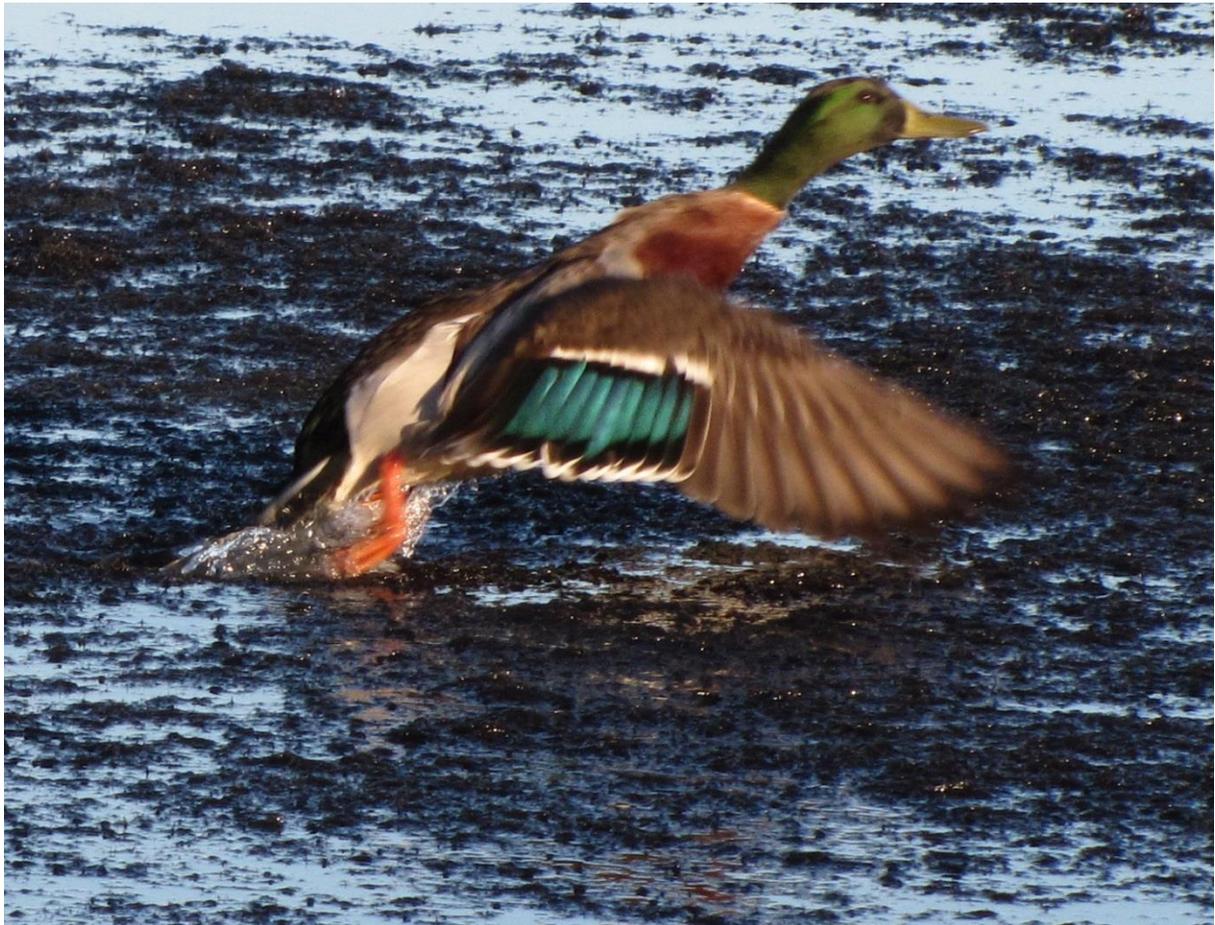


THE SOUTHERN HUNTER



SOUTHLAND BRANCH NZDA

June 2014

Branch email is: southlandbranchnzda@hotmail.com

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

Newsletter Address is: douglasgordon@xtra.co.nz

See members building hunter huts on Stewart Island

<http://www.3news.co.nz/Stewart-Island-introduces-hunter-huts/tabid/423/articleID/335171/Default.aspx>

Next Club Meeting 18th June

LongBush Club Rooms 8pm

Executive meeting at 7pm

Guest Speaker still being found.

(Guest speakers are getting hard to find, with over 200 club members, surely some of you want to show us the photos or film of that great hunting trip that you just had. Please don't be shy and put your hand up.)

