



New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association Wairarapa Branch Incorporated

Newsletter for **May 2024**

Next general Meeting Wednesday 15 May
7:30 pm Parkvale Hall
Buy, sell & swap night

General Meeting 15 May

We are going to try something new. **Buy, sell & swap night at the hall.** Bring along any hunting related gear you no longer have a use for including clothing, reloading supplies, magazines etc and you'll have an opportunity to sell or swap with other members. Or just bring cash. Remember your Firearms Licence if firearms, components, or ammo is changing hands.

To be accompanied by lots of hunting chat and followed by supper.

Key Dates - Upcoming Trips and Events

12 MAY FIREWOOD WORKING BEE 252 South Featherston Road Fonterra #46056. Starting at 9 am (and yes, we know it is Mother's Day Sunday!). Hoping to get some more cut before winter when paddocks and wood will get too wet. This load is $\frac{3}{4}$ pine and $\frac{1}{4}$ macrocarpa. We will be focusing on ringing, so please bring a big chainsaw (if you have one) and all personal protective gear including hearing protection. There will be some splitting too, so even if you don't have a chainsaw, you are still welcome.

15 MAY GENERAL MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm. Buy, sell & swap night.

5 JUNE COMMITTEE MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm.

19 JUNE GENERAL MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm. Speaker to be confirmed.

23 JUNE BRANCH CLAY TARGET COMPETITION Gladstone range. Timing and further details next month. Branch will pay for clay targets. BYO target ammo.

28 JUNE NZDA NATIONAL COMPETITION ENTRIES CLOSE See details and links to forms later in newsletter.

3 JULY COMMITTEE MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm.

12–14 JULY 2024 NZDA NATIONAL CONFERENCE Lower Hutt Events Centre, Laings Road, Hutt Central, Wellington. **Hunting & Wildlife Expo: Saturday, 13 July 2024.** The Gala Dinner and Prize Giving Awards Night will be headlined by Former All Black and Hunting TV Presenter, Piri Weepu and Dame Lynda Topp as the comedic MC. If you would like to attend, please talk to one of the committee and get nominated as a Branch Observer.

17 JULY GENERAL MEETING Annual indoor smallbore shooting competition. Details to come.

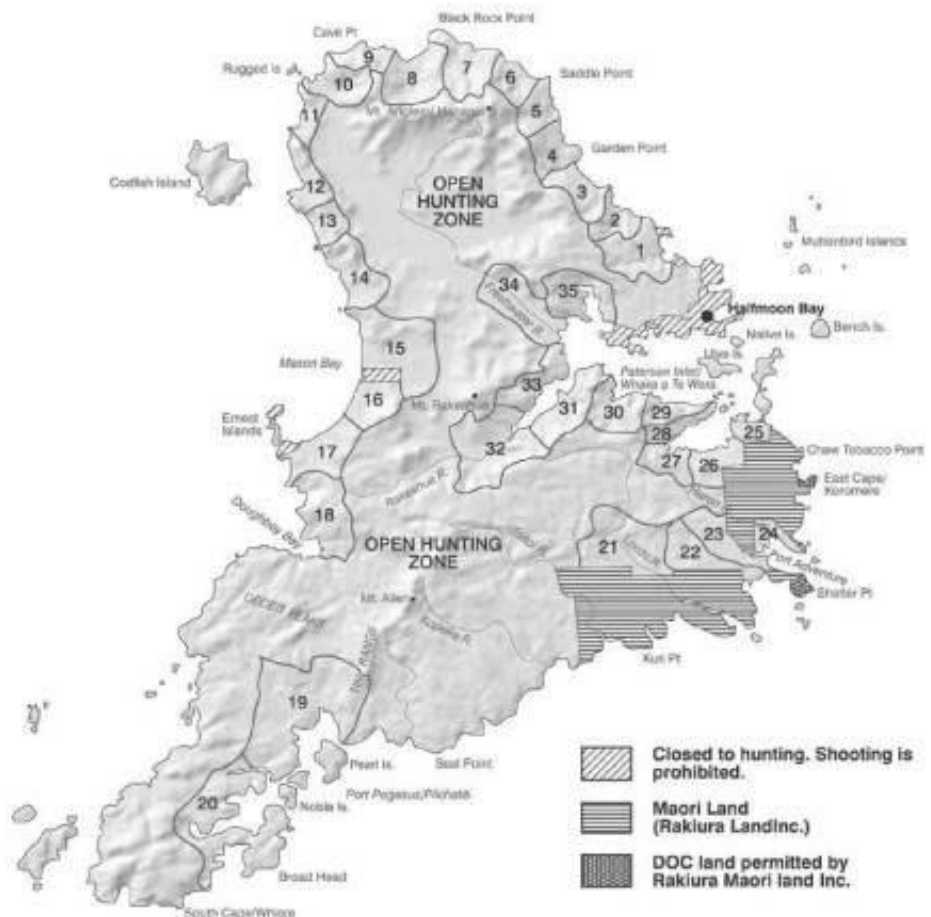
7 AUGUST COMMITTEE MEETING Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm.

