

THE SOUTHERN HUNTER



Winning Photo Branch Competitions "Wildlife" Doug Gordon

Southland Branch NZDA News Letter

September 2017

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 20th September 8pm

Executive Meeting 7pm

Club Office Bearers

President: S. Robinson 215 7897 **Vice President:** W.Muir

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 R. Phillips (Membership) 216 3751, I. Hopper, W. Muir, R. Prinsloo

Sub Committees:

Huts	N. Miller
Hall	S. Robinson, I. Hopper.
Young Hunts	S. Robinson, N. Dawson.
AGM	S. Robinson, D. Howden.
Trophies	W. Muir.
Poisons/toxins	R. Phillips.
Rifle/pistol range	D. Gordon.
DOC Liaison	R. Phillips, S. Robinson.
Newsletter	D. Gordon.
Library	S. Robinson.
Club Hunts	All executive members.
Guest speakers	All executive members, S. Robinson
Areas of interest	
S/Island/S. Coast	R. Phillips, S. Robinson.
Hokonuis	-----
Greenstone/Caples	N. Dawson.
Blue Mountains	N. Dawson, I. Hopper.
Fiordland	R. Phillips, S. Robinson.
Longwoods	R. Phillips.

Guest Speaker,

No Speaker but a meeting on the future Hunting in Rayonier Forrests.

See the Presidents report.



Presidents Report

Hi All,

Over the last year I have mentioned that Rayonier Matariki Forests Southland will be changing the format on how they will be issuing hunting permits. Hunting these forest blocks is a privilege for RMF staff, contractors, and approved hunting groups. Hunting in these areas provides recreation, animal control, and to some degree security for RMF. A selection of forest blocks have been made available for hunting by RMF. Hunting clubs will be allocated blocks by a roster system. Rayonier will restrict the number of clubs to a manageable number and clubs are expected to comply with RMF permit rules. The proposed hunting access plan will need to be supported by the clubs to work. In short you will need to be a member to apply for a hunting permit which you will then go into a ballot run by the branch. New members will have a stand down period. This could well be time consuming for the branch committee. Some issues will need to be addressed before we enter into a agreement with RMF. This month's meeting will give members an opportunity to have some input into this before the branch committee adopts some of our own criterial regarding how we administer members interest for hunting in these blocks. Please make an effort to attend this meeting. 8pm 20th Sept. A flyer will be sent out before the meeting as a reminder.

Steve Robinson

New Members Please Welcome them

C. Dickson, C Edgerton, B Keenan, W Hollands, R Grout, J Arnold, C Wills, & K Metherell



YUNCA

PART OF THE FAMILY

Wanted

Stories, adds, letters to the editor, or whatever for the newsletter, send to or contact the editor



Editorial

Mid August I happened to see and record a one off programme on TV, "Jodie Marsh Goes Hunting". Set in England one Jodie Marsh is challenged by various activities, in this case Hunting (Deer etc).

Jodie is an animal loving vegetarian, who can't see why people go hunting to kill things, at the start of the programme. By the ends she concedes that if one is to eat meat it is perhaps better that the animals are killed by hunting, than intensively farmed and Slaughtered in an abattoir. They get better quality of life until death in the wild.

What is really interesting is that 20 years ago in New Zealand, one would not see such programmes on TV. But TV has changed it all started to change in NZ with advent of Maori TV. They ran Hunting Aotearoa. People watched it. TV here as elsewhere is rating driven, since people watched it the politically correct overcome their dislike of such incorrect programmes, and started to run such. Thus we now have various hunting and fishing programmes on TV.

Letter to the Editor

Fire Arms purchase online.

Below are a substantial amount of facts on the systems for purchasing firearms and ammunition online as well as other information.

Some of this is my opinion and others may not agree, that's fine and its easy to differentiate whats fact and opinion below.

As a veteran of online firearms buying and selling I thought it would be good to better understand the gaps in the system.

I spent 7 years with NZ Police in Invercargill but resigned in 2015 and am now an Inspector with Worksafe NZ.

The current Police system of using the S43a Mail Order Firearms Purchase Form is virtually foolproof and is believe it or not safer than face to face purchasing as it was updated after the Heather du Plessis Allan debacle to address loopholes.

Here is the current Police system:

As of now you must go into the station, produce your licence, the Arms Officer or a Support officer checks that you are the person whose photo is on the licence and that you have a current FAL against the system - this is then recorded in a section under identification including the ID of the person who confirmed your ID. In country stations this will be whoever is about and the form forwarded to the Invercargill Arms Officer for completion. This means no gaps in the ID procedure.

