

THE DEERSTALKER

October 2010



THE DEERSTALKER

web address: www.newsouthdeerstalkers.org.au

NSW Deerstalkers Association

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Formed: 7th June 1972

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Steve Isaacs Mark Isaacs, Greg
Lee, Peter Clark, Les King, Darren
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Advertisements:

Advertisements for products sold by NSWDA Members are accepted and printed free of charge provided a discount is given to club members.

Licence Testing

Co-ordinator: Greg Haywood

Video Library: Terry Burgess

Cover Photograph

Red stag feeding on sweet chestnuts, Richmond Park UK 2009 by Dal Birrell

All Memberships & General Correspondence to be posted to:
PO Box 519 PICTON NSW 2571

FROM THE EDITOR

This year we will publish five issues of this newsletter. To ensure that we get each issue out on time, there will be deadlines for submission of materials to be included. If material reaches me after a deadline, it will be included in the next issue, if appropriate.

Expect to receive each issue about three weeks after its deadline.

Guidelines for submissions.

Material which is emailed saves me a lot of work. **Preferred font is Times New Roman. Preferred font size is 12 point.** Writing can be sent as a Word file, or a text file. For those without an expensive word processing program, you can use any writing program included with your operating system, or download "Open Office" free from the internet which is virtually identical to "Microsoft Office" & can exchange files with that famous program.

Photographs should NOT be included in the article itself, but sent as separate files (attachments to the email). You can indicate where each photo might be placed by typing its file name in brackets in the text.

Photographs should be . jpeg files, saved at about 15 cm X 10 cm size at quality 8 (which gives the best quality for the smallest file size).

Printed on paper submissions need to have clear black typed text. Faintly printed text will not scan & cannot be included.

Very short pieces, such as personal adverts can be hand written.

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Meeting dates for 2010

14th October

Saturday 20th November
Trophy Exhibition & Christmas Party. **10 am to 5 pm**

Venue is the Peachtree Hotel
54 Peachtree Road,
Penrith 2750

www.peachtreehotel.com.au

Photos can be prints or negatives or slides. These can be returned to you if you include a stamped self addressed envelope. If these photos are valuable, send copies rather than originals.

NSWDA Hunting Club AHO (for R licences) is 10111, & the Agent No. is 7185

Please Note: The N.S.W.D.A. Inc. takes no responsibility for views expressed in "The Deerstalker". All articles submitted are signed by the relevant author. The Editor & Committee do however, take responsibility for views expressed in articles & reports submitted by them!



Muzzle Blast.

Recoil and Muzzle Blast.

Shooters vary in their ability to handle recoil, we all know. But besides the blow to the shoulder, the noise coming out of the muzzle plays a significant part.

Those of us who compete in range events know only too well how unsettling it is to have to shoot beside someone with a rifle which has a really loud muzzle blast. It hits the side of the face, makes the ears ring, can make you blink & can cause you to put your shot well off the mark. Not good!

The same blast can cause you to flinch, even when shooting alone. Ever so slowly you also lose your hearing too. In the beginning it's not very noticeable, but believe me, there comes a time when you suddenly notice you can't hear people clearly any more, especially in noisy places. Women & kids with their high pitched voices are the most difficult to hear. I now really strain to hear my grand kids. So is there a solution?

Ear protection is the obvious answer, but especially in the bush it can be a problem. On the range, wear soft inserts plus a good set of ear muffs which cover the whole ear. In the bush, think about wearing soft inserts when hunting. No, you don't hear the sounds of nature as well, but when you go deaf you don't hear too much at all. Even partial deafness can be a very lonely place.

It's a bit late if you've already bought a noisy calibre, but if you haven't, then take muzzle blast into consideration when buying a new rifle. Despite the claims for some of the newer high velocity

cartridges, the older milder ones can be just as effective in most cases. For those of us who shoot our game at moderate ranges (say out to 200 metres) there are a host of milder, quieter older cartridges which will do the job perfectly.

Also we need to be aware that most of the modern cartridges (with the exception of specialist BR, long range target jobs & the odd one which really has something better to offer) have been put out there just to transfer your money to an arms company, i.e. to increase their profit, rather than providing us with something we NEED. Just look at any catalogue to see all the odd stocks & scopes on offer for instance. It worries me that so many of these look like sniper rifles, designed to kill PEOPLE at long ranges. As a hunter this worries me because it could well result in a backlash from the non-shooting public, just as the import of the SKS & SKMs did some years ago. Some say they contributed greatly to the confiscation of our auto loaders. The Americans can go to their extremes but we have different laws, less protection & need to be more circumspect.

Another quite dumb offering is rifles with overly short barrels. There are new centrefires for sale with 16" barrels, & quite a few with 18" & 20". The blast from a 243 Win with a 16" barrel would make that piece unusable!

I recently acquired a delightful old light 243 with a 20" barrel, with probably the noisiest muzzle brake ever made. As John Desanti can testify, even the owner's mate has to wear ear plugs! With factory ammo it would blow the ears off a horse. Much of the powder doesn't burn fully & the



fouling build-up has to be seen to be believed. Velocities compared to a 22" or especially a 24" barrel are also down 300 - 400 ft/sec. I had a gunsmith internally sleeve the brake. Handloads with 100 gn bullets & a slightly faster powder, set to duplicate the noise level of a standard round fired from a longer barrel shoot well with a relative velocity loss of 300 ft/sec.

In my humble opinion, short barrels on high velocity centrefires are bullshit.

As a final thought on hearing protection, why can't we have suppressors to quieten (NOT SILENCE) rifles, just as they do in almost every other non-totalitarian country in the world? Makes you wonder about our OH&S.

P.S. After writing this piece I read the latest Sporting Shooter magazine, which has an excellent article along the same lines by Nick Harvey. Great minds?

Collet type Reloading Dies.

Last year I bought a set of collet type reloading dies to try out. When depriming & resizing a fired case, normal dies resize a case neck by first reducing its diameter, then increasing it again by pulling a plug back through the neck.

