

THE SOUTHERN HUNTER



North Mavora

Southland Branch NZDA News Letter

October 2016

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 September 8pm

Executive Meeting 7pm

Guest Speaker, Brent from

BACK COUNTRY

Cuisine

Talking on product changes and new products.

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,

This spring we have been hearing a lot to do with the latest aerial drop of 1080 all over gods zone. There is an increase in the use of 1080 by way of aerial application. This in itself has seen some opposition and one may expect a growing number of people opposed to it, that being from hunter groups or general public. Some of the protesting taking place has indicated this to be the case. DOC has stated that threats have been made to doc staff, contractors, machinery and so on. These threats can only do more harm than good. The complaint of 1080 pellets outside of the drop zone are now being viewed as being planted, get the picture here. Any 1080 poison (which has no antidote) outside of the drop zone should be investigated as to

how it got there. This could have been accidental, sloppy or planted, but it was there. The threats I believe are made from individuals who are frustrated by doc's actions and they demonstrate little self-control by flapping them gums in such a manner. There is and always will be debate about the effects of 1080 on OUR environment while saving OUR birds. The real BATTLE here looks to be having OUR voices heard.

So when we are out with our family's this summer, we must take precautions where any game animal or fish has come from. Respect the safety period and add some extra time to it.

Steve Robinson



Editorial

Just this last week while searching for the latest news on Stuff & Co. I came across an article about one of our top pistol shooters having neighbour problems setting up what he hoped to be a top class shooting range North of Auckland. The person concerned has attempted to do the right thing. He consulted the local council as to where it was safe to have such a range. They suggested this area. The problem is that there are people living there who don't want the noise. They having moved there no doubt for its remote peace and quiet!!

I can understand the neighbours who want peace and quiet, but shooters need their piece of the cake that is NZ also. We may not be the majority, going by the number of licence holders versus total population. But we are a significant minority. More so when you explode the myth that everybody without a gun licence is anti-gun. There is a percentage who have no fixed opinion, those too young to have an opinion or a gun licence! The too old who may have in their time held a gun licence the list goes on, of who is not actually anti-gun. Please challenge any and every body who claims all non-firearms licence holders as anti-gun.

Regarding Shooting facilities these are becoming harder to open and keep open, as land use changes around them, Health and Safety requirements tighten. All Smallbore ranges have to be accessed and approved these days. I know of gun club ranges that have had to move (one more than once) due to changing land use. The Local Fullbore Range is in danger. The Dunedin one long gone. The Gore one has had to move.

We as shooters need to be interested in and support these places, whatever the type of shooting involved. I know some shooting disciplines failed to support the fight to maintain shooters interests in the past as the point in question did not directly concern them. This is bad short sighted we must stick together.

After all when push comes to shove if we have nowhere to shoot we have no need of firearms or firearms licences!!

Doug Gordon

A big thanks to Yunca for their recent support



YUNCA

PART OF THE **FAMILY**

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

New Members

Please welcome them Zac Robertson

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 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.

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

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.

Web Site Controller

The Executive is looking for someone to update and maintain the Branch Web Site. (You may have noticed signs of neglect) If you are keen and have the skills please contact the President or a member of the Executive.

Tahr Ballot

For the next year's ballot, all the information will be live on the DOC website from 1st October, and the applications for the Tahr ballot will open on 19th October, close on 18th November, with the draw happening a week later. The results and expected confirmations of sites will happen before Christmas this year. Please let any of your fellow hunters know of these changes in dates; the changes will be well publicised on the DOC website plus other media.

We have brought forward the dates for the initial stages of the Tahr ballot to help us better manage the workload at the Visitor Centre. We are also working towards having online ONLY ballots and if this is the case, this will be publicised on the DOC website.

