

# THE SOUTHERN HUNTER



Young Stag – Tuatapere April 2012 (Courtesy – Simon Light)

## JUNE 2012

SOUTHLAND BRANCH

NEW ZEALAND DEERSTALKERS ASSOCIATION

## NOTICE BOARD

**Executive Meeting:** Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm

**General Meeting:** Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June at 8pm – **All Welcome**

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### EXECUTIVE & COMMITTEE MEMBERS (2012-2013)

<b>President</b>	Nathan Dawson	235 8852
<b>Vice</b>	Steve Long	235 7035
<b>Junior Vice</b>	Steve Robinson	215 7897
<b>Secretary</b>	David Howden	213 0962
<b>Treasurer</b>	John De Lury	214 1430
<b>Immediate P.P.</b>	Jim Ridley	215 9649

### EXECUTIVE

N. Miller, B. Bell, R. Phillips, J. Hogg, D Craig, J. Ridley  
G. Ronald, S. Byrne, K. Watson, B. McNaughton, G. Herbert

### PRELIMINARY SUB COMMITTEES FOR 2012-2013

<b>Hall</b>	N Dawson, J Hogg	<b>Huts</b>	J De Lury, N Miller, K Watson
<b>Branch Hunts</b>	G Ronald, J Hogg	<b>Young Hunts</b>	N Dawson, S Long, S Robinson
<b>AGM</b>	N Dawson	<b>Trophies</b>	G Ronald
<b>Poisons &amp; Toxins</b>	R Phillips	<b>Stewart Isl.</b>	J De Lury, R Phillips
<b>Hokonuis</b>	K Watson	<b>Longwoods</b>	S Long
<b>Sth Coast</b>	R Phillips, S Robinson	<b>Fiordland</b>	B McNaughton
<b>Caples</b>	J De Lury, N Miller	<b>Blue Mtns</b>	S Long
<b>Rifle Range</b>	D Howden	<b>Newsletters</b>	G Herbert
<b>DOC Liason</b>	N Dawson		

### LIFE MEMBER(S)

*WA (Bill) Bell (Branch)      Ray Phillips (Branch)*  
*Neville Miller (Branch)      John De Lury (Branch)*  
*Roger McNaughton (National)*



NATHAN DAWSON

# PRESIDENTS REPORT...

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Well... winters here! Hope you're all keeping warm.

It was great to see such a good turnout at the AGM last month and good to see some new faces and catch up on some hunting stories. A big thanks to the executives for helping out with everything and also a huge thanks to Janice and Jolie and team for another wonderful supper.

A warm welcome to Greg Herbert who has joined the Executive Committee and has taken over the newsletter editing from Bevan McNaughton. Please help Greg out with this job by passing on any stories, info etc. you'd like to see in the newsletter.

There are still places available for people to join the young hunts program starting 24th July, let me know if you're interested [nathan.adrienne@xtra.co.nz](mailto:nathan.adrienne@xtra.co.nz) or (03)2358852

**Guest Speaker** - Does anyone know anyone that would be happy to speak at the meeting as im scratching my head for ideas, any help would be appreciated

We will be watching a DVD this month, Julys meeting we have Colin Bischof regarding the summary of the Chamois hunt that was held. Augusts meeting we look like we have the rep from Stoney Creek talking about their product and some good deals on the night.

Attended a meeting at Environment Southland last Tuesday regarding their regional pest management strategy review, was great to see a lot of hunters there???? (there was 2 of us..cheers Ray). Discussion on managing pests in the Southland Region, including Chamois, Goats, Deer, Pigs, Ferrets, Possums etc. We made the offer that the club would be more than willing to help out with organised hunts of these animals if they wish us to be involved. These guys, like DOC, don't have a lot of funding, so there may be opportunities arise from this eg. good spots to shoot possums, rabbits and other pests. So watch this space, be interesting to see if they take our offer on board as they haven't in the past, but we had some good feedback from the council members in regards to us coming involved.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new members **Craig Booth** and **Matthew Harrison**.

