Australian Deer Association

Central West Branch

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Sambar's Roar



October 2026

Branch Directory

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Firearms Registry

Locked Bag No 1
Murwillumbah NSW 2484
Phone: 1300 362 562

Game Licensing Unit (DPI)

Locked Bag 21
Orange NSW 2800
Phone: 02 6391 3750

Using ADA as a Genuine Reason

Don't forget if you use your ADA membership as a Genuine Reason for having a Firearms License, please remember that you are required to attend a minimum of two (2) branch activities. Whether they are shoots, meetings or club hunts, it is your responsibility to ensure you meet the requirements. The secretary is required to submit attendance records to State on a regular basis, who in turn collate attendances for the Firearms Registry.

Meetings

Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month, excluding December and January. Locations will be advised through the newsletter and email communications.

Newsletters

If you would like to submit an interesting article or photo, please send it to the email below. Articles must include the name of the author. We are interested in a wide range of outdoor activities.

The Central West Branch executive no longer have access to membership details. All communication is now via Sean Kilkenny (sean.kilkenny@austdeer.asn.au) and Penny (ada.admin@austdeer.asn.au) from National. Please ensure that your details are up to date, especially your email address as all communication is via email. That way you will continue to receive communications from the branch.

Don't forget to send in any articles or photos to be included in the newsletters. Let the other members know what you have been up to.
Email to centralw.editor@austdeer.asn.au .

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Coming up:

October Meeting – Bathurst Bushrangers, 189 Browning St, Bathurst, Wednesday 21st October, 6:00pm

November Meeting - Bathurst Bushrangers, 189 Browning St, Bathurst, Wednesday 18th November, 6:00pm

Christmas Party – Bathurst Bushrangers, 189 Browning St, Bathurst, Saturday 21st November, 12:30pm

February Meeting 2027 - Bathurst Bushrangers, 189 Browning St, Bathurst, Wednesday 17th February, 6:00pm

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Disclaimer:

The Central West Branch of the Australian Deer Association takes no responsibility for the views expressed in any article in this newsletter. All articles submitted are signed by the relevant author.

Cover Photo: A fallow doe bedded in the shade under riverside vegetation. Pic by Dan McBryde.

Club Hunt to Southern NSW.

The club hunt to Bago State Forest was successful apparently. Several deer were sighted and some snow on the last night made the exit quite adventurous.

2026 Christmas Party.

The Christmas party is to be held at Bathurst Bushrangers on 21 November. Start time is at 12:30pm. There will either be a BBQ or a spit roast provided plus snack foods. Please provide anything else you may like. There will be some heads on display so please bring spouses and children. At this stage there may also be a measuring demonstration and practice. We will discuss it further at the November meeting. See you there.

Out and About – What the members have been up to.

Dave Young took a toothy boar one afternoon. The rifle looks like his .25-06.



Dan and Dave (a different Dave) had a week on the pigs out west. The pig numbers are finally starting to drop after four bumper years. Despite the declining numbers, they saw about 300 pigs over the week, which indicates how many were out there before. The pigs were mostly in the scrub and spotlighting only accounted for a handful of the 57 pigs taken. There was feed about but the pigs just didn't seem to want to come out. One paddock takes nine kilometres to go round and only accounted for one pig! A few were taken on the dams in the evenings and some in the mornings on an old oat crop that had self-sown in a few places. The farmer was saying how few were being sighted. However, getting out of the vehicle and hunting on foot in the scrub proved very rewarding. In some places they were putting up pigs every 70-80 metres indicating there were way more pigs around than it seemed. Several good boars were taken. Another trip in January is already in the planning stage.













This pig below is nothing special but Dan put a new Z5 18x scope on his 6.5-284. As he normally hunts with scopes in the 6x to 9x power range the 18x upper magnification made it quite easy to take pigs at further than normal ranges. Hmmm…there might be something to these higher magnification scopes afterall.



Dan took a few small trout on the dry fly in a local stream. These were the first trout seen in two and a half years as they seem to be not surviving the dry summers. They were not very big but fun on the #2 weight rod. If they survive this summer they should be around the pound mark next year. Lets hope we get enough rain through the warmer months to keep the smaller streams flowing.





And just to finish off, this black snake decided to sunbake on the path and didn’t seem to want to move.



Always beware over the warmer months and carry bandages and a PLB, especially if out bush on your own.