



New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association Wairarapa Branch Incorporated

Newsletter for **November 2021**

Special General Meeting 17 November
7:30 pm Parkvale Hall

Special General Meeting 17 November

To discuss and approve the new Branch Constitution (Rules). The new Constitution was distributed by email on 15 October and will align the branch rules with other branches. The current constitution can be read on the Incorporated Societies Register (216621, or NZBN 9429042676720).

Most of the changes are administrative in nature, such as to enable the setting of the coming years fees in November each year, rather than at the AGM some 9 months prior.

Resolution to be passed: "That the New Zealand Deerstalkers Association (Wairarapa Branch) Incorporated Rules, as last amended on 27 July 2001, be replaced by the Constitution as circulated to members on 15 October 2021."

We look forward to seeing members at the meeting. This should only take 15 minutes and will be followed by our usual meeting. Speaker is still to be confirmed but we have a couple of good options.

Christmas Barbecue Sunday 28 November

Starting 11 am at Dave Mackay's place 1360 Te Whiti Road, Gladstone. Club will provide sausages and bread. BYO salads, drinks, steak, patties etc. There will be opportunity for those that want to shoot some targets, so bring along a rifle too. The barbecue is instead of our December general meeting. No meeting in January,



Key Dates - Upcoming Trips and Events

17 NOVEMBER SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm. See details above

20-21 NOVEMBER WANGANUI SPRING FALLOW HUNT #1 Full.

28 NOVEMBER CHRISTMAS BARBECUE In place of our December general meeting. See details above

1 DECEMBER COMMITTEE MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm.

4-5 DECEMBER WANGANUI SPRING FALLOW HUNT #2 Full.

NO JANUARY COMMITTEE OR GENERAL MEETINGS.

2 FEBRUARY COMMITTEE MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm.

16 FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm. Our first meeting for 2022.

26-27 FEBRUARY SIKA SHOW Postponed from 20-21 November due to Covid restrictions

4-7 MARCH KAWEKA FLY-IN TRIP Still places available.



Recent Events

16 OCTOBER ANNUAL DINNER & PRIZE-GIVING

A really good turnout with 95 members present. Good fun, good food, with some happy award & raffle winners!





AHT Competition Results

- Red deer, public land (Avon Tatton Shield) – **Brad Gardiner**
- Red deer, private land (Steve Ticehurst cup) - **Craig Hansen**
- Classic Red deer (J.M. Jury shield) – **Paul Hodgins**
- Best goat head (Crawford Cameron shield) – **Brad Gardiner**
- Best head where a trophy fee is paid (Playle trophy) – **Garry Warren**
- Best pig jaw –undrawn tusks (Harvie Morrow shield) – **Brad Gardiner**
- 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 – not awarded
- Tahr / Chamois (Max Cole Barometer) – **Peter O'Driscoll**
- Best trophy head by a junior – **Peter O'Driscoll**
- Best trophy head by a female – **Olivia Hansen**

