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Front cover pic: Joel Wakeling, NSW

Welcome to the first e-magazine for 2013.



Duck shooters are seeing great results, and it is showing via the content that is being posted within the forum.

A hint of colder weather is also getting other hunters excited as they prepare for hunting the winter months. From Sambar in the VIC high country to pig chasing out western NSW, im sure we will see some great results this year all round if its not too dry.

We have a few developments with AusHunt as we adapt to suit our audience. Our new facebook group is taking off and the emagazine has had a design overhaul. We have some plans for our Business Directory due to be released later in the year.

Have a great Anzac Day! Please take the time to remember them. Lest we forget.

Happy hunting, Aushunter

Editor: Bernie (aka Aushunter) Publisher: AusHunt



EDITORIAL + ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES VIA EMAIL

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'Bob Stocker ... On the Hunt ... Adventures of an Australian Hunter'

Chapter 9

"CAPE QUISTADORS"

That time had come around once again – to head off to porker paradise – Cape York Peninsula.

I mustered up the blokes – "Mad Eyes", "Barra-two-dogs" and Des "Dalby". This was to be my "half-dozenth" trip to the Cape in 22 years and my third trip in the past 6 years. I was itchin" to get amongst the highest concentration of trophy tusker Sus scrofa on the planet.

Another new toy to field test too. I had scored a brand spankin" new Remington 7600 Patrol in .308 to give "the scrubbers a tickle". Preparations had included %#\$*in" around with several different brand ten shot mags that did not live up to the manufacturers and suppliers claims. My advice on magazines – stick to steel and try before you buy.

All the good gear was packed on board the pig rigs. This included my 80 litre Trailblaza fridge/freezer, a Glind shower, a twin water filtration system, a 120 litre Techni-ice esky, a Garmin GPS76 with vehicle antenna and 50 thou topo maps, Swarovski bino's, Uniden handheld UHF radios and my Auscam webbing with 5 litres of water hydration bladder.

We hit the property after three and a half days on "the frog and toad" and a 2700km haul.



Author and "Old Wonky Horns"



Author and another trophy grunter

One river crossing saw Des "DALBY"s" long in the tooth Hilux resemble an Aussie Collins class submarine, without the mechanical dramas.

Even "Mad Eyes" had all the angles covered by emulating Jerry Bruckheimer with his spankin" new "ducks nuts" 3CCD video handy cam and remote "carbine cam". He captured some outstanding action on this trip.

Daily maximum temperatures hit 36 degrees Celsius, with minimums overnight



down to 22 degrees. Hydration equals performance, so we downed at least two gallons of water each a day. The downside was that we had "more slashes than a catof-nine tails".

The first mob of scrubbers that we encountered on a large open flood plain numbered 50 to 60. Ahhh, a slight breeze made the beasts very edgy. The plan of attack was to skirt in a wide arc perpendicular to wind. Then, without warning the mob took off into the nearby ti-trees. Half an hour later we had stalked between the ti-trees to close range to 70 yards. I even managed to score some nice video footage. Now it was hammer time. I lined up the Hakko red dot on the front shoulder of a large brown bull with long asymmetrical horns.

The 150 grain Win Power Point was

bone jarring and rocked the scrubbers balance.

Then chaos reigned. The mob broke into a stampede. My carbine barked again and delivered another pill into the target bull^ss lungs. Without much fuss the bull took off. So did I, hot on his trail.

He turned to face me and size me up. For a moment I was starting to get worried. \$hit, no big trees nearby to seek refuge in a worst case scenario.

Rack, BANG, Rack, BANG. Another two rounds found their mark and the bull hit terrafirma. It was mine for keeps. What a formidable opponent. Tough as nails. The Cape scrubbers never cease to amaze me. What a corker of a trophy to boot.

AUSHUNTING STORIES



More steak for the BBQ

Closer inspection of his hide revealed numerous old battle scars. I was as proud as punch.

Des "Dalby", though "green on the Cape", showed his bush expertise by "cleaning up" over the next week to bag 7 scrubbers, 2 brumbies, 2 warrigal"s and 12 hogs.

Now, what his Sako .25/06 Rem lacked in "whack-down", Des made up for with "knowhow" i.e. surgical precision shot placement.

His ute was starting to run out of tray space for more trophies. There's always the bull bar I suggested.

Yet again, I had another two (and too) close encounters with Taipan "Joe Blakes" (snakes). Fortunately I was wearing the right gear – solid leather boots, thick socks and heavy cotton construction trousers.

