

# AUSTRALIAN DEER ASSOCIATION

SOUTHERN BRANCH TASMANIA

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2026

**Next meeting Friday 1st May 2026**

**North Hobart Bowls Club**

**Corner Ryde and Leticia Streets**

**North Hobart**

**Starting at 6:30 pm**



Conservation is a state of harmony  
between men and land—Aldo Leopold

# Presidents Report

Welcome,

Well, another Buck season has come and gone. It certainly has been a challenging season for a lot of hunters from the reports that have come to me. I have heard reports that there hasn't been a lot of bucks about, especially mature bucks. The season was also very dry, warm and noisy in the bush. I hope everyone had an enjoyable and possibly productive season.

We have a very entertaining and informative evening in store for our next meeting at the North Hobart Bowls Club on Friday 1st May. Matt McCormick, who has just come back from hunting Red Deer in New Zealand, will be giving a presentation on his hunt with video, pictures and the Red deer heads taken on the hunt. Perfect timing as Red Deer Australia wide and New Zealand are now in full rut.

Of course, we will still have our regular meat tray raffle and lucky door prizes, so please come along and enjoy the evening with like minded friends.



Yours in Hunting,  
Rod Hughes

## **April Meeting Program**

**Our April meeting, which actually overlaps to the 1st May, will be an opportunity for members to bring along any trophies they have taken during the current season. Anyone wanting to show a trophy will be welcome and a short talk on the hunt would be welcomed. Even talks about the one that got away are always interesting.**

**Given some of our members will be hunting interstate and overseas, trophies and talks on their hunts are also very welcome.**

**We will be fortunate to have Matt McCormick come along and give a short talk on his recent hunt to New Zealand where his two boys took Red stags. Matt will bring the antlers and will do a short slide show of the trip.**

**Depending on who is able to attend, we should be able to do a Douglas Score on any trophies if desired by the hunter.**

February 2026

**Meeting Venue, Dates and Times**

**May Friday 1<sup>st</sup> 2026**

**June Friday 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**August Friday 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**October Friday 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**December Friday 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

Unless advised, all meetings will be at the North Hobart Bowls Club corner of Ryde and Leticia Streets, North Hobart

Meetings are usually the last Friday of every second month but may be changed depending on room availability

# February 2026

## BRANCH ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

President/Coordinator – Rod Hughes

southerntas@austdeer.asn.au

Newsletter/Treasurer -Neil McCormick

[southerntas@austdeer.asn.au](mailto:southerntas@austdeer.asn.au) or  
[neil-mccormick@outlook.com](mailto:neil-mccormick@outlook.com)

State & National ADA Contact John Toohey

southerntas@austdeer.asn.au

Sponsorship– Shane Broadby

Raffle Coordinator- To be appointed

Property– Kerry Bedelph

Branch Measurers– Neil McCormick

0447291445

Gerard Brereton

Jeremy Darcy

Matthew McCormick

## TREASURERS REPORT

Opening Balance	20/2/2026		\$4,747.72
Income		Raffle Ticket Sales	\$1,640
Expenditure		Room Hire	\$50.00
Closing Balance	1/5/2026		\$6,337.72

# NUTRITIONAL VALUE OF FALLOW DEER VENISON

## AUSTRALIA

### Why It's a Smart Choice

- Lean & Heart-Healthy
- Ethically Hunted
- Rich in Micronutrients

NUTRIENT	AMOUNT (PER 100G)	BENEFIT
<b>Protein</b>	~13 g	High-quality, complete protein
<b>Fat</b>	~2 g	Very low in saturated fat
<b>Iron</b>	High	Easily absorbable heme iron
<b>Zinc</b>	Good Source	Supports immune function
<b>B Vitamins</b>	Rich in B12, B6, Niacin	Important for energy metabolism

**Fallow Deer in Australia are a valuable natural resource with social, economic, and cultural significance.**

#### SOURCES:

Deer Industry Association of Australia. (2016). Nutrition guide for deer farming. <https://deerfarming.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/21-Nutrition.pdf>

