



The New Zealand Deerstalkers Assoc. Inc.

June Issue 2014:

JUNE SOCIAL: Head measuring - all welcome



“The Tines”
Rotorua Branch Newsletter June 2014



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	Trout fishing trip, Sat and Sun 21 and 22 nd June. More details on page 5.
Socials	June = Head measuring. Every 4 th Wednesday at the Neil Hunt Park Clubrooms.
Range Shoot	Range itinerary for 2014 in this issue: Contact Malcolm Perry.

Cover Photo: Photo from Elwyn Green – Rusa Deer on the Galatea Faces.

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.

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Presidents Report

Hi All

Well it was good to see some new faces at the last social. It didn't quite work out as planned - no air rifle completion but Dave Wills stole the night.

He went through the stoat traps, how to reset, bait and most important where not to put your appendages, shite they have some power!!

It was great to see some old past members coming back also.

Murray and Neil took charge of organizing and sorting out the hunt trip, and from all accounts it went down well. Yes, me and the Horse piked out, the weather didn't look too flash for walking into the Upper Whirinaki Hut.

At the committee meeting there was some discussion on the fridge department. We had two fridges and both had died. I had a ring around and Dennis and I made an executive decision and we have a new fridge freezer so please look after it.

Last weekend me and Horse walked into the Upper Whirinaki hut to do, as promised, the stoat lines. Yep it was a bit of a shock to this body, having not been out for about two years, but was still good.

On the first day in we did all traps up to the hut, finding lots of rats and they were big mothers. Next morning, off down to do the central lines, me taking to ridge trap lines and Horse the track set. I took the long route but it was good to learn with the Rhino as the lines were not on mine, "Elvis tech hitch".

Horse was done in around 1.5 hrs. and me taking 3 due to terrain and the expectation of game. We found rats and sometimes a double strike on rats and then the penultimate a weasel and he was a big little sucker so all was good.

Notes to self!

1. When packing gear check that my mug is in the pack.
2. Check the tea is in fact the right tea, found out that my tea was different and tasted like green tea! Latter accounts found to be earl grey -equally crap!! Thankfully there was some in hut, even if it did look as though a rat had pissed on it, but there were no rats so it was cool.

Thank god the Gardiner was not along as I would have been shot - its sacrilege getting the tea wrong and no mug to boot.

So yes I saw a few animals and did expend some ammo but to no avail, well that's my story any way!!

