



THE DEERSTALKER

NEWSLETTER OF HASTINGS BRANCH OF THE NZDA INC.

JUNE 2011

ISSUE 6

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Giddy all.

Its been a great month for the club. We have retained the Anderson Shield for a second year running so a big congratulations to all of you as the win was by a considerable margin. Hastings Branch also hosted the Hawkes Bay Prize Giving and it really makes you appreciate how great a facility we have. The evening was really good with great food and enough lubrication for all (I think we even polished off the wine left over from last time we hosted). A big thanks also goes out to all of those who helped make this another successful evening, especially Lynne and Hector for jacking up the meal & drinks for the night and all of you who were involved with the actual judging, the preparation and the follow up to bring the hall back to clean and tidy afterwards. Winter is now here well and truly after a rather mild spell for this time of year and even the Equinox has now passed so technically we are on the way back to warm. I'd imagine this is only wishful thinking though and I'd bet there will be plenty of cold to go around for some time to come! This may well be an opportune time of year to go through your gear that was starting to need a bit of TLC or even a trip to the bin. A good lick of conditioner over the boots or a repair to that broken zip on the pack may well pay off in spades next time your'e off for a decent walk in the hills. It hasn't been too bad weather wise to get a reasonably decent load developed for the new magnum, though, it's certainly quite a step up from the lighter caliber's, with a fair bit more recoil which tends to focus your concentration a bit more and I think (hope) it has actually made me a better shooter. That leads onto another thing, I can't count now the amount of times I have been asked if we had or there actually was a public rifle range in Hawkes Bay. I'm lucky to have the use of a mates place where I can shoot but what about the rest of us? The best way to improve your shooting is just to shoot more in my opinion. I must admit to not making the committee meeting this month but I understand the idea of a club sighting-in range has been floated again. So I'm asking what do you think? It might cost a few bucks but if it is of benefit to the club it is probably a good thing? Food for thought anyway and I'd guess we could make it pay for itself over time. Anyway, enough staring at the screen for me, hot barrels & see you at the next meeting!!!

James

Events Calendar July 2011

Club Night

Wed 6th July at 8.00pm.

Committee Meeting

Wed 20th July 7.30pm.

NZDA 63rd National Conference

held in Tuatapere, 22nd-24th July, Southland.

'Recall for all Hastings Cups and Trophies ASAP'

Up Coming Events

Club Rusa Hunt

Thurs 4th or Fri 5th through to Sunday 7th August in Galatea - details on page 3.

Hastings Club Prizegiving and Dinner

11th September - date to be confirmed and details advised in August newsletter.

Tataraakina Club Trip

Weekend of 17th and 18th September - dates to be confirmed and details advised in August newsletter.

E. Richards Shoot – Oct. (tba)

EDITORS CORNER

OUR AHT COMPETITION AND THE HB INTERBRANCH COMPETITION WERE HELD RECENTLY WITH VERY GOOD HEADS AND PHOTOS ENTERED. THE FULL RESULTS OF THE HASTINGS COMPETITION ARE ON PAGE 2 AND WE ALSO RETAINED THE ANDERSON SHIELD BEATING OUT NAPIER AND TUTIRA IN THE HB INTERBRANCH COMPETITION. THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED IN SUBMITTING ENTRIES AND JUDGING TO MAKE BOTH OF THESE EVENTS A SUCCESS. TALKING ABOUT SUCCESS OUR HB DINNER/PRIZEGIVING WAS WELL RECEIVED WITH THANKS TO EASTERN COMFORT CATERERS, TURI STONE FOR COOKING THE PIG ON THE SPIT TO PERFECTION AND GLENN MORRIS FOR SOURCING THE PIG FOR US. A GREAT NIGHT WAS HAD BY ALL!!!

REMEMBER TO BE IN THE DRAW FOR THE **TRIPLE PEAK ENTERPRISES** SPONSORED FLY IN TRIP YOU NEED TO SUBMIT A STORY FOR THE NEWSLETTER. ALSO ANY JOKES, ARTICLES OR OTHER INFORMATION ARE ALL APPRECIATED!!

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Our 'Te Puke'/'Te Rua' Sika Stag's Roar Whereabouts



Snap Shots During C&R on 12th March 2011 at the Te Puke Exclosure Site



**On Our Notice Board
& Website Blog at**

www.nzdahastings.org.nz

DOC Hawkes Bay

Sika tracking collar info.
including maps and pics
of our collared stag!!!

NZDA National

Shooting Calendar 11/12

Events 16/7/11 - 25/2/12.

**NZ Mountain Safety
Council (MSC)**

Detailed list of
non-intentional Firearms
Incidents in 2010.

**Search & Rescue
(LandSar HB)**

Application form to join.

**Stock-Aid (NZ Medical
Equipment Supply Co.)**

Emergency food rations.

