



Bay of Plenty

NZDA

New Zealand Deerstalkers Association



FEBRUARY 2024

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
NEW ZEALAND DEERSTALKERS ASSOCIATION,
BAY OF PLENTY BRANCH



NEW ZEALAND DEERSTALKERS ASSOCIATION BAY OF PLENTY BRANCH

Our mission statement is to retain, enhance and create opportunities for the enjoyment of legitimate recreational hunting and the sport of shooting, for the members of the Association.

Founded in 1950, the Bay of Plenty NZDA is a branch of the New Zealand Deerstalkers Association.



COVER PHOTO: Dave Peterson with his first ever deer.
See his story on page 6.

Want to feature on the cover?! If you have a photo suitable for the cover, please send it through to: editor@deerstalkersbop.org.nz

PRESIDENTS REPORT: FEBRUARY 2024



The hot days are getting shorter and hopefully the afternoons start to cool soon. The roar is nearly here and I'm excited! I've booked leave and planned some hunts with my family. The household is buzzing with excitement about our next hunting adventure. This week I started some roar prep to get my body used to physical punishment. Hopefully, some laps up the Mount and walks around the canal will get my legs ready for the big hills and stag carries. If you haven't started conditioning yourself for the peak hunting season in a few weeks, today is a great day to start!

The branch had another record year for total membership (over 680) and we're looking forward to another year full of club activities, hunts and shooting events. There are a lot of great opportunities for members coming up so don't be slow on paying your membership fees. Don't forget to add the chiller access fee if you don't currently have access. The chiller is great during the warmer months as it lets you hang your deer after a hard day or few of hunting and worry about the butchering the following weekend. A good facility to take advantage of on a Sunday evening after tiring yourself out hunting all weekend.

Our HUNTS Course is scheduled to start at the end of July. Whanganui Fallow Hunts are in the calendar, and we have a variety of other club hunts as well as some great club nights lined up. If you want to get out there hunting and make some new hunting friends, make sure you sign up for a club hunt.

On Sunday we are holding a Field Marksmanship session at the range for any members who are interested. This is a great opportunity for anyone wanting to test themselves or prove their competency at field shooting positions. Check out the website to find out more. It's not difficult, but there is the opportunity to learn and better understand your own shooting ability. I encourage anyone who hasn't been awarded the Field Marksman certificate to give it a shot. Only 5 rounds are required so it's not expensive and it is great practice before the roar.

Later in March we are holding a Wilkinson Cup shoot at the range. This is an excellent opportunity to have a go at shooting a 'deer' target and see how your knowledge of the hilar zone and your shooting ability stack up for a kill shot. While it is a competition shoot, all are welcome to have a go and test your abilities. You can be the judge of your own ability after testing your skill at nailing a kill shot.

Club night will be another great evening hosted at Hamills Tauranga. Don't miss out on the opportunity to purchase everything you need for the coming roar season and get in the draw for some great prizes. At the end of the evening, we will be announcing the winner of the \$500 Hamills Voucher for the best newsletter story in 2023. Additionally, we will be drawing names for the next Whanganui Fallow Hunt on the 15th to 17th of March. To be eligible for the Whanganui ballot, you must have paid your renewal invoice by close of business on the 4th of March and be present for the ballot draw. You can expect to receive your invoice sometime from the 1st to the 4th of March so keep an eye out for it over the weekend.

We have two great local hunts coming up in the Kaimais for the roar period. Late March to the Hurunui Hut and mid-April to Te Whare Okioki. I shot a nice hind less than 300m from Te Whare on Waitangi Day. And less than 100m from the track, so an easy walk back to the hut with a deer backpack. Both these areas hold good numbers of deer, and this time of year really suits the locations. Don't miss out on a great time hunting our local patch and some good yarns at the hut.

A big thanks to the members who showed up to the clubrooms working bee. A great turnout and it was all over quick, leaving plenty of time for a sausage and beer. Keep an eye out for the next one in the fall.

This weekend we have a range working bee. If you can help for a few hours on Saturday, the range team and committee would greatly appreciate your support. The great facilities we have take a lot of manpower and considerable financial resources to keep them in good shape for our members. It takes more than a few to keep everything maintained and make improvements. Please show your support for the club by volunteering a few hours.

