

March 2022



The perfect way to round out a day's hunting – Right Branch Manaohou

Identify your target beyond <u>ALL</u> doubt

www.tvda.co.nz

Thames Valley Committee and Contacts

Clubrooms: 101 Morrison Road, Paeroa

www.tvda.co.nz

CLUB NIGHTS: Are always the LAST Wednesday of the month.

Start time 7.30pm

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		a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz
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Secretary	Ashleigh Dewar #	020 40070067
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	Kelby Stewart*	021 395400
	Tony Coleman	027 9271848
	John Senk #	027 4660549
	Dennis Hayfield*	027 2211892
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Bar Assistants	As shown above (#) and	
	Michael Wade	
	Trish Stachurski	
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<u>Disclaimer:</u> As the contents of this magazine come from various sources, the opinions or ideas expressed are not necessarily endorsed by this committee or by the NZDA Board, nor may they conform to branch or National Policy. The official publication of the New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association is the "NZ Hunting and Wildlife".

Club Events Calendar

March		
Thursday	17	Private use – 1 pm - 4.00pm only
Saturday	19	Firearms Licensing – MSC Safety Training (bookings only)
Monday	21	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	22	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	23	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Saturday	26	OF&G Cup Shoot
Sunday	27	OF&G Duck Shooters Eye Opener
Wednesday	30	Club Night Cancelled

April		
Sunday	10	Bow Hunters Club Day
Monday	11	Ohinemuri Fish & Game Committee Meeting
Wednesday	13	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	13	Committee Meeting
Thursday	14	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Thursday	21	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	26	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	27	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	27	Club Night
Saturday	30	Firearms Licensing – MSC Safety Training (bookings only)

May		
Monday	2	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	3	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Sunday	8	Bow Hunters Club Day
Monday	9	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Monday	9	Ohinemuri Fish & Game Committee Meeting
Tuesday	10	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	11	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	11	Committee Meeting

Monday	16	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	18	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 7.00PM START
Saturday	21	Firearms Licensing – MSC Safety Training (bookings only)
Monday	23	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	24	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	25	MEASURING UP NIGHT
Monday	30	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	31	Private use – Range available after 3pm

June		
Thursday	2	Queens Birthday Weekend Ladies Hunt – Sika Lodge
Friday	3	Queens Birthday Weekend Ladies Hunt – Sika Lodge
Saturday	4	Queens Birthday Weekend Ladies Hunt – Sika Lodge
Sunday	5	Queens Birthday Weekend Ladies Hunt – Sika Lodge
Monday	6	Queens Birthday Weekend Ladies Hunt – Sika Lodge
Tuesday	7	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	8	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	8	Committee Meeting
Sunday	12	Bow Hunters Club Day & Possible Interclub Covid Dependant
Monday	13	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Monday	13	Ohinemuri Fish & Game Committee Meeting
Tuesday	14	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	15	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Saturday	18	Firearms Licensing – MSC Safety Training (bookings only)
Wednesday	29th	Club Night

www.ngaituhoe.iwi.nz - website for Te Urewera Hunting Permit

*Kiwi Avoidance Training
Next Date for Training 13th of March
Egan`s Reserve Whitianga

Bookings are ESSENTIAL so please ring Kauaeranga Visitor Centre 07 867 9080 or <u>kauaerangavc@doc.govt.nz</u> for a booking.



Christine Friis



President's Report

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2022 everyone and I trust that this edition finds you all fit and well and counting down the days before the 'current restrictions and clouds hanging over us' are gone and life can get back to some more normality.

Special thanks to Digby for very kindly offering to be the newsletter editor — this really is a huge help on so many fronts. Can I make an extra special plea to you all though; this is a club newsletter so that means it is 'your' newsletter as well, so if you have any items of interest, photos and a short story, a recipe, a tip on ie reloading ammo or fletching arrows to some new products you have tried out, please flick them through to Digby. Having additional info like this makes bringing the newsletter together so much easier and it's so rewarding to see what people are doing and having members input.

Digby's email address is johansen.digby9@gmail.com

and his phone number is 027 8996247.

They will also be in the front of the newsletter from now on.

The days are certainly closing in quickly now and cooling off so it will only be a matter of time and there will be some roars heard. No doubt the farm stags will already be stretching their vocal chords so it is well worth the effort to go for a walk in the hills and see what is moving around (or starting to hold their patch). Make sure you all have your permits with you too for DOC land and only go on private land once you have the permission of the owner/manager.

It has been challenging over the last couple of year with hunting areas being closed off and then reopened again but we all need to make sure that we are going about our recreation in a responsible and ethical manner. We are all ambassadors for our sport and recreation so by doing the simple things right, it makes a massive difference in the long run.

<u>Firearms:</u> Please make sure that you read this section further through the newsletter. There is no reason to not be fully up to play with what is required under the new rules.

New laws have come into force re the transportation and storage of firearms and special thanks to Gwyn and the Team at NZDA for putting together their 'easy to read and understand' info on what the 'legal speak' means. This email was sent out on 18 February from the NZDA National Office. This is a really valuable tool so make sure you all read it (if you haven't already done so) and for those of you that are not on email, there will be a copy sent out to you. There will also be spare copies of this at the clubrooms so there is no reason for anyone to not be well informed. Please also make sure that you emphasise this to your hunting mates too as we all need to do our bit and be responsible firearms owners.

There has still been plenty going on up at the clubrooms over the last few months — there has been the kids survival camp (more about this in the next newsletter), the twilight shooting has been taking place every Thursday night, bowhunter club days and rifle shooting comp's have been happening, the ranges have been open for sighting in etc and best of all, has been the awesome camaraderie that this has produced. It has been so valuable to see everyone still able to enjoy their sports and helping and supporting each other. So proud of you all as member of TVDA and the excellent ambassadors that you are for our club, our sporting codes, our region as a whole. Thank you all so much.

Keep up the great work folks, take extra care out there in the hills this Roar and remember that firearms safety is absolutely paramount — and No Meat is always better than No Mate.

Once the bullet has left your firearm, or the arrow left the bow, it is forever your responsibility.

Good Luck, safe hunting and so looking forward to hearing about the trips in future newsletters.

Maureen

March Club night

Cancelled due to Covid

But thought I'd share this with you for a laugh none the less.....

A 3 waters inspector stopped at our farm yesterday, he said "I need to inspect your farm for water quality."

