

# ADA Brisbane Branch

**Rubs N Roars** Newsletter: May 2026



\*\*\* We are always looking for fresh content for the ADA Brisbane newsletter \*\*\*



Craig Tindale with a tidy fallow buck – his first nonetheless and taken on a recent branch paid hunt!

Photos, hunt stories, recipes or product reviews or perhaps you have a new idea – It's always great to hear from our members, new and old.

As always, each newsletter cover photo winner earns a highly-coveted ADA stubby cooler. Coolers can be picked up at the next branch meeting.

**All article submissions received in the 2026 calendar year will go into the running to win free participation in one of the 2027 branch paid property hunts.**

(Winner to be announced at the Christmas party)

To enter, send your submissions to [brisbane.editor@ausdeer.asn.au](mailto:brisbane.editor@ausdeer.asn.au)

Upcoming branch meetings:

- **Friday 24 April - Committee meeting** (all welcome to attend)
- **Friday May 8 – General Meeting**  
**Topic:** New Branch Badge launch and 2026 Rut - Member Hunts Showcase.

\*Please bring photos/videos of your recent trips to share with members (PowerPoint presentation) – Prize up for grabs for the best presentation!

6:30pm for 7pm start at ADA Clubhouse @ SSAA Complex - 292 Mt Petrie Road, Belmont QLD 4153

**“To inspire and educate successful, ethical deer hunters”**



Major Raffle Prize  
**Carnivore Collective**  
Meat tenderizer and jerky cutter

- Meat Tenderizer & Jerky Cutter
- Stainless Combs & Blades
- Cast Aluminium Frame
- Bench Clamps Included



## From The President: Greg Rashford



By the time you read this newsletter the rut will be winding down and I trust many members have been out enjoying themselves in the bush.

At time of writing I'm anticipating more rut activity with thoughts of roaring stags and croaking bucks dominating my mind when one's attention would best be focussed on packing gear and sharpening knives. I managed to be in the bush for the start of the rut but no big boys were playing. Fingers crossed for the next few weeks.

2026 has already been a great year for the Branch with 2 members taking their first bucks, another their first deer and a couple of red stags on the ground. These are memories that will last a lifetime and defines what the Branch is all about – helping deer hunters on their journey.

The Branch has been busy so far this year.

- Many Branch members turned out to cater for Venture Hunting & and Outdoors Rut Ready evening. While fundraising for the Branch, members were also able to participate in a valuable information sharing forum.
- At the February Branch meeting we had a timely and informative discussion on how we can all improve our deer hunting success particularly during the rut. Our sincere appreciation goes out to the experienced and knowledgeable panel on the night of Darryl Bulger, Grant Rand, Kevin Schilf and Sid Simmons – thanks lads for your valuable contribution.
- We then had a field trip to London Road Ironworks to understand the finer points of making and sharpening custom knives. Member Dan Petersen is a master bladesmith and qualified teacher who gave an excellent display of his craft. If you are interested in owning or making a custom knife then take a look at Dan's website and get in touch.
- The social evening in March was a follow up to the field trip and an opportunity for members to bring along their knives and discuss pros and cons of the various blade shapes, sharpening techniques etc. We have some very talented and experienced members who were open to sharing invaluable information. Thank you to all who participated.

We are launching a new Branch logo at the May meeting on a range of merchandise. If you're looking for some new gear or gifts then catch up with Peter who will be happy to assist. The meeting date for our August meeting has changed to Friday 14<sup>th</sup> – could you please update your calendars accordingly.

Our May meeting will showcase member hunts from this year's rut. Please bring photos/videos of your recent trips to share with members (electronically and preferably as a PowerPoint presentation) . All presenters will go into a draw for a prize.

## **Branch Directory**

### **ADA Brisbane Clubhouse**

SSAA Complex – 292 Mt Petrie Road  
Belmont QLD 4153.

### **President** – Greg Rashford

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Daniel Brogden – Ripley Comp.

Dave Cupitt – Silhouette Comp.

Norm Gibson – Shotgun Comp.

### **Committee**

- Mitch Pocklington
- Jason Baker
- Daniel Brogden
- Joe Ford
- Michael Gronert
- Craig Tindale
- Dilan Ponnudurai

### **QLD Accredited ADA Scorers**

- Jason Baker – 0403 166 227
- Chris Szymanski – 0416 149 886



New logo gear available from May Meeting.



