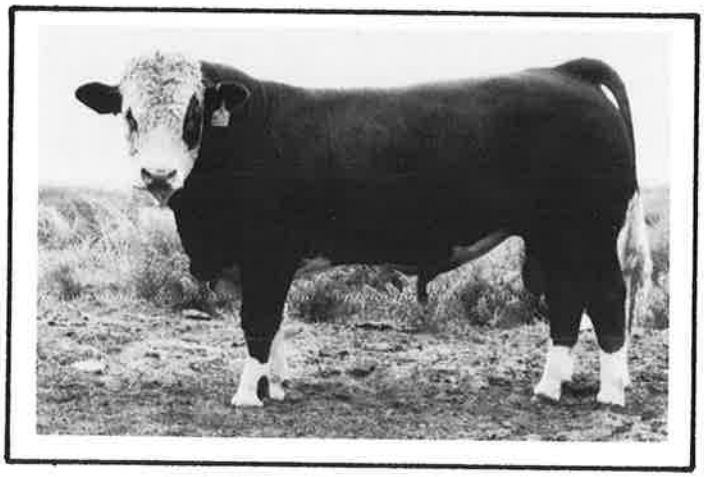
# new zealand simmental

winter issue: june 1982: number seventeen

Registered at Post Office H.Q. Wellington as a Magazine

# THE LEVELS



## LEVELS LANCER

**(Born 29.8.80)**

Sold to P. Withers, Nalpa, South Australia in 1981 for $3,500 at the age of 7 months.

Levels 'Relations' also sold well at the recent Decade Sale in Melbourne. 'PIGGOTT RANGE DOUGLAS' sold for $30,000. 'JIMAR DUNDEED' sold for $4,000. They were grandsons of 'OVERHALL BEE' and 'SUNDOWNER EAGLET' — both Levels Herd Matrons.

Levels will offer at the South Island Sale (17th June)

**FIVE TOP BULLS**

By 'SIEGFRIED', 'LANDMARK', 'AROHA HUMPHREY', 'PRIMAN' and 'SCOTTISH EXTRA SPECIAL'

They will also offer **THREE TOP HEIFERS** by 'MOTUKAIKA HARRY', 'AROHA HUMPHREY', 'SUNDOWNER CEDRIC'

All details are in the Catalogue plus Beefplan Records.

The Levels also have for private sale a selection of Purebred Bulls and Heifers.

**ENQUIRIES AND INSPECTION WELCOMED**

**RODNEY COX — THE LEVELS — No 4 R.D. TIMARU — PHONE Timaru 82-418**

# THE SIMMENTAL CATTLE BREEDERS' SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

118 VICTORIA STREET, CHRISTCHURCH 1, NEW ZEALAND.
P.O. BOX 25·100, VICTORIA STREET, CHRISTCHURCH. Phone 793·166

## Contents

Editorial . . . . . 1
The Council . . . . . 2
People . . . . . 3
The Computer . . . . . 4
Profile . . . . . 5
Inspections . . . . . 7
Trans Tasman . . . . . 8, 9
Y.F.C. . . . . 9
Miscellaneous . . . . . 10
Sales . . . . . 11
Club News . . . . . 12, 13, 14 and 20
Simbeef . . . . . 14
Junior Membership . . . . . 15, 17
Tattooing . . . . . 19, 20

## Advertisers

Levels Simmental
Guthrey Breeding Services
H. R. Lowry
British Simmental
Rissington Simmentals
Simmental Sales

## Office Staff

**Ian S. Johnstone**
**(Society Secretary)**
**Phone: Christchurch**
**(Bus.) 793-166**
**(Pvt.) 487-572**

Mrs Ann Booth
Mrs Yvonne Kingsland
Mrs Paddy Archer

## EDITORIAL

'The cattle business today is going from bad to worse, but the Simmental business is good. The Simmental Breed has been doubly blessed – we have the cattle and the people.'

A quotation from a recent guest editorial in an overseas publication. That statement could well be applied to our own situation. Despite a rough ride in what we know as the traditional commercial situation, the Simmental Breed continues to find acceptance as is adequately illustrated in weaner sales, steer competitions and our own sales. This acceptance is established on factual evidence that the Breed produces what is required by the farmer, the exporter and the retailer – high yielding cattle with minimum wastage.

As a result, our sale of bulls to the commercial breeder continues to expand and we are steadily collecting new members, who have had time to assess the Breed and its attributes in the eleven years of its establishment.

We are equally fortunate in our already established membership. These people have foresight and dedication in what they are doing. The fruition of their endeavours is now emerging. Our current situation is on a high. To maintain it we must continue to promote the Breed at every opportunity from the individual member upwards so that collectively our Society remains a strong and progressive organisation in league with the cattle we are breeding.

## Council Members

**President:** **R. N. S. Cox, The Levels, R.D. 4 Timaru. Phone: Timaru 82 418**

**Vice-President:** **J. R. Sutton, Waihaorunga, R.D. 7 Waimate. Phone: Waihaorunga 878**

**Councillors:** **N. J. Barnett, Arohena, No. 7 R.D., Te Awamutu. Phone: Pukeatua 573**

**J. D. Graham, Waingaro, R.D. Parnassus. Phone: Parnassus 809**

**W. Gutt, R.D. 29 Kaponga, Taranaki. Phone: Kaponga 741**

**J. R. Houlbrooke,**
(New address and phone number to be advised)

**H. R. Lowry, Pukekohu, P.B. Havelock North. Phone: Waimarama 832**

**R. G. Macdonald, Governors Bay R.D. 1, Lyttelton. Phone: Christchurch 299 739**

**CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES**
**FINANCE: R. N. S. Cox TECHNICAL: J. R. Sutton**
**PROMOTION: H. R. Lowry SALES J. D. Graham**

# The Council

The Council and Committees met in February and in the usual pattern the four Committees, Finance, Promotion, Technical and Sales met on the first day with a full Council Meeting on the following day.

A Meeting of Council is a very intensive two days and for Councillors a lot of hard work. As with any administrative body a great number of matters are routine or of domestic nature, but the many important issues are discussed and not infrequently discussed at a further Meeting before a decision is reached. The reporting of a Meeting of Council in our magazine is a difficult task as the minuting is not in journalistic form. Those matters of interest to members are usually fully printed elsewhere in our magazine or circulated by memo to the membership. There are however various other issues of interest and for your interest they are tabulated as follows:

**Simbeef** – The progress of our Simbeef scheme has been steady and we continue to get new members. A number of bull vendors are 'sponsoring' the first years membership ($10). The 'direct mailing' of Simbeef pamphlets to our membership met with a disappointing reaction in a lot of cases. Quite a large proportion of pamphlets were returned. The object of the exercise was to utilise them for your own promotion but surprisingly few people seemed to take this step. Simbeef pamphlets are available to anyone who wants them from the office at $25 per 100.

**Performance Classes at Shows** – These are now proven and working and it is hoped that area Clubs will institute them as a matter of course in their major local shows. A full report and details of the system was written up in our last issue.

**The Royal Show 1981** – A lot of members heard the unfortunate error in the broadcast of the Royal Show Grand Parade last year – Simmentals became Santa Gertrudus. The matter has been taken up with the Broadcasting people and we are hopeful that as some compensation we may get some television promotion of the Breed at a later date.

**Delegates Meetings/Area Visits** – There have been suggestions from various areas that we should reintroduce Club delegates Meetings. These were held on a few occasions and delegates from each area assembled for a day conference. The idea has merit but the costs are now extremely high and considered prohibitive. In their place it is considered more practical to make visits to Club areas and hold Meetings locally. This idea will be expanded.

**The Computer Contract** – A lot has been written on the Computer but not many people will be aware that when you enter a system such as this that it is normally done with a Contract. This is structured for the security of the Society and its membership and the people who produce the programme. The Council are at present negotiating with the New Zealand Meat Producers Board on the final structure of this Contract. Once this has been drawn up in an initially acceptable manner the Contract will be formalised and signed.

**Led Steer Competitions** – This has been reported elsewhere but is a typical example of Council work. It has been discussed a number of times and will be again at our next Meeting, hopefully with a final result.

**The Annual Meeting Workshop** – Last years effort following our A.G.M. was not considered to be totally satisfactory and in 1982 it is proposed to have a morning session in the form of a Seminar at which four speakers of national acclaim will present papers on agriculture and marketing. At the conclusion of presentations they will form a panel for questions. This Seminar will be promoted to the general public from whom we hope to get good support. The Seminar will be of calibre seldom structured in this country and should be well worth attending.

The Council will meet again at the beginning of June and will of course be at the Annual Meeting of members.

# COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The result of our annual election of Councillors held on the 14th May, has resulted in the appointment of one new Councillor to our administration. He is Mr Alan Perry of Palmerston North, who farms a large property a few miles west of the city. No stranger to the Simmental scene, he has been actively involved in a breeding programme since 1973 (Herd 294), and has in recent years expanded his herd with the addition of a number of purebred to his already well established graded herd, which has now reached purebred status. Alan is already well known to many members as an inspector for our major sales and has actively supported Society activities for many years. His strong farming background and administrative ability will be a great asset to the Council and we look forward to his contributions in the running of the Society.

Two Councillors, who retired by rotation stood for re-election and were returned to office. They were Mr Neil Barnett of Arohena, near Te Awamutu and Mr Don Graham of Parnassus in North Canterbury. Both begin their second three year term in June.

Four candidates contested the election this year for three vacancies and as always in such a situation somebody must be defeated. We offer our thanks to Mr Neville Reynolds from Taranaki, who was unsuccessful and we hope he will not be deterred from having another attempt in the future.

The election was strongly supported with a poll of well over 30% which is above the recognised average.

# NEW STAFF MEMBER

We have recently appointed another member to our office staff. Mrs Paddy Archer started work with us in March and already has proved to be a very valuable addition to the workforce, bringing with her wide experience in all office procedures. Paddy will, once our peak workload is over, work for us on a part time basis, acting as back-up for our two other staff, Ann and Yvonne.

