

# New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association Wairarapa Branch Incorporated

Newsletter for April 2023

No General Meeting in April
Gone Hunting!!
Next meeting Wednesday 17 May

# **Key Dates - Upcoming Trips and Events**

1-2 APRIL WANGANUI FALLOW MEAT HUNT 15 members going. Report next month.

#### NO COMMITTEE OR GENERAL MEETINGS IN APRIL It's the roar!

30 APRIL FIREWOOD WORKING BEE Sunday starting at 8 am at Dave McKay's place 1360 Te Whiti Road, Gladstone (just north of Gladstone school, just before the dip/windy section). We will be ringing and splitting the remaining gum. Please bring chainsaw, splitter, or just a pair of hands, and all personal protective gear including hearing protection. Check your emails before coming as we will send an email out if the weather is too inclement. Gum is available for sale at \$100 per m³ for participants (\$130 per m³ for everybody else), so bring your ute/trailer.

3 MAY COMMITTEE MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm.

#### 6-7 MAY DUCKSHOOTING OPENING WEEKEND

17 MAY GENERAL MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm. Speaker Hamish Graham on his rifle set-ups for a range of hunting conditions.

7 JUNE COMMITTEE MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm.

21 JUNE GENERAL MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm. Enrolment for upcoming club trips. Come along to sign up for 2024 Kaweka hunts.

21-23 JULY 2023 NATIONAL NZDA CONFERENCE To be held at Hotel Ashburton hosted by Ashburton, Rakaia & Malvern Branches. If you're interested in going call Andrew Dennes on 027 2955300.

APRIL 2024 KAWEKA SIKA FLY-IN HUNTS We have booked Tussock, Harkness, & Te Puke Huts. Come to the June general meeting to sign up and find out details.

# **Recent Events**

# 5 MARCH FIREWOOD WORKING BEE #2

A good turn-out at Dave McKay's place 1360 Te Whiti Road, Gladstone got about halfway through ringing and splitting the remaining gum logs. Another working bee is scheduled on 30 April to finish these off.

# 26 MARCH FIREWOOD WORKING BEE #3

Seventeen members got stuck into ringing and splitting pine and gum logs at a property outside of Martinborough. There is still gum to split and a splitter has been left onsite. If you split it yourself, this wood is \$50 per m<sup>3</sup>. Please contact Gary Warren on 027 2821112 to arrange access (i.e., don't just turn up!).





#### 29 MARCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

A total of 33 members attended the AGM which included the annual President's Report, 2022/23 Financial Report, and election of committee and officers.

#### President's Report

Branch president Andrew Dennes described the following highlights from the last year:

- Memberships
- o Continued increase in branch members.

- Need to appoint a new Membership Officer on committee (Sean Roberts stepping down).
- Hunting trips
- o Four very successful Wanganui trips (thanks to Andrew Wilkinson).
- o Kaweka trip (organised by Lloyd Rayner).
- Stewart Island trip (organised by Lloyd).
- Hute
- Re-cladding and refurbishment of Sayers Hut.
- Hall
- o Securing land title (followed by round of applause for Sean Roberts).
- Record rentals.
- Fundraising
- o Good turn-out at firewood working bees.
- Very successful day of 4WD marshalling.
- Annual dinner
- Deer park
- Range & shooting
- Land SAR

He finished by thanking all the committee members and other volunteers and all our sponsors, particularly:

- Hunting & Fishing
- King & Henry
- o Swazi
- Valley Plumbing
- Quality Builders
- Amalgamated Helicopters

## **Financial Report**

Treasurer Sean Roberts tabled the financial statement to 28 February 2023, reviewed by Bill Duncan.

