

THE SOUTHERN HUNTER
Southland Branch NZDA Newsletter
August 21



Winning Game Animal Study Photo 2021 John Delury
Branch email is: enquiries@southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz
News Letter douglasgordon@xtra.co.nz
Branch website <http://www.southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz/>

Monthly meeting @
**At Hunting & Fishing
Store Invercargill**

25th August 6pm to 9pm

GUEST SPEAKER

**Guest speakers provided by Hunting & Fishing
Care for your Catch Night**

The overall basis for the night will be centred on how to efficiently deal with field-harvested venison and what to do after the fact. Leonie from Warthog Knife Sharpeners will have a station set up demonstrating correct knife care and maintenance. Finally Craig from Zero-Pak will be set up with his mincers, sausage makers and vacuum sealers giving a

comprehensive run-down on venison care and how to process in the comfort of your own home.

FACEBOOK:

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 MEMBERS TO CONTRIBUTE TO IT

NEW MEMBERS

New Members please welcome them

Rex Miller, Gareth Coyle,

Club Hunts

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

Office Bearers

Club Office Bearers

President: S McKelvie 027 635 0490 **Vice President:** T Caldwell

Secretary A Nesbit : **Treasurer** T Mead

Magazine Editor: D. Gordon 216 6383 **Immediate past President**

Membership A Nesbit **Hunts** N Miller

Executive: W Ashmore, N Dawson, E Garrick, D Howden, J. McCallum, L Payne, R. Phillips.

Sub Committees

Hall	Luke Payne
Young Hunts	Nathan Dawson – (Need to confirm this)
AGM	Shaun McKelvie & Andy Nesbit
Trophies	Tony Caudwell & Luke Payne
Pistol Range	Doug Gordon
Rifle Range	Andy Nesbit
DOC Liaison	Ray Phillips & Shaun McKelvie
Library	Shaun McKelvie & Tom Mead
Club Hunts	Shaun McKelvie & Tom Mead
Guest Speaker	Shaun McKelvie & Andy Nesbit
Photo Competition	Doug Gordon
Social Media	Erin Garrick, Tony Caudwell & Shaun McKelvie

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 .

Tahr Hunting 1960's Hyper link

Complements of John Delury enjoy

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

Presidents Report August



Well it's been an awesome month with another successful Kids hunt under our belt, great to see all the young girls and boys getting out and enjoying themselves. Special thanks to our sponsors Hunting and Fishing Invercargill and Dawson Electrical.

This month we're really fortunate to be able to hold our meeting at Invercargill Hunting and Fishing store they have a awesome night planned so make sure you get along and support it.

With spring just around the corner the hunting should start getting a bit easier winter can be a hard time to get onto animals as they tend to move around less and less daylight hours means it's just that bit harder to make time to get out for that sneaky Thursday night hunt after work, hopefully things start to dry out and as soon as that fresh growth starts those sunny faces should be holding a few deer and the yearlings will be getting pushed out on their own to explore quite often they are a somewhat easier target to fill the freezer with.

There's a lot going on in the club come pick our brains at the meetings we're always happy to help.

See you at the meeting.

Cheers Shaun



Editorial

Over the last few months I have become aware that the far North of New Zealand has a wild dog problem. The area affected is just south of Cape Reinga and north of Te Kao. These dogs in numbers of up to 100 according some reports have killed a significant number of sheep and domestic goats. Doc has for a time closed walking tracks and a camp site due to the danger. (For more detail google "*Wild Dogs Northland*").

While farmers (and friends) can and have shot and killed numbers of these dogs caught in the act on the farmer's property. The law prevents them chasing them on Doc land. As there is no such thing as a wild dog under current NZ law. Doc can only try to trap them and hand the live dogs over to the local Council (alive). So that they can look for the non-existent owners of the animals. It is sad to see Doc's hands tied on this.

These laws may be well and good to prevent the shooting of straying domestic dogs that are not actually doing harm. But these dogs which have from reports pups with them are a pack or packs of wild animals without owners.

Meanwhile the local sheep are subjected to a level of cruelty that would create national headlines if done by you or me. Then there is the damage to the local wildlife, is there Kiwi in the affected area (or should I say were there used to be Kiwi in the affected area?). The good news is that possum and wild goat numbers will be down.

Surely some Government Department or local body can affect some localised regulation to allow for an active poisoning and shooting campaign to remove this pest? The lack of concern for the affected sheep concerns me, especially when animal welfare concerns genuine and imagined are pursued so actively elsewhere in New Zealand regarding domestic stock by some?

Do we have to wait until humans especially children are attacked and or killed? Locals are currently concerned about this possible development! Who is responsible if this happens?

Laws need to be able to be adapted to the actual situation on the ground, not all is black and white, but may be up to several shades of grey. The law makers can't see the exact future, so should make adaptable laws?

Doug Gordon

Sponsors

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



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2021 Kids Hunt

Held 23rd to 25th of July



Thanks again for all the support for this year's kids hunt it's great to see the kids getting out and getting confident and learning about firearms and doing some great conservation work along the way, with at least 40+ pests removed. We had 21 entrances this year not all managed a possum and a hare but many had to look through there kills for the largest one to weigh with some monster possums and hares the largest hare being 4.99kg and the largest possum over 4kg. Thanks to everyone who helped out on the day and before and all the parents who took their kids out it can defiantly be harder than you'd think you

get a rabbit or possum to sit still to get the first time shooters lined up and can take some patience.

