



NZDA

New Zealand Deerstalkers Association

AUGUST NEWSLETTER

National Executive Report



Craig Benbow National President
Malvern branch

E: craig.benbow@deerstalkers.org.nz

Spring has just arrived so I hope everyone is looking to head out after some game and to work off the winter pounds.

Your executive met the weekend before last for the first time and worked extremely diligently and efficiently to cover a comprehensive agenda that began a process of addressing matters raised by branches at Conference.

As you will see Carolyn has engaged in some serious work to get across the accounts of the Association and contributed three days of her annual

leave to travel to Wellington and engage in the office with Gwyn, Sue and Niraj to progress improvements to systems and reporting for everyone's benefit.

The consensus from our meeting was that we can work well together and by utilising the skills and knowledge brought together by your election of very capable people we are confident in the future of the Association. There is no doubt we have more than a few challenges ahead but operational matters are being addressed as quickly as they can by Gwyn and we are seeing noticeable improvements in service to our members as work continues to tidy up membership and administrative functions.

Contact with senior DOC officials and other NGOs is continuing and is focused on where we work well together toward common outcomes that benefit all. Myself, Gwyn and others are involved in those discussions and we are pleased with the respect and engagement to date. Of course the decision around Tahr control is a real hot potato but these people are charged with making decisions under the legislation they operate under. Our continuing role is to ensure that is always the case and that proposals pass those tests yet respect the stakeholders involvement where legislation is not the only driver.

Wayne Smith South Island Member
Marlborough

E: wayne.smith@deerstalkers.org.nz

Governance house keeping

I attended the board meeting where it was great to meet my fellow members. Given my business background I have been asked to communicate the following on behalf of the National Executive.



Given the drive for better transparency we agreed that we will keep an audio record of NATEX meetings so we can simplify the minute taking process. The Chair utilised BoardPro to set a professional agenda for the meeting and its likely we will utilise that package going forward.

A Conflicts of Interest register was established and will be updated at each meeting, we approved a CEO financial delegation policy and there may be more work on non financial delegations further down the track, we re-confirmed the existing expense policy for NATEX members and we started

to lay out a NATEX workplan with meeting dates for the coming 12 months. Gwyn provided NATEX with a very comprehensive induction pack so we all ended up with a solid chunk of homework to take home!

Financials

Carolyn presented a huge amount of detailed analysis work on the accounts for NATEX and needs to be thanked for that along with taking two days annual leave to go through the accounts in further detail in Wellington with the auditors and Gwyn. So NATEX has already had an early good look under the bonnet so to speak. In summary, while the motor could do with a steam clean and a good tune up Carolyn confirmed that she hadn't discovered anything materially untoward so that was helpful assurance. We will get further detail out to branches as quickly as we can so the concerns raised at conference can be addressed.

Looking forward

We started the process of developing a 1 page Strategic Plan to provide clear guidance and direction for the CEO with work ongoing on this. We reviewed the sub committee and portfolio responsibility list and tweaked that where required. It was a very full and busy day. We touched on other topics such as membership, advocacy, communications & PR and Hunting & Wildlife and these will be on future agenda's for more detailed discussions.



Carolyn Heffernan Treasurer

Te-Awamutu

E: carolyn.heffernan@deerstalkers.org.nz

Well, since my election I have had my feet under the desk the last few weeks. The first board meeting of the new National Executive was held on Saturday 22nd and I remained in Wellington until Wednesday to work with Gwyn, Sue and Niraj and meet with our Association's accountant.

I have been working hard to answer the questions raised at Conference by branches and also seek to satisfy my own questions regarding our financial position and status.

Apart from a bit of tidying up I found the accounts to be free of any untoward activity so was pleased with this.

Financial Review

I personally spent long hours extracting financial information out of Xero and putting it into a format that I am used to seeing in my role as a financial reporting accountant and which I feel would be acceptable to my fellow board members. This detailed analysis was presented at the board meeting and discussed. My intention when doing this work was to review our financial status and seek to deliver the transparency that branches indicated they wanted at Conference and which underpins the election of this board.

Interim Statement of Financial Performance Report

The following is the result, being a year to date (YTD) actual analysis. If you click on the image it takes you to a high resolution .pdf copy.

