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Front cover pic: Rob Harvey,
Wild images.

Welcome to the final e-magazine for 2011.



I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our members and your families a very Merry Christmas and a fantastic New Year.

It has been a great year for hunting in some parts of Oz and I am proud to offer a website that brought great photos, stories and discussions together from hunters right across Australia.

I thank our community for being so positive and ethical, and thank our sponsors for being a part of the AusHunt experience.

I look forward to your continued support next year.

Happy hunting,
Aushunter

Editor: Bernie (aka Aushunter)
Publisher: AusHunt



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Black Mouth Curs

..... all the way from Texas, USA.



Australia has a new breed of hunting and working dog – the Black Mouth Cur.

Black Mouth Curs have been around for hundreds of years but they only made it to our shores in August 2011. Cousins Troy and Baden Crittle have imported four Black Mouth Curs - three female and one male, from Southern Texas, USA.

Black Mouth curs are a medium sized athletic dog, they are generally quite leggy and have a deep chest. The name Black Mouth Cur comes from the black mask that can extend from the jawline to just under the eyes, the body is a sandy or yellow colour.

Black Mouth Curs are a very versatile breed and the Crittle fella's will be continuing this tradition. Troy's dogs will be used for hunting pigs around NSW and Baden's dogs will be used to work Brahman cattle in QLD.

As a pigdog they are mainly finder bailers but most will hold the pig with another dog. **“Although its early days, the dogs worked straight from quarantine”** Troy said, “our imported dogs are only young and had been started on cattle in Texas but they bailed the first pigs that they saw” he added.



Baden Crittle is based on a property 100km west of Springsure in central Queensland. Baden said “the Black Mouth Curs took to working straight away and they will work the lead of a mob very naturally. What I like most about the Black Mouth Curs is their drive and keenness, they just love to work”. Baden went on to add “in the southern parts of the United States where the curs are bred and worked, its very hot and the curs ability to withstand heat is impressive”.



Featured - Black Mouth Curs Australia



Black Mouth Curs are a very popular hunting breed in Texas. Some might say they are the most popular. They have been around for many years and there are several types and strains. Some curs such as the Ladner bloodline specialise in small game hunting but are also used for pig hunting.

The Black Mouth Curs imported by the Crittle boys are based on the Weatherfords Ben bloodline. This bloodline originated in eastern and central Texas and goes back to one outstanding dog called Weatherfords Ben. Troy Crittle said **“we thought long and hard about which bloodline to invest our time into and in the end we went with the Weatherfords Ben dogs”**.

Of the dogs imported into Australia one male was purchased from Randy Wright (who owned Weatherfords Ben) in Dryden, Texas and three females from David Thoms in Three Rivers, Texas.



Troy again “David Thoms and Randy Wright live and breathe dogs and we think we were successful in importing some great young dogs from them”. Baden Crittle was keen to point out that “Weatherfords Ben bloodline curs have a reputation for being tough but with brains to go with it, we are excited about their future in Australia working both rough cattle and big boars”.

Both Troy and Baden Crittle plan to have Black Mouth Cur pups available to working homes in early 2012.



For more information contact blackmouthcursaualia@gmail.com or visit blackmouthcursaualia.com for regular updates on their dogs.

More Quail than you could wave a 20 Bore at.

I had never shot at Quail before and had never had the opportunity to shoot over English Setters so this year the opportunity arose and I decided it was time to grab it.

The season only goes for the month of May and Flinders Island off of Tasmania was the destination.

'Are there many birds around'?

I asked Chris 'Rockjaw' Rhodes our guide on the phone. I should have anticipated the answer, as with all Game Keepers, none like to give away the numbers. **Oh, there's a fair few, so you should have a little sport.**

The months went by and I eagerly awaited with excitement and trepidation, the weekend trip.

I met Robert Borsak, Graham Jameson and Matty Corkhill my fellow guns and all AHI members at the Airport and off we went on our trip of a lifetime.

A taxi, two planes, a boat and a quick ride up the hill in an old Tojo and we were there on Vansittart Island a 1500 acre Island close to Flinders.

It was dark when we landed but the sound of Cape Barren Geese honking not far away stirred the fever as it does with all hunters who have gone



for the Geese before. But we were here to shoot Quail and dinner of great big crayfish was waiting for us at the shooting lodge.

