



# New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association

## Wairarapa Branch Incorporated

Newsletter for **November 2019**

**General Meeting Wednesday 20 November**  
**7:30 pm Parkvale Hall**  
**Speaker Brett Hudson (National List MP)**

### General meeting Wednesday 20 November 7:30 pm



Speaker is **Brett Hudson**, National List MP and National Party Police Spokesperson. Brett is on the Select Committee considering the Firearm Law Reforms, so this is a great opportunity to come along, see what he has to say, and also get your voice heard. Committee member Sean Roberts has pulled off a bit of a coup in getting Brett to come up from Wellington to talk to us, so let's have a good turn-out.

Supper afterwards and as always a chance to catch up on who's been out hunting!

### Key Dates - Upcoming Trips and Events

**23 NOVEMBER ALFREDTON HUNTS ORIENTATION** Essential for all those who want to take advantage of the Club's paid hunting opportunity. Meet at McDonalds Masterton at 8:30 am with your quad. **No firearms!** This will be a ride around the property and explanation of the hunting conditions. You must contact Martin on 027 3671635 if you want to come along.

**23 NOVEMBER LOWER NORTH ISLAND NZDA REGIONAL MEETING** 9 am at Deerstalkers' Hall, 251 College Street, Palmerston North. Details later in newsletter.

**24 NOVEMBER FIREWOOD WORKING BEE** We have a new load of logs! Working bee starting 8:30 am Sunday 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! Firewood is our major fund-raiser so please help the club earn money for subsidised trips. There will be further working bees in the New Year.

**15 DECEMBER END OF YEAR BBQ** Sunday from 11:30 am at Masterton Deer Park. A family event to end the year with sausage sizzle and lolly scramble. BYO salads and non-alcoholic drinks (it is a public venue), Sausages & bread supplied.

**NO GENERAL MEETING IN JANUARY**

19 FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING The first of 2020! Speaker to be confirmed.



## Recent Events

### 19 OCTOBER ANNUAL DINNER AND PRIZE-GIVING

A really good turn-out with 75 people attending. Dinner was subsidised by the Branch and prepared by Tweet Bird Catering, with a great selection of desserts to follow (loved the Dilly cupcakes!). Followed by a Silent Auction which meant we made a \$400 net profit on the night. Thanks to Stihl Shop, Hunting & Fishing, King & Henry, and our other auction sponsors, and to the committee and their team of helpers for organizing this.



It was Ladies' Night in the Awards section, with Liz Warren (AHT), Olivia Hansen (junior AHT), Savannah Smith (shooting), Clair Johnstone (photography), and Julia O'Driscoll (junior shooting) taking out top awards. Other big winners were Jordan Hamilton, Brad Gardiner, & Peter O'Driscoll. And the ABs over Ireland later in the evening.

### Branch Antler, Horn, and Tusk Competition Winners

- Red deer, public land (Avon Tatton Shield) – no entries
- Red deer, private land (Steve Ticehurst cup) – Brad Gardiner (DS 261)
- Classic Red deer (J.M. Jury shield) – Brad Gardiner
- Best goat head (Crawford Cameron shield) – Liz Warren (DS 82)
- Best head where a trophy fee is paid (Playle trophy) – no entries
- Best pig jaw –undrawn tusks (Harvie Morrow shield) – Jordan Hamilton (DS 16)
- Best pig jaw – Drawn Tusks (N. Tilsey Sheild) – no entries
- Aggregate, two or more species (V.V. Donald shield) – Brad Gardiner
- Best head other species – Liz Warren (fallow 248 DS)
- Best trophy head 'under 20' – Olivia Hansen (red DS 208)
- Tahr / Chamois (Max Cole Barometer) - Davey Williams (tahr DS 40)



- Judge's choice - Liz Warren (fallow 248 DS)



Liz Warren with her trophies (above)

Brad Gardiner's winning red stag (left)

### Photo Competition Winners

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



Cock quail (Peter O'Driscoll)



Peter O'Driscoll with his awards

## Shooting Competition Scores and Winners

### Junior Rimfire

Julia O'Driscoll	113
Peter O'Driscoll	86
Rhys Amos	80
Liam Dennes	71
Jack Fitzgerald	51

### Swazi Junior Competition

Julia O'Driscoll	78
Peter O'Driscoll	63
Rhys Amos	56
Liam Dennes	41
Jack Fitzgerald	38

### Junior F class

Rhys Amos	65
Jack Fitzgerald	41

### Senior Rimfire

Jordan Hamilton	147
Gerry Veugelaars	147
Andrew Dennes	122
Kerry Fitzgerald	120
Savannah Smith	120
Alex Beesley	99
Morag O'Driscoll	88
Aaron Loder	72
Phil Gray	49
Tracy Amos	19