We welcome her to our team and hope she will enjoy her job with us.

# WELL KNOWN COUNCILLOR STANDS DOWN

*Mr Werner Gut*

After six years as a Councillor, Mr Werner Gut of Kaponga, Taranaki, decided this year he would not seek re-election. Elected to the Council in 1976, Werner has worked actively and strongly for the dairying sector of the Breed, as he is very much involved himself, with his total herd being Simmental infused.

Originating from Switzerland, over thirty years ago, he has been a 'champion' for Simmentals since the Breeds' introduction in the early 1970'c and has Herd No. 83. We are grateful to him for his contribution, a great deal of which has been beyond the Council table in direct contact with people who are interested in the Breed on a dairy basis. He has also worked continuously on the selection of bulls suitable for dairying and through his efforts several top sires have become available.

Although he will no longer serve as a Councillor, he has offered his wide experience and assistance to anyone who needs it. Werner will continue with his Simmentals, which have now reached purebred status.

# COUNCILLORS ON THE MOVE

Our Councillors to date have been pretty static in where they live, but in the last six months the winds of change have blown. Neil Barnett moved first, when he sold his property at Halcombe and moved north to Arohena, to a larger property with a better rainfall. Recently two others have arranged a change of scene.

Jim Houlbrooke, who lives at Omana between Whangarei and Dargaville, (as he says), up a 'back gully' has sold his property and bought a smaller property which he will develop into a stud enterprise at Waipu on the main road some twenty miles south of Whangarei. He will move at the end of June.

Robin Lowry has also sold his hill property at Maraetotara out of Havelock North and has bought a small holding of about fifty acres out of Hastings. He will take his Pukekohu Stud with him when he moves in July. The main graded herd that has been built up over the years will continue on a property at Wairoa.

# CANADIAN VISITOR

We recently had a brief visit from the President of the Canadian Simmental Association, Mr Mel Wolfe, who flew in to Christchurch for a few days from Australia. While time did not permit a comprehensive look at New Zealand, we were able to show him a few cattle and something of our city and the surrounding area. He also spent time in the office looking at our systems and the way the New Zealand Society is organised. The Breed in Canada is strongly established, with a membership of close to 5,000 and a financial turnover of around three-quarters of a million dollars.

Mel hopes to return to New Zealand in the next year or two with his wife to have a closer look at the country and our Simmental cattle, with which he was most impressed. A comment made by him when he was looking at one herd of cows and calves was most relevant. The owner felt that some of his cows were not really up to scratch, but Mel's comment was that if the calves were better than the mother, progress was being made, which was certainly the case. The Canadian Association would be pleased to see any New Zealanders, who visit their country. Contacts may be set up by getting in touch with our New Zealand Office.

# OBITUARY

Members, and the many people in New Zealand and overseas, who knew him will have been saddened by the untimely passing of Warren Morpeth, recently retired Stud Stock Manager and Chief Auctioneer for Wrightson NMA Ltd.

Just a year ago he was a guest at our 10th Annual Meeting, as a token of farewell prior to his retirement.

A person of great drive and outstanding ability in the sales rostrum he contributed widely to the livestock industry in this country. In our Breed, as in many others, he made great contributions to its future.

He will long be remembered, not only as a top administrator and internationally acclaimed auctioneer, but as a person who had that great personal attribute of warmth of communication with people as individuals.

# The Computer

Much has been written on progress (and the lack of it) over the past year or two. It has been uppermost in our major Society projects for nearly three years.

We are at last pleased to report we are 'getting there'. The system is rapidly becoming operative and a more orderly pattern of handling registrations and inputs is evolving.

We are grateful to our members and the staff of the computer bureau for the co-operation and effort that has gone into getting the system into a workable situation. Recently, the Editor visited the offices of the Meat Board, where the computer is based and saw, and participated in how the operative side of the system was working. It is without doubt fully set up to do the things we have wanted and strived for for so long.

The response of members to the system has been rewarding and the standard of returns received for our 1981 calving (Calf Entry Sheets), illustrates graphically that from a membership point of view it is not a difficult job – returns have, with very few exceptions, been of good standard. The hassles we have had in the past are diminishing and the large backlog of incompleted records have gradually been eliminated, and by the time your 1981 calvings are through the system members' herd files will be accurate, perhaps with a few exceptions.

The future 'paper flow' will be on a far more orderly pattern, which will enable you, the Breeder, more time to complete what is required.

As an example of a years programme, the following is scheduled for 1982 Calf Registrations:

**AUGUST 1982.** The Computer Centre will produce Calf Entry Sheets for each member. These will pre-list the breeding cows in your herd. These will be sent to you for entry of your calves and sires used. You will have until May 1983 to complete and return these documents.

**MAY 31ST, 1983.** Completed Calf Entry Sheets must be returned by members showing calves born and indicating which are to be registered.

**JUNE 30TH 1983.** The Computer Centre will send you a calving report. This will give you the opportunity of verifying the accuracy of your recorded herd and finalising your calf registration decisions.

**JULY 31ST 1983** Calving reports to be returned if any alterations are required. Beefplan members will record their weaning weights on these. Certificates of Registration will be printed by the Computer Centre. You will also receive a list of the animals in your herd, so that you can remove the records of any that have been disposed of, so that the next set of Calf Entry Sheets are as accurate as possible.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

These will be issued in simple form with each set of documents so you can easily follow what to do and when to do it.

**NOTE:**

Completed Calf Entry Sheets may be sent in progressively as members complete their calvings – we hope the final date of Calf Entry Sheets will be the 31st May each year and we expect to have a system of 'discounting' to encourage early returns. Early returns will be processed early.

Members will have the ability to delete an unwanted calf registration at the time the calving report is returned to them. Fees will be adjusted if such deletions are made.

In general the proposed 'flow' system will give members adequate time in which to assess their calves and complete their paper work. We will however, still call for paperwork on due date, as if the system is to operate as planned, we for our part have to meet deadlines with the computer.

There will doubtless always be the odd 'exception', and this will be handled as an individual case on each occasion. As usual we will be only too pleased to assist anyone who needs help. A computer system is not 'absolute' – there will still be errors as with a manual system, but we are certain that it will have many benefits.

## 1981 COMPUTER REGISTRATIONS

We have had a good response from members with our 1981 Calf Entry Sheets. These are being progressively sent forward to the Computer Centre as they are checked by the office staff. For your information, progress with these registrations will be as follows:

1. The Computer Centre will draw up a Disposal Listing of all the animals in your herd for you to check for accuracy. It will also provide you with a Registration Listing of all the calves you have nominated for registration. You will be able to delete a calf from the record if it is not now considered viable.
2. Once your Disposal Listing and Registration Listing has been verified by you and returned to us, the Computer Centre will produce Registration Certificates for your 1981 calves and your herd records will be amended from your Disposal Listings.

Instruction sheets will be issued with each set of documents.

## TRANSFERS

The necessity of actioning transfers when animals are sold cannot be too strongly stressed. If you sell a registered animal to another breeder it is your responsibility to originate the transfer. Failure to do so creates great difficulties for the purchaser and our already busy office staff, who have to back track on the whole transaction, which takes time and costs money. In many cases, a stock firm is involved in the transaction, but it is not their responsibility to transfer the animal.

If you sell an animal, you must complete the deal by transferring it. We get very discouraged dealing with irate purchasers, who some months after the animal is purchased still has no title to the animal – simply because the vendor has not got around to doing the transfer. We get the blame for the vendor's inadequacy, which is just not fair.

# RON HAS THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS...

The following article is reprinted with the kind permission of the Waikato Times in which it appeared in April of this year. The article was written by Margaret Way.

Ten years ago, Cambridge farmer Ron Burd jumped onto the great bandwagon of the time – dairy beef.

But unlike many farmers, Ron wasn't taken for a ride or bounced off along the way.

Today his carefully worked out dairy beef plan isn't just a sideline to maybe make a bit of fast money – it is the basis of his farming operation.

Ron and his wife Lynn and their five children farm 65ha at Whitehall, east of Cambridge. This season they will milk 140 cows – 100 friesians and 40 simmental-friesian cross. Thirty other simmental cross cows will rear two cross calves each in the rough gully paddocks of the farm.

The Burds are getting the best of both worlds – dairy farming for milk and beef farming for meat.

Ron puts his success down to many factors, but says the real nugget of gold he holds in his hand is the simmental breed, commonly known as a beef breed.

'Any man good with stock would have a wonderful trip with the simmental. It is a naturally quiet breed,' he says.

'The breed itself is a great suckling animal.' Calving? Last season he had one death out of 40.

And the big question – can those simmental cows hold their own in the production stakes with the friesians in the herd? Definitely, says Ron, and he has the herd testing figures on the computer readout sheet all ready to show me in case I doubt him. Others obviously have.

His best simmental cow in the herd was on 216 kg fat last season. All mature simmentals in the herd produce more than the Dairy Board average cow figure of 150 kg of milkfat.

Ron Burd is one farmer who is sitting pretty at present. However, he stresses he hasn't got to this stage without a lot of hard work and experimentation.

It has taken him 10 years to find the 'right' simmental bulls. He now uses three purebred bulls from Sire Services – Amour, MMB Herman and Bent Ambassador.

'Those bulls have proven in my herd they will milk and give good beef plus have a good temperament,' Ron says. 'But now I'm looking for a bull I can mate onto those bulls' daughters.'

What he is doing on the farm is not a new idea. Farmers throughout Europe are milking dairy beef cows successfully, and that is what made Ron sure the idea would work.

Many farmers in this country have tried it but have given up too early, according to Ron.

'Some farmers that have decided to breed out have inseminated a cow that might be one of the lowest producers in the herd. They have said they'll give the breed (Simmental) a go, but they weren't prepabed to give their best cow,' he says.

Ron bred 'from the top' right from the start, and used his top bracket friesians for the first cross.

And Ron persisted.

