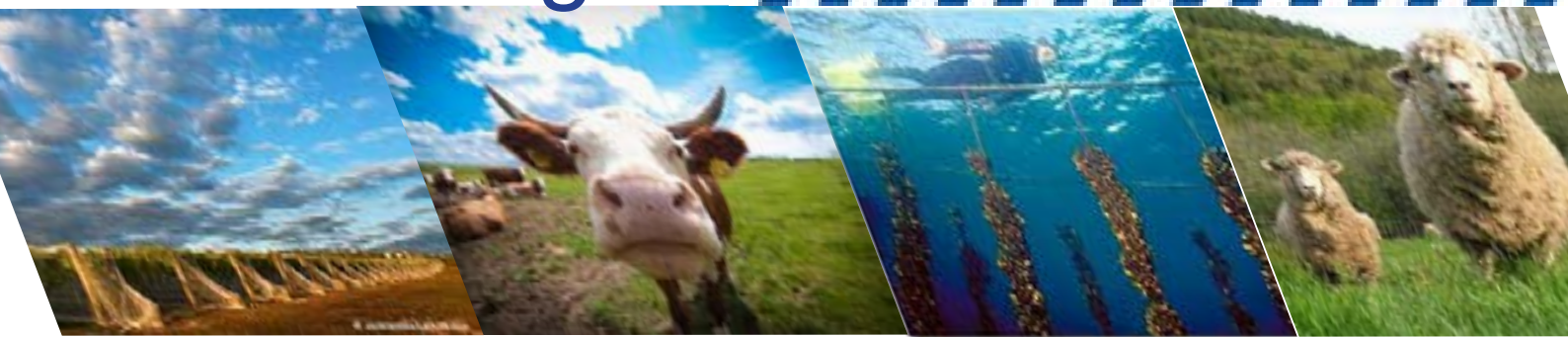


Marlborough



Rural Police

August 2015



POLICE

Remembrance Day
29 September 2015

Roundup of incidents in rural areas

2/10/2015 – 4 sheep skins found on the Awatere river bed, under the Awatere bridge.

10/6/2015 – A report of generator being taken from a shed on a property at Blind River, near Seddon.

15/6/ 2015 – A van with four occupants seen in Queen Charlotte Drive, Linkwater, suspected of stealing petrol from a fuel tank.

15/6/2015 - Shearing grinder and large heavy duty plastic hay cover stolen from a shearing shed on a rural property, Blind River area, near Seddon.

10/7/2015 – 3 Merino sheep were slaughtered near 17 Valley, Riverlands, Blenheim, only the heads and paunches were left.

We realise that many people will be removing stock from their vineyards soon. In the past we have been advised of stock theft during this period, as this is the first opportunity that the stock owners have to get the sheep together and check the stock numbers recovered.

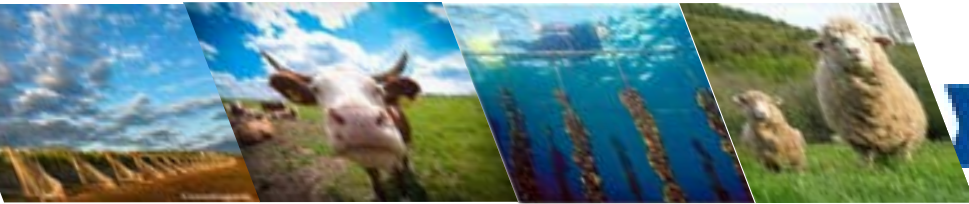


We're hoping to have the Police tractor in Marlborough for the A & P Show on 6 and 7th of November 2015.

We will also have our Mobile Police Station at the show. See you there!

**SHUT THE GATE
ON RURAL CRIME**
TELL CRIMESTOPPERS WHAT YOU KNOW
CALL **0800 555 111**

crimestoppers
0800 555 111
speak up, it's anonymous
www.crimestoppers-nz.org



Tasman Rural Police meeting

Marlborough Police organised a meeting for many of the officers involved in rural policing across the Tasman District, at Murchison two weeks ago.

As you can see from the map to the right it is one of the biggest Districts in NZ, so hopefully you can understand why we say we try, but can't always get to pop in and have a yarn over the farm gate. There aren't enough hours in the day or night for that matter! We had staff at the meeting from Haast to Kaikoura and all areas in between. The purpose was to get everyone on the same page around Unlawful Hunters, Trespass and correctly using and interpreting the various legislations that we use to support the rural community eg:

Radio Communications Act (Dog tracking collars), Aviation Act, Conservation Act, Wild Animal Control Act, Arms Act, Trespass Act and Traffic Legislation to name a few.

