

September 2022



This photo is not of a club member but a darn good sized boar all the same.....

Identify your target beyond ALL 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

Patron	Basil Morrison	021 946403
President	Maureen Coleman	027 3337786 or a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz
Vice President	Wayne Stachurski	027 4916352
Secretary	Ashleigh Dewar #	020 40070067
Treasurer	Clemency Dent #	022 3482843
Committee:	Keven Caddy	027 4881207
	Tony Coleman	027 9271848
	John Senk #	027 4660549
	Dennis Hayfield*	027 2211892
	Henry Cummings*	021 1532759
	Alton Whibley*	021 1825403
	Andrew Austen	027 7269457
	Karen Austen #	027 3186259
	Lee Kelly	027 3794201
	Elizabeth Millington	027 4415575
	Amelia Sanson	027 7488126
	Brian Neilson	027 8910958
	James Cole	027 738 6924
Newsletter	Digby Johansen	027 8996247 johansen.digby9@gmail.com
Archery Contact	Dennis Hayfield	027 2211892
Clay Target Contact	Tony Coleman	027 9271848
HUNTS Co-ordinator	Brian Neilson	027 8910958
Chief Range Officer	Maureen Coleman	027 3337786
Douglas Score Contact	Len Cubitt	027 4978598
Kaimai Ridgeway Trust	Wayne Stachurski	027 4916352
Motutapere Hut contact	Mike Cook	027 4741112
Kauritatahi Hut	Jason Affleck	021 2719464
Club Trip organiser	Brian Neilson	027 8910958
Bar Manager	Keven Caddy	027 4881207
Bar Assistants	As shown above (#) and Michael Wade Trish Stachurski	
DOC Liaison	Maureen Coleman	027 3337786
Police Liaison	Maureen Coleman	027 3337786
Kids Survival Camp	Nigel Lesley	027 4823117
Membership Officer	Maureen Coleman	027 3337786
Property	Wayne Stachurski	027 4916352

Disclaimer: 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 Deerstarkers' Association is the "NZ Hunting and Wildlife".

Club Events Calendar

September

Saturday	24	Working Bee at the Clubrooms/grounds 1.00pm onwards
Saturday	24	Firearms Licence Training – morning only clubrooms only
Sunday	25	1 st Round of the Running Boar *
Monday	26	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	27	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	28	Club night

October

Sunday	2	Black Powder Club Day – 9.00am – 1.00pm
Monday	3	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	4	TVDA to run Shooting and Archery Elective at Dickey's Flat
Friday	7	Docking starts at Panekiri Station *
Sunday	9	Bowhunters club day - 8.00am – 3.00pm
Sunday	9	Range Officers Course TVDA Clubrooms
Monday	10	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Monday	10	OFG Committee Meeting – clubrooms only 7pm onwards
Tuesday	11	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Saturday	15	Firearms Licence Training – clubrooms only
Monday	17	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	18	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	19	Committee Meeting Committee PLEASE NOTE !
Monday	24	Shotgun shooting practice day – DTL Trap only (10.00am – 1.00pm)*
Wednesday	26	Club Night
Saturday	29	Sika Show – Mystery Creek *
Sunday	30	Sika Show – Mystery Creek
Monday	31	Private use – Range available after 3pm

November

Monday	1	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Thursday	3	Twilight Clays and Twilight Archery (first night)
Saturday	5	Final Setup day for TVDA Anniversary 100 Sporting Clays Shoot
Sunday	6	TVDA Anniversary 100 Sporting Clays Shoot *
Monday	7	Private use – Range available after 3pm

Wednesday	9	Committee Meeting
Thursday	10	Twilight Clays and Twilight Archery
Monday	12	OFG Committee Meeting – clubrooms only 7pm onwards
Sunday	13	Bowhunters club day - 8.00am – 3.00pm
Monday	14	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	15	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Thursday	17	Twilight Clays and Twilight Archery
Friday	18	Clubrooms only – Waikato NZDA HUNTS Course session
Saturday	19	Private use on the range – Range closed all day
Sunday	20	Black Powder Club Day – 9.00am – 1.00pm
Monday	21	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	22	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Thursday	24	Twilight Clays and Twilight Archery
Saturday	26	Firearms Licence Training – clubrooms only
Sunday	27	Rimfire – Centrefire-Patrons Cup shoots
Monday	28	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	29	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	30	Club Night
Wednesday	30	FIELD DAYS AT MYSTERY CREEK Start (thru to Saturday 3.12.2022)

December		
Thursday	1	Twilight Clays and Twilight Archery
Saturday	3	Firearms Licence Training – clubrooms only
Sunday	4	Black Powder Club Day – 9.00am – 1.00pm
Monday	5	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Monday	5	OFG Committee Meeting – clubrooms only 7pm onwards
Wednesday	7	Paeroa Lions Christmas Dinner at the Clubrooms
Thursday	8	Twilight Clays and Twilight Archery
Thursday	8	Club Flyin Trip
Sunday	11	Bowhunters club day - 8.00am – 3.00pm
Monday	12	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Tuesday	13	Private use – Range available after 3pm
Wednesday	14	Committee Meeting
Thursday	15	Twilight Clays and Twilight Archery

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

*Kiwi Avoidance Training

Dates for Training

15th October Whitianga

*Bookings are ESSENTIAL so please email
mikechrisfris@xtra.co.nz for a booking.*

*Or text Christine`s personal
number 0274055102*

Christine Friis



Douglas Scoring Course

Due to popular demand, Brian Neilson has tentatively booked Saturday the 11th of February 2023 to run another Douglas Scoring course.

This is a full day course, so anyone interested in participating, please be aware this will be coming up, and more details will be published nearer the time, when all details are finalized and confirmed.

SIKA SHOW NZ HUNTING & OUTDOOR EXPO

29TH & 30TH OCTOBER MYSTERY CREEK EVENTS CENTRE HAMILTON

WIN A \$1000 SHOPPING
SPREE AT THE SIKA SHOW!

SIMPLY PURCHASE YOUR SIKA
SHOW TICKET ONLINE
BEFORE 5PM ON 30TH SEPT 2022
& GO IN THE DRAW TO WIN

Ts & Cs Apply - please see website for details

TICKETS AVAILABLE
ONLINE NOW!!

WWW.SIKASHOW.CO.NZ
LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE!



Enter your trophy head into the Sika Show Hunting Competition 2022 and go in the draw to win this amazing pair of Swarovski EL 10x42 Rangefinding Binoculars valued at \$4990.00!!



SWAROVSKI
OPTIK

All categories eligible for entry into the random prize draw which will be drawn on Sunday 27th February 2022.
Each head entered will give 1 x entry into the draw.

Go in the draw to WIN THIS amazing LVB Jet Boat
Door Prize valued at \$35,000!!!!



OVER \$100,000 WORTH OF PRIZES TO BE WON!!

Exhibitors List to date....