ShunCulture. (2023). What kind of deer makes Australia's venison? <https://shunculture.com/article/what-kind-if-deer-makes-australia-in-venison>

Sciencdo. (2025). Comparative nutritional study of game meats: Fallow deer, red deer, and roe deer. *Acta Veterinaria Eurasia*, 51(2), 123-135. <https://sciencdo.com/article/10.2478/acve-2025-0006>

CHAMPIONING SUSTAINABLE USE OF WILDLIFE GLOBALLY



## **CARLO'S NEWSLETTER**

# **FIREARMS** FUTURE PLANS

**Carlo Di Falco, our Shooters, Farmers and Fishers representative in State Parliament is regularly sending out a newsletter to all interested stake holders. Not everyone will receive Carlo's newsletter, but we have been given permission to reprint articles in our newsletter that apply specifically to hunting and firearms from Carlo and his team. We thank Carlo for allowing this and his articles will be reprinted exactly as he has issued them without comment from our editor.**

**The following is an extract from Carlo's latest newsletter and clearly reflects his mission to hold the Government of the day accountable for any decisions and changes in policy that adversely affect responsible firearms owners.**

**We thank Carlo and his team for allowing us to reprint this article.**

# **FIREARMS**

## FUTURE PLANS

**I have expressed serious concern about key elements of the State Liberals' newly announced firearms policy, warning that responsible, law-abiding Tasmanians are again being asked to pay the price for the actions of criminals. I welcomed confirmation that there will be no caps placed on firearm numbers for licensed owners. Common sense has prevailed on not implementing caps, we have already seen the mess that NSW are in due to rushed legislation. Arbitrary caps do nothing to stop crime and only pushes us closer to incremental prohibition.**

**I said the decision to reclassify straight pull and button release firearms to Category C is an unjustified tightening that targets compliant firearm owners rather than criminal networks. These firearms cause no more public safety risk than any other. The real public safety risk is firearms in the hands of people that are not a fit and proper person. These firearms are owned by licensed individuals who have already passed background checks, storage requirements and ongoing scrutiny. Reclassification does not take a single illegal firearm off the street. It simply creates more red tape for people who are doing the right thing.**

**I also criticised the introduction of new citizenship requirements for firearm licences, describing the measure as divisive. Public safety should be based on character, criminal history and behaviour, not on citizenship status. If someone is a permanent resident who meets every suitability requirement, why are we creating another hurdle that has nothing to do with risk?**

**With the fast tracking of the national database, I hope this brings a renewed commitment to streamline licensing applications and prevent unwarranted delays. The mandatory training course has a six month plus waitlist and growing. While I support stronger penalties for criminals who misuse firearms, the Government's focus should be squarely on illegal possession, trafficking and organised crime rather than further restrictions on licensed owners. If we are serious about community safety, we need tougher consequences for criminals and better resourcing for enforcement.**

**Target the people breaking the law. Stop targeting the people who respect it.**

**I will be seeking detailed briefings on the proposed legislation and will continue to stand up for responsible firearm owners across Tasmania.**

**Recently, Shooters, Fishers and Farmers put out some advice you must do in the event the Police seize your firearms. Given what has happened in the past, this is very good advice.**

- 1. Be polite and calm at all times, don't let Police bully or coerce you.**
- 2. Get the Officers name and badge and record it in writing. Ask for a business card if they have one.**
- 3. Get a full receipt before the Police leave. It must list all the firearms seized, the make and serial number, the reason for seizure, the event number, the the date and time and the Officers signature.**
- 4. Remove your scopes from your firearms, they are not gun parts and you do not want them damaged.**
- 5. Case your firearms in protective cases, gunbags or even wrapped and taped in blankets.**

**In Tasmania, as distinct from NSW, you must apply to the Firearms Division of Tasmania Police to find out when and how you can get your firearms returned.**

## Win a prize for your hunting story.

In order to generate more material for the newsletter, the Branch is proposing that members be invited to submit stories for inclusion in the newsletter. The winning story selected will win a prize from our stock of merchandise. If we think the story is suitable and if the member is agreed, we will forward the story on to Daniel Burke at Wild Deer and Hunting Adventures for inclusion in his magazine. Daniel is a very generous supporter of the Branch with donations of subscriptions and merchandise every year.

