



THE DEERSTALKER

NEWSLETTER OF HASTINGS BRANCH OF THE NZDA INC.

FEBRUARY 2012

ISSUE 2

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Giddy all,

Boy what a crap Summer it has been. Certainly not our typical Hawkes Bay glory. I don't know how this would affect the coming hunting season and the roar though. Last year was early, what's your thoughts?

Surfing around the other night I saw a picture online of a truly magnificent Sika stag taken deep in Kaweka country. The stag was stripping velvet and was hard underneath. I understand this was possibly 180+ and is probably one of the best japs taken from local public land for a long time. Hopefully his genes remain in the bush with a few stag fawns and that he has a few brothers out there of similar quality.

Our last committee meeting was pretty standard with the most notable being Neil MacLean tabling his costing to install the proposed rifle range on our property. Unfortunately it was fairly costly, being well above our current club savings. We will persevere with this though, to see if there are areas we can trim as well as continue to explore other options that could be available to us.

Also mentioned was the up coming 1080 drops by the AHB/HBRC. I will be making a submission on behalf of the club to request deer repellent be used where hunting access points are through the Makaroro/Ngarororo area being controlled this year. Owen Harris who spoke with us last month was quite approachable to provide this option, but it did require a reasonable reason behind the additional expense of repellent. I would expect, that unless there are a heap of submissions, this narrow strip around the Mangleton faces (Parks Peak access etc) will not get the repellent. We are also planning the next Annual Hunt and maybe look at a different format to run the hunt.

Personally my own hunting has been OK. I have been out a lot more than last years poor effort and I have seen reasonable numbers of deer. I was disappointed by my poor fitness last year so I have added a bit more exercise this year that has certainly aided my speed at getting up those hills. It has also been nice to see almost all the hinds with good sized fawns at foot.

Anyway I'm late with my report so best flick it out ASAP to Lynne. Catch up with you at the next meeting.

Hot barrels,
James

SECRETARY & EDITORS CORNER

THE ROAR ISN'T TOO FAR AWAY NOW AND I HOPE EVERYONE IS GETTING IN HEAPS OF PRACTICE SO WHEN THAT ONCE IN A LIFETIME STAG IS IN YOUR SIGHTS—YOU SHOOT HIM GOOD AND PROPER!!!

WE HAVE A BUSY YEAR AHEAD OF US WITH OUR WILKINSON & JUNIOR SHOOT COMING UP SOON ON SUNDAY 11TH MARCH. MAKE SURE YOU COME ALONG AS IT WILL BE A GREAT DAY FOR ALL.

WE WELCOME SEVEN NEW MEMBERS THIS MONTH - BEN HUMPHREY, MARK MILDON, BRIAN SALISBURY, SHANE LIBEAU, AMANDA LIBEAU, VAHRI LIBEAU & AUSTIN LIBEAU. MAKE SURE YOU HELP THESE GUYS & GALS FEEL WELCOME TO THE CLUB.

WE ALSO HAVE BRYCE ADAMS FROM REXON RADIOS COMING TO THE NEXT CLUB NIGHT TALKING ABOUT THEIR RANGE OF PRODUCTS AND THEY HAVE A GREAT SPECIAL ON FOR THE NIGHT.

WE NEED STORIES, ARTICLES AND JOKES AND REMEMBER THAT YOUR STORY WILL GO IN THE DRAW FOR NEXT YEARS SPONSORED FLY-IN TRIP WITH NEW SPONSOR - HAMILLS. THE DRAW FOR THIS PAST YEARS WINNER WILL BE MADE AT THE NEXT CLUB NIGHT ON 7TH MARCH AND I WILL SEE YOU ALL THERE!

Events Calendar March 2012

Club Night

Wed 7th March 8.00pm.

Guest Speaker -
Bryce Adams from
Rexon Radios.

They are offering a special for the night which is detailed on page 2. Remember to bring your chequebooks.

National Shooting Comp

3rd-9th March.

Tokoroa Sports Complex
Details on noticeboard.

Annual Hunt Comp.

Starts March 10th
through to April 25th.
Full details page 2.

HB Challenge Junior & Wilkinson Shoot

Sun 11th March 10.00am
Held at Ben Lomonds.
Full details page 2.

Pig Hunters Junior Comp

Sun 11th March - details
on noticeboard.

Committee Meeting

Wed 21st March 7.30pm.

Inside this issue:

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Wilkinson Shoots & HB Challenge Junior Shoot

The Hastings Branch's Wilkinson and HB Challenge national postal shoots are being held on **Sunday March 11th** at the Ben Lomond Range, SH 50 Maraekakaho. It starts at **10.00am** - bring your own refreshments & lunch.

The cost is **\$2 per person** which covers our hireage of the range.

We have four entrant categories which are:

Wilkinson Senior - Centre Fire at 100m

Wilkinson Ladies - Rim Fire at 75m

HB Junior Challenge - Centre Fire at 100m

Wilkinson Junior - Rim Fire at 75m

(which is also the Swazi Junior prize shoot)

For ammunition allow for 20 counting shots plus sighters. As per normal for Senior Men there are the four shooting positions - prone, kneeling, sitting & standing. Juniors & Ladies only have to shoot from three.

If you have any queries contact Neil MacLean on 06 874 3018.

We look forward to seeing you all there for a great day!!!



The world's most durable outdoor clothing

Rexon Radios - Excellent Radios in REXON

Bryce Adams from Rexon Radios will be at the next club night on March 7th to show us the range of radios and accessories available.

