



# The New Zealand Deerstalkers Assoc. Inc.

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**May Issue 2012:**

*Next social: Head measuring night!!!*



“The Tines”  
Rotorua Branch Newsletter May 2012



## **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>Rusa hunt coming up. Details will be released soon.</b>
<b>Socials</b>	<b>Head measuring night. Wed, 23<sup>rd</sup> May @ 7:30pm Neil Hunt Park Clubrooms.</b>
<b>Range Shoot</b>	<b>Range itinerary for 2012 in this issue: Contact Malcolm Perry.</b>

**Cover Photo:** Trail cam photo submitted by Lance Price.

If you have a photograph that would be suitable for the cover please contact the Newsletter editor, Elvis Bowring on 350 3230 or [ebowring@gmail.com](mailto:ebowring@gmail.com).

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## Presidents Report

Hi All

We'll hope a lot of you have had successful roars and have some good trophies to bring along to the next social which will be head measuring night. Last social (fun air rifle shoot) went off with the usual people coming along plus a few guys we hadn't seen for some time, so was good catch-up. Apparently Ralph Price was the highest scorer over all but this has yet to be confirmed, possible foot fault, nah all good: well done Ralph. Food was great. One good thing about a few people attending!!!

At the last committee meeting we had good presentation from Rodger Wootton on ways to get more people along to socials etc. One suggestion was to move to 2 monthly meetings which we are considering. This may allow more time to organise socials etc, so if you out there have ideas please get along to table them.

As you were aware some of the members went off to assist DOC with another hut refurbish, well DOC has come back with a plaque and certificates of appreciation to the guys that went along. Well done all and thanks to DOC for their thoughtfulness. On that I did hear that couple guys went out for short morning hunt and didn't return till late in the avo. These two were experienced to boot I suspect work avoidance?

As you may or may not be aware Tuhoe and the Crown are entering into settlement over the Te Urewera National Park. Alex had organised a meeting of interested branches and could we use our club as a meeting venue. We had members from Auckland, Tauranga, and Thames Valley along with us. Also attending was Matthew Lark, National Executive Advisor. We had a very good meeting with lots of debate. Matthew took notes and asked questions on the issues we may have etc. He was to attend the hui in Rotorua the next day with representatives of Tuhoe.

The meeting was I believe a good gathering of branches and we intend to hold further ones and also use it to express ideas and concerns each branch may have independent of the claim issue i.e. what are the good things that they are doing and the not so good. We will of course report back with the findings from the first hui to you all.

Well Saturday is opening day so best off and get ready.

I hope to see some new and old faces at the Head Measuring Night.

Cheers.

Colin

## NZDA SOCIAL(s) and PARTY HUNTS

*Head Measuring and Photographic competitions!!!*

**At Rotorua Deerstalkers Club Rooms  
Neil Hunt Park, 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 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.



# ROTORUA

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## **Volunteers/NZDA Rotorua Projects Updates**

### **Whirinaki Deer pen removal**

Waiting for word on the next lot of activities. If you want any further information, or are able to help, please contact Colin or another committee member.

### **Whirinaki/Urewera Hut restoration**

If you would like to be involved in the Whirinaki Hut restoration, please contact Colin or any other committee member. 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.

***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***

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## **Classifieds**

### **For sale**

*No items listed.*

### **Wanted to buy**

*No items wanted.*

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## **Range report April 2011**

Sunday 1st , there was no activity on 300M range.

Sunday 15th, three of us turned up for deer silhouette shoot, one of those was Hilary who was a little unsure how she would go without her normal shooting gear and rifle, but ended up enjoying the informal atmosphere.

Gate Key. Although the gate key was a little longer being changed this year it has now happened, so only this years key will open the gate.

The last time I was at the range (Sun. 15th) the digger had not yet showed up, did not see any Pistol club members to get an update. Have been to range since, digger may be there in a week or so, weather dependant.

Coming events:

MAY;

Sunday 6th 300M club shoot. I will not be available that day.

Sunday 20th, Rimfire Silhouette shoot.

JUNE:

Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd (Queen's Birthday) 300M North Island Championships

Saturday 9th, The range is booked for a group from the Canteen organization

Sunday 17th Deer silhouette shoot.

JULY:

Sunday 1st 300M club shoot Iwont be available.

Sunday 22nd (4th Sunday due to clash on 3rd) Rimfire silhouette shoot. Also a good day for Juniors to get in some practice for junior trophy shoot.

Time to reload Malcolm.