The last financial year has been very good from a financial aspect with another excess of income over expenditure exceeding \$4,000. This was helped by a generous donation of over \$5,000 from Quality Builders relating to the hall repairs, and some \$1,500 from Valley Plumbing for the annual dinner prizes. This builds on their generous financial assistance in the prior year. Thank you to those two companies. Hall hire income was also substantial and I'd like to thank Andrew Dennes for his work on building this revenue up. While fee income from membership increased it was not at the prior year level as the capitation was not paid for by National Patron Sir Mark Dunajtschik so a comparison to 2021 is more appropriate. Membership increased by 32 from 159 to 191 during the year. The main change was in senior memberships accounting for 24, with 6 superannuants. As required by the constitution, the 2023/2024 fees were set by the committee in November 2022 and advised to members. Invoices have been sent to members for the coming year at those revised rates. The 2022/2023 membership is valid until 30 May 2023.

Expenses were significant for the Sayer Hut renovation, however the \$3,439 is to be repaid to us by Back Country Trust. The committee also increased the insurance cover for the Hall which had an impact on the premium. With the hall title now being in the branches name the 2022 committee has stated the branch will be

looking to expend a not insignificant amount of money on fencing the perimeter. Grants and/or sponsorship will be looked at to minimise this cost, including members labour, but it is important that this be progressed in the short term looking at the increasing levels of unsociable behaviour and damage being experienced. The 2022 committee has also discussed the deer park and wanting to create additional pens. Similarly the committee will be looking for grants/sponsorship or council funding for this to reduce costs. I am not aware of any other major expenses for the coming year however the hall does need some work, including a review of the kitchen and some funds are likely to be expensed for that.

Term deposits totalled \$21,987 with cash on hand \$9,426.

WB Duncan was reappointed as reviewer for 2023/24.

# Election of officers and committee

The following officers and members of committee were reappointed.

Andrew Dennes (president) Gary Warren (vice-president) Liz Nicholson (secretary) Sean Roberts (treasurer) Derrick Foley Derek Williams Lloyd Rayner Phil Gray Shane Lehmstedt Alex Beesley Richard O'Driscoll Shane Dougan Murray Clark Pete Cunningham Hamish Graham Luke Johnston Aidan Bichan

Dave Bashford was also elected to the committee on the night.



The door prizes were won by John Cooper (Club t-shirt) and Miles Cranston (\$50 New World voucher).







## News

#### PARKVALE HALL

We are getting good numbers of inquiries about bookings. Phone 022 323 6993 for hall bookings.

# **SEARCH AND RESCUE**

If you're interested in joining SAR please contact Phil Gray on 027 4740717.

#### **MEMBERSHIPS**

Existing members should have received membership invoices from National Office for the year starting 1 March 2023. If you renewed your NZDA membership before 31 March you'll automatically be in the draw to win 2x pairs of ZEISS binoculars. If not, please renew soon so you are eligible for branch competitions and other benefits. Remember you need to be a current financial member when you take that trophy (or photo) to be eligible!

#### DEER PARK

We still plan to schedule a working bee to tidy up the Deer Park - details to come.

#### WAIRARAPA BRANCH SHIRTS

We have arranged to get some fancy Stoney Creek Corporate shirts printed with our branch logo. See the below link for shirt details and sizing.

https://www.stoneycreek.co.nz/index.php?route=product/search&search=HMM-8206-TSC%20

These can only be ordered by attendance at a general meeting at a cost of \$70 per shirt (pay via electronic transfer or cash on the night). We will submit orders every couple of months.

Check out the committee modelling the shirts earlier in the newsletter.

#### **FINANCIALS**

See report under AGM.

#### **RANGE & SHOOTING**

The Branch clay target shoot will be held later this year (likely in June) to avoid clashing with the roar and all the sponsored duckshooters' events. Dates and details to come.

Gladstone range is available for the use of members on Wednesday afternoons and on weekends and when not in use. Branch members get six free visits a year.

#### **DOC LIAISON**

Nothing this month

# FIREWOOD/FUNDRAISING

See details and wood prices above.

#### **WEBSITE**

Nick Perkins administers the website on behalf of the branch.

