



THE DEERSTALKER

NEWSLETTER OF HASTINGS BRANCH OF THE NZDA INC.

MARCH 2011

ISSUE 3

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Giddy all,

I must admit this time of year has to be my favourite and not just because of the roar. The weather is now pretty settled (as he looks outside during rain squalls); the stifling heat of summer is but a sweaty memory, and in my line of work all the chaos slowly dies back to a much more reasonable pace.

It has also been an eventful month in the club. We shot our Wilkinson shoot on Ben Lomond station this month and there was another good turnout. This format is really good, and certainly gives you a fair idea about how good your "hunting" shooting is on a full size deer target. I can also safely say that the results tell me don't get on the wrong side of the Montapertos' cause they can shoot!

The last club night we drew our winner of the members newsletter story with Dustin Murdock taking the prize. Dustin is the lucky recipient of a \$700 Fly-in trip via EK Helicopters courtesy of last years story sponsor Stichbury Automotive Care and Hastings Diesel & 4WD Centre, thanks Grant Lower. The members story certainly is a great part of the monthly newsletter and for those of you who have not put up a story yet don't be shy. Brad Pinker of Triple Peaks Catering is kindly offered to be the sponsor for this coming years members story. These generous sponsors certainly add to the club and are very much appreciated, so please support their businesses by spending some money with them.

Next club night should be a good one with Alec McIver (NZDA National President) coming along as our guest speaker. I have yet to meet Alec, but from all accounts he's a good guy and quite easy to talk to, so don't miss the opportunity to meet him.

All said and done the roar is pretty much now getting going. I've already heard of Reds starting to roar well, and the odd Jap getting going early too. As always this time of year draws all sorts out into the bush and the chance of hunting the same area with an unknown party is always there. Bear in mind too that the majority of shooting accidents involve someone in your own party.

Anyway that's enough from me.

Be safe, hot barrels and I'll see you at the club next meeting!

James

EDITORS CORNER

THE ROAR IS DEFINITELY UPON US WITH A LOT OF SIGN THAT IT WILL BE A BUMPER YEAR FOR GOOD ANIMALS. REMEMBER TO KEEP SAFE AND IDENTIFY YOUR TARGET BEYOND ALL DOUBT!

OUR WILKINSON SHOOT WAS A GREAT DAY WITH SOME PLEASING RESULTS. WE NOW HAVE SOME POINTS TOWARDS THE ANDERSON SHIELD.

ON EASTER MON WE HAVE OUR ANNUAL CLUB HUNT COMPETITION. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS YEAR ENTRY FORMS NEED TO BE IN BY 5PM ON THURS 21ST.

AN UPDATE ON OUR TRACKING COLLAR IS THAT THERE HAVE BEEN A FEW TECHNICAL ISSUES WITH THEM SO WE STILL HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO TRACK OUR STAG VIA GPS BUT HAVE BEEN ASSURED THAT IT WILL BE SORTED ASAP. THE STORY PRIZE WILL NOW BE SPONSORED BY **TRIPLE PEAK ENTERPRISES** SO THANKS TO BRAD PINKER FOR FILLING THIS IMPORTANT SPOT. **STICHBURY AUTOMOTIVE** HAS ALSO KINDLY OFFERED TO CONTINUE THEIR SUPPORT BY SPONSORING THE 'JUST KIDDING' JOKE IN THE NEWSLETTER THIS YEAR.

CONGRATUALIONS TO DUSTIN WHO WON THE LAST YEARS DRAW. WE APPRECIATE THE EFFORT MADE BY THOSE THAT HAVE SUBMITTED ARTICLES, JOKES ETC FOR THE NEWSLETTER THIS PAST 12 MTHS - PLEASE KEEP THEM COMING AS WE NEED YOUR INPUT, OTHERWISE JUST WRITE A STORY TO BE IN WITH A CHANCE TO WIN THE NEXT FLY-IN TRIP. SEE YOU AT CLUB NIGHT.

