



The New Zealand Deerstalkers Assoc. Inc.

May Issue 2015:

Social: Davey Hughes from Swazi. NZDA Clubrooms, 27th May 2015. All welcome but \$5 cover charge.

NZDA ROTORUA IS PROUD TO INTRODUCE

“Untamed”

A TALK BY DAVEY HUGHES



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“The Tines”

Rotorua Branch Newsletter May 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	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 Davey Hughes from SWAZI will be coming on 27th May. \$5 cover charge.

Range Shoot Range itinerary for 2015 in this issue:
Contact Malcolm Perry.

Cover Photo: Swazi Talk flyer, NZDA Clubrooms, 27 May 2015. All welcome. \$5 cover charge.

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 May 2015

Hi all

So to the news.

Hopefully you are or will have (depending on when the newsletter hits the streets) attended the Swazi night, should be a cracker. Also coming up will be the Dads army shoot at the range so dig out those old 303 shitters and head along for what we hope will be a great day and the start of an annual shoot. We need you guys there as this event will be a fund raiser for the range.

As you guys are all aware we are on a journey (HR speak) to develop the range so we need all the funds we can muster, so please get along to these and other events to support your club.

With the lease, at their next Board meeting it will be counter signed off which will be the final end in the chapter thankfully. I have also talked with John Hura on the plan to obtain, or gain sign off that we can use the cliff/hill behind us as a safety backstop. Currently this is the case but as far as I am aware there is nothing in writing and the range guru said it would be advisable to have something in writing.

I am currently pricing up the container shed project which will see the two containers shifted, rearranged and then have an iron roof, walled off front and back. This will create a place for people to meet, have smoko etc when shoots are on instead on having to stand around at the 200. All part of the long term journey/plan. So I will be asking for volunteers, to get this done some stage soon. If you can't assist by volunteering, how about a minimum cash donation of say \$50 bucks (one pack ammo) in lieu of attending working bees!! It would be great if you can spare more, as it will all go the range fund which will benefit us all.

I am still awaiting a reply from the Black Powder Club about the proposed boundary adjustment to allow us to create another 300m range, fingers crossed on that one.

Head measuring this is the next problem, as we are getting down on people able/qualified in this field and also organising a night to get it done so to all you out there with the record head we are working on it.

Also I attended the last 300m shoot and once again I couldn't find a park, oh sorry that was at the pistol club 3 gun shoot!!! So how about some of you out there coming up with some ideas you would like to see in the way of shooting events that may get you guys involved!!

Well that's my rant if you think it crap come along to the Swazi night and have your say, don't forget to bring your wallet though.

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
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Or phone 021 066 7868***



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THE ADVENTURE WAS GREAT

NOW TASTE THE REWARD

Range Reports

Rotorua Range Program 2015 as at December 2014.

MAY;

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.

Rotorua range report April 2015.

Not a lot to report this month as the only planned shoot was to be a Deer silhouette shoot 19th and that was a no go as only one member turned up, no problem time of year I guess. I did manage to do several induction courses that afternoon though. I also did two induction courses this Sunday (26th).

In spite of the induction courses there still seems to be the odd individual who lacks common sense. On a recent visit to the range discovered that someone had obviously attached a target to one of the uprights of the 300M target frames and completely shot it in two. Had I not found it in time the 300M people may well have been short of one target next weekend.

On the good side I was not able to attend the working bee that Rob held, but the outcome is obvious in the tidy appearance of the range. To those who took the trouble to attend thank you guys. Let's hope the general membership keeps it that way.

Looking forward to **COMING EVENTS:**

May;

Saturday & Sunday 2nd & 3rd; 300M North Island Championships.

Saturday 9th C.N.I.G.C. Service rifle club day.

Sunday 10th D.A. 300M target shoot.

Sunday 17th .22 Metalic Silhouette shoot.

June;

Saturday 6th C.N.I.G.C. Service rifle club day.

Sunday 7th D.A. 300M target shoot.

Sunday 21st Deer silhouette shoot.

Well that's about all for now.

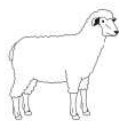
Time to reload,

Malcolm.

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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New Autumn 2015 catalogue out now!!!



Rotorua Hunting and Fishing,
Trade Central, 1530 Amohau Street, Rotorua 3010, Ph 07 349 6303.

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.