#### **HUTS**

Mike Thrupp represents the branch at Greater Wellington Backcountry Network Inc meetings (formerly Tararaua Aorangi Remutaka Huts Committee, see <a href="https://tarhc.org.nz/">https://tarhc.org.nz/</a>).



#### Be safe this roar

"Be Safe" must be the mantra for hunters particularly throughout the upcoming peak hunting season. That's the key safety message from Bill O'Leary, Deputy Chair and spokesperson for the Firearms Safety Council of Aotearoa New Zealand to deer and game bird hunters this March, April and May.

Bill advises that over the next few months approximately 100,000 hunters will chase deer and ducks and with the increased activity safety must be uppermost in hunters minds.

The seven basic rules underpin safe use of firearms and the Firearm Safety Council is highlighting three specific areas.

- 1. Firearms must be in an unloaded state and secured while being transported in a vehicle on public roads and there must be constant attention to safe handling and storage in hunting camps.
- 2. Firearms should be in an unloaded state when not actively hunting or when negotiating obstacles like fences and river crossings.
- 3. Hunters can anticipate that other people will be in hunting areas and are advised to have strategies to keep everyone safe.
- Have a hunting plan and share it with others.
- Wear blaze to assist identification.
- Take time to positively identify the target.
- Enjoy the outdoor experience there is more to hunting than squeezing the trigger.

The Seven Basic Rules of Safe Firearms Handling (these also apply to airguns):

- 1. TREAT EVERY FIREARM AS LOADED
  - Check every firearm yourself.
  - Pass or accept only an open or unloaded firearm.
- 2. ALWAYS POINT FIREARMS IN A SAFE DIRECTION

- Always point the muzzle in a safe direction. Especially when loading and unloading.

# 3. CHAMBER A CARTRIDGE ONLY WHEN READY TO FIRE

- Load only the magazine after you reach your shooting area.
- Load the chamber only when ready to shoot.
- Completely unload before leaving the shooting area.

#### 4. IDENTIFY YOUR TARGET BEYOND ALL DOUBT

- Movement, colour, sound and shape can all deceive you.
- Assume colour, shape, sound, and shape to be human until proven otherwise

#### 5. CHECK YOUR FIRING ZONE

- THINK! What may happen if you miss your target? What might you hit between you and the target or beyond?
- Do not fire know others are in your firing zone

#### 6. STORE AND TRANSPORT FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION SAFELY

- When not in use, lock away the bolt, firearm and ammunition separately.
- Never leave firearms in a vehicle that is unattended

# 7. AVOID ALCOHOL AND DRUGS WHEN HANDLING FIREARMS

- Good judgement is the key to safe use of firearms.

Firearms Safety Council of Aotearoa New Zealand is comprised of organisations concerned to ensure the safe use of firearms. See: <a href="https://www.firearmssafetycouncil.org.nz/">https://www.firearmssafetycouncil.org.nz/</a>

#### Follow the 5 Ps for a safe and successful roar

With thousands of hunters about to head into the hills for the annual deer Roar, the Game Animal Council is reminding them to follow the 5 Ps for a safe and successful Roar; plan for the best, prepare for the worst, provide your intentions, positively identify your target and pick the right animal.

The 5 Ps, focus on the preparations and decisions hunters need to make before and during their hunts.

# Plan for the best

- Plan where you'll go and what you'll hunt
- Carry the right food, clothing and equipment
- Check the forecast

#### Prepare for the worst

- Carry a beacon
- Take a first aid kit
- Be prepared to wait out a storm or high river levels

# **Provide your intentions**

- Let others know where you are going
- Inform them of when you plan to get out
- Give a date and time to raise the alarm

# Positively identify your target

- If you are bush hunting, wear high visibility clothing
- Treat every firearm as loaded
- Chamber a cartridge only when ready to fire

Be absolutely positive of your target

### Pick the right animal

- Improve future Roars by leaving younger males
- Know how to identify and target mature males
- If you are meat hunting, target females.

