

THE SOUTHERN HUNTER
Southland Branch NZDA Newsletter
October 2024



Mt Hamilton Waterloo valley

Monthly Meeting

7.30pm Wednesday 16th October at the Branch Club Rooms
Longbush Hall McKerchar Road off State Highway 1 between
Kennington & Woodlands

Guest Speaker

Chris Dore Fishing guide to talk on Trout Fishing

BRANCH FACEBOOK:

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE ON FACEBOOK, , YOU WILL FIND HELPFUL INFO
ON THE PAGE . WE ENCOURAGE MEMBERS TO CONTRIBUTE TO
IT <https://www.facebook.com/southlandnzda/>

BRANCH CONTACTS

Branch email is: enquiries@southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz

News Letter douglasgordon@xtra.co.nz

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

Office Bearers

President: Shaun McKelvie 027 635 0490 **Vice President:** Luke Payne

Secretary Andy Nesbit 021 53 8676 : **Treasurer** Tom Mead 027 847 1882

Magazine Editor: Doug Gordon 216 6383 **Immediate past President**

Membership Andy Nesbit **Huts** Neville Miller

Executive: Wayne Ashmore, Tony Caldwell, Gareth Coyle, Nathan Dawson, Scott Hall, Dave Howden, Jason Leishman, Jamie. McCallum, Ray Phillips, Ethan Todd.

Life Members (National & Branch) John DeLury, Ray Phillips (National) Roger McNaughton, (Branch), Doug Gordon Dave Howden, Neville Miller,

Sub committees

Rayonier Hunting Liaison Shaun, Luke & Andy

Lodges - (Red Stag & Mavora) Neville, Shaun, Dave

Hall & Library Luke, Jamie & Wayne

Club Hunts Tom, Luke and Wayne

Invercargill Rifle Range Tom, Shaun & Andy Nesbit

Invercargill Pistol Club Doug

NZDA Range Officers Shaun, Tom, Wayne, Andy, Luke & Doug

DOC Liaison Ray

AGM, Trophies & Douglas Scoring Shaun, Doug, Wayne, Luke, Ray & Andy

Competition Committee Shaun, Tom, Andy

Young Hunts Coordinators Andy, Shaun, Tom, Wayne, Luke, Jamie, Nathan

Douglas Score Measurer's

Judge/coordinating Tutor, Ray, Judge/ Tutor John, Level One Shaun, Tom, Wayne, Luke & Andy

Website manager, John Delury.

List of the Branch winners at Nationals

website <https://www.southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz/index.php/new-newsletters/winners-at-national-level>

Wanted

Stories, ads, letters to the editor, or whatever for the newsletter, send to or contact the editor. Guest Speaker's needed, Ideas wanted, who do you want, and names needed, suggestions to Executive

Club Hunts

All hunts for Southland Branch NZDA Members (with full NZDA membership) as Public Liability Insurance required).

NEW MEMBERS

New Members please welcome them.

Mark Aimers, Ronny Nordlund,

Presidents Report



Hi all not much to report this month been flat out on the farm trying to navigate feeding cows and not damaging paddocks in the extreme wet conditions. Hopefully the weather has given us its worst and were on track to dry out and grow grass again. I did manage to get out after work with the kids on opening of fishing season and our youngest got her first fish so that was pretty cool. See you at the meeting



cheers Shaun



Editorial

Some of you will have heard me say “*Biology is not an exact Science*”. A prime example of this is that every plague that has occurred when it encounters a large enough population fails to wipe out 100% of it. An example of this in NZ was RCD / Myxomatosis when released on rabbits in New Zealand.

I am told that Chemistry and Physics are exact sciences. Which is the superior science? If Doc and ZIP have their way, we are in for one of the largest scale tests of these sciences in conflict (in the world) here on Stewart Island over the next few years,

Chemistry says a certain mixture of poison will kill all of the desired species that will eat it. Physics says that an even spread of such a poison by mathematically controlled means, will deliver the desired chemical mix to kill all.

Biology says;

A certain % will be more resistant to the poison.

A certain % may not like to eat the poison

If there is an area of high population in an area not all may get enough poison to eat.

Human error (which is also biological) may fail to deliver the right dose to all.

Some cats (*which it appears will have to eat a dead rat to get a dose*) may not like eating dead rats. (These surviving cats will then have primarily birds to live on).

Further there is talk of using Deer repellent on the poison, I hear some types are more effective than others, no announcement as of my writhing on this. What % of deer will it save? Is the prefeed to have deer repellent also? If not, the deer may eat this giving them a taste for the bait (Also making the later retardant added poison more likely to be eaten by deer). Plus denying the target species a chance to get their taste for the bait. More Biological variables.

