



Field Hunters Club Newsletter

Important Dates:

- Next Meeting
August 6th
2014, start time
7:30 pm.
- The deadline for
submitting hunt
reports, or items
for sale in the
newsletter is the
20th of the
Month.
- Please review
the Calendar
Update section
for important
club related
dates.



TO HELP FOSTER AND DEVELOP HUNTER ETHICS, HUNTER TRAINING AND OPPORTUNITY.
TO FOSTER THE SUSTAINABLE USE OF GAME.
TO IMPROVE HUNTING FOR THE FUTURE.

Notes from the Secretary

Hi

I hope you enjoy the read of this month's newsletter it seems everyone is getting out in the field and getting some good results, so keep up the good work!

Last month's meeting was let's say MASSIVE for our Club, and all that helped out and prepared and bought food for the Game Meat night are to be majorly thanked by the Committee and Members.

For those of you who could not make it the winner of the Mid Year \$1,200 was Arthur Chaffey. Although it took him a while to find the lucky ticket amongst the many tickets he purchased, in the end it paid off for him and Arthur has now used the first prize money to purchase yet another rifle.



The upcoming guest speaker for the August meeting is Mike Spray from the SSAA to speak about Target Identification in the field and Fire Arm Safety. Mike is a great trainer and this topic is well timed.

As previously outlined the FHC Feral Animal Control Program now has many property's that are available for members to do what they have joined up for and that is HUNT, the program has been run 2 times now with over 16 members attending and enjoying not only a bit of fresh air, but the chance to broaden their friendship and hunting skills with other members.

I have been following up with property owners and the Landcare group and they cannot be more complimentary of our professionalism and service

that we are providing, they have been spreading the news to their fellow neighbors and at Landcare meetings and further property's are now on the horizon.

I was present at our first event and the total taken within 24 hours with very bad weather was 3 foxes 1 cat and around 17 rabbits. It is worth noting that each fox will eat about 400 grams a night, or a little over a tenth of a tone of food in a year. Overall, about a third of this diet is from farm livestock, a third from pest vertebrates like rabbits and mice, and a third from wildlife. However, foxes are opportunistic and if lambs are available they will make up 100% of the diet.

(<http://www.animalcontrol.com.au/foxes.htm>)

Also

The Australian Wildlife Conservancy CEO Atticus Fleming says "it's estimated there are 15,000,000 feral cats in Australia, and each of them kills around five native animals a night."

(<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/busstelegraph/feral-cats/5494418>)

I am pleased to now advise you that this month the FHC Feral Animal Control Program has added 3 new property's to the listings:

- One Large property currently having issues with Pigs, Foxes, Cats, Rabbits and other pests under permit
- One Medium property having issues with Foxes and Rabbits
- One Medium property having issues with Pigs, Foxes and Rabbits

I cannot stress enough how important it is for our members to get behind this program and provide a valuable service to property owners and the Australian Wildlife, and I urge you to register your interest for upcoming hunts. More will be discussed at the August meeting and please speak to your fellow members that have attended for their first hand experience.

A couple of Pictures from the first event



The committee has been discussing possible training/guidance for members to help them sit their Waterfowl Identification Test (W.I.T), we would like all members that are interested in participating in this training to either email me directly or speak to me at the next meeting to get an idea on numbers to see if it is worth developing this program further. Depending on member numbers we may also be able to organize the onsite sitting of the W.I.T test.

p.s thanks to all who contributed to the newsletter.

Cheers
Phil

Wappan Station Hunt



A mid-winter hunt on Wappan Station always sorts the men from the boys, the men go and the boys stay home around the winter fire. The best part of 'Wappan in Winter' is that the grass is green and lush and the long night provides even more spotlighting than at other times of the year.

This trip we had 4 hardy 'men' covering a large area of Wappan over the weekend, both at night and during the day. With the paddocks and ground quite soft we spent a good part of both days on foot on both sides of the Station and also 'around' the front, passed the Lake Eildon Caravan Park and close to the lake. Where the 'hay shed' is that some members will be familiar with.

