



# The New Zealand Deerstalkers Assoc. Inc.

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**December Issue 2013:**

*Merry Christmas and happy,  
safe hunting for 2014.*



“The Tines”  
Rotorua Branch Newsletter Dec 2013



## **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	Last Monday of each month
Range Shoots*	3rd Sunday of each month
Socials	4th Wednesday of each month
Party Hunts**	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**

**Socials**                      **Every 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday from February 2014 at the Neil Hunt Park Clubrooms.**

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

**Cover Photo:** Flash with an early Christmas deer, shot by the editor the weekend before producing this newsletter as I really needed a photo for the cover and this way I could sneak a partial photo of my dog in.

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](mailto:nzdarotorua@gmail.com).

**Thanks to:** Konica Minolta (1190 Pukaki Street, Rotorua) for printing our newsletter. The best address for quality and affordable copying and document solutions!

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Full page    \$150 (for 11 issues)

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## Presidents Report

Hi All,

Well, I gather everyone's gearing up for Christmas etc so that would probably explain why we have not had too many members at the recent events. What do you think? So what have you all missed?

Well to start we recently had Allan Foot from AJ Productions over from Hamilton to give us a show and tell us a bit about his electronic calls and spy camera gear. He also ran a DVD on Sika hunting in Japan which was most interesting and the animals seen were impressive, but hey you had to be there!

Next was the .22 Plate shoot out at Woodstock Station run by the Gillice gang with some assistance from Malcolm P and the Dennis, as this was also the Jnr Swazi shoot. We had three juniors along so they all picked up a prize- good on you, also most of the crew were not members of the club but keen shooters that follow this style of shooting.

I trotted out later with a mason trap (clay thrower), intending to assist with this but had a crack at a 70m target and wished I had been able to fully participate in the program as it would have been cool. We are already thinking of future events in a similar vein.

Thanks again to the Gillice crew, you were the ultimate professionals, video cam, laptop no pressure lads!!

Next of course was my specialty clay busting, but alas Dennis had to use a 5 shot so that was that (he did really need 5 but) all that had a go were rapt and it was in all a great day, but hey you had to be there!

Being able to use the woolshed also reiterated the need for our own hut out at the range so watch this space!

Sunday, the next day, was a working bee at the range. We worked on the 50m mound while the Regional guys and Mitch release sprayed the new plantings on the berm, thanks to Bates and of course Malcolm and my wing man Dennis. We also had a bit of a weed eat around the place so she looks all good.

Well that's about all. It's been a long year or feels such and I apologize to the committee as I haven't been around much due to Mitch's clay shooting commitments.

So all have a Happy and Safe Christmas and New Year.

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.

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### **For sale**

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***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](mailto:nzdarotorua@gmail.com)***  
***Or phone 021 066 7868***

**Volunteers/NZDA Rotorua Projects Updates**

## **Whirinaki/Urewera Hut restoration**

Okui hut has been completed.

We will be doing one or two huts every year. Although we are working, there is ample time to get in some hunting as well. Please talk to a committee member if you would like to volunteer.

## **Hints for Hunters (taken from Waikato Deerstalkers, November 2013)**

How deer see.

Deer have tiny cones on the retina at the back of their eyes to pick up different colours. One type of cone picks up the short wavelength blue colours and the other type of cone picks up the middle wavelength colours of yellowish greens. However, they lack the cones that pick up the long wavelength reds and oranges that we humans have, hence our choice of blaze orange clothing that deer would probably see only as a medium shade of grey.

As well as these cones, deer also have a large number of tiny rods that can pick up light at night. Any faint source of light at night hits these tiny rods and images would be seen by the deer as fifty shades of grey. Any of this faint light that bypasses the rods continues to the very rear of the deer's eyes where there is a very reflective layer of cells which reflects the light forward and onto these tiny rods again, in effect using the same light twice. This very reflective layer is why deer eyes shine back at us when a torchlight is shone at them at night.

Some of the light is ultraviolet which is at the far end of the spectrum and which deer appear to pick up also. Our human eyes have a thin screen that filters out the Ultraviolet light and this enables us to see more clearly, but with the deer not having this filter, it means that they would not have the clarity of vision that we humans have but any UV light they see can act as a warming beacon to them. Deer rely more on picking up shapes by movement to identify objects. If you are standing still it is far more difficult for deer to determine exactly what you are. Camo gear to match the surroundings can help even more.

