



New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association Wairarapa Branch Incorporated

Newsletter for **March 2021**

**Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 17 March
7:30 pm Parkvale Hall**

Firstly apologies for the lack of a February newsletter. Your editor was otherwise occupied in Antarctica ☺



Annual general meeting Wednesday 17 March 7:30 pm

Speaker **Gwyn Thurlow** the CEO of the National Office. We will be discussing a revised Constitution for the Branch. The AGM will also include the annual President's Report, 2020/21 Financial Report, and election of committee and officers. **Nominations for new committee members and office holders must be received in advance.** Please send any nominations to Aidan Bichan at yrapanzdasec@gmail.com or 027 432 3410 by **7 pm on Monday 15 March**. You can nominate yourself, but nominations must be seconded by a current financial member. The following existing committee members have agreed to stay on.

Martin Amos (President)
Tracy Amos
Phil Gray
Alex Beesley
Pete Cunningham

Aidan Bichan (Secretary)
Sean Roberts (Treasurer)
Lloyd Rayner
Richard O'Driscoll
Derrick Foley

Andrew Dennes (Vice-president) and Brad Gardiner are stepping down, so we will be looking for replacements. If there are multiple nominations for office holders there will be a vote. 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, or the decisions being made, 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. **Bring money for a raffle.** The AGM is once again supported by our friends at Wairarapa Hunting & Fishing.



Key Dates - Upcoming Trips and Events

17 MARCH AGM See details above

21 MARCH FIREWOOD WORKING BEE We still have some mature pine trees donated by Lloyd Rayner to ring and split. Starting Sunday 21 March 8 am at Lloyd's place 73 Diversion Road (off SH53). Bring your chainsaw, splitter, or just a pair of hands. Personal protective gear (including ear muffs) is absolutely essential! Wood on sale at the special price of \$50 per m3 for those that participate in the Working Bee

27 MARCH BRANCH CLAY TARGET SHOOT GLADSTONE RANGE A chance to get your eye in before duck-shooting or just to have some fun with a shotgun. Starting 10 am and followed by BBQ lunch. Cost \$20 per person for clays and bring your own ammo or buy on the day. For further information call Alex on 027 435 9216.

7 APRIL COMMITTEE MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm

21 APRIL NO GENERAL MEETING School holidays and hunting!

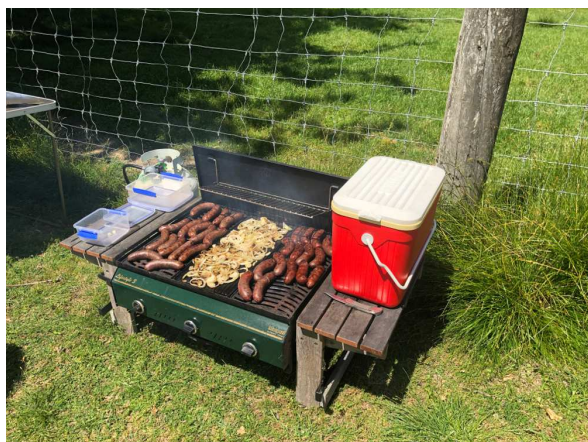
5 MAY COMMITTEE MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm

19 MAY GENERAL MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm. We have invited the police along to talk about new firearms licencing process (see details later in newsletter).

Recent Events

6 DECEMBER END OF YEAR BBQ MASTERTON DEER PARK

A good turn-out of about 20 members enjoyed catching up before Xmas on a hot Masterton day. Great to have this facility within our Branch.



12-13 DECEMBER WANGANUI FALLOW HUNT

Another successful trip. A little short on detail (or stories and photos!) but I understand everybody got deer who wanted them.

23-25 JANUARY TARARUA FLY-IN TRIP

Cancelled due to bad weather

17 FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

Our first meeting for 2021. About a dozen in attendance.



News

ALFREDTON HUNTS

The last weekend hunting on this property was 6-7 March when Steve Playle & Steve Martel were booked. The property is now on the market and our hunting lease will not be renewed. A shame as a number of members enjoyed success at this handy location. Thanks to Martin for arranging and managing this.

