

THE DEERSTALKER

March 2005



THE DEERSTALKER

September 2004

NSW Deerstalkers Association

COMMITTEE FOR 2004-2005

Formed: 7th June 1972

Life Members: Gordon Alford
Bob Penfold
Wayne McPhee
Jack Boswell

Affiliated To:

Australian Deerstalkers Federation
Game Management Council (Australia)
Inc.

Contributions:

The editor and editorial committee reserve
the right to modify any contributions.

All contributions are to be mailed to

Dal Birrell - Editor
PO Box 96
Bulli NSW 2516

or email: dubir@learth.net
(Please see inside for contributors notes).

Advertisements:

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

Cover Photo:

Top. Roy Hrelja & his 8 yr old 40" Ibex taken
in the Yazd Region of Iran with a 350m shot.

Bottom. Dick Archer's 1st bow-shot Fallow
buck, taken by stalking.

President: Wayne McPhee

2/2 Cusack Ave
Casula NSW 2171
Ph: 02 9824 0649

Secretary &

Public Officer: Greg Haywood
1 Struan Street
Tahmoor NSW 2573
Ph: 02 4681 8363

Treasurer: Nalda Haywood

Snr. Vice

President: Terry Burgess
PO Box 80
Cremorne Junction NSW
2088 Ph: 02 9909 1267

Jnr. Vice

President: Darren Plumb
Ph: 02 4821 0774

Club Armourer: John Natoli
Ph: 04138514336

Game Management

Representatives: Malcolm Ambrose
John Ross

Licence Testing

Co-ordinator: Greg Haywood

Video Library: Terry Burgess

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

FROM THE EDITOR

My thanks, as always to those members who have sent in any contribution to this issue. It doesn't matter if it is a major article, a photo or a snippet from the internet, your effort is much appreciated.

Game Licences in NSW.

If you are in a scheme, then please ensure that you obtain your game licence before you hunt.

The Shooters' Party Annual Conference.

The delayed 2004 AGM of the Party was held on February 26th 2005 at Homebush, coinciding with the Shot Show. The 2005 AGM will be held later this year. The following account of the proceedings is in note form. Please excuse its brevity.

The Treasurer reported the Party's finances are in a healthy state; in fact much better than at the same time before the last state election. Further fund raising up to the 2007 election will be needed to present an effective campaign in 2007.

The Chairman gave a brief account of the divisions within the executive of the Party stemming from his decision to work for another political (shooters) group at the recent Federal election. No Shooters' Party funds were spent on this. The Chairman tabled official documents crediting this group with denying the Greens the final Senate seat in NSW. Other speakers denying this claim quoted from other official sources. What do they say about statistics?

John Tingle reported that his job has been made more difficult by the frequent changes in the position of Police Minister, &



1st Meeting

2nd Meeting

4th May at 7:30pm
German Austrian Club

3rd Meeting

20th July at 7:30pm
German Austrian Club

4th Meeting

5th October at 7:30pm
German Austrian Club

5th Meeting - Christmas Party
Sat 19th November at
10:30am

Peach Tree Inn - Penrith

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 Editorial Committee does however, take responsibility for views expressed in articles signed by them!





his need to fully acquaint each one with our aims & objectives. There is a new assistant inspector of ranges, Ron Milligan, who is expected to do range inspections in future. Mr. Milligan is a rifle & pistol shooter. We look forward to liaising with him. The 28-day cooling off period for second & subsequent firearms is still under consideration. John's AVO Bill has passed the first reading & should appear for the second reading shortly. John has a bill dealing with the automatic loss of licence following a good behaviour bond ready, but it is not yet listed among the private members bills for 2005.

The meeting passed motions on notice, which dealt mainly with procedural & minor constitutional matters. There were no fee changes. In general business, motions were passed to (i) oppose game licences becoming compulsory for hunters, & (ii) to oppose a game licence becoming a genuine reason for owning a firearm (as it is in Victoria).

There is reported to be 186,000 licensed shooters in NSW, of which 40,000 are in clubs.

The election returned the following office bearers for 2005.

- Chairman Robert Brown
- Vice Chairman Robert Borsak
- Secretary & Treasurer Bob Shaw
- Executive Committee Dal Birrell,

David Cook, Dan Field, Jo Hall, John Howden & Joan Maraldo. The SSAA's Roy Smith withdrew his nomination for a position on the committee during the meeting, as did several other candidates.

AGM of the Federation of Hunting Clubs.

