

In Memory of Mick Dacre
1936 - 2016

NEWSLETTER

July 2016 – January 2017

TROPHY TAKERS NEWSLETTER

July 2016 – January 2017

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Game Claim Report

4/01/2017

Well it's been a while between drinks for the old TT newsletters and as such we have a heap of ratings to get through that were processed in the second half of 2016.

These started with a handful of goats and fallow taken by Glen Payne from Jindabyne. The largest of these a heavy horned silver billy scoring 118 6/8 and a 214 6/8 DS chocolate fallow buck. Glen's sister Kasey also rated several foxes (9 10/16, 10 5/16) and a 90 1/8 billy goat, which won her the Junior Bowhunter Award – well done Kasey!

Wollongong hunter Mark Wills rated his usual swag of quality game with a 215 2/8 fallow buck, 188 DS rusa stag, a couple of boars (23 2/8 & 24 2/8 DS) and a 7 7/16 DS cat. Another

productive bowhunter Casey McCallum found a few quality goats rating 5 billies scoring between 113 5/8 and 121 2/8 DS. Casey also rated a solid scrubber scoring 62 2/8 DS.



Glen Payne with his solid 113 1/8 DS billy goat.



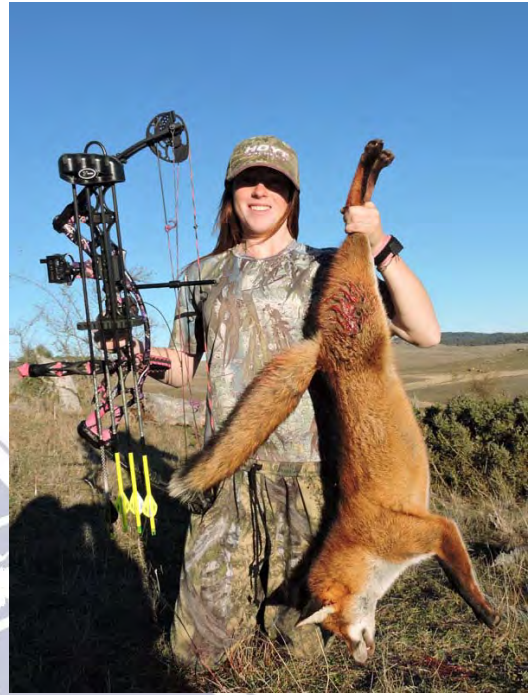
Glen with his cracker 118 6/8 DS billy.



Glen Payne with his 208 4/8 DS fallow buck.



A great photo of Glen's 210 1/8 DS hard velvet buck.



Another great fox taken by Kasey – this one measuring 9 10/16 DS.



Glen topped off his fallow season with this 214 6/8 DS beauty.



Junior Bowhunter of the Year Kasey Payne with a great billy going 90 1/8 DS.



Kasey Payne with her cracker 10 5/16 DS fox.



Willisy and a nice 215 2/8 DS buck to add to his collection.



Willsy's 188 DS rusa stag should have taken out the 2016 Rusa Award, unfortunately a bastard fox gnawed away one antler tip overnight!



No more native killing for this 7 7/16 DS cat taken care of by Willsy.



A solid mountain boar measuring 24 2/8 DS taken by Mark Wills.



Casey McCallum with his 113 5/8 DS billy.



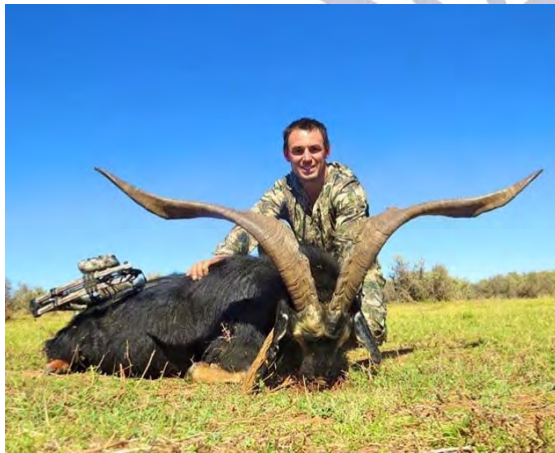
Another mountain warrior nailed by Willsy – this one measuring 23 2/8 DS.



Macka's 113 7/8 DS billy.



Another cracker billy for Casey – 116 6/8 DS.



**One of Australian bowhunting's most long-lasting sagas was finally put to bed when Macka took his first 40" billy last year – this one measuring 119 1/8 DS.
Congratulations on finally reaching that long awaited milestone Macka!**



Another ripper billy with great shape, Macka with his 121 2/8 DS billy goat.

Speaking of goats, there were plenty of others rated, the largest of which Matt Hynds shot back in 2008, scoring 143 2/8 DS. Our chairman Dave Whiting also rated a couple of billys scoring 103 2/8 and 114 2/8 DS. Similarly, Peter Fryda rated a good billy scoring 101 4/8 DS. Peter also rated a 25 2/8 DS boar and 10 point fox.



Matt Hynds with his monster 143 2/8 DS billy.



Dave has been getting into plenty of action as of late, here is his 103 2/8 DS billy.



A nice 114 2/8 DS WA billy taken by Dave Whiting.



Another fox removed from the Aussie bush by Pete, this one scoring a neat 10 DS.



Peter Fryda with his 101 4/8 DS billy goat.



Pete with his 25 2/8 DS boar.



Ben Chambers with an old twisted up billy – 108 2/8 DS.

TT members from Western Australia were also very productive with Ben Chambers rating a mixed bag of billies, scrub bulls and a 10 6/16 fox he took back in 2014. Ben's young fella Orbin Wilde also joined TT with a 53 5/8 DS goat. Welcome Orbin! Boondy Stone rated a 13 5/16 DS wild dog and a solid 58 4/8 scrub bull. New member Graham Cahill rated three goats scoring between 111 2/8 – 119 1/8 and Damo Dwyer rated a 62 4/8 scrub bull and a 22 6/8 Boar. Similarly, Luke Demmery joined with a 30 DS boar. Welcome aboard fellas!



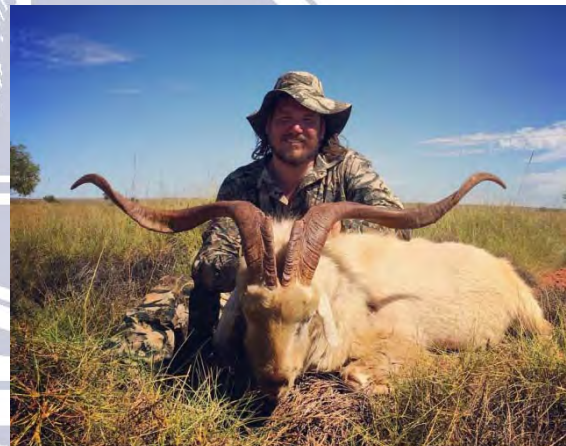
Ben proudly displays another cracker WA stinker, this one scoring 109 DS.



Ben with another 40" billy to add to his now growing collection – 123 1/8 DS.



The Man, the Mullet, Ben Chambers with an equally handsome billy – 115 4/8 DS.