For the programme to succeed 100% of all the target species need to be killed, can this be achieved by challenging the inexact science of Biology. Any kill misses not detected thus no follow up (one is relying on humans who are biological to do the miss detecting). There are reports from previous (far smaller) poison operations that indicate they were not all completely successful, without problems, with some bird numbers affected, not all the target species killed, and ongoing reinfestation problems. To not kill every last one of the target species will mean failure.

There is also the Biological (Human,) perception of such poison operations, who would want to knowingly eat seafood from the nearby area even if science (Chemistry) says it is safe to eat, why take the risk? *Note again Biology is not an exact science.*

If the operation fails it is more money that could have been better used elsewhere something this land does not have a surplus of going by the news..

Time will tell which science will succeed.

Doug Gordon

Sponsors

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



Inter Club Range Shoot

10 November 2024 10 am.

@ Fairlight South of Kingston

For those interested

They will need to sign up via the event link for registration so we can get their FL and details to make it much easier on the day for registration.

\$10 for the range fee.

It will be a fun day out with plenty of challenges and family fun, BYO BBQ for lunch.

All the details are at this link so send it out to the mailing list please and promote it at meetings etc etc.

[Southern Lakes NZDA - Interclub Firearms Competition Shoot SLBNZDA v SNZDA](#)

Any Q's please come back to me.

Cheers Dave Rider

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Hunts Course update

New Course Dates



Course now to be held in February 2025. The course is now going to be run over 3 Wednesday Nights 5th 12th and 26th 6pm to 9pm

(missing the 19th which is club night)

finishing with a hunting trip on Saturday and Sunday 1st & 2nd March

If Interested Ring Shaun McKelvie 027 635 0490 or Andy Nesbit 021 53 8676

For more information on the course and content please click on the link below

<https://www.deerstalkers.org.nz/what-we-do/training-courses/>

For Sale

Two packets of projectiles 100 Speer & 65 Barnes projectiles

Both .22 cal left over from Silent Auction

Best offers considered (but not necessarily accepted) for the two packets individually or together. Proceeds go to Branch funds.

Reply to douglasgordon@xtra.co.nz



Spare bullets for sale

6.5 Creedmoor x40 mixture \$100

)



Inquiries

Phone Thomas on 0274283770.

(Expect him to want to see your Firearms Licence as one is required)

The following is one of a series of articles on hunting in New Caledonia written by John Berry (who has had to sadly give up hunting due to old age) and provided to me by his friend Geoff Jukes.

The 15 Minute Stag

John Francois, owner of the La Foa hotel come over to see me with a fax from Bob Penfold. It said that we had a client flying in from Tahiti the next day, (Sunday). In itself not a problem, but he was off to Brisbane Wednesday morning to continue his holiday with his wife.

Two clear days to produce a suitable stag!

John and I headed into the airport Sunday morning. John was accompanying me to help clear the client's rifle, as it had not been precleared with all the other firearms.

The airport at Tontouta is about half way between La Foa and Noumea, on the main sealed road that runs the length of the western coast, it travels through some areas that we hunted on a regular basis.

On this particular trip, about 15 minutes before the airport, we saw a nice stag with a group of females close to the road.

We duly cleared the client's gun and loaded him up into John's van and headed, back thinking that, we could not be lucky enough to have that stag still standing beside the road.

Well it was, so the hunter's rifle was hastily unpacked, loaded and the three of us crept across the road between the passing cars, crawled through a drainage ditch and took the offending beast. The client made his connection easily.



This month I am going to write about how well the Arms Act (1983) worked.

In two words, not bad.

This is because the 1983 Act was revolutionary in that it dispensed with making lists of the firearms owned by licensed people, noted their addresses, and kept registration for the far smaller number of collectible weapons such as machine guns and pistols belonging to collectors and to approved pistol shooters.

Practically all licensed firearm owners obey the law, (with two notable exceptions, one in 1990, the other in 2019) and a handful of mugs who sell off firearms to unlicensed people.

The rest of us obey because it is easy and saves us from grief, allowing us to keep using our firearms legally!

Next time you're at the range

Have you ever told a friend while sighting your rifle at the range, "I'm going to fire five shots into an 80 mm group at 100 m"? Despite all of our rifles being capable of sub-minute of angle groups (!), it is surprisingly difficult! Settling down, even using a rest, with your favourite hunting rifle (which may have been sighted in ten minutes ago) is surprisingly challenging, even if you're a dead shot on animals.