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**NZDA ROTORUA WEBSITE IS ONLINE:**

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

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Clear skies as we lifted off from the Murupara base, soon we were over the village of Minganui, their valley being shrouded in fog. Was Te Urewera – children of the mist living up to its legend?

10 minutes of flying and we were over the Waiau Valley and approaching our landing site. On the ground with our gear, the helicopter soon disappeared over the sky line to pick up its Okahu Road end loads.

Taking in the surrounds, our landing site was adjacent to a S bend in the river on a grassy flat area. A foot track to the hut lead through a grove of native totara trees including a magnificent 100 year plus specimen. The hut was nestled in a clearing overlooking the river where a large up routed rimu tree lay stranded, testament to the recent heavy storms that had hit the area.

Over the next Over the next ½ hour or so the rest of the guys and a couple of sacks of gear came in. Heaving the contents down the track to the hut, we sure felt like a team of grunts! “Operation Clean Up” was good to go. Time for a brew and time to survey the scene.

Leader, staff sergeant Murray Robson soon had us all with brooms and buckets, scratches and scrapers in hand. Over the ensuing days, off came the mould and moss and crap. On went the undercoats and over coats inside and out. Off came the spouting full of mud. Off with 2 sheets of clear lite in the roof and on with the new.

Around the outside lean too with clear lite to close it in (the cooking and eating area). Off with the door locks and on with the new, courtesy of one of the grunts being a locksmith. The outside fireplace was dug up and shifted around closer to the side door, rocks from the river bed used to assist with its construction. A supply of firewood for it was gathered as well as for inside too. A new soak hole and pipe from the replaced outside basin was installed. The water tank scrubbed and emptied of its muddy contents. The meat safe was repainted.

In between all this, staff sergeant Robson did permit the occasional foray into the surrounding hills, rifle in hand. Taking up the challenge himself, Robson and one of the more senior grunts took to the hills. They were to return later that day, not with antlers but they did secure a supply of venison. Knocked up they were after their lengthy stroll! Over some difficult terrain we were told. A dip in the river, a feed fit for a king, double rations of rum beside the outside roaring fire and re-living the days events we slowly nursed them both back to good health. Later that night they were to “sleep like a baby”.

Not so entiresome the next day, one of the duo was heard to say “the only walking today would be to the toilet!” A fresh trout and eel were to come into camp courtesy of these two.

Although no more venison was to come into camp, plenths of tales of sightings of animals, near misses, shot but an unrecoverable animal, barks, grunts and roars were told and retold.

Morning of day 5 saw some out for a final morning hunt while the rest splashed the final coats of paint to the makeover.

All the gear packed and humped down to the helicopter pick up area due at 1300 hours. A team photo was taken to complete out mission. Air lifted back to the road end and the helicopter base, followed by a final debriefing with the DOC boys at Murupara base, and it was back to Rotorua barracks.

An enjoyable 5 days had by all. Many thanks to the organisers including Murray Robson and his fellow committee members.



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## **In the news**

### HUNTER SHOT DEAD BY MATE WHILE SPOTLIGHTING FOR DEER – STUFF.CO.NZ (30 APRIL 2012)

A man shot and killed by his mate on a deer hunting trip early yesterday was a classic Southland bloke and a nice guy, friends said yesterday.

The Southland Times understands the victim is Mark Vanderley, 26, formerly of Waikaka.

His former boss, Greg McIntosh of Ajax Building Contractors in the Gore area, said Mr Vanderley was an outdoors man and a hell of a nice guy.

"You couldn't get one better, to be honest – it's a tragic end to a young life."

Senior Sergeant Richard McPhail, the Gore area controller, said a group of five men, including the victim, were spotlighting for deer on Glenlapa Station in the Cattle Flat area of northern Southland at 3am yesterday morning when the accident happened.

The five men had been spotlighting using a vehicle on a farm track.

"One of the group was shot with a hunting rifle fired by another member of the group and died instantly at the location. The deceased man was walking on a hillside attempting to locate a second deer after one had initially been shot and located by the group," Mr McPhail said.

The men were all friends and had been on an organised hunting trip and were staying in a musterers hut on the station.

The group of friends were traumatised by Mr Vanderley's death, with the shooter assisting police with their inquiries, Mr McPhail said.

Police were conducting a scene examination at the site of the accident yesterday.

The death is the second in New Zealand during the roar this season, and comes just weeks after the Mountain Safety Council put out "extreme cautions" for safety.

On April 7, Alexander Cameron McDonald, 29, was shot and killed by another hunter while in Wairarapa's Aorangi Forest Park, with police investigations continuing.

Mountain Safety Council firearms safety programme manager Mike Spray said yesterday Mr Vanderley's death could have been avoided if the basic firearms safety rule of identifying the target had been followed.