A classically shaped trophy bill measuring 129 6/8 DS, what a cracker Ben!



Ben with a lovely high-horned WA cracker measuring 116 4/8 DS.



Ben's 2013 Cape York scrubber scored 57 DS.



Ben Chambers and a WA scrub bull going 58 DS neat.



Boondy Stone nailed this ripper scrub bull which measured 58 5/8 DS.



A big welcome to one of the next generation of budding young bowhunters – Orbin Wilde! Well done on your 53 5/8 DS billy mate!



Another big welcome to Graham Cahill who joined our ranks recently, photographed here with his 117 3/8 DS billy.



Boondy Stone with his WA wild dog which scored 13 5/16 DS.



A ripper photo of Graham and his 119 1/8 DS billy!



Damo nailed this 22 6/8 DS boar in WA recently.



Graham with his 112 2/8 DS WA billy.



Welcome aboard Luke Demmery, and congrats on your cracker 30 DS boar mate!



WA Bowhunter Damo Dwyer with his 62 4/8 DS scrub bull.

We also had a handful of other new members join TT with some quality game. QLD bowhunter Elissa Rosemond rated a 163 1/8 rusa stag, 140 4/8 fallow buck and a 59 6/8 DS scrub bull. Troy Dickinson rated a couple of nice QLD reds scoring 209 7/8 and a cracker 255 3/8 stag, as did Dubbo bowhunter Luke Sampson with a 193 6/8 red stag.





One of Australia's most prolific Aussie female bowhunters, Elissa Rosemond, has recently joined TT, here photographed with her 163 1/8 DS rusa stag.



Welcome aboard to QLD bowhunter Troy Dickinson – here pictured with his 209 7/8 DS QLD red stag.



Elissa with her 140 4/8 DS fallow buck.



At 255 3/8 DS, this is the largest QLD red stag rated in TT history. Congratulations on an absolute cracker Troy!



Elissa recently took this impressive 59 6/8 DS scrub bull, awesome effort Elissa!



New member Luke Sampson recently ventured to QLD and arrowed this nice 193 6/8 DS red stag.

We also had a couple of New South Welshmen join the ranks; Tommy Peloe with two buff bulls scoring 84 and 90 2/8 DS and a large bodied

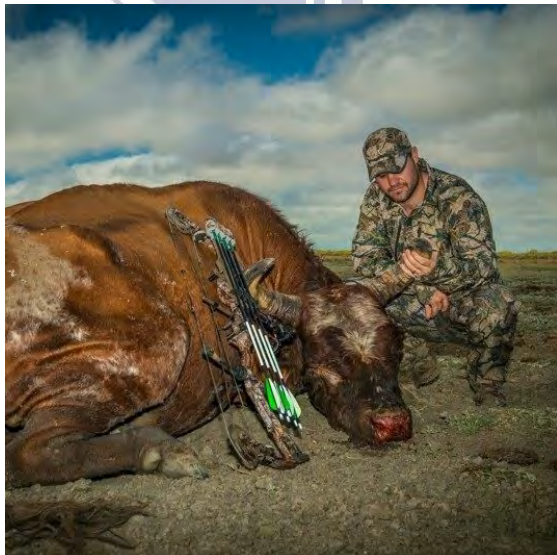
scrub bull scoring 58 4/8 DS; and Steve 'Skippy' Shorten with a mixed bag including a 7 12/16 cat, 28 4/8 boar, 165 7/8 rusa and 55 DS scrub bull. Welcome all!



Tommy Peloe with his 84 DS buffalo taken in open country. Well done and welcome to TT Tommy!



Tommy with his 90 2/8 DS water buffalo.



Tommy takes a moment to reflect on the hunt after taking this huge-bodied 58 4/8 DS scrub bull in the NT.



Skippy Shorten with his 7 12/16 DS moggy.



Skippy Shorten with a great Cape York boar - 28 4/8 DS.



Steve 'Skippy' Shorten with his 165 7/8 DS rusa stag.



A cracker Cape York scrubber taken by Skippy – scoring 55 DS.

Randal Sullings scored bigtime on a monster fox scoring 10 8/16 DS which got him the best of species award for 2016. Paul Southwell found the unluckiest fox in the country and managed to kill it with his recurve – it scored 10 1/16. Paul also rated a few South Pacific species including a 42 2/8 bull tahr, 63 5/8 sika stag and 257 4/8 wapiti bull which was entered as unofficial due to the skull being cut for transport.



Paul Southwell nailed this 10 1/16 fox while taking the recurve for a walk.



Paul with his 42 2/8 DS bull tahr – the new Number 1!



Randal Sullings has been into the foxes of late, nailing this very fine specimen scoring 10 8/16 DS, which was the largest taken for 2016. Well done mate!



Paul with another species towards the South Pacific 15 – a hard-earned 63 5/8 DS sika from NZ.



Paul with his magnificent 257 4/8 DS Wapiti bull.

Long-time member James Lynch rated a couple of rusa that he shot this year, the largest scoring 209 1/8, and the other a 202 5/8 stag that was entered as unofficial due to a delayed recovery. Ben Salleras also scored a nice rusa stag scoring 190 DS taking out best rusa for 2016. Similarly, Leigh Cragg rated his first sambar stag scoring 153 6/8 which took out best sambar for 2016. Well done lads.



James Lynch displays his 202 5/8 DS rusa trophy.



Lynch with a proper South Coast stag measuring 209 1/8 DS.



Ben Salleras with his 190 DS QLD rusa stag.





Taking out the Sambar Award for 2016 was Leigh Cragg with his 153 6/8 DS stag.

Bourke Bowhunter James Warne rated a western warrior boar scoring 29 6/8 DS and New England hunter Mathew Milne rated his best boar to date scoring 23 6/8 DS.



Warney has been in amongst the trophies again, this time scoring a ripper 29 6/8 DS boar.



Matt Milne with his new PB boar – 23 6/8 DS.

To finish off the report, Kevin Yates rated a 194 5/8 black fallow buck and Jeremy Kelly rated a QLD chital stag scoring 151 2/8 and a 115 6/8 billy goat.



Kevin Yates with his 194 5/8 DS fallow buck.



Jeza Kelly looking very pleased with his 141 2/8 DS chital stag.



Jeremy Kelly with his 115 6/8 cracker billy.

Well done to everyone who rated game – here's to a big 2017! Don't forget all new ratings can be viewed on the TT website at www.trohytakers.org.

Good hunting,

Mark S

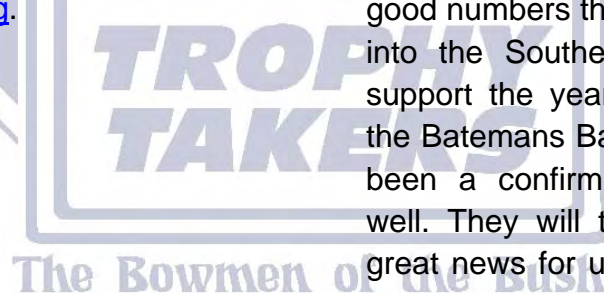


Pig's Pad

With Chris Hervert

Surely the Sambar deer has to be one of the most successful colonizers of all the deer species in Australia. For years we have all heard of reported sightings in areas not commonly known as Sambar habitat. A lot of the time it was purely incorrect identification of the species but of late a lot of these sightings have been backed by hard evidence. This may be due to more hunters or more deer or a bit of both. I was once shown a picture of a mysterious big black deer that was photographed by a 'deer hunter' in an area only known for fallow. When shown the pic, yep it was a fallow spiker so I have also been a bit of a doubter when it comes to far ranging Sambar sightings, till now.