Day break came and the views were spectacular. This island of tussock and very few trees was spread out in front of us like a Scottish Grouse Moor.

Geese were busy pairing, and Plovers and sea birds were wading in the crystal clear waters as the waves lapped against the beach. Hmm, this could be paradise and it certainly beats working. Then I saw them, flitting about in a little clearing and no bigger than the size of a clenched fist were four Brown Quail picking up the first of the early morning suns rays as the mist cleared on the island.

A hearty breakfast was eaten and we were ready to go.

Our quota of 9.5 shot size cartridges were handed out, 12's for some and 20's for me and it was time for our introduction to our four legged friends who would be doing all the work for

us. My experience has always been with Springer Spaniels, Labs or retrievers so it would be interesting to see how Setters would work.

These two, a little similar to Black and White Springers but larger framed and longer legged, were 'Louise', the older dog and 'Charlie' her younger brother and both were just as excited to meet us to and the licks and kisses were forever forthcoming.



Introductions completed, it was back in the old Tojo and two of us on Quad bikes and away we went up the hill to start the hunting.

“You walk 10 metres from me this side, and you 10 the other side, and for safety only shoot in front” was the instruction from Chris and off we went in a line, guns at the ready at port arms position. As we were only shooting in pairs, Matty and Jamo followed behind with cameras and to give the humorous encouragement you can imagine when we missed.

Charles the young dog was still at the learning stage so tethered to his



master, so it was all up to Louise. She quartered and ranged out, back and forth covering ground across the front of us, back and forth over the thick grass and tussocks. Head up and air scenting, then suddenly, stopping immediately, she set and was on point. Wow, it's just like the motif on the clothing brand 'Rod and Gun' I thought. Front leg up, tail out straight and head down staring a few feet in front. "Get ready", came the order, a quick whistle and she moved forward like a cat prowling low to the ground stalking its prey. The quail were moving and darting in front of her. She stopped, set and pointed again. Quickly, we were in position. 'Find um,' Chris said and with a flash, she moved in. A flush and the quail were up and away like tiny missiles heading off in to the distance flying low and fast like tiny grouse on the moors.

Bang bang, came the sound and two fell out of the covey. One to each gun. Wow, I can't even remember what happened. Instinct cut in, the gun was shouldered and down they came about 30 metres out. We had been asked to mark the fallen

birds to the spot which we learnt was invaluable for picking them up.

Louise was straight to the mark and hunting around the long grass and back she came with my first Brown Quail. What a beautiful bird and every bit a mini Grouse which deserved our respect as a fantastic sporting quarry.

Trying to pick the fallen birds was more or less impossible without a dog. The grass and tussocks were so thick that even dead birds were buried right in the bottom of the grass and with the beautiful plumage which was a perfect match, they were near on impossible to find without our four legged friends. The dogs worked very hard and even Charles managed to find a couple and soaked up the praise from Dad. It was a pleasure to see them work and do what they were bred to do. Hunt, set and point and even retrieve these wonderful mini missiles.

The day was over quicker than a flash and we had seen covey after covey of quail. We headed back to the lodge for dinner and revelled in the excitement of the day. Many a great shot was recounted and barracking over the ones that could not possibly have been missed, but were.



The two days were over in a flash and with few predators on the Island, the quail thrive and we four guns certainly did have our sport.

A fantastic experience for us all. The weather was perfect, the Island, a secret paradise, the company of three new friends, Chris, Louise and Charles the fine English setters who worked so hard for us and the fantastic Brown Quail.

A perfect sporting quarry not to be underestimated for speed and agility and most deserving of a hunters respect.

How many did we get? Well, that would be telling. So let's, just say, 'a fair few' But what I will say, is that the freezer is full and I am booking to go back next year.

John Hodson

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Aitken's Motorcycles and ATVs

G'day, I'm Paul Aitken and I have been involved in motor racing for forty years. It's been mainly hill climbing though I have also built my own sports cars and open wheelers; and have won eight Australian sports car titles and five open wheeler titles. I ran HQs for four years with success and still enjoy all forms of motorsport. I hold engineering qualifications plus am a qualified motorcycle and ATV certified Kawasaki and Polaris mechanic.