### Senior Centrefire

Jordan Hamilton	115
Savannah Smith	106
Phil Gray	104
Gerry Veugelaars	102
Tracy Amos	65
Aaron Loder	59
Alex Beesley	54

### Military

Jordan Hamilton	70
Alex Beesley	32



### Senior Aggregate

Jordan Hamilton	262
Gerry Veugelaars	249
Savannah Smith	226
Phil Gray	153
Alex Beesley	153
Aaron Loder	131
Tracy Amos	84

### Women's Aggregate

Savannah Smith	226
Alex Beesley	153
Tracy Amos	84

### Senior F-class

Jordan Hamilton	102
Savannah Smith	100
Kerry Fitzgerald	95
Gerry Veugelaars	90
Paul Sayer	68

Clay shoot winner – Phil Gray





## 2-3 NOVEMBER WANGANUI HUNT

Twelve members (7 seniors and 5 juniors) enjoyed a fine, sunny weekend and some great hunting. Restricted to yearlings and spikers, but everybody got deer, along with a few goats, and rabbits. As always these club hunts are a lot of fun and thanks to Andrew Wilkinson for organising this. Look out for the next Wanganui hunt dates in early 2020.



## News

### BRANCH SUBMISSIONS TO SELECT COMMITTEE ON FIREARMS LEGISLATION

#### Arms Legislation Bill Written Submission

1. This submission is written on behalf of the Wairarapa Branch of the New Zealand Deerstalkers Association (The Branch).
2. The Branch has 120 members, this includes: hunters; target shooters; farmers; trades people; families; Police; youth; collectors; sporting retailers and many more.
3. The Branch is actively involved in the community such as running the Masterton Deer Park, many members in Land Search and Rescue, Mountain Safety Council, Resilient Carterton, Hunter Training, pest control, Firearms Licensing and using the Branch Hall for community events.
4. The close association and good relationship with the local Police team allows free discussion about potential concerns involving licensed firearm owners. This association has allowed firearms to be recovered from deceased estates, removed for mentally unwell people and to follow up criminal activities including poaching of livestock and game species. We are concerned that the Bill as drafted will erode this trusted relationship. We are also concerned that individual Police Officers are being discouraged from putting in submissions with views that are contrary to that of the NZ Police or the Police Association.
5. The Branch supports the need to keep the NZ public safe from terrorist and criminal actions that put lives, property and livestock at risk.
6. While the Branch does not disagree with the intent of parts of the proposed Bill we find that much of the content will put undue restrictions on law abiding firearm owners and shooting organisations. These restrictions will not make NZ safer nor do they address the real issue of criminal activity and Police failing to follow processes contained in the current Act.
7. Unfortunately the Branch cannot support the Bill in its current draft and asks that it is withdrawn and a proper consultation process started. This process should include international experience such as Canada and the failed registration of individual firearms.
8. The existing Act has served both the NZ public and the Firearms Community well. Firearm deaths have been dropping and the relicensing process was working well however the continual reduction in Police resources (Staff and money) is a concern. We acknowledge that parts of the Act need improvement and updating. For example the ownership of large capacity magazines (as used in the Christchurch shooting) was an anomaly that had been brought the NZ Police and Governments' attention on multiple occasions.

9. We are concerned that the process of drafting the Bill and moving through the submission process has been too quick. This has made meaningful discussion difficult and it likely to allow unintended consequences to occur. From our point of view there was insufficient consultation with the Firearms Community in the drafting process. We also find it strange that this Bill is being progressed before the Royal Commission into the Christchurch attack has reported back.
10. We support the registration and licensing of firearm license holders. This should be backed up with proper funding to ensure the NZ Police carries out its role in a timely manner.
11. We oppose reducing the license period to five years. While the fit and proper test is vital, there is little evidence that shortening the license period will improve the safety of the NZ public. The shortened period will be expensive to administer and impose considerable cost on the firearms license holder.
12. We oppose the registration of individual firearms. This will be costly and based on international experience will fail. There is little evidence that this will make the NZ public or Police safer. The licensing of firearm owners already allows the NZ Police to identify if a firearm is likely to be held at an address.
13. We have concerns about the access to individuals information regarding licensing and firearms ownership. Hacking of "secure" computer systems happens daily and a list of firearm owners and their addresses would be very attractive to the criminal fraternity.
14. The Branch has major concerns about the controls and requirements for Shooting Clubs. Shooting clubs provide a safe place for competition and learning firearm handling skills, they also provide oversight into individuals suitability to hold a firearms license. The close relationship between the NZ Police and many ranges (often used for Police training) allows individuals' behaviours to be monitored. We believe the additional administration and cost will cause many Shooting Clubs to shut up shop as they are run by volunteers who will not want the hassle or responsibility (and risk) imposed by the Bill. The Bill should be encouraging firearm license holders to join a club rather than discouraging these clubs.
15. The Branch does not support the authoritarian approach to shooting ranges. We believe this will be counterproductive and likely to drive ranges out of existence. This would be a terrible loss of training opportunity and the oversight of shooters that such facilities provide.
16. Many of the rural Branch members have shooting ranges on their properties. These are used for sighting in firearms, practice and having friends around for an organised shoot. The Bill could make them illegal and encourage less safe practices, such as sighting in firearms in inappropriate places.
17. We do not see a problem with the current system but would support a register of all non-private ranges as long as this was not onerous on the clubs and did not add any costs to them.
18. Ammunition, the Branch believes the current provisions for the sale and possession of ammunition should be retained.
19. The Branch supports the NZDA position on cost recovery.

