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Front cover pic: Mlck, Darwin NT.



Welcome to the August issue of the eMagazine.

It's been a long dry winter for most parts and it feels colder than recent winters. Im sure a beanie and an extra blanket in the swag still got most hunters out into the paddock.

I've read a couple of disturbing articles lately in the media about animal cruelty with weapons. What i dont accept is the media or anti groups linking 'animal cruelty articles' to hunters, these people are not hunters, they have no morals or ethics if they want to inflict pain on an animal for their own enjoyment. They are grubs.

Some groups are quick to say its only 1% of hunters - again i repeat: **THEY ARE NOT HUNTERS.**

A true hunter wants to dispatch their animal as quick as possible, they take pride in 1 shot kills and follow up on injured animals if the first shot happens to miss. Either hunting for food, pest control or trophies the aim in respect to the animal is the same. This is also reflected in the many guides and code of conducts that hunting groups provide for their members.

Happy Hunting!

Aushunter

Editor: Bernie (aka Aushunter)
Publisher: AusHunt



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Good day with mates



Thump, thump, thump. What the hell.... I had just been woken by some loud banging on the door, oh know the alarm didnt go off. 6.00 in the am and my mate was banging on the door all ready to put his boat in as we were heading off for the day in the two boats to do some Barra fishing and when the tide comes in to hunt some Buffalo.

We had everything packed the night before so all we had to do was fill the thermos with boiling water and we were off to launch the boats, all of a 3min drive from the house. Fishing the bottom of the runout tide is definitely the best time to go for the Barra here. A quick 15min run up the river and we started flicking some lures about. The good woman and I taking up one corner while Ian, Alan and John anchored on the other side of a good river junction. The three guys managed to hook into a few nice fish with Ian losing a good fish in the snags, thats the way it goes. Pam and I moved about 1km up the river and started to get a few fish but nothing to write home about. Still it was good fun.

The tide had now changed and was now pushing in fast so we decided to head



up the river about 40k to some good floodplains in search for some Buffalo. About an hour later we reached the start of some good open country and on the second opening we came too, I pulled into the bank and jumped up to have a look around. These floodplains are awesome and during the wet season the wildlife here is stunning. Millions of birds as well as pigs and the buffalo all feed on these wetlands.

Looking over to my right I spotted a buffalo about 600mts away and he had a huge spread of horns but I would have had to get within 150mts of him and taken a offhand shot.

Now if you hit one of these Buff and its not a good shot, they kind of get real cranky and hell can they run.

I have already had one do that to me before, so once chased and never to do that again. Now all shots that we do are taken from the protection of the trees that line the floodplain.

Moving up to the next opening I spotted a buffalo about 40mts away and he also spotted us. We pulled into the bank and as I made my way through the mangrove trees I spotted 10 Buffalo grazing about 250mts away. I waited until Ian pulled up next to us and we made our way to some dead trees to use as rests. Pam was standing behind us with the camera in hand taking photos all the time as well as some video. We each lined up our buff of

choice and on the count of three we fired.

I was using my Howa 30-06 with the new Boyds stock for the first time and Ian was using his Weatherby 30-06 while Alan used my 308. Although these are not recommended Buffalo guns (hence why we don't walk out into the floodplains to shoot them anymore) we still have dropped a great number of buffalo with them.

After a quick photo session with them we began the task of cutting them up and taking them to the boat. We always give most of the meat to the locals which in turn they allow us to hunt their "country" here. These buffalo were by no means big but they made for some great tucker and filled the freezer for a while.



Author and Buff

I love this place, there is so much to see and do and as I already have said to see this place here in the wet season is incredible. Next weekend we are heading off down the coast about 60ks away to camp on the Blythe river for another go at the Buff and Barra .

Glenn

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Member of NAPHA (Namibian Professional Hunters Association) and also registered with the Namibian Tourism Board.



Pig hunting with Sam and Frank

It was a warm winters afternoon and I decided to head off for a quick hunt with my nephew Sam. My two main dogs were in season so it was a good opportunity to work my two 12 month old Black Mouth Cur pups, Blackie and Nibbles, without the older dogs. Sam had his two year old BMC Frank and a mates staghound Bear who he was looking after for a mate while he was overseas.

We hadn't hunted the property for a while so we decided to check a small patch of boxthorn out in the middle of a paddock; sometimes the pigs camped in this thick patch in the middle of the day.

We were getting close to the patch and I saw two good pigs stand up and bolt for the creek around 800m away. It took the dogs a while to get to the spot but once they did they took off at full speed. Blackie and Frank were out in the lead and singled out the biggest pig. They turned her and she went straight back into the boxthorns where they'd first found her. Bear arrived and the three of them held the large sow quite easily. Meanwhile Nibbles had chased another sow back past us and as soon as we'd killed the bigger sow we headed off looking for her. We found her about 250m away holding the sow by the ear. The other dogs jumped in to help and it was all over pretty quickly.