SIKA SHOW - EXHIBITOR LIST - OCT 2022

BIG GAME ARTISTRY	FIORDLAND WAPITI FOUNDATION	ADVANCED ARCHERY	FERNTech - DRONES
RED STAG TIMBER HUNTERS CLUB	NZ TAHR FOUNDATION	FISH CITY - HUNTING & OUTDOORS	SUNSAVER
NZ AMMO	AJ PRODUCTIONS	GUNCITY	BERETTA NZ
SHOOTER READY	SCARY SHARP	SABRE TACTICAL	FERAL DESIGN
BLOODLINE GEAR	ARLINGTON ARMS	GLACIER SPORTS - GLACIER RIFLES	NZ GAME ANIMAL COUNCIL
RIVERS TO RANGES	WEKATECH - MOA STEALTH COVERS	PRACMED NZ	SKELETON OPTICS NZ
BULLIVANT TAXIDERM	KEA OUTDOORS	ADVANCED OPTICS	DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
SWAROVSKI OPTIK	HUNTING AND FISHING NZ	GUNS NZ	BOB'S BILTONG
BARZ OPTICS	LOWA BOOTS	ARB 4x4 ACCESSORIES	GAMECO NZ
GLASS ART	HUNTECH	HUNTER NEW ZEALAND	SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL
STONEY CREEK	ZEROPAK	TAKACAT NZ	GLEN DENE HUNTING
MIA GEAR	GERBER	CORALSEA SAFARI'S	NZ BOW HUNTERS SOCIETY
SIKA FOUNDATION	HUNTSMAN THERMAL OPTICS	AUSTRALIA OUTBACK BUFFALO SAFARI'S	RUDDOLPH OPTICS
MAUNGAAHU LODGE	GARMIN	NIKL KNIVES	KAI WAHO
PURE SALT	TRAEGER	HOGS & HINDS CLOTHING	RESCUE COORDINATION CENTRE
WILD GEAR	MOUNTAIN ADVENTURE	HI TECH COMPOSITES	ZEISS
GOODWOOD PRODUCTS	TATONKA	STRICTLY OUTDOORS	HAMILLS TE AWAMUTU
BACKLANZ	JETBOIL	XPLORA	OUTDOOR ADDICTIONWEAR
DELTA OPTICAL NZ	LED LENSER	KAIWHAKANGAU	LOCATOR BEACONS NZ
LEICA OPTICS	LEUPOLD	MOUNTAIN HIGH CLOTHING	NZ POLICE
NGAMATEA HUNTING & FISHING	YETI	HUNTAHR	MIGHTY MIX DOG FOOD
THE GEAR HUT	STYX MILL	TE ANAU HELICOPTERS	EBBETT TOYOTA
RUGGED RAM OUTDOORS	VORTEX	KILWELL SPORTS	WILD WEST WORCESTER
ROD AND RIFLE	EXTRAVISION	ADVENTURE HUNTING NZ	ACT PARTY
RIDGELINE CLOTHING	MSR	NZ DEER STALKERS ASSOCIATION	NEEDLE & NAIL
OUTDOOR SPORTS NZ	ZAMBERLAN	NATIONAL PARTY	OSPRI
RUAHINE PORTS	BACK COUNTRY FOODS	MTN GEAR	BLUE DUCK STATION
RURAL BUTCHER	SPIKA NZ	COUNCIL OF LICENCED FIREARMS OWNERS	WILD TINE
NZ HUNTER MAGAZINE	NZ PIG HUNTING ASSOCIATION	CHILLERMAN	DOG MASTER TRAINERS
OUTDOOR EDUCATION NZ	PHONESKOPE NZ	WARFIGHTER ATHLETIC	SITKA GEAR
KIKO & FRIENDS	TARGET DYNAMICS INTERNATIONAL	E-MEGA STORE E BIKES & SCOOTERS	DOG & GUN COFFEE
RURAL SUPPORT TRUST	JPB FURLEY & Co	WILDSIDE HUNTING	YAKIMA
HUNTING HQ	DAMEL KENNELS & TRAILERS	M2 OVERLAND	NZ LIQUOR ONLINE
FREE-RANGE HUNTING NEW ZEALAND	BUSHBUCK	S.R MARSTON & Co	INGHAM MITSUBISHI
NZ WOMAN HUNTERS	55SIX - NZ HUNTER GROUP	SAFARI SUPPLY Co	BOOTLEG JERKY Co
CONNOVATION	UNJUSTIFIED RISK CLOTHING	C.R KENNEDY LTD	NZ OUTDOOR MAGAZINE
MANIATIS GUNSMITHS	ZOE MILADA BRAKE ARTWORK	EXPEDITION RAFTS	HUNTING 4 ART
EBBETT HAMILTON ISUZU & GMSV	EQUIPOUTDOORS	LITTLE FALLOW	STRASSER RIFLES
WORK & PLAY TRAILERS	KNOG HEADLAMPS	MAUNGA TIA	HUNTING INDUSTRY SUPPLIES
TUSsock OUTDOORS	LIFESAVER WATER PURIFICATION	COBB GRILLS NZ	

Don't Miss this one folks



1ST Round of the Running Boar

Sunday 25th September (start time 9.30am)

**Mark this on your calendar. It's a good fun day that anyone can participate in.
.22's only and 25 rounds of ammo**

Range Fee \$5.00 p/p or \$10.00 per family

September Club Night..... *Wed 28th September*

September Club Night - ALL ABOUT THE LATEST FIREARMS CONSULTATION (and Submissions that are needed)!!!!

Come along to the September Club night and fill in your submissions as well as enjoying a venison BBQ for supper. Forms will be printed off for those who do not have printers or feel more comfortable handwriting these things. Information and support as well as a summary of the process will also be available.

The Police Firearms Registration Consultation document is also included with this newsletter as a quick reference rather than having to go back looking for it (as per the info in the Presidents Report).

The final date for Submission is the 12th of October so that is when we are away at Panekiri so your urgent attention to this is most appreciated.

Format for the night:

- Information will be available
- Questions will be answered
- Forms will be there for filling in
- If you need completed forms sent off for you – that can be done as well
- Help with filling in the forms will also be available on the night and other dates as set out in the newsletter.
- Once you have caught up with what you want and need, there will be some Douglas Scoring to have a go at for those that are interested.....AND
- Venison BBQ for supper.....



Thank you so much

- To Markus for the new benchrest that now has pride of place on our 100m range. So many people have commented about this so please look after it everyone.
- Henry for all your maintenance work on the clay target traps and getting the mower up and running again in readiness for our events over the summer.
- All those who have put so much work into the HUNTS Courses that we have been running – Mentors; trainers, cooks, transport providers and everyone else who has helped in any way.
- To the team who helped with working bees and the planning and set up of the recent Annual Dinner and Prizegiving



Kauritatahi Hut Track is closed.

A significant land slip has occurred on the track to Kauritatahi Hut.

The track is blocked by heavy debris, vegetation and large boulders.

This track is closed until further notice.

Do not attempt to cross this slip under any condition.

KRT, TVDA and the team will be making an assessment on this when conditions allow so please keep an eye on the newsletter and the website for more info.

DO NOT attempt to get to the HUT either as the track is extremely unstable.

Anyone for a spot of fishing....

There's always someone that is worse off than us, or perhaps this is in your neck of the woods.

Certainly a way to get around the congested boat ramps or a good dose of seasickness!!!



Presidents Report

First and foremost a huge thank you to all the team that helped bring together our annual Dinner and Prizegiving a couple of weeks ago. Having Mark and Vanessa Walker (as well as Sammy and Joe) with us as our guests for the night was such an awesome enhancement to what was a very successful evening.

