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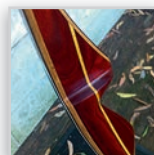
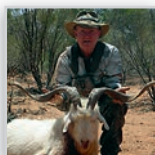
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◀ COVER PHOTOGRAPH

A beautiful sunset at Richmond in north Queensland signifies the end of a rabbit hunt.

Photo by CHRIS NELSON

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If there's one lesson to come from the recent devastating fires, it's that life itself can be frighteningly precarious. A lesser truth—that things can change in a heartbeat and never, ever go back to what they were before—is something that many Australians are now experiencing on a day-to-day basis.

This has touched us all. We have felt the horror, if not the heat, of the raging, unstoppable orange monster. We have seen the ravaged desolation of landscapes that are suddenly bereft of flourishing vegetation and wildlife. We have been saddened by the sight of blackened, consumed wreckages which hours before were homes where people lived their lives ... surrounded by their treasures, their sentimental items and all the accoutrements of day-to-day living.

Of all the items that have gone, people often mourn their lost photographs the most. The smallest lesson we can all



learn is to scan our hard copy photos and keep a duplicate of all our important images in cloud storage as well as in our homes. In this digital age, it can be done with a smartphone and a cheap app. Look up Pic Scanner Gold for iPhones or iPads or the free Google PhotoScan (iOS and Android phones). Or check Photomyne if you want to scan whole album pages at a time. Do it now.

You've got to be in it to win it, so the saying goes. Two people who can now vouch for that saying are Jed Forbes and Graham McComiskie for they have won the *Archery Action* Abbey Archery Photo Competition. Jed Forbes entered a photo named *Lying in Wait*, depicting a hunter concealed among tall strands of straw-like grass as he views a deer in a clearing. The other image was titled *Kindred Spirits* and featured a colourful butterfly that had alighted on a bow quiver, seemingly attracted by the arrow fletches which featured the same unusual colours as the butterfly. Jed and Graham each win a \$250 voucher from Abbey Archery. We have republished their photos on Page 24.

Jenel Hunt
Editor

DEADLINES

Please submit articles and advertisements by these dates:

editor@archeryactionmagazine.com

ISSUE	DEADLINE
2020	
Vol 45 No. 5 May-June	1 April
Vol 45 No. 6 July-August	1 June
Vol 46 No. 1 September-October	1 August
Vol 46 No. 2 November-December	1 October
2021	
Vol 46 No. 3 January-February	1 December
Vol 46 No. 4 March-April	1 February



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56 Kenilworth St Warwick Qld 4370

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.

DISCLAIMER

All expressions of opinion in Archery Action with Outdoor Connections are published on the basis that they reflect the personal opinion of the authors, and as such are not to be taken as expressing the official opinion of the publishers unless expressly so stated. Artemis Productions accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of any opinion or information, or the reader's reliance upon it, contained in this magazine.

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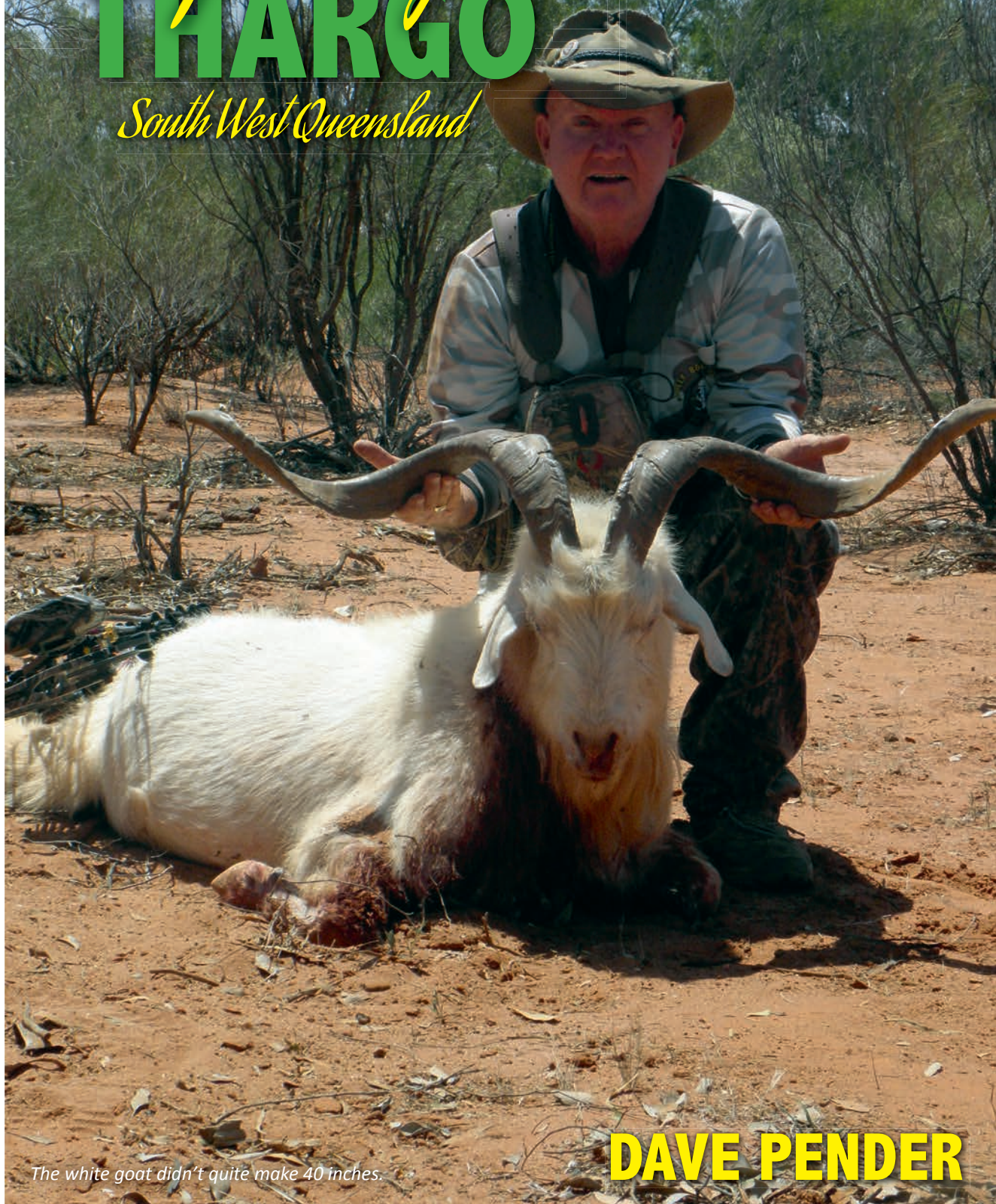
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REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS

Traditional Trails—Nick Lintern
Bushcraft and Survival—Scott Heiman

Slim pickings in **THARGO** *South West Queensland*



The white goat didn't quite make 40 inches.

DAVE PENDER

It had been a while since I had been out hunting—mainly because of the drought. The previous time I'd been to the Thargomindah property, the dams had been empty. My mate Noel had been there just after Easter and they'd had a good storm that filled most of the dams. It was September now and that water would be mostly gone.

The property owner wanted a couple of weeks off the land so Heather and I would caretake while he was away. Heather checked the weather forecast and 40-degrees-plus temperatures were predicted for that area ... so that was a no go for Heather.

I suggested going by myself but Heather said no to that so I contacted Noel to see if he was interested. "No problem," he said. "Better than sitting at home doing nothing." Being retired has its good points.

With my gear packed I was at Noel's just on lunchtime. We sorted his gear and then we were on our way, planning to drive until around 10pm then swag it on the side of the road and hopefully get to the property before lunch the next day. We pulled over about 300km between towns and settled in our swags for the night. In the early hours, a cattle

truck pulled up not 50m from us to rest for the night. Well that finished our sleep—a truckload of cattle mooing and banging around makes it hard to sleep.

We made it to Cunnamulla just after sun-up, fuelled both the car and ourselves and headed to the property. Dick was happy to see us (even more so when I gave him a couple of venison back legs and back straps). The meat went into the cold room to hang for the next two weeks.

Dick had built himself a new homestead so we had graduated from the shearers' quarters to his old house. Definitely upmarket, with new fridge, washing machine and air-conditioning not to mention a cold room too!

With our gear stowed away and having had a bite to eat, we grabbed our hunting gear and went to check out the dams to see how many were being used by our prey. Dick had said there were a few pigs getting a round plus a few good billies.

The first dam had a few wallows but nothing fresh. We then travelled out the back of the property to a dam called White Tank where we put up two sows and about 15 suckers. The drought has not stopped them breeding.

Australia's largest distributor for your archery and crossbow needs

The advertisement displays a collection of archery equipment against a dark background. On the left, the 'BOWTECH' logo is prominent. Next to it are three recurve bows labeled 'REVOLT', 'REVOLT X', and 'REALM SR6'. To the right, two compound bows are shown, labeled 'INFINITY EDGE PRO' and 'EDGE 320'. Below these, a row of crossbows is featured, including 'STATUS EKO', 'KUMA 30', 'VXR 28', and 'VXR 31.5'. The 'Bear ARCHERY' logo is on the far left of this row. On the right side of the crossbow section is the 'Mathews' logo. The bottom section includes logos for 'COLDSTEEL ANYTIME ANYWHERE', 'EXCALIBUR CROSSBOW TRUST ME', 'CARBON EXPRESS', 'GOLD TIP', 'STINGER', 'Assassin 420', and 'CHB Oz Hunting and Bows'. At the bottom, the contact information is provided: 6 Blissington St. Springvale VIC 3171 Phone: 03 95709100, website www.ozhuntingandbows.com.au, email sales@ozhuntingandbows.com.au, and Facebook @ozhuntingandbows.ozhuntingandbows.

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Dick has also mentioned that he had seen a good boar at this spot a few days before.

We checked the last few dams, finding some had wallows and some had no activity whatsoever. We were seeing a lot of dog tracks so took note of the location for Dick as he had a dogger coming in 10 days' time. Dick said he only needed us for about a week as the cattle had been moved into paddocks that had dams with water so we didn't have to do the trough run.

The next day Noel took the work ute back to White Tank and sat there for most of the day. Later he told me he only saw sows and suckers but no boars. I drove to a little spot where I knew there was a busted pipe and water trickled down a little creek. Slowly making my way up the creek, I came to a large overhanging bush covering the ground.

I used my binoculars to scan the area, checking every nook and cranny. I didn't see anything so I set off past the bush ... then I heard a noise and stuff me, a 70kg boar just walked out the other side and propped at 30yd looking back at me. I slowly nocked an arrow and released. He jumped forward and my arrow sailed just behind him. Damn! I spent the rest of the day checking troughs and waterholes but there was no activity anywhere.

The next day was pretty much the same, with Noel going to his spots me going to mine. I headed out to the main road troughs comprising of three troughs in three separate paddocks. I was about 300yd from the first one and I could see a goat standing near the scrub line. I parked in the shade and put my pack on and headed over to get the wind right. The goat was side-on to me and it looked alright then I saw two grey billies coming out behind him. They looked like twins, both the same colour and with the same shaped horns. They each looked about 110 points. The white one was hard to read as he was side-on and looking ahead.

I would have to go through the fence to get into the same paddock as them but just as I was about to manoeuvre myself through the fence they walked under the fence into

my paddock. Lucky me! As the white one went under the fence he looked in my direction ... and I didn't need a second look to decide which goat to take! He looked a 40-incher for sure. I didn't have much cover to stalk up to them but slow and steady I was able to get to within 40yd. The two grey billies just had a quick drink and walked away from me. I thought I had lost my chance and that the big fella would follow them but for some reason after he'd had his drink he turned back and walked towards me.

It was my lucky day! The wind was blowing a gale. He propped side-on and looked straight at me. I ranged him at 30yd then put the pin on his shoulder. I was flat out holding the bow still, hit the release and saw the wind take my arrow to the left, hitting him in front of the shoulder and straight through. The Outback Supreme had done the job. He turned to follow his mates and when he stopped in some bushes I had a chance to put another shot in. He was down!

I retrieved the car and drove over to him for photos and trophy removal. My goat measured 39 4/8 inches 118 6/8pt. Returning to the car for a rest, I noticed the passenger side front tyre had a bit of mulga sticking out of the side wall. A quick tyre change then started back towards home. I opened the first gate and when walking back to the car I saw another stick poking out of a tyre, this time on the driver's side. Stuff me! But it didn't seem to be leaking so I left it till I got back to camp to plug and reinflate it. I filled Noel in with my adventures and he said he hadn't seen anything all day.

The next day I walked down to the shed where the Hilux was parked and yes, you guessed it, another tyre—this time one on the back had a piece of wood on the inside of the tyre. All I can say is thank goodness for tyre plugs ... don't go out bush without them.

For the remainder of the week we only saw a few pigs and two billies about 100pt. By then we'd been there for the week we'd promised Dick so we packed up and headed home. Even though we didn't shoot much, it's always good to spend time with one of your best mates.



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Safari 2020



Incorporating Bowhunter and Sighted Championships and 3D Championships

To be held at the National Field Venue

ABA Park, Mudgee, NSW

10 to 13 April 2020

All ABA members are cordially invited to compete at the 2020 National Safari Championships.

Nomination Fees:

All nominations must be completed online at www.bowhunters.org.au and be paid for at the time of registration.

ABA Adult \$65 Jnr/Cub \$45 Family \$125

3D Adult \$60 Jnr/Cub \$50 Family \$135

Closing Date for Entries is Monday 23 March 2020.

Last date for grading is 10 March 2020.

All archers under the Archery Alliance of Australia are invited to attend.

Timetable:

Muster each day at 8.00am for an 8.30am start

Registration and Bow Checks for both events Thursday 9 April

ABA - Friday 10 and Saturday 11 April (3 and 1 arrow each day) followed by Presentation Saturday evening

3D - Sunday 12 (2 x 2 arrow rounds) and Monday 13 April (2 x 1 arrow rounds) followed by Presentation Monday evening.



ABA Park address is 600 Upper Piambong Road, Piambong

Directions:

From Mudgee take the Castlereagh Highway towards Gulgong for 12.5km and turn left into Lesters Lane and continue 3.7km to a T intersection and turn right into Lower Piambong Road (gravel road from here on). Follow Lower Piambong Road for 2.1km until you come to Upper Piambong Road on your left, take this turn and continue 6km until you find the gated entrance to ABA Park. All turns will be sign posted. If coming from the North (Gulgong) after 16km it will be a right hand turn into Lesters Lane.

Camping:

Camping is ample at the range; anybody wishing for offsite accommodation can obtain further information from the ABA website. Definitely NO DOGS allowed.

Champion of Branches Team Competitions will be running for both National Championships and teams must be registered prior to Muster for each competition.



Australian Bowhunters Association INC



AFFILIATIONS

BOWHUNTING:
FIELD ARCHERY:

WORLD BOWHUNTING ASSOCIATION
INTERNATIONAL FIELD ARCHERY ASSOCIATION
CONFEDERATION OF AUSTRALIAN SPORT

WEBSITE <http://www.bowhunters.org.au>

NATIONAL OFFICE

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BRENDALD QLD 4500
Ph (07) 3256 3976
Email: officemanager@bowhunters.org.au

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).

