



*New Zealand Deerstalkers'*  
*Association*  
*Wairarapa Branch*  
*Incorporated*

Newsletter for **Sept 2015**

**Next Meeting is 16<sup>th</sup> Sept 2015**

**Meet at 7:30 pm Parkvale Hall,**

Guest Speaker is John Bissell who will be talking about his hunting trip to Africa

**Key Dates - Upcoming Trips and Events**

**Sunday 13th Sept - Club Competition Shoot - Gladstone Range**

**10am Sharp!**

Here are the rules:

4 Positions – Prone, kneeling, sitting, standing

5 Rounds per position, with 2 optional sighters in prone position only, which can be scoring or non scoring.

Standard NZDA targets

Aggregate Score to count

Shooting mats may be used no rests

Kneeling roll may be used in kneeling position only, not to exceed 18cm in diameter.

No slings to be used

No heavy or varmint barrels

Sporting stock configuration- no thumbhole stocks

Scopes not to exceed 6x power magnification

No special purpose target shooting clothing

Centrefire to be shot at 100 metres

Rimfire to be shot at 50 metres

Note: there will NOT be time to sight your rifle in on the day please make sure you have already done this before the day!

Classes: Junior F, open battle sights ex military, ladies, junior, rimfire and centrefire, senior F

**Fri 18th Sept - Non subsidised Tararua Fly-in trip....**now fully booked****

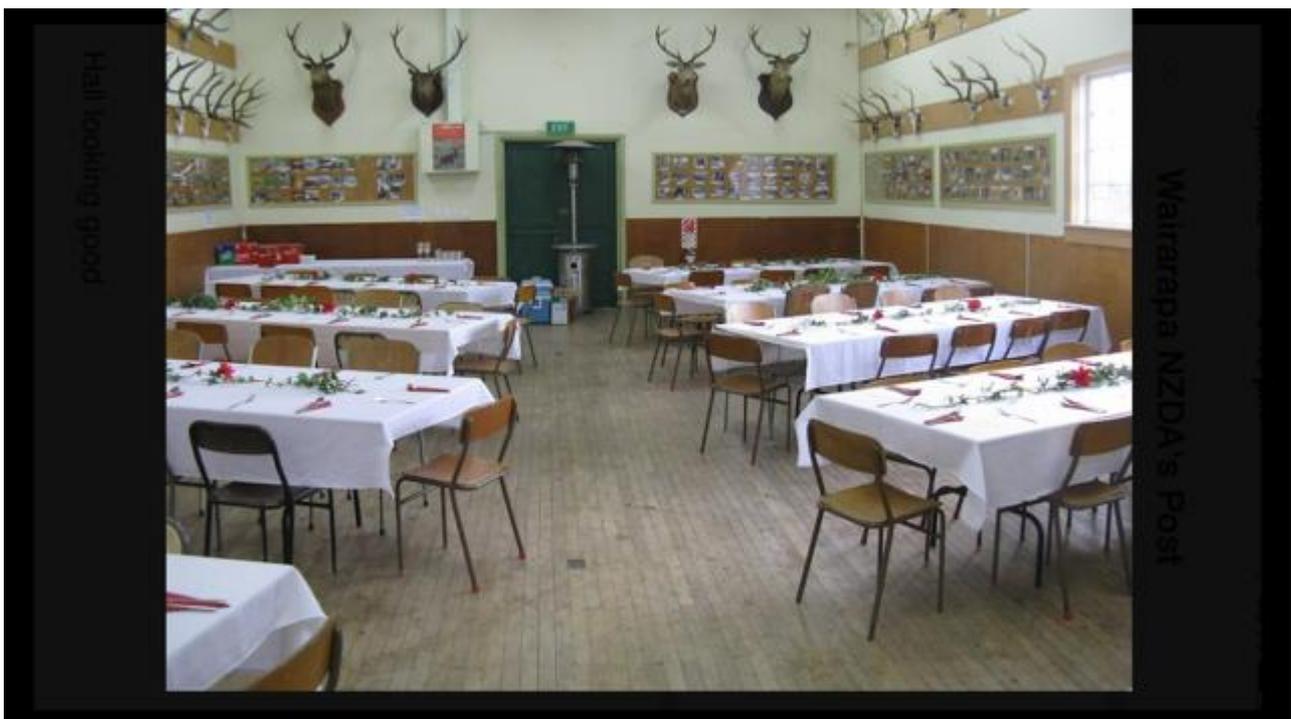
For details and all those interested please contact Martin Amos on phone 379 5454 evenings.

