

# THE DEERSTALKER

NEWSLETTER OF HASTINGS BRANCH OF THE NZDA INC.

SEPTEMBER 2012 | ISSUE 9



**PHOTO OF THE MONTH**

*Evening clag - Kaweka's*

## PRESIDENTS REPORT

Spring is here and I have a good feeling that this time we are going to get a decent summer, last years attempt at the warm season still has me feeling ripped off.

Hunting has yet to really register for me so far and I must admit that trout fishing has occupied a fair bit more of my outdoors time as of late. The allure of sea run trout smashing whitebait in the last few kilometres of the Tukituki has been haunting me for the last few weeks. Mind you, my riverside daydreams and reality have not been exactly identical. More like opposite, but its good to get out and explore some new country. My typical preferred trout fishing has been a bit more purist in smaller water rather than the big, slow and deep waters at the tail end of these larger rivers.

You hopefully will have noticed a few changes with the newsletter. Lynne's decision to step down from the editor's position was no surprise with Steve's recent decision to step down from Secretary giving them both a bit of free time together. I hope that we are only able to maintain the high standard that Lynne has set. The newsletter certainly has come a very long way since Lynne put her hand up and I personally want to express my thanks to her here for all her hard work. The bar has been set high! In saying that, we could not have asked for a better man to pass the baton on to. Tom Allan has put his hand up to continue as editor and with his professional background we are in safe hands. Welcome Tom!

At our last committee meeting there were a couple of thing worthy of mention.

Our application for funding from the national research pool has been granted - details pg.2.

Angus Richards has offered to carry the load by tasking on the Secretary position in our executive. Welcome aboard (again) Angus.

Grant Richards has also made some good progress with the back boundary fence. He will keep us posted as to his and Hamish's progress. I am thinking we will need to do another working bee once the wires and posts are up to secure the batons. Thanks Grant and team, you have done a great job so far.

Dan Herries from DOC was lined up to talk this coming club night but he has had to postpone until our November meeting due to other commitments.

Anyway that's enough from me. Looking forward to seeing you next club night.

Hot barrels,  
**James**

## EVENTS CALENDAR OCTOBER 2012

### Club Night

Wednesday 3rd October.

We have no speaker at this stage.

### Sika Show

29th & 30th September. 9am - 4pm

[www.sikashow.co.nz](http://www.sikashow.co.nz)

### E. Richards Shoot

The E Richards shoot is planned to be run in late November (this is a Hastings club trophy and is used in the aggregate from the E Richards, Taruarau and the Wilkinson postal shoot).

### Committee meeting

Wednesday 24th October at 8pm

## UP COMING EVENTS

### Tataraakina Club Trip

23rd - 25th November.

6 Blocks and approx. \$100pp.

Contact Malcolm 06 8787795 / 0276227125

### South Island Tahr trip

Now looking at spring.

Contact James 06 8765334 / 0272965523

### Fly-in trip - location TBC

Late November early December - TBC.

Contact James 06 8765334 / 0272965523

## COMMITTEE OFFICERS

Patron .....	Max Motley	
President .....	James Guildford	876 5334
Vice President .....	Malcolm Ingpen	8787795
Treasurer .....	Neil Maclean	874 3014
Secretary .....	Angus Richards	876 2742
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
Hall Caterer .....	Brian Salisbury	02121350027

## HASTINGS DEERSTALKERS BRANCH CLUBROOMS

1534 Maraekakaho Road, Bridge Pa, PO Box 2155,  
Stortford Lodge, Hastings  
Phone 06 879 9396

EMAIL: [hastings\\_nzda@xtra.co.nz](mailto:hastings_nzda@xtra.co.nz)

VISIT: [nzdahastings.org.nz](http://nzdahastings.org.nz)

## EDITORS CORNER

I would like to thank Lynne for the great job she has done establishing the newsletter and keeping it going for 3 years. This is the first one for me and I appreciate the help in the handover. It's been a bit of a rush trying to get my head round everything for this issue but I'm looking forward to getting amongst it and build on the great base that has been created.

We would like to start a 'photo of the month' so please email any pics you get to me, tom@band.net.nz - any shots not used in the newsletter will be uploaded to the website gallery - also if you have a mean hunt or experience then chicken peck a quick yarn and I'll try to slot it in if we have room.

Feedback is always welcome - Cheers Tom

## SIKA TRACKING PROJECT

Our application for funding from the national research pool has been granted.

The club via Dustin Murdock and Shane Libeau will be able to get access to some pretty flash software with this grant and a laptop computer to do it all on. With this equipment they will now be able to process all our Sika collar data and we are actively trying to gather the data from all the other collars from DOC and other privately sponsored collars to create a really comprehensive data set.