Apart from being around the ACT in good numbers they seem to be moving into the Southern Highlands and to support the years of rumours around the Batemans Bay area there has now been a confirmed sighting there as well. They will thrive in that country, great news for us hunters. As for how they get to all these places. I know the popular theories regarding hounds, pressure, fires, logging etc and no doubt they all play a part. Sometimes the vast expanses of clear country has me questioning those theories alone but in the end I am not really sure I care how they got there. It would be good to map the current spread of Sambar but I know being bowhunters



we keep that info close so not much chance of that happening.

The annual Cape trip was a little different last year, decided to check out a spot that had been on the radar for a while. The trip and the company were great, new country always holds a fascination for me, but the game was scarce. It was there but not in any significant numbers, the country was thick and the cattle huddled around the water holes making any approach challenging. My favourite recurve expressed its disgust with the hot conditions by de-laminating upon first stringing. Nice start! Newbie to the bow hunting world Ronae Camaggi got a couple of hogs, including a nice boar with a great stalk and shot across hot open country. That was enough for me, to see his delight made the trip a success. They say it's all about the journey!



Nature certainly can surprise you, just when you think you have seen it all. The Mother launches another surprise. While sitting outside the homestead on the aforementioned trip what we thought was a normal run of the mill whirly whirly could be seen making its way through the myriad of sheds and farm equipment. When it struck us the

intensity was surprising. Then when it sucked a two meter square laminated map from inside house and tumbled it across the lawn we all expressed various forms of verbal Aussie amazement. I gave chase but very quickly had to take cover as objects within the mini twister started to make things a little more interesting. The map lifted over the yard fence and started to climb. We all expected it to peter out and rest somewhere out in the paddock but no it just climbed and climbed. It soon became a postage stamp and disappeared into the clouds. It was in the jet stream and heading to who knows where. I would love to know where it landed and see the surprise on the face of whoever finds it. It would be another good old expression of 'Aussie Amazement'.

Chris Hervert



Chairman's Report

With Dave Whiting

Well it has taken a while but we finally have another Newsletter out to our very patient members. Life mixed with a little bowhunting therapy continues to be busy for all of us.

There is a fair bit of reading in this one so I hope you all enjoy it.

I have a few things to cover and will kick off by saying a big thank you to the Dubbo and District Field Archers and in particular their Club president Shane Dupille who led from the front in quickly and at short notice getting the OK from the Club for TT to host the 2016 Awards on their grounds following the late decision to put the Gympie venue back a year whilst some final bureaucratic nonsense was sorted with the local council up that way.

Despite some very wet weather the Dubbo event went off very well and the use of a giant canvas tarp dragged up from Albury Wodonga way by long time members Tom and Fay Hills ensured we (with the help of many willing helpers) were able to put up a terrific display for all to enjoy.

The Award winners are listed further into this Newsletter however I have a few special mentions;

- Mark and Paul Southwell for sharing one of our most prestigious Awards in The Bill Baker Memorial Deer Award and also the Merv

Smith Memorial Trophy for best overall photo.

- Kasey Payne for being the first female junior bowhunter to win our longstanding Paul Wheller Memorial Junior Bowhunter Award. Her little brother Charlie reckons her chances of making it back to back are slim though as he has his eye on this Award for 2017. We wish them both good luck as they still have a bit to go to catch older brother Glen who has previously had his name on the shield for 3 consecutive years already.

- Karen Valery for being the inaugural winner of the newly donated Leny Smith Yearly Memorial - Best Female Bowhunter Award. Such were Karen's successes in both the 2014/15 and 2015/16 bowhunting years we took the unusual (but deserved) step of back dating the Award and having her name engraved as the winner for both those years. Well done Karen. This year's winner will be greatly contested with both Elissa Rosemond and Kasey Payne saying they will be going all out to get their name on this brilliant Trophy.

A BIG thankyou to Rod and Skippy Shorten for donating this trophy to our collection of what must be close to the most unique and best given out by any sporting body here in Oz.

A few other things that I need to mention regarding the Dubbo Awards are:

- A big thank you to Darryl Bulger and everyone else that was involved in the very successful Norman Douglas Measuring School conducted by Darryl on the Saturday morning of the Awards. I just say to everyone involved that your effort to participate has helped to make TT just a little bit stronger on the Australian Bowhunting scene and helps to share the workload.



- A very big congratulations to long time member (been there almost since day one) and good friend Dave Keable who has now joined existing members Ian Fenton and myself as "Life Members" of Trophy Takers. Thanks to Ben Salleras for making the induction speech and presentation to Dave at the Dubbo Awards. Ben has known, camped and hunted with Dave since Ben was a young lad in the Tully Club and was the perfect spokesman to make the presentation.

- At this year's Awards we did not present our longstanding Danny "Where Am I?" McMahon Legend Award. Whilst it is great that ALL of our members had an "incident" and "injury" free year in 2015/16 I do ask all members to be forever mindful of an opportunity to do in a mate for this not-so-prestigious award. Remember the "truth" is only a rough guideline for anyone that wants to put a mate forward for having a mishap or embarrassing moment in the current rating year.

- For a good few years now we Directors have been trying very hard to promote an Award for the best hunting or outdoor video snippet taken by our members or their family. Unfortunately it has not yet gotten off the ground as whilst most members have some excellent little clips they "forget" to bring them along to the Awards Weekend. We remain very keen to promote this form of media within TT and now ask members (even if they know they are not going to make it to the Awards) to please make the effort to send something in anytime of the year to Mark Southwell. We will then show at the next Awards and a winner will be voted from the floor by all in attendance. I know Mark had in previous years put something in a few years in a row but no one else participated and it died off. Lee and Glen Payne had some great footage at the Dubbo Awards and whilst really greatly enjoyed by the

members that viewed it, it was not entered for judging simply because we perhaps had let the focus slip a bit over recent times. SO TO ALL MEMBERS PLEASE MAKE THE EFFORT TO SEND SOMETHING IN BEFORE THE NEXT AWARDS AS WE WILL ALL ENJOY IT.

- Can we also ask that everyone that attends future Awards try to bring along at least one Trophy and one framed photo for the display walls.
- Since the completion of the Dubbo Awards we have been concerned to learn that Dubbo Club stalwart and TT member Pete Fryda has been diagnosed with a form of cancer. Pete has now commenced some pretty intense treatment and we wish him all the very very best in his treatment and recovery. If being positive counts for anything Pete will hopefully be right for his Red Deer hunt he has booked with Preecey in April. All the best mate.
- It was also very pleasing for me personally to see some of the old faces back that perhaps have not been to an Awards for some 15 to 20 plus years. I talk specifically of Mike Hogno (who for a few years in the early days was the Club's absolute media backbone and did a great job) and Paul Butschek and Dave Daws. Welcome back fellas. Great seeing ya's and enjoyed and appreciated your company, involvement and help

In regards to the hunting scene I would like to say really well done to our

Danish Trad hunter member Ulrik Orskov who spent a few months on our shores during mid-2016. Ulrik, as he always does, hunted hard and left our shores with some great trophies to his name. Well done Ulrik.