NATIONAL OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Tony Hartcher
SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT
Ralph Boden (*appointed*)
VICE-PRESIDENT, BOWHUNTING
Allan Driver (*appointed*)
VICE-PRESIDENT, FIELD
Bruce Kelleher
TREASURER
Amanda Skinner
NATIONAL MEASURER
Garry Pitt
NATIONAL ASSISTANT MEASURER
Troy Morris
NATIONAL SCORE RECORDER
Brian Taylor
NATIONAL ASSISTANT SCORE RECORDER
Sally-Anne McGrigor
NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER
Alan Avent
DIR BOWHUNTER EDUCATION
Ray Morgan
DIRECTOR OF COACHING
Tom Cornell

BRANCH CONTACTS

Northern Territory	Ken Henderson	0413 820 818
North Queensland	Wayne Salmon	0429 438 925
Central Queensland	Andrew Little	0420 925 834
South Queensland	Brett Willaton	0401 326 132
North New South Wales	Peter Stubbs	(02) 6743 1559
South NSW and ACT	Ryan Tilbrook	0404 479 106
Gippsland, Victoria	Mark Burrows	0419 550 510
Central and Greater Victoria	Steve Old	0418 177 980
South Australia	Brett Raymond	0418 810 598
Western Australia	Ken Neill	0418 926 862
Tasmania – see Victoria		
Trophy Bowhunters of Australia	Ralph Boden	(02) 4392 6810

BOWHUNTING DIVISION REPORT

by Allan Driver

(Vice-President Bowhunting Division – *appointed*)



Bowhunting Proficiency Certificate

G'day to everyone in our Association and further afield. This is my first report for our great magazine and I just want to touch on a few things that everyone should consider.

As hunters in our Association, we are required to hold a Bowhunting Proficiency Certificate to hunt numerous feral animals.

If you are a new member or an established one and would like

to put your hunting archery skills to the test, then you need your Bowhunting Proficiency Certificate (BPC).

In essence, all clubs should have a BPC instructor to carry out the necessary process to acquire this certificate, so if you are interested please seek out your club person to get things rolling.

It isn't a difficult thing to acquire—there's just a bit of reading

and a practical test to get through.

If your club doesn't have a BPC instructor then it is just a matter of seeking out another club close by that can accommodate.

This has been the case with my club for some time now. Our BPC Officer has successfully put through many ABA members from other clubs.

Even if you are not a hunter, it is of benefit to our Association for any ABA member to have a BPC as it shows other organisations and government departments that we have a professional and serious attitude to hunting and that we train our members to dispatch feral animals in a competent and humane manner.

So please consider obtaining your BPC.

Awards

The National Bowhunting Awards are coming up from the 2019 hunting year.

Once the numbers are looked into and the recipients are determined,

the information will be published in the magazine. This is a great way to acknowledge our top hunters who have done the hard yards, heading out constantly to find that elusive feral animal and to dispatch with a clean kill.

Time to offer a hand

We are very fortunate in this country to have so many places to actually hunt many different types of animals on public land and private, often doing a service to farmers who need that little bit of help to control pests on their land.

As we are all well aware, we have been in the grip of a horrendous fire season and have had great losses. You may know of people who have had such losses. If you usually hunt on their land, it would be worthwhile giving them a phone call to see if they need any assistance with work around their farms et cetera rather than hunting.

Keeping in touch is of great benefit to all concerned. It may be a long process to recovery; it could take many years for a return to good hunting in some areas

but in the meantime it's up to us to offer to help however we can.

R-Licence from NSW

There would be many members out there who are holders of the R-Licence (restricted game hunting licence) that is issued by the NSW Department of Primary Industries.

I completed the course to obtain my licence some years ago at the Bendigo Deer Expo. My reasoning for getting the licence was that I did a lot of hunting in NSW and that the State had rules and regulations like most others and it was better to be a part of a system that gives many benefits back to the recipient rather than walking into some sort of trouble.

Once you have your R-Licence, you receive regular updates from the Department via email. They send out a wealth of information, constantly updating places to hunt and in particular bowhunting areas.

It is well worth considering looking at getting your R-Licence and becoming

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	Elissa Rosemond	205 7/8pt	2019
Chital Deer	Elizabeth Proctor	161 3/8pt	2019
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

a part of a broader field of hunting that is evolving.

The website has plenty of contacts in most States to enquire about how and where to go and do the course.

Write now

Lastly, if you have a story to tell on the hunting side of things, please put pen to paper and give it a go for your magazine. And send some high resolution photos to go with your story.

Undoubtedly there are many members who venture out into the domain of rural properties to stalk numerous feral animals. We want to hear all about it.

That's about it for my first report. I will be at Mudgee for the Nationals in Easter—a great place to be if you can make it. I hope to see you there.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



The ABA Office is seeking a casual employee for administration duties. The job is based in Brisbane/Ipswich.

Please contact the office to receive more information.

email

officemanager@bowhunters.org.au

phone

(07) 3256 3976



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

Bnch/Hunter	Club	Game	Award	FK/FKOS	Size
B Graham Otto	Cape York Bowhunters	Shark	RC		21 3/8
B Graham Otto	Cape York Bowhunters	Pig	TC		26 4/8
B Graham Otto	Cape York Bowhunters	Pig	RC		30 2/8
B Graham Otto	Cape York Bowhunters	Pig	TC		28
B Graham Wienert	FNQ Bowmen	Pig	TC		25 4/8
B Graham Wienert	FNQ Bowmen	Pig	TC		25 2/8
B Laurie Goudie	Independent	Shark	RC		20 2/8
B Laurie Goudie	Independent	Pig	TC		26 2/8
B Laurie Goudie	Independent	Pig	TC		27 4/8
B Laurie Goudie	Independent	Pig	RC		30 2/8
B Laurie Goudie	Independent	Pig	TC		25 4/8
B Laurie Goudie	Independent	Pig	TC		26
B Laurie Goudie	Independent	Pig	TC		27 2/8
B Laurie Goudie	Independent	Pig	TC		26 6/8
B Laurie Goudie	Independent	Pig	TC		27 2/8
B Laurie Goudie	Independent	Pig	TC		25 4/8
B Laurie Goudie	Independent	Pig	TC		25 6/8
B Laurie Goudie	Independent	Pig	TC		27 4/8
B Laurie Goudie	Independent	Pig	TC		25 2/8
B Laurie Goudie	Independent	Pig	TC		26 2/8
B Laurie Goudie	Independent	Pig	TC		26 6/8
B Michael Picot	Mackay and District Bowmen	Goat	TC	FK/FKOS	104 4/8
B Shane Scorgie	Mackay and District Bowmen	Rusa	GA	FKOS	0
B Toby Gall	Mackay and District Bowmen	Buffalo	RC		96
B Toby Gall	Mackay and District Bowmen	Buffalo	TC		81
B Toby Gall	Mackay and District Bowmen	Buffalo	TC		82 2/8
B Toby Gall	Mackay and District Bowmen	Stingray	TC		6 3/8
B Toby Gall	Mackay and District Bowmen	Stingray	TC		6 4/8
B Toby Gall	Mackay and District Bowmen	Stingray	TC		7 1/8
B Mark Spiller	Mt Isa and District Bowhunters	Pig	GA	FK/FKOS	0
B Brian Duynhoven	Townsville District Bowhunter	Sambar	GA	FKOS	0
B Brian Duynhoven	Townsville District Bowhunter	Chital	TC		152 ¾
B Brian Duynhoven	Townsville District Bowhunter	Rabbit	GA	FKOS	0
B Brian Duynhoven	Townsville District Bowhunter	Fox	GA	FKOS	0
B Tom Bruce	Townsville District Bowhunter	Pig	RC		31
B Daniel Ferguson	Twin Rivers Bowhunters	Pig	TC		25
B Daniel Ferguson	Twin Rivers Bowhunters	Pig	TC		25 2/8
B Daniel Ferguson	Twin Rivers Bowhunters	Sambar	GA	FKOS	80 4/8
B Graham McComiskie	Twin Rivers Bowhunters	Pig	RC		30
B Graham McComiskie	Twin Rivers Bowhunters	Pig	RC		29 2/8
C David Brewer	Emerald Archery Club	Chital	TC		153 1/8
C Michael law	Full Draw Field Archers	Chital	RC		165
C Michael law	Full Draw Field Archers	Camel	RC	FKOS	31 2/16
C Malcolm Pollock	Independent	Pig	TC		25 2/8
D John McDonnell	Barambah Bowhunters and FA	Hare	GA	FKOS	0
D Craig Rose	Independent	Pig	RC		29 4/8
D Craig Rose	Independent	Pig	TC		25
D Craig Rose	Independent	Pig	TC		26
D Mitch Warren	Renegade Bowmen	Pig	TC		26 4/8
D Mitch Warren	Renegade Bowmen	Pig	RC		29 2/8

F Nick Bedford	Independent	Fallow	RC	FKOS	221
G Alan Cuthill	Boola Valley Field Archers	Goat	TC	FKOS	95 4/8
G Alan Cuthill	Boola Valley Field Archers	Fox	GA	FKOS	0
G Alan Cuthill	Boola Valley Field Archers	Hare	GA	FKOS	0
G Alan Cuthill	Boola Valley Field Archers	Cat	GA	FKOS	0
G Christopher Bourne	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Sambar	TC		156 1/8
G Douglas Cahill	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Sambar	GA	FKOS	0
G Douglas Cahill	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Camel	RC	FKOS	30 11/16
G Marc Curtis	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Goat	TC		98 4/8
G Marc Curtis	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Goat	TC		102
G Blane Watson	West Gippsland Field Archers	Rabbit	GA	FKOS	0
G Elizabeth Proctor	West Gippsland Field Archers	Pig	GA	FKOS	0
G Elizabeth Proctor	West Gippsland Field Archers	Pig	TC		26 2/8
G Elizabeth Proctor	West Gippsland Field Archers	Pig	TC		28 2/8
G Elizabeth Proctor	West Gippsland Field Archers	Chital	TC	FKOS	149 6/8
G Elizabeth Proctor	West Gippsland Field Archers	Chital	RC		161 3/8
G Michael Luxford	West Gippsland Field Archers	Fox	TC		9 7/16
G Trevor Gregson	West Gippsland Field Archers	Rabbit	GA	FK/FKOS	0
H Anthony Atkinson	Ballarat Bowhunters	Cat	GA	FKOS	0
H Anthony Atkinson	Ballarat Bowhunters	Fallow	RC		207 2/8
H Anthony Atkinson	Ballarat Bowhunters	Fallow	RC		195 1/8
H Grant Bowd	Ballarat Bowhunters	Rabbit	GA	FK/FKOS	0
H James Shaw	Ballarat Bowhunters	Rabbit	GA	FK/FKOS	0
H Tyler Atkinson	Ballarat Bowhunters	Goat	TC		103 1/8
H Mick Kairn	Bendigo Field Archers	Sambar	GA	FKOS	0
H Chris Baty	Geelong Trophy Bowhunters	Pig	GA	FK/FKOS	19 4/8
H Chris Baty	Geelong Trophy Bowhunters	Fish	GA	FKOS	0
H Chris Baty	Geelong Trophy Bowhunters	Fox	GA	FKOS	0
H Luke Goodwin	Geelong Trophy Bowhunters	Goat	GA	FK/FKOS	65 5/8
H Luke Goodwin	Geelong Trophy Bowhunters	Rabbit	GA	FKOS	0
H Nigel Vaughan	Geelong Trophy Bowhunters	Fish	GA	FK/FKOS	0
H Kathryn Andrews	Lilydale Bowmen	Pig	GA	FK/FKOS	0
H Ronnie Yap	Lilydale Bowmen	Pig	GA	FKOS	0
H Ronnie Yap	Lilydale Bowmen	Pig	TC		27
H Dylan Evans	Mt Clay Archers	Stingray	GA	FKOS	0
H Dylan Evans	Mt Clay Archers	Chital	GA	FKOS	0
H Dylan Evans	Mt Clay Archers	Chital	RC		168 2/8
H Dylan Evans	Mt Clay Archers	Stingray	TC		6 2/8
J Vaughn Armstrong	Independent	Rabbit	GA	FK/FKOS	0
J Luke Hebb	Peel Archers	Fox	RC		10 7/16
J Luke Hebb	Peel Archers	Fox	TC		9 7/16
J Luke Hebb	Peel Archers	Fox	TC		9 4/16
J Luke Hebb	Peel Archers	Fox	TC		9 15/16
J Luke Hebb	Peel Archers	Fox	TC		9 11/16
J Quineka Parker	Peel Archers	Rabbit	GA	FKOS	0
J Ben Chambers	Western Plains Archers	Camel	TC		28 13/16
J Ben Chambers	Western Plains Archers	Fox	TC		9 9/16
J Ben Chambers	Western Plains Archers	Pig	RC		30 2/8
J Ben Chambers	Western Plains Archers	Pig	RC		29 2/8
J Ben Chambers	Western Plains Archers	Pig	TC		25 4/8
J Ben Chambers	Western Plains Archers	Goat	RC		113 6/8
J Ben Chambers	Western Plains Archers	Goat	TC		102 1/8
J Cheryl Morris	Western Plains Archers	Fox	TC	FKOS	9 4/16
J Doug Bourman	Western Plains Archers	Hare	GA	FKOS	0
J Josh Matthews	Western Plains Archers	Fox	TC		9 13/16
J Josh Matthews	Western Plains Archers	Fox	RC		10 8/16
J Orbin Wilde	Western Plains Archers	Pig	TC		25 2/8
J Ron Moore	Western Plains Archers	Goat	GA	FK/FKOS	0
J Troy Morris	Western Plains Archers	Sambar	TC		147 4/8



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Bowhunting achievements to end January 2020

Master Bowhunter

Laurie Goudie	630
David Luxford	510
Benjamin Chambers	460
Toby Gall	340

Trophy Bowhunter Award

Nil

Bowhunter Award

David Brewer	190
Dylan Evans	180
Graham Otto	170
Anthony Atkinson	160
Marc Curtis	160
Darcy Galliano	160
Bradley Seagrott	150
Brian Duynhoven	140
Michael Law	130
Christopher Bourne	120
Elizabeth Proctor	120

Bowhunter Royale

Anthony Atkinson

Bowhunter Imperial

Nil further since last report

Bowhunter Supreme

Nil further since last report

Senior Member of TBA

Brian Duynhoven
Elizabeth Proctor
Anthony Atkinson
Cheryl Morris

Members admitted to TBA

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

Michael Picot
Tom Bruce
Darryn Carter
Nicholas Bedford
Alan Cuthill
Ronnie Yap
Orbin Wilde



Trophy Bowhunters of Australia Club



Introducing NEW TBA MEMBER *Nick Bedford*

Where do you live?

Sydney.

How long have you been hunting?

For 30-plus years, however I had a break and only got back into it in 2016.

How long have you been an ABA member?

30-plus years, on and off.

What got you into bowhunting?

My father was a hunter and he started taking me when I got big enough to shoot a bow with enough power to hunt.

Are you a member of an archery club? Do you hold a position in the club?

I'm a member of Manly Warringah Field Archers. I don't hold any position there.

How often do you get to go hunting?

Five or six times a year.

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

I have been using my Hoyt RX1, however I got a recurve for Christmas and I'll take that hunting this year.

Has this encouraged you to do more hunting?

Definitely.

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

Not really, just enjoying my hunting at the moment.

Did you know much about TBA before this?

Not really, no.

The TBA Committee congratulates you, Nick.



The hunt:

I had missed a shot at another stag and was pretty disappointed but it was during the rut and there were others croaking so I knew I had a chance. I was following the croaking and made my way down to the bottom of the valley where I ran into my father. He'd been thinking about going after this stag but thought it was too far up the hill and told me to go after it. I headed a couple of hundred metres up the hill but saw that I had been spotted by one of this guy's does. I stood still and waited and the doe just kept looking at me without barking. Luckily for me, a herd of goats walked across the hill right where the deer were and they scared off the doe that had made me. I used the commotion the goats had made to get into position and took the stag with a 20m shot.





Nick Bedford with the stag that won him membership into the TBA—a fallow deer, 221pt.

ABA Park is preparing for two big events

ABA National and Northern NSW Branch members held a working bee over the Australia Day long weekend at ABA Park to get ready for the NSW State IFAA Titles and the National Safari.

