



New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association

Wairarapa Branch Incorporated

Newsletter for **June 2016**

Next meeting Wednesday 15th June 2016
7:30 pm Parkvale Hall
Speaker Shane Dougan

General meeting 15 June 2016

Shane Dougan is returning by popular demand. Shane is an experienced hunter and entertaining speaker who has guided in New Zealand and overseas. Shane will be talking about his latest Australian adventures. Should be a good night, so bring your mates and come along. Stay for a yarn and supper afterwards.

Key Dates - Upcoming Trips and Events

11-12 JUNE SAR TRACKING SKILLS COURSE. Contact Phil Gray 027 474 0717.

15 JUNE GENERAL MEETING See details above.

24 JUNE NATIONAL ANTLER, HORN & TUSK AND PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITIONS Entries close at 5 pm. For entry forms contact wairarapanzda@gmail.com.

26 JUNE QUAD TRAINING DAY with instructor Lance Hare, starting **10 am** at Aidan's place **77 Cobden Road, Carterton**. Bring your quad, helmet, and suitable footwear and riding gear. Please make sure your quad is in safe working order. With the new Health & Safety laws, formal training will be required to use a quad on future club hunts. This is a great opportunity to do a course with a qualified instructor for **FREE** and it should be a fun day out.

9-10 JULY WINTER FALLOW HUNT, Aranui station. Full.

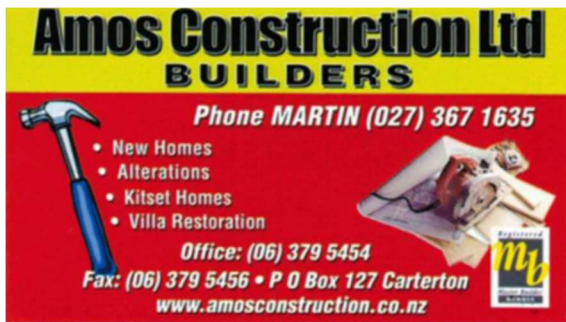
15-17 JULY NZDA NATIONAL CONFERENCE Auckland. No Wairarapa Branch committee members are able to attend this year and apologies have been sent on behalf of the branch.

20 JULY GENERAL MEETING Speaker to be confirmed.

SEPTEMBER WAIRARAPA BRANCH SHOOTING COMPETITION Gladstone Range. Date to be confirmed.

24-25 SEPTEMBER SIKA SHOW Taupo.

15 OCTOBER WAIRARAPA BRANCH ANNUAL DINNER Parkvale Hall. Put it in your calendar now!



Recent Events

18 MAY GENERAL MEETING About 18 people turned up to hear Graeme Hamilton and Tim Wolland talk about reloading. Some useful tips were passed on (like remember to put the primer in before the powder!)



21 MAY WORKING BEE PARKVALE HALL A successful working bee was held, with 8 members turning up to spray the weeds, trim the grass, and generally give the hall a good tidy up. Thanks to all those who attended.

3-6 JUNE SUBSIDISED TARARUA FLY-IN TRIP. Finally the weather played ball and 8 members got into the hills on the re-scheduled trip postponed in January and February. Parties went to Sayers and Neill Forks (see Hunting Reports section). Cost was only \$125 pp. You'll never get a cheaper helicopter trip, so look at for the next fly-in (probably in spring). Note that members need to participate in club working bees to be eligible for subsidised trips.

News

SEARCH AND RESCUE

Fifteen Wairarapa SAR members participated in a search for a missing elderly lady in Plimmerton last month. The woman who had Alzheimer's had been missing for 24 hours in a rugged area, but was found by one of the Wairarapa teams. Another great result. If you are interested in joining SAR please contact Phil Gray on 027 474 0717.

PARKVALE HALL

The hall is getting well used with nine bookings currently on the books. A new whiteboard was installed to replace the curtains behind the speaker's table in the Committee Room.

As noted last month, the committee are discussing improvements to make the Hall more wheelchair accessible.



