



New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association
Wairarapa Branch Incorporated

Newsletter for **March 2017**

Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 15th March 2017
7:30 pm Parkvale Hall

Annual General Meeting 15 March 2017

This will include annual President's Report, 2016/17 Financial Report, and election of committee and officers. Come along, find out how your club is doing, and have your say. A vibrant, active club is one where the members get involved. If you don't like the way things are being run, don't sit back and complain, say and do something!! We are looking for new committee members for 2017/18, so please consider pointing your name forward. AGM will be followed by supper.

Key Dates - Upcoming Trips and Events

4-MARCH 26 MARCH QUAD/SIDE BY SIDE TRAINING COURSE has been postponed from 4 March and tentatively re-scheduled for Sunday 26 March at 77 Cobden Road, Carterton (Aidan's place). If you are wanting to attend a course and get your competency certificate, please phone or text Martin on 027 3671635.

4-5 MARCH SAR FIELD ASSESSMENT DAY for new and probationary members. If you are interested in joining SAR please contact Phil Gray on 027 474 0717.

17-19 MARCH SUBSIDISED TARARUA FLY-IN TRIP. There may be a couple more spaces. Please text your details to Martin Amos on 027 3671635 **immediately** if interested.

1 APRIL DUCKSHOOTERS CLAY TARGET SHOOT in conjunction with Wairarapa Pistol and Shooting Sports Club starting at 9:30 am Saturday 1 April at the Gladstone Range. \$20 for clays. Ammo available for sale on the day. Barbeque and drinks for sale. Contact Alex Beesley on 0274 359216 if you require further information.

7-9 APRIL WANGANUI FALLOW RUT HUNT. Full, but contact Andrew Wilkinson on 0274 381363 to put your name on waiting list in case others pull out.

19 APRIL GENERAL MEETING 7:30 pm Parkvale Hall Speaker to be confirmed but we are hoping to get John Bissell back to share more of his entertaining hunting tales.

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24 NOVEMBER – 3 DECEMBER SOUTH ISLAND TAHR HUNT Garry Warren has agreed to take a club trip to South Canterbury. This trip will be restricted to maximum of 8 members (2 car-loads). Approximate cost will be \$400 per person. Names to Martin on 027 3671635. A \$100 non-refundable deposit (payable to the Wairarapa branch) is required on name submission to secure a place. If there are interested persons attending this trip and they wish to go wallaby hunting it may be that this can be combined but that party (1 car-load) will need to head south 4 days earlier and meet up with the other party at a designated location on the 24 November.



Recent Events

15 FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING Jamie Hansen from Amalgamated Helicopters gave a fascinating presentation on his time in the NZ Air Force, including stints in Bougainville and East Timor, and about his recent experiences with Amalgamated. The 18 members who turned out thoroughly enjoyed this.

26 FEBRUARY FIREWOOD WORKING BEE A dozen members turned up at Amos's house, and turned the latest load of pine logs into about 20 trailer-loads of firewood (as well as demolishing a batch of Tracy's scones!). Most of this wood has already been sold, but there are still a few loads available for \$70 for members, \$80 for non-members, with \$10 deliveries within 10 km range. Call Tracy on 06 3795454 - first in first served!

25-26 FEBRUARY WAIRARAPA/WELLINGTON SAREX Two Wairarapa teams took part in the SAREX at Wainuiomata/Orongorongo. A successful weekend with all "lost" parties found, but a few grumbles about the lack of cold beer at the end!

News

PERSONAL LOCATOR BEACONS

The four club PLBs purchased with a grant application from Trust House Wairarapa are available for hire for \$10 for a weekend or \$20 for 3-14 days. Contact Aidan on 0274 323410. Those hiring beacons will be required to fill out a Mountain Safety Council intentions form, so we have all the necessary details if these are activated. The committee is also considering renting two of the units to non-members through Amalgamated Helicopters.

PARKVALE HALL

The wall of the hall that got 'tagged' before Christmas has been over-painted.

SEARCH AND RESCUE

If you are interested in joining SAR please contact Phil Gray on 027 474 0717.

HUTS AND TRACKS

No news this month.

DEER PARK

We are waiting to have a meeting with the Masterton Council about improved signage.

LOWER NORTH ISLAND RED DEER FOUNDATION INC.

The branch paid \$270 towards legal fees for the judicial review hearing over the 2015 WARO review outcome which saw openings to WARO in the Ruahines, Tararuas and Rimutakas. This cost is being shared between several NZDA branches and other hunting groups. The LNIRDF had a meeting in Palmerston North on 21 February. Unfortunately none of the committee were able to attend.