The weather was predictably damp (but not saturating) and cool (but not cold if you have good gear). Climbing up behind the Shearers Quarters on Saturday morning we hunted the valley and flats beside the lake with a good amount of success. The challenge was the climb back over the steepest hills for a well-earned, very late breakfast. The photographs clearly show tenacity of our FHC President to leave a slightly younger bloke downwind of him.

That said the climb (and the morning hunt) did have a unexpected outcome about 2pm when the said Pres almost 'over relaxed' on the lounge suite at the quarters and 2 of his hunting associates were greatly concerned when they thought we had just heard a 'death rattle' from deep in his throat. With no defibrillator close at hand we may have had to fire a round nearby to claim him back.

Saturday night was most unpleasant and spotlighting from the shelter of the quarters was about all that we could accomplish The upside was all our gear got dry ready for an early start on Sunday.

Sunday had us covering the area to the right of the road as one drives into the property and had us stroll from down near the point along the ridge back towards the main road. Again good opportunities were taken to boost the tally for the weekend. I would reckon that all of use slept very, very well Sunday night after all that walking and fresh air.

The only 'event' of the weekend that needs to be reported as all such 'mistakes' need to was the cunning plan to take one vehicle in the early morning down to the point and later take another vehicle from the quarters after we returned on foot from our trekking. So after another late breakfast (and here we must use names to ensure clarity) Mark B and Cameron headed down to retrieve Cameron's truck. After what seemed an eternity, Neville and I were onto our second cup of tea Mark's truck rolls in, Cameron sprints to his room and leaps back into the truck. You would have thought he would have taken his keys with him on the first attempt to retrieve his truck. While Cameron smiled sheepishly Mark was a picture of composure (as one would expect from a President). The photographs tell all.

So, thank you Mark for setting up another visit to Wappan, it never matters what the weather is to enjoy a great time hunting this property.

Written by Trevor Stevens
Member of the FHC Hunting Advisory Group



Brad Knight accompanied by Trevor Knight harvested a young Sambar Deer for the freezer in May at Flowerdale.



Frank Violi and his Sambar Deer taken with his 30-06 Tikka Rifle.

Frank was accompanied by Trevor Knight on a recent Sambar Deer hunt at Noojee.

Eleven Deer were sighted during the hunt including a Sambar Stag, ten Sambar Doe and a Sambar calf. The young animal in the photo was harvested for the Freezer.



Two of four Foxes taken during an evening of spotlighting in the Gippsland are taken by Trevor Knight.

Sunday Fox Drives

Danny and Leah Dyall run a successful Fox drive each Sunday from their base in Caldermeade (near Lang Lang).

Meeting point:

Number 55 Caldermeade rd, Caldermeade.

Contact Number: 0427 277 001

Meeting times are 8am Sharp!

No Rifles Allowed Shotguns ONLY!

One item of BLAZE ORANGE is required to be worn at all times and Shot Size no greater than BB.

\$10 cost per day to cover Danny's costs, and please carry a dog lead with you to help round up the dogs at the end of the hunt.

If you are new to this to these fox drives the organisers will require details of your shooters licence & SSAA member number in the morning prior the shoot.

CALENDAR UPDATE

Please mark these important dates on your calendar:

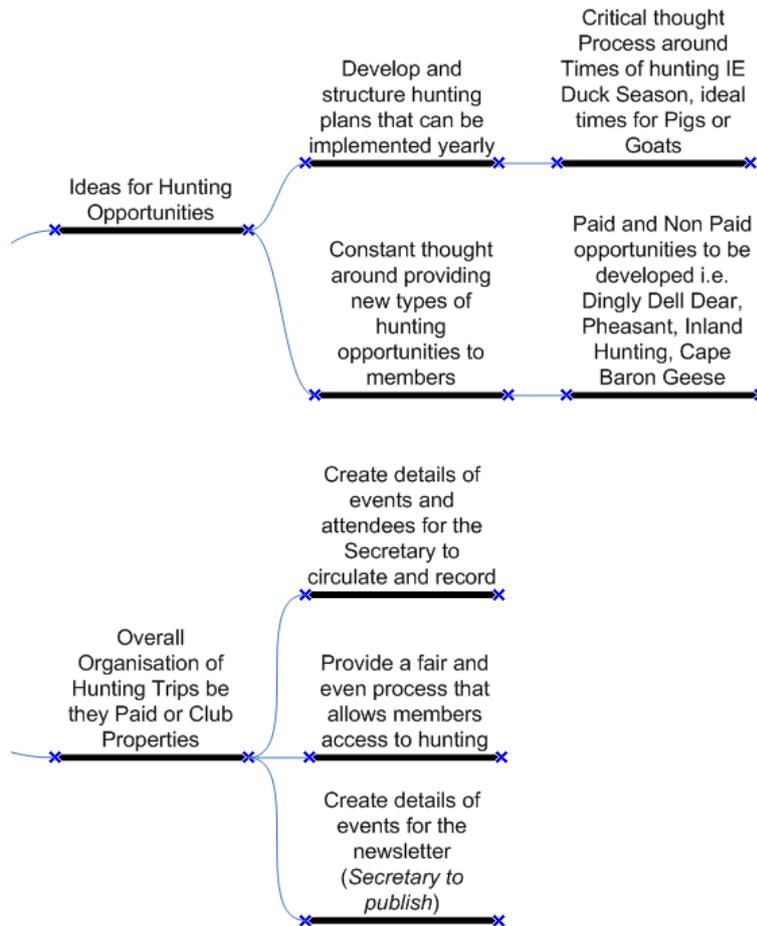
Wednesday 3rd September Fox and Duck caller night bring your callers along electronic home made, store bought and demonstrate what you can do and pick up a few tips from fellow members. Also bring your night vision equipment as we will have a demonstration on the workings of the Nitesite NS200 units <http://www.nitesite.com/products/scope-mounted/ns200>

Wednesday 3rd December the Annual Xmas Bash

Members Please Remember to support your FHC Hunting Advisory Group

This group meets before each meeting for 30 minutes, we are currently looking for 2 new members to join this group.

For those of you who do not know what the groups agenda is here it is from our February Newsletter:



Further Discussions around the FHC Hunting Advisory Group will be discussed at the upcoming general Meeting.

Think Safety!

The committee cannot stress these safety points enough and with the multitude of hunting opportunities becoming available for our members, we ask that you give the following a good read and commit them to memory.

- **Always** check that your rifle is unloaded by removing the magazine, opening and pulling back the bolt, looking into the chamber to ensure it is clear
- **Always** identify your target before placing your hand near the trigger, look for back stops and avoid tops of hills think to yourself where will this round end up
- **Always** handle your rifle as if it was loaded
- **Always** keep and carry your rifle in the unloaded condition
- **Always** positively identify your target and be sure that there is a safe backstop before you shoot
- **Always** wear ear and eye protection when shooting your rifle
- **Always** keep your finger away from the trigger until you are aiming at a target and ready to shoot
- **Always** keep clear – and keep others clear – of the ejection port
- **Always** use clean, dry, high quality, commercially manufactured ammunition that is appropriate for the calibre of your rifle
- **Always** check for any obstruction in the barrel before loading
- **Never** point your rifle at anything you don't intend to shoot
- **Never** leave your rifle unattended or where it could be handled by an unauthorised person or child
- **Never** lean or rest your loaded rifle against any object- it could easily topple and discharge causing serious injury or death
- **Never** assume a rifle is unloaded. Always clear your rifle before handing it to another. If anyone hands you a rifle, don't take their word for it, personally clear it before further handling
- **Never** drink alcohol or take drugs before or during shooting as your vision, coordination and judgment could be seriously impaired
- **Never** shoot at a hard surface such as a rock, or a liquid surface such as water, or discharge your rifle near flammable material.
- **Never** use your rifle if it fails to function properly and never force a jammed action if a round fails to go off wait 10 seconds before removing the round.
- **Never** roughly handle or drop your rifle. If you do so, unload it and inspect for damage. If unsure, have it examined by a qualified gunsmith before use.