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

#### Contact:

Tim Gale

tim.gale@nzgac.org.nz

# INTERISLANDER DISCOUNT: Booking Code & Instructions for 2023

Time to book your roar or rut ferry? Then don't forget to use the NZDA's group booking code!

Now that we're back at work it's time to plan our roar and rut trips and these usually involve travelling on the ferry. As a NZDA member, you can use a code to get better deals and T&Cs.

#### 2023 Important Update On Interislander Discounts

With the new year upon us many of our members are asking queries regarding the Interislander discount. We have recently received the renewed discounted pricing for 2023, which can be downloaded below, along with a 'how to guide'.

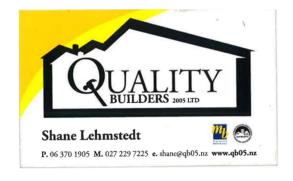
# For more details please click the links below:

<u>Interislander Pricing Information Sheet</u> How to Guide

#### Please note:

- NZDA membership card is to be shown at check-in or full retail fare will be charged. Membership card to be in the name of the person travelling.
- Rates valid for travel 01 February through to 15 December 2023 and exclude certain peak times.





# **Hunting Reports**

Our newsletter story competition is on again from October 2022 to September 2023 with a **prize of \$50 for the best newsletter story**. Open to all members, so please send stories and photos to the newsletter editor at <a href="wairarapanzda@gmail.com">wairarapanzda@gmail.com</a>. I got sick of waiting for contributions, so put the following together myself.

# Club trip to Chew Tobacco, Stewart Island March 2023

Story & photos by Richard O'Driscoll



"There's no way that's all going to fit!". That was my first thought as mountains of bags and boxes were unloaded at the rental house in Bluff. Two ute-loads of gear had just arrived after making the long trek down the South Island. This added to the already large pile of bags and rifle cases in the living room that came with the four of us that flew to Invercargill. Nine members of the branch for 7 days and nobody was packing light! As somebody more used to backpack or helicopter fly-ins it was all a bit overwhelming, but trip organizer Lloyd assured me that it was fine and they'd had MORE gear on his trip last year.

And he was right. When we met the charter vessel *Aurora* the next morning in Bluff all our gear was easily accommodated in five bins on the deck of the 17-metre catamaran, along with the two 4-m Frewza poonton dinghies we were hiring.

Our group consisted of five Stewart Island 'virgins', while the remaining four had done previous hunting trips to the Island – some going back over 30 years! There were some nerves (and a few Pahia bombs consumed) before the crossing of Foveaux Strait. It was a bit rough with a westerly swell - and was the first day that the oyster boats had stayed in port since the start of their season on 1 March - but we made good time without anybody losing their breakfast.

There was still a reasonable roll as we got into the shelter of the east coast of Stewart Island and it meant we had to deal with waves and surge on the beach as we unloaded gear and people to the hut. Took about five boatloads to get everything up the beach with Lloyd and me driving the dinghies.





Chew Tobacco is a Rakiura Maori Lands Trust block. The hut was a tidy 6 bunker. We put up two MIA tents for Liz N & Dave and Shane & Jake, while Lloyd & Kerri-Ann put up their tent too. While we were doing this the boats on the beach filled up with water as the tide came in much faster than we expected. We rushed out to sort this out and I took out the keel bung of one of the dinghies to drain the water and make it lighter to drag up the beach. I thought this was attached by a string and dropped it. But when Hamish asked, "Have you got that bung in your pocket?" 5 minutes later, I realised to my horror that it was gone. After an unsuccessful search along the tide-line, I spent an hour crafting a replacement out of a piece of branch and duct tape. This kept the water out for the rest of the trip so disaster (and ignominy) averted!