Cheers

*Nathan.*

(Guest speaker this month will be a DVD screened at the hall (to be decided))

ALEX KIDD

# MY FIRST GPS...

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Back in February 1994 I read a letter to the Southland Branch of the NZ Deerstalkers Assn from Kaptain Kiwi Ltd about the Global Positioning System (GPS) and that Motorola had made a hand held version suitable for hunters to use. It was called Traxar GPS Navigator and it would operate anywhere, even in the densest forest or the most severe snowstorm so the need to find clear views of surrounding terrain to take bearings and calculate position is no longer required.

I thought I could use one of these to mark in all the stag wallow holes I see in the Longwood Forest and be able to stalk from one to another easily. Also I would never be disorientated again in the bush, or so the advertising letter said. The more I thought about it the more I wanted one. They were very expensive and would put a dent in my savings, but I ordered one.

My Traxar arrived and I read the instructions and tried it out at home. I went for a walk and then used it to track back. Marvellous instrument! Off to the Longwoods and I marked in the way point at the van and headed into the bush. At a clear spot on the tram track I tried to mark another way point but failed. All the places in the bush that I tried, it failed to track enough satellites to do anything with it. I arrived at the clearing and after 6 minutes I was able to mark a way point. As for navigating in the Longwoods it was impossible.

When I got home I rang my hunting friend, Bruce, who lived near Queen's Park and he suggested we try it out in the park. In the open it had 6 satellites showing on its screen, but as we moved under some exotic trees they all disappeared. It was even useless in Queen's Park.

I rang the suppliers and told them about false advertising. I sent it back to them and got my money back.



Alex.



# PRIZEGIVING RESULTS



## RED DEER

1 <sup>st</sup>	Penny Stratford	246 ¾
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Roger Stratford	241
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ross Mawdsley	231 ¾



## FALLOW DEER

1 <sup>st</sup>	Allan Corson	208 1/8
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ross Mawdsley	179 ¼

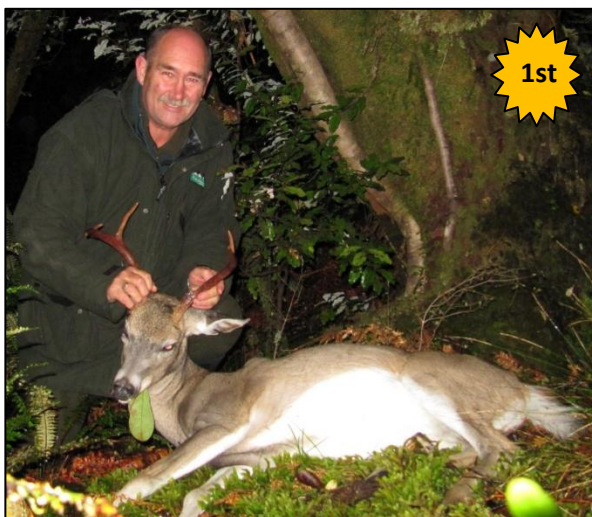
Unfortunately Allan's buck pictures are still to be developed so we hope to show these in a future newsletter



## WHITETAIL DEER

1<sup>st</sup> John De Lury 81

I spent ten days at Abrahams Bay in April, a couple of day's rain but mostly warm days and nights. Only two deer were shot. The first was doe on the third evening on the block. She was shot from the same tree stand we shot a deer on previous trip about an hour before dark. Another two deer came to this tree stand in the evenings but were both wrong sided for the shooter. I had a spot overlooking a gully about 15 minutes from the hut. It had a bit of sign in it and it was clear that deer were about. I sat on the side of a ridge above it most evenings and some mornings. On day six I sat there until it was dark and was about to turn on my headlight to head back to the hut. I was having a last look at the open areas in the trees through the scope. I scanned around and actually went past what I realised must have been four deer legs below me. Back to the legs and up a bit revealed the white throat patch of a whitetail. Squeezing off just behind the shoulder I was mindful of the severe downhill slope but I did not need to worry. Turning on my light and heading downhill I found a seven pointer stone dead about 10 metres away. I never heard a sound of this deer and when he was shot was probably only 30 metres away.



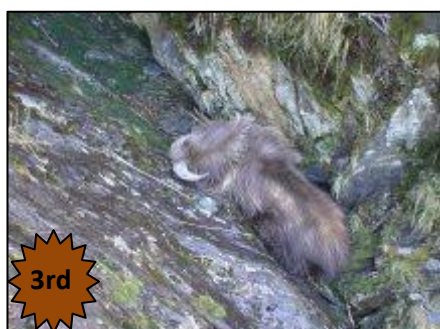
On this trip we had two trail cameras set up. We recorded 26 occasions when whitetail came past the cameras. Most of them were at night and the most common time was between 2- 3a.m. One of the animals was a very nice 8 point buck (Pic saved for future newsletter). Only twice did we capture images of deer during daylight hours.

