



The New Zealand Deerstalkers Assoc. Inc.

March Issue 2011:

*Next Social: Come and meet the new committee.
Pizza will be provided and cold beer is available.*



“The Tines”
Rotorua Branch Newsletter March 2011



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	Party hunt – Boating/fishing social. Still to be confirmed. If interested, please contact a committee member.
Socials	Meet the committee at the Neil Hunt Park Club-rooms from 7.30pm. March 23rd, 7:30pm Neil Hunt Park Clubrooms, Tarawera Road, Rotorua.
Range Shoot	Range itinerary for 2011 in this issue: Contact Malcolm Perry.

Cover Photo: The best way to wear fluro – on the deer. Early roar hind packed up and waiting for the truck. See story page 8.

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.

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

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Presidents Report

Hello there,

Well as you are all aware Monday night 15th was the AGM for the club. It was once again time to elect a new team to run the club. I was impressed with the overall turnout and some new faces took time to turn-up and old acquaintances from the past were there to lend support. From experiences of previous AGMs this attendance was well supported. Thanks to all who took the time to come along.

Not only was it time for elections but also time to acknowledge one of our long serving members Malcolm Perry. Malcolm has been made a life member of the NZDA. He has been with Rotorua forever it seems to me and he is guy I would call "Godfather" of our Range. It was a proud moment for us all to see him gain this standing in the club. Well done to you again Malcolm. What we need now is for someone to step up to the plate and become his right hand man.

I would also like to take the time to thank Rod, Treasurer. Murray, Vice President and Hunts Convenor and Darryn, President.

You guys have worked away tirelessly ensuring our club has remained strong and financial. I know that in taking on my new role from Darryn that I have some huge boots to fill.

So the new team is as follows:

President:	Colin Petersen
Vice President:	Dennis Price
Treasurer:	Darryn Cosgrave
Secretary:	Elvis Bowring
Hunts Convenor:	Cliff Graham
Committee Members:	
Range:	Malcolm Perry / Ron Marsden Scott Russell Ralph Price Keith Billington Neil Fawcett Josh McIver
Tines Editor	Elvis/Scott.

It is great to see some new faces on the team and also some old hand experience back to support as all in our roles.

The committee will all meet together on the 28th March. Unfortunately some of us myself included will not be able to attend as we will be away in the scrub. Getting those heads for measuring night I hope!!!

For our party hunt in May we are planning a fishing Trip in the Mussel Barges at Coromandel. Date is last weekend in May 28th/29th. Plan to head up Friday night go out for day trip and stay one more night at the camp returning Sunday. First 15 in goes. We will be requiring deposit up front. Rate is \$1150, max 15 people for full 10hr day.

You can check it out on their web site by Googling Mussel Barge Snapper Safaris.

Well that's all. Look forward to meeting you all at the club soon.

Cheers

Colin Petersen

NZDA SOCIAL

Come in and meet the your new committee

**At Rotorua Deerstalkers Club Rooms
Neil Hunt Park, 23rd March, 7.30pm**

All welcome. Pizza will be provided and cold beer is available. :-)

Wanted

Good stories for newsletter.

Any interesting articles.

Any good photo's of your hunting trips.

Send to editor – nzdarotorua@gmail.com

Or phone 021 066 7868

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.

NZDA ROTORUA WEBSITE IS ONLINE:

CHECK OUT WWW.NZDAROTORUA.ORG.NZ

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 Darryn or another committee member.

Whirinaki Hut restoration

If you would like to be involved in the Whirinaki Hut restoration, please contact Darryn 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.

