



# THE DEERSTALKER

NEWSLETTER OF HASTINGS BRANCH OF THE NZDA INC.

NOVEMBER 2010

ISSUE 11

## PRESIDENTS REPORT

Giddy all,

Well my exuberance for Spring may have been a touch too early as I recently found out at the end of October. A trip up onto the Ruahine tops confirmed the lag in the seasons a bit of elevation will offer even with the warmer weather down low. The tussock tops are a truly awesome place to be, but when there's buggar all growth the deer certainly won't be easy to find! That being said though, I'd start to expect a bit more movement on the tops now with the recent good weather.

I have been in regular correspondence with a few chaps down in the Wairarapa regarding the possible increase in WARO through the Ruahines. There is to be a meeting with DOC, hunters and the chopper operators to try and find a common ground for all (piff) and it is to be chaired by the Manawatu mayor. This was to be this coming weekend (27<sup>th</sup>) but has been delayed. The upside of this is no meeting means a reprieve from additional WARO in the Ruahine.

Just this weekend I have returned from Opotiki for a family get together. I had never been up this way through Galatea before, but I cut my teeth to speak, just round the road in the Waimana Valley. It was neat to see the Te Urewara again from the Galatea side, and I can sure see the allure of the country up there especially with the added possibility of a Rusa. Maybe a club trip up this way may be a good idea? I would love to get up the Waimana valley again but it still seems to have a bad record for mongrels and car bust ins.

There is still the two club trips planned for this coming December. Mal Ingpen has a fly in trip for the first weekend of Dec and there is still the junior hunt up Wairoa the following weekend. Don't be shy to put your hands up for either trip as there are plenty of places available.

Still the news is awash with the tragic shooting in Turangi of Rosemary Ives. The young man who pulled the trigger has pleaded guilty to manslaughter and I certainly think he will be serving a lengthy personal sentence atop the one he will receive from a judge in February. Please guys, be very certain when you are out hunting that you are 100% sure that what you are pulling the trigger on is your intended target.

Anyway that's enough from me so, hot barrels and see you next club night.

James

## EDITORS CORNER

THE ANNUAL TARUARAU RANGE SHOOT COMPETITION BETWEEN TAIHAPE AND HAWKES BAY WAS HELD ON SUN 7TH NOVEMBER, WITH HAWKES BAY BEING THE WINNER. HASTINGS NOW HOLDS THE TARUARAU CUP FOR GAINING THE BEST AVERAGE OUT OF THE HAWKES BAY TEAMS & OUR 2ND & 3RD PLACINGS GIVES US 3 POINTS FOR THE ANDERSON SHIELD AS WELL. THANKS TO THE MEMBERS WHO ATTENDED AND SHOT WELL ENOUGH TO GET US THIS RESULT. THERE ARE STILL PLACES AVAILABLE FOR OUR NORTH RUAHINE FLY-IN TRIP AND THE JUNIOR HUNTING TRIP SO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST ASAP.

WE HAVE A NEW MEMBER TO WELCOME & INTRODUCE THIS MONTH ; SENIOR MEMBER **MICHAEL LYDIARD**.

WE ALSO APPRECIATE YOUR JOKES & ARTICLES ETC COMING IN FOR THE NEWSLETTER – KEEP IT UP. YOU WILL HAVE TO WRITE A STORY TO GET IN THE DRAW FOR THE **STICHBURY EXHAUST SPONSORED FLY IN TRIP** IN MARCH 2010, ONLY 3 MORE NEEDED. I'LL SEE YOU AT OUR NEXT CLUB MEETING.

## Events Calendar December 2010

**Club Night** Wed 1st December - This is our final club meeting for 2010. The club will put on a casual BBQ meal and the bar will be open from 6.30pm, with the feed around 7.00pm.

**Committee Meeting**  
Wed 15th Dec. 7.30pm.

**Nth.Ruahine Fly-in Trip** 2nd-5th Dec.  
Contact:  
Malcolm on 8787795.

**Junior Hunting Trip**  
11th-13th Dec, Contact:  
James on 8765334 or  
Malcolm on 8787795.

**North Island Championships**  
27th & 28th November.  
Tokoroa Shooting  
Sports Complex -  
Rimfire & Centrefire.

Contact - C Curren on  
07 886 4090 for details.

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## The Mad Hatter's Ten-Eight-Tea Party?

By Stephanie McKee

Government 1080 importer threatens to sue government for compensation if 1080 stocks are made worthless.

Is this another twist to the Mad Hatter's Ten-Eight-Tea Party?

