



New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association Wairarapa Branch Incorporated

Newsletter for **September 2021**

General meeting Wednesday 15 September
7:30 pm Parkvale Hall

(Meeting will only go ahead if Level 2 or lower)

General meeting 15 September

After a month of disruptions, hopefully can have a post-lockdown get together. Meeting will only occur under level 2 or lower.



PHONE 022 323 6993 for hall bookings and as a general club contact.

Key Dates - Upcoming Trips and Events

10-12 SEPTEMBER SIKA HUNT CLMENTS MILL ROAD Will only happen under Level 2 or lower. For inquiries contact Derrick Foley 027 2314846.

15 SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm. Level 2 or under.

19 SEPTEMBER BRANCH COMPETITION SHOOT Sunday starting 10 am at Gladstone range. Level 2 or under. Details and competition rules later in newsletter.

6 OCTOBER COMMITTEE MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm.

16 OCTOBER ANNUAL DINNER & PRIZE-GIVING On Saturday night in Parkvale Hall.

20 OCTOBER SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm. To discuss and approve the new Branch constitution. This will be distributed ahead of the meeting.

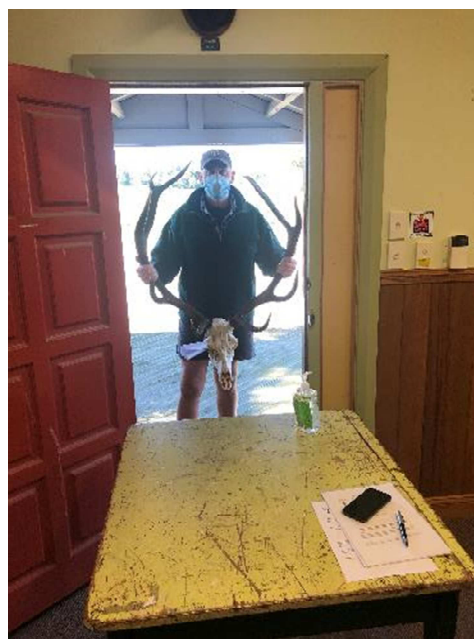


Recent Events

18 AUGUST GENERAL MEETING Cancelled. A real shame as we had **Ollie from Free Range Hunting NZ** based at Te Awaiti arranged to give a talk. Hopefully we can get Ollie and Holly back at a later date.

1 SEPTEMBER COMMITTEE MEETING Cancelled

AHT & PHOTO ENTRIES CLOSE Entry date was extended to 4 September with contactless drop-off arranged at Parkvale Hall. Some good entries came in. Prize-giving will be at annual dinner.



News

HUNTING TRIPS

Weekend sika hunt at Clements Mill Rd 10-12 September. If at Level 2 or under.

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. Contact Lloyd Rayner on 027 6080325.

Wanganui fallow spring hunts Two planned for after lambing. Dates will likely be in Nov-Dec. Watch this space.

PARKVALE HALL

PHONE 022 323 6993 for hall bookings. PVHS, no further progress, still waiting on their lawyer. Heat pump installation (planned before end of August) delayed due to Covid.

SEARCH AND RESCUE

No update If you're interested in joining SAR please contact Phil Gray on 027 4740717.

RANGE & SHOOTING

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.

Wairarapa NZDA Annual Competition Shoot Gladstone Range Sunday 19 September 2021 at 10 am

This event will be conducted at the Gladstone Range (we thank our WPSSC friends for allowing us the use of Range 6 for the event). The event will proceed regardless of the weather. The branch will supply a BBQ lunch but bring along \$2 if you'd like a can of drink.

We have a lot of events to shoot and only a short time in which to complete them all, so please listen carefully to the range staff and help out with any setting up, packing up etc.

Match 1. Junior (under 18 years of age) Rimfire

50 yards, 20 rounds. 5 shots prone, 5 shots sitting, 5 shots kneeling, 5 shots standing.

Match 2. Senior Rimfire

50 yards, 20 rounds. 5 shots prone, 5 shots sitting, 5 shots kneeling, 5 shots standing.

Match 3 Centrefire (Up to 8 mm)

100 yards, 20 rounds. 5 shots prone, 5 shots sitting, 5 shots kneeling, 5 shots standing.

PLEASE NOTE FOR MATCHES 1, 2 AND 3

- Are to be shot unsupported- no slings, bipods, rests etc.
- Scopes are to be set not exceeding 6x power.
- Sporting stock configuration only- no thumb hole stocks.
- No special target shooting clothing, gloves, jackets etc.
- No heavy or target barrels to be used.