This is important and why I say it's **safer than face to face** as a person can lose or have their licence suspended or revoked for a domestic or something but despite having their arms and ammunition seized never actually surrender the card. To any person will be all they ever want to see. In a store it's all recorded as part of their 'D' endorsement but day to day Trade Me Joe Bloggs' don't always do this. Some including me may take a photo of their FAL, even if the identity matches in a face to face sale. In this way the time and date are encoded in the photo and it proves you have taken due diligence as a seller and licence holder even if the buyer has actually been revoked and not surrendered the card.

Back to the form, all the information including serial numbers is captured at this time as well as who is selling details. Seller FAL checked and contact number recorded if the Arms Officer wants to contact them. At this time if its a Trade Me sale information on the purchase is sometimes printed out, feedback checked for buyer and seller and the description of the item being purchased checked against the form. Sometimes if ammunition is being included but wasn't originally in the sale description an explanation may be sought but this type of addition is commonplace and not generally considered suspicious as its covered on the same form.

The form once completed is then emailed directly from the Arms Officer to the seller to confirm the checks have been completed and a box is ticked to signify this has occurred.

GAPS IN SYSTEM:

The current Police system now has virtually no gaps - the old one was often solely on a hard copy sometimes which could be modified, scanned to PDF then emailed to the buyer by the seller. In this manner a delivery address could be changed or details of the purchase. But this is at the extreme. As the form is now emailed directly to the buyer by Police there is no opportunity to modify it in anyway, plus its PDF locked.

Even now the major gap online IS the seller. I mean this in that they themselves only want to see the licence and its current in whatever form that may be, instead of obtaining the S34a. Even now I could search Trade Me and simply scroll through rifle descriptions where a seller

says they will need to see a 'photo' or a 'scan' of my licence - sometimes against a copy of that current days newspaper heading, as if that's going to help make sure I'm who I say I am! If I was targeting to illegally purchase it would be these sellers I would spend hours scrolling through listings for; pay early, pay whatever the buyer is asking for the buy now if there is one, plus shipping regardless of how much it is, send your stolen FAL scan immediately along with your neighbors address (because you're going to be following the tracking number, stay home all that day then intercept the courier), explain you are away on holiday in a few days so can the seller send as soon as they get the money, say you cant believe you got it for that price, its what you've always been looking for...put the pressure on without appearing desperate.

From there it doesn't matter what calibre it is - if its .22 that's easy enough to get hold of ammo by just shoplifting it as most sports and rural stores have reasonably sloppy display and security around this calibre for some reason. Or lying around sheds, garages etc - remember these guys are 'those guys' that do burglary and theft as a second job. And if you've got some brains you don't need a licence to buy components for reloading ammunition, not even powder. Scroll through Trade Me listings and there's always powder for sale and primers with sellers who don't give any thought to checking whose buying. Some may ask for proof but there's no legal requirement - if there was these would also be listed on the S43a.

The only other conceivable gap other than some in depth computer forgery would be an identical twin approaching a counter who has no criminal history - identical twins who offend and have been identified as a twin are often flagged and any specific scars marks or tattoos recorded.

This type of seemingly fantastical twin possibility raises my final and closing comment on the system, one often iterated by our own local Arms Officer Lindsay Peacock, in that **no system is perfect** be it online or face to face but we do what we can, if you are unsure or it just doesn't feel right then get it checked.

The other good thing that now happens also is the couriers like Fastway's will ask if they even suspect its a firearm, mark the package as a rifle with a sticker, it gets shipped only to the destination depot, the person picking it up is phoned that it has arrived then upon picking up only that person can uplift it once proof of ID is confirmed by way of a valid firearms licence. This means a stolen FAL wont fly.

The recording of serial numbers often comes up in discussion too - forget it, that's never coming back. It's not so much the cost of administering it but the massive 30+ year gap in continuity that can never be bridged once you imagine the number of transactions that have happened in this time, firearms imported, lost, destroyed, stolen or just on sold again and again.

Hope this helps in some way to understand the current system in place plus the gaps that potentially exist.

Cheers

Rob Cleary

Post Script from Rob on changes to Trade Me

From September 2017 you'll have to enter both your firearms licence number and the name on that licence.

