

# New Zealand Dexter Dispatch

**Number 67 February 2010**

*Marking the beginning of Modern Dexters in New Zealand -  
Meadonpark Charles, bred by Alec and Anne Meades*

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*Front Cover: Jorja Rosser and her calf Lady Brianna.  
Photo by Carol Rosser. See Page 24 for Jorja's story.*

## EDITORIAL

Welcome to the February Dexter Dispatch – yes I know it is March and consequently late!! This editor's new Years Resolution was, "No Late Dispatches". Well that was a fat lot of good wasn't it - as that resolution has gone the same way as most of them!!!

I think you will find there is something of interest to us all in this dispatch so I hope you find time to flick through the pages. As well as the usual reports we have a few things about the Society's AGM to be held in June and we acknowledge the passing of Beryl Rutherford from England who had links to New Zealand. Her life story was captured in 2005 in the book, 'My Love Affair with The Dexter' which you may like to find and read. We also acknowledge the passing of Marion Ruthven, one of our members from Canterbury.



The show season is nearing an end and it is good to have reports, results and photos from shows held over the last few months – if you were part of a show that is not reported here why don't you contact me and we can put something in the next dispatch.

The usual 'Dr Dexter' and 'A Step Back in Time' pages have been squeezed out of this dispatch but will be back in the next one.

Thanks to all of those who have contributed to this Dispatch in any way – it makes a much better magazine when a number of people contribute, so thanks to you all and can I encourage others to contact me during April if you have something for the May Dispatch. Happy Reading!!!

*-Keith*

## WRATT'S WRAMBLINGS

I must confess I am not much of a gardener, well I am actually quite keen on it, especially vegetables but the fruits of my labour again this year in the veggie garden department are nothing short of pitiful. I have a few courgette plants but mostly the garden is weeds!! It is a very sad admission on my part. I was not short on good intentions, I had it all planned out but just never found the time to put the plan together. There is a bright spot on the gardening front here – thanks to Heather, who takes charge of the flower garden and I just want to tell you about it.

When we shifted here 4 years ago we brought with us a few lily bulbs that we have had since 1993 – we have grown them each year because of course, lily bulbs don't last out of the ground for more than a few months. This year their display has been staggering. There are about eight stems I don't know what sort of lily they are but the flowers are a lovely mix of white and pink with dark speckles on the petals. The best stem was 2.5 meters tall and had 43 flowers on it – it was very impressive. It started flowering about 6 weeks ago and every few days a new flower would burst out. The last two have just come out and very soon the plant will die back, recharge the bulbs



for next season and then go dormant until about October. These are special lilies, as my Dad gave them to us from his garden not long before he died in 1993 and because they are just outside our bedroom window we see them every day. They are a good memory of my old Dad and have made a spectacular show in the garden.

And now for something completely different - out of America that you may chuckle at like I did!!

### **A Tale of Two Houses**

*House 1:* 10,000 Square feet, 20 rooms, 8 bathrooms, pool and pool house plus separate guest house. All heated by natural gas (fossil fuel). Monthly fuel bill US\$2,400. This house uses 20 times the national American average household energy consumption.

*House 2:* 4,000 square feet, 4 bedrooms, heated and cooled entirely by geothermal water. This house only uses 25% of the typical household energy use. Rainwater is all harvested for household use and all wastewater is recovered, purified and reused for the native garden irrigation.

House 1 is the residence of Al Gore, strong proponent of Global Warning and involved in the movie "An Inconvenient Truth". House 2 is the private residence of George W Bush. *Huh!!!*

At the risk of boring you all again with news from the Chiefs' camp, we here in the Bay of Plenty are resident in Chiefs' Country that spreads through into the Waikato and are very pleased so far with their progress in Super 14 Rugby this season. I still can't get my head around playing rugby in February but the boys have had three wins from four games and sit at the top of the Super 14 table. This is a complete reversal from 12 months ago when my advice to them then was the same as now . . . the important thing is how you finish - I am more confident than ever that the Chiefs will be in the final again this year. A chocolate fish to all who come to the AGM if they aren't!!!

Someone else who finished well was Cam Ferguson who over the last weekend won the 50th Open Golden Shears Title in Masterton. He was up against the best in the world and shore his 20 sheep in the final in 16 minutes 36 seconds. As someone who can shear a sheep I find that incredible. He was trailing last behind his five rivals at the halfway mark but found something extra in the last 8 minutes to have him take the win off other golden shears champions like David Fagan (16 times champion) and John Kirkpatrick (2 times champion) who were shearing in the same final. Well done Cam!!

Hope you enjoy the autumn and trust the rain isn't far away for those of us in desperate need of it.

*-Keith*

**PLEASE NOTE! COLIN READ is now the  
SOCIETY'S HERD REGISTRAR**

**Please direct all Registrations, Transfers and Herd Book  
enquiries to**

**COLIN READ, 175 RUAHIHI ROAD, RD1, TAURANGA.**

**PHONE 07 543 4023 EMAIL [colmar@clear.net.nz](mailto:colmar@clear.net.nz)**



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

I need to remind you that the 2010 AGM is now only three months away and this year we are going to Mosgiel which is just south of Dunedin. We have never had an AGM this far south before and special thanks must go to Marion Corbett, her husband Colin and the team around them that firstly extended an invitation to the Society to have the AGM down that way and secondly for them organizing the weekend of 12 -13 June for us. Note this is the weekend after Queens Birthday weekend. I know they have a special programme organized and we are doing things a little differently this year. The Meeting part of the AGM will be held on Saturday morning, during the afternoon you will be able to attend some very informative seminars and then in the evening we will have our AGM dinner. Sunday will be another full day with practical workshops in the morning and some sight seeing in the afternoon. I hope you can plan to be there for the whole weekend. Make your bookings soon if you have not already done so and I look forward to seeing you there. More detail and a registration form will be coming to you with the May Dispatch.