Congratulations also to everyone who had their name engraved on a trophy for the past year and this event is an excellent way to acknowledge the successes, participation and camaraderie that are key parts of what we do.

Now that the gloves are off from the winter gloom there is much to be done around the clubrooms and the property and this was tackled first and foremost last weekend with a working bee around the ranges.

Thanks so much to those were able to make it to the working bee and for those who could not make that one, there is another one due this coming Saturday.....so perhaps you will be able to make that one. If not, there are a heaps of events, happenings and opportunities to assist with and help support your branch as we all get back up to full speed after what seems like endless months of traffic lights, masks and interruptions.

Docking at Panekiri is a key focus for us at present with this work commencing on Friday 7th of October. If you have not already been in touch, or I have not been back in touch with you to confirm what dates you are able to assist with, please get in touch with me. For those that have not been before, we stay in shearer's quarters down on the station, the club provides all the food and members provide the workforce for this excellent annual fundraiser. If you are not able to attend but would like to provide some home baking that can go in the freezer and be used for morning teas etc, then that too is also a wonderful help. Similarly if you have meat in the freezer to assist with meals at night – the cooks will be only too happy to work with this as well. We will be there for approximately 10 days. Thank you so much everyone for your considered support for this activity.

HUNTS courses have also been a strong focus for us over the last few months – the first course was just about completed and the second one had started. It was the only way that we could fully accommodate them both before the end of the year and when the real Christmas madness sets in!!

Huge thanks to all those who have been involved with the course delivery, the opportunities to go hunting on private land and very much so, to all the participants – you really have made these courses so enjoyable and rewarding.

Firearms Registration Submissions – this cannot be overlooked. You will have all received an email from NZDA about 3 weeks ago advising that this latest round of consultation was now open for submissions. Submissions last time round and the number of them really did provide the Police with additional food for thought and a rethink on some of the regulations that were being offered in the draft document. We need to make sure that this round is the same – we may have been TOLD that we have to have firearms registration but I urge you to all please look carefully at the consultation document, read through it and make your submissions to Police BEFORE WEDNESDAY 12th OCTOBER.

We NEED TO HAVE OUR VOICES HEARD PLEASE so look forward to seeing you there on **Wednesday 28th (next week) at the September Club night.**

The spring weather is certainly lifting those temperatures and the animals are starting to move around a bit more too for those of you who are keen to get a day or two in the hills. Animals that I have come across lately have been in pretty good condition, so don't hesitate to go for a walk....

Good luck and safe hunting and shooting everyone – and ALWAYS identify your target BEYOND ALL DOUBT.

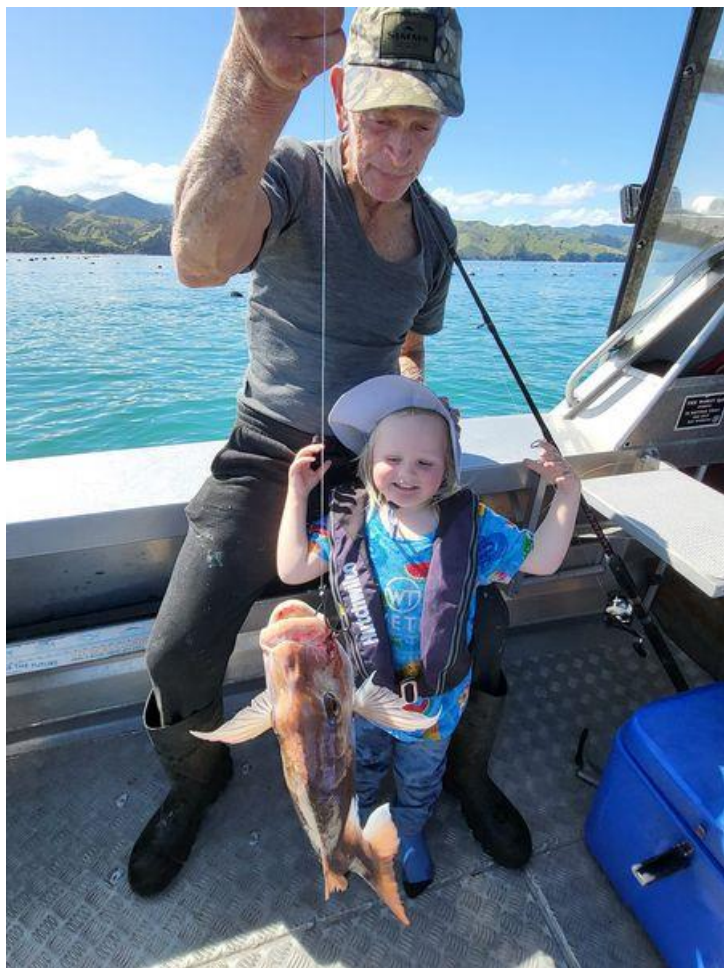
Cheers Maureen

Overall Prize Winners for the 2021-22 year

Presented at this year`s Annual Dinner

	Men`s Rimfire Champs	Bruce McKenzie
	Ladies Rimfire Champs	Trish White
	Junior Rimfire Champs	McKenna Lesley
Clapp Tankard	Men`s Centrefire Champs	Bruce McKenzie
	Ladies Centrefire Champs	-
	Junior Centrefire Champs	-
Patrons Cup	Deer Target Centrefire shoot	Brian Allison
Patron Cup (Ladies)	Deer Target Centrefire shoot	Trish White
Patrons Cup (Junior)	Deer Target Centrefire shoot	-
Jim Johansen Trophy	Iron Sights - Mens	Peter Thompson
Jim Johansen Trophy	Iron Sights - Ladies	-
Jim Johansen Trophy	Iron Sights - Junior	Kade Gill
	Men`s Running Boar Points	Peter Thompson
	Men`s Running Boar Champ	Peter Thompson
	Ladies Running Boar Points	Maureen Coleman
	Ladies Running Boar Champ	Maureen Coleman
	Junior Running Boar Points	-
	Junior Running Boar Champ	Kade Gill
TVDA Trophy	Club day points - Cubs	Ashling Turner
TVDA Trophy	Club day points – Juniors	Luke Moxsom
TVDA Trophy	Club day points - Ladies	Shelley Moxsom
TVDA Trophy	Club day points – Mens	Tony Moxsom
Tony Moxsom Trophy	High Overall Club Day Points	Tony Moxsom
Certificate	Most Improved Archer - Cubs	Ashling Turner
Certificate	Most Improved Archer – Junior	Luke Moxsom
Certificate	Most Improved Archer - Ladies	Tina Whibley
Certificate	Most Improved Archer - Mens	Gary Julian
Red Cup	Best Red Deer Antlers	Tim Menzies
Gwilliam Shield	Best Sika Deer Antlers	Andrew Austen
Clark Cup	Best Goat Horns	-
	Best Drawn Pig Tusks	-
	Best Undrawn Pig Tusks	Lee Kelly
WSB Cup	Best Goat taken by a Junior	-
S & H Cox Trophy	Best Head shot by a Lady	Emma Knight
K D Cox Shield	Best Antlered Species	Ashlee Strange