It was also an opportunity to share information and seek guidance on other matters. We also wanted staff to bring their ideas and initiatives to the meeting. I'm a strong believer in not reinventing the wheel and if somebody is working in isolation and is doing something that works we all want to try it. Balancing that is also understanding that one size does not always fit all.

What we had previously discovered, and this is not uncommon, you get 2 or 3 or more people in a room and all have a different opinion or interpretation of the law for certain offences, you couple this with daily decisions that are made in court about the way a judge has interpreted the same law and we can all be going in different directions and giving different advice.

So my idea was to get some consistency and share the latest decisions on the law pertaining to our tasks, so along with Sgt Rob Crawford in Nelson, who manages the Rural Police staff for Nelson Bays area, Dana Weir our Firearms officer based in Nelson and S/ Constable Beau Webster of Marlborough. We put together a day of training and discussion about legal aspects of our tasks.

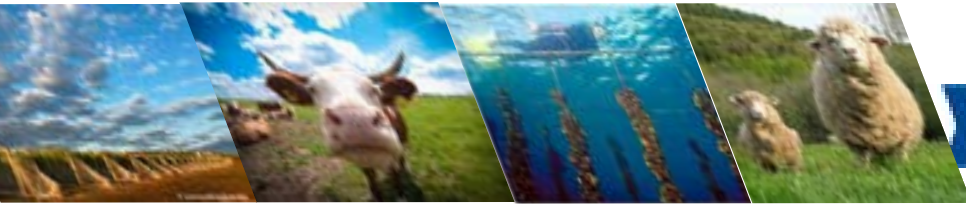
Tasman Police District



We had Ian McArthur from Police Legal Section in Christchurch and Fardia Mudafar a Compliance Officer from Radio Spectrum Management, which is part of the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment. Fardia and her team lead the Prosecutions of those that use Radio frequencies unlawfully, as certain Dog Tracking collars do. The frequencies that are unlawful are the ones that will interfere with other operating frequency that are often a life line or a safety communication frequency. Fardia's team and the technicians they employ are our go to people to analyse any Dog Tracking gear we recover.

Dog with tracking collar fitted.





She provided examples of the illegal dog collars and told us what to look for and what to seize. She also gave guidance on how the offenders can be prosecuted, but her team will in most cases take a lead in that area supported by us.

Prohibited Frequencies and Tracking equipment used in Dog Tracking collars:

Radio equipment or part thereof operating in any of the frequencies 151.820 MHz, 151.880 MHz, 151.940 MHz, 154.570 MHz and 154.600 MHz and used for, or with the primary purpose of being used for animal tracking or animal training, including, but not limited to, the following makes and models:

- _ Garmin Astro 220 system
- _ Garmin Astro 320 system
- _ Garmin Alpha 100 system
- _ Garmin DC 20 collar
- _ Garmin DC 30 collar
- _ Garmin DC 40 collar
- _ Garmin DC 50 collar
- _ Garmin TT 10 collar
- _ SportDOG TEK equipment
- _ Garmin TT 15 collar
- _ Garmin T5 collar
- _ Garmin PRO Trashbreaker (Tri-Tronics Trashbreaker)

Tresspass

Ian McArthur our Police Lawyer, led the robust discussion around legal issues and Staff were given new guidance on trespass. Our legal section say that trespass is a civil matter and Police should only get involved in limited circumstances. We were also advised that the practice of blanket bans on multiple properties was to stop and that an individual notice would have to be served for each property.

In cases where boundaries for a property are unclear the person, (farmer, land owner or lawful occupier) must attach a map outlining the boundary for the land the person is trespassed from.

Police have recently been sued in civil court



A set of Dog tracking gear, seized by Police recently.

over deficient Trespass Notices and action taken against those Trespassing, so you can imagine our legal team want to get this sorted!

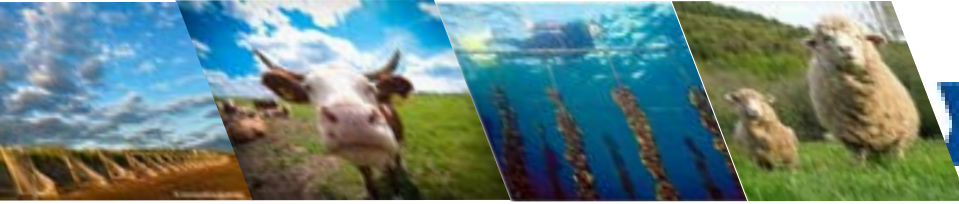
So don't take it personally if we say we won't be trespassing somebody, as we have been given instruction not to unless certain circumstances dictate. Often we will guide you on what you need to do yourself, to do this.