Enclosed with this dispatch is a nomination form for the 2010 council and before you bin it, can you just think for a moment about who you would like to see standing for council. We are looking for one or two new people for council for a two year term – so here is your chance to put your nomination forward or maybe you could nominate someone else. We all need to take some responsibility to see that the right people make up the Society's Council. We usually meet three times a year, the society picks up your travel and meeting costs and you will be able to make a significant contribution to the Dexter Society. Give me a call if you want to know more.

Rob Snelgar, Maureen Pettersson, Marion Corbett and Steve Ring will end their two year term this year and offer themselves for re election. Kath Aker has resigned from council for health reasons. The President is elected annually and I indicated at the 2009 AGM that I would not seek re election in 2010 – I still feel that way in spite of some encouragement from council to continue. Our two complaints officers are also elected annually, so we require nominations for those positions also. I understand Maggie Bentley and Hamish Ensor are happy to accept nominations for 2010. **Nominations close with the secretary on 30 April 2010.**

*-Keith*

## FROM THE COUNCIL

Council has not met since November and that meeting was reported on in the last Dispatch. Business went quiet over the Christmas period but the emails started flowing from mid January.

We meet again in Auckland over the weekend 20 – 21 March and if you have issues that concern you or matters you wish council to discuss, don't hesitate to contact any of us. Our contact details are on page 16 of this dispatch.

*-Keith*



## FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY



Well Christmas and the New Year have been and gone and I do hope that you all had a lovely break and got things done around the place that you have been meaning to do for ages. I know I have. One of things I decided to do was learn how to ride a quad bike properly and now that this has been achieved I can harrow, fertilize and feed out etc. The other was to start making my own fertiliser from all the goodies I have around here, hopefully it will make a difference – time will tell.

Another addition to my stock was the purchase of five Alpacas. We now have 6 as one had a cria. They are lovely, gentle animals and very pleasant to have around and they have toilet areas in the paddocks so it is very easy to pick up their poos for compost or fertiliser.

**NEW MEMBERS:** We have a total of **18** members this time, three down from the November Report but they are still steadily coming in. We have a total of **411** financial members. This is great for the Society and the financial year still has over three months to go. So please encourage buyers of your stock, to join the Society and let them know that they also get a fantastic Dispatch every three months. There are not many Societies around that offer so much, for such a low annual subscription.

On behalf of the Dexter Society I would like to welcome these new members. If I can be of any help to anyone, please don't hesitate to contact me and hopefully I will get to meet you sometime in the near future.

On page 17 of this Dispatch you will find a list of the Area Group Contacts – you are welcome to make yourself known to the one nearest you, as they are able to provide assistance with society information and local members within your area.

NO.	NAME	LOCATION	PREFIX
817	David & Caroline Stockman	Christchurch	Stockman
818	Maïke Fichtuer	Diamond Harbour	
819	Betty Geiser & Geoff Herd	Tauranga	La Vallee
820	Simon & Wendy Stokes	Christchurch	
821	Rudy & Jennifer Van Heerden	Rangiora	Phelamanga
822	Stephen Marsh & Misty Wharepapa	Whangamata	Pukekai
823	Paul Platts	Waiuku	
824	Kirsty Barringer	Dunedin	Stoneybrooke
825	Dharmendra & Raxa Raj	Upper Hutt	
826	Murray Stirling	Kaiapoi	Mizraana
827	George & Jean Quin & Tyler Baker	Inglewood	Mountain Valley
828	Trudy & David Michie	Reporoa	
829	Cassandra Booth	Christchurch	Avonhead
830	Glen Joslin	Wellington	
831	Peter & Alison Heeren	Kaiapoi	Logegaire
832	Nadine & Andrew Ord-Walton	Inglewood	Mangaorakam
833	Brent Dowd	Taupo	
834	Marie Knowles	Rangiora	Cailinmaire



Just a reminder to ALL members....YOU MUST be a financial member of the Dexter Society to register any new Dexters or to transfer any sold animals to their new owners...who need to be members too!! Remember to pass this information on to people you sell your Dexters to and make sure they are aware of these rules.

*-Maureen Petterson*

## **DCSNZ AGM June 12-13 2010, Mosgiel, Otago**

As the Southern Dexter Group is hosting this years meeting we would like to advise all members of plans thus far.

For those of you who are flying south, Dunedin's airport is called Momona Airport and is about 15 minutes from Mosgiel. Transport to and from the airport can be arranged either with a shuttle service that operates or if you let me know your arrival time, we can meet you there.

The Mosgiel Regency has offered us a reasonable deal in their centrally located motel. Check out their website at [Mosgiel.Regency@xtra.co.nz](mailto:Mosgiel.Regency@xtra.co.nz) or phone 03 489 4711 to book accomodation.

The AGM will be held in St Mary's Hall which is straight across the road from the Mosgiel Regency Motel. Morning tea and lunch will be provided at the hall by the Society.

We are planning the Saturday a little differently this year. The AGM business will be dealt with in the morning and will be over by lunchtime.

We are arranging various workshops of interest to all during the afternoon. More detail on these will be available in the May Dispatch.