PARKVALE HALL

We are in the process of re-establishing the Parkvale Hall Society to facilitate transfer of the land to the Branch. Andrew Dennes has arranged for a trophy cabinet which will be installed during a Working Bee (date still to be arranged).

Regular bookings are still coming through which help to pay for rates and insurance. For hall bookings contact Martin on 027 3671635.

SEARCH AND RESCUE

A couple of call-outs including a shore search for a missing kayaker. Training night 11 March with SarEx 13-14 March. If you're interested in joining SAR please contact Phil Gray on 027 4740717.

RANGE & SHOOTING

No reports. Gladstone range is available for the use of members on weekends when not in use. Branch members get 6 free visits a year. If you want to sight a rifle the best opportunity is Wednesday afternoons between 3 pm and dark as there is nothing else on.

HUTS

No reports.

DEER PARK

Stag and buck are stripping now. We are discussing a proposal for a third pen.

FINANCIALS

Closing balance \$8,656 plus \$15,614 in term deposits. Full branch accounts will be presented at the AGM.

FUNDRAISING

Next firewood working bee 21 March. See details earlier in newsletter. Any surplus wood will be sold. Rates \$70 m³ for members who don't go to the working bee and \$100 per m³ for general public.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subs for 2021-22 are now due. You should have received an email from the National Office with a link where you can pay online by credit card or internet banking. I tried this out during the week and it looks like an efficient new system. Please don't delay. Remember you need to be a current financial member at the time of taking the trophy or photo if you want to enter Branch competitions.

CLOSING DATE FOR BRANCH AHT COMPETITIONS NOW 31 AUGUST

We have moved this forward a month (it used to be 30 September) to allow more time for scoring and engraving of trophies before the Annual Dinner in October.



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FIREARMS LICENCING

Police have now moved from the paper based system to a digital one for Firearms Licence applications and renewals. The single page hand written application to renew a Firearms Licence is no more. It has been replaced by an online 35 page pdf which applicants download from the Police website.

We have been told that this process is taking a long time (months) to complete. Please check the expiry date on your firearms licence and if you need to renew in next 6 months get onto it now! We have invited the Police to our May meeting to talk through the new process.

This is the link to the Police web site page on the new application method:

<https://www.police.govt.nz/advice-services/firearms-and-safety/licences-permits-and-endorsements/apply-new-zealand-firearms>

Hunting Reports

No stories **again** in the last three months! Come on I know that your editor is not the only one in the Branch that goes hunting! To encourage contributions we are offering a **prize of \$50 for the best newsletter story** from October 2020 to September 2021, Open to all members, so please send stories and photos to the newsletter editor at wairarapanzda@gmail.com.

So to fill the page this month here are a selection of photos from Richard & Peter O'Driscoll of their December trip to the Victoria Range on the West Coast.



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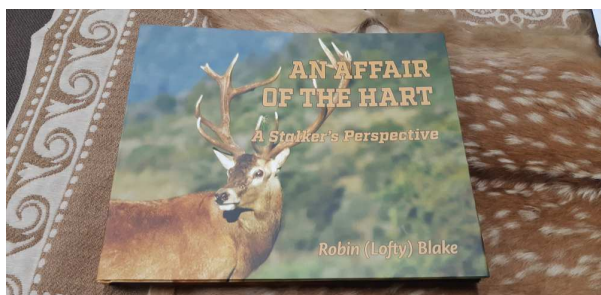
If you have hunting or outdoor related items that you want to buy, sell, or swap, then we'll include these in the Newsletter free of charge (better than TradeMe). Send items (with picture if you wish) to wairarapanzda@gmail.com

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.

Book: An Affair of the Hart.



Fourteen copies available for \$60 each. That's a bargain for a hardback coffee table book. Pick up from the hall, or postage extra. Email wairarapanzda@gmail.com if you would like to purchase a copy.



NZDA MERCHANDISE

NZDA T-Shirts and NZDA Bumper Stickers can now be purchased through their online shop! They have sourced high quality items that will last.

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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.



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The website is at: <http://www.wairarapanzda.org.nz/>. Thanks to **Nick Perkins** our website administrator.