



# New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association Wairarapa Branch Incorporated

Newsletter for **November 2023**

**Next general meeting Wednesday 15 November**

7:30 pm Parkvale Hall

Speakers: Laurie & Sue Goldfinch on hunting in Africa

## General meeting 15 November

Come along to hear Laurie and Sue Goldfinch talking about their recent trip to Africa. Laurie & Sue talked at the branch a few years ago and showed some great photos, and we welcome them back. Followed by supper. This is our last general meeting until February 2024.



## Key Dates - Upcoming Trips and Events

**15 NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING** Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm. See details above.

**NO DECEMBER COMMITTEE MEETING**

**9 DECEMBER WAIRARAPA 4x4 FUNDRAISER.** This will be our last event for 2023. It is an all-day event with an 8 am start and maybe 5 pm finish. The 4x4 club provide lunch, and we are running a BBQ afterwards for ourselves and the competitors. This is a great day out as the 30+ members who participated last time can attest. And a great fundraiser for the branch. We are still looking for a few extra 4x4 marshals. Call Sean at 021 822802 or email [wairarapanzda@gmail.com](mailto:wairarapanzda@gmail.com). No children - 18+ members only. Briefing at general meeting on 15 November.

**NO DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING**

## NO JANUARY COMMITTEE OR GENERAL MEETINGS

**7 FEBRUARY COMMITTEE MEETING** Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm.

**21 FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING** Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm. First general meeting for 2024. Details to be sent beforehand.

**5-10 APRIL 2024 KAWEKA SIKA FLY-IN HUNTS** We have booked Tussock, Harkness, & Te Puke Huts. There are still places available at Tussock & Te Puke. To get on this trip please talk to Lloyd Rayner on 027 6080325.



## Recent Events

### 14 OCTOBER BRANCH ANNUAL DINNER

A really great evening with 81 people present, despite the clash with elections. Great food, good banter, and a bunch of prize-winners on the night. Congratulations to the raffle winners; Shane Dougan took out the top prize of the Tatonka pack. Thanks also to all our sponsors – please support them too. See advertisements in the newsletter.



## Competition winners

### Antler, Horn & Tusk

Red deer, public land (Avon Tatton Shield) – **Dion Rayner**

Red deer, private land (Steve Ticehurst cup) – **Clair Hodgins**

Classic Red deer (J.M. Jury shield) – **Dion Rayner**

Best goat head (Crawford Cameron shield) – not awarded

Best head where a trophy fee is paid (Playle trophy) – **Liz Warren**

Best pig jaw –undrawn tusks (Harvie Morrow shield) – **Clair Hodgins**

Best pig jaw – Drawn Tusks (N. Tilsey Shield) – **Bradley Riggs**

Aggregate, two or more species (V.V. Donald shield) – **Clair Hodgins**

Best head other species – **Bradley Riggs** (fallow)

Best trophy head by a woman – **Liz Warren**

Best trophy head ‘under 20’ – **Peter O’Driscoll**

Tahr / Chamois (Max Cole Barometer) – **Shane Dougan**

Judges’ commendation for best presented head – **Liz Warren**

Best bow shot animal (certificate) – **Glenn Richardson** (fallow)

Best whitetail (certificate) – **Geoff Lyndsay**

Best sika (certificate) – **Hamish Graham**



## Shooting

Senior Centrefire		Centrefire Cup
1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Martin Amos</b>	134
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Alex Beasley	120
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Rhys Amos	109
4 <sup>th</sup>	Will	88
5 <sup>th</sup>	Derrick Foley	76

Senior Rimfire		Smallbore Cup
1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Andrew Dennes</b>	132
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dan	127
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Derrick Foley	112
4 <sup>th</sup>	Benno	91
5 <sup>th</sup>	Will	88
6 <sup>th</sup>	Martin Amos	84
7 <sup>th</sup>	Alex Beasley	59

Open aggregate		Neilson Cup
1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Martin Amos</b>	218
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Derrick Foley	188
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Alex Beasley	179
4 <sup>th</sup>	Will	176



Ladies aggregate	Cup
1 <sup>st</sup> <b>Alex Beesley</b>	179

Military	Brass shell
1 <sup>st</sup> <b>Alex Beesley</b>	39
2 <sup>nd</sup> Derrick Foley	22
3 <sup>rd</sup> Paul Sayer	8

Senior F class	Trophy
1 <sup>st</sup> <b>Derick Foley</b>	97
2 <sup>nd</sup> Will	94
3 <sup>rd</sup> Alex Beesley	93
4 <sup>th</sup> Andrew Dennes	85
5 <sup>th</sup> Pauk Sayer	70