Saturday evening dinner is still being organized, but rest assured it will be very warm and hospitable. There will be a charge to cover the cost of the meal.

Sunday morning we will put our theories learnt on Saturday afternoon into practice, lunch will be provided then we invite you to join us for a look around this part of our beautiful country on Sunday afternoon. Sunday evening is free so far, but depending on people's flight times, we'll see you are well looked after.

We look forward to seeing you here. Yes, all right it can be cold, bring your warm clothes!!!!

*Any problems or questions, please give me a call.*

**Marion Corbett. [corbettscorner@scorch.co.nz](mailto:corbettscorner@scorch.co.nz) or phone 03 415 7230**

**Council Elections:** Notice is hereby given that all nominations for President (for 1 year), Council (for 2 years) and Complaints Officers (for 1 year) are to be with the Secretary by 30 April 2010. Please use the nomination form inserted in this Dispatch. Marion Corbett, Rob Snelgar, Maureen Petterson and Steve Ring all have completed their 2 year term and offer themselves for re election.

A postal Ballot will be held during May in the event of there being more nominations than positions available. The 2010 AGM Booklet which will come to you in May as part of the May Dispatch and will include nomination details, the AGM Programme, weekend details and the AGM Registration Form.



# REMITTS FOR 2010 AGM

**REMIT 1. THAT Full Membership Fees increase by \$5 to \$45 and Joint Membership Fees increase by \$5 to \$60.**

*Rationale –This small increase will help meet the Society’s ever increasing costs. Proposed by Council.*

**REMIT 2. THAT transfer fees remain the same for the next year.**

*Rationale –There is no need to make any change this year. Proposed by Council.*

**REMIT 3. THAT registration fees remain the same for the next year.**

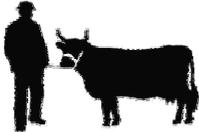
*Rationale –There is no need to make any change this year. Proposed by Council.*

**REMIT 4. THAT the height of each dexter should be noted and displayed before going into the judging ring and that the judge knows the breed standard with regards height.**

*Rationale: There is a breed standard with regards to height of Dexters. We feel that this is not being taken into account in the judging. By having the height of each yearling, and above aged cattle, displayed and given to the judge this should alleviate the problem of judges commenting on the smallness of some Dexters.*

*Option 1.*

*Below is a sample of a form that could be filled out For each show*

	<b>DCSNZ</b> Height Declaration Form		
	For _____	Show	
	Dated _____		
Mature females should range between 96cm and 108cm when measured at the rump. Mature bulls should range in height between 100cm and 114cm when measured at the rump. - NZDBA Breeders Handbook			
<b>Animal's Name</b>	<b>Show number</b>	<b>Class entered</b>	<b>Height</b>

*Option 2.*

*Place a sticker on the rump of the animals before they enter the show ring*

*Signed: Karen Managh. Seconded: Virginia Poland*

**REMIT 5. Exceptional grade 4 male Dexters. THAT grade four bull calves, considered by the breeder to be of exceptional conformation and quality can apply to Council for inspection with a view to being accepted into the registry as a G4 pure bred. It is carrying the same percentage of dexter blood as are G4 heifers.**

*Rationale: Difficulty experienced in searching for a breeding animal for specific needs, such as, colour, size, horned/polled and genetics narrows down your field of selection. You sometimes come across an outstanding G4 individual that under the present ruling is not acceptable. This individual is then lost to the breed because of the above rule as it stands. All other rules, DNA etc apply. Proposed: Shirley Spick. Seconded: Margaret Perry.*

## FROM THE HERD REGISTRAR

Herd registrations are still tracking well below those of last financial year with total registrations year to date at 371 compared with 451 for the same period last year. Transfers are similarly down showing 282 for the year to date compared with 358 for the same period last year.

Just a few reminders to those newer members who may still be struggling a little understanding the processes of Registration and Transferring animals:-

### **Registration:**

Registration forms are available from the Society's new web site. Instructions on how to log onto the website are given below. Should you have any difficulties, please contact me and I will post a form out to you. I will forward a new Registration Application form for future use with each completed registration.

Please ensure that ALL panels and boxes on the form are completed as applicable and ensure that Bull Certificates, DNA Certificates \* and AI Certificates are attached where required. Also ensure that the form is Signed and Dated and that payment in accordance with those shown on page 17 of the Dexter Dispatch is included.

Remember that a Bull Certificate signed by the bull's owner is required when you use any bull that is not registered to you at the time of service i.e. where you lease or borrow a bull belonging to someone else or you send your cow to be mated at someone else's place.

A DNA certificate is a requirement to register Bull calves. This certificate must now also show Sire Verification of the bull calf that is to be registered.

*\*Registration forms may be forwarded "Pending a DNA Certificate" where a registration number is required for the DNA request form. This registration number may be given by phone or email to speed the process up. Such Registration Applications will be held by the Registrar until a DNA Certificate is provided.*

### **Transfers:**

Please ensure that the "Transfer Authority" panel of the green "Certificate of Registration" is correctly and completely filled out as required.

Ensure that both the Vendor and Purchaser have signed and dated the Transfer Authority.

Membership number of the purchaser must be shown in the Membership number panel except when the sale is being made to a Non Member. Please endorse "Non Member" or "Pending Membership" as appropriate.

Please remember to enclose payment for the transfer (*Seller Pays for Transfer*) with the Certificate of Registration and forward it to the Registrar promptly when completed.

