



THE BUSH TELEGRAPH

From the Hunting & Conservation Manager

Hello to everyone, I'll introduce myself, my name is Carlos Herreros and I have been appointed the new manager of the Hunting and Conservation Program in NSW. What qualified me for the position? Firstly, I am an accredited member since 2000, have a passion for hunting and currently serving on the NSW board. Although I have not been active in the H&C lately, I have hunted on Tilterweira and worked there helping George. Some of my stories were published in the Bush Telegraph when Clarrie was editor.

With taking over I decided to run the H&C differently to before. A meeting was advertised for the 13th February this year at St Marys, all H&C members were invited. At that meeting a working committee was formed from H&C members and volunteers. The aim of the new committee is to enable the H&C to grow and take some of the responsibilities from the main manager. The H&C is growing and the role of managing it would require a full time position. The other advantage of a working committee is the larger think tank available, more input from more people. At this meeting the following

members volunteered Frank Cashel, Phil Barnes, Mike Blomfield, Chris O'Sullivan, Peter Thurocczy, Dave Barham, Jeff Stewart, Kevin Haswell, Peter Needham and George Hackney. Also as reserves Craig Dickman, John Creamer and Ian Connor

This Program is about to get a huge boost. We are about to undertake a NSW wide advertising campaign aimed at landholders who have a feral problem. In the near future the hunting possibilities for accredited members are going to great.

Already we have had respond from landholders in the Taralga area. We are currently assessing the situation and we will shortly be calling for volunteers to hunt there. The Pest Eradication Program will only work if you the members service it. We are going to need accredited members who are willing to travel around the state hunting. If you still have your accreditation

paperwork sitting in the bottom of the wardrobe, now is the time to get it out and complete it. If any has been lost or you're unsure on any part, ring Kim at the office 8889 0400 and she will help with all enquiries.

In the pipeline also, I have received calls for assistance about feral deer around the mid-coast, goats near Goulburn and pigs around Moree.

The need is there, we want to help. But in this day and age we can only proceed with accredited members. So just do it.

Carlos Herreros
H&C Program Manager



Back Row: George Hackney, Frank Cashel, Phil Barnes, Chris O'Sullivan and Craig Dickman.
Front Row: Peter Thurocczy, Mike Blomfield, Carlos Herreros, Jeff Stewart and John Creamer.
Photo by Craig Dickman

indicated that they would also assist with the running of the H&C. Since then a few meetings have been held, discussions on all aspect of the H&C have occurred and the future is looking great. For personal reasons Phil Barnes and Jeff Stewart dropped out of the committee, but not as volunteers, and Rob Broderick came on board. The main change occurring with the H&C is the revitalization of The Pest Eradication Program. This program had been pushed along by Phil Barnes, who was doing pest control around the Oberon area.

Over 9000 Visitors to SSAA SHOT Expo



Just some of the H&C volunteers manning the booth at the SSAA 2010 SHOT Expo -
From left - George Hackney, Robert Jefferies, Robert Broderick, Carlos Herreros, Ian Connor,
Jason Jackson and Chris O'Sullivan

A Big Thank You !

To all the volunteers that keep the H&C going. The working bee fellows who travel to Tilterweira and help to maintain the facilities. The fellows that put their hand up for events. All the committee members that make my job easier. Big thanks to George and Jason at Tilterweira. The volunteers are what keep the H&C going, so if you're interested in becoming one contact Kim.

Carlos Herreros

Deer Farm Visit

Unfortunately the planned Deer Farm Visit for the 16th – 18th April 2010 had to be cancelled due to the volunteer who had nominated to run the workshop, pulling out at short notice. We apologise for any inconvenience.

For those interested in deer, another workshop is planned for June 14th by the ADA-Game Council NSW.

**For bookings and details
phone: 6360 5100**

Pest Eradication Program

The Pest Eradication Program, or in short PEP, is getting a new start.

There are numerous opportunities for our members to hunt on private properties coming up.

Through a carefully planned campaign we will be advertising throughout NSW, but the advertising will be directed where our members nominate areas to be sought out. Its no point chasing up properties where there's no one wanting to participate. We will seek to engage our H&C accredited members with local landholders to help eradicate and control pest.

So contact Kim and nominate an area or district where YOU would like to hunt.

We are currently starting PEP at Taralga and we need H&C accredited members who want to hunt feral dogs, pigs, goats, foxes and rabbits.

Contact Kim on 8889 0400 for more information.

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Tilterweira Report

2010 has begun with good rains each month and a lot of water coming down the Paroo River. The river has been too high to get a truck over to the East Side since Dec 2009. On the 18th March the river peaked here, with water rising to the southern end of the main air strip and crossing the road in five places. I could not go out for thirteen days. The rain has brought on good grass all over Tilterweira, along with a lot of pigs. In the summer, when it gets dryer, the pig hunting will be great. On the 24th April we started our first working Bee of the year, with four members, Burnie, Rose, Rob and Jason attending. Two others who put their names down to attend, couldn't make it because of the bad roads. But we have done all that I had planned to do and more.

The main road to Wanaaring



from Bourke has been closed on two occasions and the road to White Cliffs once; they should all be operational by the time you read this report. The bird life has to be seen to be believed, water birds of all shape and sizes, lots of pelicans with their young. The yabbies are biting and huge. Looking forward to seeing you in the future.

