



THE DEERSTALKER

NEWSLETTER OF HASTINGS BRANCH OF THE NZDA INC.

JANUARY 2011

ISSUE 1

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Giddy all,

Why is it that it always rains on the weekend? Had some good plans for a walk over this last one but that's been well and truly put to an end by the weather. Mind you we sure needed a bit (just don't do it Aussie style please).

Overall it's been pretty hot though. I was on a job the other day with my thermometer reading 37°C in Hastings. Makes being a fridge monkey just that much more fun. Out in the hills that's pretty hot too. A couple of weeks back I was sweating my rear off recovering all the best bits off a good size Sika stag. It makes it all that much better too when everything goes to plan. This fella was seen out in the tutu up in the Kaweka tops, but the morning was getting on, and the guess was he would not hang around long. A quick ½ hour jog had us in range and luck was with us, as he was still there hogging his face in the tutu. A good shot had him on the deck leaving us with the tough stuff of recovery and lugging him out on our backs. Glad I had a hand too as I would have been scouring all around the wrong ridge looking for this guy. Cheers Tom!

Our first committee meeting of the year was pretty uneventful with not a lot on the table. Steve is hoping to arrange for Alec McIvor to speak at the club which is good. Alec is our National NZDA president so it should be an interesting night. We also had Kirstyn Renall, President of the Hawkes Bay Pig Hunters Club come to the committee meeting. It's great to see these guys (and girls) taking the bull by the horns and getting their clubs affiliated and forming their own national body to represent them. She certainly has some big plans for their members and I expect we will be welcome to their coming events.

I hope to catch up with a few of you too regarding our clubs involvement, and the discussions we are having with DOC, and the applicants for extended WARO operations in the Ruahines. I am not 100% sure I can give this the attention it deserves and was hoping someone with a bit of experience in the area could take the reins on this one for us.

I was also saddened to hear of the passing of Jack O'Sullivan. Jack was a bit before my time to get to know, but like most of these guys, I bet you could write a very interesting book about his exploits.

Anyway that's enough from me. Hot barrels and I'll see you at the next club meeting!

James

EDITORS CORNER

WE ARE NOW OFFICIALLY BACK INTO THE SWING OF THINGS AT THE CLUB, BUT I ONLY HAVE A COUPLE OF IDEAS FOR CLUB NIGHT GUEST SPEAKERS AT THE MOMENT. SO IF YOU HAVE ANY GOOD CONTACTS OR A PERSON YOU WOULD LIKE TO LISTEN TO GIVE A TALK, THEN LET JAMES OR MYSELF KNOW ABOUT IT AND HELP MAKE OUR CLUB NIGHTS MORE INFORMATIVE AND ENJOYABLE.

OUR CONDOLENCES TO JACK O'SULLIVANS FAMILY ON HIS PASSING LAST MONTH AND ON PAGE 3 IS A SMALL REMEMBRANCE SECTION.

MAKE SURE YOU REGULARLY VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR NEWS & HAPPENINGS.

WE ARE ALWAYS ADDING NEW INFORMATION TO THE NOTICES FOR YOUR PERUSAL SO SAVE OUR WEBSITE TO YOUR FAVOURITES LIST ON YOUR COMPUTER.

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, LAST CHANCE. THE **STICHBURY EXHAUST SPONSORED FLY IN TRIP** WILL BE DRAWN IN MARCH 2010 AND WE ONLY NEED 1 MORE!

I'LL SEE YOU AT OUR NEXT CLUB MEETING IN FEBRUARY.

Events Calendar February 2011

Club Night

Wed. 2nd Feb - 8.00pm.

Committee Meeting

Wed 16th Feb - 7.30pm.

On Our Notice Board & Website Blog

www.nzdahastings.org.nz

DOC Hawkes Bay

A number of documents, maps and images which will update you on the Sika GPS Tracking Project in the Kaweka Forest Park.

HBRC

Didymo - Check, Clean, Dry. Info. on whats happened with didymo so far, research, mapping and a website link.