On a recent hunt in the mountains with good mate Ben Rieth I again saw an example of just how much of an individually challenging and personally rewarding sport the sport of bowhunting can be. Ben has a red hot new goat spot that has some great heads getting about the place however from almost day one, some months back Ben had spied a massive polled Billy that he decided was going to be on the top of his "hit" list. Despite a number of trips and full on efforts Ben had not put him on the ground – this big 'Polley' was becoming an obsession! Well the trip I had in there with Ben seen this as his fifth attempt to nail this very cagey adversary. On the last hour of the second day of our overnight hunt Ben spied the big fella, put in a great stalk an even better shot across a gully with the longbow and had him down in less than ten yards. Ben was ecstatic with the whole event from the prolonged 5 trip challenge to the stalk and the shot and I reckon for as long as Ben continues to hunt he will always remember this fella despite having no "trophy" to hang on the wall.





Riethy with his prized polled billy goat, a rewarding result after plenty of effort.

Also a big well done to Ben Chambers from over in the West who was into his third decade of chasing a big 40 inch billy with his bow with no luck when it all changed for him in 2016 with 3 monsters that met this criteria down in a matter of months. As I said to Ben it must be a bit like learning to ride a bike in that once you learn you never forget as Ben has in the past week or so knocked his first billy over for 2017 and it also eclipses the magic 40 inches that we all chase. Go Ben!

Well after a lot of work to sort through the mountain of conditions dumped on them by the local council, Gary and Tamara from Chevallan Archery Park at Gympie have satisfied ALL the requirement to hold Trad shoots and associated camp outs on their property. The approval was granted on 25 January for them to hold future

events including the TT Awards on the October 2017 long weekend. Full details will be contained elsewhere in this and future Newsletters and correspondence however I just want to say two things, firstly well done to Gary and Tamara as I know this was a real uphill, costly and prolonged battle and many lesser individuals would have caved in to the bureaucracy. Secondly I want to say to our members that whilst I have loved all of our Awards and chosen venues over the past 30 years I have got to say, that from all that I have read and heard, that Chevallan Archery Park has the potential to be the most "civilised" and perhaps best venue ever. So I implore all members that if you were ever planning to bring the whole family along well this is the one for that opportunity. It has all services with well-kept lawns and surrounds and not far from the ocean for those that want to do a day trip or tack a few extra days on to the holiday before heading home. Start planning now.

Sadly I have just heard of the recent passing of Dennis La Varenne. Many of you may not know Dennis' name but let me say we have lost a true ally of we bowhunters here in Oz for as well as being Jeff Challacombe's right hand man for many of the famous Trad shoots at Maryborough in Qld in the 1990s, Dennis also had a brilliant literacy and legal mind and spent many hundreds of hours over many years compiling massive submissions to the Government via ABA National, ABA Victoria and as an individual defending ALL challenges against our right to legally bowhunt here in

Australia. Dennis was a life member of the Australian Bowhunters Association and at the time of his death had over 100 trad bows from all over the world in his collection! Thanks for your efforts Dennis and RIP.

Finally members will notice that this issue of our Newsletter has been dedicated to the memory of the late Mick Dacre, a man I personally feel has been one of the real icons of Australian Bowhunting covering the past five decades of our short history. I say this not because Mick bowhunted and harvested hundreds of trophies over that period (he didn't) OR that he wrote volumes of hunting stories in our various bowhunting publications over that period (he didn't) OR he kept us all informed of his hunting and life adventures via social media (he didn't) and I don't even say this because he Bowshot the Australian wild boar record way back in 1984 that was still the ABA Australian Record and TT #1 at the time of his death in late 2016 some 30 years after the taking of this magnificent trophy, I say this because of the way Mick carried himself and the persona he displayed as a humble but appreciative Australian Record holder. Despite being a talented artist, poet and story teller Mick was a real man's man having cut his teeth as a possum trapper in the rugged and heavily timbered mountains in the centre of NZ's North Island in the 1960s. His daughter Barb tells the story of her dad occasionally returning home from checking the traps carrying a poached deer across his shoulders out of the hills and across the paddocks to keep the family fed in tough times.

Mick was no braggart and was very humble and always credited the help of his Mt Isa Bowhunter Club mates and a bit of luck to him taking the record breaking and a few other good boar on that trip. To me Mick was a man if anything understated many of his great adventures as a hunter in the NZ and Australian bush. But one thing I felt for sure is that if Mick said he had done this or that in the bush then you simply did not doubt him.

CIRCA 1986/87

DEAR DAVE, HERE IS A PHOTO FOR T.T. ALBUM AND THE DETAILS:-

BOAR - 37 1/2 DOUGLAS SCORE : 1 ARROW KILL.
RANGE - 4 METRES APPROX.
BOW - DARTON S.L. 30. @ 70LB.
ARROWS - WOOD. ACME PREMIUM.
BROADHEADS - DAVIES JAVELIN.

HUNTING COMPANIONS + WITNESSES TO KILL.
GORDON HUGHES.
DOUG. BROWNING. } MOUNT ISA + DISTRICT
IAN DE SATGE. } BOWHUNTERS CLUB.

BOAR TAKEN AT [REDACTED] CREEK,
[REDACTED] NORTH WEST QUEENSLAND.

REGARDS
MICK DACRE

**Original hand written note from Mick Dacre
- circa 1987.**

Mick and his family arrived in Oz in 1970 living firstly in and around Sydney and Goulburn before eventually making the move to Mt Isa where he was introduced to bowhunting. They later moved to the central coast of QLD around the Maryborough/Gladstone area where Mick participated in Field Archery and Bowhunting with his children and grandchildren. He also dabbled in bow making and all of his later hunts were with his favourite homemade longbow and arrows.

I have attached an extract of an email I sent to Mick's daughter Barb shortly after learning of Mick's death as it gives further insight into my thoughts on the man Mick Dacre. Barb replied promptly by saying that she received and appreciated my message at a very special and appropriate time as they (immediate family) were just sitting around the table at home just having said their goodbyes to Mick, having a few drinks, laughing, crying and remembering their husband, father and grandfather.

Trophy Takers the Club and especially the few Annual Awards he got to represented an important and happy time in Mick's life and justified the stance he took in the early days when ABA were anti-TT and gave Mick the ultimatum either leave TT or be thrown out of ABA. Mick being Mick stuck with TT, he was an active part of the TT bowhunting family for many years and I suspect at the time of his passing that he had no regrets regarding this decision.

May your record stand for another 30 years Mick Dacre as you were a perfect and inspirational role model record holder.



Mick on his very last hunt. RIP mate.

Below is an extract of the letter sent to Mick Dacre's daughter Barbara Parker by our TT Chairman shortly after learning of Mick's passing.

