

THE SOUTHERN HUNTER
Southland Branch NZDA Newsletter
May 2024



Takitimu Mts

Annual General Meeting

7.30pm Wednesday 15th May at the Branch Club Rooms Longbush Hall McKerchar Road off State Highway 1 between Kennington & Woodlands

NO Guest Speaker AGM

There will be a multi draw raffle Tickets \$2

BRANCH FACEBOOK:

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE ON FACEBOOK, , YOU WILL FIND HELPFUL INFO ON THE PAGE . WE ENCOURAGE MEMBERS TO CONTRIBUTE TO

IT <https://www.facebook.com/southlandnzda/>

BRANCH CONTACTS

Branch email is: enquiries@southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz

News Letter douglasgordon@xtra.co.nz

Branch website <http://www.southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz/>

Wanted

Stories, ads, letters to the editor, or whatever for the newsletter, send to or contact the editor. Guest Speaker's needed, Ideas wanted, who do you want, and names needed, suggestions to Executive

Club Hunts

Wallaby Hunt

July 25th to 28th If Interested contact Tom 0278471882

All hunts for Southland Branch NZDA Members (with full NZDA membership) as Public Liability Insurance required).

NEW MEMBERS

New Members please welcome them.

Sufiyan Juwle, Richard Emery, Thomas Brown, Finn Excell,

Office Bearers

President: Shaun McKelvie 027 635 0490 **Vice President:** Luke Payne

Secretary Andy Nesbit 021 53 8676 : **Treasurer** Tom Mead 027 847 1882

Magazine Editor: Doug Gordon 216 6383 **Immediate past President**

Membership Andy Nesbit **Huts** Neville Miller

Executive: Wayne Ashmore, Tony Caldwell, Gareth Coyle, Nathan Dawson, Scott Hall, Dave Howden, Jason Leishman, Jamie. McCallum, Ray Phillips, Ethan Todd.

Life Members (National & Branch) John DeLury, Ray Phillips (National) Roger McNaughton, (Branch), Doug Gordon Dave Howden, Neville Miller,

Sub committees

Rayonier Hunting Liaison Shaun, Luke & Andy

Lodges - (Red Stag & Mavora) Neville, Shaun, Dave

Hall & Library Luke, Jamie & Wayne

Club Hunts Tom, Luke and Wayne

Invercargill Rifle Range Tom, Shaun & Andy Nesbit

Invercargill Pistol Club Doug

NZDA Range Officers Shaun, Tom, Wayne, Andy, Luke & Doug

DOC Liaison Ray

AGM, Trophies & Douglas Scoring Shaun, Doug, Wayne, Luke, Ray & Andy

Competition Committee Shaun, Tom, Andy

Young Hunts Coordinators Andy, Shaun, Tom, Wayne, Luke, Jamie, Nathan

Douglas Score Measurer's

Judge/coordinating Tutor, Ray, Judge/ Tutor John, Level One Shaun, Tom, Wayne, Luke & Andy
Website manager, John Delury.

Presidents Report



May 2024

Well another year has passed, another Roar, another rut, another Duck Shooting, I hope your hunting has been successful whether it be taking a trophy or a meat animal or just getting out in the outdoors with mates or family and enjoying what the outdoors has to offer. I think the branch is going bloody well. We've got more and more members getting involved in the Rayioners ballot and in doing so helping members get out and into some good hunting in Southland. It's a win-win for the club and members. It gets people along to meetings involved with the club and is helping people connect and grow some new relationships within the branch which is great to see.

The young hunts committee is gearing up to run another hunts course June/July which is another great way to help share knowledge, get new people to the sport out and a good grounding to hunt safely and grow relationships within the branch.

The Wallaby trip is coming up this winter if you're keen to get in touch with Tom. That's also a great way to get to no more people in the club and enjoy a different type of hunting not available in the southland area.

I'm sure everyone has seen the FWF's battle with forest & bird that is unfolding at the current time. If you are able to, I suggest you head over to the FWF facebook page or website and donate what you can every little bit counts and all goes towards protecting what the FWF has worked so hard to build already for future generations to come.

