

# BRANCH NEWS

## North Eastern England Branch

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### A Message from the Branch Chairman

The Chairman will attend the Joint Deer Management Conference on 8th September at Leamington Spa. The situation in Scotland is becoming more significant. The Chairman has made new contacts on both sides of the Border that are necessary to have as we move further into the debate on the future of Deer Management in the UK. The Branch Committee is developing its forward strategy and you are likely to see this Branch working in new ways. Member participation at our Branch events is now markedly better than it has been for years. The Branch has a full calendar of events taking us into 2018. **All this means that we must have more people on our Branch Committee to help to plan and execute our work.** If you have ideas or skills to bring then you may get the chance to run your own working party on a key topic. So please respond to the call for recruits to the Committee. We have come a long way since the 2017 AGM. We have real prospects for the future, but we must have the active participation and support of our members.

**Christopher Roy-Toole**

### Recruiting more Branch Officers

Tim Swaddle-Scott is keen to remain on the Committee and he will. But current demands on his time mean that he needs to relinquish the role of **Branch Treasurer**. So we are advertising the job. It is not difficult. Here is a chance to help plan our future. We also want **more Committee members** to help us take on our larger projects. Contact the Chairman.

### Larders and Forest Design *Best Practice* event at Kielder Forest

Saturday 14th October 2017

The *Deer Initiative* and BDS North East England will host a *Best Practice* event at Kielder Forest with the support of the Forestry Commission. Alastair Boston will lead the event. We will look at forest planning and deer management methods such as deer fences, the siting of deer mounds and doe boxes. There will also be a visit to the Larder. This is an half-day event. Please arrive at 8.30am and we will conclude at 12.30pm. The price is £17.00 per head. Bring your own lunch. Confirm your place quickly as places are limited. Book via the *Deer Initiative* website at:

<https://data.thedeerinitiative.co.uk/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=54>

### BDS Inter-Branch Border Shoot

Sunday 24th September 2017

The Branch will participate in the *Border Shoot* rifle competition this year. It will be hosted by BDS North West England Branch at Grayrigg. We must select a team. Gardner Guns have kindly offered us access to their Longtown range for this purpose. Contact the Chairman for more information. We need to move quickly to organise the selection in August and early September 2017. Use only Deer-Legal Calibres, which include .222 centrefire.

### Wolsingham Show

First Weekend in September 2017

We will be there. The theme this year is *Training for the Stalker and the Deer Manager*. So come along and support us. Volunteers are always welcome to assist. Exhibits, trophies and paraphernalia are always useful to have on the stand. Contact us if you can assist in any way.

### Emergency First Aid at Work Plus Forestry

Due to excess demand, we aim to provide a repeat of Andy Smith's popular and well recommended course on *EFAW + F*. Contact the Branch to confirm the numbers of people attending and we will make inquiries on your behalf. Many Thanks to all who attended the event on 5th August 2017 for making it the success that it was.

### Durham Police appeal for information:

[www.durham.police.uk/news-and-events/Pages/News%20Articles/Appeal-after-deer-killed-in-Weardale-.aspx](http://www.durham.police.uk/news-and-events/Pages/News%20Articles/Appeal-after-deer-killed-in-Weardale-.aspx)

### SLDMG takes a lead against poaching:

[www.thewestmorlandgazette.co.uk/news/15386936.Volunteers\\_help\\_police\\_in\\_poaching\\_crackdown/](http://www.thewestmorlandgazette.co.uk/news/15386936.Volunteers_help_police_in_poaching_crackdown/)

### **Project Poacher** now has an App to assist in reporting rural crimes:

<https://basc.org.uk/blog/uncategorized/project-poacher-app-proves-a-hit/>

### Bovine TB in Cumbria: *The need to remain vigilant*

[http://www.thewestmorlandgazette.co.uk/news/15454765.Farmers\\_face\\_restrictions\\_as\\_badgers\\_found\\_to\\_carry\\_bovine\\_TB\\_in\\_Cumbria/](http://www.thewestmorlandgazette.co.uk/news/15454765.Farmers_face_restrictions_as_badgers_found_to_carry_bovine_TB_in_Cumbria/)

Stalkers are reminded to be especially vigilant in checking for signs of disease in the beast before the shot, at the inspection of the gralloch and when preparing the carcase in the larder. If you suspect a notifiable disease then you must contact the APHA immediately. Failure to do this is an offence.

**Email the Committee: [c.roy-toole@bdsbranches.org.uk](mailto:c.roy-toole@bdsbranches.org.uk)**