



THE DEERSTALKER

NEWSLETTER OF HASTINGS BRANCH OF THE NZDA INC.

NOVEMBER 2009

ISSUE 10

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Time sure has flown quickly this year. I can still remember wishing that spring would hurry up and get here, like it was just the other day. Well it's here and like most I will quickly forget the cold of winter only to moan about how many times I have to mow the lawns now. Maybe getting a goat is in order this year!



I am able to confirm that spring has also reached the hills as well, with a quick walk I had around in the Kawekas last week. The beginnings of new growth are certainly about, with jelly fern and tutu making a welcome appearance. My patience with load development has also paid off with a yearling that hung around on a clearing just a little too long for me to resist. Having the first shot with the new load it find its mark certainly boosts the confidence.

Last month was our prize giving event and it was a bloody good night I must say. Fine food and a few liquid refreshments made for a very enjoyable evening. It was nice to also acknowledge one of our senior members by presenting Grant Richards with his life membership for all the great work he has done with the club.

Last committee meeting went well but a concerning issue was the low turn out for the past two club hunts. I have been on a number of club trips now, which have all been really awesome and I encourage members to take these opportunities and get on board. Our next planned club trip is a fly in trip to the Kawekas with East Kaweka Helicopters in late February. It will be an ideal opportunity to get into some excellent hunting country with both the hinds being in prime condition & most of the mature stags will be in "hard velvet". Angus Richards has spent some time getting this organised and it should be a club trip that you won't want to miss.

I hope you are all now well aware of the important political movements around our sport at the moment. The NZ Big Game Hunting Council Establishment Committee has travelled the country, including a visit to our club earlier this month, advising of the public consultation process for the establishment of the NZ Game Animal Council. This should be an organisation with teeth, hopefully having real legislative power, definitely not just the same old lip service we've had previously fed us. The cut off for submissions was on the 23rd November, so for your own sake I hope you took the chance to have your say. All going well there actually appears to be a real possibility of getting some reasonable management of our animals as game, instead of ecological pests.

Contact me on 021 765335 or via email at jamesquilford@clear.net.nz.

Hot barrels, James

Events Calendar December 2009

Club Night

Wed 2nd December
@ 8.00pm

Committee Meeting

Wed 16th December
@ 7.30pm

Just Kidding!!!

My sweet husband invited me to go hunting for a whitetail buck with him this year. I couldn't believe it...the first time ever in 10 years!

I never thought he'd be willing to share his 'guy time' with me and being the thoughtful man that he is, he even gave me a beginners present.

He calls it "The First Timers Lucky Hat".

I really am so fortunate to be married to him!

I have attached a picture of me hunting in my 'lucky hat'. (see page 3)

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BACKCOUNTRY HUTS REMOVED & NOT AVAILABLE FOR ACCOMMODATION - North Island



This list is a reference of huts removed and those that are not available for accommodation. These huts may still appear on maps and in other visitor information. **Always check the latest notices at the nearest DOC visitor centre before you venture out and be prepared for all conditions.** A list of DOC visitor centres is available on the DOC website www.doc.govt.nz

PARK/ RESERVE	HUT NAME	NOTES
Bay of Plenty		
Kaimai-Mamaku Forest Park	Mangakino Hut	REMOVED
Kaimai-Mamaku Forest Park	Te Aroha Mountain Hut	REMOVED
Te Urewera National Park	Mangawhero Forks Hut	REMOVED
Te Urewera National Park	Pakiaka Hut (Parahaki)	Destroyed by fire
Te Urewera National Park	Waikokopu	REMOVED
East Coast/Hawke's Bay		
Kaweka Forest Park	Iron Whare Hut	Not for accommodation
Ruahine Forest Park	Centre Creek Hut	REMOVED
Ruahine Forest Park	Craigs Hut	REMOVED
Ruahine Forest Park	Kumeti Hut	REMOVED
Ruahine Forest Park	Heritage Lodge	Destroyed by fire 14/3/05
Ruahine Forest Park	Middle Stream Hut	REMOVED
Ruahine Forest Park	Opawe Hut	REMOVED
Te Urewera National Park	Te U Bivvy	REMOVED
Waitotara Conservation Area	Pokeka Hut	REMOVED
Wanganui		
Whanganui National Park	Maungarau Hut	REMOVED
Wellington		
Tararua Forest Park	Oriwa Bivvy	REMOVED
Tararua Forest Park	Mt Dagg Hut	REMOVED


