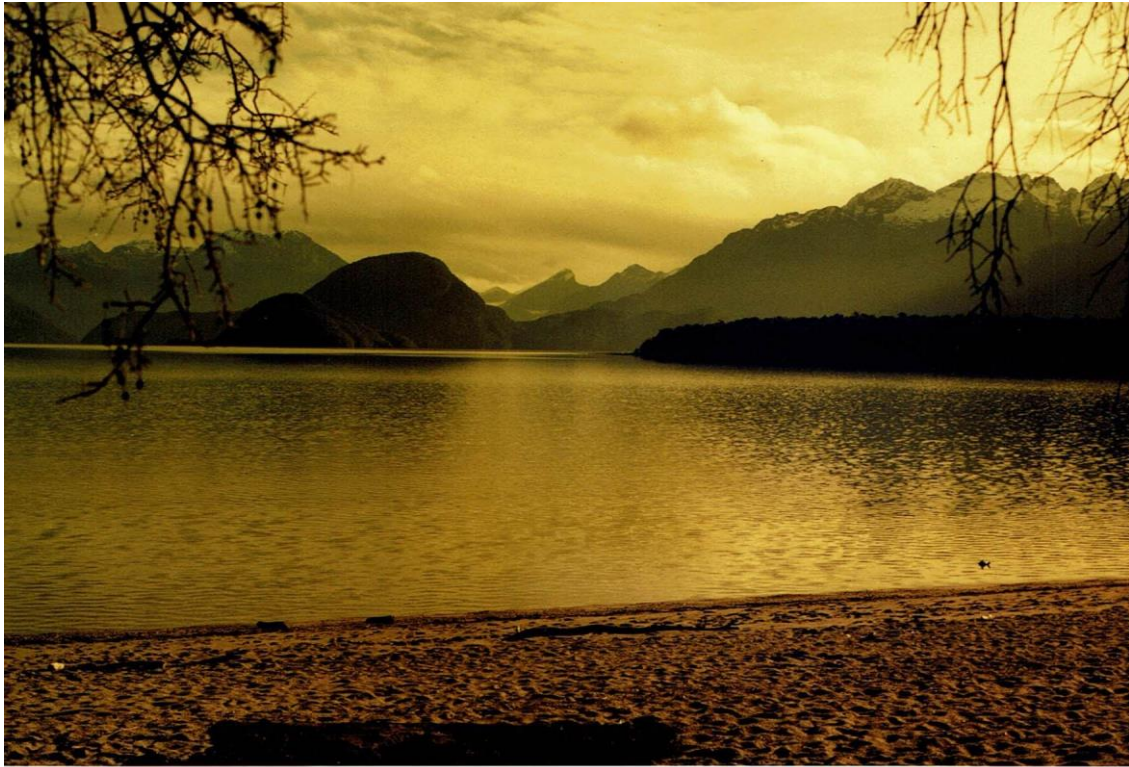


THE SOUTHERN HUNTER

Southland Branch NZDA

News Letter



Beehive Manapouri

October 2020

Branch email is: enquiries@southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz

News Letter douglasgordon@xtra.co.nz

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

Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 21st October 7.30pm

At Woodlands Butchers State Highway1/Cnr
Wyeth Road, Woodlands 9871. Then finish back
at Woodlands Tavern for a meeting and

Rayioner's Ballot

Executive Meeting 6.30pm at Woodlands Tavern

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

Guest Speaker

Craig of Woodlands Butchery, a demonstration of Venison Processing

NEW MEMBERS

New Members please welcome them

David McMeeken, James Officer, Scott Thompson, Benjamin Boyle, Joshua McDonald

Club Hunts

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

Wallaby Hunt

No Wallaby hunts before New Year.

Working Bee Firewood

Hi all on the 14th of November at 1pm we are going to have a afternoon doing firewood as a fundraiser for the club and the Rayioners funds at Rodger McNaughton's place 168 Walker Road which runs off the Morton Mains - Woodlands Road .

It would be great to have a good turnout also if you're interested in hunting Rayioners it would be good to come along and contribute. Bring your chainsaw log splitter or just yourself see ya there 😊.

Cheers Shaun Mckelvie 0276350490

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.

Douglas Score Training Day

The Branch is planning to hold a Douglas Score training day on Saturday 13th February next year. A chance to learn to correctly score your or your mates trophy.

If interested contact the orgainser Ray Phillips phone 03 216 3751 before 18th November.

(The traing day is subject to sufficent interest being shown we need numbers before the day)



Presidents Report

October

Well what a month Snow, Rain, **Rain** and a wee bit of rain if you're lucky enough to have got out while the weather has been good hopefully you've got lucky and got some fresh venison for the freezer. By all accounts there are plenty of deer out there. So far the Rayonier's blocks have been fairly productive. If you've got your name on the list get along to the meeting and put your hand up were more than happy to share the ballots out so everyone gets a look around.

