

RIFLE ROD AND GUN CLUB

1946 – 2024

The Rifle Rod and Gun Club was formed in 1946 by a group of guys keen on all forms of hunting and fishing activities. Although smallbore target shooting was not a part of the original concept, some of the foundation members were shooting for other clubs in the Manawatu region and decided to commence a smallbore section.

In 1948, the club became one of the many members of the Manawatu Smallbore Rifle Association and began shooting with a small band of keen participants.

The club grew from 20 or so members in the early sixties to between 45 and 50 in the late seventies. From there to the early nineties, the club became one of the strongest in the Manawatu Association, winning the Open Interclub series for many years and holding the McKelvie Challenge Cup for a record number of defences.

It was not uncommon for the club members to collect a sizeable portion of the Manawatu Association trophies at the annual prizegiving and, on some occasions, members made up half the team for the Rees Scroll match. The club has also had its fair share of North Island and New Zealand representatives.

Lady shooters became strong contributors to the section and top shots as well. Our ladies team proved unbeatable on a number of occasions and teamed up with other Manawatu ladies to make the strongest ladies team in the country.

The club is not now as strong as it once was, but still has a keen band of 15 members who enjoy their shooting and take an active part in the activities of the Manawatu Association.