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Front cover pic: Sean (aka Banff), Emerald QLD



Welcome to the December issue of the eMagazine.

Hot and dry, snap freezes, rain and storms and then almost tropical in some areas surely has weather predictions all out of whack. El Nino perhaps?

One thing we can be sure of though is feral game is where you find it. We hope you have had a successful years hunting and got out and about in the great Aussie bush, besides just being out there is half the fun.

We have seen some great trophies and heard some fantastic stories this year which has helped to keep us all inspired within the changing weather patterns.

Australian hunting websites, social media and business products and services continue to grow to create an industry and a real force.

Merry Christmas to all and stay safe in the field. Happy Hunting!

Aushunter

Editor: Bernie (aka Aushunter)
Publisher: AusHunt



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Guys, with my knee op coming up I had planned to go camp out this weekend as it will be my last weekend free until the op...

So Saturday morning on day break we left the vehicles and headed off into some "back country" up a creek system to try glass a stag for the day.

We donned the backpacks and got our gear and headed off with a creek crossing where we layed a fallen log over an walked across using a stick to keep our balance, over the creek we were met with blackberries so thick you could call it a jam factory grow farm but luckily the deer do their job and keep a track contouring the hill for us!

After about an hour of trudging we had put up a hind and calf and they honked an took off but we got up to another creek system which we wanted to hunt up, we took 5 to have a drink and prepare for the slow and steady climb up to get some height to glass faces.

The stalk was going well and sign was abundant, as we got around 100m above the creek along a bit of a spur, Chamois

(Sammy) mentioned he could smell deer, or a stag in particular... Me on the other hand informed him with a top lip full of hair and cigarette smoke couldn't smell much as this stage but said we would continue sneaking up as there could be something sunning close by, within minutes I heard the tell tale faint noise of a critter doing a little bit of a spook run but it didn't sound like it went far, so I got prepared and neared the flat on the spur, the wind was cutting in front and away to the left so was fairly sure it would scent me but as I could peer along the ridgeline I couldn't see much except some gum trees but something caught my eye in a V between 5 trees.... I threw the binos up and quickly noted neck hair! so first instinct is ditch the binos and scope it to see what we had in front of us, I had a hard time making out what it was, a proud standing erect neck with head thrown back trying to get a whiff of the intruder to its domain! it was an amazing sight.

Through the valley of trees he turned to sneak off and that's when I seen antler, I flicked the safety off and in a brief moment



he presented a shoulder which is when I pressed the GO button and sent a 150gr Accubond reload his way!

He lurched out of sight and after the boom of the 308 the bush fell deadly silent for a few moments, **I wasn't sure if id once again nicked a tree or connected!!** About 30 seconds later the bush erupted and he made his last run some 30m across the spur and piled up against a fallen log!

I threw the backpack off and searched for my lost case, lit a smoke and we discussed those final few minutes from when the smell of stag entered the equation, right up until we glassed him in the binos as he lay motionless...

We could see brow, mass of antler with reasonable length! I mentioned not to go in with much expectation as it only leads to dissatisfaction!

We made our way to where the stag lay and marvelled at my latest stag, which may also be my final stag this year with an up coming operation on the cards... I was pleased and as always gave him a pat to say thanks, for being able to take such a magnificent creature which consumes most of my free time.



Marvellous Stag

We glassed from here for a while and as we were about to move I picked up a big light golden brown animal almost 800m away up in the top section of the hill, I noted he had thick timber and that we hustle our asses up and over to a ridgeline running down into the creek, which may just bring us close enough to get a shot!

It would be Sams turn to shoot and id expected it to be 300m away but as we got there the stag had moved across the hill and was ranged at 450m which was just too far, as I climbed higher and Sam contoured to see if we could pick him up, which we did, but as I came down to Sam the GWP was unsure of this creature coming through the bush an let out a few barks...

This is when the stag went from relaxed looking up hill, to proud, alarmed and looking right at us! This itself was one amazing sight through the binoculars with his long white tipped antlers swept back for the short moment we could see him and then he snuck into a thick wattle stand which happened to be a shallow saddle and as we glassed for 30 minutes in case he returned, we were sure he had slipped over and away.

We got up to where we could see the opposite side to where the stag had slipped the saddle but with the blackberries down low we couldn't cross an decided to have a "boony" for a while (midday bush nap Chris Boon informed me of whilst hunting with him one day, 'may as well sleep, the deer are') Some lunch and an hour kip and we decided to head back down the valley continuing to glass and reach a spur above where id shot my stag to glass the evening away..

