



Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Qld) Inc.

Hunting and Conservation Division

"Preserving Australia's Heritage"

SSAA (Qld) Inc Hunting & Conservation Division
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HUNTING & CONSERVATION NEWS

November 2007 Edition

Old State Co-ordinator's Note

Dear Members,

Welcome to the last newsletter for 2007. It has been a very busy year for us with some very important projects coming to fruition which will need a lot of support from our members to make them successful in the year to come so please have a look in the activity calendar and do your best to support them.

I would to take this opportunity to thank the committee and all the members that have helped make this year come together.

I would like to thank (Brad Johnston Raytrade and Greg Mitchell Winchester) for their continued support.

Thanks also to our own SSAA Queensland Shooters Supplies and Rebel gun Works, Q.G.E and Mercury Marine

With special thanks to Mal Leishman of Creek Marine Alderley and Paul and Ryan Zell of Yatala Yamaha for the purchasing of equipment at extremely competitive prices for Hunting and Conservation. So everyone please support these businesses that support us.

Throughout the year at the southern training weekends we have had many guest speakers covering a wide range of subjects

I would like to thank all our guest speakers Georg Bernat (Sharpe Edge Knives)

Liz Gould (SEQ)

Kevin Williamson (Aust 4WD Driver Training and Tours)

Heather Knowles (SGAP)

Bob Perry (Shotgunner Extraordinaire)

Stuart & Annie Elliot (BRT)

Andrew Donaldson (AQIS)

Gunter Ebert (AQIS)

Janelle Lowry (QPWS)

There has been a change to the Rules of Conduct in relation to rule no 9.

It used to read: Alcohol may be consumed on H&C activities within moderation, however loutish or offensive behavior arising from excessive alcohol intake will not be tolerated. No H&C member will be allowed to commence shooting within 8 hrs of consuming alcohol. Any member breaching this rule will be asked to show cause why disciplinary action shouldn't be taken.

It now reads: Alcohol may be consumed on H&C activities within moderation, however loutish or offensive behavior arising from excessive alcohol intake will not be tolerated. No H&C member will be allowed to **participate in any activity** within 8 hrs of consuming alcohol. Any member breaching this rule will be asked to show cause why disciplinary action shouldn't be taken.

I would like to wish every one a happy New Year and a Merry Christmas

Remember everyone the KEY to a successful organisation is participation from all its members.

Regards
Mark Woods
Qld State Co-ordinator

Training focus

Spotlighting off the back of a vehicle.

When spotlighting, the spotlihter is the one who coordinates with the driver when a target species is sighted. The spotlihter needs to tell the driver the approximate distance to the animal and the direction via a clock position. An example is 3 o'clock "200 metres fox. Following this tell the driver what you want them to do. You may say "drive another 40 metres then swing right into the edge of the paddock". This method gets the vehicle into the best position to shoot from and is less likely to alert the animal. The natural urge is to yell "Stop Stop Stop" but this is no help to the driver in getting the vehicle into position and can cause the driver to brake in an unsafe manner.

UHF Radios

We use UHF radios on most activities and along with first aid kit, compass, backpack and water they are a mandatory piece of equipment. Make sure that you have an earpiece for your radio so animals are not alerted to your presence when someone transmits but make sure that they are comfortable for extended periods. Also make sure that your transmit button is easy to access and use especially with gloves on.

Prior to purchasing a radio talk to as many members as you can who have different units as they all have their pros and cons. GME, Uniden and Icom are some of the most common brands but there are a number of different models. Avoid the radios that play a tune every time you press a button. Just remember that you get what you pay for with radios.

Have you ever heard only the middle of a sentence on a radio or even just a click?

There can be a few reasons for this. One is that there is a delay between when the transmit button is pressed and when transmission actually starts. Another is that receiving radios scan for transmissions and when in power saving mode will have greater intervals between scans. Lastly the main reason is that the mouth works quicker than the thumb and we tend to start talking before the button is pressed and lift the thumb before we stop talking.