**Saturday 26th -Sunday 27th Sept. Sika Show. Taupo.**

For more details visit their website at <http://sika-show.co.nz/>



**SAT 3RD OCT -WHITE ROCK HUNTS** – numbers are limited to four persons per hunt, so there will be a ballot of those interested for the 1st hunt and subsequent outings. Please contact Steve Playle on 06 3797432 to enter the ballot.



# **SATURDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> OCT – Wairarapa NZDA Annual Dinner at Parkvale Hall. at 5-30pm**

This is an important fund raising event for the club, so we are looking for a good turnout from all members, friends and family. Limited Tickets available so be in quick!  
Great night to be had by all!!!

## **Annual Club Prize giving and Auction**

Howard Egan Fallow Deer Hunting in NZ Book Launch  
Be there by 5.30pm for pre dinner drinks!

We need to know numbers for catering so please **RSVP by 10th Oct** to martin.tracy@xtra.co.nz  
027 3795454 or Leave message (06) 379 5454

Please pay for your meal at the door (main entry).  
\$25 a couple, \$15 single/senior, \$10 a junior up to 16 yrs  
\$10 per superanuant \$5 per child under 12

Drinks are BYO but some beer and wine will be available for sale on the night.  
Some good items up for auction so bring some money.  
We have a Steve Barclay Taxidermy voucher, clothing, helicopter flight voucher, and many more items..... See you all there



**The deadline date for entries in the AH&T Competition has been extended to 30th Sept so get your entries into Martin & Tracy asap as they are away from 20th Sept.**

Sharon and Steve Playle have kindly offered to collect and store all heads for the AH&T Competition after 20th Sept. Please contact Steve & Sharon Playle on 06 3797432 if you want to drop off a trophy at their place.

Note that our displayed AH&T rules provide for entries to be taken up to September 30th. Please also note that this year's measuring and judging night will be held at Parkvale hall (not open to members) at 7.30p.m. Tuesday 6th October. I hope that all our approved measurers can be present.  
Howard Egan. convenor. AH&T.

## **Antler, Horn & Tusk competitions for 2015 and including Photographic competitions for the same period.**

All competitions will be run closely to the Branch Competition rules which have been laminated and displayed in our Parkvale meeting room for the whole competition year. These newsletter notes are simply an abbreviation of them.

### Key dates this year are:

Closing date for the taking of heads, jaws and photos is **Wednesday** 30 Sep 2015.

Entry forms and AH&T Trophies (heads & photos) to be in by 7pm **Wednesday** 30 Sep 2015.

Measuring night (not open to members) **Tuesday 6 October 2015.**

Branch Prize-Giving – presentation of Awards & Certificates – Saturday 17th Oct 2015.