HBRC Aerial 1080 Drop - 2011

Maps of the public and private lands that are programmed for poisoning **Roydhouse Pest Control**

Notice of Feratox poison program on the Owhaoko C trust land that is called Timahanga North from 1/12/10 to 31/5/11.

NZDA 2011 Calendar

'The way it used to be' - These sell for only \$15.00

National Correspondence

Various letters, notices and correspondence.

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² Ruahine Club Trip Hunting Report - Friday 3rd - Monday 6th December '10

After heaps of calls to Chris of East Kaweka Helicopters and changing the dates & times for the trip four times, the day had finally come with everyone arriving at my place at 8.00am. The group consisted of myself & Paul Condon, Martin Harkness & Mark Snell, Stephen Shaw & Trevor Rippon and Mike Knowles & Rob Scott who are both from Tauranga. But that morning there was low fog and it was sitting around the tops due to easterly winds, so Chris couldn't fly in it and we began the waiting game. After feeding the whole crew breakfast, smoko and lunch, I was just about eaten out of house and home before we decided it was time to head off up onto the Comet helipad in hope of the weather clearing for the chopper. Finally after making a few further plan and location changes with our pilot and watching Harkey & Mark fall in love with the Comet Hut by displaying a strange desire to sleep there for the weekend, the fights were on - *Malcolm*.

Ikawatea Forks Party..... All four of us were finally at the Ikawatea Forks Hut by 5.00pm. Paul & I had waited for the other two to arrive before heading off downstream for a hunt. When Mark & Harky arrived they dumped their excess gear quickly into the hut and raced off downstream to set up a fly camp. Paul & I decided to set up our camp opposite the first slip downstream and whilst there I saw a Red deer feeding but it was a bit too far for a shot. On the next morning we got up and hunted further downstream, but no deer were seen. I caught two nice trout and on the way back to the Forks hut Paul caught a good 5lb rainbow. That afternoon Paul and I climbed up to the tops, while Mark and Harky had come back to restock their supplies and then went back to their 'top' hunting spot downstream. They had seen three deer there that morning. Paul & I went for an evening shoot along the tops and Paul shot a nice stag. Next morning we dropped back down to the Ikawatea Hut, then went downstream to the slide and three deer were out feeding there. Paul shot one and I shot the other two. After that meat recovery effort a few drinks were in order for the rest of the day (& night). On the last morning Paul was up early for a morning hunt, but I stayed behind and cleaned out the hut while waiting for Mark and Harky to arrive back. They had had no luck so it just goes to show that you should listen to your mates when they say which are the good slips to hunt. Chris arrived on time and it was back to the Comet Helipad to catch up. *(by Mal Inqpen)*

RockSlide Biv. Party..... So after we had shown a little more patience than some of the others did and had a quiet talk with our pilot Chris Crosse whilst down at the Kuripaponga DOC Base, an attempt was proposed to get at least some of us in. Trev & I quickly got our gear onto the DOC helipad over at the Kuripaponga public reserve and before we knew it we were on our way in by flying low over Timahanga across to the Ikawatea valley and then up the Apias creek to the Rockslide biv. Apparently our flight was the only one to take this route as the fog rolled in soon after!

We waited for Mike and Rob to arrive before heading out for a hunt. They landed, stashed some excess gear in the Rockslide biv and headed off upstream to Mistake for the night. I headed off to have a look at the big slip down stream, while Trev had a short recce to the first slip upstream and then just kept his eye on the rockslide camp slip. Nothing was seen by either of us that evening. Next morning we both parted off in the same directions as we had the night before. I spent the early part of the morning avoiding the downstream breeze and watching slips with no sightings made, so at the confluence of the main tributary that comes in on the true left down stream I took an untracked ridge back up to some terraces and a likely lookin' creek head that is high above the Rockslide biv. Now with the breeze in my favour I found a lunch time victim and dispatched her quickly. Not a bad plan as the route back was straight down a steep ridge toward camp. I got back to the biv by early afternoon, with enough time to catch up with Mike and Rob before they headed for the tops toward Kylie biv for the night. Rob had shot a nice stag the evening before on the way up to Mistake and Trev had hunted upstream that morning without any success until he met up with them coming back down stream before noon. I started having a few beers and a few too many drinks that afternoon put a stop to Trevs' evening hunt. The next morning we headed off up stream and on the first slip we found a complying hind standing out in the open feeding.

