

THE SOUTHERN HUNTER



(Winning Photo Scenic Section)

SOUTHLAND BRANCH NZDA

August 2015

Branch email is: southlandbranchnzda@hotmail.com

News Letter douglasgordon@xtra.co.nz

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

Next Meeting Club Rooms

Wed 19th August 8.00pm

Guest Speaker Mark Bryan

He has climbed all over the world, from the Himalayas,
to the Antarctic.

Executive Meeting 7.pm

**We have a \$50 Southern adventure voucher up
for grabs at this month's meeting \$2 ticket as
you walk in the door, great prize to get your
hands on.**

**Thanks for your amazing support, *Southern
Adventure***



Presidents Report

Hopefully our winter is nearing the end, and the warmer weather will be with us before we know it. Whatever we intent to be doing, we must stay focused on taking our game with quick clean kills.

This can be achieved by making sure the rifle is sighted in correctly with the ammo you intend to be using on the hunt. Practice shooting makes us better, regardless of our abilities. Taking that shot within capabilities is always a better option in the long run.

The branch will again be using the Invercargill Pistol Range, for the purpose of sighting in ONLY, this

will be when daylight saving is here so keep an eye out in the newsletter for this.

Cecil and the Dentist!

We will have our own views on this for sure. This style of Trophy shooting is for the wealthy and based on economics, with some ethics thrown in so they can believe their own B.S. and think its hunting. My view of it anyway.

Hunts Course.

Nathan and myself started this year's hunts course in July with 10 new members in attendance. They are like previous years keen and cheeky.

Monthly Club Meetings.

The branch committee have been concerned at the low number of members at these meetings. We do encourage you all to come along and listen to the speakers we get each month, they have amazing stories to tell, we are very lucky that they volunteer their time to coming along to talk to us. We have decided to run a raffle each month at the meetings, this month we have a \$50 Southern Adventure voucher, each ticket will be \$2. The committee members are volunteers and it takes a lot of their time and knowledge to run the branch. Support by attending these meetings would be greatly appreciated.

Remember to take care when you are out hunting, identify your target, wear your high vis, and be safe.

Thanks

Steve Robinson



Editorial

Who called the Lion Cecil? Then who thought they could get someone to shoot this larger than life Lion without causing a stink. This has brought out the Bambi syndrome in some of us. Or is it the Lion syndrome after the Lion King films?

To my way of thinking these people would be better off concerned about the human problems in the Middle East and North Africa. Stoning people to death or hacking their heads off without stunning them first. There would be hell to play if animals were treated that way in the developed world. My thoughts are for Humans first regarding better treatment. (That does not mean I believe in mistreating animals).

This brings me to consider the difference between Animal welfare and Animal rights. To me this can be summed up in the following example, which is based on historical fact. A Mallard duck is shot by an arrow, only wounding it but leaving it with a protruding arrow. What should we do? You can take some considerable time, cost, and, effort and catch the duck and have a Veterinarian remove it then release the duck, (Animal rights). *Which could well then be soon shot at duck shooting.* Or you could recognising that the duck must be suffering having and arrow in it. Just shoot the thing ending is suffering. (Animal Welfare).

It is an unfortunate product of the movie industry that a lot of people credit animals with the feelings and thoughts of humans. A lot of people are so far removed from the realities of life outside the city's that they take fiction for fact.

The problem is Cecil is dead, those concerned have gone to ground, and we hunters are left to deal with the fallout. Just another reason we need to be in the Deerstalkers Assn where hunters stick up for hunting and support each other.

Act responsibly there are people out there that want rid of hunting, we need to be sure we don't give them any ammunition for their campaign.

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MEMBERSHIP PAYMENTS

SOUTHLAND BRANCH NZDA

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 ACCOUNT 03-0558-0139562-00 ..

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.

Sponsors

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

Hunting and Fishing Invercargill

Southern Adventure

H&J's Outdoor World

Stewart Island Flights

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 .

Southland Rural Internet

If you're a Woosh customer and wondering what's actually going on, Woosh Wireless are only keeping their rural network (for the foreseeable future) in Southland only and are shutting down access to most town/urban/suburban areas where people can get copper or fibre broadband.

For those on Satellite or with poor reception, have a talk to VelocityNet (Southland) or Yrless (Eastern & Otago) about Wireless or landline services they can offer.

Feel free to contact me at bevan@ocs.net.nz if you need any help in the matter. We want to ensure that you can still get your newsletter digitally so you can get it in colour & with fast delivery.