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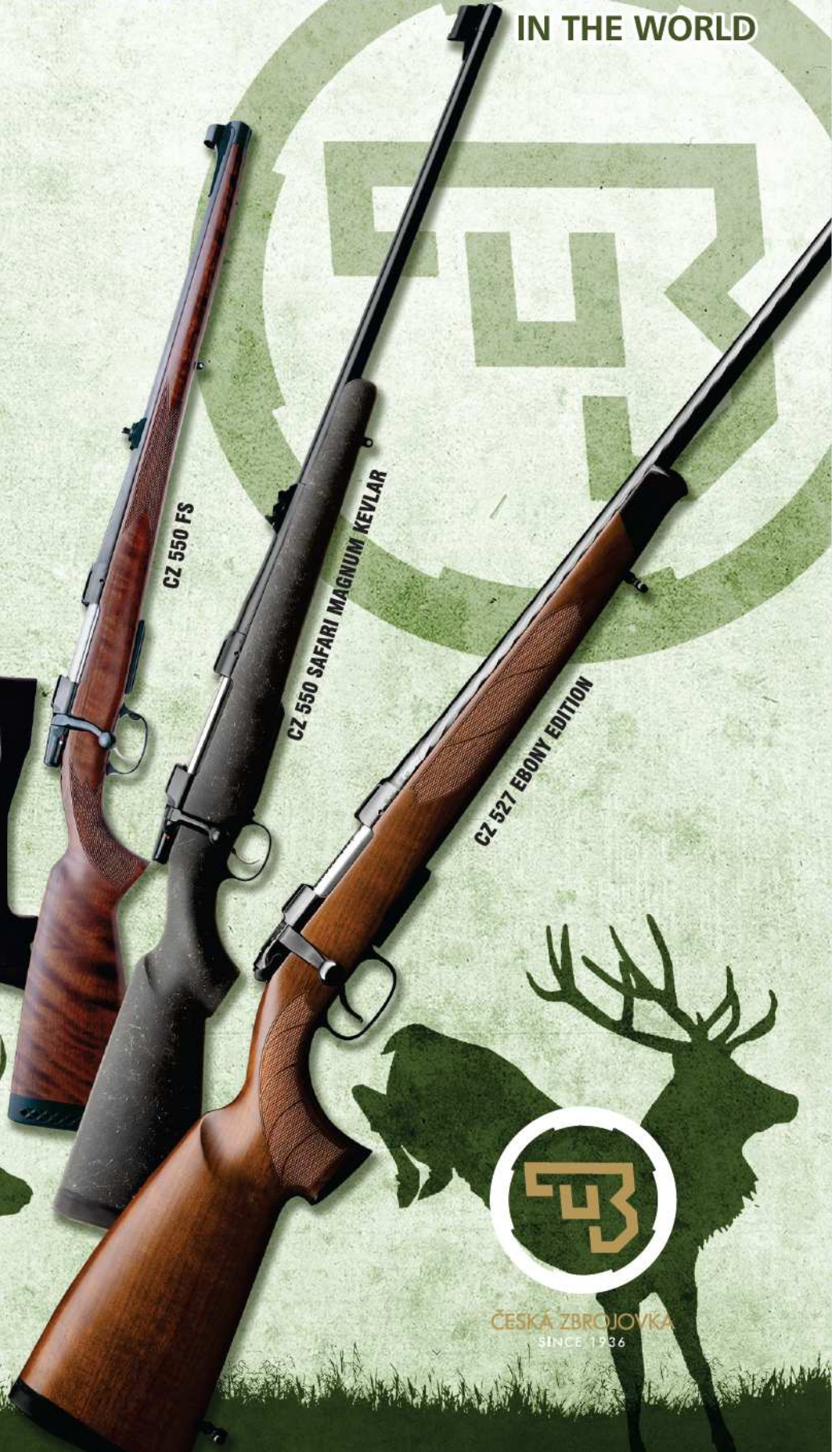
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In the news

UPGRADED RESCUE CHOPPER LIFTS OFF BY ALISON KING – THE DAILY POST (19 MAY 2015)

Rotorua's new rescue helicopter will rescue people a lot faster than before thanks to a bigger and better winching system.

The new helicopter, which has been 18 months in the pipeline, is essentially the same machine as the one that crashed in April last year, but with more advanced systems.

"It's still a Squirrel," said Rotorua base manager Barry Vincent.

"But it's like comparing a V4 to a V8. Even though it looks the same it's got a more powerful engine."

The other main difference is that the new chopper has a permanent mounted hoist for winching, which means it can get in the air as soon as needed, and the winch can hold 205kg instead of the 130kg of the last machine. "Our response times are greatly increased," Mr Vincent said.

"We have variable speed, so we can drop the paramedic down faster and they can come back up with the patient. Before, we had to do separate winches."

The helicopter also has a traffic collision avoidance system so it can detect other air traffic a lot sooner. "We're very pleased to have it here," Mr Vincent said.

"The community has supported us. The helicopter is like an insurance policy that most people won't use.

"Our last helicopter was one of the older ones in the fleet so it made sense to replace it."

The new helicopter had been working in Palmerston North, but was now in the Taupo workshop for a refit.

It still needs to get sponsor logos, but Mr Vincent said that would be happening over the next few months.

