











Incorporating Bowhunter and Sighted Championships and 3D Championships

## Hosted by Mallee Sunset Field Archers 19 to 22 April 2019

All ABA members are cordially invited to compete at the 2019 National Safari Championships to be held at the Mallee Sunset Field Archers, Red Cliffs, Victoria.

### **Nomination Fees:**

ABA Adult \$55 Jnr/Cub \$45 Family \$125 3D Adult \$60 Jnr/Cub \$50 Family \$135

**Closing Date** for Entries is Monday 1st April 2019. No late nominations will be accepted.

Last date for grading is 18 March 2019.

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

### Timetable:

Muster each day at 8.00am for an 8.30am start

**Registration and Bow Checks for all events -** Thursday 18 April 2019.

**ABA -** Friday 19 April and Saturday 20 April (3 and 1 arrow each day), followed by presentations Saturday evening.

**3D -** Sunday 21 April and Monday 22 April followed by presentations Monday evening.



### **Camping:**

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

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

### **Entries:**

All Nominations to be completed online via the ABA website and follow the links, www.bowhunters.org.au

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David Luxford

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### **■ COVER PHOTOGRAPH**

Ben Chambers with a handsomely horned Record Class goat 121 2/8pt.

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Archers—2D, 3D and bowhunters—all strive for excellence. There is all the practice to become a better shot, the constant reviewing of technique and for many the tweaking of equipment is an important and enjoyable part of the sport. But it strikes me that personal relationships are the biggest part of belonging to an archery fraternity. Many people have made lifelong friendships through their involvement in archery, whether it be target archery or bowhunting. And not only that, they have made friends across generations, which is

In this issue we have some references to family and friends who are part of the bowhunting story. When it all boils down, life is about people and our relationships, so the fact that archery can help us deepen our personal bonds between parents, children and even grandchildren and give us true

particularly special.

### **DEADLINES**

Please submit articles and advertisements by these dates:

### editor@archeryactionmagazine.com

ISSUE		DEADLINE
2019		
Vol 44 No. 5	May-June	1 April
Vol 44 No. 6	July-August	1 June
Vol 45 No. 1	September-October	1 August
Vol 45 No. 2	November-December	1 October
2020		
Vol 45 No. 3	January-February	1 December
Vol 45 No. 4	March-April	1 February



comradeship with others outside our own family is surely one of its greatest attributes.

We are pleased to announce the winners of the Abbey Archery Photo Competition. Congratulations to Peter Kornek for his gorgeous photo, Last Wild Place and to Mikayla Harris for her image, World Class View at Wagga Wagga. They each win a \$250 voucher kindly supplied by Abbey Archery. Their photos appeared in January-February 2018. I don't think we've ever had both winners out of the same issue before! See their images on Page 39. The past year's entries have been weighted towards hunting and landscapes, with not so many field photos. So for this year's competition, start taking some happy snaps at club shoots and competitions and see how artistic you can be.

And now, an apology. In the November-December 2018 issue we identified our cover photo of Luke Hebb as having a fox of 10 10/16pt. It was indeed a Record Class fox, but the actual measurement was 10 2/16pt. Sorry Luke. The claim went through correctly but our flying fingers on the keyboard were to blame for the mistake in the magazine.

Jenel Hunt Editor



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#### FREELANCE CONTRIBUTIONS

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

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

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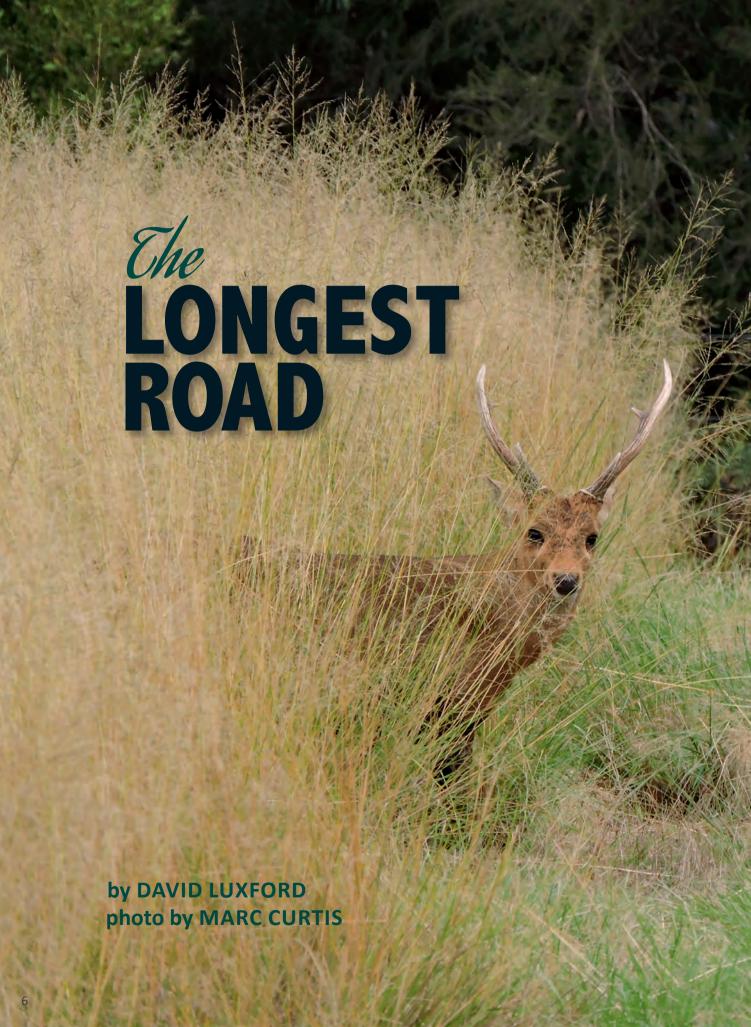
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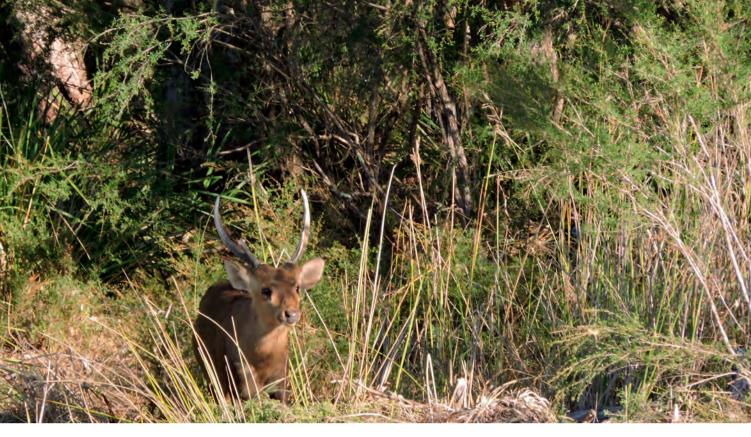
he story started way back in the early 90s with many hours of pre-season reconnaissance before the beginning of every season and every season started with excitement and great anticipation. However, no matter how many hours I spent in trees, often averaging over 100 hours a season, success did not come my way until I adopted the extreme opposite to what I had been doing. Instead of being up in the air I dug a rather large hole complete with earth seat and two small sand mounds at the front to shoot between. I waited and shot my first hog deer, a hind. That was in April 2006.

For the next seven years, April continued to be dedicated to hog deer hunting and although I failed to achieve my goal during those years, my enthusiasm never waned. I was getting better at the craft of hunting hog deer; having a few close encounters and the odd shot. And I continued to celebrate sunset on the last day of the month, for on the first day of May my life resumed with some degree of normality.

Then one day in April 2013 it all went to plan and I had my first hog deer stag. Then the game changed considerably over the next couple of years, although the frustrations and disappointments remained the same, opportunities for success increased. In 2016 I shot my first trophy class stag and achieved 'part one' of a life-long goal, but I wanted 'part two' of my eventual goal—a record class stag.

I was determined that 2017 would be the year. However, 'stop-press-dot-com, you've got a problem'; there was an unexpected intermission to my plan in December 2016. A good doctor and medical team turned me off, cut me open and started me again. How good is that! But it was the beginning of a very rough road and the bow and arrow was a principal factor in my recovery, not to mention the desire to be in a tree on the first of April.

Determined to be bow fit once more, I slowly rebuilt my fitness and



Marc Curtis took these photos while shooting with a camera instead of a bow.



strength; shot a rabbit six weeks after the operation and at the end of February shot a fox; a major milestone. Mark Burrows had been my whistler that day and compared the trajectory of my arrow with that of a gumboot at the national gumboot-throwing championships.

My bow weight was about 30lb and well under the legal requirement to hunt hog deer (45lb). Mark suggested a staunch bow-weight program. At the end of each week for the following three weeks I had to increase my poundage by the minimum of 5lb a week. It was a

daunting task as I could barely fire one or two practice shots a day ... but although it was a tough gig, by the end of March I had attained a draw weight of 47lb.

The eve of the hog deer season arrived and we gathered from around the country; Daniel from Townsville;

Lloyd from Perth; Marc from Tamworth; Michael McCormick (the guide) and me. They were excited; I was nervous and anxious. How could I possibly retain composure and attempt to shoot a stag when it was taking me all my strength just to draw the bow?

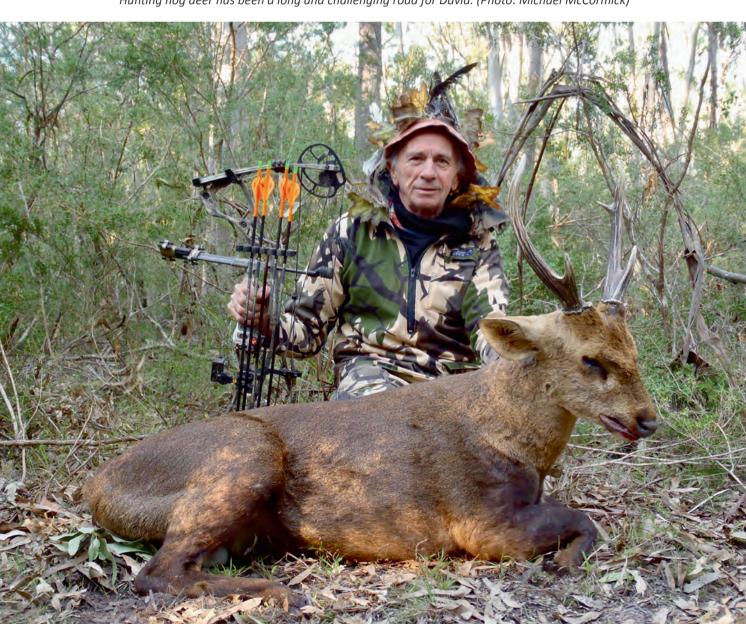
Marc and I were in stands about 200m apart. We both stayed in our respective stands for two-and-a-half days, staring into a very familiar landscape and the ground below waiting for our quarry to come forth and present a shot. By two o'clock on the third day we agreed to swap stands for a change of scenery, and return to familiar surrounds two hours later. At four o'clock I returned to my stand and was greeted by

Marc who whispered: "Should have been here 10 minutes ago, he'll be back; got some good photos."

I was shattered: All that time and I'd missed my chance. However, Marc was right: he did come back. Just before dark I caught the flicker of antler in the bush a short time later he emerged and began to feed toward my stand. My heart was racing so fast that I thought one of my bypass bits might fly off, but I remained as cool as I could and didn't touch the bow until he presented a broadside shot. Then I went through my well rehearsed procedures; don't look at antlers, keep the finger behind the release aid trigger, follow up the front leg then move right or left and put the arrow into the middle of the big bit, don't aim low, count to three and touch off. The arrow flew true and exactly where Dean Cunningham places all his arrows; 'in the middle of the big bit'. The deer turned and bolted directly away from me with the arrow visible, dead centre of chest; the shot was right on the money. Assistance was quick at hand, however, as wise men we didn't follow an improving blood trail into the darkening bush at day's end, but opted to recover the stag the next morning.

The recovery was straightforward. I followed at the rear of excited human bloodhounds and in no time was sitting with tears in my eyes, with my friends, admiring the most emotionally charged and significant

Hunting hog deer has been a long and challenging road for David. (Photo: Michael McCormick)



trophy of my life. The Record Class stag Marc had passed up and photographed was everything I could have wished for, and under the circumstances, I think, a remarkable achievement that I owed friendship.

Twelve months later, five enthusiastic hog deer hunters gathered around the fire on the eve of the 2018 season. We were, like the previous year, from identical geographical locations across the continent only with a couple of name changes; Marc Curtis and I; Rowan Kane from Townsville; Cheryl and Troy Morris from Perth as well as our trusty guide, Michael McCormick.

This season was unlike any that I had ever experienced, I had no expectations, no must do, no must achieve and no anxiety burning in my veins. I was rather relaxed and enjoying the ambience of the camp and my extended family.

The first day, Marc and I resumed where we had left off the previous year—he in his stand and I across

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

#### Send your entries to

**Archery Action Gold Pen Writers'** Award, PO Box 638, Stanthorpe, Old 4380 or email editor@archeryactionmagazine.com Subject: Gold Pen Award entry

All hunting stories are automatically entered in this competition

the field to his right. Day one for me was pretty quiet; a couple of hinds were seen and that was about it. Marc on the other hand had several deer near his stand and one, although uneven, was a rather impressive stag. The stag presented numerous opportunities for a shot and even bedded in long grass not 20m from his stand. Although tempted to take a shot on a few occasions Marc staved true to his desired benchmark; 14in or better. However, there may have been a touch of regret at lost opportunity when the stag eventually retreated to the bush.

The following day we were once again across the field from each other. The day was starting to stretch out and the golden rays of the setting sun illuminated all in its path. Although one pays attention at the best of times, one's senses respond accordingly when the witching hour for deer draws near.

Halfway between our stands a hind emerged from cover, followed by a big-bodied stag with an impressive set of antlers that glowed in the golden tones of the setting sun. From a distance of 100m or so, the stag's antlers looked massive. I half expected the pair to feed toward Marc's stand but was pleasantly surprised to watch them feed and walk in my direction. My heart beat like it had never beaten before. This stag was everything I could ever wish for and it was destined to be in front of me within minutes. I cleared anything that could make the slightest noise or hinder my draw, cleared around my feet, checked the arrow, positioned my bow ready for pick-up, all but concealed my face, then stood statue like ... and waited.

Eventually the stag fed directly front-on to me at 15m exposing and offering a shot between shoulder and neck. I resisted the temptation to pick up my bow, knowing that it would be the beginning of the shot process. I waited, once more breathing deeply and looking at my bow. At last the stag turned broadside. I picked up the bow, drew and, as before placed the pin in the middle of the big bit behind the shoulder. The arrow struck true and the stag was gone, retreating at high speed into the bush. I didn't hesitate to leave my stand, inspect the blooddrenched arrow protruding from the ground where the stag had been standing moments before and call Michael Mac. We discussed the shot and analysed the arrow before following a drip-by-drip blood trail to the edge of the bush and as light was fading into dark decided, as we had done the previous year, to leave the retrieval until the morning.

Back at camp an enthusiastic forensic team studied the arrow concluding unanimously that the shot was fatal. But old seadogs know the drill and don't get excited until horns or antlers are in the hand. Sunrise came. Impatiently I waited around the campfire for good light and the remainder of the recovery team that included my young grandsons, Knox and Angus. A conga line of human hounds picked up the blood trail from where Michael and I had left off. Young Angus and I followed quietly at the rear and within 20m all anxiety I had concerning the stag dissipated. A remarkable stag, a bit over 14in on one side and 12-and-ahalf inches on the other lay before my feet, the same stag that had bedded in front of Marc's stand the previous day.

Once again I shared a precious moment with comrades and family and felt that as far as hog deer go I had eventually reached the end of the road; for the time being. However, my success for two consecutive years, as mentioned previously, was attributed to the personal integrity and ideals of an extraordinary hunter. Marc did not fire an arrow last season and over the six days of hunting averaged about 10 hours a day sitting quietly waiting for Mister Big. He never compromised his dreams and ambition and it could be said that the man who has been awarded TBA Bowhunter of the Year twice is the epitome of the spirit of trophy hunting.





## Australian-Bowhunters Association

**AFFILIATIONS** 

**BOWHUNTING:** FIELD ARCHERY:

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

WORLD BOWHUNTING ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL FIELD ARCHERY ASSOCIATION CONFEDERATION OF AUSTRALIAN SPORT

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### **PROTOCOL**

Please note that National Officers are not to be contacted with questions that should go through your club. The protocol is: Member speaks to relevant club officer. If the club officer cannot answer the guery the officer passes it to the Branch representative who then contacts the relevant National Officer if required.

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SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT (Acting)

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South NSW and ACT	Chuck Szanto	0450 689 533
Gippsland, Victoria	Tim Opie	0418 177 054
Central and Greater Victoria	Wendy Gallagher	0429 959 402
South Australia	Brett Raymond	0418 810 598
Western Australia	Ken Neil	0418 926 862
Tasmania – see Victoria		
Trophy Bowhunters of Australia	Ralph Boden	(02) 4392 6810

### **BOWHUNTING DIVISION REPORT**

by Mark Burrows (Vice-President Bowhunting Division)



### Stepping up

Here is a message from Garry Pitt:

Having been on quite a few committees in sporting clubs, I understand how hard it is to get people onto a committee. I have been on the National Committee for quite a few years and in that time I have seen a large drop in interest in being on club and Branch committees and now the

National Committee. All levels of our association are doing it tough to get members to step up. My message is this: Don't forget that this is your sport and all of the above starts at a club level. Also don't forget that this is all voluntary.

I know there can be many reasons for not wanting to get

yourself onto a committee. We're all busy. But my reasoning was that once I got my wife shooting arrows and the boys got involved in the sport, to keep it all going I had to put my hand up and take on a role in the club. So I was target master for 10 years, stepped up to Vice-President for a few years, made the big step to President then went onto the Branch Committee and later—where I am now—became National Measurer.

We have vacancies on the National Committee and I know there are Branches and no doubt clubs looking for people to step up. There are so many ways to get our sport back on track, and a few sacrifices by you could help. Come on, put your hand up and help your club move forward, then start to look at moving up the ladder.

The above was put forward by Garry Pitt because his concern is the same as mine. If we don't get members to stand for positions within the Association, I do not know

what the long term result will be. We are struggling at all levels, from club upwards, to get people to put their hands up ... and the Bowhunting Division is no different.

At the end of this year I will have served 20 years on the National Executive—four years as Assistant Measurer, four years as National Measurer and 12 years as Vice-President Bowhunting. have (mostly) enjoyed all these roles immensely. I wouldn't be still here if I hadn't. I have never been one to stand back and throw ideas around. If I have thought that something could be changed or improved upon, then I have usually put my hand up for the job and that's with everything I have been involved in, both inside and outside of archery.

But this is my last year. Twenty years is a long time and things have changed dramatically in that time, especially when it comes to information and technology. Personally I have probably come as far as I can go and the modern IT stuff is all getting a bit beyond me. The Bowhunting Division, which includes the committee of the TBA, needs fresh faces, a younger generation with the ability to offer modern ideas.

By the time you read this you will have a couple of months to think about putting your hand up and nominating for a position within the National Executive, or the TBA Committee. This is an election year and every position becomes vacant, from the President down. So here is your chance to make a difference in our sport.

### Bowfishing for carp

I know this has been a saga and I have written of it innumerable times over the past four or five years, but I haven't given up. I am constantly harassing Dr Andrew Moriarty, Director Game Licensing, Department of Primary Industries, NSW, to see how things

### Summary of Australian Rowshot 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

are progressing. His most recent reply was the Marine Park issues in NSW were taking precedence within the government until after the election, but he is still hopeful that the bowfishing issue will then be re-visited. Who knows? Governments! It seems that an inordinate amount of work has to be done to achieve small results. But that is the system we have to work within and if we want any results then that is what we have to do.

However. recently the Bowhunting Division was contacted Kate Fantinel, Electorate Officer for NSW Senator, David Leyonhjelmthe. Ms Fantinel tells me that the Senator is interested in hearing if there are any issues facing our Association, clubs or members. According to Ms Fantinel the Senator is, and continues to be, an outspoken supporter of hunting in all its forms.

She says that going forward, if there are any issues we would like to raise with the Senator that they could potentially assist with, please do not hesitate to contact her. She comes from a firearms background, and the Senator and her chief of staff Max Rheese are both hunters, so please let them know if there's anything they should be aware of or might be able to assist with.

