



**New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association
Wairarapa Branch Incorporated**

Newsletter for **August 2026**



Photo credit **Richard O'Driscoll** Tararua sunrise

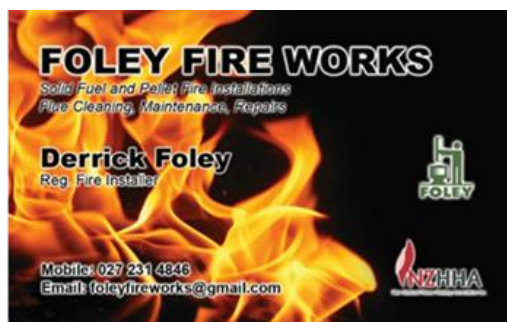
Contacts

President	Lloyd Rayner	027 608 0325
Vice President	Gary Warren	027 282 1112
Secretary	Liz Nicholson	027 224 2556
Treasurer	Sean Roberts	021 822 802
Deer Park	Aidan Bichan	027 432 3410
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	Dave Bashford	027 459 5477
	Derek Williams	027 656 8897
Range & Shooting	Derrick Foley	027 231 4846
Parkvale Hall Booking	Andrew Dennes	andrewdennes71@gmail.com 022 323 6993 please use this number for bookings and enquiries
LandSAR	Luke Johnson	027 630 7640
	Murry Clark	
	Pete Cunningham	021 190 9468
Deer Park	Philip Gray	027 474 0717
Newsletter	Richard O'Driscoll	021 141 1472
	Shane Dougan	027 247 4484
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Memberships	Liz Warren	027 304 9689
Website	http://www.wairarapanzda.org.nz/	
Facebook 	https://www.facebook.com/WairarapaNZDA	
Closed Facebook page	Open only to members. You can apply to join here: https://www.facebook.com/groups/79860064354866	
Newsletter Story Competition	October 2025 to September 2026 – prize of \$50 Stories and photos to the newsletter editor at wairarapanzda@gmail.com	

Previous newsletters (back to July 2018) are available on our website:
www.wairarapanzda.org.nz/newsletters

Calendar

Wed 19 Aug	2026	Open night. Hunting & Fishing Masterton. Starting 6 pm. Speaker from Beretta NZ. Some food will be available.
Wed 2 Sep	2026	Entries close for Branch AHT & Photo competitions (entry form back of newsletter) 7:30 pm
Wed 2 Sep	2026	Committee meeting. Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm.
Sat 5 Sep	2026	Clay shoot. Gladstone range starting 9 am. Cost \$40 for non WPSSC members, \$25 for WPSSC members. 60 target shoot. IMPORTANT: You must provide own ammo and it must be fibre wad. Ear and eye protection must be worn.
Wed 16 Sep	2026	General meeting. Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm. Speaker Dave Morris.
Sun 20 Sep	2026	Annual shooting competition. Gladstone range starting 8:30 am. Rules and details later in newsletter.
25–27 Sep	2026	Hunting competition (see flyer in newsletter)
Wed 7 Oct	2026	Committee meeting. Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm.
Sat 17 Oct	2026	Annual dinner & prize-giving Parkvale Hall 6 pm.
Wed 4 Nov	2026	Committee meeting. Parkvale Hall 7:30 pm.
Sun 8 Nov	2026	4WD fundraiser. 30 volunteers required. See details later in newsletter.
Wed 18 Nov	2026	Open night. King & Henry Masterton.



ALWAYS treat firearms as if they are loaded

3

ALWAYS point firearms in a safe direction



Next general meeting Wednesday 19 August Masterton Hunting & Fishing

6 pm onwards. Guest speakers start from 7 pm Nibbles and drinks will be supplied. Talking everything Beretta, Burris scopes, and Tikka rifles. Open to all club members and their families.



Indoor small-bore shooting night 23 July

A couple of squads of members turned out on a cold night for the annual event. Some good and not-so-good scores were shot. But we were all put to shame by the Martinborough Smallbore Club shooters with their fancy jackets and rifles shooting upstairs! Winners will be announced at the Annual Dinner and Prizegiving.