I said "Okay, but don't go in that field over there."

The 3 waters inspector verbally exploded saying, "Mister, I have the authority of the NZ Government with me!" Reaching into his rear pants pocket, the arrogant inspector removed his badge and shoved it in my face. "See this badge?! This badge means I am allowed to go wherever I wish.... On any land !! No questions asked or answers given!! Have I made myself clear?.... do you understand?!!"

I nodded politely, apologized, and went about my chores. A short time later, I heard loud screams, looked up, and saw the inspector running for his life, being chased by my big old mean bull.... With every step the bull was gaining ground on the inspector, and it seemed likely that he'd sure enough get gored before he reached safety. The inspector was clearly terrified

I threw down my tools, ran to the fence and yelled at the top of my lungs "Your badge, show him your BADGE!!"





Kelby Stewart 021 395 400 kelby.co.nz







2nd Round of Running Boar Results

Sunday 26 Sept 2021

Mens	Slow	Fast	Total
Peter Thompson	73	55	128
Bruce White	75	34	109
Mike Cook	53	38	91
Len Cubitt	35	32	67
Brian Neilson	21	17	38
Jim Bowman	26	0	26
<u>Ladies</u>			
Maureen Coleman	47	14	63
Trish White	25	18	43
Liz Millington	26	9	35
<u>Juniors</u>			
Amelia Sanson	12	12	24
Visitor			
Mitchell	24	3	27
Jai	18	3	26

Patrons Cup

Mens	<u>Total</u>
Brian Allison	105
Bruce McKenzie	101
Mike Cook	60
Mark Piesse	58
Bruce White	44
Jim Bowman	37
Ladies	
Trish White	38
T7°°4	
<u>Visitor</u>	
Paul Lombard	99

Rimfire Champs Champ's November 2021

Mens	<u>50m</u>	<u>100m</u>	<u>Total</u>
Bruce McKenzie	156	156.1	312.1
Brian Allison	146	136	282
Bruce White	129	161	290
Mark Piesse	118	140	258
Jim Bowman	115	29	144
Mike Cook	109	131	240
<u>Ladies</u>			
Trish White	109	85	194
Juniors			
McKenna Lesley	86	84	170
<u>Visitors</u>			
Paul Lombard	188	206	394

Centrefire Champ's November 2021

Mens	<u>Total</u>
Bruce McKenzie	92
Brian Allison	83
Bruce White	81
Jim Bowman	75
Mark Piesse	67
Mike Cook	63
T 10	
<u>Ladies</u>	
-	
<u>Juniors</u>	
-	
T70 1.	
<u>Visitors</u>	
Paul Lombard	95

Stumpy (as shared by Digby)

Stumpy was born in Te Aroha in 1930, where his parents were sharemilking in the Elstow – Springdale area.

With the start of planting of the huge Kaingaroa forest on the central plateau, Stumpy's father got a job with the forestry, so the family moved to Matea, one of the early villages established in Kaingaroa.

Stumpy's dad, after serving as an officer in the New Zealand army in 2 stints overseas in the 1st World War (returned home injured, trained up a force of Mounted Riflemen, and returned to the Middle East on his 2nd sojourn, also awarded the Military Cross), soon worked his way up in his new profession, to become OC of Murapara.

Living out in the bush in those days was a fairly isolated lifestyle, but Stumpy did plenty of horse riding, eeling and all sorts of other things kids did to entertain themselves in these sorts of places., but he was always keen on hunting or wanting to hunt, rabbits and hares, of which was an endless supply in this area.

Finally
Stumpy's
dad relented and
presented Stumpy with his

1st rifle, a single shot .22.

As a young boy in the Kaingaroa in the 1930s, Stumpy saw many other much larger game animals such as pigs and deer, but never ever attempted to shoot any with this light calibre single shot rifle. Stumpy's dad never shot an animal in all his years in the Kaingaroa, telling Stumpy he had seen all the blood he ever wanted to see in his lifetime, one of the few things he ever said to Stumpy about the War.

When it came time for Stumpy to attend secondary school, he was packed off to Kings College in Auckland, a total culture shock for a boy from the Kaingaroa Forest in the 1940s!

Well Stumpy lasted until his 5th form year, where after an unfortunate incident involving a Bunsen burner, a severe explosion and a science laboratory, Stumpy was banished to the wilds of

the Kaingaroa again, where he completed his secondary education in the 6th form at Murapara, where his parents were now living.

Things were now really looking up for Stumpy, an old deer culler known to Stumpy's family put a proposition to young Stumpy which put him in his element.

He asked if Stumpy would be keen to ride his horse in to where he had his camp setup, at a place called Te Ngarere (now known as the Wione Flats about 32km out the south road from Minginui today) to pick up the skins from the deer he was shooting each week, and bring them out to be sent away for sale. There was a strong demand at this time from the American armed forces, for the deer skin leather for the manufacture of boots and around the instrument panels in their fighter planes I believe.

This was an 8hr ride by horseback one way over the Oven track, and for this Stumpy got the 1st shot, in the evening shot on the Saturday when he got in, and he got a few skins to sell on his own behalf.

Stumpy's culler mate and mentor, had 2 horses of his own in there with him, and Stumpy bought out both horses loaded with dried skins many times, which the culler had shot during the week.

Stumpy asked me how many dried skins I thought a horse would be able to carry out over that country? I had no idea! 60 skins was his reply, so this culler was shooting over 100 deer a week quite regularly.

Of course Stumpy was starting to knock over the odd deer himself while he was in there, using the

culler's rifle, so his bank balance was starting to grow as well. Eventually Stumpy's dad relented and proudly presented his son with a .303 Martini Henry, to which Stumpy had to hide his



extreme disappointment. It was another damn single shot rifle! Stumpy's mother at this time was the Post Mistress at Murapara, and at times she would receive requests for stamps and stationery from the little Post Office in at Maungapohatu. So Stumpy would be dispatched with the requested goods plus his rifle and ammunition, hop on the Rotorua to Wairoa Bus outside his old 19 room house/Post Office at Murapara. He would get off the bus at the track into Maungapohatu, shoot and skin his way in, deliver the goods and then shoot and skin his way back out, to catch the returning Wairoa to Rotorua bus the next day, back to Murapara, loaded with any fresh skins he had shot, to be shipped off and sold upon his return.