Well I jumped aboard and threw all the carp bowfishing stuff at the Senator. I did get a reply:

"Thanks for your response and letter outlining the issue with bowfishing for carp. We are already pursuing the matter and have begun making some further enquiries. Will be in touch about this. Thanks again Mark, I again reiterate that the Senator is hugely supportive of your Association's activities (as am I!). Kind regards, Kate Fantinel"

We'll see what happens.



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

Bnch Hunter	Club	Game	Award	FK/FKOS	Size
B Graham Otto	Cape York Bowhunters	Stingray	TC		7 5/8
B Graham Otto	Cape York Bowhunters	Shark	TC		19 5/8
B Graham Otto	Cape York Bowhunters	Stingray	RC		9 1/8
B Stephen Fairbrother	Cape York Archers	Pig	TC		26 6/8
B Stephen Fairbrother	Cape York Archers	Pig	TC		25 2/8
B Stephen Fairbrother	Cape York Archers	Pig	TC		26
B Graham Wienert	FNQ Bowmen	Pig	RC		31
B Tony Lasker	Independent	Camel	TC	FKOS	28 14/16
B Tony Lasker	Independent	Camel	TC		27 4/16
B Tony Lasker	Independent	Cat	TC		7 8/16
B Tony Lasker	Independent	Goat	TC		107 1/8
B Tony Lasker	Independent	Goat	RC		112 3/8
B Tony Lasker	Independent	Goat	TC		105 6/8
B Tony Lasker	Independent	Goat	RC		115 2/8
B Tony Lasker	Independent	Goat	RC		111
B John McKay	Mackay & District Bowmen	Pig	TC		26 2/8
B John McKay	Mackay & District Bowmen	Pig	TC		26 6/8
B John McKay	Mackay & District Bowmen	Pig	TC		28
B John McKay	Mackay & District Bowmen	Pig	TC		28 4/8
B John McKay	Mackay & District Bowmen	Pig	TC		25 6/8
B John McKay	Mackay & District Bowmen	Pig	TC		26 2/8
B John McKay	Mackay & District Bowmen	Pig	RC		29 2/8
B John McKay	Mackay & District Bowmen	Pig	TC		26
B John McKay	Mackay & District Bowmen	Pig	TC		26 2/8
B John McKay	Mackay & District Bowmen	Pig	RC		30
B John McKay	Mackay & District Bowmen	Pig	RC		29
B John McKay	Mackay & District Bowmen	Pig	TC		26 6/8
B John McKay	Mackay & District Bowmen	Pig	RC		30
B John McKay	Mackay & District Bowmen	Pig	TC		26 2/8
B Toby Gall	Mackay & District Bowmen	Sambar	GA	FKOS	85 2/8
B Rick Morrison	Mount Isa District Bowhunters		TC	FKOS	27 9/16
B Rick Morrison	Mount Isa District Bowhunters		TC	11105	7 6/16
B Blake Smith	Towers Bowhunters	Cat	GA	FK/FKOS	0
B Joshua Meehan	Townsville District Bowhunter	Rabbit	GA	FK/FKOS	0
B Tom Bruce	Townsville District Bowhunter	Goat	GA	FK/FKOS	0
B Graham McComiskie	Twin Rivers Bowhunters	Pig	RC	TRATICO	29 4/8
C David Brewer	Emerald Archery Club	Goat	RC		117 6/8
D Les Heiman	Barambah Bowhunters & FA	Red Deer			237 3/8
D Les Heiman	Barambah Bowhunters & FA	Fox	TC		9 12/16
D Troy Hughes	Darling Downs Field Archers	Buffalo	GA	FKOS	77
D Troy Hughes	Darling Downs Field Archers	Buffalo	RC	1103	96 2/8
D Scott Mitchell	Independent	Pig	RC	FK/FKOS	33 4/8
D Shane Chater	Lakeside Bowmen	Pig	GA	FK/FKOS	0
D Shane Chater	Lakeside Bowmen	Fallow	GA	FKOS	71 6/8
D Dave Pender	Lakeside Bowmen	Goat	TC	1103	101
D Dale Winks	Renegade Bowmen	Goat	TC		99 5/8
D Danien Norris	Renegade Bowmen		RC	FKOS	32 6/8
D Damien Norris	Renegade Bowmen	Pig Pig	TC	FKO3	26 2/8
		•			
D James Reece D John Erskine	Renegade Bowmen	Pig	TC		26 6/8 25 6/8
	Renegade Bowmen	Pig	TC	FKOS	25 6/8
D Tony Sullivan	Renegade Bowmen	Stingray	GA PC	FNO3	20.4/9
D Wade Bygrave	Renegade Bowmen	Pig	RC PC		30 4/8
D Wade Bygrave	Renegade Bowmen	Pig	RC		29
D Wade Bygrave	Renegade Bowmen	Pig	TC		27 4/8
D Wade Bygrave	Renegade Bowmen	Pig	TC		26 2/8

D	Wade Bygrave	Renegade Bowmen	Pig	TC		25 2/8
D	Wade Bygrave	Renegade Bowmen	Pig	TC		25
Ε	Ralph Boden	Central Coast Moonterra	Pig	TC		28 6/8
Ε	Ralph Boden	Central Coast Moonterra	Pig	TC		28
	Timothy Boden	Central Coast Moonterra	Pig	GA	FKOS	0
	Timothy Boden	Central Coast Moonterra	Pig	TC		25 4/8
	Scott Meadows	Cobar Bowmen	Rabbit	GA	FKOS	0
	Donna Gilroy	Independent	Goat	TC	FK/FKOS	104 6/8
	Helen Duff	Northern Tablelands Archers	Fox	TC		10
	Helen Duff	Northern Tablelands Archers	Fox	TC		9 13/16
	Helen Duff	Northern Tablelands Archers	Fox	TC		10
	Helen Duff	Northern Tablelands Archers	Fox	TC		9 8/16
	Graeme Duff	Northern Tablelands Archers	Fox	TC		10 1/16
	Graeme Duff	Northern Tablelands Archers Northern Tablelands Archers	Fox Fox	TC TC		9 10/16
	Graeme Duff		Sambar	GA	FKOS	9 3/16
	Theo Vanderburg  Dan Podubinski	Campbelltown Archers	Fish	GA	FKOS	0
	Chris Bourne	Independent Macalister Trophy Bowhunter	Sambar	RC	FNO3	180 5/8
	Mark Burrows	West Gippsland Field Archers	Fox	TC		9 11/16
_	Michael Luxford	West Gippsland Field Archers	Fox	TC		9 5/16
	Jeremy Gannon	Ballarat Bowhunters	Goat	GA	FKOS	0
	Tyler Atkinson	Ballarat Bowhunters	Fox	TC	1103	9 15/16
	Tyler Atkinson	Ballarat Bowhunters	Goat	TC		101 1/8
	Tyler Atkinson	Ballarat Bowhunters	Fox	TC		9 9/16
	Tyler Atkinson	Ballarat Bowhunters	Fox	TC		9 12/16
	Tyler Atkinson	Ballarat Bowhunters	Goat	TC		95 1/8
	Tyler Atkinson	Ballarat Bowhunters	Goat	TC		98 5/8
	Tyler Atkinson	Ballarat Bowhunters	Fox	RC		10 13/16
	Wayne Atkinson	Ballarat Bowhunters	Goat	TC		96 7/8
Н	Wayne Atkinson	Ballarat Bowhunters	Goat	TC		95 4/8
Н	Dylan Evans	Mt Clay Archers	Sambar	GA	FKOS	88 5/8
Н	Mark Byrne	Geelong Trophy Bowhunters	Pig	GA	FKOS	12 2/8
Н	Wayne Goorden	Geelong Trophy Bowhunters	Fox	GA	FKOS	0
Н	Jason l'Anson	Stawell Bowhunters Club	Fallow	GA	FKOS	0
1	Tim Jeffs	Lower Eyre Archers	Fox	RC	FK/FKOS	10 3/16
1	Glenn Hanemann	Mallee Sunset Field Archers	Scaled Fish	GA	FKOS	0
1	Malcolm Clements	Mallee Sunset Field Archers	Scaled Fish	GA	FKOS	0
1	Shannon Hitchen	Yorke Peninsula Field Archer	Scaled Fish	GA	FK/FKOS	0
J	Cameron Van Veen	Busselton Bowhunters	Stingray	GA	FKOS	0
J	Christiann Sutherland	Busseltown Bowhunters	Rabbit	GA	FK/FKOS	0
J	Shane Peirce	Busselton Bowhunters	Rabbit	GA	FKOS	0
	Everett Young	Peel Archers	Chital	TC	FK/FKOS	158 4/8
J	Leisa Nesbitt	Peel Archers	Goat	GA	FK/FKOS	0
J	Luke Hebb	Peel Archers	Fox	TC		9 10/16
J	•	Peel Archers	Goat	GA	FK/FKOS	0
	Andrew Arthur	Western Plains Archers	Rabbit	GA	FKOS	0
	Andrew Arthur	Western Plains Archers	Stingray	TC	FKOS	7 6/8
	Andrew Arthur Andrew Arthur	Western Plains Archers	Shark	GA	FKOS	0
J		Western Plains Archers	Scaled Fish		FKOS	100.678
J	Ben Chambers Ben Chambers	Western Plains Archers Western Plains Archers	Goat Goat	TC RC		100 6/8 121 2/8
	Ben Chambers	Western Plains Archers	Sambar	GA	FKOS	0
	Ben Chambers	Western Plains Archers	Fallow	TC	1103	163 2/8
J		Western Plains Archers	Goat	GA	FKOS	87 1/8
	Dominic Neeson	Western Plains Archers	Camel	RC	11105	29 3/16
	Jane Chambers	Western Plains Archers	Fox	TC	FKOS	9 6/16
	Josh Balsley	Western Plains Archers	Fox	TC		9 5/16
	Josh Balsley	Western Plains Archers	Fox	TC		9 5/16
	Josh Balsley	Western Plains Archers	Fox	TC		9 12/16
J	Lloyd Scott	Western Plains Archers	Pig	TC		25 6/8
J		Western Plains Archers	Pig	RC		29
J	Lloyd Scott	Western Plains Archers	Pig	RC		29 6/8
J	Lloyd Scott	Western Plains Archers	Stingray	TC		7
J	Orbin Wilde	Western Plains Archers	Goat	GA	FKOS	81 1/8



## Bowhunting achievements to 1 February, 2019

#### **Master Bowhunter** Graeme Duff 860 Helen Duff 850 Tyler Atkinson 640 Luke Hebb 560 David Luxford 390 Scott Meadows 360 John Scott 340 Luke Sampson 330 Joshua Balsley 310 Tony Lasker 310 Wade Bygrave 300 **Trophy Bowhunter Award** 280 **Bradley Seagrott** Lloyd Scott 250 Toby Gall 220 Dan Podubinski 220 **Bowhunter Award** 190 **Graham Otto** Stephen Fairbrother 180 150 Anthony Atkinson **David Brewer** 150 **Donald Moor** 150 Jason Lesnik 140 Daniel Ferguson 130 Gary Lander 130 Graham McComiskie 130 **David Rethus** 130 Marc Curtis 120 Elissa Rosemond 120 Wayne Atkinson 110 Benjamin Chambers 110 Benjamin Ireland 110 Theo Vanderburg 110 **Brenton Mitchell** 100 **Damien Norris** 100 **Bowhunter Royale** Nil further since last report **Bowhunter Imperial** Nil further since last report **Bowhunter Supreme** Nil further since last report

## Damien Norris Members admitted to TBA Club (membership granted after taking first Trophy Class or better animal)

Scott Mitchell John Erskine Donna Gilroy Timothy Jeffs Jane Lawrence

**Senior Member of TBA** 

Richard Morrison

Andrew Arthur Everett Young



# Introducing NEW TBA MEMBER Scott Mitchell

### Where do you live?

Ipswich, Queensland.

### What club do you belong to?

I'm not a member of a club at the moment. I was trapping wild dogs at Charleville for three years and never had the time to go out to the range, so I've just been hunting with a bow when I have the chance. On and off I've joined the club and shot a bit, but work kept me away much of the time.

### How long have you been an ABA member?

I was an ABA member as a youth and into my late teens. Then over the following years, several times. (I'm 51 now.) Work kept taking me away. I've only been an ABA member again for the past six months. I haven't long done my Proficiency course. In fact, I shot my very first fallow deer buck in the rut last year and couldn't claim it as I wasn't doing my Proficiency until the next month.

### How long have you been bowhunting?

Just about all my life. I think I started archery around eight years old and hunting about 10. My Dad, Ted Mitchell, got me into it. He's been involved in the bowhunting scene forever. I think with my family it was always going to happen. I had a 45lb

bow back in those days. Dad and Darryl Reeks and co started Renegade Bowhunters. As kids Brenton and I loved camping at the archery grounds once a month.

### How often do you get to go hunting?

I've done a lot of guiding—finding animals for other people to shoot and will certainly pick that up again in the near future. For hunting, I usually go for a long weekend or possibly a week. I hunt out in the Charleville district because I have worked trapping wild dogs there and have been given access to many properties. Five of my best friends and I had a week at Charleville hunting goats and pigs and relaxing during Easter last year. We do it every year. It's not just the hunt. I'm big on enjoying life. Plus, I like to use something from the animal in some way.

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

I used to use a Mathews Adrenaline but now I'm using a Hoyt Defiant compound that I bought off my brother. I use Revolution arrows, which you can't get any more. I'm just in the process of getting new shafts. I use Oz Cut broadheads, which are solid two-blade broadheads. Also my brother's Rad Rival broadheads.

### Has this encouraged you to do more hunting?

I love hunting and I'm never going to stop, but I also really enjoy guiding. I've done it for years and I'm about to start my own business guiding hunts on Cape York. I think one of the problems with hunting the Cape is that it's so expensive. I'd like to promote a more affordable way for bowhunters to hunt up there. In fact, I have access to a property this year which has perfect areas for bowhunting and rifle shooting—it's the best of both worlds. In some areas the wind is perfect for bowhunting and other spots are more suited for rifle shooters. This year I'm going to get some Renegades bowhunters and give them an introductory look at the place.

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

Well, coming into it from scratch as a new ABA member, I've been thinking I would like to try for the Master Bowhunters Award. The truth is, I don't shoot a lot of animals. I



Scott Mitchell with the toothy boar that gave him membership into TBA (Record Class 33 4/8pt).

walk past a lot of them. It's exciting to sneak in and not disturb an animal and sneak away if I do not want it as a trophy. I've been blessed because I've had so many opportunities. I'm spoilt because I know I'm going to get a better opportunity another time. I'm

a full-on trophy bowhunter—I'm not into culling.

Did you know much about TBA before this?

Yes, I did. Of course!

The TBA Committee congratulates you on your achievement, Scott.

66

I was on a hunt with two clients I've guided for the past eight years, Al and Matt. They've become really good friends as well as being clients. Matt can't get around that well any more and Damien Norris, who was doing the cooking for me, was a bit in the same boat so he was with Matt and they just had a 1km walk and sat at a lagoon. In the meantime, Al wanted to walk 10km and do his hunting that way. These guys always say to bring your bow with you and if you get the opportunity, they want to see you shoot as well. So that's what we did. Damien got to shoot a pig. The boar stood up and Matt said to Damo, "You take the shot." It was only a small boar. Damien pulled off a really nice shot at 22yd and the small boar turned out to be really tusky. He measured 32 6/8pt which was a club record at Renegade.

Two days later I shot the 33 4/8pt boar. They were two of the biggest sets of tusks you'd shoot in that country. But here's the thing: Matt and Al are priests. It makes you wonder if there was someone up there giving us a hand!





## President's Report

Isn't it amazing how simple rumours, or campfire talk, seem to become gospel truth in a very short period of time?

During the second half of last vear I heard one of these rumours that ABA was going to phase out the Traditional Round, or the trad peg. At the time, I thought to myself, "Where did that come from?"

have certainly overheard campfire conversations where there has been discussion that there seem to be a lot of medals for the trad peg divisions at our National Safari and not many archers nominating for those divisions at our Safari events. But, at the same time, the previous Safari was held in Alice Springs and while it was a great shoot there were not huge numbers of archers present. In fact there were a number of medals handed out to grades and divisions where there were not a lot of archers competing. Should we get rid of them too? I think not!

Anyway, the key element in all of this is that there has been no discussion at a National Executive level at any stage about phasing out the Traditional Round or any



element of the trad peg rules.

There are a number of Branches, Southern Queensland in particular, where the trad peg element of our game is very strong. In fact, I think this was where the push for the trad peg started ... and as long as there is a strong following of our members who continue to play this element of the game, then it will continue in its current format.

Like any part of our rules, the trad peg regulations will be reviewed from time to time, but I promise you there is no intention by the National Executive to make any changes, at all, to the trad peg or the trad peg rules in the foreseeable future.

Discussion about the trad peg and traditional archery leads me to another topic of discussion that seems to have raised itself to the forefront of archery topics—crossassociation participation.

People may remember a few years ago that ABA became one of the founding members of the Archery Alliance of Australia. It was seen that there would be multiple benefits of forming this alliance of archery bodies. Foremost of these would be:

- The ability for the archery bodies to speak with one voice when archery was challenged as a viable sport and activity
- The ability of the archery bodies to be able to access greater financial benefits for members with issues like insurance due to economies of scale—more members means better bargaining power—and we achieved this; and
- The ability to cross-participate association's activities because of the benefits described above; particularly insurance.

Essential to this last element—

cross-participation—was an agreement between the archery bodies that members of other Alliance associations wanting to participate in an Alliance member's activities could do so. There has always been an inherent interest by archers to try out different forms of archery and see how others do their thing.

But the critical part of all of this is that non-members can only participate. They cannot compete!

For example, if ABA is holding a shoot at Mudgee and a member of Archery Australia, 3DAAA or Traditional Archers wants to come along, they are more than welcome to participate; but they can only compete in the event if they are an ABA member as well.

Cross-participation is exactly what it says—participation. You can shoot the event in its entirety but you are not eligible for any awards, trophies, medals or any other reward from the event. You get the chance to participate—but that is all.

There seems to be a growing trend by clubs to hold invitational events and then use the crossparticipation agreement as a way to encourage archers from all archery bodies to compete for the competition rewards. whether they are trophies or medals or the like. Essentially, they are allowing everyone to compete. This approach is fraught with danger. What people need to be very, very careful about in this case is the implications for insurance.

The agreement is that only members of the host club's association can compete—not everyone. Non-members can only participate. In fact there is a whole ABA policy document about crossmember participation of which people really need to be aware.

While I am no insurance specialist, and certainly no lawyer, it appears to me to be dicing with uncertainty to be fraying the edges of this policy and not following the intent of the

agreement or ABA's policy on the matter

Insurance companies are very adept at finding loopholes and escape clauses and ways out of honouring the insurance commitment if the rules, procedures and policies have not been followed and I would be very disappointed if there was an incident and coverage was withdrawn by the insurance company because due process wasn't followed.

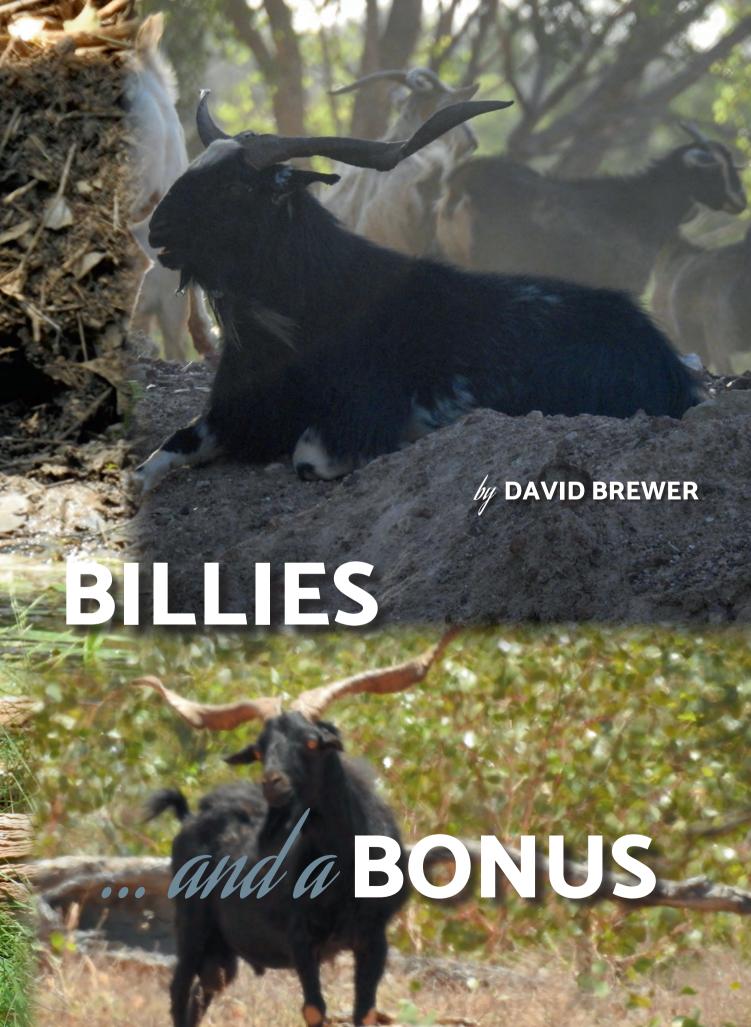
Now my intention here is neither to put the frights up anyone nor to cause anxiety and confusion about this matter.

