

THE SOUTHERN HUNTER



Lake Manapouri

Southland Branch NZDA News Letter

April 2017

Branch email is: enquiries@southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz

News Letter douglasgordon@xtra.co.nz

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

Monthly Meeting Club Rooms Long Bush Hall

Wednesday 19th April 8pm

Executive Meeting 7pm

Guest Speaker,

Steve Winsloe of NZ Police on Firearms & Hunting

Club Office Bearers

President: S. Robinson 215 7897 **Vice President:** (vacant)

Secretary: D Howden 213 0962 **Treasurer** T Smalley 03 236 9960

Magazine Editor: D. Gordon 216 6383 **Immediate past President** N Dawson 235 8852

Executive: N. Miller (Huts) R. Phillips (Membership) 216 3751 A. Nesbit, W. Muir.



Presidents Report

Hi All,

Well 2017 roar is under way and in some places they are very vocal, which we all know to makes a hunt that bit more exciting. Some early reports that have come my way indicate the stag numbers are out there. Red deer are in abundance in many places so harvesting a few smaller stags in these areas is not going to have that much of an impact. So take a few of the less likely to be trophy's out as you hone your bush hunting skills. Hope fully this year will go without any incidents taking place. As we are all a where of safety while hunting and handling firearms must be adhered to at all times. We know of NZDA's and MSC efforts to promote hunter safety, it is good to see retail outlets, Police and land owners along with other groups within our communities getting on-board as well. We all want to be returning from a hunt to our family and friends. The more awareness of safety by many groups can in turn help to promote acceptance in recreational hunting. We in Southland and the greater part of our mainland had and still do have a close tie with the rural community, this should never be taken for granted. So we all must play a part in safety, respect of others rights and property, above all practice and teach hunting ethics as often as we can.

Steve Robinson.



Editorial

The Game Animal Council needs funding to operate. The likely convenient source for this is a levy on all game trophies exported out of New Zealand. Hunter licencing has been suggested but compliance would currently be a nightmare. Sounds Ok but he who pays the piper will want to call the tune. Thus the trophy guides are likely to have a big influence on the direction's the Council goes in.

Meanwhile it is possible that the anti-Firearm lobby may push the case for firearms owners to have to produce evidence that they use any particular type of firearm they own. If so a Hunting Licence may be the required evidence, for ownership of hunting rifles. The police would then become the default compliance agency that would enforce acquisition of Hunting Licences if the Game Animal Council were to issue them.

The result should/could then be licenced hunters in the tens of thousands. This would result in a Game Animal Council with some financial clout. An organisation that could push for more areas where hunters control the game hunting in various parts of the current DoC (Kiwi Citizens) Estate. Along the pattern of the Fiordland Wapiti Foundation. Plus another strong pro firearms ownership voice on the national scene.

Well some of the above may be what is considered wishful thinking! But;

Currently the only likely source of finance for the Game Animal Council is an export Trophy levy. Selling hunting licences is in the two hard basket as who would buy one if one got on benefit from doing so. Which brings one to the point if you are paying for something, you want some benefit from that payment.

Also yes so I am told as I write this the law is toughening yet again on Firearms ownership. Unfortunately too many of the law makers live in Auckland with its low level of legal firearms ownership. Not Southland where the second biggest thing to Christmas is the first weekend of May.

Where do I see the NZDA in all this? Well in respect of the Game Animal Council we are the primary group representing the interests of the private recreational big game hunter to this body. Just Like the trophy Guides have their representative body.

Remember "Change is Constant". We recreational hunters want the correct changes (Ones that benefit us).

There is no better place to start this than becoming an active member and attending branch meetings. Especially the AGM, the executive needs new members, we **still** have **NO** Vice President!! To get results one has normally to put in some effort. If no one puts in some effort there will be no results other than NO Branch despite the healthy and increasing membership. The branch doesn't run its self.

Doug Gordon

AGM & Trophy night

This will be held at the Club Rooms on Wednesday the 17th of May at 7.30pm.

Entries in trophy competition Sunday the 14th of
May 1pm at the Clubrooms

*Heads must be clean 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, thar, chamois, any wild animal that fits in the branch AHT, antler, horn and tusk lists.