To overcome this make sure there is a pause between when the transmit button is pressed and when you start to speak and have a pause at the end before releasing the button.

Happy Hunting
The Committee

H&C members take on 4WD driver training

Over a couple of weekends some members of the southern group attended two 4wd training courses run by Australian Advanced 4WD Driver Training & Tours.

Due to the important part driving 4WD's plays in many H&C activities, members were keen to improve their knowledge of off-road driving techniques.

The two courses were introductory and covered the two main types of terrain expected to be covered. Best description can be off-road and sand.

Off-road.

This day long course run SW of Brisbane and comprised of two hours of theory followed by practical demonstrations then into the exciting part – practice. This was done over a specially designed short course including lumps, bumps, ruts, hills and mud.

Important learnings include;

- How a 4WD systems works and the need for three wheels to have traction for the vehicle to keep going.
- How momentum can assist in periods of low traction.

- Generally more speed = more problems. There is a balance between momentum and speed. Too much speed produces bounce which reduces traction!
- Vehicle recovery can be done safely IF you are aware of the dramatic increases in loads that are associated with a stuck vehicle and ways to deal with these. For example the dramatic increase in total weight of a vehicle needing recovery if it is bogged to the axles rather than just the tyres.
- The techniques required to safely use tow/snatch equipment including shackles, straps, dampers, equalisers, etc.
- Finally, care for the environment.

Sand Driving.

The ½ day sand driving course took place on the beach at Bribie Island. We quickly learnt how hard it is driving on full pressure tyres. Needless to say it was a relief to be given the go ahead to experiment with tyre pressures and see what worked best for our vehicle. We found lower pressures helped a lot.

Safety was of prime concern and getting a clear understanding of what can go wrong and why helped, especially with tyre pressures.

The biggest thing learnt during the morning was that wheel spinning didn't help in sand. It was demonstrated to us that quite often by backing off the power and not getting the wheels spinning we could better get out of the soft stuff.

Like the off-road course I was shown that speed wasn't the answer. Please note there is a subtle difference between speed and momentum and its experience that was teaching us the difference.

We also got to try a snatch recovery with our vehicles and also the new Maxtrax. These orange bits of plastic were worth their weight in gold (lucky they're so light).

It is generally only on a course you take the time to try different techniques and have an experienced person guiding you to highlight the dos and don'ts.

The success of the courses could be summed up by a few final words from one smiling student. After discussing the concern raised by our instructor over the difficult condition of the beach exit, our student said, "mate after Kev's lesions today I looked at all that soft stuff and knew exactly how to tackle it. Piece of cake mate!"

Happy 4WD
Peter Dobson

Thoughts and hints

When on an activity bring ammunition that is suited to the target species. Ammunition for thin skinned animals is constructed differently to that for thick skinned animals. Using the wrong ammunition can turn a clean kill into a flesh wound. A heavily constructed bullet will not expand sufficiently on a thin skinned animal and can pass through with little damage. Conversely, a lightly constructed bullet will fragment on the surface of thick skinned animals and leave a flesh wound.

Also bring your best loads on control projects. Your best load should be the one that is the most consistent meaning you are more likely to be on target. Your other loads will have a greater chance of being off target leading to you missing which we want to avoid. On many of our projects you will only get one chance per animal so do yourself and our projects a favour and put your best foot forward. Don't bring along ammunition for the sake of using it up.

News from Central Region

August saw some of our local members head to a nearby stakeholder's property to assist a team from Brisbane in some feral animal control. One of the Emerald lads took the first cat for the program on the first night out, which was pleasing to see.

Unfortunately the boys were only there for a short time. Inclement weather played a large role while the team was in action there, with rain and very windy weather having a big effect on the feral cat activity. The overall result was however very pleasing with a very good relationship developed with the owners and some very good knowledge gained of the layout of the property.

A fantastic effort from the blokes from Brisbane who travelled some big distances and put in a huge effort on the ground while they were there, well done!!