My concern is that Branches, clubs and members need to be sure that they are following the correct procedures and policies in place in terms of cross-participation and to make sure that if you are an ABA membergoing to a cross-participation event that the organisers are following correct procedures to make sure that you are covered.

Enjoy your archery!

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Green grass and waterholes—it didn't look like the same property which had been so dry just two months before.

ixty millimetres of rain doesn't sound a lot if you live in the tropics, but in the west it can be life changing. Driving into the property, we could barely believe this was the same place we'd seen just two months previously. Green grass, waterholes and kids swimming in the creek. In all the years I've been coming here, I had never seen my second home look so good. George (my son Mitchell) and I were in for a treat, hopefully. Friday afternoon had us getting a quick brief and heading out to the usual haunts to put up our blind and set some cameras ... no point spending

our time where the goats weren't.

Saturday morning and we were in church—sitting on one of our favourite waterholes watching for movement coming from the pulled country. We didn't have to wait long before the first goats came into the field. Quickly, George moved into a covered position to get ready while I stayed high to watch. We had decided not to push our luck the first morning if things didn't go quite to plan and that we'd let the goats do their thing so we didn't upset the routine. As it happened, things worked well with the biggest mob I



had seen in years walking past the empty blind we had put up the night before at under 20yd and settle at the water's edge. The goats came and went without us taking a shot. We had seen some interesting billies but not the shots we were wanting. With plans for the next morning already made, we headed back to the car.

Crossing a dam wall, we spotted a couple of billies feeding on the edge of the watercourse. Being the great father I am, I told George it was my shot and moved off to close the distance. Things didn't go well and before long George was again at my side telling me about a mob of wild sheep that had come in to the dam. George has had a long-time wish for a wild ram (and we had the property owner's permission) so we headed back into the pulled country to try to find them, George filling my ears about a ram he had seen.

For anyone who has hunted wild sheep, you will know what a challenge these creatures are. These wild sheep have never seen a yard or any sort of domestication and at the first sign of a car or a human they disappear in a cloud of dust into the next stratosphere. As a few mates have

discovered they are also incredibly tough, with a severe case of not surrendering their trophies easily.

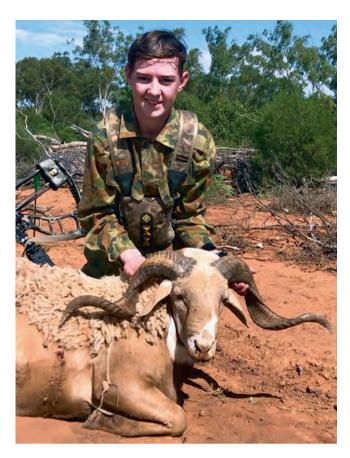
Slowly we moved through the county trying to catch a glimpse of them before they saw us. Fortune was with us, as the sheep were in a clearing and heading our way. Keeping to the shadows, we moved into position. As it turned out, the first sheep to come past us was the very ram that George had his heart set on.

He was broadside at 15yd when the arrow went on its way. Textbook. While waiting for his ram to expire, George noticed the string stop was missing off his bow, so leaving him to set up for his photos I backtracked to try to find it.

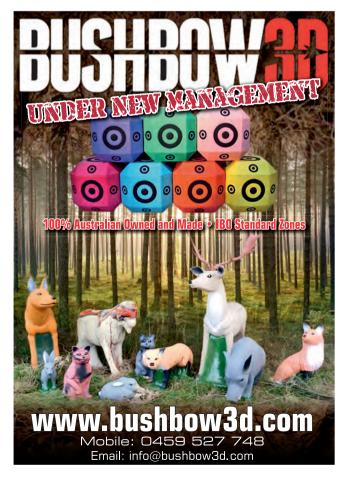
I guess it pays to keep an eye out even when you're looking for something else. Stepping into the open, I came face to face with a good billy. Staying as still as possible, I positioned my bow to draw for the shot. At 40yd I let the arrow loose, full in the chest. The billy ran into the timber and I headed back to help George with his photos.

George's trophy ram was an impressive 31in spread and a memory that we both will savour for a long time to come. Photos and videos taken, we headed back to track





This fellow had a great curl to his horns.



my billy. The blood trail was easy to follow and we quickly found him laid up under a tree. The first billy down on day one had a point score of over 100pt. Happy with our morning's hunt, we headed back to the car.

Driving back to camp along the waterway, I noticed a boar feeding on the lilies. Jumping out and grabbing my bow, I started towards the watercourse. The boar was moving away and as I watched he bedded down under the trees. Deciding to give my waterproof boots a run, I started across the water. I now understand why the advice is to walk a crossing before you drive it; my boots didn't keep the water out in the thigh-deep water, let's just say I wasn't expecting that at all. A short game of cat and mouse and we had a small boar on the ground.

The next morning had us set up and eagerly waiting on the mob to come in for water. George was in the blind and I kept my vantage point to be sure to see what was coming in. Come in they did, but unfortunately from the east and not the north as they had the day before. Definitely the same mob however as it had a very distinctive forward-facing horned billy that we had both taken an interest in the day before. Making a quick decision, I moved to the other side of the water so one of us should get an opportunity. The lead billy was impressive but didn't present a shot and was in and out before the rest of the mob had arrived. As I glassed the mob, the unusual billy presented a shot that I couldn't resist and he dropped not far from the water's edge.

Heading back to the other side of the water to collect George, I noticed a mob of billies coming down the timberline from the north. We moved quickly across open ground to the cover of the trees and the mob fed straight in to us. George then put in one of the best shots I've seen that had the billy expired in seconds to have his first Trophy Class goat at a 106pt. We stayed at the water for the rest of the day and picked off some good trophies.

The next morning saw a change in the weather: 40 degrees and windy. We didn't enjoy it and neither did the goats obviously as they were nowhere to be seen that morning. A little tired of the slow action, George decided to walk the watercourse for some pigs. Well he found some! "Dad, there's a massive boar in the water." He was a little nervous to tackle it on his own so had come back for reinforcement. We headed back to find a boar and two sows enjoying the water and feeding through the heat of the day. A shot on the boar didn't present so George worked his way into position for a shot on a sow. With the shot the sow exploded out of the water straight towards a big lone black billy that was headed for the water. We both forgot the pigs for the moment as we tracked after the billy, using what limited cover we had. The billy went over the





It was an amazing trip and some fantastic billies were taken.

wall, allowing me to move quickly and unseen. In position, I looked for George and he was nowhere to be seen. This was a good billy and not wanting to miss the opportunity I breached the wall to see him still drinking at the water's edge. I lost my footing momentarily and alerted the billy

to my position and he ran up the dam bank but made the mistake of stopping to look back. The arrow was away and the billy fell at the bottom of the wall and we added a Record Class goat to the tally.

The following day we sat on the watercourse waiting



for pigs as again the mob of goats didn't come in. While having a snack I looked up and saw the same black billy from the day before walking the same track. It took a moment before I realised it couldn't be the same billy (given I had taken him the day before). I grabbed George and we headed off, hoping this billy would take the same route as the previous billy. I skirted the water to get into position before the quarry arrived. We made it but with only seconds to spare before the billy stepped into view. Thankfully he had done as expected and would walk past our covered position only a couple of metres away. Quiet and still, we watched this big billy walk past; George drew for a quartering shot and the job was done. The two billies could have been twins with only an inch difference in total measurement. I managed another trophy billy a little later so what started as a pretty slow day ended nicely. George, however, found that chasing billies meant some work when it came time to prep the heads for boiling, a part that wasn't quite so enjoyable.

Another sunrise and we found ourselves watching goats in a now familiar treeline. George found an unusual head on a billy that he simply had to have. This goat was pretty cool with one horn going up while the other dropped down. He walked past at around 30yd as George prepped for the shot. He had been in fine form all week but unfortunately made a slight mistake in judging the angle, thinking the goat was a little more quartering than he was and the shot was a little further back than we would have liked. We watched the billy move under a tree while we continued to stay hidden waiting for the rest of the mob to move through. As the goats moved away, the billy moved off with them. Our only hope of recovery was to let them walk out of view and slowly follow up. It was tough, tempers flared and the heat hurt. I've had to finish goats a few times for hunters that either couldn't or wouldn't put in the hard yards and I was very proud when George refused to give up and insisted that he would finish the job. With some careful tracking and a little luck we got in a position to get a second arrow away. The second went straight into the boiler room and finished this lopsided goat. We had about a 4km hike back to the car in the hottest part of the day over rocky cleared country. It was a brutal trek. Not a lot happened the next day, given we were spent.

We were worn out so visited a new waterway that we hadn't been to with the intention of sitting in the shade and watching for pigs. We didn't wait long before two made themselves visible. George headed off to take a shot, tracking through some thick undergrowth. Three times he drew his bow and each time the pigs didn't quite give him a chance to get the right shot angle and would

walk on. Finally he got the chance and the pig never made it out of its bed. Content, we went for an afternoon swim and a much needed rest

We had ourselves quite a collection of heads and the following morning we started cleaning them up ready for the trip home. Sitting chatting we both looked up at the sound of goats not far off. Sure enough, a mob came walking down the track straight to us. Although there were some good billies, we let them pass as there wasn't anything bigger than we already had. I try to be selective to allow the heads to grow—it has worked so far so hopefully it continues to pay off into the future. The same can't be said for pigs—any pig is fair game in my world so when George noticed a mob of pigs feeding on one of the goat carcasses from earlier in the week it was time to get back into hunter mode. Moving from tree to tree, we closed the gap on the pigs and George finished the trip with a nice pig.

To be fair, we don't get a trip this productive very often. The years of drought in the west are far from over; the life is a tough one. While it was great to see the groundwater full and some green grass shooting, without follow-up rain it won't mean a great deal unfortunately. We are always so grateful to be allowed to visit and enjoy a break away, even when the times are so hard.

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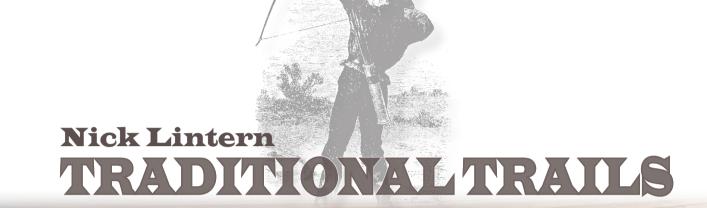
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Hello to all our readers and welcome to another instalment of Traditional Trails. We have just wrapped up a fairly comprehensive look at Flemish splice strings. In this issue, I want to have a look at a subject that can be confusing to some archers, especially those new to the traditional world custom bows. We'll have a look at all aspects of a custom bow including what to expect from one, and have a look at the key differences between mass-produced cheaper bows and hand-made customs and whether or not a custom bow is worth the extra hard earned money. So here we go:

## Custom traditional bows

Before we get into the ins and outs of customised bows, let's look at the three main traditional bows out there: Straight end or American semi-longbows, hybrid or modern deflex/ reflex longbows and recurves. They are all available to buy either mass produced. or custom built. There is a big variation in price and in this article we are going to examine the value in buying a handcrafted bow or a mass-produced bow. There is even a big difference in price between various mass produced bows and various custom bows.

### Mass-produced bows

What constitutes a mass-produced bow? Basically it's a bow that is made in larger quantities in factories with as much mechanisation as is possible. Trained bowyers may be involved in the process but usually only to tweak the near finished bow to check on tiller and string alignment et cetera. The bows are a standard length and style, and quality control is normally a little lacking. Many of you will have heard stories of mass-produced bows arriv-

ing with twisted limbs or missing limb hardware with takedowns and the like. Some have even blown up on the first stringing. These bows are spat out in such quantities that many potential problems with any given bow may 'slip through the sieve'. There is rarely any major attention to detail. This reflects in the prices you are paying for mass-produced bows. Bows that are produced in the Asian countries are usually the cheapest, and some American mass-produced bows are not cheap at all—but probably should be. Even if you are buying a massproduced or one-size-fits-all type bow from the USA even from previously reputable names, there's a good chance it has been outsourced to an Asian country. There are many excellent bowyers in the US just as there are here, who handcraft their bows one at a time, but the larger names should probably be regarded with suspicion unless you are 100 per cent sure your bow is being handmade. Of all the three bow types, the one that lends itself best to mass producing is the recurve. The hybrid would be next, and traditional or American semi-longbows are definitely not suited to mass production. Let's look at this further:

Have any of you ever noticed how few longbows there are in archery shops? Even in the pre-compound era, most pro shops were wall to wall with recurves. There is actually a solid reason for this lack of traditional longbows in shops. A well made—and matched to the archer—American semi-longbow is a beautiful bow to shoot. It is smooth, quiet and fast. If made badly though, or not made to fit the individual's needs, such a bow can be awful to shoot. If pro shops stacked their walls with mass-produced longbows it would be extremely unlikely that a random buyer coming in from the street would find a good fit. Mass-produced bows have to be made to a standard length and tiller style. This means that



This picture shows a variety of possibilities with custom longbows.





Custom-built bows can certainly be aesthetically pleasing.

with traditional longbows it'll suit one in 20 archers at best. And if it doesn't fit the archer, they will have a bad experience with it. A longbow needs close attention to detail as the building proceeds (more on this later). Companies could mass produce longbows just as they do recurves, but again, the performance just wouldn't be there and the dealers wouldn't sell many.

Why wall-to-wall recurves then? Well, as mentioned above, a recurve lends itself to mass production manufacturing better than a longbow. Due to its design of recurving limbs and heavy risers et cetera, a stock length recurve will suit a multitude of draw lengths and shooting styles. That said, there is still an ultimate fit scenario with recurves as well, and custom recurves are still going to have an advantage over mass-produced ones in most cases. With mass-produced recurves as compared to mass-produced longbows, it's probably a one in three good fit for a person walking in from the street, and probably a one in two acceptable fit. Hybrids fall somewhere in between recurves and American semi-longbows for ability to be mass produced. A quick look at history here will help explain the path mass production of bows has taken. Back in the pre-war years and even a little post war, nearly all bows on shooting lines and in the forests were self-wood longbows. These absolutely had to be custom made. This meant big price tags and many folk simply couldn't afford the fairly expensive sport of archery. In the USA around the 1950s, companies like Bear and Ben Pearson realised there was a need for budget bows to allow more people to shoot. They came up with solid fibreglass recurves that were hardy and cheap (and awful to shoot—I started with one) but we all owe them a debt of gratitude for opening up the world of archery to more people. Bear produced good quality, almost hand made, wooden cored and glass-faced and backed recurves like the famous Kodiak and Grizzly recurves which are still available today, although I'm certain they are not the bows they once were. These fast, hardy bows were priced reasonably and generally gave good service (I had one of them too). Again, they had to be of recurve design. A Grizzly, for example, is 58in long. This is really short, but due to heavy recurving it will suit most draw lengths even out as far as 30in. All these bows are generally rated to 28in. Again, with mass-produced bows there has to be a standard draw length. So mass-produced bows started from noble ideology. And as long as they stay cheap, that ideology is intact. But many mass-produced bows now are way too expensive for what they are: Outsourced and often poorly made bows.





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## Why do longbows have to be custom made?

So far. I've mentioned a few times that longbows, particularly American semi-longbows or straight-end longbows, have to be custom made. The reason is that the ultimate sweet spot on a longbow is quite small. There are ancient skills that are unchanged for centuries required to build any longbow, whether wooden or glassed. We have in a longbow, a bow that has a small handle/riser and long narrow limbs. This is a brilliant combination for a fast, forgiving bow. But if not made correctly, it can be a recipe for hand shock and poor performance. A skilled bowyer will know the correct length your bow should be, as well as how much working limb you should have. He will ensure you have good string alignment (that can change throughout a build). He will also ensure your



Hybrid deflex/reflex longbow with heavy recurve-like riser. These still need to be custom built to be at their very best.



Handcrafted, bamboo-cored longbows ... truly things of beauty.

bow is balanced properly. Plus the tiller should be varied to suit your intended use. For example: If you are intending to shoot light arrows for target work, your bow will have a different profile to one that is designed to shoot heavy hunting or field arrows. A recurve can be a bit 'one size fits all' here as it has a massive riser which will deaden any hand shock from too light arrows being used et cetera. So a longbow, even a hybrid deflex/reflex longbow, really needs to be custom made to be good. To add to that, even with a recurve's larger riser section et cetera, a skilled custom recurve maker can still improve a recurve's performance by understanding how to design it for any given archer and getting all the curves et cetera to the optimum for all-round performance.

## What to expect from a custom bow

This is a big one. Many 'custom' bowmakers out there are basically only hand producing bows that are exactly the same from bow to bow, with only the draw weight and aesthetics that are varied. When it comes to longbows, a true custom bow should take into account your draw length, draw weight, use (hunting, field, target et cetera), grip preference and aesthetics. These are all questions I ask at the outset of making a bow for a client. A 30in draw target archer's bow will look very different to a 26in draw hunter's bow. The bows will be a different length for a start. And it has to be this way. The design numbers are the secrets of good longbow makers and that info has to be earned. If going for a hybrid-style longbow, these factors become less critical but still will cause variations in design. The same goes for recurves; it becomes less critical again but still matters for optimum performance. The final benefit of a custom bow is that it is usually very strong. It has been laminated with care and hands-on precision. A custom bow can still break, but it is extremely unlikely, whereas a massproduced one is normally severely lacking in this area. I have bows here in my workshop that were hand made in the 1980s and are still going strong. Many folk still have old American recurves from the 70's golden era in US mass-produced bows that are still



All wood composites or glassless bows obviously need to be custom built.



going strong. So reliability is another pro-custom factor.

Lastly, a good custom bow is designed, built and finished by one man (or lady). There should be no outsourcing whatsoever. For example, by the time one of my bows is on its way to its owner, I know it intimately. I've been over it many, many times. Sometimes it's an anti-climax when a finished bow goes to its owner, even if my client is thrilled with his or her bow. No one will love their bow as much as the bowyer who made it, if they are a genuine hard-core bowyer.

So, to sum all this up, should you go for a custom bow or a massproduced bow? My advice is to start out with something that is cheap, to discover if this traditional archery thing is for you. A second-hand bow or a mass-produced cheapy is a good start. I definitely recommend leaving expensive mass-produced bows alone—they are simply not worth it. When you have decided that traditional archery is for you, then a custom-built bow is absolutely the best way to go. Research your bowyer and look at other bows they have made. If going for a straightend longbow, then it simply must be custom made to get the best results. Again, make sure the maker knows their way around longbows. My pet hate is longbow makers who only know half the story. Then an archer may have a bad experience and go off longbows altogether, which would be a terrible shame.

A custom bow is definitely worth the bit of extra money. One final hint: Buy Australian if you possibly can. There are many top notch bowyers here in Australia. Plus, overseas bows may become an issue where warranty is concerned.

That about wraps us up for this issue. If you have any questions, email norseman longbows@hotmail.com.

As always, keep traditional.

### Norfolk Island offers a brilliant holiday destination and competition



Does this look like you? Finished a morning's archery and ready for lunch with a view.

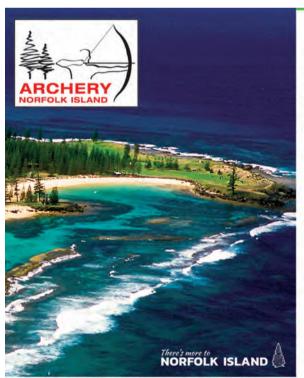
Ask any archers who have competed in an annual Norfolk Island Travel Centre Archery Championships and they will most likely describe the event using words such as 'fun, welcoming, genuinely friendly, safe and a brilliant course'. Norfolk Island certainly seems to have it all when it comes to an archery holiday.

