

# Winter Newsletter – July 2011



Firstly, our apologies for the lateness in the arrival of this newsletter. We do not know where April, May and June went! What a wet winter it has been so far here in the Top of the South. We hope now that the fine and frosty weather has arrived that it bodes well for a good spring. Reports from bull sales indicated some mixed results with static demand. All the best for calving and the remainder of the winter.

Liz Harvey & Annette Robinson

## New Councillors Elected at AGM

Congratulations to Jan Bell and Drew Dundass on their election to Council at the 2011 AGM. Jan Bell was co-opted onto Council last year and we welcome her continued involvement. Drew Dundass is the new South Island Councillor and a few words from Drew follow...

***I have spent the greater part of my life in Central Otago, where my father's family have been for the last hundred plus years. I went to secondary school in Oamaru at Waitaki Boys High School. After leaving school I worked on farms, and for various agricultural contractors.***

***I spent two years in Australia, one year on a cattle station in the Northern Territory and the other year seeding in Western Australia. I met and married Carolyn Aitken in 2003 and have settled in Paerau. I am a member of the Maniototo Lions, member of The Mt Ida Lodge, a trustee on the Paerau School Board and member of the Patearoa Recreational Reserve Board.***

***(photo below: Drew & Carolyn Dundass & Tairaroa Bulls)***



## 2011 AGM in OTAGO

The 2011 Stud Tour and AGM held in March was enjoyed by all those that were able to attend. A range of fun activities and farm visits were arranged by our hosts Carolyn and Drew Dundass, and we wish to thank all of those that were involved in organising and hosting this successful event. Our key sponsors of this event were Meridian Energy, PGG Wrightson, Alliance and Allflex and we acknowledge their fantastic support of our Society. One of the highlights was the Curling and the competitive nature of many of our members was evident! Bernie Wright came out on top of the curling contest and was awarded the PGG Wrightson game trophy.



Photo: Bernie Wright receiving the trophy



Photo: Charolais Society Presidents

The Annual General Meeting was held on the second evening of the tour, and this proved to be successful. A presentation was made to Geraldine Hassall for her 18 years service on Council.

The members agreed for Council representatives to meet with NZ Charolais Breeders and report on progress at the next AGM.

## **THE NEXT AGM IS TO BE HELD IN TAURANGA IN LATE MARCH 2012 - MORE DETAILS COMING SOON**



### **JAN SUTHERLAND - FIRST LADY OF CHAROLAIS IN NEW ZEALAND**

We were sad to learn of the sudden death of Jan Sutherland recently. Jan was the very supportive wife of Jack Sutherland (and mother of Jamie). Together they started the Centrewood Charolais Stud in Waimate and founded the New Zealand Charolais Cattle Society. Jan was a very competent lady. She took a great interest in the cattle as well as running the beautiful Millstream homestead and the lovely garden which she developed herself and which we have admired on visits through the years. Jan accompanied Jack on his overseas trips first to Monterey, Mexico, where he was appointed Vice-President of what is now termed Charolais International. Three years later in 1977 they both travelled to Harrogate in Yorkshire where Jack became World President. I first met Jan at the time of the 1980 World Charolais Convention in New Zealand. She was the most charming hostess and ably handled the job of meeting and greeting breeders from all over the world. I remember attending a barbeque at Millstream where no expense was spared in order that the finest Charolais meat was presented to impress the visitors. The thing that has most remained in my mind was the superb speech of greeting that Jan made when our group arrived on the buses.

Over the years whenever Charolais AGM groups have been fortunate enough to visit the Centrewood Stud Jan has always been her gracious self, interested in what everyone has done since last meeting. Our last AGM visit was in 2007. The weather was beautiful and while we were dining Jan was once again enjoying meeting and conversing with us all and making us feel welcome.

Our deep sympathy to Jamie, Anne and family from all of us who admired her greatly.

*Pat Mellon*

*17 April 2011*