21 AUGUST GENERAL MEETING Open night at Hunting & Fishing Masterton. Details closer to the time.

11–19 MARCH 2025 BRANCH TRIP TO STEWART ISLAND Save the dates. Bookings for Kellys and Rakeahua blocks (see map below). Room for up to 18 people departing Bluff. This trip will be subsidised for active members. Contact Lloyd on 027 6080325 if interested.

Stewart Island/Rakiura Hunting Blocks

- 1 Maori Beach
 - 2 Bungaree
 - 3 Murray
 - 4 Rollers
 - 5 Christmas *
 - 6 Lucky
 - 7 Yankee
 - 8 Smoky
 - 9 Long Harry
 - 10 East Ruggedy
 - 11 West Ruggedy
 - 12 Waituna
 - 13 Big Hellfire
 - 14 Little Hellfire
 - 15 Mason Homestead *
 - 16 Martins Creek *
 - 17 Cavalier *
 - 18 Doughboy
 - 19 North Pegasus *
 - 20 South Pegasus *
 - 21 Upper Lords River
 - 22 North Tikotatahi *
 - 23 Kellys *
 - 24 Bošom *
 - 25 Little Glory Cove *
 - 26 South Big Glory
 - 27 Mid Big Glory
 - 28 North Big Glory *
 - 29 Hapuatuna *
 - 30 Abrahams Bay *
 - 31 South West Arm*
 - 32 Rakeahua
 - 33 Freds Camp
 - 34 Freshwater
 - 35 North Arm
- * Hunters' huts on these blocks require a \$20 levy per person.





Recent Events

6-7 APRIL WANGANUI FALLOW MEAT HUNT

Great weather and 12 members all got onto deer, with 36 harvested. Congratulations to Jason H on shooting his first deer (and his second, and his third, and his fourth!) – all one-shot kills. Trip also included others on their first trip to Wanganui. Heaps of bucks croaking and some nice ones seen. As always, thanks to Andrew Wilkinson & Paul Sayer for organising.

5-10 APRIL 2024 KAWEKA SIKA FLY-IN HUNTS

Thirteen members flew into Tussock, Harkness, & Te Puke Huts with HeliSika. Or rather 10 members flew to their allocated huts. Due to cloud, Dave, Liz, & Luke were dropped at Harkness and had to make the long trek uphill to Te Puke (and back). Four sika were taken: Peter (who shot three) and Kerry were the successful hunters. Thanks to Lloyd Rayner for co-ordinating this adventure. Will let the photos do the talking:

HARKNESS crew (Lloyd, Richard, Peter, Barry, Glen, Joe)



TUSSOCK CREW (Andrew, Dave M, Kerry, Mike)



TE PUKE CREW (Dave B, Liz, Luke)





14 APRIL FIREWOOD WORKING BEE

Thanks to the four hearty souls who turned up mid roar. Sun was shining and some more rings cut.





News

PARKVALE HALL

Bookings are going well. A car parked overnight was burned out in the carpark recently. The committee is considering options for fencing and also exterior painting. Phone 022 323 6993 for hall bookings.

