

THE SOUTHERN HUNTER



Masons Bay Stewart Island

Southland Branch NZDA News Letter September 2019

Branch email is: enquiries@southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz

News Letter douglasgordon@xtra.co.nz

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

Monthly Meeting Wednesday the 18th of
September at 8pm
Executive meeting 7pm

Guest Speaker

**Ian Owen NZDA, South Island, National Executive Rep on current topical Issues.
Come and talk over your concerns**

FACEBOOK:

AS YOU MAY KNOW THE CLUB HAS MOVED WITH THE TIMES AND NOW HAS ITS VERY OWN FACEBOOK PAGE FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE ON FACEBOOK. CHECK IT OUT, YOU WILL FIND HELPFUL INFO ON THERE AND IT WILL HOPEFULLY ENCOURAGE NEW MEMBERSHIP AND CLUB INTERACTION. WE ENCOURAGE ALL MEMEBERS TO CONTRIBUTE TO IT

Presidents Report



2017 stag shot in the blue gums somewhere

September

Spring will be well on its way as your reading this, the grass is growing the deer will be moving around. If you're farming, you'll be well through calving or lambing and hopefully having time to get out for a bit of r&r and fill the freezer with some fresh venison or white bait.

You should have received a email regarding the Hunting and wildlife magazine hard copy if it is to be viable and go ahead they need 1000 copy's confirmed, expressions of interest are to go to the Branch, so if you are keen flick a reply email to Doug Gordon (who sent you this newsletter.) The branch will coordinate numbers interested and forward to Simon Gibson.

And if your planning ahead like myself you'll be looking at ballot blocks for next roar and thar blocks, below are all the ballots I can think of for down here sorry if I've missed any.

<u>Block</u>	<u>Opening date for Application</u>	<u>Closing Date for Application</u>
Wapiti Blocks	2 August	7 th October
Haast Roar block	2 September	27 September
Wanaka Roar Block 1	1 October	8 November
Waikia Roar Block	30 September	31 October
Leithan Roar Block	30 September	31 October
Lansborough & Adams		
Thar blocks	30 September	25 October
Greenstone Caples		

All blocks in the Greenstone/Caples Recreational Hunting Area (RHA) are [restricted permit](#) blocks issued by way of two ballot draws, one for April/May each year (the roar) and one for June to September. Ballot applications are accepted in November and February for the respective ballot periods

All These and more information can be found on the doc website
<https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/things-to-do/hunting/where-to-hunt/southland/>

The Eglington 1080 drop would have been completed as.

Prefeed was completed on the 18th and 19th of August, and the toxic phase is planned to start tomorrow the **3rd of September**. It is expected the operation will take up to two days to complete.

As a result, the following tracks will be closed for the duration of the operation:

- Mistake Creek Track
- Dore Pass Track
- Hut Creek Track
- East Branch Eglinton Track
- Lake Gunn Nature Walk

Warning signs will be put in place. A reminder to please check for signage if you are in the area. And;

- **DO NOT TOUCH** poison bait
- **WATCH CHILDREN** at all times
- **DO NOT EAT** animals from the area
- Poison bait or carcasses are **DEADLY to DOGS**

As this is the toxic phase we will be attempting to contact you via telephone also, however it would be great if you can reply to this email to confirm you have received the message in the event that we cannot reach you today. We appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

If you have any further questions please contact EcoFX on admin@ecofx.co.nz or call on 07 871 8130.

Also, there has been some tracking done in the Blue Mountains to determine if they are to go ahead with a drop there, will keep you as up to date as I can.

Happy HuntingShaun

Wanted

Stories, adds, 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.

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome them.

Adam Peterson, Ashley Bragg, Douglas Agnew, James Officer, Jason Sherrif, William Mills

Club Hunts

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

Advanced notice of a Wallaby Hunt 22nd to 24th November, more details next newsletter



Editorial

The times are a changing, or to put it another way we are in changing times. Firearms law is up for more changes as we all know, I hope you are all going to have your say on this. The draft documents I have read, are in places poorly written, (the result of haste) and may achieve results in excess and different from intended. The Tahr plan is about to start a new phase of animal control. The Deerstalkers Assn has decided it needs a full time Executive Officer to enable it to deal better with all the issues. Some of which have the ability to greatly damage hunting as we currently know it. This will cost, Subs are going to have to rise to cover this. Large amounts of 1080 are being used to try to control the explosion of rodents resulting from the massive seed mast season.