Archery Norfolk Island has an enviable course providing a variety of terrain from open flat fields, scrubby valleys, creek crossings and steep hills. And ready in time for the 2019 competition, the club members are currently extending their course from a 12-target to a 24-target FITA field.

The club encourages juniors to learn the sport and compete, not only during weekly club meets but also during the Championships when local children compete alongside visiting archers. Local sponsors Fletcher Christian Apartments and Pine Valley Apartments have come on board to make it even more affordable for an archery family to holiday together with a 'kids stay free' deal, saving a family of four up to \$380. This offer expires on March 31, so get your booking in as soon as you can.

The event is timed to occur during the July school holidays and there are many activities and tours available for the kids and adults to enjoy when not competing.

Locally based sponsor, Norfolk Island Travel Centre, has had a long association with Archery Norfolk Island's Championships. Contact Helen Reeves at helen@travelcentre.nf or on 1800 1400 for details on their sevennight holiday package for the 2019 Championships from July 7 to 12.



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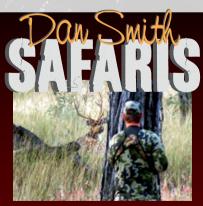












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## **Around THE TRADS**

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

### **Sue Wallace**

The temperature was certainly on the rise as we headed towards the Chevallan Archery Park full day shoot. The shoot was being held on Sunday, so why were we heading out Friday evening? Well, although we had changed the original shoot day plans, we decided to have a campout weekend anyway. There were a few of us there on Friday evening and we cooked our own meals, and also had the good fortune to be able to help one fellow eat the biggest piece of beef shank I had ever seen, and a frypan full of asparagus.

The emphasis on Saturday's activities was going to be on fun, and after a hearty breakfast we waited for a couple of others to turn up, then off we wandered, leaving behind some to set up camp. The boys found a tennis ball and the games began, with the object being, to hit the tennis ball so it moved to a new locale. Then just keep shooting at it, as it moved, until you were at the point where the tennis ball was at the start, to collect those first arrows shot, then the second spot etc. It is quite surprising that not too many arrows are swallowed by the grass, with many eyes searching the ground, most are found. We kept hitting the ball until we reached the moving target then all had a few goes at that. Skill level doesn't improve if you try and shoot more than one arrow at it as it goes out along the run, but we even shot it when it was being dragged back as well. As you can imagine it only took one to start and everyone had a go. Someone found an inch square piece of timber which was about 16in long, so it was poked into an ant nest and we all started shooting at it until someone finally hit it, which was good, as we were all running out of arrows, again!

It was getting later in the morning, and a little warm, so we decided to head back up for a cuppa, when someone else found a pink golf ball. We eventually arrived back to find Tamara had kindly put on a sausage sizzle, (onions underneath of course!) even though we were all self catering.

We had done one round with the golf and tennis balls, and someone noticed we were getting closer to the moving target, I say closer; we were still at least 150m from it. Arrows away until all our quivers were emptied, then we collected those arrows shot at the tennis ball, and one very happy person, who doesn't shoot as often as she would like, was stoked to hit it. The tennis ball was thrown down the walkway and off we all went again. This time we were nearer to the moving target, only by about 20yd. We all had a few shots, this time hitting the ground closer to the target until one chap finally hit it ... with a borrowed arrow.

By now we had been joined by those setting up camp, so we shot the moving target for a couple of turns with one fellow being really pleased he hit the moving target.

As it was rather warm in the sun. we started to shoot the golf ball in the direction of the swing set which we knew would be in the shade. Some didn't have water on them, so one kind fellow walked up to the house, purchased many bottles of water and rode the guad back down, so delivery was prompt, cool and much appreciated by all.

There were many, many, rounds of hitting ping pong balls, the pig's tail-end target through the tyre, and empty water bottles tied to the swing set rails. This little game can be expensive on arrows, when one person hits either a ping pong ball or a water bottle and the string it is tied to, then









Running pig at Chevallan.

Speed round.

Triceratops target.

Memorial popinjay.

wraps itself around the top bar, and someone just has to try and hit it again, to flick it back around, and inevitably hits the steel bar instead.

It was now getting a little late in the afternoon, so everyone headed back to camp, while I checked out the target placements and put in some shooting marks with Tamara on the new speed round before going to get pizzas for dinner. We were joined by two Dutch campers who had arrived in the afternoon.

Sunday morning found us all up pretty early, and after we enjoyed a hearty breakfast everyone was almost set to go. Just one small problem, it was only 7.00am and the shoot didn't start till 8.30am.

More archers started arriving with a small group from the Lakeside club, who had come prepared for the warm day by bringing their own shade, as they quickly erected a tarp. We are hoping to have cover over the practice butts shooting line soon.

There were also archers from the Sunshine Coast Bowmen with whom we had shot the previous weekend, so once all registrations were paid and the visitors' book signed, it was time for the muster. Our group did the rolling discs first then walked towards the round yard to find another group heading there also, so we went down to the moving target. Once we had finished there, we headed across to start the field course. For this shoot we had a 20 3D target with two arrows (both scoring), shooting from the orange peg on the way down, having a break at the tea tent set up near the end of the course, then shooting from the blue peg back up toward the camp. Once we had completed the course from both places, we headed to the round yard to do the 30-second speed round.

The old practice butts had been stacked against the steel rails and 3D targets placed in front of them. There was a starting point, an orange circle, and then shooting positions, marked in blue with the target number noted. You had to move from one blue spot to the next to shoot the appropriate 3D target in 30 seconds and then go back through the targets should there be any remaining time. There were many comments on the format as it was not as easy as it first appeared.

Once everyone had returned for lunch, I did the presentations. A big thank-you to Tamara for the work

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she puts into setting out and placing all the targets, in order to make every trad shoot held at Chevallan Archery Park individual. This one also had us venturing into places where we hadn't shot before.

<sup>©</sup> In early December, the White Rose Archery Klub in Victoria held a shoot and their AGM. The archers all arrived on Saturday morning, coming from Renmark and Mannum SA and down from Broken Hill NSW.

They commenced shooting on the left-hand side of the shed doing the rolling discs and the windmill, had a break for cool drinks and nibblies then did the right-hand side of the shed, where the three little pigs were under a tree and for a challenge, you had to hit the pig in the eye instead of the score zone. All was going well until one chap hit the pig, which turned it around to have its little tail to shoot at—the challenge was set down, and accepted, with the result being, success!

Behind the three piggies was a small 2D triceratops and you needed to kneel or sit to have a clear shot at the target. This shot was also made a little more interesting, as the neighbour had turned the water on to irrigate his orchard and as the stream of water oscillated it would spray the archer across the back of the legs as they shot by the castle wall. It was only a little off-putting! There was also a bear, the 3D dodo and some rabbits plus other targets.

After the day's shooting activities there was time to sit around enjoying a few ales while the keg barbecue was fired up to cook the beef, chicken and lamb to go with potato bake and salads, followed by peaches and ice cream. This was followed by the AGM.

Once the meeting was finished, they glued some glow sticks onto the rolling discs and the two ducks on

the windmill for some evening shoot-

On Sunday in the cool of the morning, the windmill and the static targets were shot once again, followed by a big breakfast of bacon and eggs, then everyone packed up to get on the road. The shoot, as always, was a lot of fun. Once again Roadie put on a successful shoot. He is already planning for the Birthday Shoot Weekend on May 25 and 26.

Over the weekend on January 5 and 6, a few of our members gathered at Chevallan Archery Park to celebrate the life of one of our original founding members and to also remember a couple of other members who passed away during the year.

As this was an impromptu shoot we weren't expecting any targets to be out, however Tamara had put out quite a few carpet targets plus some of the older 3D targets for us to shoot at. To add a little bit of adventure to target 3 we decided to try and get to the target by shooting through a small gap in one of the branches-most of us got through, perhaps not as cleanly as we would have liked. We may have made it through the gap, but most of us didn't hit the target.

We had a pizza dinner and watched the sunset and during the evening we toasted our lost friends and shared many memories. We also discovered we have a few members who can play the guitar ... and that most of us cannot sing at all!

Sunday morning was a little overcast, so following bacon and eggs and a few shots at the practice butts, we headed out with our flu flus to shoot the popinjay. This was the late member's masterpiece, so everyone lined up and let loose at the same time. We headed down to the course where the first target was a croc set up on a dirt mound. At target 3 we had another go at shooting through the V in the tree,

with a little more success than the previous day. We also had the usual fun at the swing set and shooting at the targets in the open paddock from various distances. On the way back to the shed for an early sausage and salad lunch, we played pick-a-spot on many of the targets-well, it was more like pick-a-gap through the shrubbery.

- At the time of printing, trad shoots confirmed for April and are: Traditional Rendevous at Yatala on April 20 and 21, Chevallan Archery Park Trad Shoot on April 27 and 28, Gladstone Longbow and Recurve Muster on May 4 and 5, White Rose Irymple Victoria on May 25 and 26, European Match Play at Bega NSW on May 26.
- Reports for Chevallan Archery Park, Twin City Bowmen Trad at Albury NSW, Bega Valley Archers Asian Experience, and Granite Belt shoot will be in the next issue. The Andy Firth Memorial Shoot to be held at the end of March will be in the following edition.

You will find the further information and available flyers for the Traditional Shoots on the following websites: Ozbow: www.ozbow.net > Traditional Archery Events > each

www.wallacetradwoods.com > Shoot

shoot has an individual thread Wallace Woods:

information (proposed 2019 calendar, and will have the link to the shoot flyers as they become available) Chevallan Archery Park: www.chevallanarcherypark.com - for the 2019 proposed traditional shoot calendar, flyers, information, IBO approved African 3D targets customised archery medals.

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

I look forward to seeing you 'round the trads.

# 11/inners PHOTO COMPETITION



In the bush

Peter Kornek wins a \$250 Abbey Archery voucher for this photo, Last Wild Place, which appeared in the January-February 2018 issue of *Archery Action*.





Mikayla Harris wins a \$250 Abbey Archery voucher for this photo, World Class View at Wagga Wagga, which appeared in the January-February 2018 issue of Archery Action.

#### SCOTT HEIMAN

# BUSIONAIT



# SULVIVAL

# BACK BASICS

#### Clothing

Previously we covered the four priorities of survival: Protection, Rescue, Water and Food. And we considered that a handy way to remember these principles is with the phrase 'Please Remember What's First'.

In the inaugural Bushcraft and Survival column in Archery Action (November-December 2018), considered that the first priority, Protection, has four main elements: 1) First Aid, 2) Clothing, 3) Shelter and 4) Fire.

In this column, we'll pick up the theme of clothing. After all, clothing is the first line of protection against the elements. As a species, we are particularly poorly adapted to dealing with even mild climactic changes. Whether we're dealing with warm or cold climates, too many, incorrectly fitting, or the incorrect type of clothing

can see us overheating. This can then lead to dehydration and hyperthermia conditions such as cramps, heat rash, heat stress, heat fatigue, heat syncope and heat exhaustion.

A wise choice of clothing will go a long way towards shielding us against the extremes of heat, cold, sun, wind or immersion. In more moderate conditions, good clothing choices will keep us operating effectively whenever we're in the outdoors.

#### Protection is prevention

One of the most successful health campaigns in Australia's history was launched in 1981, when a cheerful Sid the seagull danced his way across our TV screens singing the jingle, "Slip, Slop, Slap!".

Sid's encouragement to "Slip on a shirt, slop on some sunscreen and slap on a hat" was expanded recently to include the principles to seek shade or shelter and to slide on some sunglasses. So the modern mantra is "Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek, Slide".

This campaign has the objective of decreasing sun-related cancers and



sunburn. And rightfully so. Did you know that more people die each year in Australia from sun-related cancers than they do in traffic accidents? Interestingly, the campaign has been so successful that data indicates that some of us are covering up so well with sunscreen that, nationally, we've increased our rates of Vitamin D deficiency!

But there is more to the issue of clothing than the need to avoid sunburn. Whether we're attending our local club weekend shoot or out hunting, what we wear makes a real difference to our comfort, to our capacity to function effectively and to our safety.

#### **Exotherm**

The human body is like a furnace. We put fuel in to burn and create energy. Just like other mammals, we're dependent on the internal generation of heat (exotherm) to maintain our body at a metabolically favourable temperature.

When heat leaves our body, we become cold and lose efficiency. In cold weather, we lose more heat to the surrounding air. So, we use clothing to trap the heat next to our body. The best insulation is achieved by wearing a layer of loosely woven porous material, like wool, that effectively holds quantities of motionless air next to our body to keep us warm and that reduces the amount of heat loss. Without this sort of protective coverage, in cold conditions we need to consume more food to generate more energy. If our bodies lose more heat than we can replace, we risk life-threatening conditions such as hypothermia, which can cause death in extreme cases. (See summary on Page 44.)

In hot conditions, the correct choice of clothing can help reduce dehydration by reducing the amount we sweat whilst remaining cool.

When the air temperature is above body temperature, the body will absorb heat from the surroundings via radiation, conduction and convection (the reverse is true in colder temperatures). In these circumstances, the evaporation of perspiration from your skin, and the evaporative cooling from exhaled moisture, are the only mechanisms left for your body to expel excess heat. Lose too much sweat, however, and you can dehydrate.

It's interesting to note that, even when you're unaware of perspiration, the human body loses around 600 grams per day of moisture from the skin. Once your body (and skin) temperature reaches 37 degrees, it starts to sweat. A normal maximum perspiration rate is around 1.5 litres per hour.

#### Like an onion

So, is there a way to make use of this sweat to help cool us down? Sure there is. Clothing choice plays a big part. With the right clothes, we can generate our own personal airconditioning system. The key is to trap the perspiration in air circulating around our body. To get an idea of what I'm talking about, consider how the meat sacks of yesteryear operated. Now think of what this might mean to your choice of clothing.

Clothing should be layered like a cake ... or an onion. It should also be of different designs, combining layers of lightweight and medium-weight materials. In the tropics, clothing should be light and loose-fitting, with air spaces between garments and the body in order to provide insulation and a cooling effect.

Multiple layers help keep the body warmer than one heavy garment and provide options for removing layers as the conditions change. As a matter of



Loose, all-natural camos are available for the whole family.

principle, inner garments should be porous to trap in warmth when cold but allow for evaporation (and cooling) when we remove the outer windproof and water-repellent layers.

To get a better sense of how the layering principle operates, think of a Bedouin ... have you ever wondered why they dress in a dress in the desert? The traditional male Arab dress is a long white tunic (thawb) with long sleeves worn with loose fitting trousers underneath (both made of cotton), a sleeveless cloak and a distinctive head cloth. The tunic is loose fitting. allowing air to circulate, preventing sweat from evaporating too quickly and thereby slowing dehydration in hot, dry conditions whilst maintaining a cooling effect. Meanwhile, the cloak (made of wool) stops the wind and provides warmth at night.

So don't be tempted to strip down to your singlet in the heat. While you may feel cooler in the short term, you'll lose moisture by evaporation and sunburn. The fact is that, if you're feeling too hot in an overshirt, you're probably wearing the wrong design, material or size.

Note also that, if you start sweating, you'll leave a scent trail in the air which will alert your quarry to your presence—not optimal for a hunter. And if you've stripped down to bare skin, your sweat will shine in the sun which, again, may give away your presence to your prey.



When hunting, it is wise to wear boots that are at least ankle height.



As this promo photo shows, it's moments like these you need gaitors like Snake Guardz.

#### Critters

Australia is home to some of the world's most venomous, poisonous and pesky creepies, crawlies and slitherers. So wearing the right clothing can offer a lot of protection against the irritations and risks that inevitably arise when we start sharing their environment.

Mosquitoes: The World Health Organisation considers mosquitoes to be one of the deadliest animals in the world. Their ability to carry and spread disease to humans causes millions of deaths every year. While they can bite through some materials, they can't through others. Fabrics that are densely woven offer a challenge as do loose fitting clothes. That said, denim will protect against most kinds of mosquitoes (but not all).

Snakes: Wearing proper ankle high (or higher) boots can prevent ankle injury and can protect against snakes. If you prefer less constrictive footwear, consider wearing your walking shoes

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with a decent set of gaitors like Snake Guardz.

Ants and ticks: Blousing your trousers (like members of the military do) has two benefits: 1) it stops/restricts ants and ticks from climbing up your leg; and 2) it stops loose fitting leg material from making a 'swishswish' sound as you walk and stalk. And we'd all agree that a quiet stalk is a good stalk.

# HOW HEAT LOSS and WATER LOSS HAPPEN

RADIATION
CONDUCTION
CONVECTION
RESPIRATION
EVAPORATION

#### RADIATION

Body heat is lost to nearby objects even when not touching them through the emission of electromagnetic radiation

## **COLDER**

The Scouts, the military and most outdoor books teach the COLDER principle. It is a great acronym to remind us about how to care for and use our clothing. While it's primarily focussed towards survival situations, the principles also have day-to-day application.

- **C** Keep your clothing CLEAN. Dirt can break down the fibres of your clothing.
- O Don't OVERHEAT.
- L Wear your clothes LOOSE and in LAYERS. Makes your system versatile.
- **D** Stay DRY or get DRY.
- **E** EXAMINE you clothing. Look for worn or damaged areas.
- **R** REPAIR any damage that is found.



# **SUMMARY Swiss Staging System for Hypothermia**

STAGE	CLINICAL SIGNS	CORE TEMPERATURE	TREATMENT OPTION
OK HT1	Healthy Conscious, shivering	36-37°C 32-35°C	Healthy core temperature Ensure warm environment and
HT2	Impaired consciousness, no longer shivering	28-32°C	clothing, give warm liquids Active internal and external rewarming (eg, heat packs, warm fluids, cardiac
HT3	Unconscious, vital signs present	24-28°C	monitoring, full body insulation) HT2 treatment plus airway control, consider haemodialysis and/or ECMO
HT4	No vital signs	<24°C	or cardiopulmonary bypass Advanced life support, then as HT3 treatment

#### Headdress

When Lawrence of Arabia crossed the El Houl plain on his way to attack Agaba in July 1917, he observed the following:

"[A]s the day went on and the sun rose in the sky [the wind] grew stronger-by noon it blew a half gale, so dry that our shrivelled lips cracked open, and the skin of our faces chapped; while our eyelids, gone granular, seemed to creep back and bare our shrinking eyes.

"The Arabs drew their head-cloths tightly across their noses, and pulled the brow folds forward like visors with only a narrow, loose flapping slit of vision."

The classic shemagh has been worn by people of the desert (since the Sumarians 5000 years ago) who everyday protection from blowing sand and glaring, burning sun light. Made of soft 100 per cent cotton, headwraps are ideal for keeping sun, wind, and sand out of our eyes and face in a sunburnt country.



Step 1: Place triangle over head a third of the way.



Step 2: Wrap the short end to the side of your head then wrap the long end around.



Step 3: Tie ends together.



Step 4: Adjust for comfort and conditions.

This style of headdress is not just for the desert either. A shemagh has multiple uses such as a towel, shade shelter, triangular bandage, sweat rag, splint, blind/hide, face mask, neck scarf, et cetera. Choose the right colour and material and it can be part of your camouflage, helping to break up your outline.

An Aussie take on the traditional shemagh is the Frillneck Urban Turban hat. With its neck flap, this style of headwear is great for hunting. It provides eye-shade as well as sun protection across the cheeks, nose and neck. The added benefit is that it disrupts your outline and can be worn as a face mask and can provide warmth in cooler climates. And unlike an Akubra-style hat, the Frillneck won't leave you looking to your quarry like a 5ft-plus roofing nail.

#### Natural versus man made

There are many arguments for natural materials against manmade ones. Environmental reasons are high on the list. After all, there is a considerable chemical waste stream in the production process for polyester, nylon, and other



The Aussie Frillneck is named after the iconic Aussie lizard.

textiles found in our outdoor wear. Further, many garments produced from artificial materials simply aren't made to last. According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australians buy an average of 27kg of new textiles each year and then discard about 23kg into landfill. Two-thirds of those discards are man-made synthetic/plastic fibres

that may never break down. By contrast, our older generations understood the value of high quality, naturally made clothing that would last season after season.

Consider too how our clothes look to animals. Natural materials don't shine like man-made materials do. While you may not be able to perceive the difference, animals will. Think too about how your garments may have been treated during manufacture. For example, Australian military camouflage uniforms are treated with an IR suppressant. Birds hate it. If they see you in the scrub, they'll squark warnings left and right, giving your position away to your prey. You can get rid of this suppressant by washing your gear in hot water.