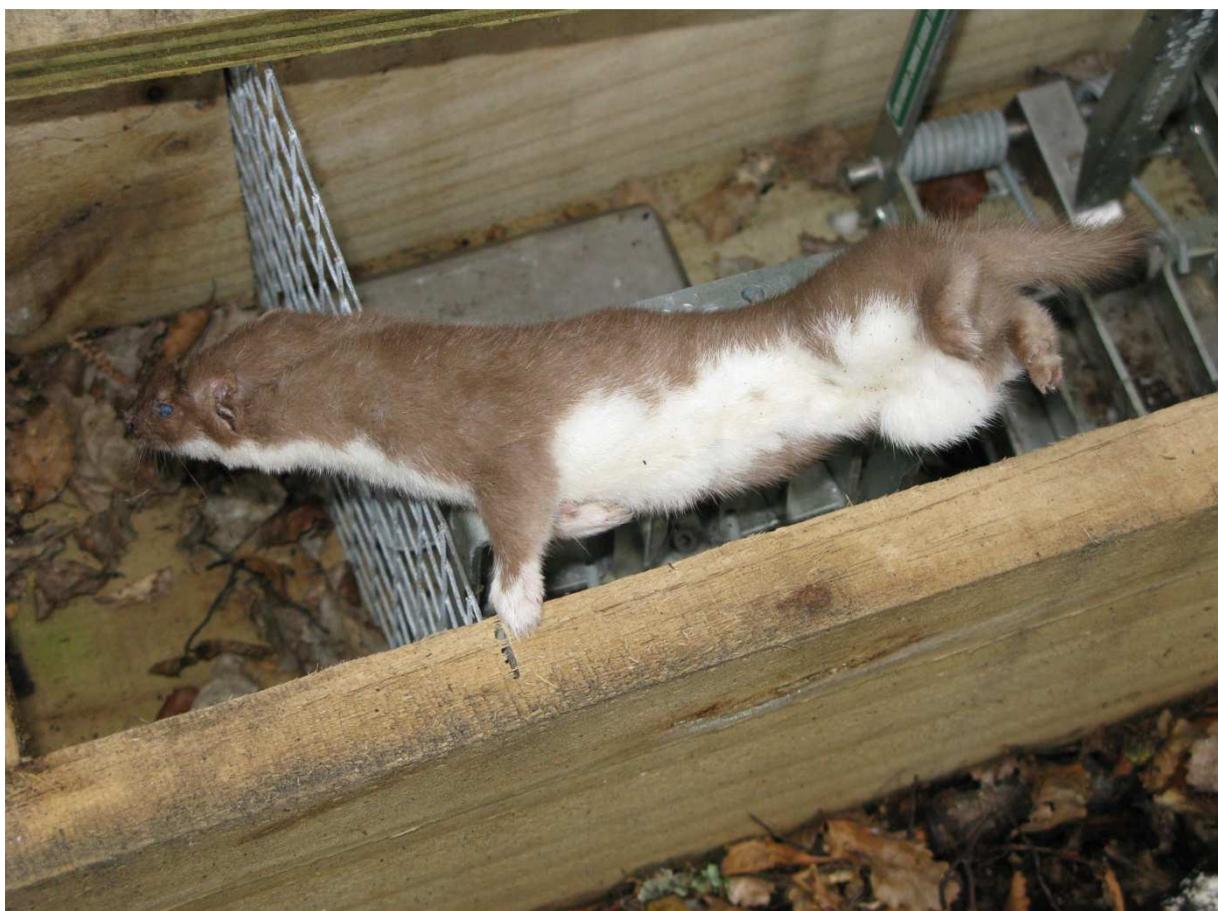
I will flick the kill sheet off to DOC once the Horse knocks up the spreadsheet. So now that Horse and I have laid down the challenge who's keen next month????

The hut was still in good nick and the guy that walked was appreciative of the work we have done on huts in the park.

We also called into DOC HQ and I scored some old single traps and Haden replied that they are most welcome to go to good homes around duck ponds etc. They will need some work on the trigger plates due to rust but they will do the biz.

Cheers

Colin



NZDA PARTY ~~HUNT~~ FISH – Saturday and Sunday 21st and 22nd June



The Graeme Paull trophy is up for grabs.

Prize for the heaviest Trout.

Meet at the NZDA clubrooms on Saturday morning, 8am

Weigh in is Sunday at the clubrooms, at 3.30 pm

For more details, call Dennis on 348 4343.

Volunteers/NZDA Rotorua Projects Updates

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.

Colin and Horse have just finished the first clearing. More info is in the President Report.

NZDA SOCIAL – Wednesday 25th June

Head Measuring and Photographic competitions!!!

**At Rotorua Deerstalkers Club Rooms
Neil Hunt Park, 25th June, 7.30pm**

All eligible entries shall be submitted for scoring at this social (**reminder: smelly heads will not be measured**). Note: Owners are responsible for looking after all items to be measured and photos submitted.

Photographic Competitions Categories

1. Scenic
2. Human and General Hunting Interest
3. Floral Abstract and Still Life
4. Game Animals
5. Other Wildlife
6. Best Photo

NB All photos are for colour prints only.

Please support your branch and committee by making an effort to attend. Bring along those photos and trophies even if you do not enter them in competition.

Contact a committee member for more info.

Hon Todd McClay

MP FOR ROTORUA

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None listed.

Wanted to buy

None listed.