Club Hunting Trip - February Fly In Trips

Thursday 25th through to Sunday 28th of February 2010 -

The club has pre booked six different DOC huts with East Kaweka Helicopters. The hut options are **Back Ridge** biv, **Mangatinoka** hut, **Ngaawapurua** hut, **Venison Tops** hut, **Rocks Ahead** hut & **Manson** biv. Cost will depend on your destination and our numbers, but will be less than \$300 per person. Payment of a deposit of \$200 by February 3rd will be required to book your flight & hut preference will be given to those who have paid the full deposit first. Any charges remaining will be sorted out once the flight plans & numbers have been confirmed. The deposit is non-refundable to ensure that any cost savings to other members on the trip stays the same.

See Angus Richards at club night or ring him on 877 9422

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EDITORS CORNER

THANKS TO ALL WHO TURNED UP TO THE PRIZEGIVING AND MADE IT A GREAT EVENING. WE WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME A NEW CLUB MEMBER **THOMAS YOUNG**. I MUST SAY IT HAS BEEN QUITE A POSITIVE YEAR FOR THE CLUB WITH A REASONABLE MEMBERSHIP INCREASE, SO ENDEAVOUR TO MAKE SURE NEW MEMBERS FEEL WELCOME. WE SHOULD ALSO WELCOME **MARTIN HARKNESS** BACK AS A RETURNING MEMBER, BUT WE'RE NOT QUITE SURE IF HE REALLY EVER LEFT US! ANYONE WITH ANY DECENT IDEAS FOR OUR CLUB NIGHTS OR TRIPS IS ENCOURAGED TO CONTACT JAMES WITH ANY FEASIBLE SUGGESTIONS. THERE ARE ALSO ONLY TWO MORE **HUNTING STORIES** NEEDED BEFORE WE **DRAW THE WINNER OF THE MARCH TRIP TO OTUTU ISLAND**. THE CLUB WILL BE OFFERING ANOTHER GREAT DRAW FOR NEXT YEAR, SO GET WRITING AND KEEP THE STORIES COMING IN!

Hungry Hunters' Pizza

Serves 8

150grams venison fillet, back steak or any reasonable cut, sliced thinly

1 large pre-prepared pizza base (about 25 x 25cm)

200grams button mushrooms, thinly sliced

½ red, orange or yellow pepper, deseeded and thinly sliced

½ cup cranberry sauce or jelly

¼ cup good onion marmalade or fruit chutney

300grams mozzarella cheese, thinly sliced or grated

12 black olives, stoned and halved

12 fresh cranberries, halved (or dried ones)

2 tablespoons fresh oregano, chopped

5 tablespoons freshly grated Parmesan cheese

Olive oil, Paprika

Freshly ground black pepper

Preheat the oven to 180°C.

Mix the cranberry sauce and onion marmalade or fruit chutney

together and spread evenly over the pizza base. Arrange the slices of mozzarella on top.

Arrange the peppers and mushrooms over the cheese. A single layer of each is enough. Tuck the venison slices amongst the peppers etc. Sprinkle the olives, cranberries and oregano over and finally add the parmesan on top of everything. Drizzle with a little olive oil, dust with paprika and season with black pepper.

Cook in oven 20-30 minutes or until the pizza edges are crisp and the topping is cooked.

*Taken from Andy Lyver's Cookbook 'Wild and Wonderful Everyday Venison Recipes for all Seasons', which is available from all good book stores.



