



New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association

Wairarapa Branch Incorporated

Newsletter for **March 2019**

Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 20 March
7:30 pm Parkvale Hall

Speaker: Steve Playle on Hunting Stewart Island

Annual General Meeting 20 March 7:30 pm

This will include the annual President's Report, 2018/19 Financial Report, and election of committee and officers. All of the existing committee have agreed to stay on, so you won't be pressured into taking on a position on the night. This year we are accepting nominations for any new committee members and office holders in advance. Please send any nominations to wairarapanzda@gmail.com by **8 pm on Monday 18 March**. The following nominations have been received:

President: Martin Amos

Vice-president: Andrew Dennes (Tracy Amos stepping down)

Secretary: Aidan Bichan

Treasurer: Sean Roberts (Richard O'Driscoll stepping down)

Committee:

Tracy Amos

Phil Gray

Alex Beesley

Pete Cunningham

Adam Kenning

Brad Gardiner

Lloyd Rayner

Richard O'Driscoll

Craig Hansen

Shane Dougan

Come along to the AGM, 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!!

The AGM will be followed by a presentation by **Steve Playle**, one of several club members who regularly hunts **Stewart Island**. Find out more about how to get there, and what to do while you're there. Followed by supper.

Hunting & Fishing Wairarapa will be sponsoring the AGM again this year so there will be some good prizes on the night!



Key Dates - Upcoming Trips and Events

16 MARCH FIREWOOD WORKING BEE Starting 8 am at Amos residence in Belvedere Road Bring your chainsaw, splitter, or just a pair of hands. We will ring then split the logs. **Personal protective gear (including ear muffs) is absolutely essential!** Prices agreed at: \$50/cubic metre to branch members, \$75/m³ to non-members plus \$10 delivery. Wood orders to Martin 027 3671635.

16-17 MARCH WANGANUI FALLOW HUNT Full.

29-31 MARCH WANGANUI FALLOW HUNT Full.

14 APRIL 2019 ANNUAL WAIRARAPA NZDA CLAY SHOOT 11 am start with BBQ after (BYO drinks and anything fancy you want to eat). 493 Waiohine Gorge road, Carterton. Contact Alex on 0274359216 for more information. A fun shoot for people wanting to get their eye in for the duck shooting season, perfect for beginners or casual shooters in a relaxed, social and non-competitive environment. If you don't own a shotgun but would still like to participate please contact Alex and she will arrange one for you (and no it won't be the old unpopular side by side she loaned out last year!). Cost: \$20 per person for clays. Ammo: \$12 per box of 25.

17 APRIL 2019 Parkvale Hall, 7:30 pm. No formal meeting, but hall will be open so come along and share your roar stories!

23-26 MAY NELSON LAKES HUNT Thursday to Sunday. Contact Martin 027 3671635.



Recent Events

20 FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

The first meeting for the year and amongst the 17 present, we welcomed a couple of new members along, heard about the activities of the committee, and shared tales from hunting trips far and wide over the holiday period. Followed by a video session.

LOWER NORTH ISLAND NZDA MEETING

Wairarapa Branch hosted this meeting at Parkvale Hall and we were represented by Aidan Bichan. Lee McKinstry was also there representing the Direct Branch, along with reps from the Wellington and Hutt Valley Branches.

3 MARCH DEER-PARK WORKING BEE

Started at 8 am and finished at 12. Seven members attended, thanks to Paul (dodgy knee), Craig (dodgy ticker), Tony (dodgy shoulder), Aidan (dodgy arm), Mark, Philip, and Andrew (just dodgy).

There were apologies with excuses such as I had to go to Cirque du Soleil, I had to go to a karate camp, the

boat had to be taken across Lake Taupo, and the Shareholders insisted on meeting on Sunday.

Work included: repairing a section of fence destroyed by the stag; erecting rails to protect the fence, bracing the yard entry gate; re-swinging the back gate, picking up rubbish and sticks; and spreading the donated lime (thanks Taureu Lime and Paul).