At the working bee, ranges were set for the IFAA State Titles and also for the upcoming National Safari. These ranges are set to have less walking than ranges of previous years, and will be much easier to traverse. The two IFAA ranges are close to the clubhouse, but still will be challenging!

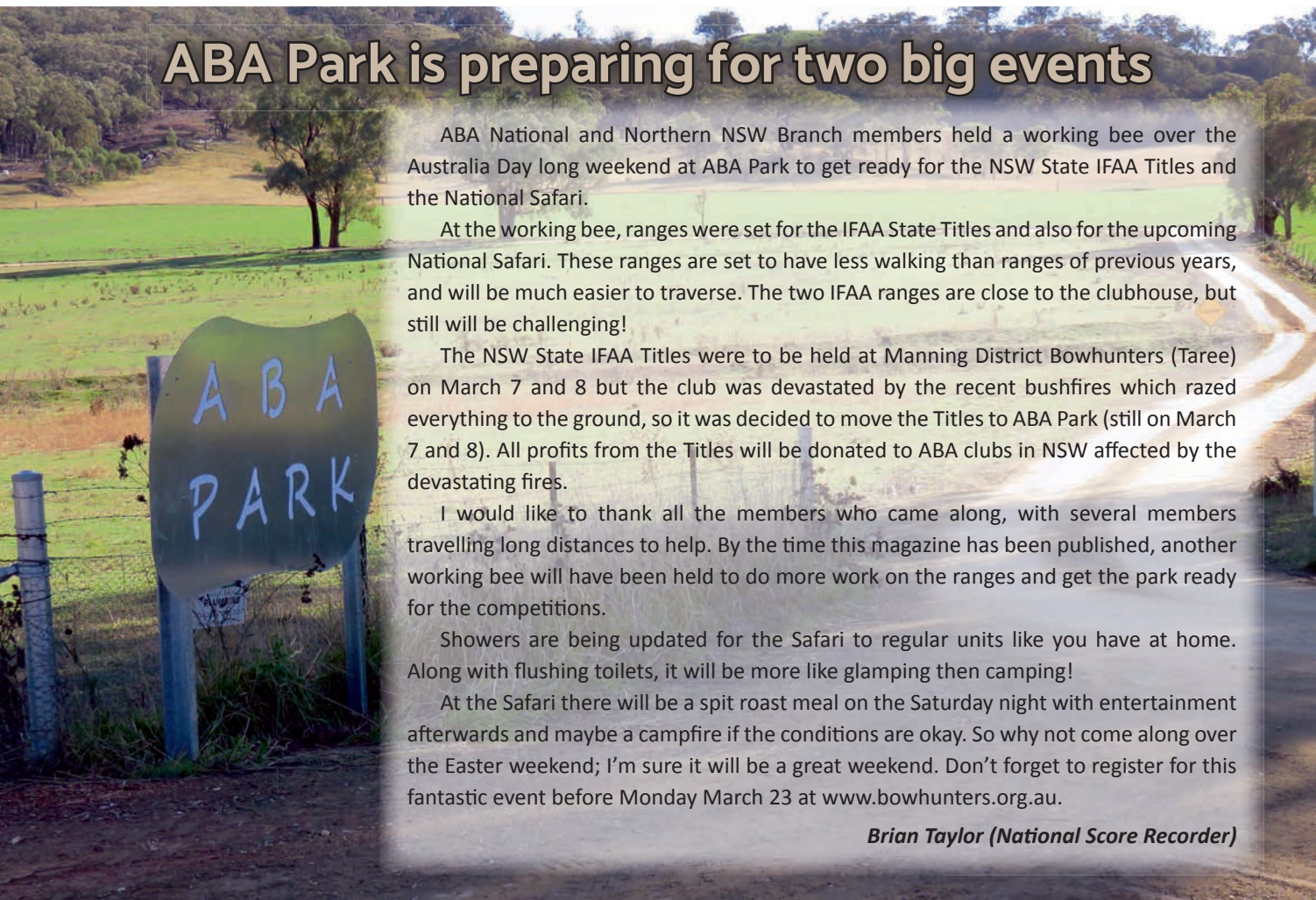
The NSW State IFAA Titles were to be held at Manning District Bowhunters (Taree) on March 7 and 8 but the club was devastated by the recent bushfires which razed everything to the ground, so it was decided to move the Titles to ABA Park (still on March 7 and 8). All profits from the Titles will be donated to ABA clubs in NSW affected by the devastating fires.

I would like to thank all the members who came along, with several members travelling long distances to help. By the time this magazine has been published, another working bee will have been held to do more work on the ranges and get the park ready for the competitions.

Showers are being updated for the Safari to regular units like you have at home. Along with flushing toilets, it will be more like glamping than camping!

At the Safari there will be a spit roast meal on the Saturday night with entertainment afterwards and maybe a campfire if the conditions are okay. So why not come along over the Easter weekend; I'm sure it will be a great weekend. Don't forget to register for this fantastic event before Monday March 23 at www.bowhunters.org.au.

Brian Taylor (National Score Recorder)



HUNTING TRIP TO CAPE YORK, QUEENSLAND

*Getting the best
from my GPS*



by BEVAN BLACKLOCK

As a Peninsula native, I grabbed an opportunity with both hands to head north again with Mitchell Cape York Adventures in October last year. The trip was scheduled after the Trophy Bowhunters Association (TBA) Muster at Renegade Bowmen. Our group would consist of the Warrens (Greg and Mitch)—with whom I have put in a lot of bowhunting miles—and Kev Swan. The TBA Muster was a great success for all those who attended. We all learned heaps and like all bowhunting gatherings, there was a lot to talk about. Admiring others' success in bowhunting makes up a large part of what we do.

My objectives for the Cape York trip were pretty simple—to help Kev get his FKOS pig and to take a 30-point boar for myself. My personal best is 27+. I was willing to take my time and hunt for them. This would mean using different methods to put me into the right position to increase my chances. This trip was not going to be about numbers but about quality. So I knew the 'what'; now for the 'how' and the 'where'.

How to hunt was simple enough: Very slow deliberate stalking into the wind on feeder creeks both dry and wet. Find a pig, nock an arrow with a razor-sharp broadhead up front and then place that in the vitals ...

Where—this was going to be the most challenging. The bits in 'how' then get in the way. On a quarter of a million acres of rather featureless country, where to invest the effort into finding becomes critical. Scotty could only make sure we were prepared properly and safe. Sure, there were the areas of family pigs to go to, like dams and permanent springs, but this was not likely to be where the old men would be hanging out ready to be taken. There was a fair bit of learning to be done. We would become practiced on this trip at morning game plans and self-guiding to target areas

from topographical maps. Then it was up to us to deliver the 'how'.

Over time, our group has settled on Garmin 64ST GPS units. They are rugged, good on batteries and easy to use. They have the added benefit of wirelessly swapping GPS coordinates once there is knowledge about a spot. This meant that we would come back to the game plan meetings with the topo maps marked up with interesting bits of information that helped to build knowledge. Once everyone was using the same settings, it became easier.

To keep communication consistent, it is imperative that all devices use the same settings. Logical, I know but rare in a camp of hunters! Our directions were to set our devices (GPSMAP 64st or equivalent device) to show:

Main Menu > Setup > Units > Metric
Main Menu > Setup > Position Format > UTM UPS

Main Menu > Setup > Map Datum > WGS 84 (match this to the topo map)
Main Menu > Setup > Map > Orientation (track up); Data Fields (2 small); don't worry about the rest.

Your map needs to be correct; Cairns Charts and Maps provides an online service, or pick the correct one up at your map place. Make sure all the areas that you need are on the map

you are purchasing or downloading. Using a 1:25000 scale map (12.5km x 12.5km) provides you with a 1 x 1 km square on the ground with a contour interval of 10m as a ready reference within the map area. This makes distance estimation relatively simple. Scotty had multiple copies of each map so each hunting party had the correct map in a waterproof bag with a pencil to write with.

Interesting areas now became accessible. On the first couple of days of self-guided hunting on a new block, we learned heaps. I am accustomed to winging it, and at rare times using my GPS to come back to a base or exit point. What we achieved on this trip was to be proactive in our search for game. An example was that Kev and I ended up hunting what we called Swamp Dam. There was heaps of sign but no pigs that day. When I scouted around, there were consistent pig pads coming in from roughly the north. That night at our storytelling session, we planned to hunt the promising area on the map about due north of the Swamp Dam area. The process from here was to transfer the position on the map to the GPS and save that waypoint for future reference. The next morning when we were kitted up to go for a walk, it was simply a matter of finding the waypoint



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Bevan's scrub bull.

(press the 'Find' button and select the waypoint you want) and then using the GPS to provide a directional reference to the spot.

When there is an obstacle in the way, for instance, feral cattle or family pigs or open ground, it is then time to pull out the topo map again and get a reference from the GPS to pinpoint where you are 'Map to Ground'. Believe me, this is featureless country, you are not going to be able to see the creek that shows up as a creek on the map at times, and there are no hills or mountain ranges to reference to/from. Normal compass triangulation is not convenient. Keeping the wind in your favour is key, staying downwind from other feral or native animals

is important. On this occasion we stopped to get around a cleanskin cow and her mob of about eight cattle, only to come into contact with a nice typical scrub bull that I had permission to take. With the wind right we were only 200m or so upstream from where we intended to start our hunt, the bull walked into my shooting lane. The Mathews Z2 at 68lb with Easton 5mm and an ever reliable Outback 125grn single-bevel broadhead was all that was required. As they say the rest is history. After taking photographs and preparing to remove the trophy almost at the pencil cross where we intended to start hunting, we could hear a pig (or pigs) foraging towards us. Kev put in a brief stalk, had a shot and returned

to me while I finished off what I was doing. Kev wasn't sure of his shot but thought it was good.

Once the bull's trophy was loaded onto my backpack, off we went to find Kev's pig. The blood trail was short and the pig was only 20m from where he was hit. This was Kev's second pig in as many days. Scotty got to help him with his first like the professional guide he is.

I was enjoying this method of hunting and the confidence that the GPS provided me in switching between map reference to GPS directions and back again. The next phase of our learning was to find pigs. This generally meant walking dry gullies in the hope that the wind hadn't switched in the time that our progress was made.



For more information, email africanbowhunter@xpres.live

*Technical articles
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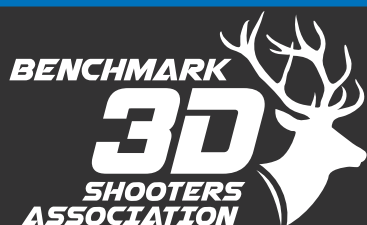
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A dry bed. Fresh, but empty.



Another fresh bed. But where are the pigs?



MARKED DISTANCE 3D SHOOT

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Other Shooting Divisions -

11 Adult Divisions - Entry \$50 - Payout: 1st \$60, 2nd \$40, 3rd \$25.
3 Junior Divisions - Entry \$30, 2 Cub Divisions - Entry \$20.



Contact - Robert Vayro 0438 997 638 or Email: benchmark3darchery@gmail.com
For more information – www.benchmark3dshootersassociation.com





Wet beds showing recent signs of pigs. But once again, empty.



Kev took his FKOS pig and followed it up with a second one.



Greg's PB for the trip, a Record Class boar.

Unfortunately, this was not to be. Only one large black-and-white boar was seen still at home. A flicking ear gave him away. Instead of backing off and coming in from a more favourable angle, I nocked an arrow and took half a step before the big bloke exploded from his dry bed and was gone into the high dead grass. Bugger! Knowing that the wind is trumps is key. If a swirling wind picks you up from behind, then there is little or no hope of finding game for the next little while. We all know this, of course. Most of us appreciate this hunting deer but I'd never experienced it with pigs before. I just found plenty of fresh but empty beds.

On an extended walk we came across a spring system, but the wind

was choppy and generally wrong. It was agreed that we would project a waypoint to the downwind side of a structure on the topo map that looked like a swamp area. There were a number of pig pads heading out that way. We navigated to the spot and found the tea-tree swamp as predicted with excellent pig sign all around its edges, but no pigs today. We had a good break with a hot cuppa and something to eat. Kev was going to follow the pads back to the spring area and I was going to loop back to the same area, checking out a couple of gully systems. This would put me walking into the wind on my way back. I found pigs in big numbers but all family pigs that were travelling from

someplace to someplace only they knew about. I didn't disturb them. As I arrived at the junction of the larger creek and where the spring entered, I should have been more cautious. I stepped one step too far again and busted a sow and suckers, that then alerted a group of young boars. On my way back up the spring—you guessed it—the wind changed every 20 minutes or so, blowing any chance of a pig remaining in its bed.

This scenario—or one like it—played out for seven days of the hunt. So close yet so far. Early morning walks would show up large mobs of family pigs on the march from feeding grounds back to their beds. Where the old blokes started and ended their



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



Mitch claimed a personal best on this trip with this RC boar.

day would not be too far from these larger groups of pigs. Inspection of pig faeces indicated they were feeding on seasonal fruits dropping to the ground in prolific numbers in the sand ridge country. We found these on the last day or so but never hunted them on the feeding grounds.

Our camp was excellent. The food and camp life was excellent. But in 2019, a 30-point boar did not get

added to a claim form with my name on it. I never claimed a pig, never mind a Record Class one. I had plenty of chances to take a boar but passed them up in the hope of a better one in the mob.

The others all claimed personal best pigs and bulls. I am sure 2020 will be my year. Scotty and the team from Mitchell Cape York Adventures will see me back in camp again. (For anyone

interested in contacting Scott, his email address is Scottymitchell2005@hotmail.com) I might try to get up there earlier or even later in the season when the weather systems are more consistent. I don't think it matters if the area is wet or dry, there will always be big old boars to hunt. They don't get old by being stupid and they know more about the wind and its vagaries than we ever will.

It's time to book your trip to Norfolk Island



There is a reason that many competitors describe the Norfolk Island 3D field as one of the best they have ever seen. The club is situated on historic Melanesian mission land with a beautiful landscape of flat meadow, woodland hillsides, valleys, rolling hills and creek beds ... and all without the worry of snakes! The flat meadow is perfect for the target range, 24 permanent FITA field targets nestle around hidden corners in the woodlands and the 3D animals peer through stands of bamboo or tree groves and bushland.

Not only is the scenery beautiful, but also safe and perfect for the whole family. The 3D events are organised for all ages including cub divisions and the club encourages junior shooters to attend and compete. Timed for the winter school holidays, this is an excellent event for junior shooters and a great introduction to international competition.

Non-shooters are encouraged to take part in the week's social events including welcome and farewell activities. The competition is organised so that the archery can be enjoyed along with all that a holiday on Norfolk Island has to offer, including fishing, golf, exploring an incredible World Heritage listed area, snorkelling, glass bottom boats, walks and shopping.

Today, Norfolk is known as a fresh, seasonal foodie haven where food miles are counted in metres; as an unspoiled environmental playground with lush rainforests and coral-filled waters. It is also an intriguing community with a culture and language of its own.

Act now if you'd like to spend a perfect week at a perfect spot! Contact Helen via email at helen@travelcentre.nf or on AUS freephone 1800 1400 66 to get all the holiday package details.



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Winners PHOTO COMPETITION



Jed Forbes wins a \$250 Abbey Archery voucher for this photo, *Lying in Wait*, which appeared in the March-April 2019 issue of *Archery Action*.

In the field 2019 *In the bush*

Graham McComiskie wins a \$250 Abbey Archery voucher for this photo, *Kindred Spirits*, which appeared in the July-August 2019 issue of *Archery Action*.