If you choose natural fabrics, remember that not all fibres are the same. The commercial cotton manufacturing process, for instance, is environmentally harmful and uses four times more water than hemp production. Hemp is a good choice for clothing in the field. It absorbs 10 times more water than cotton so it will keep you cooler when the going gets hot.



Here's a way to stay shaded when you're going to be in one place for some time—a Renetto canopy chair.



# A day hunting in channel country

by Graeme Larkings

t started as a 10 day-swagging holiday with my wife Debbie, who had never been in a swag before. We tripped around northwestern New South Wales and southwest Queensland, stopping to look around the small country towns as we came to them. Of course, when you're in a small country town you go to the local watering hole—the pub. At night, we slept beside the road under the stars in our swags listening to the sounds of the bush. It was so peaceful.

We decided to call in on some friends of mine who live in channel country. I used to go pig hunting there but I hadn't seen them for nearly 10 years. It was great to see my friends again and to see they hadn't changed at all. We had a barbecue, a few drinks and talked a lot of BS. As the night went on, It was decided we should stay an extra day and put in a day's hunt. Plans were made to get up at the crack of dawn and go hunting.

Well, that was the plan but it didn't quite happen that way. Yes, we sinned. As we were in holiday mode, we slept in. After a late breakfast, with bows and arrows in hand, we headed south of the homestead to an adjoining paddock. As we crossed a couple of channels, Debbie noticed

a cat coming towards her. Keeping very still, she waited for the cat to get closer to her "which seemed to take forever". The cat got within range at 15m. Debbie drew her bow back and fired. The cat did a huge jump in the air, ran about 20m and dropped. It was Debbie's first cat and to say she was excited would be an understatement. (Editor's note: Graeme is too much of a gentleman to tell you this, but Debbie may or may not have been doing a little celebration dance when she slipped and fell into some indescribable smelly stuff. Luckily she had a change of clothes. Now, back to the story.) After she calmed down, we took a few photos and took the trophy. We got it measured and it went Trophy Class at 7 8/16pt.



Debbie's cat, which went Trophy Class at 78/16pt.



We decided to keep going south, which turned out to be the right decision. We thought it best to split up so we could cover more ground, but still be in sight of each other. It would also be a chance to try our signing skills when we saw feral game.

There are a lot of hiding places for pigs in channel country, so you have to be alert. After half an hour, I spotted a big billy goat on its own, but he was on a mission and soon disappeared in the scrub.

A little disappointed, we moved on. A little while later, Hawkeye Debbie spotted some pigs rooting around on the other side of a channel. Looking through my binoculars, I saw two boars and three sows. After watching them for a while, we worked out our plan of attack. With luck on our side, two of the sows walked closer to the left of us. Thinking maybe the boars might follow, Debbie stalked into a better position to shoot from. It worked brilliantly. One boar walked closer, it went down into the channel and disappeared for a few moments. It appeared closer to Debbie's left, which surprised her. Then the boar walked up the other side quartering away from Debbie, so she thought she'd better shoot. She let an arrow go and it hit the spot. The pig took off like a steam train and we watched him until he was out of sight. Debbie was a bit worried we wouldn't find it in this channel country. Pigs can be hard to find in this country, especially if there is no blood track. We turned around to see what the other boar was doing but it was a bit nervous and took off. We turned our attention back to Debbie's boar. We walked to the next channel and there was the boar, dead. It must have fallen into the channel and died before he hit the ground because there were no kick marks on the ground. Relief all round because the pig could have gone in any direction and we might not have found it.

I looked around and saw a sow with the same colouring as Debbie's boar, white with black dots. I stalked in on the sow while it was busy feeding on grass. I got within 30m and fired. I got it right on the money.

We had a great photo session, with a lot of BS spoken. After the excitement of getting our pigs, we moved on but didn't see anything else so decided to call it a day and go back to the homestead.

It was sad to say goodbye to our friends the next day, but we'll always have our memories of seeing our friends and having a day out hunting in channel country.



Hawkeye Debbie spotted this boar.



Graeme took a sow with the same colouring as Debbie's boar.





# 2019 TBAMUSTER

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

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Drawcord storm hood, stows in the collar.

Two large outer chest pockets with big-button closure.

Both chest panels feature large map pockets with zippered closures.

Zippered front closure with big-buttoned outer storm flap.

Two large outer chest pockets with big-button closure.

Elasticised inner cuff locks in warmth.



Although I live in an area known for its cold winters, and I don't mind a brisk morning frost, I am not a fan of a prolonged bitter winter with temps between -10 and +7°C for months at a time. Those conditions can zap the desire to engage in outdoor activities defying the elements.

lower pockets with zippered closure.

So when the opportunity arose to test Crossfire Australia's GP Jacket, I knew I was familiar with the cold and the need to be sufficiently prepared to withstand its grip in order to enjoy outdoor pursuits.

I did indeed get the opportunity to really rely on this jacket in poor, windy and damp conditions and quickly found myself forgetting the weather, relaxing and enjoying my surroundings. This jacket is quite versatile, the abundance of pockets allows you to carry a surprising amount













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Zippered upper arm pockets, both arms.

Adjustable velcro outer cuff closure.

Removable Inner Fleece, can be worn separately. Zips and buttons into the iacket as a liner.

All big-button closures can be actioned single handed.

Zippered closure on mesh underarm ventilation panels.

Drawcord waist.



The water-repellent properties of the material make moisture bead and shed from the jacket as you move.

of items with ease. Its inner removable fleece jumper can be worn separately if the conditions ease allowing you to shed the outer jacket. This reduces the amount of extra garments you need to carry if on an extended hunt or even a

backpack hunt, which is very handy.

The GP Jacket has kept me cosy and dry in the drizzle and wind and is great to hunt in. Moving around, the material is quiet and so are the button closures on the frequently used pockets—ideal for the hunter. For a big jacket it is very well fitting and I found it easy to shoot in and to stalk in.

So with the rut, roar and the productive winter hunting months almost upon us, this jacket designed with versatility and convenience in mind, will make anyone's time out in the elements this winter very comfortable and enjoyable. We spend so much time honing our actual archery equipment but often make do with clothing that just doesn't quite match the task. Check out Crossfire Australia at www.crossfire.com.au for the GP Jacket and stay out in the elements this winter for longer, enjoying its weatherproof performance and comfort.

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With input from SMEs in the back-country hiking industry, we have developed a frame that will flex at the same rate as the human back. Too little flex forces the hips and shoulders to fight with every stride, which is fatiguing. Over flexing forces the shoulders to fight angular momentum as the load swings wide

with each step. The DG frame set flexes just right, hips and shoulders move freely, stride is longer and less exhausting. Active ventilation keeps things cool. The whole shoulder harness yoke assembly can be quickly extended up or retracted down with three height settings built into the webbing attachments.

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military boot, this is it.

#### DG3 Overnight

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

#### DG Mule

The DG MULE is our variable-capacity, do-anything pack adapter. It can be compressed into a low-profile, 1900 cu-in pack or expanded to 5000 cu-in. Fits Pelican cases, a 20 litre water or fuel jerry. Or venison. This adapter



venison. This adapter fits our DG Frame™ and is the adaptable load carrier you've been asking for.



# Indoor National Chang

The official 3DAAA year kicked off a little differently this year. It was decided to move the Indoor National Championships from July to February 1 to 3 and this decision has been justified with a record attendance of 156 shooters across three States and four venues. The Twin City Gippsland club was the Victorian venue, North Albert once again hosted the Queensland shooters and for New South Wales, Mountain View Archers was one venue and the Dubbo 3D club was also a venue for this year's competition.

The 3DAAA indoor round consists of two different rounds both using the Delta indoor face. One round uses the 12 and 14 rings (the maximum score is 380) and the other round uses the 11 (the maximum score is 330).

There were some very good scores submitted with three new records being shot. In the New Semi-Pro Class, Ben Doyle has set a new benchmark of 706 (47x), Joanne Bogie beat her own record now lifting it to 626 (7x) in the FBF class and in the CUBF class Josie Hatch set the record at 707 (29x).

Congratulation to all the shooters who placed and also to those who set new Personal Best scores. Placegetters are shown on the next page. (Full results should be available on the website soon.) The presentation of these awards will take place at the 2019 Australian Championships to be held in November at Nambucca Heads.



FOR THE LATEST RESULTS & INFORMATION www.3daaa.com.au

SPM

Ben Doyle 1, Paul Eagle 2, Steven Shorten 3.

MRC

Will Bristow 1, Josh Radoll 2, Simon Gallen 3.

**FBO** 

Tracy Redgrove 1, Jo Moffit 2, Andrea McFarlane 3.

**MBR** 

Ian Ferguson 1, Dean Thurtell 2, Raymond Knight 3.

**FBR** 

Teneille-Lee Fowler 1, Julie Evans 2, Cheryl Thomson 3.

**MBF** 

Rick Starke, 1.

**FBF** 

Joanne Bogie 1, Raylene Starke 2, Sindy Avard 3

MCU

Mark Corner 1, Brain Turner 2, Robin Huckett 3.

**FBU** 

Gaynor Boyd 1, Libby White 2, Tania Harris 3.

RU

Nigel Weiland 1, David Unwin 2, Steven Bartley 3.

**TRAD** 

Dale Holloway 1, Richard Peters 2, Dave Baker 3.

MSR

Brian McFarlane 1, Owen Kirkman 2, Rodney Hailes 3.

SMC

John Carpenter 1, Dennis Ide 2, Kevin Allen 3.

HC

Jason Archer 1, Jamie Gilroy 2, Greg Scott 3.

FHC

Kellie Ellen 1, Sarah Keene 2, Donna Gilroy 3.

YMR 15-17

Drew Orton 1, Brodie Hatch 2, Rhys Beauchamp 3

YMR 13-14

Jamie Hatch 1, Sofye Sebelic-Lodding 2, Tristan Weiland.

YF

Isabella Dalziel1, Caitlin Magiluray 2.

YU

Jodi Faux 1.

**CUBA** 

Sam Mufale 1, Adam Schultz 2, Edward Chapman 3.

CUBL

Flynn Patton 1, Charlee Brittain 2, Olivia Weiland 3.

**CUBF** 

Josie Hatch 1, Bella Ellen 2, Shaylen Lowe 3.

CUBJ

Levi Ellen 1, Kobi Rule 2, Imira Sebelic-Lodding 3.

# Young ABA club receives Australia Day award

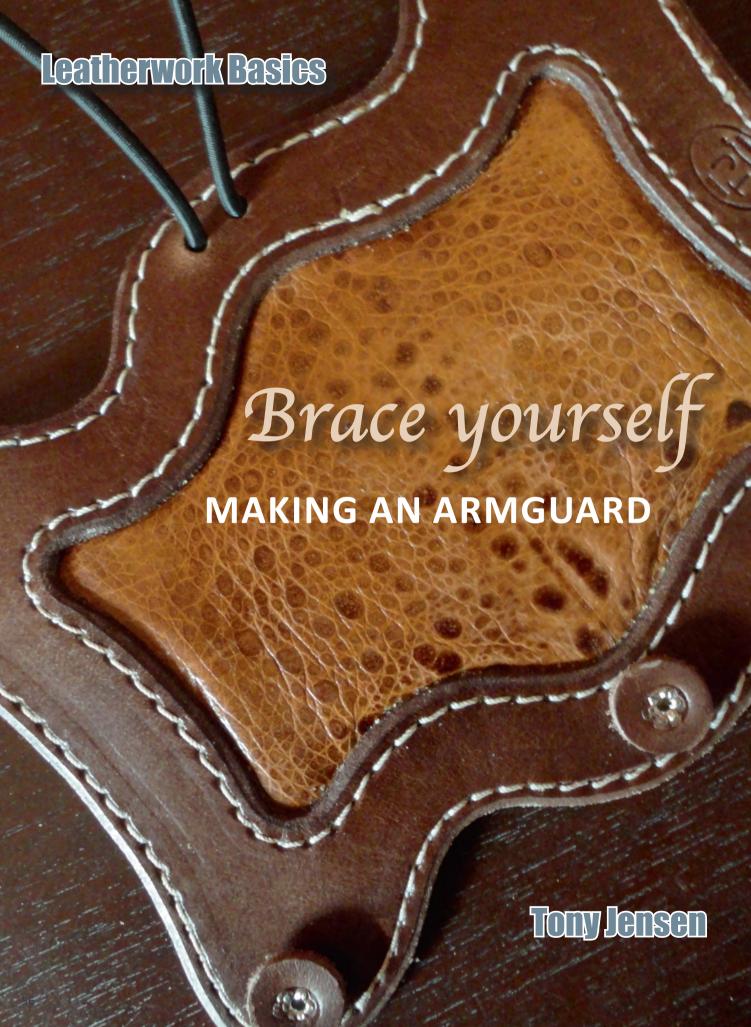
Gin Gin Field Archers were honoured at this year's Australia Day. Pictured here is the President, John Doe, holding the Australia Day Sporting Award presented to Gin Gin Field Archers for being a pro-active new club! The award was handed out by the Gin Gin Australia Day Committee.

Gin Gin Field Archers and Bowhunters have been active for two years and have spent a lot of that time searching for suitable grounds as the club must be in a council-approved recreational zone (not an easy task!). Eventually the Pony Club decided they would be happy to share their well established grounds with the club.

Community and organisational support has been excellent. People have readily bought tickets for the Christmas raffle, and grants were secured for a water tank and a shipping container from the Bundaberg Regional Council for \$2,000 and Evolution Mining for \$3000. The tank was installed on a gravel base the other week and cement and sleepers were donated by members. Now the shipping container for storing targets and gear has arrived and is sitting nicely next to the practice range. Just recently someone even donated a barbecue.

The club is gradually building members and had a successful Australia Day weekend with novelty, hunter rounds and a couple of ABA shoots. The rest of the time was spent around the fire chatting and enjoying life.





The brace, or armguard, has been around as long as archery itself. From the very first time a hunter picked up a bow and managed to suffer the anguish of a string slap, I'm sure there has been an ongoing search into how to avoid it happening again. According to the source of knowledge of all things known and unknown, Wikipedia, many of the first dalliances into armguards came in the form of wood and bone, and in some cases ivory, stone or animal hides. Many of these early armguards were functional to stop the sting from the string and were often engraved with unique motifs or murals depicting the archer's exploits. Others have been found to have been simply decoration and may have been used to signify status. Isn't it funny, even back then people were 'faking till they made it'!

've been very lucky in my archery life that I could count on one hand the number of times that I have had string slap, whether by good luck or good management even with shooting compounds and traditional gear. I do however recall the first time I ever came across the phenomenon. I'd not long come back from North America where the archery bug had set its teeth firmly into my wallet and my psyche and I had gone looking for the nearest archery lair, where all toxophilites congregate. There, while shooting in a new Z-Twist string (not that there was anything wrong with my original string, but this one was new), I watched a beginning archer receive some basic instruction on a compound bow he had just bought.

After a few clumsy shots, my new friend was picking up consistency when it happened. As I was holding at full draw I heard the unmistakable thwack of string on skin. I let down and turned to see one of the greatest haematomas I'd ever seen. This thing was all sorts of purple and red and just angry. I half expected to see Sigourney Weaver come out and warn of an alien invasion, but alas, I just watched that beginning archer put his bow down, swear a lot (well, to be honest, he hadn't stopped swearing from the moment it happened), walk over to the counter and ask for his money back.

Fast forward a lot of years to my transition into traditional archery. After I'd bought my longbow and wooden arrows, I also bought my first armguard and finger tab, for no other reason than, that's just what people who shot traditional bows did. After a few hunts out and about I found that the armguard was hot and uncomfortable and thought I could get by without it. And for a while I did, right up until I got my first string slap. It was right then and there I realised why everyone was doing it! Over the years I have made my own gear and have found that not all guards are a one-size-fits-all policy. In my workshop I have 30 different templates for traditional armguards, each one designed for a different taste or interest. I have also changed my original designs from being quite thick and bulky to a lot more comfortable and long wearing.

In the following article I'll take you through the basic process of making your own armguard. Like the early days, your armguard can be a way of demonstrating your own individuality or personal style. For this armguard I've decided to have a bit of fun and make use of a much maligned Queenslander now making its way into the realms of the leather workers' world, the cane toad!

# Gear you'll need

1 piece A4-sized veg tanned leather 2.5mm-3.5mm thick

1 piece A4-sized pigskin split leather

Graph paper and cardboard

Knife and cutting board

Stitching needles and thread

1 x groover or creaser

1 x edging tool

1 x 16mm leather punch

1 x 8mm leather punch

Glue and edge paint (optional)

1 x 1m bungy cord or leather lace speedy rivets/ tubular rivets

pencil and ruler



Work out where you want to place your armguard. From my experience, most of my contact occurs from the middle of my forearm to just before the crease of my wrist so I make all of my guards to cover that area. You may be more prone to being hit on the inside of your elbow or further down your forearm. In any case, make it to fit your needs.

Take a sheet of paper, I like to use graph paper because I can't rule a straight line. Place the paper on your forearm and mark on the paper where you want the guard to go. Don't worry about the overall shape at this stage, just work out where it needs to sit. Mark its length, but also its widthin other words, how far you want the





sides to come around. You may want just a simple, light guard that just covers your intended area or you could go medieval and go a full cuff; it's up to you. Just as a side note, if you do intend on drawing on your arm, make sure it's not in permanent ink!

In order to get a better feel for how the guard will sit, I scallop the front and back of the paper to help it sit in place. Once you have your basic shape, now's the time you can start to get creative. Draw in whatever shape you like. Most styles will have a wider base towards your elbow and getting narrower towards your wrist, but it's up to you. The style I've gone for is one that best represents how we see our cane toads; flat! If you look at it, I've tried to replicate how they look on the road!





#### 3.

Once you have your shape, trace or stick it onto cardboard or vinyl to use as a template. Because I'll be creating an armguard with a cane toad leather insert, I have given myself a 25mm border and cut out the centre. If you're planning on making a similar armguard, then remember, don't throw away the centre. We'll be reusing it to bulk out our insert.



4.

Trace out your design onto your leather and cut it out. What kind of leather should you use, I hear you ask. That's a good question. I prefer to use veg tanned leather because it can be dyed, stamped or moulded pretty easily. Anything from 2.5mm to 3.5mm thickness is perfect for this style of armguard. But use what you have. The only reason I use thinner leather is because I plan on putting a backing on this armguard and don't like having the extra bulk.



**5**.

Take the leather that you intend to have as the centrepiece of the armguard and roughly draw out the shape of the armguard. Come in from the edge approximately 25mm so that it doesn't hang out past the top layer of leather when you put it all together. Take the middle piece you cut out earlier, mark a 1mm to 2mm border around the centrepiece and then cut it out. By taking this off, your leather will fit into the hole in the middle of your armguard without it stretching the leather and making it distorted. Using some sandpaper, rough up the grain side of the leather middle piece. This will help the insert stick to the back of the hide. Stick the leather into the centre of the hide.







## 6.

Turn the armguard over and put glue on the rough-out side of the guard. Take the leather insert and centrepiece and turn it over. Identify the edges of the insert and put glue on the edges of the grain side of the leather and stick it all into place.



Stitch the centre insert into place. I like to run my stitch lines in 4mm from the job edge that way it doesn't allow edges to come apart and look messy.



Take your armguard and trace it onto your backing leather. You can use split leather, suede, lambswool; whatever you like. Just remember though, It has to be something that isn't going to irritate your arm when you start sweating. I've started using pigskin splits—nice and thin but strong.

Cover both the back of the guard and the backing leather with glue and stick them together. Use a rubbing stick or smasher to work the bumps, welts or air bubbles out so that the back is smooth. Then run a line of stitching around the outside of the armguard to hold it all in place.





#### EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Tony has kindly donated the armguard he made for this tutorial and it will be given away as a prize at the ABA's National Safari during Easter. Thank you Tony!

### 9

Trim off your excess backing leather with a sharp knife and then with a piece of 600 or 800 grit sandpaper, run along the cut edges of the armguard to remove any glue or excess backing leather you might have missed. This will also give you a nice surface to dress the edges with edge paint if you want to go that way. Use your edging tool and remove the edge from the top and bottom of the guard so that it doesn't irritate your arm.