We removed the legs off the pigs for dog meat and started walking back to the ute. Frank has a busy hunting style and he can go quite a long way sometimes. I was loading the dogs into the crate and



Sam and Frank

Sam was watching Frank hunt around in the creek. Frank kind of pointed at a briar bush and a good boar jumped up.

Frank gave a few barks and was off. I hadn't loaded Bear up yet and she was off like lightning.

I let the pups out and headed after the boar with Sam. The dogs all rounded up the boar in about 400m and were holding him when we got there. We killed him and Frank was gone again, straight up the creek. By the time we'd taken a photo or two Frank was 1.1km along the creek and bailing under a briar bush. We jogged for a while and the other dogs heard Frank bailing and went off to help. We jogged up and killed the pig; a 40kg sow.

Four pigs in 25 minutes and it was time to head home for a BBQ, a great afternoon.

Troy



Blackie and small pig



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▶ Australian Deer Hunter magazine

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▶ FLIR Scout

The FLIR Scout PS-24 has an image resolution of 240 x 180 pixels that provides a crisp and clear image without the need for adjustment. The Scout PS-32 produces thermal images of 320 x 240 pixels, making it ideal for spotting wildlife over longer distances. Both models are IP67 sealed for outdoor use and are supplied with rechargeable Li-ion batteries which provide up to 5 hours of continuous operation. They are controlled by four buttons on the top of the unit and an LED task light is also built-in.

[Read about the FLIR Scout helping to keep grey squirrel numbers down.](#)



Photo: Sarah McNeill

Stock Restoration

[Started by SamHuntVic, Jul 22 2014](#)

Inspired by billygoat-gruff's Winchester restoration I thought I'd give my old Anschutz mod 1416 .22 a makeover. I bought this rifle in 1968 for \$68 in Sydney and it has been and still is a perfect shooter so it deserved a smarten up.



I consulted the Oracle YouTube and settled on Birchwood Caseys Tru Oil. First was the dismantling, all of the inletting was still sharp edged and no signs of aging or cracking of the timber, off to a good start.

Sanding down was easy, I kept reminding myself of all of the internet hints....**take your time, you can take it off but you can't put it back.** Was very careful at the edges to avoid rounding them off. It actually didn't take very long, about an hour.

Then the ironing out of the more serious dings, a damp facewasher and a steam iron brought out those little dents but also raised the surface wood fibres, just as Mr YouTube said it would. A very light sanding had it ready for the first coat.

Grant.

One for the Brittany!

[Started by Waldo, May 31 2014](#)

Quality time out bush with the dogs has been non-existent for the last month or two due to a number of family reasons, now under control and we (Annie my Brittany & I) headed out for what was our first Sambar hunt for the year.



The plan was to get the legs some miles and head over to a far away ridgeline we hadn't been to yet, we started off at our usual ridgeline car park space and headed off on a roughly angular path to make a beeline for the bottom of the gully where we were going to hoof it up the hill to check out some uncharted country.

Approx. 1 1/2 hours in and we were walking along the side of a feeder gully heading down and Annie had a strong desire to be on the other side of the ridgeline. So if that's what she wants may as well do it, cross over come just off the top and pause to look around. Annie is showing interest up above and next I hear a twig snap.

Mmmmm scan towards the noise and there is a sneaky stag above us and cutting across to back track on us. Annie

One for the Brittany cont..

is intently looking and while I waited for it come back in view from behind some trees was thinking, gee it's not real big but Annie has done a good job getting me onto it, mmm. He comes out from behind some trees and thought, bugger it she's worked well and deserves the reward (plus to be honest I haven't shot enough of these to get fussy yet anyhow).

So into it, aimed a little higher than usual as the higher shots I've found tend to put them down a little quicker. I wasn't disappointed, he went straight down, heard a little thrashing around then he got back on his feet turned and started a wobbly run down the hill towards us. He only got a few paces then crashed and burned and tumbled down the hill to about our height.

He ended up going a tad over 15", on the hoof I thought maybe a tad bigger which is kind of weird because last years stag I thought was a little smaller than he actually was. The dog worked well and it was a good freezer topper upper-er, the carry out on un-hunt fit legs was a bugger, oh well.

Waldo

Young Scrub Bull

[Started by 264, Jun 09 2014](#)



Went out early this arvo, took the zook and pushed it to the limits. Was still very wet and made it as far out as I could onto the floodplain. Got to a ATV crossing mess and decided not to go any further.

On foot for the next few km's and plenty of pig sign, so expectations were high. Got onto a fair bit of scrubber sign and had just crossed a paperbark swamp when three scrubbers came off the high ground and started feeding.

I got to around 100m and they were relaxed so slipped a 140 Hydro in the 7x57.

First shot angling on to me and the bull trotted for around 20m, second behind the shoulder and he stopped, two quick ones in the head and he was finished.

Nice bull now the work starts. Big carry out, two trips!

Cheers Mick

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Pre Pheasant Goat Hunt

Started by Joe.358win, Aug 07 2014

With an invite to hunt goats for a day or 2 before the pheasants, I was in. Having only hunted goats on one other occasion, although seeing others on a deer hunt, I was keen to put some meat into the freezer. Meeting up with the group at the bush camp, a quick arvo reccy produced nothing more than a dog walker and a good reason to remember to always carry my uhf.