Match 4. F Class

100 yards, 10 rounds. F Class up to 8 mm calibre, max score 110, any aids-bipods, slings, rests, barrel-stock configurations are allowed.

Match 5. Military

100 yards, 10 rounds. Military rifles to be bolt action, iron sighted (open sighted-no scopes, Parker Hale target sights), be of actual military origin (may be sporterised but not restocked with a sporting stock) and must be a military calibre i.e.; 6.5 x 55, .303 etc.

Notes:

All shooters to bring their own ammunition. Shooting mats may be used. No muzzle breaks.

Branch trophies will be competed for in the following categories:

- Centrefire
- Rimfire
- Open Aggregate
- Women's aggregate
- F Class Senior
- F Class Junior
- Military

Range rules will be read out to you on the day but I would like to remind all:

- All shooters/spectators must abide by the WPSSC range rules.
- All children are to have a parent/guardian supervise them at all times.
- All visitors must sign the range book on arrival.
- Hearing protection must be worn.
- Chamber flags must be used as are now mandatory (I have some to loan but otherwise can be obtained from the range for \$2.50 each).
- Firearms must be in good mechanical order.

If you require any more information please do not hesitate to call Alex on 027 4359216

HUTS

We have reviewed our annual hut maintenance agreement from DOC for Neill Forks and Sayers Huts (current until 2023). We are still planning renovations on Sayers Hut.

DOC LIAISON

A meeting will be arranged between our Branch, DOC and the Heritage Trust about the work planned on Sayers Hut.

DEER PARK

Deer are being given lots of treats by members of the public. We will have a meeting with Council about extending the enclosure after Covid restrictions ease.

FINANCIALS

Bank balance \$14,807.41 + \$15,738.44 in term deposits. Hall insurance has been rolled over with higher cover.

MEMBERSHIPS

Branch has 135 members (71 senior members, 33 family members, 23 superannuates, 5 associates, & 3 affiliates).

FIREWOOD/FUNDRAISING

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



HUNTING UNDER COVID

Hunting During Level 4

Recreational hunting is not permitted or practical during Alert Level 4.

One of the primary reasons recreational activities such as hunting are off the cards during alert Level 4, is that when things do go wrong, the emergency response often involves a large number of people from multiple bubbles which increases the risk of community transmission and unnecessarily puts more people at risk. In addition, all DOC facilities are closed under Level 4. While it may be common to think “it won’t happen to me”, sometimes it just does.

Hunting During Level 3

Alert Level 3 means COVID-19 is within the community, but:

- Hunting is allowed on both private land and public conservation land in Level 3. However, you must stay within your region and stick to your bubble.
- Overnight trips are not allowed.
- You can only hunt on foot — using quad bikes, off-road bikes, helicopters and other motorised vehicles is not allowed.
- Local regulations must be followed at all times, i.e. DOC permit terms or regional council access terms.
- Land owner permission is required, and you cannot mix bubbles so it creates a technical issue accessing private land that's not part of your bubble.
- All DOC huts, campsites, lodges and toilets remain closed at Level 3.
- All NZDA Ranges should remain closed and club activities are not practical due to mixing of bubbles.

Hunting During Level 2

Alert Level 2 means there are or may be COVID-19 cases in the community, but the situation is largely under control.

- Hunting is generally allowed.
- Overnight trips and fly-ins are okay.
- NZDA facilities and events are okay to re-open / occur. There are guidelines to follow that may be too impractical to manage for some branches/events run by volunteers.
- DOC facilities are fully open, including visitor centres, huts, campsites and toilets.
- Bookings for accommodation can continue to be made.

Hunting During Level 1

At Alert Level 1, everyone can enjoy the great outdoors and branch activities, provided it is done safely.

- NZDA facilities re-opened and events can happen.
- DOC facilities will be fully open without restrictions.



Hunting Reports

A great little story for a junior member this month. Not all hunting has to be about big game! The **prize of \$50 for the best newsletter story** from October 2020 to September 2021 will be announced at the prize-giving. We will run the competition again from October 2021 to September 2022. Open to all members, so please send stories and photos to the newsletter editor at wairarapanzda@gmail.com.