See you at Hamills

Reuben

CLUB NIGHT - HAMILLS

TUESDAY 5TH MARCH AT 7.00PM

Special EVENT being held at 437
Cameron Road (Not at NZDA Club)

Come join us this club night to enjoy pizzas and drinks at Hamills Tauranga, along with many great specials.

Some of these specials include:

- 20% off Stoney Creek
- 20% off LED Lenser
- 20% off Domex
- 20% off Tatonka
- 20% off Wrightsocks
- Bushnell Scopes up to 50% off
- Thermal imagers models up to \$1400 off
- 40% off Spika clothing
- Led Lenser MH11 Headlamps 50% off
- TFX Led Torches 75% off

Every
\$50
SPEND
gets you in the draw for
great prizes.

BOP NZDA CLUB EVENTS & HUNTS CALENDAR 2024

MAR	Hurunui Hut / Kaimais Club Hunt Date: 22-24 March Organiser: Sascha Haag Haagsascha@yahoo.co.nz	MARCH CLUB NIGHT Date: 5 th March @ 7.00pm At Hamills 437 Cameron Road	BENCHREST SHOOTING Date: 10 th March Check the club website for more info	PRE-ROAR SHOOT/WILKINSON CUP POSTAL SHOOT Date: 17 th March Organiser: Royce Downes royced@xtra.co.nz
APR	KAIMAI ROAR HUNT Date: 11 th - 14 th April Organiser: Dan Gallagher		Location: Te Whare Okioki Contact: danielgallaghan@hotmail.com	
MAY	OPOTIKI CLUB HUNT Date: TBC Organiser: Adam Fairclough	PEEKING WALLABY MATCH Date: 5 th May Check the club website for more info	WANGANUI RIVER CLUB HUNT Date: 31 st May Organiser: Isabell Zitzelsberger isabell8785@yahoo.com	
JUN	BENCHREST SHOOTING Date: 16 th June Check the club website for more info			
JUL	BOYD HUT CLUB HUNT Date: TBC Organiser: Adam Rusk	NEW HUNTS COURSE COMMENCES Date: 29 th July Organiser: Cath huntscourse@deerstalkersbop.org.nz		
AUG	PEEKING WALLABY MATCH Date: 4 th Aug Check the club website for more info			
SEPT	BENCHREST SHOOTING Date: 8 th Sept Check the club website for more info			
OCT				
NOV	PEEKING WALLABY MATCH Date: 3 rd Nov Check the club website for more info			

VISIT: www.deerstalkersbop.org.nz/club-events for more NZDA BOP events and activities.



RANGE NEWS:

PRE-ROAR SHOOT - SUNDAY 17 MARCH

Get roar ready at our club shoot this month on Sunday 17 March

Shooting deer targets at 100m - getting yourself ready for the roar, social fun or a bit of competition - up to you. Join us from 9am - 1pm at our TECT Park 300m Range. We will throw some sausages on the BBQ too
Range ticket holders - no charge

Non-range ticket holder NZDA Members - \$25 (you will need to complete an induction before shooting)

Pre-Roar Ready shoot

Shoot 1 round, 4 rounds, 8 rounds, however many you want at 100m at deer targets

WILLKINSON CUP - SUNDAY 17 MARCH

Open to all financial members of the NZDA

20 centrefire rounds at 100m - 5 prone, 5 sitting, 5 kneeling, 5 standing (1 optional non-scoring sighter from prone is allowed)

Rifle Restrictions: - rifle must not weigh more than 4.5kgs, sight power restricted to 12 x or less

Equipment Restrictions: - no slings, palm rests, butt hook or specialist target clothing. No gloves

No use of spotting scopes and/or signaling from the butts is permitted

For Junior members there is the option of competing in the Hawkes Bay Challenge Cup:

- Open to all NZDA financial members under the age of 18 on the date of the competition (17 March)

- All other rules are as per the Wilkinson Postal Shooting Championship

NZDA BOP can submit the top three results from the two categories (Championship and Junior) to National Office for the competition (closes 10 June each year).

For more details please refer to:

<https://www.deerstalkers.org.nz/what-we-do/get-involved/target-shooting/postal-shooting-competitions/jm-wilkinson-and-hawkes-bay-challenge-cups/>

PEEKING WALLABY MATCH

5th May, 4th Aug, 3rd Nov - For more information please check the club website.