Presidents Report Steve Robinson

Hello fellow members new and old

Last month the club had its AGM. There were a few stand downs this year and because of that we have some new faces at the table. I would like to thank those on behalf of all members and also recognise the effort that John DeLury (17yrs) and Dave Howden (20yrs) as executive committee members have. This has been a great effort and the club is better for it, thanks John and Dave.

Well winter is all but upon us now, this is the time of the year Tahr hunters get out to challenge the elements and themselves in the quest for the majestic bull. I know Nathan Dawson will be and thank you too for your time as president, good luck and safe return mate.

Club Trophy Competition

Congratulations to the winners of each category. Members that wish to enter in competitions for Photographic and Antler, Horn or Tusk must be a financial

member when photo and or head was taken and also when entered in competition.

Young Hunts

Nathan Dawson and myself will be starting this years programme in july we have 6 participants at the moment but can take up to 12. Its been good to hear that past participants in the course have been getting out hunting with mixed success.

Rachel from 2012 young hunts first deer.



Editorial

Hi I am Doug Gordon, I have been asked to edit the Newsletter over the next Year. On taking this job on I have set myself a couple of challenges. One is to get this out the week before the meeting. For which I will need your help. I will need reports in from executive and articles from you the general members. The second challenge is to try to move the newsletter in new directions, more of this second one later as it develops.

As for me I have been hunting big game since about 1971, and been an NZDA member for about the same time. Joining with South Otago Branch. Before moving to Southland (at Mossburn) and transferring to this branch. Two years ago I moved to Invercargill thus I have been able to be more active in the branch.

I have a back ground including Smallbore Target Shooting, and St John Events/ First Response. (I am currently no longer active in either). I am employed by AsureQuality, as a Meat inspector at Silver Fern Farms Kennington. This background may come to the surface in the monthly editorials that I plan to write.

As for this month the main objective is to get a news letter out there on time.

Sent articles etc for news letter to douglasgordon@xtra.co.nz

New Member

The Branch would like to welcome Campbell Carr

Keeping up with Doc

For those who want to be kept informed by Doc on what they are up to the following is a good web site to subscribe too.

<http://www.doc.govt.nz>

If you have difficulty with this as I just did (teething problems with a new computer.) Just google "Doc NZ" go to the Dept. of Conservation web site (heaps of info here including maps of Doc Hunting areas online permits etc.) Then find the link above. That's if you want to sign up for their newsletter. A lot of senior branch members subscribe!

Adds

Swap Meet (For those into firearms (collecting) and accessories)

Folks, there will be another swap meeting, to be held at Morris Smith's emporium, near Riversdale, Southland, on Sunday 29 June 2014, starting at 1300 hrs. Bring the stuff you want to sell/trade/swap, bring money (some for entry, which will cover coffee etc and for buying whatever takes your fancy), meet old friends and renew acquaintance with old friends!

I've been to several of these, they're great fun, highly recommended, and then of course there is the Smith family as well.

Support the Southlanders, they always support us,

Chaz Forsyth

Situation Vacant

Firearms Instructor Female

I am sending out this email on behalf of Peter Woodmancy the Fire Arms coordinator :

Does anyone know of a suitable female who is:

- Interested in Firearms
- Has a current Firearms licence
- Has the ability to potentially instruct Firearms to members of the public
- Is willing to partake in a free NZQA qualification
- Has some time to commit, this does not require a large time commitment
- If so contact Peter Woodmancy on ta.pete1@ymail.com or phone 022-6217937

Kind regards

Louise Craig

Administration Officer

New Zealand Mountain Safety Council, Southland branch

Tel: 03 2163555

Email: southland@mountainsafety.org.nz

Address: PO Box 1239, Invercargill, 9840

join us on..

The following are the (draft) minutes of The AGM

(please advise the secretary if you see a mistake)

Annual General Meeting 21st May 2014

Apologies: Steve Long, Sam Long, D. Gordon, J. Hogg. Moved for acceptance by B. McNaughton, seconded S. Robinson.

Minutes: Minutes of the 2013 Annual general meeting were read and confirmed by N. Miller, seconded R. McNaughton.

Matters Arising: Nil.

President's Report: The President's report was presented to the meeting by N. Dawson. It was moved by J. De Lury, seconded R. Phillips that the President's report be adopted. The motion was put and carried.

Treasurer's Report: The report and balance sheet was presented to the meeting by J. De Lury. It was moved by J. De Lury, seconded K. Watson that the report and balance sheet be adopted. The motion was put and carried.