Remember also that transfer fees are payable on ALL transfers including those to non members. Transfer fees can also be found on page 17 of the Dexter Dispatch.



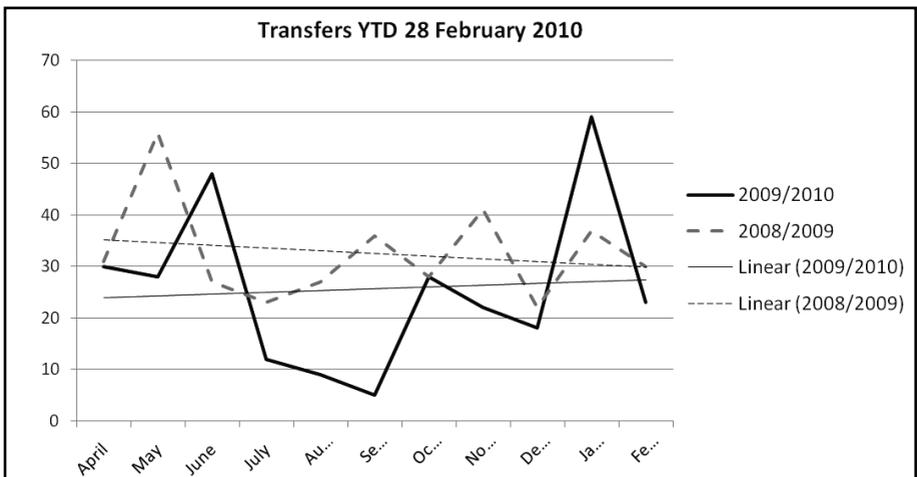
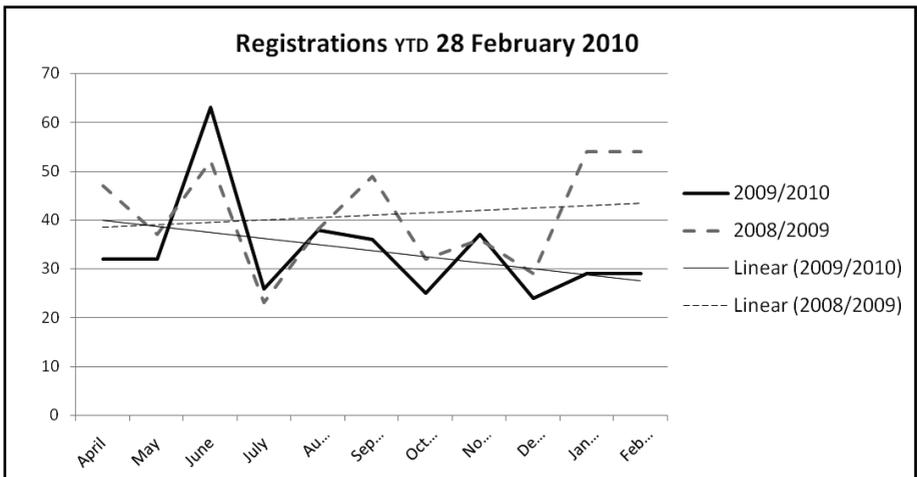
### Instructions for Logging on to Website:

Go to the new website <http://www.dexter-cattle.co.nz/> and click on the "Members Only" tab – far right hand tab, and enter the user name "Members Area" exactly as printed with the upper case M and A and the underscore separating the two words with no spaces, then the Password and this will take you into the Members Only Area. If you have not been given a password please contact either myself or Phil Becker

If you then hold your cursor over the "Members Only" tab, a drop down box will appear with the following options – "Forms – Society Rules & Regulations – Logout."

You should find all of the forms by clicking on the "Forms" tab. Click on the appropriate form you require and it will download the form as a PDF file.

-Colin Read



## FROM THE TREASURER

Sitting by the Lake, after a hard day's water skiing (yes, I did actually manage it for 30 seconds or so, not bad for my first time!) I have finally put finger to keyboard. The animals are back at home munching on the grass and growing daily and we trust that Fritz, the bull is doing his stuff.

As I end my first financial year as Treasurer, Keith asked if I could write a few words about money.

Firstly, the money stuff. The Society is in a pretty good state, Colin Read did a fantastic job and has been a great help in transferring the responsibility to me. We have solid investment and the current account is healthy. We try and budget carefully and need to plan ahead to ensure that the Society remains on a sure footing. With our financial year ending in March we now need to start thinking about the forthcoming year.

I believe that we should support Regional activity that promotes the Society and the Dexter Breed. One thing that I firmly believe is that the strength of the New Zealand Dexter Society lies in the hands of the members who make things happen at a local level: from the Regional meetings, discussion groups and involvement in Regional shows. The effort put in by the members in the South Island to make give our breed a presence at the Royal Show in Christchurch was inspiring. The Bay of Plenty 'lot', plus others, put in a good show at the Tauranga and Rotorua A&P Shows. This effort is replicated around the Country.

The reason for highlighting this local involvement is that the Council need to know in advance where members wish to invest in order to grow the Society, so that we can budget to use funds appropriately and help strengthen the Society.

Please talk to your Regional contacts and give them ideas and suggestions on the things that you would like the Society to do. These can be fed back to any council member or to your Regional Co-ordinators who can bring these ideas to Council. In this way we can try and help direct financial help to the right areas. This doesn't necessarily mean that everything will be financed but it does help to have some input from our members with regard to potential investment, and I can use this information to help formulate the budget for next year.

I am looking forward to hearing from you!!