## **ADA Brisbane Branch**

### **Containers for Change Member Details**



Team Member number

**C11555661**



## Brisbane Branch Calendar 2026

<u>Month</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Event</u>
<u>January</u>	Saturday 17th	SSAA Field Rifle
<u>February</u>	Friday 6th - 6:30pm for 7pm start	General Meeting
	Friday 20th - 7pm Start	Committee Meeting
	Saturday 21st	SSAA Field Rifle
	Saturday 28th	Dan Petterson - Knife Making
<u>March</u>	Saturday 21st	SSAA Field Rifle
<u>April</u>	Saturday 18th	SSAA Field Rifle
	Friday 24th - 7pm Start	Committee Meeting
<u>May</u>	Friday 8th - 6:30pm for 7pm start	General Meeting
	Saturday 16th	SSAA Field Rifle
	Friday 22nd - 7pm Start	Committee Meeting
<u>June</u>	Friday 5th - 6:30pm for 7pm start	General Meeting
	Friday 19th - 7pm Start	Committee Meeting
	Saturday 20th	SSAA Field Rifle
<u>July</u>	Sunday 12th	Bernie Mascord Shoot
	Saturday 18th	SSAA Field Rifle
<u>August</u>	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> - 6:30pm for 7pm start	General Meeting
	Saturday 8th - Sunday 9th	Venture Hunt Fest ADA BBQ
	Saturday 15th - Sunday 16th	SSAA Shot Show Sydney
	Saturday 15th	SSAA Field Rifle
	21st-24th	Pilliga State Forest Branch Hunt
	Friday 28th - 7pm Start	Committee Meeting
<u>September</u>	Saturday 12th	SSAA Shotgun day & Social drinks
	Saturday 19th	SSAA Field Rifle
	Saturday 19th	Sausage making day
<u>October</u>	Friday 9th - 6:30pm for 7pm start	General Meeting
	Friday 23rd - 7pm Start	Committee Meeting
	Saturday 17th	SSAA Field Rifle
<u>November</u>	Friday 13th	Social Drinks
	Thursday 19th	Rimfire Silhouette Shoot
	Saturday 21st	SSAA Field Rifle
<u>December</u>	Saturday 5th	Christmas BBQ & Awards
	Friday 18th - 7pm Start	Committee Meeting
	Saturday 19th	SSAA Field Rifle

## KNIFE SHARPENING – LONDON ROAD IRON WORKS

By Norm Gibson

Special guests of Dan Peterson, ADA Brisbane, were invited to view his knife-making facility and observe knife sharpening 'up close' using special finishing machines designed to facilitate this craft.

Initially we were shown the range of equipment used and guided through the process of designing a knife profile to meet specific usage. Steels from high carbon to heat-treatable stainless steels were discussed at length and the benefits of hardness versus toughness emphasized.

