

NORTHERN & YORKE HUNTERS

Newsletter of ADA's

NORTHERN & YORKE BRANCH

Newsletter Editor: **Branch Secretary**, northern.yorke.sec@austdeer.asn.au

South Australia

Volume 1, April 2022

Our new newsletter

Welcome to the first issue of the Northern & Yorke Branch's newsletter, **Northern & York Hunters**. The newsletter comes in response to a request at the recent General Meeting for more frequent branch updates, and better access to the latest information concerning branch events. Accordingly, the intention is to publish **Northern & Yorke Hunters**, bimonthly, at least 6 times per year. The more there is to share, the more frequent the newsletter. We are particularly interested to include hunting articles, with good quality photos – from SA, Victoria, or anywhere.

The purpose of the newsletter is not only for the Executive to communicate with members, but also for members to share hunting stories and other ADA-relevant news and information. The newsletter's arrival is timely – this month the ADA implemented a standardised process for distributing branch newsletters throughout the ADA. So, what we publish in **Northern & Yorke Hunters** will be shared with all 35 or so branches across the country. Please submit any newsworthy material via email, to the Branch Secretary for inclusion in the next volume.

New office bearers

The NY Branch held its AGM on Friday, 25 February 2022, at the Royal Hotel in Balaklava. The meeting was well attended, with 19 persons, and another 7 persons were represented by proxy. The new office bearers, include **Ashley Redden** (President) and **Tony Tenney** (Vice President). I'm sure the entire Branch wishes these gentlemen well over the next 12 months. Neither Ashley nor Tony is new to community service and leadership responsibilities, and there is no doubt that everyone can have full confidence in their plans for the Branch, which include acquiring more hunting properties in the Mid North, the Clare district, and further afield. The full executive line-up and other committee members are listed below, with their contact details.

2022 hunting season

The NY Branch's hunting season on **Weckert's property** will kick-off after Easter with a rotating roster determined by ballot. This process will be driven by our very experienced Senior Huntmaster, Linton Charlton. The executive is still to meet with the Adelaide Branch and Tom Hawker to finalise details of hunting on **Anama Station**. The intention is to work-out a hunting program for Anama. This year, access to **Anama Shearers' Quarters** will once again be available to NY Branch members, for our General Meetings, accommodation for hunters operating on Anama, Weckert's, or just to chill-out and use **Anama Rifle Range**.

Anyone intending to visit **Anama Shearers' Quarters** or use **Anama Rifle Range**, needs to contact **Linton Charlton** (0400 087 636) well in advance of each and every intended visit. This is to give Linton ample time to contact Tom Hawker and ensure that such a visit will not interfere with more urgent priorities.

Executive

President: Ashley Redden, 0428 892 566
Vice President: Tony Tenney, 0428 684 255
Secretary/Treasurer: Bernd Michaelsen, 0419 832 995
Senior Huntmaster: Linton Charlton, 0400 087 636

Committee

Accreditation & Education: Paul Castle, 0428 382 997
First Aid/Trauma Carer: Richard Fetherstonhaugh, 0429 665 217
Victoria Hunting Coordinator: michaelson@geologist.com
Certified Antler Measurer: Paul Castle, 0428 382 997

Accreditation for hunting on properties managed by NY Branch

Now is the time to get ready for the 2022 hunting season. If your ADA membership is current, if you have attended a NY Branch event, have an SA Hunting Permit and firearms licence, and have passed the NY Branch's firearms proficiency, you are good to go.

If you have not yet hunted on Weckert's you will need to be **guided at least twice** by an accredited guide from the following list:

Paul Castle (0428 382 997), **Linton Charlton** (0400 087 636), **Pejman Hurmuzniya** (0407 012 189), **Bernd Michaelson** (0419 832 995), and **Tony Tenney** (0419 832 995).

When it's your turn to hunt on Weckert's, and if you have not hunted there twice before, please organise to be guided with one of these accredited guides and let the Senior Huntmaster, Linton Charlton know who will be on the property with you. Eventually, the branch will have more accredited guides.

The minimum allowed calibre for hunting fallow deer on a property managed by the NY Branch is 243 Win; however, the minimum calibre for despatching red deer is 270 Win.

Ideally, you should be hunting with a 270 Win or better.