Our system will then be able to check that information against the Police firearms licence

database, to determine if you have a legitimate and current firearms licence, and that those details match your Trade Me membership. *(An article on this appeared in the Southland Times 31/8/17)*

Sponsors

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

Hunting and Fishing Invercargill

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MEMBERSHIP PAYMENTS

SOUTHLAND BRANCH NZDA

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2017--2018 YEAR

Subs. are due as from January 1st ,if you have not received an account as yet please E MAIL National Office

membership@deerstalkers.org.nz attention Kirstie or phone them on 04-4996163

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.

For members renewing their memberships just pay to Wellington on the invoice that they send out to you ,DO NOT fill in a new application form as this just leads to a lot of double ups

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.

Joke of the Month

Subject: A lesson in politics

Sarah was in the fertilized egg business.

She had several hundred young pullets and ten roosters to fertilize the eggs.

She kept records and any rooster not performing went into the soup pot and was replaced.

This took a lot of time, so she bought some tiny bells and attached them to her roosters.

Each bell had a different tone, so she could tell from a distance which rooster was performing.

Now, she could sit on the porch and fill out an efficiency report by just listening to the bells.

Sarah's favourite rooster, old Butch, was a very fine specimen but, this morning she noticed old Butch's bell hadn't rung at all!

When she went to investigate, she saw the other roosters were busy chasing pullets, bells-a-ringing, but the pullets hearing the roosters coming, would run for cover.

To Sarah's amazement, old Butch had his bell in his beak, so it couldn't ring.

He'd sneak up on a pullet, do his job, and walk on to the next one.

Sarah was so proud of old Butch, she entered him in a Show and he became an overnight sensation among the judges.

The result was the judges not only awarded old Butch the "No Bell Peace Prize" they also awarded him the "Pulletsurprise" as well.

Clearly old Butch was a politician in the making. Who else but a politician could figure out how to win two of the most coveted awards on our planet by being the best at sneaking up on the unsuspecting populace and screwing them when they weren't paying attention?

Vote very carefully in the next election. You can't always hear the bells.

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.

HUNTING CLUBS WE NEED YOUR HELP TODAY

It has been a really busy time, the 7.8 North Canterbury earthquake put unprecedented demand on the service due to the isolation of the affected areas. We are still providing a lifeline to the Kaikoura region. This was followed by the busiest summer holiday period on record, with our mission numbers increasing. When the Westpac Rescue Helicopter crew receive emergency calls we are in the air within 10 minutes during the day and 20 minutes at night.

- It costs on average \$8,625 per mission.
 - The crew have responded to 17 missions since early June to Kaikoura - pre earthquake it was only 3 missions per month.
 - Once activated the crew need to be prepared for any eventuality.
 - The Westpac Rescue Helicopter responds to: motor vehicle accidents, farming, work and leisure; as well as search and rescue missions, it is also the lifeline in medical emergencies: including cardiovascular incidents and strokes.
- The air rescue service is only partially government funded - **we rely on sponsors, grants and the support of the community to raise over \$7 million per annum.**

Early intervention saves lives and every minute Counts

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

11th October Steve Robinson 027 747 8109

25th October Nathan Dawson 027 235 8063

You can help by making a donation, holding a raffle, a fundraising event, or donate part of a membership fee.



Principal Sponsor



Air Rescue
and Community
Services



**Save lives today by donating at
www.airrescue.co.nz or by calling Barbara on 03**

Cheques can be sent to: Canterbury West Coast Air Rescue Trust, PO Box 20262, Christchurch, 8543

Please reference your Hunting Club name when making a donation.

Haast roar block system for hunting red deer in the Haast area.

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.

Detailed information for the 2018 ballot process will be provide in September 2017.

Key dates are:

- Applications open - 4 September at 9 am
- Applications close - 2 October 2017 at 4 pm
- Ballot draw - 11 October 2017
- Confirmations close - 30 October 2017 at 4 pm
- Second chance draw - 22 November 2017

Caples /Greenstone Ballot

Applications for the **April/May 2018** ballot will be accepted online from 1 November to 1 December 2017. Information about the application form and process will be made available closer to the time.

Tahr Ballot

Information and online applications for the 2018 ballot will be available after 2 October 2017

Freeze Dri

BACK COUNTRY

Cuisine

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Contact Gus Ronald gus.ronald@xtra.co.nz 03 213 0351 for a price list



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Saturday Action Young Hunts 2017

Lunch time found the three of us at the top of a patch of bracken and scrub. In-between two fingers of bush near the top of some northern faces. We had spent the morning hunting the open faces, had seen and heard deer but had no success. The fickle wind and patches of mist or fog had not helped. Something would have to change if Chris & Stephanie were to score a Fallow deer each.