Bill Sandeman
Central Region

Avocet Report

Late September saw another team successfully tackle the ever challenging Avocet project. All seasons were experienced throughout the week and tested all members and equipment.

But perseverance paid off with 18 feral cats and one feral dog taken, this being the best numbers of ferals taken in one trip. Bringing this years total to 21 feral cats, 6 feral dogs, 42 rabbits, 5 hares and 1 pig, an excellent effort by all.

More dogs were seen using a combination of calling and night vision equipment but conditions were unfavourable to taking the animals.

With both the feral control and the wallaby trapping, data programme members and their families were kept quite busy. We also had two parks and wild life rangers (Janelle and Jason) helping with the trapping as well.

We captured 6 flashjacks which had been previously micro chipped and 6 flashjacks that were clean skins which we micro chipped this trip.

Of these 12 flashjacks, 7 were males and 5 were females.

This trip also saw some of the neighbours come over to meet the on ground members, observe the project operations and take part

first hand in the wallaby trapping and monitoring followed by a BBQ breakfast afterwards

The amenities at the "Ritz" have improved with the installation of a new rainwater tank, kitchen sink, notice board and the second hut has been roofed.

Team Avocet

Southern Region Reports

Stewartdale Report

In the last two month's we have had great success with the removal of a large mature male fox, due to the encroaching urban sprawl this is quite an achievement.

It is important for us to keep up the pressure with the continuing Ripley valley development displacing more feral animals looking for a new home and hunting grounds

Even if you are new to H&C and are not accredited yet, this is a good project to observe, as it will help you become accustomed with our on vehicle procedures and how we operate in the field.

As it is reasonably close to home for southern members there is not a great cost/ time factor involved.

David Gottschalk
Southern Qld Co-ordinator and Activities Co-ordinator

Southern Training Weekends

As November is our Christmas get together as well we have put together an interesting weekend for all that attend we will have Janelle Lowry from QPWS Central Region talking about operation flashjack and our relationship with QPWS.

We will have Georg Bernat from sharp edge with his vast array of knives and assorted equipment so if you are looking for that special knife, steel or stone don't forget to bring some money or card along as you will have time to purchase them on the day

After lunch we will have our shooting practice and we will be joined by Brad Johnston from raytrade our Remington rep with some new toys for you to look over and after dark we will have a mystery shoot with heaps of prizes for everyone I would like you all to sight your rifle of choice in at 100 yards and use and bring your best loads for this please Then back to camp for some festivities.

On Sunday we will be joined by Heather Knolwes from S.G.A.P we will be doing a bit of an identification walk then we will cover a wide range of things to do with Australian Native plants

Mark Woods
Qld State Co-ordinator.

Northern Regions (Townsville) Report

The Townsville members have had a fruitful few months, with members finalising their accreditation course and getting plenty of range practice.

Our first field trip was undertaken south of Hughenden on 7-10 th September, targeting wild dogs and pigs and cats if we got the chance.

The country presents a challenge as it varies from open downs with creek systems coming from a well timbered low range at the back of the property. Number wise we did not do very well, only seeing one lone boar and a cat in the distance.

Following good rain earlier this year, all the dams are full and there are still many waterholes in the creeks.

On the good side, we were invited to extend our operation into the neighbouring property and this will be finalized on the next trip. Our program was generally, get up in time to sit on a dam or waterhole from first light for a few hours, check out other likely places on the way back to camp. Leave camp early afternoon to set up a hide and wait until after dark at the waterhole then meet back at

camp and take one vehicle out to spotlight for ferals. Those who took part all enjoyed themselves and are working together to make future trips even better.

The next trip is planned for 26- 29 October. Between practice sessions and the field trip, members are getting to know each other and work together as a team

On the blood collection project, I have been able to supply samples from 5 pigs to James Cook University, while Land protection officers from the local council and a contract pest animal controller for a major Nth Qld land owner have also been supplying samples, mainly from feral dogs.

STOP PRESS!

Members have just returned from the Hughenden Project - taking 6 pigs (two of quite large size). Well done team!