## TAHR

1<sup>st</sup> Simon De Ruyter 43 ¼

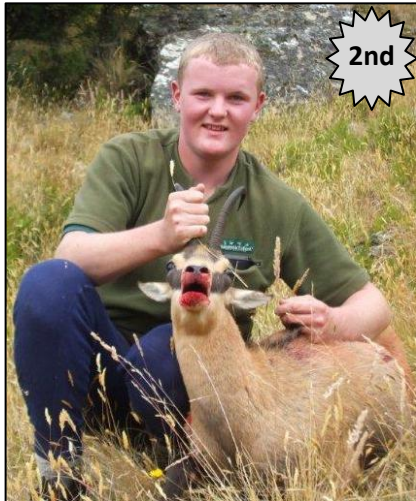
2<sup>nd</sup> Nick White 42 ½

3<sup>rd</sup> Nathan Dawson 40 ½



## CHAMOIS

1 <sup>st</sup>	Nathan Dawson	25 ½
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Callum Affleck	24 ½



**Best Classic Head** = Penny Stratford

**Best Junior** = Callum Affleck

**Young Hunts** = Lachlan Wood

**Rifle Shooting** =  
1<sup>st</sup> Doug Gordon  
2<sup>nd</sup> Dave Howden  
3<sup>rd</sup> Leighton Sparks

**REMINDER:** To those who are yet to  
pay their subs, please do so ASAP



## PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION (WINNING PICS SHOWN)

### ***Game Animals***

1<sup>st</sup> Roger Stratford

2<sup>nd</sup> Roger Stratford

3<sup>rd</sup> Roger Stratford



### ***Wildlife***

1<sup>st</sup> Bevan McNaughton

2<sup>nd</sup> Nathan Dawson

3<sup>rd</sup> Roger Stratford



### ***Scenic***

1<sup>st</sup> Bevan McNaughton

2<sup>nd</sup> Nathan Dawson

3<sup>rd</sup> Doug Gordon



### ***Topical***

1<sup>st</sup> Nathan Dawson

2<sup>nd</sup> Roger Stratford

3<sup>rd</sup> Roger Stratford



Many thanks to Gerald and the team at Hamills in Invercargill for sponsoring the spot prize which was won by *Ross Mawdsley*. Please remember to support these guys because they generously support us – well done Ross!



# HUNTS COURSE – JULY 2012

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The Hunter National Training Scheme (HUNTS) course is delivered by the Southland New Zealand Deerstalkers Association Instructors and is designed to introduce new hunters to the skills needed to hunt below the snowline. Experienced hunters may find value in some sections of the course, including...

- Essential Bush Skills
- River Safety
- Firearm Safety in a hunting context
- Practical shooting and hunting ballistics
- Hunting techniques
- Species Knowledge
- Game Utilization (skinning, butchering etc)
- Trip Planning and Risk Management
- First aid and survival
- Food and Equipment

Participants must have a reasonable level of physical fitness and access to personal tramping equipment.

**Maximum number of participants:** 10

**Minimum Age :** 16 years

**Cost per person:** \$200.00 (incl. GST), cost includes

- HUNTS manual and course handouts
- NZDA Membership (if your already a member this will decrease the cost of the course)
- Weekends away are at additional cost, eg fuel/food

**Venue:** Long bush Hall

**Start Date:** July 24th 2012

**Please Contact :** Nathan Dawson (President NZDA Southland Branch) for details

03 2358852 (after 7pm) or 027 2358063, [nathan.adrienne@xtra.co.nz](mailto:nathan.adrienne@xtra.co.nz)



# CAPS & BEANIES

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

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



## 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.

Branch email is: [southlandbranchnzda@hotmail.com](mailto:southlandbranchnzda@hotmail.com)  
Newsletter Address is: [newsletter@southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz](mailto:newsletter@southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz)

**Postal address:**

P.O Box 1588  
Invercargill 9840