The day had started as most Saturdays on the young hunts, hunts at Mt Nicholas, with a predawn breakfast at the Red Stag Hut. Followed by the three quarters an hour drive to our pre assigned hunting blocks.

From then the hunt was on to get each young hunter a Fallow Doe. We were not allowed to shoot bucks, or Red Deer. When the day had started I was hopeful, I knew the block having been there twice before. Things started to go downhill when no deer nor much sign was seen on the lower front faces.

Lunch over it was decided to go back through the tongue of Bush, but head up to where some animals had been sighted on the top of an open green knob. The wind if it held would be good.

Lucky the small stream was not too gorged where we re-crossed it. Up the face on the other side and near the bush edge we came on about four Fallow deer in a thicket of beach saplings. Chris tried but could not get a clear enough shot. They drifted off above us. We followed but too their right. The going being better. Another hundred metres or so of climbing found us at the bush edge not far short of the top and the green knob.

As we paused just inside the bush to study the open country in front of us a young Fallow doe pronged out onto the open country about 30 metres above us. Very likely one of the deer we had recently encountered. As Chris was in good position for a shot. I gave him the go ahead. He took the shot standing and soon had the doe on the deck, with a single shot out of his suppressed .223 rifle.



A bit after half an hour later after photos and some instruction into gutting techniques, we moved off. Keeping near the bush edge we topped the green knob. Where suddenly there were about twenty fallow does between us and the bush about 30 metres away. With the fence in-between providing some confusion along with a couple of sheep in the foreground. They were gone before Stephanie could get into a good position for a shot.

No sooner than this was over, did Chris spot about 10 more about 30 metres behind us down off the top of the ridge. This time Stephanie managed to get into a shooting position crawling then lying in some thistles. A shot soon followed, all bolted other than the one shot at which stayed a few seconds more before following its mates. After a pause to allow things to settle we went to look for the shot deer. This or no sign of a hit even were found in the 200 odd metres of open and largely tussock free

ground that the Deer had departed over into the bush at a lower point of the hill. What went wrong, not sure but an unseen thistle or tussock out of the line of sight but not the muzzle could have been the cause of no hit.

It being a bit after 2pm we sat down and took stock. Glassing the open slopes blow us for deer from time to time. Though we saw nothing in the way of deer, it was best that we stayed put on our vantage point until later in the day. The only sign of life we saw was the members of the party on the neighbouring block clearly visible in high Vis from several km of distance

It was well after 3pm before we moved off, then we did not go down but around to another view point on the hill. After a while here a deer then two both Fallow does were seen a bit over 200 metres below us grazing on a lower ridge. It was soon worked out that we needed them to graze on a bit and out of site before we moved. Then there was three cattle grazing in-between we needed to avoid disturbing.

Meanwhile further glassing found a third deer away below us on the bottom side of the access track. Then another was briefly seen back on the ridge where we had wind and mist problems this morning.

Eventually after perhaps half an hour the deer had grazed off out of site, (let's hope not into cover?) Plus the cattle were less in the way. So I decided we needed to give it a go. Down the slope we went slowly and carefully, as to avoid noise. Half way down the cattle saw us and moved off, though with a heavy hoof beat of two. Hoe it did not disturb the deer.

On reaching the ridge and knob which we hoped hid the deer Stephanie took the lead round in chamber half closed bolt. One was seen standing about 25 metres away. Stephanie crawled a few metres more to get into a good position, using the rifles bipod. I was behind her Chris further back.

After what seemed a long time the deer moved off and partly out of sight. Stephanie started to get up, and look in my direction for instruction. When the second deer appeared in about the same place the first one was. I managed to draw Stephanie's attention to this she got back down, and after what was another heart stopping moment. She got the shot off, the deer half jumped took a couple of steps down hill and fell over.



After a quick sort out, Stephanie and Chris. Walked down to the deer. While I covered the scene from the knob in case the deer got up and tried to escape. Photo session the more gutting lessons followed. Then there was the slow walk down to the track and out to the vehicle. Three happy hunters coming home from the hill.

Doug Gordon

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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

Wapiti Lodge Xmas ballot

Applications for this period must be in writing and inbetween 15th to 30th September to Neville & Carol Miller
Members only, Period of hire 7 days

Starts 23nd December runs to 26th January.

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.