Stumpy left school in 1948 and purchased a 1947 Ford V8 Flathead, from his deerskin sales. It was the flashiest car in Murapara at the time!

Stumpy joined the Forest Service and worked in gangs around the Kaingaroa, before being shipped off to Tuatapere Southland, to work in the native forests at that end of New Zealand.

It was while working in Western Southland Stumpy learnt the job of a Rigger.

This involved climbing a mature native tree to be logged, using an attached rope, looped around the tree and wearing spiked boots, to get the rigger up to where the head of the tree branched. Once here, the rigger hauled the rest of his equipment up to this point and then would begin cutting his way through the tree trunk. A very dangerous job indeed.

On a mature Rimu, the weight of the tree above the cut was roughly 40 ton. The cut was always done at 1st light, no wind, and a long cross-cut saw was used for the job (no chainsaws in those days),

but more importantly the rigger had to be able to listen to the tree, so he could tell when the head was starting to go. At this point the rigger would drive his axe very quickly into the fast appearing cut face on the top of the remaining tree trunk, and hang on for dear life as the remaining trunk would vibrate violently back and forth until finally becoming still again. Initially the trunk movement of these big trees was about 6 feet (1.8m)

NO HEALTH AND SAFETY IN THOSE GOOD OLD DAYS.

While in Southland Stumpy was sent out for some culling experience with one Joff Thompson

(Later author of "Deer Hunter" and "Shooting Days")

Joff took Stumpy hunting, climbing up into glacial formed hanging valleys which held large numbers of deer grazing them. Joff would leave Stumpy at the valley entrance and he would walk up past all the deer to the cliffs at the head of these valleys. Once here, Joff would start off the shooting working his way back towards Stumpy, who of course was sitting at the only exit for the deer to get out of the valley.

When the deer got close enough, Stumpy would open up and the deer would turn and go back towards Joff.

Stumpy's highest tally in a days shooting this way, was 124 and he said Joff shot a lot more than he did. Stumpy said "man Joff was good, he never saw anyone else as good"

Joff Thompson must have been good!

After a few years down south, Stumpy returned to the mighty podocarp forests of the central North Island, via a stint at Pureora. It was while here Stumpy had a couple of runs for King Country, hooking a scrum powered by a couple of brothers by the name of Meads. Now Stumpy is not a tall man and never was, but he said he always felt 10 feet tall walking onto a rugby field with those two, and Colin always sorted out any trouble on the field. In fact it was the safest he felt on the field during his Rugby playing days, and that's all he had to say about that.

After a 1956 Ranger Training Course where Stumpy graduated top equal with 16 others on the

course in such vital subjects as alcohol consumption, seduction (he had got himself engaged), baiting bosses, Stumpy returned to Kaingaroa as a cable logging crew boss.

Stumpy married in 1957, and Betty proved to be a steadying influence on his flamboyant lifestyle-Deer shooting and Rugby, in fact she plus 2 children (1958 and 1960) probably salvaged his later auspicious career path from early demise.

3 months later, the only other logging crew boss suffered a serious and permanent injury, so Stumpy was made boss of both gangs, mainly because he was the only dude stupid enough to be a Rigger, left in the outfit. This job later expanded when Stumpy was made 2IC of Kaingaroa Clear Felling.

In 1960 Reg Fell opened the Murapara Pub, and one night the famous bush boss of Minginui Forest, after over indulging at the pub, broke his neck on the way home by way of a car crash.

Yep! Stumpy's golden trail to fame always seemed to be punctuated by the misfortune of others. The Officer in Charge of Minginui didn't know how to top trees, raise spars or to rig them and anyhow wanted to go off on a prolonged holiday, so Stumpy was sent by his masters to Minginui for two weeks to set up and rig two skyline log loading skids. He stayed on for 32years. It was always suspected that the prolific number of deer queuing up to be shot and the shoals of trout in the Whirinaki river, severely slowed up the rigging of that 2nd skid.

The O.C of Minginui never came back. After breaking his leg in California, he returned to Wellington to continue his logging career. As a result of this misfortune, Stumpy became O.C of Minginui

In 1967, the resident District Ranger retired and shortly after, died. He had had ailing health for over a year, so Stumpy had been helping him out with his work – between deer hunting sorties, so Stumpy was given the District Rangers job, still cashing in on others misfortunes. His new role included control of a village of 92 houses and all the Forest Service interests throughout the Urewera, Staff Training, Safety, Fire Control,

Search and Rescue, Wild Animal control etc, just to mention a few.

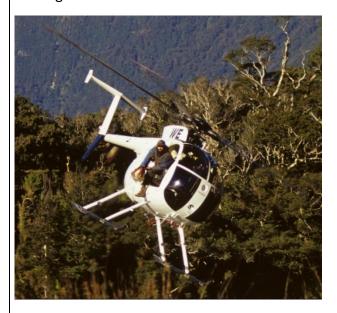
Selection logging replaced Clear felling in Whirinaki Forest on May 12th 1975, the first North Island forest to do so as policy. At the same time due to rising unemployment, the area of unoccupied Crown Land called Te Papa was roaded and planting was started. In 1976, the Te Whaiti-Nui-a-Toi land lease was taken up by NZ Forest Service and roading and planting of that forest also started. Minginui personnel rose to 22 staff and 165 wage workers. The deer thought Stumpy had gone on holiday, but they had a new problem. The venison export trade had really taken off and the Minginui valley ended up with 20 full time meat hunters along with an equal number of opossum trappers and poisoners, all of whom had to be allocated areas of activity, controlled by Minginui staff. Stumpy stated, "All those hunting fellows were dedicated poachers, permit swappers and womanizers, but very likeable rogues." The village population exploded with an unprecedented number of fatherless babies and about 37 packhorses, all of which caused huge problems.



After all this had settled down, came the helicopters. Cowboys in the sky! Many of the cowboys were ex deer cullers, previously employed in the Urewera. Stumpy had to deal with all sorts of crafty slinters and tricks, poaching, angry ground hunters, thieving of traps and

equipment as well as complaints from every direction.

Things had just started to settle down again when the New Zealand Deer Industry got started and the Minister of Forests sent a directive for Forest Service personnel to actively aid and abet live deer capture. So the wild merry go around started all over again.



From 1982 – 1984 Whirinaki staff and workforce worked to prepare Whirinaki Forest to be Gazetted as a "Forest Park". This Forest Park was opened on April 29th 1984.