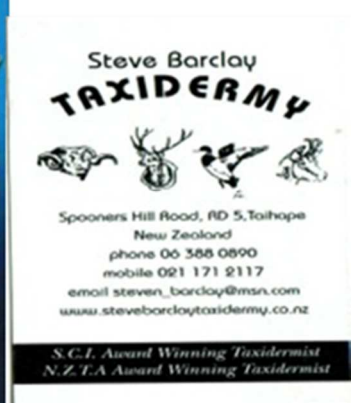
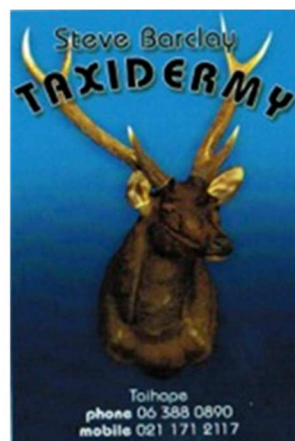
Andrew managed to toss his cell phone into the bushes behind the park when throwing branches on to a pile. 15 missed calls later he finally located it - after searching the pens and yards!



News

SUBSIDISED HELICOPTER TRIPS

As we have had such a rotten run of luck with weather in organising recent branch subsidised helicopter trips, the Committee has decided to try something different in 2019. Branch members can arrange their own parties to fly into the Tararuas with Amalgamated Helicopters and the Branch will contribute \$500 per trip. Offer is valid March–May 2019 with Amalgamated Helicopters only. All members of the party must belong to the Wairarapa branch, and there is a limit of one subsidised trip per member. Contact Marin on 027 3671635 to arrange your \$500 subsidy.



LOCAL HUNTING OPPORTUNITY

In moving house, Martin misplaced the list of those who had expressed interest in our Alfredton hunts, so we're starting a new list! Please text Martin on 027 3671635 if you are interested in getting your name down for one of these hunts. Cost of \$100 per animal (all reds). Dates will be arranged following request from the landowner. These could be weekdays, but we'll aim for weekends. Preference given to those who are new to hunting and involved in branch activities

PARKVALE HALL

Before the 6 March committee meeting the hall was inspected and a list of jobs compiled including: levelling gravel; spraying and lawn mowing; barge flashing repair; sill on store room replacement; move water pump switch; stain deck. To make a hall booking contact Martin 379 5454 or 027 3671635.

SEARCH AND RESCUE

Recent call outs included successful recovery of 60 year old injured in Waiohine Gorge, and a shoreline search at Cape Palliser. Branch donated 80 venison sausages to SAR. Recent training day was postponed due to bad weather. There is a 4WD training course on 23 March. If you're interested in joining SAR please contact Phil Gray on 027 4740717.

HUTS

No reports from Neill Forks. Lots of anglers using Sayers. Still no response from DOC office about who we contact since Joe has retired.

DEER PARK

As well as the working bee, security cameras have been installed and warning signage has been put up regarding the red stag over the roar. Rabbits - 31 shot but still 8+ breeding. Red spiker has been sold and we still have one fallow spiker to go. Fifty bales hay/baleage has been purchased - thanks to Adam for arranging this.

FIREWOOD

Firewood is our main fundraiser and makes subsidised trips possible. The branch is on the lookout for more trees. If you know of any possibilities please contact Martin 027 3671635.

RANGE AND SHOOTING

Members are reminded that we have an arrangement with the Pistol Club which allows 5 free uses of Gladstone Range per year for our members. The 200 metre range is open Wednesday afternoons from 3:30 pm, and on weekends (depending on Pistol Club activities). Our annual shooting competition is tentatively scheduled for 15 September.

NATIONAL OFFICE NEWS

2019/20 Membership Renewals

All centralised invoices for the 2019/20 have gone out by now, if you have not yet received your invoice please contact National Office. Following the renewal invoicing, our next challenge is getting all membership cards out. As many of you may have noticed, family members weren't explicitly listed on invoices (not to worry, they haven't been forgotten!) We are just waiting on the database team to provide a solution for linking these members onto the primary accounts.