'Simmentals are slow maturing. Other farmers kept them as far as two-year-olds, compared them with their dairy cows, then chucked them away'.

Ron finds he gets premium production and service from the simmental cows if he holds them over mating and milking until they are in their third year.

He has a 25 to 28 day rotation on the 45 paddocks used in the autumn for the milking cows. From the end of January through the autumn he cuts his paddocks that have been shut up since November and break feeds.

This slows the rotation down and savec on machinery and labour costs because he is, in effect, feeding out standing silage.

Also, the mature grass drops seeds and young grass comes up each spring.

The farm is very much a family unit. Ron and Lynn or one of the children do the milking every day and no extra labour is employed.

Ron readily admits his dairy beef plan would not suit every dairy farmer in the land.

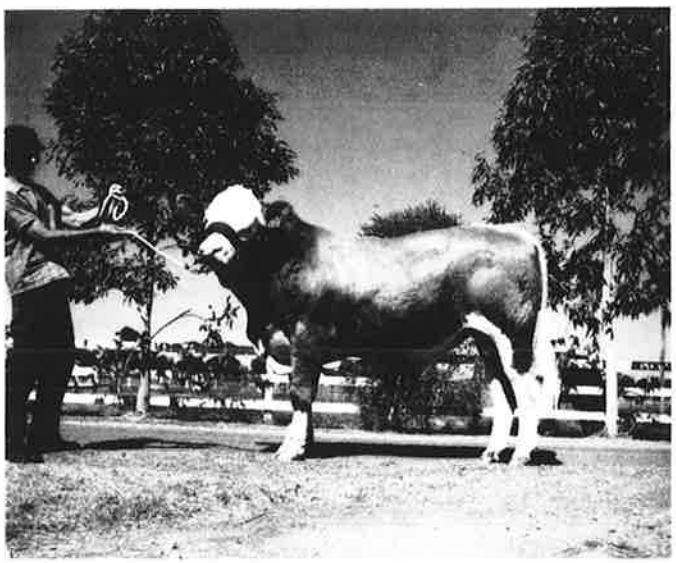
'But there is room for a lot of farmers in the Waikato to have some beef ...

'I'm turning a $14 to $16 article (bobby calf price last year) into a $170 article just by farming it two-and-a-half months.'

'Having simmentals in the herd is not detrimental to production, but it is giving me the benefit of a nice calf to sell on the market," Ron says.

He has the constant income of the dairy company payout as well as enjoying high prices ($170 average last season) when his two to four-month calves go to the saleyards in spring. The naturally good simmental mothers do all the work raising the calves and the rearing is done in the rough paddocks on the farm which doesn't suit the dairy cows too well anyway.

# 'SIMMENTAL SIRES 82'



| | |
|---|---|
| *FROM AUSTRALIA* | **MUNGA PARK POLLED PRINCE** (by Beat) |
| | **DUNMORE HANSA** (by Ulan) |
| *FROM NEW ZEALAND* | **BALIG AGENT** (by Neff) |
| *FROM U.K.* | **HEYWOOD ESQUIRE** (by Landmark) |
| *FROM SCOTLAND* | **SCOTTISH HELLI** (by Hecht) |
| | **SCOTTISH STRIKER** (by Striktus) |
| | **SCOTTISH MARDER** |
| *FROM CANADA* | **BAR 5 FANTASTIC** (by Mr Ankony) |
| | **WBL TRANSMITTER** (by Fanion) |
| | **DUNCAIRN MODELLER** — polled (by Hy-Cross Polaris King) |
| | **FCF SONNY BOY** (by Coliel) |

PLUS a large number of other top Simmental Bulls originating from many countries

Enquiries welcomed. Full information available on request.


**Guthrey Breeding Services**

MAIN ROAD P.O. BOX 97, KAIAPOI, N.Z.

PHONE KAIAPOI (0327)6175
TELEX NZ 4243

P.O. BOX 1339 HAMILTON
PHONE (071)80190

A Division of Guthrey Holdings Ltd

Guthrey Breeding Services
MAIN ROAD P.O. BOX 97, KAIAPOI, N.Z.
PHONE KAIAPOI (0327)6175
TELEX NZ 4243
P.O. BOX 1339 HAMILTON
PHONE (071)80190
A Division of Guthrey Holdings Ltd

# B A L I G  A G E N T

When anybody has asked me who, in my opinion, was the best Simmental bull to come to N.Z., I have never had any hesitation in naming Balig Agent. When asked to write something about him I had little hesitation, as my memories of him are still very clear and vivid.

Balig Agent was bred by Robbie Stevenson of Balig, near Ballantrae, Southern Ayshire. One of the first batch of Simmental calves bred in the U.K., he was by that popular and much used sire, Scottish Neff, out of a very good cow called Alune, which Robbie Stevenson had selected from the first shipment of Simmental heifers into the U.K. In those early days every second Simmental calf seemed to be by Scottish Neff. He will be best remembered for his bull calves, as Herod was for his heifers. The Neff bulls were, like their father, in general big rangey cattle with strong heads, usually well pigmented eyes, generally well fleshed and standing on good feet and legs. They did have a tendency to be a bit coarse in the coat.

There were, literally, hundreds of these Neff bull calves about in the U.K. and anywhere where Scotch Milk Marketing Board semen was available. You may well say what is so special then about Balig Agent. He was imported by the late Keith Finlayson of Mossburn and came out in probably the second or third shipment of cattle from the U.K. I had several cattle on that shipment and decided to try and get a look at them one evening when passing through Silverstream. Someone, who had better remain unnamed, let me in to look at my cattle, strictly against quarantine rules. I did look at the cattle I had bought, but just couldn't keep my eyes off a magnificent bull calf in the consignment.

He was obviously a Neff and definitely the best young Simmental bull I had laid eyes on. I read the tattoo in his ear, found out where he had come from and wrote to Robbie Stevenson booking the next progeny out of Alune.

Keith Finlayson, who was more interested in Charolais than Simmental, almost immediately sold this good bull to Southern Breeders and he finished up at my S.I. Breeding Centre at Kaiapoi to have semen taken from him. He came out from quarantine well, but I remember on arrival he was a little unsteady on his back legs, tending to sway. He was huge for his age and I, rightly or wrongly, attributed this unsteadiness to being too well done on hard feed.

The bulls at Kaiapoi were all fed on hay, plus one of the standard meal mixtures and their weights were recorded monthly. For the next three or four months Balig Agent was fed on hay only. He not only lost his unsteadiness of gait, but continued to grow at a rate of well in excess of 4lb a day beating any of the half dozen good Charolais we had there at the time and certainly way ahead of any Simmental bull I have seen before or since.

Some of the young bulls we had at the Centre were on special rations pushing them along trying to achieve a rate of say 2,000 lb by 2 year old. Balig Agent, by arrangement with his owners, was kept on a standard ration and I think, from memory, achieved at 2 year old a weight of 2,200 lb.

His widespread use as an A1 bull was restricted by a $100 signing fee imposed by his owners. I personally used him on several occasions and never regretted it. I never had a calf by him that was not in the top bracket. John Absolom's Jade, by Balig Agent out of a North of Ireland cow, Elaghmore Elma is undoubtedly the best known Agent bull about. Winner of last years Meat & Wool at the Royal, he is certainly a fine ambassador for the Simmental Breed.

After Agent's arrival in N.Z., I became a regular visitor to the Balig Stud. Stevenson had two outstanding cows, Alune and Clementine and in the ensuing years these cows were mated to the bull of my choice and I undertook to take the progeny. In spite of many precautions these cattle regularly failed their Avian TB tests for export. The only one that ever passed was a magnificent young bull by the North of Ireland bull Doktor out of Alune which passed his test, but died of bloat from lucerne hay while in quarantine in N.Z.

After the Blythe Cattle Co. dispersal, I decided to hang on to one bull calf for my own use, and my choice was a Balig Agent out of Two Way Elk, who was a granddaughter of Clementine and so combining the bloodlines of those two great Balig cows.

Of all the Neff bulls produced why should Balig Agent be the greatest? It can only be that Neff and Alune nicked perfectly and I am sure that our N.Z. breeders are missing out by not using a lot more of this proven sire.

(Article by R.G. MacDonald for
Guthrey Breeding Services) June 1982.

# AGM SEMINAR - Wed. 23 JUNE 1982

# "WHICH WAY N.Z. AGRICULTURE"

# Palmerston North Civic Centre

# 9·00 am. - 12·30 pm.

The 'workshop' morning being held after the National Sale on Wednesday, 23rd June, has been structured as a Seminar, at which four leading New Zealand Speakers will present papers on Agriculture in New Zealand.

Speakers are:-

Mr Brian Jefferies, N.Z. Meat Producers' Board. Recently appointed as European Marketing Director.

Mr John Parker, N.Z. Dairy Board. Marketing Manager.

Mr Len Bayliss, Consultant Economist of Wellington.

Professor Harry Morton of Otago University.

These speakers will form a panel at the conclusion of their presentations for questions.

The gathering of these top speakers is such that it has been decided to open this Seminar to the public and it is anticipated that several hundred may attend. The Seminar is being widely publicised through the news media and by private circulation.

If you have not already decided to attend this Seminar you may like to re-consider. It should be a very interesting morning.

To cover costs of venue hire and morning tea a charge of $10.00 will be made.

Ian S. Johnstone,
Secretary.

14.6.82

# INSPECTIONS

There is a certain amount of cross talk and discussion on the question of cattle inspections and the reasons why we have them.

At present there are basically three areas in which inspections are called for:

**1. Ovum Transplant Donors**

Cows used for ovum transplant are inspected to ensure that they are structurally sound and do not have genetic defects that could be proliferated by the multi-birth situation that can arise through transplanting. (Cows have been known to produce up to twenty fertilised eggs at transplant.) An animal rejected for transplant may still be used for natural breeding, as she will (normally), over produce one calf per season which gives adequate control.