Hi Barbara,

You don't know me but I just saw your post re the passing of your Dad.

I am Chairman of a Bowhunting Trophy Rating Organisation called Trophy Takers here in Oz and have been involved with the Club since its formation way back in 1986 and Chairman since 1988.

I first met Mick in those early foundation days when he rated those very famous set of Pig tusks from north of Mount Isa.

I would like to say a few things about your wonderful dad.



The Bowmen of the Bush

Firstly I must admit that due to family and work circumstances I had not seen Mick for over a decade but often asked about him through mutual friends. He was a man that struck me from day one as a good genuine nice guy and after sharing a few hunts, camps our Annual TT Awards and the odd rum with him over the years my opinion never wavered. In fact Hand on heart I can say he was right up there in my eyes as being one of the most decent blokes I have ever met in the melting pot of Bowhunters from all walks of life, in the thousands that I have met over the past 46 years. He was a real role model and deserved all the accolades bestowed upon him.

I am very very saddened to learn of his passing.

We at Trophy Takers have just celebrated our 30th year and it is interesting to note that in that time all of our goat, buffalo, deer etc records have been bettered time and time again, but not Mick's Boar. It is still our #1 rated boar after 30 years.

I have big pic of Mick and the boar up in my trophy room and will always remember Mick and our times around the campfire.

Would like to become a friend with u on FB just so that I can maintain contact and let you know of any other commemorative trophies etc we might put into place to remember a fine man that was a shining light in our sport and our Club.

Sincere condolences from myself and the guys at Trophy Takers to yourself and all the Dacre family. He was a real humble champion in our eyes.

Regards,

Dave Whiting



2016 Awards Report

As reported by Dave, the Dubbo Awards have been and gone, and what an absolute ripper of a weekend it was. The rain didn't scare too many people away, we enjoyed a great roll-up, including plenty of older members who dropped in to say G'day.

The Dubbo crew did a stellar job of hosting the weekend, it was great to see everyone with their traditional bows out having a shot on the Saturday afternoon. A huge thanks to the Dubbo crew for their ability to host us with almost no warning. Also a big thanks to all of our sponsors for the raffle, which certainly provided not only plenty of entertainment but very helpful club fundraising.



Willisy and his trusty Hilux faced a few challenges in soggy conditions.



Members took advantage of the sunshine when it appeared to fire a few arrows.



Below is a wrap-up of the various Awards for the 2015-2016 hunting season.

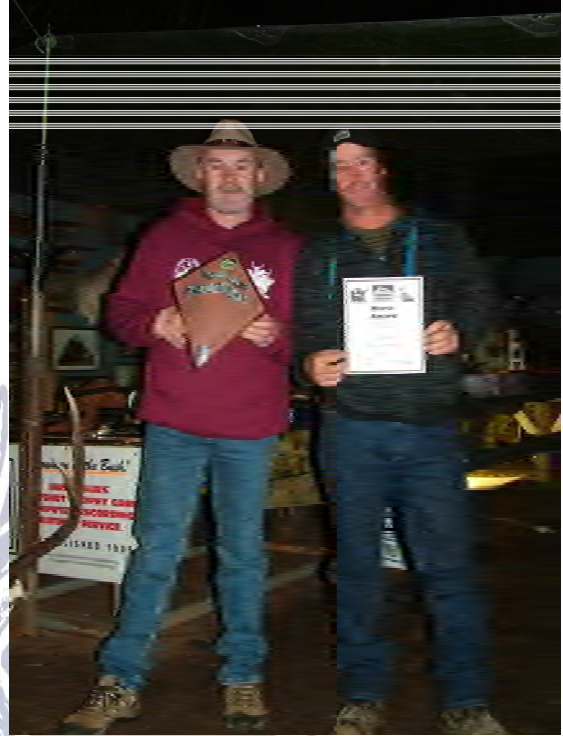
2015-16 Perpetual Hunting Awards

- **SMALL GAME AWARD** - Lee Payne
- **PAUL WHELLER MEMORIAL JUNIOR BOWHUNTER** – Kasey Payne
- **LENY SMITH FEMALE BOWHUNTER AWARD** – Karen Valery (No. 4 Banteng – 66 4/8 DS)
- **IAN FENTON TRADITIONAL AWARD** – Rodney Collings (32 2/8 DS Boar)
- **BILL BAKER BEST OVERALL DEER AWARD** – Paul Southwell (Wapiti) and Mark Southwell (Red Stag/Billy)
- **CHAIRMAN'S AWARD** - Ben Chambers – Three 40" Billies
- **KEY WHITING/DALLAS CONWAY #1's LISTING TROPHY** - For the second year running there were no new No 1 animals taken.





Kasey Payne accepts the Junior Bowhunter Award – the very first time a lady has taken it out in the club’s history.



Lee Payne accepts the Small Game Award, presented by Dave Whiting.



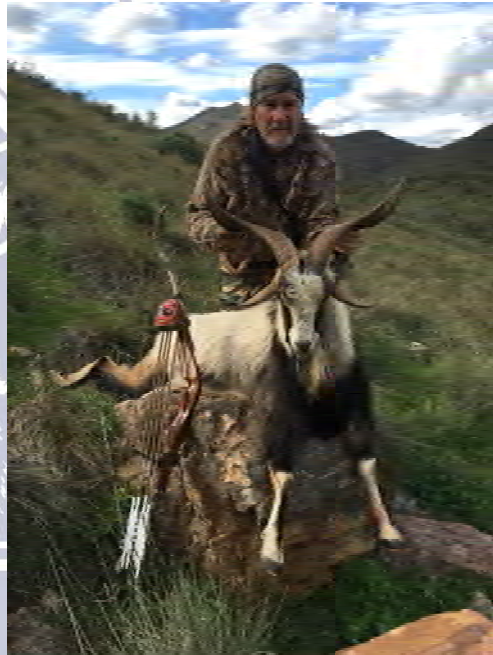
Dual winners for the Bill Baker Memorial Award were the Southwell brothers.

