

THE SOUTHERN HUNTER



Murray's Beach – Stewart Island
Photo courtesy of Bevan McNaughton

April 2011

**Southland Branch
NZ Deerstalkers Association**

Noticeboard:

Executive Meeting: Wednesday 20th March at 7.00pm
Next Meeting Wednesday 20th March at 8.00pm

Executive and committee members (2010 - 2011):

President	Nathan Dawson	235 8852
Vice	Steve Long	235 7035
Jnr. Vice	Bevan McNaughton	216 3365
Secretary	David Howden	213 0962
Treasurer	John DeLury	213 1430
Immediate P.P	Jim Ridley	2159649
Huts	Neville Miller	216 8654
Newsletter Editor	Bevan McNaughton	216 3365

Sub committees for year 2010-2011

Hall	D. Craig	N. Dawson	J. Ridley		
Huts	N. Miller	J. De Lury	K. Watson		
Young Hunts	R. Sloan	N. Dawson	G. Ronald	K. Watson	
Brach Hunts	N. Dawson	S. Long	K. Watson	D. Howden	S. Byrne
Guest Speakers	R. Phillips	N. Miller	D. Howden		
AGM	President.				
Trophies	G. Ronald				
Poisons/Toxins	R. Phillips	J. Ridley	D. Howden		
Stewart Island	R. Phillips	J. De Lury	S. Long		
Longwoods/Hokonui	J. Ridley	B. McNaughton			
South Coast	R. Phillips	N. Dawson	D. Howden		
Fiordland	R. Sloan				
Caples/Mavora	J. De Lury	N. Miller	R. Sloan		
Blue Mountains	S. Long				
Rifle Range	D. Craig	D. Howden	J. Ridley		

Executive:

R. Stratford, S. Long, B. Bell, R. Phillips, J. Hogg,
D. Craig, G. Ronald, S. Byrne, R. Sloan, K. Watson.

Life Member(s):

WA (Bill) Bell (*Branch*)
Roger McNaughton (*National*)

Branch email is: southlandbranchnzda@hotmail.com

Newsletter Address is: newsletter@southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz

Postal address:

P.O Box 1588
Invercargill 9840

Presidents Report For April:

Hi Everyone, have heard some good success stories from different guys out there over the roar, some of them even sending photos to me on my phone! skiting buggers! good to see their out there doing it.

I had a good week chasing the deer, seen some good animals, the weather was interesting for us, i dear say it played a part in everyone's roar.

Duck Shootings just around the corner, my Dad and my brother are full steam ahead on it now the roars out of the way, Dads even counting the sleeps like its Christmas, keep an eye out for your local duck shooters clay target shoots i.e Central Southland Gun Club and Southland Club

These are a great way to blow out any cobwebs before opening weekend.

Hope to see you all at the AGM on the 18th May at 7pm, come along, always good to see new faces at the club

Had a great turn out at the Graf Brothers - Roarin in Reds DVD Night, a big thanks to David White and his team for their sponsorship of the spot prizes. I think it got most people excited for the roar and i heard some tall stories being told

Cheers

Nathan

From the Editor.

Hi all – a real rushed newsletter this month. Only stepped off the ferry from Oban last night. Story to come next month.

Regards,

Bevan McNaughton.

Guest Speaker for April:

This month Noel Beggs from the Walking Access Commission will speak

Briefly, the Commission has been established with the Walking Access Act 2008, and a key principle is that access over private land is a matter of negotiation and agreement with the landowner. The Commission is also promoting

a code of responsible conduct, compiling a mapping system showing the location of public land open to access, and providing leadership and coordinating walking access.

The Commissions website is www.walkingaccess.govt.nz

As mentioned, please log on to the Walking Access Mapping System website, and encourage others to as well. www.arahikoi.org.nz

Guest Speakers

If anyone knows of someone who would be interested in being a guest speaker at the meetings please contact

Ray Phillips, (rkphillips@xtra.co.nz)

Dave Howden (davidandlorraine@xtra.co.nz)

or Neville Miller (nandc43@xnet.co.nz)

NZDA Caps & Beanies

The Southland Branch has sourced a supply of caps and/or beanies that will have the Southland branch logo printed on them.

The ones available are:

Caps: Dark green with a yellow logo on the front. Peaked front to keep the rain off.

Beanies: Two types available - the standard type of beanie, and one that pulls over the ears (good for the cold days).

Both caps and beanies will have the logo printed on them.