## 10.

Mark where you are going to put your 'buttons' and where you're going to have your bungy cord or leather lace coming out. I've purposely designed this armguard so that the buttons will sit at the widest points of the armguard. Then diagonally across from those points I have placed my bungy cord holes. It's up to you how you want to attach your armguard but for this one, I have put three small holes in each corner and two holes in the middle. This allows me to anchor the cord at each end and still have my loop for each button. Punch your holes for the buttons and the attaching cord.

## 12.

Now, we're almost done. It's time to make our buttons. Again, this is personal preference. Some people like to use deer antler and I certainly do on different designs but because this is a bit of fun, I'm just going to use the same leather that I used to make the armguard. There are two parts to the button, the first part is the top section that is often that same leather as the armguard so that the colour and style are the same. The second part is a smaller piece of leather and can be

anything you like provided that it is thick enough to allow your attaching cord to slip under the top cover. In this instance, the bungy cord is 3mm thick so I cut a top button from my original leather using 16mm punch. Then I take a piece of bridle leather that is 3.5mm thick and cut out a button using an 8mm punch. Centre punch both pieces and then attach them to your armguard using a tubular rivet, speedy rivet or whatever you have to get the job done.

# **13**.

This next part will depend on the style of armguard you make but it's time to cut your lace or in this case bungy cord for your armguard. I use a method that seems to work for me when determining how much cord to cut. I cut the bungy cord three times the perimeter of the armguard, so measure the perimeter and multiply it by three to give you the cord length.



## 11.

At this point I have given the armguard a coating of Seal and Shine. It's a product that gives the leather a nice finish ... but you could easily use any leather dressing. Just make sure you wipe off the excess and buff it to a shine.



As I mentioned before, creating your own armguard is a great way to reflect your own personal style and individuality. The great thing is, once you have the basics, you can customise them however you like. Experiment with it, have some fun that's what our sport is all about. It's not just flinging arrows down a range and drinking beer around a fire that makes our sport enjoyable, it's all the little things as well. Knowing that you have had a hand in making your own gear gives you a massive amount of satisfaction. Go ahead, give it a go, and I'll keep an eye out on the range for some new and personalised designs!



#### NIGEL MORRIS

For as long as I can remember I have heard stories about an elusive animal that my old man, Troy and good friend, David, have chased up and down the Victorian High Country for decades. It was as large as a horse and as quiet as a mouse when it walked through the bush. If you startled this creature, it would let out a sound that would send shivers down your spine and cause the hairs on the back of your neck to stand up. I remember hearing the words, "Just like chasing fairies," used an awful lot, as I was running around David's shed and listening to the stories of the Victorian High Country and the animals that inhabited it. I've heard many names for these animals over the years, such as the Brown Ghost and the Victorian Moose. They are, of course, the magnificent sambar deer.

was around the age of 12 when I had my first sambar hunting experience. Dad and I had driven across the Nullarbor and up into the East Gippsland mountains, where we planned five days of camping on the river.

I was in complete awe of my surroundings as we drove up the winding roads that followed the mountain streams, beneath thick, vegetated forest gullies. Finally, we arrived at camp. As I stepped out of the Patrol, the cool air instantly hit me and filled my lungs. I had never experienced cold like this before.

What had been blue skies had turned dark and grey, and within an hour of setting up, the wind was coming in strong and fierce. Soon after we had pitched the tent, the rain started. This was the weather we would endure for the rest of the trip. For the next four days we had just a few hours without rain. The rest of the time was light to heavy rain with gale force winds, recorded up to 100km an hour.

It was a shock to my body coming over from Perth's dry heat to the opposite extreme in weather. The days that followed were really the

making of my hunting journey and the start of one of my main passions in life. As we got absolutely hammered with the weather, I quickly learnt one very valuable lesson: Don't step on a wet log! We were walking in a hurry along a game trail, cutting across the steep slope of a mountainside, as light was fading. We came across a big fallen tree heading straight down towards the river floor below. Dad stepped over the log with ease; me not so much. I put one foot onto the log and jumped up with the other leg, causing me to slide straight down the log and disappear in a matter of seconds. Luckily, I fell off the log onto a patch of bracken fern and clung onto whatever I could to stop my rapid descent down the steep slope to the river floor. The rest of that walk was done at far less of a pace. Later that night Dad admitted he thought he had lost me.

Although I did not see a deer that trip, something that blew my mind did occur. On the second afternoon, we had found a large well used wallow at the bottom of a shallow gully. We sat on the top edge of the gully directly in line with the wallow, some 20m away, using a big bit of dogwood behind us for cover. We were sitting there like drowned rats with an hour left of light (known as the hour of the sambar) when suddenly, "HHHHHOOOOOONNNNKKKKK." A massive commotion followed as the deer crashed off through the bush. A sambar making its way in to the wallow from straight behind us, had smelled us some 2m away, letting out the mightiest of honks. I sat there stunned and motionless. I was excited but afraid and immediately just wanted to hear it again. If you have never heard a sambar honk before, trust me when I say, when you do, you will know exactly what it is. There is no other sound like it. It is like a mix between a car horn getting blown in your ear and a ferocious dog bark. It's funny how the first few times you hear it, it's an awesome experience, but after a while it's a frustration. When a sambar honks, it means one of their senses have detected some kind of danger. Although it gets your blood pumping, nine times out of 10 it means the game is over.

The trip was cut short due to the unfortunate weather. We had not seen the sun for a day and a half and the rain was bucketing down. Dad and I had a pretty big 4WD trek to get out of the mountains and we couldn't afford to get stuck. We left sore,

tired, wet and broken but the bug had hit me. I now understood why it had taken my old man seven years to shoot one and it would be another 20-plus years before he would shoot his next! My sambar journey had just begun.

Although I had been on a couple of afternoon stalks on sambar, it wasn't until 2015, that I had my first proper trip hunting these animals. David had introduced us to a guy called Russell, who owned a property up in the East Gippsland mountains, Timberline Self-Guided Sambar Hunts. Dad, our mate Doug and I planned to go up to do some scouting and hunting. Some blinds were set up and a lot of work was done in the time we were there. Between the three of us, we saw 12 deer in three days. For sambar deer, this is exceptional. On the last day, Doug and I had both made it back to the hut for the agreed time of 10.30am and started packing the ute.

We were still missing one hunting partner as it reached an hour past our agreed meeting time. Our minds had started to drift towards what was happening in the bush. At that moment, a crackle came from the two-way and we heard nothing for another 10 minutes. Then, another scratchy crackle and all we heard was the word "down." Another five minutes would go by until we had finally received positive communication, and the message was, "Deer down". Dad had successfully taken a sambar stag, a beautiful 24-inch velvet stag. (the story was in January-February 2016 issue of Archery Action) That day was one of the best moments I had spent in the bush and I'll never forget it. After 22 years he had done it, and we cherished every moment!

This experience had me planning another trip for the next year before I had even arrived back home. The date was set for April 2016, and it was to be my first real solo hunt. The anticipation of it all had me buzzing as I drove up those mountains and took in the scenery once again. There were going to be a few more guys up there for the first couple of days, which was great. I planned to leave the property for them and go hiking the State Forest for the first three days. All day I would go out walking the mountains in search of deer. My breaks consisted of sitting by the river, fishing for trout to cook for dinner. It was great to come back to camp and have quality company. These first few days were a bonus and I thoroughly enjoyed it. Once the fellas had left, I



Fishing for trout for dinner.



decided to give the property a break for a day before going back on it, just to let the deer settle down again.

One last day stalking through the national parks had me spook a couple of deer with no visual sightings. It was time to get into the bush I had hunted the year before! The morning hunt was to be on a stand that would hopefully ambush the deer as they headed back into the bush to bed, after a night of filling up their bellies with fresh pickings from the paddock above. Walking in, I had spooked a numerous amount of deer as I had cut too deep into the paddock. Fortunately, they were not in the location of the deer I was targetting for the ambush, although I feared that the distant sound of honking would alarm all animals in the area and send them to cover. I got to where I thought the blind should be a little later than I had hoped and to top it off, I couldn't find the blind at all. I hadn't marked it into my GPS ... rookie!

Trying to stay quiet, I decided to walk along a log that had fallen on top of another downed tree, close to where I thought the blind was. The way the log had fallen put me about 2m above the ground as I sat down. A group of small trees in front of me kept me out of view of any animals passing by while still giving me ample shooting lanes. It was now light and I had been sitting on the hard log for over an hour and a half. The hard wood had started to dig in and

no matter how many small shuffles I made to move my body weight, I could not get comfortable again. I decided to stand up for a while. I used one leg to push myself up and before I knew it my legs were swept from underneath me and I faceplanted in the damp ground below. Luckily, I had the wits about me to lift my bow up while falling. My bow was the only thing that did not hit the ground. I checked my surroundings for deer before moving a muscle. Once I was confident nothing was in my presence, I sat up. Looking up to take in what had happened, I could see the overhanging log well above my head. "Dammit!" It was not my morning-I had blown it! I decided to sit for another 30 minutes just in case. After 30 minutes, I decided I had made too much noise and it was time to get out of there. I had only made it 10m from the crater in the ground that I had made when I heard, "HONK! HONK!" followed by a crash into the bush. I sat down again for another hour then cursed myself the rest of the way to the ute. What have I done? Will I never learn not to stand on wet logs? I guess some days just aren't your day!

The only way to recover from that morning when I did everything wrong was to go back out, learn from my mistakes and try to do better. That afternoon was going well. The wind was still and the sun was out, giving the

deer great opportunity to come out to feed early and soak up the sun before the cold night ahead. I was stalking along the bushline with 30 minutes left of light, when the wind changed, slowly drifting back into the bush scenting up the entire area. Nothing further happened that afternoon.

It was now the fourth night. I was bruised and battered, feeling depleted and exhausted. It was time to reset and come up with a new plan and get my mindset right again. I wasn't going to let the day's happenings throw me—instead of thinking I wasn't cut out for this, it was time to make the morning's events a lesson! I grabbed some magazines that were lying around the shearing shed (camp) and studied them, comparing each story with my own experiences and realising what I could have done differently. It was now 11pm and time to hit the sack with higher spirits. A plan had been made!

The plan was to get to the stand well before light, walking the 1.5km without torchlight and quietly. The next day was supposed to be the coldest day of my trip so far. The stand was in a gully with semiopen bushland with spots of thick vegetation, offering deer a semicovered pathway to the thick scrub to bed for their day's rest. The idea was that the deer would be in the paddocks above feeding that night. Then they should filter into the gully





Beautiful Victorian high country.



to bed down in some of the patches of thicker vegetation to escape the cold, waiting for the sun to hit the west side of the gully then come out to warm up. The stand was situated so that once the deer had warmed up they would walk past the ambush point and back into the dense, thick scrub to rest for the day.

The sound of a beeping phone alarm broke my toasty warm sleep and I mustered what strength I had in my broken body and unzipped the canvas that was keeping in the warmth. Immediately I was hit by the icy cold temperature of the high country, and I rushed to turn on the billy and strip my camp clothes off to get into my warm camo. I checked the time and my hurry turned into panic as I realised that I hadn't changed my alarm from the day prior and I had to travel more distance before light.

After I spooked a few deer in the head of the first gully, the rest of the 1.5km walk went to plan. I managed to find the stand with only my GPS before sitting down and getting ready for a frosty wait for daylight. I had one hand on my bow and the other in my pocket, alternating to give them warmth as the bitter chill had not lifted, unlike the darkness from the sky. It had now been light for over an hour and a half, but

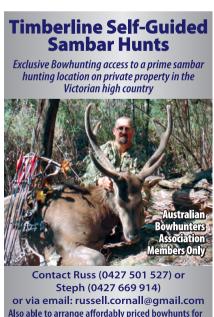
the direct sun had not hit the gully system yet. I contemplated what the hell I was doing there, as my legs and teeth were having a race to see which would shake themselves free from my body first.

Then like the rays from the heavens above, the sun hit the treetops above me and I thought relief was not far away. I was wrong, although the sun did warm me up, I was so cold that I felt frozen from the inside out. The sun gave me little to no relief for about 20 minutes. Finally, my shivering slowed as I started feeling the slight warmth of the sun. I thought, "Great, the deer will be warming up too." I checked my GPS for the time-7.26am, 7.26am! I looked up from the dull light of my GPS to see the most amazing sight.

In disbelief, I was watching a sambar deer feeding 60m away, heading straight towards me. It wasn't just any sambar deer; it was a stag! I quickly ranged where he would enter a shooting lane at 50m. I knew he would choose one of two paths once he reached that point. Either he would head straight down a game trail into the thick jungle-like gully below or he would go down an old fire break that cut sideways into the gully, above where I was sitting. Both these options would give me a 30m broadside shot. The second option was the preferable of the two. as it would mean he would present a shot on the direct right angle and I would not have to stand up to shoot.

The stag was moving so quietly and so slowly. One step, two bites, head up, two chews, look around and repeat. It was truly amazing just to watch him in his habitat, unaware of any danger.

The stag had now made it to the fire break, just standing there, dead broadside at 50m with his head down and completely relaxed. I contemplated a shot, but my decision was to let him walk and choose



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a game trail in hope for a better opportunity. I am comfortable at 50m out on the practice range, but 50m on an animal for me then was out of my comfort zone. The wind was in my favour as it had been all morning, the animal was relaxed and the reward far outweighed the risk. The stag continued his slow one-step-twochew process. I had to remind myself to focus as it was easy to get lost in his presence. My heart was beating out of my chest as I was waiting to see the animal's next move. It is one of the most captivating feelings. when you are locked onto an animal and your heart is pumping that loud you'd swear they would be able to hear it beating.

The stag had now reached the game trail that headed down to the thick bush below, but he continued along the fire break. Perfect! He was about 40m away now, as he walked

behind a small hill that the fire break had cut through, instead of going over. I could just see the top of his back and let myself have those couple of moments to let my emotions go. I sat there shaking like a leaf until I saw his back get near to the end of the rise of earth. I immediately stopped, took a breath in, and regained composure. I drew back as his head came out from the bushes and settled my pin onto his chest. It was a 30m shot but it was not the clean window I'd thought it was. Looking through my peep, I could see twigs in the way and I realised I would be shooting too eagerly if I took the shot. The wind was perfect and just another 10m further on the fire break was a perfect opening, also at 30m. I knew I could regret this decision because there was a big possibility that it could all go pear-shaped. I waited for his head to be behind the next bush and let down.

Luckily, he continued on the same path and in the blink of an eye, his head was behind the last tree. I drew back once more. He stepped out into the open, looked around, looked directly at me, I was trying not to even move my chest to breathe. His head went down again to feed. My second pin was settled behind the shoulder, and my finger hit the release.

He jumped up and slowly trotted back uphill towards the paddock. After going about 40m, his back legs buckled and he fell to the ground. The stag then got back up in shock and started sprinting off. I lost sight of him only 5m after the sprint started, and then seconds later came a huge crash, followed by the sounds of animals in the area flying through the bush.

I was in shock. Had I just done it? I tried to stand but there was no strength left in my legs. After 10 minutes my strength returned





A childhood dream come true.

enough for me to go to where the arrow impact had occurred. I was trying to mark the location in my GPS but like a man with advanced Parkinson's disease, I had no control over my hands to do even such a simple task. I had to sit down for another 20 minutes before following the trail of blood towards where I had last laid eyes on him.

As I reached the top of the hill,

I could see the flattened ground below, that looked like a train had derailed down the hill, and there he was. I had done it!

The moments that followed were very emotional and overwhelming. I soaked it in for a while before going up to grab Russ. He came down and after a session of photos, the hard work began. After a full day of skinning, butchering and carryouts, I finally caught back up with Russ to reflect on the day's events over a beer by the fire. It was the perfect way to finish off a childhood dream.

I just need to say a huge thank you to Russ and Steph at Timberline Self-Guided Sambar Hunts. Also a massive thank you to David and my old man, Troy, for doing all the hard yards early on as well as passing on their knowledge and advice.



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



# ROY ROSE Meanderings



## **Competitive composure**

A major concern for any athlete in any sporting endeavour is whether or not the levels of achievement attained in practice will be manifested in the actual competitive cauldron. Even elite-level competitors experience nerves and readily admit it. It must be accepted that this is simply part of our human make-up. There are obviously degrees to which one can be affected but whatever the degree, it is part of the deal if serious competition is your goal.

Sports in which the action is up-tempo and the mind tends to be often playing catch-up are less affected. The athlete may feel considerable prior nerves and apprehension but once the very pace of the action brings in instinctive behaviours, there is little or no time for premeditated thinking and nerves are no longer a major factor.

Unfortunately, our sport is the exact opposite. We must function in a sequential, ordered and composed series of actions from when the arrow is drawn from the quiver until it departs on its journey to the target. This only covers a time span of a few seconds but it must be traversed in, as close as is humanly viable, a video-like replay of the previous shot. Our accuracy depends purely and simply on duplication. Make every shot a mirror image of the one before and our arrows will land in the same spot.

Now, because we are not robots, this task is nearly impossible even before we factor in dealing with our state



of mind and extraneous influences. So how can we best approach the quandary? Obviously there are scientific and medical classifications which define anxiety levels specific to sporting involvement and the various symptoms that are manifest. This explains the degree to which an athlete can be affected by nerves and what strategies may work best for that person to attain a high level of composure.

There is no escaping the reality that only exposure can yield confidence. In short, the more times we approach the competitive situation, the less our nerves will become a factor. They will still be there, but experience will go a considerable way to allowing us to function more calmly.

There are skills and drills which exercise physiologists invoke for competitors to maximise their composure. Some are very simple. The first kind is focussed breathing. I started many decades ago by taking three deep breaths as a lead-up to every arrow. It oxygenises your system and calms those stress hormones. It can be surprisingly effective.

Preparation is a logical ally so that by the time you stand on that shooting line you can have confidence that your equipment is set up and tuned and your practice sessions have put you in a position that you can achieve the score you want to attain. If you are travelling a distance to the event, give yourself excessive time to arrive, sign in, check your target allocation (and get in some practice on the bales if it is a field shoot).

On the line itself, there are a number of realities that can fortify your impending performance. Firstly, no one really cares what you shoot except you. Secondly, have a state of mind that underlines that you are not shooting against other competitors, you are shooting with them. A focus on a particular opposition or specific score is counterproductive. Thirdly, this is a time when it is absolutely okay to be completely selfish. Focus on yourself, your form and execution sequence. Lastly, and most importantly, this is not a life-and-death situation. The sun will come up tomorrow and your dog will still love you whatever eventuates!

In truth, it is all about perspective. Building your best level

of competition composure will take time and experience. Work out what simple things work best for you, personality wise. Between ends, are you best suited to be vocal and active or do you feel strongest if you tend to chill and relax?

Some athletes have little superstitions and rituals which create for them a control factor that calms and reassures them. Elite archers have their little rituals and lucky charms and all this makes up a sequence of repetitious actions that work in harmony with our quest for shot duplication. Some top archers practice with recorded noise or loud music or other artificial distractions or create competitive competition drills that can mimic competition situations. I have only an 8m garage area to practise at home so I devise a situation that will add stress to my practice. I shoot at a target of 3/4in dots, three arrows per end, for a total of 15 arrows and a possible score of 150. As it is within my accuracy level with the compound to score 150 or very close, every round, because of the distance if I have 14 straight hits, an artificial pressure is brought into play to make that final arrow the hit I need for a perfect 150. If I miss one along the way, then I fight to make sure it's a 149 not a 148. You can easily adapt your target size and distance to duplicate this type of drill.

Another favourite, which I stole from Aussie legend Clint

Freeman, is shooting a specific distance against a phantom opponent. For example, suppose your average end for a FITA 70m distance was 54 points. Then take scores of 52, 52, 53, 53, 54, 54, 55, 55, 56 and 56 and place them in a hat. You take your initial end of six arrows, tally your score and draw a score out of the hat for your phantom opponent. Repeat this for the six ends an a cumulative battle eventuates end for end. This drill creates both catch-up pressure if your opponent's draw is higher than your end as well as a striving to hold an advantage if the phantom score is less. This is both a fun and competitive drill and places pressure on every arrow.

As inventive as these types of practice scenarios can be, the only real test of your composure is to venture into the competition environment and gradually hone your adaptability to a point where experience builds a system of functioning which works for you. The hardest iron is forged in the hottest flame! Never dwell on a bad arrow or a bad end—you can't unring the bell.

Hopefully, employing a cross-section of these ideas, married to rational patience, you will work steadily towards being the best you can be And remember, your best is always terrific!

