

September October 2019 \$6.95

Archery Action

*Hunting trip:
Patience and persistence*

*Report:
Pacific Regionals*

*Interview:
Bowhunter of the Year
Rohan Walker*



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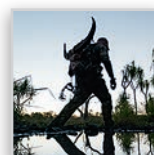
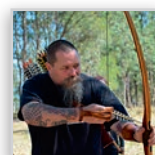
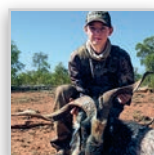
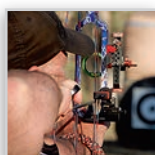
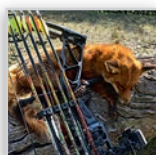
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◀ COVER PHOTOGRAPH

TBA Bowhunter of the Year Rohan Walker heads home with a buffalo skull and horns in his pack. See the special feature on Page 60.

Photo by **NICK JOYCE**

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Whether or not you hunt, there are lessons to be learned from people for whom hunting is so important that they count it as part of the essence of their life. For this issue I was fortunate enough to interview ABA's Bowhunter of the Year, Rohan Walker, whose story is both moving and inspiring.

We don't have to be hunters for his message to kindle within us a similar energy. In fact, he counts target archery as just as important for him as hunting. If we want to do something, to make something of our talents, we have to adopt a boots-and-all approach to whatever it is we aspire to—and that is true of any endeavour in any field.

Admittedly, many of us don't go through life with a do-whatever-it-takes attitude. We're much more comfortable with the status quo, with the 'good enough'



metric. But the truth is, not one of us knows exactly how long life will be, and the time to start doing our best is now. Make the tough choices. Do the extra practice. It's consistency of training that pays off in the end. Showing up every day is more powerful than the occasional Herculean effort.

And on that note, I'd like to point to Nick Lintern's column, Traditional Trails, which in this issue is about hunting with a traditional bow. Both Rohan and Nick make the point that hunting and target archery require different skills from the archer. But there's another similarity in their message even though these men are coming from completely different stances. One is a sighted compounder, the other is an instinctual longbowyer. Rohan puts his trust in sights. Nick believes your brain will make a triangulation from experience. But underneath those seemingly irreconcilable differences, they're saying the same thing: We must be the master of the instrument we choose to use. We have to practise passionately and often. So let's get out of our comfort zone and start playing a bigger game. Right now.

Jenel Hunt
Editor

DEADLINES

Please submit articles and advertisements by these dates:

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ISSUE	DEADLINE
2019	
Vol 45 No. 2 November-December	1 October
2020	
Vol 45 No. 3 January-February	1 December
Vol 45 No. 4 March-April	1 February
Vol 45 No. 5 May-June	1 April
Vol 45 No. 6 July-August	1 June
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are welcomed by this magazine and articles should be addressed to: The Editor, Archery Action, at the above address. The Editor accepts no responsibility for unsolicited material. Colour photographs or high resolution scans are suitable for publication. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your articles to enable notification of acceptance or otherwise and return of article if required. Photographs returned only if stamped, self-addressed envelope is enclosed.

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

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REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS

Traditional Trails—Nick Lintern

Bushcraft and Survival—Scott Heiman

by ADAM CLEMENTS



After the New Year has been welcomed in, it has been a tradition to book in an annual pig hunting trip. I'd missed out in 2018 so this year July couldn't come quickly enough! It would be our fifth trip to this particular property which has always produced some exciting memories, quality mateship and great campfire stories.

I kept in contact with the station owner and it became apparent that they were in the midst of drought—

the worst they had seen in three generations. With this news I set my expectations low but was still looking forward to escaping to the wild and challenging myself for a week in this amazing part of Australia.

Another challenge was going to be integrating myself with four just-as-eager rifle hunters. Our 2017 trip had many ups and downs for me as I had not long started bowhunting. Then, the result was that I reverted to using my rifle because I was confident with

it. But this year the rifle was staying at home. As we journeyed north we were all a bit anxious about what awaited us, and the further north into New South Wales we drove, the more dismal it got.

As we drove over the mountain and into the beautiful vast open valley, my heart started to beat faster but I also felt a sense of sorrow for the land and the farmers. Normally an oasis of green rolling hills, spring-fed gullies and flowing creeks, the land this year

Patience & persistence



was brown, dry and the normally moist soil was about three inches of dust.

Formalities over and with news of a few pigs being seen recently, we all headed out that afternoon unsure of what we would find. The others split up into pairs and I headed off on my own to check out a section of creek that was walled in by some rocky cliffs accessed by a couple of open grass gullies that usually held some pigs or goats. It wasn't long before I saw goats ahead of me through the trees, heading my

way. Guessing where they were going, I tried to make it to a shootable position but it was like walking on cornflakes. I was making a horrible crunching sound and was 10m short of the fence before they were on top of me.

I had a great view of the herd and glassed some impressive billies. About 45 minutes later they were about 40 yards away and feeding past me but I had no shot through the meshed fence. I had tried to stalk closer but after one or two steps I would get

busted so chose to sit and watch instead. I counted more than 35 goats as they climbed the cliff in front of me. I waited till it was clear then retreated, planning my hunt for the next morning.

While watching another stunning sunrise, I made the 6km walk back out to the creek. Along the way I saw a few pigs which got the blood pumping but lost them in the scrub. As I continued down the creek the goats again were feeding their way towards me but this time I had time to get into position



Above: Goat on a hill.

and wait. About 100 yards out, they did a U-turn and started making their way back up the cliffs so I decided to quickly try to stalk in on a billy hanging around the back of the herd with a few other smaller goats.

At 70 yards out I got busted, but kept my line and made it to a tree about 50 yards out. By now all the goats were on alert but curious about what was behind the tree and amazingly the billy came forward to defend his group. I peeked around and ranged him at 45 yards so got ready, drew and slowly shuffled out from behind the tree. He turned broadside so I took the

shot. Goats scattered, heading up the cliffs—including my billy. I thought the shot might have been a bit high so I let things calm down and followed them up the mountain.

He seemed fine and was certainly in better condition than me by the time we both reached the top! The goats disappeared over the ridge but this was as far as I was going without ropes so I took in the view and had some morning tea before descending and heading back to camp.

The next day I headed to the opposite end of the property, covering as much ground as I could before

taking a high position and glassing for a while to see if anything presented.

Just as I was packing up to head back I heard bleating above me and to my surprise there was another bigger herd of goats feeding their way down to the open country.

This time the wind was in my favour and I had the time to get into a good position. I waited for about an hour but just as they got about 100 yards from me I felt the wind on the back of my neck. Within 30 seconds, they were off back up the mountain. Busted again!

I went back down to the creek the next morning unsure about what I might find. The other guys had taken a couple of the goats with the bangsticks the day before but thankfully we found the goats again and started to stalk in. This time I was with another very patient hunter who was keener on filming my encounters than hunting. The goats had moved up one of the open gullies so we crawled down the creek to within 75 yards of them while I waited to see their next move. Before long, some cattle started making their way down the creek. Sure enough, they caught wind of us and thought it would be smart to all run through the goats. Busted again! They disappeared into the scrub so we headed further up the creek, had some morning tea and a rest before deciding to head back to camp. To my surprise about an hour or two later the goats had come back to



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Morning drive.

the creek. In a flash my pack was off and I was stalking in—and this time I had the jump on them. My heart was thumping and I couldn't stop shaking as I stood 40 yards from a nice billy ... but they were feeding away from me fast and a shot wasn't presenting.

I backed up and used a deeper part of the creek to my advantage to try get in front of them, as I slowly popped my head up like a periscope a nanny locked onto me. How! Thankfully, she turned around and went back to feeding with the others. It was now or never with a nice ginger billy in the open. I came up over the ledge and v-lined for him,

keeping a tree between us, I got to 50 yards and as I drew I saw the nanny from before out of the corner of my eye locked onto me again. She let out a bark and I rushed the shot and missed. They didn't go far so I gave chase, catching up with them as they got to the treeline. I nocked an arrow and as they were scrambling up some rocks a billy stopped, turned and looked back. This was it—30 yards, draw, level, aim, stay calm. He turned and quartered away and I let the arrow fly then heard the whack. He let out a yelp, scrambled onto the next rock above him and dropped. Within seconds

everything was quiet again, although my adrenaline was still flowing fast. My mate had been filming the whole adventure and came to find me. We both took in the moment before getting some photos and returning to camp with big smiles.

Over the next couple of days I seemed to be always hunting spots that had been shot up the day before and things seemed to go quiet. I managed to get a couple of foxes though that were hanging around due to the all-you-can-eat buffet of carcasses being left behind. I was doing a lot of kilometres without seeing pigs

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Above: Adam with a billy. Below: A second goat. Next page: One of the foxes he took.

and by the last day I was pretty tired. I had one last opportunity to go back down to the creek. I stood at the front door and looked out at the hike ahead of me and contemplated whether it was worth it or not. Sorry, legs, but we have to do this. With determination I loaded up and headed out, soaking up the surrounds for the last time.

By the time I got there it was 3 o'clock. I started by checking the remains of my billy—sure enough there was a fox battling it out with some crows for his share of the much-needed protein. I had a nice crosswind and made my way across the open towards the treeline, I got to a tree 30 yards away and waited for the shot to present. It wasn't long and he stood broadside catching his breath after stuffing his face so much. The arrow flew and went straight through his shoulders. He stumbled for about 30 yards before collapsing into the dirt, I could see him but wanted to take the

time to follow the blood trail which was immense.

It was now 3.30pm. My plan was to head to the next gully and sit where we had seen a small boar hanging out, as I was keen to focus on getting FKOS on a pig. I continued down the creek and got into position. There were two gullies he could be in so I decided if he hadn't come out by 4.45pm I would have a quick look over the ridge to

see if he was in the next one. Sure enough by the allotted time he hadn't come out so I headed to the next gully. Halfway there, I heard a bleat. It wasn't the big herd but a few smaller goats feeding along the creek. The wind wasn't great so I went high and hid in the fork of a tree, before long they fed 30 yards below me and wanting some meat to take home I waited for them to present a shot.





Starry night.

The shot was good and the goat fell 5 yards from where it was hit. By now the sun had just about gone over the mountains so I needed to move quickly as it was a long walk back and I still needed to pack up camp. I got ready to head back and remembered I still hadn't checked that last gully. I'd had a great arvo already but I needed to satisfy my curiosity by checking over

that last ridge. So I legged it up the hill and came to the ridge where I spooked a mob of roos. I let them move on and peeked over. There it was! A huge black figure at the bottom of the gully. I had to re-check because of the size of it. Surely it had to be a goat or calf? Nope, it was a pig! I had about five minutes of shootable light and he was 200m away, I quickly dropped my pack and

nocked an arrow. There was no cover or anywhere to climb if this didn't go well so I grabbed my knife just in case and headed straight for him.

Thankfully he was pointing away from me so I was able to make up a lot of distance quickly by keeping a stump between us. As I got to the stump I couldn't stop shaking. I peeked around and ranged him, 50 yards. I wasn't





A boar at last ... and what a beauty.

confident at that distance (especially with the amount I was shaking) so decided I would hop in front of the stump and count down my steps to get to 40 yards. After five steps I drew just in case he busted me, another five

he quartered away and I could see him through my sights. I remember checking my bubble, holding my pin halfway back and in the middle of the big bit and singing to myself, one potato two potato ... the rest just happened. The arrow flew and with the sound of bones breaking he dropped straight on his belly with a thud! Then he let out a horrific roar and I quickly retreated back to the stump. I peeked around and thankfully he was still down.

I jumped for joy! I ran back to my pack, well more like floated while fist pumping the air. I radioed for a pick up and camera then headed back down to check him out. Ten yards out from him I couldn't believe what I was seeing. The shot had been perfect and there was blood everywhere. He was an impressive mountain boar, thick, heavy, a head the size of my chest and sporting some impressive ivory. I sat next to him and took it all in while I waited for the others to arrive. After

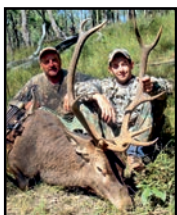
The writer of this story wins a threepack of **TUSKER SPIRIT** broadheads



about 40 minutes they pulled up and put the headlights on him. All I heard from the cab was "What on earth is that?" (to put it politely).

A couple of high fives and hugs then it was time to get some photos and share in this exciting moment before heading back to pack the cars ready for our 4am departure. After such an amazing two hours I was so thankful for such a blessed end to the trip. It had been a hard week with many close calls and being tempted by offers of borrowing a rifle but I was determined to persist and push myself as far as I could. I learned so much over the week and hopefully strengthened not only my confidence with the bow but also my character.

Adam also took a Trophy Class fox that won him membership into the Trophy Bowhunters of Australia Club. See the story on Page 19.



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

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Tasmania – see Victoria		
Trophy Bowhunters of Australia	Ralph Boden	(02) 4392 6810

BOWHUNTING DIVISION REPORT

by Mark Burrows
(Vice-President Bowhunting Division)



2018 Bowhunter Awards

I did mention in the Bowhunting Awards in the May/June edition of *Archery Action* that I was pretty confident that I had all the awards as right as I could get them, well it looks like I missed one. Graham Otto took a shark BHFF at 19 5/8pt, somehow I missed it. Sorry Graham. We will attend to this directly and you will receive your best of species

trophy in the very near future. A late congratulations Graham, and again I apologise. Hopefully once we have the new program fully up and running we will alleviate these errors.

All species

A huge congratulations to Marc Curtis and Michael Luxford. These

two bowhunters have now taken all the species recognised by the ABA. This is a great effort and requires a very big commitment over many seasons. A breakdown of what these awards entail was in this column in the previous issue of *Archery Action*. Again, well done fellas.

Silent auction

The ABA office has a couple of items on hand that we need to get some compensation for. It was thought the easiest and quickest way was to have a silent auction.

The first is a bowhunt for two hunters at Doctari Safaris in the South Island of New Zealand. It is for five days, six nights bowhunting for goats, pigs, turkey, female deer, rabbit, hare, ferret, cat plus fallow buck (a buck is only included if the hunt is taken in June/July/August 2020). It includes airport pickup from either Queenstown or Dunedin. The successful bidder must book the hunt by the end of November

2019 for the period ending September 30, 2020. Hunt DOES NOT include air fares.

The second is a Mathews Triax 70# 29in Black RH. This bow is still in the box and will be bid on as is. If the draw length is not suitable it will be up to the successful bidder to get the module replacements. When bidding, note that if you cannot pick the bow up from the ABA office then you will be charged an additional \$50.00 over and above your bid for postage. Allow for this.

All you need to do is place your bid via au.auction@bowhunters.org. Include your maximum bid, ABA number, name and the item you are bidding on, bow or hunt. The auction closes on October 1 2019. Emails will not be accessible until after that time. Happy bidding.

Electronic game claims

The National Executive has been working for some time now to improve and update our national membership

data operations. We have employed a computer programmer who is currently writing a specific program to suit our needs. This is a big and costly job and will not be completed overnight; however, the first stage is currently being rolled out. Some of you would already have received your link to the online operations. As this will be done in stages it will be a month or two before everyone can access the online action.

You will notice there is a 'bowhunting' button. Hopefully this will be active by the time you read this column. This button allows ABA members to process their game claims directly online via our website. The completed claim form will be sent to the ABA office, your Branch Field Rep, and if we have your club's field rep or game recorder's correct details, also to them.

The claim will be entered to your records as a game award claim. If the animal you have claimed is a measurable species then you have three months to

Summary of Australian Bowshot Records

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

Ladies Best of Species

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

get your game officially measured by a qualified measurer and the official form sent into the ABA office. If this is not done, then the claim will remain as a game award.

Australian Deer Association

The Victorian Deer Management Strategy, committed to in 2016 through the Sustainable Hunting Action Plan (SHAP), seeks to “develop a deer

management strategy that sets a strategic plan to maintain sustainable hunting opportunities while reducing the impact of deer on biodiversity on all land tenures in the state”.

The SHAP is a \$5.3 million investment in a whole-of-government plan aimed at ensuring that all Victorians will gain from growing the economic, environmental and social benefits of responsible, sustainable and safe hunting, now and into the

future. The SHAP has already delivered some positive outcomes for hunters and the broader community.

These type of strategies would fail if they were purely aimed at appeasing hunters, just as they would fail if aimed simply to appease any other sectional interest. The Draft Strategy went out to public consultation late last year, with submissions closing on October 29.

It outlines a zone-based approach, which requires a partnership between all levels of government, traditional owners, conservation and community groups, Landcare, water authorities, Catchment Management Authorities, the deer farming industry, the commercial deer harvest industry, the broader community and, of course, deer hunters and their hunting organisations.