The Forest Service was decommissioned in 1987, which was a sad time for Stumpy. After 1984, when the new Labour Govt came to power and stopped the selective logging, Minginui staff steadily reduced from 22 to 4, and wage workers from 165 to 10. Stumpy had 3 years to go until retirement, so out of the restructure from Forest Service to DOC

Stumpy applied for the new role as District Conservator of DOC, from his old role as Principal Forest Ranger with NZ Forest Service.

To his and others total shock, Stumpy got the role, so his new area covered the whole of the Urewera Tract, and extending out to the coast from Mahia Peninsular, almost to Napier. Stumpy went out and knocked over a couple of deer to celebrate. In 1989 DOC restructured again, and Stumpy had had a gutsful by this stage and with only 6 months to go before retirement, decided to apply for Enhanced Early retirement and got it, so in October 1989 Stumpy and his wife Betty retired and moved to Rotorua.

Up into his late seventies Stumpy would still go out to the forest at regular intervals and visit his old haunts, but would dodge the village which had fallen into disrepair and that was too sad for Stumpy to see now.

At 78 Stumpy hadn't shot a deer for a couple of years, and at any rate, he was starting to find even the flats seemed to be getting pretty steep now, so he hung up his rifle and settled into a true retirement lifestyle back in Rotorua.

Stumpy as of 1/1/2022 is 91 years old, and there would be no man alive with a better knowledge of the Whirinaki – Urewera recent past history, and during his life and in his roles up in that area, many incidents occurred which Stumpy put into short stories. Some funny, some sad, some historic, and many unprintable, but all and every one of them based on fact with maybe a little journalistic license used occasionally. These stories will be printed in our TVDA newsletters for probably the next couple of yearsso we hope you enjoy.

Special thanks to all those members who so kindly helped out with running our Twilight shoots this season.

Tony and helpers did an awesome job keeping the clay target traps running and topped up each night, the BBQ and Kitchen Team kept the burgers rolling out, the Bowhunters Team kept people on their toes with new layouts & of course everyone who joined in to make the evenings so enjoyable.

It's also great seeing members so willingly taking new members and shooters 'under their wing' and getting started. You all really are what make TVDA such a cool place to be.

Larry and Keven your tomatoes were delicious too!!! *Thank you all so much once again.*

Running Boar

3rd Round - 27 February 2022

Mens			
Peter Thompson	69	45	114
Gary Richards	66	44	110
Bruce White	40	27	67
David Iles	37	27	64
<u>Ladies</u>			
Maureen	58	34	92
Coleman			
Trish White	30	30	60
T .			
<u>Juniors</u>			
Kade Gill	55	60	115

Jim Johansen Iron Sights Shoot

Mens	
Peter Thompson	66
Gary Richards	56
Bruce White	41
<u>Junior</u>	
Kade Gill	17

I don't care what anyone thinks of me.

Except dogs - I want dogs to like me.



NZDA Discount App Is here...

The NZDA Membership and Discounts App is now up and running and ready for you to download and use.

Go to Google play or the Apple store and search for NZ Deerstalkers. Selection Install or GET.

Once you have installed either of the above, open via the app or click open.

When in the app, you will need to register with your membership details and this will then enable you to access the app and make the most of your membership discounts.

This does not replace the benefits that you can still get by presenting your membership card when shopping at the various sponsor outlets – it is another means of getting your discounts. You can still produce your card or add your membership number and get the benefits that you are entitled to as part of your NZDA Membership.



Club Hunt with a difference

Sika Lodge & Clements Road

The dates for this will be Queen's Birthday Weekend –

Thursday 2nd (arriving that evening) through to Monday 6th June 2022.

This club trip is going to be initially open to Women Hunters as a reschedule of an earlier trip due to 'the lurgy that stuffed things up'.....

HOWEVER.....keep reading!!

The ladies will have until 1 May to get their names on the list and any spaces left after that date are open to anyone else to join in.....so regardless of whether you are a man, lady or a junior, please get your names down for this trip and allocations will be advised early May.

Location – Sika Lodge, Kaimanawas

Accommodation – Adults - \$35.00 per person per night. Juniors \$25.00 per night

A real focus for this weekend will be some

- Douglas Scoring,
- Deer Jaw Aging
- Butchery
- and
- Cam Speedy has very kindly offered to come and do an Autopsy on a deer to demonstrate how to tell how many fawns the hinds has had, how this matches up with her condition score and her age. There will still be plenty of time for hunting so put your names down for this.
- It is also planned (weather dependent) for Cam to lead a couple of Ecology sessions so there's so much on offer for this weekend.
- To book in, please email or phone:
 Maureen <u>a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz</u>
 and title the email SIKA LODGE TRIP
 – QUEENS BIRTHDAY WEEKEND.
- Maureen will be away on Stewart Island hunting for a couple of weeks and will get this sorted as soon as she is back.
- First up best dressed folks.





Amelia Sanson getting her very well deserved C Grade medal at the DTL North Island event held at Thames Gun Club.



Cricket in action at the Kids Club Night — bravely holding a lizard and testing her aim with the bow!!!



Samantha Stockwell (10) having just taken her first rabbit and she also helped out by spotting a couple of possums as well on this trip for her dad to shoot.

A fantastic 'father – daughter' weekend away.

Keep up the great work and Im sure there will be lots more awesome trips away in the near future.



Membership with the NZDA / TVDA comes with a number of benefits:

- Membership card with discounts at major retailers, including:
 - o 15% off at Beaurepaires
 - o 5%-30% off at Big Save Furniture
 - o 15% at Carters
 - Up to 30% at Mico Plumbing
 - o 20% off rooms at Millennium Hotels and Resorts
 - Office Max
 - PlaceMakers
 - o 10% off at Repco



• Exclusive NZDA discounts:

- o Interisland Ferry group booking discount (contact us for the code)
- Go Native outdoor meals and snacks, 25% discount
- o Napier of London shooting and hunting goods, 15% discount
- o AJ Productions electronic game caller and trail cameras, 15% discount
- o Kilwell Sports hunting supplies, 15% discounts on website orders
- o Hunting with Huntahr Guiding, 10% discount
- o Heli Sika, 10% discount on helicopter flights to hunting blocks
- o Murchison Heli Tours, 10% off your flights
- o NZ Taxidermy Ltd, 10% discount on mounts
- o Bullivant Taxidermy, 10% discount on mounts
- o Ruahine Tanning & Taxidermy, 10% discount on mounts
- o 10% discount of Department of Conservation annual <u>Backcountry Hut Pass</u> or 'Hut Pass'. <u>See the DoC website for more details</u>
- o 10% discount at all good sporting, shooting and hunter retailers on request





they are so looking forward to providing all those canines and their owners out there with this fantastic product.

