

NORTHERN & YORKE HUNTERS

Newsletter of ADA's

NORTHERN & YORKE BRANCH

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

South Australia

Volume 3, July 2022

President's honk

Hunting on Weckert's property finally commence this weekend (18/19 June) with Ray Tooth guiding Chris Kooloos. The lateness of the hunting season on Weckert's reinforces the notion that the branch needs more certainty in its hunting program, and that equates with more hunting properties available to accredited hunters from the branch.

In this newsletter, we introduce another of our new hunting properties, **Baldon**, a parcel of 1300 acres, about 12 km east of Truro. Tony Tenney and I recently visited the property and took our rifles "just in case", but never used them. Baldon is another of Will Graetz' properties, but separated from **Jutland** (Volume 2 of our newsletter) by 26 km as the crow flies. The property is about 90 minutes' drive from central Adelaide, and like Jutland, will be a boon for NY Branch people based in Adelaide and the Adelaide Hills.

We are still looking for more aspiring bow-hunters coming forward to do their proficiency test. It would be a shame if too few bow-men get to hunt this season. In the case of **Weckert's property**, we would like to see 2, or 3, or 4 bow-hunters operating on the same weekend, each assigned their own block within Weckert's outer perimeter. So please get bow-hunting accredited without delay.

It is most likely that a **points system** will at least partly determine hunters' access to hunting blocks in 2023. Points will accumulate from 1 January 2022 through to 31 December 2022, and those points will inform our senior huntmaster, **Linton Charlton**, when allocating hunting opportunities. Points will be assigned to those who participate in this year's meetings, social functions, the National Hunting Camp, and working-bees when applicable.

Therefore, you are encouraged to become active this year, to get the best hunting opportunities next year.

Almost certainly, the bare minimum required before someone can hunt on an ADA managed property in 2023 is for that person to have the following under their belt:

1. Be a financial member of the ADA.
2. Have attended at least one NY Branch event (i.e. meeting, camp, social event, working-bee).
3. Possess a current SA Firearms Licence.
4. Possess a current SA Hunting Permit.
5. Pass a simple rifle or bow proficiency test.

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

Next events, NY Branch

National Hunting Camp

The next Northern & Yorke Branch event is this year's second **National Hunting Camp** at Shelley in NE Victoria. Details of how to register for this 24 June – 5 July camp are on the last page of this newsletter. When this newsletter was mailed, the camp had 19 registrants coming from SA, Vic, NSW, ACT and Qld.

You are invited to register for this camp via the simple instructions on the last page of this newsletter.

Another shoot at the Jamestown Rifle Club

The branch is rescheduling the washed-out centre-fire shoot at the Jamestown Rifle Club/Jamestown Big Bore Rifle Association. We will reconvene the event beginning at 9 AM on Sunday, 10 July.

Please bring your centre-fire deer hunting rifle. The details of the event are broadly the same as previously advertised for the cancelled event, namely a separate junior and adult competition, with shooting over 100 and 300 metres in the morning. Please bring your bipods/shooting sticks etc. There will be a BBQ lunch at modest cost, followed by a 600-metre shoot.

Those coming from afar will be able to **camp on-site the evening before**, at no cost. The clubhouse will be open, and toilets available. The cost for the day's shoot is \$10 which goes to the gun club.

Bow-hunting proficiency test

Although the branch has at least 7 bow-men, no-one has yet come forward to be accredited. If you aspire to bow-hunt on a property managed by the NY Branch, please make yourself known. Persons who can sign you off include our accreditation officer **Paul Castle**, and any of the executive (**Ashley, Tony, Linton, Bernd**), as well as **David Pope** (ADA Board Member) who has 40 years of bow-hunting experience. Please contact any of these gentlemen to arrange a proficiency test.

What should my first deer rifle be?

A couple of people who joined our branch in recent months, have never owned a centrefire firearm, indeed any rifle, and are ready to make their first purchase in that regard. 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, a 7 mm-08 Rem, or better**. That's because these are the minimum calibres permitted by law to hunt sambar and red deer on public land in Victoria. Nonetheless, **two of the most common calibres used for such a purpose are the 308 Win and 30-06 Springfield, shooting 150 to 180 grain loads. Such combinations are ideal for deer species in Australia.** It's logical that people new to deer hunting would start with one of these four calibres. Note that the minimum load required to hunt sambar and red deer in Victoria is 130 grains.