### Extracts from the Rules.

1. Entrants must have been financial members of this branch at the time of shooting the trophy or taking the photograph. Junior members (18yrs & under) to be noted on Entry forms please.
2. All entries in the Antler-horn-tusk competitions (including the Paid hunting section) must have been taken in unimpeded fair chase. No spotlighting. Paid hunting entries are to be clearly designated on Entry forms.
3. Antler-horn-tusk entries must be on a clean, full skull (or jaw). Foul entries will not be accepted.
4. A Disputes panel will be appointed by the Committee.
5. A competitor may enter more than one head in each competition.
6. Entry forms (both AH&T and photographs) should contain adequate information to illustrate the philosophies within these Competition rules are met.
7. As for several years, the Photographic competitions will be judged separately for Standard (e.g. 35mm), and for Digital entries. Entry forms must be clearly marked as to which the photo is. Photos taken in N.Z. Not from a Conveyance. No dead animals or birds. Maximum size for prints is 7" x 5" (175mm x 125mm).
8. Judging will be of four categories. The categories must be designated by the entrant and clearly marked on the Entry form and the back of photo. One fully completed entry form (see note 6 above) for each photo. Members may enter up to three photos in each category.
9. The categories are:
  - a. Game animals in their wild, outdoor state. Not in any form of captivity.
  - b. Other Wildlife in it's wild, outdoor state and not in any form of captivity. The subject matter is to be relevant to hunting, hunting country, and the associated activities of hunters.
  - c. Scenic relative to the sport of hunting. Human activity should be of minor importance.
  - d. Other – not covered in other categories. Subject matter is to be relevant to hunting or hunting country. Or the associated activity of hunters.

**NOTE:** The winning photo of each category will be retained for the Parkvale Hall display board.

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*Entry forms for antlers, horns and tusks – and for photographs can be downloaded from our website at <http://www.wairarapanzda.org.nz/competitions/>*

**Howard Egan Convenor AH&T**

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**Sat 31st Oct -Sunday 1st Nov Weekend - Wanganui Fallow Meat Hunt.**

**Now Fully Booked**

\$100 per animal and \$15 per night accommodation. All those interested contact Andrew Wilkinson on 0274381363 for details.

**SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> NOV – LAND SAR 1st Aid refresher at Mt Holdsworth for LAND SAR members only.** Please contact Phil Gray on 0274 740717 for further details.

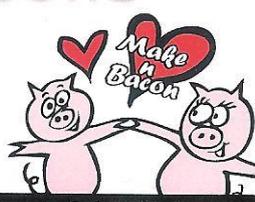
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Website: www.honda-motorcycles.com

**FEEDBACK:**

**Branch finances:** We need more trees to subsidise branch fly-in trips! If you know of any phone Martin Amos 379 5454, evenings.

**Parkvale Hall is available for hire** to the general public at a cost of \$300 per day. It would be suitable for events such as weddings, as we have good catering facilities. If you know of any interested parties, please advise them to contact Martin Amos 379 5454, evenings.

**Membership renewals:** Many members have renewed their subscriptions already with National Office. If you haven't done this yet, please do so. You are not covered by NZDA liability insurance and you can't enter branch competitions if you are not a financial member at the time the trophy is shot. If any members are having difficulties with memberships, contact Richard O'Driscoll on 06 3086282 for assistance.

## News

The NZ Police have given notice that they wish to rewrite the Arms Act, to bring it up to date. Who knows what they have on their agenda for this. All we can do at this stage is be prepared. The only way for SSANZ to be really effective as a lobby group is to grow our membership base. The best way to do this is for you to encourage your shooting mates to join.

### **SSANZ News September & October 2015**

In July SSANZ launched a new Blog  
<http://sportingshooters.blogspot.co.nz/>

Here you can read about the issues that concern us as they occur.



#### **MSC puts New Zealand Firearm Safety Training in Jeopardy**

SSANZ is extremely concerned at the way the senior executives of the Mountain Safety Council have jeopardised the integrity of the whole Firearms Safety Training programme in New Zealand.

As you know in order to gain a Firearm Licence applicants must attend a safety lecture and pass a written test before applying for a licence. This safety lecture and test is provided by volunteer instructors of the Mountain Safety Council. Over the past year the MSC executive has implemented a major reorganisation that has resulted in the closure of all its branches and the reallocation of its non firearm instructors to other organisations, however the Firearms programme was supposed to remain unchanged and carry on as normal.