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# outside In the zone

# The little things

## by Nils Spruitt

Just the other day I was doing what all good husbands do-taking my wife grocery shopping. In the Spruitt household, grocery shopping is a fortnightly event and I try in every way possible to avoid it as I am sure most good husbands do. Every now and then I do get cornered or conned into it, but on this occasion I actually volunteered. You see. I had an ulterior motive. I needed to do a little shopping of my own for a forthcoming weekend away with Digs (which up to that point Mrs Spruitt was blissfully unaware of).

I will say I am not a lover of shopping or shops in general, unless of course they happen to be outdoor interest stores. Unfortunately, we have no such stores in our shopping village, but I do derive some small amount of pleasure by sitting in one of the comfortable waiting chairs strategically situated in most shopping malls, and simply watching people. When I think about it, and I am not talking about voyeurism, observing people is something I have always done. I like to study people more or less in the same way I study animals and birds. It is amazing what you can learn when you take time out and watch people. Apart from poor dress sense and in some instances, terrible styling as a whole, you know what I concluded? People these days appear to be generally unhappy, which is very sad.

I feel it is fair to say, people are fast losing the ability to communicate directly with others. I lost count of how many individuals I saw walking past me with their head down reading or typing on a mobile phone and this applied to both sexes and all age groups. Even couples seated in coffee shops were doing the same rather than having direct dialogue with their companion. And everyone was in a hurry. I fully understand you just want to get the little shopping venture over and done with and be on your way, but this was on a different scale altogether. The hustle and bustle of city living has reached rural areas, it would seem. Again, how sad.

Once upon a time, country living was laid back and life ticked over at a pace where you only ever broke out in a sweat because of the temperature. In such settings it was common to walk down the street and have numerous conversations with like-minded people. People greeted people with a "How're you going" or a simple nod of the head and life as a whole seemed far more relaxed. I cannot understand how in just one generation we have gone to the other extreme. Just to prove a point to myself, when Mrs Spruitt had finally finished with the groceries and we were walking back to the car I actually said hello to three people who were walking past. Two completely ignored me while the third did in fact nod his head but only after giving me a startled look. I would have kept up with this experiment but Mrs Spruitt quickly put a stop to it. Women! They have no sense of adventure.

People as a whole need to relearn the art of relaxation and just as importantly, find and do something which gives them some pleasure. Life is short and we need to open our eyes and our minds to the fact it is not all about money and up-tothe-minute technology. I have found it's the little things in life which often give us the most gratification. One example springs to mind.

I was hunting with Digs on a property about five hours' drive from home on the New England plateau. Digs was doing what Digs loves to do and that was chasing goats. I too was doing what I love to do and that was chasing bunnies. Rather than stalking around the scattered blackberry patches as was the norm, this time I was seated on my little foldable stool overlooking a well used warren. I have no idea how long I had been sitting half concealed within a rather dead-looking briar patch—perhaps an hour to an hour and a half-when all of sudden I detected movement in my peripheral vision. I knew it wasn't a rabbit but any movement outside the norm in such an environment should be scrutinised on account of unseen perils like serpents. Thankfully, on this occasion it wasn't a

snake. It was a tiny little wren ducking and dodging among the blackberry's slender stems, only 2m away.

I was mesmerized by the little bird. Of course I have seen wrens before but never one so close and so unconcerned by my presence. It helped that I was completely still and basically inert apart from a little head turning every now and then to follow my subject as it flittered about me. I was so captivated by this wren I completely lost all track of time and forgot what I was there for in the first place. Like most hunters, I always carry a camera for those important hunter-with-his-game photographs, so I ever so slowly took mine from out of my cargo pants pocket and focussed the lens on my tiny visitor. Normally, such a shot would be impossible with a pocket camera as wrens, robins and finches are nervous subjects at the best of times, but I captured the moment quite well.

Later that night while we sat quietly around the campfire I kept revisiting that moment in my mind and it never failed to put a smile on my face. It still does today or whenever I look at the photograph. Did I see any rabbits? Yes. Did I arrow any rabbits? No, not that afternoon, but I didn't care at all. In the grand scheme of things, this was such a miniscule event but gosh it made me happy. It could be a bird, a glowing sunrise, a friendly greeting from a complete stranger, the shy smile from a two-year-old or the unexpected sighting of something so unexpected which can make all



the difference to our daily lives. More often than not, it is the little things which can bring about a big change in our lives and we are forever richer for it.

#### A bit more about hares

In the previous issue, I shared my thoughts about hares and hare hunting. Since penning that piece, I have witnessed something I never thought I would ever see. If you remember I told you how I often see a hare or two in the late afternoons around home while I am walking my dog. Never in the same location, mind you, and that still applies. However, I did say that hares and rabbits are seldom seen in the same area. In fact I actually said I had never seen a hare anywhere near a colony of rabbits. That was then.

Some weeks ago while walking Chloe on a track bordering on some

cleared grazing land, I spotted a hare and a rabbit actually feeding together. I couldn't believe what I was seeing at first. The two were actually together and not just passing each other on their separate ways. As I approached they ran off together into the scrub. (The hare was in the lead, but you'd expect that,



given his extra speed and longer limbs.)

For the next few outings I took to the same track but didn't see hide nor hare (couldn't help myself, sorry!) of my unlikely duo. A week passed before I again saw the pair and just like before they were together and acting as one. The next day I took my camera with me and was rewarded when I caught them out in the open. Now my little telephoto lens was not really up to the task, but you can still plainly see one is a hare and the other a rabbit. I hope you find this as interesting as I did. In fact, I will log the event as another of life's little things.



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# Entries PHOTO COMPETITION



Lying in wait, Jed Forbes.

Sleeping pigs, Graham Wienert.





Capertee Valley on a chilly morning, Matt Driscott.

# Abbay Archary Photo Compatition



Australia's Largest Archery Company Since 1975 is pleased to sponsor the Photo Competition with two \$250.00 Abbey Archery Gift Vouchers

> One for the best photo In the Field and one for the best photo In the Bush

Email entries to editor@archeryactionmagazine.com with the Subject line: Abbey Photo Comp Entry Winners to be announced in the March-April 2020 Issue



You can use your prize towards a new bow package or any other archery accessory. Bows to suit all disciplines are available at both our pro shops in Sydney and Brisbane, worldwide online or from our network of authorised Abbey Archery dealers right across Australia.

Call to order your archery equipment today: Sydney (02) 8850 6400 or Brisbane (07) 3279 6400 or Buy Online at AbbeyArchery.com.au

# Pacific Regional Field Archery Championships

To be held at Renegade Bowmen Inc. proudly supported by Ipswich City Council









Timetable: Muster each day at 8.00am for an 8.30am start

Monday 10/06/19 Registration and bow checks
Tuesday 11/06/19 Registration and bow checks
Wednesday 12/06/19 28 Targets Field/Hunter

Thursday 13/06/19 28 Targets Hunter/Field (afternoon bow checks)

Friday 14/06/19 28 Targets Field/Hunter
Saturday 15/06/19 28 Targets Hunter/Field

Sunday 16/06/19 28 Targets Animal followed by presentations

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

#### **Nomination Fees:**

3 Days Adult/Young Adult/Veteran/Seniors \$55 Cubs/Jnr \$45 Family \$145 - 5 Days Adult/Young Adult/Veteran/Seniors \$75 Cubs/Jnr \$55 Family \$170 **Nominations closing date:** 27th May 2019

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

Last day for grading: 27th May 2019

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

# **DIRECTIONS:**

http://renegadebowmeninc.com/web/index.php/club-map

324 Cumner Road South Ripley. Access is via Cunningham Hwy only.

Turn off the Cunningham Highway at Swanbank exit.

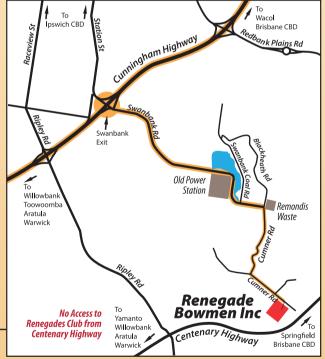
Keep the old power station site on your right.

Keep following Swanbank Road to the Wood Mulching Industries (it is actually Remondis Waste Facilities - google is wrong) and then turn right.

Turn left into Cumner Road.

Aproximately 1 Kilometre along Cumner Road you will see the turn-in sign to the club.

Note that you cannot gain access via the Centenary Highway and your GPS will not get you there.



- Limited camping and caravan sites are available, but site must be booked by emailing: camping.renegades@gmail.com - Definitely No DOGS allowed
- Ipswich Country Motel, 250 South Station Road, Raceview is located only a short distance from the club Ph: 1800 882 263, Ipswich Caravan Village Ph: 07 3281 7951 or more offsite accommodation information can be obtained from the ABA website
- The Club has modern toilet and shower facilities. Catering provided by the Club from the evening of the 10th June
- Food and drinks available on the ranges on shoot days. Clean toilets provided on the ranges.
- Commemorative shirts available for pre purchase by pre-order by 30th April. Email: camping.renegades@gmail.com for prices and payments
- For general inquiries contact the Club via website renegadebowmeninc.com

Australian Bowhunters Association Inc™

ABN: 79 750 431 225 Affiliations: International Field Archery Association / Confederation of Australian Sport



# Minutes of the

# 2018 Annual General Meeting

of the National Management Committee of the

# Australian Bowhunters Association Inc™

Held at Lady Northcote Recreational Camp, Glenmore, October (26)-27-28 2018



#### **ITEM 1/18: RECORD OF ATTENDANCES**

All attendees announced themselves and were recorded (details in the expanded notes).

#### ITEM 2/18: WELCOME AND MEETING ADMINISTRATION

#### **ITEM 3/18: CONFIRMATION OF CREDENTIALS**

Number of attendees at meeting eligible to vote: 25 plus the two postal votes that were received. Thirteen is the majority vote.

#### ITEM 4/18: OFFICIAL OPENING BY CHAIRMAN

The meeting was opened by Acting President Jeff Bell, who welcomed all to the 40th Annual General Meeting of the ABA.

# ITEM 5/18: TABLING OF ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL REPORT

# ITEM 6/18: TABLING OF OTHER DOCUMENTS AND PAPERS AS NECESSARY

(None tabled)

#### **ITEM 7/18: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 2017 AGM**

MOTION: That the minutes be accepted as a true and correct record of the 2017 AGM.

M Bruce Kelleher S Stuart Renwick Carried

**Business arising from the Minutes:** Alan brought up Item 20/17 regarding the magazine and was advised it was a discussion topic for later in the meeting.

#### **ITEM 8/18: REPORTS**

National President (Acting) Jeff Bell read his report. Vice-President Bowhunting Division report by Senior Vice-President (Acting) Mark Burrows was read, in his absence, by Troy Morris. Vice-President Field Archery (Acting) (resigned) Trevor Pickett's report was read by Jeff Bell. TBA Committee Chairman Ralph Boden read his report. Tom Cornell, National Director of Coaching also gave a report.

# ITEM 9/18: BRANCH CONTROLLER REPORTS

No report from Branch A. No report from Branch B but Jeff Bell commented on status of Branch and movement to reinvigorate. Branch C, no report (no Controller and no Field Rep). Branch D presented report. Branch E presented report. Branch F no report. Branch G presented a brief report. Branch H presented report. Branch I presented report. Branch J presented report.

#### ITEM 10/18: NATIONAL TREASURER'S REPORT

Amanda Skinner presented her report which was printed in full in the Annual Report along with the Profit and Loss Statement.

Answers were given to questions on bowhunting expenses (purchase of trophies), the necessity for an Act in Northern Territory because of incorporation issues, insurance for Directors and coaching costs.

MOTION: That the National Treasurer's report be approved.
M Amanda Skinner S Gary Sinclair Carried

# **ITEM 11/18: AUDITOR'S REPORT**

The Auditor's Report was circulated to delegates.

## **Appointment of Auditor**

MOTION: That the auditors, Certus Group, be appointed for the next financial year.

M Amanda Skinner S Gary Sinclair Carried

# ITEM 12/18: ANNUAL BUDGET 2018-2019

MOTION: That the annual budget be adopted.

M Amanda Skinner S Peter Stubbs Carried

# ITEM 13/18: AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION ACCEPTED 2017 FOR TABLING AT 2018 AGM

It is proposed that Section 25 of the Constitution: Employees (ii) be reworded to read;

(ii) No employee of the ABA Inc. shall be entitled to be elected or hold an elected position.

Jeff explained that the motion had sat on the table for the required 12 months and was now being voted on. The motion was to clear up ambiguity in the Constitution. MOTION: That "Section 25. Employees (ii)" of the Constitution be changed to the wording: "No employee of the ABA Inc. shall be entitled to be elected or hold an elected position."

M Ken Neill S Bruce Kelleher Carried

# ITEM 14/18: AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION TO BE TABLED 2018 FOR DECISION AT 2019 AGM Nil.

74 ARCHERY ACTION

# ITEM 15/18: INTERIM ELECTION OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Current acting positions: National President: Jeff Bell Senior VP: Mark Burrows VP Field Division: Trevor Pickett National Score Recorder: Alan Avent

Assistant National Score Recorder: Sally-Anne McGrigor

Jeff advised the position of Senior Vice-President would be vacant as Mark would revert to Vice-President of Bowhunting (his current elected position) and that acting Vice-President of Field Division, Trevor Pickett, had resigned and this position would also be left vacant. Jeff stressed that in acting positions people were not eligible to vote so an interim election was required to fix the problem as a meeting quorum was virtually impossible to attain in the current situation.

The vote was for one-year positions until the next AGM. Jeff Bell was unanimously voted National President. Alan Avent was voted National Score Recorder with 27 votes (including two postal votes). Sally-Anne McGrigor was voted in as Assistant National Score Recorder.

Appointments are scheduled to be made at the December National Executive meeting and volunteers are being requested for the vacant positions, even if they choose to take the position for only 12 months.

# ITEM 16/18: TABLING OF BRANCH SHOOT CALENDAR 2019

Some small issues to work through. Will be tabled later in meeting. See Item 24.

#### ITEM 17/18: TABLING OF BRANCH BUDGETS 2018-2019

Amanda thanked Branches for the huge improvement in the submission of budgets. Still to come, Branches A and C. MOTION: That all submitted Branch Budgets be adopted as approved by National Treasurer.

M Amanda Skinner S Alan Avent Carried

# ITEM 18/18: TABLING OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2019-2021

Bruce Kelleher was asked to report on risk management within the sport and said there had been a marked reduction in incidents during the past 12 months. In discussion after Bruce's report, Peter Stubbs said a Sunsafe policy had been created within his Branch and he could forward it to National. His offer was accepted.

Jeff Bell presented some concepts for the National Development Plan. He said Branch Development Plans needed to be developed by National so that all levels of ABA were being included. He suggested a strategy weekend with guidance to identify priorities. David Lee suggested a top auditor was needed for risk management to minimise the possibility of fraud and misrepresentation. Amanda suggested the need to invest in a grant writer to assist Branches in getting grants that were available.

# ITEM 19/18: TABLING OF BRANCH DEVELOPMENT PLANS 2018-2019

Amanda said the current practice of receiving the plans at the AGM gave too little time for the reading of the plans so they could be passed at the AGM.

The following discussion made the points that paper was heavy to transport, email was difficult because of size

limits, USB sticks could be purchased and sent out to Branch Controllers, there was an option to use the Cloud or a special restricted access area of the ABA website could be developed for use.

Item 19 has been deferred to the December meeting of the National Executive.

#### ITEM 20/18: GENERAL BUSINESS FROM THE AGENDA

#### 20/18/1: Nomination for Life Membership

One nomination was received for Life Membership. Mike White was proposed by Jeff Bell on behalf of all the National Executive.

M Sally-Anne McGrigor S Bruce Kelleher Carried 20/18/2: Nominations for Meritorious Service Award Karen White was proposed by Jeff Bell and the nomination was endorsed by the National Executive.

M Lindsay Harris S Amanda Skinner Carried
20/18/3: Nominations for Syd Green Memorial Award
There were two nominations for the Syd Green Memorial
Award—Tony Hartcher and Alan Scarlett. After the vote, Tony
Hartcher was announced as the recipient of the award.
20/18/4: Allocation of National Competitions

- Mallee Sunset Field Archers nominated to host the 2019 National Safari.
- Renegade Bowmen nominated to host the PRFAC on June 12 to 16 2019.
- Mallee Sunset Field Archers nominated to host the 2021 World Bowhunter Championships.

MOTION: That Mallee Sunset Field Archers nomination to host the 2019 National Safari and Renegade Bowmen's nomination to host the Pacific Regional Archery Championships in June 2019, be accepted.

M Steve Old S Brett Willaton Carried
Jeff advised that because of time constraints, the Mallee
Sunset's nomination for the 2021 World Bowhunter
Championships had been presented to the World Council. It
was endorsed by the National Executive and the Branch, also
supported by the local council and Member of Parliament.
MOTION: That this meeting accept Mallee Sunset Field
Archers' nomination to host the 2021 World Bowhunter
Championships, endorsing actions already taken.

M Brett Willaton S Stuart Renwick Carried 20/18/5: Stawell Bowhunters Grant Application

The club is applying for a grant of \$600 to relocate two containers to their new grounds.

Amanda said she had looked into the financials and felt that it was a situation suitable for a grant rather than a loan. She proposed the grant be split between National and Branch. Wendy Gallagher agreed to the concept.

MOTION: That Stawell Bowhunters be given a grant of \$600, of which \$400 will be paid by National and \$200 will be paid by Greater Victoria Branch.

M Amanda Skinner S Sonja Wegert Carried 20/18/6: PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE HISTORIC BOW DIVISION TO PERMIT THE USE OF ASIATIC HORSE BOWS CONSTRUCTED FROM MODERN MATERIALS (Branch D)

It was proposed to allow the Asiatic horse bow to be used in the Historical Bow Division, irrespective of construction materials as the Asiatic bow is correct in design but not in construction of materials. (Currently you can only shoot a horse bow under the Historical category.)

M Brett Willaton S Dirk Craigie Lost

# 20/18/7: ABA IN AUGUST: SUPPORT OUR FARMERS (Branch D)

As ABA is a hunting organisation, it relies on farmers for access to hunting properties. Branch D and its clubs have made donations in support of farmers via Buy a Bale and Aussie Assist. The Branch suggests if each ABA club and Branch make donations during the month of August, ABA National could use the PR to demonstrate support from ABA to farmers, improving the standing of bowhunters with farmers at a national level.

After some discussion Jeff suggested that without a motion, the National Executive could put an action in place at the December Executive meeting. Branches could do fundraisers and all dollars could go to the ABA Office Manager to organise. Peter suggested that buying hay was not always value for money and that groceries might be a better option. 20/18/8: Request to raise the score for entry to A Grade (Branch D)

The proposal was to raise the A Grade entry level to 650 because of improvements to modern archery equipment and high A Grade scores.

M Brett Willaton S Sally-Anne McGrigor Lost 20/18/9: National change ABA and 3D upgrading from three scores in a 12-month period to two scores to advance to a higher grade (Branch E)

It was suggested this would work better as many peope didn't attend enough shoots to qualify for grading.

M Stuart Renwick S Peter Stubbs Lost

20/18/10: The 3D scoring be the same as ABA scoring system (Branch E)

The idea is that having both scorings in line would make it easier.

M Peter Stubbs S Ken Neill Lost

20/18/11: Propose that Group 1 targets be removed from the requirements and that these targets be absorbed into Group 2 targets (Branch F)

It is proposed Group 1 targets with a B zone of less than 150mm be removed and the targets be absorbed into Group 2 targets because of extensive costs on clubs hosting shoots. M Margret Szanto S Alan Avent Lost

20/18/12: Change 3D Format Proposal (Branch I)

The change was suggested because of a dramatic decline in 3D shooting. Brett Raymond said the suggested parameters were:

4 x Group 4 targets @ 40m +/- 20%

4 x Group 3 targets @ 30m +/- 20%

6 x Group 2 targets @ 20m +/- 20%

6 x Group 1 targets @ 10m +/- 20%

... with group sizing as per current format. Score zones would be A = 20, B = 18, C = 16

M David Lee S Glenn Hanneman Lost
Jeff pointed out after the vote that there was nothing to
stop clubs and Branches from having whatever format they
wanted; although they had to follow rules for grading at a
national level.

# 20/18/13: ABA media resources to promote archery (Branch I)

ABA to resource Branches and clubs with promotional advertising or social media clips to support the growth of archery.

M David Lee S Brett Raymond Carried 20/18/14: ABA gathering data to inform leadership decisions (Branch I)

Suggestion was to use Survey Monkey (or similar kind of

survey) annually to gather information on key aspects or the sport to help move toward a strategic plan.