BENCHREST SHOOTING

10th Mar, 16th June, 8th Sept - For more information please check the club website.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

**DO NOT LEAVE LIVE AMMO AT THE RANGE.
DO NOT PUT LIVE AMMO IN THE EMPTY CASE BINS.**



TAWA HUT ADVENTURE

So the plan was for a 3 night hunting trip to Tawa hut down Opotiki way. Dan from the Club was leading 4 of us for a 'hunt', and my partner for a 'hike'. I'd never been down that way before so I was keen to go...this was my fourth hunt, no deer in the freezer yet...

Well the gravel road in seemed to go on for miles, even worse when you're following someone else. Pack on, knees shaking under the weight, off we go...across this amazing little swing bridge then a cruel climb up farmland before you bit the bush. We were just frying in the sun for about an hour just pumping the legs uphill, but you're fresh and keen and just keep going.

Once under the cool bush canopy it's a great walk (thankfully mainly downhill!!) to Tawa hut, following the river. But another couple of hours later and you're wishing you were already there. Finally Tawa hut appears on this beautiful little clearing beside the stream. The hut was pretty much empty but I had lugged a tent in all that way so we were going to sleep in the tent, regardless.

Someone mentioned a swimming hole just near the hut which was the perfect way to cool off and refresh after the hike in. Actually, finding swimming holes became quite a common occurrence after that. The weather was so good & hot it was to tempting not to jump in every now and then for a skinny dip.





As the weather was so hot the plan was to hunt early mornings and late afternoons, so after a sleepless night I dragged myself out of my cosy tent and headed up a creek bed with Debbie. The lads went off hunting in a different area. We saw heaps of sign and lots of awesome grassy areas that should be teeming with herds of deer, but we didn't see any...only a few pigs trotting around. So we had a lazy afternoon, hunting in some other random areas up and down the creek but made our way to a big slip we had seen earlier and parked ourselves at the bottom under some of the broken trees. We were there about an hour and just after 5pm I couldn't believe my eyes but a decent sized stag just casually wandered out from the bush up on the slip and started munching on the vegetation there. I signalled Debbie with my expert military style hand signals (which only I seem to understand) and we both just took a moment to savour the scene. Then it was time for action...ok, so don't rush and mess this up Dave...bolt, safety, boom, dinner time.

Debbie burst into tears as the deer toppled down the slip ending up a few meters from where we were hiding. After a couple of

cuddles and celebratory jig we went into action - well, almost panick as being my first deer I hadn't gutted anything before and the last video I had seen on this was a long long time ago...check reception to see if I can bring up a vid again, na..oh dear.

I never knew an ass hole was so difficult to cut out. Mind you, my little knife was not up



to the task. In fact it felt so blunt after a few cuts I was struggling to cut through anything, then slipped and successfully iki'd myself just above my knee. Now blood was everywhere...mine, deers...such fun. It actually turned out pretty good, gutting the beast with its ass hole still intact. By now the army of flies had emerged from nowhere and I was pretty keen to get the deer back to some more experienced hands, so I chucked it on my back like I had seen in the movies and we lugged it back to camp.

Dan and Chris helped process the deer the following morning. I was sort of in that conundrum where you want to get as much meat as possible but know its going to hurt to carry it all out. So I took far too much and the 3 hour return home turned into a 6 hour marathon. Admittedly Debbie and I did have

another swim along the way. Near the end I was making as much progress as a sloth. It was literally walk for a minute, rest for a minute. To top things off one of my rests must have been on a wasp nest as when I set off again a humungous wasp was humping my forearm...a slip to you knees here and there... but eventually we saw the cars - still there - what a relief!

Once the euphoria of reaching the end had worn off, we were off in hot pursuit to Opotiki to get ice for the meat and drinks for us. From Opotiki it was home sweet home and a visit to the butchers the following day. Can't wait for those sausages.

David Peterson





WE NEED YOU KAIMAI HUT MAINTENANCE

About: Did you know that the Bay of Plenty Branch has a long history of undertaking important maintenance work on huts in the Kaimais? Together with the Kaimai Ridgeway Trust, we're responsible for maintaining the Te Whare Oki Oki, Mangamuka and Hurunui huts - all of these are vital for accessing important hunting grounds. In recent years, a handful of members have been largely undertaking this work on their own, but the hills never get smaller and we find the list of jobs are always increasing. For this reason we'd need your help.