Whilst this zone-based approach to management may be new to Australia, it is proven best practice elsewhere in the world. In North America and the United Kingdom, wildlife such as wild deer are successfully managed using a zone framework. The key to this type of initiative’s success is that partners put aside their own prejudices and ideologies to work productively on areas of mutual agreement to achieve results on the ground.

The Australian Deer Association has long been committed to a similar co-operative approach to wild deer management in Australia. It works with many lobby groups where policies and positions of groups like the Australian Deer Association overlap and are constantly working to benefit deer hunters throughout the country. ABA members are as keen about hunting deer as any ADA member but deer are the ADA’s forte. So if you can support them in any way to make sure that all hunters can continue to hunt deer, then please make an effort to do so.

OVERALL BEST OF SPECIES



Graham Otto, shark BHFF, 19 5/8pt.

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

Bnch/Hunter	Club	Game	Award	FK/FKOS	Size
A Troy Bullen	Fred's Pass Field Archers	Buffalo	GA	FKOS	0
A Wade Lockwood	Fred's Pass Field Archers	Fish	GA	FKOS	0
B Edward Rowe	Cairns Bowhunters	Pig	RC		31 3/8
B Stephen Fairbrother	Cape York Archers	Fallow	RC		196 5/8
B Stephen Fairbrother	Cape York Archers	Fallow	RC		202 6/8
C David Brewer	Emerald Archery Club	Red	TC		184 6/8
C Flynn Moore	Gympie Field Archers	Red	RC	FKOS	234 1/8
C Flynn Moore	Gympie Field Archers	Fallow	TC	FKOS	178 6/8
D Peter Robinson	Renegade Bowmen	Goat	TC		108 7/8
E Bernie Hayne	Namoi Valley Archers	Fallow	TC		151 2/8
F Tim Messer	Campbelltown District FA	Fallow	TC		179
F Bill Bedford	Independent	Goat	TC		96
F Chris Lanske	Independent	Fallow	TC		174 4/8
G Christopher Bourne	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Hog Deer	RC		75 5/8
G Christopher Bourne	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Fallow	GA	FKOS	143 1/8
G Christopher Bourne	Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Samba	RC		180 5/8
G Adam Clements	West Gippsland Field Archers	Fox	TC	FKOS	9 6/16
G Adam Clements	West Gippsland Field Archers	Goat	GA	FKOS	85
G Adam Clements	West Gippsland Field Archers	Fox	TC		913/16
G Adam Clements	West Gippsland Field Archers	Pig	GA	FKOS	23
H Tyler Atkinson	Ballarat Bowhunters	Goat	TC		101
H Wayne Atkinson	Ballarat Bowhunters	Fox	TC		9 4/16
H Wayne Atkinson	Ballarat Bowhunters	Fox	TC		9 5/16
H Don Moor	Geelong Trophy Bowhunters	Fox	TC		9 7/16
H Don Moor	Geelong Trophy Bowhunters	Fox	TC		9 10/16
H Don Moor	Geelong Trophy Bowhunters	Fox	TC		9 15/16
H Don Moor	Geelong Trophy Bowhunters	Fox	TC		9 3/16
H Don Moor	Geelong Trophy Bowhunters	Fox	TC		10 1/16
H Jake Thomas	Geelong Trophy Bowhunters	Cat	GA	FK/FKOS	6 4/16
H Jake Thomas	Geelong Trophy Bowhunters	Rabbit	GA	FKOS	0
H Jake Thomas	Geelong Trophy Bowhunters	Goat	GA	FKOS	54 3/8
H Dylan Evans	Mount Clay Archers	Red	TC	FKOS	187 7/8
H Dylan Evans	Mount Clay Archers	Fallow	RC		193 5/8
I Russell Watherston	Lower Eyre Archers	Red	RC		264 7/8
J Luke Hebb	Peel Archers	Fox	TC		9 8/16
J Luke Hebb	Peel Archers	Fox	TC		9 14/16
J Quineka Parker	Peel Archers	Shark	TC	FKOS	15 6/8
J Ben Chambers	Western Plains Archers	Pig	RC		30 6/8
J Ben Chambers	Western Plains Archers	Chital	RC		174 7/8
J Ben Chambers	Western Plains Archers	Hog Deer	RC	FKOS	79 3/8
J Josh Matthews	Western Plains Archers	Stingray	TC	FKOS	6 3/8
J Orbin Wilde	Western Plains Archers	Pig	GA	FKOS	0
J Orbin Wilde	Western Plains Archers	Fish	GA	FKOS	0



President's Report

Frustration—it's a phenomenon that strikes all of us at some time. It often occurs when events in life aren't going the way we hoped, or expected, and we are left wondering how things got into this situation in the first place.

From an archery perspective, there are a number of things that frustrate me at times. A few of these I have commented on in previous issues of *Archery Action*; not following the administrative hierarchy, people being unfamiliar with the Rules of Shoot and communication breakdowns, to name a few.

But a constant theme that I struggle to understand and find solutions to is the "Us versus Them" mentality that, at times, appears to drag our Association down.

This mentality appears to raise its head most often at a club and Branch level, but most particularly around the campfire. It is the accusation that the administrators of our sport, especially the National Executive, are a faceless, indeterminate group that have no understanding of what happens in a club or on a course and, most frustratingly, only make decisions that suit themselves.

The reality is a long way from this! In the vast majority of cases, the people who have taken on administration



roles, at all levels, are usually people that have an ingrained love of the sport. They have participated actively in archery over a number of years and, because they have derived such enjoyment from the sport, feel that they have an obligation to give back to the sport that has provided them with so much. Personally, this was a huge motivation factor for getting involved in archery administration. That and the belief that I had something to offer in terms of attributes and skills.

No doubt there are those who have been pressured into taking on positions and have reluctantly taken on their responsibilities but I believe that there is still that underlying response of giving back to the sport.

So what about the comment that

"They have no understanding of the sport any more—they don't even shoot!" In years gone by I would have agreed with this to some degree. When I first joined the National Executive there were very few officers who actively participated in major events. I, too, was guilty of this as my administrative responsibilities took over. But nowadays, most of the current Executive members are very active participants at all levels; club, Branch and National, and it is pleasing for me to see our members appreciate the fact that the administrators do shoot! It is with this participation mentality that the Executives, at all levels, can keep abreast of what happens on the course and interact with the members at the coal face.

Further to this, almost every National Executive officer has a significant role at either Branch or club level administration—they certainly have a pretty good finger on the pulse of the ABA.

In recent years I have heard, far too often, the comment of "That decision was made to suit themselves!" Nothing could be further from the truth. I vividly remember Syd Green, considered by many to be the founding father of ABA and an influential administrator in the association,

telling the gathering of Branch representatives at the beginning of the AGM, that they were not there to make decisions as Branch members but were there to make decisions in the best interests of ABA and the sport. This philosophy is one that I, and other members of the Executive, hold dear and it is the key underlying factor in the majority of decisions that the Executive makes. I would say to you that there is no better platform on which to build our sport.

Furthermore, decisions of the National Executive are not set in concrete. The National Executive is not the highest decision-making body of ABA. The National Management Committee, the meeting of Branch representatives combined with the National Executive members, is the highest decision-making body of the Association. This body has the ability to overturn every Executive decision if they don't like it or if they believe it is not best for the sport. And the voting number's majority lies with the Branches; 30 votes with the Branches and only 11 votes on the Executive.

A perfect example of this type of decision making was the issue of the 3D Rules. The critics of the current 3D format have been long and loud

and many of the criticisms of 3D fall into the list of criticisms mentioned beforehand. Interestingly, when changes were proposed at last year's AGM they were soundly defeated, not just by the Executive, but by the majority of representatives who were in attendance.

Know that the ABA Executive makes decisions knowing that if the members don't like the decision that has been made by the Executive Committee there is an opportunity to reverse that decision at an AGM.

The final point I'd like to make in relation to this overall topic is about the 'faceless' comment, often thrown around as a criticism.

I'm confused about this comment. I have been on the National Executive for a long time, as have a number of my fellow officers. I have attended many tournaments and meetings almost all across Australia. I have done my best to listen to people's concerns and act accordingly and appropriately. I am often contacted by phone and email seeking my opinion, advice and explanation. I can understand that newcomers to the sport could make this comment but more often than not it comes from people who have been involved for a long period. What is it

that these people expect of us? I'm unsure!

Our sport of archery is run by volunteers. At all levels of administration it is volunteers that allow us to participate in this sport; at club and Branch level as well as on the National Executive. Rather than sit back and be critical of those who are doing their best to make sure that our sport is available for all, give these volunteers your support and understanding. The next time you are standing around the campfire and the discussion tends towards one of these issues, how about suggesting that the critic talks with those who are making the decisions, puts their viewpoint in a reasonable manner and I'm sure that they will get a response that will enhance their understanding of how and why things are done rather than bringing about negativity and one-sided criticism, and they will also learn the process required if they want to get the decision changed.

I'm still frustrated, and will probably continue to be for as long as I stay in the sport. But for those who read this article, hopefully you will have a better understanding of how things work and will be proactive in encouraging those who take on administrative tasks.




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Trophy Bowhunters of Australia Club



Introducing NEW TBA MEMBER *Adam Clements*

Where do you live?

Warragul, Victoria is home. We travelled around Australia last year and saw some amazing places but it was still nice to come home to beautiful Gippsland.

Personal history?

I'm 37, married with two boys who have just got their first bows and are very keen to join Dad on some hunts!

Are you a member of an archery club; if so what one? Do you hold a position in the club?

Yes. West Gippsland Field Archers. And I have to say it's made a *huge* difference. I'm naturally shy and wouldn't normally fit into a club environment but I have found with archery that everyone is very accepting and encouraging. I don't hold a position but I enjoy helping out on the barbecue and with any maintenance around the club when and where I can.

How long have you been an ABA member?

Since 2017, the same time I joined West Gippsland Field Archers.

How long have you been hunting?

I started bowhunting in 2017. Before that I hunted with rifles for about 10 years, focussing on small game for a few years until I caught deer fever in 2013!

What got you into bowhunting?

Mainly the lure of challenging

myself and slowing down to allow myself to enjoy the hunt and soak up my surroundings more.

How often do you go hunting?

That depends if you ask me or my wife! Let's say too often but not enough! This year I am trialling a five-to seven-day hunt each quarter instead of a day every second weekend.

What equipment do you use?

(compound/recurve/longbow)

Compound. Loving my new Elite Ritual.

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

Mainly to take a quality example of each Australian deer species with a bow and rifle. But an Imperial Ishi would be great too!

Has this encouraged you to do more hunting?

Not necessarily to do more hunting but it's nice to be encouraged to keep moving forward.

The TBA Committee congratulates you, Adam.

Adam claimed two trophy class foxes at the same time. The first fox, 9 6/16pt, was taken while on a hog deer hunt in April.

On the following page is his story of the hunt where he took the second fox, measuring 9 13/16pt. (This fox was taken during the hunt he wrote about on Page 6.)

Bowhunting achievements to end July 2019

Master Bowhunter

David Luxford 390

Trophy Bowhunter Award

Nil further since last report

Bowhunter Award

Benjamin Chambers 180

David Brewer 170

Toby Gall 100

Bowhunter Royale

Christopher Bourne

Dylan Evans

Bowhunter Imperial

Nil further since last report

Bowhunter Supreme

David Brewer

Senior Member of TBA

Flynn Moore

Josh Matthews

Members admitted to TBA Club

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

Adam Clements

Quineka Parker



The hunt:

On a recent trip to northern New South Wales, I was eventually able to take my first goat with the bow and arrow. It was a great morning and he was a nice billy too, just under Trophy Class in the end. After celebrating with a big lunch I wasn't too keen on hiking very far so I decided to head back to the carcass and wait to see if a pig or fox came in for a free feed.

I picked a spot about 25yd away downwind and became part of the bush. With the country so dry and my spot being on the edge of the treeline, any movement at all was like walking on cornflakes so I cleared a little spot for myself and waited and waited ... and waited. I watched the crows and eagles enjoy the spoils and even watched an echidna wander straight towards me from across the paddock as he turned over the odd stick and rock looking for his dinner before, finally, when he was about 5yd away from me, he realised he wasn't alone!

Then I heard something coming through the scrub. It was making a racket so I was surprised to see it was just a fox slowly heading my way. He cautiously made his way in and sent the birds back into the sky in a noisy dark cloud. Then it all went silent. He circled around, coming within 15yd of me before heading back in for his all-you-can-eat buffet. I only had a small window through the trees so needed everything to line up. It wasn't long and the shot presented. The fox was still unaware of my presence as I drew back and relaxed. There was a quick crack and it looked like the arrow had flown past him and into the scrub. He took off and I thought, "Oh no, I've missed him!" He ran straight past me like a missile but after another 30yd as I was nocking another arrow, he fell onto his belly.

I gave him a few seconds before deciding to give him another arrow to make sure he was gone. He was a good-sized fox and had a nice plush coat. The words, Trophy Class, never entered my head. I was just enjoying the moment, excited to have taken my first fox for the trip.

Back home, I headed to the club to get everything measured (including a fox from a previous trip) when I received an excited "Congratulations!" and handshake from the club president who informed me I'd just got my first trophy class fox. Then as he continued to score the rest of my game he came back and said I had a second trophy class fox (*pictured*). It had already been a very special trip with lots of great memories but it felt great to add some more back home.





2019
Pacific Regional Field Archery Championships
and
IFAA National Championships





report by

Bruce Kelleher

Vice-President Field Division ABA

photos by

Tony Hartcher

Bruce Kelleher

Alan Avent

Jeanette Dowd

A successful event was run on behalf of the Association by the team at Renegade Bowmen when they hosted the Pacific Regional Field Archery Championships and the National IFAA Championships in June.

We had four beautiful days of archery for the field and hunter rounds and ... well, let's not talk about the weather for the animal round. Let's just say that for a few of us older archers, memories of the Manning mud and Valla Park came rushing back.

Competitors started arriving the weekend before the event started, with old friends catching up and new ones being made.

The club made the ranges available so the early birds could practise, and all who did so greatly appreciated it.

Bow checks were started for the early birds on the Monday afternoon and then continued throughout Tuesday and the last few were done Wednesday morning before the event started. It was also pleasing to find there were only a handful of bows

that failed bow check and needed some rectification to comply with the rules of the IFAA, bearing in mind that we did have to comply with the IFAA rules as it was a world event.

I would like to thank our international guests for making the journey over to join us—it was great to see some new faces as well as the usual ones.

The Renegade club needs to be congratulated for taking the initiative to organise some outside caterers to come in and assist with the evening meals, along with organising a couple of music acts to entertain us all on Friday and Saturday nights.

I would like to also thank Abbey Archery for organising a fun event on the practice butts, with archers competing for a variety of prizes.

Many records were shot and broken over the event, especially with the introduction of the new senior division for the Pacific Regionals. Once all the records have been ratified by the IFAA they will be published on the national website.



We had three archers compete in the professional division. Matthew McDougall took home the top prize, closely followed by Justin Olexienko and Ben Pavitt.

Many divisions were closely fought battles and the margins over five days of shooting were very slim in many cases.

I would like to thank Alan Avent and Steve Barratt for all their work in getting the scores out each night and for peer-grouping the competitors ready for the next day's competition.

Hopefully by the time you read this, there will be a photo gallery up on the ABA website, bowhunters.org.au.

I would like to also thank most of the recurve archers for joining in with me in getting a group photo (*see Page 29*) for our mate Todd Carlson; we

hope he continues to recover well.

In closing, on behalf of the National Executive, I would like to thank Peter Judge and his band of willing workers for their hard work in presenting as usual a well run and maintained course. It is so pleasing to see a club such as Renegade Bowmen with members all working together for the benefit of our sport. Whether it was working in the canteens or pegging out targets, all tasks were completed with smiles on their faces and any requests we had were met with cheerful willingness.

Also to all the competitors, it was pleasing to walk the courses during the event and see very little if any rubbish left around for the club to clean up. Thank you for all making the effort to look after the club's grounds. We'll see you at the next big comp.



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Pacific Regional Field Archery Championships

2019 RECORDS

Professional Division—Professional Freestyle Unlimited (PFU)

PMFU M. McDougall (Aus) Field Round 557; M. McDougall (Aus) Hunter Round 557.

Barebow Recurve (BB-R)

VMBBR G. Waller (Aus) Field Round 400; G. Waller (Aus) Hunter Round 405.

Freestyle Limited Compound (FS-C)

VMFSC S. Barratt (Aus) 498; S. Barratt (Aus) Hunter Round 500; S. Barratt (Aus) Animal Round 524.