**2. Cattle Eligible for Transfer to be Sold at Auction**

Such cattle are inspected for basic faults for the protection of the vendor and the purchaser and in an endeavour to keep the standard of cattle that go to the public auction at a reasonably high level. In an auction situation the prospective purchaser generally has limited opportunity to look at the cattle closely prior to the sale and has to decide in a relatively short time whether to purchase or not. If the cattle offered have been inspected, the prospective purchaser has more confidence, which normally makes for a better sale.

In essence it is not in the interests of the vendor to sell 'below standard' cattle (his reputation is at stake), neither is it in the interest of the breed.

**3. Cattle for Export**

Where cattle are exported they are inspected close to the time of departure. Again they are looked at for general soundness and freedom from visual faults. The introduction of export inspections was made after a number of complaints were received about the standard of cattle being received in Australia some years ago. Some had in fact been exported (without inspection), that had no identification and these proved to be a total loss to the vendor and the purchaser. The export market is considered to be an extremely important one, and if overseas purchasers are to be encouraged to come to New Zealand for cattle, our standards must be high. Their purchases reflect in our local prices, which must affect every breeder. Our Society has credibility and we consider that the standard of our export cattle must be acceptable if this is to be maintained.

**4. Standards of Inspection**

It is virtually impossible to lay down hard and fast rules as to what inspection criteria should be. The people who are appointed to carry out inspections are those who are known to have experience in assessment of cattle and are recognised breeders or judges of livestock. As in all factors where you introduce a human element you will, to a degree, have some variance of opinion, but generally it is largely a matter of common sense and stockmanship. Few animals are totally free from faults, but the ones that would debar an animal from export, or from sale, are those that are obvious and known. If you put yourself in the place of the inspector, what would you do? If you wanted to buy an animal, would it be acceptable to you?

Perhaps to put it more bluntly, how would you feel if you bought an animal in good faith, (without a great deal of knowledge), and found you had bought an unsound animal?

Inspections are not made as punitive exercise – they are in your interests and that of the Breed.

**5. Inspection Fees**

The Council has for some considerable time been conscious of the steadily escalating costs in carrying out inspections and has looked carefully at ways of apportioning such expenditure. Inspectors utilise their own vehicles and quite frequently travel considerable distances. At a recent meeting of Council, it was resolved that costs involved in inspections must be an oncharge to the owner of the cattle, as it is unreasonable to expect the general membership to carry these charges.

A scale of fees has therefore been set, which is as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| First five animals (one location) | $10.00 per head |
| Next fifteen animals (one location) | 5.00 per head |
| Thereafter | 2.00 per head |

The owner of the cattle being inspected has the right of appeal if he does not agree with the decision of the Inspectors. In such a case an adjudicator will be appointed and his decision will be final.

Where an appeal is lodged a bond of $50 will be called for. If the appeal is upheld, (the animal is passed by the Adjudicator), no charge will be made, but if the appeal is lost the bond will be forfeited.

**IN SUMMARY**

An inspection system applied to any enterprise is no more or less than an implement of quality control. If you relax such a control it only takes one or two indiscretions, (they are usually unintentional), to affect the total enterprise. To market or purchase within a system that has high standards can only be an advantage to everyone.

# OUT OF SIGHT OUT OF SOUND

Some of our breeders farm in some pretty rough country. Two such fellows took time off from the chores of weaning and tattooing around the homestead to spend a few days 'out the back' doing a spot of hunting. They travelled far into the bush, in fact so occupied were they in the pursuit of the quarry that without realising it they got themselves into a wild and unknown area where they completely lost their sense of direction. Well disciplined and responsible people they took stock of their predicament and decided they were lost. Following the golden rule they stayed where they were and settled down to await rescue. To assist the would be searchers they used the well recognised practice of firing a salvo of shots at regular intervals.

Early on the third day still no welcome helicopter had appeared.

They fired a further salvo. 'What will we do now?' said one.

'What do you mean?' said the other.

'Well I've just fired my last three arrows,' was the reply.

# 10TH ANNIVERSARY SALE IN MELBOURNE IS A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL EVENT

In our last issue we advised you of the forthcoming Decade of Achievement Celebration and 14th National Sale to be held at the Hilton Hotel in Melbourne. It takes courage and no uncertain skills to plan and execute an event of such prestige, and we offer our congratulations to the organisers of this event on the tremendous results they achieved. The following press release issued by the Australian Association tells the story:

**"ALAN JONES PAYS $30,000 FOR SIMMENTAL BULL AT DECADE SALE**

*Bev and Alan Jones of Victoria proudly hold 'Piggott Range Poll Douglas'.*

Former world motor racing champion Alan Jones paid $30,000 for the Simmental bull, Piggott Range Poll Douglas, at The Simmental Decade of Achievement Celebration and 1st National Sale sponsored by Thomas Hardy Wines and held in the Grand Ballroom of the Melbourne Hilton Hotel on Saturday night.

His bid of $30,000 ended a sensational bidding duel for the outstanding grand champion bull bred and offered by Jan & Ian Gray, Glamis Props., Piggott Range Poll Stud, Clarendon, S.A.

Mr Jones bought the bull for his recently established Miraleste Poll Simmental Stud at Glenburn, Vic. Losing bidder was federal President of the Australian Simmental Breeders Association, Mr Dugald Mactaggart, Waterloo Grazing Co., Glen Inness, N.S.W., who later bought thbee bulls for a total of $19,700.

Australia's most famous Simmental breeder, The Prime Minister, Mr Fraser, opened the glittering black tie affair in relaxed mood.

He quipped to the 500 Simmental breeders and friends from around Australia and overseas "Tonight we are going to see a lot of bull, but I would like you to dismiss from your minds that my speech might be the beginning of this!"

The seven Simmental females, 1 calf and 10 bulls behaved in a manner befitting bovine aristocracy although there were a few wet patches on the imitation grass sale ring, quickly whisked away before it reverted to a dance floor.

Second top price of the night was $10,700 paid for another champion bull, Merrithree Yeaman, sold by Phil Collins & Jim Cloney, Merrithree Stud, Shepparton, Vic, and bought by G. Galwey & Son, Sonning Pastoral Co., Quirindi, N.S.W.

Top price for females and third best overall was $9,100 paid for Harry M. Miller's heifer Dunmore Hansie and bought by Mr Harvey Sacks, Drawmar Stud, Mudgee, N.S.W. Mr Sacks paid a total of $19,200 for three females.

Resplendent in white dinner jackets and red lapel roses were Dalgety's chief stud stock auctioneer, Mr John Sinclair and his team of spotters under whose guidance the ten bulls averaged $8,450 and the seven females $6,614. The sale gross was $130,750. Special Simmental commemorative label Hardy's wines flowed freely throughout the five course banquet and the popular entertainment and dancing with Colleen Hewitt and her group Astron.

Among the beautifully dressed gathering were official guests, Mr Mel Wolfe, President of the Canadian Simmental Association, Mr Rodney Cox, President of the New Zealand Simmental Society, World Simmental Federation, Mr Richard Vincent from Perth and Mrs Tamie Fraser, official guest of honour with her husband.

The British Simmental Society donated a limited addition porcelain Simmental bull to Alan Jones as buyer of the highest priced lot. They also sent a telegram which was bead out, including the cryptic message "No under-arm bidding – it isn't cricket!"

The President of the Victorian Branch of the Simmental Association, Mr Brian Williamson, who was the architect of the celebration and sale, paid credit to everyone associated with the organisation of the enormously successful event. He said "The prices paid for top Simmental cattle at our first national sale have demonstrated that we have come of age in just 10 years in this country and that Simmental breeders can look to the future with confidence."

**TATTOO YEAR LETTERS...**

**1981 = M**

**1982 = N**

# RECORD PRICED STEER AT SYDNEY SHOW

The Purebred Steer Competition held at the Sydney Show each year has been written up in our publication before. It is a spectacular and tremendously well patronised event at the Show. Over a hundred steers of all the major breeds in the country are entered on a hoof, hooks basis. Simmentals this year entered the competition for the third time and again with resounding success. The entries are judged on the hoof, just as stud show cattle are. (This years judge was Dr Roger Hunsley from U.S.A.). The winner of the Heavyweight Class for the Show was an outstanding Simmental steer entered by Mr Lionel Busquets of Stirling, N.S.W., with a liveweight of 642 kgs.

Following the judging, all the Show steers are auctioned at the Hawdon Selling Ring within the showgrounds. The Champion Simmental sold for a staggering $10 per kilogram, (or $6,420), to Coles New World Supermarkets, an Australasian record price for a steer. Two other Simmental steers took third and fourth places in the on the hoof competition. There were 43 steers in that particular class inclusive of 12 Simmentals.

The Stanhill Memorial Trophy, which is the 'ultimate' in this competition is awarded for a group of three steers of one breed and selected by the relevant breed society and an aggregate of hoof and hooks points is used to establish the winning team. Simmentals were placed second being only 2½ points behind the winner a Murray Grey. Last year they were second by only one point, the year before they won it.

The undoubted impact of Simmentals in this major Australian competition is of great credit to the Breed and the exhibitors. It is an open competition and equal preparation is carried out by all exhibitors. It differs from showing in the accepted sense in that the animals are finally judged in a situation that is beyond dispute – on the hooks.

*'Stirling Zeno' $(A)6,420 of beef on the hoof.*

# YOUNG FARMERS' CLUB STOCK JUDGING

Excellent use was recently made of the Society's collection of 'Beef Cuts' slides when two separate projects were staged at Canterbury secondary schools. St. Andrew's College and Rangiora High School, both of whom have specialist agricultural courses, ran field days which were promoted by the Society. The field days were run by Messrs Don Graham and Oakleigh Osborne and began with a classroom showing of the slides on the 'cutability of beef', followed by a practical stock judging exercise on the property of Mrs Joan Thompson at Clarkeville. Mrs Thompson, who runs her own beef fattening enterprise had some top Cimbeef steers which were used for the exercise. The success of the exercise was undoubted and many students, including girls, demonstrated adequately the message that is put across in the collection of slides by putting in remarkably accurate judging cards.

