

The New Zealand Deerstalkers Assoc. Inc.

March Issue 2015:



"The Tines" Rotorua Branch Newsletter March 2015



Rotorua N.Z.D.A. Branch Calendar

Ring coordinators for more information. Phone numbers listed on inner back page.

Calendar of the Club's regular monthly events:

Committee Meeting Range Shoots* Socials Party Hunts**

Last Monday of each month 3rd Sunday of each month 4th Wednesday of each month 4th Weekend of each month

* Regular Club Hunting & Trophy Shoots. For extra range shoots and 300 metre shoots please refer to Yearly Range Calendar.

**Some Party Hunts may be on different dates, see programme.

Our programme for this month:

Party Hunts Hut upgrade coming up, email the editor if interested

Every 4th Wednesday at the Neil Hunt Park Clubrooms. Socials

Range Shoot Range itinerary for 2014 in this issue: **Contact Malcolm Perry.**

Cover Photo: Central North Island Gun Club and participants of their "Go Vietnam Day" at the NZDA Rotorua range. More information on the shoot is included in this issue.

If you have a photograph that would be suitable for the cover please contact the Newsletter editor, Elvis Bowring on 021 066 7868 or nzdarotorua@gmail.com.

Thanks to: Advocate Printing (248 Fenton Street, Rotorua (07 347 8822)) for printing our newsletter. The best address for quality and affordable copying and document solutions!

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Presidents Report March 2015

Hi all

Well I suppose the big news is we have been given a draft copy of the new lease agreement with the CNI group. It gives us a 9 year term with 2 rights of renewal for each of the 3 year. terms. Quarterly rent will be \$125 plus gst, which is pretty good I think. The deed is with our honouree solicitor. Just checking through as you do. With this done I would like to think we can sign up asap as we have until 1 April to take up the lease.

I am still working with the Black Powder Club on obtaining some more land between us so as to build another 300m range; also you may have noticed the two containers have arrived thanks to the range gang, Denise, Malcolm and Rob. I should also acknowledge cowboy who resides down the road who loaned us his tractor and back blade, which operated by Denise levelled off the container site.

Following on with the proposal to add a second range, we have set up a range subcommittee. It consists of Dennis, Malcolm, Rob, and three guys from the Central North Island Gun Club (CNIGC) Douglas McHardy, Mike Jamieson and Warren Fitzsimonds, as these guys can add value to the thought process and through their experience around other ranges.

We have to create a berm between us and the BPC which will be approx. 400m long and 5m high so this will take some dirt/fill so to all of you, if you know of anyone who wants to get rid of fill please get in contact with one of the committee as we will need all we can get.

On the weekend of 14th Feb, yep valentines weekend, the CNIGC held a shoot. I rolled along to see what they do and was impressed by it all. They had over 30 guys from as far away as Auckland, Cambridge and Putaruru. The day ran like a well-oiled machine so if you are also keen, they shoot first Saturday of the month typically or check out the date on their next shoot on the website.

So after attending the service rifle boys shoot (CNIGC) it was our turn on the Sunday to shoot 300 deer silhouette, so we had an amazing turn out, not, Dennis and myself, with Rob arriving to work on the range. Two people out of total membership of 350ish. I have seen guys shooting 300 at times so why not come out on an organized day and have some fun and friendly competition!!

I hope guys are still getting out to work on the stoat lines, as with the roar coming it may be a good time for a trip.

Well that's about all so have a good time if you are heading out this roar and keep safe

Cheers Colin If you currently receive a postal copy of this newsletter and would like to receive an electronic (pdf) version instead, please drop me a line with your email address.

Electronic copies are delivered faster, are cheaper to produce and are better for the environment.

> Wanted Stories for newsletter. Any interesting articles. Any photo's of your hunting trips. Anything to buy or sell? Send to editor – nzdarotorua@gmail.com Or phone 021 066 7868



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Range Reports

Rotorua Range Program 2015 as at December 2014.

