



THE DEERSTALKER

NEWSLETTER OF HASTINGS BRANCH OF THE NZDA INC.

SEPTEMBER 2011

ISSUE 9

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Well yet another month has rolled on and as I write I have just set all the clocks forward for daylight savings time. That to me begins the hunting season in earnest. My desire to get some more winter hunting under the belt was a bit of a fizzer but hey there's always next year eh!

Last weekend was our Hastings prize giving, and was a really good afternoon, albeit a bit low on attendance. Well done to those of you who came and also those who collected prizes, trophies or certificates. Keep up the good work. It was also very good to see a few old cups resurface as well as Lisa Simonsen winning the Hawkes Bay Cup from the National competition. It only seems right to bring this one home. Cheers again to Brad for the awesome meal (some of you just don't know what you are missing). Again as I write we have a pretty good contingent of members on our Tatarakaia trip. The weather looks very good so far, here in town, so I hope our guys are getting a good run as well. Can't be any worse than the last one weather wise, but hunting is an outdoors pursuit and you just have to make the most of it. I'm looking forward to a run down from Malcolm on his return. His plan was to try to get a few of our newer, less experienced members onto their first if possible so fingers crossed. This is what the club is all about so good on ya Mal. I appear to have a committee curse placed on me at the moment and I have not been able to attend for some time now due to other commitments. I understand there is generally still nothing of great significance to report from committee. The range is still under investigation with a number of people looking into the logistics of both an off site and on site option. My personal desire is to try our best to develop something similar to what Taupo has in place but it could well be that a 100y range, at our property is the best option for the short term. What ever the outcome I see this as a vital resource for our members and will keep the club viable for the future. I have yet to receive any new cell phone numbers for our text service. I have sorted my computer out so I will make sure it is put into service again. Those of you who don't know what I'm talking about or are not getting messages please give me a call/email or catch me up next club night with your details. This will get you sent a text reminder before club night just to jog the memory. Well my freezer is empty and I've been given the chance for a relatively easy one so wish me luck and hot barrels. See you next club night James

EDITORS CORNER

I AM STILL GETTING USED TO THE DARK MORNINGS WITH DAYLIGHT SAVING BUT REALLY CAN'T COMPLAIN ABOUT THE GREAT WEATHER. THANKS TO ALL WHO ATTENDED OUR ANNUAL PRIZEGIVING AND DINNER. RECENTLY A COUPLE OF OUR CLUB MEMBERS ATTENDED THE KAWEKA HUNTING LIAISON GROUP MEETING TO DISCUSS ISSUES SUCH AS THE GPS SIKA TRACKING PROJECT UPDATE AND THE KAWEKA MOUNTAIN BEECH SEASON SUMMARY FOR 2010/2011. ON PAGE 2 IS A BASIC RUNDOWN OF NOTES PERTAINING TO THAT MEETING SO YOU CAN SEE WHAT WAS DISCUSSED. TRY TO MAKE IT ALONG TO THE NEXT CLUB NIGHT & I'LL SEE YOU ALL THERE!!! 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 KEEP THE JOKES & ARTICLES COMING IN AS THEY'RE ALL APPRECIATED.

Events Calendar October 2011

Club Night

Wed 5th Oct. at 8.00pm

With Guest Speaker:

Alan Simmons who is part of the United Future Outdoors Road Show. Come along to hear Alan discuss heli-hunting, 1080, DOC & other outdoor related issues - not to be missed!!

Sika Show - Taupo

15th & 16th October.

Full details on page 2.

Committee Meeting

Wed 19th Oct. 7.30pm.

Up Coming Events

Taupo Branch Prize Shoot

Saturday 5th November 2011.

Details on noticeboard.

Taruarau Shoot

Sunday 6th November 2011.

Full details Oct. newsletter.

E. Richards Shoot

Now changed to end November/early December - dates and details to be advised in Oct. newsletter.

