



Passed in flying colours! ... HUNTS trainees with their completion certificates. The weather Gods played hardball on graduation night so only 7 of the 12 trainees (who all passed) were able to make it. The rest knew it wasn't safe to cross rivers that night eh?! Congratulations to you all.

# Club Night Tuesday 28th Sept (Covid permitting)

Our very own member, Nick King will provide great insights into assessing animals on the hoof.....a must for all keen, budding or experienced trophy hunters.

Please note Covid and we will update by email nearer the time of this great event. Saxton Field Smallbore venue.

**Overview** Editorial

Contents

Range Matters -**H&S** and Access

Sept Feature:

HUNTS - We Are Back!

Member **Benefits** 

Fish & Game Report

**Club Night** 

Tuesday 28th **Sept 7.30 pm** 

**Assessing** trophy animals on the hoof -**Nick King** 

at

**TSN Smallbore Range Saxton** Field

Links to: Red Deer Lodge Information

Committee Members

Key weblinks

www.nzdanelson.co.nz

#### **Editorial**

Covid again.....Barry Crump said it once so I don't need to repeat it. At least this time around we are better versed and we have a bit of a feel for what is likely to happen as information comes out daily.

This month's Echo focuses on the recently completed 2021 HUNTS course. Cancelled last year due to Covid, we now know we were lucky to sneak one in the gap this time around. Much more on this important area of NZDA work in an unashamedly pictorial feature story below.

Until there is more certainty our usual activities and services will be constrained by Covid like everybody



else's. It was a pity to cancel Club Night but that is how it flows, we hope the Ballot Information posted on our website is of use and please drop a line if there are technical issues (of course, <u>apart from</u> where the 12 pointers are) that you may need help with. Obviously, the Range is shut till further notice too. Keep an eye on emails and our website for updates

Stay safe, Richard Wells

# Range Matters- H&S and Vehicle Access

Presently we are reviewing all the documents we use to manage health and safety at the Packers Creek Range. This will be followed up by an on the ground audit and confirmation of health and safety procedures as well as Hazard ID and management in early October before the start of shooting events.

Expect to see in October refreshed paperwork by email and on our website (Range section).

#### When Driving to the Range from Security Gate

- Have your membership card ready for gate opener
- · Headlights on
- Look out for other traffic, cyclists and walkers, keep to moderate speed

**Vehicle Third Party Insurance:** One aspect which we want range users to note is the need to ensure you have third party liability insurance for any vehicle you drive up to the range. This is because we pass through forest for which the main concern of owners is fire. Whilst they control access during high fire risk, if any vehicle accident were to occur while transiting to our range then third party is <u>very</u> important. Most vehicle cover has this cover and to a surprising level (to cover vehicle owners against just such events). Please take the time to check yours if you use the access road.

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#### **HUNTS** – We are Back!

After a Covid enforced break last year our local team have put in the work and delivered another HUNTS course to 12 keen recipients (now hunters!).

So, what is HUNTS? Our very own Hunter National Training Scheme, a nationwide, NZDA led programme delivered by Branches in collaboration with other associations (e.g., for us here in Nelson it's our regional Fish and Game folks, who help train in gamebird shooting). Interested? see more here: HUNTS.

The course focuses on the key skills and knowledge sets required to hunt successfully, safely and lawfully. That's why the syllabus is wide ranged, hunting is a complex sport when all facets are considered, so the topics covered are:

- Regulations
- Ethics
- Ecology
- Equipment and food required
- Travel and navigation
- NZ's game animals
- Upland game birds
- Range shooting and firearm set up
- Use of firearms in hunting context
- Hunting techniques
- Caring for your meat and trophies
- Preparing for when "things go wrong"

Of course, under all these headings there are a wide range of things to learn. Our local HUNTS team are Bill O'Leary, Lawson Davey (F&G - game birds, which half the trainees took advantage of), Garry Dunn, Alister Ching and Alex Monahan of Doughboy Safaris, all pitching in their considerable time, expertise and resources to this programme. This year we had 12 trainees enrolled, with a range of ages from teens to "middle aged" (whatever that means!) and two women hunters this year. Good to see a wide cross-section, it speaks well for the future of hunting! One trainee travelled regularly from Golden Bay to attend each session and such an attitude will sure see them be a great hunter too.

Desktop parts of the course are undertaken at the Fish and Game rooms in Richmond, but as can be seen in the pictorial part of this feature, much of the cool stuff happens outdoors.



Alister provides coaching on sitting position freehand shooting.



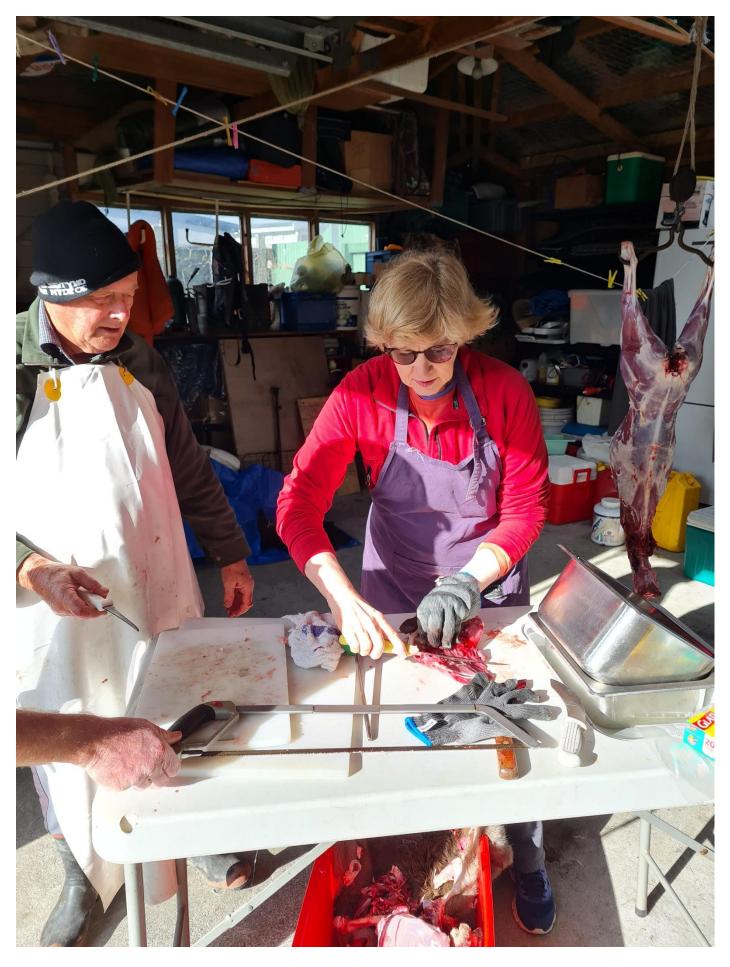
One more river to cross....essential skills in getting to your hunting grounds....and back.



