

THE SOUTHERN HUNTER
Southland Branch NZDA Newsletter
July 2022



North Mavora

Branch email is:

enquiries@southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz

News Letter douglasgordon@xtra.co.nz

Branch website

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

Monthly Meeting

Monthly meeting 7.30pm Wednesday 20th July at the Branch Club Rooms Longbush Hall McKerchar Road off State Highway 1 between Kennington & Woodlands

Guest Speaker

Doug Gordon on Disease & Defects in Game Animals
Doug has spent over 40 years Inspecting Game

FACEBOOK:

HAS MOVED WITH THE TIMES AND NOW HAS ITS VERY OWN FACEBOOK PAGE
FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE ON FACEBOOK, CHECK IT OUT, YOU WILL FIND HELPFUL INFO ON THERE

AND IT WILL HOPEFULLY ENCOURAGE NEW MEMBERSHIP AND CLUB INTERACTION. WE ENCOURAGE ALL MEMBERS TO CONTRIBUTE TO IT

NEW MEMBERS

New Members please welcome them

Club Hunts

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

Silent Auction

Advanced Notice

To be held at August Meeting (August 17th)

Details to follow so sort out the surplus hunting, fishing, camping, and (outdoors) stuff,

The clothes that no longer fit could be a good start.

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

Office Bearers

Club Office Bearers

President: S McKelvie 027 635 0490 **Vice President:** T Caldwell

Secretary A Nesbit : **Treasurer** T Mead

Magazine Editor: D. Gordon 216 6383 **Immediate past President**

Membership A Nesbit **Huts** N Miller

Executive: W Ashmore, N Dawson, D Howden, J. McCallum,
L Payne, R. Phillips.

Life Members (National) Roger McNaughton (Branch) J DeLury, D Howden, N Miller, R
Phillips (Branch)

Sub Committees

Hall Luke Payne

Young Hunts Nathan Dawson – (Need to confirm this)

AGM Shaun McKelvie & Andy Nesbit

Trophies Tony Caudwell & Luke Payne

Pistol Range Doug Gordon

Rifle Range Andy Nesbit

DOC Liaison Ray Phillips & Shaun McKelvie

Library Shaun McKelvie & Tom Mead

Club Hunts Shaun McKelvie & Tom Mead

Guest Speaker Shaun McKelvie & Andy Nesbit

Photo Competition Doug Gordon

Social Media , Tony Caudwell & Shaun McKelvie



July 2022

Well so far for me it's been a disappointing month for my hunting weather put a stop to our Thar Ballot block and covid put a stop to me going on the wallaby trip but that's hunting especially on the west coast the weather always has a big part to play in how the hunt plays out.

We have our Kids Hunting competition again it's always a great chance to introduce the kids to hunting and Gun safety.

There's been a lot happening in the hunting and shooting areas the new Clubs and Ranges Laws will come into effect from the 24th of June at this stage it will not change anything for us but in the future may add more admin to keep the Invercargill Rifle range operational. Also, Submissions will have closed and be being processed for the Department of Conservation "Conservation management Plans and processes" It will be

interesting to see how this plays out I can assure you NZDA has been working with Doc and other interested parties to ensure hunters views are heard.

National Conference is coming up towards the end of July and we will have had a Southern Regional Meeting which I will be able to update you on.

Until the next meeting Safe Hunting I hope the weather plays the game for you.

Cheers Shaun



Editorial

July we are past the shortest day, and days are already starting to get longer. Some nice sunsets of late something to do with the eruption in Tonga I am told. Makes one keen to get back out there!

I see in the Southland Times that the Southland Conservation Board is concerned about the Deer numbers on Stewart Island. They talk of having grave concerns about the impact on the Island and call for urgent action.

Last month I spent a few days at Masons Bay, was not lucky enough to see a deer, though the party got one. But found hunting trail's overgrown and young healthy Rimu growing up unmolested.

Meanwhile Predator Free Rakiura, has got significant funding. Is employing staff, results will be expected! Is poisoning of the Island going to be back on the cards? Lacking other options being currently available.

While National Office NZDA, and the Game Animal Council, are supporting doing good things regarding Tahr, Sika and Wapiti. Where are they regarding the Whitetail on Stewart Island? Southland Branch has two Senior Life Members, doing more than their bit. Where is the support?

If wholesale poisoning of the Island were to occur how long before hunks of mainland NZ gets the same treatment. Besides which a lot of hunters love the island going by the usage the hunting blocks get.