This month we are Lucky enough to have *Craig Hamilton* from Woodlands Butchery to give us a Venison processing Demo at **7.30 @ The Butcher shop.** After that we will walk over to the Woodlands Pub and Have a quick meeting and run the Rayonier's Ballot. So if you've got any processing to be done don't hesitate to give

the friendly team at Woodlands a call support local businesses. I'm sure they'll be more than happy to help.

See ya at the Meeting Cheers *Shaun*



Full credit to Andy Nesbit great executed a great stalk.

Cool to get the kids out amongst it. □



Editorial

By the time you read this it won't be long to the counting of the votes in the election. Something you are most likely sick of hearing about by now.

Whoever wins I hope the new Minister of Conservation is not an Idealistic, evangelistic conservationist. We seem to get them whoever is in government! The post needs to go to a very Senior Minister. They control about a third of our land mass. The one in the current government was not even in Cabinet!!!!

It looks like the fire season is already on us with the fires at Ohau and Pukaki. There is talk of the amount of dry vegetation built up in the area now that some of the areas are not being grazed. This DoC is deigning is the cause, sighting that the areas have been shut up for some time and blaming Wilding Pines.

The Department of Conservation (well the people running it) starting with the Minister are intent on shutting up as much of the country as they can to protect its unique biodiversity. Well all biodiversity is unique even the grass on Eden Park! Please produce evidence that says otherwise. Go look in a dictionary for definition of these two words! I am told at the time Europeans arrived in this fair land there was thousands and thousands of Takahe and Kakapo here. What did they live on? Air. No the vegetation that is now fuelling fires, the same vegetation that Tahr and Deer eat. The natural state of vegetation in New Zealand has some grazing. Evidence of this is what we want and is

what needs to be put to any Judge when it comes to the case for allowing Tahr and Deer in this fair land. I can't see the necessary numbers of Birds being available to do this grazing in the foreseeable future so let's keep Some Grazing animals.

In passing I hear (off the record) that Kiwis do better when there is not too much cover, less chance on stoats cats etc. sneaking up on them?

One such photo (of a Kakapo browse line on Vegetation) can be found in John A Andersons book the Eye of the Hunter. There will be more historic evidence out there. Start by looking at the journals of our early explorers especially what they lived on as they went about their business. Our case is better if we have evidence not emotion. Any decent lawyer would tell you, you need hard facts to impress a Judge. Our opposition seems to be relying on emotion too at present, we need facts.

Doug Gordon

Letter to the Editor

Pollution

Whilst doing predator control on Stewart Island I was resting high on a hill overlooking tussock and flax covered flats wondering if the pioneering families of Mason Bay could have traded in their 40 hp David Brown Crop Master for a 400 hp Case and a 12 ton digger put on 5 ton of lime 1 ton of super phosphate and 500 kgs of Nitrogen to the hectare then taken advantage of Fonterra's anywhere pick up milk policy they might have been able to run 3000 cows and turn the sparkling blue waters of Mason Bay brown like those we saw 2 km off Southlands Oreti beach out the windows of our small plane.

Pollution from our town's cities and roads is added to the silt from farms.



The ministry for the environment has a huge task to restore the water quality in our lakes rivers streams and sea.

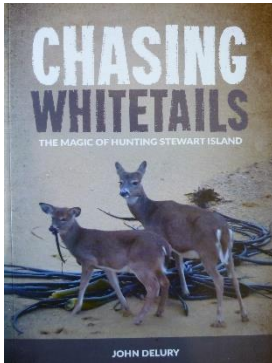
It will need the efforts of a team of 5 million people to make New Zealand clean and green

again.

Mike Bayliss
September 2020

NZDA book offer

CHASING WHITETAILS The magic of hunting Stewart Island. Author John DeLury



John is Chairman of Rakiura Hunter Camp Trust and a Life member of Southland Branch NZDA. This book is the result of forty years & well in excess of one hundred trips hunting Stewart Island. The book documents many of those hunts as well as the history of many of the hunting blocks. There are 41 chapters, 256 pages, full colour throughout and the spine is stitched. It also covers the history of whitetail on the Island and some of the research projects John has been involved in and includes habits of the animals and some hunting hints. A review of the book can be seen at:- [https://thefishingpaper.pdfmobile.nz/the-fishing-paper/february-2020-issue-173/hunting-news/chasing-whitetails-the-magic-of-hunting-stewart-](https://thefishingpaper.pdfmobile.nz/the-fishing-paper/february-2020-issue-173/hunting-news/chasing-whitetails-the-magic-of-hunting-stewart-island)

