



New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association
Wairarapa Branch Incorporated

Newsletter for **December 2017**

End of year barbeque 13 December 2017
6:30 pm Amalgamated Helicopters
Chester Road

No general meeting in January

**End of year barbeque Amalgamated Helicopters
Wednesday 13 December 2017 6:30 pm**



Come along, relax, and celebrate the end of another busy year with JD and the crew at Amalgamated Helicopters. Venison patties, bread, and sauce will be provided. BYO drinks, salads, and anything 'fancy' that you want to throw on the barbeque.

There will be no committee or general meetings in January. Next general meeting is Wednesday 21 February 2018.

Key Dates - Upcoming Trips and Events

NO GENERAL MEETING JANUARY

10 FEBRUARY FIREWOOD WORKING BEE. Starting 8:30 am at new Amos residence 548 Belvedere Road. Firewood is the main branch fundraiser, so please come along and lend a hand. Bring a chainsaw and log-splitter if you have one, or just a willing pair of hands. Appropriate personal protective gear (including hearing protection) required. People participating in branch hunts are expected to help out at least once a year, so get your tick early!



Wood (dry pine) will also be on sale after the working bee for \$70 for members, \$80 for non-members, with \$10 deliveries within 10 km range. First in first served!

16-18 FEBRUARY SUBSIDISED TARARUA FLY-IN TRIP. Heading for the tops if the weather plays ball! Please text your details to Martin Amos on 027 3671635 if interested. Numbers need to be confirmed by 7 February.

21 FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm.

24-25 FEBRUARY WANGANUI FALLOW SUMMER HUNT. Dates to be confirmed in January. Contact Andrew Wilkinson on 0274 381363 to put your name down.

21 MARCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm.

6-8 APRIL WANGANUI FALLOW RUT HUNT. Always popular and already filling up fast. Again dates still to be confirmed. Contact Andrew Wilkinson on 0274 381363.

A red and yellow advertisement for Amos Construction Ltd. It features a hammer icon on the left and a photo of a house on the right. The text lists services: New Homes, Alterations, Kitset Homes, and Villa Restoration. It provides contact information: Phone MARTIN (027) 367 1635, Office: (06) 379 5454, Fax: (06) 379 5456, P O Box 127 Carterton, and the website www.amosconstruction.co.nz.

Amos Construction Ltd
BUILDERS
Phone MARTIN (027) 367 1635
• New Homes
• Alterations
• Kitset Homes
• Villa Restoration
Office: (06) 379 5454
Fax: (06) 379 5456 • P O Box 127 Carterton
www.amosconstruction.co.nz

A blue advertisement for King and Henry Gunmakers. It features a logo with a gun and the text 'FISHING & SHOOTING'. It provides contact information: 35-37 QUEEN STREET, MASTERTON 5810, Tel: 06-377 4569, Fax: 06-377 4618, Email: kingandhenry@vodafone.co.nz. It also mentions Tony Roseingrave as the Manager and Locksmiths & Security Specialists.

King and Henry
GUNMAKERS
FISHING & SHOOTING
35-37 QUEEN STREET, MASTERTON 5810
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Tony Roseingrave
MANAGER
LOCKSMITHS • SECURITY SPECIALISTS

Recent Events

15 NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING An evening of small bore shooting at the Masterton club. Six members turned up and all had a great time. I think there was some new respect gained for target shooters! Not sure what the scores were but most shot two cards, had coffee and a good chat (no doubt a few laughs over scores). Left to right: Phil, Paul, Andrew, Aaron and Philip, (Graeme T not in the picture). Many thanks to Ian B and the members of the Masterton Small Bore Club for the shoot and opening up especially for us.



17-19 NOVEMBER WANGANUI HUNTING TRIP. Reports have been a bit sparse from this one, but 7 members went to Aranui and shot deer, despite numbers being down from previous trips.

18-19 NOVEMBER REWA GOAT HUNT. Cancelled at the last minute due to “possum control operations”.

24 NOVEMBER – 3 DECEMBER SOUTH ISLAND TAHR HUNT Eight branch members enjoyed an awesome week up the Havelock River. Ten bulls were shot and six recovered (a testament to the tough country, bluffs, and thick scrub). No record-breakers, but 4 of the heads will be going on the wall. Everybody saw animals and had their chances. Great weather and amazing scenery. There are a selection of photos in the Hunting Report section and I’m sure a story or two will come through in the New Year. Many thanks to Gary Warren for organising this. Hopefully it will be the start of an annual southern adventure! We are already looking into the possibility of arranging a chamois trip to the Nelson NZDA lodge at St Arnaud.



