

GCSNZ NEWSLETTER 26 JUNE 2020

Dear members,

I hope that everyone is coping with the current wintery conditions, which are often challenging for those of us in the South, although our Galloway cattle seem to cope well with any weather conditions.

I guess everyone found positives and negatives about the country's time in lockdown due to Covid-19, and we all know that the results will be felt for a very long time indeed across the whole country, and around the world.

But.. life must carry on and I'm sure our parents and grandparents faced many similar challenges in their lifetimes also, and we have all heard stories about some of these and how resourceful they became to face these challenges.

AGM - As you will be aware our 2020 AGM and Herd Tour in Christchurch in early April had to be postponed, and due to the continuing challenges due to Covid-19, the Council have recently decided, that to meet our legal requirements for 2020, we will hold an AGM and dinner only on Saturday 5 September at the Jet Park Hotel, Hamilton Airport. The AGM will start at 3pm, dinner at 6.30pm. The Virtual Show will go ahead with results announced at the dinner also. The Virtual Show is being extended so more entries will be accepted with a new closing date of Wednesday 5 August.

In 2021 we will hold our AGM and Herd tour in Christchurch next Easter 2 to 4 April, and this will include a visit to the Oxford A & P Show on Saturday.

ANNUAL GAZETTE – After several delays our 2019 Annual Gazette was finally published and printed for mailing out in March, just prior to lockdown! As with any 1st effort, I am sure there are areas we can improve on next time, but it did make for an interesting read and we hope our members enjoyed it. Although ample time and requests for input from our members were made in previous newsletters, it was disappointing that very few contributions were received from the membership. We had expected that more breeders would have taken the opportunity to advertise their stud/s, but only a small number did, so perhaps that is something to be considered for the 2020 Annual Gazette to be published later this year. An exception to this was the article sent in by Estelle Taylor at my request for a junior members perspective, it was well written, included photos, and the Council appreciated the time and effort that she put into it. Thank you Estelle.

PROMOTION – In addition to the Southern Galloway Breeders Group taking part in the Southern Field Days in February, the Society has also placed adverts in the Canterbury Rare Breeds Auction catalogue (March), Countrywide Beef (May), and the Southland Farmers 2020-2021 Wallplanner (May). The total cost to the Society for these promotions was about \$2500.

Both Roger Brownlee and I spent time at the Southern Field Days site, and both agree with those Southern members that held the meeting on the Friday that it was rather quiet this year and seemed removed from the busier areas at field days. Perhaps in future it may be

possible to find a smaller site closer to the main areas of activity, as the current site seemed too large and not fully utilised.

MEMBERSHIP – We have a good number of new members joining the Society in most areas, and considerable time and effort goes into assisting these new members and answering their questions. If you are selling some of your registered Galloways to non-members, we hope that you will encourage them to consider joining the Society as breeder members, so they can start a herd and record/register the progeny etc.

Please contact any Councillor if you have any queries.

Kind regards,

Angela McNaughton.

Secretary/Treasurer GCSNZ.

NOTE: Attached is the Registrar's report June 2020.