MARCH; Sunday 1st 300M target shoot*. Saturday 7th C.N.I.G.C. Service rifle shoot. Sunday 15th .22 Metalic silhouette shoot*. Saturday 28th C.N.I.G.C. Service rifle shoot.

APRIL;

Sunday 19th Deer silhouette shoot.

MAY;

Saturday 2nd and 3rd, 300m North Island Champs Saturday 9th C.N.I.G.C. Service rifle shoot. Sunday 10th D.A. 300M target shoot. Sunday 17th .22 Metalic silhouette shoot.

JUNE;

Saturday 6th C.N.I.G.C. Service rifle shoot. Sunday 7th 300M target shoot. Sunday 21st Deer silhouette shoot.

JULY;

Saturday 4th C.N.I.G.C. Service rifle shoot. Sunday 5th 300M target shoot.

Sunday 19th .22 Metalic silhouette shoot.

AUGUST;

Saturday 1st C.N.I.G.C. Service rifle shoot. Sunday 2nd 300M target shoot. Sunday 16th Deer silhouette shoot.

SEPTEMBER;

Saturday 5th C.N.I.G.C. Service rifle shoot. Sunday 6th 300M target shoot*. Sunday 20th .22 Metalic silhouette shoot.

OCTOBER;

Saturday 3rd C.N.I.G.C. Service rifle shoot. Sunday 4th 300M target shoot*. Saturday 17th Central regional N.R.A. 3x40 Rimfire match. Sunday 18th Central regional 3x20 Centrefire match.

NOVEMBER;

Sunday 1st 300M Target shoot. Saturday 7th C.N.I.G.C. Service rifle shoot. Sunday 15th Deer silhouette shoot.

DECEMBER; Saturday 5th C.N.I.G.C. Service rifle shoot.

NOTES; As yet the date and nature of our Christmas and Junior shoot are yet to be sorted. *Denotes shoots I will not be available to range officer and I will arrange a stand in prior to the event.

Malcolm, Contact 07 348 4473 or 027 625 9608.

Range Report For February 2015.

Sunday 1st 300M shoot, the usual suspects turned up.

Saturday 14th C.N.I.G.C. Service rifle club held their monthly shoot, held over from the 7th as that a long weekend. Sunday 15th deer silhouette shoot, Dennis ran this in my absence but I believe had few attend.

COMING EVENTS:

March; Sunday 1st 30

Sunday 1st 300M target shoot. Saturday 7th C.N.I.G.C. Service rifle shoot.

Sunday 15th .22 Metalic silhouette shoot.

Saturday 28th C.N.I.G.C. Service rifle shoot.

APRIL;

Sunday 19th deer silhouette shoot, was mentioned at committee meeting may not be many there,

When was there ever many there?

MAY:

Saturday/ Sunday 2nd & 3rd 300M North Island Champs. Saturday 9th C.N.I.G.C. Service rifle shoot. Sunday 10th 300M target shoot if anyone keen. Sunday 17th .22 Metalic Silhouette shoot.

GATE KEYS:

The new 2015/16 gate keys will hopefully be available from the first week in March. This year's key will still operate till Easter weekend. If you hold this year's key you will need to return it to get your new key at the \$30-00 price, otherwise you will have to do the induction course again and pay \$40-00. New members will need to do the induction course and pay \$40-00.

Last night, Monday 23rd we held the committee meeting at the range, and in a brief look around the range saw that there are getting quite a few shots in the white boards on top of the bullet stops at 50 & 100M. this means that shots are considerably higher than they should be. Please make sure your targets are placed low enough that the bullets impact firmly into the bullet stop. If these boards are in too rough a state it may impact on our certification which could be getting close at last now our lease is on the horizon. Time to reload, Malcolm.