Early moon-rise over Weckert's. Weckert's is a steep property, perfect for deer stalking with a great mix of open cleared areas, and woodlands with patches of thick scrub.

Next event, NY Branch

The next NY Branch event will be a shoot at the Jamestown Pistol Club on either Saturday 4 June or Sunday 5 June. Please save that weekend in your diary, bearing in mind a federal election is also due soon. We will let you know as soon as we have pinned-down the exact day.

New hunting rules

The Branch's new hunting rules apply equally to adult hunters as they do to juniors. The Executive is very mindful that in 2021, only two (2) deer were taken, by NY Branch hunters, on Weckert's property. And no trophy deer has been taken since the NY Branch's inception, three years ago.

This year every effort will be made to get more members to hunt on Weckert's. Indeed, the rules regarding what deer can be hunted on Weckert's have been simplified and streamlined for the 2022 hunting season; moreover, the branch's new **Junior Hunting Program** means that many youngsters (13- to 17-year-old) will now get to hunt on Weckert's, and indeed our hunting properties.

The simplified rules for taking deer on Weckert's and, unless otherwise notified, the Branch's other properties are as follows:

- Each hunter may take a maximum of two (2) deer per person per day.
- The 2-deer rule means either 1 fallow + 1 red deer, 2 fallow deer, or 2 red deer.
- The 2-deer rule means that any doe/hind or any buck/stag (3.5 years or older) can be taken.
- Deer should only be shot if the entire venison can be recovered – no deer should be shot and left to rot without a thorough attempt to recover all the venison.
- If the hunter chooses to field-dress the carcass, offal can be left in the field.
- In the case of fallow deer: All else being equal, scrawny deer, deer with poorly-formed antlers, poorly developed spikers, or dark-coloured deer should be taken in preference to **menil deer** – that is because these deer are unlikely to develop a good set of antlers in future years.
- In the case of fallow deer: **spikers** (1.5-year-old males) and **forkies** (2.5-year-old males) should not be shot (unless scrawny, three-legged, with poorly-formed antlers etc), so as to allow them to develop into high-quality trophies.
- All deer shot need to be photographed, and the images emailed to the Branch Secretary with a very brief description of the deer, and the hunting party.
- A verbal hunt report needs to be provided to the Senior Huntmaster, Linton Charlton, within 36 hours of the hunt.

These simplified rules, we hope, are fit-for-purpose and will result in more deer being harvested in the 2022 season. The rules are intended that, each time a hunter steps onto Weckert's, he/she can take does/hinds as well as trophy male deer, from the beginning of the season, through to the conclusion of hunting (typically 1 October). The rules apply equally to juniors and adult hunters. For example, an adult/junior hunting pair could, in theory, take a pair of deer each.

The logic behind the new rules is to ensure that NY Branch hunters get to take the deer (including trophies) on Weckert's, not poachers!

This year we will be trialling a maximum of two (2) discrete hunting parties on Weckert's, provided that each party carries a **5-watt hand held radio**, and every person on the property wears a **blaze orange cap**. The parties must touch-base both before and after the day's hunting, and on Weckert's must be separated during the hunt by the large North-South striking main creek.

A map of Weckert's property will be drafted and emailed to qualified branch hunters before the hunting season commences.

Junior Hunting Program

At the NY Branch's most recent General Meeting, it was agreed that the branch would have an active Junior Hunting Program.

Implementation of the new Junior Hunting Program means that, a junior can accompany an adult hunter, each and every time someone is hunting on a Branch property. That is great news for teenagers who want to get in the mix as much as possible. For a junior to participate in the Junior Hunting Program, she/he:

- Must be an ADA member with his/her own membership number (i.e. part of a Family membership).
- Must have passed the Branch's rifle proficiency or bow proficiency test.
- Must have her/his own Junior Hunting Permit, issued by the SA Department for Environment and Water (<https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/licences-and-permits/hunting-permits>).
- Must hunt in accordance to the laws of the state and the regulations of the ADA.
- Must be closely supervised, at all times by a responsible adult hunter from the NY Branch.
- Is eligible to hunt on the basis that her/his parent is a member of the NY Branch and also eligible to hunt.