- Rotorua Daily Post

HUNTER FOUND WITH HELP FROM RESCUE HELICOPTER - THE DAILY POST (17 MAY 2015)

The Taupo-based Greenlea rescue helicopter was dispatched to the Kaimanawa Ranges to search for a missing hunter who became separated from his colleagues.

Taupo police and land search and rescue were involved in the search yesterday afternoon for the lost hunter who was found at Mangatainoka hut. The hunter knew it was a race against time before dark to find a hut to shelter from the weather.

He was flown out in good spirits.

The helicopter was tasked to the search due to the terrain, inaccessible by vehicles and the time of the day.

- Rotorua Daily Post

ARREST OVER STEWART ISLAND HUNTING DEATH - 3 NEWS (13 MAY 2015)

Police have arrested an Invercargill man over the fatal shooting of a hunter in March.

Twenty-four-year-old Samuel Phillip Long was shot dead while hunting alone on Stewart Island on March 23.

Police said he had been killed by a bullet fired by a man from another hunting group.

The man, 61, is out on bail and will appear in the Invercargill District Court on Friday.

He faces charges of careless use of a firearm causing death.

NZN

GOVT TO REVIEW GUN USE FOLLOWING DEATHS BY NICHOLAS JONES – ROTORUA DAILY POST (12 MAY 2015)

The tragic deaths of two hunters, including a 15-year-old Whakatane boy, has led to a Government review of gun use in the outdoors.

Associate Conservation Minister Peter Dunne said he urged the hunting community to keep gun safety front of mind.

"New Zealand has again been sadly reminded that without following best practice and taking the utmost care the use of firearms can kill.

"Unfortunately there seems to be an increasing frequency of firearm incidents causing injury or death. The worst aspect is that these incidents are largely preventable," Mr Dunne said.

"Incidents such as those over the weekend have led me to begin the process of initiating a review of unsafe and illegal gun use in the outdoors.

"Such a review will be asked to establish what the problems are, where responsibility might lie, and ultimately what we can do to reduce the risks of death and injury due to improper gun use."

Both deaths Mr Dunne referred to involved the accidental discharge of weapons.

Jamie Johnston, 15, was duck hunting on Sunday when the gun he was using accidentally went off and killed him.

The incident was followed several hours later by the death of another hunter in Ruatiti near Raetihi, who was killed when his gun went off as he climbed over a fence.

He was today named as 21-year-old Aircraftman Joshua Hunter Hill of Ohakea.

In a newsletter issued by Trident High School principal Phillip Gurney, Jamie Johnston was described as a "well-loved, respected student, friend and sportsman to so many" who had "touched so many lives with his positive and loving nature".

Jamie's mother Ginny Bellamy said yesterday that she wanted people to remember Jamie's "sparkly brown eyes".

I want him to know that his family love him and we already miss him. Other families should hold their children tight."

Trident High School will close on Thursday while it hosts the funeral for Jamie, who was a year 11 student.

As well as examining potentially unsafe use of guns in the outdoors, the review will also cover the use of illegal firearms.

This follows increasing reports of poachers and trespassers in rural areas carrying firearms.

Mr Dunne said after the review he will ask the Game Animal Council to take the review's findings and work with the hunting and outdoors communities.

"Hundreds of thousands of New Zealanders love to get out in the bush to hunt, tramp and enjoy our beautiful environment. I do not wish to discourage anyone to stay at home in fear."

- NZ Herald

TRIBUTES FOR 15-YEAR-OLD KILLED IN DUCK SHOOTING TRAGEDY BY PHILLIPA YALDEN – STUFF.CO.NZ (11 MAY 2015)

The loss of a 15-year-old schoolboy fatally shot while out duck hunting in the eastern Bay of Plenty has left family devastated and a small rural community in shock.

James Ross Bucko Johnston died after his firearm discharged while he was out duck hunting in the rural farmland area of Thornton, about 8am Sunday.

His father Colin Johnston said his son's death was accidental and no one else was responsible.

"It was an accident."

"James is a regular [hunter] he has been out hunting with me ever since he could walk, he regularly went in that area."

The youngest of three boys, the 15-year-old was a keen sportsman, who this year made his debut playing in the 1st XV rugby team for Trident High School.

"He loved life, he loved duck shooting and had lots of friends," said his father.

James had grown up in the eastern Bay of Plenty and lived on the outskirts of Te Teko with his father and mother Ginny Bellamy.

A family friend described the teen as a "loving, wonderful, beautiful young man who would be sorely missed".

Emergency services were called to the rural farmland area near the intersection of Greig Rd and Thornton Rd near the Tarawera River inlet but the Trident High School student died at the scene.

Whakatane CIB Detective Senior Sergeant Greg Standen said police had completed initial investigations on behalf of the Coroner and a post-mortem was expected to be completed on Monday.

"This was a tragic incident and we urge all firearms users to please take extra care, as we don't want to see any more tragedies this season."

