



# The New Zealand Deerstalkers Assoc. Inc.

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## April Issue 2014:

*APRIL SOCIAL: Fourth Wednesday of April (23<sup>rd</sup>) –  
all welcome*



## “The Tines” Rotorua Branch Newsletter April 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:**

<b>Party Hunts</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> May. More details on page 4.</b>
<b>Socials</b>	<b>Every 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday from February 2014 at the Neil Hunt Park Clubrooms.</b>
<b>Range Shoot</b>	<b>Range itinerary for 2014 in this issue: Contact Malcolm Perry.</b>

**Cover Photo:** One of these cows is looking a little strange. Young Sika spiker seeking refuge from the roar.

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:** 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

Hi all.

Well this year has been a steady one in terms of membership which has continued to increase. Which a good sign in most respects. But as far as achievements to progress the patronage of the socials and events it has been poor. The current membership is in excess of 300 - one would have hoped to have a strong following at socials and shoots but this has not been the case, for reasons I am not able to answer, possibly economical state and the number of commitments families have may attribute for this.

However on the upside, things have been moving along. Cliff had organized plants for the berm and these have been planted; release spraying undertaken, the range has had two well supported working bees and we have a good supply of fill ready to be put to use once we have our strategic plan for the range sorted.

Stage one is still unfortunately a work in progress - that is the Land Lease. Having contacted John Hura last week, expecting a result, he had apologetically had to say that Te Hourangi Sub Tribe and RDC are still working through some issues, but he is hopeful this will be resolved soon and then we can sit around and work through the lease proposal.

The next stage is a dwelling to allow shooters to get out of the weather and have a brew etc, also to install a toilet system of sorts.

Our range is our strength in membership so we must capitalize on this and make it more attractive for shoots and shooters. We have had inquires from members with AR15's etc which asked what facilities are available to shoot out there, so we must be proactive and harness this interest otherwise we may loose out on opportunities to grow our range into one of the best center fire ranges in the area.

So what has been the high lights of the year?

Dennis has been made a life member with all those fringe benefits that go with it.

The hunts team have had another good turn out and this must be a reflection on the skills and respect and expertise Cliff and Murray have on this course.

Two well-presented and interesting topics, Magellan GPS and AJ productions. These were both aligned with our passion of the outdoors.

The field shoot at Woodstock was a cracker as well.

Alex McIver also gave an informative look at hunting down Fiordland.

My thanks to those that took the time to organize these presentations.

The clubs financial status remains in a strong position and this is through strong guidance from the senior advisors as we say and the work of Mark and Ralph. I would also like thank the committee as we have grown into a tight unit. I feel proud and honoured to have worked with you all.

Dennis once again has stepped up as I have been away with Mitch with the Clay shooting so thanks mate.

Malcolm, who has also been a pillar out at the range, there was time when I had to ask him if he could go out and open up for some new guy who wanted to shoot their new toy before heading back to Auckland and he was accommodating as always. We are all indebted to you Malcolm for what you have done for the service out at your range and long may we enjoy your presence and camaraderie out there.

Cheers  
Colin

## **PARTY HUNT – 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> May**



We have booked a cabin at the Whirinaki Recreation Camp for Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May to Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May, for the purposes of a base for a party hunt during this weekend.

To register your interest, or for further information, please contact Neil on 027 235 8002 or email [nzdarotorua@gmail.com](mailto:nzdarotorua@gmail.com)

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.

## 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.

### Classifieds

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*Contact Cliff on 027 421 1489*