Our thanks go to Mrs Thompson, who most generously allowed us to use her cattle and her property on two occasions. Don and Oakleigh, who put in a lot of hard work in organisation and assessment of the cattle, and the staff and pupils of St. Andrew's and Rangiora High School for their participation.

*Some of the seventy YFC boys from St. Andrew's College Christchurch stock judging Simbeef Steers.*

*Oakleigh Osborne, Jean Thompson and Don Graham who organised the YFC field days.*

# Miscellaneous

## 1982 ROYAL SHOW

The Royal this year will be held in Christchurch on the 10th, 11th and 12th November. We look forward to a strong entry for this major event in the South Island. The Canterbury Show is one of the largest A. & P. Shows in the country and the Royal must rank as one of the best held anywhere in New Zealand. We urge breeders to plan ahead for this Show.

Entry forms will be available from the office of the Canterbury A. & P. Association, P.O. Box 9002, Christchurch, at the end of July and we suggest you write to them to ensure you get a schedule and the necessary forms. If you write now they will hold your letter on file and send the schedule when available.

## SALES

Both the South Island Sale and the National Sale are now fully organised and catalogues will have been received by the time this issue is printed. Extra catalogues are available through the office.

Members are reminded of the Annual General Meeting and the lecture Seminar on the 23rd June. We are certain that this will be a most worthwhile lecture series. People attending the South Island Sale are reminded that a 'gathering' will be held at the 'Avon Motor Lodge' following the Sale – all welcome, user pays.

## DANNEVIRKE SHOW RESULTS

Champion Bull & Supreme Champion – H. J. Smyth
Reserve Champion Bull – C. Hutchings
Champion Cow – H. J. Smyth
Reserve Champion Cow – A. Hall
Junior Champion Bull – C. Hutchings
Reserve Junior Champion Bull – H. J. Smyth
Junior Champion Heifer – C. Hutchings
Reserve Junior Champion Heifer – C. Hutchings

A line up of good quality cattle were before the judge Denys Pattullo of Reporoa. A most pleasing aspect was that the members exhibiting were new to the showing business and also the work done by some of our Junior members in the preparation of their cattle.

simbeef

'PUKEKOHU'
SIMMENTALS

OFFER AT THE NATIONAL SALE – 4 BULLS

**'LARIKIN'** Grandson of 'EMPRESS', Royal Show Junior Champion, 1981
**'MARQUIS'** son of 'EMPRESS' by 'BAVARIAN', winner of the Coopental Trophy Royal Show 1981
**'LANCER'** son of 'LANDMARK', Royal Show Reserve Junior Champion, 1981
**'LEADER'** son of 'BAVARIAN' from 'OVERHALL BONNIE'

*WEIGHTS AND RATIOS IN CATALOGUE*

H.R.LOWRY
P.B. HAVELOCK NORTH

# SIMMENTAL DISPERSAL SALE IN WAIKATO PRODUCES OUTSTANDING PRICES

One of the largest dispersal sales of Simmental cattle held in New Zealand since the Breeds' introduction some ten years ago, took place earlier this month near Cambridge.

*Roy Smith of 'Sherwood' with his two grandchildren.*

Mr Roy Smith of Sherwood Hills, who is retiring from farming and has sold his property, offered his complete herd of Simmentals for sale at auction. Based on a top polled Hereford cow herd, Mr Smith began cross breeding in a grading-up programme in 1972, firstly with A.I. and more recently by using purebred Simmental herd sires. His herd reached purebred status last season.

The Sherwood herd has been recognised as one of the best Simmental enfused herds of cattle in Australasia and the presentation of 148 head at auction on the 1st April was of a standard which would be hard to equal in any breed.

The offering comprised mainly of in-calf seven-eighths females (3rd cross) and their purebred progeny. A limited number of in-calf seven-eighths heifers were offered as were a small group of working age purebred bulls. The day prior to the sale was an 'open-day' on the property, and despite persistent heavy rain, over a hundred people took the opportunity of inspecting the cattle in a paddock situation.

The sale was attended by over 450 people with buyers from all over the North Island and as far afield as Victoria in Australia.

From the outset the demand was strong and prices were at a level considerably above that expected. Despite the large catalogue (just under 150), the vigorous bidding and competition for each lot continued throughout the sale and a number of potential buyers failed to fill orders.

Fifteen in-calf purebred heifers were offered first and averaged $1,500 with a top price of $3,800 for a polled 'Senator' heifer, which went to Australia.

In-calf seven-eighths cows and heifers with calves at foot were paraded as a cow and calf unit, but sold individually. Thirty nine seven-eighths cows averaged $1,638 with a top price of $3,200 for a polled cow by 'Bavarian', which also went to Australia. One (only), purebred cow, which was of outstanding quality, made $4,600 and was bought by a Northland buyer. Over a dozen lots sold for over $2,000.

Progeny from the seven-eighths females sold comparatively well and twenty-five purebred weaner heifers sold at an average price of $1,180 with a top price of $4,400 going to a Hawkes Bay purchaser. Three sold at over $3,000. Twenty-four purebred weaner bull calves sold at an average of $1,260 with a top price of $3,000. Nine purebred bulls of working age also sold well and averaged $1,488 with a top price of $3,000.

The sale was considered one of the strongest demonstrations of the interest in Simmental cattle seen in New Zealand with cattle being keenly competed for by established breeders, overseas buyers and commercial buyers. The gross proceeds of the Sale were $210,000 giving an average price of $1,419.

*L-R: Heather and Ron Wallace-Wells of Tirau with John Scott of Cambridge.*

*Australian visitor and strong purchaser, Charles Jagger with Robin Lowry*

# Club News

A recent visit to the North Island by the Secretary gave him an opportunity to meet many members in a number of areas and some of the Club activities are reported.

**Taranaki** – The membership although not large is expanding with a few new members recently signed up. Some remarkably good cattle were seen in the area and as elsewhere great progress has been made in the last couple of years. The hardest task faced by members in this area is to find an outlet for their cattle in what can only be termed a very conservative situation. Perhaps the Profile article in this issue will open a few new doors (or gates!) A number of members' properties were visited in the short time available in the area.

*Graham Parker, Werner Gut and Neville Reynolds look at cattle on Graham's property near Waitara in Taranaki.*

**Northland** – An area that has battled hard to establish the breed has done just that. Small in numbers but large in enthusiasm they have plugged solidly onwards and are now gaining rapidly with expansion into the commercial field with another Bull Sale coming up on the 14th July. A number of new members have recently joined the Club and while I was in the area the Club Annual Field Day and A.G.M. was held on the property of Lou and Ann Prescott just south of Whangarei. These people until recently were dairy farming but have replaced their cattle with a substantial herd of Simmentals previously owned and bred-up by Bob and Dulcie Dawson of Parua Bay. These cattle are now up to purebred status and amongst them are some first class animals which must have future influence on the Breed in the area. The Club's A.G.M. was attended by all the stalwarts and from as far north as Keri Keri. A brief visit was made to the Kaikohe property of Mr. H. Korman, who runs the largest herd of Simmentals in the Northern area. Mainly from a grading-up system there are some hundreds of animals on this property and as elsewhere the emergence of some excellent animals was apparent. Alan Nisbett, the Manager intends to reduce the number of cattle carried and it is certain that those cattle retained will form a substantial and quality herd which will have great potential in the area.

*Northland Field Day — L-R: Gwen Houlbrooke, Darcy Gilberd, Terry Sloane, Stan Timperley, Ann Prescott, Gaye Timperley, Lyn Sloane, Geoff Palmer, Terry McDermott.*

At the Field Day held on the Prescott's property Mr. Darcy Gilberd of the Red Devon Society was guest speaker and presented a most interesting demonstration and lecture on the 'Ankony Scorina System' which is used in 'classifying' cattle in their register. The system works on nine separate attributes and each one has a ranking of 9 to 1. The classification is extended into the pedigree of the animal and is also produced in Sales Catalogues so that the ranking of each animal can be classified at a glance. Mr. Gilberd also demonstrated a fat scanner which is used in conjunction with the Ankony system. (The Council will look at this system as a matter of interest at its next Meeting).

As proof of the confidence in the Breed in Northland, Roy Smith's Sherwood Sale is a demonstrative example. Over $43,000 worth of Simmentals moved to Northland as a result.

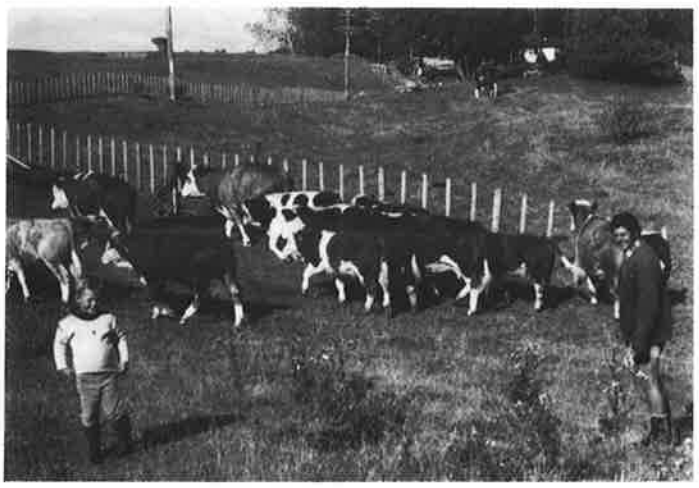
*Northland host for the day (and new member) Lou Prescott talks with Jim Houlbrooke.*

**Bay of Plenty** – On the return South a brief visit was made to the Bay of Plenty and a few members called on. Unfortunately some were away but there are some useful cattle in the area. One herd is based on Motiti Island, a few miles off the coast at Mt. Maunganui. Mr. Wills the owner increased his herd quite considerably at the recent Sherwood Sale. At Whakatane one breeder was traced to the Honda Bike agency in the town. An early member, Ross Neiderer now runs a thriving Honda agency and still has a few cattle (he intends to increase his herd as soon as he gets another property). While selling and servicing his Hondas he also makes a big plug for Simmentals – promotion works in many ways!