Two members of NSWDA now occupy positions on the committee of FHC. During General Business, there was some discussion

of the activities of the Game Council (the FHC committee contains the past & present chairman of the Game Council, & our now past chairman of TSP David Leyonhjelm). It was reported that the G.C. was finalising a Code of Conduct for hunters & a training manual. These would need to be adopted by any clubs wanting to participate in accrediting their members for an "R" licence to hunt ferals or game on crown land. Each participating club will also need to nominate a number of persons to carry out this training & accreditation. Our club will participate. "R" licences will only be available to members of accredited clubs. *N.B. no licence is needed to hunt feral animals on private lands.*

Negotiations with Forestry are progressing slowly; National Park access is not yet "on the horizon". We believe that about 4000 game licences have been sold to date.

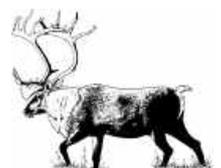
At the end of the conference, Roy Smith arranged free entry into the Shot Show for those who attended either meeting. Thanks Roy!

The following information from Greg's report in the last issue is repeated to remind members of the situation now that we have a GAME COUNCIL in NSW.

As deer hunter the following is the most relevant:

- Access to Public Land has now increased to 29 parcels at least 6 of which hold deer;
- The restricted game licence is not available at this stage, however, it will be available before the next season (March 2005)

You only need to hold one licence



(General or Restricted) depending on the Game you hunt and where. You require the Restricted Licence to hunt on Public Land. Licence costs \$60 p.a.;

- You must have a general game licence to hunt game on private land. Property owner, family members and employees are exempt from having to hold a licence;
- An owner can eradicate the deer on their land if they wish as they are exempted from the Act;
- Deer Season applies from 1st March to 31 October each year with the exception being Hog Deer which is the same as Victoria (including tag system);
- You can convert the General Licence to the Restricted Licence when these are available at no additional cost;
- Commercial Licences are available to those who earn a living from harvesting animals i.e. have an ABN and file tax returns showing that you are in the business of harvesting animals for profit.

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Moose Hits the Internet.

TIM MOWRY, Staff Writer, News Miner
Outdoors Editor.
Sunday, October 17, 2004.
In one of those only-in-Alaska stories, a trophy-sized bull moose was accidentally strung up in a power line under construction to

the Teck Pogo gold mine southeast of Fairbanks. The moose apparently got its antlers tangled in electrical wire before workers farther down the line pulled the line tight about two weeks ago. The moose was suspended 50 feet in the air when workers, recognizing something was wrong, backtracked and found it. The moose was alive when it was lowered to the ground but was later killed when officials from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game decided against tranquillising it to remove the wires because they were worried the moose, already stressed, would die and the meat would not be salvageable as a result of the drugs. The moose reportedly had an antler spread of 62 inches, a trophy bull by Alaska's big game standards, though Dave Davenport, a technician for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Delta Junction who handled the original call on Oct. 5, is still in the process of finding the antlers, which are state property. The moose, which probably weighed in the neighbourhood of 1,200 pounds, was likely suspended in the air for only a matter of minutes, said Marian. A pair of photos showing the moose hanging by its antlers began circulating on the Internet on Thursday. City Electric workers did everything they could do to try and free the moose once it was lowered to the ground, but that proved impossible, said Marian, the company president. The moose was thrashing about trying to free itself, posing a threat to anyone who got near.

It's not uncommon for bull moose to challenge inanimate objects to a battle during the rut when testosterone has taken over. Most Alaskans have seen pictures of bull moose with swing sets, tire swings, lawn chairs and Christmas lights tangled in their antlers at this time of year, said Davenport. "We've had them running down the main streets of Delta with shirts and pants hanging from their antlers after they get caught up in clotheslines," he said. The meat was salvaged and donated to a local resident, he said.





Secretary's Report!

It's been very quiet of late and not a lot of news to report now that the game council is operational.

❖ **Game Council**

There is more information concerning hunting seasons elsewhere in the magazine.

The take up of licences is higher than expected and would indicate that the Council will meet it's threshold of 10,000 licences per annum to make it viable. We as hunters must support the Council and make it work, by providing input into the management through our hunting representative organisations.

We cannot allow them to fail as the anti's in politics will no doubt pick us of, so we must protect our sport.

❖ **Deer Hunting Season**

Most species have a season from the 1st March to 31st October each year. With the breaking of the draught everyone seems to be predicting a great 2005 trophy season. Time will tell and we can look forward to our trophy presentation day at the end of the year.

❖ **Christmas Function**

This year we were down in numbers attending but we still had a great day. This year was a trophy presentation day instead of a trophy competition and it was a success. The trophies on display were excellent and all six species (7 now with wapiti) were on display.