Thanks again to our sponsors

Invercargill Hunting and Fishing Dawson Electrical

With the Heaviest overall Possum & Hares

1st Mikayla Renton

2nd Calab Ashmore

3rd = Blake Renton

3rd =Jack Muir

Congratulations to all the kids who entered see you all again next year.



1st Mikayla Renton

JOKES FOR THE MONTH

Wyoming Rancher

The old fellow in the cowboy hat got a standing ovation.

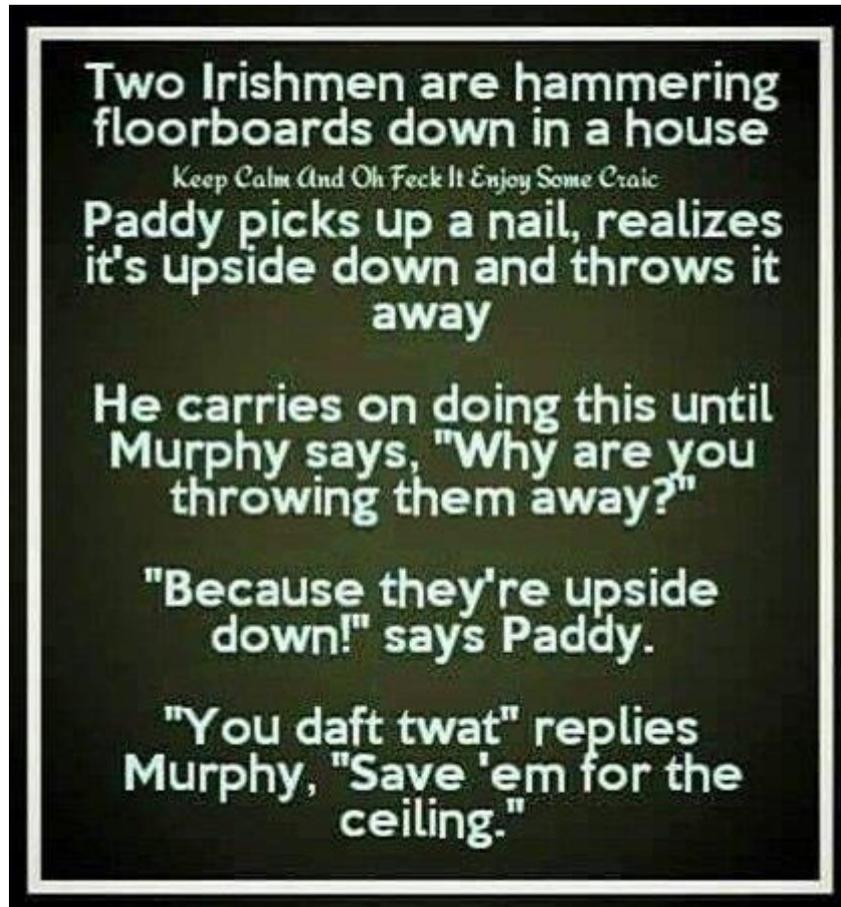
The Sierra Club and the U.S. Forest Service were presenting an alternative to the Wyoming ranchers for controlling the coyote population. **It seems that after years of the ranchers using the tried-and-true method of shooting or trapping the predators, the Sierra Club had a "more humane" solution to this issue.** What they were proposing was for the animals to be captured alive. The males would then be castrated and let loose again.



This was **ACTUALLY** proposed by the Sierra Club and by the U.S. Forest Service. All of the ranchers thought about this amazing idea for a couple of minutes.

Finally an old fellow wearing a big cowboy hat in the back of the conference room stood up, tipped his hat back and said: "Son, I don't think you understand our problem here... these coyotes ain't screwin' our sheep... they're eatin' them!"

The meeting never really got back to order.



Have faith in the Pfizer
vaccine.

Don't forget they make
Viagra.

If they can raise the
dead ...

They can save the living

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.

The cost is \$10 per session to club members

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 .308/762 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:

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

Andy Nesbit 021 917 808

Shaun McKelvie 027 635 0490

2020 Rat Control report

Below hyperlink gives one access to the report on the rat control work the branch does at Masons Bay

<https://www.southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz/images/pdf/2020rats.pdf>

Branch Wallaby Trip

June the 18th 19th 20th was the annual wallaby trip to Neville Powell's property in Waihaorunga.

With 16 people attending and weather playing its part for most of the trip allowed everyone to bag a Roo. With 16 people it was a logistical challenge to get everyone a good spot and make sure it was safe. We divided up into 4 teams and spread into 4 big blocks. The key message was to follow the 7 basic rules and stick to you allocated block. With some good ground rules in place it was time to shoot some Roos.

Friday was overcast and cloggy around the top of the hills, this didn't stop everyone from getting a wallaby with a lot of stories and laughter over dinner and a bonfire that night.

Saturday was a much clearer day with blue skies and sun making the day very enjoyable. From the noise coming from the hills I would have to say that Saturday was more productive than Friday. It was pretty cool to stretch the legs of most people shooting with little wind and wallaby's being excellent targets, there were wallaby's being taken over 400yards.

Some enjoyed a night shoot with a couple more added to the bag, while other were lucky enough to entertain Neville.

It was excellent to have some first time wallaby shooters on board with us and I would imagine I will have to reserve a spot for those next year. With the total wallaby's shot over 100 and a handful of pigs Neville and all attending were very happy.

So thanks to all who helped organized the hunt it's great to see people getting enjoyment out of hunting whilst undertaking pest control.

Thomas Mead

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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
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