Annual Best of Species Awards

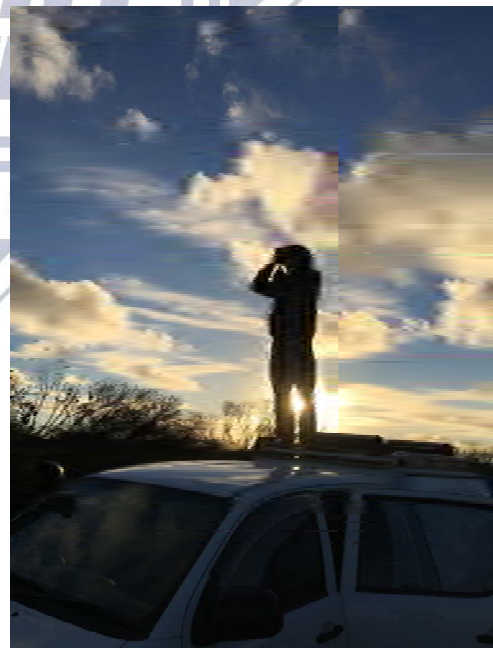
- **Boar Award:** Rodney Collings (Longbow) and Peter Fryda, 32 2/8 DS, No. 18.
- **Goat Award:** Mark Southwell, 136 2/8 DS, No. 11.
- **Red Deer Award:** Mark Southwell, 274 7/8 DS, No. 10.
- **Fallow Deer Award:** Mark Wills, 215 2/8 DS, No. 57.
- **Rusa Deer Award:** Ben Salleras, 190 DS, No. 23.
- **Sambar Deer Award:** Leigh Cragg, 153 6/8 DS, No. 15.
- **Chital Deer Award:** Paul Southwell, 159 3/8 DS, No 34.
- **Hog Deer Award:** Nil Recorded.
- **Buffalo Award:** Allan Karaitiana, 99 DS, No. 4.
- **Scrub Bull Award:** Damien Dwyer, 62 4/8 DS, No. 3.
- **Banteng Award:** Karen Valery, 66 4/8 DS, No. 4.
- **Camel Award:** Nil Recorded.
- **Fox Award:** Randal Sullings, 10 8/16 DS, No. 15.
- **Cat Award:** Lee Payne, 7 9/16 DS, No. 31.

Photographic Awards

- **Framed Hunter and Game:** Mark Southwell – Mark's NZ Stag.
- **Unframed Hunter and Game:** Casey McCallum – Dave Whiting's Flinders Ranges Billy.



- **Best Framed Hunting Photo:** Dave Whiting – Ben Chambers Glassing for Billies.



- **Best Composite Photo:** Dave Whiting – WA Trip with Ben Chambers
- **Best Hunting Album:** Peter Fryda
- **Best Taxidermy/Trophy Mount:** Paul Southwell – Ben Salleras' Spanish Ibex
- **Merv Smith Best Overall Photographic/Composite Display:** Paul and Mark Southwell – NZ Tahr self-timed photograph.



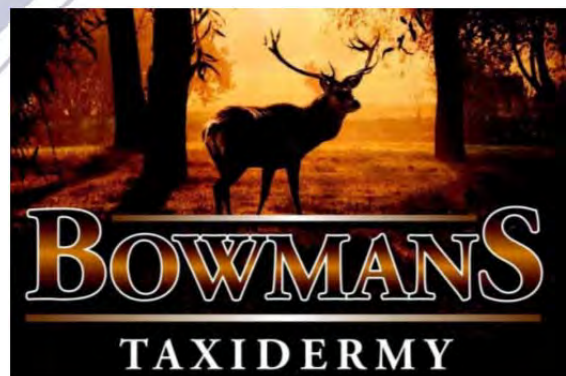
A Local Billy Goat
By Mark Southwell

“Owner of my goat place rang and he wants me to shoot a few of the billies out there” was the text that came through from my mate Josh. “well we best get out there then, how’s Sunday sound?” was my reply. Josh had been talking about this property close to town that had a stack of goats on it for a little while now and had mentioned there were some better billies amongst them, so there was no time like the present to go and check it out.

With plans laid, he picked me up early the following Sunday and it wasn’t long before we were off the bitumen and bumping down the track to the block.

Conditions were foggy early, but as we drove through the gate, it had lifted enough to get a look at the semi cleared hunting grounds. “They’re usually over the back of that bald hill, hang on a minute, that’d be them there” Josh said with a hint of excitement. Looking over to where he was pointing, there was a large mob of around 80 or more goats spread out on the open hill face, feeding their way down. Quickly pulling up the car we were about a kilometre off the mob, so I got out my new vortex spotting scope out and set it up for a closer inspection.

The mob, predominantly made up of white angora’s and bore goats, had the full spectrum of ages in it, from week old kids to some handy billies. With the spotter set up I glassed a nice mature looking billy chasing a nanny in the middle of the mob before spying two other billies trotting down a track. Not having seen a decent billy for a while and being conscious of Josh’s comments that most of the billies he’d shot were thin horned angoras I didn’t want to get too excited, but both these other billies looked to have near on two full curls and were not too far apart size wise.



The mob was feeding towards us and out onto the fairly open paddock, so we grabbed our bows and bags and started towards them. Not getting 200 from the car, the early morning thermals drifted down the slope and within a second we had a goat stampede on our hands – not the best start. Having hunted this block for a few years now Josh was pretty confident they would circle round the big open hill and head towards some clearings to the north. Our plan was to skirt the hill to the south and try another approach through the timber of the other side of the hill.

Doing just that we soon came onto several nannys and kids which were hanging on the outskirts of the mob, which we presumed were feeding over the rise out of sight. Josh was first up for a stalk and as he closed the gap, a nice billy of maybe 33-35 inches pushed a nanny round the hill and into the few nannys in front of us. Moving slow and steady, Josh closed the gap to around 40 metres from the closest animal before the wind changed for a moment and they were off. For goats that don't get hunted all that much, they were sure toey.

Hoping that the mob might peel away and not disturb the others too much, we were a little disheartened to see the majority of the mob in full flight, running through the bush and down through some scrub towards the creek. A few moments later we saw another mob move through including a couple of billies that seemed to be sporting a fair bit of horn. Having a break for a few minutes we formulated another

plan of attack. This time we would backtrack and drop down in the creek below the goats and put a stalk in from a different angle.

After skirting down and around we were now below the mob and slowly poked our way up a semi open ridge. On Josh's instruction, I was now first up to shoot and it wasn't long before a few small billies, nannys and kids were feeding within bow range. Backing out I could see more goats further up the ridge, and with the image of those two big fellas imprinted in my mind, I motioned to Josh that I was going to work up there and see if I could spot them.

Stalking in once more, I got to within 20 metres off a small billy who was bedded, then noticed one of the big billies was bedded another 150 m up the ridge. Backing out again I figured I could use a shallow side creek and couple of rocky outcrops to get within range of the big bedded stinker. Slipping my boots off, I slithered my way towards the big fella and was soon within 30 metres of him. Now just need him to stand up I thought. 10 minutes later he got restless and stood but unfortunately turned arse on and wandered his way up and over the ridge. Seeing the big bastard walking directly away was a very impressive sight, as he was side on when bedded – he looked bloody massive.



Stalking in again, I had to keep low as I was now within sight of several other goats that were feeding. Making another 20 metres or so, I could see that the big billy had moved just over the rise and had again bedded. Another waiting game..... I ranged a couple of the other goats at about 25 metres, so figured he was about 30m. After what seemed like ages, he stood perfectly broadside. Drawing back there was a small bush in between us, but I figured it was worth a shot and let one fly. My initial reaction was that the shot hit the billy low in the chest, most likely a heart shot. I lost sight of the billy within about 10 metres from where he was standing as he took off over the crest of the hill. Quickly running up to see if I could keep an eye on him, I pulled up as all the other goats were still milling around on top of the hill. I decided it better to go back, grab my gear and catch up with Josh, and not disturb the others in case they took the big billy with them.

Regrouping, we slowly stalked up the ridge with Josh in the front in case he could get a shot at another goat for dog tucker. After a Mexican standoff on the hill for 10 minutes or so, Josh decided that he'd cut back around and

put a stalk into the remaining mob round the side of the hill so as not to skyline himself. I poked up over the ridge on the other side in case my billy made his was over there. With no sign of my billy found, I sat down and watched Josh close the gap on the mob for the next half an hour or so.