(Advert for N/L) FOR SALE:

Cartridge brass; 308 1xF Fedral 150 rounds; .222 1xF P.M.C. 450 rounds; 223 1xF unknown brand 100 rounds. \$0-15 per round. Contact Malcolm 027 625 9608.

Induction courses:

Note: that you will need to have attended one of these courses in order to get the new range key. All Induction Courses have to happen at the range. These are being undertaken to ensure members are aware of the safety requirements of using the NZDA range and are a step towards the committee getting the range certified. These courses should only take around 30 minutes. You only need to attend once this year.

For further information, please call Dennis on 027 200 6489.











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Central North Island Gun Club

Good Morning Vietnam 2015

14 Feb was the first "Good Morning Vietnam" shoot.

The day was themed around Vietnam era firearms, M16's, AK47's SKS's, SLR's.

21 Shooters attended, with people travelling from Auckland, Waikato and 2 even from Christchurch!

As it was the 1st serious competition CNIGC had organised, there was a lot resting on the day.

The day's events started with the popular "Counter Ambush" which gave the competitors 10 seconds from standing to adopt the prone position and fire 10 shots in 10 seconds. 5 people managed the perfect score of 50/50. Game on!

Next was a non-stop trinity match with 60 seconds to shoot 5 shots standing, 5 sitting/kneeling and 5 prone all at 100 metres. 67/75 was the winning score.

3rd match was our popular "Double Action M" which involves the shooter moving to all 3 shooting positions in the shape of an M twice... very tiring, and scores can vary wildly. 39.5/50 won the match.

Match 4 was eagerly anticipated (by no one)... a 100 metre sprint followed by 10 shoots in 90 seconds. Techniques varied from sprint to casual walks (some of the younger shooters were the slowest!) Steve G scored a perfect 75/75 with a mild jog. Great effort!

The final match of the day was a 200m squatting 10 shots in 60 seconds. This was far too much for some of the unfit competitors (like myself) and scores varied wildly. Our overall winner of the day Kevin from the NZ Service rifle team scored the highest with 33/50.

A teams plate shoot was the final event of the day, with the winners proving that aimed and timed careful shots win most more often than not.

Prize giving followed afterwards with over \$2800 of prizes kindly donated by our sponsors **NZAR15.COM** and **GUN SUPPLIES.**

Kevin won the Trophy and is keen to defend his title next year, with a overall score of 254.5/300.

A huge "Thank You" to our sponsors who ensured that every competitor walked away with a prize.

All Deerstalker members are welcome to attend one of our club days, and we always have on hand "A Cat" rifles to try out. Bring some .223 and give it a go!

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NZDA ROTORUA WEBSITE IS ONLINE:

CHECK OUT WWW.NZDAROTORUA.ORG.NZ

Watch out for wallaby

If you're dusting off your gun for a spot of spring hunting, or looking for a chance to hone your skills, keep an eye out for dama wallaby.

A feral population of dama wallabies has been slowly spreading in the forests around Lakes Ōkataina, Rotoiti, Tarawera and Rotomā since 1912. Bay of Plenty Regional Council Land Management Officer Dale Williams says they're a forest menace but they're also often overlooked as a hunting resource.

"We need hunters to help us keep the population in check and contained within the current feral range. If you see a wallaby anywhere west of Rotorua, east of Kawerau or south of Rainbow Mountain, dead, alive, or on a trail camera, please let us know by calling 0800 STOP PESTS (0800 780 773)."

"Their hind legs fit well in a slow cooker and they're a useful target for novice hunters to hone their skills on. In the bush they'll often run then stop to check the danger, giving a hunter two or three chances to stalk in close and take a shot," Mr Williams said.

Dama wallaby are an unwanted pest because of the way that they graze. They can damage pine and eucalyptus seedlings and limit native forest regeneration. On farmland they compete with stock for pasture.