		National Association							Actual YTD as a % of budget
		2020/21 YTD Budget	2020/21 YTD Actuals	Mar-20 Actual	Apr-20 Actual	May-20 Actual	Jun-20 Actual	Jul-20 Actual	
Total Income		25,448.85	(443,227.74)	(276,452.84)	(209,371.26)	(21,312.94)	25,419.60	(21,021.90)	(83%)
Governance and Professional costs Total			74,248.22	11,034.14	9,264.96	10,007.05	12,896.90	30,541.93	
Subsidiary Professional services Total			13,423.45	10,225.00	7,815.00	3,250.00	2,676.48	3,840.00	
Interest & Depreciation costs Total			845.74	-	-	-	845.74	-	
Other Expenses Total			39,615.58	16,980.62	2,281.11	3,015.23	4,853.88	12,158.91	
Total Expenses		(88,637.10)	(222,514.58)	(125,219.45)	(19,888.01)	(22,862.28)	(20,282.01)	(17,335.33)	(81%)
Net (Profit)/Loss		(63,188.25)	(565,688.28)	(541,672.41)	(477,889.29)	(41,184.64)	(7,862.41)	(32,786.70)	(52%)
Local Branch Accounts Held									
Branch Subscriptions (held on behalf of)									
Society Membership - Local			(3,454.74)	(4,116.41)	(11,607.05)	(2,401.50)	(2,822.00)	(2,281.00)	
Junior Membership - Local			(140.40)	(214.56)	(1,183.00)	(85.00)	(840.00)	(105.00)	
Student Membership - Local			(714.00)	(202.00)	(1,116.24)	(110.40)	(101.50)	(101.10)	
Sponsorship Membership - Local			(11,122.64)	(8,828.82)	(1,255.40)	(1,511.15)	(1,511.50)	(22,639.00)	
Branch Life Membership - Senior - Local			(4,116.58)	(3,274.32)	(2,814.00)	(1,425.00)	(227.80)	(35.30)	
Associate Membership - Local			(4,222.15)	(3,163.01)	(1,023.00)	(1,185.50)	(154.00)	(214.00)	
All India Membership - Local			(271.00)	(143.46)	(24.74)	-	(157.00)	(20.00)	
Environmental Life Membership - Local			1,125.04	-	-	-	-	1,225.84	
Mining Fire North Committee			(175.45)	(20.00)	(141.74)	-	(90.00)	(20.00)	
Contributed Owing to Branches from Incoming Contributions Payments			34,125.12	-	-	-	61,167.77	1,941.03	
			(2,822.63)	(7,974.67)	(14,809.53)	(6,006.61)	(2,916.52)	(1,380.72)	
Levy Accounts Held									
Levy revenue (held on behalf of)									
LEVY/2021 Levy - Paid to CU/1/2			(14,122.14)	(11,246.14)	(2,282.14)	(2,641.12)	(1,071.00)	-	
LEVY/2021 Levy - Paid to Heritage Trust			(7,212.14)	(5,236.14)	(1,140.00)	(252.00)	(127.00)	(246.90)	
LEVY/2021 Levy - Paid to research (not being added)			(1,122.14)	(1,522.14)	(1,286.14)	(2,615.00)	(880.11)	(250.11)	
Levy expenses			1,275.04	-	-	-	-	1,275.04	
OCI FOL/Levy Expense			(12.15)	(13,222.14)	-	-	13,222.14	-	
Heritage Trust Levy Expense			2,124.73	(5,660.62)	(5,169.01)	(10.11)	(2,221.91)	7,277.64	
Net (Profit)/Loss			(48,738.28)	(109,298.52)	(119,579.59)	(60,788.43)	(9,612.47)	(6,410.32)	

Fig. YTD summary

Currently, YTD Actual July 2020 compared to YTD approved budget July 2020 shows a favourable net profit variance of \$33,188.

The analysis undertaken forecasts an end of year surplus of approximately \$38,000.

However, the forecast outcome is not achievable because the board resolved at the meeting to implement the remit of Conference to move the Research Levy (as at year end) to a specific bank account. As result of

this direction by Conference, we are accordingly forecasting net loss of approximately \$20,200.

Expenditure by the board on expenses and office operational expenditure

Gwyn, our CEO, was part of the discussion and analysis around our financial status. Gwyn has already started implementing initiatives to help improve our end of year position.

My view is Gwyn has a good understanding of the finances, what is expected of a professional association, and has the capability to deliver what we are asking of him as our CEO.

I have met with the previous treasurer for a handover and have met with the accountants as well.