What's involved: There's numerous ways you can be involved so we're looking for expressions of interest in helping out. These jobs can be completed at any time but some may require support from helicopters so we're especially looking for people who are available during the week. There's a never ending list of small maintenance jobs around these huts - pruning overhanging trees, painting, plumbing, minor repairs etc. Then there's the occasional bigger jobs like replacing toilets or flying in

firewood. We're also looking for people who can simply walk in, check things out, and report back. All of these jobs will be appropriately supported and funds are available for materials, we just need some volunteers!

What do you get in return: A fun day out in the bush, an occasional helicopter ride, and free accommodation in the huts.

Get in touch: If you have time available and would like to get involved with this rewarding work in the bush, please get in contact with Stan Lowe to register your interest **027 667 1140**

TAPU FAMILY WEEKEND

As usual over Auckland Anniversary weekend we held the Branch Family weekend at Riverside Retreat at Tapu on the Coromandel coast. The weather was thankfully a whole better than last year with only a couple of night time showers, even though it was a little bit breezy which meant the fishing was all on but not in lake type conditions.

In total 40 people attended the weekend and with 5 boats everyone had a good go at fishing while others enjoyed the river swimming hole cooling off, making dams, floating up and down on toys. Bike riding was also on the agenda for some with coffee at the picturesque Rapaura Watergardens Gardens. This business has been badly affected by covid and economic times but the tranquillity and the atmosphere still make it a very pleasant stop over.

The Saturday and Sunday night pot dinners with an amazing array of salads, along with the abundance of BBQed snapper that couldn't have been any fresher, a couple of drinks were very enjoyable on the barmy summer evenings we had over the weekend.

All in all, another very successful weekend, which for some started a day or two early or a day longer to avoid traffic. It is our pleasure to share a piece of paradise with you all. Thank you for making it such an enjoyable weekend, Stan and Arendina

P.S. Sorry we neglected to take many photos. Too busy enjoying the weekend.

If any one has more photos send them to the magazine to share with other members.



Stan Lowe

NEW MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2024/2025 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Financial Year runs from the 1st of March to the end of February

The following motions were passed at the NZDA Bay of Plenty Branch AGM on 6th June 2023 without opposition.

Notice of Motion 01 – Change Membership Subscription Fee Model

Background

Historically the branch has set its subscription fees based on a total subscription model whereby the branch sets a total subscription cost that includes all fee components including branch fees, capitation, levies, and GST. Due to changes in capitation and variations in levies from year to year, the total subscription model that the branch uses has meant that the branch portion of the membership subscription varies from year to year and is always trailing capitation changes. Due to timing of the branch AGM and National AGM, the branch often incurs increases to capitation for the next financial year after the branch's AGM, meaning the branch cannot increase the subscription cost until the next financial year, 12 months after the increase in capitation. This makes financial planning difficult for the branch due to the unexpected changes to income from membership subscriptions. This is the reason for the NoM to change our model for setting membership subscription fees.

Motion - 01

The Bay of Plenty Branch Committee move that the branch adopt a membership subscription fee model that provides for stable and predictable branch income from membership subscriptions, with the core principle being that the branch sets the branch fee component of the membership subscription fee and that capitation, levies, taxes and any other component outside of the control of the branch is added to the branch fee to make up the total membership subscription fee.

Notice of Motion 02 – Set Membership Subscription Fees

Background

Several changes to capitation and levies over recent years combined with the branch's membership subscription fee model has meant that the branch's portion from membership subscriptions has been significantly reduced since the last major subscription fee increase. The proposed fees simplify the pricing while still accounting for the variations between membership classes.

Motion - 02

The Bay of Plenty Branch Committee move that the branch set the branch portion of the membership subscription (excluding GST) for the 2024/2025 financial year as follows:

Senior Member:	\$40
Junior Member:	\$35
Student Members:	\$35
Superannuant Members:	\$35
Family Members:	\$5
Affiliate Members:	\$40
Associate Members:	\$35

Note that the branch recently became GST registered, so the fees shown are plus GST.