HUTS AND TRACKS

We received a report from Sean Roberts, a recent arrival to Carterton, about the behaviour of a group of about 25 Massey University students who had a rowdy drunken party on the Sayers Hut clearing on the weekend of 7-8 May. Mr Roberts wrote a letter to the Chancellor of Massey University and received written apologies from both the Massey University Alpine Club and the Massey University Students' Association. Both groups acknowledged that the complaint was legitimate, that the trip and gone "horribly", and that they were taking a number of actions to ensure that these sort of activities do not occur on future organised trips. The Alpine Club also donated \$200 to the Deerstalkers' Association. Thanks to Sean for taking a stand, and also for bringing this to our attention.

Sayers Hut south wall needs re-cladding and insulation. Martin will approach DOC for fly-in time to do this in July.

DOC has written to the Branch suggesting the following jobs in the region that members could assist with:

- Cow Creek hut re-piling – there is 6 more piles to install and they are all around the outside edge of the hut.
- Herepai Hut – replace a small deck and clear and level heli-pad.
- Smiths Creek shelter – total upgrade ie. New spouting and down pipes, install new toilet, clean, tidy up and paint and some track work near shelter.
- Waikuku Lodge – exterior paint job and walkway roof to outside toilets, and bathroom upgrade.

The committee is considering whether to offer to do the Cow Creek and Herepai Hut jobs.

DEER PARK

No report this month

BRANCH WEBSITE

Thanks to Chris Cherry who keeps the branch website up-to-date. You can even look through previous newsletters! Check it out on: <http://www.wairarapanzda.org.nz/>

GRANT APPLICATION

The committee submitted a grant application to Trust House Wairarapa for the purchase of four personal locator beacons for the club.

BATTLE FOR THE BIRDS

The Department of Conservation is soon to commence a large-scale aerial 1080 campaign to control rats and stoats on Public Conservation Land in response to a beech mast event. Battle for Our Birds 2016 (BfoB2) follows a similar campaign in 2014.

Information about the possible areas affected and the reasons for BfoB2 is available here <http://www.doc.govt.nz/Documents/conservation/threats-and-impacts/battle-for-our-birds-2016/gac-nzda-predator-response.pdf>

The Department of Conservation BfoB2 webpage is here www.doc.govt.nz/battleforourbirds

Please note that final site selection will not occur until monitoring is complete in June. The total area treated will be 800,000 hectares, about two thirds of the shaded area on the map in the information brochure.

There is limited opportunity for mitigation of the effects on game animals and hunters. Mitigation involves either use of deer repellent and/or timing of the operations. The Department of Conservation has already chosen to use small baits (6 gram) and low sowing rates (1-2kg/ha). Cancellation of aerial operations and ground-based poisoning are not options. There is an urgent need to prioritise areas for mitigation.

The Game Animal Council, the NZ Deerstalkers' Association, and the Department of Conservation have been consulting to identify effects on game herds and potential mitigation. We have identified that the most at risk and most highly valued game herds are Wakatipu white tailed deer, fallow deer in the Wakatipu, Blue Mountains and North-West Nelson areas, and Ruahine Ranges red deer.

We are seeking hunter input to help us to prioritise areas for mitigation, including areas we have not already identified. Please visit this website <http://nzgameanimalcouncil.org.nz/battle-our-birds-2016-mitigation-survey> to notify us of your highest priority. We welcome input from all recreational and commercial hunters.

Feedback is required by **10 June 2016**.

Contacts

NZDA Bill O'Leary 0274305008

GAC Geoff Kerr 0211071064

NATIONAL NZDA NEWS

ANTLER, HORN & TUSK COMPETITION 2016

Entries for National Antler, Horn & Tusk and Photographic Competitions must be at the National Office no later than **5pm on Friday 24 June 2016**. For entry forms contact wairarapanzda@gmail.com.