FINANCIALS

Current account balance \$19,196 with \$21,987 in term deposits. The branch bank account number for payments (firewood, etc) is 03-0687-0022096-00 but please note that this is not the account for payment of memberships – which go direct to National Office.

SEARCH AND RESCUE

Very quiet recently. If you're interested in joining SAR, please contact Luke on 027 630 7640.

DEER PARK

Committee has drawn up a memorandum of understanding with Masterton District Council for expansion of the Deer Park. Once this is signed we will develop a project plan and seek grants for materials. This expansion will nearly double the area of the park! One red hind and a spiker have moved out and we are looking at replacing the red stag and fallow buck with new blood. We were donated 200 kg of feed after receiving a sponsor's prize from the Wairarapa Balloon Festival. Thanks to Sharpes Farm Feeds.

DOC LIAISON

Hut maintenance agreements for Sayers and Neill Forks Huts for next three years have now been signed.

FUNDRAISING

Next working bee at South Featherston Road will be **9 am Sunday 12 May** (details above). Please support our working bees as these pay for club activities and trips.

HUTS

The new water tank is now installed at Sayers Hut, but there is still work remaining to be done. Mike Thrupp represents the branch at Greater Wellington Backcountry Network Inc meetings. Hamish Graham has been nominated by the branch to represent us with the Aorangi Restoration Trust.

MEMBERSHIPS

You should now have received your invoice from National Office. Prompt payment really helps us from an administration point of view. **Please ensure you pay the account number on the invoice not the branch account.**

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 disappointment 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.

NZDA NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

2024 Competition entry forms are now open and ready for your entries! All entries must be received by 5pm, Friday 28th June 2024. Entry forms are here: [National Competitions](#) | [New Zealand Deerstalkers Association Inc](#)



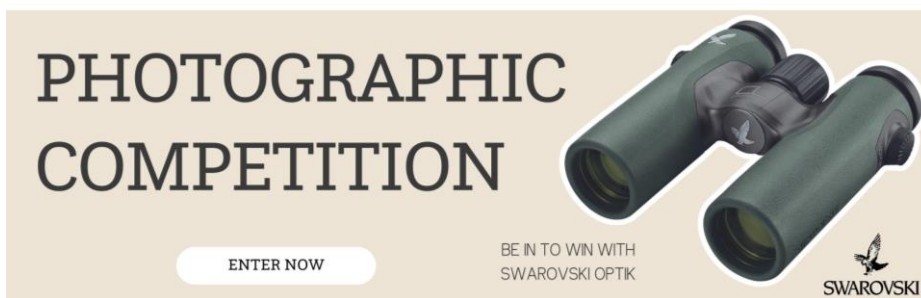
Antler Horn & Tusk
National Competition

WIN A LIMITED EDITION MTNGEAR BIPOD

ENTER NOW

Camo with +/- 50° tilt

FREE MTN HOOK WITH EVERY ENTRY



PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

ENTER NOW

BE IN TO WIN WITH SWAROVSKI OPTIK

SWAROVSKI



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Rebecca O'Neale
Travel Expert/Passionate Traveller

Mobile: +64 21 447 960
Email: becs@xtravel.co.nz
Website: www.xtravel.co.nz

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FIORDLAND WAPITI FOUNDATION

Our Wapiti are facing one of the most serious threats in decades after Forest and Bird launched legal action challenging these majestic animals' existence in Fiordland National Park. As the guardian of this unique herd, the Fiordland Wapiti Foundation is determined to fight this challenge.

But it needs your help with what could be a long and expensive fight. Follow the link to see what FWF has achieved over the years and how you can donate. [Fiordland Wapiti Foundation - Save the Wapiti \(fwf.net.nz\)](http://fwf.net.nz)



BETTER HUNTING WITH THE GAME ANIMAL COUNCIL

Better Hunting is free to access at 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. The Better Hunting platform includes 29 individual training modules and other useful resources for hunters such as a hunt planner, intentions form and multi-map tool. Just visit betterhunting.nz and access them all for free.



