jacket, it was hard to remember just how cold it had been on that trip, but I could still vividly recall how violently I had shivered whenever I tried to sit for any length of time away from the warmth of the campfire. This time, however, I had been comfortable in my current position for approximately

40 minutes and I had no plans of leaving any time soon.

Digs was stalking the high mountain ridge to the east. We both knew from past experience the local goat herds showed a distinct preference for greeting the new day by grazing on the high pastures facing the east. I guess they too enjoy warming themselves in the morning sun. Digs loves goat hunting. Of all the alternate game pursuits he prefers goats over any other. Most hunters I know tend to use goats as a stepping stone towards other pursuits like deer, but not Digs. He would hunt goats every day of the week and makes no secret of it. Me, well I have hunted my share of goats, but a combination of age, personal preference and vascular issues in both legs, kind of forced me to make an alternate decision. I chose to follow the creek up into the main valley. No hills to climb, you see ... and besides, Digs is 10 years younger than me.

For a brief moment I wondered how Digs was faring. For him it had been a long time between kills. Not that he was frustrated by his lack of success, but I could tell he would dearly love to claim another trophy class billy. The last had been nearly three years ago. As for me, I count every trip into the bush a success. Just getting the opportunity in our busy lifestyles to go bush these days, even if only for a night, means everything to me. I love it—no other way to describe it, really.

I don't hunt much these days. I lost that desire a few years back, but the passion for heading into the bush has never left me. I have a great affection for the Australian bush and camping out. I love the campfire, the feel of a warm sleeping bag at night, the constant chatter of creatures that live there and the peaceful solitude you feel when you just sit and listen to your surrounds. No neighbours bickering, no traffic, no bosses telling you what to do and above all else, no worries. It is soul replenishing and in our frantic society, it is a strong medication for stress and I need a dose of it every now and then just to stay levelheaded. We all could for that matter.

People just don't know how to relax anymore. We all seem to work harder than before. It wasn't all that long ago when the male in the family was the sole breadwinner. He went to work whilst the wife stayed home, raised the children and kept an orderly household. We lived comfortably—or so it seemed to me. These days, both adults in any relationship have to work, leaving any children to be virtually raised by strangers and nobody has any time for anyone else or even themselves for that matter. Some try to seek relaxation in exercise. I see the same people every day heading to the their local gyms at 6am, riding bikes or running but I have yet to see any of them smiling.

I have no desire to get embroiled in

a political argument but I believe that the ones who hold the reins expect too much from the working population. We now have to stay at work until we have just about reached the average life expectancy whilst the politicians in turn do two terms in power and can then retire on a hefty pension. I am no analyst but it seems to me the rich are just getting richer whilst the poor workers are struggling to stay afloat.

As usual I have digressed from the matter at hand, but I honestly think that if more people spent more time in the bush just listening to sounds of nature and not trying to change what is already perfect, then the world might just be a better place. It couldn't be any worse, that is for sure.

I am blessed with an abundance of patience. Maybe that is because of my age rather than a talent, but the fact is I can sit just listening for hours on end. On all my hunts I take a small, lightweight folding stool with me which I clip onto my daypack. You cannot sit still unless you are comfortable and no matter how tough your backside, I defy anyone to sit for long periods on a rock or log. I used to carry a piece of thick sponge with me but the stool is better. I can and have shot my trad bows from this seated position atop my stool (although usually with mediocre results).

So far on this morning a small mob of goats had already walked past me, but I had paid them no mind and they themselves had passed completely oblivious to me. There had been two mature billies in the mob but both had smallish horns. I had heard a fox barking nearby and for a moment I contemplated giving the whistle a workout but decided to stay true to the task at hand. So far that had been testing my patience to the extreme.