COUNCIL OF LICENCED FIREARM OWNERS (COLFO)

COLFO have canvassed the submissions that were made public by the Law & Order Select Committee recently. On review of those submissions we were alarmed at some of the content we found. Our concern relates to the recommendations that have been made by the Police Association and NZ Police that would have a direct impact on licensed firearms owners with no real impact on the criminal element. Both organisations submissions venture outside the scope and intent of the Law & Order Select Committee's subject matter.

Some of the recommendations include full registration of firearms, reclassification of A cat Semi Autos to E Cat., increasing security requirements for all licensed holders. Advice has been given to the Committee on significant changes without any operational justification as to how the changes will target criminals. There are also the submissions that the Select Committee have heard from Police which have not been made public.

If the Law & Order Select Committee were to follow these suggested recommendations then the environment for licensed firearms owners will change for us all, regardless of the reason why you own a firearm. The environment for the criminal element will flourish with the possibility of more firearms going underground and into the black market.

As one of 242,000 firearms licensed citizens out there COLFO would like you to weigh up what the effect possible changes to legislation will have not only on you but on your peers and fellow legal, fit and proper owners. Be warned that as a user, you will no doubt be financially responsible for the implementation of any proposed changes.

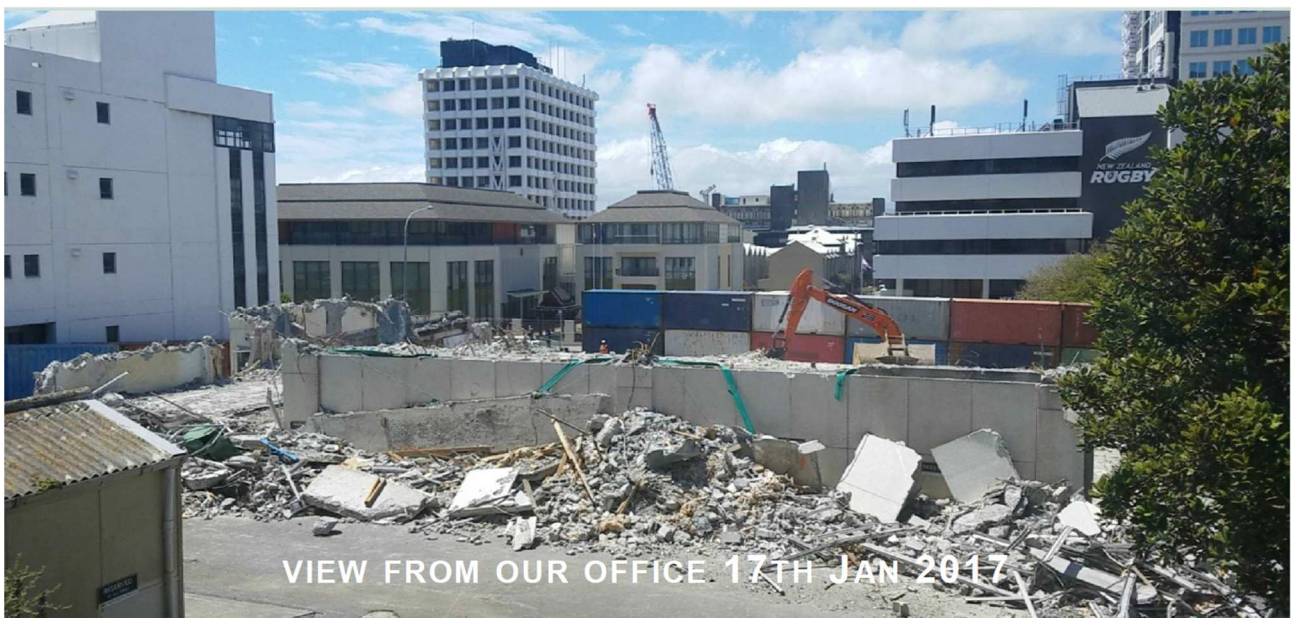
COLFO needs your support now more than ever. We're not asking you to financially support us, we are asking you to get in behind us to protect your own interests as a firearms user. The international face of firearms is seeing changes with the European Union, Arms Trade Treaty and European Commission all having a stab at firearms legislation.

To maintain our current effective firearms control regime your views need to be made to our government and we will give you the information you'll need to make those views known in the near future.