In July the jobs of the Firearms Manager and Firearms Training Coordinator have been disestablished and the incumbents given notice, while the job description of the executive to replace them calls for no experience in firearms or hunting nor does it require a Firearm Licence.

Many instructors have been so disgusted by this latest turn of events that they are threatening to resign.

SSANZ urges the Commissioner of Police, who approves all Firearm Instructors under Regulation 14 of the Arms Act, to sack the MSC and appoint a new organisation to administrator the Firearms Safety Training Programme and test.

One has to wonder if the senior executives and board members of MSC have been replaced by anti gun fanatics.

#### **New Shooting Facility for Taranaki**

In the last issue we reported the closure of the last remaining Fullbore range in Taranaki, it is therefore pleasing to report that 17 Taranaki clubs are getting behind an initiative of the New Plymouth NZDA to create a new shooting facility on council land in New Plymouth.

The inaugural meeting for the new range was held in mid July and a working committee of 6 chosen to set up the necessary infrastructure for the project, which will be known as the Taranaki Sporting Shooting Hub.

SSANZ congratulates the shooters of Taranaki for getting behind this proposed new Shooting Facility in New Plymouth, and also the New Plymouth Council for supporting this project. We will keep a close eye on this project and support it in whatever way we can.

### **Anti Gun Propaganda in the NZ Herald**

Under a heading of [UK cop's shocking Kiwi holiday photo - children holding guns](#) the NZ Herald again shows its anti gun stance.

A Scottish Police Officer on holiday in NZ in 2008 took a couple of photos of two young children holding guns and posted them on his Facebook page in 2010. This **OLD NEWS** is now causing a stir in the UK and being ramped up here in NZ by the Herald. While they can only guess at the ages of the children and only state that the guns "appear to be real" the Herald is sending the message that it is wrong for children to be interested or even hold a gun.

SSANZ says children are old enough to hold a gun when their parents think it is appropriate and of course as long as it is under the direct supervision of a Licence holder, as it was in this case.

As to what we post on our own Facebook, that is for ourselves to judge, not for the media or public to censure.

### **Durban Likely to Dump Fullbore Shooting from 2022 Commonwealth Games**

In its bid to secure hosting for the 2022 Commonwealth Games Durban has left off Full Bore Shooting from the list of events on the grounds that they do not have suitable facilities. A final decision will be made at the Commonwealth Games Conference here in Auckland in September.

NZSF and NRRANZ will be lobbying hard to have this long running event reinstated. SSANZ wishes them every success.

We know that international Full Bore matches have been held in South Africa in the past and since this is not a spectator sport you would think that a venue could be found somewhere in the country for it to be included. Come on Durban buck your ideas up.

### **Health & Safety Reform Bill**

We learned recently that the Health & Safety reform Bill, which has gone through the Select Committee stage posed some serious concerns for shooters and hunters, because as originally worded it implied that landowners would be responsible and liable for the safety of any person on their land at any time.

Which posed the question would they be willing to allow hunters or shooting ranges on their land in the future. The Bill also indicated that club volunteers who organise sporting events (shooting) would also be held liable.

We are therefore pleased to see that the Select Committee has recommended some changes: for example a farmer will only be responsible for farm buildings and their immediate vicinity and other areas of the farm where work is actually taking place. Further volunteers engaged in such things as sporting events will be exempt.

We hope these changes make it into the final Act.

### **SSANZ Congratulates Young Northland Pistol Shooter**

15 year old SSANZ member Samantha Skovlund of Whangarei Pistol Club has been selected to represent New Zealand in the Women's 10m Air Pistol event in this year Oceania Championships. The event takes place in Sydney between 26 November and 4 December and will include teams from NZ, Australia, Niue, Papa New Guinea, Fiji, Samoa, Tuvalu, New Caledonia, Norfolk Island and French Polynesia. Samantha currently ranks fifth in NZ in 10m Air Pistol and is ranked first in the junior category. Other SSANZ members in the team also from Whangarei Pistol Club include: Gerald Nobes, Stephanie Nobes, Thomas Nobes, Samantha Nobes, Lucy Philips and Sam Manderson.