78th National Conference, Lower Hutt Events Centre & Town Hall

Wairarapa Branch was represented by Gary Warren & Luke Johnson, with Dave Bashford helping out throughout the three days.

Huge congratulation to Wairarapa junior member Henry Gardner for taking out the prize for best goat head and best head taken by a junior, and to Bradley Riggs for winning best drawn pig tusks.



The associated Hunting & Fishing Expo was a big success with over 4000 through the doors. Lots of our members took the opportunity to drive over the hill for a look.

RIP Howard Egan

Wairarapa Branch acknowledges the contribution of our life member Howard Egan, who passed away last month aged 89. Howard was a former national president of the NZDA, and a long-time committee member in our branch. Author of two hunting books: *Son of the Mist*; and *Hunting Fallow Deer in New Zealand*; Howard was also well known to many as 'Grandad' on the old FishnHunt forum. Howard had a passion for waterfowl, wetlands, and game animal management, but above all he loved fallow deer - and he shared this love with many of us. Condolences to Blake and the rest of Howard's family. RIP Howard – a hunting life well lived!



Committee News and Updates

FINANCIALS

Current balance \$19,422 with \$24,726 in term deposits.

The branch bank account number for payments (firewood, etc) is 03-0687-0022096-00. (This is not the account for payment of memberships – which go direct to National Office.)

We were successful in getting \$2,500 from Masterton Trust Lands Trust in a grant for Deer Park pen extensions. We have also applied for \$10,000 from Carterton District Council Community Grants to help put a fence round the hall and stop the sort of damage below.

HUTS & TRACKS

The Greater Wellington Backcountry Network (GWBN) www.gwbn.org.nz track cutting team are having a break after a very busy and productive summer and autumn.

Mike Thrupp represents the branch at GWBN meetings. Hamish Graham represents us with the Aorangi Restoration Trust.

SEARCH & RESCUE

Quiet this month Please contact Luke on 027 630 7640 if you are interested in joining LandSAR

HALL

For hall bookings call 022 323 6993 or email wairarapanzda@gmail.com.

As noted above, committee has applied for a grant to help fence hall and carpark to try and prevent damage like that pictured from weekend 18-19 July.



MEMBERSHIPS

We have four new members coming along to introduce themselves at Hunting and Fishing open night. We welcome Rob Howey, NZDA National Life Member, who has transferred to our branch from Porirua.

RANGE & SHOOTING

Branch clay target shoot Saturday 5 September

Gladstone range starting 9 am. Cost \$40 for non WPSSC members, \$25 for WPSSC members. 60 target shoot. IMPORTANT: You must provide own ammo and it has to be fibre wad. Ear and eye protection must be worn.

Annual shooting competition Sunday 20 September

Gladstone range starting 8:30 am. Rules next page.

Sunday 20 September 2026
Annual Club Shoot Competition

Gladstone range – 8:30 am (shooting starts 9 am sharp)

Centrefire, Rimfire, F-class, Military
New class: Varmint .17 HMR, .22 magnum through to .221 Remington

Junior prizes – come along and have a go

We have a lot of events to shoot in a limited time so please listen to range staff and help with setting up, packing up etc. All shooters to bring own ammunition.

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

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

Match 2. Senior Rimfire

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

Match 3. Varmint rifle (.17 to .221 Rem)

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

Match 4. Centrefire (for larger calibres above .221 up to 8mm)

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

PLEASE NOTE MATCHES 1-4

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

Match 5. Junior F Class

100yds, 10 rounds. Up to 8mm, max score 110. Any aids; bipods, slings, rests, barrel/stock configurations allowed.

Match 6. Senior F Class

100yds, 10 rounds. Up to 8mm, max score 110. Any aids; bipods, slings, rests, barrel/stock configurations allowed.

Match 7. Military

100yds, 10 rounds. For iron sighted (no Parker Hale target sights), bolt action military rifles of military origin (may be sporterised but not restocked with sporting stocks) and must be of military calibre ie, 6.5x55, .303, 8mm etc.

Branch trophies will be competed for in the following categories:

Junior Rimfire, Senior Rimfire, Centrefire, Varmint, Open Aggregate, Women's Aggregate, F Class Junior, F Class Senior, Military.