Range Ticket - \$100 inclusive of GST (\$86.96+GST) - Annual Fee for all range ticket holders
Range Access Tag - \$30 inclusive of GST (\$26.09+GST) - One off fee when first purchasing a range ticket, or if purchasing a replacement access tag
Chiller Fee - \$50 inclusive of GST (\$43.48+GST) - Annual Fee for chiller access

Note that Membership Fees are prorated for new members who sign up part way through the year. Range and Chiller Fees are not prorated. Members who are late paying their renewal invoice will not have their membership fees prorated.

Joining Fee - \$50 inclusive of GST (\$43.48+GST) - One off fee for new members and members who have let their membership lapse for more than 90 days, i.e. membership not renewed before 1st of May.

The branch sets the fees above. The following fees are the National Capitation and Levies that are in addition to the branch fees. These are set by the National Association every year at the AGM.

MEMBERSHIP TYPE	NATIONAL CAPITATION AMOUNT
Senior	\$120.00
Junior	\$50.00
Student	\$50.00
Superannuant	\$70.00
Family Member (per member)	\$10.00
Affiliate	\$0.00
Associate	\$70.00

LEVY	AMOUNT
Council of Licenced Firearm Owners Levy	\$5.00
Research Levy for research initiatives	\$2.00
NZDA National Heritage Trust Levy	\$3.00

HURUNUI HUT / CAMPING 22-24 March 2024

A nice local hunt, easy walking distance and great hunting opportunities.

Sascha Haag is organising this club hunt.

Dates are 22-24th of March, but you are most welcome to travel in your own time. Car pooling will be discussed in the Whats App Group of the Hunt.

As there is no fee for this Hunt it is open to everyone, but it would be good to restrict it to 8-10 people so we are not stepping on each others toes.

The hut sleeps 3, but there is plenty of camping spots around the hut so best bet is to bring your tent.

It is a relatively easy walk to the Hut, but reasonable fitness levels are still required as usual.

Closer to the time we will start a What's App Group to plan and chat about the hunt and weekend in general, but you will get given Dan's contact details for any questions prior.

Dogs with a DOC Permit are allowed and you need to get your open Hunting Permit sorted as well.



KAIMAI ROAR HUNT 11-14 April 2024

Aren't we all excited for the Roar??! Book your spot at Te Whare Okioki for the chance to get a stag this year!

Dan Gallagher is organising this club hunt.

Dates are 11th - 14th of April, but you are most welcome to travel in your own time. Car pooling will be discussed in the Whats App Group of the Hunt.

We are going to stay at Te Whare Okioki and the hut can sleep 12 people. The hut is already booked and paid for, so the event fees cover your 3 night accommodation.

You can choose different walks into the hut - pick your own matching your fitness levels. Here is the link for more information about hut and track: Te Whare Okioki: Kaimai Mamaku Conservation Park, Bay of Plenty region (doc.govt.nz)

Closer to the time we will start a What's App Group to plan and chat about the hunt and weekend in general, but you will get given Dan's contact details for any questions prior.

Dogs with a DOC Permit are allowed and you need to get your open Hunting Permit sorted as well.



NZDA NORTH IS REGIONAL BENCHREST TOURNAMENT

This year in January for the first time the Bay of Plenty branch hosted this NZDA national shooting tournament. It is held annually on Auckland Anniversary weekend at the Tokoroa Shooting Sports Complex. Their 200 yard range has the necessary benches and target frame setup. There were 11 competitors who came from Auckland to Dunedin. Rifle classes shot were Light Varmint and Heavy Varmint. There were no Factory Class entrants this year. Grant Hammond, Steve Bell and I competed from our branch. Lester Polglase and Chris Fryer generously donated their time to act as NZDA range officers and camped onsite at the range.

Saturday morning is for practice. So setting up your gear and testing some loads. Then after lunch the Light Varmint 100 yard is shot. On Sunday we shot Light Varmint 200 yards, then Heavy Varmint 200 yards. Monday morning the Heavy Varmint 100 yard is shot. Then it's prize giving and pack up. Each yardage is for 5 targets. Over the weekend each shooter expends about 160-200 rounds. Mostly all hand loaded after each target so you can chase your rifle tune as the air conditions change during the day. The weather was a real mixed bag with hot and humid, to torrential rain.