SSANZ Northland Branch will be making a donation towards Samantha's travel costs and earlier this year assisted Lucy Philips in the purchase of a new competition air pistol.

### **Sika Show**

SSANZ will have a representative on the COLFO stand (M31) at this year's Sika Show in Taupo Event Centre on 26 & 27 September.

Please come and say hello.

Hi all

I posted this (see below) on facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1682241085328263/>

Please share it if your friends have a FB page

Cheers

Derrick Field

Secretary LNIHLG

Lower North Island Hunter Liaison Group

## TAUHERENIKAU, TOTARA FLATS, ORONGORONGO, RIMUTAKAS OPENED TO WARO?



As well as the Ruahines, these very high use areas in the Tararuas and Rimutakas, and also many of the small reserves in the Wairarapa have been opened up to helicopter deer recovery for the first time in 30 years.

**WHY?** Ask DOC!

Not up for discussion during the department review of the Ruahine WARO, is the ludicrous removal of Closures to helicopter deer recovery in these very high use valleys near Wellington.

Even the busy Orongorongo valley is not exempt, with helicopter aerial shooting only prohibited within 200 metres of the valley river bed. That means helicopters can hunt above that traverse the ridged. Aerial shooting will be allowed year round, apart from Christmas and Easter breaks.

Aerial shooting will be allowed during the winter months. The Totara Flats, Mt Holdsworth, Atiwhakatu, and Tauherenikau valleys in the Tararuas are the busiest backcountry areas in the forest park, and aerial shooting from helicopters will only have the grass flats in the valleys (and around Mt Holdsworth) to hunt. The very same areas the tramping tracks traverse and recreational hunters frequent, YEAR ROUND.

The departments own documentation of these high use valleys states “Deer absent or very low density of animals not adversely effecting conservation values”. There will not be any increased benefit to the forests, from this decision.

These valleys have been the training ground for generations of hunters. It is well known that aerial deer shooting deters hunters from those areas. The alternative now is to hunt the helicopter free Aorangi Forest Park, an area that already has more than enough hunters there year round.

The department’s documentation also states “*High year round recreational use areas – concern for public safety and enjoyment of the area re camping, walking tracks, recreational hunters*”

Helicopter use for any purpose has been restricted in these areas, due to the disturbance to the many trampers and hunters and landing sites are limited.

The Wairarapa reserves decision offers no justification other than the naïve conclusion that “real benefits to conservation values” will occur. DOC acknowledge that deer densities a low. Helicopter shooting has never been allowed and recreational hunters have kept deer densities low for the last 30 years. One small reserve near State Highway 2 is surrounded by dairy farms and there are no deer present!

These changes to the commercial deer recovery permits were done in secret and there was no consultation with hunters or trampers and other forest park users regarding this major change in helicopter policy in these forest parks.



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## HUNTING & OUTDOOR SUPPLIES

*Retail shop & mail order supplies of firearm & outdoor equipment*

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### COLLINGS & BRADEY



### **Ross Collings**

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*Web site: www.outdoorsupplies.co.nz*



## Hunting & Shooting Reports

### **Branch Hunt - Rewa Bush Reserve, 28-30 August 2015**

by Richard O'Driscoll

The chance to see a new bit of public land that is normally inaccessible was too much to resist - even after three weeks away at sea and only one night at home! So it was that I met up with seven other keen Branch members and Joe Hansen from DoC at McDonalds carpark in Masterton on the last Friday in August.

After a lengthy period of negotiation, and assistance from DoC, JNL had allowed our club the opportunity to access the Rewa Bush Reserve, an isolated block of native east of Masterton surrounded by their pine forests. Hopefully for a win-win weekend, with us helping knock down goat numbers for them.

