

DECEMBER 2016 Issue: 118

Welcome to the December Ayrwaves

As another year draws to an end it is time to reflect on the many challenges that we as farmers have had to endure.

For the first part of the year, the low milk price and uncertainty in the dairy industry put added pressure on many of our farming operations and as a result many budgets were trimmed and costs cut.

Mother Nature played her part in many regions throughout the country with a wet cold spring in the North Island and a continuation of Earth Quakes in the South Island. This has put added pressure on our farming businesses.

As an Association we have noticed a drop in the use of the services that we offer and with that reduced much needed income. I urge all members when you rework your budgets following a very promising milk price projection to make full use of what your Association can offer you to enable us to continue as we have in the past.

On a brighter note, I have been able to get out and about and catch up with many members.

Recently Anne and I attended the World Ayrshire Conference in the USA in Oct/Nov along with our NZ Delegation and since returning I have caught up with breeders at a very successful South Island Championship in Balclutha.

I have also managed to fit in the on-farm Thames Valley Competition and also the TOP runs in Wards 1, 4 and 8. It was good to catch up with members on their own farms, be it only briefly.

As always at this time of the year we remember our members who have lost loved ones throughout the year and those who are unwell.

May I extend to you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

See you all at the Conference in Christchurch in June. Please note that accommodation is limited and to get the reduced rate at the hotel where we are holding the Conference, you will need to book by the end of March. Further information to follow in the New Year.

Donald Green - President

FROM THE OFFICE

The Board and staff of Ayrshire New Zealand Assn wish all members a very happy Christmas and successful New Year.

The office will be closed from 3pm on Friday 23 December & will reopen on Monday 9 January 2017.

DATES TO REMEMBER

NZ Dairy Event, Feilding - **25-27 January 2017**

Ayrshire Board Meeting - **1 February 2017**

Bulletin advertising bookings close - **17 February 2017**

Autumn Show Points Shield, Kaitaia - **25 February 2017**

Annual Conference - Christchurch - **6 - 8 June 2017**

LATEST NEWS

SOUTH ISLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

At the South Island Championships held in late November at the South Otago A & P Show, the South Island Ayrshire Champion was named as Fairleigh Bur Peach V9-8, owned by Ken & Nancy Eade, Fairleigh Dairy Farm, Gore.

Peach is a four year old cow sired by Palmyra Tri Star Burdette ET. Reserve South Island Champion went to another Fairleigh entry Fairleigh W Amelia, E8-8. At five years old, Amelia is sired by Ferdon High Lad out of Fairleigh Brae Amelia.

Junior Ayrshire Champion went to Fairleigh EX Samantha, the senior yearling heifer owned by Fairleigh Dairy Farm, Gore.

Reserve Junior Champion went to Glenalla Farm, Ashburton, with the second place senior yearling heifer Glenalla Shooting Star. congratulations

For full results, check out the website www.ayrshire.org.nz

NORTH ISLAND JUDGING SCHOOLS

Monday 9 January 2017

Peter & Heather Baxter

733 State Highway 1, R D 1, Tirau

Tuesday 10 January 2017

Ivan & Robyn Fredrickson

299 Cheal Rd, R D 23, Stratford

All Judges and prospective Judges welcome. Start time 10.30 am, bring your lunch and something to write on.

Phone to office PRIOR TO FRIDAY 23 DECEMBER to RSVP and to receive a copy of the Judging manual.

SOUTH ISLAND JUDGING SCHOOLS

Tuesday 28 February & Wednesday 1 March 2017

Canterbury / Otago TBC

YOUTH UPDATES

AYRSHIRE SEMINAR

For members, employees and children of members aged 18 & over. To learn, enjoy and mix with other Ayrshire breeders.

South Waikato based, starting Wednesday night in South Waikato and finishing in Rotorua on Sunday by 1pm. Programme theme is **Soils**.

19 - 23 April 2017 - Block out your calendar now!

AYRSHIRE YOUNG JUDGE COMPETITION

Please contact the office urgently if you intend to enter the Arran Trophy for the Ayrshire Young Judge Competition at the NZ Dairy Event in Feilding in late January.

The rules have been changed; competitors who have previously won the World Wide Sires All Breeds Young Judge Competition are no longer eligible to enter.

Also, winners of this competition may apply to the Board to use the prize money for an alternative purpose; this will be at the discretion of the Board.

YOUTH ACHIEVER COMPETITION CHANGES

There will be some changes to the points allocated in the competition currently underway for the 2016/17 year.

But it's for a great reason – from this year on there will be an overall winner named and the major prize will be a calf.

For this year's competition the calf is generously donated by Brookview Ayrshires (Vince and Sheri Steiner).

It's not too late to enter his years competition and earn great prizes for Ayrshire and show activities. Register online at www.ayrshire.org.nz

AYSHIRE YOUTH SUCCESS

The Greenlane and Fredrickson Trophies were recently competed for at the South island Championships in Otago.

Congratulations to the following:

FREDRICKSON TROPHY – (Senior Young Handler)

1. Lorna Button
2. Amy Green
3. Sam Hitchcock

GREENLANE TROPHY – (Junior Young Handler)

1. Fynn Allison
2. Sapphira Cook
3. Tamara Tremin

For full results, check out the website www.ayrshire.org.nz

Newsletter reminder

If you are receiving this newsletter via mail and would rather have it e-mailed to you, please contact the Ayrshire office to update your e-mail address.

If you elect to unsubscribe from the electronic version, you will still receive the newsletter by mail.

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