Recommendations

I have recommended to both our CEO and our accountant that there is a need for some improvements with regard the systems, controls and processes so that these are to a "professional standard" of checks and balances. We are heading towards a best practice month end financial process and that should enable some good reliable reporting.

My initial observations

Good changes already underway by CEO

I see positive improvements occurring already by having a CEO in situ since June 2020 and Gwyn has the passion for his sport to provide him motivation and the ability to set direction which the office staff are finding a positive way forward.

Bitrix is being improved - both operationally and membership data-wise

There has been a drive to ensure the Bitrix system is working appropriately and also to go through any members' records that are red flagged and tidy them up so we are moving forward in a very positive way with Bitrix. This means Niraj can process memberships and this is now showing in the increase of paid invoices through July.

Limited Partnership / 3 Collina Terrance

I have looked into the NZDA Ltd Partnership and this is coming up for a revaluation soon. The increase in capital value will give a nice boost to our balance sheet. While not a cash transaction it will increase our non-current asset position and show as revenue "below the line" in our Profit &

Loss for 2020/21.

The MCN3 investment

It is unfortunate that the cashflow available deteriorated and the previous treasurer had to divest the association of \$50,000 of the \$250,000 however the situation that was presented left no other choice it was that or not pay our bills. The \$50,000 was bought by Wellington branch.

This investment came about due to a group of savvy investors that bought some commercial property. The Association was asked if it wanted to be included in the investment and now the property portfolio has increased its value, the association is sitting in a very favourable position. Looking at the value in the MCN3 investment portfolio financial statements if we converted now the value of the Association's share would be approximately \$434,500. A 117.24% increase is a great return on investment. As these are due to convert in 2024 I think the Association will be very happy to have made that investment decision.

Financial reporting – to branches

I wish to let you know the first full financial report will be delivered end of October.

Branch clearings – Quarter 2 coming September

Please note that we will be contacting branches soon to:

- Complete the FY2020 end of year wash-up clearing
- Inform the Quarter 2 Branch clearing for the period from your previous report/clearing to 31 August 2020.

It is important to note that for us to meet the reporting expectations then the branches need to deliver the necessary information in a timely manner too.

Trevor Chappell Immediate Past

National President

Waikato branch

E: trevor.chappell@deerstalkers.org.nz

Hi all, I attended the board meeting with the newly appointed National Executive. It is pleasing to know we have a very talented bunch who will be working hard over these next 11 months to guide the

Association forward.

I also participated in a Conference call of DOC, GAC and NZDA personel to discuss proposed "Battle of the Birds" poison programmes over the 2021/22 year.



**Ian Owen South Island Member
South Canterbury**

E: ian.owen@deerstalkers.org.nz

It has been a month with a lot of positives, I attended the board meeting and met most of the new board members, two were not present, one person due to lockdown and the other due to not feeling 100%, but both contributed via Zoom.

I am impressed with the caliber of all the Natex members and look forward to working with them to achieve positive outcomes for NZDA.

Gore & Districts invited me to their monthly meeting where I found several members from Southland and Blue Mountains present. This meeting included their prizegiving and some raffles. Some of the highlights from the meeting were a donation to the branch from All Tyres in Invercargill, who donate \$5 per tyre that Gore & District branch members purchase, and they also donated a set of tyres suitable for a Quad bike, its great to see such great support for the branch.

Another positive was they are re instigating some interbranch competitions that have fallen by the wayside over the last few years, there is some good rivalry and friendship between the Gore & Districts, Blue Mountains, South Otago and Southland branches which is good to see. It was noted that South Otago branch won the interbranch claybird shoot by a very slim margin.

The number of trophies entered this year was down, most likely due to the lockdown, but it was great to see the number of younger members being presented with trophies, of note was a trophy that was presented by

Lance Peat, he commented that he had donated the trophy 43 years ago and was the only one remaining that still presents the trophy they donated. A good night was had by all.





National AHT Conference Competition Results

Here are the 2020 AHT Competition results. The spring edition of Hunting & Wildlife will showcase more pictures.

Updated AHT Results 2020



2020 Conference Photo Competition - Warren Hall, North Canterbury branch

A Word from our Chief Executive

August has been another busy month for NZDA. I have been working closely with our new board and they are an impressive group of passionate deerstalkers.

Given all the challenges we have been facing, hunters are signing up to NZDA (up to 10 per day) in order to help protect our rights, which is great to see.