**Lower Waikato\King Country** – A visit was made to a few properties in the area. It was pleasing to see Councillor Neil Barnett settled on his new property at Arohena, east of Te Awamutu. Neil now farms a large hill country propebty and is rapidly establishing an impressive herd of Simmentals. Further south at Raetahi, a call was made on a new member, Ken Robb.

*Ken Robb of Raetahi another new member sorting out a few Simmentals.*

A couple of years ago he purchased a bull known to many members – 'Salisbury Grandeur'. On his property he had a small group of graded-up cattle, which he did not really know a great deal about – they had been bought in, but nothing had been done with the transfer, as, at that stage, he was not a member. A little time in the yard quickly established that the older cows were indeed registered and a good set of records authenticated their progeny. The result was a few more animals in our system. Ken also has a large number of impressive young commercial Simmentals on his property by 'Grandeur', who incidentally, looks most impressive in his new hill country home.



*Neil Barnett and son Josua with cattle on their new property at Arohena.*

**Waikato** – The Clubs recent 'high spot' must be its annual Club Show. Held at Jerry Butler's property at Cambridge on a perfect day it was extremely well organised and attended by over seventy members and families. The presentation of some thirty cattle was equal to any major A. & P. Show and the participation of people of all ages (there were some very young ones) in top presentation of their animals was a very rewarding sight. Such events are really worthwhile in education of animals (and people) for presentation at Shows and Sales. The judge, who was an Angus Stud Breeder, did an excellent job and complimented the exhibitors on the standards of their cattle and their stockmanship. Highlight of the day would have been the winning of the Handlers Trophy by one of our junior members, Wilma Eccles. A girl who has worked hard with her cattle, it was a well deserved win.

*Wilma Eccles proudly holds her trophy.*

**Manawatu & Districts** – Again the time in the area was only brief, but a few farm visits were made and a member with whom we have had little personal contact was called on at Opiki, south of Palmerston North. Ron Thomas has a substantial herd of both Simmentals and Charolais and has reached purebred status in both herds. His herd will provide yet another base for escalation of the Breed to outside breeders, with sevebal good commercial bulls available this season.

In summary, the North Island visit proved a rewarding and encouraging exercise. The advance in the standard of the cattle seen was heartening in all areas. The comments that are made by people involved in the cattle industry herald strongly the increasing knowledge about the Breed and its success. The greatest problem in making such a trip is distance and time, the latter being the hardest factor to deal with. A call on a breeder always takes longer than you anticipate and the next one who is 'just off the main road', proves to be an hour and a half hard drive! However, it is a mighty rewarding business and the only regret is that time did not permit more breeder visits.

**The South Island** – Apart from one visit no direct contact has been made with Clubs in the South Island area for some months, but we have been in contact.

**Marlborough\Nelson** – plans a gathering of their small membership in the next couple of months.

**North Canterbury** has not been involved in anything recently, but will be involved in the South Island Sale and in a large way at our Royal Show in November.

**South Canterbury** met recently in Timaru for their Annual General Meeting. When a comparatively small group of people met at Trailways Hotel. The evening was most successful and the Club now has a new Chairman, John Howie of Temuka (Newton Stud). Guest speakers at the meeting were representatives for the Canterbury Frozen Meat Co., who gave a most interesting presentation on the current situation faced by the freezing industry, with particular relevance to the South Island scene. With a declining cattle population works are finding it increasingly difficult to maintain and operate their enterprises in a viable manner. The meat industry comes in for some pretty hard criticism, particularly in the South Island, but they have their problems and these are obviously going to take a great deal of planning and research to overcome. Both the Canterbury and South Canterbury areas have had a very hard autumn, with a chronic lack of feed and this has affected the cattle industry as a whole and, in a few cases, the situation of our own breeders.

**Otago\Southland** – At the time of printing, we have nothing specific to report, but a visit to the area is planned later in the year. Several breeders are bringing cattle through to the South Island Sale.

*Waikato Club Show — 'heifers and handlers'.*

GATE SIGNS
18" DIAMETER
DARK GREEN
ON WHITE ENAMEL

FOR USE IN MAKING UP YOUR OWN STUD SIGN

AVAILABLE ON FIRM ORDER *(Approx $15.00)*
**SIMMENTAL OFFICE**

# SIMBEEF SELLS

A series of reports have been received on successful sales over the past month or two:

**Burnside** (Dunedin) 6.5.82
30 Simbeef weaners $288 (market toppers)
on a/c Mount Gourie Station (A. J. MacDonald)

**Stortford Lodge** (Hastings) 7.4.82
20 Simbeef weaner steers $242 (market toppers)
a/c J. P. Absolom, Rissington ($12 premium)
35 Simbeef weaner heifers $202 (market toppers)
a/c Mustang Partnership, D. Brownrigg.

**Waipukurau** 3.4.82
15 Simbeef Weaner steers $267 (market toppers)
a/c W. Stephenson, Makotuku.
40 Simbeef Weaner steers $206
a/c Pukerangi Station, Omakere
35 Simbeef Weaner steers $240
a/c Mustang Partnership

**Addington** (Christchurch)
92 Simbeef weaner steers average $196 (top $242)
37 Simbeef weaner heifers average $164 (top $188)
a/c O. J. Osborne, Leeston.
This is the sixth consecutive year Mr Osborne's calves have topped Addington.

**Owaka** (Southland)
20 Simbeef weaner steers $234 (market toppers)
a/c B. Lesley & M. Miller
Simbeef weaner steers $206 (market toppers)
a/c W. Lesley. Both groups were Ralgro top priced weaners.

**Northern Southland**
Simbeef weaner steers $214 (market toppers)
a/c B. Pinney, Mossburn.

**Heriot** (Southland)
10 Simbeef weaner steers $250 (market toppers)
a/c K. Morton, Heriot (Premium $34).

# SIMBEEF SUCCESS

**Hawkes Bay** A. & P. District Beef Competition
J. P. Absolom, Rissington, 1st on Hoof
G. B. Kemp, Gisborne, 2nd on Hoof
H. R. Lowry, Havelock North, 3rd on Hoof
G. B. Kemp, Gisborne, 4th on Hoof and top Simmental carcass

**Levin** A. & P. Assn Hoof & Hooks Competition
G. M. Thomas, Opiki, Palmerston North, 1st on Hoof 1st on Hooks

**Mataura** (Southland) District Chiller Competition
J. Hurst, Gore 3rd on Hooks 2½ yr 330 kg

**NEW ZEALAND STEER COMPETITION**

Resulting from visits to Australia and elsewhere, where we have seen these competitions, we have already made preliminary plans to introduce similar competitions here. We were hopeful that we may have been able to establish a class at this years Royal Show, but this has proved to be difficult as there is tremendous pressure on space at Canterbury for competing stud cattle at the Royal and the A. & P. Association just cannot accommodate such a competition this year.

We will however continue to promote this project and we are certain we will be successful. Several other breeds have already indicated their interest in participating and we will endeavour to get things underway for 1983.

# Junior Membership

## SANDRA MACLEAN WRITES . . .

Dear Juniors,

Hi. Hope everything is going well. Quite a lot more happened since the last magazine issue. Here in the Waikato, we had the annual Club Show Day in March. The Junior Class included in the events was represented by five Junior members from the area – a really great effort.

Mr Noel Buchanan from Morrinsville donated a super trophy which was won by Wilma Eccles. (Pictured alongside.)

Other placings went to Novalea Rolley, Pamela Eccles, Steven Mathis and Simone Arbon.

Congratulations to all those people.

We have had some extremely well presented diaries sent in for the Junior Herdsman Award. Well done to all participants.

Don't forget we would still like to hear from members with ideas for the Club, or contributions for the page. With the membership being around fifty, and two years behind us, the club is becoming established in its own right. However, it is largely up to the members to say if they think everything is going o.k. or if more, or less, should be included.

It's up to you, as Junior Members, so how about a few suggestions.

Enjoy your holidays

Regards

Sandra.

**JOKES**

Q. What is a meatball?

A. A dance in a butcher's shop.

Q. What is long and green and always points to the North?

A. A magnetic cucumber.

---

**ANSWERS:**

DOWN: 1. Charges; 2. Simbeef; 3. Lemon; 4. Meat & 5. Herod; 11. Wool Cup; 12. Disects; 13. Auction; 15. Bloat; 16. Steak.

ACROSS: 6. Heifer; 7. Herbie; 8. Ribbons; 9. Taupo; 10. Even; 14. Rimu; 17. Label; 18. Retreat; 19. Armour; 20. Tattoo.

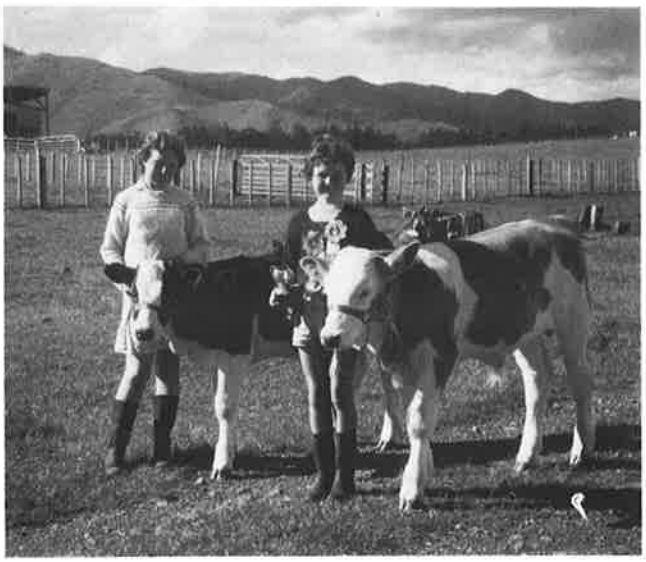
Dear Mr Johnstone,

Mum took this photo of Julie. Remember she was my calf club calf. Julie was born on the 21st of July 1981 and because her mother died shortly after, I reared her. She was 50lbs when she was born. I took her to the school club day and she won three ribbons. When we went to the inter school day she got three more ribbons for rearing and childs effort and in her class of best beef calf. In January we went to the local Katikati Show and Julie got a second for leading in her class and a second in the beef section for under a year old heifer. I won the cup for the best beef calf at our school.