The weather was fine, but the forecast wasn't, so after a quick fast food fix our convoy of five vehicles hit the road. After a bit of initial confusion with gates (yes I know it looked like the right gate Martin, but why wasn't Joe waiting there to unlock it for us?) we arrived at our designated campsite.

Tents, tarps, and sleeping mats were hastily assembled. Or not so hastily for the guy with the big family tent who usually follows his wife's instructions (OK, that was me!). Then it was time for a couple of quiet beers and yarns before bed. About that time it was determined that I was unlucky.

Must have been all the 'sure fire' Tararua spots I've been to without shooting or even seeing a deer! Totara Flats - yep been there a dozen times never shot one, Tutuwai ditto, Rabbit Flat a couple of trips for nothing. And then there was the previous DoC organised trip to Homeburn where I'd spooked the big stag without getting a shot, and so on.



Breakfast and briefing

Up at the crack of dawn – or at least I was - having come off a 3 am to 3 pm shift at sea! After boiling the kettle Joe appeared and we sneaked off for a quick recce down the track. Only to find Brad was already out on a knob glassing the faces. No animals seen, but plenty of sign (pig and goats) on the track. A glance down at the country showed me that the Reserve was bigger and steeper than it looked on Google maps!

The others all gradually appeared and it was time for the briefing and block allocation. Martin was studiously drawing lines on maps as we paired up. I was expecting to be one of the ‘novice hunters’, so was a bit surprised to be put in the ‘experienced’ group (six years isn’t really a lot of deerstalking experience Martin!). Poor Bryce got stuck with me. Then we got assigned our block. A quick glance at the map showed that our route through the bush would be up and down – I’m experienced enough to know what all those little orange contour lines close together mean! JNL had also indicated on the maps where they had seen goats. Even Bryce was experienced enough to note that our block was nowhere near any of those places!

At the not so crack of dawn, after a lengthy breakfast, we were all ferried to our drop off points. A radio sched was arranged and we were away. Bryce and I dropped off the track and straight into a steep-sided jungle of fallen trees, crunchy bracken, and entwining supplejack. While attempting to sidle quietly there was a bit of a woof as a pig detected our presence. We sat down for 5 minutes, but no glimpse of the animal or further sounds. After an hour or so, the bush won and we scrambled back up the face, popping out right by the campsite (told you we wouldn’t get lost Bryce!).

The first radio check came, and with it news that Jordan and Chris had crossed into Martin’s block, Brad and Tim were where Jordan had meant to be, and that Martin and Savannah had been dropped at the spot Joe was saving for himself .... and they had shot 3 goats and seen a pig already! Bryce and I exchanged looks – there was a lesson there somewhere.



Bryce in the most open bush we found

We trekked up the track a bit then up onto a knob which had the promise of being slightly less steep. Once on top the bush did open out and the animal sign increased. Not much goat sign away from the margins, but the high ridges were covered in pig rooting. With the strengthening nor'west wind in our faces we stealthed along for the rest of the afternoon without making contact with anything.

The odd distant shot indicated the others were having better luck than us, and by 3 pm with the sky darkening we opted to head out of the bush and back onto the track. With the ridge falling away in all directions, it required a compass as well as GPS to find the right heading. Down through a crappy creek, up a steep face with yet more supplejack, and finally a gorse covered slide had us back on the track, where miraculously the goat sign was plentiful again. We decided to wander down the track for half an hour, but with no sight or sound of animals. Then it started raining.

Back at camp the others all arrived back. Jordan got 1 goat, Brad and Tim had 4, and Martin and Savannah had added to their earlier tally to end up with 7. They'd also found an old rifle buried in the dirt while following up the pig they saw. An old single-shot - it must have been lost by a pig hunter a few years ago.



Chris trying to decide whether to trade his new Sako in for Martin's find

By tea time the wind had really started to blow, and we huddled round the barbeque grateful that the campsite was sheltered, and speculating whether if those tall gums blew over if they'd hit any of the vehicles.