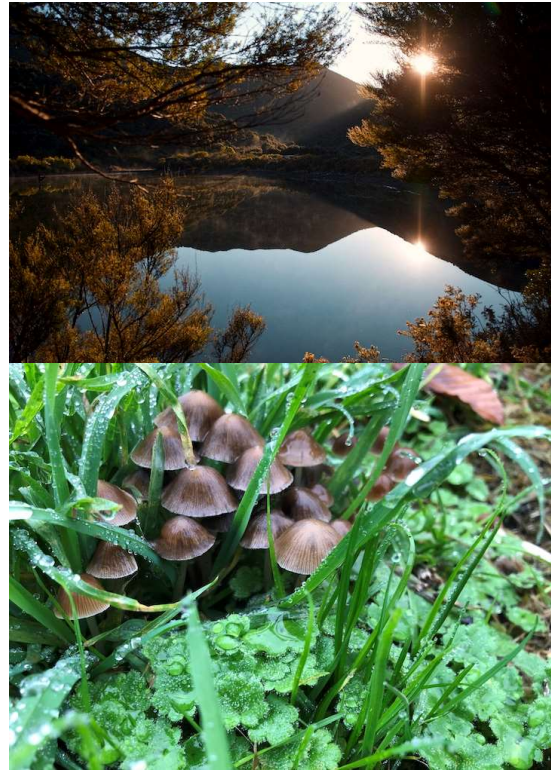
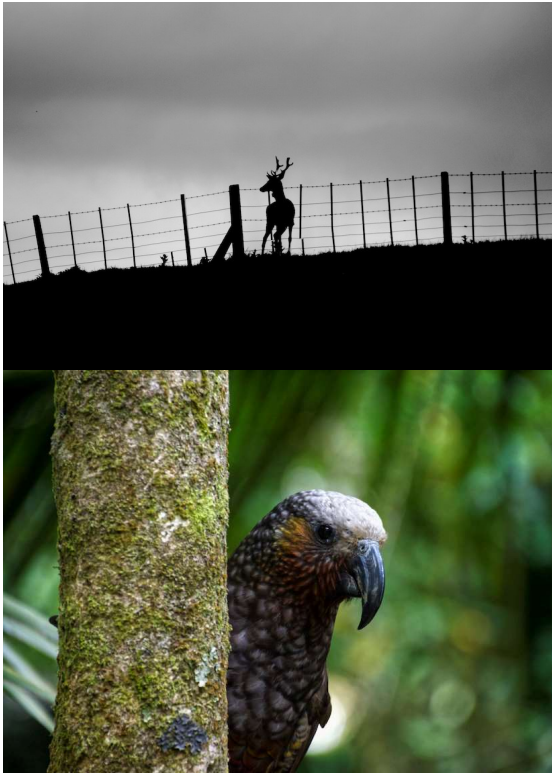


Photographic competition results

Photos were judged (anonymously) by Featherston professional photographer Sharisse Eberlein:

<https://sharisseeberlein.co.nz/>

- Game animals in their wild, outdoor state (W.F. McIntyre Cup)
 - 1st: **Peter O'Driscoll** Skyline buck
 - 2nd Peter O'Driscoll Just Bill
 - 3rd Clair Johnstone Sika hind
- Other Wildlife in its wild, outdoor state and not in any form of captivity (V.V. Donald Shield)
 - 1st **Peter O'Driscoll** Cheeky kaka
 - 2nd Clair Johnstone Tui
 - 3rd Clair Johnstone Wild horse
- Scenic relative to the sport of hunting (B.W. Newport Cup)
 - 1st **Peter O'Driscoll** Dam reflections
 - 2nd Geoff Lindsay Scree
 - 3rd Clair Johnstone Fishing boat sunrise
- Other – not covered in other categories (K Gear Cup)
 - 1st **Morag O'Driscoll** Wet fungi
 - 2nd Peter O'Driscoll Homeward bound
 - 3rd Morag O'Driscoll Toadstool family
- Junior photograph (Amos Cup)
 - Peter O'Driscoll** Cheeky kaka



Shooting competition results (full results next page):

- Clay target shooting – **Greg Hamilton**
- Senior smallbore – **Richard O'Driscoll**
- Open Centrefire – **Martin Amos**
- F-class – **Alex Beesley**
- Military – **Alex Beesley**
- Ladies Aggregate – **Alex Beesley**
- Junior smallbore – **Peter O'Driscoll**
- Junior F-class – **Rhys Amos**
- Swazi shoot (juniors)
 - 1st: **Peter O'Driscoll**
 - 2nd Rhys Amos
 - 3rd Liam Dennes
- Indoor smallbore senior– **Hamish Graham**
- Indoor smallbore junior– **Peter O'Driscoll**



19 SEPTEMBER BRANCH COMPETITION SHOOT RESULTS

Class..... NZOA Annual Comp 2021

Shooter Name	Score	Place
<i>Junior .22</i>		.22 Swazi
<i>Peter O'Briscoll</i>	$78 + 37 = 115$	1st 1st
<i>Rhys Amos</i>	$53 + 55 = 108$	2nd 2nd
<i>Liam Bennes</i>	$36 + 0 = 36$	3rd 3rd
<i>Military</i>		
<i>Alex Beesley</i>	85	1st
<i>Junior F-Class</i>		
<i>Rhys Amos</i>	$45 + 41 = 86$	1st
<i>Peter O'Briscoll</i>	$42 + 43 = 85$	2nd
<i>Liam Bennes</i>	$41 + 40 = 81$	3rd
<i>Centric Fire</i>		
<i>Martin Amos</i>	141	1st
<i>Richard O'Briscoll</i>	127	2nd
<i>Alex Beesley</i>	122	3rd
<i>Aaron Loder</i>	111	4th
<i>Peter O'Briscoll</i>	107	5th
<i>Derrick Foley</i>	90	6th
<i>Rhys Amos</i>	73	7th