After the 14th day on the ground, it became obvious to me (though Mad Eyes had his doubts) that we would crack the ton for the tally of hogs.

The final two days was a foot slogging

extravaganza. We put in the hard yards averaging 15km each day. This paid off big time. We scored 44 hogs in the final 48 hours. But that's another good yarn or two.

Our fifteenth day tally was hogs (a triple figure), scrubbers (a double figure), brumbies and warrigals (including 15 sets of trophy ivory up to 31 D.S.)

This trip was so fulfilling that we spent an extra three days of R&R in Cairns.

It was icing on the cake.

Plenty of amber fluid to rinse the Cape dust down too.

Our return haul home to the Big Smoke of Brizvegas was incident free.

I have been a tenaciously passionate hunter for the past three-dozen (36) years.

I am a prize winning author published numerous times over

the past two decades as a freelance writer/photographer for several bestselling hunting magazines.

My <u>impressive eBook</u> comprises 240 pages (A4 sized PDF format) featuring 19 compelling chapters of amazing hunting adventures with over 210 excellent quality colour photographs.

Bob "Bushranger" Stocker B.E. (Hons.) bobstocker@hotmail.com









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NQ Hunting and Fishing Supplies

- from humble beginnings...

I began hunting in the Kimberley region of Western Australia in the wet season of 2004. The first weapon I owned was a Horton crossbow, which I used to hunt wild pigs on the cattle stations that bordered the Fitzroy River.

Due to minimal hunting pressure the pigs are regularly over the 100kg mark, however their tusks did not compare to the size of their North Queensland cousins. I progressed onto hunting with dogs and using rifles, however still find that a good stalk combined with rifles the most exhilarating form of hunting.

In 2007 I moved to Townsville, North Queensland in pursuit of my passion for hunting and fishing. I hunt wild pigs' regularly on cattle stations around Charters Towers and enjoy meeting other hunters, and getting ideas to improve my understanding in all aspects of the sport. I have great respect for the working hunting dog, and find watching a well training dog track and hold a wild boar an exciting experience.

I began fishing sometime in the early 1980's when my Poppie gave me an Alvey reel and rod as a present for my birthday. From this point on I was hooked, spending every moment of free time reading fishing encyclopaedias and magazines, preparing tackle and practice casting for the imminent trip to one of Brisbane's beaches. Today I am still as passionate about fishing as I was then, however I now prefer to chase tropical species such as Mangrove Jack, Threadfin Salmon and Barramundi. I also enjoy blue water species such as Sailfish, Marlin, Tuna, Mackerel and the myriad

of reef dwelling species that inhibit the Great Barrier Reef.

In October 2010 I began <u>NQ Hunting &</u> <u>Fishing Supplies</u> (NQHFS) to provide Australian hunters and fishermen with the best quality hunting & fishing equipment at the lowest prices - delivered as quickly as possible. From humble beginnings, we have grown from just myself working in the spare room at home to opening a shop in Townsville (June 2012) with my wife Tanya, and having several casual employees. We plan to continue expanding our product range week by week and open a second shop in North Queensland sometime in the near future.

Happy Hunting & Tight Lines,

Anthony & Tanya Pagan







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Experience first hand the harsh rugged environment in all its beauty as the boys (and one very talented lady) take down many Cranky Boars with their Bows.

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"With the use of head mounted Go-Pro cameras, our aim is to give the viewer a 'birds eye view' of hunting with a bow.."

FLIR Systems (maker of the Scout PS for hunters) launches the K-Series handheld thermal imaging cameras for firefighters

Firefighters benefit enormously from thermal imaging cameras. Not only do thermal imaging cameras produce a crisp image in total darkness, they also have the ability to see through smoke, assisting firefighters to find people in smokefilled rooms, as well as helping them navigate their own way in through smoky environments. They help save the lives of both firefighters and those caught in a fire. Thanks to the ability of thermal imaging cameras to measure temperatures, firefighters can ascertain whether a fire is burning behind a wall or door. Being armed with this knowledge helps them to avoid dangerous backdrafts.



These cameras also allow the user to find hotspots in extinguished fires. Imperceptible to the naked eye, hotspots need attention in order to prevent a fire from reigniting. Thermal imaging cameras are an instrumental tool in ascertaining whether a structure is safe to re-enter once a fire has been extinguished. Thermal imaging cameras can also be used for other forms of search and rescue missions in which firefighters and emergency services are often involved.