If anyone wants them, they will need to pay up front, as the order will not be sent in until we have a reasonable number to purchase. The cost is \$15.00 for either the cap or the beanies. Cheques can be made out to Southland Branch NZDA, or cash is more than welcome.

For orders, please see R. Phillips on a meeting night, or mail to:

Southland Branch New Zealand Deerstalkers Association
P.O BOX 1588
Invercargill 9840



There will be a spot prize for the antler, tusk and horn section, this is a Panasonic camera so not necessarily the biggest will win could be anyone so make sure you enter your heads, big or small.

Entries for the antler, tusk and horn comp need to be at the Longbush hall on Sunday 15th may at 1pm for judging and scoring

Photos need to be given / posted to Neville Millar by 5pm Monday the 9th May
His address is: 43 Bain St, Invercargill
Phone number is: 2168654

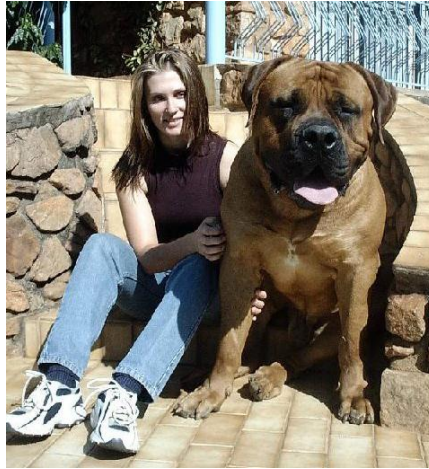
There is a spot prize for the photo/video competition

There will also be a spot prize for under 18's in the antler, tusk, horn comp, again won't necessarily be the best entry.

There will also be raffles on the night so come along and have a catch up and see what we've all shot out there over the roar

Joke for the month

For Sale:



Owner cannot afford to feed him anymore, as there are no more drug pushers, thieves, murderers, or molesters left in the neighbourhood for him to eat. Most of them knew Jethro only by his Asian street name, Ho Lee Schitt.

The Firearm Safety Code:

1. Treat EVERY firearm as loaded.
2. ALWAYS point firearms in a safe direction.
3. Load a firearm ONLY when ready to fire.
4. **IDENTIFY** your target. **IDENTIFY** your target. **IDENTIFY** your target!!!
5. Check your firing zone.
6. Store your firearms and ammunition separately and securely.
7. Alcohol impairs judgment

SURVIVAL BLANKETS

SLEEPY (2) - We were riding our two-stroke farm bikes to our hunting block. I had filled up my bike's oil and petrol tanks. Sleepy had filled up his petrol tank. On the way Sleepy started lagging behind and then he was not there. I turned around and went back to find him. He was standing beside his bike with a sheepish look on his face. His bike had run out of oil and was starting to seize. We had no spare oil or container. I emptied my bike tools from their plastic bag, and disconnected the oil pipe from my bike's oil pump and drained oil into the bag. Then I poured the oil into the oil tank of Sleepy's bike until we had half each. He removed the spark plug from his bike so he could turn the motor over easier with the kick starter, and opened fully the throttle to prime the oil pump. We could not get the oil through the pump. It had an air leak and no amount of kicking on the starting lever would shift it. There was only one thing to do. I put my mouth over the oil tank filler neck and blew to put pressure on the oil while Sleepy furiously kicked down on the starting lever. That did the trick and soon we were on our way again but with a rattly motor which needed repairs. At our destination we set up camp on a saddle between two valleys. Sleepy was out to it within minutes of lying down, but I took longer. I awoke to the sound of a storm battering our tent. As I listened to the wind and rain I heard a stag roar, and every time it roared it sounded louder and closer. It was coming our way and I thought about getting the rifle out and ready but the storm put me off the idea. The stag walked up onto the saddle and roared, sending a shiver down my spine. He walked around the tent and I was scared. I had visions of him lowering his head and charging through the tent. He eventually smelt our scent, gave a snort and took off. Sleepy slept on. The storm passed and I finally got back to sleep.

In the morning I gave Sleepy a hard time for sleeping through the noise of a stag roaring. He said, "Bullsh...t! You must have been dreaming." I bet him that there would be stag hoofprints around the tent, and when we got up there they were. He still could not understand how he slept through the noise of a roaring stag, but his friends and family knew he had that ability.

