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Australian Hunting + Shooting



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Front cover pic: Judith McArthur, SA.



Welcome to the first emagazine for 2014.

The deer rut is in full swing as grunts and croaks ring out amongst many valleys and the steady stream of deer hunter's pictures, stories and comments on our sites also reflect.

As the weather starts to cool pig doggers become more active in several parts of the country giving their dogs and themselves more hours to hunt in the day and relief from the hotter months.

Social media hunting sites seem to still be increasing by the day and we encourage hunters to post ethical and humane pics and videos of their kills as it can help to influence public perception of hunters for the better.

Anzac day is here again and we remind ourselves to take the time to remember the fallen. Lest We Forget.

Happy Hunting!

Aushunter

Editor: Bernie (aka Aushunter)
Publisher: AusHunt



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Doesn't get any better than this!



Backpack hunting!

Well..... Im not too sure where to begin, but we'll start with 4:30pm on a warm humid summer day with a thick haze of bushfire smoke throughout the valleys and at times thick in at close range.

We made a tough call to ditch playing with some friends for the afternoon, we were more interested in going up the bush, looking for Deers!

We went and dug up some little camos out of the closet, I packed the backpack with honey sandwiches, lime cordial, a knife and some cheese snacks.

I grabbed the Ruger hawkkeye .35 whelen and a handful of shells...

I had already decided where we were to hunt, an old favourite system just 20mins drive from home, things were all on track and by 5:30pm, we had arrived at the start of the bush.

As we were nice and early, there was no rush, it was quite hot so we got things together, I loaded up TYB (the young bloke) into his seat, locked him in and grabbed the rifles. We set off up the track.

A lot of tip toe action went on as I'd forgotten my binoculars!! So I couldn't see as much as id have liked, although slow and steady was going well, we had spied a few wallabys making there way through the scrub, After about an hour and a half the boy wanted to stretch his Legs so I unloaded him, told him to keep quite and walk behind me... "tip toe" we went for a further 50m or so when I decided we would sit and listen to the bush for a while. Time to bust out the honey sangas!

Kids are great, although don't like sitting in one spot too long.... So to fix that I handed him my mobile phone and away he went... We sat for around half an hour



Playing games on the mobile

After our food and one got sick of the games available, we loaded back up and set off up the track a further 100m where we got off the track and headed toward a wallow and scrape area which sees a bit of action... With the smoke around and the forecast of rain on the cards, we experienced our first shower of the day which lasted 10 minutes.... during that drizzle and moving 100m off the track, I spied what I thought was a black neck and chest looking our way!..... I raised the 2-7x

loopy and confirmed it was what we were after... I whispered to the boy 'block ya ears, deer' and on that note I let a 225gr Woodleigh rip toward the animal from 100-120m.

All I seen was a deer look as if it had the ##### scared out of it and it turned and run uphill..... damn it im thinkin... too keen...

We waited 5 minutes, and heard nothing more. So off we went, to the area I last seen the deer.

No marks due to the dry ground, so I started to zig zag where I thought it would of ran, around blackberrys and through some dogwood scrub, when all of a sudden I cut across



Blood trail

which confirmed things were ALL A-OK... except for the deer...

I had followed the blood for 50m or so before it became too thick, so I unloaded the boy and told him to stay put while I went to find it..I was confident by now..

I looked up above me, in the same line the blood was flowing and there she was.

As I went back and grabbed TYB, we followed back up the trail and it was his first time seeing a deer up close, apart from seeing the odd deer in a paddock near suburbia... So it was a really cool experience i'll never forget.

I got her setup an took some photos before lugging the back legs back down to the track just as it were dark.

Me and the boy walked all the way back to the ute, unloaded and packed up, then drove up to pick up our meat before heading home well after dark!!



Me and TYB

WHAT A BLOODY RIPPER ARVO!!!!

My most favourite hunting photo yet!

Thanks for Reading.

Rhys. H - 'faith in the whelen'

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The Hunters and Shooters Academy

The Hunters and Shooters Academy (HSA) is a network of experienced hunters and trainers who are passionate to teach the A-Z of hunting.

HSA has a range of base courses to suit beginners though content can be customised for more experienced hunters.

Courses are taught in a safe and friendly environment and some give the opportunity to take game on private property.

A brief summary of some of the courses the HSA provide:

The HSA Introduction to rifles course will help you choose the rifle that best suits your needs. Participants will be afforded a good insight and understanding of the different types of rifles and their applications.

Course topics include rifle and action types, calibre choices, scope selection, break in procedures and firearm cleaning and maintenance.

The HSA Three Day Hunter Safari and Course is an action packed experience for adventurers who are new to hunting, or those hunters who want to brush up on their hunting skills.