2020 IFAA NATIONAL



FIELD ARCHERY CHAMPIONSHIPS

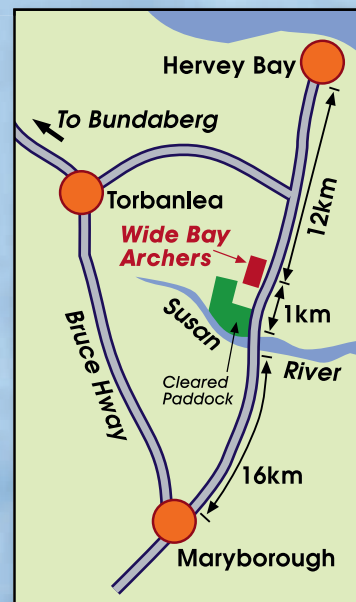
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Timetable:

Muster each day at 8.00am for an 8.30am start

Saturday 04/07/20	Registration and bow checks (afternoon)
Sunday 05/07/20	Registration and bow checks (TBA)
Monday 06/07/20	28 Targets Field/Hunter
Tuesday 07/07/20	28 Targets Hunter/Field (afternoon bow checks)
Wednesday 08/07/20	28 Targets Field/Hunter
Thursday 09/07/20	28 Targets Hunter/Field
Friday 10/07/20	28 Targets Animal followed by presentations



Competitors have the choice to shoot either 5 or 3 days with the best of three scores submitted but must include 1 Animal, 1 Field and 1 Hunter round, which means some competitors may not wish to arrive until the Tuesday afternoon.

Nomination Fees:

3 Days	Adult/Young Adult/Veteran \$55	Cubs/Jnr \$45	Family \$145
5 Days	Adult/Young Adult/Veteran \$75	Cubs/Jnr \$55	Family \$170

Nominations Closing Date 22nd June 2020

All nominations must be completed online at www.bowhunters.org.au and paid for at the time of registration. No late nominations will be accepted and nominations on the website will open immediately after the National Safari.

Last date for grading is June 8 2020.

All archers under the Archery Alliance of Australia are invited to attend.

Champion of Branches Team Competitions will be registered prior to muster for the competition

Camping and hot showers are available.

Please contact the club by June 14 to let them know numbers for camping. Group allocations can be set aside upon request secretary@widebayarchers.org.au

Motel and cabin type accommodation is available in Hervey Bay or Maryborough. Early booking would be advantageous, as there are several other events happening in the region.

Breakfasts, lunches and evening meals will catered for.



Nick Lintern TRADITIONAL TRAILS

Welcome to another Traditional Trails. With all the fires that took place over the Christmas period and how much loss of life and property there was, I think sometimes we all need to take stock of how powerful nature can be. As hunters we all have that dream trip we had planned and sometimes we might do stupid things and ignore common sense when eager to get out amongst it. The terrible fires we've had are a stark reminder of how bad things can go—and suddenly. Very simply, Mother Nature must be respected. You can be stomped on like an ant at any point. You hear stories of guys being so focussed on that big billy or boar that they completely lose sight of time or location ... or they're willing to take crazy risks to get that shot. While I'm all in favour of pitting ourselves against the ferals out there and getting those great shots off, don't push it so far that you are putting yourself in a bad predicament. Even when we are out there in our 4WDs trying to get to a location, then find out the bridge is out or there's a landslide, and getting around the issue is sketchy—rethink pushing on if there's genuinely a bad risk of getting into serious trouble. The wisest advice I ever got was: "There's no goat, deer or pig that's worth trashing your vehicle or breaking your leg." In the man-versus-nature game, we always lose, so respect the bush and the weather et cetera and live for another trip.

What to expect from a custom bow

Over the years I've made it very clear the passion I have for longbows and you've all been ear bashed *ad nauseam* on this. However, I get quite a few questions on the differences between custom bows and mass-produced ones. So, while I have touched on this subject before, I think it's time to look at this in some detail and in this issue I want to shed some light on what you should expect from a custom bow and where that extra cost should be showing up in your new bow as well as shedding light on buying traditional bows for those new to archery.

A quick history

Many years ago, archery was an expensive sport to get into. Most bows were self-bows and attracted that kind of price. These were not overpriced as such, but correctly reflected the craftsmanship and time required



High quality workmanship should be expected on a custom longbow or recurve.

to make a quality bow. This of course excluded many people from getting involved. Then in the 50s, American pioneers like Ben Pearson and Fred Bear started making budget-conscious bows from solid fibreglass and some more finely made wooden-cored bows with factory, cookie-cutter mentality while still maintaining bowyer integrity. This was an essential breakthrough in many ways as it put reasonable quality bows in archers' hands for a greatly reduced price. The issue though, was in regard to consistent quality. My first Bear bow was a Grizzly recurve. It was marked at 50# @ 28in but it was really 55#. It also stacked very badly. Nonetheless I had a good degree of success with that bow and it never failed me in the bush. Other bows I shot at that time from the same maker were better to shoot. These sorts of bows are made to a recipe and that's that. They are great for the money, but you just can't say how good it will be to shoot as no one is really paying that much attention. The tiller balance is right, it's strong and durable and shoots a fast arrow and—most importantly—it's reasonably priced. These early production-style bows were pretty good and put bows into many people's hands.

So, this is where it all began. Sadly, the mass-produced world has dropped the ball badly now. The factory mentality

has gone into overdrive and overseas outsourcing for cheap labour has caused this to be even worse. Thankfully, traditional bow-making skills and knowledge have survived and come through from the mists of time and there are many top-class bowyers out there applying the hand-made techniques necessary for top quality results..

Let's look at the main differences in the modern world:

Custom bows versus off-the-shelf

The first thing we should look at is beginners. When an archer is starting out in traditional archery, I highly recommend going for an off-the-shelf budget bow. At the beginning you won't be totally sure if this is something you will stick with plus you need to find out which bow style (recurve, longbow et cetera) suits you best. After six months or so, if you're still bitten by the bug and truly want more, then it's time to look at higher priced customs. Always remember, a custom bow can't fix bad form. It will however, make good form and good technique bring better results. You could give Tiger Woods a broken stick from the back yard and he'll still outplay a bad golfer with all the fandangled gear. Give Tiger the fandangled gear and then look out. The

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Nock detail of a high-priced custom bow. Look for good quality craftsmanship.



Deflex/reflex riser with inserts added for accessories like a bow quiver. This can be done on a good custom bow. These were specifically done to suit the customer's quiver.

same applies to archers. So decide which way you'd like to go—recurve or longbow—go budget, learn good technique and then in the future, look to a beautifully fitted, hand-made bow.

The main differences

Let's start at the beginning. What are the main differences between the off-the-shelf bow and the high-priced custom? Firstly, the mass-produced bow has naturally been made with no knowledge whatsoever of the archer who will be using it, or how they will use it. (more on this later). So, with that thought in mind, they are usually made to whatever draw weight at 28in and right or left hand. Most of us have come to accept the 28in draw length as a standard. This is because with mass-produced bows they are always rated to 28in. It may have been that many years ago when mass production began that a rough guide in recurves was that men drew around 28in so it became the standard. Truthfully, very few people actually draw 28in but there had to be a construction standard. That's as custom as it gets. Very cookie cutter, and they have to be. Again, the manufacturers have no idea who will shoot it and how. The bows are usually made off-shore and not too much attention is paid to overall quality. They are, however, very cheap.

The custom bow is a different beast entirely. It is made with all the information available to the bowyer. He will know your draw length, weight, left or right handed and will know what you intend to do with it. Will you be target shooting with very light arrows or chasing big game in the bush? How your bow is made will—or should—reflect these things. So instead of a generic, one-size-fits-all bow, your custom bow should fit you and your style of shooting like a glove. This will in turn add accuracy and pleasure to shooting.

There are dangers in purchasing both cheap off-the-shelf bows and in buying customs. The biggest danger in buying off-the-shelf bows is reliability. Sadly, many cheaper bows are not made with the same attention to detail that customs are. Warranty can be an issue with off-shore purchases as Australia's consumer laws don't necessarily apply in the country of origin. If a bow has been purchased from a retailer here the store should cover the warranty, but be aware that this may be an issue.

The biggest problem with many customs is that they aren't 100 per cent custom. There are many 'cookie-cutter' makers out there who are making the bow to a high standard of craftsmanship but with only partial understanding of how to *truly* fit the bow to you. There really is no room for 'one size fits all' building of custom bows. Glass colour and draw weight are only where the story begins. There are many fine things in designing and building a bow that



A fine example of thumb slots et cetera made to fit an individual's hand and shooting style.



Heavier riser section of a custom recurve or hybrid long-bow. These handles can also be made to suit your hand.

may appear to be very minor, but when many minor things are put together they add up to a substantial amount of difference. So, when buying a custom bow, do your research and ensure the maker has a good reputation and is hand-making your bow, not outsourcing it. Look at reviews, do they have a site so you can look at their product? Preferably, have a look at one of their bows in the flesh. Sadly, there are many examples of great companies that have a huge long background in archery tackle manufacture and were once great but now are outsourcing many facets of their bow builds to Asia et cetera and quality control is badly lacking. Sadly, the custom price tag isn't lacking! In many cases this comes from situations where a bow brand has been built up genuinely and prices reflect the quality you are buying, then the company is inherited by family who aren't as interested as the original founder was, or it goes on the market and is bought by someone more interested in a business model than bowery. I have known many people who have bought from big names overseas only to find their bow is poorly made and draw weights are out massively ... all pointing to carelessness. These bows are really only mass-produced ones with a custom price tag and often aren't even built in the country of origin.

Let's consider some different bows and see what you should be looking at with customisation.

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If leather work is applied to your handle it should be neat and professional.



Good glue lines and great aesthetics typical of good custom handles.

Recurves

Let's look at recurves first. A recurve's design lends it to mass production quite well. A recurve can be made to a generic length that will actually suit many archers due to the string angle to the limb. I won't go all technical now, but there is a wide range of draw lengths that will work on one length of recurve. This is why those early American-manufactured bows were made the way they were. With that said, there is still an optimal length. By buying a custom recurve from a reputable maker you are buying: correct design, durable construction, and attention to detail. The maker should want to know your draw length, draw weight, aesthetic preferences and what you want to do with the bow—hunting, target et cetera. In summary, there are basically three levels of recurve price structure. Entry level, mid-range and top level. If you are ready to buy a higher priced bow, go to the top level if you can manage it. And of course, do your homework. Make sure you are talking to the bowyer who is making your bow, not a sales assistant.

Longbows

Longbows are where the difference in quality really shows out. Due to a longbow's design and style there are nuances that must be right on point to get one to be really good. To greater demonstrate this, let's drop back for a moment to recurves. A recurve has a large handle/riser and very light limbs. This means if the bow is not optimally using its limbs or the timing is out a bit you can still get a reasonably shooting bow as the big riser absorbs quite a bit of shock. A longbow has long, thick limbs and a very small handle/ riser which is part of what makes longbows exhibit their character which is so forgiving and stable, but if the timing or design of those limbs is out, hand shock is bad. Recurves can also have a broad range of draw lengths that will work with one bow. With a longbow, draw length and limb length are sensitive. They must suit the archer exactly ... or very closely. A well made long bow is a delight to shoot. Feather light in the hand, very manoeuvrable and fast to shoot accurately. There should be no hand shock and it will be as fast as any recurve. It takes considerable skill, though, to achieve the perfect balance and limb timing and handle/ limb geometry needed. The bow must also be designed to do what you as the archer are intending on doing with it. Are you shooting big, heavy arrows or light ones for target shooting? The issue with longbows is that if they are poorly made with a cookie-cutter approach then a really bad bow is on its way. There are only really two types of longbow: Really good or really bad. Really bad comes from a lack of knowledge on why the bow is doing what it is. Very slight

changes to the bow's core taper rate, for example, can have big effects on the bow's shootability. In short, a traditional, straight-end longbow is the last word in shooting enjoyment and efficiency but if poorly made it is the polar opposite. When it comes to longbows, they really need to be hand made by a skilled bowyer to ensure that the bow is doing what you want it to do.



Custom American semi-longbow. These bows **must** be made to fit you and your shooting needs.

Deflex/reflex (hybrid) longbows

The deflex/reflex longbow is like an offspring of a recurve and a longbow. The limbs generally arc back towards the archer from the handle then angle back away from the archer up to the nock. They exhibit the narrow, thick, stable limbs of a longbow but also have the sweetness of shooting that recurves offer. They come in many different styles and lengths and are highly popular ... and with good cause. You've almost got the best of both worlds with hybrids. They are fast, stable and sweet to shoot. In most cases they are shorter than a straight-end longbow but longer than most recurves. In terms of customisation, they are always better if built for you by a good bowyer the same as the other bow types, but are available off the shelf in a cheap mass-produced style as well. Like a recurve, they will likely be better mass produced than a mass-produced straight-

end longbow due to their design, but still will be a whole lot better if made to fit you by a good maker.

Summary

To sum all this up: The extra dollars required for a custom bow are well worth it once you're established in the archery world. But be *sure* the maker is reputable and experienced. That is what you are paying for at the end of the day. Make sure you ask all the questions you may have and be sure you get satisfactory, knowledgeable answers.

I hope this sheds some light on the world of buying traditional bows. As always, keep those questions coming in and I'll do my best to write articles that cover as many of these questions as possible. Until next time, keep traditional.

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South Australian Branch

Carp Bowfishing Hunt

We've all heard the Latin motto *Carpe diem*—seize the day. That saying was brought to life in a most unusual way when a dozen Branch I people decided to have an outing when they seized not only the day (well, two days really) but also a whole lot of carp at Plush's Bend in Renmark. You could even make a silly anagram out of it: *Carp 'em-die*.

Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) is an introduced fish that has become known as the scourge of many Australian waterways. Its lifestyle, stirring up muddy water, means that sunlight is blocked from aquatic plants, and this adversely affects water quality and the health of other water life. The pure numbers of this invasive pest species—reportedly 80 per cent of the fish biomass in some parts of the Murray-Darling Basin—further use up river resources and endanger native species.

South Australian Branch Controller **Brett Raymond** reports on the weekend.



Trophies made for the day.

After the success of the 2019 Carp Shoot we decided to make it an annual event, with all of the participants returning for another fun weekend. Plush's Bend near Renmark in South Australia offers free riverbank camping. It's an area of huge river redgums and beautiful scenery, and there's plenty of backwaters to bowfish for carp. In South Australia, bowfishing for carp is free—no licences or fees to pay.

The SA law states that:

A bow and arrow can only be used to take European carp.

Bow and arrow fishing can only take place:

- during daylight
- in the River Murray outside of the main stream
- at least 50m from all other persons not involved in the bow and arrow fishing

This was a free shoot, hosted by the Branch for the Branch members. We have decided that for the next carp hunt we will extend the invitation to all ABA members. It's whatever you want it to be—a competitive hunt, a relaxing

time on the river or just a fun shoot with all your mates.

The 2020 game started on Saturday morning after a safety debrief from David Hampel, our branch OH&S officer. Competition was due to finish at noon the following day for the measuring of the spines. This was an unofficial measuring system so not recognised by the ABA, but a lot easier than carrying 16lb fish through knee-deep mud and water for kilometres to get weighed!

Twelve bowfishers competed this year with a wide range of bow designs and fishing reels, lines and arrows. Water craft from top-of-the-line tinnies to canoes and blow-up paddle boards were used. Even the methods of fishing varied, from off the bank to wading in the water to being on a craft.

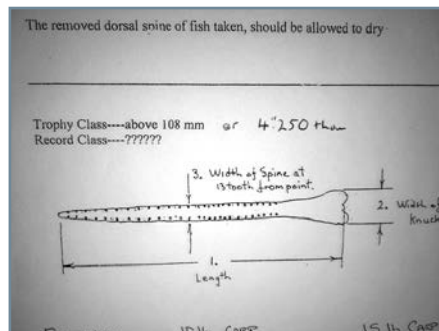
European carp are an introduced species that have had a devastating effect on the River Murray and native fish stocks. The females produce 280,000 eggs each time they spawn, which they do multiple times each year because of



The winners (from left) David Hampel, Wayne Wilson and Elroy Peck.