More and more it appears that it is not conservation science, but rather it is an economic engine that is driving the continued use of 1080 as the "most effective tool we have" to reduce possum numbers. Me thinks I smell a rat, or should I say a possum, and it's not in the forest dying an agonising 1080 death - no, it appears to be a large corporate creature nestled into a cosy cranny at the highest level of government. Animal Control Products Ltd (ACP) is a state-owned enterprise whose two shareholders are the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Agriculture. It is a business that, like a drug addict, is hooked into the importation, manufacturing and distribution of 1080 products and the profits that are generated. In its Statement of Corporate Intent ( 2010- 2012) there are a few eye-brow raising statements, no matter whether your eyebrows are the bushy farmer's type, or shaped urban.

Here are three surprising facts for your consideration:

ACP Ltd sees any developments of alternatives to 1080 ( that ERMA recommended) as a "risk" to its core business.(Importing and manufacturing products from 1080 accounts for 65% of its profits. )

It has stockpiled 4 years worth of 1080 "beyond commercial requirements". (This has been estimated to amount to more than 10,000kg of pure 1080.)

It has stated that should the government take any action to restrict 1080 use, thereby making these stocks "valueless", it will assert its right to seek compensation "...sufficient to allow the Company's position to be restored.

(Source: <http://www.comu.govt.nz/pdfs/ACP-SCI-2009-10.pdf> )

And here are some questions to ponder.

How bizarre is it when an SOE company whose two shareholders are the Ministers of Finance and Agriculture, will threaten to sue themselves, the government?

How can it be in the "national interest" and for the "public good", to stockpile 4 years worth of the supertoxin 1080 "beyond commercial requirements" as stated by ACP?

Is ACP an unaccountable corporate entity? The answer to this must be 'yes' as it states that its Business and Strategic Plan is confidential and not available to the public.

ACP Ltd also states that to deal with the perceived "risk" of 1080 use being restricted, it will need to develop new poisons as well as expand exports. Currently, ACP through Pestoff Products based in Wanganui, exports container loads of poisons to many overseas nations including Iran, Pakistan, Turkey and Russian states like unstable Kyrgyzstan. (Source [www.pestoff.co.nz/](http://www.pestoff.co.nz/) under products).

Have we "gone down the rabbit hole" like Alice in Wonderland where things appear curiouser and curiouser? In the 2008 "anti-terrorist" police raids, the organisers of an environmentally constructive EcoShow in Taupo had their homes searched and computers removed.

Compare this to the fact that a state-owned enterprise can import huge amounts of a deadly Class IA supertoxin which could threaten national security if ever it got into the wrong hands.

In its booklet on "1080 & Possum Control", the Department of Conservation stated that 1080 for possum control was the best available poison " in the short to medium term". They stated that within 10 to 15 years there would be more "integrated" approaches or biological control. But this was written over sixteen years ago. Over this time, 1080 use has become firmly entrenched in the economy, driven more by money than ecology.

It would be funny, if it wasn't so concerning, that many well-intentioned and hard-working people of the conservation sector have swallowed the green-tinged bait of this profit-driven poison-industrial complex. In time, 1080 will join a long list of banned chemicals that were once promoted as " safe and cost-effective".

## **REEL 'N' RIFLE** **Hawkes Bay**

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**Mark Corlett** on ph.8700362

Our Christmas deals for Deerstalkers members are

- **Thompson/Center 'Venture' Rifle for only \$999.00.**  
(Available on our current stock, only three rifles in 243, 7mm08 or 270 caliber.)
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Limited offers until end of the year.

— [mark@reelnrifle.co.nz](mailto:mark@reelnrifle.co.nz) —



## On the Club Notice Board

[HBRC Aerial 1080 Drop](#)  
maps of the public/private lands that have just been poisoned for possum control.

[NZDA 2011 Calendar](#)  
'The way it used to be' - Historical photos from days gone by. These sell for only \$15.00 per copy. The club can make a bulk order so please advise Lynne by 10th Dec on ph. 06 8775275 or by email - [hastings\\_nzda@xtra.co.nz](mailto:hastings_nzda@xtra.co.nz)



## Taruarau Shoot

### Hastings Results

Rob Underwood	66
Paul Montaperto	60
Neil MacLean	58
Leigh Montaperto	57
Peter Montaperto	54



[www.nzdahastings.org.nz](http://www.nzdahastings.org.nz)

Our Branch Website is now officially up and running. We encourage all our members to go and have a look. You can log in and use the blog page to add stories, photos & anything else you think others would like to see. We need your input & feedback.

## Club Hunting Trips

Our club trip convener, Malcolm Inpen, is organising two hunting trips for early December. Those interested in either of these two trips need to contact Mal on **06 8787795** asap for all further details.