Tip, it is a lot easier with three shots!

Warm barrels, and identify that target!

Chaz F

Joke of The Month



Rifle Sighting In At Invercargill Pistol Club

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 Bring one's own targets with staple gun or on cardboard box.

Please Note with the changes to the Law NO Semi Automatics allowed. (Other than .22R)

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

23rd October Nathan Dawson 027 235 8063

30th October Tom Mead 027 847 1882

6th November Doug Gordon 0276372206

13th November Andy Nesbit 021 538 676

Invercargill Rifle Club **Cobb Road Rifle Range**

As honorary members of the Invercargill Rifle Club, Southland Branch members now have the opportunity to use the Cobb Road Range for sighting in of rifles and also participating in programmed Invercargill Rifle club events.

You will need to bring

Firearms Licence and Deerstalkers membership card.

Ear and eye protection

Target capable of being stapled to the target frame

Rifle (bolt out) + ammo – Up to and including .308/7.62 calibre Bipod or other front support and rear support.

The range will be operated by a designated Rang Officer who will make themselves known at the range.

General format will be

Allocation of target frame

Validation of rifle being able to hit target at 100m

Shooting 200m and beyond after validation

Dates: The range is not for casual use but is available for use on the following dates:

Currently over the Summer Range is available Sundays (except over Xmas) 11am to

1pm, 100yards to 200 yards After which there is a NRA style shoot at longer ranges Range fee is \$10.00

If you are interested in attending and for further details please first contact

Andy Nesbit 0215 38676

Shaun McKelvie 027 635 0490

NRA/F Class shooters – make sure you arrange someone to pull targets and RO, you may be the only shooter at the range.

We hope to have the 500 and 600 yard mounds operational by November

Casual user questions – Message through the FB page or you can call Ben 0272247119 or Foster 021516342

NZDA Members – You have affiliated membership and can shoot for \$5 per session, contact Tom 0278471882 or Andy 021538676

Swap gathering 19 JAN 2025
0900 to SOON AFTER MIDDAY) at
61 Victoria Road, DUNEDIN
(UPSTAIRS)
FOR Licensed firearm owners ONLY

Solely for the purposes of
BONDING, BUYING, SELLING, SWAPPING
TRADING, Firearms and ANY accoutrements.

[If it fits through the doors, you can bring it!]

You can also exchange tall stories, keep the company of like-minded, fit & proper people and enjoy ***NOT*** being demonised, marginalised and derogated by the negativism of politicians, the mass media and other hangers-on.

You *will* need your firearm licence, and \$10 to contribute to hire of venue.

Endless tea, coffee available

Wapiti Lodge, & Red Stag Lodge Mavora



Wapiti Lodge



Red Stag

Bookings to
Neville & Carol Miller
Phone 03 216 8654 Cell 02108219528
e-mail nandc43@gmail.com
or 43 Bain St Invercargill

Please Note the Red Stag Lodge is on Doc land a hunting permit is required to have firearms at the site. **Deposits for any bookings to be received within seven days or bookings will be cancelled.**

Southland Branch Polo Shirts



The following are in stock and available for purchase @ \$35 each
Sizes Medium, large, Xtra Large, and XXL.

Available at Branch Meeting or by emailing

enquiries@southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz

Subject line Polo Tee Shirts

Payment prior to delivery by online banking to the Branch Account 06-0925-0270758-000 with details of *your name Polo Shirt and Size.*

(If unable to do online banking contact Tom 0278471882)

First in best dressed

Freeze Dri



Purchase Back Country Cuisine freeze-dri meals direct at special prices, email Tony on info@bcfoods.co.nz to order or find out more information.

**ANIMAL SKIN
TANNING SERVICES**

-Tannery & Showroom-
Dan Dawson - 027 281 3026
118 Crinan Street
Invercargill
100% NEW ZEALAND PRODUCTS

Now offering 10% Discount on all contract
tanning services to members of NZDA

The advertisement is set against a background of animal skin with a radial pattern. The text is in white and bold, with the main title in a larger font. The contact information and address are in a smaller font. The bottom part of the ad is a dark brown bar with white text.



GREEN ACRES

Lawn & Garden Franchisee
 021 774 984
 peattie.greenacres@gmail.com

Owen Peattie Denise Peattie




0800 803 200 greenacres.co.nz

Give your friendly local electrician a call today!

Qualified Electrician
 Qualified Refrigeration Engineer
 Heatpump Specialist - supply, install (all brands) and maintenance
 Thermal Imaging



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