Just Kidding -continued

On a hunt in my lucky hat!!!



The Club Notice Board

(please check the notice board at the Clubrooms for full details)

Kaweka Mountain Beech Project mapping shows the areas where deer numbers were high over the past year. **Full list of all the Back Country Huts** that have either been removed by DOC, destroyed by fire or that aren't available to the public for accommodation.

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DEATH AT DAWN by Grant Richards

I remember the day started out as a starlit, crystal clear morning with a heavy frost on the ground. My mate Ian and I had arrived up at the farm very early, well before daybreak, hopefully to catch the deer out in the open. We parked my old Anglia 'Ute' as close to the top paddock as we dared, before getting geared up and continuing on foot.

During our initial planning the day before, whilst we were obtaining permission from the farm manager, he had suggested we head up to a big scrubby paddock at the top of the farm. He had seen some deer up there lately and reckoned there were always a few deer up there, maybe a couple of easy ones he said!

I was way too early when we parked up, so we just took our time strolling along towards our destination. On our approach five deer run out, but it was still too dark to try and get onto them. Anyway they had all bolted out into the open farm land, so we knew they would be back soon. Sure enough, about 5 minutes later, they came back a further 300metres along the scrub line and by now there was just enough light to see properly, so I took a quick shot and dropped one of them. We ran to follow the others down along the ridgeline so that Ian could get a shot at them as well. As we rounded a corner in the scrub we could see another big mob of about 30 deer ahead in the distance. They seemed to be startled and were milling around, not knowing where to go, so they all must have been confused by the sound of the first shot.

We cut off down through the scrub to head them off before they took off too far down into the gorge. Not seeing whether or not the deer had gone down into the gorge, we came back up a little confused as to where they were. As it was we ended up popping out where they were originally standing and they were still there, only some 50metres in front of us!! You could've seen the dollar signs in both our eyes as we lined up our rifles and opened up on them. Deer were running in all directions as the barrage of shots rang out from our open sighted 303's. We ended up with another five deer after what was a very hurried flurry of shots. We gutted them all, then proceeded to drag and carry them all to where we could get a tractor & trailer, before we headed back to see the farmer to borrow his farm vehicles. I also had to ring up the wife to bring the car and a trailer up to help get them all back into town.

The deer were sold to Ken Swanwick, from 'Burgs Game'. My share was \$287.00 which was about 3 weeks wages in those days! Not bad for a days work, but, to have to pay our government \$95.00 tax out of it was pretty rough!!!

BERGS GAME LIMITED							
HUNTER'S COPY							
P.O. BOX 601 WHAKATANE TELEPHONE 7981							
NAME		ADDRESS		No. 25890		Date 10 July 77	
Animal Species	CARCASE IDENTIFICATION			Factory Weigh Office Use Only	Price per Pound	VALUE	
	Agent Number	Docket Number	Purchase Weight			\$	c
			127		95	120	65
			141		81	114	21
			156		95	148	20
TOTAL VALUE -- --						383 06	
LESS WITHOLDING TAX --						95 75	
CHEQUE No. 616231				CHEQUE VALUE -- -- \$287 31			

N.B.—THE ABOVE DOCKET NUMBER MUST BE WRITTEN AFTER THE SHOOTER'S NAME ON THE "PAY" LINE OF THE CHEQUE.

Committee Officers

Patron.....	Max Motley	
President.....	James Guilford	876 5334
Vice President.....	Jeremy Hanaray	873 3948
Treasurer.....	Neil MacLean	874 3018
Secretary.....	Stephen Shaw	877 5275
Newsletter Editor..	Lynne Ellingham	877 5275

Hall Contacts

Hall Bookings.....	Guy Te Kahika	879 9598
Groundsman.....	Grant Richards	878 4467
Trophy Custodian...	Graeme Withey	878 6161
Hall Caretaker.....	Robert Underwood	878 8792

Hastings Deerstalkers Branch Clubrooms

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