Report illegal hunting. Call 136 186.

Don't tolerate suspected illegal behaviour. It could threaten the future of hunting. Report any suspected illegal hunting activity and protect your recreation. All information will be treated in strict confidence. Helpful information includes:

- Time and date of activity
- Location
- Number and description of people involved
- Vehicle registration and description
- Activity

If you have not already downloaded the Vic Hunting Mobile Phone application for IOS and Android Phones please do so, this handy application will provide you with a wealth of important information that will help you to operate within the law for all of Victoria's deer, duck, quail and other game bird species.



FOR SALE BY MEMBERS

Landcruiser 92 HDJ80 GXL 4.2 Turbo Diesel

5spd 7 seater, 387000 kms, Bull bar, Driving lights, Full length roof rack, Rear Jerry can & Spare wheel carrier, UHF, Tinted windows, Snorkel, Brand new 12000 lb winch, Dual Batteries, New sound system, Mickey Thompson All Terrains, Old Man Emu Suspension lift, Reco Injector Pump, New Injectors, Engine rebuilt, New clutch and much more.

Over \$ 18000 spent in last 2 years.

Interior, body and mechanicals all A1! Built for an around Australia trip that never happened.

Everything on this vehicle has been Upgraded, Rebuilt or Replaced.

Asking \$18.000 ONO

Please genuine enquiries only. Phone Bill on 0419 363 710.

Garmin BNIB GPSMAP62 has all bells and whistles 1.7gb of memory.

You can download all the maps you require for hunting the State Forests with your R licence, the reason for selling is, I bought this one and a few days later I was given a 62s as a present. New price on the 62 is around the high three hundreds low four hundreds.



Asking \$225.00

Contact Gordon 0425 716 675

Savage MK2 .22 and Redfield Revenge 3-9x42 mm scope Leupold mounts

This has had minimal use and it's now time to move it on, nice light weight unit perfect for the car or a junior.

Asking \$250 firm

You pay for transfer costs

Contact Phil 0417 668 222



If you have anything you would like advertised in the For Sale section please email me the details on fhcsecretary@gmail.com

Web Links Provided by Members

Interactive map showing gun ownership

<http://www.bendigoadvertiser.com.au/story/2385226/interactive-map-shows-gun-ownership-high-in-bendigo-and-surrounds/?cs=3372>

Provided by Barry Kitchen

Sporting shooting clubs to share in \$12.48 million fund

<http://www.fga.net.au/secure/downloadfile.asp?fileid=1123718>

Provided by Phil

Win a Bushnell Scope worth \$1000

<https://www.bushnell.net.au/competition.php>

Provided by Phil

Wild deer in hunters crosshairs in state parks

<http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/wild-deer-in-hunters-crosshairs-in-state-parks-20140725-zwpcu.html>

Provided by Jonathan Tapper

So you think you knocked a few foxes over so far this year, well think again!



REALLY UGLY SOX

Recently the owner of a property, who is working with us on the Feral Animal Control program, provided me with some 'Really Ugly Sox' to test for him out in the field. I used these for 2 days straight and would happily recommend them to any member as a good bit of kit, they made a big difference for me when walking up and down hills as my feet stayed dry and did not feel sweaty and provided a really good level of warmth. A few other members outlined to me that they had also used them with good results, so keep an eye out for them in your travels or pick them up online.

<http://www.wbgadd.com/store/socks/thermadry-possum-trekka-socks>

Thermadry Possum Trekka Socks

An outdoor sock with added possum fur for comfort, warmth and dryness.

Consists of 50% polypropylene for wicking moisture away from the skin, 30% merino wool for warmth and 20% possum fur for comfort. Possum fur has the following unique qualities: fabric softness, high thermal insulation, transfer of moisture, reputed to combat skin conditions.



Member Renewal

Please complete the form in neat handwriting as it is extremely important for us to correctly record your details.