Aitken's Motorcycles started in 1972 incorporating Aitken Precision Grinding, though we sold all the engineering equipment when all the manufacturing started to be sought overseas and concentrated our efforts in other areas of the business.

During the 80's we were the largest motorcycle wrecker in the southern hemisphere carrying over 2400 motorcycles for dismantling at Punchbowl, NSW. We weathered the 80's and moved to Liverpool in 1988 where we have been since.

In 1999 we took on a Polaris franchise and carried that for eleven years reaching the Polaris No 1 position for Australia. In 2000, we took the Aprilia and Moto Guzzi franchise and carried out that for eight years.

We delivered most of the Military Polaris ATVs since 2002 and still do all their inservice repairs. In 2007 we built thirty Javelin missile carriers for our special forces from the Kawasaki 4010 Mules. This was a very exciting and extremely challenging two year project, from the air drop requirements to the personnel training.

I am still very involved in motorcycle racing, my son Jamie Aitken, has raced for us since 2001 starting in a Aprilia RS250 and progressed to ZX6 Kawasaki then the ZX10 and he's been very successful winning many class Australian championships. At the moment we are running a Yamaha R6 with a young employee Thomas Bryden and he's doing extremely well.



Featured Business

We are now concentrating on Korean and Chinese made ATVs for outdoor enthusiasts, good quality vehicles that are very affordable in today's economic times. Most of our ATV customers are hunters so we had to find a range of quads that were reliable in the Aussie bush yet easy on the hip pocket, thus the Parklander range was chosen. They are imported by a company of forty years standing who import all the outdoor power products range and are also very focused on warranty, service and parts backup. We have a very experienced workshop with near on 100 years experience within, so nothing is a problem.

We also have all the hunting accessories for the ATVs, from gear bags to gun scabbards and mounts, so we can fit out a quad to your specific requirements.

We also specialise in Learner Legal motorcycles for L and P plates and all very budget priced motorcycles and accessories and service.

We are about to launch Australian Motorcycle Parts (AMP) it will be a genuine spare parts website where customers will have access to every spare parts diagram for Honda, Suzuki, Yamaha, Kawasaki and



Polaris bikes and ATVs. Orders from home 24/7 will be available and every customer will be buying at better than trade prices, very exciting times ahead with AMP. The slogan will be advertised soon **"AMP it UP"**. Online ordering means you won't have to leave home or get the wrong parts as you are the one who orders them.

We are currently moving to Blaxland road, Campbelltown NSW in the Christmas break and will be having a grand opening at the new address after that. I'd love to see you there!

Paul Aitken

Aitken's Motorcycles and ATVs

www.aitkens.com.au

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Fenix TK15 Hunting Torch

The Fenix TK15 R5 High Performance Tactical LED Torch features a powerful, solid, durable, and waterproof design intended for rugged outdoor and military use. This torch produces an amazing 337 lumens of constant brightness (very bright for such a compact torch). This torch features 4 modes of operations 337 lumens and is adjustable down to 5 lumens. The Fenix TK 15 R5 uses the latest state of the art patented electronics to produce maximum brightness and battery life.



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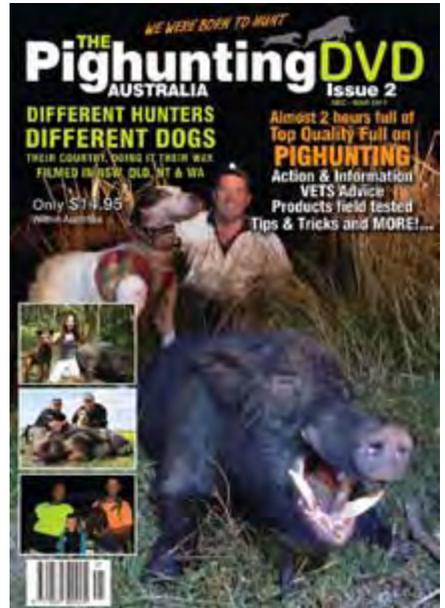
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Product news

Parklands HS400, 4x4, ATV, QUAD, Hunters delight

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For more information please contact Paul at [Aitkens Motorcycles and ATVS.](#)

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HOTTEST FORUM TOPICS!

Illegal shooters?

