

THE DEERSTALKER

NEWSLETTER OF HASTINGS BRANCH OF THE NZDA INC.

FEBRUARY 2014 | ISSUE 18



Luke Richards with a Jap Hind - shot from across the range pictured below.



WIN A BEER FROM ANGUS - By guessing the range between point A & B.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hi All, Hope everyone had a good Christmas and a festive New Year, enjoying a bit of relaxation and getting out into the hills hunting when you could.

The committee are looking at organising more club hunting trips this coming year so please make the effort of coming along, and watch out for the information in the newsletters.

Next Wednesday 5th February we have a speaker coming along to talk about 1080, it should be an interesting evening, I'm sure it will lend itself to a lot of discussion.

At our March meeting we're having a head skinning demonstration.

Remember to get those stories in to the magazine to go into the draw for the helicopter trip. You have to be in to WIN! I'm sure there's a lot of you out there who could give us some good stories.

If there is anyone in the club who would be able to help with the organisation of the newsletter it would be appreciated.

Hot Barrels,
Mal

EVENTS CALENDAR UP COMING EVENTS

First Club Meeting: 5th February
Speaker: Frank Pauitt

Committee Meeting: 19th February

Club Meeting: 5th March

Wilkinson Shoot: 9th March

AGM Meeting: 7th May

REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS:

The Club Hall is available to hire

COMMITTEE OFFICERS

Patron	Max Motley	
President	Malcolm Ingpen	878 7795
Vice President	Dustin Murdock	
Treasurer	Neil Maclean	8743 018
Secretary	Angus Richards	877 9422
Newsletter Editor...	Tom Allan - 'Band'	833 6671

HALL CONTACTS

Hall Bookings.....	Guy Te Kahika	879 9598
Groundsman	Grant Richards	878 4467
Trophy Custodian ..	Graeme Withey	878 6161
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EDITORS CORNER

Happy new year everyone. Hope you all had a good break and got to spend some time in the bush over summer. There's some good talks and demos happening at the club nights coming up - don't miss out!

I sound like a broken record but please contribute to the newsletter by sending in photos, jokes, trip reports or grit on other members etc.

Cheers
Tom

tom@band.net.nz

Hand Loading Press 5

By Neil MacLean

Loading Problem Cartridges Part 1

Establishing what should be possible

A number of cartridges are traditionally loaded to lower pressures in the USA due to the rifles they were originally chambered in, or for a number of other reasons. Cartridges include most European military rounds, plus a number of American rounds including 250 Savage, 257 Roberts and 280 Remington. As the USA is the source of most reloading data for the powders we are likely to use this causes problems. If, as we mostly do, we have modern, stoutly constructed, rifles and cases the loading data will deliver sub optimum performance.

A few years back I shouted myself a Tikka T3 Lite in 6.5x55. The 6.5 loads in the Hodgdon Guide are wimpy with pressures around 10,000psi below the 260 Rem. Fortunately a few more years back I had run across an article in Handloader by John Barsness called "The Rules". The most relevant rule for my purposes was that cartridge possible velocity increases at ¼ of case capacity if pressure remains the same. So if case capacity increases by 10% possible velocity increases by 2.5% at the same pressure.

Now just to be clear, I am not telling you to use this method but how I have used it. There a large number of variables each of which needs to be considered which I have not covered in this article.

The 260 Rem is close to the capacity of the 6.5 with modern pressures so was a good candidate for comparison.

To measure case capacity I filled 260 Rem and 6.5 x 55 cases. I filled each case with 748 powder to the base of a 25 cal projectile seated the same distance into the case. This result was converted into cc's and an adjustment made for the reduced seating depth in the 6.5. I won't bore you with the calcs but just show the results in the tables.

Cartridge	Capacity (grains)	Capacity (cc's)	depth adj plus seating
260 Rem	52.0 gr	3.40 cc	3.40 cc
6.5 x 55	54.5 gr	3.56 cc	3.62 cc

This gives 6.5% more capacity or 1.6% additional velocity potential. If we apply this to the Hodgdon 260 Rem data for AR2213SC yields the following possible velocities.

Projectile	260 Rem	6.5 x 55
120 gr	2945 fps	2990 fps
129 gr	2845 fps	2890 fps
140 gn	2740 fps	2780 fps

So far so good. What John Barsness's rules do not tell us is how much coal and what type we need to put in to get the velocities. It is quite possible that a different powder may be needed. This is where the load development part starts.

Part 2 - Load Development.

A quick literature search yielded the following. All Norma cases.

Projectile	Powder	Charge	Velocity	Notes
120 gn	AR 2209	48 gn	2920 fps	Own records. M38 Mauser
139 gn	na	na	2750 fps	Own records. Norma factory load.
120 gn	H4831	51 gn	2950 fps	Al Miller. Handloader. BSA CF2. May have been surplus US made powder.
140 gn	H4831	50 gn	2840 fps	-

These are old loads and as mentioned earlier not to be trusted. Current data from Hodgdon is as follows. AR powder names are shown.