Collet dies on the other hand simply crush the neck down onto a mandrel as the case is deprimed. What attracted me to this idea is that no lubrication is needed during reloading and the brass is worked only half as much. This should make cases last longer and especially if you put some time and effort into producing identical batches of cases for more accurate loads, for bench rest, very long shots on game or varminting e.g.,

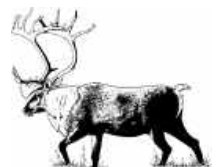
much time, effort & money might be saved. Lee claims that it's collet dies make cases last ten times longer, & also guarantee better accuracy.

A shooting mate & I went through the process of making up batches of identical cases for our 222 Remington rifles, using 500 new cases bought as one lot. Cases were batched by weight, flash holes trued, and necks skimmed. He has been using standard reloading dies & I have been using collet dies. All cases have been reloaded about the same number of times.

His cases are now beginning to suffer split necks, while not one of mine has been lost. We've noted no difference in accuracy between the two die types either.

In case you're interested, this sort of case preparation results in groups shrinking by 30 to 50% in our rifles, depending of course on doing the rest of the job right!

Dal Birrell.





Secretary's Report!

As I write we still don't know who has been elected the Federal Government, however, whatever the result the Greens will have increased their power base.

This is not good for law abiding hunters and the shooting fraternity in general, as well as others using the outdoors including recreational fishermen. Most of us do both as we enjoy the outdoor sports with friends and family.

The Greens have vowed to turn one third of Australia's territorial waters into a marine park. This was one of the policies that they launched which also included a policy to end forest logging in Australia.

Therefore, we need to support the Shooters and Fishers Party to continue to fight our cause so that we can pursue all our outdoor activities.

On a sad note the Hon Roy Smith passed away in his sleep at his home recently. Roy always stood up for the rights of all firearm users and put forward a number of firearm legislation reforms before Government.

Following his sudden passing, Robert Borsak has been nominated to replace Roy in the Legislative Council. He will continue the important work that Roy did on firearms legislation. Robert Borsak is the Chairman of Game Council New South Wales and he will relinquish this position once he is confirmed on the Legislative Council.

At the last meeting we approved a donation of \$5,000 to the Shooters and Fishers Party to be only used for the next State Election to be held in March 2011. I contacted Steve Larsson and made the pledge on behalf of our Association and will forward our payment once the forms have been received. Latest news from the Game Council is that they have issued 13,000 game licences to date. Also, they have updated the list of State Forests available to R licence hunters on their website.

<http://www.gamecouncil.nsw.gov.au/portal.asp?-WhereCanIHunt>

We have been inundated with a number of polls lately and one conducted by the "Age" was "Do you believe in the joy of hunting your dinner?". I'm not sure if the following were the final results:

Yes, hunting is a fun sport	21%
Yes, but I believe its showing respect for the animal	60%
No, eat meat but don't glorify the killing	14%
No, it's barbaric.	5%
Go vegetarian	0

(6,000 votes approximately)

Congratulations to Steve Isaacs who has been made a life member of NSWDA, for his long and dedicated service.

Good hunting!
Greg Haywood





President's Report



No President's report is available this issue as Darren is away, I presume hunting, in Africa,

Contributions Urgently Needed!

Members, this is your newsletter. Unfortunately we have virtually no news because we are not getting many contributions from YOU.

Maybe I'm wrong, but as a hunting organisation I think we should be telling our fellow members what we've been up to lately. I'd love to run a column listing briefly where you've been & what you got, with some pictures if possible. Both can be easily emailed to me.

I realise that the regular hunting magazines are paying for full blown stories & that some of you are writing for them, as am I. It's great that some members still write some longer stories for the Deerstalker, but your short notes & pictures are equally welcomed.

Do you have an opinion on any hunting or shooting topic which might help others, particularly new members? Why not drop me a short note about it? As an example, see "Muzzle Blast" in this issue.

Editor

List of Official NSWDA Scorers.

The following members of NSWDA qualified as NZDA scorers at the workshop held in Sydney last year.

Members should contact any of these official scorers to get a head scored officially for NSWDA records.

As I think this list is incomplete, would any scorers who need to be added to the list please contact me, preferably by email. My contact details are in the front of this Deerstalker. Editor.

Chris Graham (Liason Officer with NZDA)

John Desanti,

Peter Birchall

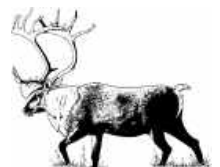
Wayne McPhee

Steve Isaacs

Darren Plumb

Josh Raffin.

(Please let the Editor Know if your name should be on this list)



Video Library

Free hunting videos for members to borrow for one month if picking up video's at a meeting. Members must pay postage by registered mail back to the club in carton supplied. You can phone or write for videos to be posted to you, however the member must pay postage both ways. When returning videos to the club within one-month members must include cost of postage to them in stamps inside the box.

If members are to lend these video's to fellow members, remember that the original person who borrowed them from the club will be held responsible if they are not returned within due time. As these videos are the property of the club, you are expected to look after them. If you loose or damage a video you will have to pay the replacement cost. If you don't return them after 4 weeks you won't get anymore.

To borrow a Video contact:

Terry Burgess

Ph: (02) 9909 1267

P.O. Box 80

Cremorne Junction NSW 2090

Library List

1. Black Death, Cape Buffalo, Lion
2. Capstick, Botswana Safari Buffalo, Lion
3. In the Blood, Capstick, Rhino
4. Zambia Safaris
5. Whitetail, Mule Deer, Pronghorn, Late Season Elk
6. Monster Elk, Horns of Plenty, Hunt Exotics 1 & 2
7. Hunting Bugling Elk, Big Muleys, Caribou
8. North American Big Horn Rams, Greatest Whitetail, Wild Hogs of Texas
9. Col Allison Hunters Home Video, Big Bears, Russian Boar, Whitetail
10. North American Mixed Bag, Big Horn Rams, Whitetail
11. Great Trophy Bucks Mixed Bag, Big Horn Rams, Whitetail
12. Wild Boar Pig Hunting Down Under Part 1
13. Hunting Sheep, Goat & Moose in B.C.
14. Big Rams Brooks Range, Big Horn Rams, Mouflon
15. The Bow Hunter, Whitetail Deer
16. Big Rams, North American Big Horn Sheep, Mouflon Sheep
17. North American Big Horn Sheep, Big Rams Mixed Bag
18. Mouflon, Bow Hunting Elk, Whitetail, Mule Deer etc.
19. Challenge of the Mountain Monarchs, Thars, Mouflon Sheep, Red Deer in Qld