With some seriously cold weather coming in for the night, we set about getting some hot coals in the bottom of the fire and talking dribble until it was time to hit the swag. Waking to -4 temps, it was hard to leave the warmth of the swag. Everything was frozen, where there was mud yesterday, now it was frozen solid, the grass cracked as you walked on it, gas cannisters froze making boiling the kettle a tad difficult. But we were keen and we waited for the sun to get a little higher and start warming the top faces. It was those spots we were going to look for the goats so we needed to be patient.

The time came and we made for the chosen area, a quick plan of attack and it wasn't long before we caught them climbing for the sunny faces. The next time I get a good idea like leaving the pack behind someone smack me. We lost the goats for about an hour but picked them up again as they bedded for the morning. It was just as well because we were about to pull the pin and back out. Working into a shooting position, Glen gave up his spot and the goats decided to get out, they weren't too sure of what they saw, they just knew they needed to get

somewhere safe. I was able to sneak over the top of the spur above them to keep an eye on them. We followed them up over another 2 feeder gullies until I had a decent nanny in my sights. Shooting down on the nanny, the 358win barked rather loudly, the 200 grain round nose hitting high on the shoulder blade continuing through and breaking the neck and exiting just under the left jaw, the goat dropped on the spot. I worked the lever and fed another pill into the chamber moved onto the next nanny and fired. A little back on her, she hit the deck with and screamed a short breath. Glen came in from the left and a little lower and dropped another nanny with a neck shot. With 3 on the deck and Richard and Henno down in the bottom of the gully it wasn't long before the report of the 308 gave there position away.



Glen and I gathered the 3 goats together, made contact with the others, then made a plan to head back to the car and drive it to a closer spot for the retrieval. It turned out we were a little over a km from the car, made easier with the success of the morning. Driving around to meet up with the others, Glen and I grabbed our gear and headed back to start the butchering.

Pre Pheasnt Goat hunt cont..

For Glen it would have been a lot harder if I didn't have a spare knife, he had left his in his car, I was his chauffer for the morning. Henno and I had been presented a gift over the fire the night before, a beautifully hand made knife each from Richard, a huge surprise, an absolute honor. Glen with my Old Timer and me with the new custom the goats were broken down and into meat bags in no time.

I have to make mention of this knife for a moment. For someone to produce a knife of this quality on a first effort is a real credit. This is a knife made to be used, it has good weight, a handle that can be held firm and a blade that holds an edge. It isn't perfect by any stretch of the imagination but it is probably the best knife I have used. I processed 2 goats with the knife, it never needed to be put onto the steel and would do 2 more before

it might need a few strokes. I was also presented with 2 sheaths, both made for my left handedness. I will carry this knife in my kit on all my hunts, it is hands down the best thing I have got since I bought a Beretta.

Back at camp, the game hung on the rack to cool, it was time for lunch.

Joe



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First Blackpowder Sambar

Started by GSPhunter, Jul 07 2014



I recently started up with my new passion in blackpowder hunting. I went for a bit of a hunt up the high country with my gsp Ellie and my blackpowder muzzleloader and managed to take my first sambar with it, even if it is only a young fella. 45yd texas, heart shot dropped her in her tracks. Ellie pointed her first sambar too so i can't complain!

HOTTEST FORUM TOPICS!

[Return To Semi Autos?](#)
[More Evidence](#)

[Pheasant Report 2014](#)

[The Latest Bloody Addictive Bloody Project](#)

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■ Knife Forum

A few members have been making their own knives and requested that we started a new category to discuss the finer details of this ancient practice.

We're also lucky to have an introductory article on knife making by Corin Urquhart, Sydney knifemaker.

Introduction to Custom Knife Making, Part 1

About 3.4 million years ago, in Ethiopia, the first humans discovered that by bashing two rocks together, they could make a sharp edge to cut up and prepare their food. Thus the art of knifemaking was born.

After 3.4 million years, making knives is almost as much of human's instinct as a birds instinct to build a nest.

When you sit and consider it, not much has actually changed. We still make knives for exactly the same reasons as the first humans.

Before you get started in knifemaking you need to know there is a limit to what you can do. The art is trying to find that limit. Pushing the boundaries of design, exploring the limitless combinations of



blade profile, handle shape, materials and making the best knife you can possibly make, with each one an improvement on the one before, there is no limit to what is possible.

The custom knifemaker draws on a more varied range of skills than any other crafts person. Fitting and machining, blacksmithing, toolmaking, polishing, woodworking, leatherworking, carving, again limited only by the amount the maker is willing to learn.

Why make a custom knife?

Find me a factory knife that can slice through a 25mm thick rope, free hanging, in a single pass, chop through two 4"x 2" planks of wood and still shave, then bend the blade to 90 degrees without it breaking. Making a knife that can do all the above things is a pre requisite for entry into the American Bladesmiths Society of custom knifemakers.

[Read the full article in the Forum.](#)

by Corin Urquhart



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