

THE SOUTHERN HUNTER

Southland Branch NZDA Newsletter



Winning Topical Photo 2021 Luke Payne

June 2021

Branch email is: enquiries@southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz
News Letter douglasgordon@xtra.co.nz
Branch website <http://www.southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz/>

Monthly meeting 7.30pm Wednesday 16th June at the Branch Club
Rooms Longbush Hall McKerchar Road off State Highway 1
between Kennington & Woodlands

GUEST SPEAKER

Greg and Karen from Permolat Southland to talk about hut restoration past and future.

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

Samantha Murray, Cheyne-Marie Hill, Caleb Ashmore, Tipene Clarke,

Club Hunts

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

Wallaby Hunt

Now looking at June 17th to 20th for a hunt. So if you're interested get in touch
with Tom 0278471882

AGM Office Bearers Elected

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 **Huts** N Miller

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

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.

Presidents Report



June 2021

It's been a quieter month hunting for myself then i would have liked. I would have liked to be out chasing Chamois and Thar as the Rut is well under way by now however work has got in the way of that so far, I am however heading away in 2 weeks up the head of the Whataroa hunting Thar and Chamois and really looking forward to getting away for that, unfortunately it will mean i will miss the June branch meeting my apologies for that. This month has had it,s highlights for me/family as i got my eldest daughter Ellie onto shooting her first duck and had Mya on the duck caller and dingy retrieval lucky as she was the only one light enough to float around the duck pond without the dingy sinking into the mud i tried □ . Ellie ended up with 12 for opening weekend herself with the trusty .410 so that was really cool to see and also got Ellie in behind the 223 for the first time on targets so a deer is next on the list. The club Wallaby trip is coming up and is looking to have great attendance good luck and safe hunting to all those heading away on that . Also welcome to the new Committee members Tony Erin and Wayne who put their hand up at the AGM I'm looking forward to the year to come. The National Conference is coming up next weekend Southern Lakes are hosting this year in

Queenstown and its shaping up to be a great event we will keep you updated on how it goes. On a whole Natex National Executive hasn't been without its challenges for the past year and i believe they have performed very well and I'm looking forward to what they bring to the next year.

We're Lucky to have Greg and Karen from permolat southland to come to this month's meeting in conjunction with doc they help maintain and manage some of the southland huts I'm quite disappointed I'll miss this I'm sure they'll have some great info and photos of huts many of us have visited . Until next month Cheers Shaun



Editorial

What is a threatened or at risk of extinction species? I see whitebait are considered such. To me such species are few in numbers and perhaps hard to find, I think of Takahe, Kea, Kiwi, and of course the Kakapo! To name a few. How many whitebait are left? How many million's or billion's were harvested last season? What about the largely untouched stocks in Fiordland and Stewart Island? While Whitebait numbers may be down? How unhealthy is the population? How much of the localised declines is due to changed land use and environment? Are numbers stable at the current levels? To me some people are a bit loose with the terms "*threatened or at risk of extinction*". Perhaps sheep are in the same category their numbers have about halved?

I see there are going to be changes to Whitebaiting, but not to the extent that the previous Minister of Conservation desired. Some sense has prevailed, thanks to the current government. But again those who try to be law-abiding will be again penalised first. But not to near the extent first feared. What about those who flout the current laws? There are plenty of stories of people who ignore the current rules. This sounds a bit like the government's actions regarding Firearms. Current laws need to be enforced before making life harder for the average citizen. The criminals continue unaffected. The woke unwashed think the government is great and doing things as action has been taken.

We have too many people who believe the headlines they receive are gospel. We can all be taken in! Take the quick surveys we fill out, or the online submission form that we fill out. The questions are often shaped to produce the answers the Author desires. How many when asked whether there was as many Whitebait currently as their used to be said less now? Thus justifying the claim "*threatened or at risk of extinction*" in relation to Whitebait, according to the desires of the askers of the questions.

We need to conserve our environment, and our wildlife, but we should not be reckless about it. Too much of what I see proposed in the name of conservation has not been thought out enough. Take electric cars, good idea but? What effective range, how much environmental damage to build the batteries. What about the unrealistic cost of replacement batteries. If these vehicles have a much shorter operational life than current vehicles because replacing batteries is not viable. Then what about all the Carbon used to produce what has become a throwaway product (car)?

I just hope I have got you thinking and not playing follow the politically correct woke leader!

Doug Gordon

Sponsors

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



Trophy Competition winners

Red Deer

1st Alistar Bennett D/S 268½

2nd Penny Stratford D/S 262 ¼

3rd Roger Stratford D/S 260½

Chamois

Tom Hopkirk D/S 26¾

Pig

Tom Hopkirk

Ladies

Penny Stratford Red Deer D/S 262 ¼

Hoana Ayto Red Deer D/S180



Mike Ayto picking up the Spot Prize for trophy entries on behalf of his wife Hoana

Photo Competition Winners

Seven members entered 62 Photos which was much improved on the last time, where there was only two entries.

