



Christmas and New Year are almost upon us and as usual we look forward to health and prosperity.

2020 was a shocker with the world consumed with Covid. Isolation on the Farm was not a big difference to normal and been an essential service we carried on.

2023 and along came Cyclone Gabrielle. I have never seen rain and water like it, crashing down paddocks taking out fences small trees tracks and culverts in its path. In Central Hawkes Bay by the time it hit we were in daylight but further north they were in darkness and hit a lot harder, making it terrifying, heading to roofs and high ground and waiting for the helicopter to rescue them.

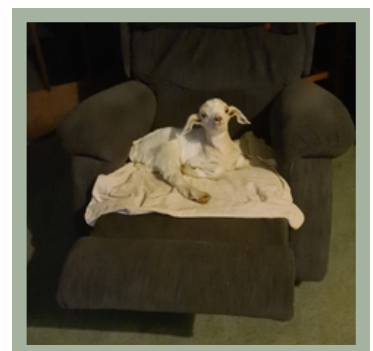
So, 2024 has to be better I hope! Which reminds me of my Grandad, always ignoring Xmas and celebrating Hogmanay. I always knew he did this but did not know the reason behind it. A Google search explains how celebrating Christmas was banned in Scotland for over 300 years. Hogmanay is the Scots word for the last day of the old year and is synonymous with the celebration of the New Year in the Scottish manner.

On a lighter note - checking my sheep I found something that looks like one of our belted breeders bulls has been visiting?

On a recent road trip through Taranaki I spotted a number plate promoting Galloways, nice touch I thought.

And lastly has anyone got ideas for house training a goat? I rescued this one night, Its mother had triplets and rejected this one I never expected it to survive however it did and took a liking to sitting on lazy boy chair watching TV. Any suggestions? Curried goat 🐐 is popular amongst my farming friends but I don't think so.

Ok all best for Xmas and Hogmanay.
From Gus & Anita



Christmas Get Together

By Sarah Pinfold

On Sunday 3rd December Members from Hawkes Bay, Wairarapa and Manawatu had a Christmas Get-to -Gather. We started at "Taranua Breeding Centre" in Woodville – where a Jersey Bull played the game with a Highland/JerseyX Steer so we could see the semen collection process.

While walking around the centre it was pointed out to us that a few paddocks had very little buttercup flowering (now if you have ever driven through the Woodville area at this time of the year you will have seen the yellow glow). As the centre has an organic status, spray wasn't the answer – Dung Beetle was the reason.

After the Breeding centre we headed down the road to Tui HQ at Mangatainoka, a few of the local beers were tasted before our lunch.



Seasons Greetings

From Mountain View Galloways to our extended family!

The Galloway Society Council has again this year, been working hard on behalf of all its members to promote the Galloway breed, uphold breed standards and ensure that the Galloway breed has a positive future after celebrating our 75th Diamond Jubilee this year. We're also very excited to be hosting the world galloway congress in 2025 and details about this will be coming out in the new year.

The society has had 16 new members which is promising for the galloway breed ensuring its longevity in the years to come with these new passionate members. We've also had some breeders decide to retire and sell up their herds who have been great contributors to some of the lovely animals within various herds throughout the North and South Island and we wish them all the best for their future endeavours!

I hope everyone's calving has gone smoothly and no doubt most of us have finished calving and selected the new herd sires who are no doubt out and about doing the business creating the new generation. It's a great time of the year to see the wee calves growing like mushrooms zooming around the paddocks under the watchful eyes of their mothers knee deep in lush green pastures.

We had the pleasure to have an interview for an article write up on galloways a few months ago promoting the breed in one of the lifestyle magazines and a wee photo shoot showing how quiet and nice natured galloways are renowned for which I have included some photos in this newsletter for you of some of our stars amongst the herd.

We hope you have a happy and safe holiday period with friends and family during the festive season and look forward to catching up with you all next year in 2024.

Best Wishes
Nick