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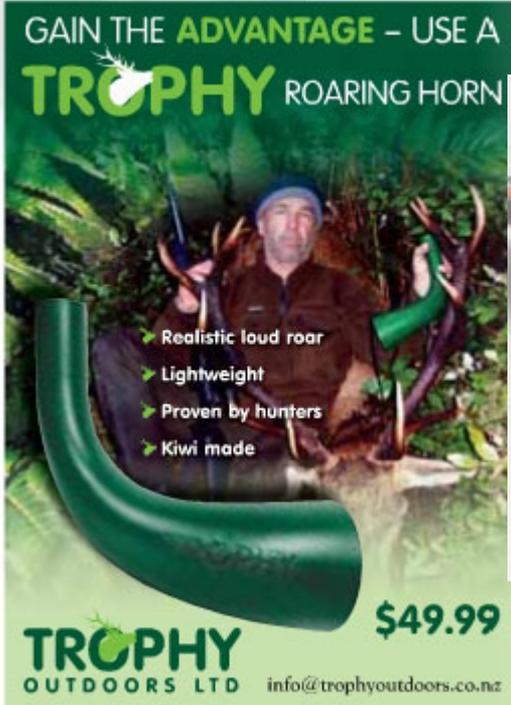
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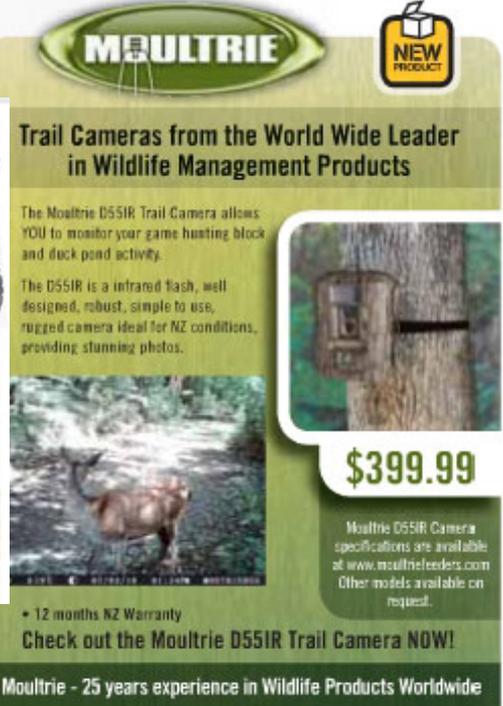


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Range report February 2011

Not a lot to report as there was no 300M shoot and our club shoot was only attended by two other than myself, although a group of 3, a member, a member in process and one other turned up at the end not intending to shoot so we let them have 1 run through also. I am fairly certain that the Service rifle people had their shoot but not aware of numbers. I have realized that if I post bookings on the website they should be more readily available to members as often I do not get bookings for range use in time for the news letter before the event, so check the website for range bookings. After the club shoot on 20th I did some weed spraying and using small mower cut around edges etc ready for using rideon.

New keys: For those members who are joining up new this new financial year, new keys will be available as from 1st March, the old keys (2010/11) will still work till the weekend 9/10 of April. Keys are available from Hamils; Hunting and Fishing; Outdoorsman Headquarters, and Serious Shooters. You need to produce your 2011-12 membership card and \$20-00. Apart from occasional bookings the range is available 7 days a week,

AS LONG AS USERS DO NOT DO STUPID THINGS WHICH COULD CAUSE THE LOSS OF OUR RANGE!!!. And we have seen some evidence of this.

Coming events as known @ 28/2/11.

March:

Wednesday 2nd Tauranga A.O.S.

Thursday 3rd “” “”””

Sunday 6th 300M club shoot.

Sunday 20th Rimfire Metalic Silhouette shoot @ 40, 60, 77, and 100M. 40shots req.

April:

Saturday 2nd Rotorua Scout Group.

Sunday 3rd 300M club shoot.

Monday 4th Tga. A.O.S..

Sunday 17th Deer silhouette shoot. If you have been missing those deer come and find out why.

Time to reload, Malcolm.

Hunting Story - Early Roar Hind by Elvis Bowring

After the excellent Graf Bros talk and movie night about roaring in deer at the recent NZDA social, myself and Neil got motivated and decided that we had better get out there and find some likely spots before the roar. The weekend ahead was forecast for heavy rain and cold weather, just the conditions we were looking for to try out our winter gear and jackets before the roar proper.

We reached the forest before daylight. The weather had looked menacing all the way to the forest. Just perfect for what we were after. We got there and the rain just stopped. Bummer – was looking forward to hunting in the rain. Would have made a nice change to the summer hunting in the heat that we have had for the last few months. We headed down the firebreak where I knew there was usually good sign. You couldn't see anything in the dark, but we knew the way. We carried on slowly and waited for the sun to rise.