Hair & Larsen Trophy	Best Horned Game Species	Lee Kelly
Wayne Bennett Trophy	Heaviest Pig Weight for the year	-
	Average Pig Weight	-
Sands Cup	Best Colour Print	Maureen Coleman
Cassidy cup	Best Black and White Print	Maureen Coleman
	Wildlife photo	Glenn Strange
	Stalking Interest	Tim Menzies
Coleman Cup	Junior Photography	Charlie Baillie
Flynn Trophy	Human Interest	Glenn Strange
Monarch of the Glen	Group of three photos	Charlie Baillie
Coleman Trophy	Merit Photography	-
Holten Trophy	Best Enlarged Photo	Brian Neilson
Jim Davies Cup	Heaviest Boar – Big 3 weekend	-
Walker Trophy	Little 3 winner	Jack and Zeb Strange
Hudson Cup	Junior Member of the year	Kade Gill
Kopu H & F Trophy	Literary Trophy	Maureen Coleman
	Ladies Roaring Competition	Ashley Strange
	Men's Roaring Competition	Glenn Stange
Holten Trophy	Junior Shooter at TVDA Cup	



The master and the apprentice....

Mike sneaking in a day's fishing with the grandies....

Priceless.



Images from the
Annual Dinner



Clay Target Practice Session....

Monday 24th October – 10.00am – 1.00pm (Labour weekend)

We will be setting up and using the DTL trap only from the trapshed for those who just want to come along and have some clay target practice.

This will NOT be a sporting clays set up but a chance for those who want or need somewhere to practice and perhaps can't make it to the Twilight nights etc.

Anyone is welcome to come along

Range Fee: \$5.00 p/p;

Targets: \$5.00 for 15 Targets

Ammo: Bring your own or purchase it on the day

We have received the advice below regarding upcoming 1080 operations in the Raukumara Ranges out towards East Cape. If anyone hunts these areas please be aware of these operations.

NZ Deer Stalkers Association Thames Valley Branch
a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz

Dear Recipient,

Notice of Intention to Apply Vertebrate Toxic Agents: Raukūmara

Epro Limited has been contracted by Department of Conservation to undertake a predator control operation in the Raukūmara area.

In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work (Hazardous Substances) Regulations 2017, Epro wishes to notify you of our intention to apply Sodium Fluoroacetate (1080). This operation will be carried out in two application phases. Initially non-toxic prefeed bait will be applied. This will be followed five to ten days later by an application of toxic bait. The bait will be in the form of cereal pellets and will be dyed green.

This operation will commence as soon as practicable after September 2022, and continue into the middle of 2023.

Toxin warning signs will be placed at all normal points of entry to the operation prior to toxic bait being applied. The carcasses of poisoned animals pose a significant risk to dogs for several months after the operation. Toxin warning signs will remain in place until this risk has passed. Relevant information is included with this notification. It includes a map of the operation area, associated risks and the precautions that should be taken. This information has been provided to you as an identified stakeholder, affected party or user of the affected land. Please inform any associates, members or staff who may also use this area.

The intention of this notice is also to protect young children who may be unable to understand warning notices and risk contact with controlled pesticides. Please ensure caregivers and parents are informed of this intention.

Should you require further information or require clarity on any points please email control@epro.co.nz.

Yours faithfully

Communications Advisor



REMINDER FOR BRANCHES

OSPRI:

National Aerial Operations Plan 2023 Consultation

Responses due 30th September 2022

Dear Branch Officers,

This is a reminder that OSPRI is inviting feedback on their 2023 national plan for TBfree pest control operations.

We're drafting a National response but we wanted to flag key areas to alert those nearby branches.

Where does this impact?

North Island

Aerial Operations 2023

- Hawkes Bay
- Central North Island

South Island

Aerial Operations 2023

- Rainbow and Clarence are high priority
- Rakaia red deer at Whitcomb/Mungo
- Otago red deer at Timaru Ck and Hawea

We have identified the following branches as likely to be closely affected by the proposals:

1. Wairoa and Districts
2. Napier
3. Hastings
4. Taupo
5. Central King Country
6. West Coast

7. Nelson
8. Golden Bay
9. Marlborough
10. Upper Clutha
11. Otago
12. Southern Lakes

We identified these branches on the basis of being close to the areas listed in the Ospri discussion document. Other branches should also review the document and see whether they are likely to be affected.

They're inviting feedback from key stakeholders, industry and community groups on the nature, boundaries and timing of proposed operations.

They will use your feedback to help inform the final proposal.

We strongly encourage all branches that will be affected submit to let them know high recreational and trophy hunting values before the 30th of September.

All You Need To Know

Click the button or the cover letter below for all you in need to know on how to submit and to see the plans.

The Plan Includes; TBfree Programme Overview:

- Information on 1080, success rates, its use and repellents
- Regional overviews of North Island, Upper South Island, Lower South Island.
- Feedback

Submissions are due by Friday, 30th of September.

VIEW THE NATIONAL AERIAL OPERATIONS PLAN 2023:

<https://www.ospri.co.nz/assets/Documents/national-aerial-operations-plan-2023.pdf>

HOW TO SUBMIT FEEDBACK:

- completing the online form
- downloading the feedback form then emailing it to consultation@ospri.co.nz
- downloading the feedback form then posting it to National TBfree Operations Consultation, PO Box 3412, Wellington 6140.

Feedback is due by 30 September 2022.

[National Aerial Operations Plan 2023 online feedback form](#)

Have your say

We invite feedback on our 2023 national plan for TBfree pest control operations. We are seeking feedback specifically on the nature, boundaries and timing of proposed operations.

We are not seeking feedback on wider issues such as the purposes of the TBfree programme or the use of 1080 for pest control in New Zealand.

OSPRI encourages engagement with interested communities and those affected by proposed TBfree operations, and invites input on this document until **30 September 2022** through several channels:

- By email to consultation@ospri.co.nz
- By post to National TBfree Operations Consultation, PO Box 3412, Wellington 6140
- By phone on 0800 482 463
- By completing the form at ospri.co.nz/have-your-say website.

Please use the form below to submit your feedback on any of the proposed pest control operations outlined in this document.

Your feedback may become publicly available information. For this reason, please indicate clearly if your comments are commercially sensitive or if, for some other reason, you do not consider that they should be disclosed. Any request for non-disclosure will be considered under the Official Information Act 1982 and the Privacy Act 1993.

Your feedback will be used to help inform the final proposals. Thank you.

Name

Position and organisation

Area of interest (farmer, hunter, etc)

Phone

Email

Postal address

1. What is the proposed aerial operation/s you are commenting on?

2. What is the primary subject of your feedback?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Timings of proposed operation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please state): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boundaries | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Impact on business or commercial activity | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General operational concerns | |

3. Please outline your feedback

Te Aroha Primary School Sports Camp

Recently TVDA were approached by the Te Aroha Primary school to see if we would be able to help with basic archery tuition for some of their pupils who were entering an inter-primary school archery competition at Totara Springs Sport Camp.

Dennis Hayfield stepped up and did some training with four pupils from Te Aroha up at our TVDA range.

These pupils plus some others have since attended a club archery day, and are now actually keen to join our club.

The Te Aroha students did very well although not taking out the top placings, but having been taught by Denis with a compound bow, they arrived at the competition to find they had to use recurve bows which they had never seen or shot before.