Mr Vanderley's death was the 24th unintentional firearms death in New Zealand in the past 10 years and four months.

Ten of those deaths had been while the victims were deer stalking, Mr Spray said.

The vast majority of deaths caused by accidental shootings on hunting trips were caused by hunters shooting members of their own party.

Spotlighting at night came with inherent risks, he said.

"You can hunt safely with a spotlight, you just have to go through the same process of identifying your target beyond all doubt and if there's any doubt, you don't pull the trigger."

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DEAD TRAMPER 'OVER-ESTIMATED ABILITY' - CORONER BY MATTHEW THEUNISSEN – NZ HERALD (11 MAY 2012)

The death of a German tourist who fell 300m while tramping in Fiordland is a tragic example of overseas visitors underestimating New Zealand's alpine conditions, a coroner has found.

Last June Julian Stukenborg, a 24-year-old aircraft engineer from Delmenhorst, Germany, was walking alone along the Cascade Saddle Track but left it to take photos at the edge of the Aspiring Bluffs.

Wanaka coroner David Crerar said there could have been a layer of frozen ground and light snow.

Mr Stukenborg was wearing a pair of lightweight flexible-soled tramping boots which would have been suitable for less difficult tramps but allowed no margin for error on the bluffs.

He slipped and plunged about 300 metres.

Mr Stukenborg had told friends and family to contact the Department of Conservation if he had not returned by June 23.

His body was found three days later after an extensive search hampered by heavy snowfall.

Coroner Crerar said Mr Stukenborg had some hiking experience but may have overestimated his abilities.

Because he was alone he did not have the opportunity to discuss potential hazards with other trampers.

Coroner Crerar wanted his finding to draw attention to the dangers associated with tramping alone, inappropriate footwear and inappropriate experience.

"The death of Julian Stukenborg is another tragic example of a visitor to our country from overseas underestimating New Zealand alpine conditions, particularly winter conditions," he said.

- APNZ

SEARCH AND RESCUE KEPT BUSY WITH THE ROAR – THE DAILY POST (20 APRIL 2012)

A search for hunters who had set off a distress beacon was hampered as the hunter's campsite had been set up in the middle of a helipad.

The search has been one of several so far since the start of the roar.

Detective Sergeant John Wilson of the Rotorua police said a distress beacon was set off in a area north of Ruatahuna last week and a rescue helicopter from Hawkes Bay had found a hunter who had become lost and set off his beacon.

The man was airlifted to Murupara.

"This hunter's companion, nor the camp where they had been staying, was able to be located at this time," Mr Wilson said.

"Although the remaining hunter would have been aware his companion had failed to return to camp, he could not have known he had subsequently been rescued."

Mr Wilson said that because of their local knowledge of the area, Rotorua police search and rescue squad members were tasked with finding the hunters camp and evacuating the remaining hunter from the bush.

"This involved some particularly challenging flying, as the pair had elected to erect their camp site in the middle of the helipad."

Other incidents which Rotorua search and rescue squad have been involved with since the start of the roar include airlifting a Whakatane man who became lost in the bush and had set off a distress beacon.

"Rotorua police search and rescue were called on to interview the man, gathering information about his missing companion vital to the next step in the search procedure, which occurred the following day. This resulted in the lost man being found early the next morning."

Mr Wilson said on that same day rescuers were also tasked with recovering the body of a 55-year-old woman from Te Urewera National Park.

The woman had collapsed and died. Mr Wilson said the woman's died from natural causes.

"The remoteness of the location meant that she needed to be recovered with the use of a helicopter."

Despite having a busy start to the season, Mr Wilson said the search and rescue jobs had all come as a result of sensible hunters going into the field well prepared and using the technology available to them when they needed help.

"Police are pleased with the foresight shown by these people in going into the bush well prepared, and of not being afraid to ask for help when they needed it," he said.

"These examples highlight the importance of following the Outdoor Safety Code. Everyone using the outdoors should always follow the Outdoor Safety Guide."

Some key points of the Outdoor Safety Guide include:

-Plan your trip

-Tell someone where you are going and when you will return so they know when to raise the alarm

-Be aware of the weather

-Know your limits

-Take sufficient supplies. This includes food, clothing to cover all eventualities and a means of communication.

### SURVIVAL A MODERN MIRACLE BY MICHAEL FOX – STUFF.CO.NZ (27 APRIL 2012)

Simon Alex died twice after a stray bullet tore through his chest in a freak homekill accident last month.