Mark Isaacs took photographs for inclusion in the magazine and as you

can see there were some outstanding heads on display.

Our members are no doubt the most active of all the deer hunting clubs. Thanks to those members who brought along their trophy and shared with us the details of the hunt.

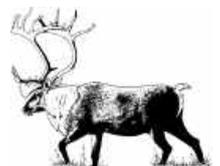
❖ **Firearms Security**

With the months leading up to Christmas the Police put additional resources into checking the safe keeping requirements of our firearms. All the members and non-members that I am in contact with have now had their gun safes checked and in my area the Police undertook this in a most courteous manner. In fact one fellow I know was given additional time to get another safe that complied with the regulations.

This time of year gets us into the bush and now that my shoulder operation has been successful I can hardly wait until the 19th March when I go away.

Good hunting.

Greg Haywood



My First Deer With A Bow

Dick Archer

During the first hunt Jason took a 210 D.S coloured fallow with a bow so he said I could try for a menal during the second hunt.

After several unsuccessful stalks we saw a menal stag, with an uneven head 100 metres away on the other side of an open clearing and he was going ballistic. The only way to get to him was on my belly for about 30 metres then hands and knees for another 40 metres. Then one doe broke cover and the stag went after her. Cursing my luck I walked back to Jas but within a couple of minutes the stag had rounded up the doe and brought her back.

Now with the 5 does in a close bunch I was back on my belly for 6 or 7 metres moving to my right. Doing this put the does behind 2 big trees and I was able to walk up to within 40 metres of them even though I was in clear view of the stag who had other things on his mind. The same doe broke again with the stag chasing after her again. This time I walked within 10 metres of his grunting stand and I stood behind a tall rose bush. After a couple of minutes the stag came back empty handed and he was walking straight towards me but I couldn't shoot a moving target through the rose bush. The stag walked past me, within 7 or 8 metres, so I took a step back from the bush for a clear shot. The stag stopped in his tracks and turned to look at me making him broadside on to me so I put the peep sight behind his shoulder and I squeezed the release aide. The stag went into overdrive and I took him in the back leg.

He was over the ridge and out of sight in seconds. I ran to the ridge to see if he went

left or right & spotted him about 20 metres away standing in the foliage of a big tree. I eased over to the left to try to get a clear shot through the leaves but all I could see was his head and some of his neck where I was able to put another arrow. He walked out from under the tree and I was able to get a final clear shot; to his heart.

On examining the body we found that the first arrow had actually taken out an artery. This is my first stag with a bow.

Congratulations to both Archers (no pun intended, but I couldn't resist!) on taking Fallow bucks while stalking. This is a very creditable achievement. Ed.

Change of Address

“Hand-Tan”, operated by Allana & Malcolm Jones, which used to be located in the southern highlands of NSW has relocated. Their new address is;

“Binya” Jugiong Road

Harden NSW 2587

Ph 02 63864478

Mobile 0428363630

Hand-Tan does taxidermy tanning as well as soft tanning for rugs etc.



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

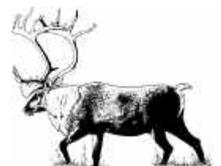
Ph: (02) 9909 1267

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



DOCTORS can be a Health Hazard.

Consider the following article lifted from the Internet.

- (A) The number of physicians in the U.S. is 700,000.
- (B) Accidental deaths caused by Physicians per year are 120,000.
- (C) Accidental deaths per physician is 0.171.

Statistics courtesy of U.S. Dept. of Health Human Services.

FIREARMS:

- A) The number of gun owners in the U.S. is 80,000,000. Yes, that is 80 million.
- B) The number of accidental gun deaths per year, all age groups. is 1,500.
- C) The number of accidental deaths pre gun owner is 0.000188.

Statistically, doctors are approximately 9,000 times more dangerous than gun owners.

Remember, “Guns don’t kill people, doctors do.”

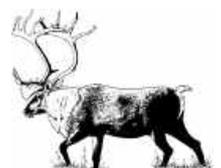
Fact: NOT EVERYONE HAS A GUN, BUT ALMOST EVERYONE HAS AT LEAST ONE DOCTOR.

Please alert your friends to this alarming threat. We must ban doctors before this gets completely out of hand.

Out of concern for the public at large, I have withheld the statistics on lawyers for the fear

the shock would cause people to panic and seek medical attention.