*-Phil Becker*

**[www.dexter-cattle.co.nz](http://www.dexter-cattle.co.nz)**

**CHECK IT OUT!!**



## SHOWING & JUDGING REPORT

I want to remind members about the **Snowline Trophy** which was donated to the Dexter Society many years ago by the McDonald family who own Snowline Dexters in Stratford. This trophy will be presented at the society AGM in June this year.

This competition is run to help encourage breeders and owners to enter the Show Ring.

It is open to all members who have been showing for three years or less and the trophy will be presented to the member who accumulates the most points in this 2009/2010 show season.

Points are given as follows: Supreme champion - 15pts; Champion - 10pts; Reserve champion - 7pts; 1st place - 5pts; 2nd place - 4pts; 3rd place - 3pts; 4th place - 2pts.

This is not limited to any one animal from your stud or to any one show; rather it is to encourage YOU to show. So YOU accumulate the points. The more you enter, the more you can accumulate.

Please send your results to me before June and include, the classes entered, at which Show - name of A&P show; name of animal, prize awarded; supreme/champion, all breeds prizes.

We have had a bit of a discussion about the merits of graded animals being entered in shows, the pros and cons and the why and why not. Let me know what you think or write to the Editor and have your thoughts published in the Dispatch so the whole membership can be involved in the discussions.

*-Marion Corbett*



### **BOOK NOW!**

**CHEAP FLIGHTS TO DUNEDIN FOR THE  
2010 DEXTER CONFERENCE & AGM**

**12-13 JUNE 2010 at Mosgiel**

**Accommodation can be booked at  
MOSGIEL REGENCY MOTEL**

**Ph 03 489 4711 or email [Mosgiel.Regency@xtra.co.nz](mailto:Mosgiel.Regency@xtra.co.nz)**

**- SEE PAGE 6 FOR MORE DETAILS -**



## PROMOTIONS

Well, we've had a bit of a rush on this last few weeks, with folks wanting the new Dexter uniform and the core flute signs. I must apologise to those people who ordered the signs quite a while ago, but I have been waiting for more orders to help keep the cost down.



I am at present looking at sourcing some coffee cups and pens which will have the Dexter society logo on and will, I'm sure, become much sought after.



*An example of the Thermo Mugs now available with the Dexter logo on the side.*

## RESEARCH

"I have tried Dexters, with complete lack of success, but if you really know of a Dexter that gives anything like a decent amount of milk (my two gave less than a goat)", so wrote John Seymour in his book, *The New Complete book Of Self Sufficiency*. Not what you want to hear about a breed that is supposed to be dual purpose. In fact several Dexter owners have also commented on the amount of milk, or rather lack of it that they get from their pride and joys.

So just before Christmas when Milly, our two and half year old heifer lost her calf, the opportunity presented itself to see how much milk we could actually get. Milly is a grade 1, (one of the last to be registered) her mother is a Jersey, her father the enigmatic Gulliver and she stands approx 40in high and in my opinion, looks more like a Dexter than some of the so called "proper" Dexters we own (now there is a controversial comment but see photo at right).



*Milly*

To begin with we were getting 6 litres a day with Milly being milked twice a day. This soon dropped down to 4.5 litres and a month and a half later we are getting approx 4-4.5 litres a day, milking her once a day . . . not an amount to threaten Fonterra but more than enough for two people - so much so that the fridges are full with every available container!!

I imagine that the Jersey influence would mean that she would give a greater amount of milk, but then what of the pure bred Dexters, how much would they produce? Beryl Rutherford in her book: *My love affair with the Dexter* writes of cows giving between 11 -15 litres of milk a day which is a substantial amount and I am sure there are animals giving comparable amounts in New Zealand. Maybe I should set up some research? In fact if Dexter owners have milked their cows could they let me know of volumes of milk produced? I will set up a form for members to fill in.

So I suppose we can conclude from this rather unscientific study that whilst Dexters are not going to set the milking world alight, they can produce an adequate amount. If we were a crofter trying to eke out an existence on some windblown Irish mountainside, then 4 litres would probably be more than enough.

So what do we – the Ring Family - do with all our milk, I hear you ask? Well there are only so many quiches, rice and Yorkshire puddings you can eat, but we are also making yoghurt, ice cream, butter and cheese. Making cheese is not the black art you may think it is and you can use the utensils that exist around the kitchen and it only takes a couple of hours. To date we have produced Gouda, Derby, Caephilly and of course Wensleydale.



*Some 'Ring' Cheese*

I was in discussion with a scientist the other day and he was aghast that we would consider drinking raw milk; apparently the risks are quite high. Well, from my point a view, milk straight from the cow has a lot more going for it than the 99.9% fat and taste free stuff you get in the supermarkets!!

For those who are interested, cultures and rennet can be obtained from [http://www.curdsandwhey.co.nz/.](http://www.curdsandwhey.co.nz/), whilst a really useful book is *Cheese Making, Self Sufficiency* by Rita Ash. Until next time . . .

-Steve Ring

***A Photo Competition will again be held in conjunction with the AGM.*** Full details will be in the AGM Booklet. The categories will be: 1. Best Head Shot; 2. Best Group of Dexter Cattle; 3. Best Single Dexter; 4. Best Cow and Calf; 5. Dexter Photo with the Smartest/Funniest caption; 6. Series of four photos of the same animal. A full front view, a close up head shot, a full side view, a full rear view. Judged as if at an A & P Show. *So get clicking while the weather is good!!*

## DEXTER CATTLE RESEARCH - Project Update

Sue Barclay and Marion Read initiated a detailed survey amongst Dexter Breeders in 2009 to try and find an answer to: "Are Dexter Cattle an economical and sustainable alternative to the more traditional cattle breeds for small holdings?"