### Northern Ruahines

The **first trip** is a fly-in into the Ikawetea catchment, via East Kaweka helicopters. The huts for this trip are on DOC land, namely the Ikawetea Forks, Rockslide & Ruahine Corner Hut + Mistake Biv on private land if it is wanted. The plan is for flights in on Thursday 2nd Dec. and back out on Sunday 5th Dec. 2010.

### Wairoa District

The **second trip** is mainly for Junior members and those who are keen to help out on a trip up to the Ruakituri valley. The target species is *Capra aegagrus hircus*, the NZ feral goat! The dates for this culling excursion are Friday 10th through to Sunday 12th Dec. 2010.

### Just Kidding-Animal Fun



I'm really not happy—can you tell!!!

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**Hangar:** 99 Hukanui Rd, PUKETITIRI. **Email:** [cgcrosse@xtra.co.nz](mailto:cgcrosse@xtra.co.nz)

# An Early Trip To Makino Bivvy By Neil Maclean

Lynne's photograph of Makino Bivvy published in the newsletter a few months back brought back a few memories. In late March 1963 I went on my first overnight trip into the bush. On Friday night my father, uncle Hector and I walked into the bivvy in the dark. My uncle was packing in some supplies for his roar trip the following month.

The Makino hut was built by Napier Deerstalkers Club members in 1959. The NZ Forest Service provided the materials and flew them in by fixed wing aircraft to a strip cut in the manuka. The materials were dropped by parachute with some of the wall sheeting folded in half to fit in the packs. Snow Angen's book has a photograph of the building crew including my uncle. The current track between the saddle car park and the bivvy was cut in the 1950's but the track from the Makino area down to Te Puia Hut is part of an earlier mustering track from the late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century when the area was grazed. The current road from the Makahu River to the hot springs was formed about 1912 but had become overgrown. When we walked over it in 1963 it had been recently cleared.

Our trip started from Taradale after tea, about 7:00PM and we must have reached the Makahu about 8:30PM. We walked across Jack Nicholas's swing bridge and up to his shack. No vehicle bridge or concrete ford in those days and few people had 4 wheel drives. After a cup of tea we headed for Makino Hut. We must have reached the bivvy sometime after midnight. I and possibly others were pretty stuffed so we stayed for what was left of the night. I had a reasonably new flock sleeping bag and kept pretty warm but my father only had a couple of army blankets and must have been pretty cold.

I remember my uncle telling me that in the early stages of building the hut they used to sleep in the bivvy and walk through to the hut each day so the bivvy must be older than the hut, more than 50 years now. The bivvy was a lot taller in those days (although I was somewhat shorter) with a section of spouting discharging into a small tank on the north side. Over time the supporting posts have probably rotted away. The following day we walked through to Makino hut by mid morning. The hut then had four sack bunks (changed to wire wove about five years later) and someone had left a pigs tail on each presumably shot or caught in the area. We headed back to town after lunch and between the Te Puia track and the Bivvy I spotted two deer standing not far of the track and watching us walk past. I tried to point them out to my uncle but they must have been behind a bush from where he was standing and they turned and walked out of sight, obviously Sika from their pale rear end. I think that it was the sight of these two deer that sparked my interest in hunting. The bush in the Makino area was quite different then being quite open with little of the pepperwood that is present today. As we walked back out my uncle told me the names they used to describe the sections of the



**This photo is of Godfrey Kaye on a trip we did in 2003, which was almost forty years to the day after my first trip.**

track. The incubator was the climb from the current car park up through the bracken, very apt on a summer's day. The bottom plateau was the next flattish section where the track has been cut through the manuka and the top plateau the section not far short of the bivvy. Other sections which exact locations elude me are: Fishhook Ridge, Battery Hill and Puketutae. All quite descriptive names. It was an interesting trip for a not quite 14 year old in which I spent my first night in the bush, saw my first deer and first fired a large calibre, possibly any, rifle. It also changed the rest of my life.

## **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**

1534 Maraekakaho Road, Bridge Pa,  
PO Box 2155, Stortford Lodge, Hastings  
Phone:(06) 879 9396  
email: [hastings\\_nzda@xtra.co.nz](mailto:hastings_nzda@xtra.co.nz)



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# New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association Incorporated

**Media Release - 26 October 2010**

## **Deerstalkers' Association Deplores Kaimanawa Road Killing.**

The national executive of the New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association retracts and apologises unreservedly, for the ill-chosen comments made by its national president, Alec McIver, in printed articles over labour weekend. We also wish to extend our sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Rosemary Ives, whose death at the hands of a thoughtless, careless firearms user, is an indictment on him, and casts an unwelcome shadow over the pursuit of hunting. Our president did not mean to construct this tragedy as 'a freakish accident' or to trivialise or excuse it by referring to it as 'an unusual situation'. Though his choice of words was unwise, his intention was neither malicious nor intended to cause distress. Rosemary Ives' death is the devastating result of needless, heedless and mindless misuse of a firearm. This is doubly repugnant because the user discharged his firearm near a public place, which directly contravenes Section 48 of the Arms Act 1983.