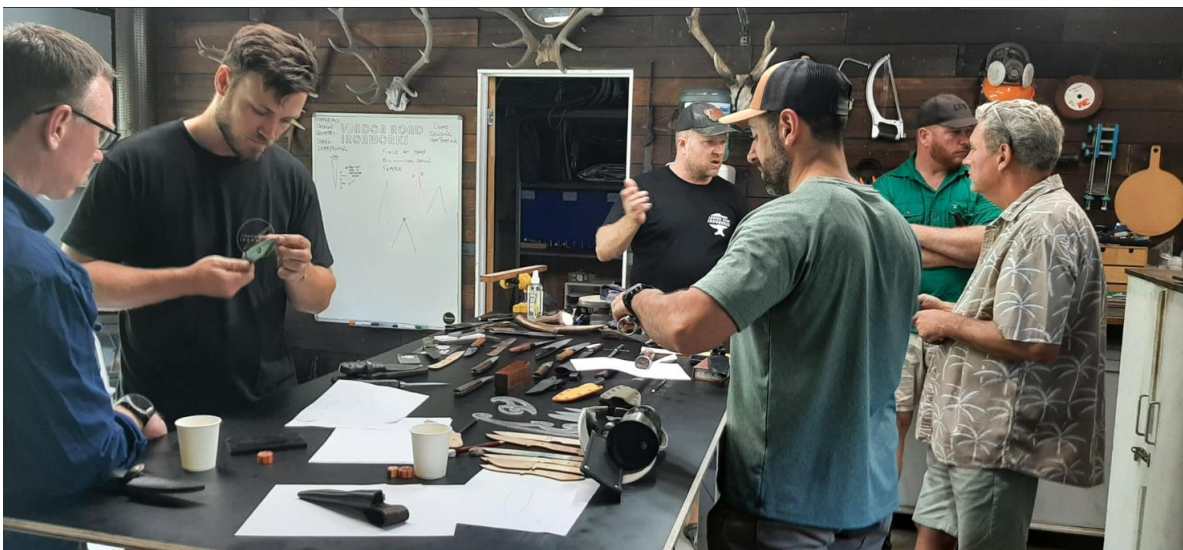


Heat treatment is a science in itself and at this point Dan's colleague Steve Tully led a discussion. The importance of temperature, soaking time and an oxygen-reduced furnace are all critical in achieving premium performance from the steel.

An opportunity to sharpen our own knife was provided using graded finishing belts. This was followed by procedures to remove the ragged edge, burr or rollover that forms on all good knife blades during fine sharpening. Leather strop, diamond steels and plain knife steels were used for this purpose to refine and edge to shaving geometry.

Our on-site barbecue, in pleasant surroundings, brought to a close a most informative morning.

Many thanks to Dan for his support to ADA and the generous sharing of knowledge from Dan and Steve during their presentation.



## Nolimba Test Run – Early March Trip Report

By Joe Ford



A few of us were lucky enough to get invited out to test run a new property that's recently become available for members to hunt. Craig, Dilan, Peter and I headed out for a Friday to Sunday trip in early March to see what it was all about.

This property is situated approximately 30 mins west of Glen Innes and the branch has been fortunate to secure a few more bookings for this year.

On arrival, we were shown around by the property owner, who gave us a full tour of the place. Straight away it was clear the block had some potential—before we'd even properly unpacked, we'd already spotted multiple deer.

The property itself is mostly cleared farmland, with a network of gullies that all feed down into a well-vegetated deep valley—roughly 300 acres of country with a creek running through it when there's been enough rain. It's exactly the sort of area you'd expect to hold deer, and it didn't take long to confirm that.

We set up camp with some pretty strong winds rolling in, and to be honest, it had us wondering if the weekend might be a bit of a write-off. The wind stuck around the entire trip and didn't show any signs of easing off until the evening we left. Luckily, the back valley turned out to be very sheltered, and it hunted surprisingly well despite the conditions.



Saturday morning was a mix of ups and downs. As we drove in still well dark the ute's headlights picked up a set of eyes, a fox had appeared on the track ahead.

It paused just long enough to catch our attention before slipping into the grass. We decided to try our luck with the fox whistle—and it worked better than expected. Within moments, the fox came charging back in, closing the distance to just 20 metres in front of the truck and stopping perfectly.

*The property is also home to some great views of the Aussie bush!*

Craig settled the crosshairs... *click* but no boom. A misfire. He cycled the bolt, but the sharp metallic sound was enough—the fox vanished as quickly as it had appeared.

With a bit of time still before first light, we made our way up above a spot where we had seen deer the day before. Not even settled in, we saw two young bucks at around 150 metres, half-heartedly sparring with each other. They weren't what we were after, but it felt like a good opportunity to try for a few photos.



The approach was far from ideal with little to no cover,



and every step had to be timed perfectly while they were distracted. I inched my way closer in a slow, painful stalk, moving only when their attention shifted. The rising sun didn't help either; the low light forced a slower shutter speed, and I struggled to keep the camera steady enough to get a good photo.

Then, one wrong move. I shifted at the wrong moment and was picked off instantly. Heads snapped up, and in a flash, they were gone—leaving me with nothing to show for the effort.

In the meantime, Craig was trying to get my attention. He'd spotted another group of deer filtering back in from the open, including what looked like a promising buck. We quickly moved to intercept, trying to get into a position where a shot might present itself. But by the time we got close enough, they had finished their slow graze and begun drifting uphill. Before we could evaluate him, he slipped over the rise and was gone.