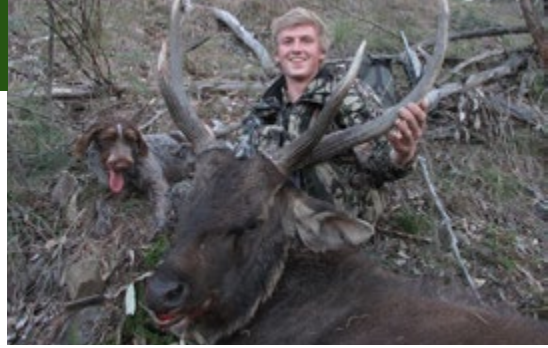
By 3pm we arrived and set up the spotter while we enjoyed our own sunshine as the shadows started to move in, the light breeze had now stopped by around 4pm and I told Sam, it wont be long and they will be moving!! So we glassed pretty hard in every nook and cranny and seen bugger all moving about.

We contemplated heading out early and trying again from the morning but as always, one last scan of the hill and that's when I picked up a young hind, she just popped out and fed away, but hardly moved. She was looking down to her right.. So the binos were working overtime to below and right of her..... Nothing!??

Sam took some photos on his phone of the hind when I noticed that the black shape above her also hadn't moved and was a big tree stump, actually had a sambar stag hidden standing in front of it, chewing his cud!! motionless... except the jaw movement!

The spotter now zoomed right in and photos getting clicked off left and right, we ummed.. arred, looked at the time and I said.... You're up bud, put a hole in it! Worth a shot whats to lose!

We gathered our stuff, bee lined for the creek and a strike of luck had a Hwy running straight across and through the berries and up a ridge which would put us level with the stag, if the thermals were right and didn't give away our appearance! I let Sam go ahead with the pooch and I hung back, rangeing now and then to make sure we were within range, 300, 200, 150.. you're on ya own mate, shoulders I said.



Sam's Stag

With the sun slowly going down and light getting lower in the gully, a few moments later I heard Booom thwack, and the noise of hooves running over rocks, I yelled out **“Did you hit him, is he down? reload get ready”** I know too well what can happen with these mature sambar, they run like a buffalo bull full of adrenaline!!

Sam was confident, said he dropped but got up and went into some thick shit.... ahhh im thinking not what we wanted, although a moment later a bit of crashing we seen the stag sliding down the hill and coming to rest!

From Sams account, as he got to the same level as the stag, it was in the same location although had heard us coming up the ridge and was now quartering on and looking directly at him, so a swift raise of the rifle and cross hairs settled on the shoulder, the go button was pressed and the stag dropped and took off.. 120m into the gully shot!

The time was about quarter past 5 and light was certainly on the way out by the time we got to the stag an began a few quick photos and got ready to walk back down an out to the “camp”.... This is where things got Interesting.....

Rhyss (aka WhelanLad)



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SamHuntVic

Thirty five years ago I retired from Baseball and said "See ya boys, I'm off to hunt deer." Been doing that ever since. I have shot some Fallow and Reds, a few goats and rabbits but nothing so far comes close to Sambar hunting for me. In the last few years I have seen a large increase in the number of deer and also the number of hunters in Victoria

As so often happens in business, it can start from just a spark of an idea around a campfire, that happened to me about 8 years ago. The increase in inexperienced hunter numbers had us talking about safety, and in the end, the Samcam orange hunt jacket was conceived.

It is generally accepted that deer see in greyscale and have very limited colour vision. Our jacket has been specially designed for safety and practicality while deer hunting. The fabric does not reflect Ultra Violet light. In some states it is a requirement to wear something orange when hunting. In any case, it's just good sense to wear Samcam!

That was the start of the SamHuntVic business and of course things just get bigger, more products and ideas and a build up to my small hunting products supply business today.

By the way, the name SamHuntVic is a concoction of the words Sambar Hunting Victoria.

It's what I do.

Grant

www.samhuntvic.com.au



Author: Grant



Samcam Jacket

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So i went for a little poke around today

Started by SHOOT-IT, Sep 19 2014

After checking the traps I put in yesterday and nothing in the first and come close to getting something in the second, the trap was pulled up from its bed and must have had something in it at one stage, anyway I reset it and will check them again tomorrow.

I had a bit more of a poke around and checked a dead heifer to see if anything had been at it - nothing so far, she's starting to smell a bit more so it shouldn't be too long before something comes to have a feed, so i will put a trap on her ass once I notice some activity.