Maureen received this letter from the teacher in charge of these pupils.

"I Love the way you can see the progression from the 1st day of practice to the camp even with the change bows.

The children had a great experience, achieved a new skillset, and have another fun activity they can enjoy in the outdoors.

Denis was a star with his kindness and patience and although this is an individual sport, he fostered a team spirit, which in my mind is so valuable.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your kindness, generosity, and all the help you have given me so these children could have an amazing opportunity. ***I really cannot thank you and Dennis enough***"

It's that time of the year again where Twilight sporting Clays and Twilight Archery are about to begin.

Check out the Calendar and see what's coming up

This is a great opportunity for anyone to come along and have a go.....

Members are there to help and support new shooters and archers and it's a very social atmosphere.

BBQ burgers for tea afterwards too if you want.

Costs:

- R/fee for clay \$5.00 per night plus \$9.00 per 25 targets
- Range fee for Archery is \$7.00 per person
- Burgers - \$6.00 each



Motutapere Hut maintenance by TVDA.

Motutapere Hut is a wonderful four bunker about an hours walk north from the Thompsons Track summit, otherwise accessed from the Tuahu Track. The hunting is variable with nearly impenetrable bush down to the east but access to open slips and some easier bush to the west. (I know of one deer being shot 20m from the hut on the heli-pad!

As any homeowner will know, over time stuff wears out or needs a makeover. Not so long ago the roof and cladding was replaced and the outside has since received another coat of paint, all done mainly by volunteers from TVDA. The facilitating body is the Kaimai Ridgeway Trust (KRT) which interfaces between volunteer groups such as TVDA, various tramping clubs and DOC. The Trust functions as a communication thread and also handles various funding arrangements and safety requirements such as heli-work protocols and use of mechanised scrub bars etc. as required

by DOC. It is a system which seems to work very well. TVDA has an agreement with the KRT to look

after the maintenance of Motutapere and Kauritatahi huts and the main access tracks to them.

Back to the maintenance. The deck at Motutapere was somewhat aged and simply sat on the ground so a decision was made to replace the structure with a new one which aligned better with the hut and water tank. The opportunity was also taken to improve the reliability of the water supply by adding guttering to the other half of the hut. At only 15 sq. meters total the collection from only half the roof at 7.5 litres per mm of rainfall wasn't very



much.

After submitting plans to KRT and receiving approval and funding the materials were purchased with support from Placemakers, Thames. After a false start due to weather the materials were flown into the hut by Aviation Training Ltd from a helipad near Katikati just before Fathers Day weekend.

Come Saturday morning the boys from Auckland, Kyle and Jason, builder and fireman respectively,

met Wayne and Mike from Thames for a starter coffee in TeAroha before heading up for a weekend of destruction and restoration. The old deck was uplifted and rolled aside in short order, assisted by Kyle's sabre saw. His skill-set soon had the team organised measuring and marking out the new deck, holes being dug, some changes to the plan to re-purpose some better parts of the old deck as bearers and joists cut to precise lengths. It seemed in only a few hours it was time to mix and pour concrete around the piles and beneath the bearers. Even as that was going on the pre-cut decking was being laid and screwed into place. What a boon battery powered tools are for jobs like this!



MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

With the weather which had been overcast threatening to precipitate a few gaps in proceedings were utilised for the less demanding job of fitting a new guttering to the north side of the hut and pipes around to the tank, all neat and tidy. Another little job to complete while everything was dry for glues to stick and set was joining the

tank overflow into the sink waste water pipe. Previously the tank overflow found its way across under the corner of the hut and the deck.

As dusk set in the final screws were driven in and it was time for a convivial evening in the comfort of the hut. Technology again but we even had the luxury of watching the AB's give the Pumas a shellacking on "phone TV". An assortment of hut meals, a tipple and a cuppa had everyone settled for a good nights sleep.

Fathers Day Sunday saw a windy cloudy morning but it didn't hinder Mike and Kyle from heading out to check the local deer population for an hour or so. On their return the team combined again to use off-cuts to make a really solid set of steps and re-purpose most of the old deck into board walk to the toilet. By 10 am the job was all done, tools tidied up, rat bait stations topped up, work site tidied up and we were off down the hill to catch up with kids and partners for the afternoon.

We hope all visitors, hunters, trampers, day-trippers and over-nighters alike enjoy the new facilities and especially the cool built-in seat with views across to sentinel rock to the east.

Many thanks to Mike Cook, Kyle Wiltenburg and Jason Affleck for their time, skills, equipment and ideas for a satisfying job well done.

Wayne Stachurski.



We would like to extend a hearty welcome to our new members who have joined since our last Newsletter.

- *Ian Burling*
- *Richard Barge*
- *Kate, Hannah and Jack Corrigan*
- *Andrew Barnes*

- *Glenn McGlade*
- *Troy Langley*
- *Michael Watkins*
- *Marie Whitworth*



*On a much sadder note, we say Farewell to Jeff Lackey who had joined TVDA three years ago, however he very sadly succumbed to the effects of Covid earlier this month.
Our sincerest thoughts are with Jeff's family and friends at this very difficult time.*

Black Powder Club Day shoots .

As several members are already black powder club members (at various places) and other members have black powder firearms but do not shoot them on a range, we have added a Black Powder Club day to our calendar.



So.....keep an eye on

the calendar and see when these Black Powder club days are and if you have a trusty musket in the gun safe or you are keen to come along and see how this style of shooting from an earlier era happens, then come along and have a watch.

Mike's Survival Camp.....

This is now full and registration have now closed due to an absolute flurry of people getting their forms in to us.

The camp was completely full in a matter of days so keep your eyes open kids and families as we are looking to have other Kids Events in the coming months to help bridge the gap and make more opportunities for kids and all the family to join in and have a great time.

Working Bee Photos from this weekend



Above: John and Alton with their trusty weedeaters did an awesome job tidying up the ground....



Above: Tony and Brian making the shelves for the new chiller...and they fitted perfectly



Above: George being restricted to only the bottom rung on the ladder

Docking at Panekiri

**We NEED you.
Can you HELP?**

This annual fundraiser starts on Friday 7th of October so this date is rolling around quickly

This year we are starting a wee bit earlier (the end of the first week in the school holidays) so this will mean that for all those kids and teenagers who are keen to come down – it will be more user friendly with your school terms.

It is envisaged that we will be finished approx. Saturday or Sunday the following week.

With good numbers of dockers to fill up the two crews for the 8-9 days, we should have it all but finished in that time.

For those who have not been down there before, we have two crews operating (from different areas on the station) and we stay in the shearer's quarters.

Essentially so long as the weather is ok – WE DOCK LAMBS and the more fine days we have the quicker we get through the job.

Huge thanks to those who have put their names down so far, or made contact – it really is so appreciated.



You don't need to have had experience docking lambs before – it's a case of many hands make light work and with everyone chipping in to help it certainly makes for a real social atmosphere and a great way to help out on both fronts – as an excellent club fundraiser and also helping the team down on the Station.

All you need to bring is some farm clothes, a sleeping bag and a willingness to work as a team and the rest just falls into place. The meals and food are all provided by the club. Car pooling and transport can also be arranged if need be.