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Kaweka Hunting Liaison Group Meeting



Compiled with information from Dustin Murdock's notes taken at the latest meeting held on the 28th Sept. 2011

GPS Sika_Tracking Project Update

-Dan said that at the end of the experiment each donor will get all the data from **their** deer, but not for all the deer sponsored by others (I think we should negotiate with other clubs and donors to share the information between ourselves – what do others in the club think?), there is stacks and stacks of data as an outcome of this experiment – we'll have to work with Dan to define a way to present the information to the club, as Dan will do a "professional" summary of the data, but not a recreational summary – the professional summary will be available to all (per original project objectives, info like how to improve aerial culling success rates, etc), so we may need to provide a volunteer(s) to review the data for a recreational summary. Dan also said that if the results help them kill more deer or kill them faster, then they won't spend as much time doing S&D, so it's not about having Judas deer on the ground or killing more sika.

-Tracking equipment is available for anyone to go look for deer if they do a fly-in trip somewhere – not keen to dish out the gear just for thrashing about on the front country – only 2 people have taken pictures of collared deer so far! - a \$50 gift certificate for anyone that sights a deer and reports it (must explain location and description of deer to Dan).

Kaweka Mountain Beech Season Summary

- **Deer kills**-132 hinds, 5 stags and 0 reds shot this year in 27 hunter hours – 35 deer captured. – this is the second year with extended season (earlier into the winter). This worked well and reduced the number of hunter encounters while shooting and improved the success rate by leaving longer rest periods between S&D flights.
- **Deer abundance (FPI)**-Not much change in pellet counts in Mangaturuturu, Ballard and Te Puke East blocks, but deer numbers reduced in Harkness block (the new aerial shooting block) – recreational focus should be on the main range, camp spur, Mangaturuturu. The GIS information for the FPI (pellet counts) and culling is available to anyone.
- **Volunteers**– Are needed in mid-January every year for pellet counts. The schedule for next year is starting on the 16 of January. The survey lasts for five days. We should encourage the club to get more involved with this.
- **Distribution of information**- Dan is trying to distribute maps of all deer information from the pellet count and S&D programs. Contact him anytime for any information. Dan has areas that he would like recreational guys to focus. These can vary from year-to-year. Contact him any time as an individual or a club for info. E.g. reds and hybrids seen along the main range – these used to be culled in aerial operations, but now recreational guys should get rid of them (between backridge and studholme). Also, Mangaturuturu Stream has way too many deer!
- **Feedback on additional landing & camp sites**-where do hunters or clubs want better helipad access? Shelter up Spion Kop or just dedicate a consistent campsite for people to use. Also trying to get helipad in Mangaturuturu. Even if the club doesn't want to see further helipads, that information should be fed back to DOC.



OCTOBER 15-16 2011

EVENTS CENTRE, TAUPO

Taxidermy Displays
Antler Displays
Roaring competition (free entry)
Door Entry prizes (see www.sikashow.co.nz)
Children's face painting & competitions
Hunting Clubs & Firearms organizations
Outdoor clothing and footwear
Hunting and outdoor equipment
Hunting guides
Scopes & Binoculars
Firearms
Ammunition

Contact Mark on 07 378 4593
or mark@nzsika.co.nz

www.sikashow.co.nz

COMPETITION ENTRIES

Entry fee includes 2 days entry into the show
Entry into the Photographic Competition is FREE with proof of purchase of Sika Show Entry Ticket

1st head	\$30
Additional Heads	\$10
Photographic Section	FREE

ADULTS

\$15	\$20
One day	Two days

CHILDREN

Must be accompanied by an adult

FREE

Under 16



'Just Kidding'

Two buddies are out hunting when one of them gets a deer. He spots the other hunter sitting over a log taking a crap. Quietly he creeps up and places some of the guts just behind him. Once back at camp he becomes worried that his friend has not returned, so he heads out to find him still sitting over the same log. Why you still sitting over that log he asked. "I shat my guts out & I'm having a heck of a job getting them all back in"!!!

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**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.

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
Kaweka/Mohaka area
from 7/7/11 to 31/5/12.

Taupo NZDA Prize Shoot

Saturday 5th Nov. at Jack
Dillon Memorial Range,
Mountain Rd, Taupo.

MAF Biosecurity NZ

Import health standard
for ornamental products
of animal origin.