Perhaps you might remember in a past editorial I made mention of a special moment in my life when I had been visited by a little wren whilst waiting for rabbits to appear from within a nearby warren. I love birds and in particular the little chaps that seem so prevalent in areas of thick undergrowth. Many prefer the big raptors or the brightly coloured



parrots, but my passion (if you like) is the tiny wrens, robins and finches that make the bush what it is. On this trip, I was hunting them. Not with a weapon, but with a camera and I was geared up for the hunt.

Prior to this sortie I had invested in a 500mm lens to go on my Nikon camera. I figured if I was going to do this then I might as well do it properly—kind of like hunting deer with a bow. You're not going to try with a 35lb recurve are you? No, you would at least pack something with a bit of punch and in my case, this knockout blow would come with a big lens. A lot of people think that such a lens will enable any subject to be photographed from a long distance. Not so. If you delve into wildlife photography you will discover most good shots are taken at close range. A deer-sized subject, for instance, will fill such a lens if you are no further than 50m from it. For birds that are only 3in in height, you have to be very close which is why I had seated myself within a tiny clearing totally surrounded by thick thorn bush and wattle. I simply had to let the tiny birds come to me and not the other way around.

So far I had a couple of shots of an eastern yellow robin which were okay but the bird had stayed in the darker shadows. I was hoping for something better and that moment came when I

least expected it. Normally you do get some warning that your quarry is near because most small birds make a lot of noise as they go about feeding. In this instance I never heard a thing but all of a sudden a tiny thornbill emerged from within the tangle of thick undergrowth. I had already missed out on a beautiful pardalote and I was determined not to miss out on this visitor. Like most of their kind, the thornbill stayed within partial shadow and never stayed still for more than a split second, but I still managed four captures of his feeding behaviour. I was over the moon.

I walked back to camp with a big smile on my face. Perhaps the gym junkies and runners should take up bird photography. Maybe that would put a smile on their dial. You don't need to have hunting in mind just to go bush although I regard wildlife photography as a form of hunting. I still get the same thrill and suffer the same nervous tension irrespective of if I am squeezing a trigger, holding back a bowstring or focussing a lens. It is all the same to me and I love it.

My efforts behind the lens will probably never win any awards or be published by National Geographic but I don't do photography for this and besides, my capture of this tiny bird will be published by *Archery Action* ... and for me that is reward in itself. Until next time.

What's On

Where applicable, please use this as your tax invoice:

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COLLINSVILLE BAREBOW HUNTERS CLUB INC

Saturday and Sunday 17th & 18th August 2019



**Complimentary Meal
Friday Night**

*Program times are a guide
only and are subject to
change at any time.*

STRICTLY NO DOGS
(By order of property owner)

Program - Saturday 17th

6am	Breakfast
7:30 - 8am	Bow Check and Muster
8:30am	ABA 3 arrow Round
	Morning Tea
10:30am	ABA 1 arrow Round
12:00	Lunch
1:30pm	ABA 1 arrow Round
3pm	Fun Rounds, Knife & Axe
6:30pm	Evening Meal

Sunday 18th

6am - 7:30am	Breakfast
8:00am	ABA 3 arrow Round
ASAP:	Lunch and Presentations

Must be in ABA to shoot. No Card - No Shoot - No Exceptions
Shoot Fees: Adults \$25, Cubs/Juniors \$15, Families \$50
Contact numbers for Nominations:
 Lindsay 0429 728 134 • Chris 0407 963 197 • Andrea 4785 5991
 Email Nominations to cbhc@antenna-tech.com.au
 Please supply ABA numbers and Shoot Divisions

AUSTRALIAN BOWHUNTERS ASSOCIATION INC.