Conference 16-17 August

Dates have been decided for Conference 2019. It will be held by the Porirua branch in Wellington on Saturday the 16th and Sunday the 17th of August. Further details to follow soon.

Hunting & Wildlife Magazine

The Hunting & Wildlife magazine will be sent out at the end of March to all financial members of NZDA.

South Island Access Committee

NZDA has announced the formation of the South Island Access Committee. SIAC's brief is to work with stakeholders to assist in striving for certain, enduring and practical access to public conservation land (PCL) - for hunters, and for the general public. SIAC will work with statutory, non-governmental organisations and all others to identify and strive to resolve access issues to PCL and to help highlight the key importance of access to the public estate to and for the people of New Zealand. SIAC Chairman, James Steans commented, "The recent announcement that further Tenure Reviews have been halted creates new unknowns and it will take some time to understand how we can best navigate our way forward. However there will still be other, significant opportunities, and by collaborating with all stakeholders we will work to enhance optimal access to the outdoors for current and future generations of Kiwis." The SIAC is made up of representatives from NZDA branches across the South Island where there are historic access issues, and will be reporting to the National Executive on performance and progress. For both further information - or to bring access issues to SIAC's attention - please communicate to NZDA National Office "Attn SIAC" (office@deerstalkers.org.nz).



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Consultation opens on the future management of crown pastoral land

Land Information Minister Eugenie Sage has officially opened public consultation on the future management of Crown pastoral land. You can find out more at the dedicated consultation webpage here: www.lin.govt.nz/cplc

On that page you will find the discussion document which gives much more detail on the proposed changes, and poses questions for you to consider when providing your feedback. You will find those questions replicated in the consultation submission form which can be completed on-line or downloaded and posted back to us. You do not need to answer all of the questions, just the ones you feel are most relevant. Your thoughts on aspects of Crown pastoral land management that we haven't covered, or other ideas to achieve the proposed outcomes are also very welcome.

If you have any questions regarding the consultation please don't hesitate to contact us. The best way will be via this email address cplc@lin.govt.nz and a member of the team will get back to you as soon as possible.

Tahr hunter returns

Below is the hunter return data that has been captured to date on the new Tahr Hunter Return System. The online system was launched in October 2018 to capture the contribution recreational hunters can and do make to Himalayan Tahr Control. The short form is live 24/7 for hunter's to record the number and location of tahr they shoot and observe. So far 158 trips have been recorded by hunters. It would be great to see all recreational hunts captured in this system.

Enter your latest Himalayan tahr recreational hunting trip at: <https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/things-to-do/hunting/what-to-hunt/tahr/tahr-control-operations/tahr-hunting-returns/>

Hunter Return Data received to date:

Zone	Male Shot	Other Shot	Male Seen	Other Seen
MU 1 - South Rakaia - Upper Rangitata	69	145	242	517
MU 2 - South Whitcombe - Whataroa	3	4	4	52
MU 3 - Gammack - Two Thumb	65	195	167	1012
MU 4 - Mount Cook - Westland National Parks	53	121	257	658
MU 5 - Ben Ohau	68	224	150	689
MU 6 - Landsborough	9	8	37	44
MU 7A - Wills Hunter - Ahuriri Valley	7	18	12	26
MU 7B - Wills Hunter - Boundary Creek		1		3
Southern Exclusion Zone	3	3	12	21
Total by category	277	719	881	3022
Total	996		3903	

Bideford Possum Control Operation – Cyanide Use

This work is being carried out as part of Greater Wellington's Regional Possum Predator Control Programme (RPPCP) and aimed at environmental protection and reducing threats from bovine tuberculosis to domestic stock. In addition to other our other control methods typically used for this programme (i.e. Brodifacoum in bait stations), we are proposing to use cyanide poison in some areas of pine plantations, (refer to attached map).