Once we hit the head of the first river Neil let out a couple of roars. There was no response. The rain was staying away, but the wind was getting annoying, coming from behind us but heading sideways. Bad for hunting, but it helped me stay cool in my jacket, that at this stage I still refused to take off. Usually this firebreak has heaps of sign on it and after the rain all that old sign had disappeared. This was a good thing and it made it easy to identify any new sign as being fresh. We headed up the other side of the bank and carried on, into fresh deer tracks. It is a good feeling knowing that you are standing where a deer was not 30 minutes before hand. We followed her trail for a little bit, but then stopped as it was early in the hunt, and better areas lay ahead.

We carried on for another 30 minutes roaring at each river head. Where there is normally lots of sign this far in but now there was now none. We were nearing the end of the firebreak and I had given up hope of seeing a deer today with Neil's roaring and the trying wind. We came over the top of a small hill a little too fast and there was the hind. Both rifles were up in a heartbeat, but she was off! Neil ran towards the top of small hill, while I ran down to where the deer had been standing. She had gone about 50m further up. I saw her but did not have time to pull the trigger. At seeing me she ran further around the hill, out of my sight but straight into the waiting Neil.

Bang!

Awesome, he must have got it! I thought happily.

Bang! Oh crap, he must have missed and is running.

Bang! Oh no, she is definitely running I thought.

Not knowing what to expect, I made my way back along the way I had came, ensuring that I did run into Neil's firing zone and was greeted by a happy Neil. It had taken a couple of shots but she was down. We gutted the deer, dressed it up in blaze orange, and started the walk out. Taking turns carrying her. She was the perfect size. Not too big to carry but not too small to provide no meat.

It was a good start to the roar I thought, considering it was still a month or so away. It was comforting knowing that the roaring had not scared the hind away.



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In the news

ROTORUA PILOT IN HELICOPTER SMASH BY CHERIE TAYLOR – THE DAILY POST (1 MARCH 2011)

A 60-year-old Rotorua helicopter pilot with 30 years' experience is in hospital with serious head injuries after his Iroquois helicopter crashed near Levin.

Jim Sherwin of Lakeland Helicopters was believed to be returning from Blenheim to Rotorua in the ex-military helicopter when it went down at Hokianga Beach, 10km north of Levin, about 9am yesterday.

First reports from the scene said people in the chopper were taken to hospital.

However, after checks with emergency services and police, The Daily Post was told Mr Sherwin was alone in the Iroquois when it crashed.

Palmerston North Police inspector Brett Calkin said:

"Initial reports were there were two people aboard but investigations found there was only one person."

Mr Calkin said he was not aware of what had caused the crash or where the helicopter was travelling from or to.

The Civil Aviation Association (CAA) will investigate the crash.

"Police cordoned and detained the scene and the CAA will investigate what occurred," he said.

A Palmerston North Hospital spokeswoman said Mr Sherwin was listed as being in a serious but stable condition.

A Palmerston North St John Ambulance paramedic, who did not wish to be identified, said Mr Sherwin was lucid when he was rescued from the wreckage but recalled little.

"He was talking but could remember little of what had happened or where he was," he said.

Mr Sherwin was flown to Palmerston North Hospital by the Palmerston North Rescue Helicopter Service.

"He's one lucky man - fortunately his injuries are survivable," the paramedic said.

Witnesses claimed the chopper, which was originally heading north, had turned suddenly south before crashing into sand, the St John man said.

"It appears he came down low near some trees on an auto-rotation somehow [the helicopter] has tipped up and come down on its side," he said.

Rotorua's Helipro scenic flights/charters operations manager Tim Barrow said he had heard about the Iroquois helicopter crash and hoped everyone on board was safe.

He understood the helicopter was owned by Murupara-based Lakeland Helicopters which operates from Rotorua's Lakefront. Lakeland Helicopters specialises in all light and heavy helicopter operations providing transport for back-country hunting and fishing.

A spokesman for Lakeland Helicopters could not be reached for comment.

Helipro does not use Iroquois helicopters because they are of "restricted category", meaning they cannot be used for passenger flights.

A pilot from Waimana Helicopters, who did not want to be named, said Mr Sherwin was an extremely experienced pilot who anybody would want in the cockpit.