Alex Kidd



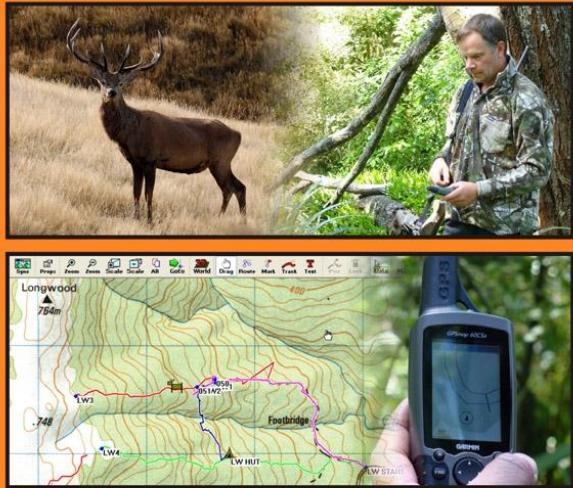
With the generosity of Back Country foods we are able to source their goods at cost price – this is the same amount that retail stores buy their product in at!

The owner of Back Country Food indicated that he would prefer to deal with only one person from each club or organisation. Gus Ronald has a current order form and he has been dealing with them for the last 15 years.

Instead of putting the form in the newsletter, anyone interested in getting any, please contact Gus & he will e-mail them a copy. It has all the prices and what is available and he is more than happy to take orders of any quantity from members of if they have friends they could also get it as well. It would also be a lot more easier to place order as quantities warranted it so if members wanted small quantities they may have to wait a short while till Gus gets enough to make a decent size order.

As a guide to the price the cost of a 2 serve which seems the most popular is only \$6.65 + G.S.T. making it \$7.65 inclusive which is about 30% cheaper than most retail outlets. The money would be payable on order as he have no intentions of running an accounting or charging system. There is no making any money out of this and Gus is only doing it to help people out.

You can contact Gus on gus.ronald@xtra.co.nz
Please also include your NZDA membership number where possible.



**Expert advice on Garmin GPS's
to suit all your individual requirements.**

Chris at Southland Electronics is an expert on Garmin GPS h/fields. With many years hunting while using a GPS, he has a wealth of knowledge.

Contact Chris for all your GPS needs!

**SOUTHLAND
electronics**

03 218-2456 | www.nextsouth.co.nz | 294 Dee Street, Invercargill

Opportunities for members. Rats at Mason Bay. Stewart Island

Since 2006 our Branch has been undertaking a programme of rat control at Mason Bay Stewart Island. A total of 180 rats were killed during the bird breeding season. This was the lowest number of rats killed in the five years. This year's report has now been completed and is available under *Misc Documents* on our website.

Three of last year's parties have already committed to this year's program and we are looking for people to make up the parties for the following dates in 2011.

24 Sept - 2 October

12 - 20 October

3 - 11 December.

Ideally parties are four hunters, You can make up a party of your own or join another party. You are required to pay your own food and about \$100 return airfare. The rest is subsidised. Staying at the comfortable Hunters Hut.

We expect each party to check and reset all the rat traps at least twice during the trip and help keep the tracks open. It is not necessary to stay the full period but it is recommended that you allow at least 5 days to allow for a bit of hunting. Six deer were shot last season.

If you are interested in taking part either with your own team or making up one contact John on 2131430. wtd243@xtra.co.nz

If there is not sufficient interest from Branch members after this newsletter I will be asking other Branches if they wish to participate.

Subscriptions are due.
Thanks to those who have paid, everyone else - please give this some attention!

Spare Deer Antlers:

I am looking for deer antlers to use in making a chandelier for our lounge. Would you or any other members of your club have any to sell? What is the going price for them? I would prefer 10 - 12 point pairs. Probably after about 5 pairs.

Thanks,

John Hansen.

jch@orcon.net.nz

Waitutu poisoning Monitoring:

Kia ora

Our next field trip into Waitutu is scheduled for May 17th to May 23rd or 24th. I am looking for field staff/volunteers to help out, if you are interested and available please contact me ASAP.

The tasks include:

- monitoring rodents and stoats using tracking tunnels
- stoat trap checking, re-baiting and maintenance
- seedfall collection
- Kaka monitoring
- line marking

Staff will be based at the following sites:

- Poteriteri Hut (3)
- Slaughterburn Hut (1-2)
- Waitutu Hut (3)
- Crombie Biv (2)

You will need:

- good back-country skills
- a high level of fitness
- compass and gps skills
- appropriate personel equipment

Regards

Colin Bishop

Ranger - Biodiversity Threats

Department of Conservation—Te Papa Atawhai

DDI: 03 211 2456 | VPN: 5856

Conservation for prosperity Tiakina te taiao, kia puawai

www.doc.govt.nz