I drove around and spotted a couple of bunnies sunning themselves so figured I've got the little Brno Mod 2 with me I might as well have a crack and see how I go.

So I hopped out of the BT and got a bit of a rest on a rock nearby, lined up the bunny and sent a 40gn Win Power Point on its way - WHACK and the bunny was down. It was a good 50m or so shot so happy with that.

I then went over to another gully and had a bit of a whistle to see if any foxes were about but none seen so I started to work my way back, as I did I stopped and glassed the opposite bank and spotted a bunny sitting under a log. I thought right oh you're next, so I headed over a little closer and got the BT in position for shot no.2, I popped the Brno out the window, chambered a round and lined the rabbit up, with the X-hairs just above its head I touched off the PP and WHACK straight between the eyes, the second bunny was on the ground.

I drove down the hill toward the creekline and thought that will do, so walked across the creek and picked up the bunny (my knees aren't at all happy after doing that I can tell ya) anyway I managed to get my big ass back up the hill to take a few pics.

I'll be back out there again tomorrow to check the traps - I just hope I have a fox or too in them.

Equipment used:

Brno Mod 2 / 4x Tasco Scope
Win 22 Power Points (40gn)
Pair of Andrews Binos

The Sling is an old Kangaroo hide that I shot with as a kid, still going strong after all these years and would have to be one of the most comfortable slings I have, really great for those off hand shots (wrap it around the forearm and send one flyin).



Long Weekend Goat Hunt

Started by Bashir, Oct 15 2014

Had an enjoyable October long weekend chasing goats with some good mates. Was pretty easy hunting mostly out of the ute, with plenty of goats around.

Took plenty of meat for the freezer, but couldn't find a real trophy set of horns. Maybe next time.

Got one at 300m (measured with car odometer) with the .270, which I was pretty happy with.



The boys also got 1 pig that was shot early morning feeding on an old carcass. Decided not to eat the pig because of that - is that a wise decision or can they still be ok if eating such grub? Plenty of beers and bbqs for breakfast lunch and dinner always goes well.

Decent Buff or not?

Started by Baarz, Sep 29 2014

Shot this buff yesterday never done any buff hunting before so not sure how he stacks up against other trophies but he looked pretty good to me.



What you guys think?

He was the biggest in the mob. We found 15 of them all squeezed into a wallow about the size of a Hilux ute. Spooked them at about 15 metres. Luckily they only ran about 10 metres before stopping and this bloke was presenting both lungs.

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Huge Boar

Started by 264, Nov 22 2014

Matt wanted a go with the 577. He got 3 with it 2 small sows with some good shooting and a boar in a bed that we looked at earlier in the day. Re visited the bed and he shot the boar from 1.5m. Didn't get up.



Dropped a huge boar with the 264, 130 barnes. Shoulder pads were impressive.

Cheers Mick

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Gopro Vids

[Started by ozrider81, Sep 13 2014](#)

2014 opening morning, this is my usual spot and how we start our duck season same place for last 30+ years (actually dad's spot but i've now claimed it too, but i'm standing on a different bend), tweaked my ankle day before and was pretty sore so couldn't run. Ended up retrieving all birds and watch the video carefully to see the bird land in the creek behind me.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ku8wg9h7WE>

HOTTEST FORUM TOPICS!

[What Do You Collect?](#)

[Id This Sword](#)

[Trout Fly Fishos?](#)

[Howa 1500 .308](#)

[5.6X57 At The Range](#)

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Charles



Orlando



Karen Bell



Natalie



Wally



Warren Woods



Simon

Website news + developments...



▪AusHunt - 10 years old!

Next year is AusHunt's 10th Birthday!

There was around six months of website development pre launch though we officially released the discussion forum to the public on February 11th 2005.

The initial idea of Australian hunters and shooters sharing stories and photos is still strong today. Creating a positive community based on ethical and humane hunting practice was also a focus and something we are proud to have achieved.

Stay tuned for the celebrations next year as we dig up some old pics and stories and have a blast from the past!

▪Forum and Business Directory upgrades

We have just upgraded our Forum to the latest version, only a minor upgrade, means improved security and some small feature enhancements.

Our Business Directory has also been upgraded and is now using a mobile friendly template. As smartphone and tablet users are on the increase it is important to provide content that can be accessed by these devices easily. We are still finalising the layout of the directory and remember it is free to add your basic business details to the directory.

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