New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association

Wairarapa Branch Incorporated

Newsletter for **October 2015**

NO Meeting on Wednesday 21st October 2015
Annual dinner Saturday 17th October 2015
5:30 pm Parkvale Hall (see below)

Annual Dinner Saturday 17th October

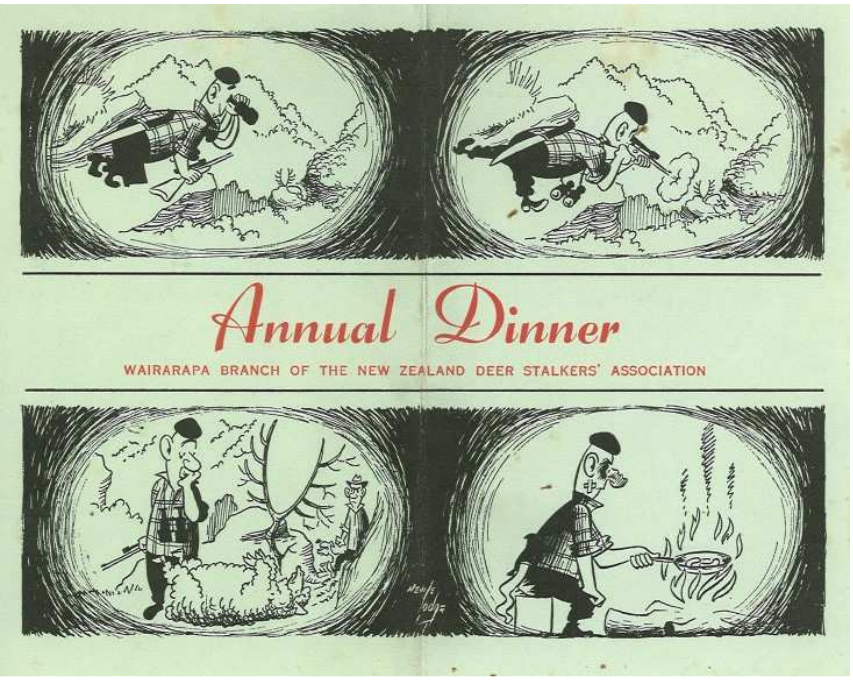
Parkvale Hall

Drinks from 5:30 pm, Dinner starts 6:30 pm

- Fully catered game and seafood buffet followed by dessert, tea and coffee
- BYO drinks or cash bar (wine and beer)
- Book launch "Fallow Deer in New Zealand" by Howard Egan (see over)
- Awards and Prize-giving
- Live Auction

Over 80 people have indicated attendance by RSVP. Please pay at the door ($25 couple, $15 senior/single, $10 superannuant, $10 junior up to 16 years, $5 child under 12 years).

There are some great auction items (including taxidermy voucher, helicopter flight voucher, clothing, and much more). Bring some cash and come along for a great night out.



Cover of Wairarapa NZDA Branch dinner menu 1953

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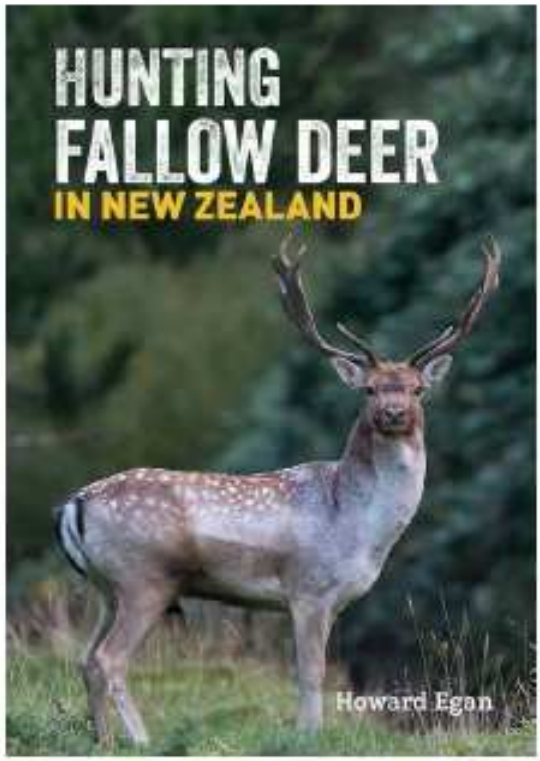
MEDIA RELEASE

Publicity - karen@lighthousepr.co.nz

Hunting Fallow Deer in New Zealand



Howard Egan

Publication date: 4 November 2015, RRP $39.99

The ultimate guide to hunting fallow deer from a hunter with 60 years' experience

Howard Egan — aka 'Grandad' on the popular Fishnhunt Forum — has been hunting fallow deer for six decades. In *Hunting Fallow Deer in New Zealand* he has gathered together hard-won knowledge from his years of experience to help hunters understand the species better, including the key differences between fallow and other deer, and how this can make their hunting more successful.

Egan covers the basics of fallow deer behaviour, where the herds are around the country, what terrain fallow prefer, the habits of bucks and does — by day and by season — and how this information can help the hunter. He also looks at some of the big fallow trophies of the past and today, his experiences farming fallow and, of course, includes some of his best hunting stories.

Fallow are the most widely distributed deer in NZ, and their behaviour is so different from other deer that you really need this book even if you consider yourself an expert at hunting red deer or sika.

Howard Egan lives in the Wairarapa, where he has farmed fallow deer for over ten years. His previous book was *Son of the Mist* (2013). He grew up in Auckland and was introduced to deerstalking by a cousin. He joined the Auckland branch of the NZ Deerstalkers Association in 1957, and became branch Secretary in 1958. He was elected National President 1980-1981. In retirement, Howard moved to the Wairarapapa and he created a small private wetland on 45 acres in the Tararua foothills near Carterton. His awards include: Life member NZ Deerstalkers Association, Wairarapa branch. Illuminated award, Auckland Acclimatisation Society (forerunner to Fish & Game). Howard Egan is a widely recognised expert on wild Fallow deer.