Northern Remutaka: Proposed Aerial 1080 Programme

EcoFX has been contracted by OSPRI New Zealand to undertake a large-scale aerial 1080 operation in the Northern Remutaka Ranges. The purpose of the operation is to reduce the possum population to low numbers to prevent the spread of bovine tuberculosis (TB).

The operation is scheduled to be delivered from 28 April 2024, but may occur as late as June as the programme is weather-dependent. There are two phases to the proposed programme.

- Non-toxic prefeed cereal baits will be sown over the treatment area at an average rate of 1 kg per hectare.
- Approximately 7 days later toxic 1080 baits will be sown over the treatment area at an average rate of 2 kg per hectare.

Both phases are weather dependant requiring 2-3 fine nights with minimal rainfall after application.

EcoFX is obtaining required consents from the relevant agencies to carry out the work. As part of public notification, EcoFX will be placing advertisements in local and regional papers circulating in the wider area to inform the public of the operation and the associated risks.

In addition, EcoFX will be erecting signage at all key public access points such as walking and cycle tracks, roadways and public amenity areas. A reminder to please check for signage if you are in the area. And;

- DO NOT TOUCH poison bait
- WATCH CHILDREN at all times
- DO NOT EAT animals from the area (this also applies to buffer zones around the treatment area)
- Poison bait or carcasses are DEADLY to DOGS

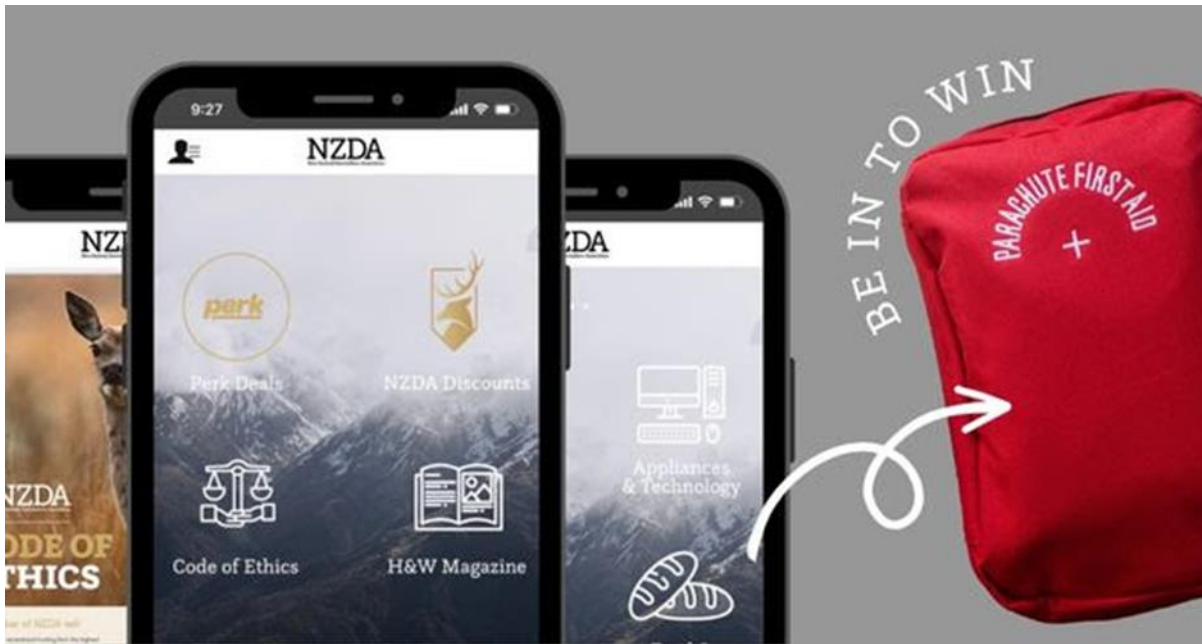
Observe these rules whenever you see warning signs about pesticides. The presence of warning signs indicates that pesticide residues may be present in baits or animals. When signs are removed, this means you can resume normal activities in the area. Please report suspected vandalism or unauthorised removal of signs.