I have been receiving many positive messages of support and appreciation about the way we are communicating and serving our new and current members.

My highlights this month were writing our Tahr Control Operational Plan submission, undertaking the Tahr Hunter Survey, and giving our existing website a long overdue makeover as a stop-gap until our new site is developed.

You'll hear more from me soon as I will summarise where we land on the tahr operational plan. The finer details of operations in the East Coast management units are yet to be agreed among DOC and GAC.

The FWF and Sika Foundation have issued their Annual Reports, both included at the end of this newsletter. It's great to see the hard work done by hunters this past year and the reports are worth a read.

Tahr Survey winners announced

Nick Dennis and Lisa Moffat are the joint winners of the tahr hunt with Dave and Gwyn for completing our NZDA Tahr Hunter Engagement Survey.

Thank you to those of you who completed our NZDA Tahr Hunter Engagement Survey. We were blown away by the responses with a total of 1,394 hunters participating. The statisticians among us will know this is a great sample size resulting in a margin of error of less than 3% at a confidence level of 95% - in other words, we have some valid data.

We would also like to thank each of you who have written to us by email, Facebook and Instagram. We are reading your messages but we have not had time to reply. Your ideas and input have helped directly shape our submission. It is also very clear tahr hunting means a lot to Deerstalkers.



First Executive meeting held at Deerstalkers house

The 22nd of August saw the new NZDA board and CEO meet at the Deerstalkers House for a full day of planning for our future.

What a great start had by a bunch of passionate volunteers who care deeply about our sport of hunting and shooting. Well done team. Lots of exciting ideas and topics were discussed, so keep an eye out in the coming months.





#Hunting is Conservation

NZDA has been saying for a long time that hunters are a big contributor to our conservation outcomes and grassroots projects.



In the spirit of Conservation Week, NZDA CEO, Gwyn Thurlow, caught up with Department of Conservation Director-General, Lou Sanson, and Ben Reddix (Director National Operations) as well as the GAC's Tim Gale (General Manager) and the newly appointed chair of the council, Grant Dodson.

We all agree we have a strong interest in our public lands and that New Zealand's hunting community are a large user of the conservation managed estate.



Left to right: Ben, Gwyn, Grant, Lou and Tim



Jase Van Beers, educating the next generation of hunters and conservationists at Woodbury School



NZDA Wellington Branch (pictured) recently opened the refurbished Cattle Ridge Hut in the Taranukas.