A big thank you to all of you who responded to our survey which has formed the major source of our information for stage one of our research project. We are very pleased with the number of responses and have learnt lots of interesting information. In fact, we now have lots more questions that we would like to follow up on!

All the responses to the survey questions have been collated and a thorough analysis is underway. Some interesting information has come through and if there is to be a clear or definitive answer to the original question as to the economic and environmental sustainability of Dexter Cattle, many of the questions that this survey has unearthed probably need to be investigated further.

It is clear that the initial attraction of Dexter cattle is their size and versatility. Other attractions are their appearance, suitability for small blocks, Irish descent, ability to be run organically, ease of calving and that they can be run on poor ground.

Results show that Dexters are likely to be promoted as beef producers, although those that responded felt that there is some benefit too as milk producers. (There are some reservations here as 14.8% would not recommend Dexters for their milk production).

Given that there is clearly a high interest in Dexter Cattle for their beef production, there is surprisingly little knowledge about their bone out rate. If these cattle are to be promoted as a viable alternative to the more traditional beef breeds, then the hard data needs to be collected, with killing sheets completed etc. However, for those that run other beef cattle, it appears that the feeling is that the bone out rate is better for the Dexters.

Dexters scored favourably for virtually all management issues and compared well when rated against other breeds. There is not a lot of knowledge (or opinion) regarding milking comparisons and clearly a dominating force behind farming Dexters as opposed to other breeds is the number that can be carried per hectare of land.

Where to from here? A full report and presentation of our findings will be presented at the annual conference held at Mosgiel near Dunedin on the 12th June. Before that though, we are planning on delving deeper into what this initial survey has unearthed and in particular, the questions raised about the milking ability of the Dexter Cattle. I also plan on visiting or contacting all of you who have indicated an opinion in relation to the milking ability of the Dexter cattle.

*If you have any facts, figures or interesting information you would be prepared to share, then please contact Sue (08002677659 ext 6750 or 07 5442394 or by email sue.barclay@boppoly.ac.nz).*



# NEW WEB SITE - NEW WEB SITE - NEW WEB SITE

Many of us have talked for a couple of years or more about setting up the Dexter Society's own website. After months of work the new website was launched in December 2009. Special thanks must go to Phil Becker and Colin Read who worked on this from the Society's side and Brad Harris who did all the technical work.

Have a look at, <http://www.dexter-cattle.co.nz>. - You will notice the changes!!

The goal is to present a professional website that offers a service to its members and is informative to those outside the Society seeking information about Dexter Cattle. It is a 'beta' version and will be further developed. We aim to provide tools that help breeders develop their herds. One example is the prediction of birth date based on conception and we are hoping to eventually develop a forum where members can discuss Dexter-related issues that concern them.

Phil Becker has the day to day responsibility of running the website and he has had a number of queries related to access to the Members' area. The membership user name and password has been sent out to all members. This is a case-sensitive password so it is important that it is typed in correctly (i.e. all in lower case rather than capitals). As this dispatch is a published article, we will not print the details here but if you have problems or questions please flick Phil an email to [phil.becker@farmside.co.nz](mailto:phil.becker@farmside.co.nz) and he can help you.



breed at its best, or are fun and interesting, please send them through to him. If you are sending one or two it is okay to email, but if you send a lot please put them on a disc and post them.

Finally, what you see on the website today is just the start. Council has other ideas they are working on but if you have any ideas and suggestions on improving the website please let Phil know and he will put them into the pot for consideration.

For a number of years the original Dexter Society website has been linked to the Rare Breeds website and special thanks and acknowledgement must go to Michael Trotter who set that up and has kept it going for a number of years. Thank you Michael.

-Keith Wratt

# DCSNZ INC COUNCIL

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Minutes of council meetings are available to all members on request.



***Deadline for May Dispatch is April 20, 2010***



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## DCSNZ CHARGES

### **Membership - due 1 July**

Full	\$40	Joint	\$55
Junior	\$20	Or without magazine -	\$10

A \$10 late fee is charged on all membership renewals after 1 October each year.

### **Registration - ALL Grades**

Under 12 months	\$10	12 to 24 months	\$20
Over 24 months	\$20	Require Council approval	

*The Application Form must be fully completed (Leg length and your Yellow Tag numbers are not compulsory, but the data is highly desirable for Herd Book research, and dual identification)*

### **Transfers**

Within 30 days of sale	\$15	Over 30 days after sale	\$30
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*All Transfers, whether to members or non-members, are to be paid for, and submitted by, the Seller who must be a financial member at the time of sale. The Transfer must also be signed by the Buyer.*

**Replacement Brass Tags** \$1 each

**Herd Books** Electronic -\$10; Printed Edition -Annual Full Issue \$15



# OBITUARY

## **Beryl Rutherford 1926 - 2009**

It is with great sadness that we farewell Beryl Rutherford, one of the world's greatest Dexter breeders of the last century.

Born in London in 1924 she spent her early years as a "city girl" but working in the Land Army during the Second World War changed her direction completely. Her life story was captured in the 2005 book, *My Love Affair With the Dexter* which she co-authored with Australian Dexter breeder, Ellyn Howes and I don't intend to repeat that story here. I wish to take a more personal approach, as I had the great privilege of getting to know Beryl when visiting the United Kingdom in 2003 and this is what I want to share.