#### Wanted to buy

*None listed.*

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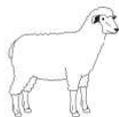
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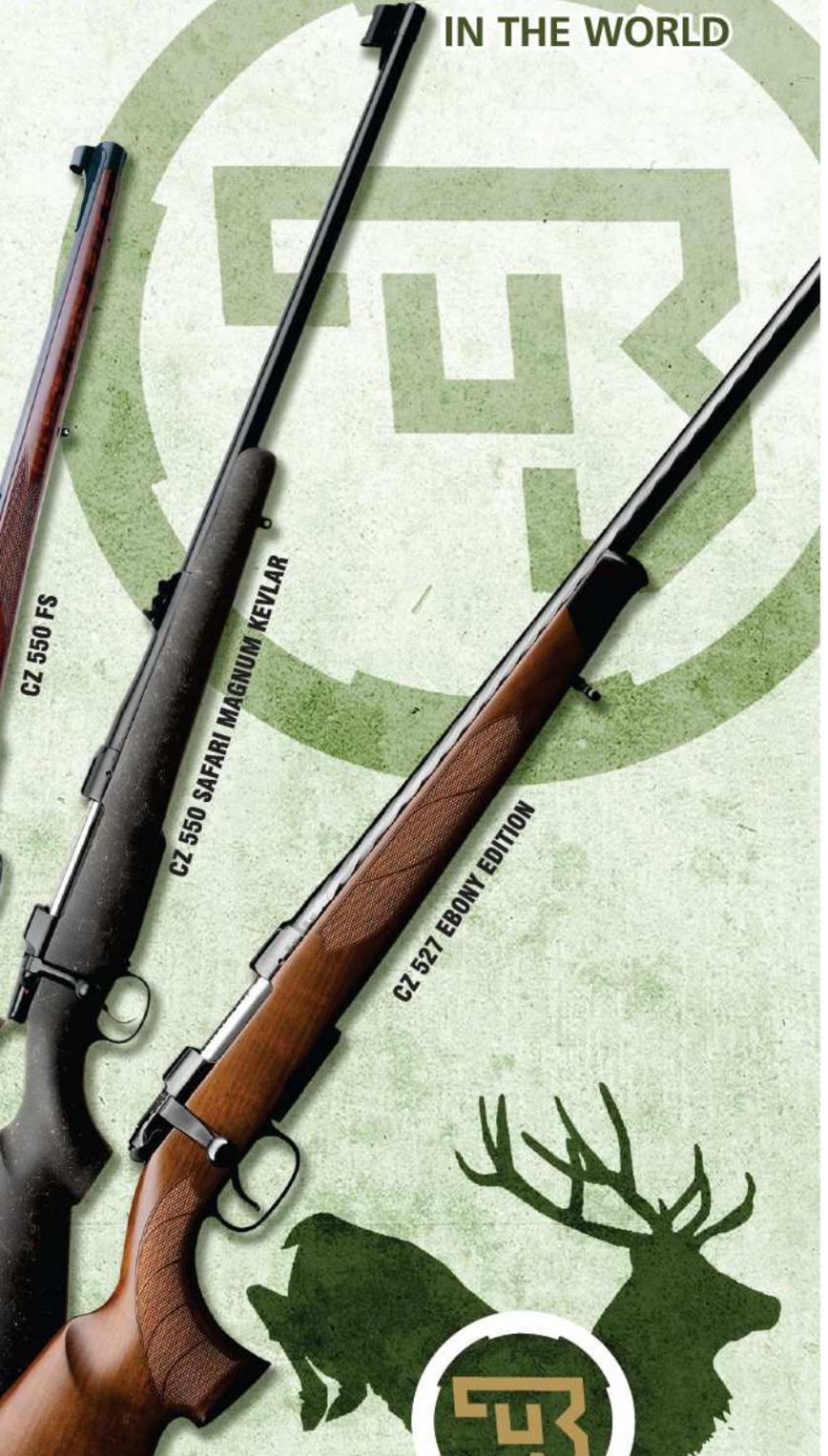
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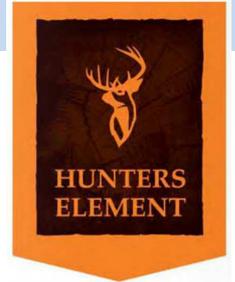
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**CHECK OUT [WWW.NZDAROTORUA.ORG.NZ](http://WWW.NZDAROTORUA.ORG.NZ)**

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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)***  
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# Hon Todd McClay

MP FOR ROTORUA

## Putting Rotorua First

To make an appointment please contact me at:

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## Upcoming Range Activity - April 2014

APRIL events:

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> 300M shoot.