The course gives people the confidence and tools required to be a successful and self-reliant hunter.

Course topics include sighting in of your rifle, how to use a GPS, compass and navigation skills, basic survival skills,



identifying/tracking/stalking game, shot placement, responsible hunting and much more.

The course also provides the opportunity to hunt for Sambar and other deer (season depending).

The HSA is also looking at offering **Hunting Property Club Memberships** for individuals, families and corporate companies who want to enjoy adventurous hunting and camping experiences all year round in NSW, QLD and VIC.

For more information on all the courses available or joining the property club please visit the HSA website.

www.huntandshootacademy.com





NEW!

Scout PS-Series

Change the way you see the great outdoors!

If you love the great outdoors, you will love the new FLIR Scout PS – the little thermal handheld camera that lets you see in total darkness.

The power of the Scout PS - Series gives you the freedom to explore nature in vivid thermal detail – 24/7. In total darkness Scout can spot a man-size object up to 315m away – try doing that with night vision goggles!

Weighing just 340g, the FLIR Scout PS is compact, robust and simple to use.

FLIR Scout will join the SatPhone, EPERB and GPS as the 'must-have' safety devices for people involved in outdoor pursuits such as hunters, outdoor educationalists, tour operators, 4WD touring, park rangers, bushwalkers, bird watchers, police, emergency service workers, military, mining, security operators and farmers.

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What FLIR sees

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What you see



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▶ Rifle Bag and Vapor Capsule

The Zerust rifle bag is designed to protect your guns and rifles from corrosion.

Clean and cool the weapon before storage, and Zerust weapon protection bags will do the rest. Your gun will be safe from corrosion for up to 5 years in its own Vapor Corrosion Inhibitor (VCI) rifle bag.

The Zerust VCI formula is non-toxic and safe to use on your weapon. It won't leave a residue on the metal, wood or optics and the Zerust molecules will simply dissipate into the air once the firearm is taken out of storage.



Vapor capsules emit a harmless vapor corrosion inhibitor (VCI) inside the gun safe that protects all metal surfaces from corrosion, even the places that oil can't reach.

The Zerust VCI formula won't leave a residue on firearms and will protect a medium sized gun safe (7+ guns) for one year.



For more information visit [Zerust](http://Zerust.com).

▶ Firedish

FDS 1200mm - the Auspit's Firedish is made from stainless steel for use at home in the backyard or clubs and events. Complete with removable legs and the ability to wash out and store away for the ultimate in fire safety and use.

Available in various sizes and for more information visit [Auspit](http://Auspit.com).



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▶ Easyhunt App

Easyhunt.com introduces a new service for smart phones, a functional app for hunters that makes life easier before, during and after the hunt. You can invite hunter friends to the hunt, create hunting maps online and use them on your mobile phone and even plan the season's hunts on a calendar. Easyhunt, founded in Sweden in 2009, is now also available in English.



Easyhunt is an online service that also includes an app that helps hunters organize a hunt, no matter if you're a solo hunter or part of a team. Easyhunt.com lets hunters create maps, plan hunts, send invitations, gather statistics over harvested game, upload pictures and documents and communicate via a forum. The password-based security limits the information and maps only to those who are invited.



▶ THE BIG LAP DVD series

The 'BIG LAP' is a 10 episode adventure travel documentary series about the Baile family and their 16 month – 46,600km 4WD expedition to the extremes of Australia.

For more info visit: www.thebiglap.tv/aushunt



▶ The Hunting DVD and the Pighunting DVD

The Hunting DVD features over 2 hours of hunting action, information and entertainment. Hunts include red stags from NZ, pigs from central west, NSW and foxes from south west NSW.

The Pighunting DVD includes top quality hunts from Cairns, Cape York, Darwin and the central tablelands.

[Watch the trailer](#)