Bevan McNaughton

This Month's Quiz

1. Who wrote " You'll Learn No Harm From The Hills"?
2. What is the highest mountain in Fiordland?
3. What is Moir's Guide Book and when was it first published?
4. As regards rifles what does "Fly Buster" refer to?
5. What is a "Wild Cat" Cartridge?

Last Month's Quiz

- (1) Is Chamois a type of goat? **No Antelope**
- (2) What are the two main differences between the 30-06 Springfield and 308 Winchester?**The length of the case and about 100 feet per second. The 308W is a shortened 30-06 round developed as the 7.62 Nato from the 30-06**
- (3) Who wrote Hunt the Wild Blue Yonder **Keith Severenson**
- (4) The Wild Natives River flow's into? **Bligh Sound**
- (5) Both Lakes Monowai and Manapouri have Shallow Bays **True**

Tahr Shoot 2015

Gear all packed and ready to go, but you guessed it, the bloody snow on the roads was holding us up again, pacing the floor till lunchtime until we got notification that the Haast road was going to be open, then off we went.

The CHCH boys had the same problem as well

Got to Hari Hari in time to have tea at the pub and meet up for some yarns, then back to Theo's for the night where he offered to take us out for a deer so off we went.

Brad grabbed his gun and five rounds, Theo pointed us in the right direction and said 'if they'll be anywhere they will come out of that bush so be ready'

We got to the end of the lane and hadn't seen anything so that poor possum in the tree got it.

Then the hare in the paddock and his mate also which took 2 shots, this left us with one shot, as we came back up the lane we shone the light on the other side, much to Theo's surprise there was 3 stags standing there looking at us. Brad had a wee moment as he tried to get the last round in the chamber and if that wasn't enough pressure, everyone was saying take your time... take your time.



But he rose to the occasion and dropped one, great work Brad!

Saturday morning came soon enough and we loaded gear into the chopper ready to go.

Set up camp and started glassing the faces for animals and we soon had our first victim in sight 550m away. Stu set up with the camp gun (.338) and we watched with anticipation...down it went

and the hike to find it began. Day one finished on a high, with plenty of animals seen around the area.

Sunday brought us snow so was a camp day but the next four days were brilliant weather and we all got out for a great look.



Ended up packing my pack and hiking up one of the ridges opposite camp and spent a couple of nights under some good rock shelters, saw plenty of animals to glass at.

On the second morning while I was cooking breakie I noticed two heads peering over looking at me, I thought how am I going to get my gun and ammo out when they are only 65m

away looking at me? But the smell of my porridge wafting up the hill had them stunned and that was their downfall.



Packed up and headed back to base camp, keeping in touch with the boys on the radio they guided me towards some more on the way down, cheers fellas

That night we huddled around the diesel burner at base camp and told stories and lies about how big and many animals we had seen.

Thursday morning we split into two's and had

a scout around. My brother and I went up the rock to where Brad had left his go-pro the day before while he was filming (Good one Brad!) But we ended up seeing a bull with one horn and he was cool but was a bit more crafty than us but was a talking point that night but with nothing to show.

Friday we were due to come out due to the weather but you guessed it, that west coast weather got us all so we spent a day under the fly trying to keep warm.

Saturday morning came and so did the sun, we were home for a shower. yes!



We loaded up the chopper for the first load and the boys were out, Stu and I yarned about the great trip while we waited for the second load. Once the chopper came back in we loaded up, jumped in and we were ready to go. But that's when things went wrong. As we were taking off something went wrong and the chopper ended up crashing. Definitely wasn't a pleasant experience. From then on survival

skills kicked in, the pilot talked us through shutting the chopper down and then set off the PLB's and took bets on how long before we would see some help. The rest is history from there. We were all pretty lucky considering what the chopper looked like and the terrain we were on. I broke the Tibia and Fibula in my left leg, my mate beside me had a fractured ankle, broken teeth and cuts and bruises. The pilot had spinal injuries, I've been in touch with the pilots Dad and he is making a slow but steady recovery.

The rescue choppers are a great cause to donate to as they were brilliant.

so 2014 was interesting as we had to travel round the southern alps and had some interesting camp sites on the trip, 2015 the roads just about didn't let us through again and our transport fell out of the sky (not recommended) what's 2016 going to bring?.....

Nathan Dawson

PS. Anyone keen for next year's trip...

RIFLE FOR SALE

Remington Model 7400. Autoloader 308 with 2 – 8 power Tasco scope, sling and cleaning rod. \$450.00 or near offer.

Rifle is in very good condition. Inquiries to Alex Kidd, Ph. 03 2174638.