By the time Trev got the 30/378 cannon's bipod on and was setup ready to shoot, one deer had become two. He dialled up 1MOA for the 300 yard shot and the shock of the hit was enough to kill it out right despite the bullet placement! Lunchtime saw us back at camp having a feed of heart and onions. That afternoon saw Mike and Rob back again, but empty handed this time. That evening we went back up to our slip and filmed 18min. of video footage of a hind that was later joined by a button stag. A wild shot from myself nearly decapitated him! Next morning Mike and Rob went for a last hunt upstream toward slaughter ridge but returned unsuccessful. The flight out was good despite the wind.

Thanks for the great service Chris!!
(by Steve Shaw)



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MEDIA RELEASE



21 December 2010

Hunters reminded of etiquette ahead of holidays

Federated Farmers and the New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association are joining to remind hunters and farmers of hunting etiquette.

"We're joining with the New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association to remind hunters and farmers over how to deal with one another," says Katie Milne, Federated Farmers West Coast provincial president.

"The biggest thing is to ask for permission first. The actual authority for hunting is the legal occupier of the land they wish to hunt upon, even if they don't establish them as the lawful owners of the animal absolutely.

"That includes even if just crossing a farm to gain access to public land. Farmers are working well into dusk at this time of the year, so if someone is shooting on or near a farm, then we need to be aware of it for safety's sake.

"The act of getting permission enables us to point out no-go areas, such as where stock and hazards may be. It's also a chance to explain where the boundary is between farmland and public land.

"It really is in a hunter's interest to get permission. Hunting without authority risks "forfeiture of firearms" under S12(4) of the Trespass Act 1980.

"Both the Police and the New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association support people calling 111 if weapons are discharged without proper authority.

"What we all want is safe and responsible hunting. The Wild Animal Control Act 1977 even means if a hunter poaches, then they're more a common thief than Robin Hood.

"Hunting without authority means you're taking from the Queen herself. Poaching and rustling, we believe, underpins a black market in illegal meat Federated Farmers Rural Butchers have previously highlighted.

"The Courts have held that wild animals are the Sovereign's, unless a hunter can show they had lawful means for taking the animal in the first place. That comes back to respectfully asking for and securing permission before hunting.

"While I've cowed a hunter into surrendering a deer to me, I now know that only the Crown can demand forfeiture.

"Given landowners are likely to call 111, it's probably in a hunter's interest to make a peace offering if they're caught red-handed.

"I'd certainly not do what I did and chase down hunters to give them a piece of my mind. Instead, try to get their license plate number and ring that through to the Police.

"With more people hunting over the holiday period, hunters need to have full control of their faculties. I must say that alcohol and firearms do not mix. Ever," Ms Milne concluded.

Relevant extract from the New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association rules and constitution:

- To safeguard property both private and public and to show due respect for the rights and safety of others.
- To negotiate with the owners of private land for the right of access to the game herds thereon.
- Not hunt or carry a firearm on property without the proper approval of the owner, occupier of controlling authority and shall strictly observe any conditions imposed upon him.
- Avoid unnecessary or deliberate damage to the environment, respect property, and other users of the outdoors.

.For further information contact:

Katie Milne, Federated Farmers West Coast provincial president, 03 738 0189, 027 424 4546

Mathew Lark, Advisor to the New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association National Executive, 07 377 1302

Alec McIver, New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association National President, 07 349 4250 (office) 07 347 4380 (home)

Information wanted on illegal toxin in the Kaimai Mamaku Forest Park

Date: 14 December 2010

The Department of Conservation (DOC) is appealing for information about unauthorised toxin baits found in the Kaimai Mamaku Forest Park near Katikati last week, which have led to the temporary closure of several walking tracks. The baits, containing potassium cyanide, are used to kill possums for the fur trade.