They're grey-brown in colour with a paler grey underbelly, and stand up to half a metre tall. In areas of sand or soft soil, the long narrow hind feet and tail of wallaby leave a characteristic track; the footprint of a wallaby is a three-pronged print with a large central toe extending further than the outer toes. Their faecal pellets are slightly larger than a deer pellets and often teardrop in shape.

If you shoot a female wallaby be sure to check the pouch for joeys and dispatch them humanely. Moving live wallabies is an offence under the Biosecurity Act.

"They're also really nervous animals that get highly stressed in captivity so keeping them as pets is not a good idea from an animal welfare perspective," Mr Williams said.

Find out more at www.boprc.govt.nz/pestanimals

Volunteers/NZDA Rotorua Projects Updates

Hut upgrading

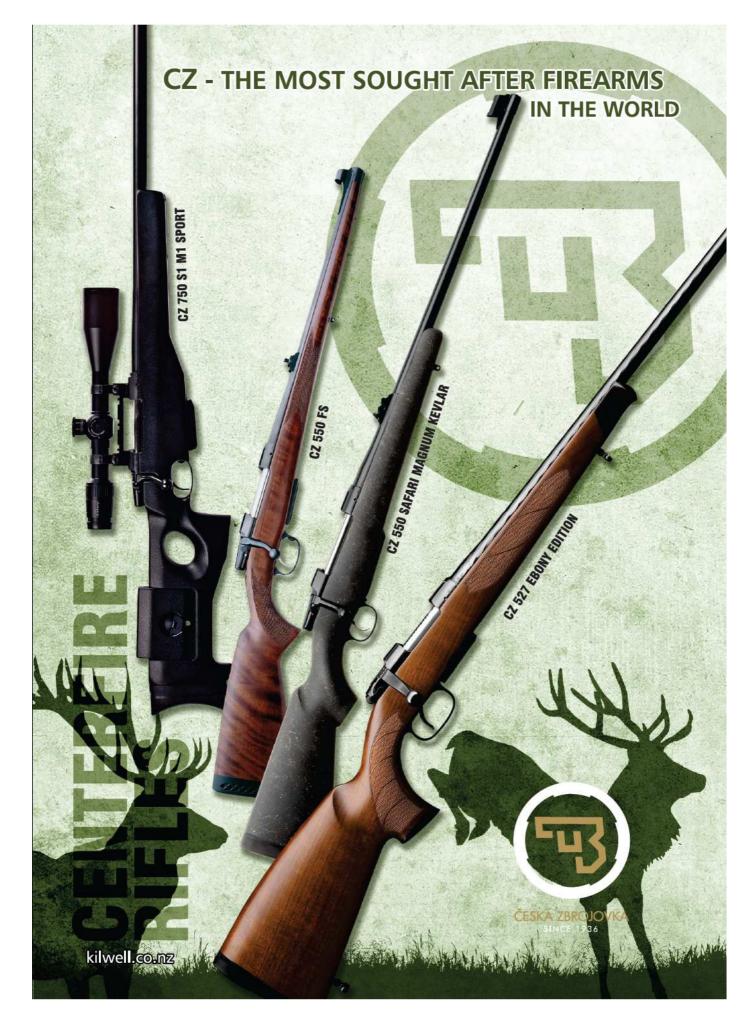
DOC has asked for assistance with updating a hut in the in the Whirinaki Forest. If you are interested, please let the editor know on <u>nzdarotorua@gmail.com</u>. As normal, there will be ample opportunity to go out for a hunt.

Stoat trap clearing

DOC has asked for assistance with clearing stoat traps in the Whirinaki Forest.

If you are interested in helping out by volunteering some time, please contact a committee member.