Nominations:		<u>Nominated</u>	<u>Seconded</u>
President:	S. Robinson	D. Howden	J. De Lury
Vice President:	B. McNaughton	N. Dawson	R. Phillips
Jnr Vice President:	S. Gainford	C. Stevenson	N. Dawson
Secretary:	Sam Long	R. Phillips	N. Dawson
Treasurer:	C. Stevenson	J. De Lury	R. Phillips
Magazine Editor:	D. Gordon	B. McNaughton	N. Miller
Executive:			
	N. Miller	R. McNaughton	R. Phillips
	R. Phillips	B. McNaughton	R. McNaughton
	D. Howden	N. Dawson	R. Stratford
	S. Long	N. Dawson	N. Miller

D. Gordon	D. Howden	R. Phillips
H. Williams	D. Howden	S. Gainford
T. McRae	N. Dawson	H. Williams
L. Robertson	N. Dawson	S. Robinson
T. Smalley	S. Robinson	R. Sloan

It was moved by R. McNaughton, seconded N. Dawson that nominations for the executive be closed. The motion was put and carried.

Honorary Solicitor: R. Ibbotson

Honorary Auditor: J. Brown

It was moved by J. De Lury, seconded B. McNaughton that the Honorary Solicitor and Auditor be re-elected to their positions. This was put to the meeting and carried.

General: Bank Signatories.-It was moved by J. De Lury, seconded N. Dawson that Branch Signatories for the Branch accounts be Steven Leslie Robinson, Craig Joseph Stevenson and Raymond Phillips. John De Lury and David Howden are to be removed as signatories. The motion was put to the meeting and carried.

Rakiura Hunter Camp Trust.-R. Phillips gave a report on the operations of the RHCT. A new hut was erected at Murray river in March. The weather was unseasonably hot but great for building. Smokey and Little Hellfire are two other huts being considered for possible new builds this year.

National Conference – To be held in Nelson this year. The Executive will deal with this at the next meeting.

Young Hunts – N. Dawson reported on the programme. A new programme is to start in July this year, currently have 6 participants but can take up to 12.

Firewood - \$600 has been raised so far and about \$500 yet to come in. N. Dawson thanked the members who helped with the splitting of the firewood.

R. Phillips stated that clarification was needed on eligibility for entry to local and national competitions. He moved that all entrants to competitions for both photographic and Antler, horn and tusk, must be a financial member when the photo or head was taken and also when entered in the competition. This was seconded by K. Watson. J. De Lury spoke to the motion and stated that other branches required a formal application with the entry to prove membership. The motion was then put to the meeting and carried.

The president thanked the Glengarry Highland Dancing Committee for putting on the supper.

R. McNaughton moved a vote of thanks for the job that the President, Treasurer and Secretary had done over the past years. N. Dawson has been in office for 4 years, J. De Lury for 17 years and D. Howden for 20 years. This was seconded by B. McNaughton, put to the meeting and carried.

R. Sloan addressed the meeting and spoke on the Game Council which is a statutory body. He is one of the Council members. He also spoke on the Wapiti culling and how this has affected the quality of bulls in the Wapiti area.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm, followed by prize giving and handing out of certificates.

Branch Trophy Competition Results

Red Deer ,	Roger Stratford	271 &7/8	
	Russell Mc Cammon	256 &7/8	
	Russell Mc Cammon	244 ...	
Fallow	Penny Stratford	163 &4/8	
Whitetail	Keiran Anderson	108 &4/8	
Tahr	Greg Herbert	38.	(Shaun McKelvie 36 &4/8 2nd)
Un Drawn Pig Tusks	Roger Stratford	6 &3/8	

Also Zac Andrews - young hunts trophy

Photo Competition Results

Scenic
1st Duan Zhao
2nd Bevan McNaughton
3rd Duan Zhao

Topical
1st Roger Stratford

2nd Lachie Wood
3rd Doug Gordon

Wildlife

1st Doug Gordon
2nd Neville Miller
3rd Neville Miller

Game Animals

1st Roger Stratford
2nd Roger Stratford
3rd Doug Gordon

SHORT QUIZ

1. Which is the largest Elk, the one found in North America or the one found in Scandinavia?
2. Who wrote "Pack and Rifle"?
3. What is Dama Dama?
4. What is a Mountain Mule?
5. Where would you find *Elaphostrongylus Cervi* in New Zealand and what is it?

Answers at meeting and in next news letter. For all those who though this too easy or hard or just think you can do better, I welcome your questions for future editions. Please send them to me. (editor)at douglasgordon@xtra.co.nz

A Tale of Autumn

Doug Gordon

After looking in the direction of the Eyre Mts for several weeks while I firstly got over my damaged rib, then battled other activities and the weather. I was finally off for a hunt.

