

THE SOUTHERN HUNTER



Best Scenic Photo Doug Gordon Masons Bay Stewart Island

Southland Branch NZDA News Letter August 2019

Branch email is: enquiries@southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz

News Letter douglasgordon@xtra.co.nz

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

Monthly Meeting Wednesday the 21st of August at
8pm
Executive meeting 7pm

Guest Speaker

Mike Bayliss on his trip to Antarctica

FACEBOOK:

AS YOU MAY KNOW THE CLUB 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 MEMEBERS TO CONTRIBUTE TO IT

Presidents Report

We it's fair to say that I'm learning a lot and fast, Thanks to everyone for the advice and support so far. We Hosted the Southern Regional Meeting on the Sunday the 4th at our hall in Longbush. We had a good turnout especially considering the weather a lot of conversation around conference and the notice of motions and remits were disguised for those of you that don't know these are basically what is voted on at conference as changes to how we operate. Some of the biggest were debates around the introduction of a CEO what their role would be and how it would be funded. Also deer I say it the membership and issues around the new central membership system and its current functionality. I do believe that things do need to change I'm not totally sure how but as a collective we need to stand together and be seen in a positive light, especially in the current time with gun laws in the process of being reformed , ongoing access issues. Ps thanks Nathan for sorting the power at such short notice.

On a less political note hopefully as things warm up and the deer start moving around you'll all get time away from the farm or work to get out and knock some meat over for the BBQ summer coming soon I hope, I've made my snow man for the year one is enough. As always were keen to hear any thoughts ideas for hunts and guest speakers. See you at the next meeting Cheers Shaun

Wanted

Stories, adds, 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 .

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome them.

Brad Downey

Club Hunts

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

None Advertised



Editorial

Recently I attended the Southern Regional Branches Meeting (NZDA) held in a snow storm at Invercargill. One of the issues raised was the need to vastly increase the membership, to give us the political voice we need to influence Government on such issues as Firearms ownership, and hunting. Talk included paying a full time Executive Officer to manage and promote the organisation, and grow the membership. Also the possibility that New Zealand may follow Australia along the line of being a member of a Firearms/ hunting club as a condition of having a firearms licence.

From where I am looking at this increasing the membership is a necessity if hunting is to thrive and grow in New Zealand.

The first big problem that still needs to be fixed is our current membership records, progress has occurred, but there are still some problems in the resulting list of Southland Branch Members being supplied to the branch.

You should be getting monthly branch newsletters, and a Monthly National newsletter from National Office. (This in passing is a big communication improvement that has occurred this year under our New National President). If you are not receiving both or you stop receiving both (or either) and you are a paid financial member. Please check that your membership is correctly recorded at national level Phone **04 499 6163**.

Hunters and firearms owners in general must have a stronger and unified voice if we are to continue to enjoy our chosen recreational pursuits. This starts with the individuals standing up and doing their part. Including not doing things that reflect badly on hunters, i.e. Poaching, shooting up the likes of signs, or using fire arms under the influence of Alcohol. The collective can and will be judged on the actions of a few.

All firearms owners need to be contemplating making a submission on the next Amendment to the Arms Act. This needs to be hand written for maximum effect, as

online forms tend to be discounted, and the questions in them are framed to make you give the answers the promoters of document desire. If we can get 10,000 submissions in, in twenty-four or so hours as last time on a Arms Act Amendment. There should be 100,000 plus this time. Your sport is in your hands each and every one of you. It is up to you to be sure you are counted as a member (and being recorded as being a member) and in the submissions you individually make. If you haven't got time now, you may have plenty soon if you can no longer hunt as you desire, Make time to be counted. If you don't stand up don't come crying to me later.

Doug Gordon

Unpaid Subs & Membership

Only members who have paid their Subs should be receiving this newsletter. As I am going off a new Membership list of financial members supplied by national Office. I will be following up this newsletter with a memo to all on the old mailing list to contact National office Phone **04 499 6163**. As they have either not paid there sub of they have been missed off the list by National Office. This memo will hopefully bring to light any mistakes in the supplied list (hopefully none?) and have them corrected plus prompt those who have not paid to pay. We need all the members we get at this time.

Note with centralised National Office handle payment and production of Lists of Members, not the Branch.

Benefits of Membership

This is a reminder that you have to be a full member Southland Branch to get public liability insurance and all the other benefits of membership of Southland Branch NZDA. Including any branch organised event, there is now an unacceptable risk associated with having those without insurance on branch organised activities, and times have changed.