We still give you an assurance that we still support you however we can (within legal guidelines) and as I often say, there is more than one way to skin a possum if we can't Trespass!

Unlawful Hunting

Our tactics in dealing with these situations was also robustly discussed. Some great ideas came from this and we gained clarification on many areas where there had been some confusion. This gives me confidence that our staff will be able to give more consistent information to our community and serve you better around the unlawful hunting issue.

The whole meeting and training was productive and well received. From this forum we have given an undertaking to our Rural staff to share more information and make more available through our electronic means



Unlawful hunting operations in Marlborough

at work so they have a quick reference.

Over the last six months we have been carrying out operations targeting unlawful hunting in Marlborough. Some of you may have seen us during the very early daylight operations, but most wouldn't have noticed us as we worked some areas late at night and into the early mornings. We have covered hundreds of kilometres and spoken to hundreds of people. We have covered valleys, forestry blocks, rural tracks and DOC land - anywhere, where there have been problems before or where we know the area is popular for hunting.

Our main objectives were to support our rural community and the landowners to deter unlawful hunting. We intended to prosecute anyone found hunting unlawfully and seize their gear. We also wanted to educate the hunting fraternity and support those doing their hunting lawfully. We surprised many people by being in remote



A brisk morning! Waiting for hunters who were approaching via a forestry road in the Maungatapu.



Speaking to a lawful hunter, Waihopai Valley before he began his hunt.

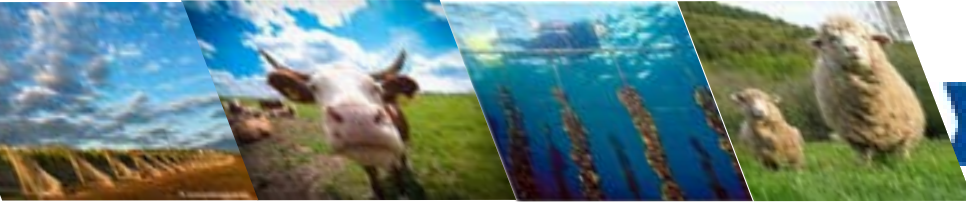
areas at times they don't usually see Police. We were also encouraged by the support we received by all we encountered.

The only ones who were grumpy were the ones we believe were unlawfully hunting, which were all followed up with either prosecution or other action.

We located two poachers in the Waikakaho Valley, near Blenheim and two poachers up PuhīPuhī Valley, near Kaikoura. They were caught red handed with Tika T3 rifle and spotlight.

Another hunter caught in the Fabians Valley near Renwick had his vehicle and all equipment taken, including tracking gear, by Police when he was found hunting on land he shouldn't have been on.

In the Marlborough Sounds three men



were dealt with for unlawful hunting on Arapawa Island.

Eight men were dealt with for unlawful hunting during the operation. One has had hunting and tracking gear confiscated by the court, however his vehicle was returned by them. Others are still going through the court process so results will be a while away yet.

During the Operation we confiscated eight tracking collars, two GPS trackers, a firearm, spotlight, one vehicle and one wild pig (dead).

Tracking gear and equipment to the value of \$4500 dollars was forfeited by the court for destruction.



Contact with hunters that were compiling with their hunting permit in the Onamalutu forest.

In finishing

The recent rains will be a relief for some farmers with dams being topped up and the moisture penetrating deeper into the soil of those dry paddocks. But in the Rai Valley area they copped more than they wanted with some flooding crossing roads and covering paddocks.

Whichever way the weather treated you, we hope it is going to be a good spring and sets you up well for summer.

Quote of the month:

'Individually we are one drop – together we are an ocean'.

Ryunosuke Satoro

Have you seen this man?

Police are trying to locate **Craig Kenneth JONES**, aged 45. We believe JONES may be in the Marlborough Sounds area. We have warrants for his arrest for burglary related matters. If you have any information that may assist in locating him please call Blenheim Police Ph 5785279, or Crimestoppers Ph 0800 555 111.



Emergency contacts

24 hr Police Emergency Ph 111
Blenheim Station Ph 578 5279
24 hr Women's Refuge (03) 577 9939
24 hr Victim Support 0800 842 846

24 hr Youth Line 0800 376 6333
24 hr Crisis Team (Mental Health) 0800 800 717
Family Violence (9am-11pm) 0800 456 450
Or visit: www.areyouok.org.nz