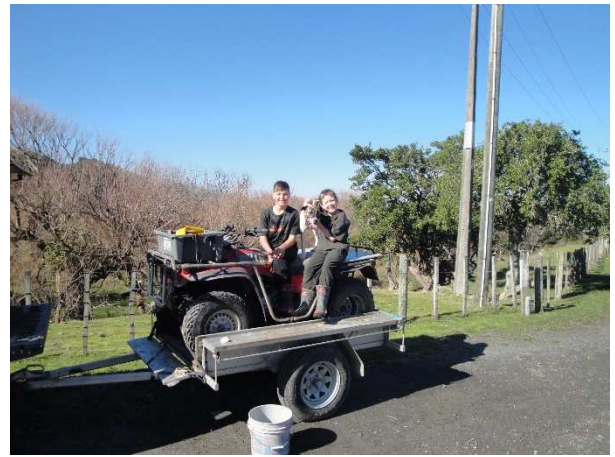
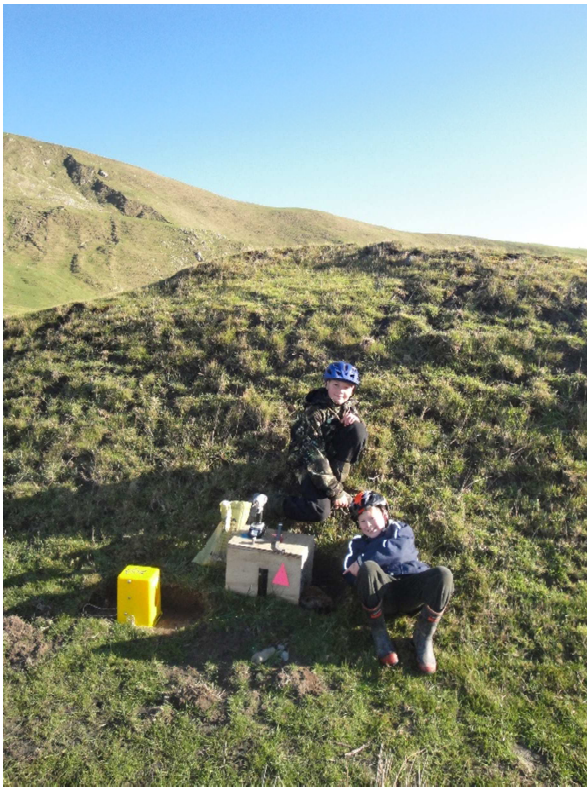
Rat Trapping **by Callum Dennes**

The weekend before lockdown myself, Liam and Dad went to White Rock to help Joe and Jamie clear some traps. On the way out we saw a hind feeding up on a clearing in the sun. On Saturday afternoon we loaded up the quad and rode out to the Station boundary to start at the top of our line and work down river. We did a few traps and then when we crossed the River we got stuck in the soft sand. We had to jump off the bike and Dad got it out of the hole. The River had been up and through a few of the traps so we had to clean them out. The bank had washed away and taken one of the traps with it, so we climbed out on the tree and got the marker for our new trap. Then on the way to the next one Liam spotted the old trap in the rushes so we picked it up. We had to jump across a creek to get to our next trap and I landed in the mud and lost my shoes, so Dad had to dig around and find them.

Some dark clouds came in fast and then it started hailing really hard, so we raced back to the Shearers Quarters for a hot shower and dinner. The next day we started at the sea end and rode up the River. We got three rats and four hedgehogs in our traps and Dad got the bike stuck in the River again! We were finished before lunch so we went back to the Quarters for lunch then packed up our gear and cleaned up. We stopped in Marty for an icecream on the way home.

The end.





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Make Bacon

A cartoon illustration of two pink pigs standing and holding a red heart. Above them is a speech bubble that says "Make Bacon".

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A logo consisting of a black silhouette of a deer's head with antlers, facing left, enclosed within a black circle.

Buy, Sell, and Swap

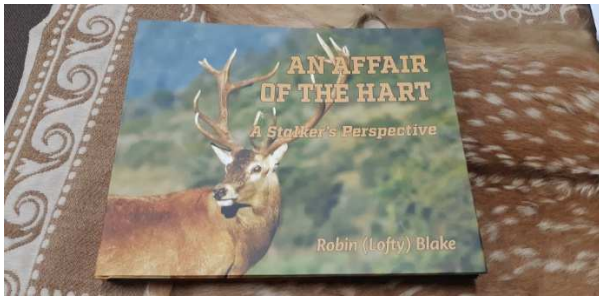
If you have hunting or outdoor related items that you want to buy, sell, or swap, then we'll include these in the Newsletter free of charge (better than TradeMe). Send items (with picture if you wish) to wairarapanzda@gmail.com

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.

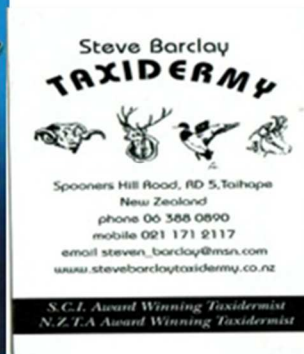
Book: An Affair of the Hart.

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>



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