Freestyle Unlimited (FU)

VMFU A. Richards (Aus) Field Round 550; A. Richards (Aus) Hunter Round 549.

JFFU A. Reinbott (Aus) Field Round 540; A. Reinbott (Aus) Hunter Round 530.

CFFU S. Lowe (Aus) Field Round 533.

Bowhunter Recurve (BH-R)

YAMBHR R. Walters (NZL) Field Round 328; R. Walters (NZL) Hunter Round 373; R. Walters (NZL) Animal Round 392.

Bowhunter Compound (BH-C)

YAFBHC J. Hughes (Aus) Field Round 333; J. Hughes (Aus) Hunter Round 359; J. Hughes Animal Round 448.

Bowhunter Limited (BL)

SMBL M. Semeia (Aus) Field Round 456; M. Semeia (Aus) and L. Lainchbury (NZL) Hunter Round 462; L. Lainchbury (NZL) Animal Round 520.

VMBL K. Dowd (Aus) Animal Round 534.

Bowhunter Unlimited (BU)

VMBU T. Bassett (NZL) Field Round 520.

AMBU D. Ormiston (Aus) Hunter Round 544.

YAFBU N. Willaton (Aus) Field Round 444; N. Willaton (Aus) Hunter Round 410; N. Willaton (Aus) Animal Round 506.

CMBU S. Roberts (Aus) Field Round 482; S. Roberts (Aus) Hunter Round 478; S. Roberts (Aus) Animal Round 498.

Traditional Recurve Bow (TR)

SMTR T. Stone (Aus) Field Round 162; T. Stone (Aus) Hunter Round 145; T. Stone (Aus) Animal Round 228.

VFTR C. J. Wood (Aus) Field Round 150; C. J. Wood (Aus) Hunter Round 110; C. J. Wood (Aus) Animal Round 188.

AMTR J. Allott (Aus) Field Round 278; J. Allott (Aus) Hunter Round 267; J. Allott (Aus) Animal Round 354.

Historical Bow (HB)

AMHB R. Fleming (Aus) Field Round 211; R. Fleming (Aus) Hunter Round 182; R. Fleming (Aus) Animal Round 230.



Apparently prickly pears come in a rainbow of colours at Renegades.







Stephen's FIRST KILL

Stephen with his black-and-white goat.

by **JASON ROBINSON**

It's been a while since I've put pen to paper, but I now have good reason to re-ignite the passion. This year was the first time my two boys have accompanied me to the mountains with bow and arrow in hand. The boys had been practising their marksmanship skills and had recently completed the Junior Bowhunting Proficiency at our club CFA. Jake was old enough to get his junior game licence, so he was able to have his first crack at any deer that presented themselves and Stephen

could have a first crack at all other game.

A couple of days into our week-long hunt while driving to another area, I spotted four goats feeding on top of an open hill and pointed them out to my boys. They immediately asked, "Can we go after them?" I hadn't seen goats on the property we were hunting for a couple of years. I replied, "Guess so. The owner told me previously to eliminate any goat that I saw if possible." Stephen's eyes instantly lit up with excitement, as he was to have

first shot at them. The goats were about 400m away downwind so I idled the Hilux around the base of the hill to put this in our favour and out of sight. We then stalked up the hill in the general direction of the goats and as I approached the summit I spotted a few about 60m away, feeding, unaware of our presence.

I hid behind a large rock and told the boys to climb up and have a look. Stephen stuck his head up rather hastily only to duck back down

comically when he realised how close the goats were. I explained to the boys that they weren't as smart as the deer we had been chasing, but they still had very good senses. Mountain goats that get hunted a lot are no easy feat to close the gap on. We watched them for a while as a few more appeared; 13 in total. They were moving in a general direction along the ridgeline so we backed out and circled around beneath, trying to get in front of them for an ambush.

We managed to make it to a rock big enough for us all to hide behind as the mob fed towards us from above. Stephen had an arrow on the string ready as some of the goats were nearly within range. Suddenly the breeze changed direction as it does up here and one old nanny flared her nostrils to test the wind. She didn't like what was up and let out a couple of snorts of disapproval before leading the mob away over the hill. As soon as they were all out of sight, we followed them up over the hill and found them several hundred metres away below us on a spur. I explained to my boys that now being above them gave us the advantage because when goats get spooked they will generally want to head for higher ground. We closed the gap to about 80m using a gully to the side. They still looked a little agitated—especially the old nanny—so we tucked up behind a rock and let them calm down and start to feed again.

As they fed down along the spur we followed cautiously and when they all dropped over the end out of sight we hastily made our way closer. Just then the cunning old nanny popped back for a second look and caught us exposed on the open hill side about 40m away. She proceeded to prance around for a couple of minutes and then disappeared back over the edge. I told Stephen to sneak forward and try to get into position for a shot. As Stephen crept forward I hit 'record'

on my iPhone. He made it about 10m closer when the old nanny popped back up and stared straight at him. She walked forward and snorted directly at Stephen from about 20m. Watching the video later you can see him flinch when she did that—his adrenaline must have been really pumping. The rest of the mob come up to join her then milled around in front of him for a while, before moving around to our left and congregating about 30m away.

Meanwhile Stephen had slowly managed to get an arrow on the string and was patiently waiting for the billy he wanted to present itself for a clean shot. After what seemed like an eternity, the big black-and-white billy turned broadside and Stephen drew back on his bow only to see the billy start walking around again. He held the draw for a few seconds until the billy again turned broadside about 30m away. The big billy had no chance when Stephen released the little Tusker Spirit which hit him low and tight behind his front leg fair in the heart. He took off with the rest of the mob into the gully below and I put the phone back on Stephen, to see he was grinning ear to ear. I asked, "Which one did you hit?" He replied, "The big black and white one!"

Stephen would have liked to chase him up instantly but I pulled him up and explained about waiting at least a few minutes for the animal to expire. We slowly peered into the gully they had disappeared into where I spotted the mob milling around about 300m away. Through my rangefinder I counted 12 in to total, explaining that Stephen's billy should be lying down in front of us somewhere.

It wasn't long before we found him about 80m from where Stephen had hit him. The little guy was ecstatic, to say the least, as Jake and I congratulated him on his first kill. We propped up the goat for some still photos but my phone had gone flat so I bolted back to the

Hilux to get my iPad before it got dark. Meanwhile the boys found the arrow, which was missing the broadhead and about 5in of shaft. This must have been protruding out the far side (the exit wound) and broke off when the billy ran forward. Awesome penetration for such light poundage. Razor-sharp, small two-blade broadhead, greased with Vaseline along with the first 4in of shaft. Using the Vaseline this way was an old trick that the late Bill Baker taught me while on safari at Toomba years ago ... and it worked a treat. Photos taken, I removed the head which Stephen proudly carried back to the ute.

That night at camp, excitement filled the air as Stephen relived the hunt and we watched the video by the campfire. I was an extremely proud Dad as he had shown remarkable patience in the stalk, knowing all his practice had paid off with a beautiful one-shot, clean kill. The next day we cut the skull cap, boiled it clean and then gave it a rough measure which showed 80 1/8pt. That's not huge by trophy standards, but it was an awesome first kill for Stephen and no doubt he'll remember it for the rest of his life.

Dan Smith

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Around THE TRADS

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Sue Wallace

✱ The Hunter Valley Traditional Archers held their Gathering in June. Here are some excerpts taken from a personal post from first-time attendee, Zanette Williamson.

What do you get when you gather close to 200 people, 150 of them registered archers, onto the Hunter Valley Traditional Archers range? Answer: An absolutely fun-filled time all in the name of traditional archery.

This was the first time my Dad Keith and I had attended the Gathering on the June long weekend. Arriving at the gate, we had to ring 'Uncle Ronnie' to find out the code to unlock the gate. The friendly voice assured us that this was going to be fun. It was a lovely surprise to see that other Queenslanders had also made the trip.

This year's event was the club's 20th Gathering and archers arrived from near and far, not wanting to miss out on helping the club celebrate; true trad camaraderie at its best. By Friday night the large camp area resembled a small village, campfires to sit around, lots of stories and laughter and a delicious complimentary meal of chicken curry and dessert.

We woke ready for a Saturday of

trad archery. A breakfast of bacon and eggs commenced at 7am, with expert bacon crisper and egg flipper Towball in good form with his humour. President Peter called all archers to muster at 9am to welcome us and outline the weekend's programme. Range Captain Richard set us a challenge of 3D targets with some interesting gamble shots thrown in and the novelties that we have all come to know—speed, hunter, bow bird, running pig and rolling discs. Our group was made up of archers who in true trad form did not take themselves too seriously. We laughed, told jokes and heckled at each other's attempts to hit the tricky shots and gamble shots.

A hotly contested axe and knife competition started at 2pm. Many whoops and hollers were heard as the double bit axe was thrown. Some major talent was definitely on show.

It was wonderful to witness so many cubs (at least 30) attempt the balloon pop event that followed the axe and knife. Excited children all vied to reach a score of 50 by shooting balloons of different colours. Each colour was worth a different score and this saw keen young eyes really homing in on the gold balloons worth 25. At 50 the cub earned a party bag filled

with all sorts of goodies. Every child received at least one bag; some managed to earn themselves more. Even the parents and onlookers wanted to get in on the action! These extremely well behaved kids had fun all weekend with the freedom to ride bikes, roast marshmallows over the fire pit and of course participate with their bows and arrows. They are definitely the future of our sport.

A Spinning Chevron Challenge followed, being a knockout competition accompanied by much cheering and noisy ribbing.

Dinner consisted of spit roast pork and beef or chicken Maryland. Why would anyone choose to eat on their own when for \$15 they could have such a great meal and support the club? A beautiful celebration cake followed, cut by some of the original club members and competitors from 20 years ago.

Sunday again saw the range blessed with fine weather. We were off to try our luck in the improvement challenge over the 30 targets. Pride and the determination to show that second time round the scores would improve hilariously only worked for some.

Until this event, I'd never been to



A challenging shot at Coffs.



The tree stump claimed a few arrows.



Jules Shield croc target.

a shoot that included a broadhead range. It was fantastic seeing so many archers testing their accuracy skills under hunting conditions.

A lovely tradition that we had not seen before was next. Archers were asked to write their name on one of their arrows. We all gathered in an area overlooking one of the pretty wetland ponds. By shooting our arrows out onto the field and then gathering another archer's arrow we all made a new friend. I was shocked to find out of such a large group of lady archers I had been selected to compete in the Top Five Shootout. Kay Prince and I ended up tying and having to repeat our shots. With so many archers present I felt honoured to accept this trophy and the beautiful glass trophy (unique and made by Towball at his Glass Fusion class) for Ladies Recurve. Our little Queensland contingent did ourselves proud and we had to bring up the State of Origin win as well! More importantly we all had heaps of fun. From the archery shots to the very full two days of events, this shoot has been fantastic. The friendly club members, the fully catered canteen, the large bush camping area with fire pits, the choice of events all mean that we look forward

to returning to HVTA.

Congratulations HVTA, on 20 years of Gatherings. You have done an exceptional job.

✿ The Coffs Coast Archery Club moved their 2019 trad shoot to June in the hope of having finer weather and they were fortunate in their endeavour. We arrived Thursday afternoon just as the coolness of the afternoon shade began creeping over the camping area. The few lingering clouds didn't amount to any dampness. Campers started to arrive late Friday morning while we were having a couple of shots at the practice butts. One of our group of friends is in the process

of mastering Manchu archery, including a complete duplicate of their dress code, which he has made himself and quite proudly donned, then gave us a demonstration of the shooting style.

Many archers arrived for registration on Saturday morning, and a few travellers were staying in the motel in town. It was great to see quite a few cubs having a shot at the practice butts before the shoot commenced.

Coffs Coast has two 3D courses of 15 targets each. The first you shoot as a two-arrow round the other as a one-arrow round, then you swap the courses the following day. So once the Muster was over, the 52 archers

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in attendance, some who had travelled from Newcastle, Port Macquarie and Tooma in NSW, Gladstone, Sunshine Coast, Kingaroy and Brisbane in Queensland, headed out.

Our group went to the closer course and began shooting our two-arrow round. The first few shoot pegs had various different deer targets, all the time using the shrubs, trees and terrain to set some very realistic shots. A couple of these were 'windows' through entangled twigs or lanterns, or bears standing beside a tree and the shoot lane was lined either side with many more trees, which often seemed quite daunting, so you took a deep breath, focussed on the target, let the string go and held your breath until the arrow hit, hopefully the target.

There was one target in particular where a pink-painted tree stump had an opening through it that was large enough to see the score zone of a bedded deer. I threaded the first arrow through without any hesitation, so theoretically the second shot should have been just as easy. However, the brain often decides to throw a spanner in the works and I hit the pink paint on the stump in front.

At the gamble shot there was a small fox sitting in the middle of the track, and further along there was a huge elk standing quite a way behind, once again the flight path was lined

with trees to add an extra challenge.

The first peg on the next course was a gamble with a javelina and a lion, which was a slightly downhill shot with a lot of open ground between the two targets. As this was a one-arrow round, you had to keep your fingers crossed that your arrow would go where you wanted.

As we stood doing the scores at the second target we could hear black cockatoos in the trees above us. Then they made their presence even more obvious by dropping pine cones down. Cheeky birds!

One of our group also found the stump just in front of one of the other targets a little further along the track, a wolverine standing in front of a very large tree base. A pig was in the shadows and required a shot over the top of shrubbery. A rising boar hid in the grasses beside the little creek and there were downhill shots where the sun glistened on the creek water behind two of the targets. The last event on this course was a pendulum duck, where you shot three arrows as the duck rocked from side to side behind a tree.

After lunch it was time for the remaining novelty events. First we did the 30-second speed round which was directly behind our camp, where we found five javelina strategically placed neatly behind, under and in front of many many fallen branches or trees,

except one which was standing out on the bank on its own. You needed to move a little on the peg to thread an arrow through to all the targets.

Next we walked toward the stalker round, however there were a couple of groups already waiting, so off to the hunt round we went. When we arrived, there was a group in the process of shooting so we waited and chatted to those who had already shot. Just before the last archer in this group set off it was clear she would not have enough arrows in her bow quiver, so a fellow female archer walked along and handed her the arrows as she needed them. Great teamwork ladies.

The 60-second hunt round was five targets set in spots at different distances along a short piece of track with a separate peg for each animal. What made this a little more challenging was that some of the targets blended quite well with the background. You walked along to each peg and then back through them again until time was up.

Event complete, we headed back up the driveway to do the running pig, where you had to shoot five arrows from a different position on each run.

The final event of the day was the stalker round. You had two minutes to walk along a track, find and shoot as many animals as you saw. The first set of animals was in a cul-de-sac-type



Jules Shield trex target.



Lovely 3D course.



Arrow heading for rolling disc.

arrangement with another two or three placed toward the 'exit' (if you got that far). One target was a little easier as more archers went through, as there was now a worn track through the grass leading straight to it. I never did find out how many there were!

Scores tallied and handed in, it was time to settle back with some light refreshments and many interesting conversations. Coffs Coast don't do an evening meal, so most feed themselves while some venture into the coastal town for a meal.

Sunday morning was a little cooler with clear blue sunny skies and a slight breeze. We set off to do course A as our two-arrow round.

When we got to the rising boar it was on a single track heading down to the target and also showing the dense rainforest foliage we were shooting in on this part of the course. After morning tea, we completed the other course, shooting only one arrow. There weren't any novelties, so scores were tallied and handed in before presentations and the raffle draw.

The Coffs Coast Club always put on a great traditional shoot. This year the courses were on a rather different layout to previous years, and the club takes full advantage of foliage and terrain for some very realistic shots.

✱ The Lakeside Bowmen club held their annual Jules Shield Trad Shoot on the weekend of July 6 and 7. From everyone I have spoken to that attended, the shoot was, as always, really good. I did receive the following brief description of the events:

The shoot was great—two 15-target ranges shot as a one-arrow round and a two-arrow round on both days. The rolling disc was shot both days and the running pig, 30-second speed, 60-second stalker round were shot on Saturday and flu flu through a hot shot was done on Sunday. There was a good variety of target distances

and placements—very well done.

✱ It was going to be a glorious Queensland winter weekend with crisp evenings and warm days and after dinner as we sat around the fire the almost full moon rose high in the sky behind us. There were quite a few campsites already set up for the Chevallan Archery Park July 20 and 21 weekend trad shoot.

We were thankful that the thermometer had only dropped to 3.5 degrees on Saturday morning. I took the rest of the nominations and spoke to a couple of new people and made sure they had found themselves a group then held the shoot muster and sent everyone off to enjoy the day.