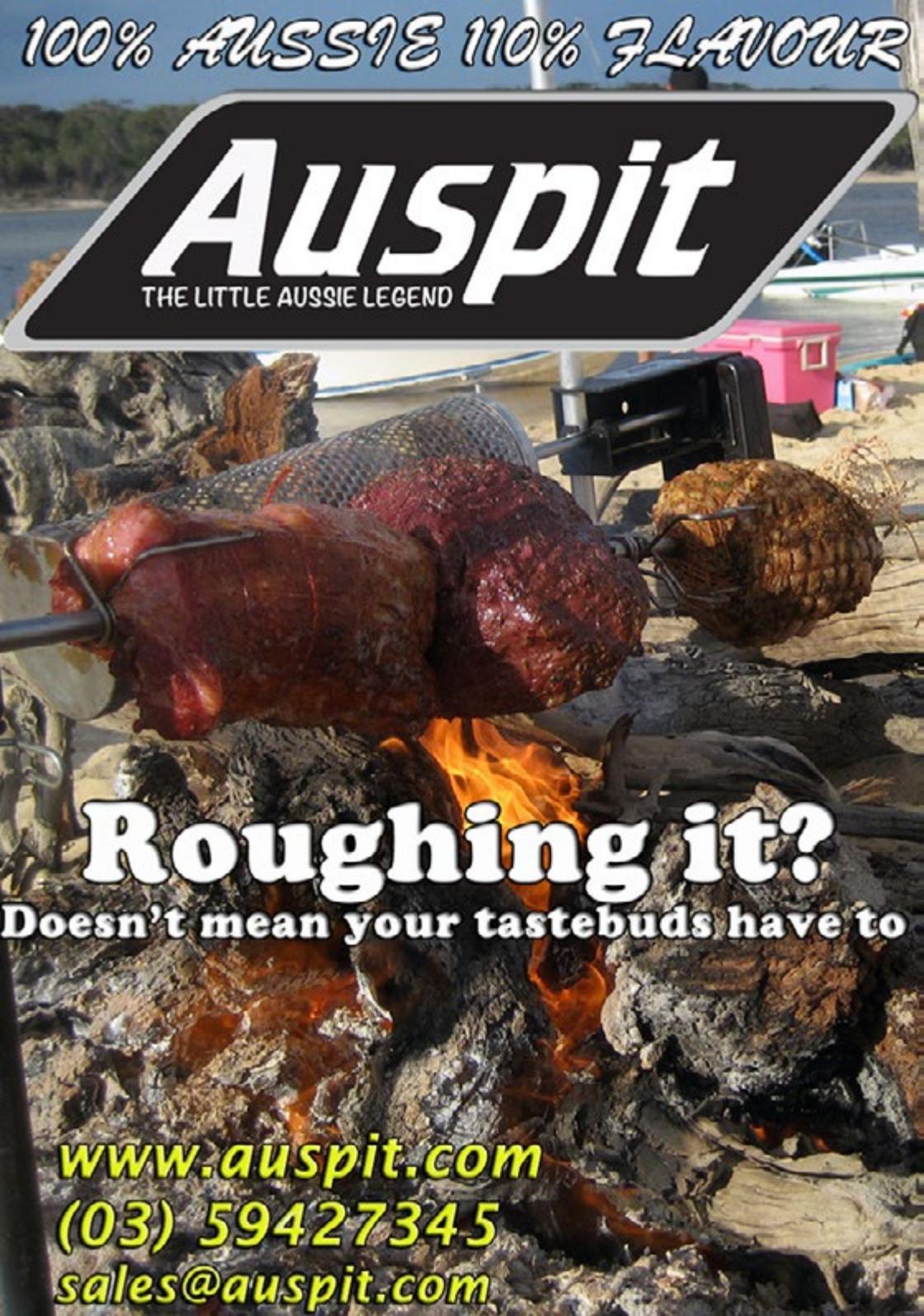
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Author and grandson Zach

First Stag

[Started by Whistler, Jan 28 2014](#)

On Thursday I loaded the truck with our gear and the grandson and we were off to Victoria for his first Sambar hunt. After arriving at our camp site 5 hrs later and meeting up with the property owner we set up our camp and kicked back for the rest of the day.

The next morning I contacted another forum member to see if he was up for hunt. It had been raining for most of the day on Friday so the conditions were ideal for an armed walk in the bush. We started walking down a gully with visibility quite good, stopping every 15-20mts to glass then continuing on. We heard a little bit of movement and later retrieved a game camera that he had set up in a nice cool well shaded gully. Then made our way back to the truck. On the drive out the grandson saw his first Sambar, a stag that was in velvet. He was very happy about that.

Arriving back at camp I met up with a mate who I have hunted with a few times before, in the NT for Buffalo and Pigs and down here for the Sambar. We planned our hunt for the next morning, it was to be an early start 3-30am. The alarm sounded and we headed off to our chosen place to hunt, **it was to be the sit and wait method of hunting**, glassing over a good gully we knew that held deer.

With the eastern sky beginning to lighten Sam, Zach (the grandson) and I were glassing the gully, looking through the bush trying to sight any movement or hint of any deer that were present. After about twenty minutes we sighted our first hind making her way up the gully, 5min later a spiker in velvet was making its way through. We sat and watched them for a while and then we saw 2 hinds heading up. Instead of heading up past us they turned into a patch of heavy cover about 140mts up from the the gully.