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

- All shooters and spectators must abide by WPSSC range rules.
- All children are to have a parent/guardian supervise them at all times.
- All visitors to sign the range book on arrival.
- Hearing and eye protection to be worn while on the range.
- Chamber flags are now mandatory on the range (will be available on the day).

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 9:30 am to 1:00 pm on Sunday and Wednesday afternoon from 2 pm 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.

DEER PARK

The animals are sorting out the new pecking order after the recent removals and introductions. We have made over \$400 in sales of deer nuts. Note that the bridge over the Waipoua River will be closed over next few weeks so you'll need to visit the deer from the hospital/sports-bowl side.

As noted under financials, we have got a grant of \$2,500 from Masterton Trust Lands Trust for Deer Park pen extensions.

FUNDRAISING

4WD marshalling Sunday 8 November

We require 30 volunteers to help with a 4WD event in Ahiauru Road (near Stonehenge). Starting 8 am with the club providing lunch for volunteers. This is a fun day and we a great earner for the branch. Email wairarapanzda@gmail.com to put your name on the mailing list.



Next firewood working bee will be in spring.

Hunting competition 25-27 September

See the flyer next two pages and put it on your calendars. Sponsored by ColdAir Helicopters.



Wairarapa

NZDA

New Zealand Deerstalkers Association

GAME ANIMAL MANAGEMENT HUNTING COMPETITION



September 25th – 27th

Open to all Hunters \$20

Scan QR code to
enter and T&C's

1 Animal = 1 Entry

Deer

Red hind – Fallow doe

Pig

Sow

Goat

Nannies



**Junior Category: Free entry per adult paid
entry**

1 Animal = 1 Entry

Possum 1st : 2nd

Hare 1st : 2nd

Rabbit 1st : 2nd

Lots of prizes

Up for grabs

Cold Air Helicopters
voucher

Fallow deer hunt

Fire wood

And much more

**Any unwanted Deer/Pigs and Goats supplied
will be
processed and donated to local food banks**

Proudly sponsored by ColdAir Helicopters





NOTES :

Juniors – (1 x 14 years old and under – free with each Adult entry) Additional Children \$5 each

All game animals must be gutted, and in tidy condition and ears intact and attached to the body.

Entry form plus entry fees to be paid by 5pm on 24th Sept using the participants (name) as a reference and (comp) as the code. Entry forms can be found using the QR code

All Animals **MUST** be wild and freshly shot during the stated days 25th – 27th of September, The Judge reserves the right to reject/disallow any suspect animal/s.

All animals must be presented at WNZDA Parkvale Hall between 12pm and 2.00pm 27th September, Prize giving to commence shortly afterwards

Sausage sizzle and (non alcoholic) refreshments available from 1pm

Winners will be selected by lucky draw for each category and the Judges decision is final.



WAIRARAPA BRANCH AHT & PHOTO COMPETITIONS

Closing date for entries for annual Branch competitions is 7:30 pm on **Wednesday 2 September 2026**. Entries can be dropped off at the General Meeting at Wairarapa Hunting & Fishing on 19 August 2026 or before the committee meeting at Parkvale Hall from 7 pm on 2 September 2026.

Categories are as follows:

- Red deer, public land (Avon Tatton Shield)
- Red deer, private land (Steve Ticehurst cup)
- Classic Red deer (J.M. Jury shield)
- Best goat head (Crawford Cameron shield)
- Best head where a trophy fee is paid (Playle trophy)
- Best pig jaw –undrawn tusks (Harvie Morrow shield)
- Best pig jaw – Drawn Tusks (N. Tilsey Sheild)
- Aggregate, two or more species (V.V. Donald shield)
- Best head other species
- Best trophy head 'under 20'
- Tahr / Chamois (Max Cole Barometer)

Photographic categories are:

- Game animals in their wild, outdoor state (W.F. McIntyre Cup)
- Other Wildlife in its wild, outdoor state and not in any form of captivity (V.V. Donald Shield)
- Scenic relative to the sport of hunting (B.W. Newport Cup)
- Other – not covered in other categories (K Gear Cup)
- Junior photograph (Amos Cup)

All competitions will be run closely to the Branch Competition rules which have been laminated and displayed in our Parkvale meeting room for the whole competition year. These notes are simply an abbreviation of them.