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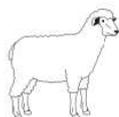
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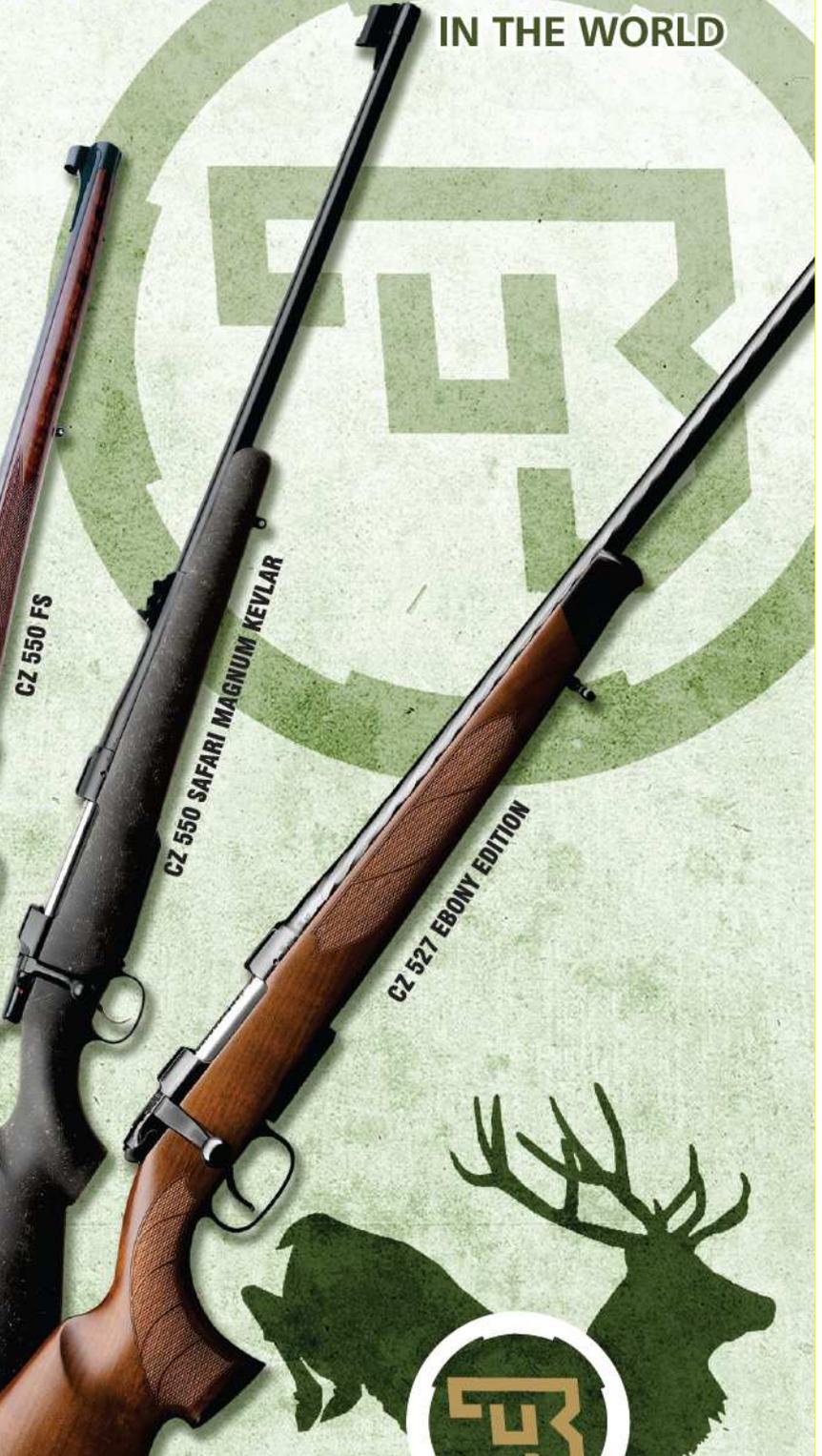
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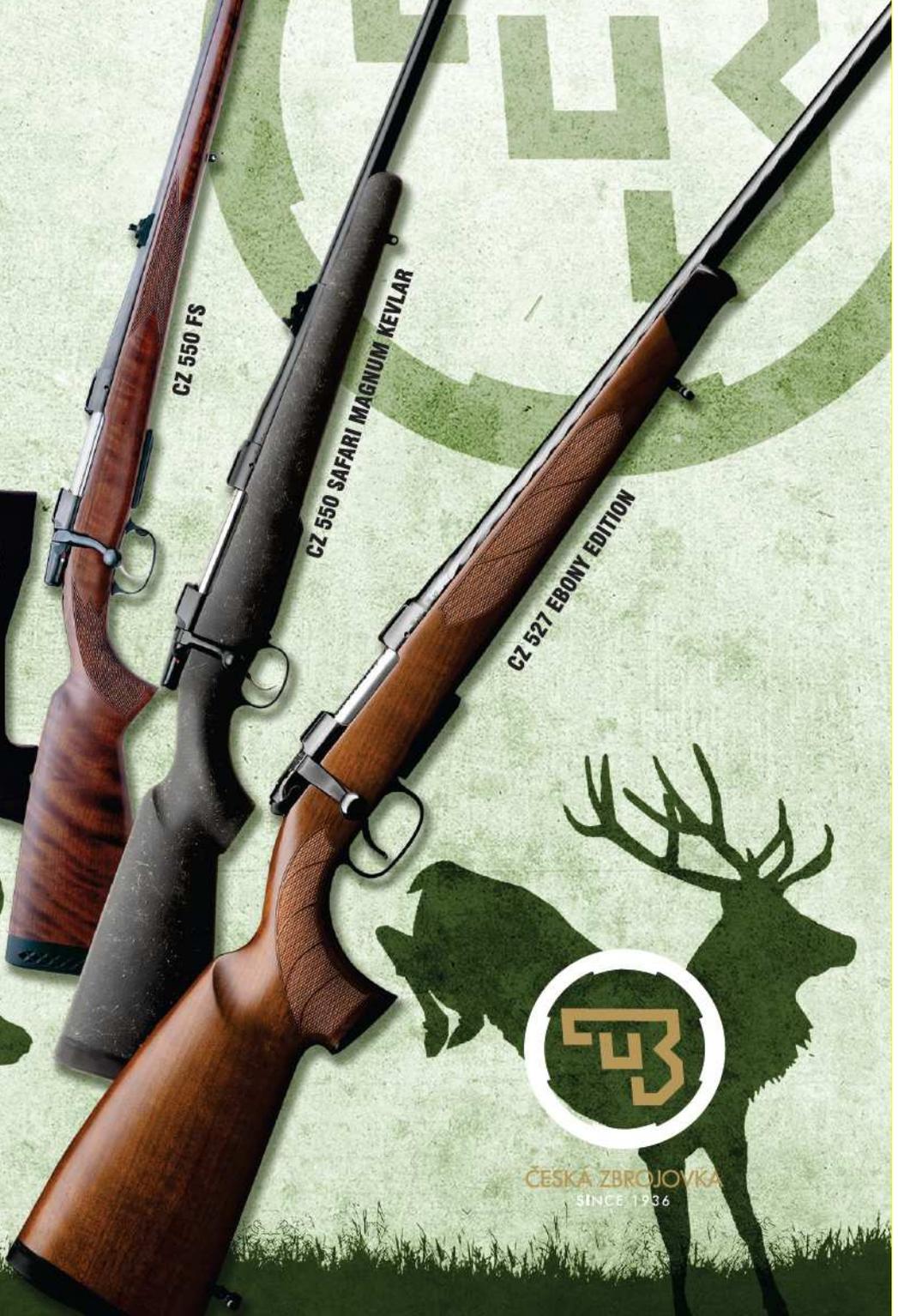
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Stories for newsletter.
Any interesting articles.
Any photo's of your hunting trips.
Anything to buy or sell?
Send to editor – nzdarotorua@gmail.com
Or phone 021 066 7868