Visit from Richard

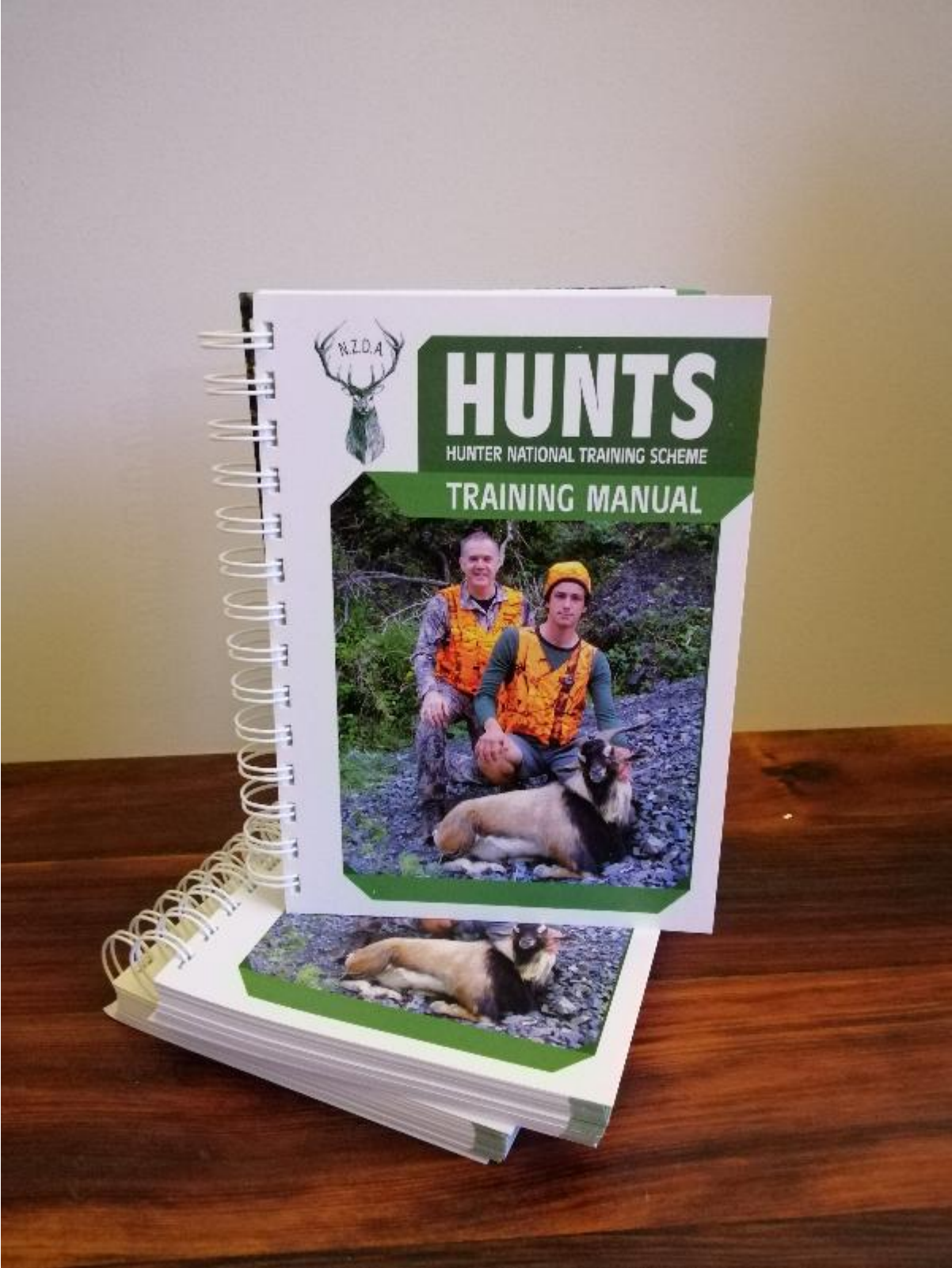
Richard McKenzie, an avid Deerstalker of Napier branch popped into the Deerstalkers House for a visit. Richard is a proud, humble and long standing member of the club. He is pictured below being presented with his 50 year service badge by the CEO.



HUNTS Manuals

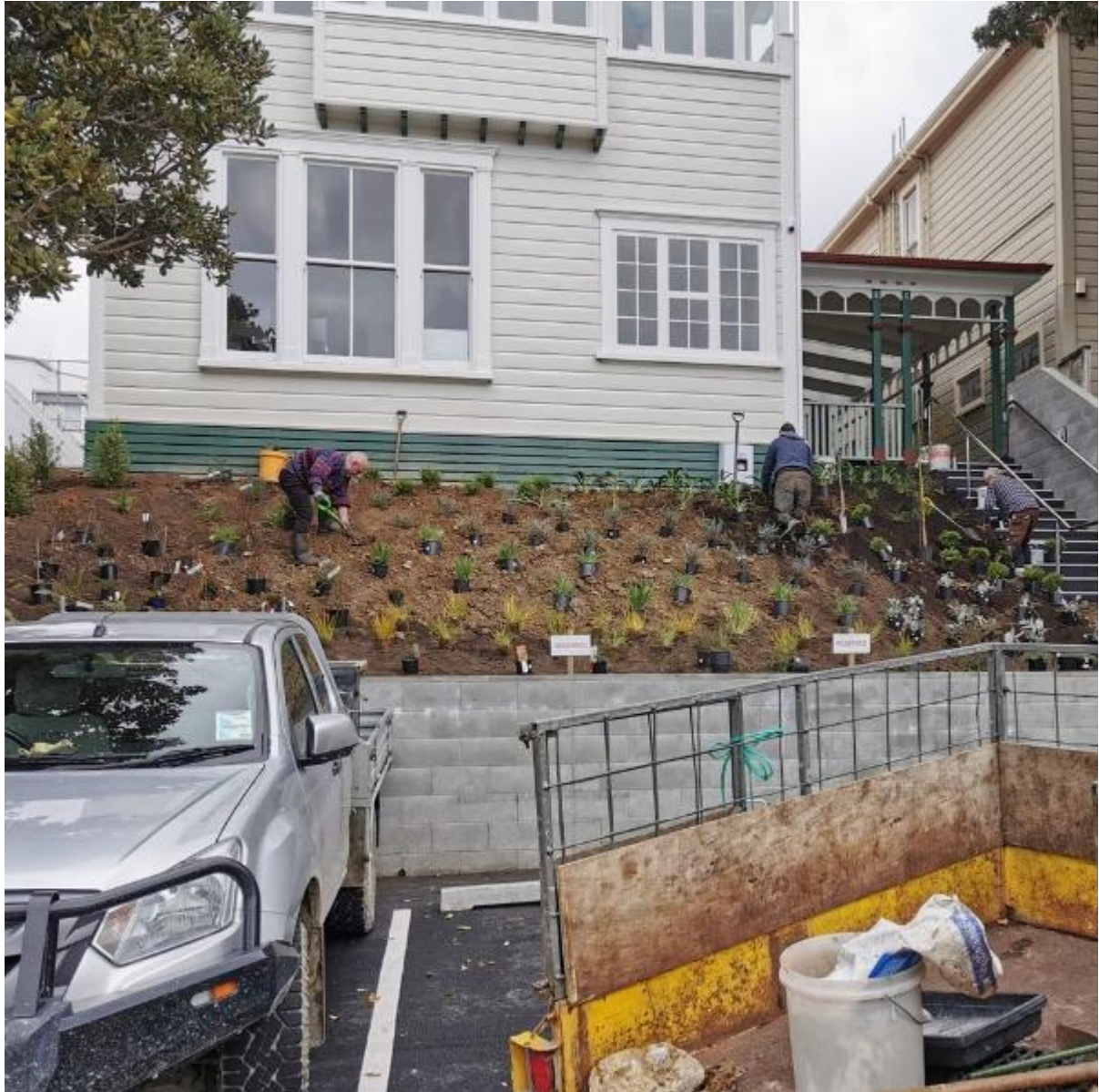
The new HUNTS Manuals are now on sale (\$35.00 + GST + pp). Please contact National Office to arrange orders. We only have 500 copies, so