Wildlife 1st John Delury 2nd Douglas Gordon 3rd Michael Ayto

Topical 1st Luke Payne 2nd Willie Muir 3rd John Delury

Game Animals 1st John Delury 2nd Luke Payne 3rd Douglas Gordon

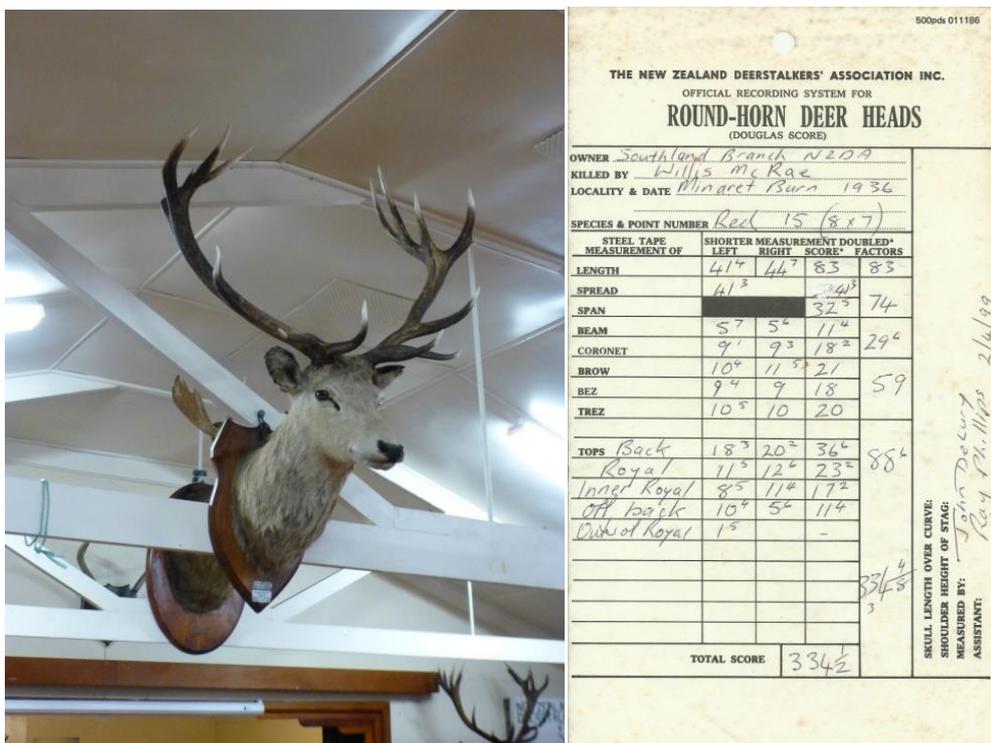
Scenic 1st Luke Payne 2nd Michael Ayto 3rd John Delury

Branch Trophies

This is a series of articles on the branch trophies found in the club rooms, with two others at Wapiti Lodge. (Note I thought there was only one trophy at the Wapiti lodge until staying at it this year)

Willis McRae Red Deer

Albert Burn 1936 15 points (8 + 7) Douglas Score 334 ½



Willis McRae and his brother Findlay along with J Woods and Andrew Cowie were inaugural members of New Zealand Deerstalkers Association. During the 1930's a number of prominent Southlander deerstalkers, including Arthur Hamilton and Geoffry Orbell attended an annual dinner in Invercargill. In 1937 they presented the idea of forming an association. In May 1938, at Elmwood Gardens, 120 deerstalkers gathered for the 'official' forming of the New Zealand Deerstalkers Association.

At a special dinner held at the Elmwood in 1987, Geoffrey Orbell said “technically I suppose 1938 was the legal start but in fact it all began in 1937.”

This Red Deer head was on display at the 1937 dinner. In 1999 the head came up for auction at Thompsons auction rooms. The branch was successful at \$320 but it could have been much cheaper as the only other bidder was another branch member who did not know we wanted to buy it.

Southland Branch Polo Shirts



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

5 x Medium

5 x Large

5 x Xtra Large to arrange payment

5 x 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



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.

Young Hunts Course 2021



**This course is for anyone young or old.
Includes Firearm safety, Navigation, First Aid, Bushcraft,
Equipment and trip planning, Meat processing and more**

**Includes 8 approx Tuesday evenings at the Clubrooms and
2 weekend hunts / bushcraft skills as well as sighting
rifles and river crossing.**

**Starting July, maximum of 12
Contact Nathan Dawson 0272358063
nathan.adrienne@xtra.co.nz or Steve
Robinson 0277478109 stevelrob@gmail.com**



JOKES FOR THE MONTH

**AND JUST LIKE THAT:
HAVING A MASK,
RUBBER GLOVES,
DUCT TAPE,
PLASTIC SHEETING
AND ROPE IN YOUR
TRUNK IS OKAY.**

**ANYBODY HAVE
AN OWNERS
MANUAL FOR A
HUSBAND?
MINE'S MAKING A
WHINING SOUND.**

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REV. SUSAN G. SPARKS

Minister

THE FACT THAT
THERE'S A HIGHWAY
TO HELL AND ONLY
A STAIRWAY TO
HEAVEN SAYS A
LOT ABOUT
ANTICIPATED
TRAFFIC NUMBERS

WWW.MABCNYC.ORG

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

Newspaper Clippings (scrapbooks) **On** **Southland Hunting and Venison Industry 1975 to 2011.**



Doug in his Mossburn Office in the 1980's

Doug Gordon during his time as the Sole Meat Inspector at the Mossburn Game Processing plant. Saved newspaper clippings into 12 scrapbooks. These have now been scanned by John Tacon of DEER INDUSTRY NZ and can be viewed on their web site. Hyperlink below. The hard copy scrap books are currently headed for The NZDA National Hunting Museum in Wellington.

<https://www.deernz.org/about-deer-industry/nz-deer-industry/history-news#.YLBSc74zaUk>

A special Thanks to John Tacon and Deer Industry NZ for the scanning and making this hyperlink available.

Doug Gordon

Historic Southland Branch Film

The below Hyperlink takes one to some historic Branch film footage from a hunt in the 1960's

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3IOPHkBSkiM>

(Thanks to John Delury for sorting this film out.)

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Wapiti Lodge, Thicket Burn Hut & Red Stag Lodge Mavora



Bookings to Neville & Carol Miller Phone (03)216 8654 cell 021 08219528

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.**

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