We need to register our branch as a charitable organisation as part of this process and I am in the process of doing this now. It should have no impact on our incorporation status and really only make formal our status as a non-profit organisation. *James*



## HUNTS DVD

Alex Gale has made his DVD 'The How to of Deer Hunting in New Zealand' available at a subsidised price at assist the HUNTS program and this is recommended as an alternative to the HUNTS manual as that resource undergoes revision and updating. *NZDA*

## POT LUCK DINNER

Over the last weekend we also had our Hastings Prize Giving and Potluck Dinner. I unfortunately was unable to attend and I understand the turn out was low. I did hear though that the food was great! Maybe we need to have a think about next years event and how we can make this a bit more of an event for the club. *James*

## TATARAAKINA CLUB HUNT

The club hunt to Tataaraakina sounded like it was a bit of fun too from the feedback I got from Malcolm. We seem to have a few stories every year on this one. I understand the wind blew pretty hard and with the bridge being condemned the crossing over the Waipunga was pretty hairy. I might leave that story for someone else to tell next month! *James*



## THAR CLUB HUNT

The proposed Tahr hunt in conjunction with BOP Branch failed to get enough numbers to make a go of it. The timing was not great so I was not expecting much. Maybe we could start the ball rolling sooner and make a better plan for Spring 2013. The hunting around Mount Cook I understand is excellent and could well be a good one to cross off your bucket list (while your still able).

*James*

## SEEKING OUT NEW ZEALAND'S OLDEST HUNTER

New Zealand's oldest hunting magazine is looking for New Zealand's oldest hunter. This gives everyone the opportunity to nominate their father, grandfather, uncle, or a dear old friend for a new competition, to be launched in conjunction with the NZ Outdoor hunting magazine's 75th birthday.

To nominate someone, people are asked to send in a 300 - 500 word profile of the person they think deserves to win, explaining with as much colour as possible why they think he should be the winner. The entry must also include photos - past and present - of this person hunting.

The winner will be selected on the 1st of November, and announced in the magazine's December/January issue. New Zealand's oldest hunter will receive an unforgettable guided hunting experience to be enjoyed with a companion on a remote station in the Wanganui hills.

For more information contact Debra Quaadgras Phone 07 543 5325 or publicity@nzoutdoor.co.nz

## NOTICE BOARD & WEBSITE BLOG

WWW.NZDAHASTINGS.ORG.NZ

### NZDA offers

Special offers are available for NZDA members including travel on the interislander and a one year subscription to the NZ Outdoor Hunting Magazine for \$44.90.

### Milford Dart tunnel

Members are asked for support in stopping the proposed Milford Dart Tunnel in Fiordland and Mt Aspiring National Parks. A fact sheet and petition is at [www.gopetition.org](http://www.gopetition.org)

### Central regional championships 20/21 October 2012

Due to the poor turnout lately at the regional/North Island shoots and because this is also Labour Weekend entries in the above competitions will be required in advance notification of entries by Friday 12th October.

For more info and entries contact Malcolm Perry Phone 07 348 4473 [malcolmperry@clear.net.nz](mailto:malcolmperry@clear.net.nz)

### Taupo branch prize shoot

Saturday November 3 2012, Jack Dillon Memorial Range, Taupo which includes the Big Balls Hunter Class Shoot.

For further information contact Margaret Seal [hwmmsal@xtra.co.nz](mailto:hwmmsal@xtra.co.nz) or phone 07 378 9630



### Potential new member

Lucas Mackie (12) on his first goat hunt with a club member - his old man made a bloody good curry from these...

# EAST KAWEKA HELICOPTERS LIMITED



**ALL ENQUIRIES WELCOME - COMPETITIVE RATES - ENTHUSIASTIC SERVICE**

Hunters • Trampers • Fishermen • Kayakers • Scenic Flights

**Chris Crosse Phone (06) 839 8693 or 027 2269303**

Hangar: 99 Hukunui Rd, Puketitiri Email: [cgcrosse@xtra.co.nz](mailto:cgcrosse@xtra.co.nz)

## PROJECTS FUNDRAISING



### IDEAS WELCOME

We need to come up with some ideas to help support future endeavours and projects - put it out there and get the ball rolling...

### FIREWOOD

We will be having another firewood bee at Steve's workshop again this year. This wood can then be ready to sell next year. For the efforts this year - half way through winter we made just short of \$1000 for the kitty.

We still have dry wood to sell now if you or someone you know needs any. We'll let you know when we will be doing the wood.

**FIREWOOD PRICES** (pick up only)  
Macrocarpa, Cypress \$65 per bin

**PHONE** Lynne 06 877 5275 to order and organise pick-up

## CLEVER BASTARD

Drill a hole in the handle of your knife, tap it and cut the head off a bolt...



## 'JUST KIDDING'

*Brought to you by  
Stichbury Automotive*

During a visit to my doctor, I asked him, "How do you determine whether or not an older person should be put in an old age home?"

"Well," he said, "we fill up a bathtub, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the person to empty the bathtub."

"Oh, I understand," I said. "A normal person would use the bucket because it is bigger than the spoon or the teacup."