Junior Rimfire	Hunting & Fishing Cup
1 <sup>st</sup> <b>Rhys Amos</b>	139
2 <sup>nd</sup> Liam Dennes	58
3 <sup>rd</sup> Max	46
4 <sup>th</sup> Callum Dennes	39

Junior Swazi	Swazi sponsored clothing
1 <sup>st</sup> <b>Rhys Amos</b>	76
2 <sup>nd</sup> Callum Dennes	31
3 <sup>rd</sup> Liam Dennes	30

Junior F class	Shield
1 <sup>st</sup> <b>Liam Dennes</b>	81
2 <sup>nd</sup> Callum Dennes	73

Indoor shooting	
Senior <b>Justin Batt</b>	Cunningham trophy
Junior <b>Liam Dennes</b>	Spooner trophy

Claybird	Graeme Hamilton Memorial Trophy
<b>Justin Batt</b>	



## Photography

Game animals in their wild, outdoor state (W.F. McIntyre Cup) – **Richard O'Driscoll** – Tahr quarter

Other Wildlife in its wild, outdoor state and not in any form of captivity (V.V. Donald Shield) – **Hamish Graham** – Horses in the mist

Scenic relative to the sport of hunting (B.W. Newport Cup) – **Richard O'Driscoll** – Bush Stream

Other – not covered in other categories (K Gear Cup) – **Hamish Graham** – Campfire  
Best junior (Amos Cup) – not awarded  
Best overall (Judge's choice) – **Hamish Graham** – Campfire



Thanks to Kylie Alexander (<https://www.facebook.com/laughingowlphotos/>) for judging this year's photo competition.



## Other

Hard luck      **Kerry Fenwick**

## Literary award best newsletter story

- |                 |  |                           |
|-----------------|--|---------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Club trip to Chew Tobacco, Stewart Island March 2023 | <b>Richard O'Driscoll</b> |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Sayer Hut  | Sean Roberts              |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | What do you get for five dollars?                    | Peter Doornebosch         |

## Service Awards and Certificates of Appreciation

**Paul Sayer** – exemplary club service

**Phil Gray** – deer park

**Wairarapa Hunting & Fishing**

**King & Henry**  
**Quality Builders**  
**Valley Plumbing**



## 28–29 OCTOBER SIKA SHOW

A few of our members went along – some came back with photos, others with Covid!





## News

### PARKVALE HALL

Bookings are going well. The current yearly income is approx. \$2000 and future bookings should cover the hall insurance of \$2700. Phone 022 323 6993 for hall bookings.

### FINANCIALS

Bank balance is \$16,922 along with over \$21,115 in term deposits. Recent payments include \$4000 for firewood and \$3400 from Backcountry Trust for reimbursement for materials for Sayer Hut. The branch bank account number for payments (firewood, etc) is 03-0687-0022096-00 but please note this is not the account for payment of memberships – which go direct to National Office.

### SEARCH AND RESCUE

No further updates on the McGregor search. If you're interested in joining SAR please contact Luke on 027 630 7640.

### MEMBERSHIPS

The branch has a total of 197 members. All are fully paid up 😊. This is an increase from 182 members at the same time last year.

The National Office has increased their capitation again for 2024/25 (i.e., for the year from 1 March 2024), but the committee has decided to keep our branch subscriptions the same as this year. This means that we only just break even and so rely on fundraising rather than subscriptions to make money, but the bank balance is currently healthy. But, if national capitation continues to increase, we will have to further increase subscriptions in future.

Fees for 2024/25 will be as follows:

Seniors:	\$130
Family members:	\$15
Superannuants:	\$75
Associates:	\$80
Affiliates	\$20

Current members should receive invoices from National Office in February.

### DEER PARK

No report this month

## DOC LIAISON

Hut maintenance agreements for Sayers and Neill Forks Huts are still to be signed. Andrew has it underway with just the Health and Safety plan to attach.

## FUNDRAISING

We sold all the remaining split firewood at Dave McKay's in a bulk lot for \$4000. There is still one more session of ringing up and splitting at Martinborough required. Date will be notified, but likely in January 2024. We have also identified a new location at South Featherston with good supplies of old man pine, mac and gum for 2024 fundraising.

## HUTS

Sayer Hut funding has now been sorted with Back Country Trust. The last bits of work to be done in summer. Mike Thrupp represents the branch at Greater Wellington Backcountry Network Inc meetings.

## RANGE & SHOOTING

Gladstone range is available for the use of members. Branch members get six free visits a year. **Hours for using the Gladstone range for visitors including Deerstalkers have now changed.** These are now **9:30 am to 1:00 pm on Sunday** unless you're accompanied by a Gladstone WPSSC member.

Please keep to these times to avoid disappoint as with new police regulations, Range Officers are required on active ranges even for casual shooting.

