



New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association
Wairarapa Branch Incorporated

Newsletter for **March 2020**

Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 18 March
7:30 pm Parkvale Hall

Annual general meeting Wednesday 18 March 7:30 pm

This will include the annual President's Report, 2019/20 Financial Report, and election of committee and officers. Again this year we are accepting nominations for any new committee members and office holders in advance. Most of the existing executive and committee have agreed to stay on, so you won't be pressured into taking on a position on the night, but we do need new committee members. **Please send any nominations to wairarapanzda@gmail.com by 8 pm on Wednesday 11 March.** The following nominations have been received.

President: Martin Amos

Vice-president: Andrew Dennes

Secretary: Aidan Bichan

Treasurer: Sean Roberts

Committee:

Tracy Amos

Phil Gray

Alex Beesley

Pete Cunningham

Brad Gardiner

Lloyd Rayner

Richard O'Driscoll

Come along to the AGM, find out how our 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!! Followed by a cup of tea and a great chance to discuss those roar plans. **There will be a door prize on the night.**

Key Dates - Upcoming Trips and Events

18 MARCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm. Details above.

20-22 MARCH ORGANISED TARARUA FLY-IN TRIP Now closed. Two parties meeting 9 am Friday at Amalgamated Helicopters and flying in to Tararua huts to be picked up Sunday.

29 MARCH TAXIDERMY TOUR Colin Bailey has organised a trip for the club on Sunday 29 March to **Hawke's taxidermy in Palmerston North** from 3-5 pm. A great opportunity to see how they prepare and mount trophies. Contact Colin on 027 4457526 if you're interested.

4-5 APRIL WANGANUI FALLOW MEAT HUNT Because of a change in management on the property this is not a trophy hunt. **We will not be allowed to shoot bucks.** But a great trip to put some tasty venison in the freezer instead of those big smelly red stags! Contact Andrew Wilkinson on 027 4381363 to sign up. Be quick this will fill up fast!

15 APRIL GENERAL MEETING Parkvale Hall from 7:30 pm. Video evening.

10 MAY RESILIENT CARTERTON The club will have a stand at the Carterton Event Centre. Assistance required to set-up and look after our stand on the day.

17 MAY DEER PARK WORKING BEE Tidy up working bee Sunday 17 May starting 8.30am.

20 MAY GENERAL MEETING Parkvale Hall from 7:30 pm. Speaker TBC

25-26 JULY NATIONAL CONFERENCE Waikato.

20 SEPTEMBER BRANCH COMPETITION SHOOT Gladstone range. Put it in your calendar now!



Recent Events

19 FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING A great start to the year with 27 people showing up to our first meeting for 2020. Speakers Dave & Liz Bashford gave a really interesting presentation on the work of the Fiordland Wapiti Foundation and talked about how the ballot works, how to plan a trip, and what to expect when you get there. They also invited members to give them a call on 06 3795108 if you want to talk about any aspects of Fiordland hunting.

As promised, the first 20 people through the door received a free dehydrated meal provided by Radix Nutrition. All meals are available to order through their website, www.radixnutrition.com Radix are offering a short term discount code when we send in our feedback. So those who were there please give feedback via wairaapanzda@gmail.com

23 FEBRUARY FIREWOOD WORKING BEE Twelve members powered through ringing and splitting the remaining logs. Most went straight into trailers and is now sold. We are looking for more logs. If you know of any available please contact Martin on 027 3671635. Thanks to Martin and Tracy for storing wood and making land available.

1 MARCH CLAY TARGET SHOOT 14 shooters turned up on a hot, sunny afternoon at the Gladstone range. The targets were challenging, with Greg Hamilton a clear winner, but the rest of the field pretty close (see scores over the page). Thanks to all who attended, with special thanks to Josie for scoring, Simon for being range officer, Aidan for doing the BBQ, and Greg and Phil for help setting up a layout. And of course to Alex who organised it all ☺



Scores (45 targets)

Greg Hamilton	36	Phil Gray	18
Vic Jacobson	28	Alex Beesley	18
Regan Kent	21	Benno Gypser	17
Graham McClymont	20	Martin Amos	17
Graeme Trotman	20	Sean Roberts	15
Colin Bayley	20	Barry Meade	14
Richard O’Driscoll	18	Simon Young	12



News

ALFREDTON HUNTS

Parties have continued to have success with over 20 animals being taken off the property. Access will be closed from 16 March through to the end of April, but contact Martin on 027 367 1635 to book from May onwards.