Julies mother was Mararoa Julliette and her sire is Argos. She has a very good nature and I love her very much. The saddest part is that next year she will have to be sold. Julie is polled.

from

Nadine Griffiths



*Sonya and Louise Hutching of Dannevirke, keen Junior Members.*

Simmental

# THE BEST BULL IN BRITAIN!

**HEYWOOD ESQUIRE** is the top ranked Simmental bull in the U.K., proven by Independent Meat & Livestock Commission Simmental Progeny Testing Trials in 1980 and again in 1981.

**HEYWOOD ESQUIRE** is the first bull to be awarded The British Simmental Society's Seal of Approval, their bench-mark of outstanding quality.

**HEYWOOD ESQUIRE** is by Landmark, out of a pure Swiss cow and as such presents the first significant opportunity to out-cross from the now well-established lines of the 70's with an officially proven bull that has consistently produced fine offspring.

**HEYWOOD ESQUIRE**'s progeny tested, bull calves averaged 659 kgs at 400 days, which is 115 kgs above the U.K. breed average.

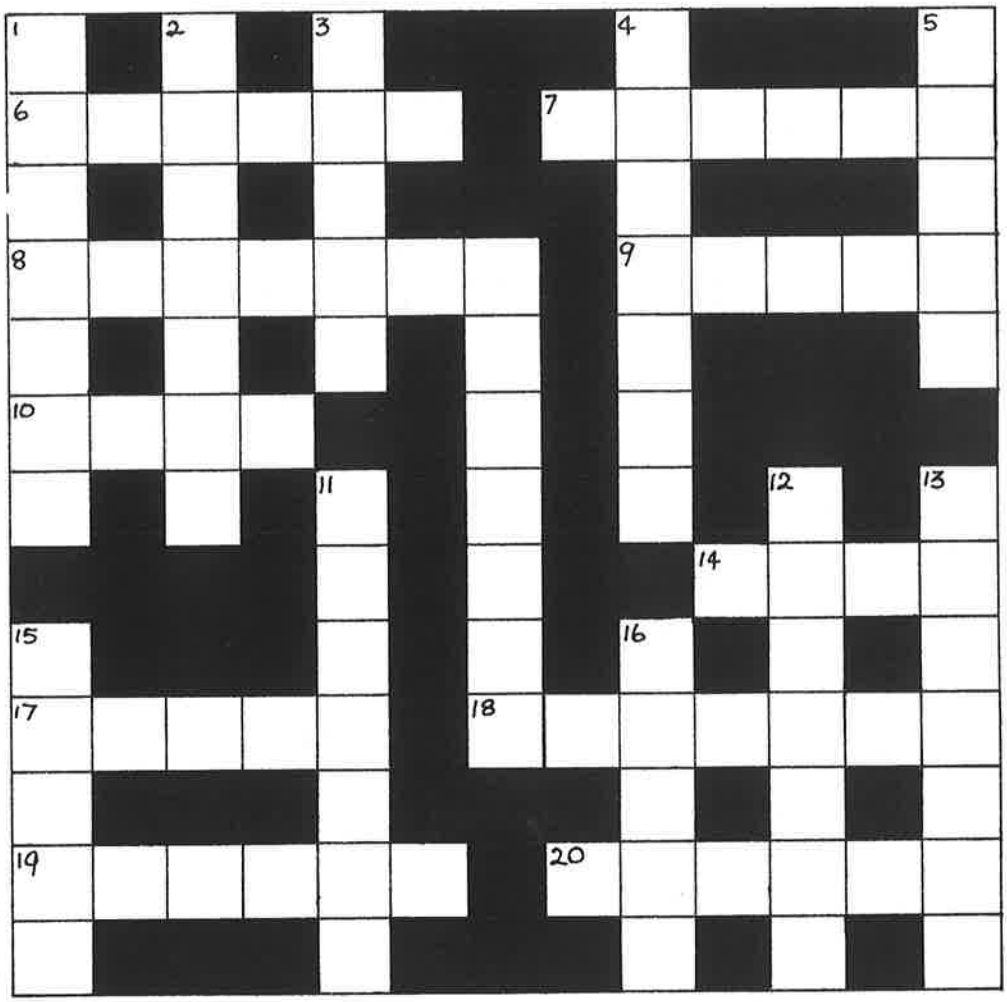
**HEYWOOD ESQUIRE** semen **is available now.**

BSS

*All enquiries to:*
**GUTHREY BREEDING SERVICES**
P.O. Box 97, Kaiapoi, N.Z.
Telephone: (0327) 6175

"... the Best of British to you."

Ann Howie, one of our Junior members created this crossword – a great effort.



**CLUES DOWN:**

1. A bull sometimes does this. (7 letters)
2. Meat from a cattle-beast of at least 25% Simmental blood. (7 letters)
3. The lightest coloured Simmental could almost be described as this. (a fruit, 5 letters)
4 & 11. A much coveted prize at shows. (4 letters, 3 letters)
5. A famous bull. (5 letters)
11. See 4 down (4 letters, 3 letters)
12. Cuts up. (7 letters)
13. A type of sale. (7 letters)
15. Cattle may suffer from this if they eat too much rich clover. (5 letters)
16. Cut of meat. (5 letters)

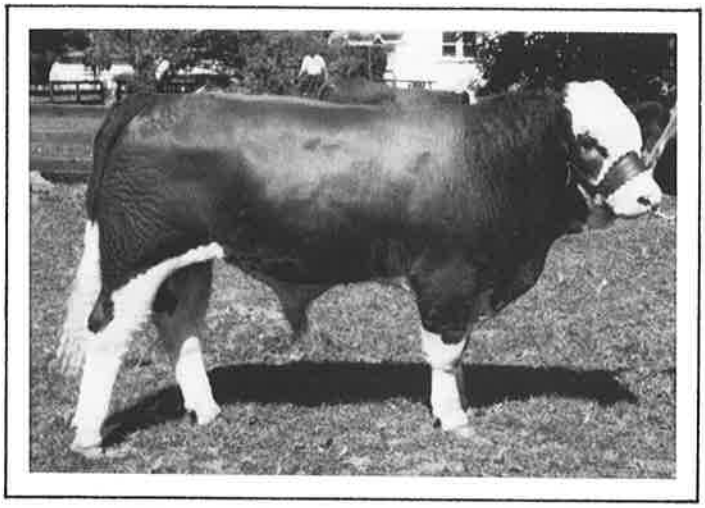
**CLUES ACROSS:**

6. Young cow which hasn't had a calf. (6 letters)
7. A very large Simmental-Cross steer. (6 letters)
8. Given out at shows for merit. (7 letters)
9. The eye of Maui's fish. (5 letters)
10. Numbers divisible for two are . . . (4 letters)
14. Native tree. (4 letters)
17. A luggage tag. (5 letters)
18. If you are charged by a bull, what do you do? (7 letters)
19. Knights of the Round Table wore this. (6 letters)
20. Identification put on cattle's ears. (6 letters)

*(Answers on page 15)*

HAVE YOU EVER ADVERTISED
IN YOUR MAGAZINE ? ? ?
HOW ABOUT THE NEXT ISSUE?

# BLUE RIDGE SIMMENTALS



**'BLUE RIDGE MATANGI'**

*LOT No. 28 AT THE 1982 NATIONAL SALE*

- **Junior Champion Te Kuiti and Morrinsville Show.**
- **Reserve Champion, All Breeds Morrinsville Show**
- **Show Champion, Waikato Club**

**Two females of the same bloodline were recently exported to one of Australia's top stud breeders.**

**INSPECTION WELCOME BY APPOINTMENT**

**A. P. & C. L. ROLLEY, MATANGI, HAMILTON – PHONE: Matangi 825**


## THE McKENZIE SHOW (FAIRLIE)

A very much reduced Simmental entry, compared to previous years, was judged by Stan Crosson, who now farms at Waimate. Due to the drought conditions, South Canterbury entries were limited to only one entry, that of David Elliott. Other exhibitors were George Habberjam amd Colin Patterson from the Leeston area of North Canterbury.

Placings were:
Cow: D. Elliott, Heifer Calf: D. Elliott.
Bull: 1–2 Years: G. Habberjam 1st, C. Patterson 2nd.
Bull Calf: G. Habberjam.
Champion and Best of Breed and Club Cup: G. Habberjam's Wilderness Lloyd.

(Report from John Howie)


THE TATTOO LETTER

FOR 1982 IS

**'N'**



## DISTRICT SALES

**WAIKATO & DISTRICTS SALE**

FRIDAY 25th JUNE
(12 noon)

***J. J. BUTLERS PROPERTY, CAMBRIDGE***

30 BULLS Born prior 1/5/81
15 FEMALES Pure and $\frac{7}{8}$

Catalogues available from your usual Stock Firm or Allied Farmers, Hamilton.



**NORTHLAND DISTRICTS SALE**

***KAURI SALEYARDS***

WEDNESDAY 14th JULY

Watch local papers for advertisement or contact your usual agent.

# TATTOOING AND INDENTIFICATION OF YOUR CATTLE

We have over the years, on a number of occasions, written in our magazine of the necessity for careful application of tattoos. We have also drawn up a very comprehensive circular on the mechanics of tattooing which has been sent to many members.