20. Pig Hunting in Qld, Wild Goat in Qld, Mouflon
21. Pig Hunting in Qld, Red Deer in Qld
22. Hunting in Spain, Pig Hunt in Tunisia, Red Deer in Scotland
23. Hunting Fallow in Scotland, Red in Scotland, Kiwi Hunts North West Territories
24. The Wildlife Bow Hunter, Deer, Pigs, Foxes, Mountain Hunting NZ, O'Rourke's Deer, Chamois, Thar
25. Mountain Hunting N.Z., Deer, Thar, Chamois, Red, Sika, Bow Hunter
26. N.Z. Hunting, Sambar in Victoria, Red Deer in France
27. Hunting N.Z. Red Deer, O'Rourke's N.Z., Chamois in Europe
28. Bowhunting Red Deer in N.Z., Bugling Red Deer Rifle
29. Fox Shooting at its best-Volume 3 & 4
30. The Ultimate Whitetail Hunt
31. Sambar Hunting, Mountain Hunt N.Z., Thar in N.Z.
32. Caping Demo by NSWDA
33. Roar Red Stags, Shadows in Scrub, Great Trophy Bucks
34. Hunting the Elusive Wild Dog, Hunt to outsmart Wild Dogs
35. Dark Continent
36. Red in Qld, Dingo, Fox, Fallow, Hog etc., Sika N.Z., Cape for Trophy Mount
37. How to cape for a Trophy Mount, Shoot the Bull, Hunting QLD Red Deer, Deer Attack
38. Hunting African Lion, Hunting Cape Buffalo
39. Big Horn Rams, Nth American Mixed Bag
40. Shadows in Scrub, Red Deer - Clark McGhie
41. Sambar Stalking 1 & 2 - Reg Gordon
42. Bucks & Bulls, NZ Chamois, Thar, Whitetail, Sportsmans Paradise, Pigs, Barramundi, Tusk Versus Tooth, Pig Hunting with Dogs
43. Bucks & Bulls, NZ Chamois, Thar, Whitetail, Hog Deer in Victoria
44. Bucks & Bulls, NZ Chamois, Thar, Whitetail, Sambar Stalking 1 & 2 - Reg Gordon
45. Dogs, Guns & Grunters, Tusk Versus Tooth, Lifes a Boar NZ
46. "How To Load From A Disk" Ballistic CD-Rom
47. Huge Hogs of Aust. North Part 1 & 2
48. Sambar Safari Vol 1, SHIKARI
49. Venison Hunters, Hunting Northern Cape, Hunting NZ Southern Alps.
50. Hunting the Zambeze Delta, Trophy Seekers, Trophy Seekers Shadows End
51. NZ Hunting, Hunting Safaris Vol 1 & 2, Rusa Hunting



Trophy Exhibition and Christmas Party.

Our annual get-together will be held at the Peachtree Hotel, 54 Peachtree Road Penrith on Saturday November 20th.

The Hotel has been booked from 10 am to 5 pm. Courtesy buses run from 5 pm; ring 0402904724 for details. All food & drinks are provided by NSWDA.

The Peachtree Hotel has been the venue for our end of year party before so many members will be familiar with it. It is located just North of the Great Western Highway, off Castlereagh Road, so it is easy to reach, whether you are coming from North, South, East or West. A map is available at www.peachtreehotel.com.au

A trophy show isn't a show unless we have trophies, so we urge everyone who has something new to show to bring it along (as early as possible) so that it can be displayed for all members to admire. Heads, mounted or unmounted, photos and other trophies of any sort are very welcome.

Pencil this event into your calendar now.



Photos sent in by Andrew Palmer of his recent trip North.
Have you got some of a recent trip that we can show? No story is necessary, although some details would be appreciated.
Send photos by email to the Editor; see page 9 for details.





375 & 416 projectiles



NSWDA Merchandise

I have organized some new club shirts, polar fleece & caps.

The colours are at this time ;

Polo shirtswhite/navy trim.....\$ 25.00

Micro fleece top.....Moss green.....\$ 35.00

Caps.....bottle green.....\$ 15.00

Caps.....blaze orange.....\$ 15.00

All garments have the club emblem embroidered on the item

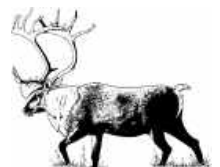
We will have the items at the next meeting for sale & also at Coffs Harbour.

For further information members could contact me on 48 210 774 / 041 202 1741
or at 20 John street. Goulburn. 2580

Postage will be at \$5.00 for members.

Also, other colours are available but will need to be a special order.

Thanks Darren



Manage game better!

2010 Game Management Workshop

For hunting organisations that manage deer and other game animals.

Course covers:

- Ecological Deer Management (EDM);
- Management skills for approved hunting organisations;
- The science of professional game management;
- How to best make use of game animals for your club.

New venue!
Wonga Wetlands Centre
Albury NSW
13-14 November

Go to: www.gamecouncil.nsw.gov.au

Call: (02) 6360 5111

Email: info@gamecouncil.nsw.gov.au

GAME COUNCIL NSW

Hunters — First in Conservation



GAME COUNCIL
New South Wales



2010 Game Management Workshop Information

Location

The 2010 Game Management Workshop will be staged in conjunction with Field and Game Australia at the Wonga Wetlands on the picturesque Murray River in Albury NSW. Albury is situated on the NSW/Vic border on the picturesque Murray River. Travelling distance from Sydney is around 560km and from Melbourne is 325km. Go to www.wongawetlands.nsw.gov.au for directions.

Times

The course will start at 9am on Saturday 13 November 2010. The course will conclude at approximately 3:00pm on Sunday 14 November 2010. A course itinerary is attached to the end of this information.

Accommodation

A range of accommodation options are available in Albury. Go to www.alburywodongaaustralia.com.au/directory_categories.asp?ID=1 for more information.

Workshop Costs and Other Events

The individual course costs \$250 for each participant. Payment can be organised through the Game Council NSW Orange Office on (02) 6360 5111.