See the national website: <http://www.deerstalkers.org.nz>

FIREARMS COMMUNITY ADVISORY FORUM

Public submissions are now being invited on the Inquiry into issues relating to the illegal possession of firearms in New Zealand. The closing date for submissions is **Wednesday, 8 June 2016**

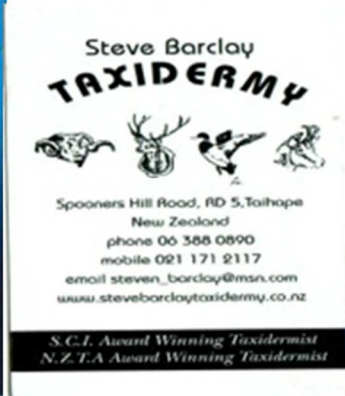
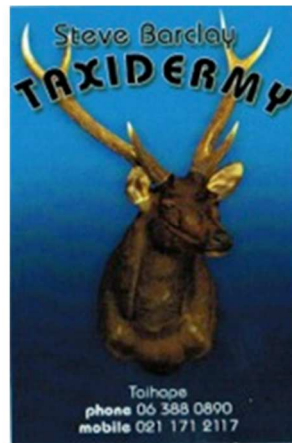
The inquiry's terms of reference are as follows:

- How widespread firearm possession is among criminals, including gangs.
- How criminals, gangs, and those who do not have a licence come into possession of firearms.
- What changes, if any, to the current situation might further restrict the flow of firearms to criminals, gangs, and those who do not have a licence.

http://www.parliament.nz/en-nz/pb/sc/make-submission/51SCLO_SCF_00DBSCH_INQ_68642_1/inquiry-into-issues-relating-to-the-illegal-possession

LOWER NORTH ISLAND RED DEER FOUNDATION

The group started as the Lower North Island Hunter Liaison Group and was set up to oppose DOC changes to Wild Animal Recovery Operations (WARO) in the Ruahines and Tararuas. The group lodged a judicial review on the DOC process around WARO in the High Court on 1 June 2016.



Hunting Reports

Fly-in trip to Sayers Hut 3-6 June Martin Amos

Nice weekend weather-wise but too many people around - Totara Flats Hut had approximately 42 people on Saturday night and 50 people on Sunday night!

There were a number of pig hunters with their dog teams floating around the flats so deer were scarce. Sayers hut had 4 parties of hunters, but these groups were moved on to other areas due to the number of other recreational activities. We had an anonymous shoot a few hundred metres behind the hut on Sunday morning at about 9 am - guesses were a pissed off hunter stuffing things for the rest of us with a wild shot?

The pig hunter staying with us lost his shortened .410 shotgun in the bush on the terraces across from Sayers hut, it was reported as not being loaded. The matter has been reported to police.

Apart from no deer being taken we all enjoyed some maintenance around the hut and the peace that comes from being out of the hustle and bustle of town. Thanks to Amalgamated Helicopters for their safe and top quality services.



Two-footed deer

An unusual one shot by Steve Martel recently!



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

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Web site: www.outdoorsupplies.co.nz

Buy, Sell, and Swap

A new part of the newsletter for 2016. If you have hunting or outdoor related items that you want to buy, sell, or swap, then we'll include these in the Newsletter free of charge (better than TradeMe). Send items (with picture if you wish) to wairarapanzda@gmail.com

SAUSAGES & SALAMI

A club fundraiser. Salamis \$20 (1 kg salami) and sausages \$6/kg. Email Aidan at yrapanzdasec@gmail.com to order

STEVE BARCLAY TAXIDERMY VOUCHER

For a new mount (not a head that is already in Steve's possession) by a club member to the value of \$1200. Amazing value at \$500. This is the on-sale of an item that Steve very generously put up at the Dinner Auction last year and was purchased in error. Please contact Martin Amos on 06 3795454 or 027 3671635.

Examples of Steve's work can be seen at the hall including the recent fallow mount.



Final Thoughts

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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Or on our website: <http://www.wairarapanzda.org.nz/>