For hunting deer in SA, a **308 Win is a very sensible choice**, and if you only intend to purchase one centrefire rifle the 308 Win is worth considering. And it's also a good choice for **sambar** in Victoria. Buying a **30-06 Springfield is similarly a good idea**; but if it is to be your only centrefire rifle, it might be less than ideal, since it is considerably louder than a 308 Win, and may be unsuitable when hunting in areas where noise is a major consideration, e.g. culling deer close to urban centres. All else being equal, the 30-06 Springfield also has more recoil (kickback) than the 308 Win. For some people rifle recoil is a major consideration; for others it is not.

Rifle proficiency test

If you have not yet passed your rifle proficiency test, please contact **Paul Castle**, or any of the executive to arrange to be tested at the **Anama Rifle Range**.

Part 1 of the rifle proficiency test involves shooting from any field position over 100 yards. A “field position” includes lying on the ground using a bipod, shooting off a rucksack, or assisted with shooting sticks.

Part 2 of the rifle test involves shooting over 50 yards unaided whilst standing.

The NY Branch has welcomed several new members in the last three months. The branch executive encourages these people and anyone else who is yet to do their rifle and/or bow proficiency, to do so at their earliest convenience, and to fast-track their entry into the local hunting program.

Jamestown event on the 4/5 June weekend

Over the weekend of 4/5 June, the branch hosted a competitive shooting weekend at Jamestown in the Mid North.



*In the foreground, **Rhett Flavel** taking aim with **Ashley's 22 Rimfire** at the Jamestown Pistol and Shooting Club.*

On the day, shooters using 22 Rimfire rifles and shotguns competed in a number of events. Thomas Redden won the junior “vermin hunt”, and Tony Tenney accumulated the best aggregate for the adults with both shotgun and 22 Rimfire.

Rob Filosi and David Pope shot it out in the “man-on-man” event, with Rob emerging the winner. Both David and Rob used single-fire 22s.



David Redden takes aim with his **long-plains, black-powder rifle**.



David's rifle was built from a kit, and is a replica of a **mid-1800's, 50 calibre long -plains rifle**; he is firing a round ball with patch, propelled with 80 grains of black-powder.

Bang — and a lot of white smoke!



After the shoot at Jamestown Pistol and Shooting Club. Saturday evening — the calm before the storm, just before the Branch’s general meeting and dinner. The maxim about a Shepherd’s delight obviously doesn’t apply at Jamestown: a howling gale and downpour during the night caused the cancellation of Sunday’s centrefire event at the nearby Jamestown Rifle Club.

In the late afternoon, those present were entertained to a **black-powder shooting** demo by David Redden, Ashley’s dad. The day was capped-off with a branch general meeting attended by 14 members, with 6 apologies.

A BBQ meal was served after the meeting, and a few people were still hanging around at 11 PM when the generator was turned off.

By 9 AM on Sunday, around 30 people had amassed at the Jamestown Rifle Club for the day’s planned centre-fire shoot. Wild stormy weather, both overnight and in the morning, meant that the range officer on duty cancelled the event, for safety reasons. It was also a common-sense decision. As mentioned on page 2 of this Newsletter, the centre-fire event has been rescheduled for Sunday, 10 July at the same venue.

Access to HuntStand “hunt areas” for your smartphone

If you already have **HuntStand** downloaded to your phone and synchronised with HuntStand on your laptop, you can download drafted “hunt areas” to your phone.

The following “hunt areas” in HuntStand are now available to NY Branch accredited hunters:

- 1. Weckert’s property, bow-hunting blocks**
- 2. Weckert’s property, single rifle-hunting block**
- 3. Weckert’s property, dual rifle-hunting blocks**

If you wish to use any of these mapped “hunt areas”, please email michaelsen@geologist.com to request access. You will then be sent an auto-email inviting you to download the “hunt area” you requested. Accept the invite and you are good to go!

As more properties are opened-up to accredited NY Branch hunters, more “hunt areas” will be drafted and become available.



Weckert's property, single rifle-hunting block drafted as a "hunt Area" in HuntStand. Weckert's total huntable area is 555 hectares (5.5 km²); the main N-S creek is highlighted blue. Red markers indicate vehicle parking sites.

New hunting property: Baldon

The executive is excited to announce that **Baldon property** is now part of the Northern & Yorke hunters' property smorgasbord. Baldon comprises 1300 acres (525 hectares) or 5.25 km² of relatively flat land at the foot of the **Mount Lofty Ranges'** eastern escarpment. Two creeks, **Truro Creek** and **Basin Creek**, drain the eroded high country to the west and converge on the property.