On Friday 12 November evening Game Council will be hosting the second instalment of the Occasional Lecture Series at the SS&A Club in Albury. The theme will be "Deer management in Australia and New Zealand - What have we Learnt?" with a number of national and international speakers presenting. For more information go to: www.gamecouncil.nsw.gov.au/portal.asp?p=EDMProject. The occasional lecture series is free of charge.

What will be supplied

Workshop fees will include morning teas, lunches and afternoon teas during the course. A workshop booklet will also be supplied and distributed at the workshop.

What you need to bring

The following is a suggested inventory of gear you will need to bring:

- Wet weather gear
- Sunscreen and hat
- Writing materials for notes

Course Timetable

SATURDAY 13th November 2010				
FROM	TO	PRESENTER		TOPIC
9.00 am	9.15 am	Andrew Moriarty	1	Introduction and house keeping
9.15 am	9.45 am	Neal Finch	2	History of game management
9:45am	10:15am	Graham Hall	3	Game management in Australia present and future
10:15am	10:30am	MORNING TEA		
10:30am	11:15am	Rod Drew	4	An introduction to waterfowl in Australia
11:15am	12:00pm	Graham Hall	5	Management of quail and other game birds
12:00pm	12:30pm	LUNCH		
12:30pm	2:00pm	Graham Hall	6	Practical session – analysis of waterfowl samples from harvest data
2:00pm	2:30pm	Rob Mulley	7	Deer in Australia – setting the scene
2:30pm	3:00pm	Andrew Moriarty	8	Ecological Deer Management
3:00pm	3:15pm	AFTERNOON TEA		
3:15pm	3:45pm	Neal Finch	9	Deer monitoring techniques
4:45pm	5:15pm	Neal Finch and Andrew Moriarty	10	Deer monitoring techniques practical (split into two groups) – 45 minutes scats and 45 minutes cameras for each group
SUNDAY 14th November 2010				
9:00am	9:30am	Andrew Moriarty		Travel to deer farm at Bonegilla – split into three groups
9:30am	10:15am	Tony English and Andrew Moriarty	Grp1	Collecting and analysing samples from harvested deer
		Graham Hall and Rob Mulley	Grp2	Body condition and aging deer from jaw samples and on the hoof
		Neal Finch	Grp3	Darting and radio-tracking deer
10:15am	10:30am	MORNING TEA		
10:30am	11:15am	Tony English and Andrew Moriarty	Grp3	Collecting and analysing samples from harvested deer
		Graham Hall	Grp1	Body condition and aging deer from jaw samples and on the hoof
		Neal Finch	Grp2	Darting and radio-tracking deer

11:15am	12:00pm	Tony English and Andrew Moriarty	Grp2	Collecting and analysing samples from harvested deer
		Graham Hall and Rob Mulley	Grp3	Body condition and aging deer from jaw samples and on the hoof
		Neal Finch	Grp1	Darting and radio-tracking deer
12:00pm	1:00pm	LUNCH		Travel back to Albury and Lunch
1:00pm	2:00pm	Graham Hall and Sunday Island Representative	11	Property Based Game Management Plans
2:00pm	3:00pm	Tony English	12	Discussion and Open Forum



The Hon. Robert Brown MLC

Parliament of New South Wales

Legislative Council

Shooters and Fishers Party



FROM THE SHOOTERS PARTY MEMBERS

ROBERT BROWN MLC and ROBERT BORSAK MLC 27 September 10

The Shooters and Fishers Party is now back to full voting strength with the swearing-in by the Governor of Robert Borsak to fill the vacancy created by the untimely death of our colleague Roy Smith.

He attended his first Budget Estimates Committee meetings, and made his inaugural speech to the Parliament on Tuesday night last week. Then on Thursday in what is probably a record for a new member, Robert also successfully managed Roy's last Bill (more amendments to the Firearms Legislation), through the Legislative Council.

While the Government and the Greens managed to delete many of the provisions Roy wanted in the Bill, we took what was achievable, and have put both major Parties on notice, that after next March's election, we will bring back the amendments for further consideration.

MACOSC APPLICATIONS

I urge clubs wanting to apply for the Safe Shooting grants under the MACOSC scheme to ensure they get their paperwork finalised as quickly as possible. There is \$600,000 in funding available for this financial year, and it is envisaged that the Government will want to be able to announce the allocations by December-January. To this end, applications will need to be submitted by the end of October, to be included in this round of funding.

MARINE PARKS BILL

I am still negotiating with the government on the timing of my Bill to prevent any further declaration of Marine Parks for five years, and also to block the expansion of any current exclusion zones.

The government has indicated support for the Bill in principle, but we need to have it through the House before the end of the year. With luck, both this Bill and the proposed changes to the Firearms Legislation will be passed before the end of October. I also attach a link to the weekend Landline programme on ABC TV. It was an opportunity for me to highlight what the Shooters and Fishers Party is doing to try to prevent any more declarations:

<http://www.abc.net.au/landline/content/2010/s3022198.htm>

RECREATIONAL FISHING INQUIRY

Public hearings associated with this inquiry have now ended, and I would thank all those who took the time to either appear themselves, or make submissions to the Committee.

It has been a comprehensive inquiry into all aspects of recreational fishing along our coast, and in the inland waters, and I am hopeful that the outcome will benefit fishers into the future.

Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Brown', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert Brown MLC

Shooters and Fishers Party Parliament House Sydney 2000

Ph: (02) 9230 3059 Fax: (02) 9230 2613 email: robert.brown@parliament.nsw.gov.au

email: robert.borsak@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Inaugural Parliamentary Speech - The Hon. Robert Borsak MLC 21/9/2010

As this is my inaugural speech to this Chamber, I acknowledge the fact that, for me, the occasion is one of both pride and of sadness at the same time. It is a great honour and a privilege to be elected to this place, but I am here as a replacement for my friend and colleague the late the Hon. Roy Smith, whose sudden death shocked us all.

I place on record from the outset that Roy's work will be continued. He flagged a number of issues he wanted dealt with in his inaugural speech to this place just over three years ago. I will continue with that agenda, and indeed add many topics of my own to that list. Particularly, I hope to continue to negotiate further changes to the firearms legislation that Roy was working on when he died. He was seeking to make more sensible amendments to aspects of the legislation that unreasonably restrict legitimate firearm owners, but do nothing to enhance public safety. On that issue we were, and always had been, like-minded. Roy was also keen on reintroducing shooting sports and firearms safety programs in public school

sports programs. This is another key point that we will pursue.