“The poison is potentially dangerous to animals such as dogs, but is not considered a risk to humans unless intentionally ingested. However we’re very concerned that someone is laying toxins illegally; they are doing it too close to tracks, on adjacent private land, and without a legal permit” says DOC Ranger, Brad Angus.

The Lindemann Loop Track at the end of Lindemann Road and Wairoa Stream Track at the end of Woodlands Road were both closed to the public on Monday following a report from a neighbouring landowner, who found the poison bait on their property and immediately called the Police. So far no evidence has been found identifying the perpetrators. DOC staff members are hoping that locals may know who it is, and that those involved will stop illegally laying the toxin.

Possum trapping and baiting on DOC administered land is encouraged in order to help control possum numbers. The permit process is free of charge, although a permit to lay toxin requires an approved handler license and an application to DOC and the Medical Officer of Health. This robust process is intended to minimise any potential public health risks associated with the use of toxins. Most of the current regular permitted possum hunters in the Kaimai area use traps rather than toxin

If anyone has information contact DOC Tauranga 07 578 7677 or Katikati Police 07 549 0004



In Remembrance of Jack O'Sullivan

26th April 1930 — 26th December 2010

Some of our members will know that 'Jacko', as some of us referred to him, was the HB Branch's secretary for 36 years and he had continued helping out at the HB judging day ever since. Along with his late wife Jinny, he had also

attended and presented trophies at the HB prize giving's for as far back as I can recall.

Although Jack was a long time Napier member, few know that he also belonged to the Hastings Club in its early days.

In the last few years, as his health declined, he had regular visits from many of his old mates, who were always made welcome and given time and a cup of tea with Jack - special thanks to Ngaire.

Four members of our club attended Jack O'Sullivan's funeral on 31st December 2010 - Guy Te Kahika was M.C., Grant Richards and I along with two Napier Club members and two from Tutira Club were pall bearers. Many HB members along with a number of old friends, mostly hunting mates, gave some great eulogies of Jack, one being Jack Hall, who spoke of their Fiordland hunting trips.

The Hastings Club will sadly miss this stalwart of the old HB branch and would be honoured to continue looking after Jack's New Caledonian Rusa trophy as a reminder of his association and friendship with so many of us. Put the billy on mate!! **Graeme Withey**

The Great White Hunter

We used to have a photo of a scrawny little prick,
Dressed in white studded riding chaps, he looked a proper dick
We'd throw him on a horse's back, this big city slicker dude
Talk about sailors on horseback, he never had a clue
He'd ride out to our top bush camp like a bouncing sack of spuds
Then get himself all geared up in his fancy clean creased duds
Black polished, shiny navy boots, he thought he was on parade
Soap, toilet gear and all that crap just heightened this charade
But after a week of roughing it, in the mud and blood and guts
Unshaven, dirty and smelly, he was starting to look like us
Alas, we'd have to pack it in and head back to the strife
Joe hadn't worn clean undies for a week, but had had the time of his life.
The following year when he came back for what he called his freedom week,
He stuffed the bloody whole trip up and made us strong chaps weep
We'd got our gear to the top bush camp and were sorting out our stuff.
The billy was hanging over the flames and we had plenty of Bill's Plum Duff
So Joe was doing nothing and the billy was on the boil
I yelled out, 'Joe make a brew and we will do the toil
The teas in that can there, the aluminium one
We'll have ourselves a cuppa as soon as this job's done.
Then Joe yelled out "I've made the tea" and we bolted for the pot
Tongues hanging out for a brew, but we got a nasty shock
He'd used the whole weeks tea supply you could cut it with a knife
I found it hard to be polite and nearly took his life
But some good did come out of this, someone heard about our woe
And invented a thing called a tea bag especially for thickies like Joe
The system is basically simple, one teabag for one cup
You don't have to be an Einstein, even Joey can't stuff this one up
But now Joe's reached his sixties, I've forgiven him this one blue
And I've bought him a packet of teabags.
So now Joe it's time for a brew.