After a quick bite, most of us headed out in respective directions for a hunt about 3 pm. Jake & Hamish went round the rocks and up the central ridge, and I followed them 30 minutes later heading towards the north beach. Shane and Dave & Liz went up behind the hut.

My first animal encounter was a stroppy young male sealion just around the point that thought he owned the beach. Just past that was a leopard seal asleep in the grass. Gave that an even wider berth and went up the track just over stream and up the central ridge. Got to the high point where there was a big broad-leaf and a bit of sign then cut right towards north beach. Not a well-marked track and got into some crap including supplejack, crown fern, and lawyer, but eventually made it to the beach breaking out at mouth of Chew Tobacco Creek.





Looked like a steep descent so I backed out and re-traced my steps up the ridge. As I did so, I heard a deer crash off above me. I sat on the top knob until 8:30 pm but nothing came past. The leopard seal was still out on the beach so gave it extra room and scrambled round the rocks where Liz N met me after photographing a penguin. Nobody else saw a deer and both Shane and Dave lost their bearings somewhat – the Island geography will do that and we all relied heavily on GPS to get around (and back).

Day 2 and I was up at daylight and headed out towards East Cape. Followed a marked track for a start but

quickly got into some really tight bush. Climbed to a high open spot then back down a steep slop to come out on grass slip just east of hut. Some sign but it was tiger country.

Shane wanted to be dropped at top end of north beach so Jake, Lloyd, and I got into our wetsuits to do a dive after dropping him. Wetsuits were a good idea as it was rough and rocky at the northern end with winds gusting 25 knots. Successfully dropped the still (mostly) dry Shane on beach and as we left saw Dave join him who had walked around.

Jake and I jumped in the water at Chew Tobacco Point and I went in search of paua. Found plenty but it was surgy, and I got completely rolled a couple of times. Visibility was only 2 m, which is good for Ngawi but not what you expect on Stewart Island. We relocated to East Cape where it was more sheltered and visibility was better (3 m). Quite a few butterfish and the odd trumpeter. I shot 4 butterfish and a couple of trumpeter, before taking over boat duties from Jake. He also got a trumpeter and Lloyd got one too along with assorted butterfish and banded wrasse (which he claims to like eating!). Back for a very late lunch and to process fish.



About 3 pm I headed back around to centre ridge to put up the trail camera near the big broadleaf. Stopped on the way to photograph the resident hoiho (yellow-eyed penguin). Then stalked up the main ridge. Very open and promising country. Heard a shot across in Chew Tobacco direction at 4:30 pm and presumed Shane had success (he confirmed later on radio that he'd shot a yearling doe). At 5 pm I got white-tailed by a big animal that bounded off at the opposite end of a ferny clearing. Only 30 m away but no chance of a shot. Carried out up ridge going very slowly and sat in 3 or 4 places but no more sightings. Came back down at about 8 pm and back round rocks.

Hamish, Jake, and I went out with thermal after dark and saw a kiwi on the beach which we photographed.





Day 3 and I headed out about 8 am up behind the camp and up the ridge south of hut. Wind was strong and wrong and I didn't see anything as I headed up to the top. On the way back down I dropped off the east side of the ridge by mistake. As I was crossing back across a ferny gut to get back on the main ridge I spooked a deer in the thick stuff. I then spooked another only 50 m behind old toilet.

When I got back Lloyd, Jake, and Kerri-Ann were just coming in from fishing. They got cod, trumpeter, tarakihi, and gurnard. They dropped off Kerri-Ann and I went back out. Ended up with a couple more decent cod and Jake got a good trumpeter. We then had another dive behind the island. It was butterfish central, but we already had heaps of fish, so Lloyd said only shoot something 'special'. He came back to the boat himself dragging 7 big butterfish as well as two moki. "I like shooting stuff" was his only explanation, and we now had seafood for the week.