He had worked in the Bay of Plenty region "for most of the past 30 years".

"He's a very experienced pilot with an absolute wealth of experience - a really nice guy."

A spokesman from Lakeland Aviation in Taupo said he knew Mr Sherwin and he was a family man.

MISSING ENGLISH TRAMPER'S HEARTFELT THANKS BY SALLY KIDSON – STUFF.CO.NZ (16 FEBRUARY 2011)

An English trumper has made a heartfelt thank-you to the trampers who raised the alarm that he was missing.

"I owe them my life," James Esbester said at a press conference in Nelson this morning.

Esbester, 30, was found by the Summit Rescue Helicopter last night suffering from only mild hypothermia after being missing in rough country in the Wangapeka track area of the Kahurangi National Park.

A massive search began for Esbester on Saturday night, after a group of trampers found some of his gear at Stone Hut, on the Wangapeka Track.

Esbester had left a note with his gear saying he intended to climb nearby Mt Luna and be back at 1pm on Thursday.

Last night the helicopter had been sent to check remote huts to eliminate them from the search when the pilot spotted Esbester waving. He was about 10km from Mt Luna and well off his intended route.

Esbester, from Portsmouth, England, was treated by paramedics at Venus Hut and flown to Nelson Hospital with only suspected mild hypothermia.

He was discharged from Nelson Hospital later in the evening.

Esbester said he became disoriented on the top of Mt Luna, and took the wrong ridge down.

He ended up following a stream for the days he was missing. He now knows the stream was the Kinzett Stream which flows into the Crow River.

Esbester said he stopped first in a small clearing, after falling and badly cutting his arm.

He later moved to a larger clearing where he knew he would have more chance of being spotted by rescuers if someone had raised the alarm that he was missing.

Esbester said he had only snack food with him, as he had set out on a day tramp, and had eaten most of that by the end of the first afternoon.

By the time he was rescued, he had not eaten for 5-1/2 days.

"I suppose I was hungry, but not in the sense I had any gnawing pains. I was just getting more and more tired each day."

The weather was fine, but the nights were freezing, even though he had thermals, another layer of clothes, waterproof clothing and an emergency blanket.

Esbester said he could see only about 50cm in front of him without glasses. When he set out on the day tramp, he was wearing contact lenses, which he had to take out on the second day because they were so uncomfortable.

This made his progress slower as he could not see clearly more than 50cm in front of him.

Esbester said he decided to wait in the clearing and built a "rickety" wooden shelter to sleep in, and spelt out the word "help" in wood.

His main concern was whether someone had reported him missing, as he knew that search and rescue crews would do a fantastic job looking for him and he would eventually be found.

Last night, he had just gone to bed for what would have been his third night in the shelter when he heard a helicopter flying nearby.

He said it was a "huge relief" to hear it and be rescued and words could not describe how he felt. It was also a surprise and great to see a familiar face, and his father at the hospital last night.

Esbester's father, Mark Esbester, said getting the phone call last night and hearing his son was alive and well had been "fantastic".

James's brother and his partner are due to arrive in Nelson tomorrow.

Mark Esbester was partway through a holiday in Australia when he was contacted by police, who told him his son was missing.

He said yesterday his son had been travelling and doing odd jobs, many computer-related, to pay for his travel since finishing maths and physics study at university.

Search and Rescue incident controller Sergeant Mike Fitzsimon said 100 people had been involved in the search, including an airforce helicopter.

Volunteers were from Golden Bay, Motueka, Nelson, Tapawera and the West Coast area.

It was the biggest search in the Nelson region in the last couple of years.

"We are obviously really happy with the result and that James is sitting here safe and well and able to continue on with his holiday."

Fitzsimon said Esbester had done a number of things right including, most crucially, recording his intentions in track books which had led to searchers knowing he was missing.

If he had a map and a compass, or a GPS unit, and used them it might have assisted him when he got disoriented.

He said the message for people going into the back country they needed to take the right gear including a personal locator beacon.

- The Nelson Mail

SWISS VOTE TO KEEP GUNS AT HOME BY TONY PATERSON – NZHERALD (15 FEBRUARY 2011)

Switzerland upheld its reputation for having one of the most liberal yet lethal firearms laws in Europe yesterday after voters overwhelmingly rejected proposals that would have obliged some two million gun owners to keep their weapons in public arsenals rather than at home.