The story can be about any hunting adventure, recent or past. Stories submitted that don't get selected in the next newsletter will be held over and entered in the running for future newsletters. Stories should be accompanied by as many good photos as are available, the best will be selected to go in the newsletter. Stories can be produced as emails or in word and emailed to [neil-mccormick@outlook.com](mailto:neil-mccormick@outlook.com)

All members will have stories that we are interested in, whether it was a hunt this year or many years ago. We are happy to proofread and edit any stories if the member wants.

The prize for the next hunting story published will be one of the Kings Trail Cameras.



## NEW PRODUCT

Info@harpsoesweden.se  
+46 721 77 83 27  
www.harpsoe.se



**SAFE HUNTING**

CONTROL FOCUS

SAFETY GUN STRAP

MADE IN SWEDEN

RELAXING SECURITY

www.harpsoes.se



Thank you for choosing security!

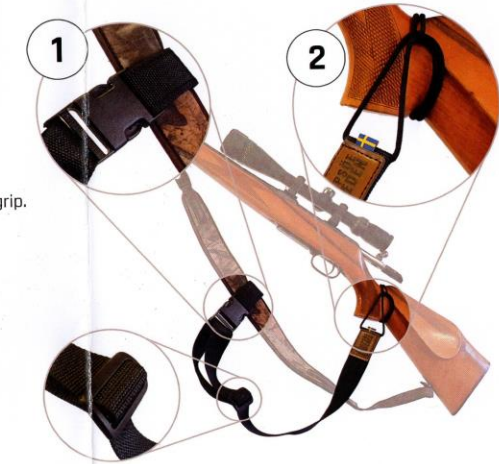
Made in  
  
SWEDEN



**Safety Gun Strap consist of two parts:**

**1:** Short strap with friction rubber and quick release buckle. It is assembled around the regular gun sling.

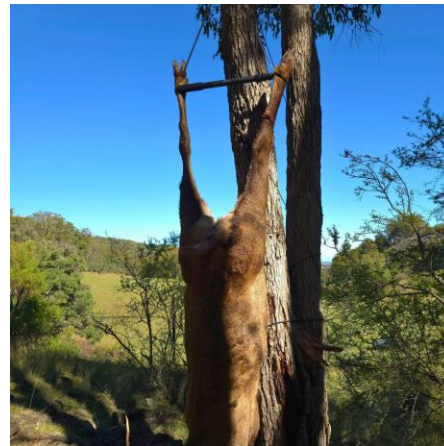
**2:** Long strap with paracord, adjuster and quick release buckle. It is assembled around the stock or pistol grip.



I recently purchased this safety sling from a distributor in Victoria. It is a simple friction strap that attaches to your existing sling and the butt of your rifle. It secures the rifle to your back, so it is firmly held in place. If you are like me and like to walk out to your spot in the dark and often walk back in the dark after sunset, it allows you to walk safely with both hands free without having one hand holding your rifle on your shoulder. It is released with a quick release buckle and doesn't take much longer than you would normally spend taking your rifle off the shoulder. For sneaking into position, your rifle can be secured on your back without it flopping around getting in your way. It seems to be well made with quality materials. These normally retail for \$99. but I have spoken to the distributor and if we can get enough orders, he is prepared to offer a significant discount. There will be one at our next meeting so members can have a look and see what they think.

Shane working hard and again, securing sponsorship from “Walk N Stalk”.

Guys get on the net and check out “Walk N Stalk”. Read about the Game Bar  
And check out the Game Bar + Bundle. I've got one coming for the branch \$485 retail !!