Events Calendar April 2011

Club Night

Wed 6th April 8.00pm

Guest Speaker:

Alec McIver the NZDA President will be speaking on various issues so take this opportunity to come along to meet Alec and have your say.

Committee Meeting

Wed 20th April 7.30pm.

Club Annual Hunt

Mon 25th April starting at 11.00am. Details page 2.

Upcoming Events!!!

Hastings Branch AGM

Wed 4th May at 8.00pm.

We need members who can spare a few hours of their time a month to put their hand up and help share the committee work load.

Hastings AHT Comp. & HB Inter-branch Comp's

Sat 21st (Hastings) & Sun 22nd May (HB) 2011.

Inside this issue:

Presidents Report	1
Editors Corner	1
Wilkinson/HB Challenge Results	2
Club Annual Hunt Information	2
Stichbury Auto's "Just Kidding"	3
Club Notice Board	3
Members Story	4



The Hastings Branch Annual Hunt Competition

Inside this newsletter is the official entry form which you need to take into **Hamills Hastings** with your registration fee by 5.00pm on Thursday 21st April.

This years competition has heaps of sponsorship that is providing well over \$3500 in prizes. A major "Spot Prize" from **Guns & Tackle**, Napier's **Hunting & Fishing Store** is up for grabs for 1 lucky participating under 12yr old junior & their parent/caregiver. It's a fishing trip with "Wooly" on his charter boat. We will need your help on the day so if you're able to help at all from cooking the BBQ to the clean up afterwards it would be appreciated - Please don't leave it to just the committee members. This is a fun family day so register everyone to be into win & bring them all along to enjoy it.



SWAZI[®]

NEW ZEALAND

Wilkinson & HB Challenge Postal Shoot Results

Our Wilkinson and HB Challenge shoot was held on Sunday March 13th at the Ben Lomond Range.

Wilkinson Senior - Centre Fire at 100m
1st Paul Montaperto -106.4 2nd Leigh Montaperto - 84.1
3rd Rob Underwood—82.6

Wilkinson Ladies - Rim Fire at 75m
1st Lisa Simonsen—44 2nd Rosie Montaperto—33.1
3rd Bella Montaperto—17

Wilkinson Junior - Rim Fire at 75m
1st Connor Rapley—51 2nd Lisa Simonsen—44
3rd Bella Montaperto—17

HB Challenge - Centre Fire at 100m
1st Lisa Simonsen—37

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Come in and see the team at 209 St Aubyn Street East, Hastings

The Hastings Deerstalkers branch would like to take this opportunity to thank Grant Lower for his sponsorship for the past year. Please support his two businesses by using their services, as without this contribution we couldn't have offered last years newsletter story prize

HASTINGS DIESEL & 4WD CENTRE

Important Notice!

Please make sure that
you have paid your

annual NZDA

membership fees,

**if you haven't, do it now
before you go hunting,**

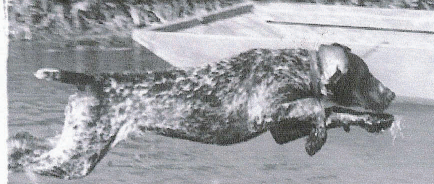
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competition entries

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StichburyAutomotiveCare's

"Just Kidding!"

Two hunters got a pilot to fly them into the central Nth Is. for sika hunting.

They were quite successful in their venture and bagged six big hinds. The pilot came back, as arranged, to pick them up.

They started loading their gear into the plane, along with the six deer, but the pilot objected and said, "The plane can only take four of your deer; you will have to leave two behind".

They argued with him; the year before they had shot six and the pilot had allowed them to put all 6 aboard. The plane was the same model and capacity.

Reluctantly, the pilot finally permitted them to put all six aboard, but when they attempted to take off and leave the valley, the little plane could not make it and they crashed into the wilderness.

Climbing out of the wreckage, one hunter said to the other, "Do you know where we are?" "I think so," replied the other hunter.