Target shooting is a popular and international sport; indeed both a Commonwealth Games event and an Olympic event. Our football, cricket and tennis stars begin their sporting careers at school. We believe our young shooters should be given the same opportunities in their chosen sport. I publicly place on the record my thanks to a number of people, first, to my friends and colleagues in the Shooters and Fishers Party, to my parliamentary friend and colleague Robert Brown and to John Tingle, the party's founder and its first parliamentary representative.

I have worked with Robert and John since joining the party in 1992 and as Chairman of the Shooters Party in 1995. I have watched the comings and goings of this place as more than just a disinterested observer for more than 15 years. Roy, Robert and I owe much to John for his mentoring and leadership—particularly in the way in which during his time in this place he earned the respect of members from all sides of the Chamber. His path-finding efforts after being elected in 1995 have made it all the easier for those of us who have followed in his footsteps.

I also acknowledge the invaluable support for the Shooters and Fishers Party from the Sporting Shooters Association of Australia, particularly the New South Wales and Sydney branches of which I have been a member since 1974, but also all the other branches throughout the State that share our aim of protecting and promoting the rights of shooters and hunters. The same should be said for Australian Hunters International—a club that I, with five others, founded in 1982—and for all the hundreds of other clubs, large and small, around this great State of ours.

Recently the Shooters Party changed its name to the Shooters and Fishers Party. We are unashamedly a party that seeks to promote and defend the rights of our core constituents—the shooters and fishers of New South Wales. We also understand our position in this place. Unlike other minor parties, we do not seek to be the Government: We seek only to represent the people who support us and so, in votes in this Chamber, we will generally support whichever of the major parties is in Government, unless the legislation impacts inappropriately on the shooters and fishers of the State.

I believe that the Shooters and Fishers Party is still unique in the world of Westminster parliaments in that New South Wales is the only State to have specific representation for shooters and fishers in its Parliament. We intend to work tirelessly at increasing our representation in this place. We will even have a close look at certain lower House seats, should circumstance require it.

Of course my greatest supporters have been my family, particularly my lovely and activist wife, Cheryl, to whom I have been married for 34 years. We have three beautiful adult children—my daughter, Annie, and twin sons, Robert junior, and Adam. Annie in turn has a real hardworking, dedicated, great husband in Adam and they have two beautiful children—

my first grandchildren, Alicia, aged two, and Aiden, aged five months. Cheryl has been my rock in life. She is very independent of mind, a great sounding board, and a hard worker for all those causes and groups that she sees as needing support. She has always supported me in everything I have done since we met in Rover Scouts at the age of 19. Life's ups and downs have been many, but Cheryl Anne is a constant.

I am the Australian product of migrant parents, Czeslaw and Tini Borsak, the eldest of their three children. I have a younger brother, Stephen, and a still younger sister, Christina. My parents ended up in Australia, as many millions did, after World War II destroyed their homes, their way of life and communities in Europe. Their story is different, but not unique to their generation at that time. My father was born in the regional town of Biala Podlaska in eastern Poland in 1918. He was apprenticed as a tailor and, by the age of 21, already had his own small business in Warsaw. By 1 September 1939, the date Germany invaded Poland, he was well established and prospering. My mother was a school girl, 12 years of age, living in the city of Utrecht in the Netherlands.

By 1942 my father had been involved in the intrigues of the local resistance movement and its many factions for some time—one might say warring factions. On 2 October that year, he was arrested at his shop by the Gestapo, charged with being a Communist member of the underground, and put into Pawiak central prison in Warsaw. Here he was interrogated until eventually he was shipped out to Majdanek concentration camp, located near Lublin, on 17 January 1943. After a short internment there, he was condemned to Buchenwald concentration camp and shipped there by rail; he was without any food or water for four days. I can still remember that when my father did talk about his experiences of that time—and that was not often—he would describe them as his descent into Dante's description of hell.

Somehow, though, he survived those experiences. With the Allied forces rolling eastward, early one morning in October 1945 he escaped into the Weimar forest. He hid there for three days and eventually was found by a United States of America Army patrol; he was sleeping by a fallen tree and still dressed in his prison garb. Dad spoke fluent English, having taken English lessons at night school. He also spoke German and Russian. When asked to identify himself, he said his name was "Borsuk", which in Polish means badger—an animal that is very common in the forests of Europe. However, the name he gave was taken down as "Borsak". His real name was Mojsiejuk—a fact that he was keen to hide because of his Communist arrest papers: Better to be unrecognised than risk going behind wire again. He then spent the next two years, until September 1947, in the American Army as part of a Polish Brigade, until he was demobbed with the rank of captain and told to go home.

He had decided that Poland under Communism was not what he wanted. Hearing that there was plenty of work in Holland, he moved to Amsterdam as an official displaced person. He quickly found work in his trade and started to put his life together. He introduced himself to my mother Tini, née Feenstra, at a tram stop, and asked her out for coffee. They had seen each other on occasion in the building in south Amsterdam where she worked as a trainee

nurse and my father shared lodgings upstairs. My mother took a real leap of faith with my father. She was only 19 and was working towards formal admission into nurse training. She was born in Zwolle in 1928 and was living with her parents in north Amsterdam. My parents married on 4 November 1948.

I believe at that time my father thought that another European conflict between Russia and the Allies would break out, and so he resolved to get as far away from Europe as he could go. He applied for migration to South Africa, Argentina and Australia. The Australian papers came through first. He had saved his own fare, my grandfather paid for my mother's fare, and they left Rotterdam on the ship *Volledum* in December 1948. They arrived in Sydney in January 1949. They started in a rented bedsit at Cammeray, paying key money to get in with £25 they had saved. They moved 10 times in the following years until, in 1952, they bought a new fibro two-bedroom house in Punchbowl.

I was born on 14 August 1953 at Crown Street Women's Hospital, commenced school at St Jerome's, Punchbowl, and then I went to St John's, Lakemba, until 1962. During this whole time my father was self-employed—he had a tailor shop in Railway Square in the city—and he remained self-employed for his whole life.