Shane has been in contact with Kurt, the producer of the Walk and Stalk Game Bar and Bundle. He has provided the following Youtube links to see exactly how it all assembles and works.

Youtube User Guide Playlist link below (lots of demos of how the gear comes together and is used in the field).

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jySZSTq9Mms&list=PLFuK2ntMu423zqdHpQ3z4-wtyzYWgq\\_5W](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jySZSTq9Mms&list=PLFuK2ntMu423zqdHpQ3z4-wtyzYWgq_5W)

Youtube assembly guide link below (shows all the different configurations)

<https://youtu.be/ZzRCnjk7cw?si=cCrc6YXW-Meg9Gac>

Thanks again for your support.

Regards,

Kurt

WALK'N'STALK

[walknstalkstore.com](http://walknstalkstore.com)

**There is currently a review of Public Land that may be suitable for opening up to deer hunting. The following information has been provided by Scott Freeman, the Tasmanian ADA State Coordinator.**

## **Tasmanian Public Land Deer Hunting Project**

**The TDAC, ADA & SSAA have been working with NRE over the last period towards opening Public Lands controlled by NRE and or Parks. Parks are currently undertaking site inspections and audits to ensure they are suitable to be released for deer hunting and if any times of the year, restriction may apply.**

**At this stage we are looking at including these new areas into the current Hunting Ballot Program run by NRE for the Stag Season and then open for general antlerless deer hunting after the Stag Season. This is still to be confirmed as the lower graded areas may just be opened for Deer Hunting for the Seasons. All is on the table currently, until we get a feel on interest from hunters and the quality of hunting on each block.**

**We are also asking members that are willing to assist in an assessment program to assess sites for suitability for deer hunting to contact us and we can supply more information and resources to help us grade these areas with suitability for hunting and level of deer numbers.**

**New areas for assessment:**

**Deddington**

**Swan River**

**Royal George**

**Osmaston**

**Avoca**

**Tunbridge Tier**

**Triabunna**

**Current areas to be assessed:**

**Tooms Lake CA**

-

**Tooms Lake**

**Five Mile Pinnacle CA**

-

**Central Highlands, Southeast Miena**

**Great Lake CA**

-

**Tumbledown Creek & Gunns March**

**Top Marsh**

-

**Central Highlands, West Miena South Little Pine Lake**

**Buxton River CA**

-

**East Coast Swansea**

**Great Western Tiers CA**

-

**North of Great Lake**

**Central Plateau CA**

-

**Breton Rivulet Mother Lords Plains**

**Great Wester Tiers CA**

-

**Parsons & Clerk Mountain**

**Castle Carey RR**

-

**Rossarden / Avoca**

If you can assist in site inspections, please mail Scott @ [tasmania@austrdeer.asn.au](mailto:tasmania@austrdeer.asn.au) with areas of interest and we can send back information and relevant area details.

**PRINT THIS OUT AND KEEP IT WITH YOU WHEN CARRYING FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION**

**Safety requirements for conveying other firearms**

**The following are safety requirements for conveying a firearm that is not a prohibited firearm:**

- (a) the firearm is to be in the unloaded condition;**
- (b) ammunition is to be in a closed container, completely separate from the firearm;**
- (c) magazines are not to contain any ammunition;**

**At least one of the following requirements is to be met:**

- (i) the firearm is to be in a locked receptacle;**
- (ii) the bolt of the firearm is to be in a closed container, completely separate from the firearm;**
- (iii) the firearm is to be fitted with a mechanism that locks or disables the trigger or action and prevents the firearm from being used.**

## Sponsorship

Shane Broadby took on the role of Sponsorship Officer for the Branch a few years ago. He has consistently chased up and secured sponsorship from past and new corporate sponsors. This year is no exception, and Shane continues to secure the following goods from sponsors.

### Wild Deer Hunting Adventures – Daniel Burke

6 x Twelve month subscription to WDHA Magazine  
Daniel has indicated he will continue this donation  
Into the future.