For more details, please refer to the OSPRI website: <https://www.ospri.co.nz/tb-and-pest-control/aerial-operations/>





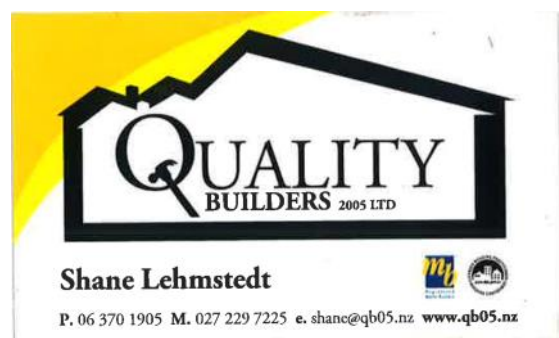
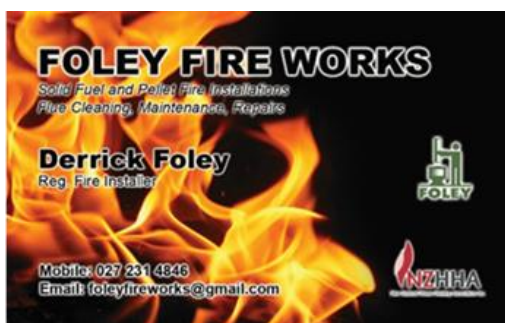
Official NZDA App



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.



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.

Photos on Facebook closed page show our members out there doing it during the roar. Nice red stags taken by Peter O'Driscoll (left) and Liz Warren (right).



Please send stories and photos to the newsletter editor at wairarapanzda@gmail.com.

Final Laugh 😊

This is not an April Fool's joke! See the recent email received by our Branch seeking us to pay insurance excess after a deer versus car accident and Sean's very professional and restrained reply!

On Wed, 17 Apr 2024, 4:41 pm XXXXX wrote:

Good afternoon

I am forwarding on a complaint that I sent to the Masterton city council today 8th they wrote back to me saying they are not responsible for the stags that it is your responsibility for them.

As you will read in My attachment my car has been damaged due to 2 stags being in the middle of the road early Sunday morning.

Apart from giving the kids and my husband a terrible fright there is also an injured stag out there.

I will also attach the pictures of my car which has been damaged and lucky its a bigger car because it would have been more servilely damaged along with the passengers.

I look forward to a response from the association. I do not believe that I should be up for a \$500 excess to repair the damage done by stags that have escaped.

I look forward to hearing from you.

XXXXXX

Sent from my iPhone

From: **Wairarapa Deerstalkers** <wairarapanzda@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, 17 Apr 2024, 20:44
Subject: Re: Stags
To: XXXXXX
Cc: Wairarapa NZDA secretary <yrapanzdasec@gmail.com>

Good evening,
Thank you for your email.
We are sorry to hear about your incident. There was no attachment provided.

Wairarapa Deerstalkers are not responsible for accidents caused by wild (or escaped farm) deer.

The only deer the council could be referring to as to our responsibility are the deer at Queen Elizabeth Park (behind the hospital). The stag is inside its enclosure.

We deny any liability in regards your claim.

Regards

Sean Roberts
Treasurer
On behalf of the committee.

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 Or just bring your items along to our general meeting on 15 May!

CHAINSAW BAR OIL

20 litres for \$90. Selling at cost. Please contact Aidan on 027 432 3410

2012 Honda MUV 700

- 3594 hrs
- Receipts for \$6396 done at 3535 hrs

- New top end
- New bottom end
- New torque converter
- New battery,Lh inner steering tie-rods,fuel pump
- \$9000 ono
- Heaps of tread.

Contact Mark 027 770 0065.



BROWNING .223

Ideal Wanganui fallow rifle. Browning bolt action .223 stainless with synthetic stock. Scott Trail suppressor and Leopold scope. Text Murry on 027 4515195. See picture in previous newsletter.

RUSA HUNT NEW CALEDONIA

Shane Dougan has had a cancellation and there is an opportunity for a party of up to 4 hunters to book a New Caledonia rusa hunt with him at Coral Sea Safaris on 11–24 August 2024. Call Shane on 027 2474484 if you're interested.

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.