The use of cyanide baiting will commence once the District Health Board approval has been gained, occupier consent is gained and where neighbours and interested parties have been appropriately notified. Control is expected to commence from 3 March and continue until the end of the June. In some areas a second round of control may be undertaken between August and November 2019.

Cyanide will be in the form of encapsulated cyanide (Feratox) pellets in bait-stations (biodegradable blue bait-bags), stapled to a tree's bark layer using a hand staple gun with 8mm staples.

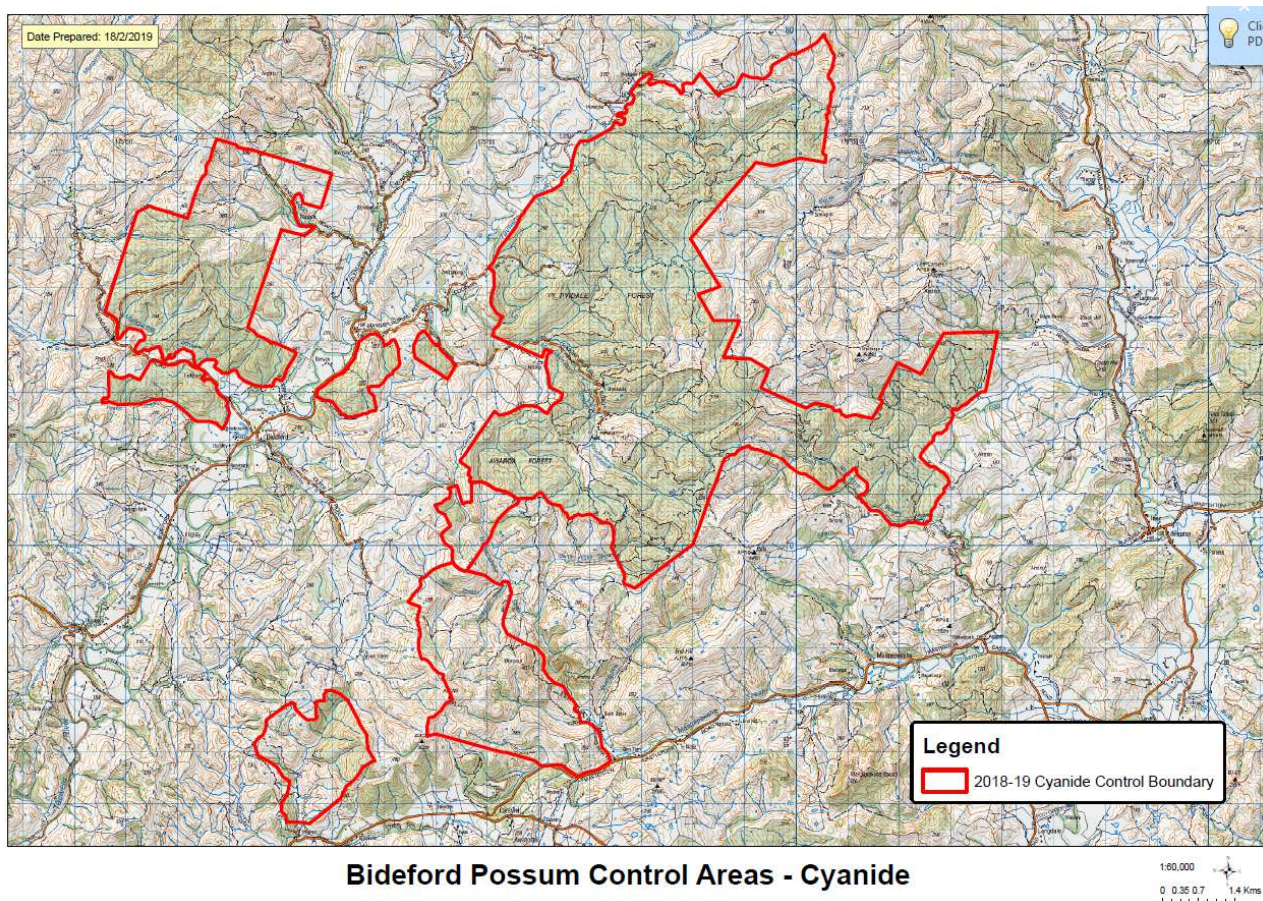
Precautions:

Poison warning signs will be displayed at all main access points to the operational area and the following instructions should be adhered to:

- Do not touch toxic baits, bait stations or possum carcasses;
- Supervise children closely;
- Keep dogs under strict control and away from carcasses and bait.

If you have any questions regarding this operation please feel free to contact either of our Field Supervisors (listed below) to discuss control procedures further.

- John Rodgers 027 4845117
- Murray Hudson 021 729817



Hunting Reports

Thanks this month to Liam and Dion - two of our juniors "Out there doing it". Stories and photos can be sent to the newsletter editor at wairarapanzda@gmail.com

My first deer – Liam Dennes (age 9)

On December 28th 2018 Brad invited myself and Dad out to Riversdale for a hunt. We got to Brad's place in the afternoon and Dad and Brad had a beer while they fed the dogs. Then we packed our gear in to Brad's ute and drove to the farm where Brad works. We loaded our stuff on the four wheeler and rode down the road to the hunting block. Brad's hat fell off on the way so we had to go back for it. We rode up the creek and stopped to check out a good spot. No luck so we went up the valley a little bit more and parked the bike. Then we walked up the ridge and glassed a few clearings and saw some goats. Dad got the 243 ready and I shot a young kid then dad shot a nanny. We went and took some photos while Brad went for a wander. When he came back he had seen a fallow spiker and asked if I would like to shoot it and I said "yes".

We snuck through some native bush and got into position behind a tree, then Dad set up the gun on the tree. It was shaking a little bit but Dad said "when you're ready aim up on its front leg and shoot through the shoulder". It popped like a balloon and all the hair around the bullet hole fell out. "He's down" said Dad, and we were about to go and get him when he got up and was going to get away. Brad gave him a headache and he rolled down the face into the flat by the creek. Then we went back to the bike and rode over to the deer and I dragged it to the bike and rode back to the ute.

On the way home me and Dad got takeaways from A1 because we were starving.



Stewart Island trip – photos by Dion Rayner



Branch Antler, Horn, Tusk, and Photo Competitions

Hope that you have some entries lined up? A reminder about the categories:

- Red deer, public land (Avon Tatton Shield)
- Red deer, private land (Steve Ticehurst cup)
- Classic Red deer (J.M. Jury shield)
- Best goat head (Crawford Cameron shield)
- Best head where a trophy fee is paid (Playle trophy)
- Best pig jaw –undrawn tusks (Harvie Morrow shield)
- Best pig jaw – Drawn Tusks (N. Tilsey Sheild)
- Aggregate, two or more species (V.V. Donald shield)
- Best head other species
- Best trophy head ‘under 20’
- Tahr / Chamois (Max Cole Barometer)

Photographic categories are:

- Game animals in their wild, outdoor state (W.F. McIntyre Cup)
- Other Wildlife in its wild, outdoor state and not in any form of captivity (V.V. Donald Shield)
- Scenic relative to the sport of hunting (B.W. Newport Cup)
- Other – not covered in other categories (K Gear Cup)
- Junior photograph (Amos Cup)

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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

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.

TOYOTA SURF

1996 model for sale. \$6000. Call Martin on 027 3671635



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 – we really appreciate 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 have over 1000 likes!!

<https://www.facebook.com/WairarapaNZDA>

Thanks to Chris Cherry who has kept the branch website up-to-date for the past three years. Chris is standing down and the role of website administrator is being taken over by **Adam Kenning**. Check out the website on: <http://www.wairarapanzda.org.nz/>. You can even look through previous newsletters!