RRP: $39.99 | NOVEMBER 2015

For media enquiries, please contact publicist Karen McKenzie
027 693 9044 | www.lighthousepr.co.nz | karen@lighthousepr.co.nz

David Bateman Ltd
30 Tarndale Grove, Albany, Auckland

Advance copies will be available for viewing at the Annual Dinner. Pre-order your own copy from Howard on the night - $40 cash or cheque with delivery before end of October.

Key Dates - Upcoming Trips and Events

WEEKEND OF OCTOBER 31ST AND NOVEMBER 1ST - Wanganui paid fallow meat hunt. Fully booked

WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER 13TH TO 15TH Non-subsidised Tararua fly-in trip. Contact Martin Amos on (06) 3795454 evenings.

WEDNESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER – General meeting 7:30 pm. Speaker to be confirmed.

WHITE ROCK HUNTS – Timing of next trip still being negotiated. Limited spaces. Contact Steve Playle on (06) 3797432 if interested in getting your name on the list.

RANGE OFFICER COURSE – If interested in taking part in a course, contact Alex Beesley on (027) 4359216

News

FEEDBACK:

September Tararua Fly-in trip: Planned trip on 18th to 20th September was cancelled due to bad weather. Sayer's Hut clean-up now planned for November fly-in

Annual subscriptions 2015-16: The committee has set the membership fees for next year (starting 1 March 2016). Fees will stay the same as this year for all members except for a $5 increase for superannuants from $50 to $55. This increase was necessary because of increases in National capitation and other charges – at the existing fee of $50 the branch received less than $10. Membership fees for 2015-16 are as follows: Senior $100; Junior $40; Student (over 18) $50; Superannuant $55; Family Group (spouse and children) $15; Associate $40; Affiliate $10. Invoices will be sent out from National Office in February 2016.

Branch shooting competition: Over 20 members attended the annual shooting competition held on Sunday 13th September at Gladstone Range. Conditions were perfect and some good scores were posted. Results will be announced at the Annual Dinner and Prize-giving. Thanks to Alex Beesley for organising this.

Junior shooting competition

Alex belching fire in military class

Alex with Swazi junior winners: Rhys Amos, Peter O'Driscoll, and Harley Bengston

Trees for firewood: We still require trees for branch fundraising. If you know of any suitable, please contact Martin Amos (06) 3795454 evenings.

Newsletter editor and webmaster: With Paul O'Donoghue's recent departure we are looking for computer savvy members to help with production of newsletter and maintenance of website. If you can help, please contact Richard O'Driscoll (06) 3086282 evenings or email wairarapanzda@gmail.com

Parkvale Hall hire: Hall is available for the public to hire at a cost of $300 per day. Good catering facilities and suitable for events such as weddings. Contact Martin Amos (06) 3795454 evenings.

Submission to DOC on Wild Animal Recovery Operations (WARO): On 16 September 2015 the Lower North Island Hunter Liaison Group (LNIHLG) made a submission calling for a review of the WARO decisions made in 2015 affecting Ruahine Forest Park, Tararua Forest Park and other areas. There were 12 branches of the NZDA (including Wairarapa) and three hunting clubs participating on the liaison group and together the submission represented over 2000 members.

The full submission was e-mailed to all branch members. It concludes that the changes made by DOC were very ill advised and will likely be counterproductive in terms of deer control. The rationale for the decisions were significantly flawed and the justifications used (where any have been given) cannot be sustained. The LNIHLG feel the whole issue has been unnecessary and want to see our concerns settled and not have to proceed to a formal High Court challenge (a step this group has resolved to take at its last meeting). To correct the significant adverse effects of the change arising from the 2015 WARO concession review, the LNIHLG requested that DOC:

- Reinstate the Ruahine restricted WARO zone excluding WARO during the December 1st to April 30th period each year;
- Reinstate the November exclusion to WARO;
- Reinstate the exclusions to WARO in the Tararua and Rimutaka Forest Parks and also the Wairarapa reserves.

The Liaison Group also urged that DOC engages with us to develop strategies for deer control and recreational hunting that meet the conservation aims of the department and recognises the role of recreational hunters in managing the deer populations.

We await DOC's response ……..

SEARCH AND RESCUE:
If interested contact Phil Gray on 0274 740717.

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Hunting Reports

Breaking News: White Rock hunt 3-4 October:
Five branch members participated in the first of the long-anticipated meat hunts at White Rock over the weekend of 3-4 October. Everybody saw deer, six were shot, and there were some hard-luck stories. Accommodation in the shearers' quarters was extremely comfortable and we are grateful to

the manager and owners of White Rock Station for this opportunity. Access is arranged exclusively through Steve Playle. Contact Steve on (06) 3797432 if interested in getting your name on the list for the next trip. Timing is still being negotiated, but will hopefully be in November.

We want to include your hunting stories and photos in the newsletter. Stories can be sent to the newsletter editors at wairarapanzda@gmail.com

Final Thoughts

Spring has sprung and the grass is growing. Hope everybody can get out and get some meat in the freezer for Christmas. But remember ……

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**.

Hard Copy Newsletter Recipients – if you are receiving this newsletter by post but also use Email, please contact the editors at wairarapanzda@gmail.com so your newsletter can be sent electronically.

Disclaimer: The contents of this Newsletter come from various sources, and the opinions or ideas expressed are not necessarily endorsed by this committee or by National Executive, nor may they reflect Branch policy.

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http://www.wairarapanzda.org.nz/