Geoff Sloman
Townsville Training Officer

Northern Region (Cairns) Report

It is with regret that I will have to step down from the position of northern Co-ordinator as my work commitments have greatly increased over the last few months.

I would like to wish Geoff Sloman all the best in his new role as Northern Co-ordinator.

As always we are looking for a hand in the cairns area to help to get things moving so please it is not going to happen by its self it needs your help.

Ross Harvey
Northern Co-ordinator

Accreditation Courses

Shooting accreditations - you can do your shooting qualification targets at any range as long as you are observed by a range operator or range officer and that they sign it as so.

Any members wishing to do the theory part of the accreditation course should contact their Regional Training Officer as listed below

Northern Region

Townsville and surrounding area

Geoff Sloman on 4723 8852.

Cairns and surrounding area

Ross Harvey on 4057 8868 or 0418 199 505

Central Region

Emerald and surrounding area

Bill Sandeman on 4987 7855 or 0429 877 855

Southern Region

Mark Woods on 0438 098 469 or 3808 4881.

H&C Contacts

H&C QLD Office

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Phone: (07) 3202 2111

Email: handc@ssaaqld.org.au

Mark Woods

State Coordinator and Acting State Training and Logistics Co-ordinator

Phone: 0438 098 469 or 3808 4881

Email: markwoods2@bigpond.com

Owen McIntyre

State Activity Coordinator

Phone: 0417 615 505

Email: owenmcintyre@optusnet.com.au

David Gottschalk

Southern QLD Activity Coordinator

Phone: 3849 8869

Email: dgottschalk@optushome.com.au

Bill Sandeman

Central Co-ordinator and Training Officer

Phone: 49877855 or 0429 877 855

Email: bjsandeman@iinet.net.au

Geoff Sloman

Northern Co-ordinator and Townsville Training Officer

Phone: (07) 4723 8852

Email: geoffms@yourhub.com.au

Ross Harvey

Retiring Northern Co-ordinator

Phone: (07) 4057 8868 or 0418 199 505

Email: ross.harvey@originenergy.com.au

Doug Harvey

Phone: (07) 4057 8868

Email: ross.harvey@originenergy.com.au

Joe Pezzotti

H&C North QLD Training Officer

Phone: (07) 4062 5404

Email: joemauser98@bigpond.com

ADVERTISING PAGES

FOR SALE (Gary - 0416 833 866)

Factory Ammo		Hogue rubber grips fit Ruger Redhawk	\$10.00
.45 ACP		Pistol Rest-sighting in etc	\$25.00
20 Win RN 230 gn	\$15.00		
10 Shotshells x 2 boxes	\$10.00	Rifle Stocks	
		Genuine Ruger plastic stock from M77 MK II	
Mixed box approx. 50 rounds	\$15.00	short action	\$40.00
9 mm.		Ramline stock for Ruger M77 MK I short action	
		(New)	\$50.00
50 NORMA 118gn RN	\$20.00	Full military wood for 6.5 x 55 Swedish Mauser-	
		includes all hardware	\$50.00
100 mixed 147gn SWC	\$20.00	Sporter stock suit 6.5x55 Swede (from military	
35 Win. 115gn FMJ	\$12.00	original-Acraglas Bedded, oil finish,recoil pad)	\$35.00
15 mixed shot shells	\$5.00		
		Rifle and Pistol scopes	
.38 S&W		Tasco 4-16 x 40 Silver--as new	\$200.00
29 145gn lead cartridges	\$10.00	Tasco 3-9 x 40 Black	\$85.00
21 cases		Tasco 4 x 32 fixed-Black	\$35.00
		Tasco 1.5 x 20 Pistol Scope- Black	\$35.00
Projectiles-.45 ACP:-		Simmons 3-9 x 32 Black	\$25.00
330 CBM 175gr SWC Lead	\$30.00		
200 Ranier 230gr RN "Lead Safe"	\$25.00	Reloading equipment	
		Hornady .223 full length rifle die set	\$20.00
Pistol "stuff"		Lee .45 ACP pistol die set	\$20.00
Pistol case-soft zippered	\$10.00	Lee .45 ACP Factory crimp die	\$15.00
Cabela's "Sack-ups" pistol sack	\$5.00	Lee 9mm Factory crimp die	\$15.00
Original hard case Ruger P85	\$2.00	Lee .308 Factory crimp die	\$15.00
Original hard case Para P14	\$2.00	Lee Load-all 12ga reloader	\$30.00
Leather holster suit 1911	\$15.00	Lee Load-all 12ga Primer Feed	\$10.00
Cordura holster suit .44 Mag.	\$10.00		
Speed loader Ruger Redhawk	\$5.00	All located at Gold Coast	