You all should be aware of the above and more from the amount of correspondence that I have been asked to forward to you all. I hope you find time to read it all (well at least the headlines). Please try not to shoot me for sending it out. I am just trying to keep you informed as is our current National President & Executive. Too which end Ian Owen South Island Member of the Executive, is our guest speaker at this month's meeting. So come along and talk to him about things, be they going wrong or right, they need feedback from the members on how things are going. He is coming some distance to inform you of what is happening.

But remember we are all in this together, we must help each other, the Deerstalkers Assn needs more from its members than subs if it is to succeed in this changing world. We all need to do our bit, be it writing a submission, turning up for a working bee, writing an article, or serving on a committee. Even with an Executive Officer and a couple of office staff, this is a volunteer outfit so stand up, stand together.

Doug G.

Unpaid Subs & Membership

Only members who have paid their Subs should be receiving this newsletter. As I am going off a new Membership list of financial members supplied by national Office. I will be following up this newsletter with a memo to all on the old mailing list to contact National office Phone **04 499 6163**. As they have either not paid there sub of they have been missed off the list by National Office. This memo will hopefully bring to light any mistakes in the supplied list (hopefully none?) and have them corrected plus prompt those who have not paid to pay. We need all the members we get at this time.

Note with centralised National Office handle payment and production of Lists of Members, not the Branch.

Benefits of Membership

This is a reminder that you have to be a full member Southland Branch to get public liability insurance and all the other benefits of membership of Southland Branch NZDA. Including any branch organised event, there is now an unacceptable risk associated with having those without insurance on

branch organised activities, and times have changed.

(Associate and Affiliate membership having being removed from the Branch classes of membership at the AGM)

Interesting You Tube Videos

Mike Bayliss our August guest speaker (on his visit to Antarctica) left us with the addresses of some You Tube Videos including the one on Kayaking in Antarctica which we had the pleasure of viewing on the night.

The Old Master Kayaking in Antarctica

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zmsZkHBuTqo>

West Coast Summer Tahr Hunt

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5HhfyXwxLbQ>

Game Gear Adventure 4 - Tiki Tiki

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8XKfXfqUzAE>

Sponsors

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



Rifle Sighting In

With the start of daylight saving the Invercargill pistol Club range will be again available. To Financial Members for the sighting in of Rifles on Wednesday nights from 5.30 pm finishing 7pm. At the cost of \$10 per person. Ear & Eye protection required
Please Note with the changes to the Law NO Semi Automatics allowed.

To use this facility you **MUST** contact the roistered person in charge **no later** than the previous Sunday night.

2nd October Doug Gordon 03 216 6383/ 027 637 2206

9thOctober Nathan Dawson 027 235 8063

23rdOctober Doug Gordon 03 216 6383/ 027 637 2206

30th October Nathan Dawson 027 235 8063

6th November Doug Gordon 03 216 6383/ 027 637 2206

13th November Nathan Dawson 027 235 8063

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Available at a great price to Branch Members Contact Gus Ronald gus.ronald@xtra.co.nz 03 213 0351 for a price list

Doc Hyperlinks on Poison

Battle for the Birds

Pesticide summaries interactive map

OSPRI Hyperlink poison

Aerial Pest Control Operations underway or planned



Hunting & Fishing

Spring catalogue

Yes most of us get and flip through this in look of a bargain. Just hope you take your time to read the articles especially the one on page 116 of this issue. (Copy below if you haven't seen it). This effort to control rats and cats is organised by our Branch, with generous funding coming from the local Hunting and Fishing store. Please tell the world what we are doing for conservation and who is helping as the top two lines on page 116 say

"TIME FOR HUNTERS TO CRANK UP THE PR"

And please remember to support those who support us we need to scratch each other's back.

TIME FOR HUNTERS TO CRANK UP THE PR



HUNT WISE

Hunters, are active in many outstanding environmental projects. Our 'roll up the sleeves and get it done' attitude benefits the wider community, but for the most part goes under the public radar. We don't do this work for thanks, we do it because it was the right thing, it needed to be done and quite possibly nobody else would do it.