John and I planned to visit as many Dexter breeders as possible in our 6 weeks in the UK and as we pored over various herd names from web sites, articles and books, the Woodmagic Herd from Devon came up time and time again. The fact that my first full-blood (Volvo Lodge Dun Wunda) was a Woodmagic girl, was of course the deciding factor. I really wanted to meet this, now elderly "doyenne" and see the Dexters that everyone had something to say about. So, via email, I introduced myself and requested a visit to talk with her and see her herd. She was truly charming in correspondence and I could hardly wait to meet her.

Following her instructions, we found ourselves driving down narrow windy roads deep in the heart of North Devon. We pulled into the yard beside a 600 year old farm house, and believe me, it looks 600 years old. Initially I wasn't sure the building was occupied. Had we come to the right place? My first challenge was finding the door which was almost completely hidden by an overhanging climbing rose. Initially a timid knock, I progressed to a hard bang on the door. This was met with instructions to come in.

Not particularly tall, I still had to "duck" to get through the door and then, peering through the darkness, set eyes on her tiny figure. Beryl was sitting in an old armchair beside the Aga, her reliable radio and computer within reach. Her first comment was that she was impressed that we had arrived at exactly the time I'd said. After a quick cup of tea, in a kitchen straight out of antiquity we were off to see the herd.

Beryl walked with the assistance of a large "Gandalf" style stick. Her severe arthritis meant that she was almost bent in half and her knarled hands lacked any sense of hot, cold or anything else (including the electric shock from fences). But in the presence of her cows . . . . . she glowed.

Beryl knew the names and full history of every one of her 50 or so animals. It was absolutely incredible . . . her ability to talk about the many aspects



of conformation of each cow, her progeny, her pedigree and her individual characteristics and personality.

I was introduced to cows with newborn calves in the barn and then the remainder of the herd as they came in (it was still spring and they spent only a short part of the day on pasture).

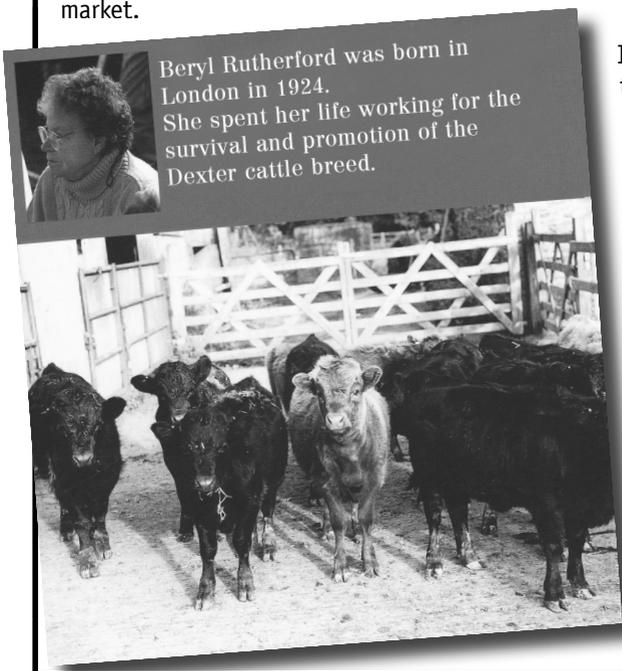
I was both horrified and full of admiration when Beryl, bent and frail, limped into a small yard occupied by Woodmagic Hedgehog 3rd and a cow on heat!

One of her more extraordinary abilities was that she could mentally call a cow from the herd, something I saw her do several times. She would decide to show me a particular cow, in one instance, Woodmagic Palm Chat, (Hedgehog's beautiful dam) and mentally call her away from eating silage with the other cows.

I was intrigued with the barn, which had been designed by her and was so cleverly functional and the retired rotary milking shed - a beautiful round stone building with a 20 stand platform that was apparently state of the art in its time.

During our stay with her (the camper van parked in the yard), she shared many stories and ideas. Of particular importance was her understanding of genetics and the strategies used to establish her uniformly small, not short animals.

The relationship established with her over those few days lead to ongoing emails, letters and gifts over the years. Most importantly, Beryl arranged to have Hedgehog 3rd collected for the New Zealand, Australian and United States market.



I learned so much over the time spent with her that it would be impossible to reiterate it all here. Suffice it to say that my experience of being at Bunkland Farm was an unforgettable one for which I will remain forever grateful.

Go peacefully Beryl.

*-Heather Cunningham  
Crofter Mains Dexters,  
Raglan,  
New Zealand*

# OBITUARY

## Marion Ruthven

### *A time to say Goodbye.....*

Marion Ruthven, a fellow dexter member and friend, died suddenly between Christmas and New Year. To say it was a shock would be an understatement as Marion was only 56 years old and still working fulltime at The Press in Christchurch.

Those of us who knew Marion will remember her as a straight talker who got on with things and who was devoted to her animals. I personally have had many laughs at her property - when the cows did not want to come in and have replacement tags in or TB tested they acquired whole new pedigrees! Usually her animals had to be pushed out of the way to get anything done around them and they knew Rainbeau Lodge, the name of Marion's property, was the best place to live!! I tried for years to persuade Marion to feed out only once a day. The feed was of high quality and Marion had a long work day and then had to travel back to Oxford. Through winter it was always dark when she got home. Only this last winter did she finally decide to quieten my nagging and feed the hay and baleage once a day!