Some of you reading this may not be aware that my better half is in hospital, so after the muster I tootled off to the hospital to be back at archery in time to run the shootout around 3pm.

The events for Saturday were a two-arrow round of 25 3D targets to be shot from the orange peg, the popinjay, rolling discs, moving target, 30-second speed round and 60-second hunt round. The clout was open to be shot, however there was no scoring this time.

Everyone gathered over at the 30-second speed. One archer in particular shot six 10s, making him very hard

to beat. The Top 10 Shootout is sponsored by wesfarnham@realty.com and the prize is a set of handcrafted matched arrows.

Following the Top 10 Shootout everyone adjourned to their favourite drinking spots until dinner was ready.

After we had all enjoyed the wagyu beef which was purchased from Stewart Terrace Butchery who also supplied two huge meat trays for the raffle table, we enjoyed various cheesecake tarts with ice cream, custard and cream.

It is always great to see the men doing the dishes after dinner. One group will do the main dishes, then a second group will wash up after dessert. The socialising continued around the fires that were keeping the winter chill at bay.

Sunday morning had sunny clear blue skies for the field course which was laid out so archers could walk past a few targets if they had groups on them and start further down the course. There was a gamble shot, a 60-second hunt round, rolling disc, 30-second round amongst them.

After hamburgers for lunch, it was time for the raffles and presentations.

The raffle was very well supported and one chap who was sitting at the table nearest where I was standing was keenly encouraging the raffle

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drawers to pull out an orange ticket with his name on it. So I did some raffles, then some presentations, then back to the raffles and still he was encouraging the orange ticket to be drawn out. The last thing on the raffle table was a packet of almond biscuits, and guess who's name was pulled out—yes, his orange ticket finally came out!

Once all the shoot presentations had been done the Top 10 competitors gathered in front of the camper that Wes Farnham was also promoting. The winner of the arrows by Wes Farnham was Troy Dickinson, who generously went on to donate them to a very young and keen archer who is the grandson of one of the Sunshine Coast Archers, who unfortunately due to family commitments, was not able to return for the Sunday shoot, so the arrows were given to another for delivery. Congratulations Rory.

Everyone signed a card for me to

take to hospital, which was very much appreciated.

Our next event is October 5 and 6. Another event I was able to announce was that Chevallan Archery Park will hold the 2020 TAA Queensland Titles on the weekend of July 18 and 19 next year. This is going to be a big event, so mark your calendars, everyone.

✱ Trad shoots confirmed for October-November: Chevallan Archery Park (Qld) October 5 and 6, Hunter Valley Trad Archers October 5 and 6, North Albert Trad Tourney October 26 and 27, Sunshine Coast Bowman November 17 and Chevallan Archery Park November 23 (single days).

✱ Reports from Dunolly, North Burnett, Stanthorpe, Sunshine Coast Bowmen, Swan Hill, Townsville, Tully, White Rose Irymple and Manning Valley should be in the next issue. For readers who are on Facebook, check

out Travellin' Round the Trads, where you can read shoot write-ups.

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

Wallace Woods:

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

Ozbow:

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

Chevallan Archery Park:

www.chevallanarcherypark.com – for the 2019 Proposed Traditional shoot calendar, IBO approved African 3D targets now with replaceable centres, customised archery medals.

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

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

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2019
*Master
of Bows*



What if you could turn back the clock to a time where everyone only shot all types of bows barebow, with no fancy sights or gadgets?

The Renegade Bowmen do just that for one weekend each year and call it the Master of Bows. This competition has been going since the late 1980s.

The rules are pretty simple, shoot three one-arrow rounds—one with a compound, one with a recurve and one with a longbow, all shot barebow (meaning no sights and shoot with your fingers).

The competition is designed to bring the fun back into the sport and put everyone in the same playing field.

Not everyone has all three bows so there is a lot of bow swapping throughout the weekend.

Over the past few years the number of competitors has been down from when the first competition started around 30 years ago but everyone really enjoys the challenge.

This year's range was set up by our President Peter Judge. It had a mixture of ABA paper and 3D targets.

The wild windy August weather made it a little cold and there was a



total fire ban for the area, which made for a chilly night for the campers.

You could hear the cheers around the range when anyone got an unexpected hit on the challenging targets.

This year's men's champion was Dean Vince, Dean grew up shooting longbows that were made by his dad Dennis and can remember back to when he shot in his first Master of Bows as a youngster.

The highest men's recurve round was shot by Bevan Blacklock.

The highest men's longbow and compound rounds were both shot by Dean Vince.

This year's ladies champion was Jeanette Dowd, who took out the ladies highest recurve and longbow rounds.

The highest ladies compound was shot by Marissa Doncaster.

Aiden Sullivan is this year's cub champion and shot the highest rounds

in all three disciplines—longbow, recurve and compound. Aiden normally shoots Freestyle and has since been heard asking his dad to get him a compound he can shoot barebow as he enjoyed it so much.

The Renegade Bowmen committee would like to thank the archers who turned up and competed, as without you this great event would stop happening each year ... and we would hate to see that happen.

Jeanette Dowd



A photograph of several goats drinking from a shallow waterhole in a wooded area. The scene is framed by out-of-focus green leaves in the foreground. The goats are of various colors, including white, black, and brown. The background shows a line of trees and a clear sky.

Goats, goats...

by MITCHELL BREWER



and more goats



Last year I struck it lucky. While it's true that I only took one goat, what a hell of a goat it was, going over 41in. We went hunting countless times, with Dad shooting one or two goats and me going home empty-handed. But 2019 was a new year and it was going to be great. This particular trip was my best by far, with three goats, one ram and

two pigs. I can tell you now, I am one happy chap.

It was the first day of our trip. We were told by the property owner that most of the goats were drinking out of one of the watercourse dams, so that's where we headed first.

We had only been waiting for about five minutes when we saw a big mob of goats. Unfortunately, they

did not come along the trail we'd thought they might take, so we just watched and wished we had been in the right place. The goats were there for about half an hour before they decided to walk off back into the scrub. We were disappointed that we weren't in the right spot, but we saw some goats about 200m away, so we decided to have a go.



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We got in to about 50m from them before they spotted us, so Dad drew on the biggest one and he ... missed, but it was sort of lucky that he missed as the goat he tried to shoot only had one horn, so it was a bit of a relief. Dad then sent me into the bush to try to find the other goat that had two horns, while Dad looked for his arrow. As I was looking for the goats I came across a small mob of goats and signalled Dad to come quick. He hurried me into a position to shoot one as they walked in, but to our surprise there was a mixture of goats and sheep. Ever since I was young I have wanted to shoot a ram and this was my chance as the property owner had told us they were feral and that we were fine to take them if we got the chance.

The biggest ram walked out in the lead, I ranged him at 20yd on the dot and put an arrow in him and boy that was such a good feeling. He slowly walked off in the direction his friends

“

Out of the corner of my eye, I could see an even better goat...

”

had gone, so I followed, but then I noticed something wrong. My bow's stopper had fallen off at some stage, so while I had the job of watching my ram as he expired, Dad went to see if he could find my stopper. An hour went by. My ram lay without moving a muscle and Dad was still nowhere to be seen. Another half an hour went by before Dad finally appeared from the trees with a cheeky grin on his face. As he got closer he whispered, "I just smoked a good goat!". After talking about it for a while, we started moving off into the

thick scrub to recover my ram.

On the second day, we got to the same dam and set a blind up in a spot where I could shoot a goat while Dad was on the other side of the dam. The goats chose a different route that day, so I didn't get a shot, but all of a sudden the goats started running. Dad had shot a unique goat. So, I got out of the blind to go find Dad and as I was walking across the dam wall, I saw him signalling for me to turn around and walk back down the dam wall. I didn't know why until he reached me and he said to follow



him, so I did. It turned out that he had seen more goats coming in, so he rushed me into a position that was suitable to shoot from. I was about to shoot the leading white goat, then out of the corner of my eye I saw an even better goat so that's the one I shot. He was a big 36in billy that went down in seconds. Dad said it was a perfect heart shot.

A few days later, we were at a waterway near the dam we'd sat at in previous days waiting for a pig. We

were waiting for about three hours and I got a bit bored and decided to go for a walk down the waterway in search of a wallowing pig. All of a sudden, something in the distance was walking fast at me. It gave me a bit of a fright, but it turned out to be Dad speed walking. I asked why he was walking so fast and he responded, "Big goat!" so as we hurried into a spot that seemed good to shoot from, the big billy walked right past us less than 5yd away but I was

obstructed by leaves and branches, so I waited until I had a clear shot. He was roughly 15yd away so without hesitation I put an arrow in him, with a quartering-away shot. It wasn't my best, but it would have taken out one lung. He freaked out and ran a bit and stopped to try and figure out what had hit him and where it had come from. I put another arrow on my bow and without even ranging how far he was, I put my 30yd pin on the money spot and drilled him. He was a fully

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Mitch, one happy chap.

black goat. In the past, I have had some very bad luck with fully black goats, but now the curse is lifted.

I lost track of what day it was, but on one of the days at the same dam we waited and waited for ages but finally we saw goats in the distance. Dad and I were both too impatient to wait and decided to go to them. It was a reasonably sized mob but not many big billies were amongst them. I pointed out this one goat to Dad. It had a loopy horn and I fell in love with him (and also he was probably the biggest in the mob), so I shot him. He wasn't very well but followed in the direction his mob went, so we followed up. After walking for a while we caught up with him then he ran off then we followed him again and like before he ran off. At this point my ego level was dropping rapidly after seeing him 150m away and Dad told me in a disappointed voice, "I think we are going to have to let him go."

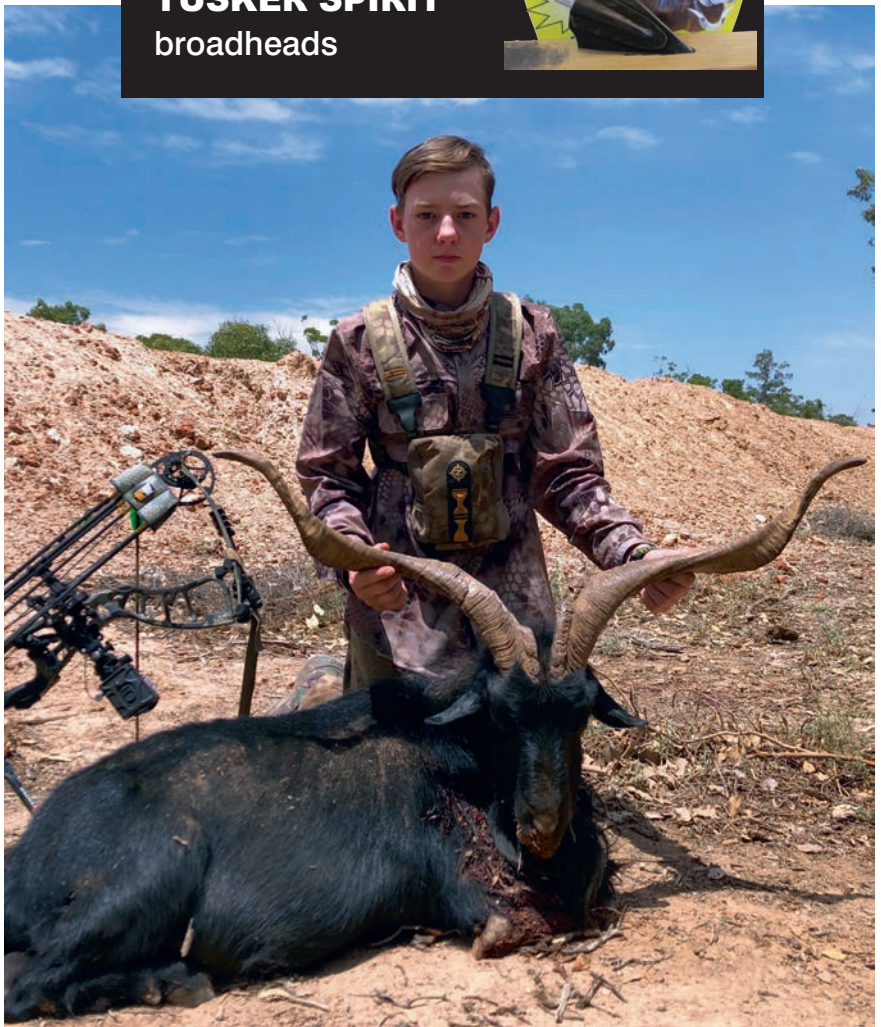
I had a teenage meltdown—my heart was broken—so Dad said we would try one last time ... and off we went trying to find this goat. We were walking along when Dad stopped suddenly. My goat was at 40yd just standing there. I wasn't very confident about shooting him from 40yd away so I slowly crept behind a bush and closed the distance to 25yd. As I stepped out from behind the bush the billy stared at me so I drew my bow and as soon as my pin was where it needed to be I shot him in record time. It was a really good shot with a double lung and he went down within 50m.

The moral of this story is to always persist even at the hardest of times.

*The curse of the black goat
has finally been lifted.*



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





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BACK TO BASICS

RESCUE

In the past few issues of *Archery Action*, we've covered in some detail the first Priority of Survival which is Protection. Let's now move onto the second priority: Rescue.

Some survival schools will use the term 'Location' instead of 'Rescue' because—ultimately—this Priority of Survival is all about placing yourself in the best possible position to be found by Search and Rescue (SAR) teams.

Reduce the guesswork

While a search won't begin until authorities are alerted that you're missing, there's a lot you can do to assist this effort before you even leave home. A key priority is to ensure that

you have the foresight to pack and carry a location aid or three (and we'll cover these in more detail in a later article). It's also essential that you write a fridge-gram and leave it in an obvious location.

A fridge-gram is a written note that states clearly where you're going, what route you're taking, who you're travelling with, what the group's mobile numbers are, what your preferred CB channels are, what your vehicle's registration number is, how long you expect to be away, et cetera.

It's called a fridge-gram because it's a note that you leave attached to your kitchen fridge before you depart. It's also the note that you should place on the dashboard of your 4x4 if you plan to leave the vehicle for any period of time—and/or on your camp bed. Why? Because if you go missing, these

are the places that your friends—and importantly the local police—will look to start working out where you might be located. Having a fridge-gram will help narrow their search area and will likely ensure that you're found quicker (provided that you've stuck to your written plan).

Remember: Just because you told your family and your mates where you aimed to go on your next hunting trip, doesn't mean that anyone will remember what you said when it matters (particularly if you outlined the plan two weeks ago in the pub over a few cleansing ales and your mates are now being asked to recall the conversation during a police interview). People's memories can be unreliable—particularly if emotions are high.

And while you may have a habit



It's not always about being lost. Sometimes you simply may be bogged ... or broken down.

of carrying a Personal Locator Beacon (PLB), don't get complacent. If you happen to be lying unconscious, you won't have activated it, so you'll be as dependent on a fridge-gram as any other hunter who falls off a mesa while chasing goats.

With all this in mind, we strongly recommend that anyone planning to spend time outside of their normal environment gets into the habit of leaving a fridge-gram behind, whether we do it when we head out hunting,

camping or boating—or our kids do it when they start spreading their wings. Mobile phones and other technologies only go so far. The moment we rely on them to the exclusion of more traditional methods of communication could be the first time that they'll let us down in an emergency. So why leave things to chance?

Our fridge-gram is printed on the next page. Feel free to print it out and amend it to meet your own specific purposes. Then leave some blank copies

on top of the fridge at home, in the 4WD, camper or panniers.

Hunters—the global wanderers

Worldwide, hunters are reported as missing persons so regularly that they're one of the 11 internationally recognised categories of missing persons. Don't believe it? Then you might like to check out this web link for some light



Staying near a road and a water source will increase your survival chances.



Doing a map recon will help you get to know the lay of the land.



FRIDGE –GRAM



ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION		
TRANSPORT PLAN AND ROUTES		
ALTERNATE ROUTE		
SIGNIFICANT DATES	Date	Description
ACCOMMODATION/ CAMPSITES	Date	Description
COMMS PLAN		
CONTACT DETAILS OF PARTY	Name	Mobile Number
SATELLITE PHONE NUMBER		
RADIO CHANNELS OPERATED BY GROUP		HF
		VHF
ACTIONS ON	LOST COMMS	
	LOST	
	SEPARATED	

ADD: SKETCH MAP or Google Map of route and specific locations of note for your excursion



A ridgeline can give a new perspective.

reading: https://natsar.amsa.gov.au/documents/Land-Operations/LSOM_Appendix_I.pdf

This document is compiled by cross-referencing the three main 'Lost Person Behaviour' studies from the UK, USA and Canada. While Australia is compiling its own database, it's not yet published. So, the next time you get lost (and found), you can help contribute to the research by filling out your own data using the web link.