### R & N Blades

R&N are continuing as great supporters with yet another generous donation  
Of a quality knife for us to raffle. Keep them in mind if you are looking to buy  
A good knife for yourself or someone else.



### Yeti

Yeti have supported us in the past and, as yet, we do not have confirmation  
of their continued support. As with other sponsors who have supported us  
previously, we will continue to advertise their excellent products.



## High Calibre Cleaning Supplies

High Calibre Cleaning Supplies have again promised goods and we are very grateful for their continued support.



## Dog & Gun Coffee

Dog & Gun Coffee have continued with their generous support, and we are very grateful to receive their excellent coffee products.



## Double Tap Gunshop Campania

Double Tap have been a generous sponsor in the past and we are hopeful of their continued support.



## Sherriff Agencies

Sherriff Agencies have been excellent sponsors in the past and Shane has got them back on board again this year.



## Tonic Eyewear

Tonic Eyewear have been brought back on board again by Shane. Most of us have seen Merve Hughes advertising these excellent Sunglasses on TV. They are very good quality, and this is great sponsorship from them. Kerry Bedelph won the donated pair Of sunglasses at this years Xmas dinner. The estimated value of this donation is \$340.



## ADA Southern Branch Merchandise for Sale to Members



\$100 (Members Price)

The Adventure Kings Game/Trail Cam comes with a strap and a wall mount for easy securing in a variety of positions, and the 2.36” screen and easy-to-use controls make setting it up a piece of cake.

With an IP66 rating, it’s designed to work where you want it to, when you want it to, and comes with a one-year warranty for peace of mind.

The Kings Trail Cameras produce clear, sharp images, night and day, and are excellent value for money at just \$100 each.

Cameras can be purchased by contacting our Branch Property Officer, Kerry Bedelph on 0428392184.

Cameras will be available for purchase at our meetings.



## The Australian Deer Association Membership

Membership of the Australian Deer Association includes not only advocacy by the Association on your behalf, but a Bi-monthly magazine as well as \$20 millions public liability insurance. This can only be afforded by the Association making a deal with insurance brokers to cover our many thousands of members. It would not be affordable as an individual.

Most landowners and managers now insist that hunters on their land have an adequate cover of liability cover.



***The Australian Deer Association is pleased to announce a new member benefit.***

***As from 1 April 2018 all financial members have cover for their firearms and/or associated equipment whilst in transit, stored in a locked vehicle and/or building in accordance with State Law and if damaged or destroyed whilst on the range or in the field but not when the firearm is being discharged. Traditionally, the responsibility of this insurance purchase has been left to the individual member but now, should you have no cover in place, the Association will provide cover under your membership [subject to the terms and conditions of the insurance policy].***

This insurance is designed to protect each member up to \$12,000 with the option to increase this limit to \$25,000 for an additional \$10 payable by the member. The policy has an excess of \$50 each and every claim and protects members anywhere in Australia, 365 days of the year, plus overseas for 21 days in any one year.

***Just another way that your ADA is working for you!***

Details or inquires can be made to our Insurance Broker, Marsh Advantage Insurance via:

**Lauren Coburn**  
Phone: 08 8385 3616  
Email: lauren.coburn@marshadvantage.com

**Janine Hook**  
Phone: 08 8385 3624  
Email: janine.hook@marshadvantage.com

 Australian Deer Association  
*There's more to deer than hunting*

## ADA Membership

Are you ready to join the great outdoor adventure?

With more than 5,000 members and with branches in all Australian states and territories, the Australian Deer Association is the largest deer organisation in Australia. There is undoubtedly a branch near you!

By joining the ADA, you will gain access to the most reliable and up-to-date information on all aspects of deer in Australia and begin your journey to becoming the most knowledgeable deer manager and hunter possible.