Despite our best efforts, and doubtless in a lot of cases, yours also, we still come across a distressingly large number of poor tattoos when we inspect cattle. If there is the same average of inadequacy of tattoos throughout our total New Zealand herd the situation is certainly far from satisfactory. We are certain that the failure to produce a satisfactory, permanent and identifiable tattoo is the result of poor application – more precisely the fault of the operator.

In an endeavour to bring your tattooing up to an acceptable standard we ask you to read the following carefully. If you orgainse yourself properly and follow the basic principles outlined you should have no real problem. You will note there is also a suggestion on ear tagging as a cross reference, this can be varied to suit your own requirements, but to maintain a cross reference system has many and obvious advantages.

## EAR TATTOOING – ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION

It is a Society Regulation that all registered animals are permanently identified by EAR TATTOO.

For this to be done properly, care and attention to detail is necessary and the following information is set out for your guidance and in the interests of clear identification of animals.

It should be noted that animals tattooed in such a manner that they are not positively identifiable **can be deregistered**. This is not only a commercial loss to the breeder but a waste of animal.

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY:

According to the Oxford Dictionary, a tattoo is 'To mark the skin with an indelible pattern by puncturing and rubbing in pigment.' The pattern and puncturing is produced by the specially designed tattoo pliers, several varieties of which are commercially available in New Zealand. To achieve the best results certain basic procedures must be followed.

## WHEN SHOULD YOU TATTOO?

This will be variable according to the type of property you have and your management programme. You should, however, be absolutely certain which calf belongs to which cow and this identification should be done at an early age. Usually the initial identification is by numbered tag when the calf is small – as soon as practically possible after birth. The actual tattoo can be applied once the calf is of reasonable sizek It must be done by weaning, as after that event it is not always possible to identify the calf, as an odd tag has been known to come out. If you use a small tag for initial calf identification it can be replaced with a larger permanent tag when you do the tattooing. Whatever you do, record your identifications carefully.

## PREPARATION

1. Before you start, sit down and note carefully the sequence of tattooing you are going to use, check the date of the birth, the grade of breeding and the number sequence of the animals in your herd. The most simple method is to make a list to take with you to the cattle yards.
2. Check your tattoo equipment to see you have the correct numbers and letters and ensure they are not damaged or distorted. If you sort them into order before you start, the job is so much easier. Also check you have paste or ink that is still usable. (A few drops of household disinfectant mixed in the paste will reduce the risk of infection, as will a tin of disinfectant for dipping the tattoo pliers).
3. Load your pliers with the first tattoo you will use, **test punch the pattern** on a piece of light card or paper. Make sure you have your letters and numbers correctly positioned and the right way up. A six can easily become a nine.
4. Recheck your pattern against your list.
5. Test punch the pattern before **each** application.

## APPLICATION

6. The first step in application of the tattoo is to clean the animal's ear of natural grease. Warm soapy water is as good as anything. Methylated spirit will also do. Having cleaned the ear, dry it with a clean cloth.
7. Select a portion of the ear which is clear of large blood vessels. Ensure it is not too close to the head or the tip of the ear. Both these areas tend to be hairy.
8. Position the tattoo pliers from above and behind the ear, remembering the pattern will be read from the front not the back of the ear. Apply the tattoo positively and quickly releasing the pliers immediately to avoid distortion of the pattern should the animal pull away.
9. Apply a good smear of paste or ink to the tattoo pattern. Rub it in **thoroughly** with an old toothbrush or your thumb. It is **most** important that the pigment is well engrained in the tattoo pin holes if the pattern is to remain permanent. (Some people apply the paste before applying the tattoo, but this tends to be messy and has few advantages). Some blisters may appear on the surface of the skin within a day or two. Leave them, they will disappear. If you break them you may introduce infection, which will spoil the pattern of your tattoo.

## FOLLOW UP:

10. Check the result of your tattooing at the first opportunity. Ensure that all tattoos are clear and legible.

## AVOID MISTAKES

**ALWAYS TEST PUNCH EACH TATTOO.** (If you **do** make a mistake **don't** try to alter it – advise the office and we will record it.

**Poor tattooing** can result from the following:

Ear surface not properly cleaned.

Bleeding through incorrectly placed tattoo.

Poorly placed tattoo, in the hairy area of the ear.

Poor quality paste or ink, poorly applied.
Distortion due to slow release of pliers.
Unsatisfactory equipment.

TATTOOING SHOULD BE
A ONCE IN AN ANIMAL'S LIFETIME JOB
HAVE 'ATIENCE
DO IT PROPERLY

**FACTORS FROM WHICH YOU WORK OUT YOUR TATTOO**

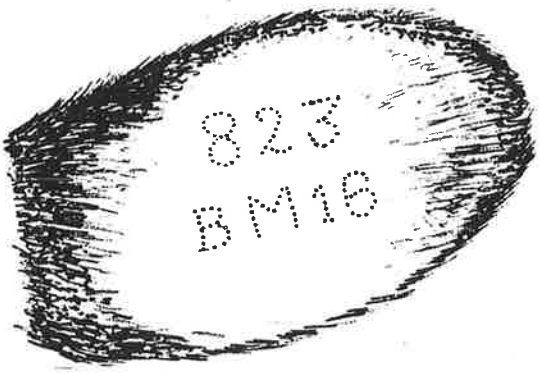
THE **TOP LINE** IS ALWAYS YOUR **HERD NUMBER**

THE **BOTTOM LINE** IS **GRADE OF BREEDING, YEAR OF BIRTH, ANIMAL NUMBER** IN YOUR HERD IN **THAT** ORDER.

| **GRADE OF BREEDING** | **YEAR OF BIRTH** |
|---|---|
| D = Half Bred | 1979 = K |
| C = Threequarters Bred | 1980 = L |
| B = Seven-Eighths | 1981 = M |
| A = Purebred | 1982 = N |

Therefore, if you have a 3rd cross Heifer born in 1981 and it is the sixteenth animal you are registering, its tattoo will be:

★★★ (your herd Number)
BM16




**AVAILABILITY OF EQUIPMENT**

Tattoo sets are available from the various suppliers and we suggest you contact your stock firm or Veterinary Club. Most overseas equipment is 'double row', which enables the complete tattoo to be applied in one operation. This has some advantage, but it can be difficult to position the tattoo to avoid blood vessels in the ear. Such equipment is also very expensive. Single row equipment is available from Farm-Acy Ltd, P.O. Box 30, Palmerston North. This is locally manufactured, but has proved adequate. It is, however, necessary to purchase two sets of applicator pliers.

**EAR TAGS**

Various types of ear tags are used for easy visual identification of animals in the paddock. If you use a cross reference system with your tattoo you know immediately the grade of your animal, its age and identification. Record these facts in your records so that you always have a means of identification of an animal.

If a tag comes out re-tag it at the first opportunity.

# Club News

*Barry Anderson of Te Awamutu with his Champion heifer. With him is Mary Butler who was hostess for the Waikato Club Field Day.*

## CLUB FUNDS – EXPENDITURE

There seems to be a degree of uncertainty in Clubs regarding the funds available to them and how these may be spent. There are ten Club areas and these vary in size and activity. Funds are made available through the Promotion Committee of the Council to assist them in various projects they undertake. Just what these projects are is left to the discretion of the Club's Committee, but as a general guideline any expenditure incurred should be in the interests of the Breed and membership in the Club's area of influence. Each individual area will know what are the best avenues of promotion in its own locality. As examples, it could be a carcass competition, an exhibition at a show, a beef slide evening, a newspaper advertisement, promotion of a weaner sale or anything else that promotes the Breed as a whole.

The maximum amount available to any one Club in a year is $500.00, but it does not necessarily follow that it should become the objective of a Club to expend this amount, just because it is there. Some Clubs spend surprisingly little, but still achieve very worthwhile results through good individual self promotions at no cost to the Society. Where funds are to be spent on a project, it should be carefully and responsibly considered to see that the maximum benefit is achieved for the area.

Some Clubs already have a 'levy' payable by their local members. This gives them a small cash flow to allow them to carry out minor projects that would be outside the normal use of allocated Club funds.

Basically the promotion carried out by Clubs is an extension of the overall promotion done by the Society and has the same objectives, but is tailored to the requirements of the Club area.

Where a major event occurs in a Club area that is worthy of a special support, the Promotion Committee will look at providing additional funds, but Clubs must put forward a proposal before making any commitment.

If any Club is uncertain about whether a project is viable or not they should either contact their local Councillor or the office.

# RISSINGTON SIMMENTALS

## 'LJB JADE'

With Sires like **'LJB JADE'** – triple Meat and Wool Cup winner and Sire of a very exciting first crop of calves, and **'RISSINGTON EXTRA'** – Sire of two Beef Cut Competition winners and 14 of our 35 twenty month bulls which we will be selling in June, our aim of continuing to increase our clients' profits looks very promising.

***SEMEN FROM 'LJB JADE' IS NOW AVAILABLE***

ENQUIRIES AND INSPECTION WELCOME

JOHN AND STAR ABSOLOM

R.D.4 NAPIER, PHONE: RISSINGTON 836

# 1982 SIMMENTAL SALES

## NATIONAL SALE

PALMERSTON NORTH
TUESDAY 22nd JUNE
A. & P. SHOWGROUNDS 12.45 p.m.

**PUREBRED BULLS**

**PUREBRED FEMALES**

**35 PUREBRED BULLS**

**7 PUREBRED FEMALES**

# 1982 SIMMENTAL SALES

## SOUTH ISLAND SALE

CHRISTCHURCH
THURSDAY 17th JUNE
A. & P. SHOWGROUNDS 12.45 p.m.

**PUREBRED BULLS**

**PUREBRED FEMALES**

**29 PUREBRED BULLS**

**6 PUREBRED FEMALES**

**1 ⅞ FEMALE**

Enquiries are welcome through your usual stock firm or direct to:

**SIMMENTAL SOCIETY**
P.O. Box 25-100 CHRISTCHURCH Phone 793-166

**CATALOGUES AVAILABLE FROM SOCIETY ON REQUEST**