Class..... NZOA Annual Comp 2021

Shooter Name	Score	Place
Senior .22		
Richard O'Briscoll	$35 + 78 = 113$	1st
Andrew Bennes	$38 + 76 = 111$	2nd
Derrick Foley	$37 + 85 = 102$	3rd
Martin Amos	$61 + 34 = 95$	4th
Alex Beesley	$32 + 62 = 94$	5th
Aggregate		
Richard O'Briscoll	$127 + 113 = 240$	1st
Martin Amos	$141 + 95 = 236$	2nd
Peter O'Briscoll	$107 + 115 = 222$	3rd
Alex Beesley	$122 + 94 = 216$	4th
Derrick Foley	$90 + 102 = 192$	5th
Rhys Amos.	$73 + 108 = 181$	6th
Senior F-Class		
Alex Beesley	$45 + 43 = 88$	1st
Martin Amos	$37 + 48 = 85$	2nd
Paul Sayer	$24 + 38 = 62$	3rd
Barry Meade	$10 + 12 = 22$	4th

Ladies : Alex Beesley $122 + 94 = 216$.



News

HUNTING TRIPS

Wanganui fallow spring hunts 20-21 November and 4-5 December. Due to demand two of these popular weekends have been scheduled and both filled up quickly. Over 20 members will get a chance to get some nice fallow venison.

Kaweka fly-in sika hunt 4-7 March 2022: Tira Lodge (Venison Tops), Studholme Saddle Hut, and Back Ridge Biv booked, about \$475 pp for 10-12 members. Still 4-5 spots available. Contact Lloyd Rayner on 027 6080325.

PARKVALE HALL

The committee has passed the resolution of transfer of land from Parkvale Hall Society and this is back with the lawyers. Regular hall bookings are coming through. Heat pump has had to be re-ordered, but will be installed soon. We have submitted insurance claim for damage to front wall. Committee is getting quotes for painting hall. **PHONE 022 323 6993 for hall bookings.**

SEARCH AND RESCUE

SAREX for Wellington and Wairarapa is on 13-14 November. A couple of recent responses to PLB activations. If you're interested in joining SAR please contact Phil Gray on 027 4740717.

RANGE & SHOOTING

There will be an opportunity for a target shoot associated with the Christmas barbecue. 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. Take advantage of daylight saving!

HUTS

Andrew Dennes and Kane Sayer walked into Sayers Hut last weekend and made plans for renovations and re-cladding. A Building Assessment Plan has been submitted to DOC and work will be funded through Backcountry Trust.

DOC LIAISON

The Branch is working with DOC and the Heritage Trust about the work planned on Sayers Hut. There is an opportunity for members to receive DOC Chainsaw Training. If you are interested please contact Derrick Field on 027 6358994.

DEER PARK

We will be selling the surplus red and fallow yearlings before hinds/does drop this year's fawns.

FINANCIALS

Bank balance \$13,467.37 + \$15,738.44 in term deposits. The dinner made a net profit of about \$260.

FIREWOOD/FUNDRAISING

Dave Bashford has log ends available and these will be dropped off at David Mackay's for future working bees. Dates to be advised.



NZDA Advocacy Campaign Over Summer

It's time for NZDA to advocate a bit harder and very publicly, but I cannot do that without content, info, facts and pictures. With Forest & Bird ramping up their campaigns for summer, and targeting specifically deer, we are equally going to need to ramp up with content based on credibility, not propaganda.

Hopefully, you have seen the splash we have been making online via social media, over the last week. Please see the following link to Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/NZDANational>

Over the last 7 days, we have organically (without spending a cent), reached over 41,000 people and been on-shared 932 times. I had a meeting with DOC yesterday and they're on the backfoot.

Our members and the wider hunting community are eager to see more information around hunter led stories, and what goes on within the Association, and all the actual "on-the-ground" work we do. To keep up this phenomenal work, I going to need your help. I know many of you have great stories like that of Marlborough Branch that are worth sharing.

What I need from you

- 50–350 Word Summary
- 1-6 Key images (not blurry)
- Facts and numbers
- Stories should be relevant, within the last 5 years.