National Office NZDA needs someone at national level looking after what's likely to be happening there. What will the National Conference bring if anything, leadership is needed?

Doug Gordon

Sponsors

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



Southland Branch Polo Shirts



The following are in stock and available for purchase @ \$35 each

5 x Medium

5 x Large

5 x Xtra Large to arrange payment

5 x 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.

Southlands NZDA Kids Hunt

- July 24/7/2021 weigh in at The Long bush hall 1-2pm Bbq lunch provided

Prizes For

Heaviest Hare

Heaviest Possum

Proudly Sponsored By Hunting and Fishing Invercargill And Southern adventure

Weigh in to be held at Longbush Hall 24 Mckerchar Road 1 - 2pm Sunday 24 July

Final weigh in time 2pm. Animals to be presented or in the queue before 2pm deadline Points will be worked out from the weight of the Rabbit/Hare or Possum. The heaviest of each

Rabbit/Hare or Possum will be allocated 100 points (each), the second heaviest Rabbit/Hare or Possum will be given 99 points, third 98 points and so on.



Rules

- Children to be 16 years or younger
- Children's Rabbit/Hare and Possums do not need to be gutted
- Children must be a Nzda member or accompanied by an adult Nzda Member One Hare Rabbit Possum per hunter to be entered All Firearms regulations must be obeyed.

All Firearms must be secured and stowed in accordance with the [Firearms regulations](#) when not being used.

Necessary permits, licenses, and landowner's permission must be obtained

Hunting may commence 5.00pm on Friday 22/7/2021 . NO hunting is permitted before this time.

Catchment area is Southland region

Event organiser Shaun McKelvie 0276350490

Predator Free Rakiura Update #12

My last update was April 2021 when I advised [Predator Free Rakiura](#) group was given \$1m in

October 2020 and \$5 Million is on the table for the next five years. In June 2022 Manaaki Whenua (Landcare Research) added a further \$3.5k for the next four years. A Project Director and Assistant Project Director have been employed and they are looking to recruit more staff. So \$1.35m of taxpayer funds each year with the bulk to research how to eradicate cats, rats, possums & hedgehogs from the Island. Very little information is being made public but check their website..

Two articles have appeared in the media about deer on the Island. Both sourced from The Chair of Southland Conservation Board. This one in RNZ Click [Growing Island Deer Population](#)

I am unaware of any evidence of increased whitetail deer numbers on the Island. Certainly, there is plenty of evidence of the prevalence of whitetail around the village and on Rakiura Track where they are frequently encountered by trampers. Whitetail have been frequent around the village for ages and regarded as pets by some locals and are more obvious since spotlighting was ended. North Arm & Maori Beach blocks (Rakiura Track) are closed to hunting from November – March and we know how complacent whitetail get around people if they are not being shot at.

I have written to the Conservation Board trying to correct some of the inaccuracies and offering to discuss the issues but no response to date.



“Port William lawn mower.”

This article appeared in Southland Express. My Letter to the editor was published in full.



There is little doubt, pressures are building on our hunting heritage. Chatter will get us nowhere; we need to engage and challenge. I have been banging on for years about the value of putting in a hunter report after your Island hunt. It is very difficult to argue a case without accurate details of hunter effort on the Island. Collective facts are important. [Click Hunter Reports](#)

Little Glory Issue

Real Journeys application “to install, maintain and exclusively occupy part of the coastal marine area with a swing mooring” in front of the hunters hut at Goose Cove, Little Glory Bay this time last year was **declined** by Environment Southland after overwhelming opposition. Thanks to those of you who made a submission.

Permits

We all know the issues of sitting up till midnight to apply for a hunting block 12 months ahead. One of the local hunters has approached DoC requesting that local (resident)

hunters have “A pre time buffer for Island Hunters on the application site.” How would that sit with other hunters?