FOR SALE (Bryan – 0419 676 305)

Steyr Scout .376Steyr (S/No: SC 1004984). Includes Leupold VX-II 2-7x33 in Leupold QR-w mounts. This rifle is in as-new condition and has fired 38 rounds since new. Lightweight hard hitting rifle ideal for sambar. Included are nearly 100 cases, mostly unfired. Cost around \$3000 Lic no: 10078407	\$2000.00 firm.
Steyr Scout .308Win (S/n SC1041124). This rifle has fired 784 rounds since new. Integrated bipod and spare mag. Steyr original rubber recoil pad fitted. Cost \$2450.00 new. Lic no: 10078407	\$1600.00 firm
Mauser 98 (FN Belgium manufacture) 30-06,(S/No 2206). New matt blued varmint weight barrel (fired approx 390 rds), mag-na-ported, timney adjustable trigger, bridge scope mount w/1" rings, Piers synthetic stock w/recoil pad. Lic no: 10078407.	\$600.00 firm.

FOR SALE (Phil – 3816 1538)

Spotlight 100w projector bulb type aussie made	\$55.00
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FOR SALE (Mark Ph 0738084881)

Set of Four Maxxis 751 33x12.50 x R15 tyres white writing on outer wall and approximately three quarter tread on the tyres	\$350.00 ono
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Upcoming Activity Dates

Be sure to mark these dates in your diary and plan to come along. You never know – you might just be free on that date.

Hunting Activities

Attendance at activities must be arranged with the team leader as most activities will have a safe operating limit.

Date	Activity	Region	Contact
October			
6 th	Stewartdale	Southern	David Gottschalk
26 th - 29 th	Hughenden	Northern	Geoff Sloman
27 th	Training Day	Northern	Geoff Sloman
November			
3 rd	Stewartdale	Southern	David Gottschalk
4 th	Special Project Training	Southern	Mark Woods
10 th - 17 th	Pig Project	Central	Mark Woods
17 th -18 th	Training Weekend	Southern	Mark Woods
24 th	Training Day	Northern	Geoff Sloman
December			
1 st	Stewartdale	Southern	David Gottschalk
2 nd	Special Project Training	Southern	Mark Woods
8 th - 15 th	Pig Project	Central	Mark Woods
January			
19 th	Stewartdale	Southern	David Gottschalk
February			
9 th 10 th	Family Weekend	Southern	Mark Woods
16 th - 23 rd	Pig Project	Central	Mark Woods
16 th	Stewartdale	Southern	David Gottschalk
17 th	Special Project Training	Southern	Mark Woods
March			
7 th	Stewartdale	Southern	David Gottschalk
14 th - 16 th	Training Weekend	Southern	Mark Woods
21 st 29 th	Avocet	Central	Mark Woods
April			
19 th - 26 th	Pig Project	Central	Mark Woods
19 th	Stewartdale	Southern	David Gottschalk
20 th	Special Project Training	Southern	Mark Woods
May			
17 th	Stewartdale	Southern	David Gottschalk
18 th	Special Project Training	Southern	Mark Woods
June			
6 th	Stewartdale	Southern	David Gottschalk
13 th - 15 th	Training Weekend	Southern	Mark Woods
14 th - 21 st	Pig Project	Central	Mark Woods