But we learned from the anti-gun backlash following the March 15 Mosque tragedy that it's vital we now make a point of educating and informing the community of exactly what and who the average hunter/

gun owner is. We need to be known as caring and motivated members of the community, using our outdoors skills in everything from Search & Rescue to protecting at-risk native species. We're going to have to do a better PR job. Time in the bush, the wetlands, or the rivers, gives most outdoors enthusiasts an affinity for that environment. Consequently, we want to give back, and unlike a lot of 'greenies' who talk the talk, but don't back this up with actions or financial backing, we get things done. Check out the example of a Stewart Island DOC, NZ Deer Stalkers, Hunting & Fishing New Zealand collaboration outlined below.

MASON BAY RAT PROJECT

Back in 2006 with a DOC shortfall in funding and manpower an important rat and predator trapping program at Mason Bay, Stewart Island was in jeopardy. That's when the Southland branch of NZDA stepped up to help. A partnership was formed which annually sees Invercargill's John Delury and his team from Southland Deerstalkers Association bait and clear over 300 traps on a planned systematic basis right through late winter and the spring nesting season. Mason Bay has one of the only temperate, intact sand dune systems in the Southern Hemisphere. It is a unique ecosystem for birds, animals and plants including both endangered and critically endangered native bird species, and holds one of the largest and most visible populations of Kiwi in NZ. Rats are the main target as they prey on eggs and on incubating adult birds, as well as competing for food such as seeds and fruit. The program is a success in that rat numbers drastically decline through each trapping period and DOC's bird count graph shows a dramatic increase particularly in what they class as indicator species. These are Bellbirds, Robins, Tomtits, and Kakariki, while Kereru, Kaka, Fantails etc all appear to also be benefiting from the program.

In the 2017-2018 trapping season Deerstalker's members completed 3,090 trap checks, with 6 teams making 10 trips to the Island. A total of 187 rats were trapped. Cat traps have been added to the arsenal, resulting in 6 wild cats being caught. Rats are very successful breeders so it is vital the program must continue, but getting the trappers to Stewart Island ten times a year is not cheap, and each year the project has a significant shortfall in funding.

That's where Hunting & Fishing New Zealand Invercargill has stepped up. For several years now it has underwritten the project's budget shortfall to the tune of several thousand dollars annually.

Hunting & Fishing New Zealand Invercargill co-owner Gerald MacRae understands the importance of the outcomes the project is achieving, and the hard work that Southland NZDA puts in, therefore he recently confirmed the stores on-going support for the 2018/19 term. Gerald sites this as an example of the fantastic work hunters are putting into an environmental project, that the public knows nothing about.

“Rats are the main target as they prey on eggs and on incubating adult birds, as well as competing for food such as seeds and fruit.”

HUNTING & WILDLIFE Magazine

If interested in a hard copy please reply to the sender of this e-mail by this month's meeting (douglasgordon@xtra.co.nz)

As the branch is to coordinate numbers ad forward to Simon

In 2018 Hunting and Wildlife magazine went to a digital format as NZDA could not sustain the cost of a printed version. The digital version has proved to be very unpopular with many members and advertisers. At the 2019 National conference I put forward a proposal for Hunting and Wildlife Magazine to go back to print for those willing to pay for it which was accepted.

It is essential that the printed magazine is cost neutral to the NZDA and this will be achieved through members who opt into receiving it paying \$25 per year for 4 copies sent to their postal address. Advertising revenue has also been factored in. For those who don't want to opt in they will continue to receive the digital online version.

To make the proposition viable we will need 1000 members or more to subscribe to the printed version.

With this in mind I am seeking feedback from branches to see if there is sufficient interest. Please send your response directly to my email or ring me. If we have enough interest, the first issue will be our autumn roar issue #208, 2020. I am also working on getting an online survey underway.

If the proposal goes ahead, payment would be made when subs are paid for the 2020/21 financial year. A tick box to receive a printed Hunting and Wildlife would be added to the club subscription renewal. The NZDA data base will need to be working well by then.

At conference there was also interest expressed in receiving a printed magazine before the next financial year starts. This would be the current winter issue #205, spring #206 and the summer issue #207. The cost per issue would be \$7.50 but this could drop depending on uptake. Branches would be invoiced by National Office and the magazines sent to a Branch contact person for distribution.

Please contact me by email or phone if your branch is interested.