Branch D Celebration Shoot

Lakeside Bowmen



Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th August 2019

Saturday Round	Sunday Round
11am Registration & Bow Checks	7.45am Muster for an 8.00am Start
Nominations Close 12.15pm	3 Arrow Round
12.45pm Muster for an 1pm start	Lunch - 1 Arrow Round
2 Arrow Round	Presentations ASAP

Fees: Cubs/Juniors \$15, Adults \$25, Family \$50

Pre Nominate by Monday 19th August to: Branch Score Recorder,
 Sally-Anne McGrigor - abasqscorer@gmail.com or 0402 074 788

Facilities include: Camping, showers, toilets and canteen

Evening meal available Friday & Saturday night - Pizza Friday Night - Please
 email confirmation prior to Friday to secretary.lakesidebowmen@gmail.com

No dogs allowed • No smoking or vaping allowed on the ranges



Branch D Gold Cup

Hosted by Roma and District Bowmen

Saturday 28th September and Sunday 29th September

Saturday Round

11am Registration & Bow Checks
 Nominations Close 12.15pm
 12.45pm Muster for an 1pm start
 2 Arrow Round

Sunday Round

7.45am Muster for an 8.00am Start
 3 Arrow Round - Lunch - 1 Arrow Round
 Presentations ASAP

Fees: Cubs/Juniors \$15 • Adults \$25 • Family \$50

Pre-nominate: by Monday 23rd September to Branch Score Recorder
 Sally-Anne McGrigor abasqscorer@gmail.com or 0402 074 788

Facilities include: Camping, showers, toilets and canteen
 Evening meal available Friday and Saturday night

No Dogs allowed
 No smoking and vaping allowed on the ranges



The Last Word

This story was told at Border Bowmen's May shoot. We may or may not have changed the names to protect the innocent.

A plane is passing through a severe storm. Things go from bad to worse when one wing is struck by lightning. Hazel, one of the passengers, jumps out of her seat and wails, "I'm too young to die! But if I'm going to die, I want my last minutes on earth to be memorable! No one has ever made me really feel like a woman! Is there *anyone* on this plane who can make me feel like a *woman*?"

For a moment there is silence. Everyone has forgotten their own peril as they stare at the desperate woman. Then a man named Brett stands up. "I can make you feel like a woman," he says. This gorgeous guy with beautiful eyes starts to walk up the aisle, unbuttoning his shirt one button at a time. No one moves. As the man approaches, Hazel begins to get excited. He removes his shirt. Muscles ripple across his chest as he reaches her, and extends the arm holding his shirt to the trembling woman, and whispers: "Iron this."

All that's left to say after that is, thanks to Hazel and Brett for being such good sports!



July-August-September

Date	Club	Branch	Shoot Style
July			
6th - 7th	Mackay and District Bowmen *	B	ABA
6th - 7th	Mendooran Archers *	E	Branch IFAA Invitational
6th - 7th	Caboolture and District Bowmen *	Qld	3DAAA
6th - 9th	Freds Pass Field Archers *	A	NT Titles 2019 ABA/3D
7th	Full Boar Archers	B	3D
7th	Mount Isa and District Bowhunters	B	ABA
7th	Bairnsdale Field Archers *	G	ABA
7th	Sydney Olympic Park Archers *	NSW	Target QRE
13th - 14th	Silver City Archers *	I	Rockery Invitational Paper ABA, 3D
13th - 14th	Dubbo 3D Archers *	NSW	3DAAA
14th	Towers Bowhunters	B	ABA
20th - 21st	Saxon Archery Club *	C	C vs D ABA
20th - 21st	Shellharbour Bowmen *	F	ABA / 3D
20th - 21st	Bendigo Field Archers *	H	ABA
20th - 21st	Western Plains Archers *	J	3D State Titles
20th - 21st	ANSW / Liverpool City Archers *	NSW	ASNSW Indoor Championships
20th - 21st	Paringa Archers *	Tas	AST/National Indoor Championships
21st	Collinsville Barebow Hunters	B	ABA
21st	Kurrimine Beach Archers	B	3D
27th - 28th	Hinterland Field Archers *	Qld	3DAAA
28th	Penrith City Archers *	NSW	PCA Winter Field
August			
3rd - 4th	Kurrimine Beach Archers *	B	ABA
3rd - 4th	Northern Tablelands Archers *	E	ABA Branch Titles
4th	Boola Valley Field Archers *	G	IFAA
4th	Full Boar Archers	B	ABA
4th	Mount Isa and District Bowhunters	B	ABA
10th - 11th	Wide Bay Archers *	C	ABA Invitational
10th - 11th	Yorke Peninsular Field Archers *	I	ABA/3D
11th	Towers Bowhunters	B	ABA
17th - 18th	Collinsville Barebow Hunters*	B	ABA
17th - 18th	Lithgow Valley Archers *	F	ABA/3D
17th - 18th	West Melbourne Field Archers *	H	ABA
17th - 18th	WA Field and Bowhunters *	J	3D/ABA
17th - 18th	Twin City Archers *	Vic	3DAAA
17th - 18th	3DAAA *	NSW	3DAAA NSW State Titles
18th	Freds Pass Field Archers *	A	3D
18th	Dead Centre Bowhunters *	A	3D
18th	Sydney Olympic Park Archers *	NSW	Target QRE
24th - 25th	Lakeside Bowmen *	D	Celebration Shoot ABA
24th - 25th	Phoenix Field Archers of Sale *	G	Victorian State IFAA Championships
24th - 25th	Playford Districts Field Archers *	I	SA IFAA State Titles
24th - 25th	North Albert Field Archers *	Qld	3DAAA
24th - 25th	Illawarra Archers *	NSW	South Coast Field
25th	Full Boar Archers	B	3D