## **A History of Hunting – The Deerstalkers Part 2 by Peter Graham**

With NZDA being 75 years old, the book covers the associations history from 1987 to 2012 and follows on from Phillip Holdens "The Deerstalkers", which covers the first 50 years.

Association members have contributed to the book by way of chapter on different aspects of hunting and NZDA history.

It also gives information on firearms legislation, shooting champions as well as conservation projects the association has been involved in.

The book is available in the Branch Library for members use.

Please ensure members log there name and phone no in the "Red Book" with a committee member if borrowing a book from the library.

Thanks

Peter Graham (Branch Librarian)

## **Range report November 2013**

Sunday 3rd should have been 300M shoot, I turned up at range without my gate key, waited a while to see if someone with a key would arrive, did not happen so I went home.

Saturday 16th, APR work social, about 17/18 people took part, thoroughly enjoyed themselves, doing something most had never done before. My thanks to Dennis for his assistance on the day.

Sunday 17th Deer silhouette club shoot. A member we seldom see on the range turned up, making a total of 5 including myself. The afore mentioned member is known for his dry humour and sarcastic comment and his presence made for quite a fun morning. Glad you came. (No names mentioned in case I breach some privacy act or other).

Saturday 30th will be the Swazi shoot combined with a .22 plate shoot set up on Woodstock farm. This will also be the Christmas BBQ. For further info please contact Dennis Price 348 4343; or Malcolm Gillice 345 6409.

Development work:

On Monday 25th we had a digger from Hickey contractors on the range putting the recently deposited fill where it needed to be. The 50M backstop was completed and more material is required to complete the 200M backstop. We will now have a working bee on Sunday 1st December to set up the 50M target boards which will be a permanent fixture, albeit they will need renewing periodically. There is other work planned also such as release spraying around the planting on the berms.

The way things are ticking over at the moment we may well have our certification early in the new year

Familiarization days. As has been mentioned earlier these will be held next year and members will be required to attend one before they purchase a range key. **THERE IS A PARTICULAR REASON FOR THIS REQUIREMENT. NEW KEYHOLDERS SOMETIMES ASK FOR VERTUALLY THAT TO FIND THEIR WAY AROUND, THE MORE IMPORTANT ONE IS THAT SOME CURRENT KEY HOLDERS DO NOT DO THE CORRECT THING ON THE RANGE REGARD TARGET PLACEMENT ETC.** With this system everybody will know what is expected of them, and failure to follow those guidelines will have consequences!

These sessions can be held any range day that it is required and should only take about 20 minutes.

February 2014:

Sunday 2nd, 300M shoot and familiarisation session. Members who take part in these sessions before new membership cards are available will be issued with an acknowledgement of attendance that can be produced later. Once keys are available members who have their new cards will be able to be issued with their new key at the range.

Sunday 16th .22 metallic silhouette shoot and familiarisation course.

Wishing you all a very merry and safe Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Time to reload,

Malcolm.

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## **In the news**

LOCATOR BEACON SAVES FARMER BY MATHEW GROCOTT – STUFF.CO.NZ (02 DECEMBER 2013)

A locator beacon allowed a farmer to contact emergency services after he was injured in a quad bike crash on his farm in the Tararua region, preventing what could have been a lengthy wait for help.

The Palmerston North Rescue Helicopter was dispatched by Rescue Co-ordination Centre New Zealand after the emergency locator beacon was activated south-east of Dannevirke about 11.30am on Saturday.

Pilot Lance Burns said as the helicopter neared the co-ordinates where the beacon had been detected the crew saw the crashed quad bike and the farmer.

After the helicopter landed nearby, the onboard St John paramedic treated the farmer, who had suffered injuries to his lower body.

"It appeared that his quad bike had rolled," Burns said.

He was stabilised at the scene before being airlifted to Palmerston North. "Without the use of the beacon . . . it is likely that no-one would have been alerted to the accident for some time."

A hospital spokesman said the man was in a stable condition in a ward this morning.

Burns said the farmer told him he carried the beacon because there was poor cellphone reception on the farm.

Other farmers should consider carrying the beacons, Burns said.

In June, Feilding man Richard Hina spent 24 hours trapped under a quad bike after it crashed on a Lethbridge Rd farm.

Hina called for help for several hours and was not discovered until the day after the crash when it was realised he was missing.

There has been a spate of quad bike accidents, including several fatalities, in the past two years.

On Thursday a 19-year-old suffered leg and chest injuries on a farm in Hawke's Bay when two quad bikes collided while travelling over a hill.