There is a Precision Rifle match booked on range 6 on the first Sunday of the month so late morning is recommended for that day unless you would like to join in with them which you are more than welcome to do.



## Game Animal Council: Better Hunting is live!

The Game Animal Council has just launched our brand-new online hunter training platform, Better Hunting, and it is available and free to use for hunters and other backcountry users. Those new to hunting or wishing to further develop their skills will find plenty of content to help them take that next step.

The platform is made up of 28 separate modules across two broad subject areas - Hunting Essentials and Firearms Essentials.

Hunting Essentials includes NZ specific outdoor and hunter safety and skills with everything from weather forecasting, navigation, river crossing, first aid, preparation, access, game animal management and other bushcraft and hunting skills.

Firearms Essentials is about learning safe and successful firearms use. This includes maintenance, sighting in, storage and transport, and technique.



Better Hunting also includes skill-building games, digital trip intentions, ballot calendars and more.

Better Hunting is free to access at [www.betterhunting.nz](http://www.betterhunting.nz) and can be used on a laptop, tablet or phone. Courses can also be accessed offline through the free mobile app. The platform saves your progress as you go so you can dip in and out as often as you like. Just create an account and get learning.



### Firearms Registry

We've had more than 63,000 firearms and firearms parts registered by over 12,000 firearms licence holders.

Remember, the first time you have an activating circumstance you are required to record all arms items in your possession and check your firearms licence holder details are complete and up to date.

If you are unsure what to do, check out the website <https://www.firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/firearms-registry/when-register-or-update-your-information> or give the helpful Registry team a call on 0800 844 431.



## Official NZDA App



The NZDA Membership App is your gateway to a treasure trove of benefits, designed exclusively for our members.

**Explore 60+ Exclusive Discounts:** We believe in rewarding your loyalty. Our app provides you with access to a curated list of over 60 discounts across various everyday, outdoor and hunting-related brands. Whether it's gear, services, or equipment, our partners are here to support you with special offers that are just a tap away.

**Stay Ahead with the Latest Insights:** Stay informed and inspired with our Hunting and Wildlife magazine, now available within the app. Immerse yourself in captivating articles, expert tips, and the latest developments in the hunting world. Whether you're an experienced hunter or just starting out, this magazine is a wealth of knowledge that will elevate your understanding and skills.

**Seamless and User-Friendly:** Navigating the app is as easy. We've designed it with simplicity and user-friendliness in mind, ensuring you can access your membership benefits and resources without any hassle.

**Win 1 of 3 Wilderness Kits!** All current and new users of the NZDA Membership App. As a token of our appreciation for your unwavering support, we're offering you the chance to win 1 of 3 Wilderness Kits by Parachute First Aid.

### How to Get Started

Getting started is as simple as sighting in on a target. Just follow these steps:

1. **Download the App:** Visit the App Store or Google Play Store and search for "NZDA Membership App." Download and install the app on your smartphone.
2. **Log In:** Use your NZDA membership credentials to log in. If you need assistance with your login details, don't hesitate to reach out to us.
3. **Explore and Enjoy:** Once logged in, you're all set! Explore the app, discover the exciting discounts, and dive into the latest issue of our Hunting and Wildlife magazine.

## National Wild Goat Hunting Competition



### Competition Details

Entries close at midnight on Sunday 26 November 2023.

Competitors need to enter at a NZDA branch open day or at an official recording point.

- [NZDA branch](#) – enter heads and/or tails.
- [Official recording point](#) – enter tails only.

Tails entered and recorded will be kept at the hub and then disposed of by a NZDA member or approved verifier. Goat heads may be kept and disposed of by NZDA volunteers unless the hunter wishes to keep their entry.

**In Wairarapa, the drop-off point is Wairarapa Hunting & Fishing.**



All competitors must hunt within the competition rules. [Read the National Wild Goat Hunting Competition rules.](#)

Download the competition flyer here: <https://portal.deerstalkers.org.nz/~ERKE5>



## Hunting Reports

Our newsletter story competition will be on again from October 2023 to September 2024 with a **prize of \$50 for the best newsletter story**. There were only three entries last year so hoping to do better in the next 12 months. Open to all members, so please send stories and photos to the newsletter editor at [wairarapanzda@gmail.com](mailto:wairarapanzda@gmail.com). No entries this month.

## 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](mailto:wairarapanzda@gmail.com)

### 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.

### 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>

## Final Thoughts

Be safe be sure.  
Assume it is a person not a deer.  
No meat is better than no mate.  
Identify your target.

**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: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/798600664354866>

Our updated website is at: <http://www.wairarapanzda.org.nz/>. The website is managed by Nick Perkins.