Topics of interest

- Game animal management
- Pest control / wilding pines
- Hut maintenance
- Volunteer work
- Backcountry work
- Anything topical that highlights the virtues of hunting and the identity of hunters in New Zealand.

- Hunter training when out on the hunting weekend.

Remember, send in pictures. Supporting imagery is essential. Posts without images don't get the same amount of views

If you can send something to me directly and Courtney Pellow (who's going to help over summer as a part-time Commination Coordinator because she's on her uni break) over the next few weeks:

1. Gwyn.Thurlow@deerstalkers.org.nz
2. Courtney.Pellow@deerstalkers.org.nz

If each Branch gave us 1 or 2 ideas, we'd have enough content to post 49 – 100+ times over the next 2-3 months. Now is your time to help NZDA. Now is your time to help me advocate for you and all recreational hunters.

I hope you realise this is the beginning of Deer-mageddon. We don't want to lose.

Thanks in advance for your time. Especially because I know you're all volunteers - I greatly appreciate and know what you do as branches and members, but we now need to tell all New Zealanders.

Gwyn Thurlow
Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel

COLFO

Police do not know source of 82% of illegal firearms

Research has revealed that although Police claim that the source of illegal firearms is licensed firearm owners, it cannot find the source of 82% of the firearms it seizes - opening the possibility that they enter the country with drugs and other contraband.

The Council of Licenced Firearms Owners (COLFO) has written to Police Minister Poto Williams to advise that after two years' work it has discovered that the Police have insufficient evidence for claims that legal firearm owners are a major source of firearms to gangs and organised crime groups.

The revelation has undermined Police Commissioner Andrew Coster's recent claim that Operation Tauwhiro exists because "our biggest concern is firearms stolen out of the lawful fleet".

COLFO's enquiry started in 2019 when the Police Association and then Commissioner Bush made the claim, based on documents originally presented to the 2017 Law and Order select committee.

The guidance given to the Select Committee stated "Sources of Illegally obtained firearms -Burglaries or theft from individuals or dealers' premises is the primary source of illegally obtained firearms, followed by those sold to non-licensed people by legal owners or dealers."

COLFO requested information that supported the statement and were supplied with intelligence summary reports 2015 (Firearms and Organised Crime: Illicit Supply, Possession and Use) and 2016 (Firearms Availability in New Zealand). This report was based on a study of firearms from a 6-month period in 2015, which found only 10% came from licensed owners either through burglary (4%) or sourced from individuals illegally (6%).

In the decade of 2010-2020 the number of seized firearms was approximately 13,000. Based on the numbers from the 2015 study, about 780 would have been provided by licenced owners. OIA responses from Police show that about 300 (2%) of illegally owned firearms that police seized were found to be stolen, and were

returned to their owners. Over the same 2010-2020 period there were 6,000 firearms stolen from approximately 2000 licenced owners - not even half of those were seized.

COLFO Spokesperson Hugh Devereux-Mack said the country's biggest concern should be the hard to find, and possibly international sources of the 82% of all seized firearms.

"Our analysis of research conducted by Police, has found that the Police do not have evidence that the majority of criminal firearms come from licensed firearm owners (LFOs).

"They're choosing to target licensed firearm owners because our community of law abiding, vetted citizens is the easiest place to look.

"There's anecdotal evidence of smuggled firearms, and if other illegal substances can be imported, so can firearms," he said.

The 2016 report said "Burglary from licensed firearms owners is likely to be the primary source of firearms for criminals, although this has never been established definitively. "

It is clear from the number of firearms being stolen, and those recovered and identified as coming from LFOs, that there are tens of thousands of firearms illegally possessed, and most must not originate from LFOs. These firearms exist outside the legal system and therefore police insistence that a register of legally held firearms would protect New Zealanders does not stand up to scrutiny.

"Police have made this claim repeatedly to the Prime Minister and other Ministers for policy development, to Select Committee reviews of legislation, and to the media and public to justify enforcement tactics.

The word 'LIKELY' makes a claim of probability. In intelligence circles familiar to Police, the probability assigned to 'LIKELY' is 50 - 70%, and means there is tangible direct evidence.

"Making claims without evidence is not what the public and Government expect of the Police. It is not acceptable in their daily enforcement work, and it is not acceptable in their input to Government policy. Given the findings contained within Police's own reports, Police's claim that licensed firearm owners are the likely source of criminal arms must end from this moment until they present real evidence," Devereux-Mack said.