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

- Membership card with discounts at major retailers, including:
 - 15% off at Beaurepaires
 - 5%-30% off at Big Save Furniture
 - 15% at Carters
 - Up to 30% at Mico Plumbing
 - 20% off rooms at Millennium Hotels and Resorts
 - Office Max
 - PlaceMakers
 - 10% off at Repco
- Exclusive NZDA discounts:
 - Interisland Ferry group booking discount (contact us for the code)
 - Go Native outdoor meals and snacks, 25% discount
 - Napier of London shooting and hunting goods, 15% discount
 - AJ Productions - electronic game caller and trail cameras, 15% discount
 - Kilwell Sports hunting supplies, 15% discounts on website orders
 - Hunting with Huntahr Guiding, 10% discount
 - Heli Sika, 10% discount on helicopter flights to hunting blocks
 - Murchison Heli Tours, 10% off your flights
 - NZ Taxidermy Ltd, 10% discount on mounts
 - Bullivant Taxidermy, 10% discount on mounts
 - Ruahine Tanning & Taxidermy, 10% discount on mounts
 - 10% discount of Department of Conservation annual Backcountry Hut Pass or 'Hut Pass'. See the DoC website for more details
 - 10% discount at all good sporting, shooting and hunter retailers on request



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.

MORE Hunts and Events.....

Please pencil these dates in and make sure you keep an eye on the next newsletter for more details

Docking at Panekiri

Confirmed: Friday the 7th to Sunday the 16th of October

Please see the other details through this newsletter

There are no age barriers on who can attend – everyone is most welcome and you do not need to have any prior experience.

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

Confirmed

Te Urewera Spring - Fly In Trip

This is Booked and confirmed for 8th – 11th of December
Huts/Blocks booked are Right Branch ,Ngahirimai,
Takarua, Duckville and Casino

Contact: Brian Neilson 0278910958
Or email: brianneilson@xtra.co.nz

Confirmed

Stewart Island Club Trips/Blocks for 2023

Fred's Camp has been booked for a double period from 23rd March to 11th Of April.

The neighbouring Freshwater block has been booked for the 2nd of April To the 11th of April

This will enable good hunting and camping on the flats between the blocks.

There is good boat/dinghy and water taxi access to this area as well.

Plenty of fishing available as well and with the bookings like this, it will enable more flexibility for those going on the trip.

Contact Person: Maureen Coleman 027 3337786 a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz

Confirmed
23rd March to
11th April 2023

Auckland Anniversary Weekend Club Hunt January 2023

Pureora Forest – CLUB HUNTING TRIP – FAMILY TRIP AWAY

Dates: Thursday night 26th January to Monday 30th January 2023

Where: Pureora Forest Park

Accommodation: We are booked into the Pureora Forest Park Lodge (this is a Lion's run facility and it's awesome)

Hunting: Red deer and Pigs

Info: This is an excellent area for red deer. A 1080 drop has taken place down there in July but come January it is anticipated that it will be fine to hunt that area. This is especially in light of all the rain that has fallen over the last couple of months.

Or: this is a great place just to bring the family away for the weekend, go tramping, biking or just chilling out with friends.

Access: Drive right to the door so take as much or as little gear as you want. Take the pushbikes too if you want....

What else: Power, hot showers, heating, drying room for wet/damp gear, awesome kitchen and dining room areas, tons of space, bunkrooms and comfy mattresses

Prices: Adults \$20.00 pp per night - Under 17 \$10.00 pp per night

Food: Approx \$30.00 per person for the trip (provided by the club)

Contact: Maureen on a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz or phone 027 3337786

Website: www.pureoraforestlodge.org.nz



Stumpy`s Tales

‘Short Back and Sides’

The ten men in the bush gang were a pretty young crew. Stumpy, the gang boss, at twenty-five was the oldest.

Like all bush crews working in the Kaingaroa Forest in those early days, they worked hard and played hard. The crew members were all great mates.

The parents of one of the crew lived in Rotorua and he would spend weekends at home there when not working.

One day he told the crew that his parents had taken off to Norfolk Island for a holiday, and as he was spending the weekend at the house alone, why didn't they all go along for the two days and warm the 'old shack' up a bit.

This sounded like a pretty good idea, so the whole crew accepted the invitation, and so did a log truck driver who happened to be there at the time.

Inviting this chap, Joe, proved to be a drastic mistake. He was big, blond, loudmouthed – and he just had to tinker with anything mechanical.

The whole crew arrived at the house on Friday evening with their host, their luggage clinking and rattling for it consisted solely of crates of beer and flagons of wine.

The 'old shack' turned out to be something else again. It was a huge, well-appointed mansion set in large, well-attended grounds. It was immediately obvious the owners had not gone to Norfolk Island to dodge the bailiff – they must be loaded! The house had every mod con imaginable – and the boys were struck dumb in wonder



They wandered around looking the place over, and dumped their 'luggage' in the spacious living room without very much care. There would be no breakages – ankle deep, wall to wall, shagpile carpet would see to that.

The party started immediately and went on all Friday night and into the Saturday. When supplies ran out or hunger overtook the crew, they would have a whip around and then send out a 'foraging' party.

Things got pretty noisy at times, but that was of no consequence – with those spacious grounds around, there were no close neighbours to complain.

By midnight Saturday, things were really humming along, when big mouth Joe, of the mechanical mind, found a reel mower while ferreting around in the gardener's shed. He of course, just had to see if 'she' would go so he wound the motor up. 'She' went !

Drunk in charge of the motor mower, Joe put up a pretty fair imitation of his calling, a log truck driver, to entertain the boys.

With his left hand throwing the imaginary gear box into Low, Low, he drove the mower up the front steps into the house, shot through the gears into 'overdrive' to go down the 'flat tarmac' of the hall. He dropped to 'Low Second' at full revs to get through the heavy going of shagpile carpet in the living room. Then disaster struck. Being drunk, he ran into the couch and stalled the motor – which by his reckoning was gutless anyway.

It was then discovered that the mower had cut half an inch of pile off the carpet from door to couch. This stuck out like a sore thumb and could not be camouflaged. It was obvious some doctoring was required.

The decision was made, 'Let`s mow the whole carpet – it will then all be the same length and the damage not so noticeable !!

Out went all the furniture. Joe stoked the mower up and mowed the whole living room.

That evened up the level of the pile though the carpet did look a bit motheaten and tatty around the edges.

Back went the furniture, but it was a forlorn hope that the owners would notice nothing amiss on their return.

The boys of the gang never did discover if the owners noticed their carpet had received a 'short back and sides', for the day before their return, the son resigned from the crew and shot through to the South Island – for no reason at all !



Joe on the far right !



New Zealand Firearms Licence Application Form

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

Firearms Licence RENEWAL APPLICATIONS

New Arms officers have started and are really helping to make a difference in getting licence applications processed.

'please still make sure everyone that you all check your firearms licence expiry date and make sure that you get your RENEWAL APPLICATIONS lodged at least 6 months in advance of it expiring'. Due to the new process (of having a team working on the Historical Files and another team working on the 'current applications'), those who are due to renew are not having their applications backlogged any longer.