Until there's a specific Australian study to follow, the recommendation is to use the Canadian results as indicative of lost person behaviour in this country

(on account of commonalities in demographics and national habits with respect to recreational activity). From this data, it's possible to see several characteristics that are common to hunters. While there will be hunters whose responses to becoming lost are entirely outside the box, the common traits revealed by the studies are:

- Often game focussed, which tends to contribute to their being lost.
- Will not often acknowledge that they are lost.
- Following targets often leads them to deadfall areas, boulder fields, underbrush or dense forest.

- Will go to great lengths to self-help.
- Will sometimes avoid searchers for fear of embarrassment.
- Often rely on GPS, radios and mobile phones.
- Usually mobile and responsive.
- Tend to travel at night and will follow linear features.
- Will take easy routes, ridgelines, cross country.
- Will make shelter and fire where possible.

These characteristics are quite telling and probably riskiest of them all is the tendency of hunters to risk making a bad situation worse by refusing to accept that they're lost in the first place for fear of embarrassment. Sound like anyone you know?

As an illustrative case, in 2015 a West Australian male made the news when he took off after a camel. Having wounded it, he then tracked it for a distance of (what he later claimed to be) around 30km. By the time he found his quarry, he realised he was lost and attempted to backtrack to camp. The real problem for this bloke was that he kept moving after he became geographically embarrassed. The SAR teams were using indigenous trackers to follow the lost hunter's trail. But each night, the hunter would see, in the distance, the search helicopter using its flood lights to guide ground-based searchers back to their cars. In response, he'd walk at night to where he'd last seen the light. In doing so, he was unwittingly moving into ground that had already been searched and (therefore) ground where no-one was looking for him any more! He was later found 15km from his LKP



Some hunters will avoid searchers because of embarrassment. But it's better to be embarrassed by helicopter extraction than dead.



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To have a better chance of being rescued, sometimes you have to stop walking.

(Last Known Position). Ultimately he covered somewhere between 45km and 60km during the four days that he was missing.

avg) a whopping 17.2km from their LKP!

Last Known Position

The studies indicate that hunters will be found further away from their LKP than any other category of lost person. Indeed, in response, the SAR strategies for finding a missing hunter include containment. This means that a wide net will be cast and then rescue parties will move in towards the centre of the search area. Further, a search for a hunter will typically involve air assets on account of the expectation that a lost hunter may cover a lot of ground in a relatively short time frame. How much ground? you may ask. The studies indicate that:

- 25% of lost hunters will be located (on avg) 0.96km from their LKP
- 25% will be located (on avg) 2.09km from their LKP
- 25% will be located (on avg) 4.82km of their LKP
- But the last 25% will be found (on

Situational awareness

It's a well known principle of survival that, if you become lost, you should only move if you're certain you'll increase your chances of survival by doing so. Otherwise, stay where you are.

The decision about whether or not to move will boil down to your level of situational awareness (even though you may be lost). Situational awareness can be simply defined as 'knowing what is going on around us', or more technically, as 'the perception of the elements in the environment within a volume of time and space, the comprehension of their meaning and the projection of their status in the near future'. (*Endsley MR. Toward a theory of situation awareness in dynamic systems. Human Factors 1995; 37(1):32-64.*)

So, situational awareness starts

at home when you plan your trip and develop a fridge-gram and check the weather forecast. It's developed further when you complete a map reconnaissance of the area you are about to hunt. By doing so, you'll learn about important features of the environment you plan to enter. For example, perhaps the main road runs north-south; there's a major river to the east; there are shearing sheds to the west; the main homestead is in the top north-east paddock; and the ridges generally follow a SE-NW direction.

The statistics indicate that, as a group, we hunters have pretty good situational awareness. Specifically, the majority of lost hunters are located next to a road (52%), near water or stream (17%), or at a building/shelter (9%). The remainder are found on ridges, in open ground or around rocky outcrops.

These statistics are very similar to those of recreational hikers. Again, the majority of hikers are found near a road (48%), near water or a stream (28%), or at building/shelter (10%). The remainder are found within the forest with the exception of the 4% who are found near a fence.

The key difference between the results is that while hikers still covered the same amount of ground, they were more likely (an additional 12%) to stop at a man-made object, water source or natural shelter and wait to be found whereas the hunters kept walking.



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Next: Tactics, techniques and procedures

The key to being rescued is that you must be located first. Being proactive and using all available resources on and around you is the difference between a ‘survivor’ and an ‘existor’. In following issues we will look at the TTPs—the tactics, techniques and procedures that will increase your chances of being located by SAR assets. We’ll also look at bits of kit that will enhance further the probability of your being found. After all, everything you take bush must have two or more uses, otherwise you’ve taken the wrong piece of kit out bush in the first place.

Don’t hunt alone. If you have a companion you might sometimes be told where to go but the chances of getting lost are smaller.



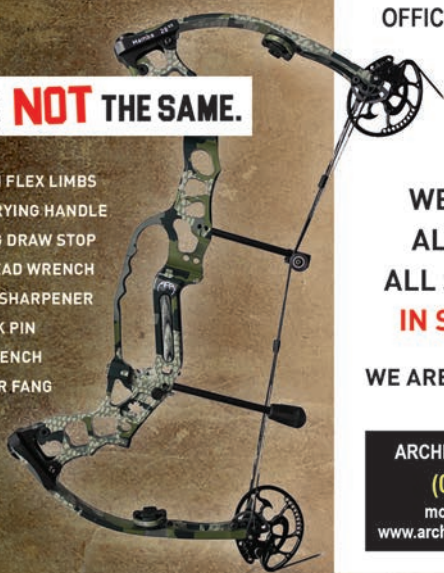
In this picture there are 10 people wearing camo—nearly impossible to see.

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*This page, clockwise
from top left:*

*Troy Hughes, RC
buffalo 96 2/8pt.*

Jake Thomas, goat.

Mark Burrows, goat.

Orbin Wilde, pig.



Flynn Moore, RC red deer 234 1/8pt.



Jarred Brown, shark.



Adam Clements, TC fox 9 6/16pt.



Nick Lintern TRADITIONAL TRAILS

When this issue of Archery Action hits the stands, the weather will be warming up. Before it gets too hot, it's a great time to be out in the bush with a bow. On that note, I want to cover an area that needs to be looked at in order to better understand one of the major benefits of a traditional bow: Hunting. Hunting with a traditional bow has some tremendous advantages over compounds—particularly sighted compounds—but there are also challenges that need to be understood. As well, some of these benefits are not instantaneous; there is work to be done to extract these advantages. There are many archers out there who shoot traditional bows at shoots et cetera but hunt with a compound. This is seriously undermining your true potential in the field. I can hear readers now saying: "But I'm not confident with my longbow, so I don't want to hunt with it." While that is very ethical and certainly you should only shoot at game with something that you are confident with, there is a whole world of increased flexibility available to you if you practice with your traditional bow. With practice comes confidence. So let's have a look at the world of hunting with a traditional bow and see where those added opportunities lie.

Hunting with a traditional bow

Part 1

Hunting with traditional bows is quite different in many respects to hunting with compounds, particularly sighted compounds. Over the next two issues, I'll break it down into a few key areas to look at these differences and see where the benefits are, and also look at some general bowhunting ethical issues that need addressing.

General

The first thing we all need to understand is that hunting and target shooting are two completely different things. As such, two very different shooting styles will need to be employed. Target shooting is conducted on flat even ground while shooting at known distances. Target archers can stand in a perfect stance and shoot as slowly as they like. Conversely, hunting takes place in varied terrain. Shots will need to be taken uphill,



Absolute concentration is required to shoot instinctively.

downhill, in bad light, awkward positions and very often while the shooting muscles are cold. And of course, animals don't walk around with distances marked on them, so we are required to shoot at unknown distances.

Also, very often shots may need to be taken quickly before an opportunity disappears. We may need to shoot under branches, or through grass et cetera. Field shooting has been a great melding of the two disciplines and has helped hunters to develop their accuracy in more hunt-like conditions. However, most experienced archers come to learn what each field organisation's distances are and again, this can give a false confidence when in the field when you have zero assistance in range estimation or time pressure. Of course many sighted archers now carry rangefinders, but again there are so many opportunities lost because quick action is often your best bet in the field and having to range a target is obviously a slower process. Plus I personally don't like carrying unnecessary clutter in the field.

With the above thoughts in mind, the next logical step for us here is to look at the different aiming styles that are employed in archery and see why one is better suited to hunting.

Aiming

When we look at how to aim with a bow, there are all sorts of theories out there about how different aiming can be done and which is best et cetera. At the end of the day, there are only two ways to aim anything; be it a bow, a gun/rifle, spear ... whatever. Those are *direct* aiming and *indirect* aiming. Put simply, direct aiming is where the main focus is on the implement you are using, in the case of a bow, you'd be looking at the tip of your arrow, a sight, a mark on your riser et cetera. The target is in the peripheral vision. This is normally achieved by closing an eye. So a right hander would close their left eye. Another example is using a scope on a rifle, or the peep sight.

There are a few things needed to use direct aiming methods successfully. Firstly, you will want as little time pressure as possible. You have to line up your target through your sight to ensure everything is in the right place, then you can shoot. Also, in most cases you will need to know the distance in order to place an accurate shot. The only variation to this is if the target is very close or within the flat shooting range of your bow/firearm. This is why telescopic sights are so accurate on rifles. A firearm shoots very fast and flat over large distances. Direct aiming will be a great aiming method if your projectile is travelling very fast and flat for a considerable distance. Then no distance calculation is necessary. You just place the crosshairs on the target and squeeze the trigger. So for rifles, direct aiming is a good choice. But in the case of a bow, even the fastest bow, there will be an arc in your arrow's flight within fairly short distances. Therefore you will either need to know the distance to the target or keep your shots short.

This leads me to one of my ethical issues. Arrows do not kill via shock. They do their work via haemorrhage. To maximise blood loss and cutting more vitals you will need your arrow to penetrate. You *must* use heavy arrows to achieve that end. Momentum is the *only* true measure of penetrative value. (Add to that, broadhead style and shaft thickness). There are lots of comprehensive studies that have shown this now. Most of us have always known it, but now no-one can dispute the heavy arrow debate. Thus, even the fastest bow



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will still have an arc in its arrow flight when correct weight arrows are used. Light arrows are not the choice for hunting. When a heavy bone hit occurs, for example, a light arrow just doesn't have the ability to punch through. The bow is a short-ranged hunting arm. It is not for taking long shots in the field. If shots beyond 30m or so are your thing, then buy a rifle. There has been an alarming trend sneaking in to bowhunting circles where some archers are going for very light arrows in order to flatten their shooting arc so that they can take longer shots and minimise stalking errors. This is a surefire recipe for wounds and lost game. Again, shots beyond about 30m are the realm of rifles. Most of the more ethical sighted shooters I know will hunt in to sensible distances, use heavy arrows, appropriate broadheads and have most of their shots in the field below 20m so their sighted/direct aiming method works for them. It is still however, quite slow. Once the bow is drawn and the left eye shut, it takes a moment to 'reacquire' the target, place the sight pin and peep on the zone you wish to hit and then shoot. Plenty of game gets away but at least there is little wounding. So in this respect it is ethical but not the most efficient. A target archer can use direct aiming with their sights very effectively even at longer distances as they have no speed issues and they accurately know the distance to their target. They can draw, hold and aim as long as they want. If they miss their mark, nothing happens other than a poor score. If a hunter misses the vitals, bad things happen.

Indirect aiming—often called instinctive aiming—is the polar opposite of direct aiming. With indirect aiming, all your concentration is on a tiny spot on the target. The equipment is in the peripheral vision. To shoot this way, both eyes are open. One eye acts to give you line and the other depth. So for a right hander, the right eye gives line and the left depth. Examples of this aiming are found everywhere. Trap or clay pigeon shooters employ this method. The target springs from the trap very fast and the shooter has to swing, point and shoot very quickly to hit the mark. Tennis players are also required to place accurate shots while in full sprint et cetera. A cricket bowler is another. Another great example is throwing rocks at a can or street sign or something when you were a kid. What you can see from these examples is that indirect aiming is very quick. With this style of aiming you don't want to delay. You look at what you want to hit and away you go. A traditional bow lends itself to indirect aiming very well. Because there is no peak weight to break through as with a compound, the draw is very smooth. Ancient archers have all used this method to shoot. The best way to shoot a longbow or recurve in this way is to pick a spot on your target, concentrate on that spot, then draw, anchor and release. Your brain will make a triangulation from experience, of where to hold and in your peripheral vision you will be aware that you are where you need to be. This all takes place in mere seconds. Once again, the range should be short.



Shooting from elevated platforms is great practice for the hunting field.

As a rough guide if we see 30lb and 0 metres as the starting point, then for every metre we want to shoot add a pound, a lot less game would be wounded and lost. So a 50lb bow, for example, would have a maximum range of around 20m and so on. This is with weights of arrows around 10 grains per pound minimum. So with ranges kept short and the archer well practiced, there is no problem with indirect or direct aiming in hunting. The clear big advantage, though, lies with indirect aiming in terms of opportunities in the bush. Shots can be made quickly with no fuss and extreme accuracy using indirect aiming. Both eyes are kept open so the target is never lost from your view. You pick a spot, concentrate on that spot and you'll get the job done most of the time. You can run flat out to get into a position to shoot then take a fast, accurate shot even if the game startles you a bit. I've hunted many a time with sighted shooters who were waiting an eternity for game to stop walking or to find the game once they squint through their peep. Then the game slips away because they just took too long. These shots were often inside 15m. Money for old rope for a good longbowman! In fact back in the 80s, many of us hunted with compounds barebow and with good, heavy wooden arrows. Most of us used the instinctive (indirect) aiming style. It worked very well. Only once I bought my first recurve did I realise the improvement in hunting capability with a traditional bow. Practice, as always, is the key.

So to summarise this phase of things, indirect aiming better lends itself to the hunting field when it comes to hunting with a bow, and traditional bows are generally far better suited to indirect aiming than are the fancy compounds.

In the next article we'll continue this look at hunting with a traditional bow. For now, any questions please email me at norseman_longbows@hotmail.com. Keep traditional.