They have a special for the night which is 2 x RL328 PRS hand held radios (each radio comes complete with 2100mah Li-ion battery, fast charger, belt clip & tuned antenna) and they are freight free.

For a one night only price of \$690.00 including GST.

That's a saving of \$115.00 off the normal price.

Check out their website www.rexonradios.co.nz.

Make sure you bring your chequebooks/\$\$\$ along as this special is a great offer but you must order them that night!!!

HASTINGS
DIESEL &
AWD CENTRE



'Just Kidding'



"I finally remembered" - white with fishermen, red with hunters!!

Stichbury Automotive Care
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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 Mon 23rd April. This year's competition has some good sponsorship that is providing \$1000's in prizes. A major "Spot Prize" from **Guns & Tackle, Napier's Hunting & Fishing Store** is up for grabs for 1 lucky participating under 15yr 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 the committee members. This is a fun family day so register everyone to be in to win & bring them all along to enjoy it.

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, or your comp. entries won't be valid !!!

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

www.nzdahastings.org.nz

Roydhouse Pest Control

Notice of Feratox poison program in the Kaweka/Mohaka area from 7/7/11 to 31/5/12.

Roydhouse Pest Control

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

Heli-Hunting

Submissions and articles.

Southland Locater

Beacons Limited

Information on hireage and specifications.

Mobile Systems Limited

Information on personal location beacons, order forms and specifications.

Roydhouse Pest Control

Notice of Feratox poison program in Mohaka Buffer area from 9/1/12 - 30/6/12.

HBRC 2012 1080 Baiting

Update on East Coast (HB Region) Animal Health Board Winter 2012 1080 Aerial Baiting programme.

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 have a dog you must go to office.

HBRC - Didymo

The Science behind Didymo, research, other freshwater pests & monitoring and reporting.

Pig Hunters Junior Comp.

Sunday 11th March.

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Whiskey-Drinkers Venison Stew



Ingredients

Marinade:

- 6 fl oz scotch whiskey, sherry & port mixed (equal measures of each)
- 8 fl oz blackberry wine (fruity red wine could be substituted)
- 1 onion, chopped
- 3 garlic cloves, crushed
- 8 rashers streaky bacon, derinded and chopped
- 1 teaspoon thyme
- salt and pepper
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice

- 2 lb shoulder of venison, cubed
- 2 oz seasoned plain flour
- 2 oz butter
- 2 large carrots, sliced
- 2 large onions, chopped
- 6 cloves
- 1 teaspoon allspice
- 6 shallots
- grated rind of 1 lemon
- 1/2 lb button mushrooms
- 1 glass scotch whiskey

Mix the marinade ingredients together in a large bowl. Add the venison and refrigerate for 24-48 hours. After this time, remove venison from marinade (reserve this for later) and pat cubes dry with absorbent paper. Put venison into a plastic bag with seasoned flour and shake well until the pieces are well coated.

Melt the butter in a large fireproof casserole dish. Add the venison and the remaining ingredients, except the mushrooms, lemon rind and whiskey. Gradually add the reserved marinade. Bring the mixture gently to the boil, then place the dish in the oven at 160°C (325°F) Mark 3. Cook for 2 hours, checking occasionally to make sure that the venison is moist - add more wine, as necessary. After two hours, remove casserole from oven, add the mushrooms, lemon rind and a glass of whiskey, before returning to oven for a further 30 minutes. Before serving, check seasoning and add a further glass of whiskey, if desired. Serves 6.



With all bags packed another amazing experience begins....

It all started with a quick drive out to the East Kaweka helipad to meet Chris Crosse and his R44. This was where we were flown into the Kaweka Ranges and dropped into Otutu Hut to spend the week in the wilderness. What more could we want.

The first afternoon was spent sitting behind our binos keeping an eye-out on the potential in the area, and luck was struck early that afternoon scoring a nice fat sika hind to compliment camp dinners throughout the week.

Throughout the week with the weather poxy and the fog rolling in each morning and evening this reduced the chances for long- range hunting, so we utilised our time following deer sign up and down ranges and walking through thick bush in search for 'a big one'. To be all in vain. We did manage to spook at least four deer during the journeys in and out of the bush, this was also an experience for me, as I heard my first 'mew' from a Jap hind and her fawn as they ran off into the distance.

Later in the week there came a break in the weather so we headed out onto a ridge for another hunt. As usual down the ridge further we spotted a Sika Spiker in the distance feeding on toot, so with leaps and bounds, a little bit of bushwhacking and with quick but quiet feet we snuck up close. With Nick shooting and me spotting, the deer was knocked down accurately and swiftly before it started its 100m plunge down the cliff face with no chance for survival, just reassurance of nice and juicy meat for the carnivores.

In typical Hawke's Bay style minutes later there was a downpour as we clamber down the ridge face to collect our meat, but nothing beats walking back to the hut saturated and cold with a pack full of meat and the only thing you're craving is a cup of tea and a back country meal.

The rest of the week was spent hunting the clearings and through the bush surrounding the hut. There is nothing more frustrating then walking back on your own path and seeing deer prints in your footprints.

Cunning little buggers these Japs. The last day was spent eagerly awaiting our pickup in the R44 with Chris, and as usual the weather turns out beautiful and clear before we head home.

As we load the chopper Chris makes us aware of a hind and yearling that is on the hut clearing and flies us over them as we leave the beautiful surrounds of Otutu.

The experiences and rewards taken from a week in the bush is under

estimated, the things you learn and the memories taken home with you makes a whole week without a decent shower or a flushable toilet well worth it!



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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