





A special welcome to any New Members! A sincere apology too for a very delayed newsletter, hence merging two together.

Thankyou to all who let me know of their successes. For those that do not know, Email me at <u>stgd94@gmail.com</u> with your archery related news/pics that you want to share.

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year. May 2017 be a good one!!!

Tournament News

There are no tournament results that I am aware of over this period. Talking of tournaments though, K3D is about to get underway so if you are interested in shooting a 3D round, search it up.

The South Westland Bowhunters Christmas shoot was a huge hit (with just as much luck as shooting ability required) and Rebekah took top score, followed by Sarah.

The Kaipara Saltwater Bowfishing competition went well for Sarah (2nd in Ladies) and Rebekah (3rd in Ladies + 2nd in Junior).

For Club Prizegiving, the following trophies were won by those mentioned:

Best Competition Shooter - Benjamin O Most Improved Sighted Bow - Cameron S Most Improved Unsighted Bow - Jason R Highest Average Score Sighted - Taegyn L Highest Average Score Unsighted - Craig R Small Game Award - Rebekah T Big Game Award - Sarah T Sports Person Award - Cameron and Jo Wooden Spoon - Jim L

Bowhunting News

Congrats to Riley for getting his first rabbit! Woohoo - great job! Rebekah shot her first Chamois, Mullet, Kahawai, Mackerel and Parore. Firsts for Sarah included
Flounder, Parore, Kahawai, Mackerel, Kingfish and Sharks. An incredible number of firsts this round. Total tallies from 1st November – 28th February: 22 Goats, 24
Rabbits, 7 small game wallabies, 6 Turkeys, 2 Hares, 2 Magpies, 1 Rat, 1 small game
Pig, 17 Possums. For fish: 127 Koi Carp, 2 Flounder, 3 Parore, 36 Mullet, 6 Mackerel, 4 Kahawai, a Kingfish and 1 small game Shark. For Big Game: A Chamois from South Westland for Rebekah and a Canterbury High Country Tahr for Sarah as well as 3 Waimate Wallabies, 1 Bay of Plenty Wallaby, 2 South Westland Chamois and 2 Sharks from the Coromandel.

Club News

I heard the Christmas shoot and prizegiving went well. An enjoyable afternoon and evening for all those who attended. A Big thanks to Cameron and Jo for providing the premises to host the event.

Story Page - please do send me an archery related story and it will likely feature here. It's nice to hear from a variety of people about their adventures!

Stories please!!!!

I've written a poem about my frustrating North Island wallaby hunting for something different, I hope you enjoy!

Wallaby Mission

Part 1:

From Wairakei to Rotorua I went, wallaby in mind Off I went, said beast to find A cool start became a warm winter day Walking around the lake, I went from bay to bay Time slipped by; none to be seen There was evidence of where they'd been Uphill I went into deeper bush and fern There was wallaby sign at every turn Suddenly I saw movement in a sunny patch It was the very species I wanted to dispatch However, the wallaby was unsure and hopped a short way Keeping a careful eye on him, I hoped he'd stay Behind a tree he was sitting, Leaving no chance of an arrow hitting To get a better angle, I tried to edge around Hoping and trying to make no sound All I needed was the wallaby to sit still Apparently, that was against his will Hopping off into the undergrowth he went Little did he know, he was mastering torment Slowly and carefully, I pursued The game of cat and mouse ensued Eventually I could see him through a tight spot Preparing myself, I took the shot Harmlessly, the arrow flew over his shoulder Frustrated, my temper started to smoulder In several hops, the wallaby was gone Not giving up, I continued on For the remainder of the day nothing was to be found I walked and walked, but there were no wallabies around Across the carpark to my ute I strode With the sun setting, I got back on the road

Part 2:

Six months later, I returned once more Hoping this time a wallaby I'd score 48 hours disappeared with none seen under day light Yet plenty annoying us in the camp at night Frustrated, another place I tried It was high time a wallaby died But alas, no shot was to be made Confidence waning, hopes began to fade The rain poured down and we took a break 4 days away, then back to the Lake With doubt and dejection at the fore We had to try - at least once more Stalking along for quite some time, The situation suddenly turned prime Rebekah spotted a wallaby up ahead This one was GOING to become dead! He started to hop off to my disdain Promptly he stopped in a tight shooting lane Super carefully I eased to full draw Lining up, a sound aiming spot I saw Remaining calm, I held my sight pin steady, for what happened next the wallaby wasn't ready The arrow struck, led by a mechanical broadhead Unable to escape, the wallaby fell to his deathbed Whoever would have thought they'd be so hard to get For future reference, don't forget: "NEVER give up until the goal is met"



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