As I'm writing this in the lead up to Duck Shooting I hope everyone has a safe and successful shoot. Myself and my two eldest daughters and my father are shooting a new pond this year out of the Riversdale area so fingers crossed we can improve on last year's tally and we don't get too wet in our leaky maimai.

Just Last night I took my two youngest daughters out for a walk. It was a beautiful evening for a change and we managed to get Mya onto a nice Red stag. A well placed shot at roughly 240 metres with the 308 did the damage. It's great to see her growing in confidence around her hunting skills and awesome to share it with her sister, who knows I might get her behind the rifle one day too if she wants to. It's pretty awesome to share these

memories with the kids and we're lucky that we have access to such great hunting right at our doorstep. With the AGM this month it would be great to have one or two new faces on the committee. I think it brings along some new ideas and different thinking which is great to challenge what has been done in the past and try new things. Or if you'd just like more insight into how the branch runs don't be shy to put your hand up on the night or give me or any of the committee members a call or a message after all it is your club and you will only get out of it what you put in. It also helps grow depth in the committee which helps the club in the future keep running smoothly and progressing.

Look forward to seeing you at the meeting

Cheers Shaun Mckelvie



Editorial

Well the opening of Duck shooting is over, with a lot of hunters getting out and enjoying the thrill of the hunt. Once again everything was in the ducks favour where I shoot, not a lot of

shots heard or ducks seen either. I hear around 60 thousand expected out hunting nationwide. (I don't know if that is with or without farmers who don't need a licence on their own property)

No reports of firearms misadventures involving duck shooters that I have heard of which is good, keep it going!

Next thing for those duck hunters who are Southland Branch NZDA members is the trophy and photo competitions followed by the AGM (see below).

A lot of things are happening in the hunting scene which makes having a strong NZDA important. This starts at Branch level if you can see something to improve things, or have the skills to offer to move the Branch forward. We need you to put your hand up and stand for the Executive, at the AGM.

It was sad to see a lot of members are yet to pay their subs when I got the latest copy of the Branch Membership list.

I know times are tough, but our arch nemesis Forrest & Bird will be rubbing their hands with glee if our numbers decline. Numbers count in politics and hunting is political whether we like it or not. Those who want to do away with it as we know it have seen to that.

Speaking of Forrest and Bird I hear they have been trying to collect donations off hunters outside supermarkets in Southland and Otago. I suggest if approached tell them sorry you have already given to a better organisation "The Wapiti Foundation" (to help in their fight against Forrest & Bird). Their reaction may be interesting! Be prepared have a reply ready if you are asked!

Perhaps NZDA should be out asking for donations from the public to save the Wapiti (and the Tahr, Sika, and Whitetail while we are at it.) But then again the Wapiti Foundation and like are not charities donations are not tax free, it is not a level playing field out there.

So let's see you at the AGM and fill up the new seating.

Good hunting.

Doug Gordon

AGM & Trophy Night

This will be held at the Club Rooms on Wednesday the 15th of May at 7.30pm

Entries in trophy competition Sunday the 12th May 1pm at the Clubrooms. When the trophies will be Judged and scored. No late entries accepted. (If you can't make it in person arrange for someone to get the trophy there on time. Shaun is happy for them to be dropped off with him Phone 027 635 0490 or with Ray Phillips Phone 03 2163751) Please bring Membership card (to speed up processing entries)

Heads must be clean, and dry, free of strong odours or they may not get scored

[No Maggots]

Remember all heads are up for the spot prize so bring your trophy along, spikers to 18pointers, goats, sheep, pigs, tahr, chamois, any wild animal that fits in the branch AHT, antler, horn and tusk lists.

ALL THE HEADS YOU HAVE SHOT IN THE LAST YEAR [MAY 2023 TO MAY 2024]

You must be a financial member when you took the Trophy and to enter. That is financial member for last year 2023 to 2024 as well as this year 2024 to 2025. (unless Trophy taken since 1st March then only 2024/25 year)

Photo competition entries to
Doug Gordon 254 Centre St
Invercargill 9812

By Wednesday 8th of May at 5pm

Photo Categories are

Game Animals: Living Deer, Chamois, Tahr, Goats and pigs etc

Other Wildlife: Any other living Animals

Scenic: Preferably Hunting Country

Topical: Should contain some evidence of human activity and hunting related. e.g. Hunter and his kill.