There are NZDA medals for first, second and third place in both light and heavy varmint classes (also called light bench LBI and heavy bench HBI). Then there are placings for the best overall which is called the 2 Gun (or Multi-Gun). There were some great groups shot with Helen Owen shooting a record 200 yard, 5 shot group of 0.177 inches. Grant Hammond from our branch did exceptionally well and took out the coveted first place in the 2 Gun. Well done Grant.

The next tournament is the Easter Nationals hosted by NZDA Nelson branch at their Packers Creek range. Rifle classes will be factory class, light and heavy varmint, as well as 0.22LR rimfire.

Our next BOP club benchrest day is Sunday 10th March. Centrefire, 100m for group. Details are on the website.

Baden Prentice

NZDA-BOP Multi Gun Benchrest Match Results

Date: 27th - 28th Jan 2024

Name	Score	LBI	HBI	Place
Grant H	0.2859	0.2447	0.3271	1
Ian O	0.2887	0.2939	0.2836	2
Peter H	0.3111	0.2712	0.3509	3
Sue G	0.3282	0.2995	0.3608	4
Tony T	0.3403	0.2769	0.4036	5
Steve W	0.3509	0.3303	0.3715	6
Steve B	0.3574	0.2887	0.4261	7
Helen O	0.3636	0.3105	0.4167	8
Dougall C	0.3919	0.3073	0.4765	9
Baden P	0.3995	0.4056	0.3935	10
Graeme S	0.4100	0.3318	0.4882	11



PEEKING WALLABY MATCH - IITH FEB 2024

Handle	Class	Cartridge	100M	200M	300M	Total	Place
Rowdy	FR	223REM	34	18	5	57	1
Smith Bassa	FR	223REM	10	26	5	41	
One Gun	C	6PPC	49	46	35	130	1
Charf	C	6PPC	49	40	32	121	
NZ Varminter	C	284WIN	36	27	41	104	
Taylormade	TPH	223REM	39	30	33	102	1
Dana	TPH	308WIN	25	36	38	99	2
Neil	TPH	308WIN	34	33	25	92	
Vortex	TPH	243WSSM	21	13	17	51	

Best scores (max 60)

49 46 41

Weather at 10am:

Temp: 13C
 Humidity: 54% RH
 Pressure: 1010 hPa
 Wind: 22 km/h SSW
 Gusts: 44 km/h
 Visual: Sunny & windy



300M RANGE WORKING BEE

Location: 300m Range
 Date: Saturday 2nd March
 Time: 8:30am - Please be there ready for a toolbox/safety briefing

The range will be closed for shooting until 1pm.

Come prepared with any of the following:

- Shovel
- Drill, skill saw
- Hand tools, reciprocating saw for cutting drums
- Rake & bucket
- Wheelbarrow
- Scrub cutter, weed eater
- Weed sprayer

Many of us enjoy using the range so please be willing to put in some time to ensure it remains in good order.

See you there
 Range Committee

The plan is to:
 Work on the 50m target line primarily, with work on the 25m and 100m also rake up the loose tyre chips scattered around target lines

We also need:
 Some scrub cutting completed the dig out the firing line stormwater channel fix the door catches (on the range door) boundary clearing and check

WELL EQUIPPED FOR WAPITI

In November 2023 I was fortunate enough to be selected by the Fiordland Wapiti Foundation for a wapiti block, specifically the Whitewater, for the first time slot in March. If I am being completely honest, when I put my name down, I was not expecting or prepared to be selected!

My last hunting trip into Fiordland was in 2014, as a young 16-year-old. I am lucky to be heading in again with my Dad, where we will spend 10 days chasing Wapiti.

Any multi-day trip into the hills requires a lot of preparation, ensuring you have adequate gear, the right fuel to keep you going, and appropriate fitness.

There is so much to consider. I have created lists for lists, like what do I currently have? What do I need? What should be upgraded? And how can I best meet the different requirements of base camp and fly camping?

I have been finetuning my gear, ensuring I have the best Tatonka packs, lightweight Domex Titanium cooking gear, reliable Ledlenser lighting, and clothing that will perform in various conditions.

Fiordland Helicopters will drop us in our block where we will set up a base camp. I've planned for a few luxuries like tarps around our tents as a dry outdoor area. This will be our home base, for all our gear and food, and from there we can venture further into the block, sometimes for nights at a time.