PARKVALE HALL

Some structural work to do, Andrew has a list including door sill, spouting replacement and painting around windows. Andrew also identified a young guy who was skidding up the carpark and broke railing, followed him home and had arranged for him to repair damage. For hall bookings contact Martin on 027 3671635.

SEARCH AND RESCUE

Training day on 8 March at Reef Hill. If you’re interested in joining SAR please contact Phil Gray on 027 4740717.

HUTS

Huts maintenance agreement returned to DOC, inspection planned for June with a DOC person.

DEER PARK

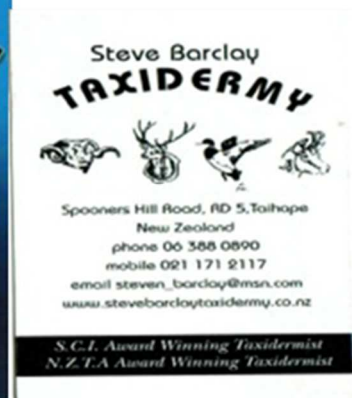
Tidy up working bee planned for Sunday 17th May 8.30am. Hay and baleage to be collected and delivered.

FINANCIALS

Closing balance \$6,936 plus \$15,191 in term deposits. Have paid LandSAR \$290 for Wandertrack equipment. Firewood money coming in. Annual accounts will be presented at AGM.

RANGE & SHOOTING

Gladstone range is available for the use of members on weekends when not in use. If you want to sight a rifle before the roar the best opportunity is Wednesday afternoons between 3 pm and 8 pm as there is nothing else on. Competition shoot 20 September 2020.



NATIONAL OFFICE

Membership Renewal

Invoices have not come out yet, but we expect these soon.

The correct method for direct credit payments are:

BANK ACC - 03-0558-0139562-04

Particulars - Your name

Code - Your membership number

Reference - Your invoice number or "NEW MEMBER" (please do not use an old invoice number!)

Vote of No Confidence in NZDA Executive

Led by the South Waikato Branch, several branches have discussed calling a Special General Meeting to have the current National Executive (National President, National Vice President and National Treasurer) removed from office and their positions within the NZDA National Executive. Alex attended the Hutt Valley Branch meeting when this was discussed in February. There was general annoyance at performance of National Body but the meeting did not end up supporting the call for the Special General Meeting. Letters against the Special General Meeting arguing that this motion were also received from Wellington and Nelson branches.

Our branch is not playing an active part in this process, but we are following proceedings with interest and will report back.

THE ARMS BILL WAS DEBATED AND PASSED ITS 2ND READING IN PARLIAMENT

The next few pages are a bit dry, but this is a key debate that affects all firearms owners, so it is important that we all pay attention! NZ First are the key to all this so drop an email to our local list MP Ron Marks: r.mark@ministers.govt.nz

The report below provided by Gwyn Thurlow (Wellington Branch) is a summary of the Arms Bill debate that took place in Parliament on 19 February. It is indicative of the stance all parties have in regard to the recommendations of the Select Committee. A third reading usually means the passing into law.

Vote:

- 57 Opposed: National, Act, Jami-Lee Ross.

- 63 Favour: NZ First, Greens, Labour.

Result: Bill passed its 2nd reading.

Speakers talking points

Speaker 1: **Minister Nash, Labour**, for the Bill. He says it will stop Gang Violence and protect front line Police.

Speaker 2: **Brett Hudson, National**, opposed. Queried why an exemption for sporting shooters for Prohibited firearms is not provided for. Noted this affects law abiding firearms owners. However, not opposed to the concept of a register.