Feeling dashed after me wasting time on the young bucks, we decided to motor around and push up the hill in an effort to catch back up. Both of us were puffing, but it felt like we were closing the gap—until I caught the flick of a tail. Then a head shot up, staring straight in our direction. We froze.

It was the last doe, trailing behind with her fawn. Somehow, we won the silent standoff. She relaxed, dropped her head, and slowly fed her way over the crest. Taking our chance, we crept forward as quietly as possible, hoping for one more look at the herd. But as we eased over the top, the hillside was empty. Not a single deer in sight.

Just as I'd started to accept it wasn't our morning, we spotted a completely different buck climbing up from a dam, heading straight toward the boundary fence. There was no way we'd get into position in time for a shot, so we decided to try our chance at rattling.





It was a first for both of us, and with the earlier buck showing no interest in the other young bucks fighting, our expectations were low. The first clash of antlers changed that instantly.

The buck's head snapped up. He stopped continuing into the neighbour's and turned, but instead of coming straight in, he angled sharply uphill and disappeared over the rise within seconds.

I told Craig to get into the best position he could and be ready for anything. He found a solid rest against a tree, steady and waiting, aimed at what looked like an empty hillside, I kept rattling.

Then, out of nowhere, the buck came charging back over the crest—committed and looking for a fight. In less than a second, he closed the distance to under 30 metres. Craig was ready. One clean shot, straight into the shoulder. The buck spun, ran about 50 metres, and piled up.

A few quick cheers and high fives followed before the reality of the work ahead set in—caping and harvesting the meat. Both of us stood there for a moment, taking it all in. What had just unfolded felt unreal, and what a way for Craig to take his first buck. Congratulations mate!





Over the weekend we covered plenty of ground and found a lot of sign—well-used trails, plenty of beat-up rub trees and a few scrapes. Most of the deer we saw were either heading back into their beds or just starting to move out, which made for some good opportunities if you were in the right spot at the right time. We were able to test this theory on Saturday arvo, Craig and I had set ourselves in some thickets in hopes of catching the deer exiting the valley. When just about on last light, two young chocolate bucks almost walked over the top of us. Luckily for them, we were after something with a bit more maturity.

Dilan also harvested a solid doe. On top of that, there were lots of foxes to play with, a nice herd of goats roaming the big hill and no shortage of rabbits getting around. We did head out one night for a spotlight session around

camp hoping to pick a few up, but as luck would have it, that was the one time they all seemed to disappear.



Camp was hosted by some great bacon and egg burgers, fresh fallow tender loins and if you're lucky, Dilan might share with you his secret parking technique that will score you some of Suzie's' brownies.



All up, it's an excellent property with a great mix of terrain and an abundance of animals. We were told the dam is also home to cod, yellow belly, and yabbies—so there's a bit on offer beyond just the hunting. Combine hunting deer, goats, foxes, and rabbits with fishing and a great place to make camp, the property would lend well if you wanted an extended stay.

Could not have asked for a better weekend of hunting and topped of with some great company! If you're keen to check it out for yourself, get in touch with Jay Hani or have a chat with one of the committee members at the next meeting or social event. But be quick, I have a feeling this will book out fast!!



# Apple and Blueberry Crumble.

By Daniel Brogden.

As the cooler months are approaching, I thought that I would share one of my favourite camp oven desserts with you all.

Ingredients: -

- Plain Flour
- Salted Butter
- Brown Sugar
- 1 can of Pie Apples/Pieces
- 1 can of Blueberries in syrup.