Range Report – June 2014

Report from Rob Andrew, assisting Malcolm Perry, Range Officer

I was asked by Cliff if I would be willing to assist Malcolm in looking after the range as Malcolm has been ill at late. This I accepted and was more than happy to help. I went out with Malcolm and was shown what to do and what needed to be done.

I have put up a flag pole on the 300 meter range to show members if that range is being used when entering the range gate. I go out once or twice a week to check on the range and pick up rubbish and change the targets if necessary.

I am in the process of putting up some plastic containers in the toilets to keep the toilet paper dry and in one place.

My good lady is making 3 red flags that indicate live fire, as the present flags are on the point of disintegration.

As I am a new member, I am being a bit careful and I don't want to step on toes but I would ask the committee to look at getting a container to keep the mower and other equipment in. Also I would like to put roof guttering and spouting on the equipment shed to catch water. The water can be used to wash hands after using the toilet and to put out small fires (not for drinking). I would be willing to do the work and I believe I can get a 100 litre container for free.

The weather has not been the best for mowing but as soon as I can I will get on to it. I started the mowing today (Friday 23rd) and I managed to get $\frac{3}{4}$ of it done before the rain beat me. I will finish it off shortly. I had a friend look at the mower and he said it would be about \$900 for parts and that is not looking too deeply. Do we want to throw that much money at an old mower?

I have put the plastic containers in the toilets. At least the paper will be dry.

Report from Malcolm Perry, Range Officer

Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th, 300m North Island Championship. This is a part of the N.R.A. program, and was attended by 6 shooters. The report on the N.R.A. website reported great conditions and high scores.

Sunday 18th, to be a club shoot and preceded by an induction course. While I think of it, many thanks to Dennis, Cliff and any others who have helped run the courses. I believe they have gone very well and we hopefully will see an improvement in behaviour on the range. I believe the proposed range day was modified by those in attendance to accommodate some of the visitors. Great stuff.

COMING EVENTS:

June:

Sunday 15th, as last shoot did not go to play, this could be a deer silhouette shoot.

July:

Sunday 6th, 300m target shoot.

Sunday 20th, Rimfire metallic silhouette shoot.

Induction courses will continue to be held as required and advertised.

Time to reload

Malcolm.

Induction courses:

These have been running and attendance has been good. These will continue to be held on Sundays after advertised shoots.

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.

**NEEDED FOR RANGE UPGRADES – ANY OLD GUTTERING OR DRAIN PIPES
WILL BE USED TO CREATE A NON DRINKABLE WATER SUPPLY AT THE
RANGE.
ANYTHING CONSIDERED. IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE CONTACT THE
EDITOR, OR CALL ROB ON 021 231 4860.**

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In the news

HUNTERS GEAR UP FOR SHOOT BY KRIS WILLS – ROTORUA DAILY POST (09 JUNE 2014)

Hunters are gearing up for the annual Lake Rerewhakaaitu School Possum Punishment, although it's not just possums they'll have in their sights.

The popular competition starts on Thursday and wraps up on Sunday with the final tally and prizegiving.

Organisers say participants will not only enjoy a great Kiwi adventure, but will also have the chance to do their bit for native flora and fauna while supporting a small but vibrant rural school in the heart of a forestry and farming community.

Lake Rerewhakaaitu School principal Patricia McGee said there was a wide range of prizes up for grabs this year.

"Our local businesses have really demonstrated an awesome commitment this year."

The event has a prize pool of more than \$3500 with generous support from the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Hunting & Fishing New Zealand, the Department of Conservation and TBfree New Zealand, Red Stag Timber, RNott Contracting and strong backing from the local community.