Speaker 3: **Deborah Russell, Labour**, Chair of the Select Committee, for the Bill. Only talked about supporting submissions. Quoted certain statements from submissions.

Speaker 4: **Nathan Guy, National**. Opposed to the Bill and spoke for hunters and farmers. Opposed to the red tape, regulation and cost. Says if this Bill passes that National will amend it come September's election, if they form Government.

Speaker 5: **Meka Whaitiri, Labour**, for the Bill. Acknowledged Nash's work. Speaks for Hastings and says she speaks for farmers and rural people. She says the law "removes guns" from those that do harm. Supports a register.

Speaker 6: **Chris Penk, National**. Opposed as drafted. Reported that his constituents didn't support this Bill and thinks, in good faith, it does not make New Zealand safer and the Bill needs many changes. "Looks good, but has a bad effect" in maintaining safety. Says: 1) a spreadsheet will not stop a bullet, and the register will not have its hoped for outcome, 2) Regarding gun ranges, we should support our clubs and get an "on the ground" understanding, and clubs are best placed to provide ranges 3) omniscience by way of a register is not a good thing, 4) should be exceptions for pest control and sports shooting, 5) ideologically opposed to a register and its false sense of security, 6) privacy concerns for data breaches.

Speaker 7: **Chloe Swarbrick, Greens**, supports the Bill. Stated she only "read" the report today, yet feels competent to speak with authority on the Bill... She is happy with the gun reforms and a registry. Says it is a privilege to own a gun. Likens it to owning a car. Says New Zealand has no idea how many guns are in New Zealand and that a register will give Police the data and over time an accumulation of data will allow for "pre-emptive stopping of crime". Cannot understand why those in opposition of the Bill do not approve of doctor-patient disclosure and notification. Supports the

new offences and penalties and the Greens "on balance" think these are good.

Speaker 8: **Judith Collins, National.** Opposed. Noted that National supported the first tranche but is disappointed by the Bill. Her constituents do not support this, and she conveyed that. The Bill does not address safety. Says National Party isn't opposed to the register, but is opposed to this Bill and its register. Mentions, again, Firearm Prohibition Orders, and wants that in law. Talks about gangs and how this law will not impact crime or gangs. Refers to many reasonable submissions she heard being made but being ignored. Queries a 5 year period and likens it to Passports which have 10 years (previously 5). Says this Bill is an attack on farmers and rifle collectors and ignores our history. Says the range and club regime is silly, and has nothing to do with safety. Notes that zero/none/zip deaths happen on rifle ranges. Overall she says the law is punitive and treats law abiding citizens with contempt. She called out NZ First and said how can they support this Bill.

Speaker 9: **Jo Luxton, Labour.** Supports the Bill. Mentions her husband and sons are hunters and shooters. Says owning a gun is a privilege. Says relevant hunters are exempt from a dealer regime, which makes sense. Says she is "rural" and mentions crimes are committed by people who haven't committed a crime before. Commends the Prime Minister and Minister Nash for this law.

Speaker 10: **Ian McKelvie, National.** Opposed. Says he supports the first tranche but that this Bill has 'gaps'. Doubts the register will be accurate. Supports good gun control laws. He is concerned with the haste of this Bill. Said he has seen and inspected ranges and rifle arms facilities as part of a previous review. Says this Bill will do nothing to take guns off criminals and gangs. "Hugely disappointing".

Speaker 11: **David Seymour, Act.** Strongly Opposed. Noted 90% of 3,527 submissions opposed the Bill, 7% supported, 3% had no view. A key issue is it invades Doctor-Patient confidentiality. The register is a disaster and will be a disaster and will not stop crime. Noted that Police has lost personal data. (Note, Nash rudely interjected and was told off by the Speaker). Notes the regulation on clubs will make things far less safe due to onerous provisions and volunteers may not end up providing safe range areas. Says this Bill punishes law abiding people and punishes people that Labour say they listen to and care about. Says an inclusive Government would wait for the Royal Commission Report. Notes that the timing is "political theatrics" and this Bill must be opposed or changed by the next Government.