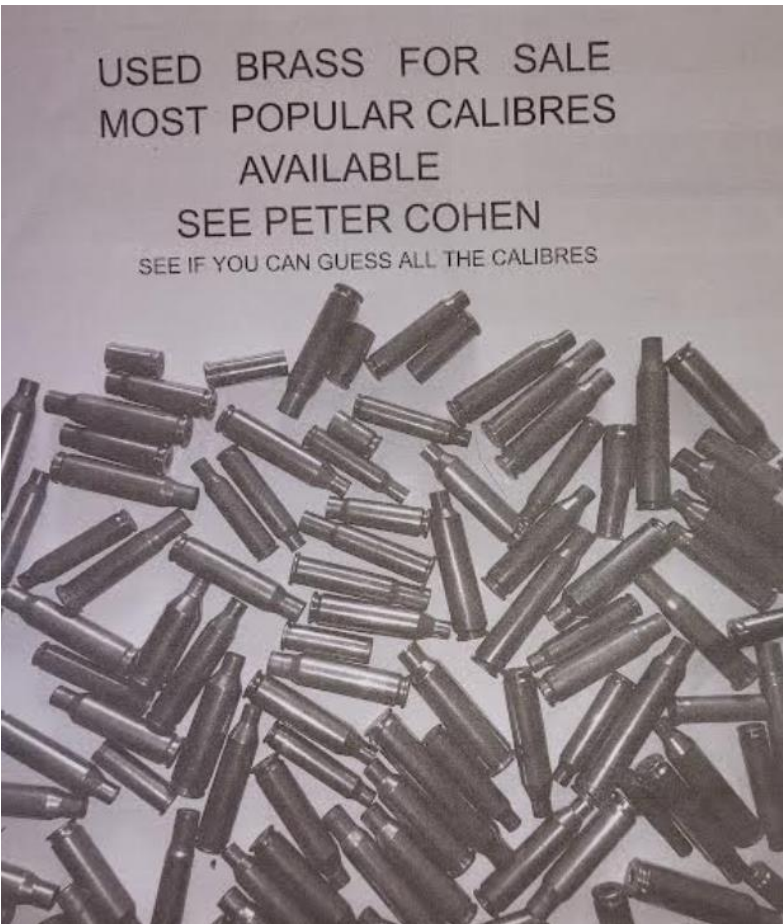


Method: -

1. Rub together approximately 1 cup of plain flour with enough butter to form a crumbly biscuit textured mix.
2. Add approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of brown sugar and mix well.
3. Drain roughly half the syrup from the blueberries and combine with the apples.
4. Place Apple/Blueberry mix in the bottom of the camp oven (I use a disposable aluminium baking tray to ease the cleanup) and spread evenly with a spoon.
5. Cover evenly with the Biscuit mix and sprinkle lightly with brown sugar.
6. Place camp oven over a shovel full of coals and place 1-2 shovels of coals on top of the camp oven and bake until the biscuit sets and the syrup begins to bubble through the biscuit (approx. 15 minutes but gauge for yourself according to the heat of your coals).
7. Eat while hot with custard or cream.
8. Enjoy!



For Sale: Projectiles – Nosler Ballistic Tip, 30 Cal, 150gn



## MINCER FOR HIRE

The branch has a new mincer and sausage stuffer which is now available for our members to hire.

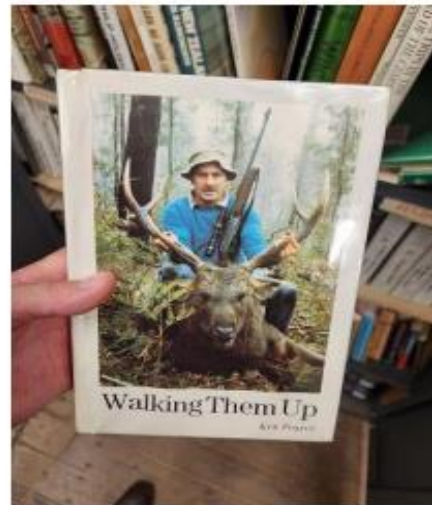
Cost \$10 per week with a \$50 deposit. Equipment must come back clean and in good working order (the same as when it was checked out).

Pick up and drop off from the Branch building, SSAA Belmont.

Contact Peter Cohen to arrange pick-up on 0438 774 213.

## Member Hunting Book Library

Please note: There is an extensive hunting/shooting book library available to all Brisbane Branch members who attend the meetings. The library is located within the ADA building at Belmont, so just ask a member for assistance. It's an honesty system – so ALL borrowed books must be returned once finished. Speak to Peter Cohen for more information.



**Proudly supporting Brisbane Branch,  
Australian Deer Association**

Broadsound Hunting Safaris Australia is owned and operated by Greg Coyne. Offering a wealth of experience, Greg's vast knowledge of the Australian big game and native wildlife, is second to none!

EST.  2019

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