It wasn't a late night and with the wind howling and rain threatening, Joe moved into the big tent with us. He and Martin exchanged kumara stories until late (don't even ask!!).

Amazingly by morning the skies were clear and there was a promise of a perfect day. Sometimes it works out well when the forecast is wrong! Joe and Martin must have been feeling slightly guilty as Bryce and I were assigned to their block of the previous day – with assurances they'd even left us one goat which they'd seen as they got picked up.

On the way we startled six goats on the section of track Bryce and I had walked the day before, but they were away into the bush before we could get out and loaded up. After dropping off Jordan and Chris we headed round to our spot. On a high knob, Joe's phone beeped as he got coverage, telling him he'd become a grandfather – congratulations!

Compared to the bush bash of the day before Martin/Joe's block was a walk in the park – following a fire-break along the edge of the native. We followed the trail of carcasses and gut bags thinking

‘we should have been here yesterday’! However, just before descending into the native, Bryce froze and shouldered his rifle. ‘Sit down and make sure’ I whispered (speaking from my not so vast experience), before noticing the goat he was looking at was only 20 metres away! At that point it headed for the bush, but a hurried shot from Bryce had it tumbling down the bank. At least we hadn’t missed out completely. I have never felt so relieved to get a goat!



Bryce and his goat

With an hour to go before our rendezvous, Bryce and I had another wander in the bush, seeing a lot less pig sign than the previous day, then scrambled up to the track to await our 12:30 pick-up. We were just finishing our lunch, enjoying the sun, when Bryce suddenly said, “There’s two goats coming straight up the track!”.

A bit of a scramble for rifles as two billies came to a sudden halt 30 metres from us. I lined up the bigger one and let rip and they both turned tail down the road. Crap – I can’t have missed at that range, and another round hurriedly chambered. Then the big white billy toppled over, and his mate stopped and looked over his shoulder which was a fatal mistake. Easy as – two piled up on the track!

The second goat was still twitching so I was cutting its throat when Joe, Jordan, and Chris drove up (yes - not what you said it looked like!). Turns out they’d spooked the billies from down the road and were giving chase on foot, so had herded them right past us! See I’m not always unlucky!



My last minute billy

Back at camp, we packed up and reflected on a successful weekend. Although we didn't see much deer sign, we'd accounted for 17 goats and there were certainly plenty of pigs about. Hopefully JNL and DoC will give us another opportunity. Make sure you try and get along on a branch trip. Lots of laughs and you might even learn something.

 A business card for Amalgamated Helicopters (NZ) Ltd. The top section is black with a white '@' symbol, the company name in yellow, and the slogan "Fly With Experience" in white. There is a small image of a helicopter. The middle section is white with the name "Jason Diedrichs" in black, followed by "Director / Chief Pilot". The bottom section is black with contact information in white.
 

**AMALGAMATED HELICOPTERS (NZ) Ltd**  
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**Jason Diedrichs**  
Director / Chief Pilot

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**WEB: www.amalgamatedheli.co.nz**

625 Chester Road RD 1 Carterton New Zealand  
Ph ++64 6 379 8600 Fax ++64 6 379 8759 Mobile 0274 428 790

 A business card for Steve Barclay Taxidermy. The top part has the name "Steve Barclay" and "TAXIDERMY" in a stylized font. Below is a photograph of a taxidermy specimen of a deer head with large antlers. At the bottom, the location "Taihape" and contact numbers are listed.
 