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Jihitahi Challenge Saturday, March 14th 2015

Competition will involve: Hiking Shooting Basic navigation Observation Distance judging Tree identification

Event location is 6km south of Waiouru on Highway 1

For more details contact: Malcolm Gillice Simon Gillice (07) 345 6409 (06) 758 1693 gillicegunsmithing@gmail.com sgillice@pandp.co.nz

NZDA NZ HEAD OFFICE NEWS

NEWSLETTER to Branches

26 February 2015

This month started with us welcoming NATEX for the first meeting of 2015 and it hasn't slowed down since. We are in the really meaty part of membership with all outstanding invoices having been emailed and posted out and now we are processing those payments as they come in thick and fast from keen members. We making a quick turn around of membership our top priority, this is causing a slight delay in answering emails and other queries as we work frantically on getting membership out, bear with us!

Membership 2015/16

We have had good feedback via email from members and they seem more forthcoming with updating details. In fact we are capturing members who haven't been reached for a few years when their address changed and they didn't update their address details.

We are charging a 2.5% transaction fee for credit cards which has seen a slight reduction in these being processed in favour of other methods. In most cases payments are being processed the same day they are received.

Payments

Payments/clearings will go out next month for Jan and Feb membership subs, this is so you can reconcile them in the correct financial year, and hopefully you will be pleasantly surprised with the sum you will be receiving. In the next few days you will also receive a lump sum figure from National Office – this is the reimbursement for research levies which should not have been invoiced for 2014/2015. Once again thank Wellington Branch for their generous offer to cover the organisations research levies.

What's Happened This Month?

24-25 January	Benchrest North Island Shooting Championships
31 – 1 February	Natex meeting
7 February	Consortium Applications close

Upcoming Dates

7 March	Hihitahi Challenge Waiouru
26-28 June	Conference in Wanaka

Sue and Molly

In the news

HUNTING WITH WOLVES SURVIVAL KEY - NEW ZEALAND HERALD (03 MARCH 2015)

Dogs are humanity's oldest friends, renowned for their loyalty and abilities to guard, hunt and chase. But modern humans may owe even more to them than we previously realised.

We may have to thank them for helping us eradicate our caveman rivals, the Neanderthals.

According to a leading US anthropologist, early dogs, bred from wolves, played a critical role in the modern human's takeover of Europe 40,000 years ago when we vanquished the Neanderthal locals.

"At that time, modern humans, Neanderthals and wolves were all top predators and competed to kill mammoths and other huge herbivores," says Professor Pat Shipman, of Pennsylvania State University. "But then we formed an alliance with the wolf and that would have been the end for the Neanderthal."

If Shipman is right, she will have solved one of evolution's most intriguing mysteries.

The question is: what finished them off? Some scientists blame climate change.

Most argue that modern humans - armed with superior skills and weapons - were responsible. Shipman agrees with the latter scenario, but adds a twist. We had an accomplice: the wolf.

Modern humans formed an alliance with wolves soon after we entered Europe, argues Shipman. We tamed some and the dogs we bred from them were then used to chase prey and to drive off rival carnivores, including lions and leopards, that tried to steal the meat.

She argues the creation of the human-wolf alliance saw Neanderthals disappear to be followed by lions, mammoths, hyenas and bison over the succeeding millennia. Humans and hunting dogs were, and still are, a deadly combination.

4 Steps to conquest

• Modern humans evolved in Africa.

• They began to emigrate around 70,000 years ago, reaching Europe 25,000 years later.

• The continent was then dominated by our evolutionary cousins, the Neanderthals, who had lived there for more than 200,000 years.

• Within a few thousand years of our arrival, they disappeared.

- Observer

WALLABIES DAMAGING FORESTS, LAKES BY JAMIE MORTON OF THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD - ROTORUA DAILY POST (26 FEBRUARY 2015)

A cousin of the kangaroo could wreak havoc if it spreads through the Kaimai and Urewera ranges, conservationists fear.

The Lakes Water Quality Society, a collaborative organisation that aims to restore the health of lakes in the Rotorua region, has chosen the troublesome dama wallaby as a theme of its annual symposium to be held in Rotorua on March 12 and 13.

While endangered in South Australia, the species is considered a pest in New Zealand.