A great place to camp as well as fish.



The rules for measuring carp at the Renmark competition.

the warmer temperatures of the River Murray and backwater shallows. Carp have very good vision—they can see all spectrums of light, have good night vision, see movement well and have only a very small blind spot directly behind them. Carp have highly effective ears which can detect frequencies from 60Hz to 6,000Hz. The ears are inside their body just above the gills, at the rear of the brain. The ears have a sac filled with tiny hairs which detect vibrations in the water and the swim bladder forms a kind of amplifier. What that all means is that stalking and hunting carp is not always easy!

Presentations were done by the event coordinator Wayne Wilson, who has done a fantastic job for the past two years. Special mentions go to Malcolm Clements, Glenn Hannemann, Shannon Hitchen, Kameron (Jiggy) Rowntree, and Craig Rowntree (Squarebush) who also caught a trophy class fish but just missed out by a few thou on a trophy.

Hazel Kirlew also shot this year and got her first carp. Once she had her eye in, there was no stopping her, and she just missed out on a trophy class by 40 thou!

Collectively we shot 131 carp, with the biggest spine going to David Hampel at 4in641thou and the most fish caught was by Elroy Peck, with a total of 24.



Hazel Kirlew—once she got her eye in, there was no stopping her!



From left: Kameron Rowntree, Shannon Hitchen, David Hampel, Glenn Hanemann, Wayne Wilson, Brett Raymond, Malcolm Clements, Elroy Peck, Phillip Hitchen, Hazel Kirlew and Craig Rowntree.



BEVAN BLACKLOCK

Bevan is a qualified Stock and Meat Inspector who has worked in the livestock and meat processing industry and associated food processing sectors for more than 25 years. He is a professional food safety auditor in both domestic and export supply chains. He provides consultancy services in food safety and quality.

Bevan is an active ABA member. He joined the Trophy Bowhunters Association in November 2007 and has been actively claiming game since. He is a keen camp cook and keeps a clean kitchen. Here, he gives us the combined benefit of his professional knowledge and a hunter's perspective on food safety.

The first thing

Know your hunting group—medications, allergens and dietary needs are important for a safe and enjoyable hunting trip.

Water

Know where your water comes from. Make sure you have enough

for drinking, camp water and hygiene needs. Taking water from home is the best plan. Without shower water, you need at least five litres per person each day; a 20L container each for a long weekend should be heaps.

If you don't know the safety status of your water, boil it or treat it to make it safe.

Unless you know for sure it is safe, don't drink surface water (out of a creek, a dam et cetera) without first treating it to make it safe by boiling, filtering, UV or sanitising with the likes of iodine or chlorine tablets. Even farm rainwater tanks can make you sick so take care that your water is from a known safe source.



All packed up and ready for some huntin' and fishin'.



Catch and release or catch and cook? Abide by the food safety standards if you're having fish for dinner then keeping some for another time.

Food

Food in the hunting camp is very important and after hunting stories is most likely to make up most of the other interesting conversation in the camp. Most hunters are interested in camp cooking and are generally very good at it.

In the main, meals are prepared

and cooked to serve, the washing up is done and the kitchen area is made clean for an early start the next day. Most hunting camps are very clean and tidy—that is to say, the ones I have been in have been that way and I see no reason why others would not be. Variations on this cook-to-serve process are common.

Typical Food Preparation Risk Profile

Low Risk: Cook in camp => Serve

Medium Risk: Cook at home =>
Freeze => Thaw => Reheat =>
Serve

High Risk: Leftovers: Cook =>
Chill/Freeze => Reheat => Serve

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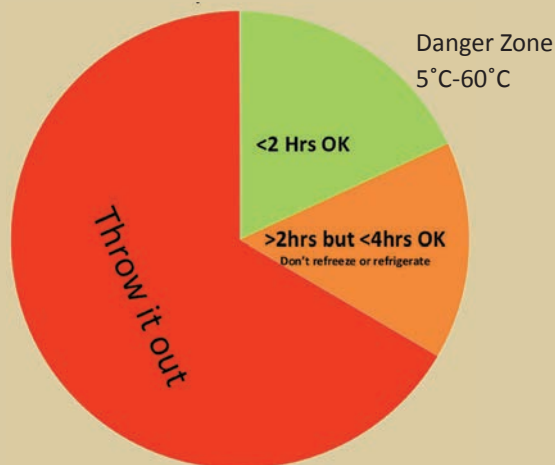
ONE-PAGE FOOD SAFETY PLAN FOR HUNTERS

The 2 and 4 Rule— a food safety plan for hunters

(Modified from Safe Food Australia)

This food safety rule assists hunters because it provides guidance on how safe that potentially hazardous foods are even if they have been in and out of the fridge in the hunting camp. The rule has been scientifically checked and is based on how quickly bad bugs grow in food at temperatures between 5°C and 60°C.

- Food held between 5°C and 60°C for less than two hours can be used, or put back in the refrigerator to use later.
- Food held between 5°C and 60°C for two to four hours can still be used but can't be put back in the fridge.
- Food held between 5°C and 60°C for four hours or more must be thrown away.



The time is cumulative, so you need to keep a track of the time that potentially hazardous foods are out of the fridge. Don't forget this includes preparation time.

How to get food safety in a hunting camp right:

- Be allergen aware.
- Wash hands regularly with clean water and soap, and dry hands prior to preparing food.
- Don't use sanitiser instead of washing, it supports good hand hygiene but should not be used instead of hand washing.
- Separate potentially hazardous foods (ready-to-eat foods like cooked chicken, ham and salami, fresh ready-to-eat salad packs, cooked rice, leftovers). These foods have already passed through a kill step in preparation/cooking. They are now potentially hazardous.

- Be tidy and wash up after every meal.
- Keep waste separate and if possible separate food waste from other waste.
- Keep dry foods separate from refrigerated foods.
- Try to have two fridges working so that frozen foods remain frozen and chilled foods remain chilled <5°C when in refrigeration.
- Reheat food quickly (<2 hours), don't thaw >5°C or <60°C.
- Cool food quickly from 60° to 21°C in a maximum of two hours and from 21° down to 5°C in a maximum of four hours (this is often called the Listeria window); it prevents growth of bad bugs in that >5°C-60°C temperature range.
- Remember: Bad bugs like our body temperature range.

Harvesting game

Equipment for food safety and processing game

Make sure your equipment includes:

- Sharp skinning and boning knife and steel to keep them sharp
- Clean drinking water for hand washing and equipment washing during processing,
- Gloves for handling the carcass during inspection and gutting,
- A form of hand sanitiser,
- Adequate light if required to perform harvest operations at night,
- Hand-drying towel that is single use so cross contamination is minimised,
- A gambrel or other equipment to hang the carcass clear of contamination.



Health and safety in the field

Zoonoses—transfer of diseases from animals to humans

Hydatids

Don't handle carnivores without full protection from faeces-to-mouth transmission, for example, foxes that may be part of the lifecycle of a tapeworm species that causes hydatid disease. The fox eats the organs of a sheep that includes the cysts of the

tapeworm, the intermediate host (sheep, goats, et cetera) consumes eggs from the host (the fox) on pasture. A person who comes in contact with the faeces of an infected fox (that is, when eggs from the tapeworm are passed in the faeces) may develop hydatid disease after handling the fox. This is serious and potentially fatal. Infection with tapeworm eggs causes cysts to form in vital organs such as the liver and lungs of the intermediate

host like a goat (for example, you will see cysts that look like watery blisters under the surface of the liver and lung). *Do not* handle the organs that are infected; spontaneous infection may also occur if these are disrupted and splashed on you.

Brucellosis

Poor hygiene when handling pig carcasses may result in the hunter contracting swine brucellosis. The



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disease is contracted generally through blood transmission—for instance, through cuts in the skin of your hands handling the carcass or organs. Always cover wounds with a waterproof dressing, wear gloves and always wash your hands with soap and water after you have handled a pig carcass.

Toxoplasmosis

Handling cats or eating uncooked meat may result in toxoplasmosis. Cats are the only known host. Toxoplasmosis is an infection caused by a parasite. This parasite is called *Toxoplasma gondii*. It can be found in cat faeces and undercooked meat, especially venison, lamb, and pork. It can also be transmitted through contaminated water. Toxoplasmosis can be deadly or cause serious birth defects for a foetus if the mother becomes infected. Pregnant woman should not clean the cat litter box to avoid exposure. Again, good hygiene is required when handling game and ensure game meat is cooked well.

Trichinellosis

Commonly called pork worm *Trichinella spiralis* (most common), encysted larvae are ingested by a wild pig, the mature larvae then invade the body and find a place to form a cyst to protect the larvae (look under the silver skin in the flank area of a wild pig). Hunters may harvest the game and process the meat including the larval cysts (for example, pork). Undercooked pork may be consumed and cause trichinellosis.

Other zoonotic disease may be prevalent in your region. You should make yourself aware of these diseases that can be transferred from game animals to you and take appropriate precaution against their infection.

Australian Standards

AS4464:2007 *Australian Standard*

for the Hygienic Production of Wild Game Meat for Human Consumption. A good read and recommended to all who might harvest wild game for consumption.

AS4696:2007 *Australian Standard for the Hygienic Production and Transportation of Meat and Meat Products for Human Consumption*.

Slaughter and the process of death

Antemortem (before death)—what good looks like

AS4464 states:

Only healthy wild game animals can be harvested.

Do not harvest game meat from animals that are obviously in poor condition or appear sick/unhealthy. As a hunter, you are aware of what a healthy animal looks like. It is your responsibility to make an assessment on what is a healthy game animal to harvest.

Don't harvest an animal that:

- is obviously unhealthy,
- has an abnormal gait,
- is weak or lethargic, lacks alertness,
- sits or rests in an unusual way,
- holds its head at an unusual angle,
- has an unusual or abnormal discharge from nose or mouth,
- has skin abnormalities,
- has poor muscle structure compared to other game animals,
- appears to be injured or unhealthy.

(Modified from: AS4464:2007 *Australian Standard for the Hygienic Production of Wild Game Meat for Human Consumption*)

The harvesting process

When an animal is taken with a razor-sharp broadhead through vital organs, there is immediate and rapid blood loss or exsanguination (the

animal bleeds out). Exsanguination means death by blood loss or words to that effect. The game animal's body goes into shock and is quickly rendered insensible. Most hunters have experience with this in its various forms.

The fight-or-flight response (also called hyperarousal, or the acute stress response) also plays a role in food safety and eating quality of harvested game in normal hunting situations. This normal response causes the animal to be in a heightened sense of survival. Adrenaline and other endocrine stimulants boost the response which may cause the animal to appear more agitated and take longer to succumb to the exsanguination process. That is, an animal in a hyperarousal state is likely to take longer to bleed out. For this reason, it is important not to take game that is agitated or on high alert. It is better not to take the shot when recovery is likely to be delayed or the animal subject to a longer period before death.

Ethically, and prior to any further work on the game and its preparation, it is your responsibility to ensure the animal is insensible. The most reliable method is the corneal reflex test. Move an object or hand over the eye, a corneal reflex (blink) must not be observed. If a corneal reflex is observed, dispatch the animal humanely.

Game animal meat quality is closely related to the process of death. In summary, energy for life (glycogen) is stored in muscle fibres as an energy source. After death, glycogen is metabolised anaerobically (without oxygen) to form lactic acid which reduces the pH of the carcass in normal rigor mortis (rigor = stiff, mortis = death). As pH reduces, so too does the ability of bad bugs to live. Most bad bugs can't survive in a pH environment of <4.6, where a carcass in rigor will have a muscle pH of about

5.6, greatly reducing potential carcass spoilage. A higher pH will result in drier/stickier and darker meat and increased rate of spoilage. This is a common reason why game meat is darker and has less shelf life if not handled correctly. Stressed animals use up the available glycogen, they do not produce as much lactic acid and will have a higher pH. It is important therefore to promote a stress free and fast recovery of game animals to make the most of the resource.

When harvesting game as a partial recovery or full recovery, wash hands and equipment and put on gloves and other personal protective equipment.

Partial recovery

The benefit of a partial recovery is that it is safer and there is less chance of cross contamination with pathogens from within the gut of the game animal. That is, just removing the limbs and backstraps minimises exposure of the gut contents to the meat that is harvested. This can be completed with the skin off or skin on.

With the animal on its side, skin the animal and use the skin as a hygienic working area (optional). Remove the back leg and hang it up off the ground. Make a cut from below the back straps to behind the shoulder. Take the back strap and the shoulder in one piece, hang it off the ground. Repeat on the other side. Hang meat separately so the pieces do not make contact and cover with clean sheets or bags to keep flies off the meat. Leave in a cool dry place until next morning.

Full carcass

Position the game animal in a clean grassed area if possible.

Short-gut the carcass, leaving the bits from the diaphragm forward in the carcass (for example the heart and lungs) by freeing the reproductive bits and anus (secure them in a bag and tie the bag to stop faeces and

urine spills), push them into the gut cavity. Then make an incision as small as possible in the belly to remove the gut. This cut needs to be large enough not to put pressure on intestines on removal. Pull the gut aside and tie off the oesophagus with a zip tie to prevent spills from freshly ingested grass and water. Find the oesophagus, place a zip tie and tighten it, put the oesophagus between your forefinger and thumb and slide them along to clear the contents of the oesophagus from that section. Apply another zip tie in this clear area. Cut the oesophagus between the zip ties. Make a cut along the backbone as you run down the aorta and then pull the intestines away from the carcass. Remember the large intestines are generally accumulated to the left side

of the side of the carcass so work with the animal on its left or near side. This method will also give you a good look at the liver before it is removed and the rest of the gut which should not be red and inflamed but in good general health.

If gut spills, ensure all contaminated parts are removed and discarded.

With the gut removed, most of the pathogens have been removed. Wash up and dispose of gloves in a zip lock bag. Take your rubbish with you.

Transport the whole carcass without delay to a dry cool place. Hang the carcass by the hocks with a clean gambrel. Place a sheet around the carcass or put the carcass in a bag (a linen sleeping bag liner is excellent).

Leave the carcass overnight at ambient temperature to set.



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Around THE TRADS

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

Sue Wallace

✱ “Absolutely brilliant,” was the description I received when I asked the question, “So how was the Stawell shoot?” of one of the weekend participants at the Stawell Bowhunters Inaugural Trad Shoot held late last year.

There were archers from Dunolly, Irymple and Melbourne to name a few places, with the weather on Saturday being warm. Out on the course Saturday morning, they shot two arrows at 20 targets, being a combination of 2D and 3D targets. There were carp hanging in trees, a T. Rex in the branches, and a mother and baby triceratops. There was a rather chubby cat sitting in a tyre in front of a steel drum, and



a challenging shot on a very small rabbit sitting at a rather long distance. Another of the targets was a wolf with no middle—you shot through the hole to a white wing on a crow for 20 points and a black spot on a toad for 50 points.

After lunch there were 20 targets with the old-style ABA targets faces, and this was a one-arrow round.

They also had axe and knife throw-

ing. The axe was won by Roadie and second was Andy from Dunolly. In the Knife, Andy was first (with a knife he borrowed from Roadie) and Roadie came second.

Sunday was quite damn cool (described as ‘typical Victorian weather’), so everyone was rugged up to shoot the 20-target field course of 2D and 3D animals, again as a two-arrow round.

The scores were tallied and the presentations commenced. All the trophies had been made by the current president of the club.

Their next trad shoot will be held on the weekend of May 30 and 31.

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Carp in a tree.



A cat in a tyre.



Through the wolf.