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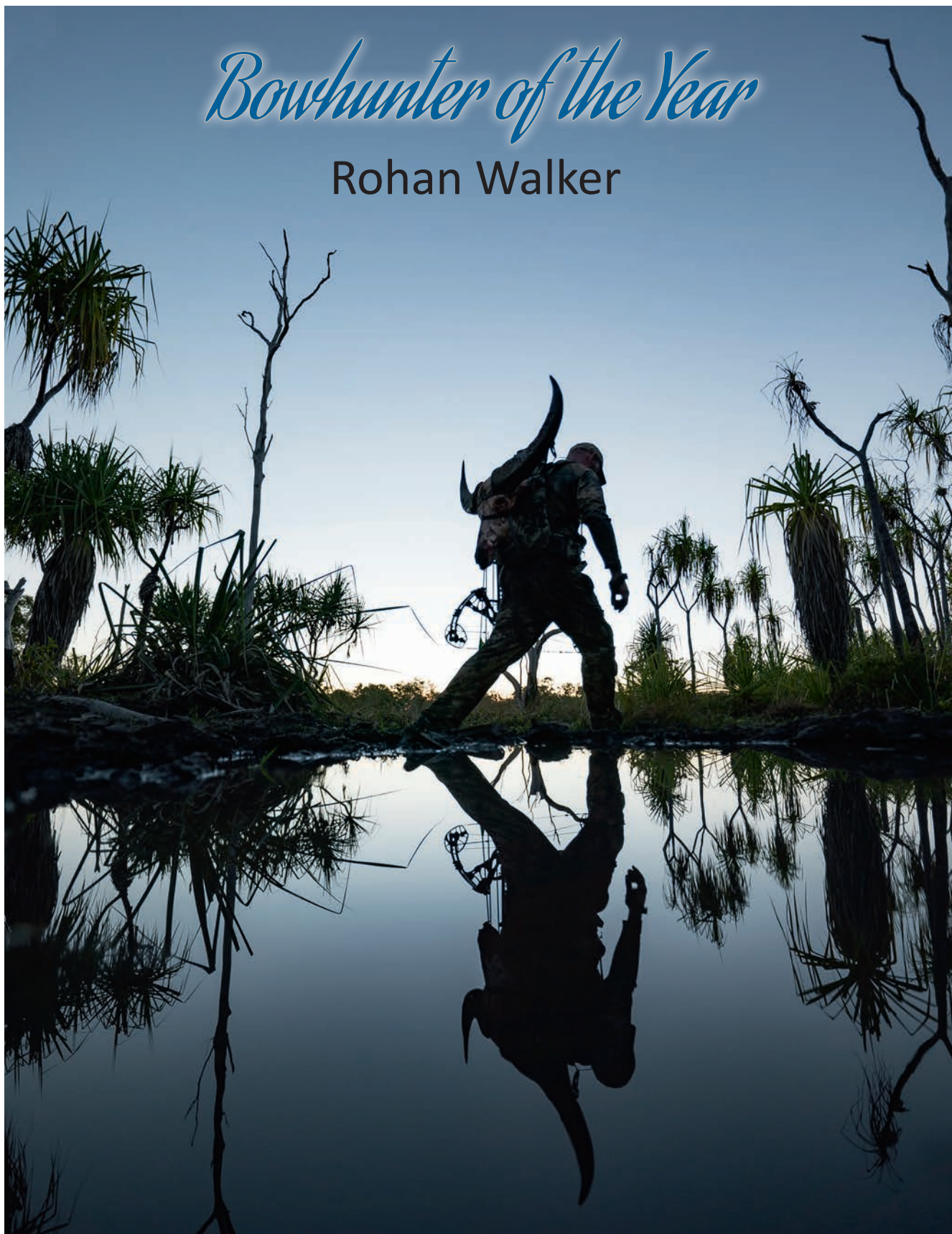


Photos by KERRY CHANDLER

Trophy Bowhunters of Australia

Bowhunter of the Year

Rohan Walker



Interview with Editor **JENEL HUNT**

Photograph by **NICK JOYCE**

Ever since Rohan Walker was four years old, he has been romancing the bow. It has been part of the fabric of his entire life. Even though no one else in his family had the same affinity for archery, his Dad made him a bamboo bow, and with a bit of string, some bamboo arrows and a dairy farm with space to play, his future was sealed. He did archery as an elective activity at high school, and when another young fellow pulled out a basic compound bow and started pumping the arrows out, it just fuelled the fire. Rohan's interest expanded into bowhunting and he started reading magazines and listening intently to the stories of hunters and how they took their game. But the passion for archery took on an almost ferocious new intensity when Rohan was just out of his teens.

From the moment he was diagnosed with cancer at the age of 20 and given just six months to live, Rohan Walker has been massively driven. First he proved the doctors wrong. Now, at 42, his drive and passion continue to burn brightly, with archery as a guiding light in his life. He has a wonderful wife, Jess, who also hunts and fishes (and their little boy who at 18 months old has eaten more types of game meat than most of us have ever tried). In their home is an incredible 'archery room' which if it were a painting would be an inspiring still life depicting the essence of Rohan's amazing bowhunting life. Then there's his collection of Hoyt bows—a veritable Hoyt museum. He

even has the high distinction of sponsorship from Hoyt—a rare honour for people living outside the United States, with just a handful of Australians being sponsored by the venerable bowmaking company. To top it all off, this year Rohan has taken out the ABA's most prestigious award, the TBA Bowhunter of the Year Award. Officially he shot seven species, of which six were Trophy Class or better (in fact three were Record Class animals), but he actually shot eight species including a donkey (not measurable) and scaled fish (which aren't included in the award).

He describes his journey as an 'archery iceberg'.

"I haven't had it easy. My archery career is an iceberg,



Buffalo TC 80 2/8pt.



The ABA story

Rohan started in the ABA in Gippsland. His original club was Phoenix Sale.

"There was an old archery shop called The Nock Shop near Waverley and a cool guy there taught me a lot about archery," he said.

"I still remember the moment a dude walked in to the shop and he had these animal patches all over his shirt. I asked where I could buy them and he said, 'You don't buy them; you earn them.' And that's how the ABA journey really took hold for me. Now I have a shirt in my archery room which I reckon took half a million dollars worth of hunting to earn!"

After that defining moment, it was only going to be a matter of time before Rohan made it to Bowhunter of the Year. But along the way he has had idols like Mark Burrows and David Luxford to look up to, and when Rohan won the Bowhunter of the Year title for his 2018 claims, he edged out two other bowhunters, one of whom was David Luxford.

But David, who has known Rohan since he was an energetic young guy and has watched him go up through the ranks, was one of the first to congratulate him, exchanging high fives over the phone. Such is the generous spirit of the very best of archers.

For Rohan, the award has danced just out of reach a number of times.

"I've been pipped at the post a few times, and although I didn't consciously set out to win last year, I did push a bit harder, try for better animals. I think the Hoyt sponsorship helped too, because I was looking for classier animals. But really, this has been in my sights since I joined the ABA in 2000."

Rohan has been a member of the Fred's Pass Archery Club for about seven years. He runs an aluminium welding and fabrication business in Darwin.

Photo by **NICK JOYCE**



Goat, 81 4/8pt.

because there's a whole lot going on under the surface. There have been ups and downs, that's for sure. But you only learn by experience. You fail, you keep going and then you succeed," he said.

"I'm lucky I got a second chance. The truth is that when you sit in a hospital bed and you realise life was given to you so easily but it can also be taken away so quickly; that knowledge changes you. I've pushed and I've achieved, and yeah, sometimes I've been selfish.

"I'm driven to succeed as a bowhunter. I have shot so

many animals and spent so much time in the bush ... but now I'm more of a collector. These days the theme is more about looking for a specific animal. I still love the bush and getting out there hunting, but at my age and experience I'm looking for a certain animal—an awesome animal.

"When we're hunting the floodplains I might see 300 pigs, but there might only be 10 that I want to take. I spend a lot of time waiting for *the one*. It isn't necessarily what others are looking for. When I'm checking through the binos, I'm often looking for something different. Maybe it's

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RC boar 29 4/8pt.

the boar that's got no bottom teeth; the old warrior who's lived his life, done it all and seen it all. That's the ultimate goal. This fellow will have beaten spotlights and kicked dogs off his face. He didn't get big by being dumb."

He has had a few pivotal moments in his hunting life. One of the early ones was when ABA stalwart Mark Burrows shot a monster sambar in 2002. At that time it was the biggest in Australia. Rohan desperately wanted to put a sambar on the deck the same as his idol had.

"Mum and Dad said to me, 'You're not going to shoot a sambar with a bow and arrow,' but it was my passion even though in those days you could literally count on two hands how many sambar had been shot with a bow. Back in the day, there were less deer and slower bows. I reckon the sambar hind that I shot in 2003 is still the highlight of my career. Yes, I've shot better. I've hunted amazing animals here and in other countries, but still it took dedication and

time to finally get that sambar. Some things are unforgettable.

"I love and admire all animals. They've all got their characteristics and special traits. I love the stone sheep in British Columbia—how they live, where they live, the way you've got to hunt to get to them. And if ever I could afford to do it, I'd love to do the grand slam of sheep in North America. And I want to shoot a big woodland caribou and a musk ox. Mule deer are amazing too. And a giraffe. He's going to be a full shoulder mount at the top of the staircase. And in Australia, I do love the water buff. And the fallow deer is high on my list. The fallows are close to my heart."

Within Australia, thousands of kilometres have to be traversed to get to all the species.

"Sometimes you might drive for three days to get somewhere (okay, sometimes it's New Zealand to go tahr hunting or even further afield for other animals), but here in Darwin it's generally between two and six hours of travel to get somewhere to hunt.

"I hunt with the seasons. I hunt camels in December or January when it's super hot. I like to work with the weather and the animals' biological clock. March is red deer, April is fallow. You have to travel south to get the deer. In the dry season it's good to hunt boars on the floodplains. July to September is prime hog-hunting time, and then the season finishes off with buff and scrub bull and donkey.

"Bowfishing is a whole different ballgame. It's a different bow set-up and then there's the water and tides and sun to consider. Bowfishing out of a boat and bowhunting off the shore—we do both. The wet season is a good time when everything on land is flooded. It's good relaxation and we do a lot of bowfishing in Darwin Harbour."

Rohan said he preferred to hunt with someone rather than to hunt alone.

"It's fun, it's camaraderie and it's a bit safer and easier," he said.

Rohan said it was fantastic being part of a husband-and-wife hunting team. If there's a single downside, it's that when he sees some archery gear he has to factor in that there are two keen archers in the family so he might have to multiply any purchase by two!

And it keeps getting better. Not only does Jess love hunting but she's part of ABA as well and she's happy to cook game meat. The food side of it is important to them both, as they like living off the land a bit.

"Jess is an awesome cook. We eat some of our buff, deer, banteng and waterfowl. Our little boy eats and loves it all. With stingray, Jess will fry or steam the wing flaps. Sometimes she makes laksa with them."

This story has concentrated on Rohan's hunting life because it has been written to honour him as Bowhunter of the Year. But it would be wrong if we didn't at least mention



Shark, BHFF TC 19 5/8pt.



Stingray TC BHFF 8 2/8pt.



RC fox.

that he is a big fan of target archery as well.

He said people often asked him which he would pick if he had to choose between target archery and bowhunting.

"For me it's right down the middle. I absolutely love both. There are only a certain amount of archers in the world who can shoot targets and bowhunt equally as well, and I aspire to be one of them. I like to bang out a 400 on the ABA range. And I've learned a hell of a lot from the clubs I've been in. I love to rock up and blitz the course, sure, but I train a lot and I want to win. I'm pretty intense. But really, clubs can teach and help so much—organising hunts, testing gear, meeting people. I don't think there are enough archers

in the world considering what this sport can teach you."

Rohan, a compounder, describes himself as the world's biggest fan of Hoyt bows.

"I'm a Hoyt shooter. I have shot Hoyt all my life. I've had 37 bows and have now been to the factory and know the guys there. I love my bow collection. In fact, I think I'm more proud of my Hoyt collection than my animals.

"And of course, the Hoyt sponsorship was a dream come true. I always said if I ever got picked up by the guys on the Hoyt USA team, I'd get a massive tatt on my arm."

When you meet him, if he's wearing a long-sleeved shirt, ask him if he went ahead with that promise.

The memorable fallow



Fallow deer, RC 223 2/8pt.

Rohan's most memorable hunt of the year was a fallow deer hunt. At the deer camp near Gunnedah New South Wales, a crew of four hunters gathered during the rut—the same foursome has met there for the past five years. Over those years Rohan has shot some fantastic deer. But this time he was setting a more specific goal.

“

I can still visualise the entire hunt in my mind. I'd started by setting goals about how big the deer had to be. I wasn't going to shoot anything under 210; I wanted a cracking deer; no need to kill them all.

So, I heard this croak first thing in the morning of the first day. I found him on the second day. It was the same fellow I'd missed the year before. There were three massive spikes sticking off his palm.

I set out for the whole week to hunt this one animal. I could hear him, I could see his girlfriends in the paddock. I had multiple stalks and would get busted by a girlfriend and then have to start all over again. I'd hunt in the morning and then again from 4pm to nearly dark, so I was doing two hunts a day.

I kept going. The third day I couldn't get a shot, but I was getting real excited because he was a good deer.

On the fourth day, I had a failed hunt. I found some more fallow deer fighting, but they weren't the ones I wanted. Walking back to camp, I heard this little croak. I pinpointed him and then it was up and down, over hill and valley. Then it was 60yd. Shoes off, pack off, 40yd, and a little hind barked. I hadn't even seen her. I watched him scamper through the forest, and then, where did that buck go?

Glassing and glassing, trying to find him. So I sat and did a chequered flag, pattern-gridding this little bowl of land. And after about 15 minutes, I found him. He was deep in Noddyland. And once I saw him I realised I must have glassed over him previously because he was so camo'ed with his environment. He was 38yd away and fast asleep. I've done that shot, I've done it a million times. I drew back the bow, settled my pin, knew I was going to get him, and fired.

The vane touched his leg. What the hell?! He stood up, spun around, looked at me as if to say, "Is this the best you've got?" Then turned and walked over the ridge.

I thought, I didn't wound him. He's cool. No drama.

I still had four days of the hunt to go. They were the longest four days of my life. The days were running down, but I had to get this animal.

By this time Jack had shot his deer and Randy had cracked the shits and gone home. Matt was still around.

By the seventh day, I thought I'd been defeated. But I had one last hunt. It was a three-day drive home, so I needed to make the most of the time I had left. In the dark, rugged up, I was ready. Let's do this. Where is he? Where is he? Couldn't hear him.

And then it was time. I kicked off my shoes, took my bag off (and promptly forgot where I put it). Walking down, I found a chocolate one. Not the right one. There was great cover, but the girls were all around. He's at 16yd, 17yd. Girlfriend had already pinned me but I drew back and settled the 20yd pin on him. After the shot he did an 80yd circle and crashed into the bank. I was so ecstatic I was high-fiving myself. What a game of cat and mouse that had been!

The funny thing is that when I missed him on the Wednesday, he had all his brow tines. But when I shot him he had broken one of the trey tines off. In the end he was not my biggest ever, but a great looking head. It's moments like those that drive me—when you do it yourself, cope with the emotions, the pressure that you put on yourself to conquer a really good warrior—when you get to that David and Goliath moment and you win.

The thing is, I shoot 150 arrows a day and I have done for 20 years. (I have 3D and FITA targets set up in the backyard.) Yet I missed a bread-and-butter shot on Day 4 ... all because of massive antlers and a bit of buck fever. But in the end it was a fairytale and now he's a wallhanging.

”



2019 BRANCH B SAFARI at TOWERS BOWHUNTERS

Words by TRACEY SMITH

Photos by BETH MADDISON and TRACEY SMITH



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

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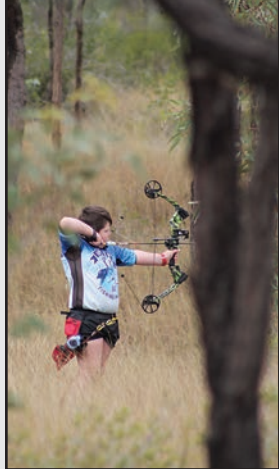
We bowhunter folk are a hardy bunch. The Branch B Safari was held on the weekend of June 8 and 9—and after watching the weather forecast for the week leading up to the event, we discovered that the forecast was actually going to come true. It rained solidly all Thursday night, on and off during the day on Friday until about 4pm and then down it came again, combining rain with chilly temperatures.

The Towers Bowhunters Club was the host club this year and welcomed 83 shooters from most of the Branch B clubs. Some had their families in tow. On Friday night we had nominations and a hot meal, which was much needed in the cool conditions.

Saturday dawned minus the sun as it was still misty raining, and after a morning coffee or two, breakfast and final nominations, our first day



Lynette Drinkwater, Terry O'Connor, Tracey Smith, Bernie Smith, Taryn O'Connor, Boyd Ramage.



of competition was ready to begin at 9.30am.

All manner of rain deterrent devices were called for in the first three-arrow round but only for a short while as the archery gods took pity on us and the sun finally decided to poke its warming rays out at lunch time.

With three rounds—one three-arrow and two one-arrow rounds—completed by 4pm, it was time for the knife and axe throwing competitions. Quite a number of cubs, juniors and seniors put their names down and competition was fierce but friendly in the cub boys and senior men's sections with good-hearted banter going on.

Saturday night was a time to relax after a very full day of shooting competition. A fantastic meal of roast meat and vegetables with all the trimmings went down a treat, followed by dessert.

Our new Branch B Committee held its very first meeting since the announcement that our clubs once again have a governing body in our Branch B area after a hiatus of two or three years.

With the sun having made a welcome appearance on Saturday afternoon, it was quite a surprise to find it raining again on Sunday morning. After a hearty breakfast, we were off again for the final three-arrow round to complete the Safari.

The small band of club members and helpers should be very proud of themselves for hosting the Safari without any hitches. We would like to thank all of the shooters from clubs in Townsville, Mackay, Ingham, Kurrimine

Beach, Collinsville, Cairns and Mount Isa for making the trip to the Towers for the Safari.

The 2019 Branch B Safari overall winners were:

Ladies Overall Winner: Tracey Smith (Towers Bowhunters).

Mens Overall Winner: Ian Lepinath (Hinchinbrook Archery Club).

Junior Overall Winner: Harley Bowen (Townsville District Bowhunters).

Cub Overall Winner: Clay Colls (Collinsville Bowhunters).

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ROY ROSE

Meanderings



The aim

To a newcomer to archery, holding the dot steady on the target would seem an absolute necessity in attaining consistent accuracy in shooting. Aiming, you would think, would be of paramount importance. And yet opinions vary as to its actual significance.