## Oral submission to the Finance and Expenditure Committee on the Arms Legislation Bill

### Delivered by Martin Amos and Aidan Bichan 30 October 2019

1. On behalf of our Branch members thank you for the opportunity to address the Select Committee. I do not envy your job with over 18,000 submissions representing even more people to consider.
2. I am not going to cover the entire contents of our submission other than to re-emphasise that we represent a group of law abiding members of the community who happen to be keen on hunting for food, pest control and competition shooting. Our members, like all quarter of a million licensed firearm owners and all New Zealanders support the need to keep communities safe from terrorist and criminal actions involving firearms.
3. We do not believe that the majority of the Bill will meet either of these expectations.
4. Our position is that the Bill should be withdrawn or at least put on hold until the Christchurch Royal Commission has reported back. Once this has been considered by all groups interested in the management of firearms, a proper consultation can be held.
5. Our reasons for this belief are: The lack of balanced discussion throughout the entire process to date; The hasty timeframes with the apparent aim to have this legislation in place before the first anniversary of the Christchurch terror attack - this we find particularly poor practice; The Government, Police and media commentary that has portrayed Firearm Owners in a poor light and; The drafting of the proposed Bill as it stands will result in unintended consequences.

6. Contrary to some peoples beliefs, the current Act has served us well. Firearm deaths have been dropping and the relicensing process worked. Our concern is that continual reduction in Police resources has meant less face to face contact with new applicants and re-licensing firearm owners. Also the follow up of lapsed licenses and deceased estates does not appear to be occurring as rigorously as would be expected.
7. We support leaving the license period at 10 years - the same as our Passports. Concerns about the quality of storage can be addressed by inspections at relicensing or after a change of address. Shortening the period will just double costs and Police administration.
8. The fit and proper person test (S 24A (1) (a) (b) & (c) should not include "charged with" as this goes against the principle of innocent until proven guilty.
9. We note the Police Association submission supports the Bill on behalf of their 12,500 members. This is to be expected as they are lobbying for their members protection. It does not however mean they have presented a balance discussion. It contains incomplete information about the Canadian experiences on gun registration and United States gun suicides statistics. In the US for example the majority of gun suicides are by handguns, which are widely available - this is not the case in NZ.
10. They also ignore the fact that Police already know when an address is linked to a registered firearms license holder. Registering individual firearms does not make the Police nor the public safer. The Federated Farmers submission outlines a number of these issues.
11. We have concerns about the requirements on Health Practitioners. An unintended consequence may be to discourage people from visiting a practitioner if they feel their firearms license could be at risk. Males, and particularly rural males do not engage readily with health professionals and this provision just becomes another barrier. I work with the Rural Support Trust and constantly see the challenge of getting mental health support.
12. We do not disagree with the intent of the proposed Bill but urge caution about rushing to get this passed into law.

Thank you for your time.

#### PARKVALE HALL

Whakaoriori Scout Cubs have planned a visit to look at the mounted trophies. For hall bookings contact Martin on 027 3671635.

#### SEARCH AND RESCUE

SAREX to be held 16-17 November. If you're interested in joining SAR please contact Phil Gray on 027 4740717.

#### HUTS

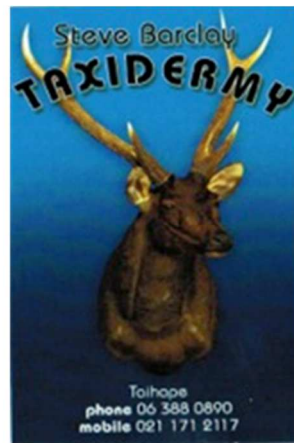
Wendy-Anne Grey (Joe Hansen's replacement at DOC) has contacted the Branch and confirmed our agreement over Sayers and Niall Forks Huts is in place until 2023. Work is being planned for Sayers.