Editor's Note:

'We all know of Mark and Vanessa's outstanding work, commitment and dedication to providing top quality products and awesome customer service so having them now also being the distributors of Mighty Mix speaks volumes for this product too'.

Give Mark and Vanessa a call today on 027 2736952 or email them on mightymix@biggameartistry.co.nz

Combining these awesome products with excellent service is our mission.

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Let your dog's try it - you won't be disappointed.

Kaimai Huts that TVDA looks after....

TVDA helps look after these two lovely huts with DOC and the Kaimai Ridgeway Trust (KRT).

Motutapere is located about an hour North of the Thompson's track saddle but generally accessed from the Tuahu Track.

Kauritatahi is about 90 minutes South of the Thompsons Track saddle.

Recently Mike Cook and I along with Trish and Elliott took a trip up to Motutapere to assess a couple of items which had been highlighted.

The deck out front and around to the water tank is in need of a makeover and there was a question as to whether the water tank, which collects rain water from the roof, was large enough. It is some

27/02/2022

Elliott at the Motutapere Hut.

way to alternative water up there.

Subject to approval of plans and pricing from KRT and working in with helicopter operations with DOC the deck will be replaced.

The water supply seems to have been adequate in the past but as more people venture into this part of the park that might not always be the case.

The current system only collects rainfall

from half of the roof. The simpler and less expensive solution is to install guttering and downpipes to collect water from the other side of the roof to double the amount collected during summer showers and at other times of the year.

Independent feedback on Kauritatahi suggests that thanks to past volunteer efforts this hut is in good shape. The only, but important work to do here, is clean and improve the drain around the back of the hut to allow runoff coming down the slope to run around and away from the hut rather than under it.

A bit of time with shovel should take care of it.

These are both lovely little huts and well worth a visit.

Wayne Stachurski

Te Urewera Rusa Hunt Flyin Trip....

To Right Branch, Takarua, Ngahiramai +other huts

Wednesday evg 17th - Sunday 21st August '22

Approx \$300.00 p/p for flights (to be confirmed)

IF THIS





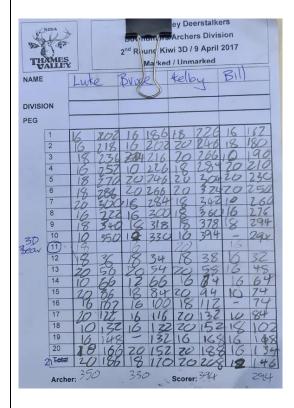




Please contact Brian Neilson to book in Brianneilson@xtra.co.nz or 027 8910958



Just rewards for plenty of practice.... Well done Kelby





Left: A quick look after work yielded this one.

Below: 10.2kg monster

Left: Latest round of Bowhunters score sheet







<u>Below & L below:</u> Getting Ready for a trip to Stewart Island..... 'tree stand practice and the results...'



MORE Hunts and Events......

Mark these dates on the calendar and make sure you keep an eye on the next newsletter for more details

Thurs 2 – Monday 6th June 2022

Queen's Birthday Weekend Hunt..... with a difference

As per the info page in this newsletter about this club trip, it will be a real bonus issue for sure. Please read up on it – It will be open for Ladies only to Register till 1 May and then everyone else is able to put their names down.

Cam Speedy and others will be doing demo's on deer jaw aging, Douglas Scoring, and autopsy will be done on a deer, butchery and more!!!

Contact: Maureen Coleman <u>a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz</u> or text 027 3337786

Matariki Weekend Club Hunt Clements Road – Sika Lodge

This club trip is open to the first 25 people that book in.

Accommodation is at Sika lodge so no issues about bad weather and leaking tents!!! Accom Prices as per the Queens's B'day weekend costs.

More info in the next newsletter

Contact: Maureen Coleman <u>a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz</u> or text 027 3337786

Everyone is most welcome.

23-26 June 2022

Wed evg 17 – Sun 21 AUGUST

Te Urewera Flying RUSA TRIP

This one is also shown on a separate page in this newsletter so make sure you get hold of Brian and BOOK YOUR SEAT (and HUT) for this trip

These trips are also a great opportunity to see new country, experience Rusa Hunting at its best and a great time is had by all

Contact: Brian Neilson <u>brianneilson@xtra.co.nz</u> or text 027 8910958





A Message from the NZ Police To ALL Firearms Licence holders.....

New Zealand Firearms Licence

Application Form

Firearms Licence
RENEWAL APPLICATIONS

'please make sure you <u>all</u> check your firearms licence expiry date and make sure that you get your RENEWAL APPLICATIONS lodged at least 12 months in advance of it expiring'.

Firearms: the new laws have come into force re the transportation and storage of firearms and special thanks to Gwyn and the Team at NZDA for putting together their 'easy to read and understand' info on what the 'legal speak' means. This email was sent out on 18 February from the NZDA National Office. This is a really valuable tool so make sure you all read it (if you haven't already done so) and for those of you that are not on email, there will be a copy sent out to you. There will also be spare copies of this at the clubrooms so there is no reason for anyone to not be well informed. Please also make sure that you emphasise this to your hunting mates as we all need to do our bit and be responsible firearms owners.

Licensing – there have been huge lags in the processing of new and renewal applications and I have had a really beneficial meeting with the Senior Sergeant and Waikato Arms Office Staff about this. In summary; this has arisen from decisions made in Wellington and there have been no vetters across the entire Coromandel region for several months now and to date, this is still the case. However, several vetters from the Waikato Office have done some 'block days' in areas and this is making huge inroads into the backlog problem. Omicron has put a bit of a stutter in this process which is understandable but it is envisaged that the rest of the region will be worked through in the coming few weeks given the success of the work done to date. Thank you very much to you the licence holders for your understanding and to the Police staff for their willingness to come up with solutions for us all to benefit from.

If anyone has a query with their licensing process, please contact Maureen on a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz or 027 3337786 in the first instance if this is just a general enquiry. The reason for this is that in most cases I can help out with an update etc or take this to the Arms Office staff for you if it is of a general nature. This will help to free up the Arms Office staff time to keep processing applications but most certainly if you have a query, information or a matter that needs to be discussed with the Arms Office staff — please make sure you contact them straight away.