Let's backtrack and look at some history to get a feel for how opinions have changed. In the 60s and 70s, there was a very conscious focus on aiming. The prevailing form and execution process for recurve archers (compound was in its infancy) was what the great Darrell Pace, world and Olympic champion through the 70s and 80s, described as the 'subconscious shooting form'. The concept was rational, although by today's enlightened thinking, flawed. If an archer devoted hours of consistent, ongoing practice to the set-up, draw and anchor and execution of the shot, it would become a subconscious routine, allowing the shooter to focus solely on the aim. The result was extended holds. It has been reliably reported that as far back as the early 50s, leading recurve competitors would hold and aim for periods in excess of 20 seconds. That would certainly cause a major problem for the timing rule we have in place today in world archery competition!

The earliest experiences I had internationally (in the USA) in the

70s still revealed holds of around 10 seconds or so. And even into the halcyon days of Pace and McKinney in the 80s, the main focus at anchor was aim, aim, aim.

It would be fair to say that today's archers at elite level, both recurve and compound, function on a different premise—that aiming is simply looking and that over-aiming is counter-productive.

So let's examine in some detail this concept and why it works so well.

The reality is that we spend a good portion of our day aiming by simply looking, and we are very adept at it. The reason is that our eye has its own centring capacity, which permits us to perform daily aiming functions without any major concern, and very successfully. We place the thin edge of a key in an equally small ignition. We press buttons, we drive our vehicles, we do a myriad of other daily tasks without mishap. We do all this by looking and utilising our eye's self-centring ability.

In the sporting field, be it cricket, golf, football codes, darts, bowling, tennis—in fact, right across the board—the athlete looks and then performs ... and to a high level of accuracy. The outfielder looks at the wicket-keeper and throws the ball into his gloves. The golfer looks at the hole and makes the putt. If an archer utilises the same concept, the

passage through the clicker is quick and precise, as is the compounder's release aid manipulation. If we stare at the X, our eye's self-centring capacity immediately comes into play. The dot will move to the centre, or the sight aperture will create its own centralised picture around the gold.

Then, in the situation of our aiming, if we physically assist in moving that dot from a position away from the X, the eyes are already at work ahead of us and an over-correction occurs. Subsequently, as we seek to once again correct, the eye is in fact making that rectification and we are only in essence creating a left to right and back, or an up and down and back, motion which is obviously counterproductive.

The reality is that holding poundage at arm's length and adding in the mental pressure of competition makes it virtually impossible to put a dot on an X and hold it dead steady. If we look, relax and allow our eye to do its thing, we will achieve a better result than imposing our desire to over-aim which only creates a back-and-forth effect.

Elite archers have found that if the back half of the shot process, particularly the execution phase, is spot-on, the front half of the equation virtually takes care of itself. Some amazing scores have been shot by recurve champions using an open aperture and no pin, and by compounders shooting a lens with no dot.

In my veteran years as now a compounder, I removed the dot from my lense as a step towards countering an anticipation problem and found that not only did it relieve my issue, it also meant I shot just as accurately by focussing on the middle of the gold and executing.

A final disconcerting assertion by visual experts suggests that in all likelihood the position of the dot relative to the centre, as we view it, may not, in the next instant, be where we perceive it to be. In other words, in the milliseconds our brain interprets what our eye sees, the dot may have already moved, so we in fact could be seeing a dot on the centre which is actually no longer there.

World Cup champion and multiple Olympic medallist Im Dong Hyun is famously known for having extremely poor eyesight. He simply sees the

target as a blur and places his chief focus on his form and execution rather than the aim.

Legendary American coach Terry Wunderlie has long been a strong advocate of placing one's centre of attention on form and execution and resisting the desire to over-aim.

The 'aiming is looking' case is critically argued by the great Dave Cousins and top British professional Liam Grimwood in their very successful DVD production. Top British coach Alister Whittingham has said many times in his writings that "aiming is done below a cognitive level. Look at the gold and trust your skill."

As long ago as the 90s, top USA coach and archer Tim Strickland described aiming as "no big deal" and came up with the famous quote, "If you can see, you can aim."

John Dudley, a world class

compounder and popular coach and writer, says we should focus our attention on the part of the shot behind the line, not the sight pin or the target. Let the pin float and have your subconscious, via your eye's self-centring ability, perform its part.

The bottom line is, don't attempt to over-aim. Relax, look and trust your eye. The benefits are substantial. Your concentration can be on the back half of the shot which is where the action is. Facially you will have a more relaxed shot process—muscle tension (which you don't want) will be minimised. In fact, the complete shot and execution process becomes much more fluent and composed.

So whether it's passage through a clicker or executing an unanticipated break of the release aid, it all works so much better if the premise of our aiming is on looking.

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Queensland State Series

CABOOLTURE

What an epic weekend we had at the Caboolture and District Bowmen sanctioned shoot in July. The courses were fantastic and challenging, with some very slippery slidey muddy sections. The course setters did it again and set some courses that needed us to be at the top of our game. Saturday saw some drenching rainfall but not even the weather gods could keep us away.

Sunday saw the sunshine trying to dry out some of the courses. The ladies in the canteen kept our bellies full with wonderful food.



Beautiful trophies at Caboolture.

The top Ten on Sunday afternoon showed off our best of the best with Brian McFarlane winning the aided Top 10 and Richard Vranesic winning the barebow Top 10. The trophies were outstanding. There were some very



Winners are grinners.

good scores shot over the weekend with the standout being Amber Reinbott shooting a perfect 300 on Saturday. Everyone left with smiles on their faces after shooting a very challenging and enjoyable two days.

NSW State Titles—Milbrodale

This year 3DAAA made the decision to host and run the NSW State Titles to fill a gap in the calendar at a new venue in the Hunter Valley. The venue was also the location that holds the annual Tuff Trucks event at Milbrodale.

With lots of groundwork laying out the ranges months before the event, the range setters were very excited with what they had to work with, from flat open ranges to ranges with lots of dead ground.

In the week leading up to the August event, the crew from Cessnock Archers arrived and started work laying out the ranges to get it all set up for the 128 archers who attended. The weather couldn't have been any better especially after the really cold conditions the week before.

With the archers heading out Saturday morning to start shooting, the members from Port Stephens Archers started planning the roast dinner for the many competitors who camped that night. From all reports, it was a great meal.



With some great scores coming in, it was time to start the Top 10 Shootout with Jamie Gilroy being the number one qualifier with a great score of 292. After the first round it was down to just two shooters with Jason Archer coming out with his second Top 10 win in a row.

Sunday was just as good weather-wise and saw all the



Photo supplied by Spellbound Photography

shooters heading out to finish their final 20 targets for the weekend, hoping to either improve on their Saturday scores or shoot just as well.

Once everyone had finished, Dubbo 3D Archers took care of the scores and got the presentations up and running nice and early so everyone could hit the road for a safe trip home.

In the teams events, Port Stephens Archers came out on top in the club teams and the team from Big Fella Bowstrings were victorious in the sponsored teams. There were plenty of great scores shot during the weekend with one standout on Sunday, Josie Hatch in CUBF coming in with a 200, congratulations Josie.

From all the comments from the archers about the ranges and the venue, 3DAAA will be looking at adding this venue once again in 2020. A big thank you to the crew from Cessnock for the ranges, the boys from Dubbo for doing the admin all weekend and all the workers from Port Stephens Archers for doing such a fine job catering for the event. Last but not least, thank you to everyone who attended. Without your attendance, none of this would be possible.

We hope to see you all at the last NSW State Series shoot for 2019, to be held at Moonan Flat on the October long weekend.

2019 Castlereagh 3D Championships

August 13 and 14 saw Dubbo 3D Archers hold the second Castlereagh 3D Championships at Mendooran in New South Wales. On the same weekend last year we had an extremely cold weather event that saw the temperatures plummet to -8° but the shooters returned this year for more from the small central west town, hopefully not quite as cold.

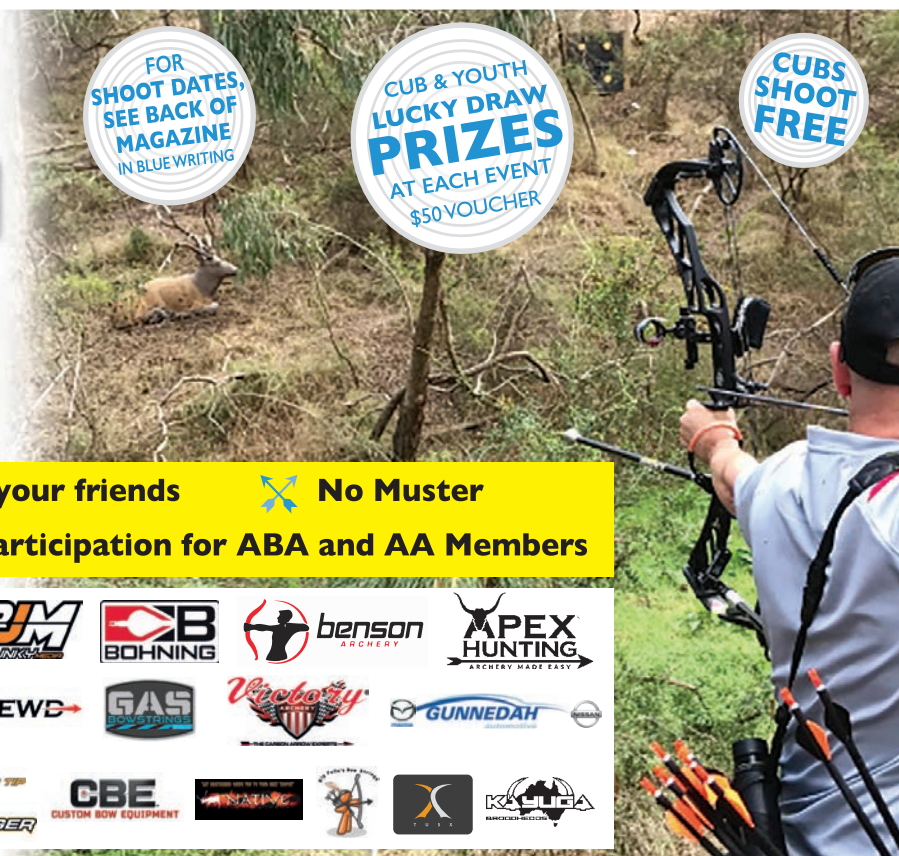
The Dubbo club was out to show how challenging the Mendooran shooting grounds could be this year and put the course setters and their teams to the task. After the weeks of planning and discussions about the layout the shots were planned ... and they did fulfil the mandate.

Friday night at the Royal Hotel Mendooran saw 115 shooters register for the weekend's tournament while enjoying catching up with old friends in the warmth of the historic pub. This year's event drew competitors from most parts of New South Wales but even some fellow archers from Queensland made the trip down to the banks of the Castlereagh River.

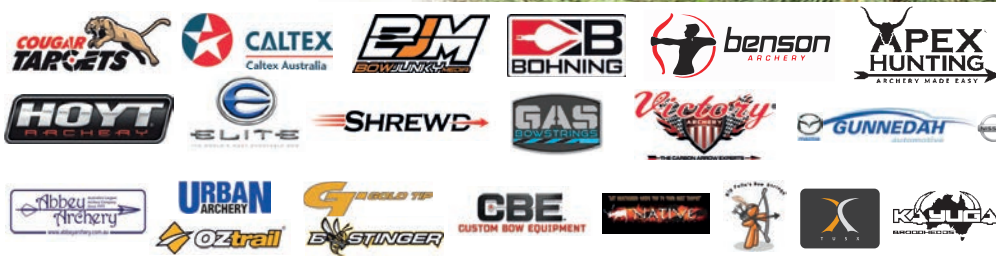
Saturday morning was nice and fresh but nothing the archers couldn't handle. The courses had most aspects of 3D archery covered; that being dead ground, hollow ground, steep uphill and downhill shots. The only things missing



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The Top 10 shoot-off was led by Jamie Gilroy who shot the day's high score—an impressive 283 from 300. Shooting the Top 10 over the banks of the Castlereagh drew a large number of spectators—some archers and others locals—and all got to witness a high level of skill and expertise. After an enthralling contest, Jason Archer took out his first Top 10 victory and the crowds slowly dispersed for an enjoyable evening around the fires.

On Sunday the weather was a little colder but the wind held off for the early stages of the rounds. Amber Reinbott shot 100 in her first round of the day on undoubtedly the hardest course of the weekend, the dreaded C. Some of the cuts on the range were so big we had a target almost have its back shot out ... and let's not even talk about the alligator on the rock!

The other 100 for the weekend was in Semi-Pro with Isaac Scarr destroying Course D. Sponsored teams went to Big Fella Bowstrings and clubs was taken out by Lake Macquarie 2; well done.

On behalf of Dubbo 3D Archers, thank you to all the sponsors for the raffle table, Need-A-Feed catering, Royal Hotel Mendooran, Rols Masters, the township of Mendooran and everyone who travelled to our event.

See you next year.



ABOVE: A challenging downhill shot.

BELOW: Archers at the Castlereach 3D Championships.



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NORFOLK ISLAND HOSTS HUGE WEEK OF ARCHERY

Known as one of the best 3D archery field tournaments in the Pacific, the Norfolk Island Travel Centre 3D Archery Championships once again lived up to its stellar reputation in July. Beautiful sunny conditions greeted more than 50 archers and their families for the 17th annual championships, held in the beautiful Church of England countryside. The week started with a welcome fish fry at the parish on the Sunday before four 20-target rounds were shot over the following three days.

3D archery is set out like a golf course, but instead of greens and holes, three-dimensional foam targets of deer, bears, leopards, antelope, et cetera are set out to 50m. Archers shoot at these targets at various distances, in varying settings. It started as a way for bowhunters to practise



on life-like targets in places similar to where they hunt.

Like most 3D competitions, Norfolk's archery competition is famous for being truly a family-friendly event where cubs and juniors are encouraged to enter.

Spots are now open for the 18th annual Norfolk Island Travel Centre 3D Archery Championships on July 5 to 9, 2020. The club will present a week to

suit the whole family with 3D events organised for all ages including cub divisions, adult compound, recurve and longbow. Held during school holidays, the championships are an excellent way for junior shooters to take part in their first international competition. A traditional shoot day adds to the fun and is a great opportunity for the kids to feel the spirit of Robin Hood! Family and friends who are not

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competing are welcome to join in the many social activities with the club after the shoot each day.

Norfolk Island Travel Centre has been the major sponsor of the championships for 18 years. They have prepared excellently priced holiday packages to make sure the whole family can enjoy the week. Please contact Helen at helen@travelcentre.nf or freecall 1800 1400 66 to receive a full information pack.

2019 results:

Girls Junior Hunter Class: Timi Snell (982). Boys Cub Barebow Recurve: Jarra Kendall (790). Girls Junior Unlimited Compound: Nakeria Douran (1024). Boys Cub Unlimited: Callum Clay (856). Girls Junior Recurve Barebow: Lydia Sciffman (732). Boys Junior Recurve Barebow: Kyle Ruprecht (622). Women's Compound Barebow: Rachel Joy (1030). Women's Hunter Class: Victorine Quentin de Manson (972), 1. Cassandra Clay

(832), 2. Womens Compound Unlimited: Pat McCloughlin. Men's Longbow: Glenn McMahon (886), 1; Mark Carlile (862), 2. Men's Recurve Barebow: Mark Berry (1026), 1, Jack O'Brien (972), 2. Men's Recurve Sighted: Merv Kerrison (610). Men's Compound Barebow Shannon Hitchen (990), 1; Wayne Knight (926), 2. Men's Hunter Class: Tim Vandenberg (1080), 1; Daniel Clay (1078), 2. Men's Compound Unlimited: Ian Parkinson (1106), 1; Rex Johnston (1020), 2.



Great turnout for C Versus D Shoot

Saxon Archery Club members have once again outdone themselves, hosting an awesome two-day event in July. More than 100 shooters attended from as far away as Rockhampton, Gayndah, Wide Bay and Brisbane, while ABA Vice-President of the Bowhunting Division, Mark Burrows came all the way from Victoria.

The event was the annual C Versus D Shoot, an ABA three-arrow round in the morning followed by a one-arrow round in the afternoon on both days. The Saxon rangemaster was certainly busy in the lead-up to this event, with four separate ranges to set up (no memory of distance to the targets was going to happen here). All the ranges were well set out with lots of great shots. The Swamp Range was particularly good, with a long Group 5 buffalo shot across the dried-up old swamp.

The camping grounds were clean with lots of shaded areas, it was full of

caravans, campers, tents, and swags, with the majority of shooters camping at the club. There were large fire drums placed around the grounds for the cool nights. The showers supplied plenty of hot water from an old wood-fired donkey hot water system.