Another late lunch. Liz put a mutton roast in the camp oven on the fire. Dave and Liz N came back from a big walk at 3 pm behind camp having seen penguins and kiwi but no deer. After a rest we headed out hunting. I went and sat on the clearing behind the toilet, Liz W sat on the beach (until it rained) and Jake and Dave headed out to check out clearings from the boat. They had success and shot a nice doe on East Cape. Jake hit it second shot from the rocking boat and Dave chased it up the hill and finished it off. They came back to collect Lloyd to help with retrieval. Two happy hunters – I heard the shouting from where I was sitting. I made fish in beer batter for tea and we toasted a successful day.





Forecast was for the best weather (lightest winds) on days 4-5 so I planned to fly-camp at Pikaroro, about 3 km south of the hut. This was based on a tip from Tim Barnett (of Hunters' Club and South Sea Spearos fame) - who I'd shared a few beers with at a Seafood conference last year. I was going to walk there but Lloyd offered to take the two boats around. Headed off about 9 am with me and Lloyd in one boat and Dave and Jake in the other. Quite a long way around past East Cape and across the bay and Pikaroro beach itself was protected by lots of rocks and islands with the only approach from the south and at high tide.

As we headed in Jake started to yell and we saw the three deer on the beach eating kelp. They were still 400 m away so rapidly unpacked the rifle and Lloyd tried taking me in. He hit the rocks and by the time we got 100 m away there was only one deer still on the beach and it was bum on. Couldn't get a shot before it went back in bush. We landed on the north end of the beach and Dave announced he could see a deer up the face by a punga with his thermal. Couldn't see it at first with binoculars but eventually made out ears and spikes of a spiker 200 m away. I lined it up across pack but wasn't keen to try and shoot half a head and the deer moved off.

We were having a de-brief with the four of us standing by the two boats when Jake said "There's a deer back on the beach" and sure enough Stewart Island's dumbest deer was looking at us. I quickly lay back down, closed the bolt on the .270 and shot the buck at 185 m. He dropped then kicked back out on the sand coming to rest on water's edge. It was a neat little deer with 2 points on one side and a broken pedicle on the other.



Pretty happy and hand-shakes and man-hugs all round. After photos, I dragged the buck a bit further down and gutted him while others got the boats. Before leaving, Dave went up and pissed on the kelp at the high tide line after all our careful efforts to avoid scenting up the seaweed salad....! Guys loaded the boats and I headed back to north end of beach and climbed up on ferny terrace to pitch the tent. Lots of deer sign in amongst the fern and picked a site with a bit of a slope about 100 m above beach.

After a brew I went for a walk along Pikaroro Point which was covered in head-high fern then out on the ridge between the bays. A bit of sign but it was noisy going. Persisted until about 4 pm and found good buck sign on coastal faces to the north. Sat on a fern gully above the beach which looked promising then back to tent about 5 pm for early tea and a lie down.

Headed back to beach about 6 pm and lay on the sand doing my best sealion impersonation while glassing the kelp. About 7 pm a deer walked out on the beach which I shot at 150 m. Surprised to see how young and small it was when I got to it. The skin looked good though - until I rolled it over to reveal the insides had become outsides!





Dragged it down the beach and gutted it before hanging in tree. No further deer came out by dark, only a young sea lion that challenged me for my place on the beach. Back to tent for a restless night.

Day 5 and I was back on the beach before dawn, but nothing came out. The sea lion visited again and attacked me as I was filming it. Had to throw a rock to keep it off! My pick-up arrived as scheduled at 10 am high tide. The two boats actually came past earlier but pottered around the coast to Sinbad's Mistake first. Dave and Jake were now committed boat hunters! Dave had shot a male fawn after dropping me on Tuesday morning and Lloyd shot another fawn at Laura's Leg Tuesday night – one of 7 deer seen. There was a danger of us being labelled the Wairarapa "fawn slayers" club!