The Waikato Arms Office can be contacted at to following phone number:

Email: waikato.firearms@police.govt.nz

Margaret Ferguson (07) 878 1457 Louise Pareanga (07) 858 6292 Warren McLiesh (07) 858 6247 Andre Grobbelaar (07) 834 9551 Mark Te Anga (07) 834 9497 Nikita Soepnel (07) 858 6306 Lisa Johns (07) 834 9423 Jamie Astwood (07) 858 6265 Firearms Security: this is a topic that I have been told is something that the vetters throughout the country in general are finding needs to be beefed up for sure. Not only is this providing inadequate storage for firearms but it is also tying up valuable vetting time as they need to come back for a revisit – and that is taking time away from getting someone else's application processed. We all need to be proactive and working together for the best outcomes possible.

Re-Licensing Applications: as has been the case for a while now as Police work to get rid of this backlog, please make sure you all check your firearms licence EXPIRY date and if it has got less than 12 months to go, make sure you get your application process started NOW. This will help

everyone and I have also been assured that even if your licence is renewed in 3 months, the new expiry date will be 10 years from the previous one so you are not getting cut short on the length of your licence.

New Laws for Range Registration: These have not been finalised by the Police yet but here at TVDA we have a team and plan in place for working on this process as soon as the details and the criteria become available. There is a 12 month window we understand for this new Range Registration to be applied for so it will be a work in progress once the info comes to hand.

Once again, if anyone has any queries about the Registration of the Range please contact Maureen.

RANGE USE

<u>As a general FYI to all members</u> – please make sure that regardless of what range you are using when you come up to sight rifles in, this **MUST BE DONE**

 BARRIER AT THE GATE WAY must be across the driveway.... (as shown in the photo below)

AND the

- FLAG ON THE FLATPOLE AT THE 100m shooting mound MUST BE PUT UP
 AND
- There is also a red flag (and road cone) at each range. This cone with the flag in it is to be placed in front of the shooting mound when up checking your targets.

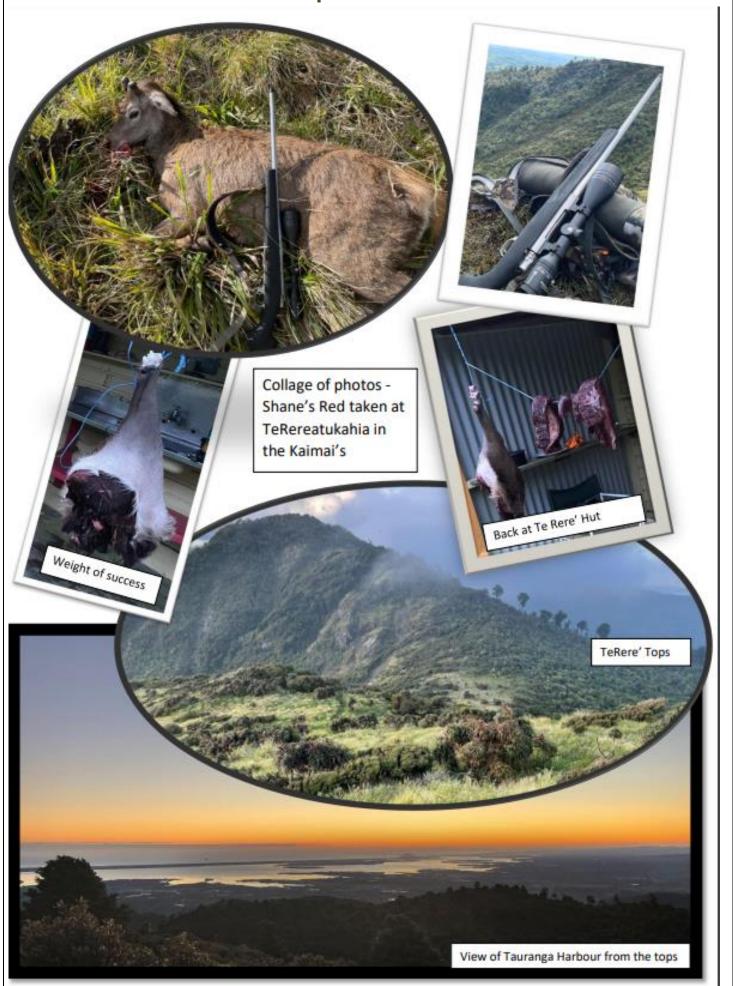


AND......Special thanks to Brian for refurbishing the 100m and 50m range over the weekend and also to Lee for replacing the hinge on the Barrier Arm.

Both of these jobs have made a huge difference.

It's great having this work done – it really is most appreciated by all those who use the venue and the range in general.

Congrats Shane Mitchell (2020 HUNTS Course trainee) on your first Kaimai's Deer and for sharing these awesome photos. Great stuff mate and keep up the top work.



A snapshot in time of HUNTS 2021 - photos courtesy of Jerry Cox





Please:

Email addresses please for all those who are currently FAMILY members of TVDA. The reason for this is that in the past the NZDA database was only set up to take the 'senior' member on the overall membership. This has now been updated and all your individual addresses can now be added.

This will mean that you will ALL get the regular NZDA updates sent directly to you and the same will apply with the TVDA newsletters or any updates.

Can these email addresses please be sent to Maureen at a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz and they will be put into the database.

Stories and photos please for the next newsletter from the Kids Survival Camp earlier this year.

And.....

Names are needed for the various Club Hunting trips etc that are on the radar so please make sure that you get your name in asap.

Queen's Birthday Weekend Trip to Sika Lodge

Matariki Weekend Club trip to Sika Lodge

Club Hunting Trip - Rusa Flyin Trip to Te Ureweras

Trap Line Updates and catch results

Hunters and Conservation working in Tandem



The call for help has been answered which is fantastic thank you folks.

Since the last newsletter, Hadleigh, Mike, Kade and a team of helpers have come on board to look after the Terry Line up the Kauaeranga Valley (on part of the track to the Pinnacles Hut) which is a great help thanks folks.

This is a line that is great to have reinstated and it will be awesome to see the catch results as the months tick by.