So severe were the 18-year-old slaughterman's assistant's injuries that he needed 20 litres of blood (the body typically contains five litres) and doctors were forced to open his chest to stem the bleeding – something doctors say happens just a couple of times a year.

Mr Alex's ordeal began at midday on March 15 at a Helensville lifestyle block in Peak Rd where Mr Alex was working with his Kaipara Homekill boss Bruce Scott to slaughter two cows. In an operation the pair had carried out hundreds of times, Mr Scott dropped the cows with a .303 rifle while Mr Alex waited to finish them off with a knife.

On this day, Mr Alex lay on his stomach 30 metres away, over a fence and beside a shed.

The first shot rang out as normal and Mr Alex was poised for the second.

When the rifle went off a second time he felt a thud, looked down and saw the blood spray.

"I felt a funny bit of a push in my shoulder, looked down and I thought `I've been hit'. I stood up and I went `I've been shot'."

The bullet had ricocheted off the cow's skull and smashed into his chest, just below his left shoulder.

It ripped through the main arteries running from his heart to his left arm, pierced a rib and struck his lungs, causing them to collapse.

The bullet came to a stop in his chest around 20cm below the entry wound.

Lying there while Mr Scott applied pressure to the wound and urged him to stay conscious, and as police and ambulance staff arrived, Mr Alex could hear everything but his vision was blank.

"I was just listening to all the ambulance and doctors and all that around me trying to help me out. All I wanted to hear was the noise of the helicopter."

Rescue staff held his legs above his chest to drain the blood back down into his body.

Mr Alex stopped breathing twice. Mr Scott revived him once and ambulance staff brought him back a second time. The Westpac helicopter arrived and staff immediately realised he was too badly injured for them to do anything.

Advanced paramedic Marcel Driessen said Mr Alex had lost so much blood his only chance was getting to Auckland City Hospital.

One of several things working in Mr Alex's favour that day was that St John medical director Tony Smith had the hospital's crack trauma team ready.

A second stroke of fortune was that experienced trauma surgeon Dr Li Hsee was on that team. Dr Hsee had worked in Toronto, Canada, and had extensive experience with bullet and stab wounds. Dr Hsee said Mr Alex was one of the most critically injured patients he had seen and he put his chance of surviving at 5 per cent. He was, he said, "on the brink of death".

"He was pale, he was losing his signs of life at that moment; we had to make a critical decision and that was to put a tube through his windpipe and then open up his chest on his bed in the emergency department."

The 15-minute procedure in the emergency room gave Mr Alex a "window of opportunity for resuscitation" and allowed doctors to pump blood, blood products and oxygen into him to keep him alive.

Then in a two-hour procedure in the operating theatre, surgeons removed the bullet from his lung and put another plastic tube through the bullet tract to staunch the bleeding.

In his third surgery that day, surgeons and a radiologist inserted a stent, or plastic tube, into the area where the artery had been smashed, which acted as an artificial artery. Dr Hsee said the procedure was a recent breakthrough and again contributed to Mr Alex's survival. By Mr Alex's count, he needed more than 90 staples to close him up. Not out of the woods, and with doctors worried about brain damage, Mr Alex was sent to critical care.

He spent about three weeks in hospital. Now at home near Kumeu, his recovery is moving along a lot more smoothly than doctors anticipated – something Dr Hsee puts down to his youth and fitness.

"That whole day felt like 72 hours instead of 24," fiancée Danielle Scott said. "We don't treat him like an invalid [but] he does milk it a little bit when he's tired and he goes 'Oh, I've been shot'."

They were both incredibly thankful to all those who saved him and Mr Alex said he'd be donating blood when he gets the chance. "I'm very lucky That's all you can really say."

- © Fairfax NZ News

## CARNIVORY: MEAT EATING BEHIND HUMANS' SPREADING OVER THE GLOBE (21 APRIL 2012)

Carnivory is behind the evolutionary success of humankind. When early humans started to eat meat and eventually hunt, their new, higher-quality diet meant that women could wean their children earlier. Women could then give birth to more children during their reproductive life, which is a possible contribution to the population gradually spreading over the world.

The connection between eating meat and a faster weaning process is shown by a research group from Lund University in Sweden, which compared close to 70 mammalian species and found clear patterns.

Learning to hunt was a decisive step in human evolution. Hunting necessitated communication, planning and the use of tools, all of which demanded a larger brain. At the same time, adding meat to the diet made it possible to develop this larger brain.

"This has been known for a long time. However, no one has previously shown the strong connection between meat eating and the duration of breast-feeding, which is a crucial piece of the puzzle in this context. Eating meat enabled the breast-feeding periods and thereby the time between births, to be shortened. This must have had a crucial impact on human evolution", says Elia Psouni of Lund University.