News

PARKVALE HALL

We are continuing to earn income for the Branch from hall bookings. For more information or to make a booking contact Martin 379 5454 or 027 3671635.

SEARCH AND RESCUE

Quiet recently but loopy season has begun! Phil Gray is Branch rep but keen to get others involved. If you're interested in joining SAR please contact Phil on 027 4740717.

DEER PARK

There are cute fawns on display now and the stags are already sporting fine velvet heads. Shame somebody got to the cast antlers before we did!



HUTS

No reports this month.

DOC LIAISON

Now fire season is upon us, any further opportunities for goat hunts in Wairarapa forest reserves won't be until the winter.

HEALTH & SAFETY

No incidents reported on recent branch trips (except for tired legs!). Stay safe over the summer holidays.

NATIONAL OFFICE

National Office have just received an offer from Wellington Branch to run the **2018 conference**. National Office welcome this offer and more de-tails will follow as they become available.


The **Molesworth 1080 operation** went ahead with 64,000 hectares treated. The Marlborough branch have undertaken a post operation survey by helicopter and on foot to gauge the effect on the deer population. Tissue samples have been sent for testing. The data will be analysed by independent scientists and the lessons learned

in setting up the survey will be useful for future occasions. Funding for the survey has come from Marlborough with assistance from the NZDA Research Fund, Nelson and other branches. A “give a little” page has been set up: https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/molesworthsurvey?_ga=2.231221146.464805147.1510195959-1020872785.1510195959 Snow Hewetson has generously given a prize of a guided tahr hunt to the value of \$5000 to be drawn from anyone who contributes \$100 or more to this page.

The **Police Secure Storage Policy** has been under scrutiny with draft documents released for public consultation. The documents have been analysed by the security sub-committee of the Firearms Community Advisory Forum and it appears that police are listening to that committee’s concerns as well as feedback from other firearm interests including NZDA.

The **WARO permit consultation program** of three meetings (Palmerston North, Wanaka, Christchurch) was expected to look at the whole role of WARO in an environment very different from the decades of rampant meat recovery. The agenda put out by DOC includes topics that appear to have little relation to WARO and the effect of operations on recreational hunters. NZDA has a clear view of how it would like to see WARO operating – NZDA is supportive of a sustainable WARO industry – a small number of operators each operating in an exclusive area with very tight criteria for what and when harvest can occur. NZDA believes there is an important role for WARO in harvesting surplus animals as part of an overall herd management plan. NZDA is concerned that the long anticipated and promised review of WARO will be postponed in favour of another issue of permits to each and every person with a helicopter and the continuance of distrust and lack of confidence in DOC’s ability to monitor WARO operations.

Like most of NZ we are waiting to see which way new ministers will direct their departments. Conservation and Police are the two most important to hunters. A green minister of conservation with a record of expressed reservations on the GAC and a view that deer have no place in NZ will not inspire confidence among hunters. The last Minister of Police was favourably disposed to the firearms community and her strong stance against some of the extreme views of the police association gave licence holders some confidence that common sense would prevail. We will watch our new ministers very carefully. NZDA can take some solace that in both areas of public policy we have been successful in establishing a profile of responsibility and relationships that will be valuable in advocating on behalf of recreational hunters. At the end of November COLFO were scheduled to hold a meeting with Stuart Nash the new Minister of Police, it is hoped he will reveal his intentions in respect of any new firearm legislation and in particular his plans for the recommendations made by the Select Committee Inquiry into Illegal firearms, of which he was a member.