Ed. If you are a doctor & are upset by the complete mis-use of logic in this report, spare a thought for us poor law abiding hunters, who are on the receiving end of every biased pea-brained journalist wanting to grab some attention whenever the opportunity arises. If you are a doctor & a hunter, you have all our sympathies!



Reds In The Valley.

Nick Pediotis

After the short flight from Sydney to Brisbane, Barry Nelis from Multigame Safaris was waiting to greet me. We were to spend the next few days hunting for a Red stag. After a quick stop at Barry's brother's place for a tour of his trophy room, we began the 3-hour trip to our hunting destination, a 22,000-acre cattle property in the Mary valley.

Arriving at the quarters around 8.30 pm, Barry gave me a run-down of the facilities before we cooked up some dinner. We discussed hunting strategies for the next few days, then, dead tired, turned in. At 1.30 am next morning we were woken by the hair-raising roar of a nearby stag. One can imagine how anxious I

was to get out there! We were up with the birds, & after a quick breakfast we headed into the hills behind our quarters to get a look at the stag.

The fog was thick, but we were able to make out the stag just 100 metres away. "He's a good stag" whispered Barry. Through the fog I could just make out 11 points, a 6X5, but with the restricted visibility I wasn't sure enough & decided to wait until the fog thinned & the morning light improved. A slight breeze sprang up, unfortunately in the deer's favour, & it made a quick getaway into the scrub & disappeared.

With the 4 wheelers loaded with fuel & rifles secured, we drove off into the heart of the valley. There was the occasional roar & plenty



of sightings that morning, with most of it spent glassing from vantage points. However, with no trophy spotted we returned to camp for lunch & a catnap.

That afternoon we decided to ride over to an area where Barry had sighted some good stags earlier in the season. Again the big ones eluded us, with only a couple of 8 pointers & some hinds seen.

Before first light the following morning we went out onto the back hill again to see if we could get a better look at our stag from the first morning. Fortunately for me he was again grazing with the hinds. With plenty of cover between us, I crept to a nearby oak tree & waited for the fog to lift. Getting a steady rest for the binos, I could see that he was the same 6X5 stag. The head was long & symmetrical, if a little narrow. Still, it's hard to get everything right. Deciding to take him, I released the safety on my 6mm Remington & sent a 100gn Corelokt projectile off to do its work. The familiar "whack" sounded like a solid hit. The stag ran just 50m with the hinds before piling up. I was full of joy as I approached my Red stag for 2004.

I can highly recommend hunting with Barry Nelis from Multigame Safaris. He has a great sense of humour & has access to good hunting properties.

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13 YEARS

Peter Birchall

The idea of completing the Aussie Deer Grand Slam, all six species sounds easy until you get involved. Jump in with both feet and have a go.

Yes, that idea was helped greatly via the Victorian Government and the A.D.A. getting together to provide an opportunity to legally hunt hog deer with their ballot conducted for at least 13 years that I have been aware of.

I finally got lucky in the ballot and actually got a stag tag.. What a bonus, after a tragic finish 2003.

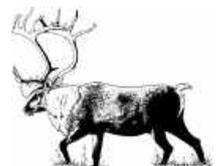
The A.D.A. put on an introductory weekend prior to the season for those lucky enough to be selected, and I'm certainly glad that I attended this invaluable weekend.

After the mandatory start at the Government Department in Bairnsdale, on the first morning of the hunt then the Blond Bay State Game Reserve is your home for the next five days hunting, if necessary.

The one and only time that I had hunted hoggies was in 1976 so you might say that I have to start at the start!

The other four hunters and I had a good drive around as only Jason from Sale in Victoria and I had been on the Reserve before. So we gave them a bit of a quick guided drive around most of the area, then we decided which area that each wanted to hunt.

I asked to hunt around the Patterson Swamp area and on the first afternoon (Monday) I sat up a high seat in a large Blackwood tree until way after last light then started to walk back to our camp site about 1.5 km away. I was slowly walking along a sand ridge top track to access



one of the main tracks in the Reserve instead of bush bashing in the dark when four different deer start to bark in alarm at very close range but I couldn't see a thing in the inky black of early evening.

Tuesday I was a bit late in getting going but late that day I saw a doe and fawn just on dark as they fed out of a thick patch of Banksia and tea tree scrub. It's bloody thick in there. They also barked and bolted into the fast approaching gloom of the sunny day turning to dark.

The third day, I hunted along the boundary fence towards my preferred swamp and eventually saw two deer way out in the open but moving and feeding very quickly as the headed towards the sand ridge that I traveled on Monday evening.,

Then I selected a large black wattle that was out on the edge of the swamp and one that I should be able to find in the dark next morning.