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> .22 Metallic silhouette shoot.

MAY events:

Sat and Sun 3,4 300M two day shoot.

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> .22 Metallic silhouette shoot.

### Induction courses:

The committee will be holding additional induction courses at the NZDA range every Wednesday at 5:30pm and Sunday at 10am.

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.

We will be running these extra induction courses until Easter but most likely will not be running them over Easter.

After Easter, future induction courses will be held during some scheduled shooting events.

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



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## **In the news**

HUNTERS TOLD TO REVISE RULES BY CASSANDRA MASON – ROTORUA DAILY POST (01 APRIL 2014)

Rotorua hunters are being warned to treat every potential target as a mate heading into this year's stag hunting season.

In April and May each year, stags come out in force to mark their territory.

Known as the roar, it is the best time of year for hunters to stalk stags, and subsequently one of the most dangerous.

The Mountain Safety Council has issued a plea to hunters to think twice before pulling the trigger - urging them to remember "No meat is better than no mate".

Firearms and Hunter Safety programme manager Nicole McKee said the expected increase in hunting activity should prompt hunters to revise the seven basic rules of firearms safety.

These include treating every firearm as loaded and loading only when ready to fire, always pointing firearms in a safe direction, identifying targets "beyond doubt", checking the firing zone, and staying away from drugs and alcohol.

Hunters should also make sure they store firearms and ammunition safely.

"Identifying your target beyond all doubt is perhaps the most important rule at this time of year and should be second nature to all hunters," Mrs McKee said.

Rotorua police head of search and rescue Detective Sergeant John Wilson said police wanted to see a change in thinking.

Instead of assuming the target was a deer, stalkers should assume the target was human, and "go from there".

"The starting point is, whatever you see is a person. We want to change hunters' mindsets."

Last year's change to the firearms code was a positive thing, but it was too early to tell if it had had any impact, Mr Wilson said.

The change, which requires all new firearms licence holders to stick together, or stop hunting if they lose sight of one another, was brought in after Rotorua man James Dodds was killed by his friend and hunting companion in September 2012.

His partner Gabby Molloy asked the coroner to include the recommendation in the coroner's report.

- ROTORUA DAILY POST

DEER HUNTER SERIOUSLY ILL AFTER BEING SHOT BY DAD BY MATT BOWEN –  
WWW.STUFF.CO.NZ (02 APRIL 2014)

A father shot his son with a deer hunting rifle on Monday and spent four hours tending to the wound until a paramedic was choppered into the rugged hills.

The 22-year-old was yesterday recovering in a serious but stable condition as authorities urged shooters to identify their target beyond doubt before firing.

The police investigation will continue today into the incident southeast of Opotiki.

Police said a father and his two adult sons from Hamilton went deer hunting in the early morning and about 10am it appeared the father shot his son in the abdomen.

While the father did first-aid, the other son scrambled out of the bush to get help.

He fortunately found a family friend with a personal locator beacon, which was activated about 1.30pm.

The Taupo-based Greenlea Rescue Helicopter responded.

Pilot Pete Masters said the weather was fine and still. After collecting someone from a landing site to navigate, Masters flew a paramedic 3km into the hills on a "sling line" where the father and his injured son waited at the bottom of a rugged bush-clad gully.

All three were hauled out on the line because landing or hovering was impossible.

The son was transferred to Rotorua Hospital in a critical condition, where he underwent surgery.

Masters said the father was "traumatised".

"It's bloody sad for them - thank Christ he's lived."

Police spoke to those involved yesterday and returned to the shooting scene to investigate.

They would not speculate on what, if any, charges would be laid.

Detective Senior Sergeant Greg Standen said the young man was "extremely lucky", given the time between the shooting and reaching the hospital.

The shooting has cast a shadow over this year's roar.

Mountain Safety Council spokeswoman Nicole McKee said "buck fever" was often a factor in such incidents, particularly during the roar.

During the month-long mating period, stags roar in the forest to establish territory and dominate their hind harems.

Hunters exploit that by roaring in a challenge. Stags will hunt out the caller to fight, and irate stags can come within a few metres of a hunter.