preference will be given to qualified HUNTS Instructors orders.



Deerstalkers House Building Update

National Office are pleased to have moved back into Deerstalkers House on Collina Terrace, Thorndon, Wellington. Volunteers of the Wellington branch spent a weekend planting over 180 native plants alongside the front of the house. Awesome work.



The Heritage Trust have also been hard at work, installing new shelving. These shelves will serve as key archives for the preservation of Deerstalker history. Some records date back to the early 1930s!



Tim Watson assembling shelving



Left to right: Barry, Tim, Alby and John

CANCELLED | Sika Show

Unfortunately the 2020 Sika Show will not be going ahead this year. The below updated is from the Sika Show and Competition event organisers:

"With huge apologies to the NZ hunting community and all of you who were looking forward to attending the Sika Show, in the best interest of all involved and due to the way the Covid-19 Alert Levels are changing, we had to make the difficult decision to cancel the event for 2020. There is no way for us to postpone, and we are so sorry if you have to now cancel

your plans, accommodation, catch up with friends. We realise that this cancellation is a huge disappointment for everyone, but we are simply running out of time. If you have purchased your tickets online, you will receive a refund soon. Thanks for your support, and stay safe."

Press Release Sika Show 2020

Fiordland Wapiti meat update



We have had one further donation made by Waikato branch which takes the total donated by NZDA up to \$2,960 by:

- Waikato
- Hutt Valley
- Taupo
- Bay of Plenty
- Marlborough
- Wellington
- National Office (on behalf of all members)

[Check out the website for more on the project.](#)



2020 Conference Photo Competition - Brian Witton, Auckland branch

Hunting and Wildlife Magazine

Printed editions also available

There is still the ability to order your printed copy of NZ Hunting and Wildlife Magazine and have it delivered to your home address.

\$10 a copy

or

\$29 for 4 x editions



[Click here to read the latest virtual magazine](#)

[Order your printed editions here!](#)

Auckland TahrJam



Well done to Auckland Branch and full credit to our new North Island board member and rep, Callum Sheridan, who ended up stepping up to ensure the protest was well coordinated. Raising a further \$3,000 is an amazing achievement.





Fiordland Wapiti Foundation Annual Report



FIORDLAND WAPITI FOUNDATION
ANNUAL REPORT
— 2020 —

Sika Foundation Annual Report



YEAR IN REVIEW
2019/20



Protecting Hunters' Rights in New Zealand Since 1937

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