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Duck Opening 2013

Started by shane, Mar 16 2013

Sat on a private dam this morning. The highlight was having a huge mob of grey teal drop in from up high.....the noise when they flared was incredible. Dropped three from two shots out of that mob, going to head back out this arvo.

204 Keeps Doing The Job

Started by chrisso, Mar 11 2013

Another good night out spotlighting. Got the first only 70 meters away. He was spotted lurking around the silos only 15 meters from the ute, but couldn't get a shot off, driving into the paddock and the silly bugger barely moved from where we saw him, a quick pause was enough for the 204 to knock him down.

Second was a decent shot, fox spotted us and started to trot off, had to take a shot at about 220 meters, again he paused and again he dropped on the spot to a neck shot.

After scalping it, having a little chat amongst ourselves, cleaning up, we got



back on the ute & without moving spotted eyes off in the bush about 150 meters away, started whistling looked around with the light and there was another, staring at us not 100 meters away. Dropped to a chest shot.

The 204 keeps impressing me every time we go out. Love this calibre.

Join the discussion at www.aushunt.com.au/Forum

BEST OF...

🔽 THE FORUM

Lending A Helping Hand!

Started by mick3006

I'm not normally a summer time shooter but after getting word the property dams are being smashed I made plans to get out and help straight away. The last few dams left are getting hammered by the feral pig population, one of the main concerns when speaking with the cocky was the pigs defecating in the dams. No one permanently stays on this property and only a few hunters get out there so there's no pressure really about at the moment (winter time different story).

Anyway after taking off for the quick 7hr drive I arrived and unpacked ready to go. On arrival I got a msg on my sat phone that 2 fellow shooters could not get through and had no option but to turn back (flood damage) and head home. I only had the weekend to make my presence felt so I took off straight away to see what was about.

I focused on the half of property where the cattle are currently grazing. There's 3 dams this half so I hit the first and straight away pigs laying in the shade 2 shots 2 pigs. As I came to the next dam my quad spooked a wallowing pig out of his bath and he disappeared into the thick, but not to worry he'd have to be back. Hitting the next dam the cattle were drinking and resting around the shady dam. Being careful where my shots would go I walked around to find 3 pigs bedded in some



shade, after dropping the first I managed another hit on a fleeing pig, the shot was a bit behind the shoulder and the pig got to the thick before he was out of sight. As it started to warm I took rest back on the middle dam and waited for any feral seeking a drink. nothing appeared apart from a plague of eastern greys.

That arvo I mounted my bc40 on my scope and settled in for some night time action. The place erupted on dusk, I did my best on my own trying to take as many from a mob before they took flight. I manged 11 in 2hrs before heading for some zzZzz. The next day same deal caught several more just laying around the dams, picking off as many as I could. Most of the pigs were in poor shape, riddled with ticks and balding from the heat. I didnt keep an exact count but a confident estimation between 28-35 pigs using my trusty ruger m77 in 7mm.08.

All in all great fun and a real eye opener of the current game around numbers are high and from the foxes and cats about next trip will be a blast to.



🚨 THE FORUM

Heavy 5X4 Red (Easter Stag)

Started by Geoff001, Apr 03 2013

Well at present one of my mates isn't happy with me to date. Lucky the Reds seem to be starting a bit later this year and I can take him to the paddock a few more times. I say this because in the last month he has dropped about two grand on boots, rifle, scope and binos, so I felt that I needed to assist as much as possible to acquire his first stag. The story goes like this: Arrived at the property Good Friday being the 29th March (which just so happens to be the same date two years ago that I got my first stag) so I had that little feeling in my gut that we might be lucky. By the time we headed to the back of the property, checked wind and headed up the mountain we only had two hours till dark.

Half way up the cattle pad my mate Wayne noticed the ass end of a hind crossing the pad and heading into a thick gully. Being that he spotted her I told him to take the lead. We only walked another 10m and I spotted a spikey following her about 60m behind. The angle that Wayne was on he couldnt see him. As Wayne crouched down he broke a twig and straight away the spikey was staring at us. To make things worse then Wayne's phone let out some lovely tune as he had got some signal on his mobile. Being a young animal he seemed to ignore this and kept on coming towards us until he hit our scent, which made him turn and run up the far slope. I was happy with this as I thought he may have been the young stag sniffing around.