COLFO said it hoped Operation Tauwhiro would reveal new information that could lead to a reevaluation of the effective value of a firearms registry, but the result would not justify years of misleading Parliament, the Police Minister, Media and the public without evidence.

OSPRI Release of the National Aerial Operations Plan 2022

We are now inviting feedback on our 2022 National Aerial Operations plan for TBfree pest control operations.

The feedback document and details about how to make a submission are available here:

<https://www.ospri.co.nz/assets/ResourcePDFs/National-Aerial-Operations-Plan-2022.pdf>

The plan outlines the proposed aerial 1080 pest control operations in support of the National Pest Management Plan for 2022.

You will see in the submission form that we are asking for feedback on the boundaries, timing and nature of the proposed aerial operations.

The feedback period runs from **26 October 2021 to 26 November 2021** and there are a number of ways to make a submission, including an online submission form. If you would like to meet to discuss please contact us.

We believe that it is important to undertake effective and timely consultation. This will provide an opportunity for people and organisations interested in, or affected by, our pest control operations including landowners, farmers, hunters and recreational land users to discuss any concerns they may have regarding the proposed operations.

If you have any immediate questions or comments please contact consultation@ospri.co.nz

Tahr Hunting Opportunities

To help hunters plan their next hunting trip and contribute to tahr control, DOC have published two new maps on our website showing areas where bull tahr have recently been observed in Management Units (MU) 2 (South Whitcombe/Whataroa) and 6 (Landsborough).

We have also published four new maps of the aerial control undertaken to date for the 2021/22 Operational Plan. These cover control undertaken in MU 2, MU 4 (Westland Tai Poutini and Aoraki Mt Cook National Parks) and MU 6. Previous maps from aerial surveys, control and observations remain available.

View new maps here: <https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/things-to-do/hunting/what-to-hunt/tahr/tahr-control-operations/tahr-sightings-maps/>

DOC Update on 2021/22 Tahr Control Operational Plan operations

Since July, aerial control operations have been undertaken in Management Units 2 (South Whitcombe/Whataroa), 3 (Gammack/ Two Thumb), 4A (Westland Tai Poutini National Park), 4B (Aoraki Mt Cook National Park), 5 (Ben Ohau) and 6 (Landsborough). The majority of planned aerial control for 2021/22 inside the Management Units is now complete. Some control work will still be occurring inside the feral range, outside Management Units (this will have concluded by mid-November).

No further aerial control will be conducted in MUs 2, 3, 4B, 5 or 6 under this annual Operational Plan (which runs through to 30 June 2022) and control within MU 4A will conclude by mid-November. This means from now there will be no further aerial control under the current annual Operational Plan in six of the Management Units (MU 1, MU 2, MU 3, MU 5, MU 6 and MU 7), as South Rakaia/Rangitata (MU 1) and Wills/Makarora/Hunter (MU 7) are not receiving any aerial control under the 2021/22 Operational Plan.

View the plan here: <https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/parks-and-recreation/hunting/tahr/tahr-control-operational-plan-2021-22.pdf>

We will provide a final update on this year's operations inside the feral range in early December. This will also be published on our website and will include sharing maps showing identifiable male tahr observations, maps showing where control has occurred to date, and confirmation of when work in each area is complete for the season.



**Wife texts husband on a cold winter morning:
"Windows frozen, won't open."
Husband texts back: "Gently pour some lukewarm water over it and then gently tap edges with hammer."
Wife texts back 10 minutes later: "Computer really messed up now."**

Stick a Turkey leg in a sneaker and let your dog patrol your yard.



Hunting Reports

No stories this month. The **prize of \$50 for the best newsletter story runs** from October 2021 to September 2022. Open to all members, so please send stories and photos to the newsletter editor at wairarapanzda@gmail.com.

The winner of the 2020–21 newsletter story competition was **Liz Nicholson** for “A story about my new binos” from our June 2021 newsletter. Thanks to Branch life member, Howard Egan, for once again judging the story competition.

Photos bellow of **Peter O’Driscoll** with his first red stag from the Ruahine foothills, 9 October 2021.



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.


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. Would make a great Christmas present. Email wairarapanzda@gmail.com if you would like to purchase a copy.



NZDA MERCHANDISE

<https://nzda.shop/collections/all>

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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



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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** our website administrator.