25th	Kurrimine Beach Archers	B	ABA
25th	Archery SA *	SA	State Clout Championships
31st Aug - 1st Sept	ANSW / Penrith City Archers *	NSW	ANSW Target Championships

September

1st	Mount Isa and District Bowhunters	B	ABA
1st	Full Boar Archers	B	ABA
7th - 8th	Tully Bowmen *	B	ABA
7th - 8th	Wide Bay Archers *	C	ABA Branch Titles
7th - 8th	Namoi Valley Archers *	E	3D Branch Invitational
8th	Macalister Trophy Bowhunters *	G	ABA
8th	Sydney Olympic Park Archers *	NSW	Target QRE
8th	Archery SA / Eden Field Archers *	SA	ArcherySA State Field
14th - 15th	Towers Bowhunters *	B	ABA
14th - 15th	Lilydale Bowmen *	H	ABA
14th - 15th	Break O Day Field Archers *	H	ABA
14th - 15th	Southern Yorke Archers *	I	Paper ABA
14th - 15th	Mornington Peninsula Bowmen *	Vic	3DAAA Victoria State Titles
14th - 15th	ANSW / Armidale Archers *	NSW	ASNSW Field Championships
14th - 22nd	Australian IFAA Indoor *		Organised by Branch G
15th	Freds Pass Field Archers *	A	ABA
15th	Dead Centre Bowhunters *	A	ABA
15th	Kurrimine Beach Archers	B	3D
21st - 22nd	Roma and District Bowmen *	D	Gold Cup ABA
21st - 22nd	South West Slopes Sporting Field Archers *	F	Branch ABA Titles
21st - 22nd	Peel Archers *	J	ABA/3D
21st - 22nd	Gladstone Field Archers *	Qld	3DAAA QLD State Titles
22nd	Collinsville Barebow Hunters	B	ABA
22nd	Full Boar Archers	B	3D
28th	Paringa Archers *	Tas	Parina Northern Clout
28th - 29th	Mt Isa and District Bowhunters *	B	ABA
29th	Sydney Olympic Park Archers *	NSW	Target QRE

Black type shows ABA events, green type represents Archery Australia events and blue type denotes 3DAAA events, ABA national events are in red. Shoots marked with an * are cross-participation events

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Phone number Date of birth/...../.....