I think this is about the same place where we landed last year!"

On Our Notice Board & Website Blog at

www.nzdahastings.org.nz

Epro Ltd

Information and map on the 1080 drop in the Waitara Valley from 1 March to 30 June 2011.

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 in the Tutaekuri Mohaka area 7/2/11 - 31/7/11.

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- All fishing rods and reels - massive price reductions - Everything must go!!!!
- Gun bags for only \$25.00 each.

———— mark@reelnrifle.co.nz ————



Paritu Pork by Wayne Martin

A couple of Wednesday's ago I was welding in my workshop when Jimmy Calder from PPS industries called in to drop off some grinding discs I had ordered. He mentioned that he was heading up to Gisborne to see clients in that part of his sales area and then staying the weekend at Paritu Station with a pig hunting friend (Boots) and a mate coming up from Hastings. I had a weekend planned working around the house, the lucky buggers! 8pm Thursday night Jimmy rings and the Hastings mate can't make it and would I want to go? Some fast talking and selling my hunting soul for the following few weeks, Vicki my lovely wife said go for it. Friday lunchtime I loaded the landcruiser with gear and 4wheeler on behind and I'm heading for the Wharerata's.

I met Jimmy at the Wharerata lookout and we drove to the shearer's quarters at Paritu Station which runs between the coast and Wharerata Forest. A quick walk to check for sign of pigs or deer found some fresh pig rooting so it was back to the quarters to wait for boots and his dogs. About 10pm we put the GPS collar on 'Girl' the finder dog and the flashing strobe lights on the other dog's collar. We went for a ride around the farm paddocks to check the rooting and perhaps catch the rooter in the open. No such luck but Boots said this had proved to be easy pork in the past and he got a nice 80lb pig a couple of weeks earlier. The next morning was fine and with a big brekkie under our belts we got the dogs and headed to the other side off a gully that the dogs had scented something the night before. After leaving the quads we sidled around a shitty looking gully that a deerstalker would avoid at all costs. Suddenly 'Girl' the dog with the GPS collar stood on its hind legs and scented the air and off she went down a narrow ridge of scrub and fern. Boots who had an accident at work was only able to use one eye so Jimmy and I would have to be first after the dogs. The GPS dog let out several barks and the other dogs were off in that direction. Jimmy was given the .357 lever action and told to get after the dogs and if the pig was too large for the dogs to hold, he was to shoot it, but "Don't shoot my dogs"!!

I was to stay with Boots, with the old Tikka.270, incase other pigs or deer made a break out of the gully. All hell was breaking loose in the gully with the dogs barking and a lot of crashing around. The GPS said the dogs were about 150metres below us so Boots sent me down to help out. I made my way down through scrub, fern and 'bush lawyer' most of the way so I spent most of the time on my arse. I came out above a narrow creek with steep ferny sides and a waterfall 4metres to the right below me. There was barking coming up from the creek to my left so I got on my bum and with rifle ready I slid down the fern face in to the creek. Once in the creek I turned and saw the three dogs jumping backwards and forwards. A good sized boar, with its rear end against the bank, was staring at me and then swinging its tusks at the dogs who were keeping just out of its range.

To be continued.....next month!



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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MEDIA RELEASE

NEW ZEALAND MOUNTAIN SAFETY COUNCIL

TITLE: AS THE ROAR APPROACHES, THE NEW ZEALAND MOUNTAIN SAFETY COUNCIL REMINDS HUNTERS TO 'LOAD YOUR FIREARM ONLY WHEN YOU ARE READY TO FIRE'

The mating season for Red deer in New Zealand starts in late March and many hunters are already making preparations to head into the bush for the start of what is commonly known as 'The Roar'.

The Roar is the season when stags become vocal, bellowing a challenge to rival stags to protect their harem of hinds and is regarded by many as the highlight of the hunting calendar.

