

Gone Hunting!

A Century of Great New Zealand Yarns

Edited by Kingsley Field

Gone Hunting! is a rich, rollicking and wide-ranging collection of 20 Kiwi hunting yarns telling of trophies won or missed, companions made, hunting techniques used, land explored, and times both tough and good.

Above all, the stories tell of the pure enjoyment of being in New Zealand's wild places, exploring uncharted ground, seeing new sights and pitting one's skills against a wily, wary opponent - and not always winning.

The stories cover much ground, including not only the most tension-filled, remarkable or even successful hunting tales, but also a more diverse selection that will pique the interest of many a reader. There are chapters on cock pheasant shooting; tahr hunting and its introduction to New Zealand; early Fiordland hunts; professional rabbit destruction; pig hunting with dogs and a knife; the beginnings of the venison industry; bow hunting; early deer-culling operations; and lots of stories of hunting for the sheer pleasure of being out there in the bush and the mountains.

Gone Hunting! is a magnificent journey through New Zealand's fascinating hunting heritage. A judicious selection that will provide hours of absorbing reading and can be picked up and browsed again and again, it is a must-have for anyone who appreciates the excitement of the hunt.

Kingsley Field is a long-time writer and journalist with an even longer-time interest in hunting, wildlife and New Zealand's outdoors. He has previously published two hunting books (*The Master Hunters*, 1991; and *Hunting With the Best*, 1999), a book on the Second Boer War, and two private business histories. He is a book reviewer and regular outdoors columnist for the Waikato Times, and for the past decade has operated his own writing and media-consultancy business in Hamilton.



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