(Associate and Affiliate membership having being removed from the Branch classes of membership at the AGM)

Predator Free Rakiura

On the 13th of July a memorandum of understanding was signed off for the Predator Free Rakiura programme at Oban on Stewart Island, by the interested parties including NZDA with Trevor Chappell signing on their behalf. Supported by Ray Phillips our member on the steering committee leading the Southland Branch Delegation of Karene Philips and Doug Gordon. Fortunately the ferry trip was enjoyable for the time of year with relatively calm seas, (better than forecast)



Trevor Chappell (3rd from right) at the signing

The object of the memorandum is to remove Rats, Possums, Wild Cats and Hedgehogs from the island and keep them off (remember “Deer are not included in this project”). The how is still being investigated, but must and will involve still being developed technology’s.



Hopefully history will record this event as a positive turning point in NZDA’s relationship with the Dept. of Conservation.



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Sponsors

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



Stewart Island Whitetail Deer Research Group.

Whitetail Deer ageing.

For some years we have been learning more about whitetail by aging animals that are shot. Your help is sought.

The table shows the ages of the first 1000 deer we have aged.

Ages established to July 2019

| AGE in years | -1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
|--------------|----|----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Male # | 40 | 64 | 141 | 112 | 81 | 41 | 45 | 30 | 26 | 13 | 11 | 6 | 2 | 2 |
| Female # | 37 | 85 | 92 | 53 | 29 | 23 | 14 | 9 | 9 | 11 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| Unknown # | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | | | | | |

Of 1000 deer we have aged only 21 were over ten years of age.

Of the mature bucks:-

6 yr old: 14 point DS 141

6 yr old: 8 points DS 166

6 yr old: 8 points DS 140

years and decline from 9 - 10

7 yr old: 8 points DS 120

10 yr old: 9 points

10 yr old: 4 points DS 66

10 yr old: 5 inch spikes

DS 144

DS 66

It would

potential at 6 - 8

years.

seem that bucks reach best antler

7 yr old: 8 points DS 167

11 yr old: 4 points

7 yr old: 11 points DS 150

11 yr old: 3 inch spikes

7 yr old: 8 points DS 150

11 yr old: 9 points DS 146

9 yr old: 4 points

13 yr old: 4 points DS 65

11 yr old: spikes

15 yr old: spikes

Clean (preferably boiled) jaws can be sent to Stewart Island Whitetail Research Group (SIWRG) PO Box 1588 Invercargill. Wrap in newspaper, not plastic!

We need to know, sex, block, date and hunter's name and contact details. This is not a DOC project but one carried out by hunters wanting to learn a bit more about the whitetail deer we all enjoy hunting. Please assist by returning as many jaws as possible, even the very young ones.

Please submit a hunting report at the end of your trip. All this information helps to better assess hunter effort on the Island.

See your electronic permit for online link or google "Stewart Island Hunter Return"
We need this info.

Freeze Dri



Available at a great price to Branch Members Contact Gus Ronald
gus.ronald@xtra.co.nz 03 213 0351 for a price list

Doc Hyperlinks on Poison

[Battle for the Birds](#)

[Pesticide summaries interactive map](#)

OSPRI Hyperlink poison

[Aerial Pest Control Operations underway or planned](#)

Joke of the month

At last a safe simple weather forecasting device to take into the hills no battery's required, just about fool proof.



• An elderly couple return to a Mercedes dealership to find the salesman had just sold the car they were interested in to a beautiful, leggy, busty blonde.

"I thought you said you would hold that car till we raised the \$75,000 asking price," said the man. "Yet I just heard you closed the deal for \$65,000 to that lovely young lady there. You insisted there could be no discount on this model."

"Well, what can I tell you? She had the ready cash, and just look at her, how could I resist?" replied the grinning salesman.

Just then the young woman approached the old folks and handed them the keys.

"There you go," she said. "I told you I could get this joker to drop the price."

"See you later, grandpa."

Never mess with the elderly!

Wapiti Lodge, Thicket Burn Hut & Red Stag Lodge Mavora



Bookings to Neville & Carol Miller Phone (03)216 8654 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.**

Club Office Bearers

President: S McKelvie 027 635 0490 **Vice President:** W. Muir

Secretary A Nesbit : **Treasurer** T Mead

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

Membership R. Phillips (216 3751) **Huts** N Miller

Executive: D Howden, N Dawson, A Hogan, T Duggan

Sub Committees:

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| Hall | A Horan, |
| Young Hunts | S. Robinson, N. Dawson. |
| AGM | S McKelvie, D. Howden. |
| Trophies | W. Muir. |
| Poisons/toxins | R. Phillips. |
| Pistol range | D. Gordon. |

Rifle Range S. Robinson

DOC Liaison . Phillips,

Newsletter D. Gordon.

Library S. McKelvie T Mead

Club Hunts S. McKelvie T. Mead T. Duggan .

Guest speakers A Nesbit

Areas of interest

S/Island/S. Coast R. Phillips,

Hokonuis A Horan A Nesbit

Greenstone/Caples N Dawson

Blue Mountains D Gordon

Fiordland R. Phillips, S. Robinson.

Longwoods R. Phillips.

South Island Access Committee A Nesbit