These new rules will give juniors many opportunities each season to hunt deer on properties managed by the NY Branch. Not only can juniors hunt with their own parent, they can hunt with any accredited branch person.



*Thomas Redden definitely knows what he's doing, pictured here with a lovely fallow buck in the Mid North of SA. Announced at the recent AGM, he won the 2021 **Junior Fallow Buck Trophy**. Thomas hunts fallow deer with his dad's 6.5 Swede.*

New hunting properties

The branch has secured several new hunting properties in SA, courtesy of Ashley Redden. These include:

- A property with fallow and red deer in the Sedan/Keyneton district.
- A property near Booborowie also with fallow and red deer.
- Several properties near Kleve on the Eyre Peninsula that holds deer and other pest species.

In the next few months these properties will become available to Branch hunters, but first we need to develop fit-for-purpose hunting rules, draft maps and SOPs for each.

Victoria Hunting Program

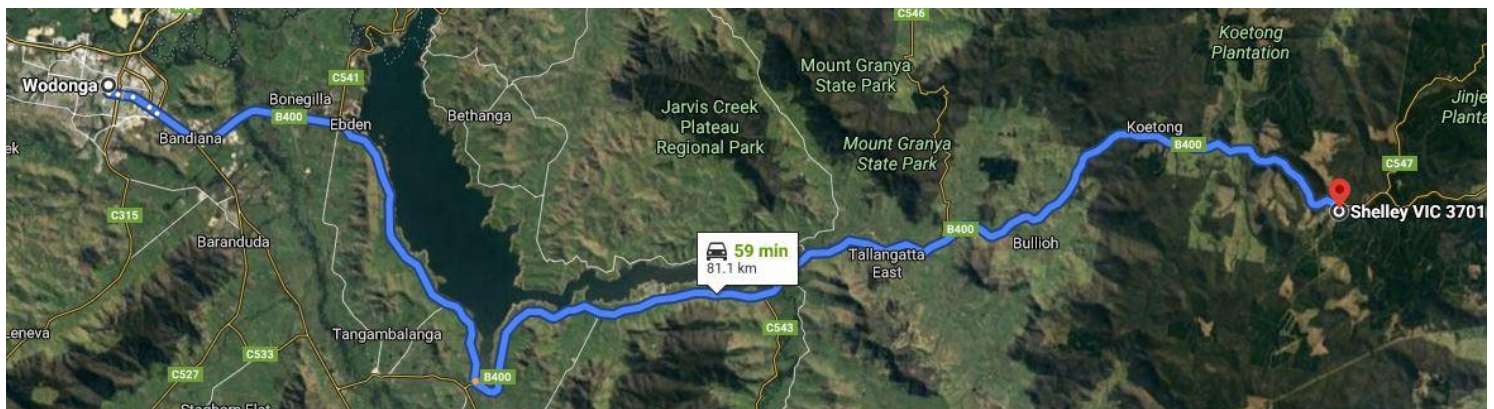
As previously advertised, in 2022, four ADA National Hunting Camps are planned, at the usual locality of Shelley in NE Victoria. The dates for these camps are:

Camp 1: 22 April – 3 May. Fallow deer rut, red deer roar.

Camp 2: 24 June – 5 July. All deer species in hard antler.

Camp 3: 12 August – 23 August. All deer species in hard antler.

Camp 4: 23 September – 4 October. Glorious spring hunting.



The ADA National Hunting Camp is an hour's drive from Wodonga.

The first of these camps coincides with the **fallow deer rut** and **red deer roar**, and the hunting only gets better after that. At \$35 per person per night for a warm, clean, lockable bunkroom, or \$30 per person per head for camping outside in your own tent or trailer camper, this camp is great value for money.

Now is a great time to celebrate the end of COVID blues, and register for this super hunting opportunity – great mateship, opulent camp facilities, 24/7 pressurised steaming hot water, and some of the finest hunting in the country.

If interested, please email the camp co-ordinator (michaelsen@geologist.com) for an **Info-Pack** containing registration instructions.

Camp 2 is shaping-up as a dominant NY Branch event, and at the time this newsletter was distributed, five NY people had already taken advantage of early-bird registration. Therefore, if you only have time to attend one of these camps, try and make it Camp 2, or **Camp 4** where three NY people have registered.

Bernd Michaelsen
Newsletter Editor