REMEMBER ALL MEMBERS ENTERING AN ENTRY GO INTO THE SPOT PRIZE DRAW SO
BRING ALL THE HEADS YOU HAVE SHOT IN THE LAST YEAR [MAY 2016 TO MAY 2017]

.Photo competition entries to Doug Gordon 254
Centre St Invercargill 9812 by 5pm Wednesday the
10th of May.

Photo Categories are

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

Other Wildlife: Any other living Animals

Scenic: Preferably Hunting Country

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

Photos must be taken from land not air or boats and must be 6x4 size

A spot prize on the night for all members entering photos

**Remember you must be a financial member when you took your trophy/ photo
and to enter.**

*Last Year's Trophy winners, all trophies to
be returned to the Executive by the April
Meeting.*

Vacancies

Vice President

Branch is still in need of a Vice President post the AGM anybody interest please contact the President or a member of the Executive.

Wanted

Stories, adds, letters to the editor, or whatever for the newsletter, send to or contact the editor

Sponsors

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

Hunting and Fishing Invercargill

Southern Adventure

Stewart Island Flights

MEMBERSHIP PAYMENTS

SOUTHLAND BRANCH NZDA

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2017--2018 YEAR

Subs. are due as from January 1st ,if you have not received an account as yet please E MAIL National Office

membership@deestalkers.org.nz attention Kirstie or phone them on 04-4996163

As the Branch now operates through the centralised membership system ALL new and renewal subscriptions must be made through the national office not the Branch.

Postal payments to NZDA PO BOX 6514

MARION SQUARE

WELLINGTON 6141.

Electronic payments to NZDA HQ ACCOUNT 03-

0558-0139562-04...

Please ensure that the correct details are entered when renewing IE name and address on postal and Name and Branch on electronic payments .and the CORRECT BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER IS ENTERED

This reminder is being put out as some members have paid direct to the branch account, as the account is not now checked on a regular basis for membership renewal a time lag will occur before any incorrect payments are picked up, and then forwarded onto Wellington.

For members renewing their memberships just pay to Wellington on the invoice that they send out to you ,DO NOT fill in a new application form as this just leads to a lot of double ups

Notice for members

If you change your address or your contact details like email address you must notify the branch and the national office.

If we do not have correct contact details how can we keep you informed from the branch, and national office cannot send out membership cards or the magazines, so it is important to have correct Postal as well as Email Addresses.

**POST the AGM UNFINANCIAL
MEMBERS**

**WILL NOT RECIEVE THE
NEWSLETTER or
Hunting and Wildlife**

New Members Please Welcome them

**Derek Kooman, Benjamim Galey, Peter Hawkes, Michael Millerick,
Benjamin Boyle, Craig Leigh, Brett Buchanan, Keith & Karen Chell,
Kieran Egerton, Stewart Mason, Geoffrey Friend, & Shane DeClifford**

Freeze Dri

BACK COUNTRY *Cuisine*

Still available at a great price to Branch Members

Contact Gus Ronald gus.ronald@xtra.co.nz 03 213 0351 for a price list



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*And remember even if you don't want
any yourself, your friends and
neighbours might so do your bit and
promote sales.*

Book Review

Hunting under the Southern Cross

Greg Fagg

This book by Greg Fagg is yet another book to be published by Halcyon Press, who seem these days to be the major local publisher of hunting books.

As for the book it is an autobiography of Gregg's hunting life in New Zealand, from start to the time of writing. There is no record book trophies featured, just honest stories of the highs and lows of the life of a Kiwi Hunter. I found it a good read typical of this type of book. But made more interesting for me, as Gregg started out a good Otago lad, thus there was a southern setting to a lot of the hunts including some on Stewart Island. Tahr would most likely be the most common species to be pursued in the various stories told.

While not a must have must read, I found it a good read, that I enjoyed reading. If or when he writes a second book, yes I would likely buy a copy to read it also.

Doug Gordon

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



Red Stag lodge after a good frost

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

email nandc43@gmail.com or 43 Bain St Invercargill

Deposits for any bookings to be received within seven days or bookings will be cancelled.

Please Note the Red Stag Lodge is on Doc land a hunting permit is required to have firearms at the site.