All membership renewals are due by April 30th 2014, and it is a requirement that all FHC members **MUST BE** a member of the SSAA.

If paying for your membership at a meeting please try and bring the correct money as change is limited.

If your membership is not due to expire but your contact details have changed, please complete the form below so we can accurately capture your new details.

SSAA Field Hunters Club Membership Application / Renewal

Date...../...../.....

Surname _____ Other Names _____

Address _____ Postcode _____

Phone Number _____ Mobile Number _____

Email Address _____

SSAA Member Number _____ SSAA Member Expiry Date _____

Membership Fees

New Member	Junior (under 18 Years)	Renewal	Total
1 Year membership \$20.00	Valid until 18th Birthday	1 Year Renewal \$15.00	S
5 Year membership \$65.00		5 Year Renewal \$60.00	

FHC Membership year is from 1 July to 30 June. ALL Memberships expire the following June.

Except members joining between 1 April & 30 June will receive up to 15 months membership (ie the next June)

Cheques/Aus Post Money Orders made payable to: "Field Hunters Club (SSAA Vic)" Mail to: PO Box 240, Box Hill, Vic, 3128.

DO NOT SEND CASH (no responsibility accepted by FHC if cash is lost in mail).

For Office Use Only: - Receipt Number _____ Card Date / /

Club Services

Club Videos and DVDs

See Murray Lewis for our range of DVDs and videos available to members. Any members who have suggestions for additions to the library please also outline these to Murray.

Hunting Equipment

For all your accessories and centre fire ammo needs, please contact.

Boronia Firearms
Ph: 09 762 2677

Insurance

Have you had a look at the SSAA Insurance Brokers website?

www.ssaa.org.au

Well worth considering when your renewal is due for any type of insurance.

Their Car insurance policies are very competitive, and their house and contents cover, can also include your firearms and gear when out hunting.

Knife Sharpener

The club has a professional knife and sharpening service available for members. Please see Jim Marsden for further details.

Name Badges

Place your order for name badges at any meeting, badges are \$10 person and money is required before your order is placed. Please see the secretary at any meeting to place your orders.



Insert Name Here

FHC POLO SHIRTS

Get yourself an FHC POLO shirt!

Shirts cost \$30 each and there are sample shirts available for sizing, see one of the committee members after any general meeting to try on a shirt and place your order.

Ordered shirts should be available for collection and payment at your next general meeting.

FHC Member Services

If you would like to see your business advertised here, please email me a copy of your business card .

PROPELLOR REPAIRS BY NOVDEC

- Propellor and lower leg repairs
- Aluminium/stainless steel welding
- Precision machining

Geoff Anderson



6 Coventry Court
Frankston VIC 3199
Phone: 61 3 9781 4663
Fax: 61 3 9766 3567
Mobile: 0408 781 466
Email: novdec@iprimus.com.au
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Free Quotes

Trevor Stevens

Market Manager - Fluids Packaging
Food & Beverage Business Unit

Sealed Air

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Tel: +61 (3) 9706 8511

Fax: +61 (3) 9706 8020

Mobile: +(61) 429 83 55 29

Email: trevor.stevens@sealedair.com

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Please remember this is **your** newsletter, and with your input it will improve!

If you have trip reports you would like to share, or you wish to sell something or would just like to see an article or section included, please contact me Phillip Mathieson on 0417 668 222 or email fhcsecretary@gmail.com

Field Hunters Club Contact Details

Postal Address
P.O. Box 240,
Box Hill, VIC 3128

FHC President	FHC Vice President	FHC Secretary	FHC Treasurer
Mark Brown Mobile: 0418 559 044	Barry Pearce Mobile: 0420 976 665	Phillip Mathieson Mobile: 0417 668 222 E-MAIL: fhcsecretary@gmail.com	Patrick Honeyboure Mobile: 0409 706 878

Raffle Organizer	General Committee	General Committee	Video Librarian
Jim Marsden	Clifford Lewis	Andries Posthuma	Murray Lewis

Training & Liaison Officer

Stephen Toumbourou