However as the roar approaches, Mike Spray, Firearms and Hunter Training Programme Manager for NZ Mountain Safety Council reminds hunters to follow rule number 3 of the seven basic rules of firearms and 'Load your firearm only when you are ready to fire'.

Failure by some hunters to comply with this rule has resulted in ten tragic deaths in the past ten years. "That is one a year and yet all these deaths were avoidable" says Mr Spray.

Hunters need to remember to only load the magazine on reaching the hunting area and to unload completely, including the magazine on leaving the hunting area.

"Chamber a round only when you have positively identified the target beyond all doubt, checked your firing zone and are ready to fire. If game gets away unload your firearm immediately", added Mr Spray.

Some of the ten incidents actually occurred after the hunting trip had ended including during the cleaning of a firearm at home, whilst climbing over a fence and when transporting the firearm in a vehicle.

"It is extremely unsafe to have a loaded firearm in a vehicle at any time", said Mr Spray.

To check a firearm is unloaded firearms users need to sight the magazine and inside the chamber to ensure no rounds are present. This includes a very thorough check of the tubular magazines of lever and pump actions and semi automatic firearms.

"The more times you check that the firearm is unloaded, the less likely there will be another tragic incident and an unnecessary death" said Mr Spray.

"I am hopeful we will have an incident free roar this year and I urge all hunters to follow all parts of the seven basic rules of firearms safety at all times", added Mr Spray.

Canada Goose decision 'a costly own goal' [Fish & Game NZ]



Fish & Game NZ says removing the protection status of Canada geese will be a costly one for farmers and ratepayers.

Conservation Minister Kate Wilkinson's decision this morning means Fish & Game will no longer manage the geese as a hunting resource.

Fish & Game chief executive Bryce Johnson says Federated Farmers, on behalf of a small group of landowners, has managed to sway the Minister on this issue and will ultimately rue the decision when the considerable costs and difficulty of managing the birds becomes evident.

Fish & Game NZ has routinely spent hundreds of thousands of dollars annually on Canada Goose management – funds its been forced to pull from core activities – in line with its commitment to manage geese numbers at appropriate levels.

"The small group within Federated Farmers who lobbied the Minister so hard on this issue will probably spin this as a win. Ironically though, the Minister's decision will foist the considerable expense of goose control onto their membership and, indeed, all farmers if the expected push for ratepayer-funded regional councils to take responsibility for control happens.

"It's just unfortunate that other ratepayers will now likely be caught in the crossfire of footing some of the bill from the Federated Farmer's own goal," says Mr Johnson.

Fish & Game is aware of a source in one particular regional council costing local Canada Goose control at around \$100,000 annually if the bird has to be controlled through a regional pest management strategy.

"The bizarre thing about this decision is regional councils are aware and afraid of the costs of controlling the birds so they don't want the responsibility, nor do the airport authorities or the overwhelming majority of high country farmers for the very same reason," says Mr Johnson.

"All of the effort and expertise that Fish & Game puts in to Canada Goose management has now been lost at the stroke of the pen. It makes you wonder what, or who, is behind this decision and just what technical advice the Minister is relying upon."

Mr Johnson says the decision is also bad news for the Minister's own department: "The majority of geese live on the conservation estate and fly out to adjacent pastures so the landowner, DOC, which has faced successive funding cuts in recent years, will now have to foot the bill with its dwindling resources.

"I doubt DOC realises the implications of its Minister's decision.

"It's extremely saddening for the tens of thousands of Kiwi hunters who face a majestic game bird, often spoken of as the prince of them all, now being relegated to 'pest' status for purely political reasons.

For more information contact Fish & Game chief executive Bryce Johnson on 021397897

Facts

- The total South Island Canada Goose population is around 32,000 birds – in stock units terms, this is equivalent to a single 1200-cow dairy herd.
- Contrary to the Minister of Conservation's statements, she does have direct input into goose management, signing off all sports fish and game management plans. She has also, only last week, signed out the current hunting regulations inclusive of Canada geese.
- Goose population number is an irrelevant management measure – Fish & Game NZ has been operating a successful effects-based system and has responded to all farmer complaints.
- Continued agricultural development is increasing the distribution and carrying capacity for Canada geese.