* White Rose Archery Klub at Irymple Victoria held a rather low-key affair for their Christmas breakup, with 20 2D and 3D targets shot on Saturday afternoon as a two-arrow round, the castle shot, the revolving windmill, a 30-second speed round, plus rolling disc with glowing lights attached shot in the evening. They watched a video or two on the history of the War of the Roses after dinner.

On Sunday they once again shot the 20 targets that were strategically placed around the yard in and around the small orchard. The first two-day shoot for 2020 will be held on May 23 and 24.

* Trad shoots confirmed for April and May are: NAFA Trad Rendevious April 11 and 12, Kurwongbah Open at Lakeside

Bowmen (is an all bows shoot and fun) April 18/19, Chevallan Archery Park May 16 and 17, White Rose Archery Klub May 23 and 24, Stawell Bowhunting May 30 and 31.

Shoots not confirmed at time of sending article include Gladstone Longbow and Recurve Muster May 2 and 3 and Barambah Trad Bash May 30 and 31 – keep your eye on the websites for confirmation.

* Reports from the following clubs will be in the next edition: Tenterfield Blacked Out Trad Shoot, Chevallan Archery Park, South West Bowmen TAA WA State Titles, Twin City Albury Trad Shoot and HVTA Andy Firth Memorial.

You will find further information and available flyers for the Traditional

Shoots on the following websites:

Traditional Archery Australia: www.traditionalarcheryaustralia.org >

Shoot Information

Wallace Woods: www.wallacetradwoods.com > *Shoot information (proposed 2020 calendar, and will have the link to the shoot flyers as they become available)*

Chevallan Archery Park: www.chevallanarcherypark.com – *for the Proposed Traditional shoot calendar, IBO approved African 3D targets now with replaceable centres, Customised unique Archery medals/medallions. Proudly supporting Traditional Archery Ozbow:* www.ozbow.net > *Traditional Archery Events > each shoot has an individual thread*

I look forward to seeing you 'round the trads.



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HOT pursuit





Photostory by
MARC CURTIS

A AAARGH! I cringed in pain as the resident bull ant colony took up an assault on my leg. They obviously didn't agree with my hide being located near their nest under a large gum overlooking a dam.

I was surrounded by mulga scrub in every direction and all the game trails were well used and led straight to the water's edge 30yd from my location. It was going to be hot, and with daylight approaching fast I could already hear goats calling and making their way to quench their thirst before it reached the predicted 43° for the day. The first mob to show up consisted of four nannies, a younger billy and a nice shaggy multi-coloured billy sporting a nice set of headgear. Surprisingly, he was the first to the water's edge and gave me the perfect quartering-away shot from 30m. I wasted no time in drawing and settling the pin behind his shoulder and with the release and an almighty flinch, I watched the arrow sail harmlessly straight over my trophy's back and into the mud on the opposite side of the dam. The billy jumped and spun around, looking at the arrow buried in the bank. I shook my head in disgust over my nervous shot. With an uppercut to the chin to put my composure back in check, I quickly sent my second arrow on its way and it collected the billy through both shoulders. He was a fine trophy, not only the horns but also the magnificent long coat he wore.

The rest of that morning was spent shooting with the camera and enjoying watching the everyday life of the outback fauna and how they deal with the extreme heat.



This billy had a magnificent coat.

The following morning was spent watching a dam at the far end of the station; a beautiful looking dam with plenty of shade trees for animals to escape the high daytime temperatures. I've never regarded this dam as a 'must hunt' area as the numbers of goats to it are usually limited ... but the ones that do visit generally have some age about them. The morning's wait was long

and hot and as the temperature rose, my only customers were kangaroos, emus and a much too friendly goanna that must have thought I might be something to chew on.

Then without a sound, a lone mature jet black billy crested the bank. He was on a quest to tame his thirst because he didn't even stop to check the surroundings for danger and just

bounded down to the water's edge for a drink. I knew he wasn't going to stick around once he'd had his fill so I drew, picked the sweet spot and let fly. He turned and didn't even make three paces before it was lights out. He was an old battler with worn teeth and a patchy coat—a proper outback trophy that had roamed the mulga for many years.



It was so hot the kangaroos didn't just drink from the edge—they made it into an immersive experience.

This fellow seemed pretty friendly. A bit too friendly, really.



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editor@archeryactionmagazine.com
Subject: Gold Pen Award entry

All hunting stories are automatically entered in this competition

Over the next couple of days the routine never changed: Sit on dams through the morning, rest away from the heat during the middle of the day and venture out in the late afternoon to try to catch an unsuspecting boar doing the rounds. Although I looked over plenty of billies, they were not quite worthy of one of my arrows.

I did, however, find a contender

on the same dam that I had taken the shaggy billy a few mornings earlier, and I spent the remainder of my hunting time dedicated to catching up with this particular billy, for while he was no monster in the horn department, the old black-and-brown goat had his backbone showing and had obviously outsmarted other hunters and avoided being mustered over the years. That



Wallowing in the water offers some respite from the intense heat.



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Goats will often water every second day in hot weather.



The jet black 98-pointer.

put him on top of my hit list. Goats can go for days without watering but in extreme conditions I've found the trend is to water at least every second day, and on the last morning of my hunt a decent mob of goats ambled over the dam wall with the old mate at the back of the pack. Cautious as ever, he watched the younger, less experienced drinkers go first.

With the wind in my favour it was a game of patience and to my advantage I could sense that watching the other goats quenching their thirst was starting to take its toll on the old fella. Not waiting any longer, he made his way down the dam bank and pushed his way through to pole position on the water's edge. It was all up to me now and with the 30 pin resting calmly



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- 40, 50, 55, 60, 70 lbs

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



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on his shoulder the 520-grain arrow tipped with a shaving sharp two-blade Kayuga made short work of the old timer.

As I sat down beside him it was a great feeling to reflect on the hunt, knowing I had dedicated a decent amount of time on one particular animal and had seen it all end in such an ethical way ... which is what I believe all true bowhunters strive for.



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Story behind the story ...

There is always a backstory, or at least additional details, that a writer doesn't include in a story that is meant to rely on its photos for effect. But in hearing about the hunt, I felt it would be helpful—especially for new hunters—to learn a little of the background to this story.

Marc was hunting in outback New South Wales. It was a relatively short visit and he was on his own, which is how he does a lot of his hunting. He loosed a total of just four arrows for the whole trip and admitted that many hunters would consider that there was a lot of 'boring stuff' in between shots.

"It was pretty extreme heat—in the mid 40s—and that's not the kind of weather to be wandering through endless seas of mulga on a property of 70,000 or 80,000 acres," he said.

"The truth is that unless animals make a noise, you could pass within 50m of them and not even know they were there. In the end you might only see a third—or less—of what you see when you're at a dam. So sitting in a hide near the water is the way to go. It definitely requires patience to sit for six or eight hours, but in such hot conditions everything has to come to water. And just sitting is trying enough in that kind of heat without walking in search of game.

"For me, a bit of quiet time is good. I don't take a book. I have my camera so I can take photos of birdlife and other wildlife—I photograph many more living things than animals I've shot! And I use the time for reflection.

"I might have two or three days when I don't shoot an arrow. And as far as I'm concerned, that's okay."

—Editor





SCOTT HEIMAN

Bushcraft & Survival

BACK TO BASICS



Have you been paying attention?

Have you ever had the experience of someone trying to explain something to you but you simply don't get it? Or perhaps you remember the discomfort you've felt when, midway through a conversation with a kid, friend or colleague, you realise that they're looking at you with uncomprehending zombie eyes ... like you're talking another language? Are you the problem? "Nah ... couldn't be—could it?" Well, perhaps it is.

Anyone who's tried to transfer knowledge from one person to another has probably had this experience from time-to-time; whether you're a BPC instructor, coach, mum, dad, trusted elder, committee member or simply someone going about your day-to-day life. When it all boils down, the reason is that everyone learns in different ways.

There are several distinct styles of learning recognised among psychologists and teachers. Depending on what you read, some will tell you there are three styles, while others will give you as many as eight. Indeed, some people will tell you there are no learning styles at all. Regardless of who's right or wrong, for illustrative purposes let's look here at seven categories that are routinely identified among the commentaries. These are:

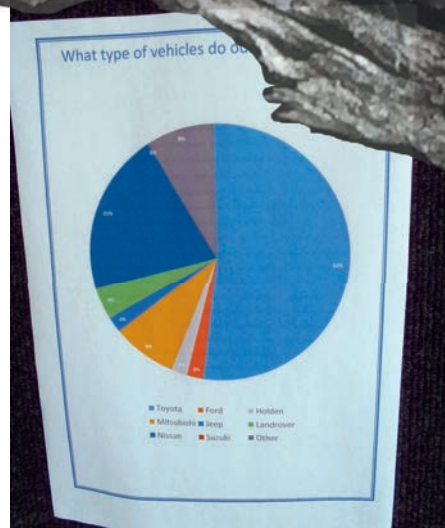
- **Visual (Spatial)** – do you need to draw things out?
- **Aural (Auditory-Musical)** – do you dislike reading?
- **Verbal (Linguistic)** – do you love words and writing?
- **Physical (Kinesthetic)** – are you a hands-on type of person?
- **Logical (Mathematical)** – are you great with numbers?
- **Social (Interpersonal)** – are you a people person?
- **Solitary (Intrapersonal)** – do you prefer working alone?



Some people learn better if you make your point visually.

As an instructor for over 30 years, I can vouch for having seen all of these learning types in action at one time or another. For example, some people I've taught simply don't respond well to words. I could talk all day and write all night, but the information still wouldn't sink in; and that might be because I'm dealing with someone who's dyslexic, someone who uses a different form of language to me or simply someone who prefers pictures.

In other cases, I've needed to provide written notes and to invite someone I'm instructing to go away and digest the information before reinforcing understanding via one-on-one discussion and practice. Then again, on some other



A picture can tell 1000 words.

occasions the only way to effectively communicate has been to literally take a person to a place in order for them to understand, for example, concepts around direction. It's not that they were incapable of comprehension any other way; it's simply that they operate on the basis of 'seeing is believing'. Having been shown once, they could subsequently hone in on a spot like a homing pigeon. It's simply how their mind works.

Whether or not you're a professional instructor, as hunters all of us are responsible for engaging with people in ways that makes the most sense to them. Why? Because when we pick up a bow, we're in possession of a ballistic imple-

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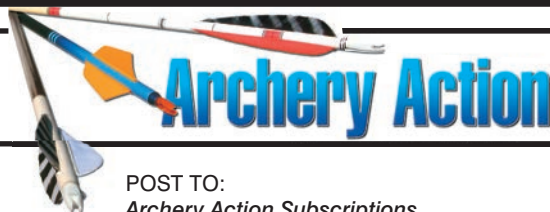
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Some people learn best by doing.

ment. So we need to be understood by those around us—at all times, without fail. If you're in any doubt about this, simply close your eyes and imagine what could go wrong. Now put your kids in the picture, or a newcomer, a colleague with buck fever, or someone who's familiar with a bow but unfamiliar with a particular location. Now complicate things a little by placing all of these variables in a hunting context, on a remote property, where on a bad day 'shit becomes trumps' really quickly.

That's why in this issue's column we've offered you a crossword to complete (*see next page*). Why? Because for the past few issues, this column has been providing information about survival techniques but you may not yet have had the opportunity to judge whether anything has sunk in. If you answer the crossword questions without difficulty, then the



Some prefer formal instruction.

points will be reinforced through the process of filling out the boxes. But if you find yourself struggling, then perhaps this is the prompt you need to flick back over your back copies of *Archery Action*, have another look, and perhaps get outside and start practising some of the techniques and principles that we've outlined. Do the crossword with your kids and you might stimulate some useful conversations around bushcraft and survival principles that could plant a seed in their heads and that may help get you—or them—out of trouble sometime down the track.

At the very least, tuck this copy of *Archery Action* in your backpack or quiver and next time you're sitting by a dam waiting for that 'magic hour', use the crossword to help you think about 'what if' things were to go pear-shaped right here, right now. Good luck and happy hunting!

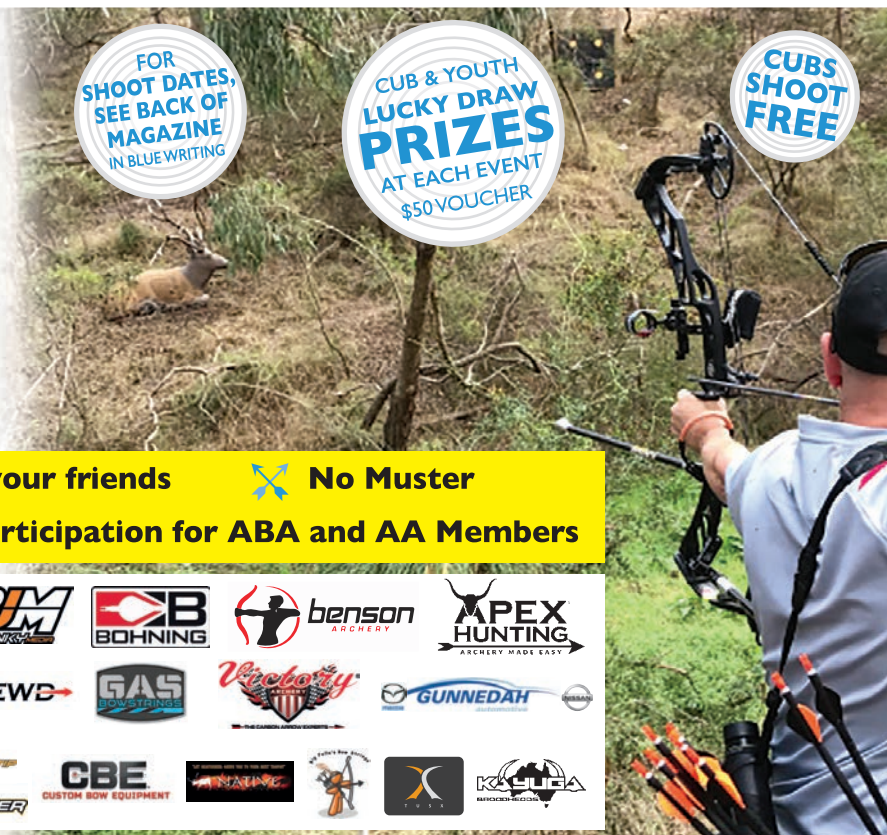


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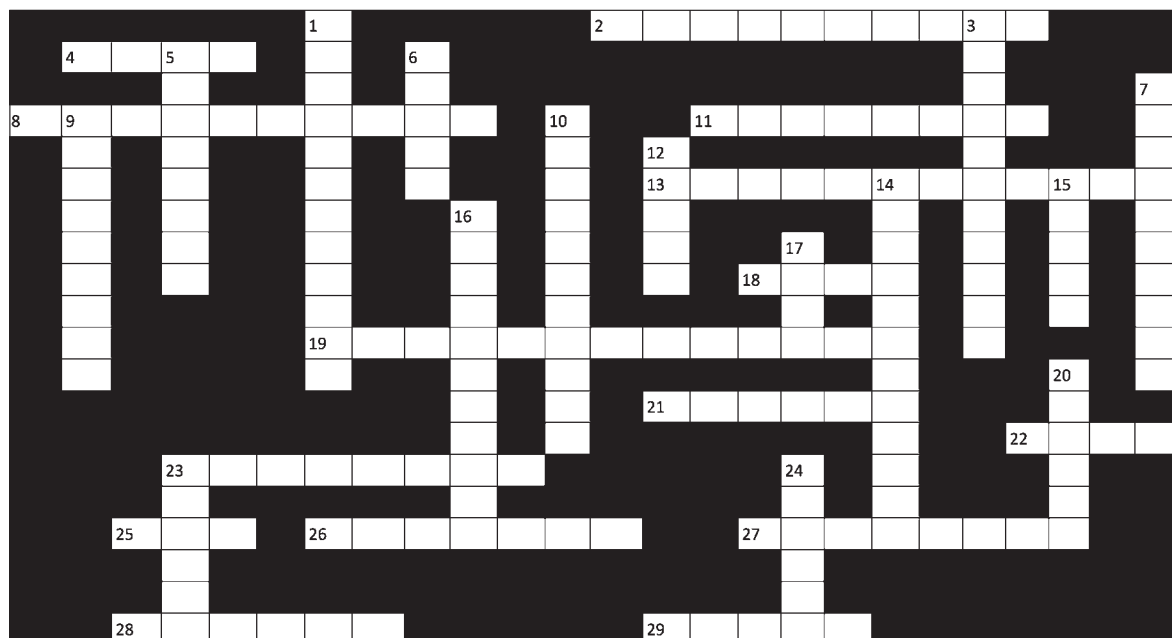


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Complete the crossword puzzle to review your knowledge of basic survival principles already covered in the column. All information can be found in previous *Bushcraft and Survival* columns. You can check your answers in the next issue.