In addition to this we are also about to start a new line in the Karangahake Gorge; along a section of the Hauraki Rail Trail in conjunction with the HRT Trust. Kade and helpers will be looking after this one so thank you so much for this as well guys.

This is an area that has had no predator control work done and Im sure it will yield some excellent catch results as the terrain and the surrounds are a perfect place for mustelids to thrive.

Trap Catch details the Coromandel Traps Line

In total since Dennis and Bill began trapping on the K2K line in May 2017 the catch tallies are as follows:

- 160 Stoats
- 113 Rats
- 119 Hedgehogs
- 3 Ferret
- 3 Mice
- 2 Birds.





The Kauaeranga River Trap Line is now being monitored by Brian (since April 2021) and the totals to date are:

- 8 Stoat
- 11 Weasel
- 176 Rats
- 1 Hedghog
- 1 Mouse





The Terry Line up the Kauaeranga Valley (on part of the Pinnacles Track) is now up and running again and being monitored by Hadleigh, Mike and team. Starting from 20 January 2022 the tallies are as follows:

- 1 Weasel
- 62 Rats
- 3 Mice







Get Well

Rex Gamble who has recently had a stint in hospital but is looking forward to being up and about and back on deck again in no time.

Best wishes from us all Rex.

....also to any members out there and your families who have had Covid ankle tap them over recent weeks – take care and best wishes for a speedy recovery

Congratulations to



...Sven and Iris on the arrival of their special wee man Kalk. So lovely to see all three of you up at

the archery range

last week.

.....Olivia Austen on attaining your nursing degree. Now Olivia Austen RN







Lee and Amy Kelly on their recent wedding – best wishes to you both from us all.



- General Boatbuilding
- Fibreglass & Wooden Boat Repairs
- Antifouling & Propspeed
- General Boat Painting
- Cleaning & Polishing
- Trailer Boat Repairs
- Yacht Rigging & Maintenance
- Insurance Inspections

Tahr Hunting for Women - By Rebecca O'Neale Upper Clutha Branch

Part 2 of Becs' Tahr Hunt follows in the October Hind Sight
......thanks to Bec's, for so kindly letting us share her story from the
Upper Clutha Branch's newsletter with you all.



A bit of a slow start the next day, but luckily the sun doesn't come up till late when you're at the bottom of the world so plenty of time for a hearty breakfast before we all set off again.



It's windy today, blowing it's guts out and bouncing all over the show. From our first glassing point, we can see the rubbish weather moving up the valley towards us. It's going to get here sooner rather than later. Better haul it.

Making the most of the many rocky outcrops, several likely looking bulls are spotted but the wind is making planning our stalk tricky. Croc and I decide that it's worthwhile to keep pushing on and hope for the best, working up toward the snowline and changing tack as needed.

Our 396th change of plan later saw us high up the hill and me bricking myself on a scree slope. A uniquely alpine challenge, scree is something this North Islander hasn't experienced before and, God willing, never will again. I truly thought I was going to meet my maker.

Both Croc and Roh thought this was hilarious but proved themselves supportive until I was back on firm ground, then let rip with the teasing.

My "near death experience" complete, I'm catching my breath and kissing the ground when Croc suddenly spots another bull with some nannies up ahead.

His whispered "that's the one!" got the adrenaline ratcheting up again and we're all trying to get a decent look through the binos and spotter. A quick discussion and the plan is hatched to sneak up the edge of the gut to a point not too far ahead that should give a decent shooting position.

It's going to be a long shot for me, 240m to the bull who is kindly standing side on and looking like the king of the world next to a small waterfall.

He doesn't know we are here. The wind is obviously bouncing around enough to not carry our scent that far. Taking my time, I flick the bipod legs out and line up just behind his shoulder.



It's deceiving, with that impressive mane blowing around so I follow his leg up to make sure I'm not going to shoot over the top.

Breathe, squeeze - miss. Damn!

That felt good, what went wrong? Maybe the wind, who knows. I'm reloaded before Croc can tell me and keep following the bull as he jumps down and across the creek to start working his way across the face.

He's stopped – another shot and I definitely got him that time. The 'whomp' was clear, but these animals take some dropping!

Reload again. Another shot and another clear hit...this time, he's tucking up and looking sore.

C'mon mate, was that a wobble? Just as I'm preparing to send another 140g towards him, the bull gives a definite wibble wobble and yep there it is - he's out!

An impressive roll and slide down, leaving a red snow trail as he goes end over and finally comes to rest in the creek.

Woohoo! High fives all round. Now we've just got to figure out how to get over there and retrieve him. The weather is starting to turn in earnest now. By the time we make our way over to the other side (yes, more scree!) there are snow flurries and the wind is even stronger than before.

Fingers and toes are numb, but none of that matters when I finally get an eyeful of the bull up close. Wow! An impressive 13" with a thick, dark cape. He's an absolute cracker!

Managing to roll him down to a slightly less hairy angle, we're able to enjoy a quick moment of euphoria and take a few photos before the cold really starts to set in along with the realisation that it's a long way back to camp.

Better get a wriggle on. Croc makes short work of skinning the bull (one of the many perks of hunting with a professional – they make it look so easy!) and I'm grateful to sling the heavy but warm cape over my shoulders for the trip down. Despite their strong smell, I don't personally find the smell of tahr offensive – it's nowhere near as nasty as a billy goat – and their thick coat certainly keeps your fingers warm when you're wearing them!

Noses pointed downhill, we pick our way down the mountain and manage to survive one last scree slope before the rain sets in properly. There is surely no sight as beautiful as a beat up Toyota Surf when you're cold and wet and you know there's chocolate inside!

A last boost down and we're back at the wagon and headed for home.



and target a red stag with Croc instead

On arrival back at the hut, there was a lot of yahooing when we dragged the bull onto the porch before shucking wet gear and warming up by the fire.

The boys still hadn't had any luck, despite having seen a few animals. Matt's deciding that perhaps he hadn't taken my warnings about required fitness levels seriously enough and he might need to lay off the ciggies.

As they say though, tomorrow is a new day so it was another early night for all.

Next morning dawns overcast but still, so Bre and Aaron are off on one last mission to shoot a bull while Matt opts to change tack

I think it was the promise of no hills to climb!

Roh and I tagged along, making the most of the scenery and enjoying a bit of downtime.

On our return back to the hut, we're stoked to see a grinning Aaron on the porch – yes!

The hard yards paid off and he's managed to bag a nice mature bull.