Kate Wilkinson
Canada geese protection status changed

17 March 2011

The protection status of Canada geese as a game bird will be changed to allow farmers, park owners and aviation managers to cull these birds themselves, Minister of Conservation Kate Wilkinson announced today.

Canada geese will be removed from Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Act 1953 and listed on Schedule 5. This means that Fish and Game will no longer manage the geese as a hunting resource. A permit will not be required to shoot them.

“As the population of Canada geese continues to increase so does their risk to aviation safety and the damage they inflict to pasture and crops,” Ms Wilkinson says.

“The current status where the geese populations are managed as a game bird is not working.

“Farmers have been getting increasingly frustrated with these birds fouling pasture and damaging crops.

“They also pose an aviation hazard due to their large size and this change will allow for the birds to be more effectively controlled where they pose a risk to aircraft safety.”

Ms Wilkinson says there are tens of thousands of Canada geese across the country and recreational hunting opportunities will remain.

“I expect Fish and Game to continue to work with landowners to assist with managing populations around the country.

“The geese are well established and on top of that farmers will have an incentive to provide hunting access to reduce their goose control costs.”

Background

- The Canada goose is an introduced game bird managed by fish and game councils for the benefit of recreational game licence holders.
- Species listed on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Act are declared to be game. This means the populations are managed by local fish and game councils for recreational hunting purposes.
- Species on Schedule 5 are not protected.
- Farmers, urban park managers and those responsible for aviation safety advise that current Canada geese management is not adequately meeting their needs.
- In 1995 the South Island Canada Goose Management Plan was agreed that set the maximum population number at 20,350. The population has remained well above that level and in 2008 was estimated to be 35,000.
- Fish and game councils are independent. Under the current regime, farmers, park managers, the aviation sector, and the Government have no direct input to goose management.
- Individual landowners can suffer thousands or tens of thousands of dollars of damage to pasture and crops from geese in a single year.
- Four to five geese will consume the equivalent amount of grass that a sheep does and this impact is further compounded by associated fouling.

Media statement
Friday, 18 March 2011

Kaingaroo access permits unacceptable says Dunne

"The situation of having recreational users of the Kaingaroo Forest pay for access is totally unacceptable", said UnitedFuture leader, Peter Dunne.

Timberlands, who manage the large previously state owned Kaingaroo Forest have just introduced a system where all hunters entering the forest must register and pay an annual \$50 fee and anglers need to register their vehicles (also for \$50 per annum) to enter the forest.

"The fact that Timberlands are calling the charge an "administration charge for registration" goes against the well established common rights of New Zealanders to fish and hunt without charge," said Mr Dunne.

"As Timberlands are still intending to restrict access during the summer months it means that anglers are being asked to pay for a permit they are unlikely to be able to use it during the fishing season anyway."

"It seems someone has plucked the \$50 figure out of the air and there is no reason that it will not be significantly increased in future years", says Doug Stevens, who is the UnitedFuture spokesperson for the environment and outdoor recreation. "For the many decades prior to Timberlands closing access in 2008 there were no reported fires or major incidents caused by anglers and hunters. What has changed now that a company can deny the average Kiwi the right to access what are publicly owned resources?"

"It is UnitedFuture's policy to ensure that such abuses of power by landowners and forest managers is stopped and that the long established tradition of free unfettered access to outdoor recreational areas is restored for this and future generations," said Mr Dunne.

"Part of what makes this a wonderful country to live in is the egalitarian principle that no-one can own or sell access to publicly owned resources."

"This uniquely Kiwi concept must continue and we will fight those that wish to deprive ordinary New Zealander's accessing what is their birthright," Mr Dunne said.

Ends

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