George Hackney

Hunter Open Day text and pictures by Craig Dickman

For the second year now SSAA Hunting and Conservation has provided an opportunity for hunters, suppliers and any shooter who is interested to attend the Hunter Open Day. As with last year's Open Day,



the event this year was also held at SSAA's St Marys Indoor Shooting Centre. Admission to the exhibits was a gold coin donation to the McGrath Foundation and this was generously given.

A steady stream of visitors throughout the day worked their way around the displays and information tables and had the opportunity to converse with our MPs from the Shooters Party – Roy Smith and Bob Brown. There were an interesting variety of exhibitors on show who always give great support to Hunting and Conservation they were: *Blackfoot Designs*, *Trijicon* Riflescopes, *Holloway Custom Knives* and *GPSOZ*.



Information displays from Adventure Safari Industries Association *Raptor Ridge Ranch* Deer Hunting, SSAA Tilterweira Station Hunting and Conservation Volunteers and Youth Camps, *Wild Harvest* – Budget Deer Hunt, Nepean Hunters Club and Game Council of NSW.

The SSAA Hunting and Conservation Volunteers did the hard work of putting this all together, and it was good to see such a diverse range of people who attended this Open Day. Besides



the regular Hunting and Conservation members, a number of families and just interested people, some who travelled from country NSW, helped make this an eventful day. The other great thing about these Hunter Open Days is the opportunity they present beginner hunters, like myself for instance, to ask all sorts of questions; and where better could you find appropriate and knowledgeable answers, than at the SSAA Hunter Open Day. So do yourself a favour come to the next one and in doing so, support the SSAA Hunting and Conservation Program.



The Allure of the Camp by Chris Avent

The annual preparation for September's Tilterweira Youth Camp has come around for the sixth time and I share with you the reason why I and other volunteers commit ourselves to the demands, logistics and challenges such an event creates.

There is an allure to the camp that only those who have travelled, camped or lived in the bush truly understand. After five years of taking a dozen predominantly city slicker teenagers to Youth Camp, I am still enamoured of the experience and the impact camp has on its participants. The young people are introduced to key bush experiences that make them realise that decisions, skills and actions have real life consequences. The experience is especially good for those who too often live in fantasy virtual worlds with maximum technology and minimum real world interaction.



Tilterweira from the air.
Photo by Jason Jackson

The sheer vastness of the land and sky can be initially quite overwhelming for many of the participants with deep black velvet nights and clear crisp days, a world away from permanent twilight on suburban streets and pollution haze horizons. Independence and

self reliance underscore all activities and combined assist participants to mature as ethical hunters with solid bushcraft skills. Marksmanship and shot placement is honed on the range, while navigational and first aid skills are drilled, camp cooking is interactive, local Indigenous culture investigated and craft skills developed. As a group there is rapport and fun with swimming, shared rooms, social time, yabbing and hunt teams to be enjoyed. The quiet ambience and self attunement gets into your blood and we have often seen participants return again with parents and family in tow for other camps or trips. The variety of animal life they will encounter will open their eyes to the world around them as well as develop their ability to read the signs and appreciate nature's ways.

Parents sending their teenager on these trips are assured that they will see personal growth and knowledge acquisition by their offspring and that they have been in the care of experienced people who love the bush, ethical hunting and sharing all the joy of the Tilterweira experience with youngsters. The H and C *Buy Back the Bush* program is best seen in action at Tilterweira with its series of hunter camps for all ages and families. If you are interested in Youth Camp for your teenager please contact Kim at SSAA St Marys on **8889 0400** for an information pack.

H&C Calendar 2010

June - Sun 13th to Sat 19th: Hunters Camp 2010. One week Camp at Tilterweira with workshops. H&C accreditation, R license, WIT, guided hunts.

June 14th: Deer Workshop ADA-Game Council NSW - Bondi Bookings and details Game Council NSW.

June - Sun 20th to Sat 26th: Tilterweira week 3 - Special discount rate for registered H&C participants on a week stay. Discount is not available on a day rate. Tilterweira may be booked by all SSAA members.

July - Sun 4th to Sat 10th: Parent and Child Camp 2010. One week Camp at Tilterweira with workshops. H&C accreditation, R license, WIT and guided hunts.

July - 24th: Hunters Day - St Marys Indoor Shooting Centre. Workshops.

August - Sun 1st to Sat 7th: Tilterweira week 4. Special discount rate for registered H&C participants on a week stay. Discount is not available on a day rate. Tilterweira may be booked by all SSAA members.

September - 12th to 18th: H&C Volunteers Tilterweira Maintenance Week. Scheduled one week Camp at Tilterweira. A team of up to 10 volunteers to undertake scheduled property maintenance activities.

September- Sat 25th - Sun 3 Oct: Youth Camp 2010. One week SSAA Junior member camp at Tilterweira with workshops and other activities.

October - Sun 17th- 23rd: H&C Volunteers Tilterweira Maintenance Week. Scheduled one week Camp at Tilterweira. A team of up to 10 volunteers to undertake scheduled property maintenance activities.

November Sun 21st - 27th: Tilterweira week 5. Special discount rate for registered H&C participants on a week stay. Discount is not available on a day rate. Tilterweira may be booked by all SSAA members.

November Sun 28th: Hunters Day - St Marys Indoor Shooting Centre. AGM and Workshops.