Earlier this month a coroner suggested quad bikes should not be referred to as all-terrain vehicles, and consideration should be given to stopping the use of quad bikes for farming altogether.

After looking into the deaths of five farmers, coroner Brandt Shortland stopped short of including among his recommendations a ban on the use of quad bikes in farming.

- © Fairfax NZ News

BOOMING NATIVE BIRD POPULATIONS - AN URBAN PROBLEM? BY HEATHER MCCRACKEN –  
THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD (02 DECEMBER 2013)

Threatened forest species may face a plague of predators if a bumper beech season leads to a surge in rodents, which then make meals of endangered birds and bats.

However at the same time, a study has shown booming native bird populations in urban reserves are likely to upset city dwellers with their songs and droppings.

The Department of Conservation (DOC) said beech trees were flowering heavily across the country following ideal climate conditions in the past two summers.

That will lead to large amounts of seed falling next autumn, providing abundant food for rats, stoats and mice.

DOC Director-General Lou Sanson said there were concerns that when the seed supply ran out in winter, rodents would prey on vulnerable species, like native birds, bats and snails.

Scientists would monitor beech forests for rodent numbers, he said, and pest control specialists would identify at-risk populations and prepare contingency plans for pest plagues next winter and beyond.

The prolific flowering could lead to the biggest seeding event in more than a decade, said DOC scientist Graeme Elliott.

A similar event in 2000 reduced mohua in Fiordland from several hundred to a dozen or so birds, and wiped out a population in the Marlborough Sounds.

"Birds like mohua/yellowhead, kakariki karaka/orange-fronted parakeet and whio/blue duck are particularly vulnerable, as well as other threatened species such as short-tailed bats and Powelliphanta snails," Dr Elliott said.

Meanwhile, pukeko, kaka and red-billed gulls are expected to boom in urban areas, testing people's tolerance for noise, fouling and nesting.

A study by Victoria University's Centre for Biodiversity and Restoration Ecology found those species consumed a wide variety of foods, leading to population growth.

The success of nature restoration projects in cities could also bring more forest or seaside-dwelling birds into cities.

Researcher Dr Wayne Linklater said large and dense populations could amplify problems "such as noise, fouling or nesting".

The study, co-authored by Master of Science graduate Kerry Charles, was published in the journal Wildlife Research.

Ms Charles said kaka were already causing contention in Wellington by damaging property, particularly trees.

"Our study suggests that there may be further problems caused by birds in New Zealand cities as our cities become more urbanised and populations of birds with broad diets grow," Ms Charles said.

- APNZ

MT RUAPEHU FALL TEEN: 'I REFUSED TO DIE' BY JAMES IHAKA – THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD (26 NOVEMBER 2013)

Wanja Drees cried out in pain for 20 minutes before he realised help wasn't coming.

The 19-year-old had a broken leg after tumbling 100 metres down Mt Ruapehu. In an isolated spot, he couldn't be heard, so he used his shoelaces to tie his shattered femur to his other leg and begin the agonising process of dragging himself off the mountain inch by inch.

"[As I fell], I was thinking, 'I have to stop, I have to stop,' but then I realised my leg was broken and I thought, 'What am I going to do?'" he told the Herald from his Rotorua Hospital bed yesterday.

He also told media that when he finally came to rest he was shaking and in shock - but he refused to consider the worst.

"I'm a positive guy and I'm not thinking about dying there."

The young German - on a weekend off from his Matamata dairy-farm job - lost his phone in the fall, so screamed to attract attention. He said the pain was very intense - "10 out of 10".

"But after about 20 minutes or so I decided there wasn't any help for me and I was alone ... I took the bands [laces] from my shoes and fixed my broken leg together with my right leg. I lay there for another 20 minutes or so and thought about my situation and what is the next step for me."

Mr Drees had lost his footing on a path in the Te Heuheu Valley on the northwestern side of Ruapehu on Sunday morning and slipped 50 metres down a slope before his left leg crashed into a boulder, smashing it and causing an open fracture.

He then slid a further 50m before stopping himself on another rock with his right leg. "No, it was not so cool," said Mr Drees, who was walking alone after doing the Tongariro Crossing solo on Saturday and mountainbiking in Taupo the day before that.

With his legs tied together and a shirt stemming the bleeding, Mr Drees saw a lift station about 300 metres downhill and made his slow and painful descent, using his elbows to control his speed.

He spotted a man in his 50s and his daughter near the Knoll Ridge cafe and screamed for assistance.