I had a great carefree childhood. We used to roam the streets with our school friends, all over the neighbourhood. I played soccer for Punchbowl soccer club—the red and green devils—and I was the best and fairest in the under 10s in 1962. They were great years. I never forget cracker night and bonfires in the back yard, exploring Salt Pan Creek, catching blue tongue lizards, and trapping and snaring rabbits. Then my father, homesick, decided to sell up and in the middle of the Cold War move us all to Poland in 1963. I can remember being excited about the prospect of seeing snow for the first time. We arrived in the middle of winter in January 1963 to minus 35 degrees celsius, in my father's home town. Poland had hardly changed since the war. There were still war-damaged buildings and pot-holed roads all over the country. It was a great experience for me as I was old enough to remember nearly everything, but it took me only six months to say to my parents that as soon as I was old enough, "I'm going back to Australia; you can't get good chewing gum over here."

By July 1966 we were back in Australia and had moved into the dormitory part of Ashfield in a flat that my father purchased. Within two years he had scraped up enough money with a second mortgage to buy his house in Ashfield near the station; I think he paid about \$14,000 for it. This was the house he lived in until the day he passed away in March 1996, after he proudly told me that he had voted for John Tingle in the 1995 election from his hospital bed at Concord. In 1966 I enrolled in Ashfield Public School, then in Ashfield Boys High School and spent the rest of my school life at that school.

My brother and I joined First Ashfield Scout Group shortly after arriving. I did my scouting under a great Scout Master, the late Ron Rowe. Apart from my father, he probably influenced me the most in life. Whereas my father taught me never to lose sight of my goals and never to

give up, Ron taught me about structure and achievement and put goal orientation in my life. He also introduced me to his great love of the Australian bush. With him, I went right through scouting, achieving all goals, through to the Queens Scout Award and the Duke of Edinburgh Award. I made lifelong scouting friends. Even today we still get together once a year for a reunion camp, revisiting old camp sites if we can find them.

My first interest in hunting was spear fishing. I used to haunt the beaches we could reach by train and bus, carrying my home-made spears, goggles and flippers, looking for any opportunity to hunt underwater. At the age of 15 I bought my first single-barrel 12 gauge shotgun and hunted during school holidays on friends' properties down the South Coast around Merimbula and Bega. I was keen on rabbits and foxes. We used to shoot hundreds over the school holidays—the hills were alive with them. I remember shooting foxes in the spotlight at night, along with rabbits, and selling the better rabbits to the local shop owner down the coast. We kept the best rabbit and fox skins, and tanned them ourselves.

Life changed somewhat after I matriculated with the Higher School Certificate: I was told by dad that he could not afford to keep me full time at university. Any thought of being a geography and art teacher studying at the Australian National University with a small teachers college scholarship went out the door. I did not really want to be a teacher, so I had to find employment and resolved to be an accountant. After winning a company cadetship with Waltons Stores, I studied part time at night at the University of Technology, Sydney, for a degree in business studies, majoring in accounting. Over the following seven years I completed my Certified Public Accountant [CPA] qualifications, got a public practice certificate and became a registered tax agent.

My business career has been varied. After Waltons I was employed by News Limited, then by Coopers and Lybrand and then by George Ward Steel. After we sold that company to a BHP subsidiary a hunting friend of mine, Rick Tween, invited me onto the board of an international insurance broking company, Lowndes Lambert, as Finance Director. I left that company in 2002 as Group Managing Director, I thought to enjoy semi-retirement and develop my personal business interests. I am currently an investor, owner and consultant to some 11 different private companies, employing about 200 staff, turning over about \$50 million a year, primarily involved in steel and aluminium fabrication and manufacturing, and computer software and systems solutions. I still keep up my CPA public practice work, though now in a very modest and small way.

I have been involved with the Game Council of New South Wales, prior to set-up and subsequent enactment, first as a councillor, then as chairman since 2004, until my recent resignation prior to being elected to this place. This authority is a groundbreaking organisation that sets the standard for conservation hunting in Australia. It is a template that should be followed nationally if we are to properly use the skill, enthusiasm and knowledge of our volunteer conservation hunters Australia-wide. There simply is not enough money in all the treasuries of Australian governments that can successfully substitute for the free

resources of our volunteer conservation hunters. We should be organising them and using them.

I have been a keen and dedicated conservation hunter since the age of 15. I have hunted all over the world, participating in real conservation and wildlife management programs, not just with my mouth but also with my money, time and emotion. Hunters are at the real sharp end of conservation. They provide the real dollar for programs all over the world over the long haul. Recently a small part of the media has sensationalised that I hunt elephants and that, by implication, this is bad. Hunting elephants as part of national programs has guaranteed their survival in countries such as Zimbabwe, Botswana, Tanzania and many other African countries that conduct such programs.

If the Black Rhino had been on licence in 1982, when I first saw them in the wild in the Chewore Hills on the Zambezi escarpment, then they probably would still be there today. Conservation hunters would have guaranteed their survival by putting money into the pockets of the starving farmers, who were ultimately wooed into poaching for rhino horn instead. Professional national parks staff could not save the rhino; they were understaffed and under-resourced. If you knew as many white hunters as I do, many of them ex national parks staff, you would begin to understand.

I hunt because I like to hunt; it is part of my genetic make-up. It is in all of us, just more strongly expressed in some than others. Those countries that work with hunters in programs all over the world guarantee the long-term viability of all species and their wild places. The same goes for New South Wales and, indeed, Australia, though we are in an even uniquely worse position. We probably have the world's worst feral animal problem. No parts of our wild places in New South Wales are not infected with feral cats, foxes, pigs, goats, rabbits, hares and wild deer. Even the so-called wilderness areas do not escape their predation on native marsupials, insects, reptiles and birds, large and small, or their effect on native grasses and plants.

The same goes for our total lack of proper balanced conservation of native birds and certain native species. We should be encouraging their management as game, thereby guaranteeing their long-term value and the value of their wild places, whether on public or private land. It is only with the controlled intervention of man in the landscape that we can hope to keep some semblance of what we have in wild species in New South Wales. Total blanket protectionism has failed the biodiversity of New South Wales and needs to be fixed as soon as possible.