[island](https://thefishingpaper.pdfmobile.nz/the-fishing-paper/february-2020-issue-173/hunting-news/chasing-whitetails-the-magic-of-hunting-stewart-island)

The book is \$40 plus post. Up to three books can be sent on one pack. Autographed on request. To order contact John DeLury wtd243@gmail.com or 0276925338

Sponsors

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





Branch Trophies

This is a series of articles on the branch trophies as found in the club rooms, with two other at Wapiti Lodge. (*Note I thought there was only one trophy at the Wapiti lodge until staying at it this year*)

Mervyn Anderson Red Deer

Trench Burn 1959 12 points Douglas score 284 ³/₈

During the winters of 1959 and 1960 members of Southland Branch undertook culling operations in the Greenstone and Mararoa Valleys to reduce the numbers of deer, both Fallow and Red Deer.

Allan Harrison organised these culls and reported that the 1959 operation had a great impact on the fallow deer population particularly in the Mararoa Valley. At the request of the run holder, members did not go below Trench Burn and due to southerly storms operations were hampered by deep snow



500pts 011185

THE NEW ZEALAND DEERSTALKERS' ASSOCIATION INC.
OFFICIAL RECORDING SYSTEM FOR
ROUND-HORN DEER HEADS
(DOUGLAS SCORE)

OWNER	<i>Mrs B Anderson 19 Cairneun St</i>			
KILLED BY	<i>Mervyn Anderson</i>			
LOCALITY & DATE	<i>Greenstone 1959</i>			
SPECIES & POINT NUMBER	<i>Red 12 (6x6)</i>			
STEEL TAPE MEASUREMENT OF	SHORTER MEASUREMENT DOUBLED*			
	LEFT	RIGHT	SCORE*	FACTORS
LENGTH	<i>41²</i>	<i>39⁷</i>	<i>79²</i>	<i>79²</i>
SPREAD	<i>32²</i>	<i>32²</i>	<i>28³</i>	<i>50⁵</i>
SPAN			<i>28³</i>	
BEAM	<i>5³</i>	<i>5⁴</i>	<i>10⁶</i>	
CORONET	<i>8¹</i>	<i>8²</i>	<i>16²</i>	<i>27</i>
BROW	<i>12⁴</i>	<i>11²</i>	<i>22⁴</i>	
BEZ	<i>10⁷</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>21⁴</i>	
TREZ	<i>11³</i>	<i>11⁵</i>	<i>22⁶</i>	<i>67</i>
TOPS	<i>Back 16³</i>	<i>14³</i>	<i>28²</i>	
	<i>Royal 9⁵</i>	<i>4⁷</i>	<i>9⁶</i>	<i>50</i>
	<i>Inner Royal 8⁷</i>	<i>6²</i>	<i>12⁴</i>	
TOTAL SCORE		<i>284³</i>		

On loan to Southland Branch

* SKULL LENGTH OVER CURVE:
 * SHOULDER HEIGHT OF STAG:
 MEASURED BY: *J DeLury 20/6/59*
 ASSISTANT:

The party shot 299 Fallow deer does and fawns and 61 Red Deer including this trophy shot by Mervyn Anderson. Mervyn spotted this stag in open country above the Trench Burn in a mob of a number of stags. This was the best one and after a long stalk through waist deep snow he was able to get within shooting range.

Members who took part in the 1959 operations were: S. Ladbrook, J Picket, J H McKenzie, M Keen, O Burgess, J Dixon, B Sinclair, I Fallow, L Peat, D McDonald, R Hopkins, N Ryan, D Pearson, L Anderson, F Holroyd, M Anderson, M Stewart, B Lawrence.

Branch Tops

We are organizing branch tops with our logo on them. They are going to be a Hunting and Fishing fleece bush shirt. The cost of these will be around \$40 Men's and Women's styles are available. To do this you will need to place an order we will process these once a month. To place an order please contact:

Thomas Mead 027 847 1882 or enquiries@southlanddeerstalkers.org.nz



Pink

Blue

Green

Black

Grey

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

JOKES FOR THE MONTH



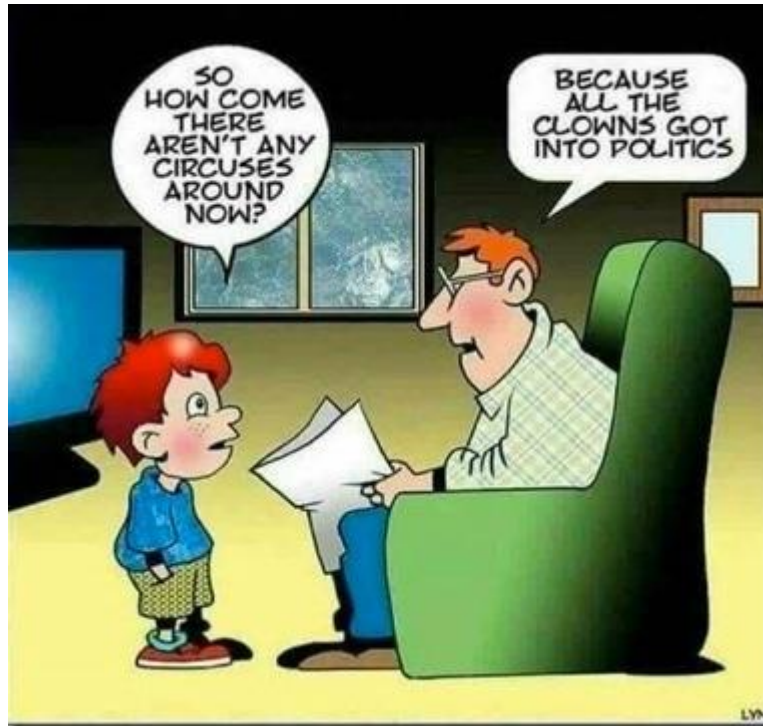
You can choose not to
wear a mask.

Then you must also re-
move all your clothes
to enter.

It's all or nothing. It's about choices.

Thank you,
The Management MeWow





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

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.

28th October Doug Gordon 03 216 6383/ 027 637 2206

4th November Andy Nesibit 021 917 808

11th November Nathan Dawson 027 235 8063

Mason Bay Predator Control

It was probable that due to being less than half his age Ashley would be better looking and

would not snore as loud as Doug so my choice of Mason Bay rat party leader was easily made.

The other member of our party was the big burley bearded Jason, he works for Invercargill Hunting & Fishing Store. Who provide valuable financial assistance to our project. Jason had spent time in the Army in East Timour and Afghanistan and he could snore like a trooper.

We got clagged in on the East Side of Mt Anglem which required some tight banking until the pilot found a gap to shot us through towards sparkling blue waters and lines of white surf which we could see pounding on the golden sands of Mason Bay in the distance. After a fly over a smooth beach landing and a drop off right on the edge of Duck Creek Ashley advised she was very pleased that she had not had breakfast before flying. We ferried supplies to the very comfortable hunters hut and after a quick bite of lunch got stuck in checking the rat traps and setting cat traps in a howling nor wester which made the evening hunt unpleasant and unproductive.

At first light Ashley checked out the airstrip for deer while Mike checked the cat traps. Neither had any customers. Then we set out to complete checking all of the remaining rat traps. Mike did the inner spiral while Jason and Ashley did the rest. The inner spiral winds and climbs around a hill. On the Seaward side the vegetation is stunted and the surf roars. On the sheltered side Rimu Toatara and rata grow tall in quiet and peaceful native bush.

Using Ashley Bloomfield's line I counted 3 probable cases where traps had been triggered and pulled apart probably by a cat getting an easy meal of rat but I never found a dead rat after 3 hours of checking 78 traps.

By the end of day two we had checked all 309 rat traps and 10 cat traps for a total of 12 dead rats, 7 probable rats and no cats.

Whilst we all would have liked to have killed more rats and a cat or two it was great to hear birds calling throughout the day and kiwis at night. Hopefully our efforts and those before and after us will have more chicks added to the population of Tui Fantail Kiwi Robin Tom Tits Karkariki Bell birds Warblers and Red Pole that we saw and heard residing in Mason Bay.

Thanks to the parties before us. The trap lines are clear and well marked with all of the traps baited set oiled and in good working condition. It is easy to see the hard work that has been done to make it possible for a person of any age with average fitness and bush sense to make a contribution to the conservation of birds in Mason Bay.

The efforts of the Southland Branch of the NZDA will help to maintain a population of birds in Mason Bay who's offspring will hopefully provide a deafening morning chorus when Stewart Island becomes predator free.

Mike Bayliss

September 2020



View of Island Hill from near the end of the Cat line

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

Xmas, New Year period there are still several weeks not taken and available so contact Neville. First in gets the Lodge.

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:** A Hogan

Secretary A Nesbit : **Treasurer** T Mead

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

Membership T Mead **027 847 1882** **Huts** N Miller

Executive: D Howden, N Dawson, L Payne, J. McCallum

Sub Committees:

Hall A Hogan,

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 .R Phillips,

Library S. McKelvie T Mead

Club Hunts S. McKelvie T. Mead,

Guest speakers A Nesbit

Areas of interest

S/Island/S. Coast R. Phillips,

Hokonuis A Hogan A Nesbit

Greenstone/Caples N Dawson

Blue Mountains D Gordon

Fiordland R. Phillips, S. Robinson.

Longwoods R. Phillips.

South Island Access Committee A Nesbit

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