It was adrenaline-fuelled and exhilarating, McKee said.

"We always advise that when you come across a target you're about to take a shot at, you take a moment, a breath . . . and think about the scenario you're in.

"And that is quite often when people won't take a shot because they realise perhaps they're not seeing what they should be seeing, they're seeing what they want to be seeing."

She urged hunters to always identify the target beyond doubt.

"My understanding is the shooting was at a relatively short distance, less than 100m, which makes me think there was a bit of scrub in the way."

Police would not elaborate on the circumstances.

Nor would they confirm it was the father who pulled the trigger.

"Our condolences to the family and his hunting companions," McKee said. "This is not a great way to start the roar and I hope other hunters take heed of what's happened and think about what they're shooting at before they pull the trigger. Because once they do, it's too late to bring the projectile back."

- © Fairfax NZ News

#### HUNTER SURVIVES 30M FALL BY OLIVIA WANNAN – STUFF.CO.NZ (04 APRIL 2014)

A hunter survived a 30-metre drop down a vertical bank this afternoon.

He had been walking in the mountain ranges east of Taupo, having been dropped off by helicopter with a fellow hunter.

While hiking, the ground fell out from beneath his feet. He plunged about 30m and came to rest on a small shelf, suffering suspected spinal and chest injuries.

The Taupo Greenlea Rescue Helicopter was called in to winch the man up and take him to hospital. Pilot Nat Every said it was remarkable the man was still conscious after the fall.

"I don't know whether that makes him lucky, but he's lucky to be alive."

His hunting partner activated a rescue beacon, and managed to climb down to his friend.

The rescue helicopter winched him up with a 30m line, meaning they were roughly in line with the bank he fell from. "He fell an awfully long way," Every said.

The man was taken to Hastings Hospital, where he is in a stable condition.

- © Fairfax NZ News

TRAMPER SAVES MAN FOUND LYING IN STREAM BY SOPHIE RYAN – THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD (01 APRIL 2014)

A man found lying face-up and unresponsive in a stream in the Waitakere Ranges was saved by a well-prepared trumper, an intensive care flight paramedic says.

The trumper came across the man yesterday afternoon and activated his personal locator beacon to alert emergency services.

An Auckland Westpac Rescue Helicopter crew arrived and intensive care flight paramedic Rob Gemmell was winched to the ground.

He found the middle-aged man lying face-up in a cold stream under a walking bridge.

Initial indications were that he was hypotensive and with a very low temperature, was slipping into unconsciousness.

Mr Gemmell said the trumper saved the man's life by calling for help so quickly.

"Not only did he show amazing initiative, but he went into the bush extremely well equipped and should serve as a great example to others how important it is to be prepared," Mr Gemmell said.

The man was taken to Auckland Hospital in a critical condition.

Meanwhile, a hunter spent a night cold and wet on a ledge in Fiordland after becoming stuck while on a hunting trip yesterday evening.

The Taranaki man was hunting in a deer block close to Whitewater River, near George Sound, with three other men.

About 7pm he found himself unable to move up or down from the ledge and activated his personal locator beacon.

Southern Lakes Rescue Helicopter arrived an hour later but was unable to winch him free because of an 80m overhang above him.

The hunter bunked down for the night with a survival blanket and radio contact to keep him company.

He was rescued uninjured about 10.45am today by the Southern Lakes Rescue Helicopter crew and an alpine cliff rescue team from Queenstown.

- APNZ

## Club Contacts

Postal address: PO Box 857, Rotorua  
Email: [nzdarotorua@gmail.com](mailto:nzdarotorua@gmail.com) web: [www.nzdarotorua.org.nz](http://www.nzdarotorua.org.nz)

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## Branch Executive

President	Colin Petersen	Ph 343 9481
Vice President	Dennis Price	Ph 348 4343
Treasurer	Mark Slade	Ph 349 5360/027 498 8911
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
	Geoff Moree	Ph 348 8632
	Graham Allen	Ph 332 2037
	Roger Wooten	Ph 021 232 1433
	David Ester	

## 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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PO Box 857  
ROTORUA