NZDA utterly condemns any use of a firearm which occurs illegally, and which is careless, no matter what time of day it occurs. The fact this occurred at night in very poor light, shows the scant regard this man from Hamilton had for correct and responsible use of his firearm.

NZDA does not represent all hunters, and only about a third of the estimated 30,000 game animal hunters in New Zealand are members of our association. We do try hard however, to promote and encourage new hunters onto our HUNTS courses. These teach the seven basic rules of firearms safety, good hunting practice, and safety in the outdoors. We are only sorry this idiot chose not to be part of one; Rosemary may still be alive, if he had.

NZDA will be doing more to inform and remind hunters of their obligations when using and carrying firearms in and around public places in future.

NZDA applauds the police in laying charges of careless use of a firearm, against this offender.

We will be encouraging the police and the judiciary to make an example of this person. We hope a stiff punishment for this offender; will go a small way to assuring campers and other users of the outdoors, of the safety and sanctity of our wilderness, which Rosemary Ives was so cruelly denied.

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## **New Zealand Mountain Safety Council**



**MEDIA RELEASE - 24 October 2010**

**FOLLOW THE SEVEN BASIC RULES OF FIREARMS SAFETY AT ALL TIMES WHEN HANDLING FIREARMS**

The tragic death of a 25 year old Lower Hutt school teacher this Labour weekend highlights the need for hunters to follow all parts of the seven basic rules of firearms safety and comply with firearms law at all times says Mike Spray, Firearms and Hunter Training Programme Manager for the New Zealand Mountain Safety Council.

The victim was fatally shot by a hunter who was spotlighting on public land. Mr. Spray said that all hunters need not only to know the seven basic firearms safety rules, but to apply each part of them at all times.

"This regrettable incident could have been avoided by following Rule 4: Identify your target beyond all doubt. Spot lighting is legal on private land but extra care is required as the field of vision is limited to the beam of the spotlight only and target identification needs to be positively confirmed." says Mr. Spray.

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New Zealand Mountain Safety Council – Media release.....cont.

Mr. Spray also said that “There are very few non-intentional incidents each year in New Zealand which lead to injury or death. This is an indication that the most firearms owners act responsibly around firearms. However on the occasions when firearms users do drop their guard, the consequences can be serious. All firearms users need to stay alert at all times when handling firearms and take special care”

### **The Seven Basic Rules of Safe Firearm Handling**

- 1. TREAT EVERY FIREARM AS LOADED**
  - 2. ALWAYS POINT FIREARMS IN A SAFE DIRECTION**
  - 3. LOAD A FIREARM ONLY WHEN READY TO FIRE**
  - 4. IDENTIFY YOUR TARGET BEYOND ALL DOUBT**
  - 5. CHECK YOUR FIRING ZONE**
  - 6. STORE FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION SAFELY**
  - 7. AVOID ALCOHOL AND DRUGS WHEN HADLING FIREARMS**
- 

## **Hon Kate Wilkinson**

Minister of Conservation

## **Media Statement**

27 October 2010

### **Hunters must put an end to spotlighting**

Minister of Conservation Kate Wilkinson says spotlighting on public land clearly breaches firearms laws and won't be tolerated following three separate incidents over Labour Weekend, including the death of Rosemary Ives.

"There is a reason hunting at night is prohibited and that's because it's dangerous," Ms Wilkinson says.

"Ms Ives died needlessly and she was very nearly joined only 24 hours later by a Department of Conservation staff member who was camping at Butchers Flat in the Marlborough Sounds when a vehicle drove by firing off rounds.

"It is only by pure luck a second family isn't grieving today."

The incident has been referred to police.

Ms Wilkinson says Wairarapa **DOC** staff had also received complaints of spotlighting within 50m of Totara Flats hut and had referred the matter to police.

"The hut was full of trampers who were quite rightly fearful of the shots being fired very close to them. One stray round is all it takes for someone to be killed or injured."

"DOC takes a no tolerance approach to night hunting and I would encourage legitimate hunters and the public to do the same."

"If you see or hear such activity then report it, either to police or DOC."

"Responsible hunters are being tarnished by the actions of a few cowboys and they need to speak out."

The Arms Act puts clear responsibility on hunters to stay away from public places such as huts and camping grounds, and to avoid endangering, frightening or annoying other people. DOC refers any breaches of the law to the police.

Spotlighting from vehicles generally occurs in the spring months as the roadside grass growth is attractive to hungry deer.