When fly camping away from base, we will have to be more considerate of what we pack, with a focus on gear being lightweight and multifunctional. It has been an eye-opening few months refining our kit.

In addition to the mental load of planning is the physical training. To get the most from the mountains I need to be able to meet them with adequate fitness, which means regular hikes, hunts, and time at the gym.

It isn't long now before we head off, and I am confident this focus on prep will set us up for an incredible 10 days of adventure. Stay tuned to find out!

Author: Lucy Nilson

Insta - @Lucynilson

TikTok - @Lucynilson

All the gear mentioned can be found at Hamills Tauranga.



VENISON ROAST

KUMARA, RED ONION HASH AND GREEN BEANS TOPPED WITH A GARLIC MUSTARD SAUCE AND CRISPY SHALLOTS.

fresh.
fast

Full recipe & more - fresh.co.nz



INGREDIENTS

For the venison roast

500 g NZ farm raised venison roast
salt
pepper
1 tbsp Olivado Extra Virgin Olive oil

For the kumara and red onion hash

1 large kumara chopped
2 cloves garlic chopped
1 red onion chopped

For the wholegrain garlic mustard sauce

wholegrain mustard
1 Packet mix of red wine sauce/gravy

To serve

300 g green beans ends trimmed
¼ cup Superb Herb parsley finely chopped
25 g fried shallots



METHOD

- 1 Preheat oven to 180 °C.
- 2 Season both sides of the venison roast with salt and pepper and rub with olive oil.
- 3 Sear in a hot pan for 3-5 minutes, browning on all sides.
- 4 Place venison on an oven tray, then into the oven. Roast for approx. 15-20 minutes, turning halfway through to ensure it cooks evenly.
- 5 While the venison is cooking, make the kumara onion hash. Steam the chopped kumara until tender, then mash with the olive oil, chopped red onion and garlic. Set aside and keep warm.
- 6 Remove venison from the oven and place on a tray, cover with tin foil and rest for at least 10 minutes.
- 7 Using a sharp knife, slice venison against the grain.
- 8 Serve with blanched green beans, kumara hash and wholegrain mustard gravy (wholegrain mustard stirred with the gravy mix and some of the venison pan juices over a low heat until reduced). Sprinkle with finely chopped parsley and crispy fried shallots.

NZDA HUNTER NATIONAL TRAINING SCHEME

The NZDA Hunter National Training Scheme (HUNTS) was first launched in 1987 and has since helped thousands of hunters gain the skills needed to hunt big game safely and responsibly in New Zealand.

The HUNTS course is delivered by NZDA branches at a local level where instructors teach the HUNTS syllabus under the guidance of a National Coordinator.

Trainees learn about hunting in New Zealand's unique conditions and develop essential bushcraft and shooting skills for use in the outdoors.



GENERAL COURSE STRUCTURE

The theory aspect of the course generally occurs over eight 2-hour evening sessions covering 9 learning modules.

The practical training consists of 3 weekend sessions, made up of:

- 1 full day of practical training in range shooting.
- 1 full weekend covering equipment, food, bushcraft skills, travel, navigation, survival & river crossings.

1 full weekend completing an overnight camping/hunting trip.

HUNTS MODULES

The topics covered by HUNTS include:

- Ethics, Ecology & Regulations
- Equipment & Food
- Backcountry Travel
- Navigation
- Firearms Selection, Safety & Marksmanship
- Big Game Animals
- Hunting Techniques
- Meat, Skins & Trophies
- Outdoor Emergencies & Survival Techniques

Join our HUNTS Course for 2024

Monday 29th July - Wednesday 25th September

\$500 per person

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ON 021 137 167



NZDA BOP

CHILLER USE RULES

- Chiller use is a privilege that may be removed if access is abused or rules not adhered to.
- Clean up after yourself, every time you access the chiller.
- Use a fish bin or other suitable container to catch dripping blood etc. and remove from site when you take your meat away.
- No skinning or butchering on the NZDA premises. The chiller is for hanging only, no processing of any sort is allowed.
- All waste must be removed from the premises when you take your meat away, including any part of an animal, blood, and all wastewater.
- All animals/meat must be tagged with a label denoting the date hung, name and contact number of the person who hung it in the chiller. Any meat without a label will be considered a donation to the club.
- The maximum time for hanging any meat or animal is 10 days.
- Do not hang any foul meat or contaminated carcasses.
- Take care not to contaminate anyone else's meat with hair, blood, dirt etc.