She is a developmental psychologist and has, together with neurophysiologist Martin Garwicz (also in Lund) and evolutionary geneticist Axel Janke (currently in Frankfurt but previously in Lund) published her findings in the journal PLoS ONE.

Among natural fertility societies, the average duration of breast-feeding is 2 years and 4 months. This is not much in relation to the maximum lifespan of our species, around 120 years. It is even less if compared to our closest relatives: female chimpanzees suckle their young for 4-5 years, whereas the maximum lifespan for chimpanzees is only 60 years.

Many researchers have tried to explain the relatively shorter breast-feeding period of humans based on social and behavioral theories of parenting and family size. But the Lund group has now shown that humans are in fact no different than other mammals with respect to the timing of weaning. If you enter brain development and diet composition into the equation, the time when our young stop suckling fits precisely with the pattern in other mammals.

This is the type of mathematical model that Elia Psouni and her colleagues have built. They entered data on close to 70 mammalian species of various types into the model - data on brain size and diet. Species for which at least 20 per cent of the energy content of their diet comes from meat were categorised as carnivores.

The model shows that the young of all species cease to suckle when their brains have reached a particular stage of development on the path from conception to full brain-size. Carnivores, due to their high quality diet, can wean earlier than herbivores and omnivores.

The model also shows that humans do not differ from other carnivores with respect to timing of weaning. All carnivorous species, from small animals such as ferrets and raccoons to large ones like panthers, killer whales and humans, have a relatively short breast-feeding period. The difference between us and the great apes, which has puzzled previous researchers, seems to depend merely on the fact that as a species we are carnivores, whereas gorillas, orangutans and chimpanzees are herbivores or omnivores.

A few years ago, the Lund group published an acclaimed study on the point at which the young of various animals start to walk. Here too, similar patterns were discovered between mammalian species that diverged in evolution millions of years ago. A particular stage in brain development seems quite simply to be the time to start to walk, independently of whether you are a hedgehog, a ferret or a human being.

"That humans seem to be so similar to other animals can of course be taken as provocative. We like to think that culture makes us different as a species. But when it comes to breast-feeding and weaning, no social or cultural explanations are needed; for our species as a whole it is a question of simple biology. Social and cultural factors surely influence the variation between humans", says Elia Psouni.

She is careful to emphasise that their results concern human evolution. The research is about how carnivory can have contributed to the human species' spreading on earth and says nothing about what we should or should not eat today in order to have a good diet.

#### COPS STAKE OUT NORTH EAST FOR ROGUE HUNTERS – BY AISHA DOW – BORDERMAIL.COM.AU (02 MAY 2012)

ROGUE hunters have been targeted in a major operation by North East police that saw officers camp out in remote areas of Victoria's alps.

Police made their presence known to deer shooters with a roadblock and daily and nightly patrols in Abbeyard, about 30 kilometres south-west of Bright last weekend.

They were weeding out the criminals, who kill farm animals and pull down fences, from the majority of legitimate deer hunters.

The three-day Operation Elmer was filmed by Channel 7 police show The Force.

In the most serious incident of the weekend, three men were caught shooting at signs with a Winchester 30-30 firearm in the Alpine National park on Saturday afternoon.

Myrtleford's Sgt Paul Evans said the men weren't deer shooters but their actions "put a slur" on law-abiding hunters.

Also on Saturday, three men were caught in the park with a dog and guns that were not designed to shoot deer, while another two men were found with improperly stored ammunition.

Overall, four firearms were seized.

Sgt Evans said property damage by rogue hunters was a regular occurrence for property owners in the area, though not all of the incidents were brought to the attention of police.

It was important for deer hunters to report those in the wrong.

"It's like a football team. If you have one person who goes and hits someone it brings the rest of the team into disrepute," Sgt Evans said.

“We invite deer hunting people to get in touch if (they) think someone’s acting inappropriately and give us the opportunity to make them an ex-deer hunter.”

The operation was co-ordinated by Sen-Constable Gerard Gaul from Myrtleford Police and involved officers from Wangaratta, Bright, Dederang and Whitfield, as well as staff from the Department of Primary Industries and Parks Victoria.



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Rod Houghton Ph 332 2577

### 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 Hamills, Outdoorsman HQ or Serious Shooters at a cost of \$20.00 per year. 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 = \$90 (full benefits at local and national branch level)

Associate = \$60 (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)

Sender: Rotorua Branch NZDA  
PO Box 857  
ROTORUA