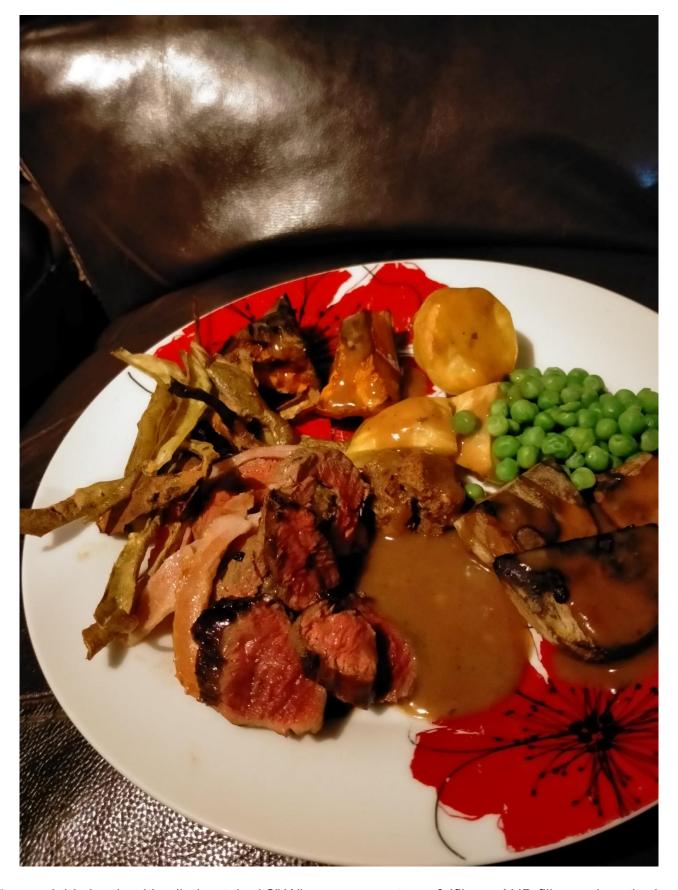
Catch and Carry.....After "range time" trainee Israel puts practice to the test, successfully too; meanwhile Felix carries a load



Trainee Andy getting the harvested animal to look more like meat.....he may be learning how "fluffy" winter fallow are?!



"Scalpel.....!!" Karen is supported by Bill, as dressed and skinned animals become cooking cuts www.nzdanelson.co.nz



"....and this is what it's all about, innit?" When your sport can fulfil you AND fill you, then that's a winner for dinner.

#### **Shout out for our HUNTS Sponsors**

The HUNTS programme doesn't work without 3 key ingredients.... dedicated work by the Course leaders, the trainees of course, but also support from sponsors. Stoney Creek (who are national programme sponsors - providing a HUNTS pack of clothing etc), local homekill and meat processor Meat Solutions run by James Fairbrass on Salisbury Road Richmond, and Alex Monahan (NZDA member too) of Doughboy Safaris help make this all possible, our thanks to them and support them eh?

More info here: Stoney Creek



Meat Solutions of Richmond - turning your hunting success into ready packed meals!

More info here: Meat Solutions



More info here: Doughboy Safaris



#### Member Benefits - Don't Miss Out

It's easy to forget!! Remind yourself of NZDA membership benefits and supplier discounts by clicking here: Benefits and Discounts

Also, our local Hunting and Fishing stores (Nelson and Richmond) are offering Nelson NZDA members 10% discount on many items as well as to be in the draw for a PLB – see below b





### Fish and Game News



Website: Fish and Game Nelson

# Club Night (Covid Level Dependent)

# Assessing Game Animals on the Hoof with Nick King





Time and Date: 7.30 pm Tuesday September 28th

**Venue:** Target Shooting Nelson Small Bore Club Range, Saxton Field

Please park in Football Club carpark as grounds around building very waterlogged

www.nzdanelson.co.nz

# **Red Deer Lodge**

Information on costs and bookings of the Red Deer Lodge at Lake Rotoiti Red Deer Lodge

Contact for Accom: info@starnaudholidaycottages.co.nz

Always remember to advise you are a Nelson member.

#### 2021 Branch Committee, Information & Contacts

All details can be found on our refreshed website: Nelson Branch Committee

Website Nelson Branch NZDA

Facebook Facebook Nelson NZDA

## Other Key Links - click on the blue

NZDA National Association NZDA

DOC Hunting Portal Hunting Conservation Land

Fiordland Wapiti Foundation Wapiti

Game Animal Council GAC

COLFO COLFO

Mountain Safety Council MSC

NZ Police (Firearms Law) Firearms