They wrapped him in a jacket and gave him water and a muesli bar before calling for help.

Members of the Ruapehu Alpine Rescue Organisation turned out, and the Taupo-based Greenlea Rescue Helicopter flew him to Rotorua Hospital.

"I want to really, really thank them in some way for helping me," Mr Drees said.

"I was very, very lucky. It could have been a lot different. I could have gone on a bit longer, but I don't know how much longer."

Mr Drees said he had been enjoying his weekend off from his farm job and "had nothing to do on Sunday" when he decided to hike up Te Heuheu Valley.

He said he would never go up a mountain alone again. He was an experienced mountain climber and fit, but said the only person who knew what he was doing was someone he had met at an information centre in National Park.

Leonce Jones of the Mountain Safety Council said people saw Ruapehu as a nice one-day tramp, but conditions could change dramatically.

"It's not stable ground. There is always a chance you will slip and fall, as was the case here."

Mr Drees was extremely fortunate that he had kept his head and it was warm.

Mr Jones said the rules for heading into the mountains were simple: go prepared, let someone know where you are, take plenty of food, water and warm clothing and a means of communicating.

A police spokesman said while Mr Drees did exceptionally well to drag himself so far, he was ill equipped for alpine conditions and wearing only street shoes.

Mr Drees said he would likely be off work for at least three months and was unsure how this would affect his plans to stay in New Zealand until early next year.

#### US TV PRESENTER BLASTED OVER SMILING PHOTO WITH LION SHE 'STALKED AND KILLED' – THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD (18 NOVEMBER 2013)

An American TV presenter is facing an outraged public backlash after she posted a picture of herself posing next to a dead lion she had apparently shot and killed.

Melissa Bachman tweeted the picture of her smiling alongside the animal with the message: "An incredible day hunting in South Africa! Stalked inside 60 yards on this beautiful male lion ... what a hunt!"

The picture was also added to Facebook as part of an album called "Africa 2013", which included images of her next to a dead zebra and a variety of shot antelope, as well as the lion, following a trip to the Maroi Conservancy hunting park.

Now South Africans have started a petition to have Ms Bachman banned from the country, which presently has over 12,000 signatures.

The petition asks supporters to sign a letter directed at the South African government that reads: "She is an absolute contradiction to the culture of conservation, this country prides itself on. Her latest Facebook post features her with a lion she has just executed and murdered in our country."

"As tax payers we demand she no longer be granted access to this country and its natural resources."

The presenter's Twitter account has since been taken down and the contact form on her website disabled. Her Facebook page however remains public. The images have been shared hundreds of times on the social network, largely with negative comments attached.

Posing next to dead animals is nothing new for Ms Bachmann, who says she has been hunting since she was a child. Her Facebook page and personal website's "trophy room" features many such images, including a number with stags, alligators and bears.

Ms Bachman stars in a TV series called Winchester Deadly Passion which documents her hunting exploits using rifles or bow and arrows.

A self professed "hardcore hunter", her bio reads: "I have the best job in the world, great friends & family, and I'm usually pretty lucky. What more could a girl ask for??"

Last year Ms Bachman was removed as a contestant on the National Geographic show Ultimate Survival Alaska when over 13,000 people signed a petition criticising her inclusion.

Lourens Mostert, game farm manager at the Maroi Conservancy, has defended hunting, asserting that killing a lion is legal in South Africa. "If it isn't right to hunt these lions, why does our government legally give us permission?" he told The Times newspaper. "This is not the only lion that has been hunted in South Africa this year."

Lions killed in South Africa can be sent to anywhere in Europe or America. In the five years to 2011, 4,062 carcasses were exported from the country, the majority of which were lions specifically bred to be killed.

- UK Independent

[DOG'S BRUSH WITH NETTLE ALMOST PROVES DEADLY – BY TRACEY CHATTERTON – STUFF.CO.NZ](#)

Tumbling into a patch of tree nettles almost proved fatal for Naomi Fergusson's four-legged friend Nalu.

The pair were running on one of Te Mata Peak's trails when Nalu slipped off the path and into some ongaonga weed. He kept trotting along, but an hour later collapsed on the kitchen floor of their Hawke's Bay home.

Fergusson thought it was heat exhaustion, but he seemed to get worse after she hosed him down. Nalu started twitching and drooling excessively, and soon he couldn't stand or take his own body weight.

"It's quite frightening - they go limp and vacant, it's kind of like they're dead but their heart is still going," Fergusson said.

