The Western Roar

October 2026

ADA Western Victorian Sub Branch Newsletter

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Next General Meeting will be:
Friday October 16th 2026 @8pm
Where: The Pura Pura Fire Station VIC 3271
Bring along your friends and family!!!

HUNTERS' PLEDGE

The Hunter should conserve wildlife resources and **not exploit them**. The hunter's behaviour should be guided by respect:-

For the Deer and all Wildlife,
for the Land, Forest and Crops,
For the Landholder and his Property,
for Everyone who enjoys the Bush.

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WESTERN VICTORIA General Meeting.

WESTERN VICTORIA General Meeting.

Friday 21st August , Pura Pura Fireshed.

Starting time. 8.00 pm.

Finished. 8.52 pm

1. Present. (17)

Visitors & New members. Melbourne President, Peter Spanu , Anya and Dave.

2. Apologies. Daniel Forbes, Danielle Hinton, Geoff Ovens, Peter Holcombe, Julian Malony and Steve Kerr.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting correct per newsletter. Moved Gavan Currell. Sec. John Kerr.

4. Business arising from the minutes.

* Discussed in General Business.



5. Correspondence In.

* ADA updates via E Mail.

* West Vic Newsletter

Correspondence Out.

* Minutes to Newsletter Editor.

Moved Daniel Sec-. Allan Wohlers.

6. Treasurers Report.

* $500 out for major prize winner (James Kerr)

*Daniel Forbes donated outlay for raffle prizes.

* Current Balance $6018.55

Tabled- Katrina Currell Sec- James Kerr.

7. General Business

*Jamie Hinton in Daniel Forbes absence presented Craig Mitchell with his medallion for the taking of his magnificent 30 inch Sambar stag.

*1 calendar left for anyone in attendance.

*A reminder to get those photos to Daniel for the 2027 calendar and photo comp..

* 4th to 9th of September has been finalised as the dates for our branch hunt.

* A congratulations to Craig Mitchell for the winning of the Purrumbete fishing comp an addition to taking 30 inch Sambar..

* 16 sambar and 2 foxes culled from Langi Duran.

* Peter Spanu suggested a first aid night with CPA training, all agreed would be a great asset to our club. (no mention of the average age of us, haha).

* Peter also reminded us of the Hunters Dinner on the Saturday night of the 21st November.

* Suggested that an Eildon House Boat week, with hunting and fishing at your door step, something to talk over for next year???

* Next General meeting and at Pura Pura Fireshed, October 16th starting at 8.00pm.

* Xmas BBQ and windup to be held at Hintons Bush Block, discussion at next meeting.

Buy, swap and sell.

All in attendance brought along a mixture of hunting items and many found new homes. A wonderful and interesting assortment were on display and went home to happy new owners.

Raffle Winners

· Trevor Miles- Targets

· Jamie Hinton- Boot Spray

· Luke Preston- Knife

· Katrina Currell- Knife

· Gavan Currell- Knife Sharpener

· Thomas Spokes- Bore Snake

· Isabel Preston- Camo Hat



Photo Competition

Only days to go to get your photos sent in for your chance to claim one of these magnificent prizes. 12/10/2026 is the deadline







Junior Photo Competition

For our junior prize we have a Vortex Triumph 10x42 Binocular.
This comp is a great initiative to get some young kids involved in the outdoors fun that us adults have and to potentially for those juniors to eventually get involved with our wonderful club.

Riddle Me This

I speak without a voice,
Warn without a word,
And disappear before I'm seen.
Hunters respect me, but rarely
Welcome me.
What am I???
THE WIND

Five hunters sit around a campfire
Every hunter shakes hands with every other hunter exactly once
How many handshakes are there???



West Vic Branch Hunt
Moroka River

7 members were present for our branch hunt and 2 of them were able to put deer on the ground. One 19" stag and a hind, well done to the lucky hunters.



First to arrive at camp was Luke, on his travels in he was fortunate enough to come across a dead wild dog on the side of the track, he stopped to have a closer look at it. He lifted its head up and was greeted by maggots. It had obviously been dead for a few days (potentially shot or hit by a vehicle at night maybe).
Luke went for an afternoon hunt and was lucky enough to run into a few deer not far from camp. He bumped a stag which was only 10-20 yards from him, he quickly raised his rifle and got a shot off before the stag took off. BANG!!! The adrenaline pumping as he watched the stag run up and over the ridgeline into the next gully. Luke traced its steps and looked for blood but unfortunately couldn't find it. That night would have been a restless one for any hunter.

Day 2 was a fresh frosty start to the morning for Luke. It was an early start for myself and Darcy as well. We set off from home at 4.30am and arrived at camp at 11.15am
We set camp and waited for Luke to arrive back with his prized possession but to avail. The 3 of us went out for an afternoon hunt, Darcy sat over a few clearings he had previously hunted before but didn't see any sign. I went and sat in a gully that had been recently burnt out but did not see anything either. Luke was late to get back to camp and that was for a good reason, he had redeemed himself. Well Done, Luke.



Day 3 was a blustery start to the morning hunt with the wind swirling around the bush making it hard to navigate which direction to head in. couple hours passed and it was back to the Ute to head back for breaky and come up with a plan for the afternoon.

That afternoon didn't bring us any luck either with the wind getting back up making it very tricky.



The next morning was a positive start we came across a few wallows and preach trees.
We had that feeling that something was close by, HONK!!! And there ran off 3 hinds to never be seen again. We never saw anything for the rest of the morning.
Luke had an encounter with a hind that afternoon, trying to get close to take some photos all of a sudden, the deer took off into the bush and in ran a wild dog straight past Luke and it also kept going in the bush, not even stopping for a happy snap.
In rolled the cavalry around 11.30, Craig and his son Cameron.
Cameron took all of 5 minutes to set up his sleeping quarters and Craig had to be an octopus setting up his, much to myself and Darcy's amusement it took Craig 50 minutes to erect his annex off his camping trailer.
Craig and Cam went for a fish up at the Moroka falls but never caught anything. Cam reckons he had a few chase his lure but we thought otherwise.



By nightfall we nearly had everyone at camp but in true president fashion Dan hit Melbourne afternoon peak hour traffic and never got to camp until 9.30.

But did he have an experience driving into the high country at night. Dan was lucky enough to run into 13 deer on his way into camp. Most of them being young spikers
A couple of beers around the fire and few yarns and it was lights out.

Luke, Darcy and myself were headed for home the next day to leave the newbies to fend for themselves.
Cameron managed to stumble across a dead stag (possibly shot by cullers)
Craig and Cam drove up to the Pinnacle fire tower with some spectacular views over the Wonnangatta Valley and High Country. The fires almost burnt it out last year.
Cameron managed to take a sambar hind for meat one afternoon on his way back to camp.
Dan desperate to take a trophy home, stole the head off the wild dog. Now his nickname is "Ironguts Forbes" YUCK!!!

All in all it was a wonderful branch hunt with plenty of laughs and good times had. Looking forward to the next one in some country I can see a sambar deer from a decent distance before it sees me haha!





Out And About

Craig, Cameron and his partner Emily and daughter Tahli had a great day on the water. Boating 5 good Gummy Shark and School Shark, with plenty to go around, some was given to the property owners of Craig's deer hunting hotspots.