We're all entitled to give Matt a bit of ribbing for not being able to hack it - but he did shoot a very nice stag!

Mission complete. We've all managed to get on the board, so a celebration is in order. I won't bore you with the details, but fair to say there was a fair amount of red wine consumed and the world's problems were well and truly sorted that night!

Amazing what a group of good people can achieve when they fill their glasses and set their minds to it.

A few hours later, we're all blearily cleaning, packing and dragging our feet while we prepare to leave. The boys are heading back via Pleasant Point to drop the heads off at the taxidermist, and Bre is kindly running Roh and I back to Queenstown before our flight North tomorrow.



One final group photo, promises to stay in touch and a chorus of "See you next year!" before it's time to head out - stinky and sore, but richer for such an awesome experience with genuinely great people.

Plans are already in place for the next mission, after all, we've got to get back and pick up our heads so why not?!

WOODHILL is happening again in 2022!!!

For the 2022 season, there will be a ballot application fee of \$20; and upon a successful ballot, a block fee at \$175 for the Ballot Holder and up to 2 companions for hunting on the block for

the day.

The same rules will apply as in previous years, that is, you will be issued a permit to shoot 1 antlered buck or in some cases a doe (special permit required). application link below.

http://fallowdeer.co.nz/ballotappl.php

All applications must be done online so if you do not have a computer or access to one, please contact Maureen and an application will be lodged on your behalf.



Huge thanks to all the team at WFMC for their tireless work to make this possible for hunters from near and far.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 19 April 2022



HUNTS 2022

Names are now being sought for this year's HUNTS course.

- It will commence approx. Late July Early August so make sure you get your name down on the list if you are keen to be part of this awesome course.
- Approx 5 evening sessions and 3 weekends (2 of these will be hunting trip)
- The whole spectrum of HUNTER Training is included in this course Navigation, Bush Craft,
 Hunting Techniques and Hunting Skill, River Crossing, Outdoor 1st Aid, Butchery, Hunting Ethics,
 Gear and Equipment, Weather, General Survival and we finish it off with a Helicopter Flying
 Trip to Te Urewera. Costs yet to be finalised but all inclusive approx. \$400.00.
- Minimum Age 16 years but no upper limit. *Numbers are limited*
- This is a course that everyone can benefit from immensely.

To get your name on the list, please phone or email Brian Neilson

brianneilson@xtra.co.nz or 027 8910958.





A very special welcome to the New members who have joined TVDA since the last newsletter and we look forward to seeing you at upcoming events and joining in with the many and varied activities that are held at your club:

This now brings our total number of members to over 500 so that is something to be really proud of in our local community. It also emphasises just how important our club is to so many people and for so many reasons. It's great to have you all as members of TVDA:

- Filip Straus
- Daniel Millen
- Nick Dunn and Family
- Vaughan Fraser
- Bernard Cloete
- Sven van Touw & Iris Theunis
- Johan Ge
- Bruce Vickerman
- Jason Samuel
- Shaun Hart
- Mark Jennings

- Damian Timms
- Jordan Palfrey and Family
- Dylan Schmidt
- Kiel Baxter
- Logan-May Gardiner
- Stefan Gardiner
- Vaughan Coleman
- Steve Lightenberg
- Franchell Crook and Family
- Bernard Caie
- Catilyn Mudgeway

Membership Renewals...

These have all been emailed out to those who have email addresses and the paper invoice ones should have also reached you by now.

If any issues arise or you have not received your renewal invoice, please contact Niraj at the NZDA National Office.



Niraj will certainly be able to sort out the problem. NZDA Office 04 4996163

You are welcome to also contact Maureen but she will be away hunting for a good chunk of the next month so getting in touch may be a tad difficult.

Bowhunters Corner

Next club day is Sunday 10th of April 2022



Bow Hunters Club Days are the 2nd Sunday of the Month:

Club days start between 8.30 – 9am

so if you are keen to have a go at archery / bowhunters, then contact one of TVDA committee members (shown in the front of the newsletter with an * beside their name) or contact

Shelley Moxsom on 027 3339309 or rsmoxsom@xtra.co.nz for more details

Our recent bowhunter club days have seen really good turnouts and new members joining up regularly as well.

Club days are an excellent chance for new and experiences archers to all learn from each other, share

tips and enjoy a heap of fun out there 'flicking arrows'

TWILIGHT ARCHERY

This is going to continue for another few Thursday evenings so touch base with Bill or Dennis and come along and make the most of what is left of daylight saving.



Lynnie's got her eye in!!!

BOWHUTNERS INTER-CLUB

There is going to be another attempt to hold this event and the dates have been set between the clubs that make up this Round Robin event.

The Interclub Event being held at TVDA is going to be on Sunday 12th June.

This is also our normal Archery Club day so it will work in well to combine both events.

Camp Oven Bread NZ Forest Service Style



Basic Bread Mixture - Full Camp Oven Loaf

- Half a Camp oven (standard size) of dry flour
- 2 heaped dessertspoons sugar
- stir in 1 level teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons (heaped) milk powder

Mix together thoroughly in a warm basin or camp oven.

Yeast Mixture

- 1½ pint mugs warm water (blood beat)
- 1 heaped dessertspoon sugar
- 2 level dessertspoons yeast (dry)

To check yeast for freshness place a little in a mug half full of warm water with a little sugar; the yeast should begin to "erupt" in a short time; if not, discard the whole bottle of yeast and use a fresh one. Check the date stamped on the yeast bottle (it usually states a date after which it may no longer be expected to work).

Make the yeast mixture first and while it is working prepare the dry ingredients.

Add the yeast mixture to the dry ingredients after it has "erupted" (about 20 minutes).

Mix to a firm dough, adding more flour or warm water if necessary, and knead by turning the dough and pressing the knuckles firmly into it.

Do this for a good 5 minutes.

Place the dough into a greased camp oven (lid greased, too) and allow to rise in a warm place until mixture is about 1 inch from the top of the camp oven. (It is important that the dough is not bumped

while rising, otherwise it will have to be kneaded again and allowed to rise once more.)

Place oven carefully about 18 inches above a good layer of red hot embers, cover lid well with red hot embers, and allow to cook for 1 hour.

Turn loaf out onto a clean cloth when cooked and cover with cloth to absorb moisture for $\frac{1}{2}$ hour before eating.

There are numerous other bread making methods, but the above one is best for camp cooking.