Saxon club prides itself on hosting good events with great food. Hungry archers appreciated having their plates filled with an assortment of tasty meals from Friday night's free three-course meal through to Sunday lunch. What makes these meals even more amazing is the fact that the club cooks everything with wood-fired hotplates and ovens.

Saturday morning kicked off with a shoot on the practice range prior to the eight o'clock bow check and nine o'clock start. The Bundaberg weather gods laid it on with perfect temperatures for a midwinter's day, with very little wind.

There were some great results on day one, even some shooters scoring a perfect round. After the afternoon one-arrow round there was a knife and axe throwing competition and a novelty card shoot and balloon shoot just for the kids.

Later that night the siren blew to let everyone know that dinner was ready. We were all in for a surprise as the club celebrated its 40th year birthday. Founding members Fritz and Ruth Peters and Chris Lhotka cut the huge cake to kick off the celebrations. These guys deserve credit, as they are still heavily involved with the club. Fritz still competes and loves his archery to this day, while Ruth helps run the clubhouse and kitchen. Afterwards many people settled around the campfires to tell stories and have a few drinks.

Sunday morning's action started early, with another great day out on the ranges. The presentations began mid-afternoon, with prizes in all categories including the knife and axe rounds. It was great to see people from all age groups receiving trophies for the great shooting achieved over the weekend.

Congratulations C Branch on winning back the trophy after six years in D Branch. It was a tightly fought battle, won by just 24 points.

Overall, the weekend was a great success.

Tim Reynolds

Outside In the zone

The deer hunter

by Nils Spruitt

There isn't anybody here in this low-lying paperbark swamp except me and some deer. Each of us is just a trifle wilder than normal due entirely to the time of the year and that sense of being just a little bit full of ourselves.

The mature stags are feeling the need to locate a lady friend, but I am here mostly to think. I can hear the whispered voices in the wind through the she-oaks as I search for a quiet patch where I can ponder some big and some little things ... like where did most of my life go when I wasn't paying close attention, and what am I going to do with the little bit that is left. You know, the same things you think about when you are inclined to do so.

I want to empty the trash can in my head and become a little primitive, a little basic. It is time to rely on my senses and let go of logic. I want to know if the dense underbrush is as thick as the problems that surround me back home, in my imagination and on an everyday basis. It is time to see what is real and what isn't. Time to work out what is worthwhile and what isn't. Time to find out who I really am and let go of who I am not. Time to go it alone.

In this environment, well away from man-made things, it is possible to get a sense of what it must have been like when white fellas first cruised



through this country. And if you listen hard to yourself, you might actually believe that this is exactly what you were made for. Man against come what may.

In the quiet of the moment, you strip everything down and see yourself with everything you own rolled up in a blanket you can carry on your horse; a rifle across the saddle and your wits and know-how taking the place of money and mortgage. At first you have to get over the fears that come with being so modernised. The 'what ifs' immediately pop into your thoughts and you work down the list. What if I get sick, fall off my horse, get lost, run out of food or my phone battery dies,

just to name a few of the modern-day nightmares. After a while, you do actually figure out which few that are real and can scoff at those that are not. Suddenly, a growing sense of strength emerges and you feel the freedom you so desperately desire to do what you want when you want.

You find that you can now walk a little softer and a lot stronger. You are becoming part of your environment and just another animal that can survive and thrive just like the deer. You discover that you can now see better, your hearing is sharper and the changing wind has a smell of its own. The transformation from being just another man carrying a bow to becoming

ing a hunter takes time but it is real.

I am a firm believer that important things happen to men who take the time to sit still ... and I mean really sit still. It allows your body to seemingly go away until all that is left is reason and instinct. This is when you can see further than your eyes normally let you see and hear things you have never heard before. This is when that moment of discovery will come and the answers to the questions you so desperately seek, will present themselves to you.

What the true hunter hunts is complex. He is there because the deer are there, but that is not all he seeks. He is searching for that essential freedom of escape, that moment of revelation of who he is in relation to his surroundings. He is testing himself and searching for answers to the mysterious questions.

To a non-hunter, this all probably seems overly complex and very unbelievable—an excuse, if you like. To the real hunter it may be unspoken, but that is as much a part of why he is there as any quest for food or trophy. Wherever wild game has existed, hunting has been a major part of the ritual of growth from child to man. The ability to provide for himself and later a family, to not only exist but to thrive both physically and emotionally, has marked the quality that is looked for in leadership. There can be no denying that the hunter, then and now, understands such thing and finds both motivation and personal satisfaction in them.

If most of us were to sell all our hunting bows, more than likely we could afford to buy enough meat to cover our needs, for a little while at least. However, the economics of any one-on-one food-by-hunting relationships, really misses the point entirely. The arguments from the non-hunters are often listened to in complete disbelief by the true hunter. To really understand, you have to

experience the secret things that only the hunter has felt.

The non-hunters ask us why we don't race motor cars, fly a plane or do something else with that same level of excitement. The true hunter can only answer that the challenges he faces are more basic, more private and personal. We go to escape the computer-worshipped world, not to perform in front of it.

I picked the wild country for my place to be as a hunter, not out of any effort to protect my masculine image, but because I have always discovered my sense of worth and being whenever I am alone there. I have always separated my two great loves of deer hunting and small game shooting into a personal equation of hunting and shooting. It is a small point, to be true, and one that not everyone will agree with, but I approach each with a different mindset and find that the challenges, as well as the rewards, differ as well.

A hunter must use different skills to a small game shooter. He has to be good at reading sign. He must learn to think like his quarry and know its paths and general lifestyle. He is dealing with an animal that is capable of some reason with complex instincts and physical resources. You would never look for a specific rabbit, but you do seek out a specific deer. More often than not, we have an ideal in mind when we are in deer country. A certain personal standard of satisfaction when it comes to taking such an animal and no small part of this challenge is selectivity, which I might add is a self-imposed difficulty. By our very own standards, we often fail to achieve it for one or more reasons, but I have yet to meet a hunter whose idea of the perfect hunt did not incorporate a difficult challenge or ideal trophy to bring home.

The competent hunter is a complexity of skills. He knows how to build a fire, make a camp and

be comfortable under all kinds of conditions. He has a sense of geography and an instinct for the weather. He understands his equipment, its limitations and how to fix what needs fixing. He is self reliant in an advanced yet basic way that no non-hunter could ever understand. He is challenging himself to be at home in the environment, no matter how hostile, and he knows the odds are often stacked against him. His coming and going is minimal and he takes nothing he does not need nor leaves anything behind. His presence is like the wind and his innocence of harm is mandatory.

Am I idealising? Of course I am but a hunter should set increasing levels of accomplishments for himself as well as set his own levels of desire for what he takes from the wilderness. Maybe the time will eventually come when most of what we have left to lure us into the bush will just be the exercise of these timeless skills and nothing else.

It is not enough in today's world of flat-shooting, sighted compound bows to roll over a deer at distances unimagined by the bowhunters of old. Not enough of the satisfaction that bowhunting offers or the experience we should look for and find in our sport. I know this is more than a little idealised, but the releasing of an arrow should, in the finest tradition, be the ultimate result of what has been a true hunt. A chase in the classic sense. One specific animal singled out, tracked and stalked, come what may. I don't think many of us will do it, some will never consider it while others will think of nothing else. It is the kind of adventure well worth thinking about when you weigh all that it will mean and prove to you. After all, if the only thing important about hunting is what we can hang on the wall, then we are not really hunters and it will bring little honour to ourselves or what we hunt, and why. Until next time.

What's On

Where applicable, please use this as your tax invoice:

Australian Bowhunters Association TM

INCORPORATED (Inc in NT No AO1978) GST INVOICE GST ABN 79 750 431 225





FULL DRAW FIELD ARCHERS

INAUGURAL SHOOT

SATURDAY 2ND AND SUNDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 2019

ABA Invitational Shoot - Cross Participation

SATURDAY

8:00 BOWCHECK

9:00 ASSEMBLY

9:30 ABA 3 ARROW ROUND

LUNCH

1 ARROW ROUND

SUNDAY

8:00 ASSEMBLY

8:30 ABA 3 ARROW ROUND

SHORT BREAK

1 ARROW ROUND

PRESENTATIONS ASAP

Free meal Friday night

Meals will be available all weekend

Novelties Saturday afternoon

Shoot fees: Adult \$30, Junior/cub \$25, Family \$70

Nominations close Sunday 27th October 2019

Please send all nominations to C Branch Score Recorder Bec Darby

C Branch charge a late fee for nominations received after Sunday 27th October

For more information see: www.fulldrawfieldarchers.org or check out our facebook page. Full Draw Field Archers

No dogs (except assistance dogs) and no smoking policies are in effect all weekend

AUSTRALIAN BOWHUNTERS ASSOCIATION INC.

Branch D Club Challenge

HOSTED BY



Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th November 2019

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

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

Pre Nominate by Monday 11th November to: Branch Score Recorder, Sally-Anne McGrigor - abasqscorer@gmail.com or 0402 074 788

Facilities include: Camping, showers, toilets and canteen

Meals available all weekend

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



Branch D Gold Cup

Hosted by Roma and District Bowmen

Saturday 28th September and Sunday 29th September

Saturday Round

11am Registration & Bow Checks

Nominations Close 12.15pm

12.45pm Muster for an 1pm start

2 Arrow Round

Sunday Round

7.45am Muster for an 8.00am Start

3 Arrow Round - Lunch - 1 Arrow Round

Presentations ASAP

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

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

Facilities include: Camping, showers, toilets and canteen

Evening meal available Friday and Saturday night

No Dogs allowed

No smoking and vaping allowed on the ranges



JUNIORS

Send in your **game photos** for a chance to win a six-pack of broadheads from

Tusker

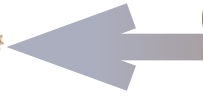
BROADHEADS

Email your photo entry to:

editor@archeryactionmagazine.com

Subject: **Junior Photo Comp**

Include your name and address



SHOOT-CALENDAR

September-October-November

Date	Club	Branch	Shoot Style
September			
1st	Mount Isa and District Bowhunters	B	ABA
1st	Full Boar Archers	B	ABA
7th - 8th	Tully Bowmen *	B	ABA
7th - 8th	Wide Bay Archers *	C	ABA Branch Titles
7th - 8th	Namoi Valley Archers *	E	3D Branch Invitational
8th	Townsville District Bowhunters	B	ABA
8th	Macalister Trophy Bowhunters *	G	ABA
8th	Sydney Olympic Park Archers *	NSW	Target QRE
8th	Archery SA/Eden Field Archers *	SA	ArcherySA State Field
14th - 15th	Towers Bowhunters *	B	ABA
14th - 15th	Lilydale Bowmen *	H	ABA
14th - 15th	Break O Day Field Archers *	H	ABA
14th - 15th	Mornington Peninsula Bowmen *	Vic	3DAAA Victoria State Titles
14th - 15th	ANSW/Armidale Archers *	NSW	ASNSW Field Championships
14th - 22nd	Australian IFAA Indoor *		Organised by Branch G
15th	Freds Pass Field Archers *	A	ABA
15th	Dead Centre Bowhunters *	A	ABA
15th	Kurrimine Beach Archers	B	3D
28th - 29th	Roma and District Bowmen *	D	Gold Cup ABA
21st - 22nd	South West Slopes Sporting Field Archers *	F	Branch ABA Titles
21st - 22nd	Peel Archers *	J	ABA / 3D
21st - 22nd	Gladstone Field Archers *	Qld	3DAAA QLD State Titles
22nd	Collinsville Barebow Hunters	B	ABA
22nd	Full Boar Archers	B	3D
22nd	Townsville District Bowhunters	B	3D
28th	Paringa Archers *	Tas	Parina Northern Clout
28th - 29th	Mount Isa and District Bowhunters *	B	ABA
29th	Sydney Olympic Park Archers *	NSW	Target QRE
October			
5th - 6th	Gympie Field Archers *	C	Qld State Titles - ABA
5th - 6th	Macleay Valley Archers *	E	ABA State Titles
5th - 6th	Bendigo Field Archers *	H	Invitational Shoot ABA
5th - 6th	Yorke Peninsular Field Archers *	I	Paper ABA SA State Titles
5th - 6th	Cessnock Archers *	NSW	3DAAA
5th - 12th	Playford District Field Archers	I	Australian Masters Games
6th	Phoenix Field Archers of Sale	G	ABA - Non Grading
11th - 13th	ABA National AGM		PGL Kindilan, Redland Bay Qld
13th	Full Boar Archers	B	ABA
13th	Mount Isa and District Bowhunters	B	ABA
13th	Towers Bowhunters	B	ABA
13th	Townsville District Bowhunters	B	ABA
19th - 20th	Campbelltown District Field Archers *	F	ABA / 3D
19th - 20th	Colac Otway Archers *	H	ABA State Titles
19th - 20th	Burnie Bowmen *	Tas	Luttrell/Clarke Memorial Shoot
20th	Collinsville Barebow Hunters	B	ABA
20th	Full Boar Archers	B	3D
20th	Kurrimine Beach Archers	B	ABA

20th	Sydney Olympic Park Archers *	NSW	Target QRE
26th - 27th	Peel Archers *	J	ABA State Titles
26th - 27th	North Albert Field Archers *	Qld	3DAAA - traditional two-day shoot
27th	Freds Pass Field Archers *	A	3D
27th	Dead Centre Bowhunters *	A	3D
27th	Townsville District Bowhunters	B	3D
27th	Penrith City Archers *	NSW	PCA Halloween Clout
November			
2nd - 3rd	Full Draw Archers *	C	Branch Invitational ABA
2nd - 3rd	Gloucester District Archers *	E	Branch Invitational 3D
2nd - 3rd	Silver City Archers *	I	3D SA State Titles
3rd	Townsville District Bowhunters	B	ABA
3rd	Boola Valley Field Archers *	G	ABA
3rd	Archery NSW *	NSW	ASNSW Clout Championships
9th - 10th	Nambucca Heads *	NSW	3DAAA National Championships
10th	Full Boar Archers	B	ABA
10th	Mount Isa and District Bowhunters	B	ABA
10th	Towers Bowhunters	B	ABA
10th	Sydney Olympic Park Archers *	NSW	Target QRE
16th - 17th	Granite Belt Bowmen *	D	Club Challenge ABA
16th - 17th	Eurobodalla Archers *	F	ABA / 3D
16th - 17th	Geelong Trophy Bowhunters *	H	ABA
17th	Collinsville Barebow Hunters	B	ABA
17th	Full Boar Archers	B	ABA
17th	Townsville District Bowhunters	B	3D
17th	Archery SA *	SA	Archery SA State Target
24th	Freds Pass Field Archers *	A	ABA
24th	Dead Centre Bowhunters *	A	ABA
24th	Samford Valley Target Archers *	Qld	National Matchplay Series
30th Nov - 1st Dec	Manning District Bowhunters *	E	Branch Shooter of the Year ABA/3D/IFAA

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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Post completed form to:

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Brendale Qld 4500

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Renewal ☐

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)															
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<input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard	[][][][]				[][][][]				[][][][]				[][][][]			
Expiry Date (mm yy)	[][][][]				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

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All prices are a guide only as people require different options so please call for a quote.

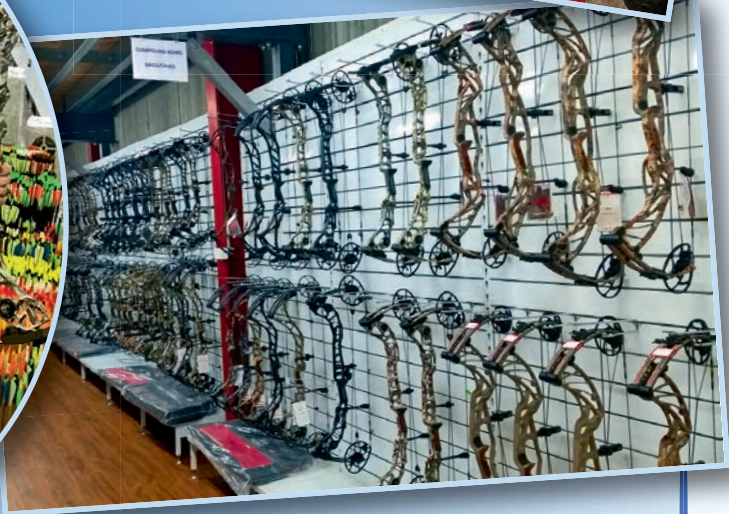
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Indemnity Waiver to be signed at pickup.

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