Due to the new Firearms Licence laws, if your firearms licence expires **BEFORE** you get your NEW LICENCE issued to you, you will have to surrender your firearms until such time as the new licence is processed and in your hands.

This is still the case however Police do have extra staff working on the re-licencing process.

What has also come to light in recent days is that a directive has been given by Police HQ to Arms office staff, that effectively they are now working as a 'business unit' so almost all staff are only working 'normal business hours'.

This is a major issue with getting interviews and visits done – even more so for the referees. I was told that if someone wants a licence then they will make the time available.....but what about the referee/s, they are not the one wanting the licence but are all treated the same. They are expected to take annual leave to be at the specific location at a predetermined time.

Maureen has written to Police and the Minister about this and is awaiting a reply.

RANGE USE

As a general FYI to all members – 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.**



The latest round of photos from the Previous HUNTS mentored hunting weekend....



L-R: Liam Rogers is stokeed with his frosty morning Red Hind;



Zev Lumb with his well earned young billy after several hours of hunting

Below: Elliott Humphrey about to do the knife work on his fallow doe....watch the fingers!!!





Clockwise from Top Left:

- Amelia Sanson with her Red Hind that was taken with an excellent 220m shot
- Livy Baillie with her big fallow doe hanging up in the killing shed after a solid carry back to the road
- Back: L-R: Charlie and Sophie Baillie with their rewards. Both shot a Red each but boned them out and got all the meat for the long uphill carry to get the meat home.
Front: A very happy Ash Rogers with his yearling Red after patiently waiting for the right shot.



Trap Line Updates and catch results

WANTED



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

It's great having a really keen and dedicated Pool of members out there helping with the various trap lines that we have in place.

The most recent Trap line to come 'on stream' is the one in the Karangahake Gorge on the Cycle way through the Waikino area.

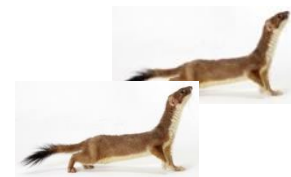
Kade and the team are looking after this one and it's already having an effect. So much so that the Hauraki Rail Trail team have now approached us to see if we'd be keen to assist with monitoring additional traps across the various sections of the Hauraki Rail Trail when they get the funding to purchase them.

Dennis Hayfield on 027 2211892 or Brian Neilson on 027 8910958

[Trap Catch details on the Coromandel Traps Lines .](#)

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

- 169 Stoats
- 118 Rats
- 123 Hedgehogs
- 3 Ferret
- 3 Mice
- 2 Birds.
- 8 Weasels



1 Stoat and 1 Weasel caught since last newsletter. These are included in totals.

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

- 10 Stoats
- 21 Weasels
- 246 Rats
- 2 Hedgehog
- 1 Mouse



1 Stoat, 2 Weasels and 15 rats were caught since last newsletter. These are included in totals.

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- Insurance Inspections

The Kauaeranga Billy Goat Track Trap - We've still not been able to contact Hadleigh to get the up to date details for this trapline however, the details up to May are as follow:

Rats up to May = 98

Mice up to May = 3

Weasels up to May = 1

Another 'new line' has come on board at Miranda and this has also been yielding some excellent catch results. Given that the current K2K line has helped with seeing significant increases in the Royal Spoonbill tallies wading in the shallow (due to successful nesting outcomes), it will be great to add to this existing trap line and help removing these pesky little buggars on the new **Miranda Trapline**.



- **21 Stoats**
- **20 Rats**
- **4 Hedghogs**
- **15 Mice**

1 mouse has been caught since last newsletter. Included in totals



Dave Madsen Contracting	FENCING
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The last trap line to come on stream for us has been the section along the Hauraki Rail Trail – predominately through the **Waikino area**.

This trap line has taken a while to get the traps on the ground for various reasons but it has been a great seeding programme as there are many more planned along the rail trail in the coming months.

- 20 Rats
- 4 Stoats
- 3 Ferrets
- 1 Hedgehog

4 Rats, 1 Ferret and 1 Hedgehog have been caught since last newsletter. Incl in totals.

Massive thanks to all the teams and helpers who undertake this work – your combined efforts are making a fantastic contribution to the overall wellbeing of our many species of native flora and fauna.



Swamp Comp 2022

Now's the time when these pesky little killers are really foraging around for food and then it will be into the spring months when they really crank up to feed their young over the breeding season.

The Swamp Comp is an awesome way to reward

people for setting traps, nabbing these mustelids and helping to increase all bird populations – particularly those of our native species and ground nesting birds – ie ducks and pheasants etc.

All you have to do is cut off the tail, put it in the freezer in a zip lock bag and then hand them into Hunting and Fishing in November.

Tails that are eligible for the competition are: weasel, stoat and ferret tails.

Any other pests that you catch and remove from the ecosystem are a bonus....

A bit more info about these little buggars.....

Some very quick bullet points and stats on mustelids in general here in NZ:

- They can and often do breed throughout the year and females often have two litters per year
- Each litter averages about 6-8 kits per litter
- Female kits are impregnated at approx. 10 days old (normally by their own father) while still in the nest, blind and suckling their mother
- Once these females reach approx. 3 months of age the pregnancy start to progress
- Gestation period is often as short as 5-6 weeks for mature females
- Kits are weaned at approx. 5 weeks and they hunt as a family for the new month
- Kits are then full time killing machines on their own from 8-10 weeks of age
- Kits will breed within their first year (approx. 6 months of age) and have full sized litters
- Mustelids usually consume about 25% of their own body weight in food per day
 - Weasels (the smallest of the mustelids) - this equates to a minimum of 1 small birds per day or a small rat per day
 - Stoats (the most common of the mustelids) – this equates to a minimum of 2-3 small birds per day or at least 1 full grown rat
 - Ferrets (the largest of the NZ mustelids) – they can weigh up to 1kg so this is a lot of birds.....and they will happily kill chooks, ducks, kiwi and anything else that they can catch on the ground or up in trees. These guys are absolute killing machines.
 - Females of all 3 species when close to giving birth will kill well in excess of her own body weight per day



Bowhunters Corner



Next club day is Sunday 9th of October 2022

Club Day Report from Sunday the 11th of September

We had about 28 archers, some experienced and some inexperienced, using compound, recurves and longbow.

A course of 20 targets were set out using 3d and bales.



Everyone enjoyed the course especially the new people judging by the Yahoos and laughter that could be heard.

A shared lunch is enjoyed by everyone after the archery is finished and this is a great time to check the scores, laugh about some of the ooop's and get tips from other archers.

These club days are a wonderful change to learn so much about the sport and a great way for the family to all spend time together.

Dennis Hayfield

Did you know that Dennis Hayfield was almost expelled from archery School....fortunately his dad was able to pull a couple of strings!!!