Jack's Poem

*In Loving Memory of
Edward Laurie O'Sullivan
"Jack"*



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— mark@reelnrifle.co.nz —

Ruahine 'Old School' By Martin Harkness

Hunting has many and varied things of interest. Of course there are the deer, wildlife, native bush, camping, huts and helicopters, but the most interesting of all are the people you meet that have been involved in this rewarding activity. After some inquiries I had turned up to an address in Napier's Shakespeare Road to meet one of the most interesting characters of the hunting fraternity, Terry Jefferies. Terry was a skin hunter in the 50's and then went on to culling and track cutting in the 60's and 70's. I had come upon several of his old camp sites in the Ruahines with old milk powder tins for billies and other remnants of a time long past. I was interested to talk with Terry about his skills and his knowledge of the Ruahines. The things we talked about were quite varied and these are just some of them.....

Many of the huts were built by Terry and his mates. The considerations needed for a hut location was an ability to locate it in bad weather, the availability of water and a position with shelter from the weather.

Hut Ruin (Aranga) was put on site by a MASH type helicopter dropping in the timber and rolls of sheet metal. The hut got its name from the fact that there was a ruined camp site there and good water which ran from a spring right past the front door. One of his mates Steve Cotton thought he would improve the size of the spring with a stick of 'geli'! Seemed like a good idea, however it split the rock and the spring disappeared.

Mistake Biv was just that, a mistake! Terry was standing at the Rockslide Biv site when he heard the helicopter come in further up the Apias creek. There was low cloud at the time and the pilot kept flying up the valley, he got the shits and dropped the materials where that Biv is sited today.

A few people have questioned why Killie Biv is where it is. Firstly, weather and water and the fact that there is a large rock on the ridge which was very handy for locating the camp in mist. The ridge at the top was also a good deer cross over point and a reasonable telly could be got from Biv to ridge.

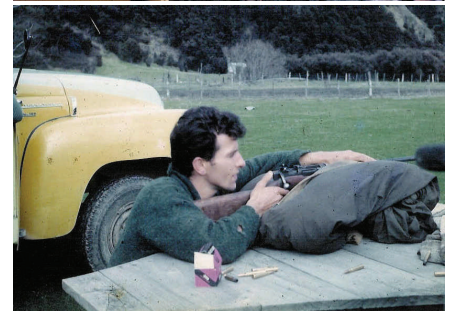
For those who have been to Taruarau Biv you may have seen the remnants of a fence on the way up to the ridge. This area was used as a holding paddock for the sheep which were grazed in the area in the summer/autumn period. Once the mob was mustered they would be driven around to No Man Hut. The sheep would be shorn with hand clippers by Bob Norman who stayed in the original hut made from Malthoid. Later the hut developed the name No Mans. This information was passed to Terry from Lester Masters.

Cyclone 'Allison' caused a huge amount of damage in the Ruahine range. Filling up the Makaroro valley with shingle landslides and washing out the Apias creek to make it impassible. The cullers were told that it was deer that had caused all of the erosion damage, but Terry thought otherwise. "Bullshit!" and then "hush, hush" were the actual words that he used to described those theories.

Terry was a good man with animals like dogs and horses. Spending time at or with anything generally improves the experience and ability of both. He dropped his head a little when he talked of Nig and Tip, two of his black labs. The dogs not only found deer, but when shooting late into the night he would tie a bandage onto the dogs tail and then direct it back to camp with himself in steady follow.

He would load horses with three deer at a time. The girth strap was never tightened, they were just all in balance. One deer lifted on, hang onto the other side and get the horse to turn around beside the bank, pull the next deer down to counter balance the load and then the third on top. The hunt would continue while the horse was directed back to camp where if his mate was at camp, the deer would be unloaded and the horse would then wander off to track him down to be loaded again.

Over his time he was often visited by various 'townies' who just wanted to "talk, talk, talk", but hunting to him was a job (no deer / no pay or even worse the sack!), so he would often just walk off and leave that person still talking. He often thought that those people would have thought him rude, but he just wanted to get on with it and had no time to waste talking!



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

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