The plan that came to mind in that instant was to build a high seat as soon as possible that morning. Then leave it as quiet as possible and on Thursday get up very early and walk into this tree (and hopefully find it in the dark) and wait until sun-up etc.

The early walk in about 1 hour before first light was a lot more difficult than I could ever have imagined as a bush fire had been through the area about a month prior to our ballot time. I didn't use a torch or any markers, as I didn't want to create any visible difference in that end of the swamp. But deer barked me at twice before reaching the high seat tree.

My careful construction and evaluation of this tree platform helped greatly but I still got rather cold even with my thermal underclothes on.

Roos and wallabies emerged rather close from the tangle of burnt scrub and fed out into the open swamp verge, some nice green shoots had erupted since the scrub fire.

About 20 minutes two deer appeared out to the east from a bank of mist that went out across Lake Victoria. They were about 300 m away but were feeding on the move but not as fast as yesterday.

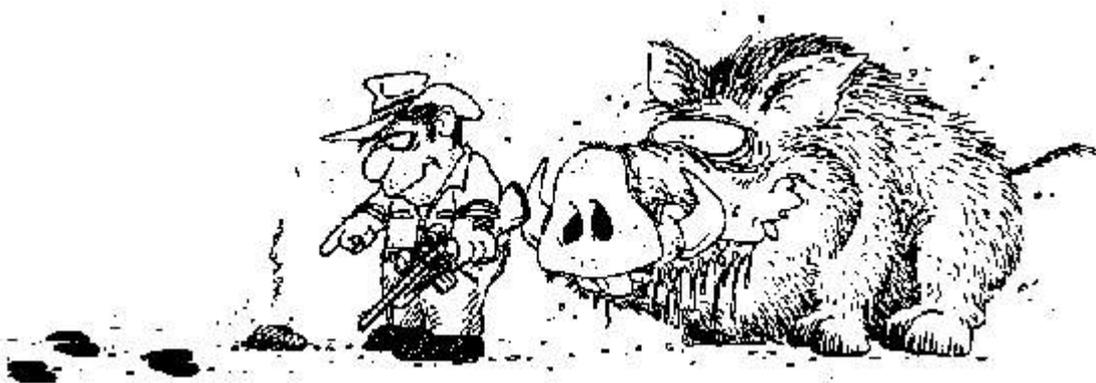
They continued to move from north to south quartering across but close to my position. I glassed but couldn't see any sign of antlers but then the leading animal started to scent the air as I had seen other male deer (of other species) do. I still couldn't see antler but at least I knew I would have a chance at a stag even if only a little one.

My first shot tipped him over but in a flash he was off but ran in a large arc. After about 100 m. he stopped but was facing directly away so before he had time to start moving a Texas Heart Shot Dropped him for good.

I climbed down to ground level as quick as possible then ran the 220 metres to my stag. Yahoo! You could hear me a kilometer away as I reached my trophy, 12³/₄ inches long. A nice trophy indeed, scores 83 Douglas Points, my first hog deer.

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UNLUCKY BILLY DICK ARCHER



After a few unsuccessful stalks, we stopped to eat a muesli bar when Jason saw 2 menal deer walking toward us. Working out where they would pass us I had to move forward about 30 metres because of the dense scrub. This worked well for the first stag as he walked within 7 or 8 metres of me. He was a spikey with both spikes broken off. After waiting about a minute I looked back to Jas to find out

where the second deer had gone. Jas was recording them on his video camera. He signalled for me to stay there but when the stag came through he was about 30 metres away in too thick scrub for a clear shot. As he walked past and out of sight Jas gave out a grunt which brought the stag straight back. Bringing the peep sight down behind his shoulder a brand new rubber on the peep came off and the peep spun around and I couldn't see the deer. Putting the bow down I repaired the peep and nocked another arrow but as I was drawing the bow back the stag walked away. We put in 2 more good hunts after him getting within 60 - 80 metres each time before we eventually lost him. Studying the video later we saw he went 210-15. D.S

Giving up on the stag Jas said he would go back to retrieve our backpacks. I continue on and over a ridge where I saw 4 30 inch billys 40 metres away. Because Jas had the range finder and I wasn't certain of the distance I picked out 1 billy and aimed for the top of his shoulder and thats exactly where the arrow went hitting a tree behind him. As the billys took off running up hill another young billy came out and stood in exactly the same spot. I put an arrow in his heart and I found him about 40 metres up the hill under a dead tree. I only took the horns because we were able to get the vehicle close to the carcass and collect it for dogs meat. This was my only billy for the year.