NZDA NATIONAL OFFICE

After 2 months of trying to frantically get membership running smoothly after the November 2016 earthquake, the National Office is finally back into the office! They are now able to answer phone calls and faxes at the usual hours. **You should also have received your membership subscriptions for 2017/18.** Please pay promptly!



CONSULTATION OPEN ON GAME TROPHY EXPORT LEVY

The Associate Minister of Conservation has commenced public consultation on a proposed new levy to initially fund the Game Animal Council's activities. The proposed levy would be on export of game animal trophies from New Zealand. You can find details and access the consultation document here: www.doc.govt.nz/gac-game-trophy-levy.

The introduction of the proposed levy would result in the commercial hunting sector funding the Game Animal Council. However there is no move to set up a system that would enable the recreational sector to contribute to ensuring the GAC is adequately funded to carry out its functions as laid out in the Game Animal Council Act.

This would have a number of implications

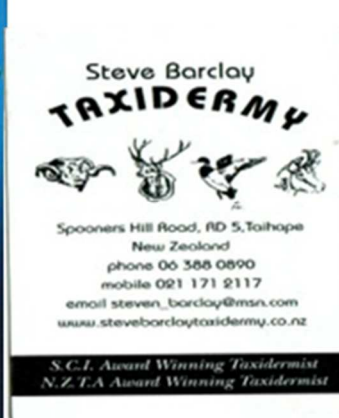
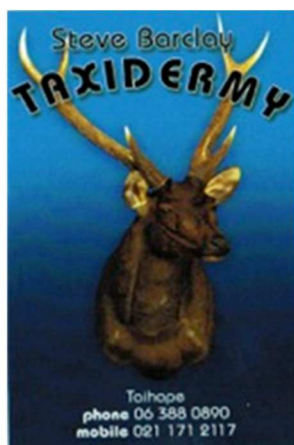
1. The commercial sector would be aggrieved that recreational hunters are not contributing to the Game Animal Council but are expecting to benefit from the GAC's activities.
2. The recreational hunters could not reasonably expect the GAC to listen to their concerns when no contributions come from the recreational sector.
3. The GAC would be underfunded and essentially unable to do little more than be an advisory committee.

At the Natex meeting (28 January 2017) it was agreed that

- The funding model was inequitable in that it impacted on the commercial sector alone and this would create tensions between commercial and recreational sectors.
- The funding model by itself was inadequate and would not generate sufficient funds to enable the GAC to op-erate in the interests of all hunters.
- Natex would urge all branches and individuals to support the development of a funding mechanism by which recreational hunters can support the GAC.

What can you do? Very simple.

- Access the consultation document via the link above and send in a brief submission by the closing date of 13 February.
- Branch submissions should clearly state their branch location and membership.
- Copy submissions to NZDA National Office.
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Hunting Reports

No hunting reports have come in this month AGAIN! We want to include your hunting stories and photos in the newsletter. Stories can be sent to the newsletter editor at wairarapanzda@gmail.com

The only contribution this month is a picture of one of our younger members showing how not to execute a 4WD river crossing Bad luck ***** (name starting with A removed to prevent further embarrassment!). Glad you got out OK!



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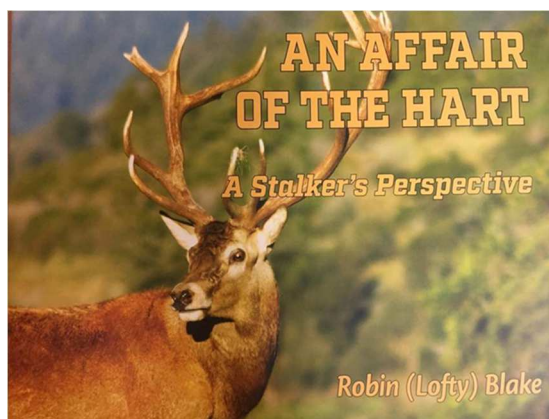
Buy, Sell, and Swap

Starting afresh for 2017. 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

AN AFFAIR OF THE HART

\$50 per book signed by the Author

Lofty has given our branch a great opportunity to sell these books and our Branch receives \$10 per copy



RELOADING BALLISTIC SPECIALISTS

Bill Perry (agent for Norma, Swarovski, and Schultz and Larsen) has recently moved from Fabians Road in Greytown to near Masterton and has new contact details. You can now contact Bill on 06 3701432 or 027 2086863.

Final Thoughts

The Roar is coming so please

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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Check us out on Facebook:  We now have over 950 likes!!
<https://www.facebook.com/WairarapaNZDA>

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/>