

— New Zealand —

RED DEVON

— Cattle Breeders Association —

Newsletter  June 2021

Hi All

With some rain finally arriving and mild weather prevailing the upcoming winter does not look as worrisome as it was just a few weeks ago. Our hearts go out to those farmers affected by the severe flooding in the South Island. The decline in beef prices appears to have run its course and hopefully schedules will start lifting over the next few months. Logistics appear to be the biggest issue.

The AGM has been and gone and everybody agreed that holding a stud visit followed by the AGM at the same place and on the same date was a successful recipe worthy of repeating. It also saved the association some funds for lunch and venue hire. A new Council was elected at the AGM, a warm welcome to new Council members Danielle Boven and Gavin Cooper. Retiring Council member Maggie Hutchinson was kind enough to take the minutes. I announced my intention to retire as Chair and in the subsequent Council meeting Heughan was appointed as Chair and I took up the position of his deputy. The standards of excellence were discussed and it was decided not to make changes on the basis they are guidance rather than strict rules. Another point of discussion was the Priorton Magnate semen; the quality of this semen is below par and the annual storage costs are not worth it. It was decided to write off the semen altogether after writing off 50% in the previous year. The straws are offered for free to members with an advisory note to use 2 straws per insemination. If interested contact Heughan before August 31. We can hold the straws for you if you need them later but booking them is essential as otherwise they will be destroyed. If demand exceeds supply the straws will be divided fairly between applicants. Costs of transport fall to the user. There is also a quantity of Tilbrook Prince semen available from the Association, this semen has proven to be sound and is available to members at \$ 40/straw. TP is a heterozygous polled English bull with a quantity of NZ genetics, including Rotokawa. Last year a portion of accumulated funds was spent on revamping the website, which is still being fine tuned. It is now time to drive people to our new website and our advertising will focus on promoting it.

Another point of discussion was the \$ 250 fee to register NZ domiciled cattle that are registered overseas. In the interest of genetic diversity the subsequent Council meeting decided that the fee for herd sires be scrapped and replaced with an 'at cost' fee of \$ 50 + GST/HR of registrar time with a minimum charge of 1 hour. Members that have paid the sire fee are entitled to a refund. The female fees stay in place for now and Council will have another look at those in the near future. At the Council meeting several work streams were set up, with lead providers for each. Danielle being the lead for the website admin, Colleen for running the informal Northland club and organising stud visits, Heughan for day to day affairs, Brendon for the financials, Gavin for promotion and registry issues with the Australians and myself for communications. An uncompleted work stream from last year was a redesigned induction pack for new members. Danielle will work on this together with Heughan and myself.

Welcome to new members Jarred Sircombe & Amanda Henderson of Marble Mountain stud.

A highlight of the dinner that followed the AGM was the presentation of Tuppy Jones' honorary life membership that had been delayed since the previous AGM when Tuppy could not make it. Happily Colleen bought Tuppy's remnant herd so she didn't have to send her beloved animals to the works. A great time was had by all and I'd like to thank all those that travelled from wide and far to attend.



To see what happened next scroll down to the two pictures below. Honest, despite what it looks like, I did not make Tuppy an indecent proposal!

**Dirk Sieling
DEPUTY CHAIR**

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Members List

([click](#) [here](#))



Important Dates to Remember

30 th April	Membership Subscriptions Invoiced
30 th June	ADL's sent out
30 th July	ADL's must be Returned (no Cow Credits for ADL's returned after the 15 th August)
10 th August	Calf Entries sent out
30 th September	Annual animal pre-list dam fees invoiced
May 2022	AGM
31 st December	Balance Date; end of financial year
31 st January	Calf entry sheets cut off
2 nd of every month	Group Run Cut off for the performance recording reports

www.reddevoncattle.co.nz