According to the most recent distribution survey, it had spread throughout nearly 170,000ha of the central Bay of Plenty.

The first wallabies to reach New Zealand were released on Kawau Island around 1870 by Sir George Grey, before a population was released in the Rotorua district just over a century ago.

The species preferred a habitat of relatively dense vegetation for shelter during the day, with easy access to grasses and pasture species at night.

But the grey and brown coloured animal was considered a major threat to indigenous forests compared to its impact on exotic forestry and pastureland.

LWQS committee member Ian McLean said wallabies were damaging forest and lakes Okataina and Tarawera, along with other lakes.

Damage to the under-story of these forests, causing erosion, would have a flow-on impact to water quality in the lakes.

"What's just as bad, wallabies are slowly but steadily spreading from the current infestation near Rotorua."

They had been seen on the outskirts of Tauranga and along the Rangitaiki River to the east - a small step from the main ranges.

"Once there they would add to damage done by deer and opossums - not only would the forest suffer but also lakes and streams," Mr McLean said.

"Dealing with wallabies now would be a small fraction of the cost of eradicating them from the Kaimais and Urewera."

Pest control approaches by authorities to deal with the wallaby have included trapping, exclusion fencing, night shooting and poisoning - but Mr McLean said more research was needed to assess and respond to the threat.

The other major theme of the symposium was lakeweed, which was becoming a growing problem in Rotorua lakes as they became clearer.

Lakeweed stopped some lakes and bays from being used for swimming or boating, and also created a smelly mess when it piled up on shore.

Among the scientists giving talks at the symposium would be Dr John Madsen, a leading expert on lake weed and based at the University of California.

"The Rotorua Lakes Restoration Programme was initiated by LWQS efforts and is showing tangible signs of success," Mr McLean said.

"But more remains to be done. This symposium deals with two significant but neglected current issues - they are important for the future of our lakes."

- Rotorua Daily Post

MAN SHOT IN LEG DURING HUNTING TRIP - THE NZ HEARLD (26 FEBRUARY 2015)

A man was shot in the upper leg during a hunting trip in the Tararua Ranges overnight.

The man's injuries were described as serious by the Palmerston North-based Rescue Helicopter pilot Chris Moody, who was called out about midnight to bring the man, aged in his 20s, to hospital.

The man had suffered a "serious accidental gunshot wound to his upper leg", Mr Moody said, during a hunting trip in the Tararua Ranges, near Shannon.

The Palmerston North hunter had being given first aid by two others in the hunting group, in an attempt to contain the bleeding.

Using night-vision goggles, Mr Moody located the injured man, with the help of his hunting party who signalled with a hand-held torch.

He was stabilised by the on-board St John Ambulance paramedic, before being airlifted to Palmerston North Hospital in a serious condition, Mr Moody said.

- NZME.

Club Contacts

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Range Keys

Any person who wishes to have a range gate key for the private use of our range must be a CURRENT FINANCIAL MEMBER of the Branch and must obtain a key from Hunting and Fishing, Hamills, Outdoorsman HQ or Serious Shooters. Your membership card must be produced at the time of key purchase. Keys may not be lent or passed on to other persons, whether they are members or not. Non-Members can only enter the Range if accompanied by a current Financial Member. Any use of the range by non-members requires prior approval of the committee.

Membership Costs (Rotorua Branch)

Senior = \$100 (full benefits at local and national branch level) Associate = \$70 (Unable to vote or enter national competitions. Does not receive H&W) Junior = \$25 (Must be less than 18 years of age as at March 1st 2011. Full benefits apart from voting rights.) Student = \$40 (Must be attending a tertiary institute or undergoing an apprenticeship. Proof must be provided.) Superannuant = \$50 (Over 65 as at March 1st 2011. Full benefits) Family = \$5 (Children or grandchildren), \$10 partner or spouse. Sender: Rotorua Branch NZDA PO Box 857 ROTORUA