Speaker 12: **Kieran McAnulty, Labour.** For the Bill. Says the Bill is fair and reasonable. Attacks National for not supporting this Bill. As a keen hunter he supports this Bill.

Speaker 13: **Andrew Bayly, National.** Opposes the Bill. Says they do, however, support some reforms. Poor implementation of the first tranche is a concern. Says we need to get the 'grey weapons', but have not because of the poor management by Police. Critical of the process. Mentions clubs and says he has visited local clubs and ranges, and says they do all the right things and teach safe practices, but this Bill imposed stringent regulations on those very clubs. Clubs will create a safer environment. Clubs should be where that is done, but this Bill cuts to the core of the clubs. Supports sporting shooters and supports farms and pest controllers. Calls out NZ First for their absence. Says it puts too much burden on Police.

Speaker 14: **Ron Marks, NZ First.** Supports the Bill. Minister of Defence. Acknowledged submitters and law abiding gun owners. Says removing military style weapons was a good thing. Says they understand (but ignore) the view that the Royal Commission report should come out first. Many acknowledgments. Says NZ First has some "reservations". Says the Bill is fair and reasonable and pragmatic. Mentions this is about gangs and shootings. Need to have an Arms Authority for licencing and let Police enforce the laws, not do both, and there needs to be a "conversation". Issues around

pest control and sporting shooters. Mentions and acknowledges COLFO and its good work (it is not like NRA). Despite reservations, votes for the Bill.

COLFO FAIR AND REASONABLE CAMPAIGN - UPDATE ON COURT CHALLENGE

Last night I met with the lawyers again to discuss what Parliament is doing on the Arms Legislation Bill and our court case against Stuart Nash and the Government. This Court case is our one chance to have Stuart Nash and Jacinda Ardern's unfair decisions reviewed by the Courts before the election.

Now that the Parliamentary vote is so tight, the case is even more important to demonstrate to New Zealanders why what the Government is doing is wrong.

I know a lot of people have held off contributing to the cause until we could demonstrate that we had a good case, and a court date. That time is right now, so I am emailing to ask you to contribute to our legal fighting fund.

The judicial review is designed to enlist NZ First, National, and ACT, in reinstating what was once unchallenged principle: that taking away property rights and creating serious punishment overnight, is wrong. NZ First is the key.

Because the Select Committee heard and found nothing to justify most of this second instalment, there is no reason why NZ First can't tell their Cabinet colleagues they just won't allow last year's tragedy in Christchurch to be exploited. NZ First knows that the Bill attacks lawful firearms users, not criminals. They know the Bill has scarcely a single provision relevant to stopping terrorists or other criminal shooters (whether mad or bad).

But turning around a political juggernaut is hard. Politicians in a democracy respond to majority opinion. And as you've seen over the last eight months, we have been working furiously to ensure the public can look behind the slogans they heard at a vulnerable time last year.

So to win, we have to ensure there is enough media and public understanding of the facts so that (1) NZ First blocks the own goal aspects of the Bill, and (2) National also feel confident of enough public understanding to agree with (and support) any NZ First-led initiative.

Our Court case is an essential part of the campaign to show how wrong the Police advice has been, and how unprincipled. Media and other opinion leaders can start with prejudice, but they trust courts to be objective.

We have just been given the Court timetable: two days starting on 4 May at the High Court in Wellington (the Monday and Tuesday immediately following duck shooting opening weekend).

We have a strong case. We've chosen to take on the government on the set of facts where Stuart Nash and Jacinda Ardern are at their weakest. Our QC is getting ready to represent us. But we still need your help to get us to the fundraising target so we can put up the best possible case.

We've asked the Court to look at the Government's process in the banning of ammo. Because their ammo definitions have absolutely nothing to do with safety. Stuart Nash just applied Police prejudices, unsupported by research or disciplined risk assessments. Worse, they denied compensation completely, as if people with banned ammo became wrong-doers overnight.