Photos must be taken from land not air or boats and must be 6x4 or 7X5 size and taken between May 2023 and May 2024. Entry's must be actual photos (hard copy) not electronic versions e-mailed.

A spot prize on the night for all members entering photos

You must be a financial member when you took photo and to enter. That is financial member for last year 2023 to 2024 as well as this year 2024 to 2025. (unless photo taken since 1st March then only 2024/25 year)

Advanced Notice

We intend to hold a silent auction at the August Meeting.
So think about any surplus gear you may want to sell.

Sponsors

Southland Branch would like to thank its regular sponsors
and recommend them to its members.



e-mail addresses

All you xtra customers will have received a notice that you are to be charged for your e-mail address.

So now is the time to give you a reminder, If you change this you need to let National Office know at membership@deerstalkers.org.nz . Letting the branch know is also advisable , either to me at douglasgordon@xtra.co.nz or the branch at enquiries@southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz

As otherwise you will miss any messages until we get a new updated list from National Office (Please let us know that you have notified National office to avoid double ups)

I get sick of messages bouncing back from people who have not notified us when they change their e-mail addresses.

I also am sick of people who don't tend to their e-mails when I get failed to deliver messages due to full mail boxes. **I do not chase up such cases**, it is a member's job to keep such operational.

Doug Gordon

Branch Policy on adds in Branch Newsletter

Due to an increase in demand the Branch has reviewed its policy on adds in the Branch Newsletter.

1. Commercial adds Pay \$25 for per half page and \$50 for full page or parts there of.
Or \$5.00 for a single issue
2. Sponsors advertising free when their sponsorship exceeds fees charged in one above.
3. Free half page were add gives sufficient 5% discount to members.
4. Free page for sufficient 10 % or more discount.
5. Free category for non commercial personal adds from members such as For Sale, wanted to buy, hunting party member vacancies etc.

The year will run first of June to 30th May to align with the AGM year.

Joke of The Month



To give away to a good home

Clay Bird thrower

To give away if you've got a young fella or young lass getting into duck shooting and you want something to get them confident in there shooting. free to give away to a keen young Hunter. Homemade clay thrower spring loaded. Great speed for starting out not to quick. Get in touch if your keen pick up 5 min out of Edendale

Cheers Shaun 0276350490



CHAIRS

Chairs to give away X Branch Clubrooms

Suitable for Duck Shooting Mai Mai, or other activities.

The Branch has acquired better seating from Southland Boys as they upgrade.

Contact Ray 03 2163751

The following is the second of a series of articles on hunting in New Caledonia written by John Berry (who has had to sadly give up hunting due to old age) and provided to me by his friend Geoff Jukes.

The Dog

I was sitting on the front veranda of the Deva camp talking to one of a group of Floridian clients, when a battered old Toyota Land Cruiser pulled up.

It was being driven by a young French farm hand from the station headquarters, who wanted to speak with us to improve his grasp of English. It also contained "**THE DOG**".

The dog was not impressive - medium sized, short coated, black and white, with a long tail and a very mixed parentage. It looked ill fed and prone to mange. It cowered behind the young Frenchman and regarded us with suspicion.

Well the obvious question was asked by my client.

"What do you use that dog for?"

"Hunting monsieur." Came back the reply.

"Is he any good?"

“Qui monsieur, he brings Le Cherf, (deer) back to me to shoot.”

“Really! I can’t believe that is possible.”

“I show you monsieur.”

And with that the young Frenchman spoke a few words (French) to “The Dog”, which sprung to life and trotted into the Malaluka scrub close to the camp.

Nothing happened for some time and my client went back to his No 1 beer, clearly satisfied that nothing would, other than the dog getting lost.

Then a series of barks erupted from the bush and a deer appeared closely followed by “**The Dog**”, which proceed to muster the hind close by us.

“Well I be damned” said my Florida hunter, “Can he do that again?”

“Of course.” Came the reply.

“Well hold on while I get the gang.”

Once the rest of the crew were assembled on the camp veranda (No 1s in hand), a few more instructions in French were given to “**The Dog**” and off he went.

A very short time later he appeared again from the bush, this time herding a young fawn.