After a while, Josh kneeled up, drew his bow, and took a shot. The shot sounded good and as I peered down the hill all I could see were goats running and then four feet sticking up in the grass. He had hit a nanny straight through the throat from 46 metres – a pretty handy shot! As he went back to get his pack, I wandered down to the nanny, and then noticed another goat get up from under a gum tree at about 20 metres. Realising it was my big billy, I quickly knocked and arrow, took a few steps back up the hill to improve the angle and drove another arrow through his ribs. The old billy only made it 40 metres from there before rolling over and breathing his last. How lucky was that!

Walking up to him there was no ground shrinkage. He had lovely low curling horns which went out to rather fine tips. "that's a pretty big bloody goat eh?" I said to Josh, and was a little pissed when I worked out we didn't have a tape measure between us. I was pretty sure he'd be wider than 40 inches, but had misjudged them in the past, and wanted to know real bad! "my bow is 35 inches axel to axel" Josh said, so putting his bow up to the horns and being able to fit a full handspan between it and the horn tip I

got pretty excited - It could be as wide as 44 inches.

With photos over, I began the capping duties on the stinky bastard, while Josh hunted back to get the car. Not real used to hunting places where you can drive to your kills, but I wasn't complaining. With cape off along with the backstraps and legs removed from both my billy and Josh's nanny, I had a short wait until the vehicle came over the rise. Packing it all into the ute, we were soon on the road, and back at home to finish off the cape prep, salting and boil out. Running a rough tape over the horns they ended up being 44 6/8 inches wide and scored 136 DS – my biggest goat by a country mile!



A big thanks to Josh (who is now a TT member) for taking me out, hopefully we can catch up with the other good one we saw and maybe even the infamous limpy billy who Josh reckons is even bigger...



Newsletter Contributions

Well we hope you've enjoyed what has ended up being a BUMPER newsletter. Each time we put this newsletter together, we are more and more astonished by the quantity, quality and diversity of trophy game being registered each edition. It's something we can all be truly proud of collectively. Welcome aboard to all of our new members, it's been great to see some familiar faces joining our ranks.

Also of very positive note is the female presence we're starting to see more and more of in TT. We are lucky enough to have several of Australia's top women bowhunters as active members. The presence of ladies in the hunting scene worldwide is growing stronger and stronger each year, and it's great to see we are a part of that movement.

As we continue to swelter through one of the hottest summers in living memory, don't forget that there will be light at the end of the tunnel very soon, as Autumn finally arrives, and so will herald the start of our favourite time of year. I can't wait to see how we all fair

amongst the fallow and reds this season, good luck to you all!

Best of luck in the bush!

We've included some brief details on this year's Awards location at the back of the newsletter. This year is shaping up to be a cracker event – in collaboration with Chevallan Archery Park and what will perhaps be the biggest traditional archery event of the year. We hope to see you there!

Ben Salleras and Paul Southwell

Just quickly – if you have a business that isn't already being advertised in the newsletter, please send us your ad so we can pop it in. We like to share each other's businesses and spread the word, so if you have a small ad to include.

Also – we are always chasing new stories for the newsletter – no matter how large or small, no matter what the story, please be encouraged to put pen to paper and submit a yarn for us all to enjoy.

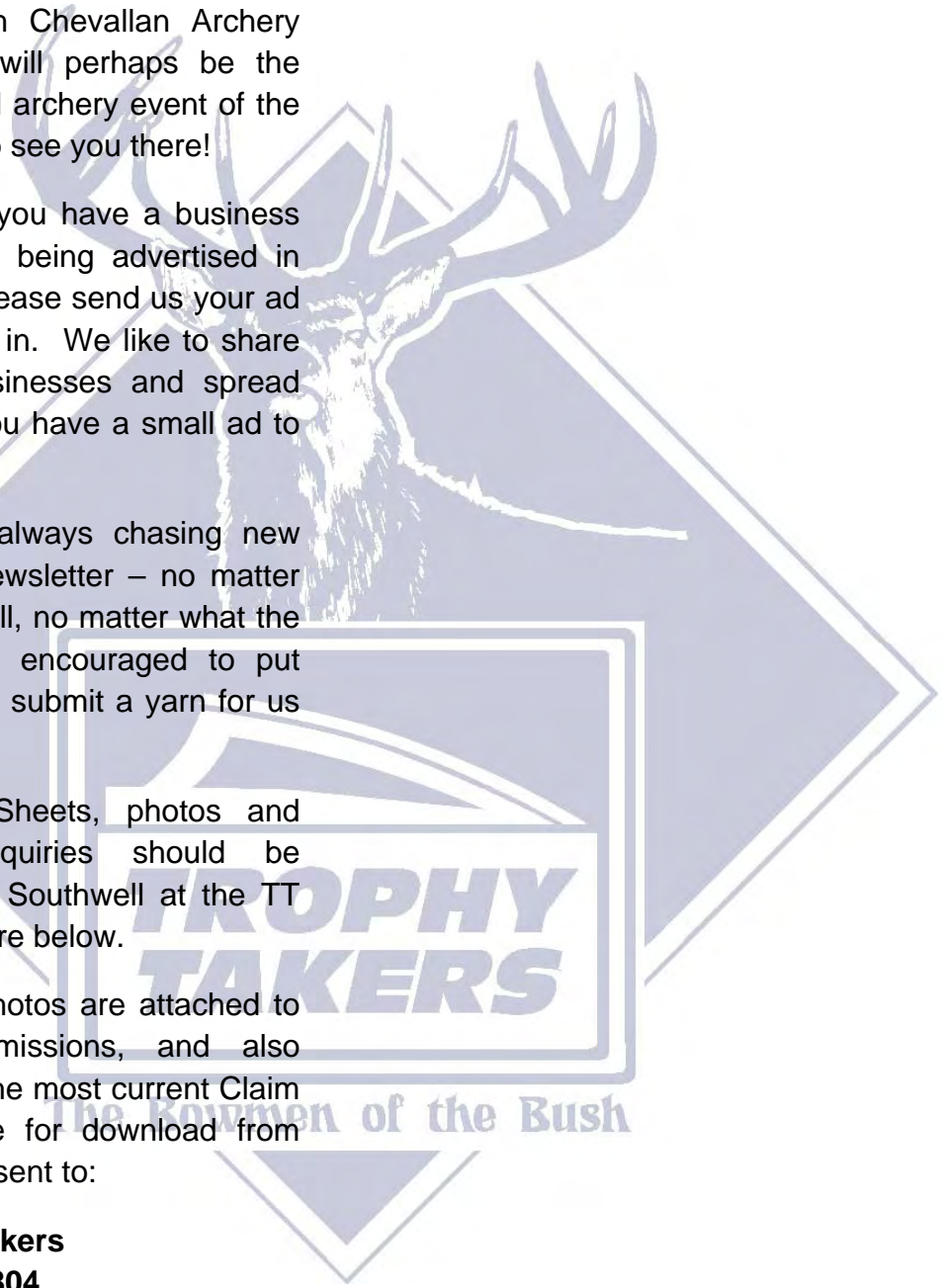
Ratings Score Sheets, photos and membership enquiries should be directed to Mark Southwell at the TT Mailbox, details are below.