**NZ Mountain Safety
Council**

Media Release for duck
hunters who drink alcohol

HBRC Aerial 1080 Drop - 2011

Maps of public & private
lands that are scheduled
for poisoning.

Roydhouse Pest Control

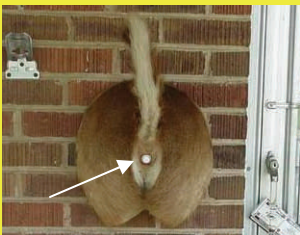
Notice of Feratox poison
program in the Tutaekuri
Mohaka area from 7/2/11
to 31/7/11.



**HASTINGS
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4WD CENTRE**

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door bell
when you
arrive &
my white
tail will let
you in!!!



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Hangar: 99 Hukanui Rd, PUKETITIRI. **Email:** cgcrosse@xtra.co.nz

August Club Hunt to Galatea for Rusa

Those members who are interested in a club hunt for an elusive NZ Rusa will need to organise their own transport to and from Galatea. The permits to get access through Kaingaroa Forests only allows for entry during weekends and public holidays and will cost you an application fee of \$50 this year. These access permits are available from **Independent Security Consultants Ltd. Ph. 07 347 8880 or email ktpermits@iscl.co.nz** & you will need to ask for a fishing permit so you can carry unlisted passengers. Also you will need to contact Steve or Lynne so we can sort out the groups accommodation on 06 8775275 or 027 2442229. The proposed dates are from Thursday 4th or Friday 5th till Sunday 7th August 2011. If you have any queries give us a call anytime.

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The Golden Years of the Motumatai By Graeme Withey



This area lies behind the unusual prominent hunk of rock called the 'Pinnacles' and seen from the Taihape Road at some points, as the road passes Ngamatea Station. My first trip 1960-61 into this area was with Jack Wire, Max Motley, Barry Motley and the late Gary Wenman. We left the road at an access point through Ti Mahanga Station at daybreak on a Xmas holiday break. Up over the hogget through to the famed log cabin and on down a long tussock spur

till it met the Tarurarau River, with just enough time for Barry to catch a trout for our dinner. The next morning we faced a long hot tramp around the back of Ngamatea to the Peter's Hut Track then across and down the banks of the Oturua Stream to where it



met the Rangitikei River. After crossing at a point upriver we returned down river to set camp up for the night. The next stage of our journey was a walk of about ½ hour down river where an old horse track took us up a long spur on the western side of the pinnacles, over into the Motumatai Valley about an hour from the hut.

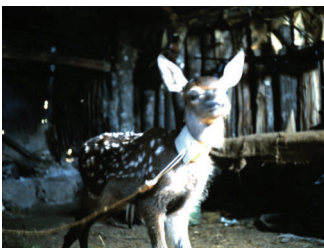


It was here we were surprised to encounter 3 pigs in the tussock, one of which was a boar which was very annoyed at my presence so close. The photo was taken

with a 35mm standard lense!! This valley was one of the best I have hunted in the North Island, it was mainly Red deer with the odd Sika stag penetrating into the area during the rut, of which I will cover next time (part 2). One night Max and myself saw a mob of 36 deer moving down a tussock spur just on dark and on a good day it was nothing to see 50 plus animals and many wild horses. A week later when we were due to leave we had heavy rain and not being able to return back over the Rangitikei we were forced to travel west to a point where we came out through a farm Taihape side of the Rabbit Bridge. This was the main road bridge across the Rangitikei and Jack hitchhiked back to his truck so he could come back and pick us up at the Otupae Station.



In 1963 Henry Corns and myself decided to take the shortcut I had experienced the year before as we were going down south to hunt Red deer in the famed Arawata (Joe River) block in March. Reaching the back boundary fence, we climbed over just as the dawn started to break and boiled the billy as we had left the car around 2 o'clock in the morning. While sitting there we counted 26 deer in the tussock valley without using binoculars, plus a herd of wild Kaimanawa horses with a big black stallion in tow, which was on to us and never let us out of his sight for the next hour's tramp through 'Stawman Valley'. The deer seen (Reds) that day was 67, apart from 4 stags in velvet ten minutes from the hut and the rest being hinds and fawns. The hut was full of trampers when we staggered up to it and we were so buggered that they put our tent up and fed us. Later on in the trip we met some farmers on horseback who



were fishing the river and said if we caught a fawn they would supply us all the trout we could eat. The next morning we had one tied up in the hut by 10am. They took it back 2 days later after we had fed it on powdered milk made up in a vinegar bottle with a teat fashioned out of a rubber boot sole. I found out later it survived the trip out and grew into a fine stag.

Committee Officers

Patron.....	Max Motley	
President.....	James Guilford	876 5334
Vice President.....	Malcolm Ingpen	878 7795
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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