"The Coroner is now involved and police will not be seeking any other witnesses in this case," he said.

Tributes flowed on social media for the Whakatane teen.

"RIP Jamie. You have left behind some good friends who will miss and cherish the times they have spent with you. Without knowing you have taught them some very hard life lessons. Sending lots of aroha and condolences to your whanau....Fly high Jamie Johnston," said one post.

"So sad for these guys, my heart goes out to his team-mates and classmates too."

Trident High School principal Philip Gurney confirmed the teen was a student at the Whakatane school.

"Trident High School staff and students are mourning the loss of one of our students who was involved in a tragic hunting accident over the weekend," he said in a statement.

"The school has been supported by the Ministry of Education trauma team and supports are in place for both students and staff. At this time we would like to respect the family's privacy and make no further comment."

Eastern Fish and Game manager Andy Garrick said news of the death was heartbreaking.

"In any loss of life in circumstances this tragic, our hearts go out to the family concerned."

He said Fish and Game had not been contacted by police about the incident, which occurred the second week into this year's duck shooting season.

- Stuff

SHOOTERS OFFERED UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY BY REBECCA MALCOLM – ROTORUA DAILY POST (2 MAY 2015)

It won't just be the ducks with a target on them during the new season's opening weekend - with game bird hunters in the Fish & Game Eastern Region being given the unique opportunity to target hen pheasants which are not normally huntable.

Senior Fish & Game officer Matthew McDougall says they "have an obligation to try to increase the opportunities for game bird hunting".

"For some time now we have considered that a small hen harvest would be sustainable. It also gives an opportunity for the young hunter or dog to get a pheasant under their belt."

Under the regulations, a hunter can harvest one hen pheasant on each day of opening weekend, he says, in addition to five cock pheasants.

"So we urge hunters to take up the opportunity - make the most of it."

Matthew says they are aware some hunters will want to stick with the traditional approach of targeting cock pheasants only.

He says it's always a tricky decision to balance long-held traditions and the desire to conserve breeding stocks against taking a pragmatic approach in overall management. But they believe after research that the limited harvest of hen pheasants is practical and realistic.

The pheasant hen is the only female of the nine game bird species in the Eastern Region that hunters have not previously been able to harvest and this year they'll only be able to hunt them on opening weekend.

Hunters are also being urged to target other species such as pukeko and swan on the Rotorua lakes.

"We are continuing to get lots of complaints from gardeners, horticulturists, and farmers about pukeko, and encourage hunters to make the most of the longer season and 10-bird limit for this species."

- Rotorua Daily Post

STEPHEN PHILLIP LONG ADMITS ACCIDENTALLY SHOOTING SON DEAD – STUFF.CO.NZ (22 MAY 2015)

A Southland man has admitted accidentally shooting dead his son during a hunting trip to Stewart Island in March.

Stephen Phillip Long, 61, has pleaded guilty to a charge of careless use of a firearm causing the death of his 24-year-old son Samuel Phillip Long on March 23.

Long was wiping away tears in the dock as police prosecutor Phil Berryman read the summary of facts in court this morning.

Berryman said the father and son were part of a five-person group on Stewart Island hunting for white-tailed deer when the shooting occurred.

Samuel Long left the hut they had slept in overnight at 9am on March 23 dressed in camouflage clothing and wearing a camouflage cap and backpack.

His father left the hut 45 minutes later, also wearing camouflage hunting gear.

He reached an area of bush and saw movement in the bush which he believed were two white-tailed deer.

He told police he spent two or three minutes confirming this with both the naked eye and also looking through his rifle scope at different magnifications to identify the deer, Berryman said.

Long also moved to his left and right to clearly identify his target.

He told police he believed one of the deer moved away leaving the remaining animal facing towards him and slightly down hill.

Long told police the head of what he thought was the remaining deer went up and down on four occasions as if it was feeding and he believed it was what he would expect of a white-tailed deer.

He said what he believed was a deer lifted its head and he believed he saw two prongs on top of each antler on its head and from the grey colouring believed the animal was a young white-tailed buck.

He aimed and fired at what he believed was the deer's head and neck from his Tika 7mm .08 rifle.

"The defendant then walked forward to find he had fatally shot the victim through the head," Berryman said.

Long later told police his son was supposed to be at another hunting area, but believed he may have heard him coming up the ridge and waited to see what it was.

He told police they both would have yelled out if they had any doubt over what they were seeing.

Long shot his son from a 20m distance, police said.

Long's lawyer, John Fraser, applied for a discharge without conviction.

Judge Christina Cook said Long had pleaded guilty but she did not enter a conviction today. She put the matter off until August 4 for sentencing and ordered a presentence report to consider home detention or community detention.

Long was remanded at large.

- The Southland Times

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. You must have completed the range induction protocol. 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.

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