"No" he said. "A normal person would pull the plug. Do you want a bed near the window?"

209 St Aubyn Street, Hastings. 8787700



**Stichbury Automotive Care**  
Professionalism with Knowledge



# Chathams

By Ben Humphrey

They say the Chatham Islands offers hunting and fishing like mainland NZ use to 100 years ago...

... And when you see it with your own eyes you realise it is not an exaggeration. Wild sheep, cattle, pigs, goats and weka are plentiful, and the fishing is outstanding. Around 600 people live on Chatham Island and they are incredibly friendly and hospitable. I headed over in August this year for work and took some annual leave giving myself a week to look around and do some hunting. Winter is not the best time to visit the Chats with the Island being muddy creating access issues and the weather being unsettled for fishing. However I was determined to make the most of it and as soon as the work was done got into it with a bit of paua diving, which didn't require water going over the gumboots!

One of my priorities was to get over to Pitt Island, inhabited by 30 people, to hunt wild saxon merino rams which are black woolled sheep. The cessna was not flying due to the airstrip being muddy so I made a few calls and managed to get a ride over on a cray boat. We left the Chats at 6am and an hour later were picked up by a guy I had done some work with on the wharf at Pitt Island. Away hunting we went for the day seeing many wild sheep and a couple of good rams. The hunting is easy, involving cruising around on bikes and stalking likely areas of bush or coastline. I was fortunate that my mate was a local so knew all the spots. It wasn't hard to find some rams, the difficult part is working out how good they are as some have tighter curls or more wool around the bases than others. I shot two rams and a lamb. We were back on the wharf by 4pm to be picked up by the cray boat, and we were back on the Chats in no time. The skipper of the cray boat wouldn't even accept money for diesel.

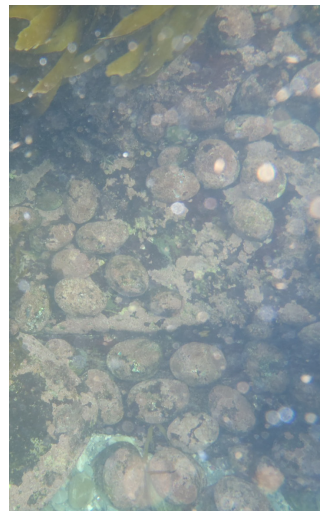


There were quite a few rams with good heads.

Back on the Chats I went for a hunt with the owner of the homestay where we were staying targeting wild bull. Wild cattle are abundant on the island and seem to roam everywhere (one evening I bumped into half a dozen on the road). They run when spotted or sometimes hide if there is something to hide in. At one point I snuck to within 50 metres of four hiding in some long fern before they took off. We didn't see any bulls on this hunt, however on the way home I spotted a pig in the paddock which took off with us in hot pursuit, as it paused I shot it and we had a great eater on the deck. There is so much rooting on the island I thought we would have seen more.

## HAMILLS STORY COMPETITION

WIN A CHOPPER RIDE - WRITE A YARN!



Good sized paua were thick.



Just drive the bike on it bro!

While having dinner one night at the one and only pub, my girlfriend recognised one of the guys from her school days. I went and said giddy which led to a huge night on the beers with the locals. That in turn led to two of the guys taking us out to get some dog tucker...wild bull. Away we went the next afternoon eventually seeing a lone bull and a mob of about 5 cattle. As we "stalked" the mob on our bikes the lone bull broke close to us and our mate took off after it flat stick on his bike. The country is rolling, ferny and swampy with lots of ruts and holes. Our mate was absolutely gunning it after this bull disappearing and reappearing as he bounced his way like a madman just behind the bull. I tried to keep up with him, the last vision I had of him was him riding right beside the bull at full pace. When I finally caught up with him, there he was with the bike on top of the dead bull. Turns out he had employed an old tactic of knocking the bull over with his bike, pinning it down with his bike, then jumping on its back and killing it with his knife! I left him to it and went after the mob, which had one bull with them. Rather than give my mates hunting method a go I thought I would keep things simple and wait for a clean shot. From 80 or so yards out the bull turned side on and I squeezed a shot off into its neck dropping it on the spot.

While on the island I was trying some new projectiles in my 7mm Mag suggested by club members Tom Young and Jeremy from Hamills. The 168 grain sierra hpbt matchkings performed really well. While I am sure they were overkill for the sheep seeing a big wild bull drop on the spot was satisfying. I brought back from the Chats a poly bin full of meat, paua and cod as well as my three heads and a sheep skin. As I sat in the airport with my carry on luggage consisting of a rams head that was starting to ever so slightly drip out of the plastic bag onto the carpet, I reflected on being very privileged to have hunted somewhere a bit different and so plentiful with game.



'The fishing and hunting specialists'

106 Nelson St South, Hastings. 06 878 7177 [www.hamillsonline.co.nz](http://www.hamillsonline.co.nz)