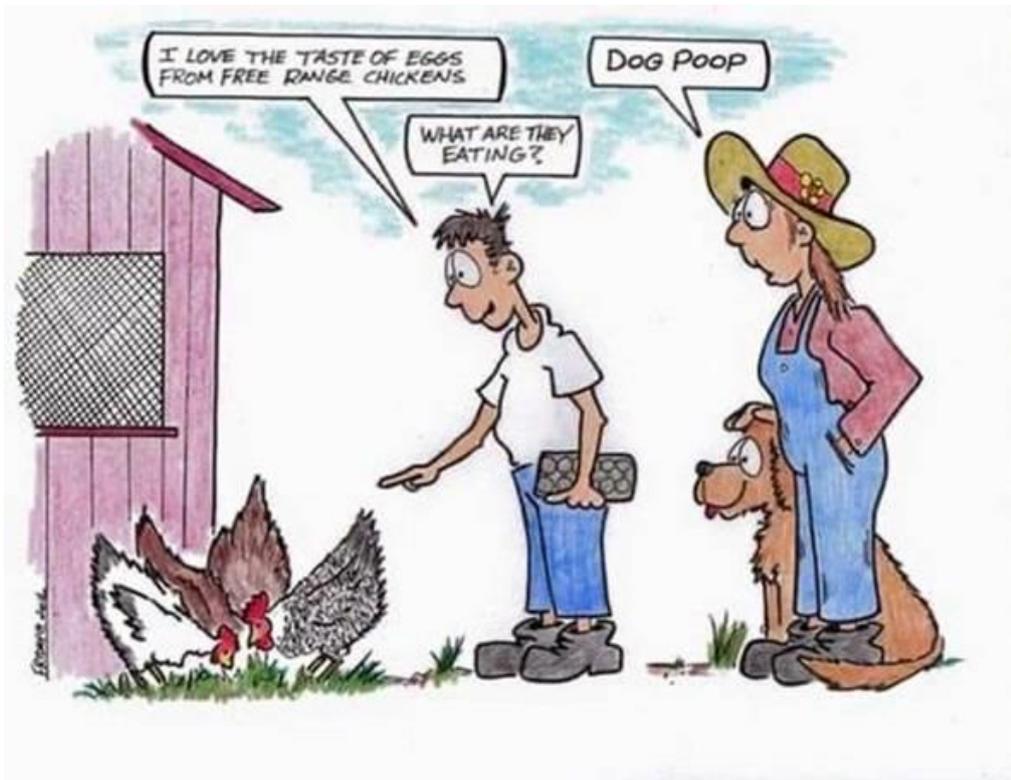
Email me with any thoughts/suggestions on how to improve the booking system

From Rakiura Hunter Camp Trust

Access: Rakiura Hunter Camp Trust has written to DOC requesting Designated Helicopter Landing sites at Smoky & Upper Lords. Stewart Island Flights (fixed wing) have stopped flying to Smoky. The fine sand there is the reason and it is a hazard to helicopter turbines, At Upper Lords helicopters make the block more accessible and may reduce the double booking of the block.

Toilets;. Martins Creek has been redug. Cavalier and Homestead will be redug in August. We are looking for a party to redig North Pegasus. Could that be you?

JOKES FOR THE MONTH



**I made a huge
to do list for
today.
I just can't
figure out who's
going to do it.**

Cool Hunting

If you see someone
wearing camouflage,
make sure to walk right
into them so they know
it's working

www.coolhunting.com.au

Young Hunts Course 2023



**This course is for anyone young or old.
Includes Firearm safety, Navigation, First Aid, Bushcraft,
Equipment and trip planning, Meat processing and more
Current planning is to run a course over and around 2
weekends 11th & 12th and 25th & 26th February 2023.**



Looking at expressions of interest in this course to Shaun
Phone 0276350490

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



J & T'S FITNESS STUDIO

Private Studio, Competition Training, Nutrition Advice, Weight Loss

Personal Trainers: Judy & Thomas Duggan
2 Perth st, Windsor, Invercargill

Email: jptrainer2001@hotmail.com www.jt-fitness-studio.com

ph 03-2172893 or 0276162040



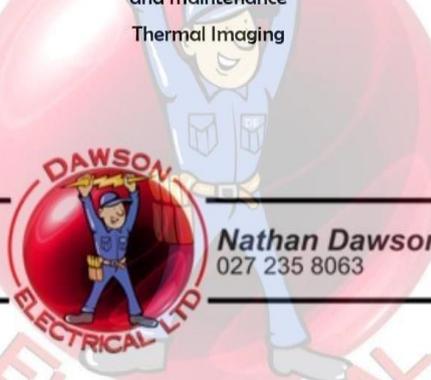
ANIMAL SKIN TANNING SERVICES

-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

Give your friendly local electrician a call today!

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



Nathan Dawson
027 235 8063

dawsonelectrical55@gmail.com
Makarewa | Invercargill



HYPERCORE
High Performance Heat Pumps



MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC

Wapiti Lodge, Thicket Burn Hut & Red Stag Lodge Mavora



Bookings to Neville & Carol Miller Phone (03)216 8654
cell 021 08219528 email 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.**

Thicket Burn Hut Currently Not Available