M Brett Raymond S David Lee Carried

#### **ITEM 21/18: GENERAL DISCUSSION TOPICS**

21/18/1: Future of 3D events and Transportation (National)
Jeff Bell explained the recent challenges and costs of
transporting targets to Alice Springs and presented three
options:

Option 1: Continuation of the present organisation—approximage cost \$3000 to \$4000 depending on venue and access to hire vehicle, no Executive volunteers available to drive truck, large volunteer time commitment required, at least 60 attendees required at present entry fee to break even.

Option 2: The host club organises transport and ABA pays a per-kilometre rate to the club. For example, Mildura would be a return trip of 3600km and at 66c/km the cost would be \$2376. Club could use own vehicles, hire or use the ABA trailer. Issues and questions around this option are: Large volunteer time commitment needed, Executive volunteers required to sort targets therefore extra costs to ABA of fuel, accommodation, expenses of around \$1000, questions on who bears the transport costs above 66c/km, how to proceed if something goes wrong.

Option 3: Only hold 3D at Mudgee, which means no transport costs, the benefit of utilising ABA Park and could be held on the Queensland/NSW long weekend in October. Option 4: Don't hold 3D at all. This would mean 3D would be only club/Branch events and no national 3D targets would be required, so no containers and no volunteer time required. This option would, however, cause problems if ABA wanted to host World Bowhunter events. David pointed out the insurance risks of people using their own vehicles and trailers to transport the targets. He encouraged the idea of a hire truck with a professional driver. Jeff said it was important to get away from having a truck sitting on site costing money during the competition. It would be more cost effective, for example, to hire a truck in Mildura, drive to Mudgee to pick up targets then return

A suggestion to break the competition into three separate events—ABA, IFAA and 3D—met with minimal support. A suggestion to hold the 3D in Mudgee every second year was more popular and gave the Branches the option of holding the competition every other year. The subject was referred to the National Executive to follow up.

the truck, and do the same to return the targets when the

21/18/2: Risk Management—reporting incidents (National) None to report.

## 21/18/3: Membership fee increase (National)

competition was over.

Amanda said there had not been a fee increase for five years but proposed that from January 2019 memberships be increased. If taken across the five years, the increase was in line with CPI. It was generally agreed that a letter should be included about what people received for their membership so they knew they were still getting value for money. MOTION: That membership fees be increased to: new adult \$100, new junior \$75, new family \$205, renewing adult \$75, renewing junior \$50, renewing family \$160, three-year membership adult \$205, three-year membership family \$435.

M Sally-Anne McGrigor S Amanda Skinner Carried

#### 21/18/4: Code of Conduct Policy (National)

Areas have been identified where a Code of Conduct could be used to set out ethics and standards required within the ABA. To add clarity, the Code might be split into two sections: Paid employees and volunteers, or a main Code for all and extra requirements pertaining only to employees. Motion: That Codes of Conduct be approved in principle, with exact details to be decided by the National Executive. M Amanda Skinner S Brian Taylor Carried

# ITEM 22: ITEMS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

22/18/1: Bowhunting Division Advisory Committee meeting report

Informal discussion. No motions put forward. 22/18/2 Field Division Advisory Committee meeting report Informal discussion. No motions put forward.

#### **ITEM 23: CONDOLENCES**

Bruce asked that the meeting formally acknowledge ABA members who have passed away throughout the year and also those who are presently battling illness.

#### **ITEM 24: SHOOT CALENDAR**

Bruce Kelleher outlined the Branch E and F calendar issues. Branch E 3D Titles will be moved to March 30-31 and the Branch F 3D Titles will be left at their designated date. Branch I had a request to change their September 28-29 shoot back a week and Branch J moved a shoot from October 19-20 to October 26-27.

MOTION: That Branch calendars, as updated, be approved. M Alan Avent S Peter Stubbs Carried

### **ITEM 25: FUTURE 3D EVENTS**

MOTION: That the National Management Committee approves in principle the National Safari being held in Mudgee every even-numbered year after 2019.

M Brian Taylor S Sally-Anne McGrigor Carried

# ITEM 26: BOWHUNTING TECHNICAL MEETING REPORT

Troy Morris presented the notes from the Bowhunting Technical Meeting held on Friday night.

- Bowfishing update.
- May 2018 Re-accreditation wrap-up, discussions and feedback.
- Fallow deer measuring—change to a 1/8pt measuring allowance starting January 1 2019. At this stage it will only affect 20 members in Australia.
- BEO and BPC Review—Bowhunting Education Manual needs updating/modernising. Moving to electronic publication would mean it could be easily updated, no need for printing therefore a saving in costs. There will be a review of rules and policies to audit where gaps are, and to ensure they comply with all government legislation. Members need to be made aware of their legal responsibilities, especially regarding photos and social media.
- The 18 species awards were also discussed.
- The marketing and promotion of Bowhunting Awards was discussed. Bowhunter of the Year needs to be better recognised. It was suggested there be a new trophy of up to \$150 value, a cover picture in *Archery Action* and a profile within the magazine plus an ABA gift such as a \$500 gift voucher of an *Archery Action* advertiser.

- The TBA Muster is under discussion with Renegade Rowmen
- TBA shirts are available.
- Measurements. Certain species need to be checked to ensure they meet the 20 per cent rule. Stingrays, sambar deer, rusa deer have been studied but changes won't be rolled out all at once. This will start from January 1 next year.
- TBA Facebook page: Administrators are Mark, Amanda, Kerry and Bruce. Troy and Ralph can be added if required. MOTION: That the Bowhunting Technical Meeting report be accepted.

M Gary Sinclair S Bruce Kelleher Carried

# **ITEM 27: FUTURE DIRECTION OF ABA**

- Archery Action magazine: National Executive to investigate into the future of the magazine and report back as a discussion item at the AGM in 2019 At the moment the magazine will run as is for the next 12 months.
- Change of Direction: Discussions were held around the make-up of the National Executive and National Management Committee in the future. There is a possibility of a board-type situation whereby an elected person from each Branch would make up the Board (President, Secretary, Treasurer etc). This would necessitate a major review of the Constitution and would use Model Rules.
- Welcome to Field Archery: It has been requested that the publication be included for new members free in their starter pack.

# **NEXT ABA AGM**

The 2019 AGM of the Australian Bowhunters Association Inc will be held at PGL Kindilan, Redland Bay, on October 12 and 13,2019.

AUTHORISED FOR DISTRIBUTION

Jeff Bell, National President

The full financial report can be found, along with a pdf copy of these minutes, at the official ABA website: www.bowhunters.org.au

Where applicable, please use this as your tax invoice:

Australian Bowhunters Association ™

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



# Southern NSW & ACT Branch Hosted by Lithgow Valley Archers Inc Saturday 16 and Sunday 17, March2019 Saturday - 3D Round Sunday - ABA Round 8-8:30am Registrations & Bow Checks 7:30-7:45am Registration & Bow Checks Muster & Start 1 Arrow Round Muster & Start 3 Arrow Round 9am Lunch Start 1 Arrow Round Lunch Start 1 Arrow Round Presentations ASAP Presentations ASAP Fees: Single Day Only \$20 Single, \$40 Family Both Days \$30 Single, \$50 Family (all fees include GST) To Pre Nominate or for further information: Louise Whitley Ph: (02) 6352 5628 or Email: branchfscores@gmail.com



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

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

Pre Nominate by Monday 1st April to: Branch Score Recorder, Sally-Anne McGrigor abasqscorer@gmail.com or 0402 074 788

Facilities include: Camping, showers, toilets and canteen

Food available on the range during the day and evening meal Saturday No dogs allowed • No smoking or vaping allowed on the ranges



Facilities include: Camping, Showers, Toilets and Canteen

Evening meal available on Saturday.

Availability of meals is not guaranteed for those who do not pre-nominate.

No Dogs Policy Applies to this Shoot - No smoking on ranges while shoots are in progress

8am Muster for an 8:30am Start

28 Targets IFAA Field • 14 Target IFAA Animal Round

# Sunday

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

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

Pre Nominate by Monday 29th April to:

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

Facilities include: Camping, showers, toilets and canteen

Food available on the range during the day and evening meal Saturday No dogs allowed • No smoking or vaping allowed on the ranges



#### Saturday

Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 May 2019

11am Registrations and Bow Checks • Nominations close at 12:15pm 12:45pm Muster for a 1pm start • 2 Arrow Round

#### Sunday

7:45am Muster for an 8am Start

3 Arrow Round • Lunch • 1 Arrow Round • Presentations ASAP

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

Pre Nominate by Monday 13th May to:

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

Facilities include: Camping, showers, toilets and canteen

Evening meal available Saturday night No dogs allowed • No smoking or vaping allowed on the ranges

Where applicable, please use this as your tax invoice:

Australian Bowhunters Association ™

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



# **Townsville District Bowhunters Inc.**



# Invitational Shoot

# 4th, 5th and 6th May 2019

6.30pm Dinner

	•	Sunday	/
Saturda	ay	7.00am	Bre
7.30am	Breakfast	8.30am	Mu
9.00am	3D Round for Early Arrivals	9.00am	1 A
	(Fun Round)	10.30am	Мо
10.30	Morning Tea	11.30am	3 A
12 noon	Nominations close	1.00pm	Lur
12.30pm	Lunch		
1.30pm	Muster and Bow Check	2.00pm	1 A
2.00pm	3 Arrow Round	4.30pm	Kni
4 30nm	Knife and Ave	6 30nm	Tea

eakfast ıster Arrow Round orning Tea Arrow Round nch Arrow Round ife and Axe

7/7.30pm Presentations

Monday 7.00am Breakfast

Raffles Novelty Shoots 100m Pig Live Music

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

All participants must show their valid ABA Card to Score Recorder Nominations Close: 26 April 2019

Email nominations to: townsvilledistrictbowhunters@gmail.com Phone: Shailee 0417 943 931 or Tom: 0422 275 889

(Please when nominating let us know whether you will be purchasing meals) Camping facilities available - Meals, snacks & drinks available to purchase

• NO DOGS unless prior arrangement

#### **Hosted by Bowhunters Archers Rd, Charters Towers, Qld** 8th & 9th June 2019 (Nominations close 8am 8/6/19) Saturday 8:30am **Bow Check** 9:00am All Camping Muster 9:30am Round 1 Start Sunday **Facilities** 11:30am Lunch 8:30am Available Round 2 Start 12:30pm 8:45am Round 4 Start Round 3 Start 2:30pm Lunch and Presentations will commence Novelty Events after Round 3 ASAP after scores have been finalised 5:00pm ΔGM \* Times are a guide only and are subject to change 6:30 to 7pm Dinner Nominations can be emailed to: cherylhembrow@bigpond.com

When nominating please provide the following: name, ABA number, age division, shooting division and grade. Costs: Adult - \$25.00, Junior/Cub - \$15.00, Family - \$50.00

# **The Gathering 2019** 20 years of HVTA

# 8th-9th June

You're invited to come celebrate the 20th anniversary of The Gathering on the June long weekend at the HVTA club grounds at Black Hill, NSW.

3 X 10 target ranges

Novelties including the running pig, bow bird, speed range, rolling disc & the hunt. Axe & knife, double bit axe.

Norseman Bow raffle & pick of the table.

Free camping with fire rings, bush showers, pit toilets and port-a-loos, fully catered canteen, Sat & Sun breakfast, lunch & dinner, spit roast-Sat night.

Adults \$30 Juniors \$20 Family \$50

Info: huntervalleytraditionalarchers@gmail.com - Mob: 0438 664 347

Find us on Facebook @ Hunter Valley Traditional Archers

# Archery Alliance of Australia

# 2019









# SHOOF CALENDAR

March-April-May

Date	Club	Branch	Shoot Style
March			
2nd	Eden Field Archers *	SA	Field QRE
2nd-3rd	Macleay Valley Archers *	E	ABA Invitational
3rd	Townsville District Bowhunters	В	ABA
3rd	West Gippsland Field Archers *	G	Mal Thomas Memorial Shoot (ABA)
9th-10th	Gympie Field Archers *	C	ABA Invitational
9th-10th	Playford Districts Field Archers *	I	ABA, 3D, IFAA
9th-10th	Northern Rivers Field Archers *	NSW	3DAAA
9th-11th	Mt Clay Archers *	Н	ABA
9th-10th	Paringa Archers *	Tas	Paringa Northern WA Star
10th	Full Boar Archers	В	ABA
10th	Towers Bowhunters	В	ABA
10th	Sydney Olympic Park Archers *	NSW	Target QRE
16th-17th	Roma and District Bowmen *	D	3D Branch Titles
16th-17th	Lithgow Valley Archers *	F	ABA / 3D
16th-17th	Twin City Archers *	Vic	3DAAA
17th	Freds Pass Field Archers *	A	3D
17th	Dead Centre Bowhunters *		3D
		A	
17th	Collinsville Barebow Hunters	В	ABA
17th	Mount Isa and District Bowhunters	В	ABA
17th	Townsville District Bowhunters	B	3D
17th	Diamond Valley Archers *	Vic	Victorian State Short Range Championshi
23rd	Northern Archers of Sydney *	NSW	Phil Oliviero Clout
24th	Full Boar Archers	В	3D
24th	West Melbourne Field Archers *	H	3D
30th-31st	Namoi Valley Archers *	E .	3D Branch Titles
30th-31st	Mallee Sunset Field Archers *	I .	Trad, Fita, Flint
30th-31st	Gleneagles Field Archers *	J	Fun Shoot / ABA
31st	Townsville District Bowhunters	В	3D
31st	Phoenix Field Archers of Sale *	G	2D / 3D
31st	Penrith City Archers *	NSW	PCA Social Double Clout
April			
6th	Eden Field Archers *	SA	Field QRE
6th-7th	Saxon Archery Club *	C	IFAA Branch Titles
6th-7th	Lakeside Bowmen *	D	IFAA Branch Titles
6th-7th	Penrith City Archers *	NSW	ANSW Metropolitan
7th	Full Boar Archers	В	ABA
7th	Geelong Archers *	Vic	Warralong Field Competition
13th	Illawarra Archers *	NSW	Field QRE
13th-14th	Mornington Peninsula Bowmen *	VIC	3DAAA
13th-14th	Lake Glenbawn Field Archers *	NSW	3DAAA
14th	Collinsville Barebow Hunters	В	ABA
14th	Mount Isa and District Bowhunters	В	ABA
14th	Towers Bowhunters	В	ABA
14th	Sydney Olympic Park Archers *	NSW	Target QRE
19th-22nd	Mallee Sunset Field Archers *	1	National Safari ABA and 3D Championship
21st-22nd	North Albert Field Archers *	Qld	3DAAA Traditional Two-Day Shoot
21st	Full Boar Archers	В	3D

2130	Sydney Olympic Fark Archers	14344	raiget QNL
28th	Kurrimine Beach Archers	В	ABA
28th	Hills Archers *	SA	2019 Hills Archers Invitational Clout
May			
4th	Penrith City Archers *	NSW	PCA Field QRE
4th	Eden Field Archers *	SA	Field QRE
4th-5th	Lakeside Bowmen *	D	QLD State IFAA Titles
4th-5th	Gloucester District Archers *	Е	ABA Invitational
4th-5th	West Gippsland Field Archers *	G	Victorian State 3D Championships
4th-5th	Ipswich Field Archers *	Qld	3DAAA
5th	Full Boar Archers	В	ABA
4th - 6th	Townsville District Bowhunters *	В	ABA
12th	Freds Pass Field Archers *	Α	ABA
12th	Dead Centre Bowhunters *	А	ABA
12th	Mount Isa and District Bowhunters	В	ABA
12th	Towers Bowhunters	В	ABA
18th-19th	Mount Petrie Bowmen *	Qld	SQAS Target Championship
18th-19th	Wide Bay Archers *	С	Branch Invitational
18th-19th	Pacific Bowmen *	D	ABA
18th-19th	Capital Field Archers *	F	ABA / 3D
18th-19th	Bacchus Marsh Bowmen *	Н	ABA
18th-19th	Border Bowmen *	I	ABA Paper
18th-19th	Lake Macquarie Field Archers *	NSW	3DAAA
19th	Collinsville Barebow Hunters	В	ABA
19th	Full Boar Archers	В	3D
19th	Kurrimine Beach Archers	В	3D
19th	Archery SA *	SA	Max Manuel WA Star
25th	Illawarra Archers *	NSW	Field QRE
26th	Sydney Olympic Park Archers *	NSW	Target QRE
26th	Eden Field Archers *	SA	<b>Eden Field Invitation Tournament</b>
26th	Liverpool City Archers *	NSW	Liverpool Black Snake Field

NSW

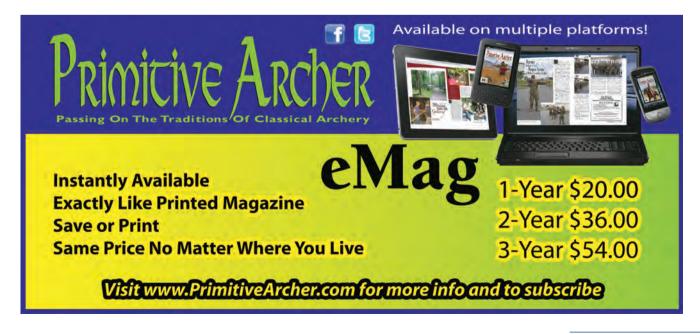
**Target QRE** 

Sydney Olympic Park Archers \*

21st

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



# **MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Preferred method of receive Archery Action  digitally online	ing	Post completed form Office Manager ABA PO Box 5124	1 to:	Renewal 🔲 New Member 🗖
hard copy (mailed)		Brendale Qld 4500		
, (		Phone (07) 3256 3976		
			AB	A Membership №:
l, (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				
undertake to conduct my/ou Additionally, I/we acknowled which can impose inherent r sible and ethical behaviour.	ur membership in a dge that Field Arch risks and this appli I/We undertake to	accordance with the Co ery and Bowhunting ar cation is made in full re do all in my/our powei	nstitution, Rules, Polic e shooting sports cor cognition of the Assoc to preserve the good	ion Inc (ABA), and if accepted, do cies and Code of Ethics of the ABA. Iducted in the natural environment ciation's requirement for respondinge of the sport and ABA. I/ subject to sanctions as per the
I am a member of			(Club)	
I agree my contact details ca	n be provided to fo	rm a contact list to be u	ised within the Austra	lian Bowhunters Association only.
If you do not agree, tick this	box: □	gnature of Applicant		
I enclose the required fees o		B		
I, the applicant above, also w	wish to make appli	cation for membership	of ABA (Inc) on behalf	f of the following persons, who are
members of my family and r	eside at my addres			
Full Name of Applicant		Male-Female	ABA Number	Date of Birth
age.			_	of 18 years, until they attain such
Parent-Guardian Signature _		ABA Nu	ımber if Applicable:	
The Australian Bowhunters Asso	ciation Inc reserves t	he right to refuse, suspend	d or terminate the memb	ership of
any person whose conduct contr				ailure to ASSOCIATION
provide information sought or so			ilication being rejected.	USE ONLY
RENEWALS and/or Advance		B years in advance		M'ship #s Allocated
Adults	\$75	\$205		
Juniors-Cubs	\$50	\$145		
Families	\$160	\$435		
New Members (12-month n		ing joining fee)		Receipt Number
Adults	\$100			
Juniors-Cubs Families	\$75 \$205			Computer Entered
PENSIONER DISCOUNT: Ded		listed.		na/elete Fermina I
Quote Pension Benefit Card				M'ship Forwarded
		All fees include	GST	
Note: Dates of birth must be to parents and their childre years. Couples without child ABA membership numbers.	<b>n under 18 years o</b> Iren under 18 years	of age. Separate single is also pay separate sing	membership must be	



# APPLICATION FORM FOR MEMBERSHIP TO THE AUSTRALIAN BOWHUNTERS ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED (Inc in NT No A01978C) GST TAX INVOICE GST ABN 79 750 431 225



☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card Number ‡

Expiry Date (mm yy)

NAME OF CARDHOLDER (print)

Signature

# TROPHY BOWHUNTS AUSTRALIA



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

# www.trophybowhunts.com.au



# **Fully Guided Hunts for:**

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

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

Buffalo - June to August (6 days) fully guided hunts, POA. Wild Boar - Aug to Oct from \$4000 (10 days).

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

# Abbey Archery

More than the Largest Archery Company in Australia



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

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