[Posted by fangster on 19 Sept 2011](#)

An article on one mans desperation with poachers and then taking the law into his own hands makes for a lively discussion. Many for and against his actions and the topic turns to some simpler suggestions. **Yet another reason for bullbars?**

defending your property with some real examples. **Wait up, is that grandma coming up the stairs....**

Snakes are out and about

[Posted by Tikka7mm on 13 Sept 2011](#)

It's a good season for snakes amongst everything else. Recent sightings from all over aus are reported in and some advice is given for snake bite treatment. Though the best advice is to leave them alone and they will leave you alone. **Sssseriously!**

Wonnangatta Valley Members Hunt 2012

[Posted by Joe.358win on 23 Oct 2011](#)

I'm in. Seems to be the call of the day making this one of the hottest topics. Looks like another great event in the planning and fantastic to see a few new participants. Well done to the organisers again!

Brilliant in its simplicity

[Posted by Yarrum on 20 Oct 2011](#)

Nothing simple about this topic. Members discuss minority groups and some resulting social issues, comparing hunters as a 'group' itself. Straight, gay, pink, black, brown or fluffy - **anything but Farmgirls pig!**

All ages and levels of experience are encouraged to participate in our forums. Many friends, hunts and skills have been formed from our positive and welcoming community.

Feel free to join in or read many more hot topics in the [AusHunt Forum](#).

Home defense

[Posted by Cody1382 on 06 Sept 2011](#)

Seems a lot of people have something under their bed for that unexpected intruder! Topic goes on to discuss the legal rights and implications of



From our members

Gallery Photos



[What was that - by Gregk](#)



[Wollondilly Oct 2011 - by Zubtec](#)



[Pigs - by MR243](#)



[Fox stuff - by Dantheman253](#)



[Bella n stag - by No I Deer](#)



[Camel - by Doug](#)

To see many more images and comments check out the [member's gallery](#).

Site news + developments..



■ Hacked

This is every site admin's worst nightmare. On September 25th our web hosting company was targeted (not AusHunt) and as a result around 700,000 websites, mainly from the USA, were defaced by a Bangladeshi hacker. Although no major damage was caused, it was still inconvenient waiting for the site to be repaired and we thank our users for their patience.

■ Site Upgrades

A new year is a great time to upgrade, so we will be upgrading the business directory, forum, gallery and other site features over the next couple of months. Upgrading is necessary as it keeps us up to date with security fixes and technology such as mobile delivery.

■ Merchandise

In 2012 we will be producing some new designs and expanding on our merchandise range. We currently have a few 'original' items in our [online shop](#) and have started a [cafepress shop](#).



Competitions

EMAIL your hunting STORIES and photos to WIN these prizes!

We're not asking for professional writers but true blue hunting stories as told in your own words! Email to us and you will be entered into any of the [current competitions](#) below or on the site at the time.

Good Luck everybody!

Fenix TK15 Hunting Torch

We have a great hunting torch to giveaway thanks to [Fenix Flashlights](#).

Wild Stag Hunters DVD's

A couple of DVD's to be given away thanks to [Wild Images](#).

Steve Lee's new album

A couple of CD's to be given away thanks to [Steve Lee](#).

Pigdoggers DVD's

A couple of DVD's to be given away thanks to the [Pighunting DVD Australia](#).

Recent winners :)

- Ken Barrow, Brisbane QLD
- Jordan Lewis, Jamisontown NSW
- Nathan Bilsborough, Engadine NSW
- Adam McClain, Glenbrook NSW
- Doug Waters, Alice Springs NT

Note: Please read the [guidelines](#) before submitting your material.

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Our main audience is Australian hunters and shooters of all ages from novice to expert. We position ourselves as a 'hunting family' friendly website with a positive reputation for Australian hunters (and your brand) through our great community and image.

We provide promotional channels and interactive features to network our visitors and our own online community to industry.

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4. Product Launches and Reviews
5. Forum Business Membership
6. Social Media Marketing
7. Yearly Sponsorship Package

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Email your contact details and let us recommend the best options to suit your promotional needs or answer your questions about the AusHunt site.

Ask us about a discount for a 2012 sponsorship package for all of the above.

MERRY CHRISTMAS + HAPPY NEW YEAR



Santa by Kurt Adler

*Wishing your family all the best for the festive season.
Thanks for your support and we look forward to seeing you back in 2012.*

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