As well as cash, merchandise and vouchers from a range of local tourism and rural businesses, any team that has a final tally of more than 20 possums is automatically entered into the draw for a .22 rifle courtesy of Hunting & Fishing New Zealand Rotorua.

The event is hosted by Lake Rerewhakaaitu School, 30 minutes south of Rotorua, but hunting is not restricted to the local area. Possums may be brought in from outside the district, subject to competition regulations.

Possums are the target species but rabbits, hares and ferrets are also accepted.

"This year we really want to encourage our hunters to keep possums dry for our fur buyers, as we gain additional funds for the school from the fur," Ms McGee said.

As well as prizes for the most possums and the heaviest possum, there are fun categories. Sunday's prizegiving at the Lake Rerewhakaaitu Domain will include spot prizes and tired hunters will be able to enjoy a sausage sizzle, burger, hot soup, or a treat from the cake stall.

To register your team call Al Franklyn (027) 485 4328, download an entry form from <http://lakererewhakaaitu.ultranet.school.nz> or pick one up from Hunting & Fishing Rotorua.

- ROTORUA DAILY POST

HUNTER RESCUED AFTER FALL – ROTORUA DAILY POST (25 MAY 2014)

A hunter had to wait more than five hours for help after he fell and broke his ankle today.

At 11.45am the Rotorua Baytrust Rescue Helicopter was dispatched to Waioeka Forest Park near Opotiki where a hunter had fallen and broken his ankle.

The area is very remote and the hunter's partner had to walk for three hours to get phone coverage to call for help.

A paramedic had to be winched down to stabilise the hunter before he was winched into the helicopter and flown to Rotorua Hospital for further treatment.

The injury happened at 6.30am. Rescue helicopter pilot Todd Dunham said if the hunting party had a personal locator transmitter, the injured man would have been rescued a lot sooner.

- ROTORUA DAILY POST

MAN DUCK SHOOTING IN WILDLIFE RESERVE – 3 NEWS (25 MAY 2014)

A man has been arrested after he was caught duck shooting in a wildlife reserve north of Wellington.

Police were called to the Pauatahanui Inlet after shots were heard last night.

They found a man duck shooting in the wildlife reserve near houses, Senior Sergeant Simon King says.

He was arrested and police are considering laying charges.

Police are reminding hunters to only to hunt in approved areas.

"It is crucial that hunters follow the law and safety rules," Sen Sgt King said.

"Police will treat any breaches extremely seriously."

NZN

Read more: <http://www.3news.co.nz/Man-duck-shooting-in-wildlife-reserve/tabid/423/articleID/345649/Default.aspx#ixzz34B3lhL8e>

DEATH IN THE HILLS BY TIM DONOGHUE – STUFF.CO.NZ (25 MAY 2014)

Christine Pink has been handed a life sentence by the deerhunter who mistakenly killed her partner - and she wants the sentencing judge to know it.

"It's all in there. That's where I want to make my point," she says of the victim impact statement she has prepared for the judge who will sentence Tuatapere artist Wayne Edgerton in Invercargill District Court next month.

Edgerton - a hunting safety advocate - shot and killed dairy farm manager Adam Hill last month while they were hunting in different groups in a forest in western Southland on April 13.

Pink must now raise the couple's two daughters, Shikana and Maikayla, by herself. They have already had to leave the farmhouse in Wairio on the property where Hill worked.

"I was absolutely devastated by having to move out of that house."

And the girls are just as distraught at having to leave their pet calf Fat Boy and pig Porky. "They loved to play with [Fat Boy] and the girls used to feed him apples. That life has gone now."

She and Hill, 25, first met when they were students at Central Southland College in Winton. After school days they met up again, and soon became inseparable.

She describes him as a hardworking, fun-loving man who worked on dairy farms and as a tree-pruner in Invercargill with older brothers Roger and Tim.

The couple took up their farming post at Wairio about a year ago. He was promoted to an \$80,000-a-year job, with a farmhouse as part of the package, looking after 1800 cows on three properties.