After turning Waynes phone on silent we

proceeded up the mountain to the top and had a scout around without seeing anything. As light was starting to fade we made our way to the opposite face we had climbed and started following down another cattle pad. As the wind was blowing hard to the west, I got Wayne to walk down the eastern side of the ridge and I checked out the western side thinking that I would see nothing due to the wind. Well half way down the mountain I was wrong, off to my right there were a pair of antlers. I turned and tried getting Waynes attention but due to the wind he couldn't hear me, so I checked him out with my binos and could see that he was an older animal and decided to take him.

Apparently as I lifted my rifle Wayne turned around and watched me shoot.



The stag turned out to be a nice solid 5x4

Join the discussion at www.aushunt.com.au/Forum

****** THE FORUM

After the shot the Stag disappeared and I couldn't hear anything due to the wind. After a few minutes we headed down the hill to where I thought he was standing. Being dark now we got the torches out and started looking, we mainly checked down hill and to the east as I had seen two hinds cross the ridge below us after the shot. An hour later we still hadn't found him and decided to head back to camp. I quickly saved some waypoints in the GPS and off we went.

The next morning we headed back up to the spot with my nephew, dad and wayne and two dogs to try and locate the stag. Once again two hours later no Stag. Unfortunately I did find blood (not a lot) and was starting to doubt how good my shot was considering we couldnt find him.

Sunday I had to go home to keep the missus happy which we have to do but I wasn't happy as I didnt want to leave until I knew if I had got him or not. Anyway I headed back up yesterday and met my brother Rod. We once again scoured the side the mountain and next gully with no luck. That afternoon we split up and went for a look, not knowing Rod went up the same cattle pad that Wayne and I did on Friday and half way up I believe near the mobile phone incident Rod nearly tripped over the stag. Now being in the bush for 4 days with the heat we are still having up here there was a nice smell to say the least and I owe my brother a few cold ones for removing the head......Thanks bro.

And Wayne next time I just wont take my rifle......Maybe

Another Which Rifle Thread, 308-7MM08

Started by Zardez, Jan 27 2013

Hey guys, I know this gets beaten to death, probably because there is no right or wrong answer. I'm after a deer rifle in 308 or 7mm/08 I know on paper the 7 has better BC and shoots slightly flatter, but is that worth it in real world deer shooting. The rifle would be mostly deer and target and maybe an odd fox. Probably looking at the t3 lite but open to other suggestions.

I reload, so budget for the rifle+scope would be \$1200

HOTTEST FORUM TOPICS!

Wonnangatta Deer Hunt 2013

5 Day Solo South Island Hunting Trip (New Zealand)

Duck Opening 2013

The Wearing Of Blaze

Duck Hunters Accused Of More Wrongdoing

Some Mods To The Lux

Gundog Veterinary Bible - First Aid For Your Dog

Rice Shoot Available Now

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First Sambar With My Son

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THE GALLERY

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Aaron Lukasiak

Jason Feldman

Charles Costanzo

Justin Eastwood

Geoff Bleathman

Black Mouth Curs Australia

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COMPETITIONS

POST 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! Post in our forum or on our facebook pages and you could WIN!!

Good Luck everybody!

On the hunt, Adventures of an Australian hunter ebooks

We have four personalised ebooks to giveaway thanks to <u>Bob Stocker</u>.

Cranky Boars and Bows dvds

We have a few dvds to giveaway thanks to <u>Shane Compain</u>.

G5 Broadheads

We have a packet of broadheads to giveaway thanks to <u>Benson Archery</u>.

Camo Facepaint

We have a few packs of facepaint to giveaway thanks to <u>Bobbie Weiner</u>.

Recent winners :)

- Jason Feldman, VIC
- Adam Griffiths, QLD
- Justin Eastwood, QLD
- Andy Blue, VIC



Site news + developments...



Website Development

We are slowly phasing out the main pages of stories and photos and concentrating all new content within our Forum and new Facebook group. These pages are a lot more interactive and are visited more than any other. Thus all new competitions and product news will now be announced within these pages. For the existing content we may look at creating an ebook or similar as a way of archiving. Stay tuned...

Business Directory

Over the next few months we are checking all business listings are up to date. All basic listings are **free** and we encourage business owners to check their details are correct or to add their business by registering.

We do offer an upgrade for only \$125 per year and it is encouraged, if not for anything else, but to improve your google ranking by linking to us. The <u>business</u> <u>directory</u> will see further improvements later in the year so make sure you are a part of it.

The Forum

We have a new section for competitions and a new moderator, Geoff (gafloss) who is doing a great job so far.

Promotions

AusHunt has helped many businesses of all sizes to promote their products and services through our website features and channels. <u>Talk to us</u> today to see how we can help your business.



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