Regards,
Mauryne

Ranger, Visitor Centre - *Kaitiaki - Whare Pae Manuhiri*
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*
Awarua / Haast Visitor Centre
Southern West Coast District
P O Box 50, Haast 7844 South Westland
T: +64 3 7500 809 | VPN: 5340 | F: +64 3 7500 832

Haast Roar Ballot

Due to popular demand the Department of Conservation South Westland Weheka Office has developed a ballot system for hunters wishing to hunt during the Roar period. The ballot is to ensure hunters have access to an area with the knowledge that only one hunting party will be present in each of the blocks for a seven-day period.

Updates and changes for Roar 2017

This year there are a few changes to the Roar that hunters need to be aware of:

- Applications open from **9:00 am 19 September until 4:00 pm 14 October 2016**.
- Applications will only be accepted through the new online application form.
- A one-off non-refundable fee of \$40 will be charged for each application regardless of success.
- Ensure all correspondence for the Haast Roar hunting ballot is sent to haasthuntingballot@doc.govt.nz.

Dates

In 2017 the Roar system will run from Sunday 26 March to Saturday 22 April with the available periods being:

- Period 1 - Sun 26 March to Sat 1 April
- Period 2 - Sun 2 April to Sat 8 April
- Period 3 - Sun 9 April to Sat 15 April □ Period 4 - Sun 16 April to Sat 22 April

Restricted blocks

There are 65 restricted blocks available for allocation by ballot draw. These are limited to one party per block for a 7 day period (Sunday to the following Saturday) as indicated in the period dates above.

(More Info on Doc website)

WANTED

One red Deer head skin (for learner taxidermist) Phone 027 637 2206

Rifle Sighting In

With the start of daylight saving the Invercargill pistol Club range will be again available to Financial Members for the sighting in of Rifles on Wednesday nights from 5.30 pm finishing 7pm. At the cost of \$10 per person. Ear & Eye protection required

To use this facility you MUST contact the roistered person in charge **no later** than the previous Sunday night.

12th Oct Doug Gordon 03 216 6383/ 027 637 2206 after 4pm

26 th Oct Steve Robinson 027 747 8109

2nd Nov Nathan Dawson 027 235 8063

9th Nov Steve Robinson 027 747 8109

23rd Nov Doug Gordon 03 216 6383/ 027 637 2206 after 4pm

30th Nov Nathan Dawson 027 235 8063

7th Dec Doug Gordon 03 216 6383/ 027 637 2206 after 4pm

14th Dec Steve Robinson 027 747 8109

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

Evening Trip In Northern Southland

Friday night early February (some years ago now) I decide to go for a hunt up a valley hoping for a deer.

There is a storm approaching from the west. This does two things one get the wind in my face which is very important as I have found over the years. The second is that deer are likely to feed early before the storm.

Starting to hunt about two hours before dark. I slowly hunt my way up the numerous small clearings of the valley. Some of which have memories of Deer seen and or shot. While others for some reason have never produced a deer.

Though I have seen a we bit of sign nothing is seen by the time I reach the last clearing, just on two hours later. With a you might as well look attitude, I continue on around the last bit over cover to look out over the rest of that clearing.

Too my surprise I spy a hind grazing side on a bit over fifty metres away. The rifle comes up safety goes off. I line up the shot (on the shoulder) and fire, the hind lurches off in behind some low cover. Then I see the head and shoulders briefly above the cover, as the deer stands on hind legs and tries to run off.

Carefully crossing the stream without getting my feet wet I search for the animal. It is found on the second sweep, up a slight bank in long grass, dead.

I started to cut the carcass up as darkness descended. After my experience of aggravating a rotor cuff injury to my left shoulder. Carrying out a yearling earlier in the season. It was a case of hang the hind legs up a tree, in mutton bags, with some plastic to protect the cut area from the forecast rain. Putting front shoulders (which were shot damaged) and Back steaks into the day pack and getting out of there.

Next morning I retrieved the hind legs in pouring rain. The meat was not damaged being well protected. The major problem was crossing the stream. It was over my knees, and dangerously fast. Something I had crossed with dry feet the night before.

Doug Gordon

Gates

We have the required gates donated by AB Lime “Thanks”

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.