One careless rifle shot has taken all that away. Ranald McDonald, father of hunter Cameron McDonald, 29, shot in similar circumstances in Wairarapa on April 7, 2012, can sympathise. "Christine had found her soulmate in life, but now has to bring up her two girls by herself," he says.

He wants to see far harsher penalties, and compulsory manslaughter charges, in hunter shooting cases. He says the charges of careless use of a firearm causing death, laid against both Edgerton and his son's killer, Christopher Dummer, are not a strong enough deterrent.

"We need to change the law now. A more serious charge like manslaughter must be applied to all hunting deaths. That would add a certain gravity to the responsibility which comes with owning and operating a firearm.

"In short, if a hunter fails to identify his target correctly, and as a consequence kills another person, a significant term of imprisonment must be mandatory for this type of buck-fever behaviour."

Hill's father Dave noted the similarities between the two deaths. Both had done everything right: they wore high-visibility gear and never pulled the trigger without identifying their target. The men who shot them were in their 50s, and were safety advocates. Dummer was a former president of the Wellington Deerstalkers Association.

"It's a sick joke. Someone has got to pay for all of this senseless killing," Hill says.

McDonald says they were young guys with everything going for them. "Why is it the police code of arms rules now appear to be being routinely broken by experienced hunters preaching firearm safety?

"What we have here are people who tutor others in the rules of hunting and firearm safety, and then go out and blatantly disregard the most important rule of hunting - identify your target beyond all doubt."

Edgerton and Dummer both pleaded guilty to careless use of a firearm causing death. Dummer was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment.

- Sunday Star Times

DOC SPENDING ON PRIVATE ISLAND DEFENDED BY MICHAEL FOX – STUFF.CO.NZ (05 JUNE 2014)

Conservation Minister Nick Smith has defended the spending of public money to help make a private island owned by multi-millionaires Sir Michael Fay and David Richwhite pest free.

Fay and the Department of Conservation are co-funding a \$1.5m pest eradication campaign on the 1872 hectare Great Mercury Island, which begins this month.

The island is open for public use and is a popular boating destination and is home to 50 species of native land snails, threatened native plants and the giant tusked weta.

Sea birds such as Pycrofts and grey-faced petrels as well as native geckos, tuatara, kaka and kakariki also call the island home.

Labour MP Ruth Dyson questioned Smith in a local government and environment committee hearing today about whether private funding was skewing DOC's conservation priorities as donors put conditions on their funding.

Dyson said Fay had provided the donation and "in return" DOC had started up their pest eradication programme on that island.

"If this was on the mainland and it was butting up to a national park it might have some other merit to it because rats don't stop at a border... it doesn't feel right that eradication of pests on a privately owned island is a priority given what the department is facing in terms of challenges," she said.

"If they bought in outside funding to assist DOC's conservation goals, good, but if they've bought in outside funding to shift the department's goals onto pest eradication on a private island - that would ever have been on the department's list of jobs."

But Smith defended the project, saying working with private funders allowed DOC to ensure more money was put into conservation projects, though it did not dictate which projects went ahead.

Native species benefitted from conservation projects no matter who owned the land.

"I don't think our native species care too much about whether its public land or private land, if there is an opportunity to make islands like Mercury pest free and that the land owner is prepared to make a... contribution I am quite comfortable about making a contribution too to achieve that conservation [aim]."

Smith said DOC "fenced off" decisions around advocacy from private partnerships and "determines its own conservation priorities".

He cited DOC's partnership with Janszoon to make Abel Tasman National Park pest and weed free.

Doing so would not have been an immediate DOC priority otherwise, but the department had realised the conservation gains to be made with the benefit of private funding.

DOC needed to be flexible to take advantage of this.

Gareth Morgan's pest eradication campaign on the Antipodes Islands was another example.

"So my view is that's quite proper."

Smith also revealed DOC was working to correct a surveying mistake on the island which had seen a reserve established in the wrong place.

- Stuff



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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:

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