In a national referendum more than half of Switzerland's 26 cantons voted against an initiative aimed at banning army rifles from households to try to reduce domestic shootings and a record number of suicides involving firearms.

Swiss soldiers have been encouraged to keep their rifles at home after leaving the forces under a national defence policy introduced during World War II.

The practice is seen as a symbol of the trust the state invests in the alpine country's largely conscript army.

Conservative politicians welcomed the result, saying it demonstrated the nation's reluctance to end a practice that upheld the traditions of its folk hero, William Tell.

"This is an important sign of confidence in our soldiers," said Pius Segmiller, a Christian Democrat MP and a former member of the Swiss Vatican Guard.

A gun ban was strongly opposed by the populist, right-wing Swiss People's Party, which organised a referendum last year banning minaret building at mosques.

Shooting club owners had complained that the law would have effectively destroyed many of the country's 3000 gun clubs, which function as key social centres in hundreds of villages.

The result amounted to a serious blow to Switzerland's nascent gun control lobby. It had banked on a high turnout by women voters to get its initiative approved.

But results showed that only the cities of Basel and Geneva and a few French-speaking cantons bucked a national trend in favour of keeping guns at home.

Switzerland has the highest rate of gun suicide in Europe, with around 300 self-inflicted deaths each year involving a firearm.

There have also been a number of high-profile killings. Swiss skiing star Corinne Rey-Bellet was shot dead by her estranged husband in 2006. There is no national firearms register in Switzerland.

But unofficial estimates suggest there are between two million and three million guns kept in Swiss households.

- INDEPENDENT

KAITUNA SEARCH: HUNTER'S BODY FOUND— THE DAILY POST (14TH FEBRUARY 2011)

The body of a 70-year-old hunter who went missing on the Kaituna River on Saturday evening has been found.

The man has been identified by police as Moko Riri Ngahu from Te Puke.

Coastguard and Maketu Surf Patrol found the body about 10am approximately 1km downstream from where the hunter entered the water.

All details relating to the identity of the deceased have been withheld until next of kin have been notified.

The man's death has been referred to the Coroner.

The 70-year-old was last seen crossing the river in the Paengaroa area, just south of Te Puke, at 5pm on Saturday.

Yesterday, emergency services were working from the Spring Loaded Fun Park in Te Puke, off State Highway 33, which backs on to the river.

Police divers started searching the river when they arrived yesterday afternoon but found nothing.

The search continued this morning.

Family and friends maintained a vigil on the banks of the river at the park, while search and rescue staff in motorised dinghies searched the river for any sign of the missing man yesterday.

Tauranga Police Senior Sergeant Carl Purcell told The Daily Post the man had been hunting with another man when their dogs chased a pig across the river.

He said the hunters had attempted to swim across the river to continue the chase but the 70-year-old had disappeared from view and there had been no sign of him since.

Search and rescue personnel had searched the banks and a boat had done a sweep of the river on Saturday night.

They had continued the search yesterday while waiting for the police dive squad to arrive.

The Okere Gates on the river were closed to lower the water level to help the search.

Rafting companies in the area were notified.

Club Contacts

Postal address: PO Box 857, Rotorua
Email: nzdarotorua@gmail.com web: www.nzdarotorua.org.nz

Patron	Des Jenkins	
Honorary Solicitor	Barry Rodgers	
Life Members	Des Jenkins	
	Rod Houghton	Ph 348 4057
	Malcolm Perry	Ph 348 4473
	Owen Rumble	
	Gary Winslade	
Honorary Member	Ross Burton	
Investment Trustees	Keith Billington	
	Rod Houghton	
	Des Jenkins	

Branch Executive

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Vice President	Dennis Price	
Treasurer	Darryn Cosgrove	Ph 348 4496
Secretary	Elvis Bowring	Ph 350 3230
Hunts Convenor	Murray Robson	Ph 345 5160
	Cliff Graham	Ph 362 8883

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	Ron Marsden	Ph 362 8542
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
	Rod Houghton	Ph 348 4057
	Josh McIver	

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