#### DEER PARK

A red spiker has been removed and replaced with a 2-year old stag. We are making progress towards NAIT compliance, with all reds now NAIT tagged. The Deer Park subcommittee planning to reduce fallow numbers back to seven (3 does, 3 yearlings, and the mature buck).

#### RANGE & SHOOTING

Clay shoot will have to be at range next year due to changes in Firearms law. Dates to be advised. Branch shooting competition is tentatively scheduled for 13 September 2020.



## NATIONAL OFFICE NEWS

### Lower North Island NZDA Meeting

Manawatu NZDA are again hosting our regional meeting which is scheduled for 9am, 23rd of November, at Deerstalkers' Hall, 251 College Street, Palmerston North.

It would be great if club delegates can attend to raise & discuss local and national NZDA issues. There will also be a Zoom link provided closer to the time so if you can't attend, you can still be involved via video link.

The topics for discussion will include but not be limited to:

1. LNI regional hunting access issues
2. Any proposed hut & track upgrades
3. Firearms legislation
4. National Conference & constitution updates

We will look to wrap up by lunchtime.

Hope to see you there.

Kind regards,  
Tim Watson  
LNI NZDA rep  
027 803 0544

### Hunting & Wildlife Magazine

This will be coming out in hard copy next year at \$25/year. We need to alter our subscription form to allow for this.

### Membership woes

The branch will monitor improvements to system next year and if not a major improvement will consider taking over membership management ourselves.



## Inter-Island Ferry discounts



# interislander

NGĀ WAKA · NEW ZEALAND'S FERRIES

### **NZDA 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
Plus Lounge	\$55.00 18yrs plus
Peak Dates:	
01-28 February 19	
18-23 April 19	

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
Plus Lounge	\$55.00 18yrs plus
Off Peak Dates:	
01 March – 17 April 19	
24 April – 15 December 19	

Group Booking conditions and instructions for members are:

- Reservations can be made direct with Interislander online at <https://www.greatjourneysofnz.co.nz/members-fares> 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 15 December 19
- Please note that no discount applies 19 December 2019 through to and including 31 January 20

## Game Animal Council backing the kārearea for bird of the year

The kārearea or NZ falcon has been chosen by hunters and supporters of the Game Animal Council as the hunter's choice for this year's Bird of the Year competition.

The kārearea is our most threatened bird of prey with only around 5,000 thought to remain.

"Hunters have a natural affinity with the NZ falcon, which is New Zealand's native apex hunter," says Game Animal Council Chair Don Hammond. "It's also one of our native species that probably doesn't get the recognition it deserves."

Having handily accounted for the kea, whio and kiwi in polls conducted on the Game Animal Council's Facebook page, the kārearea has the support of New Zealand hunting community. However, it is not all over for the other three birds with STV style voting meaning that hunters can vote for all four if they wish.

"Hunting organisations like the Sika Foundation, the Fiordland Wapiti Foundation and the NZ Deerstalkers Association are heavily involved in conservation projects including kea monitoring, whio recovery and pest control operations to protect both kiwi and whio," says Hammond.

"At the end of the day the greatest conservation resource we have are the thousands of hunters and other recreationists who are out in the hills each weekend," says Hammond. "They are the eyes and ears of New Zealand's conservation movement and it is important that they are supported to contribute to native species preservation."

As well as giving it their vote, hunters are encouraged to report sightings of kārearea to either the Wingspan National Bird of Prey Centre ([www.wingspan.co.nz](http://www.wingspan.co.nz)) or at [www.nzfalcon.org.nz](http://www.nzfalcon.org.nz)

The NZ Game Animal Council is a statutory organisation responsible for the sustainable management of game animals and hunting for recreation, commerce and conservation.

Contact:

Don Hammond, Chair

Phone 0274885940

[don.hammond@nzgac.org.nz](mailto:don.hammond@nzgac.org.nz)



## Hunting Reports

The Newsletter has no room for stories this month, but we want to hear about your summer hunts!

Stories and photos can be sent to the newsletter editor at [wairarapanzda@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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.

### MOUNTED STAG



Offers over \$500 invited. Shot 'up north somewhere'. About 60 years old. Selling on behalf. Call Sean 021 822802 for more details.



## 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](mailto:wairarapanzda@gmail.com) so your newsletter can be sent electronically.

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Check us out on Facebook:  We have over 1000 likes!!  
<https://www.facebook.com/WairarapaNZDA>

The website is at: <http://www.wairarapanzda.org.nz/>. Thanks to **Nick Perkins** who has taken over as website administrator!