So we are focused on this aspect, as our lawyers are confident that this route is the best demonstration

of the Government's lack of reason in poor processes by the Minister and the Police. But many of the principles and objections apply to the Government's approach in other areas.

Before the hearing, our team needs to finish gathering our evidence – including from international experts. We want to lodge affidavits from them, reply to the Government's evidence, make written legal submissions and cross submissions. All of those steps churn time and resources. We cannot let the Government burn us off, that is why I am asking for your support right now.

We are asking the court to recognise that a Minister without good reason to know it would make people safer, should get told to start again, and next time to offer fair compensation, or explain why not.

While the lawyers are heavily discounting their usual fees that fact is the Government is ensuring that this process isn't cheap.

To put our best foot forward, we need to raise at least \$41,500 to ensure we get a valuable precedent that everyone remembers, next time they want to scapegoat ordinary people instead of targeting criminals.

The Government's approach was designed to create a 'them and us' climate in New Zealand – to exploit an opportunity to create fear of firearms and of firearm owners. Winning this case makes it easier for sensible, decent people, who know little of firearms, to approve of their MPs cutting back on the toxic stuff in the Bill. It makes it more respectable to sympathise with our cause. Winning the case should get, at a minimum, a Judge to tell the Government to go back to the drawing board, at least on the ammo decisions.

And that is all part of the bigger, unending, campaign to ensure that for the foreseeable future, politicians are not tempted to think it will be easy to win votes by vilifying lawful firearms users.

Winning this case is a vital part of the strategy to cement in place a widespread Wellington understanding that lying about firearms users will cost more, politically, than it is worth. Because we will not lie down and take it. We will make the truth known. Please support this Court case, to make that happen.

Thank you for your support.

Nicole McKee

Spokesperson

Fair and Reasonable Campaign

You can follow the progress of the legal action on our website: www.fairandreasonable.co.nz

The committee has discussed making a donation to COLFO towards court costs and this will be discussed at the AGM.



SAFE USE OF FIREARMS

IS PART OF

THE KIWI WAY OF LIFE

WHY WE OPPOSE THE ARMS LEGISLATION BILL

A register of firearms will create a shopping list that could be hacked by criminals – putting people in your neighbourhood at risk. The real threat to community safety is criminal owned firearms – ones they own now, have stolen or smuggled. These will not be registered.

Licensing of rifle clubs and ranges will discourage volunteers – the people who oversee the safe use and control of firearms. When the clubs close, ranges will close, leaving only local public areas for users to practice.

Pests threaten our wildlife and economy, but the Bill limits special firearm permits for pest controllers, meaning our pest free 2050 goal will rely on poison

Government will punish legal firearms owners for technical license breaches with penalties that are harsher than penalties for deliberate crimes committed on citizens by criminals.

FAIR &
REASONABLE

Let's be fair and reasonable here –
please help protect our way of life.

www.fairandreasonable.co.nz

Hunting Reports

To try and attract more content, the **Club is giving \$50 prize for the best newsletter story in 2020.** Open to all members, so **please send stories and photos to the newsletter editor at wairarapanzda@gmail.com**

It seems that everybody is out hunting or busy writing their stories so nothing to report this month

<p>CARTERTON MEAT PROCESSORS</p> <p>WE SPECIALISE IN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bacon & Ham Curing• Small Goods & Salami• Wild Game• Beef & Sheep Processing <p>The Square, Carterton • Phone 06 379 8181 Craig & Ursulla • Fax 06 379 8182</p> 	<p>HUNTING & OUTDOOR SUPPLIES <i>Retail shop & mail order supplies of firearm & outdoor equipment</i></p> <hr/> <p>COLLINGS & BRADEY</p> <p>Ross Collings <i>Owner/Gunsmith</i></p> <p>62 Costley Street, Carterton, Wairarapa, New Zealand. Phone: 0064 6 379-6690 Fax: 06 379-6689 Email: ross@outdoorsupplies.co.nz Web site: www.outdoorsupplies.co.nz</p> 
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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.



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>

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