ACROSS

2. Fire is a force --
4. Fourth priority of Survival
8. First priority of Survival
11. First element of Protection (5-3)
13. SMS messages are placed in a queue until successful transmission
18. Fourth element of Protection
19. Hunters refuse to accept they're lost for fear of --
21. Second priority of Survival
22. An acronym to describe the characteristics of a good fire
23. Second element of Protection
25. EPIRB for land lovers (1.1.1)
26. Third element of Protection
27. Three fires 10 metres apart in a --
28. -- Gram; Leave it to tell others where you've gone
29. Please remember what's --

DOWN

1. -- *Australis*; A flower spike that doubles as a fire starter
3. Shelter protects you from the --
5. -- Bias; Do you think you're less likely to experience a negative event?
6. Never hunt --
7. The bush is beginning to look a lot like Christmas (6-4)
9. Put it on the opposite side of the fire from you
10. More than a little cold
12. Third priority of Survival
14. Feeling the heat
15. To protect yourself from the elements, layer like an --
16. -- Awareness
17. UHF CB Band emergency channel
20. A type of fire
23. An acronym to describe the clothing principle
24. The Rule of --



Some people enjoy learning in a group.



Some do better with one-on-one instruction.



Branch D ABA Titles

held among picturesque granite outcrops and bushland

When the desperately drought-affected Granite Belt received good rain last month, it was cause for great celebration.

Celebration ... and a little consternation. Having been looking forward to hosting the Branch D ABA Titles after enough previous rain to grow a bit of grass in the district, Granite Belt Bowmen spent the Wednesday and Thursday before the competition waiting out the deluges then checking the ranges (in their gumboots, no doubt), wondering if they would still have the chance to welcome visitors to their club at the weekend. Even if the event wasn't cancelled, there was the possibility that archers would stay away in droves.

The locals definitely didn't want to wish the rain away—Stanthorpe had been trucking in water for the town supply for a couple of months (and still is)—but you can be sure that they were hoping the rain would stay away for the weekend at least.

And that's what happened. The weather cleared and it stayed rain-free



(though muggy) for the entire weekend. Considering some Brisbane and coastal people had been concerned about the actual travelling because they'd had a lot of rain in their own areas, the 74 nominations for the shoot weren't too shabby at all.

A handful of people took up rooms in motels so they could leave their vans at home, but most stayed at the campgrounds. A portion of the grounds had been affected and a few people got their vehicles bogged (the

fellow with the snatch strap was much appreciated). But—trust us Aussies—that just gave the Granite Belt Bowmen a chance to create a new trophy: Best Bogged Vehicle of the Weekend!

The Branch Titles' new shoot format fitted in a three-arrow and a one-arrow round on the Saturday then alternated the ranges to shoot the opposite three-arrow and one-arrow rounds on Sunday.

The Granite Belt is famed for its ranges—all granite and bushland



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and a fair bit of mountain goat country thrown in! But they were kind to visitors for this shoot and left the challenging Range 3 out of the equation. Range 1 has easy walking (well, that's the way the club describes it!) but not necessarily easy shots. Range 2 is the pretty one, with a big view at the back of it across to Severnlea and Ballandean. People who are used to nicely mowed paths to targets just love the challenge and picturesque nature of courses made

of boulders and hills and bush trees.

The weekend's shooting was for a possible 1600 points, and Brad Stephan had the best aggregate score, only dropping 10 points across the entire four rounds.

The Branch D Bowhunter Awards were presented on Saturday night by Gary Sinclair. As well as the actual presentations, people were treated to an entertaining slideshow showcasing the award winners—plus a general snapshot of bowhunting achievement

by the Branch throughout 2019.

Catering was simple but delicious, with Hannah Mann doing slow-cooked pulled beef while club members and partners whipped up coleslaw and potato salad for dinner. Hearty breakfast fare included bacon, eggs, sausages and lashings of coffee and with fresh ham and salad rolls or chicken and salad rolls for lunch, no one went hungry.

Thanks everyone, for coming. Now, if you wouldn't mind, we'd like it to rain again.

With thanks to Aaron Tomkins for supplying photographs and information for this report.



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The winners of the Branch D ABA Titles: Back row, from left: Ladies Barebow Josie Hughes (DDFA 1240), Ladies Sighted Jeanette Dowd (pictured with her granddaughter; Renegade 1530). Ladies Trad Peg Kay Prince (Lakeside 1036), Men's Sighted Brad Stephan (Renegade 1590), Men's Trad Peg Aaron Tomkins (Granite Belt 1254), Junior Sighted Liam Ward (Granite Belt 1340), (front) Men's Barebow Alwyn Bell (Renegade 1420), Cub Sighted Alexander Szytbel (Renegade 1570). Missing from photo: Cub Barebow Kaycee Goff (Lakeside 698).

The owner of this ute, Leon Hill, won the Granite Belt Bowmen's fun trophy for Best Bugged Vehicle of the Weekend. It was his second win; as well as showing his quagmiring skill he took out a more worthy award—winner of the Trad Peg Longbow Men's Division.



Branch D Bowhunter Awards *2019 Winners*

Junior Best Boar – Jack Winks 25pts
Men's Best Goat – Dave Pender 118 6/8pts
Men's Best Boar – Dave Wallace 30pts
Men's Best Cat – Dave Wallace 7 10/16
Men's Best Fallow Deer – Brad Seagrott 187 7/8pts
Men's Best Red Deer – Brad Seagrott 210pts
Men's Best Chital Deer – Kev Dowd 165 7/8pts
Men's Best Rusa Deer – Dave Teitzel 176 5/8pts

Bowhunting Club of the Year— Renegade Bowmen
Bowhunter of the Year – Brad Seagrott

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ROY ROSE

Meanderings



Bow tiller

A deficit in set-up knowledge, especially for the recurve bow, is the most prevalent concern I encounter in seminars, clinics and club interaction. A recurring example is the minimal understanding of the tiller situation. In fact, many recurvers—not just newcomers—are not even familiar with the term. And yet tiller adjustment on a recurve bow is easy to comprehend and to incorporate in initial bow set-up.

The tiller is the measurement from where the limb locks into the handle out horizontally at right angles to the string. So obviously there is a tiller distance for both the top and the bottom limbs.

What I often find are two assumptions. Firstly, if the limbs are a pair of equal poundage, then when locked into the handle, the bow is ready to shoot. Secondly, if a tiller measurement is checked, then the assumption is that both measurements should be the same, or what is termed zero tiller. Both assumptions are incorrect.

Now if the archer is a newcomer to the sport, this is perhaps a logical error, so let me explain the need for an actual tiller adjustment. A compound bow functions on a zero tiller, simply because when the limbs are drawn back to anchor, they curve in perfect harmony because that draw is achieved by a release aid, locked onto a loop, directly behind the nock of the arrow. The limbs arrive together precisely at anchor and go off in harmony on release. However, this doesn't work on a recurve bow. A recurve is drawn back by three fingers, one above the nock and two below, with the second finger the dominant factor. This logically means that with a zero tiller in place, the bottom limb will reach anchor ahead of the top limb because it is the recipient of the major pulling action on the string by the fingers. To keep both limbs in sync, there must be an additional minor poundage operating on that bottom limb to ensure there is perfect harmony at arrival and perfect unison when the bow is fired.

This is where the tiller adjustment comes into vital play. The tiller measurement on the bottom limb must now be shortened, in effect making that limb a marginally higher poundage. The obvious question is, how much shorter? This will depend upon whether you are shooting a 66-inch, 68-inch or 70-inch bow. So the difference between the two limbs will be somewhere between a quarter inch to three-eighths of an inch, depending on your bow length.

Don't be alarmed that I have not given an absolute, precise measurement. Olympic level archers will fine-tune their tiller and the brace height of their bow to obtain minute aiming and shot execution 'feels' which inexperienced shooters cannot detect. If your tiller adjustment falls within that relatively small, but nonetheless important, measurement then it will guarantee a better shooting and quieter bow.

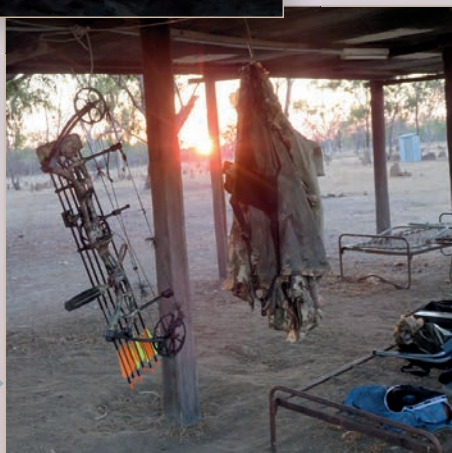
The basic quartet of initial set-up procedures are to shoot a bow of appropriate length to your draw length, attach a string which is the correct length, set your nocking point around a quarter-inch-plus above square and then finally adjust the tiller.

From this point onwards to the final set-up of arrow rest, plunger, sight and stabilisers and eventual tuning, you can be certain that your gear will continue to do its part efficiently.

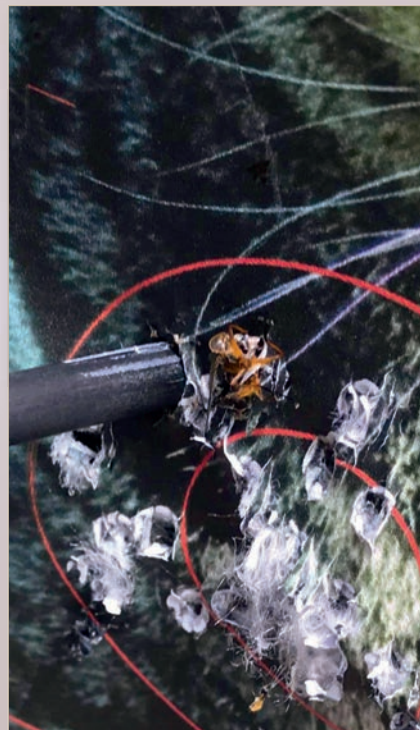
Entries PHOTO COMPETITION



Rob and Tim,
Robert Messer



Rise and shine,
Eric Creighton



Rebecca Zammit's FKOS
(blowfly at 8m),
Kerri Haslem

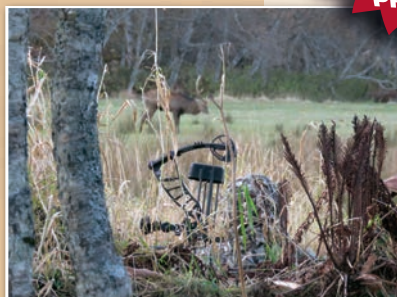


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Outside In the zone

Talent . . . and the lack of it

by Nils Spruitt

I am used to not hearing anyone's voice at the end of a long day's competition crying out, "Well done, well done." It just never happens to me and to be fair, I wouldn't know how to conduct myself if it did. The simple truth of the matter is that I am a low achiever. I don't derive any pleasure admitting it, I am simply stating a fact. I really should just lay down and accept it ... but why should I? There is a small part of me that screams out to all and sundry "No, I will not stand for this," and every now and then I am forced to listen.

Where are the tributes for a man who, after missing varied and sundry rabbits for three winters in a row, finally comes home with two for the pot and one for the dog? Who sings our praises when we manage to score a hit on every target on the 3D range even though two were deflected from a patch of bare earth and the third ricocheted off a nearby hardwood trunk? Where are the acknowledgements when our flusher dog actually sees which patch of bracken the rabbit dived into so we don't have to stand at the edge casting sticks and pebbles trying to achieve the same result and be ready with bow in hand at the same time? I can answer that for you my fellow low achiever: All we are ever going to hear is the sound

of one hand clapping.

The only achievement patches we have on display are cloth ones on our hunting trousers that testify to the fact that we can't bend low enough any more to ease between strands of barbed wire.

I am fairly convinced that the Almighty has dutifully noted down somewhere that Spruitt has fired a million arrows trying to get 20 straight in the one-arrow round, has broken enough shafts to have earned a free seat on the board of Beman Arrows and generally wasted away enough energy fooling around with hunting dogs to light up the city of Newcastle for a week. If I ever do succeed in scoring on every target, getting my dog to at least look back when I shout or release six or eight successive shots without snapping an arrow, will tears come to anyone else's eyes apart from mine? Or will the all-too-observant cynic merely mutter, "It's about time." There are no prizes for guessing the correct answer.

At the annual archery club presentation they really should have a simple certificate printed out with our name upon it. At the very least our attendance every year and the sportsman-like spirit we display when we loudly congratulate the winners, should not go unnoticed. I

would have quite a few such certificates by now if they in fact did exist (which they do not).

Digs is another low achiever but he has built up quite a spurious reputation due entirely to his collection of framed photographs. He has pictures of himself standing in front of the club's massive Archer of the Year trophy which is being held by a guy who appears to be trying to hand the trophy to him. When others question him about the picture he merely says that the trophy is really way too oversized and heavy, thus implying that is the reason it isn't sitting on his cabinet.

He also has pictures of himself in front of a magnificent springer spaniel emerging from a blackberry tangle with a rabbit grasped firmly in its soft mouth. This picture is labelled "My Pleasure" ... which is fine except the dog is not his. He also has portraits where he has positioned himself seated on the end of a moss-covered log alongside four thickly furred foxes and another where he is crouched behind a 12-point red stag. None of them fell to his dodgy hunting skills. I guess it's not a bad technique and I know that even his wife doesn't know the exact truth except for the dog print, but he has gotten by that one with some story about helping to train



I was deeply saddened when I heard that the recent bushfires had totally destroyed the facilities of Manning District Archers. A few years back I was a member of that club and I met up with a lot of great people who put their heart and soul into the running of the organisation. Manning had one of the finest camping and shower facilities on the north coast and their three ABA ranges, IFAA range and indoor shooting set-up were second to none. All that aside, Manning was widely renowned for its collection of 3D targets. They had everything including a full-size Asiatic buffalo and shooters would come from far and wide whenever Manning put on a monthly 3D shoot. Alas, all is now gone, even the 3D targets (which were all kept in a locked shipping container) could not withstand the intense heat of the blaze. As deeply concerning as it is, one thing I do know is that the members of Manning have big hearts and they will simply start all over again. It will take time and there is a lot of hard work in front of them, but if anyone can do it then they can. I wish them well.

it which seems reasonable enough as he does have a display case full of dog books. Another friend has a few well used field points encased in plastic upon his shelf. They don't stand for anything but everyone assumes that they signify something grand like winning the State Championships or some other high achievement.

I really admire these guys and hold no ill feeling whatsoever for their fraudulent display. They honestly believe that some unseen hand of fate is solely responsible for their not having ever won a trophy, or that their dog might actually have found a rabbit and stood still long enough to have its picture taken. Heck, I have got a couple of pictures like that myself and it's only if you look really carefully at my shooting vest will you notice the patches I wear all testify membership and the like ... never achievement.