They were bedding very close to the bottom of the gully because of the constant heat during the past two weeks, many days had been over 35deg so they needed to be close to the water. I decided to make my way around the top of the gully and come down in above them. As we were making our way around Zach said that he could see another hind making her way up, so we stopped and glassed some more. All of a sudden a stag appeared well below us so we quickly backtracked and set Zach up with the video then Sam and I began our stalk down into the gully. After dropping about 200mts in elevation we made our way to a fallen tree that was to be a good cover for us as well as a good rest to take a shot from.

We were now about 160mts from the stag, well within range but the sun was now in a position that it was hard to see through the scope. We waited about 2-3min trying to get a good look at him, then using my hand to shade the end of the scope I had the crosshairs on his shoulder and squeezed the trigger I sent the 180g Woodleigh hand load from the 30-06 into his shoulder. He staggered backwards then took off up the side of the gully, Sam sent a shot on its way to stop him but it was not needed, but he still made it to the top of the ridge and out of sight.

We made our way back up the gully to where Zach was sitting with the video and when we told him that we were confident



Where the deer were heading into bed



Boiling out the skull

of a good hit he pointed across the gully into a good clearing to our stag, he was down.

It was a great feeling to get that first Stag, even though he was an older stag and in decline. He had many scars on his cape and the two inners were missing, to me he is still a good one. As well as that I think young Zach now has the deer bug in him!

Whistler



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Long Shot on the Full Moon...

Started by franklinsnapper, Mar 17 2014

Drove up to Geoff's a couple of hours ago for a look around with the light. Wasn't expecting too much action being a full moon and all. As I came in the drive, which is downhill and about 400m long, I grabbed my LED Solarforce torch and shone it down to the left towards the creek to a spot where we left a carcass four nights ago and there was a fox on it.

I went straight to the house and Geoff jumped in and we came back up the drive and headed in the general direction of the carcass and pulled up at the fence. I picked up the rifle out of the rack and rested over the roof on the bipod, switched on the scope mounted light and he was still there but started a fast trot directly away from our position towards the scrub along the creek.

Started making kiss noises to get him to stop and look, but he just ran faster.

I was thinking that was that, when he pulled up, turned and stood side on staring back at us giving us the fox equivalent of the one finger salute. Cheeky bastard!

It was a long way off but I could see him quite clearly after quickly adjusting the side focus for the distance. Took a few seconds to get nice and steady and let one go out of the 204. Didn't hear any impact but we went to the gate at the south end of the fence and came back along to where we had taken the shot and drove out on the line of fire. Got all the way to the far corner thinking I'd missed



but when we did a u-turn to leave, there he was. **Bloody ripper, got him.**

He was a big older dog, probably four years old at a guess. Shone the light back to where the shot was taken from and commented that it was a fairly long shot under the light, maybe 180-200 says Geoff. Got back to the house and fired up Google Earth and measured from the fence to the far corner of the paddock and it came out at 270 metres! Happy with that under the light! The ammo was a hand loaded 40 grain Remington BT pushed with 28.2 grains of AR2206H...we didn't see another thing over the rest of the place.

Nsw Fallow

Started by Waldo, Mar 15 2014

Yeh, I know it was duck opening but I haven't done an opening since they shut down the NSW season, oh well.

Got this today instead!



Bit Of A Look Tonight

Started by [brinny](#), Mar 22 2014

Went next door where ive been doing a bit of culling under permit and saw 4 as soon as i turned the light on, very promising indeed, and another 2 in next doors place as well. 6 all up, ripper, or so i thought, didnt get a cracker off at any of them. Quick look at the light and gone. So went to another neighbours and took these 3, so success finally for the night. Doesnt matter what brand they are, a scope mounted light is an invaluble tool when your spotlighting on your own.



HOTTEST FORUM TOPICS!

- [Carrying Hand Gun To The Range In A Shoulder/hip Holster](#)
- [Grazing In Wonnangatta Valley](#)
- [Plans For Vic Opening This Year?](#)
- [Backpack Contents 4-5 Day Trip](#)
- [Another Scope Mounting Question](#)
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Website news + developments...



■ AusHunt Facebook Sites

AusHunt has two Facebook sites - one is our [business page](#) and the other is a [community group](#).

The Business Page is for official announcements, shooting articles and polls, hunting topics of interest, product news and competitions. We also encourage any questions relating to Australian hunting or shooting.

The community group page is similar to our discussion forum where users can post pics and comments of recent or past hunts, share knowledge and insights or meet like minded hunters.

The group is private though you can add your friends once you have joined.

Competitions are also announced in the group and all entries must be posted in the group to be legible. We have some great prizes on offer so we encourage you to post, comment, like and share for your chance to win!



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