As for politics, I can thank the Unsworth Labor Government for radicalising me as a shooter, ably assisted by the Howard Government. An especially vivid bad memory for me is the one of John Howard wearing a bullet-proof vest whilst addressing a meeting of shooters in Victoria. That image remains burnt in my brain. If any government epitomised the total lack of understanding of the Australian shooter, their peaceful law-abiding nature and his sporting

shooter heritage, it was John Howard's Government. After the 1996 firearms law reforms the whole attitude to law-abiding shooters seemed to change, and not for the better. Personally, I resent being viewed or treated by anyone as a criminal in waiting; yet here I am in this place, 14 years later, having to talk in these terms. It is plainly just not acceptable.

I refuse to bow to a wrong public view of shooters and hunters that is being actively promoted by a small section of the media and certain activists in some parts of political life in Australia. The flak-jacket Howard view of decent Australian shooters and hunters is insulting and just plain wrong, and I will continue to work to change it. I thank honourable members for their polite forbearance, and for listening to my life history and political views. I look forward to lively democratic debates in this place in the future.

Himalayan Tahr in New Zealand A basic introduction to their biology and hunting

The Himalayan Tahr was introduced to New Zealand in 1904 primarily for hunting. Apart from a small herd in England this was the first time tahr had been liberated outside their native range, but they quickly adapted themselves to New Zealand and their numbers increased rapidly.



Although they have not dispersed as far as chamois, which were liberated in the same area a little later, tahr occupy an important part of the Southern Alps, extending from the Landsborough River in the south to the Rakaia River in the north.

Tahr are prized as a trophy by kiwi and international hunters. Since 1937, attempts have been made to control them, initially by shooting – both ground and aerial and even by poisoning.

Brief biological description .

Tahr are in the Order Artiodactyla, Family Bovidae, Subfamily Caprinae. He divided the Subfamily Caprinae into four tribes with the genus *Hemitragus*.

Three species of *Hemitragus* are recognised: *Hemitragus jemlahicus* (Himalayan Tahr); (Arabian Tahr); and *H. hylocrius* (Nilgiri Tahr).

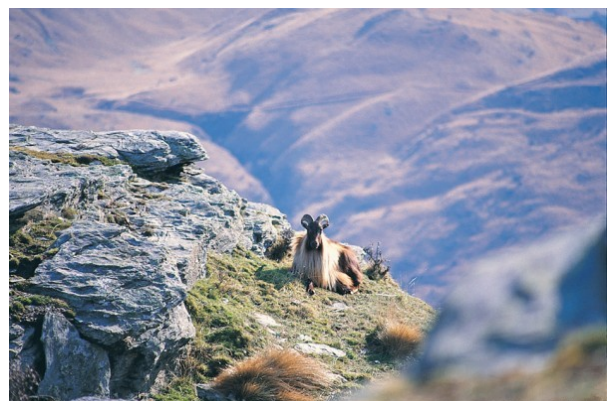


Nilgiri Tahr



Arabian tahr

Hemitragus jemlahicus is in turn divided into two sub-species: *H. jemlahicus jemlahicus* and *H. jemlahicus schaeferi*. The common name of *H. jemlahicus* varies considerably, including Tehr, Tahir, Jharal, Jehr, Jula Kras and Tahr or Tahr. Most authors – and hunters refer to it as the Himalayan Tahr or just Tahr. Banwell concluded after some research that 'tahr' is correct – (*good enough for me*).



Description

Tahr are similar in appearance to large goats, with adult males measuring up to 40 inches at shoulder height. Occasional mature adult males are over 300lb, while mature adult females weigh much less, seldom more than 80lb. The face is long, narrow and straight. The head of an adult male is short-haired while the body-hair is long, particularly on the neck and forequarters, and forms a mane almost to the knees.



Bull tahr

The hair of the female is much shorter and generally similar to that of the domestic goat.



Nanny tahr

The under side of the tail is bare, and the knees and chest often have callous pads. The colour is reddish or dark brown, usually darker in males. The mane is often lighter in colour than the rest of the body-hair,

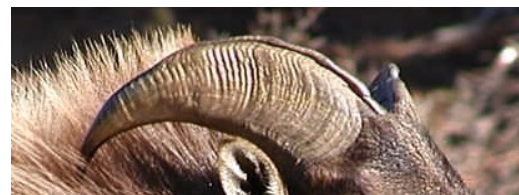
especially towards the end of the winter. A more or less distinct dark dorsal stripe is present. Young animals are more uniform in their colouring, which is greyish brown, and kids are considerably lighter than the adults.

Face glands and foot glands are usually absent, although vestiges of the foot glands in the hind feet occasionally occur.

Horns, present in both sexes, are larger in males than females. The horns nearly touch at the base, curve and diverge backwards, and approach again at the tips. They are compressed, flattened on each side with the front edge forming a sharp keel.



The lateral surfaces of the horns show annual growth rings.



According to Anderson and Henderson (1961) no rings are formed in the first winter but are added subsequently each year between September and November.

Measuring tahr horns; Tahr horns are measured from base to tip along the outside of the curve; basal measurements are usually taken also Good specimens range between 11 to

14 inches long and exceptional specimens obtained in New Zealand have gone length of 14½ inches+.

The hooves are really well adapted to rough terrain. The pad is soft and slightly convex, and is surrounded by a hard rim. This is similar to the hoof of the chamois which occupies similar terrain to the tahr.

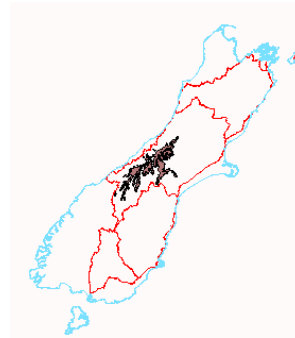
Tahr senses; The tahr's senses of smell and hearing are both well developed but, like the chamois, tahr appear to rely more on their exceptional eyesight.

The voice is a high-pitched whistle used only for alarm calls. Young kids bleat occasionally, in a similar fashion to chamois kids – *I have also heard adults bleating while shooting at a mob and they did not know where I was.*

Introduction to New Zealand

In 1904 the Duke of Bedford gave the New Zealand Government six tahr selected from his herd at Woburn. Records indicate that the Duke intended to send eight animals but two escaped just prior to shipment.

These six tahr, three of each sex left England in April, 1904, and reached Wellington by the end of May. During the voyage one male escaped and was lost overboard but the remainder were in good condition when they arrived, and after a quarantine period were liberated in the Mt. Cook area. Tahr have dispersed from their liberation point to occupy a substantial part of the Southern Alps.