Please ensure photos are attached to all ratings submissions, and also ensure you use the most current Claim Sheets (available for download from the website) and sent to:

**Trophy Takers
PO Box 1804
ARMIDALE NSW 2350**

Email enquiries and newsletter contributions:

info2@trophytakers.org



Trophy Takers AGM – Dubbo Awards 2016

Minutes of Meeting

2nd October 2015

Meeting Commenced: 09:00 am

Attendees:

Dave Whiting, Wayne Anderson, Paul Southwell, Mark Southwell, Ben Salleras, Tom Hills, Fay Hills, Dave Keable, Ben Rieth, Jeremy Kelly, Liz Kelly, Rose Kelly, Cooper Kelly, Rod Shorten, Paul Butchec, Shane Dupille, Steve Dimitrakellis, Mike Hogn, Mel Hancock, Dave James, Darryl Bulger, Mark Wills, Troy Dickinson, Ben Van Wyk, Luke Sampson, Luke Demmery, Leigh Cragg, Alex Nagy, Lisa Payne, Lee Payne, Kasey Payne, Glen Payne, Charlie Payne, Zoe Payne, Larni Sydell.

Apologies:

Ian Fenton, Wayne Cressy, Dash Warren, Sean Walsh, Adam Greentree, Antonio Lara, Kev Daley, Kevin Yates, Shannon James, Paul Hardie, Ros Hardie, Rodney Collings, Pete Morphett, Marc Curtis, Leanne Williams, Jack Spinks, Chris Hervert, Nick Hervert, Elissa Rosemond, Ben Chambers, Kyhal Hayman, Darren Hayman, Anthony Osmond, Wal Parker, Ulrik Orskov, Casey McCallum, James warne, Tyson Warne, Mick Kernaghan, Dan Kernaghan, Will Ellen, Jarrod Vyner, Jeff Rankmore, Evan Scott, Ben Hohnke, Scott Whiting, Karen Valery, Zoran Art, John Valery, Josh Robb, Rod Lowe, Kris Norman, Deano Scott, Mathew Milne, Bruno Feo, Doug Stojanovski, Manuel Agius, Trevor Willis, Allan Karaitiana, Col Moynihan, Mark and Karen Ballard, Gary Piper, Doug Church.

Minutes

Minutes from 2015 AGM at Uralla, NSW read and accepted by Dave Keable.

Business Arising

Trophy Takers Deer Slam and Australian Game Grand Slam

Aiming to get these awards organised so they can be presented in 2017. Suggestion from Paul Southwell that the awards for deer slam use the same pictures as used on the deer award trophies, perhaps as a set of matched spirit glasses - one for each species of deer. A motion moved by Tom Hills that a perpetual grand slam trophy be produced in the next 12 months.

Scoring course

Scoring course was held at the awards and some big thanks go to Daryl Bulger for travelling down to run it. Actions arising are to send out certificates to recognise participation in the course, and to update scorers list on the TT website. Mark Southwell to follow up.

TT Website

A comment from the ratings director asking members to please use the updated score sheets on the website. These have a permission tick-box which allows members to choose if they want their photos shared on social media.

TT Facebook page

Dave Whiting mentioned that he would like to see more recognition for members that take the time to post on the facebook page, especially new members to TT.

TT Newsletter

It was acknowledged that the newsletter is still being well accepted by members in its current format, especially those that are not on the Facebook page. Dave Whiting asked for more contribution from TT members in the form of stories or any information that might be of interest to members.

Perpetual Woman Bowhunter Award

Recognition that the perpetual woman bowhunter award was presented for the first time in 2016. A big thankyou to Rod and Steve Shorten for organising and making the trophy.

Deer Awards

There is a need to finalise payment from members that showed interest in sponsoring the perpetual deer awards. Mark Southwell to follow up. Also, need to organise cases for the transport of the awards. Dave Whiting and Ben Salleras considering options and pricing.

No 1 Awards

It was acknowledged that we are running low on No.1 awards and will likely need to get some more made soon. Mark Wills not sure of status of company who made the last batch and asked if any members are aware of anyone who might be able to make them. We still have some wooden back boards that can be used.

Appreciation plaques

We need to organise some appreciation plaques to be sent to Uralla Bowmen and the Dubbo club to show our appreciation for the use of the club grounds for TT awards. Mark Southwell to follow up.

General Business

New perpetual trophies

Some discussion was had around the addition of new perpetual trophies, to further recognise the achievements of TT members. Three new trophies were proposed – A 'Best Exotic' trophy, a 'Best Banteng' trophy and a 'Best Trophy shot by New Member' trophy. Jeremy Kelly to organise best exotic trophy, Ben Salleras to organise best banteng trophy and Tom Hills to organise new member's trophy. New member's trophy recipient will be chosen by Tom Hills.

Annual Awards attendance

A request from Dave Whiting that all members that are planning to attend the awards please let one of the directors know, so we can better judge merchandise sales and help with awards planning.

Rating of mounted/cut skull trophies

Paul Southwell raised the possibility of allowing trophies into the ratings that have been mounted or the skull has been cut and repaired (a common practice to transport heads by plane). Tom Hills moved that these heads be allowed into the ratings for existing TT members, but that they be labelled as 'unofficial' and not be eligible for annual trophies. Unanimous support for this motion.

Upcoming annual awards locations

There was support to hold the 2017 awards weekend in Gympie, QLD. Dave Keable to follow up with Chevallan Archery Park. Fall back option would be the Goulburn Bowmans club in NSW. If Gympie goes ahead then Goulburn would be likely venue for 2018. The potential for an awards weekend in WA was also raised given the number of members we have from that part of the country. It was recognised that warning of this should be provided to members well in advance to help them plan for travel.

Account balances:

As at 30/9/16:

Member account	\$2,993.41
Market account	\$ 1,392.51
Total	\$ 4,385.92

Meeting closed: 09:55am



Trophy Takers 2017 Awards Announcement:

Chevallan Archery Park

Gympie, QLD

30th Sept - 2nd October 2017



Set to be one of the biggest and best Awards Weekends in Trophy Takers history, save the date and joins us for a top weekend of Traditional Archery in Queensland!

- Held in collaboration with Chevallan Archery Park's major Traditional Shoot for 2017
- Shoot will be held Saturday and Sunday – 25 Field Targets each day and plenty of novelty events – traditional gear only
- Speed Round, Clout, Running Pig, Rolling Disc, Hunter Round and Pop'n'Jay!
- All meals available Friday Dinner through to Monday breakfast
- Great camping facilities, toilets and hot showers – all in a beautiful setting
- For numbers and planning purposes, please head to **www.chevallanarcherypark.com** to register your attendance (Click on 'Shoot Info' then 'Nominations')
- A flyer and further info will be provided closer to the date!
- Email Sue Wallace at swallace@wallacetradwoods.com or register@chevallanarcherypark.com for more information or to register!



Chevallan Archery Park
Traditional Archery