<p>NEW PO BOX</p> <p><i>We have a new PO Box number! We have switched as the new PO Box is located just across the street from our office in Collina Terrace. We understand that this is a change people will need to get used to, which is why we are telling you now! A re-direct has been set up and will run until May of 2018 so no mail will go missing and people can have a chance to update their details for us.</i></p> <p><i>Our old PO Box was 6514 Marion Square, Wellington, 6141 and has changed to</i></p>	<div></div> <p>PO Box 12015</p> <p>Thorndon</p> <p>Wellington, 6144</p> <p><i>Please update our postal address details in your system!</i></p>
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COLFO

COLFO was at the **UN Arms Treaty Session** in Geneva Switzerland in early October. COLFO understands that in the modern world, we simply cannot focus only on the picture for New Zealand, as there is an International Aspect as well. The UN Arms Trade Treaty is designed with the laudable and important goal of preventing military items from feeding conflicts in places like Sierra Leone. Unfortunately, COLFO believes that the treaty could be used to prevent you from enjoying your sport by restricting, for example, the international shipment of ammunition. Our Rep attended the meeting to ensure that the NZ delegation did not take a stance that would restrict New Zealanders. Working closely with our friends from other International organisations, we also lobbied in relation to other aspects of international arms control such as the Programme of Action. We can report that we consider the UN ATT to be a failing treaty due to lack of international ratification. However, the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms remains very problematic for us and we will continue to ensure that your rights are not restricted via the international processes. COLFO is greatly appreciative of Grant Fletcher who volunteered his time to attend the ATT on our behalf.

Alpers Likens Kiwi Gun Laws to the USA

Yes, he is back that vocal anti gun advocate who fled to Australia when his efforts failed here back in the late 1990s. He will be performing alongside Professor Gillespie at an Otago University Summer School to be held in Wellington on 14 February on the subject of Firearms and Public Health. Fortunately our own Nicole McKee, a firearm safety specialist, will also be speaking to provide counter arguments.

By likening Kiwi gun laws to the USA in a recent media article, Mr Alpers is deliberately misleading the public; such a comparison is like comparing one apple to a whole fruit market. Does he not know that the USA is comprised of 50 States, all of which have their own gun laws, some very strict and other not so. Similarly the size and ethnic mix of the population and the social issues in each state vary considerably thus affecting the prevalence of gun ownership and gun crime. In the US a firearm is viewed by many people as a weapon for self defence whereas in New Zealand it is simply an item of sporting equipment or a tool for farmers and hunters. There is no comparison that can be made between the two countries.

You can become an individual supporter of COLFO here: <http://colfo.org.nz>

DISCOUNTS ON INTERISLANDER FERRY NZ Deerstalkers Association

Group Booking Reference: **FA5474**

The below rates are based on prices to date, inclusive of GST and subject to availability.

Fares:	Peak Each Way
Adult	\$52.00
Child	\$25.00
Motorcycle	\$50.00
Campervan/Motorhome up to 5.5mt	\$170.00
Additional half metre	\$42.00
Car/Ute/Van/4WD/trailer up to 5.5mt	\$137.00 each
Additional half Metre	\$22.00
Premium Lounge	\$45.00 18yrs plus

Peak Dates:

01-28 February 18

29 March – 03 April 18

Fares:	Off Peak Each Way
Adult	\$47.00
Child	\$25.00

Motorcycle	\$40.00
Campervan/Motorhome up to 5.5mt	\$145.00
Additional half metre	\$37.00
Car/Ute/Van/4WD/trailer up to 5.5mt	\$124.00 each
Additional half Metre	\$20.00
Premium Lounge	\$45.00 18yrs plus

Off Peak Dates:

01 March – 28 March 18

04 April – 18 December 18

Group Booking conditions and instructions for members are:

- Reservations can be made direct with Interislander online at <http://www.interislander.co.nz/Booking/Group-Bookings.aspx> by entering FA5474 into the group discount code box.
- Space is subject to availability at the time of the booking request.
- Bookings are 90% refundable if cancelled up to 1 hour before departure.
- Date and time changes allowed up to 1 hour before departure without penalty, subject to availability.
- **NZDA membership card to be shown at check-in or full retail fare will be charged. Membership card to be in the name of the person travelling.**
- Fares subject to change with notification.
- If booking from outside NZ you will need to request your booking be made via email.
- Rates valid for travel 01 February through to 18 December 18
- **Please note that no discount applies 19 December 2017 through to and including 31 January 18**



Hunting Reports

A selection of photos from **Branch tahr hunt** by Richard O'Driscoll.





About Bloody time by Aaron Loder

As soon as I shot my first deer last year, I knew that I wanted my teenage boys to shoot the next couple. As a mad keen fisherman, I was a late arrival to the hunting scene. I wish I had started a couple of decades earlier, but from what I hear from the experienced blokes, it seems that there has never been so many deer around as right now anyway.

