

Friends of Maryvale Newsletter # 6

All the best for 2010, and what a year it will be.

Below is one of the first photos taken at Maryvale in 2010. It is great to see these big velvet stags showing up regularly, a good sign for the future of Maryvale trophies.



My first hunters of the year, Darren (a taxidermist) and Mark (one of the owners of 'Safari and Travel Solutions' who are booking agents for hunters) drove up from down south. The weather at this time of year can be uncertain at Maryvale, but the day they arrived it stopped raining and cooled down by about 10C.

On the first day of hunting (at around midday) we saw a promising stag we wished to take a closer look at. This involved a good walk in to get the wind right, a two hour wait for some kangaroos to vacate their bedding area, another wait for a hind to feed out of our way and lastly, we spooked an unseen stag.



Finally, Darren secured this 31" stag, which will be full mounted.

Next day as the sun was breaking the horizon, Mark shot a stag with these unusual wine glass-shaped antlers. It was just too good to pass up, even if it was so early on in the hunt.



Once back at camp, we caped Mark's stag, had some lunch, then set out again looking for cull stags and management hinds.



Over the next few days Darren and Mark took two cull stags and 10 hinds each, helping with the management of the Maryvale chital deer. They were easy going, great company, and enjoyed keeping me up late with a few wines and we knew many people in common in our various hunting circles. With their good luck, both with the weather and opportunities in the field, they will go down in the annals of Maryvale’s history as ‘the Dream Team.’

Two friends, Barry and John, were the next hunters. John had hunted before with me in 2009 whilst Barry has hunted extensively. Last year he took this wonderful bull elephant.



Barry had to shorten his trip to Maryvale due to unforeseen circumstances whilst John stayed on to do some management hunting. Barry left me with the following comments:

“The name Maryvale has been synonymous with chital deer for decades and I was excited to be able to legally hunt this magnificent wild herd. Tello’s ability to guide you across a range of chital hunting experiences will ensure a return visit is on the agenda. His intimate knowledge of their range and habits ensures you will be selecting from the best of what’s to offer. Five star wild deer hunting is rarely found with such good amenities and guiding experience.”

Over one month previously a few stalks have been ruined by dingoes chasing the deer, so I felt retribution should be swift. One morning with John we saw some dingoes feeding on a young stag they had just killed. It took just a quick walk, a blast on the predator call and we despatched them to 'dingo heaven'.



Maryvale Safaris has recently had booths at the Wild Deer Expo at Rutherglen and the SCI Hunting and Outdoor Show in Brisbane. Both were well attended, achieving better than expected results. These shows are a great place to meet up with old friends, past clients and to meet new people.



At the Wild Deer Expo my booth was next to David Greig from Blackfoot Designs. I have known Dave for many years and this photo below shows us on our first hunt together in New Zealand.



Likewise, at the SCI Show, we were next to another friend, professional hunter Charlie Stanton who I have hunted with in Africa.



I have recently had the pleasure of catching in up in Fiji with another hunting friend from the past, John Fatiaki, seen on the left in the photo below, taken In Mongolia.



These past hunts, destinations, trophies and friendships are the very essence of hunting. At Maryvale we will endeavor to make your hunt an enjoyable and memorable experience.

I wish you all the best for your hunting in 2010.

Regards Tello