2016 Wapiti Ballot Applications

This is now available at <http://www.fwf.net.nz>

Applications close 11th October 2015.

Moved North But it's Not Goodbye!

Some will be aware but if you haven't heard I have moved north to Pegasus Town 20 minutes north of Christchurch to be closer to family.

After 35 years of membership with Southland Branch and member of the executive serving first as Secretary and more recently fourteen years as treasurer.

I have met many people through membership and developed many lasting friendships. While we have moved north I do not intend to give my interest in Stewart Island and its whitetail deer which I began hunting before we shifted to Invercargill. I will continue to co-ordinate our rat control project at Homestead block on Mason Bay and the gorse eradication at Cavalier block. I intend to remain as chairman of Rakiura Hunter Camps Trust. Clearly I will not be able to attend all the day to day work that I used to do, some of that will need to be shared by the other Trustees but we would be happy from any interested members who regularly hunt there who are interested in assisting. I wish the branch all the best for the future.

My cellphone and email address remain the same.

John Delury. Life Member.

Reprinted below for those who did not get the recent e-mail from our National President on developments regarding the Mountain Safety Council and its involvement in Firearms safety and training. Read and watch this space. We need people to be able to get firearms training or we will lack hunters.



New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association Inc

Level 1 45 – 51 Rugby Street

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Phone: 04 801 7367 Fax: 04 801 7368

7 August 2015

Dear NZDA Members

Restructure of Mountain Safety Council threatens Firearm Safety Programme

I need to inform you of the recent and completely unexpected sacking by the Mountain Safety Council of the well-known Firearm Programme managers Mike Pyatt and Nicole McKee, and the termination by MSC of the Firearms Technical Committee. The NZDA National Executive believes this undermines the long standing firearms programme.

As you already know, that programme has for many years been delivering safety instruction and administering the licence test under contract to the NZ Police. This delivery is actually done by volunteers, many of them members of the NZDA as is consistent with our position as the premier hunting organisation in New Zealand. The instructors remain fiercely loyal to the programme and the managers and believe MSC is jeopardising all the goodwill built up between these willing volunteers and the organisation charged with directing them. Instructors all around New Zealand are discussing a walkout, which would likely spell the death knell of the whole programme.

Nicole and Mike had the pivotal job of Programme Managers for this work. They liaised closely with instructors to conduct training, collate firearm incident reports and carry out other firearm-related tasks, and to ensure consistency of training standards throughout the country. The Technical Committee was made up of nominees from national hunting and shooting organisations, firearm instructors, Defence and police. It provided advice to the Programme Managers and helped to develop training programmes.

All this is now in jeopardy despite the MSC's assurances over the past year that the firearms programme would be unaffected during the disestablishment of the other MSC outdoor disciplines and the regional committees.

The police had been given vague assurances that the programme would continue and the quality would be unchanged, but as a result of restructurings that were made, the National Executive believes we must ask the police to cancel their contract with MSC for delivering the service. We cannot remain confident in an organisation that has made pointless changes without consultation – not even the police! Meanwhile, the police have moved to ask their Arms Officers to reassure instructors that police value their services and will ensure that the provision of resources and resolution of any issues will be a priority.

But without the leadership of credible programme managers and an expert technical committee, the consistency and quality of instruction will inevitably degrade across the country.

So where does NZDA stand on this?

- NZDA is the largest shooting organisation in the country and has a vested interest in maintaining a credible firearm safety programme.
- We have a particular interest in hunter safety and the current safety lecture and licence test emphasise safety in a hunting context.
- It is from the ranks of our membership that many (perhaps most) of the current firearm instructors are drawn.
- We ask firearms instructors to stay with the programme and work with the District Arms Officers to continue providing the services that licence applicants and the general public need for their competence and safety.
- The NZDA National Executive will ask the police to cancel their contract with MSC, take over the direct management of the programme, employ managers with relevant qualifications and reinstate a standing Firearm Technical Committee.

Sincerely



Bill

National President

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

Wapiti Lodge, Thicket Burn Hut & Red Stag Lodge Mavora



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

email nandc43@gmail.com

43 Bain St Invercargill

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

Club Office Bearers

President: S. Robinson 215 7897 **Vice President:** B. McNaughton 216 3365

Jnr Vice President: S. Gainford 03-234-8487 **Secretary:** D Howden (Acting) 213 0962

Treasurer ? **Magazine Editor:** D. Gordon 216 6383

Immediate past President N Dawson 235 8852

Executive: N. Miller T. Smalley R. Phillips