It would also be fair to say that looking back over the last twelve months, it might have been easier to take a different route. It might have been quicker if I had continued with the rifle and had him tagging along taking

it all in. Instead I handed the rifle to my youngest son on our next hunt and the next eleven after that. I think we have managed to find new ways to stuff things up on a number of hunts, but at least we haven't made the same mistake twice (at least so far).

On the first Roar hunt, we had a spiker walk up over a bank to see who we were. He walked down to within 20 m, at which point I was waiting for my son to flatten him. The shot never came and the spiker turned around and casually walked away back up the bank. He eventually twigged we were there and disappeared back over the top. I asked him why he didn't shoot and he said "I was waiting for him to stop".

Technical difficulties have played a part, with scope screws coming loose and affecting shot placement. New rings and some locktite sorted that issue out. I've still put tiny drops of twink on the screws and rings to see if anything moves on me. I'm a trusting prick like that.

On this particular evening we were back on a friendly farm down South Wairarapa in a paddock with a bush edge. It was mid-November so I was hoping for a hungry deer to pop out on to the grass. With Hinds dropping fawns, I told Sam to go for a Spiker first, yearling hind second or young stag. The way this paddock runs, Sam was facing down hill overlooking the bottom of the paddock, while I was about 25 m up the hill looking the opposite way, up towards the top of the paddock. As we had bush running up one edge, the deer could pop out anywhere. We had only been there for ten minutes and I was just thinking "I wonder how loud that rifle would be if Sam does see something" and BOOM. Followed by "He's down!!!! Whhhhooo!!" A lone spiker had popped out of the bush and turned broadside. 160 m shot took him in the shoulder, exiting mid flank on the other side. He was that excited that he wanted to put another one in just to make sure, I said no as the deer was dead and was just doing a final lash out.

We then wandered down and spent a couple of moments just taking it all in, and a quick thank you to the deer for giving its life. Success for Sam felt better than success for me. An introduction to gutting and setting up a deer backpack, then he had to get in, roll over and get up. Then the huffing and puffing really started. I waited till he was buggered and then made one comment about how heavy the rifle and the head were and he went off, I was called everything under the sun and a few more. You just can't help some people.

Back to the ute, quick stop in with the farmer to thank him for letting us on and then back home. It may not be the most photographed deer in history, but it did get its moment in the Sun. Here's hoping the next one doesn't take 12 months like the last one did.



Great story – thanks Aaron and well done Sam!

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

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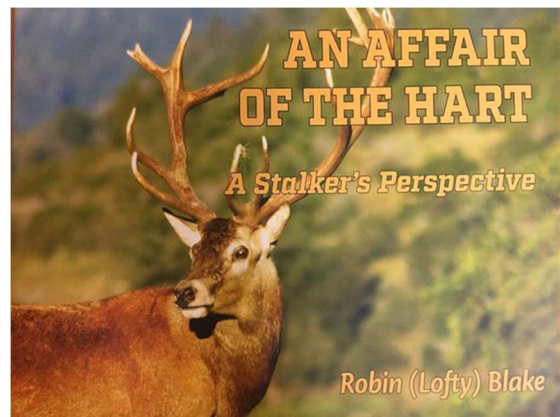
Buy, Sell, and Swap

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.



FOR SALE TOTARA WOOD DESIGNS

Custom made for anyone. All art work is hand drawn on the totara wood. Price Varys on design and wood size. These make really good gifts, also check out Facebook for more photos and previous designs, search Gladstone Totara Designs. If anyone is interested or wants more information call or text Adam on 027 917 6358 or text Hannah 022 150 4699.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE

The club has access to seasoned olive tree prunings. They burn very well and are dense like Manuka. They are branch lengths (1.5m - 2m) of varying thickness and need to be taken away whole (cut up at home). Easy loading onto trailer. No chainsaws allowed on site for safety.

\$50 a high-sided trailer load, \$25 a ute load, paid into the clubs bank account (name/ref=olive) 030687 0022096 00

Loading to be done on a Saturday or Sunday morning by arrangement- utes/trailers only. The amount you get is based on your stacking ability. Location - just south of Martinborough (Lake Ferry Rd). Enquiries to Sean on 021 822 802.

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 027 432 3410.

Final Thoughts



Wishing you and your families a very happy Christmas and a wonderful holiday season. Be safe and 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.

Check us out on Facebook:  We only need two more 'likes' to hit 1000!!
<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/>