Not just close to us, but up the steps onto the veranda, past the incredulous group and into the building.

Everyone agreed he was, “**THE DOG**”.

“
—
.”

Young Hunts Course 2024
We Now have Dates See Below

This course is for anyone young or old.

Includes Firearm safety, Navigation, First Aid, Bushcraft, Equipment and trip planning, Meat processing and more
Current planning is to run a course in June Over three weekends from Weekends 8th to the 23rd



**Looking at expressions of interest
in this course to Shaun Phone 0276350490**

Invercargill Rifle Club **Cobb Road Rifle Range**

As honorary members of the Invercargill Rifle Club, Southland Branch members now have the opportunity to use the Cobb Road Range for sighting in of rifles and also participating in programmed Invercargill Rifle club events.

You will need to bring

Firearms Licence and Deerstalkers membership card.

Ear and eye protection

Target capable of being stapled to the target frame

Rifle (bolt out) + ammo – Up to and including .308/7.62 calibre Bipod
or other front support and rear support.

The range will be operated by a designated Rang Officer who will make themselves known at the range.

General format will be

Allocation of target frame

Validation of rifle being able to hit target at 100m

Shooting 200m and beyond after validation

Dates: The range is not for casual use but is available for use on the following dates:

Currently over the Summer Range is available Sundays (except over Xmas) 11am to

**1pm, 100yards to 200 yards After which there is a NRA style shoot at longer ranges Range
fee is \$10.00**

If you are interested in attending and for further details please first contact

Andy Nesbit 0215 38676

Shaun McKelvie 027 635 0490

**NRA/F Class shooters – make sure you arrange someone to pull targets and RO,
you may be the only shooter at the range.**

We hope to have the 500 and 600 yard mounds operational by November

**Casual user questions – Message through the FB page or you can call Ben
0272247119 or Foster 021516342**

**NZDA Members – You have affiliated membership and can shoot for \$5 per session,
contact Tom 0278471882 or Andy 021538676**

Wapiti Lodge, & Red Stag Lodge Mavora



Wapiti Lodge



Red Stag

**Bookings to
Neville & Carol Miller
Phone 03 216 8654 Cell 02108219528**

e-mail nandc43@gmail.com

or 43 Bain St Invercargill

Please Note the Red Stag Lodge is on Doc land a hunting permit is required to have firearms at the site. **Deposits for any bookings to be received within seven days or bookings will be cancelled.**

Southland Branch Polo Shirts



The following are in stock and available for purchase @ \$35 each

Sizes Medium, large, Xtra Large, and XXL.

Available at Branch Meeting or by emailing
enquiries@southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz

Subject line Polo Tee Shirts

Payment prior to delivery by online banking to the Branch Account 06-0925-0270758-000 with details of *your name Polo Shirt and Size*.

(If unable to do online banking contact Tom 0278471882)

First in best dressed

Freeze Dri



BACK COUNTRY CUISINE

FREEZE DRI

Purchase Back Country Cuisine freeze-dri meals direct at special prices, email Tony on info@bcfoods.co.nz to order or find out more information.



**ANIMAL SKIN
TANNING SERVICES**

-Tannery & Showroom-
Dan Dawson - 027 281 3026
**118 Crinan Street
Invercargill**
100% NEW ZEALAND PRODUCTS

Now offering 10% Discount on all contract tanning services to members of NZDA



J & T'S FITNESS STUDIO

Private Studio, Competition Training, Nutrition Advice, Weight Loss

Personal Trainers: Judy & Thomas Duggan
2 Perth st, Windsor, Invercargill

Email: jptrainer2001@hotmail.com www.jt-fitness-studio.com

ph 03-2172893 or 0276162040



GREEN ACRES

Lawn & Garden Franchisee
 021 774 984
 peattie.greenacres@gmail.com

Owen Peattie Denise Peattie




0800 803 200 greenacres.co.nz

Give your friendly local electrician a call today!

Qualified Electrician
 Qualified Refrigeration Engineer
 Heatpump Specialist - supply, install (all brands) and maintenance
 Thermal Imaging



Nathan Dawson
 027 235 8063

dawsonelectrical55@gmail.com
 Makarewa | Invercargill