She raced Nalu to an on-call vet, who gave him an antihistamine.

But it failed to work, and Nalu went into renal failure.

Fortunately VetEnt vet Tracey Wallace had seen a hunting dog with the same symptoms and knew instantly that ongaonga nettle was to blame.

She put Nalu on a drip and gave him Atropine, an antidote for the toxins, as well as steroids, and he is now expected to make a full recovery.

Fergusson was running with a friend, whose dog, Rocky, also came into contact with the ongaonga. Rocky became sick, too, but did not react as badly as Nalu.

The native plant is known to have killed dogs and horses, though Wallace said such cases were rare.

There has been one recorded human death from ongaonga poisoning. On Boxing Day 1961, two young men hunting in the Ruahine Range were stung, and one died five hours later in hospital. His friend had similar symptoms, but recovered.

Fergusson did the right thing by hosing down Nalu, as it washed away some of the toxins, Wallace said. Dogs needed veterinary treatment for ongaonga stings, otherwise they could be fatal.

Te Mata Peak trust members will clear the weed near public paths.

- © Fairfax NZ News

#### COMMISSIONER WRONG ON POSSUMS AND 1080 – BY MARY MOLLOY – FARMERS AGAINST 1080 – THE NEW ZEALAND FARMERS WEEKLY

The article on Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment Dr Jan Wright's support for 1080 (July 22) was interesting, particularly pertaining to political parties and the commissioner propping up the mythical possum pest and the destructive rot over 1080.

The commissioner is so wrong that it's woeful.

She says 1080 seldom causes by-kill of birds and other life. Wrong – by kill is continuous and expected.

For example, by-kill has reduced kea numbers so low they are close to extinction. The 2008 Fox/Franz 1080 operation killed 80% of monitored kea, while a 2011 operation killed 77% in North Okarito.

Worse still, the 2011 operation was in breeding season, with eggs and young mortality too.

Yet 1080 hasn't eliminated TB despite nearly 60 years of use. It cruelly kills farm animals and pets and wild creatures from insects to birds and game animals. There is no antidote for it.

A major fact is the Animal Health Board's stubbornness in using a skin test that has a 20% error rate in readings. It could use a blood test with near 100% accuracy or better still PCR (DNA).

It doesn't need much imagination to understand why the board persists with the skin test, nor why Tb can be transmitted so easily and not by wild animals.

The commissioner says 1080 is humane. Wrong again. It is cruel, taking 24 hours to kill.

Frankly, the commissioner is a great disappointment, especially over the cruel and unacceptable poison.

Aerial 1080 has wasted public money, destroyed ecosystems and benefited only bureaucrats and the United States company that makes it.

When overseas markets realise that Government's irresponsible use of poison, especially by air, New Zealand's clean, green image will be in tatters.

Besides, is there a possum problem? Numbers are low in most areas and this is not due always to 1080.

Evidence is lack of road kills compared to 20 years ago. Populations are declining naturally after a peak. It's basic biology.

Politically Environment Minister Nick Smith fails to address the rort and so does Labour's Mary Anne-Street and of course the Green Party.

Peter Dunne is anti-1080 but still talks naively of pests. There is a political ray of common sense with New Zealand First, which adopted a polity recently of banning aerial spreading of 1080 and using possums as a valuable fur resource.

Hang your heads in shame, Wright and supporters Smith, the Greens' Eugenie Sage and Street, for backing the destruction of NZ's native species and putting exports in peril.

Farmers Against 1080's existence shows an increasing number of farmers see through the myths to the reality of false policies costing taxpayers and farmers millions of dollars a year.

Mary Molley, Farmers Against 1080, Hari Hari.



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## Club Contacts

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## Branch Executive

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Vice President	Dennis Price	Ph 348 4343
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Secretary	Elvis Bowring	Ph 350 3230/021 066 7868
Hunts Convenor	Cliff Graham	Ph 362 8883
	Murray Robson	Ph 345 5160

## Committee Members

Range	Malcolm Perry	Ph 348 4473
Socials	Scott Russell	Ph 343 9383
Search and Rescue	Cliff Graham	Ph 362 8883
Webmaster	Ralph Price	Ph 357 2786
Tines Editor	Elvis/Scott	Ph 350 3230/343 9383
Library	Peter Graham	Ph 333 1838
	Neil Fawcett	Ph 350 2233
	Lance Price	Ph 333 1625
	Rod Houghton	Ph 332 2577
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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)

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POSITIVELY IDENTIFY YOUR TARGET

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