An autumn morning hunt back where I had, had success in the spring. To see if there was any young trees stripped by stags shedding their velvet in the area this year. It was the last morning before the end of day light saving so the start was only 6.30 am from home, which was good.

Even by the time I had parked the vehicle and crossed the stream, it was still on the dark side. After a few minutes I convinced myself there was enough light and moved off. A couple of squawks from some unseen parries on the first clearing told me that at least they could see. I soon dropped out of their sight, and they shut up without making too much fuss. Well I hoped it wasn't too much deer scaring fuss.

Next clearing still on the dark side so I take it slow, but nothing comes into view. So on up the terrace to the next semi swamp clearing. The light is now good but nothing is seen. I cut through the trees to where I shot my spring deer. Though it is now one of those places where one expects to see something, there is again nothing. Back to the top of the previous clearing, some tracks in the grass, how old?

As I move on towards the strip of bush that separates me from the next clearing, I look back and down over a terrace onto a small lower clearing. A deer (a hind) is seen back against the bush edge. I soon have the target in the sights and try to hold steady for an offhand shot. No rest available and grass too long to lie down. The rifle goes off and so does the deer. I am not confident of my shot, did it go right? Leading the deer I give it another, shit perhaps too much lead.

It stops head and neck only visible over the terrace. I have a snap shot at the neck. It disappears, and doesn't reappear. I head in its direction, have I got it? Looking over the terrace nothing but long grass is seen.

I head in the direction last seen, and as I am about to give up hope of having downed it there it is. Down in the long grass, I have got it.

On examining the deer it had been shot a bit far back, my first shot? Then through the neck taking out the throat. I gut it but decide it will take two trips with my gear. So I cut it up my normal way and get it the twenty plus minutes back to the vehicle. Then home happy with myself, if a bit disappointed with the quality of my shooting

The MonoRail

Some- times we have a win that makes making submissions worthwhile.

Thanks to all those who made one, don't just rely on the Branch to do it on its own. Numbers count as does originality, give the submission your twist on it.

Following is the letter from the Minister The Hon Nick Smith declining the Mono Rail.

Be aware that there will be more challenges on our rights to own firearms, and to hunting. Keep the pen or key board handy.



Office of Hon Dr Nick Smith

MP for Nelson
Minister of Housing
Minister of Conservation
Minister for Building and Construction

29 MAY 2014

Dear Correspondent

I refer to your previous correspondence to me on the concession proposal by Riverstone Holdings Limited (RHL) for a monorail through the South West New Zealand World Heritage Area including the Snowdon Forest and Fiordland National Park, as part of the larger 'Fiordland Link Experience'.

The Fiordland Link Experience proposed a new link between Queenstown and Milford Sound consisting of a 20-kilometre boat excursion access across Lake Wakatipu to Mt Nicholas Station, a 45-kilometre all-terrain vehicle ride to Kiwi Burn, a 43.8-kilometre monorail ride to Te Anau Downs and a 90-kilometre coach journey to Milford Sound.

I have given the concession proposal very careful consideration and decided to decline it.

I consider that the uncertainties around the environmental impacts of the proposal are significant and beyond what are appropriate in some of New Zealand's most spectacular conservation areas. I do not consider the proposal to be consistent for the conservation purposes of the land, or the area's world heritage status.

I also have concerns about the financial viability of this proposal. The risk for the Government is that the project is left half-completed with a clean-up liability for the public.

I appreciate my decision will be a disappointment to the applicants and their supporters. I do not want this decision interpreted as the Government and the Department of Conservation being opposed to any proposal for alternative access options in Fiordland. The strategic issue of facilitating better transport options between Queenstown and Milford remains. The door is still open but proposals will need to be both environmentally sustainable and economically viable.

This conservative decision reflects the cautious approach I have to developments in Fiordland. This World Heritage Area has some of New Zealand's most highly valued and spectacular landscapes that require I err on the side of nature.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Kind regards

Hon Nick Smith
Minister of Conservation

Club Office Bearers

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Vice President: B. McNaughton 216 3365

Jnr Vice President: S. Gainford

Secretary: Sam Long 235 7035

Treasurer: C. Stevenson

Magazine Editor: D. Gordon 2166383 e-mail douglasgordon@xtra.co.nz

Immediate past President N Dawson 235 8852

Executive:

N. Miller D. Howden Steve. Long T. McRae L. Robertson

T. Smalley R. Phillips H. Williams