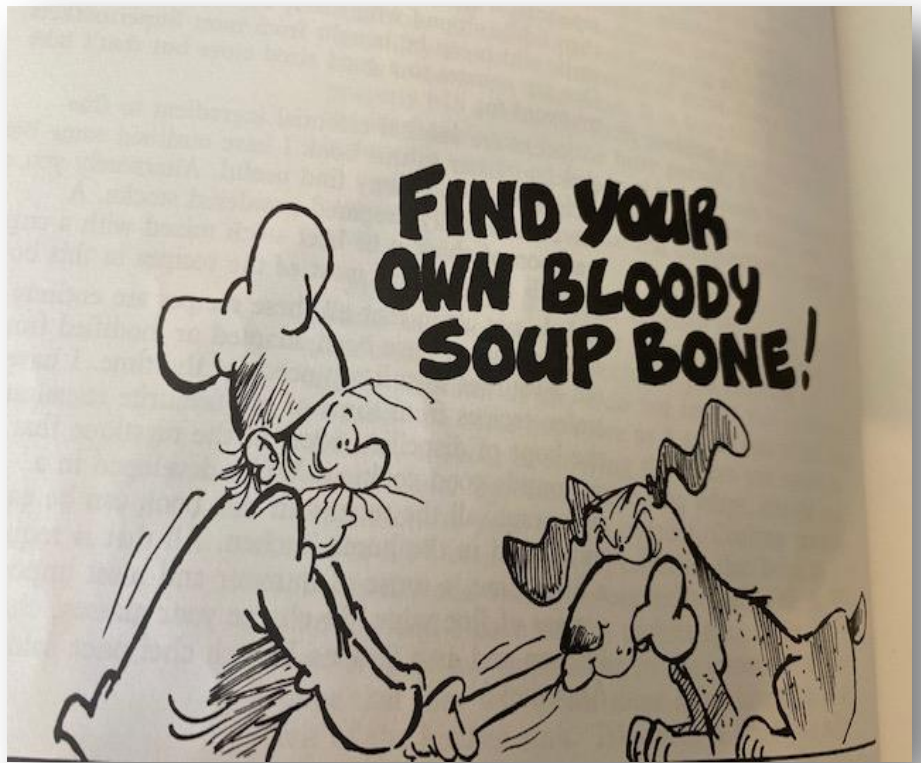
The Hunters Kitchen.....

The Mad Chef

'A snippet from the book'.....

Opening Night

The restaurant we took over was a one hundred and ten year old cottage called the "Brown House ". Not a very inspiring name but nether the less the place exuded warmth and was full of character and history.



It even had a resident ghost who went by the name of George. Story had it that some years before the house being converted into a restaurant, the house was owned by a widow and her children. Times were tough and in order to make ends meet she took on a boarder. For reasons not clear the boarder took his life in the coal shed which later became the restaurants store room. His spirit never rested and for many years he haunted many restaurant owners and caused general mayhem by hurling pots and plates about the kitchen until a priest was summoned to exorcise the ghost. From that day on , he behaved himself..... Until the night we took over ! I blame George for what you are about to read because it is infeasible that the series of events could have unfolded if he were not to have a hand in it.

It was a Friday, later to known as Black Friday.

The day went well enough. Preparation was completed in good time and the bookings were steady. We were into the middle of winter so the days were long and the nights were cold. Half an hour before we were scheduled to open, I set about lighting the 2 open fires that were to serve as a heat source during the long winter months. A simple enough task. One match was all it took to coax both fires into an enthusiastic blaze. I retired to the sanctuary of the kitchen to recheck things for the tenth time.

At two minutes to six I entered the restaurant enroute to unlock the front door allowing access to the hundreds of hungry diners that were soon to descend upon us. Actually we only had a dozen booked. We were too scared to let anymore in. The sight that greeted me stopped me in mid-flight. Visibility had reduced to zero as both fires spewed volumes of acrid coal smoke into the tiny dining area.

To say I panicked would be an understatement.

Our very first customers were due in just under ten minutes, it was minus 2 outside and you couldn't see from one end of the restaurant to the other. Breathing in such conditions was not an option. Frantically I opened every door and window in the place, turned on the extractors fans and ran around the dining room flapping sheets of newspaper in a desperate bid to clear the air. As the haze dissipated, I became conscious the temperature inside was plummeting and becoming dangerously close to freezing point. By this stage Karen

had deemed it wise to busy herself at the opposite end of the restaurant and no amount of colourful language could persuade her presence in the dining room would any more than a hindrance to me. Conscious of time ticking by, I sprinted up the narrow stairs in search of the little two bar heater that had served me well during my varsity days. It still amazes me that my headlong flight from the top of the stairs to the bottom resulted in no serious damage to either myself or the little two bar heater. Karen continued reorganising nothing in particular at the far end of the kitchen and did not afford me even as much as a backward glance.

I distinctly remember plugging the heater in and flicking the switch. I also seem to recollect a flash followed by the sensation of being catapulted through space. The blood-curdling scream that preceded the loud crash as I was propelled into the wall was too much for Karen, for fearing the worst she burst through the swing door with genuine concern written across her face. This quickly transformed itself into a fit of giggles at the sight of my prostrate form laying upside down in the corner of the room.



"I got a shock !" was all I could manage through the tears that were forming rivulets across my coal blackened face.

So too did the elderly couple that were watching in awe from the doorway. And so our first two customers departed without so much as a word and with appetites still in need of satisfying.

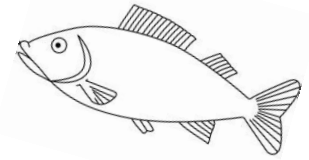
The remainder of the night was a blur. I don't remember cooking any of the meals but a restaurant half full of contented diners bore testimony to this accomplishment. It was , however, a turning point in my life. I was now a fully-fledged restaurateur and I took up drinking seriously !



Congratulations..... to Tash Cook on finally being able to be awarded her Bachelor of Science in Para-medicine in style and amongst her peers.

This should have been awarded in 2021 but we all know what thwarted that.

So proud of you Tash and also Mum and Dad (Kylie and Mike).



SEAFOOD MAINS

Marinated Snapper

For those of us who are health conscious or busy watching our cholesterol, this dish is sure to prove popular.



- 500g snapper
- 1 onion
- 2 cloves of garlic
- 1 fresh chilli
- 1 green pepper
- 1 tomato
- ½ cup lemon juice
- 300ml coconut cream

Cut snapper into bite size pieces and cover with lemon juice.

Leave to marinate at room temperature for several hours, or in the fridge over night. Turn the fish occasionally to ensure it is evenly marinated.

Dice the onion, pepper, garlic, chilli and tomato.

Pour over coconut cream and leave at room temperature to gather flavour.

Drain juices from fish and discard.

Mix the snapper with the cream concoction and garnish with chopped parsley.

Serve in a lettuce leaf.



TVDA Anniversary Cup

100 Sporting Targets

Thames Valley District Championships

Sunday 6th November 2022

8.30am start

*Thames Valley Deerstalkers Range, Morrison Road, Paeroa
(1.5kms past Racecourse) 10.30am Cutoff for entries*

**Welcome one and all – great targets for everyone
Excellent targets shot on two fields of 50**

****Transport for all shooters to the start of each field****

Superb Prize Table & Friendly atmosphere

Wonderful Food & Hospitality

Ammo & Eftpos available

Holten Collegiate Trophy – (any shooter who is still at school is eligible)

Top Notch Drawn Prizes – must be there to take these prizes

Grades: AA, A, B, C, UnReg \$70.00

Categories: Ladies, Masters, S/Vets, Veterans, Juniors, TVDA \$60.00

Enquiries – Maureen Coleman 027 3337786 or a.j.coleman@xtra.co.nz



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