Social Characteristics

For most of the year the bulls (adult males) usually mob together living apart from the nanny herds (adult females, immature bulls and kids). The sexes mix during the rut (end of April, May and June) when the bulls pair off with mature nannies — the relationship, in general, is monogamous.



After the rut, the distribution is determined by snow, which is lower at this time of year. Tahr descend and seek the cover of rocky outcrops and other sheltered places in bad weather. As the weather improves in spring the herds gradually make their way back up to the summer pastures. Young are usually born in December.



The gestation period is 220 days for the New Zealand tahr. Usually only one young is born, but there have been reports of twinning. Tahr do not live much more than 20 years in captivity, and in the wild probably considerably less. It is estimated that 80% of all young die by the end of their third winter. No predators of tahr other than man occur in New Zealand, but a number of deaths are probably due to accidents owing to the extremely rugged terrain which tahr occupy.

Hunting Tahr; You are hunting tahr at altitude above the bushline and in some pretty steep and rough country in places, so you need to be physically fit to get out and hunt them safely and effectively. This country is a lot steeper and higher than anything you will get in Australia, so do yourself a favour be properly prepared, both physically and gear wise.

Pre-hunt prep; Check with DoC if they have been doing any culls recently and try and find areas that have not been aerially shot for a few years.

Train up for your tahr hunting trip; do some serious walks and if you are member of a gym spend an hour a day on a step machine and do plenty of squats with weights to strengthen your legs in the weeks leading up to your hunt – it will mean you can climb higher and harder and it just may save your life if things go pear shaped on the hill.

Also tune your rifle and practice on the range for shots up to 3 or 400m. That big bull might be in a spot where you need to take a long shot, so you want to nail him to the spot in case you need to spend another day getting to him. If the animal is in monkey scrub country you really need to anchor him with the shot as the animals can be very hard to find in scrub that is sometimes only knee or waist high.

Gear; Firearms and projectiles; For the country where tahr are found you need a flat shooting calibre with plenty of hitting power out to 300 metres, .243, 270, 308 and the short mags are ideal. The bulls can be

tough, a good projectile such as soft point Woodleigh which will open up but hold together is ideal **Optics;** Good optics (8 or 10 X binos) are essential, tahr can really difficult to spot in shadows in rocky bluffs and in tall tussock and alpine scrub. A spotting scope is good for spotting tahr from the riverbeds and creeks – especially on the Eastern side of the alps

Boots and Clothing; Good solid leather boots which give good ankle support are a must, make sure they are well worn in before you head into the hills – you will be doing some big days hunting. You need good gaitors or puttees especially on the scree slopes on the eastern side of the Alps. Clothing needs to be lightweight, layered and warm. Always take a good raincoat with you. **Camping gear and Day pack;** Because you are at altitude a good quality alpine tent and sleeping bag are a must, it can rain snow or howl with wind at any time of the year –a good tent could save your life.



A Couple of hints; if you haven't hunted tahr before and you want to go it alone try a summer hunt – still great hunting and a good way to get into tahr hunting – the nannies are very visible in their light summer pelage.

If you want to go in by chopper Jamie Scott near Whataroa runs a good service, for guiding – try Peter Chamberlain.

Cheers BB

NEW SOUTH WALES DEERSTALKERS ASSOCIATION INC
Dedicated to the Sound Management and Conservation of Deer in NSW.
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

SURNAME.: CHRISTIAN. MID NAMES.
 DATE OF BIRTH GENDER..... Male / Female
 DRIVERS LICENCE NO..... STATE.....
 SHOOTERS LICENCE NO..... CLASS:
 GAME LICENCE..... CATEGORY.....
 POSTAL ADDRESS..... POST CODE:..
 HOME ADDRESS:..... POST CODE:..
 HOME PHONE..... BUSINESS.....
 MOBILE.....
 EMAIL.....
 OCCUPATION DEERSTALKER MAG DELIVERY BY..... POST / EMAIL

FEES (Please tick payment being made): 1 YEAR SUBSCRIPTION FAMILY: \$55.00 SINGLE: \$50.00 JUNIOR:
 \$25.00 (Under 18) 3 YEAR SUBSCRIPTION SINGLE: \$145.00 (Save \$ 5.00) FAMILY: \$150.00 (Save \$15.00)
 JUNIOR: \$ 70.00 (Save \$ 5.00) NB: Insurance is included in the subscription with the exception of FAMILY
 MEMBERSHIPS which include only one insurance payment. Insurance must be obtained for each additional family
 member after the first at the rate of \$10.00. Please list family members on the back of this form INSURANCE @
 \$10.00 PER FAMILY MEMBER AFTER THE FIRST \$..... MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION FEE
 \$..... TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$..... I AGREE TO ACCEPT AND PRACTICE THE NSW
 DEERSTALKER'S CODE OF ETHICS AND TO ABIDE AT ALL TIMES BY THE CONSTITUTION, FEDERAL,
 STATE AND TERRITORY LAWS. Signature: Date:..... I..... I.....

**PLEASE NOTE: This form is an application for renewal of membership only and is subject to Committee
 Approval. An application will only be considered if accompanied by all the necessary payment. This form
 must be completed in full and is due for renewal on 1 July of Membership expiry. PLEASE PAY
 PROMPTLY. Return to: The Secretary, NSW Deerstalkers, P.O. Box 519, Picton NSW 2571**

Family Member No.1 SURNAME.: CHRISTIAN.
 MID NAMES. DATE OF BIRTH GENDER..... Male / Female
 DRIVERS LICENCE NO..... STATE.....
 SHOOTERS LICENCE NO..... CLASS:..
 GAME LICENCE NO..... CATEGORY.....
 MOBILE.....
 EMAIL.....
 OCCUPATION

Family Member No.2 SURNAME.: CHRISTIAN.
 MID NAMES. DATE OF BIRTH GENDER..... Male / Female
 DRIVERS LICENCE NO..... STATE.....
 SHOOTERS LICENCE NO..... CLASS:..
 GAME LICENCE NO..... CATEGORY.....
 MOBILE.....
 EMAIL.....
 OCCUPATION