Steve Barclay  
**TAXIDERMY**

Taihape  
phone 06 388 0890  
mobile 021 171 2117

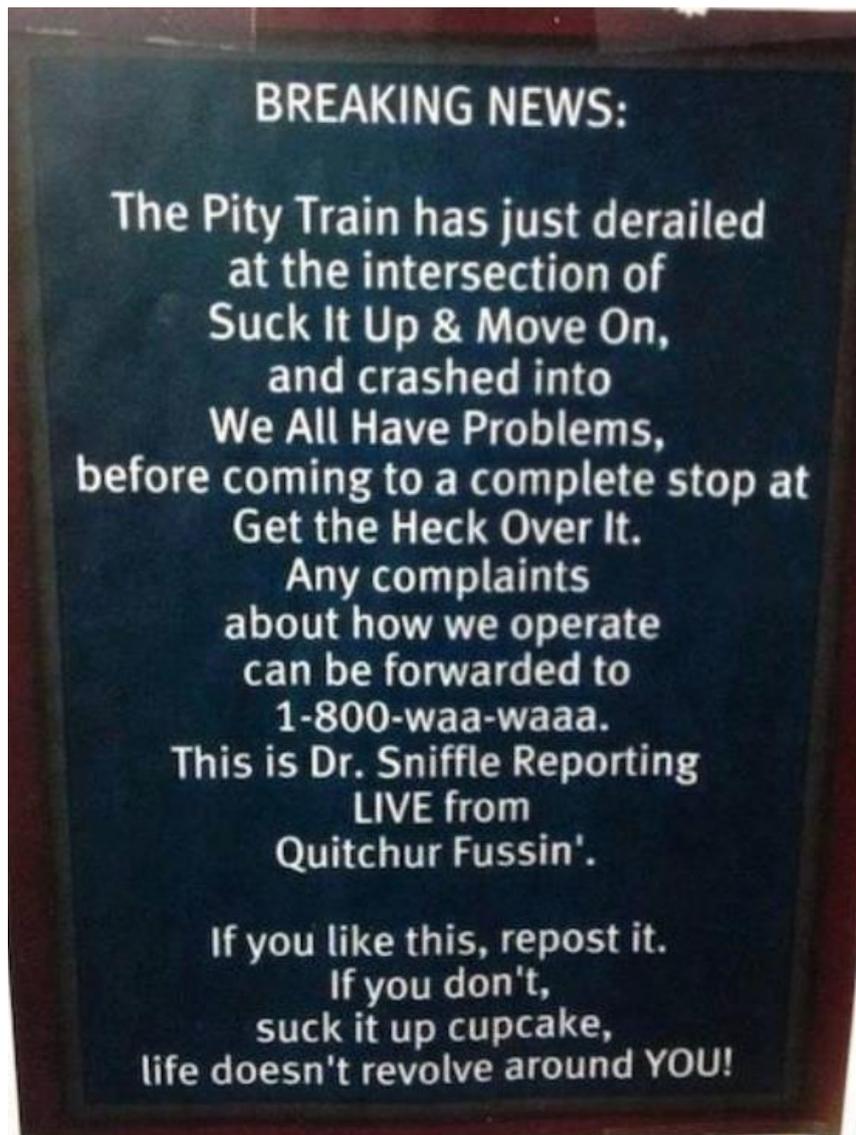
 A business card for Steve Barclay Taxidermy. The top part has the name "Steve Barclay" and "TAXIDERMY" in a stylized font. Below is a row of four small icons representing different taxidermy specimens: a hand holding a tool, a deer head, a bird, and a pig. The address and contact information are listed below. At the bottom, two awards are mentioned.
 

Steve Barclay  
**TAXIDERMY**

Spooners Hill Road, RD 5, Taihape  
New Zealand  
phone 06 388 0890  
mobile 021 171 2117  
email steven\_barclay@msn.com  
www.stevebarclaytaxidermy.co.nz

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## Final Thoughts



If any member requires any further information or maybe we have overlooked something please do not hesitate in asking. We are volunteers doing our best for you all as a club! Remember if you believe you can do better, then please put your hand up and join the committee!

Be safe be sure.  
Assume it is a person not a deer.  
No meat is better than no mate.  
Identify your target.

A **big** thank you to the team at **Wairarapa Funeral Services** for your printing of our monthly newsletter this year – we really have appreciated your assistance.



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