It is preferable to hang all carcasses with the skin on and to hang any partially processed meat in a breathable bag or muslin cloth. Hanging carcasses and meat should not touch the chiller walls or they may (partially) freeze.

Respect the facility and other members meat.

For more information or if you need to report any issue, misuse, or abuse of the facility you can contact Reuben on [027 482 8969](tel:0274828969)



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3. Fill in an Outdoors Intention Form to be held by the Branch custodian issuing the unit.
4. Pay a \$40 cash bond, refundable on return, in original condition and on time.
5. Pay a \$10-20 donation per trip, on return, for hire of the unit.

Hire will be on a per trip basis, based on a maximum of a 21 day trip. The units will not be insured because of the cost, so any damage or loss will be payable by the user (approx. \$640).

There is no cost for the renewal of the unit if it is used in an emergency but if possible we will need it returned. Any costs incurred for rescue by emergency services or false PLB activation will be the sole responsibility of the user.

BRANCH PLB CUSTODIANS:

Dean Maisey, Welcome Bay
07 544 2207

Keith Theobald, Greerton
07 578 1195



07 578 5731



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NEW ZEALAND DEERSTALKERS ASSOCIATION (BOP BRANCH) INC.

PO Box 3111, Greerton, Tauranga 3142

Club Rooms, R617 SH 29, between Barkes Corner & Takitimu Drive

Website: www.deerstalkersbop.org.nz

Branch Secretary: secretary@deerstalkersbop.org.nz

CLUB OFFICERS:

President	Reuben Hayward	027 482 8969 reuben@deerstalkersbop.org.nz
Secretary	Isabell Zitzelsberger	secretary@deerstalkersbop.org.nz
Treasurer	Jill Fryer	treasurer@deerstalkersbop.org.nz
Patron	Keith Theobald	07 578 1195 027 693 5445

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Membership Secretary	Chris Maisey	027 496 7259 membership@deerstalkersbop.org.nz
Range Manager	Royce Downes	021 286 1109 range@deerstalkersbop.org.nz
Range Sub-Committee Chairman	Chris Fryer	021 0817 2557 021 137 3831
Grant Hammond		
Jeremy Woolerton		
Josh Keen		
Andrew Scott		
Doug Williams		07 544 3065
Evan Dines		027 485 9935 evandines1@gmail.com
Richard McEwen		021 138 2483

NEW ZEALAND DEERSTALKERS ASSOCIATION (BOP BRANCH) INC.

BRANCH CONTACTS:

Hunts Instructors	Keith Theobald	07 578 1195 027 693 5445
	Lester Polglase	
	Doug Williams	07 544 3065
Newsletter Editor	Matt Batchelor	021 222 5854 editor@deerstalkersbop.org.nz
Clubrooms Custodian	Keith Theobald	07 578 1195 027 693 5445
Refreshments Managers	Richard McEwen	021 138 2483
	Evan Dines	027 485 9935 evandines1@gmail.com
Chiller Custodian	Reuben Hayward	027 482 8969 reuben@deerstalkersbop.org.nz
Eastern Fish and Game Council Member	Mike Jarvie	mikejarvie09@gmail.com 021 808 899
Accountant	Cam Graham	
Grants Coordinator	Peter Setz	

CLUB NIGHT:

First Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm.
Doors open at 7pm if you want to come early for a chat!

COMMITTEE MEETING:

Second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm.
All correspondence to be sent to secretary@deerstalkersbop.org.nz.

NEWSLETTER:

Deadlines for newsletter contributions is the 20th of the month. Opinions and views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily endorsed by the branch, its executive committee or the national association. All newsletter content to be sent to editor@deerstalkersbop.org.nz.

*Formed in 1937,
the New Zealand Deerstalkers'
Association is New Zealand's
recognised National body
representing and speaking
for hunters generally. The
fundamental aim of the
association is to ensure that the
organisation and management
of recreational hunting in
New Zealand is carried
out by hunters.*



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