Roydhouse Pest Control

Notice of Feratox poison
program in the Kaweka
Forest on Napier/Taihape
Rd from 1/10/11 - 30/9/12

NZDA AHT Competition

2011 Trophy Record Book
Certificates & Medals.

Doc Permit Information

Below are the links to the hunting
permit site on the DOC website:

huntingpermits.doc.govt.nz:44/apply
(first time applicants)

[huntingpermits.doc.govt.nz:444/ search](http://huntingpermits.doc.govt.nz:444/search)
(renew permits)

If you want to hunt with a dog you
have to go into a DOC office as
they can't do this online yet!

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Lincoln University Hunting Survey

The Game Animal Council offers opportunities for better game
management, but that requires information about hunters.
Lincoln University is undertaking independent research into New
Zealand game hunting to help understand:

- Why people hunt
- Who the recreational hunters are
- How many people hunt for each species
- How many game animals recreational hunters kill each year
- What hunters want.

We Need Your Help

Take our monthly web survey about your hunting trips and your
preferences for future management of New Zealand game hunting.

We do not ask your name or where you go hunting.

The survey runs for 12 months so we know what happens at different
times of the year. It only takes a few minutes.

If you are an active game hunter who wishes to participate, visit

www.lincoln.ac/nz/hunt

(for those without access to the internet there are copies of the survey at
the clubrooms)

Early August this year saw our club return to the Galatea faces for the Rusa roar. Steve Shaw organised the trip which was attended by Rodney Knight, Andrea von Lindeiner, with her partner (that's me), our son Lucas and dog Leica, Paul and Peter Montaperto who also invited a 'ring-in' from the Tutira branch, Rex Bullock. Steve did a great job organising the accommodation of a full-size guesthouse that included a commercial kitchen, dining room to seat 50, 4 bunkrooms and a double bedroom with ensuite and a full size, 6-burner BBQ on the veranda. Despite these great facilities, I guess it showed who were the real hard-core hunters were as they still cooked in manky old frying pans and on little gas cookers.

After an evening briefing from the friendly (and talkative) local possum trapper, Jeff Bradey, we all headed into different locations the next morning. Easy road access to the foothills means there's plenty of places to spread out and Steve had made several recon trips prior which provided excellent options to access various places. I saw a small red stag on the bush edge the first morning at 500yds, but Steve was a bit too slow off the mark getting his cannon ready. Rodney saw a couple as well but was practicing selective harvest and let them walk! I watched a medium size, 6-point rusa stag from a distance for quite a while, closed the gap but decided that he too would survive to see another day. Obviously, being a very accommodating club we offered Tutira-Rex the best spot that had been recommended by possum-Jeff, which happens to have nice grassy flat bottom gullies, surrounded by scrub and pig fern with lots of "tame" deer wintering there! Not surprisingly he returned with the back end of a red stag slung over his shoulders and several more were sighted. Having sent him to an 'easy spot' we were surprised to hear stories of getting bluffed out, throwing the deer carcass off the cliffs and taking a 2 km detour to retrieve it!! After 3 days the crew cleaned the palace up in record time and most had departed by early afternoon on Sunday, but having heard rumours of a large Rusa stag being shot by that morning by a local farmer, Steve and I drove laps around the neighborhood to find it! Eventually we found an old rusa stag that a couple of young pig hunters had dogged out into the paddock, where the resident farmer happened to dispatched it from its misery with one clean shot. This old stag had great headgear (172DS), but he was missing huge patches of hair from his shoulders and neck from battling the dogs, what a bugger of a way to go! After seeing and measuring the dogged stag, the Sunday rain turned to bright sunshine and I was in the unenviable position of having an empty freezer at home, made many un-filled promises about how great rusa stag tastes and how "we'll get one for sure this weekend, honey." So Steve and I raced back out to look for meat for the last ½ hour of light. Leica and I luckily came across a young boar pig feeding, so "in the pot you go." This made for a very satisfying end to another club hunt. A couple of

subsequent trips to the area did not produce any further rusa sightings, but I did get up into Tutira-Rex's spot and return with some meat. Happily, I can say that my soft dog performed great on this meat run and was very steady to the shots. This is a huge improvement over the last story I wrote about her running away for 2 days at the sound of the rifle. And the stories that Tutira-Rex told about bluffs and waterfalls and fading light are definitely true!



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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