

# NEWS UPDATE

## North Eastern England Branch

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I attended the National Conference and AGM held at Newport on 13-14th May. The first day consisted of a series of expert lectures. It is a new format and marks the Society's commitment to supporting scientific research to underpin Deer Conservation. The AGM discussed plans for the Society's future and I urge every Branch member to take note of what was said. The Board plan to advance the Society through a targeted web strategy and new joint ventures. They are to be complimented for taking steps. But the core issue is the strategic identity of the BDS in a sector populated by organisations with overlapping interests. And a key matter is the relationship between the BDS and its regional Branches. The Branches need a strategic role within the BDS if membership is to grow. I do not yet detect that strategy. In its absence, it may be necessary for the Branches to decide their own plan for survival.

*Christopher Roy-Toole* Branch Chairman

### A Demonstration of Thermal Imaging Equipment for Deer Counts 20th June 2017

*Scott Country International* will demonstrate thermal imaging equipment to the Branch to inform any future purchase. The event will be held on Tuesday 20th June 2017 at 7.30pm to 10pm at Kirkley Hall in Ponteland, NE20 0AQ. This is the local campus of Northumberland College and we are keen to forge links with it. There will be a chance to try the equipment outdoors. No prior booking required. Meet in the car park on arrival. Do please try to attend as Scott Country are coming from a distance.

### A Veterinary Lecture

11th July 2017

Our Veterinarian in residence, Peter Gray, will deliver a lecture on a topic of interest. Details to be notified. Members please contact Stephen Hyde or Christopher Roy-Toole to book places. Venue will be in the Chester-le-Street area. Lecture to commence at 7.30pm on Tuesday 11th July.

### Emergency First Aid at Work Plus Forestry Certification

5th August 2017

The Branch is offering a one-day training event for certification in EFAW +F. This is being provided in collaboration with Northumberland College. **The cost is very competitive at £50 per person.** The venue is Kirkley Hall in Ponteland. The date is Saturday 5th August between 9am and 6pm. Members and other interested persons must book via the Branch contact email below and make their payment as directed to the Branch Account.

Contact the Branch Committee:

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