### Advantages of Membership

- The Association produces the prestigious journal Australian Deer keeping you factually informed on the Australian deer-hunting scene.
- Meet interesting guest speakers at Branch Meetings.
- Branches produce newsletters providing you with up to the minute information on local events.
- You have the opportunity to make local, interstate and overseas contacts.
- By talking to other members at meetings you can obtain leads on where it is best to hunt and when.
- You have the opportunity to voice your opinion and be heard at regular meetings
- Trophies can be entered in competitions and the internationally recognised Australian Antlered Trophy Register.
- You can test your skills by competing in photographic competitions.

• You can participate in conservation and research and management projects in your area, which will help ensure the future of your chosen sport.

**Member Insurance:** ADA has a \$20 million public liability insurance cover that protects its members from legal liability that may arise out of any activity endorsed by ADA, including legal hunting on public or private land anywhere in Australia as well as coverage for some of your hunting gear while out hunting, and all as part of your annual membership.

Join the Australian Deer Association and secure the future of deer hunting throughout Australia. You will also gain access to like-minded hunters, up-to-date information and regulations, together with insight into the advocacy work provided by the Australian Deer Association, to protect your right to hunt.

The easiest way to join the ADA is to go to the website and join online, its easy and quick. We should all seriously consider joining up young people, there is a junior membership or family membership and they will be the future of hunting both here in Tasmania and in Australia.

ADA Southern Branch Sponsors  
Contact Details

Jo's Fresh Meats—Northgate Shopping  
Centre Glenorchy and Glebe Hill  
(03) 6273 1052

Wild Deer and Hunting Adventures  
Magazin—Daniel@wilddeer.com.au

Southern Range Sports  
4/34 Mertonvale Crescent  
Kingston  
Ph. 62298444 fax 62298433

Sherriff Fishing and Outdoors  
Unit 3/3 Trotters Lane, Prospect,  
Launceston  
0417916387



BY SUPPORTING OUR SPONSORS, YOU ARE SUPPORTING YOUR BRANCH

## ADA Southern Branch Sponsors

Mel Kleinhans Safaris - Email- [office@melkleinhanssafaris.co.za](mailto:office@melkleinhanssafaris.co.za)  
mobile -(+27) 828736535  
Whats app- +27828736535



Tonic Eyewear—Doug Phillips,  
Mob: 0466 112 681  
[doug@toniceyewear.com.au](mailto:doug@toniceyewear.com.au)



ARB Hobart- 9 Florence St, Moonah TAS 7009  
(03) 6228 6822 -[arb@arbhobart.com.au](mailto:arb@arbhobart.com.au)



Murray Thomas Taxidermy-  
102 Axiom Way, Acton Park, Tas.  
Email: [muzzathomas@live.com](mailto:muzzathomas@live.com)



BY SUPPORTING OUR SPONSORS YOU ARE SUPPORTING YOUR BRANCH

## ADA Southern Branch Sponsors

Laredo Taxidermy—22 Park St. Ross  
Ph0409 975805



South East Firearms— Stuart Palmer-  
3/31 Cole Street, Sorell Tas 7172-  
62653233-  
southeastfirearms3@gmail.com



Allgoods Hobart  
168 Liverpool St. Hobart  
Ph. 62369969

**ALLGOODS**

Find them on Facebook



BY SUPPORTING OUR SPONSORS YOU ARE SUPPORTING YOUR BRANCH

## ADA Southern Branch Sponsors

Dog and Gun Coffee

[www.dogandguncoffee.com](http://www.dogandguncoffee.com)



Yeti

[anzsales@yeti.com](mailto:anzsales@yeti.com) , 00417916387



Walk'n'stalk

Kurt Dillmann

[kurt@walknstalkstore.com](mailto:kurt@walknstalkstore.com)



BY SUPPORTING OUR SPONSORS YOU ARE SUPPORTING YOUR BRANCH

Www.highcaliber.com.au



Heritage Farms Tasmania



Double Tap Gun shop Campania  
Next to the Pub in Campania.



BY SUPPORTING OUR SPONSORS, YOU ARE SUPPORTING YOUR BRANCH