Regards

Simon Gibson

Editor, Hunting & Wildlife Magazine

Rats a plenty

This year with the abundance of food due to the very strong seed masting that has occurred. The first party to Masons Bay got 224 rats including 14 around the hut. See the photo below of some of those caught at the hut.

It will be interesting to see how the next five parties go. Thus it is likely this year that our efforts will make a significant if localised difference.



Some of the collection from the Hut

Branch Trophies

This is the first of a series of articles on the branch trophies as found in the club rooms, with one other at Wapiti Lodge.

Colin Miller Boar

Motu forest 1965



Colin Miller and George Stuart were hunting in the Motu Forest. This pig was one of three which came down the gully in thick cover so the hunters continually lost sight of them. The boar was shot by Colin at a range of about three metres.

Joke of the month

12 of the finest (unintentional) double-entendres ever aired on TV and Radio

1. Ted Walsh - Horse Racing Commentator – **'This is really a lovely horse. I once rode her mother.'**

2. New Zealand Rugby Commentator – **'Andrew Mehrtens loves it when Daryl Gibson comes inside of him.'**

3. Pat Glenn, weightlifting commentator – **'And this is Gregoriava from Bulgaria .. I saw her snatch this morning and it was amazing!'**

4. Harry Carpenter at the Oxford-Cambridge boat race 1977 – **'Ah, isn't that nice.. The wife of the Cambridge President is kissing the Cox of the Oxford crew..'**

5. US PGA Commentator –

'One of the reasons Arnie (Arnold Palmer) is playing so well is that, before each tee shot, his wife takes out his balls and kisses them

Oh my god !! What have I just said??'

6. Carezza Lewis about finding food in the Middle Ages on 'Time Team Live' said: **'You'd eat beaver if you could get it.'**

7. A female news anchor who, the day after it was supposed to have snowed and didn't, turned to the weatherman and asked, 'So Bob, where's that eight inches you promised me last night?' **Not only did HE have to leave the set, but half the crew did too, because they were laughing so hard!**

8. Steve Ryder covering the US Masters: **'Ballesteros felt much better today after a 69 yesterday.'**

9. Clair Frisby talking about a jumbo hot dog on Look North said: **'There's nothing like a big hot sausage inside you on a cold night like this. '**

10 Mike Hallett discussing missed snooker shots on Sky Sports: **'Stephen Hendry jumps on Steve Davis's misses every chance he gets.'**

11. Michael Buerk on watching Philippa Forrester cuddle up to a male astronomer for warmth during BBC1's UK eclipse coverage remarked: **'They seem cold out there, they're rubbing each other and he's only come in his shorts.'**

12. Ken Brown commentating on golfer Nick Faldo and his caddie Fanny Sunneson lining-up shots at the Scottish Open:

'Some weeks Nick likes to use Fanny, other weeks he prefers to do it by himself.'



I finally remembered—red with hunter, white with fisherman.

**Wapiti Lodge, Thicket Burn Hut & Red
Stag Lodge Mavora**



Bookings to Neville & Carol Miller Phone (03)216 8654 email

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.**

Wapiti Lodge Xmas ballot

Applications for this period must be in writing and inbetween 15th to 30th September to Neville & Carol Miller Members only, Period of hire 7 days

Starts 21st December runs to 31th January.

Club Office Bearers

President: S McKelvie 027 635 0490 Vice President: W Muir

Secretary A Nesbit : Treasurer T Mead

Magazine Editor: D Gordon 216 6383 Immediate past President S Robinson

Membership R Phillips (216 3751) Huts N Miller

Executive: D Howden, N Dawson, A Hagan, T Duggan

Sub Committees

Hall A Hbran,

Young Hunts S Robinson, N Dawson.

AGM S McKelvie, D Hwden.

Trophies W Muir.

Poisons/toxins R Phillips

Pistol range D Gordon.

Rifle Range S Robinson

DOC Liaison . Phillips,

Library S McKelvie T Mead

Club Hunts S McKelvie T. Mead T. Duggan .

Guest speakers A Nesbit

Areas of interest

S/Island/S Coast R Phillips,

Hokonuis A Hbran A Nesbit

Greenstone/Caples N Dawson

Blue Mountains D Gordon

Fiordland R Phillips, S Robinson.

Longwoods R Phillips

South Island Access Committee A Nesbit