Will Graetz hasn't seen deer on Baldon for a long time, but then again that doesn't mean they aren't there, maybe as itinerant visitors. However, the property has an abundance of foxes, rabbits and likely goats; Will Graetz has a permit to take kangaroos. Wombat burrows are common across the property, so hunters will need to watch where they walk.



*Most of **Baldon property** is flat open grazing country, with unobstructed views for hundreds of metres.*



***River red gums** line both creeks on Baldon; wombat burrows and rabbit warrens are common in areas eroded by the creeks, and where the ground is relatively soft.*



***Truro Creek** and **Basin Creek** have carved incisions up to 5 metres deep – so hunters beware. The terrain along both creeks provides superb opportunities to stalk and ambush.*

Victoria Hunting Program

National Hunting Camps

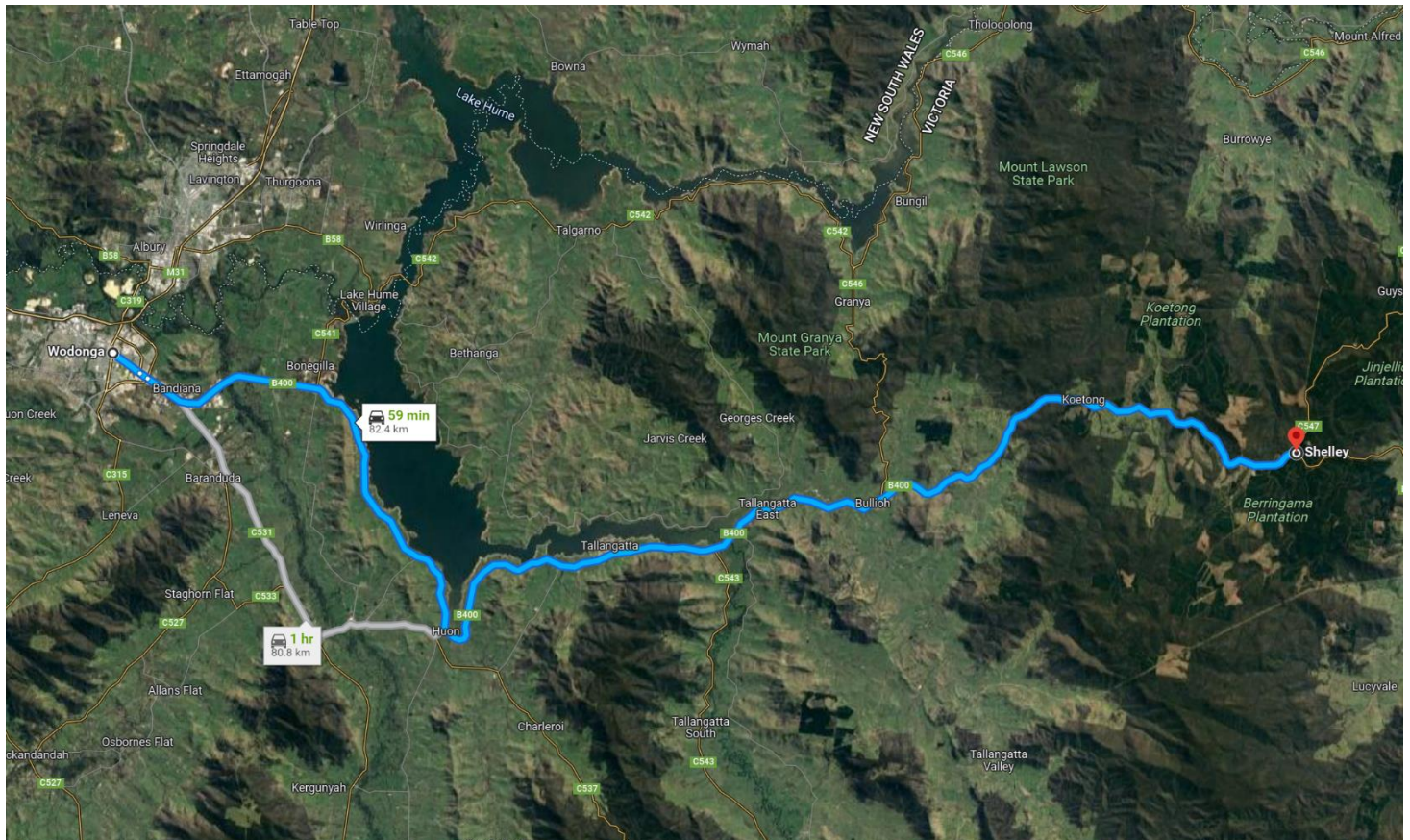
There are three remaining National Hunting Camps scheduled for 2022., these are:

Camp 2: 24 July – 5 July. **Places still available.**

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

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

It's not too late to register for the next camp (camp 2) via the instructions on the next page.