A few background notes on H 4831 are in order. During WW2 4831 was manufactured in the US as canon powder. At the end of the war there was quite a bit left over. Bruce Hodgdon bought a large amount of the powder (a number of trains full) and marketed the powder to handloaders. When the supply ran out, about 30 years later, Hogdgon had the powder manufactured in a number of places, most recently in Australia where it is known as AR 2213 SC.

Projectile	Make	Powder	Charge	Velocity	Pressure
120 gn	Nosler BT	AR 2213 SC	49.5 gn	2802 fps	45,900 CUP
129 gn	Hornady Interlock	AR 2213 SC	48.5 gn	2689 fps	45,000 CUP
129 gn	Hornady Interlock	AR 2209	45.5 gn	2703 fps	45,700 CUP
140 gn	Hornady Interlock	AR 2213 SC	47.0 gn	2586 fps	45,700 CUP

46,000 CUP is quite low. Some of the start loads for the 308 Win are higher than that. But old habits die hard so let's cut the two 129 gn projectile loads by 0.5 gn and put our toe in the water.

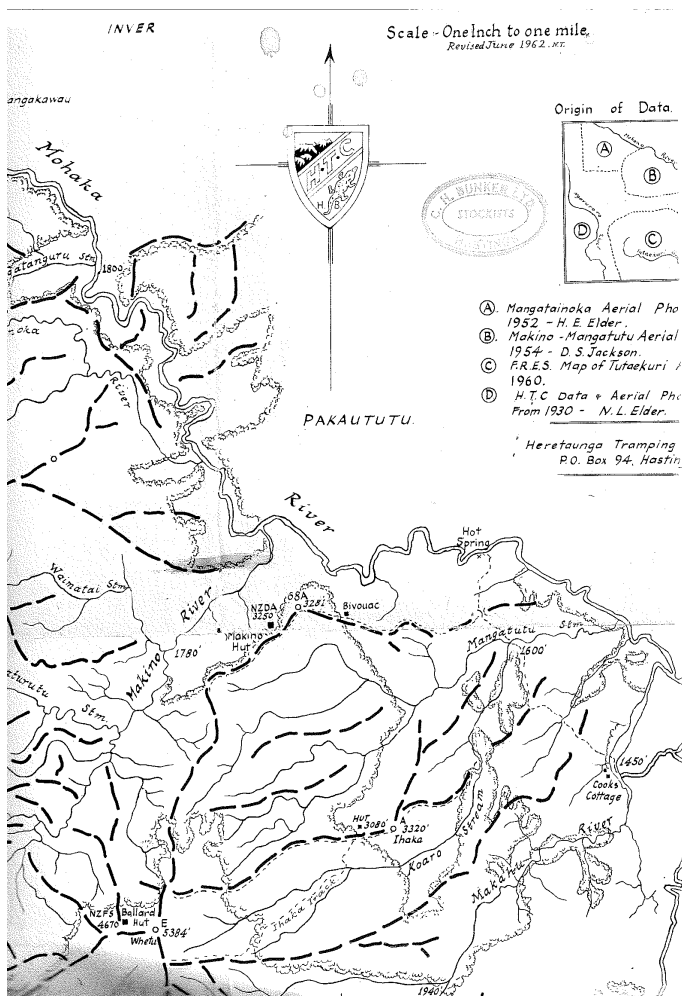
Projectile	Powder	Charge	Velocity	Notes
129 gn	AR 2213 SC	48.0 gn	2704 fps	Hornady Interlock. 78mm LOA. 0.5mm from rifling. Norma case full length resized.
	AR 2209	45.0 gn	2708 fps	

Not bad. We got a bit more velocity with a bit less powder. This is probably the result of seating the projectile close to the rifling. AR 2213 SC will probably produce the higher velocity so let's try a bit more of that. My SST projectiles and Lapua cases have turned up so let's change to them.

Projectile	Powder	Charge	Velocity	Notes
129 gn	AR 2213 SC	49.0 gn	2720 fps	Hornady SST. 79mm LOA. 0.5mm from rifling. New Lapua cases.
		50.0 gn	2800 fps	

That's getting closer. As my barrel has only had 18 rounds through it I will leave it there for the moment. Next time we will look at pressure variables.





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From Route Guide to Ranges West of Hawkes Bay:

52 MOHAKA HOT SPRINGS (PACK TRACK)

From Makahu Stream at Cooks Cottage is a formed road over grown with fern continues, NW across the Makeake and Mangatutu (Frame) valleys and over a saddle (52B) to the Mohaka at the Hot Springs Reserve. 2 hours.

52B MAKINO HUT (DISCED)

Leave Route 52 at saddle (disc) above the hot springs, turn left and follow a new cut across Caunces Flat to bivouac in scrub. 2 hours. From the bivouac, continue through scrub and then bush to the toe of the Makino Spur in the vicinity of Trig 68A. 3.25 hours. The old mustering track sidles right here on to a spur leading down to the Makino confluence but discs bear sharp left to Makino Hut (NZDA 1959) 3.5 hours.