After a big feed, Jake dropped Lloyd, Kerri-Ann, and I on the north beach. Only animal I saw was the remains of Shane's one. Hamish had walked all the way to Laura's Leg and saw 4 deer in the bush, missing one.

Day 6 and a more leisurely start. I got Lloyd to drop me on the north end of the north beach. I walked up the ridge and immediately spooked a deer, but that was my only animal encounter. Shane went for a big walk into headwaters of Chew Tobacco and saw a doe which he photographed.

We were all back in camp about 6:30 pm when police and fisheries officers arrived on the DOC boat. We passed their inspection with chocolate fish handed out all round. Was a surprising but sociable visit. The cop was the same guy that visited me at Little Glory in January last year. They were just starting a circumnavigation

of the Island visiting all the hunters' camps. Richard Leggett from Rakiura Maori Land Trust was also there and he was pleased we had shot 6 deer. Many parties are unsuccessful apparently.



Day 7 was our last full day on the Island. I got up at 6:15 am and clambered round rocks in the dark to the central ridge. Climbed up to trail camera and waited until light before sneaking along ridge. Had only gone 50 m when a fawn stepped out from behind a tree only 3 m away and mewed at me before bolting. She stopped at 30 m and flashed her tail a couple of times before moving off. Decided not to shoot to add to the bambi tally.

Continued up ridge in heavy rain then headed down towards Chew Tobacco Creek. Finally broke onto beach at 11 am where there were fresh buck tracks in sand. Climbed up off south end of beach up a small gut and spooked a deer I didn't see out of some dead supplejack. Much better going coming up and I sat for 40 minutes on a clearing as sun came out. Very promising but no animals wandered past. Collected trail camera at 12:30 pm and downloaded; four deer photos – all at night time. One was a 4-point buck.



Back to camp by 1 pm where pack-up was going on in earnest. Tidied up a bit myself then we arranged a group photograph before we barbecued my yearling for dinner = super tasty.





Day 8 was our final one on the Island. *Aurora* arrived early at 8 am, but by then we had gear in a pile on beach and our five boatloads of stuff made their way back into containers on deck. We detoured past Bosom block in Port Adventure to pick up another party of 4 old guys from Wanganui. They had been in 10 days for no deer but had a good time. One guy was on 35<sup>th</sup> visit to Island! Also stopped in Oban to drop off boats and eventually back to Bluff about 1 pm.

Time for one final drama, as Lloyd headed off to collect a rental car. He forgot his driver's licence so took a couple of hours before he came back to collect me and remaining bags. By the time I finally got to the rental house in Invercargill for a shower about 3:30 pm, the two vehicle teams were already on the road north. Our remaining four had a day in Invercargill while we waited for our 3:50 pm flight. This proved expensive for some (ask Shane about his new scope!).

A great trip with a great team. Thanks to Lloyd for pulling it all together.

# 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 <a href="wairarapanzda@gmail.com">wairarapanzda@gmail.com</a>

# 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.

NZDA MERCHANDISE https://nzda.shop/collections/all



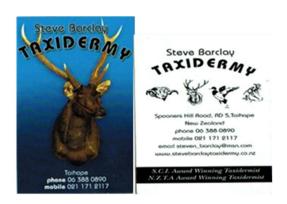
# NIKKO STIRLING RANGE FINDER

Roughly 5 years old in good condition, no scratches on the lens etc. Offers? Ring Philip Fletcher on 022 3411470.









# **Final Thoughts**

Especially in the roar

Be safe be sure.

Assume it is a person not a deer.

No meat is better than no mate.

Identify your target.

**Hard Copy Newsletter Recipients** – if you are receiving this newsletter by post but also use email, please contact the editors at <a href="wairarapanzda@gmail.com">wairarapanzda@gmail.com</a> 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: https://www.facebook.com/WairarapaNZDA

The Branch now has a Closed Facebook Group (open only to members). You can apply to join here: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/798600664354866">https://www.facebook.com/groups/798600664354866</a>

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