Key dates this year are:

- Heads, jaws and photos must be taken in the year from 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2026.
- Entry forms and AH&T Trophies (heads) to be dropped off at Parkvale Hall by 7:30 pm Wednesday 2 September 2026.
- Photographs to be emailed to Richard O'Driscoll at wairarapanzda@gmail.com by 7:30 pm Wednesday 2 September 2026.
- Branch Prize-Giving – presentation of Awards & Certificates – Saturday 17 October 2026 (to be confirmed).

Extracts from the Rules.

1. Entrants must have been financial members of this branch at the time of shooting the trophy or taking the photograph. Junior members (18 years & under) to be noted on Entry forms please.
2. All entries in the Antler-horn-tusk competitions (including the Paid hunting section) must have been taken in unimpeded fair chase. No spotlighting. Paid hunting entries are to be clearly designated on Entry forms.
3. Antler-horn-tusk entries must be on a clean, full skull (or jaw). Foul entries will not be accepted. No mounted heads accepted.
4. A Disputes panel will be appointed by the Committee.
5. A competitor may enter more than one head in each competition.
6. Entry forms (both AH&T and photographs) should contain adequate information to illustrate the philosophies within these Competition rules are met.
7. Photos taken in N.Z. Not from a Conveyance. No dead animals or birds. All entries will be submitted digitally rather than as prints. Please email high resolution .jpg images to wairarapanzda@gmail.com Make sure you put "Photo entry" in subject. Images can also be provided on USB to Richard O'Driscoll (021 1411472). You will still need to complete an entry form for each photo entered.

8. Judging will be of four categories. The categories must be designated by the entrant and clearly marked on the Entry form. One fully completed entry form (see note 6 above) for each photo. Members may enter up to three photos in each category.
9. The categories are:
 - a) Game animals in their wild, outdoor state. Not in any form of captivity.
 - b) Other Wildlife in its wild, outdoor state and not in any form of captivity. The subject matter is to be relevant to hunting, hunting country, and the associated activities of hunters.
 - c) Scenic relative to the sport of hunting. Human activity should be of minor importance.
 - d) Other – not covered in other categories. Subject matter is to be relevant to hunting or hunting country. Or the associated activity of hunters.

NOTE: The winning photo of each category will be printed and retained for the Parkvale Hall display board.

Entry form at the end of the newsletter. There must be a separate entry form for each trophy or photo submitted!



WHAT'S UP FOR GRABS

- \$3,000 in Hunting & Fishing NZ vouchers
- Nocpix thermal monoculars
- Bushnell rangefinders, riflescopes and binoculars
- Svord knives, Ledlenser lighting, Tatonka packs and more



Running 1st August – 26th November 2026.

Bring eligible wild goat tails or heads into any Hunting & Fishing NZ store, select NZDA branches, or DOC offices to enter.

Get out there and make your hunt count.