We all know people who often say, "What would your life be like if you were able to score points with every arrow you fired?" Well, I just happen to know a couple of archers who can actually do just that and I never saw one of them come back off the range complaining about being bored with it all. I kind of agree that things would

be a little uninteresting if we were all first rate, but every once in a while I'm moved to hope that there might be room for at least one more and I am ready to volunteer.

I blame a lot of my shooting inadequacies (primarily to my wife) on the fact that I really never had the right bow. As luck would have it, she just happened to be with me when I met Darryl Reeks a few years back. Darryl just so happens to hold a few IFAA longbow records in this country and I instantly got to talking about bows when Darryl handed me his. Guess what? It was exactly like mine. Same make, same dimensions, same poundage, same everything. My wife, knowing this, simply smiled.

Now some of you would see this as a very difficult hurdle to overcome, as did I at first, but my brain kicked into gear (as it so often does when a new bow is at stake) and I instantly grabbed at the old adage about one man's meat is another man's poison. Slim, I'll wager, but I was in a pretty tight corner. Suffice to say I presently own more than one longbow and more than one recurve. Perhaps in future conversations with Mrs Spruitt, I might just happen to mention in passing,

that perhaps borrowing a bow might be something worth trying in the future. At the very least it will only cost me a new lounge or dining table. After all, every man has his price or so I have heard. Perhaps mine is a new bow.

I read once and from memory I think it might have been Oscar Wilde who described fox hunting as "the unspeakable in pursuit of the uneatable." I could further that to suit my situation as "the beaten in pursuit of the unbeatable." Still, tomorrow is another day and with my newly acquired 'borrowed' longbow I might part the fur of a rabbit or two. Chloe might stay focussed just long enough to comprehend which patch of bracken I want her to search and we might even be fortunate enough to lure in a fox, but that might be pushing it just a bit too far. It would be fair to say I am more than ready to trade lucky in for good on all matters pertaining to archery, dogs and darts. It's not that I'm uncomfortable sitting down below the salt level, it's just that every now and then, my backside itches and I need to scratch it. Not a lot to ask in my opinion, but neither is winning the big half of the wishbone. Until next time.

What's On

Where applicable, please use this as your tax invoice:

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Branch D 3D Titles

Hosted by Roma and District Bowmen

Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th March 2020

Saturday Round

8am Payment of Nominations & Bow Checks

Nominations Close 9.15am

9.45am Muster for a 10.00am start

1 Arrow Round - Lunch - 1 Arrow Round

Sunday Round

7.45am Muster for an 8.00am Start

2 Arrow Round

Presentations ASAP

Fees: Cubs/Juniors \$20 • Adults \$30 • Family \$60

Pre-nominate: by Monday 9th March 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



Branch D IFAA Titles

Hosted by Renegade Bowmen

Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th April 2020



Saturday: 7am Payment of Nominations and Bow Checks

• Nominations close at 8am • 8:15am Muster for an 8:30am Start
28 Targets IFAA Field • 14 Target IFAA Animal Round

Sunday: 8:15am Muster for an 8:30am Start
28 Target IFAA Hunter Round • Presentations ASAP

Fees: Cubs/Juniors \$20, Adults \$30, Family \$60

Pre Nominate by Monday 30th March to:

Branch Score Recorder, Sally-Anne McGrigor
abasqscorer@gmail.com or 0402 074 788

Facilities include: Camping, showers, toilets and canteen

Food available on the range during the day and evening meal Saturday
and breakfast Sunday.

The club has allocated camping. Please book a site by emailing
camping.renegades@gmail.com

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

Townsville District Bowhunters Inc.



Invitational Shoot 2020

2nd, 3rd and 4th May 2020

Saturday

7.30am Breakfast
9.00am 3D Round for Early Arrivals
(Fun Round Only)
10.30am Morning Tea
12 noon Nominations close
12.30pm Lunch
1.30pm Muster and Bow Check
2.00pm 3 Arrow Round
4.30pm Knife and Axe
6.30pm Dinner

* times and
events are
subject to change

Sunday

7.30am Breakfast
8.30am Muster
9.00am 1 Arrow Round
10.30am Morning Tea
11.30am 1 Arrow Round
1.00pm Lunch
2.00pm 3 Arrow Round
4.30pm Knife and Axe
6.30pm Dinner
7/7.30pm Presentations

Monday

7.30am Breakfast

Raffles
Novelty Shoots
Live Music on
Saturday Night

Fees:
Family - \$50,
Adults - \$25,
Jnr/Cub - \$10,

All participants must show their valid ABA Card to Score Recorder
Nominations Close: 26 April 2020

Email nominations to: townsvilledistrictbowhunters@gmail.com

Phone: Tom: 0422 275 889

(Please when nominating let us know whether you will be purchasing meals)

Camping facilities available - Meals, snacks & drinks available to purchase

• NO DOGS unless prior arrangement

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AUSTRALIAN BOWHUNTERS ASSOCIATION INC.

Branch D ABA Shoot

Lakeside Bowmen



Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th May 2020

Saturday Round	Sunday Round
8am Payment of Nominations and Bow Checks	7.45am Muster for an 8am Start
Nominations Close 9.15am	2 Arrow Round
9.45pm Muster for a 10am start	Presentations ASAP
3 Arrow Round - Lunch -	
1 Arrow Round	

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

Pre Nominate by Monday 4th May to: Branch Score Recorder, Sally-Anne McGrigor - abasqscorer@gmail.com or 0402 074 788

Facilities include: Camping, showers, toilets and canteen

Evening meal available Saturday night

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

Branch B Safari

Hosted by

Hinchinbrook Archery Club




Market Street, Ingham, Qld
13th & 14th June 2020

Saturday (Nominations and Payments close 8am Firm)	Fees: Family - \$50, Adults - \$25, Jnr/Cubs - \$15
8:00am Bow Check	All participants must show their valid ABA Card to Branch Score Recorder
8:30am Muster	Nominations Close: June 7th
9:00am Round 1 Start	Email Pre-nominations to:
10:30am Morning Tea	branchbexecutive2020@gmail.com
11:30am Round 2 Start	Or Phone (after 5pm): 0430 560 310
1:00pm Lunch	(Please when nominating, let us know whether you will be purchasing meals)
2:00pm Round 3 Start	Camping facilities available
4:30pm Knife & Axe	Meals, snacks & drinks available to purchase
5:00pm Branch B AGM	<i>* Times and activities subject to change on the day</i>
6:30pm Dinner	
Sunday	
8:30am Muster	
9:00am Round 4 Start	
*Lunch will be at the end of the round	
Presentation will commence once scores have been finalised	

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ABA Car Sticker	4.00			
ABA Proficiency Badges (eg, 300+)	5.00			
ABA Junior Advanced Badge	6.00			
ABA Cub Advanced Badge	6.00			
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ABA Coloured Identification Card	5.00			
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IFAA Metal Badge	8.00			
IFAA Chevron (eg, Hunter)	4.00			
Robin Hood Cloth Badge	9.00			
Robin Hood Metal Badge	8.00			
*TBA Car Sticker	4.00			
*TBA Metal Badge	8.00			
*TBA Cloth Badge	10.00			
#Game Award Badge	9.00			
#Game Award, T/C & R/C Chevrons	6.00			
ABA Peaked Caps	15.00			
		Total		

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Date	Club	Branch	Shoot Style
March			
1st	Townsville District Bowhunters	B	ABA
1st	Mackay and District Bowmen	B	ABA
1st	Bairnsdale Field Archers *	G	Mal Thomas Memorial Shoot - ABA
1st	Canberra Archery Club *	ACT	CAC March Presidents Shoot
1st	SOPA *	NSW	SOPA QRE
2nd	SVAC *	Vic	Indoor Mar 2020
4th	Tuggeranong Archery Club *	ACT	Indoor QRE
7th	Eden Field Archers *	SA	Field QRE
7th - 8th	ABA Park, Mudgee	E	State IFAA Titles
7th - 8th	Tuggeranong Archery Club *	ACT	Archery ACT Field Championships
7th - 9th	Mt Clay Archers *	H	ABA
8th	Full Boar Archers	B	ABA
8th	Charters Towers Bowhunters	B	ABA
8th	MAC *	SA	Moomba Short Range Tournament
11th	Tuggeranong Archery Club *	ACT	Indoor QRE
14th - 15th	Saxon Archery Club *	C	ABA
14th - 15th	Roma District Bowhunters *	D	Branch 3D Titles
14th - 15th	Orange and District Archers *	F	3D/ABA
14th - 15th	Playford District Field Archers *	I	ABA
14th - 15th	Mornington Peninsula Bowmen *	Vic	3DAAA
15th	Kurrimine Beach Archers	B	3D
15th	Hinchinbrook Bowmen	B	ABA
15th	Mount Isa District Bowhunters	B	ABA
15th	Collinsville Bowhunters	B	ABA
15th	SOPA *	NSW	SOPA QRE
18th	Victor Harbour Archery Club *	SA	QRE Indoor
21st	Victor Harbour Archery Club *	SA	QRE Target
21st - 22nd	Lake Glenbawn Field Archers *	NSW	3DAAA
22nd	Full Boar Archers	B	3D/IFAA
22nd	Phoenix Field Archers of Sale *	G	2D/3D
22nd	West Melbourne Field Archers *	H	3D
25th	Tuggeranong Archery Club *	ACT	QRE Indoor
28th - 29th	Gleneagle Field Archers *	J	NG/ABA
28th - 29th	Ipswich Field Archers *	Qld	3DAAA
29th	Dead Centre Bowhunters *	A	ABA
29th	Freds Pass Field Archers *	A	ABA
April			
1st	Tuggeranong Archery Club *	ACT	QRE Indoor
4th	Lismore City Archers *	NSW	Field QRE
4th	Eden Field Archers *	SA	Field QRE
4th - 5th	Renegade Bowmen *	D	Branch IFAA Titles
4th - 5th	Cessnock Archers *	NSW	3DAAA
5th	Townsville District Bowhunters	B	ABA
5th	Full Boar Archers	B	ABA
5th	Mackay District Bowmen	B	ABA
5th	Canberra Archery Club *	ACT	CAC April Presidents Shoot
6th	SVAC *	Vic	Indoor April 2020
10th - 13th	ABA Park, Mudgee		National Safari ABA and 3D Championships
18th - 19th	WA Field and Bowhunters *	J	State IFAA Titles
18th - 19th	Twin City Archers *	Vic	3DAAA
19th	Full Boar Archers	B	3D/IFAA
19th	Kurrimine Beach Archers	B	3D
19th	Hinchinbrook Bowmen	B	ABA
19th	Collinsville Bowhunters	B	ABA
19th	Mackay District Bowmen	B	3D

19th	SOPA *	NSW	SOPA QRE
25th - 26th	Bendigo Field Archers *	H	ABA
May			
2nd	Eden Field Archers *	SA	Field QRE
2nd - 3rd	Full Draw Archers *	C	ABA
2nd - 3rd	Gloucester District Archers *	E	Branch 3D Titles
2nd - 3rd	West Gippsland Field Archers *	G	State ABA Titles
2nd - 3rd	Peel Archers *	J	Invitational
2nd - 3rd	State of Origin Round 1 *	Qld	3DAAA
3rd	Mackay District Bowmen	B	ABA
3rd	Full Boar Archers	B	3D/IFAA
3rd	Canberra Archery Club *	ACT	CAC May Presidents Shoot
4th	SVAC *	VIC	Indoor May 2020
9th - 10th	Lakeside Bowmen *	D	ABA
10th	Mount Isa District Bowhunters	B	ABA
10th	Charters Towers Bowhunters	B	ABA
16th - 17th	Lakeside Bowmen *	D	ABA
16th - 17th	Eurobodalla Archers *	F	3D/ABA
16th - 17th	Colac Otway Archers *	H	ABA
16th - 17th	Border Bowmen *	I	ABA
16th - 17th	SQAS *	Qld	SQAS QRE Field Championship
16th - 17th	Lake Macquarie Field Archers *	NSW	3DAAA
17th	Dead Centre Bowhunters *	A	3D
17th	Freds Pass Field Archers *	A	3D
17th	Full Boar Archers	B	3D/IFAA
17th	Kurrimine Beach Archers	B	3D
17th	Hinchinbrook Bowmen	B	ABA
17th	Collinsville Bowhunters	B	ABA
17th	Eurobodalla Archers *	F	ABA
17th	Archery SA *	SA	Max Manuel Memorial Shoot
17th	SOPA *	NSW	SOPA QRE
23rd - 24th	Saxon Archery Club *	C	State IFAA Titles
23rd - 24th	Paringa Archers *	TAS	Paringa Northern Indoor Championships
30th - 1st June	Greenough Archery Club *	J	NG/ABA
31st	Full Boar Archers	B	ABA
31st	SOPA *	NSW	SOPA 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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MEMBERSHIP FORM

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Brendale Qld 4500

Phone (07) 3256 3976

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New Member ☐

ABA Membership N°:

I, (full name) (M-F)

Of (street # & name) (town-city) (p-code)

Postal address (PO Box #)..... (town-city) (p-code)

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

New Members (12-month membership including joining fee)

Adults	\$100
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)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Visa	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Expiry Date (mm yy)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Signature

12/ 2018



APPLICATION FORM FOR MEMBERSHIP TO THE
AUSTRALIAN BOWHUNTERS ASSOCIATION™
INCORPORATED (Inc in NT No A01978C) GST TAX INVOICE GST ABN 79 750 431 225

ASSOCIATION USE ONLY

M'ship #s Allocated

Receipt Number

Computer Entered

M'ship Forwarded



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Contact Mick Baker - Email: mrbaker@bigpond.net.au Established 2002

www.trophybowhunts.com.au



Fully Guided Hunts for:

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

Chital Deer - Jan to May from \$3000 (5 days) includes a stag and unlimited does.

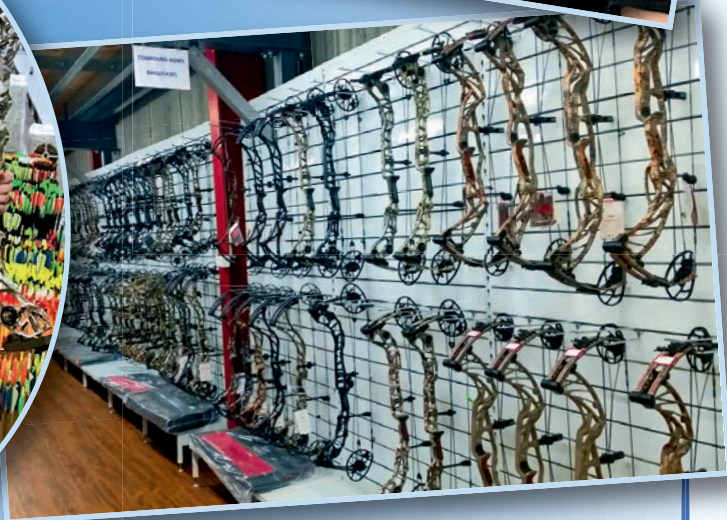
Buffalo - June to August (6 days) fully guided hunts, POA.

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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Abbey Archery is your full service Archery Pro Shop with two well stocked locations situated in Sydney, NSW and Brisbane, QLD as well as our 10 tonne truck travelling across Australia, fully fitted out as a Pro Shop. Not only do we sell the latest in archery equipment, our highly experienced staff can provide many services. We repair, tune and install accessories on all bows. We custom make premium quality bowstrings and cables on our Specialty Super Server 800 string jig and we can accommodate any of your fletching needs with our four fletching tables fitted with 144 original Bitzenberger Jigs. If it's Target, 3D, Field or Hunting, we have what you need. We sell you product, knowledge and experience.

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