52C MAKINO SPUR (DISCED)

The track continues from Makino Hut to the bush line of the Kaweka Range, 2 miles N of Trig E. 2.5 hours. Ballard Hut lies in a saddle at the head of the Makino W of Trig E. 3 hours.

52D MAKINO VALLEY (DISCED)

From Makino Hut follow route 52C for three quarters of a mile until opposite the Mangaturutu valley. The route follows the bush edge down a steep spur to the Makino River, nearly opposite the Mangaturutu confluence. 1.5 hours. An hour up the latter stream, a steep spur gives a direct route onto the Kaweka main divide (50) at a scrub plateau E of Trig 45. 7 hours.

In 1959 that was it for tracks in this area. No track up the Mohaka, no middle hill track or hut for that matter. I have included a section of the 1962 Heretaunga Tramping Club map to allow you to make some sense of the routes. How do you think you would have got on with these and a compass? It certainly caused me some trouble.

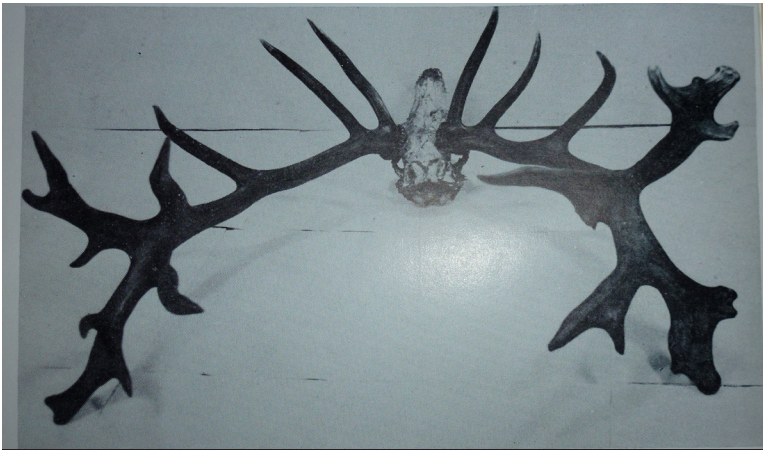
Yesterdays Back Country

Over the last couple of decades, we have all become used to excellent quality maps and navigational aids like GPS enabled electronic route finding devices. It is hard to imagine that as little as 50 years ago none of these were available. This article, and others if they prove interesting, looks at an area where many of the tracks have been developed over the last 60 years.

At the commencement of World War 2 the NZ Army realised that it possessed little knowledge of the countries interior. To address this, in Hawkes Bay, a compilation was made from Heretaunga Tramping Club records in 1942 as a track guide. This was updated and published by NZFS as a route guide in 1959. This booklet together with simple maps published by the Heretaunga Tramping Club were state of the art navigation aids when I first ventured into the Kawekas in late March 1963.

MOHAKA HOT SPRINGS/ MAKINO AREA

This area, like much of the Kawekas was farmed before the First World War. In around 1912 a new road was constructed from the Makahu Stream to the Mohaka Hot Springs, most likely to support farming in the area. From the 1950's, the NZFS developed a network of tracks and huts to support their deer culling operations. The Makino hut was constructed in 1959 by Napier Deerstalkers Cub members.



NZ record for points - 27. Shot by W. Smith at the Irene River - 1953.



This beast may have been a hybrid (Same deer as above - Now at the clubrooms)

Record Wapiti in Charles' Sound *Bill Smith*

Charles' Sound was stalked by Jack Hall, Stan Chapman & Bill Smith.

While hunting a bush plateau in an offshoot of the Irene River, near where the river enters the Sound, Smith shot what could possibly stand as the record wapiti for number of points. (Dr Murie believed this animal to be a possible hybrid). The head carried 27 points, had a spread of 47 1/2 inches & length of 40 inches.

It was a magnificent shot by Smith of 300 yards across an estuary of the river. He severely wounded the animal which then made off into the bush. The three hunters fanned out and located the bull well in the bush, finishing their trophy off with more rifle fire. If a pure wapiti, this bull replaces the previous record holder, a 24 pointer shot in the Lugar Burn by F Delaney in 1951.

FROM RIVERS TO RANGES

Hi Club,

Just letting you know about the big change with my store. In September this year, I pulled my store out of the Hamills NZ Group and I am now trading as an independent. Nothing has changed apart from my new brand and the level of support and sponsorship that I do with the club will continue.

So if you are in the market for anything related to hunting, shooting or fishing – please call in to the shop and see either Nick, Mitch or myself and we will look after you.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank the members who have supported me over the years – it is appreciated.

Regards Jeremy Hanaray
Jeremy Hanaray Rivers to Ranges Ltd

Jeremy Hanaray



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