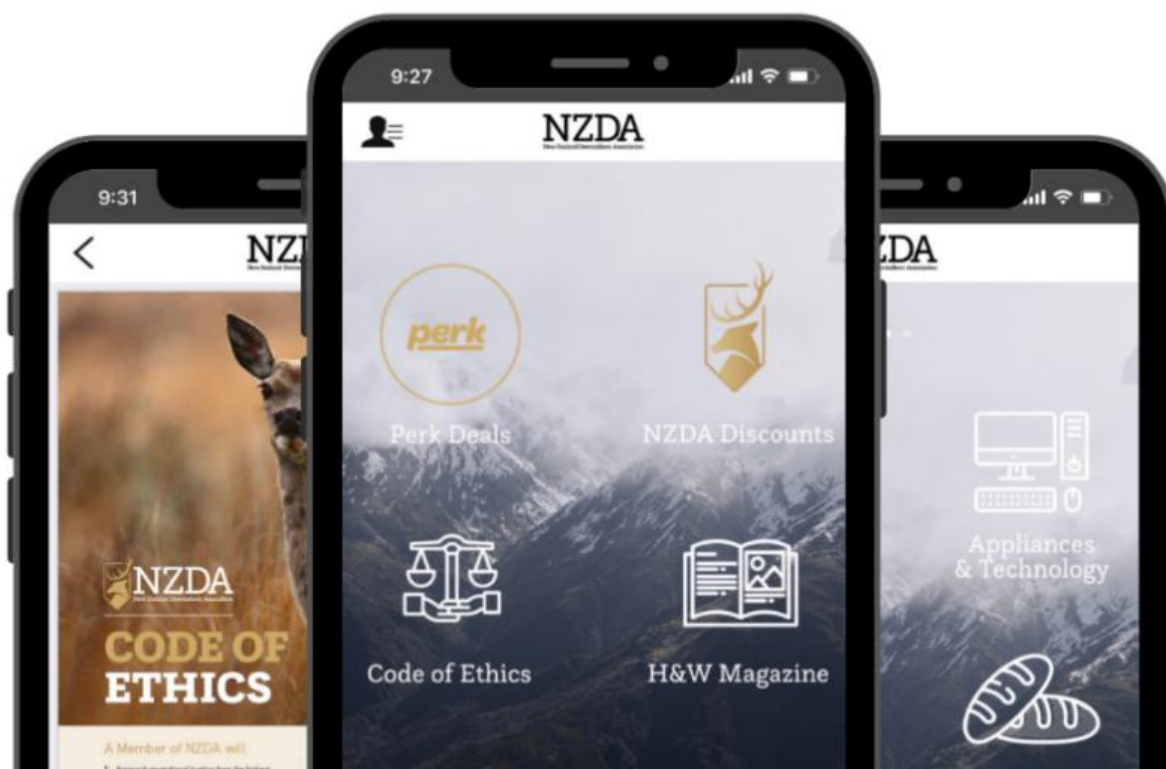
ENTER NOW



Supported by the Federated Farmers of New Zealand, Hunting & Fishing New Zealand and Te Tari Pūreke | Firearms Safety Authority New Zealand.

[National Wild Goat Hunting Competition 2026](#)

A major perk of your NZDA membership is the official app.



DOWNLOAD ON IOS

DOWNLOAD ANDROID

What you'll find inside:

- Discounts at major retailers.
- The latest edition of our quarterly Member Magazine: [NZ Hunting & Wildlife](#) - Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter
- Conference and events announcements
- [Competitions](#)
- Link to the NZDA store
- Your membership information
- [HUNTS training program](#) – training courses & certification for HUNTS Instructor

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

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

[TSC%20](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.



WIN THE ULTIMATE TRITON

OVER **\$105,000** PRIZE PACKAGE

FEATURING OVER **\$43,000** OF FITTED ARB & 4X4 ACCESSORIES

TICKETS **\$25** EACH

SUPPORTING THE FUTURE OF RECREATIONAL HUNTING

MITSUBISHI MOTORS

ARB 4X4 ACCESSORIES

[New Zealand Deerstalkers Association Shop – NZ Deerstalkers Online Shop](https://nzda.shop/collections/)

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.



WAIRARAPA BRANCH NZDA
ALL ENTRIES FOR ANTLER HORN & TUSK
AND PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITIONS
TO BE ON THIS FORM



COMPETITION ENTERED FOR

NAME OF ENTRANT

ADDRESS

.....

DATE SHOT/TAKEN **LOCALITY**

BRIEF ACCOUNT OF SECURING TROPHY (to be completed by entrant)

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THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS CORRECT. I AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THE RULES OF THE COMPETITION AND I UNDERSTAND THE JUDGES DECISION IS FINAL.

SIGNATURE **DATE**

ANY PERSON FOUND DELIBERATELY CONTRAVENING RULES MAY HAVE ALL THEIR ENTRIES DISQUALIFIED AND MAY BE BARRED FROM PARTICIPATION THE FOLLOWING YEAR OR AS DETERMINED BY THE BRANCH COMMITTEE.

WITNESS: I CERTIFY THAT THE ENTRANT IS A FINANCIAL MEMBER AND WAS, AT THE TIME OF TROPHY TAKING.