Email address.....

do hereby wish to make application for membership of the Australian Bowhunters Association Inc (ABA), and if accepted, do undertake to conduct my/our membership in accordance with the Constitution, Rules, Policies and Code of Ethics of the ABA. Additionally, I/we acknowledge that Field Archery and Bowhunting are shooting sports conducted in the natural environment which can impose inherent risks and this application is made in full recognition of the Association's requirement for responsible and ethical behaviour. I/We undertake to do all in my/our power to preserve the good image of the sport and ABA. I/We understand that members breaking the Code of Ethics and/or ABA's regulations may be subject to sanctions as per the Constitution.

I am a member of (Club)

I agree my contact details can be provided to form a contact list to be used within the Australian Bowhunters Association only.

If you do not agree, tick this box: ☐

Signature of Applicant

I enclose the required fees of \$.....

I, the applicant above, also wish to make application for membership of ABA (Inc) on behalf of the following persons, who are members of my family and reside at my address:

Full Name of Applicant	Male-Female	ABA Number	Date of Birth
.....
.....
.....

I am prepared to accept the responsibility for the above applicants who are under the age of 18 years, until they attain such age.

Parent-Guardian Signature ABA Number if Applicable:

The Australian Bowhunters Association Inc reserves the right to refuse, suspend or terminate the membership of any person whose conduct contravenes the Constitution, Rules and Policies of Association of the ABA. Failure to provide information sought or supply of incorrect information may result in application being rejected.

RENEWALS and/or Advance Memberships for existing members

	12 months	3 years in advance
Adults	\$75	\$205
Juniors-Cubs	\$50	\$145
Families	\$160	\$435

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Juniors-Cubs	\$75
Families	\$205

PENSIONER DISCOUNT: Deduct 10% from fees listed.

Quote Pension Benefit Card Number:

All fees include GST

Note: Dates of birth must be shown for all persons listed. Club name must be shown. **Family membership applies only to parents and their children under 18 years of age.** Separate single membership must be taken for children over 18 years. Couples without children under 18 years also pay separate single membership. In the case of family renewals, state ABA membership numbers. If insufficient space, use additional form.

Card Number ↓	NAME OF CARDHOLDER (print)		
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12/2018



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Red Deer - March/April from \$1800 (5 days) includes a doe, trophy fee if stag taken.

Chital Deer - Jan to May from \$2500 (5 days) includes a stag and unlimited does.

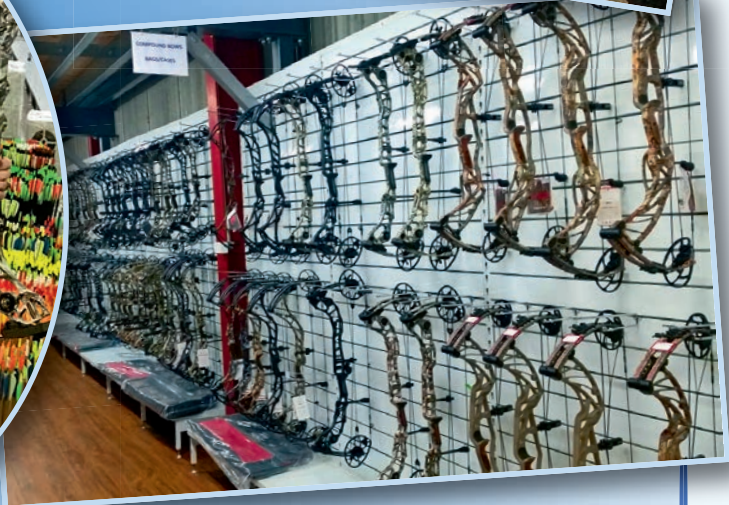
Buffalo - June to August (6 days) fully guided hunts, POA.

Wild Boar - Aug to Oct from \$4000 (10 days).

All prices are a guide only as people require different options so please call for a quote. Hunts are all inclusive except: Alcohol and Trophy Fees (Trophy Fees on application) Indemnity Waiver to be signed at pickup. Special Hunts are available from time to time so if you are flexible you can get a great deal on some hunts. All you have to do is get on the emergency list and you are notified every time a special deal comes along.

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