The ADA National Hunting Camp is always headquartered at Shelley, an hour's drive from Wodonga.

Lake Dartmouth hunt

There is an opportunity to do one or more sambar hunts around the shores of Lake Dartmouth. Two ADA members from a branch north of the River Murray, are keen to take their dinghies to Lake Dartmouth, and it would be great if a few people from the NY Branch could join them. We envisage a 7-night camp at either or both of two very remote authorised campsites on the shores of Lake Dartmouth.

Our branch owns its own dinghy and trailer; maybe we can assemble a flotilla of about four dinghies split equally between the two campsites. If anyone is interested in a Lake Dartmouth hunt, please make yourself known.

Bernd Michaelsen
Newsletter Editor



Your personal invite to the ADA National Hunting Camp

Register now for the ADA

NATIONAL HUNTING CAMP

at Koetong-Shelley, NE Victoria.

Camp 2: Friday, 24 June – Tuesday, 5 July 2022

To register for **Camp 2**, send an email (michaelsen@geologist.com) to the camp organiser providing the following:

1. Your name
2. ADA branch
3. ADA membership number
4. Mobile phone number
5. Active email address
6. Vehicle make, model & colour
7. Vehicle registration
8. Arrival date & departure date
9. Whether you wish to sleep indoors or camp outside
10. The statement: *"I agree to hunt legally according to the laws of the State of Victoria, the regulations of the Game Management Authority, and the ADA"*

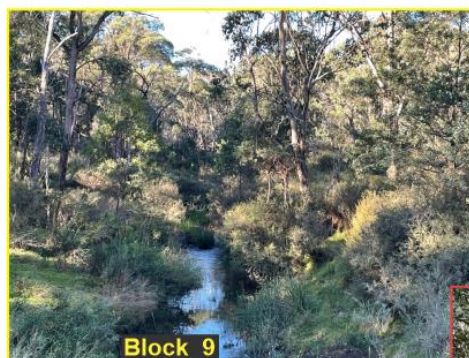
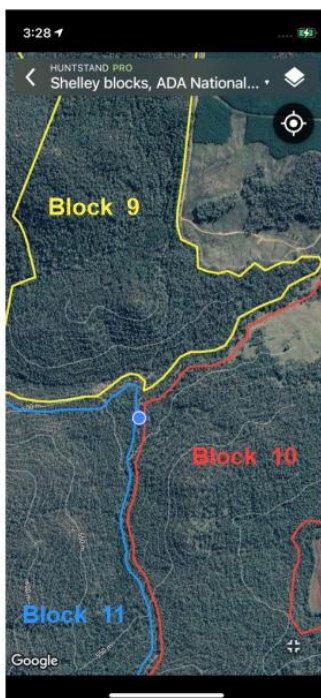
You will receive a confirmation email after registering, as well as detailed maps of the hunting blocks and instructions to set-up your smartphone for bush navigation.

The camp will run for 12 days/11 nights, and you are welcome to plan your stay to arrive and depart on the days of your choice. You can stay as little as 2 nights, or for the entire 11 nights.

The costs is \$35 each person-night for your own dorm room, or \$30 each person-night for camping outside. Plus there is a one-off \$20 surcharge, irrespective of the duration of your stay. Hunters are responsible for preparing their own meals.

More detailed information on the camp is in the [Essentials Info-Pack](#), below.

Please phone Bernd Michaelsen (0419 832 995) regarding any aspect of the camp, not covered in the Info-Pack.



All 42 Koetong-Shelley hunting blocks have been digitised and are available to registrants via the **HuntStand** phone app.

Registered hunters will be able to take detailed satellite imagery and mapping functionality into the field.



The ADA
NATIONAL HUNTING CAMP
is run 3 or 4 times per year, and is open to every ADA member, irrespective of branch.