Her cattle, horses and dog were always in beautiful condition. They have always been so well cared for.



Marion trained and drove harness horses some years back and when she gave up she kept her last horses as pets to live out their days in peace and security. They were double rugged in winter (big animals and big heavy covers) and fed well. She made time for the Oxford A & P Society committee and was always working in the horse rings on show day, having taken the previous day off work to set up the rings etc.

A four week stint visiting her brother and family in Perth in October/November was the highlight of 2009 for Marion and they must surely treasure that time now.

Her very moving funeral was attended by a large number of people. A contingent from The Press was evident and visibly affected by Marion's sudden passing. She apparently was a highly organized person in her job and kept everything ticking over. I do not have any trouble believing that!

Placing her animals has been a difficult time for me and for every decision made, I felt Marion's presence and encouragement. She lived alone with her animals and was contented and happy with that.

Many other parts of her life could be mentioned such as her involvement with ZONTA, her beautiful singing voice and ability to act, but this could all fill this edition of Dispatch! Let me just say Marion was a no-nonsense woman who will be missed by many and the world a little poorer for having lost a gem so unexpectedly.

*-Marion Mangnall, Oxford*

## **BAY OF PLENTY DEXTER BANNER**

We used the Dexter Banner at the Tauranga Show 2009 where it was displayed by the Dexter show ring. At the end of the show as we packed up, nobody noticed if the banner was still in place. It has gone missing.

I hoped all year that it had inadvertently been packed with the tents and stored. Even as we unpacked them for use with this show...I kept hoping it was going to be revealed!...It wasn't!!

If anyone can enlighten us as to what might have happened to our Banner, can you please let myself or Marion Read know as we would dearly love to "see" it again.

Thanks!

*-Margaret Perry*



## ORGANIC OFFERINGS

It is seven years ago that our first three Grade 1 Dexters arrived. We had been in the country for six months and were very excited at the prospect of owning our own piece of "dirt" and some cattle. How idyllic!!

Then, we noticed the rural papers were suddenly full of photographs of sheep and cattle with a complaint that makes leprosy look like a mild case of acne.

I am of course talking about facial eczema, which is caused by animals ingesting toxic spores from the saprophytic fungus (*Pithomyces Chartarum*) and as we are living in a high risk area, I set off at great speed in search of some zinc. Zinc is the main method of prevention, which works by neutralising the facial eczema toxins. Zinc however, also suppresses copper which can result in the animals becoming susceptible to parasites. Cattle don't find water containing Zinc very palatable and give you a look as if to say "we would rather die of thirst than drink this!!!" There are flavourings that can be added to hide the taste at a cost.

I do know of some Dexters that have suffered after contracting Facial Eczema, they didn't die but aborted a calf and were ill for quite some time.

Properties that farm organically, theoretically have less of a problem with Facial Eczema, due to the greater amount of life in the soil, which will speed up the decomposition of the dead litter layer that harbours the Facial Eczema spores.

Lime is also a great help in reducing spore numbers and studies show that 2.5 tonne/hectare is effective in reducing Facial Eczema spores and has been shown to maintain levels below the danger level for three years. These studies show that spore numbers are reduced by 80% over three years. Lime appears to deform the spores and possibly kills them. Lime also improves the worm population which again will reduce the litter layer.

There is a homeopathic prevention for Facial Eczema called FE Nosode. A capful should be added to the drinking water for four days at the beginning of the Facial Eczema season and then once a week until the danger has past.

*References:* A preliminary study of the effects of lime application on levels of facial eczema spores in pasture: P.J Grierson. For a weekly report of spore levels in your area see [www.RD1.co.nz](http://www.RD1.co.nz)

Until next time....

-Steve Ring

### ADVERTISING RATES ---- ADVERTISING RATES

Members may insert free advertisements of approximately 25 words each free of charge.

Members' rates are.....B&W only ¼, Page \$25 ½ Page - B&W \$40

Full Page - B&W \$70 - Double Page - B&W \$120

Non-members' advertising rates by negotiation.

### NEW ---- NEW ---- NEW

Business card type adverts: \$10.00 for one insertion, \$30.00 for four

### SPECIAL ---- SPECIAL --- SPECIAL---- SPECIAL --- SPECIAL

If you buy THREE advertisements of the same size, you are given a fourth advertisement of the same size FREE! Contact the Editor to find out more.



# **PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE . . .**

## **for Lifestyle Block Owners**

Having just purchased a four hectare lifestyle block between West Melton and Rolleston, west of Christchurch, a decision on Public Liability Insurance had to be considered. Public Liability Insurance covers unexpected events that you as a property owner are found responsible for causing, by some form of negligence. By way of example it could be anything from your animals escaping onto the road and causing an accident through to fallen trees damaging your neighbour's property, spray causing damage to nearby crops or an out of control fire as discussed below.

In discussion with my long-term insurance broker and our lawyer, it was concluded that for us, this was essential. Having said that, everyone's circumstances are different, so my first bit of advice is to get advice!!

Probably the most critical component is fire cover. For example – we all like to clean up old trees, branches and garden rubbish etc from time to time so we have a good old-fashioned bonfire, which is perfectly legal (except when restriction are on). Then the following scenario occurs.

Twenty-four hours later you are satisfied that the fire is well and truly out. Two weeks later there is a Norwesterly gale that blows most of the ash away. This exposes a big old log underneath that is actually still smouldering. Old log reignites – you are in town at work. Sparks fly - fire out of control and downwind damage to someone else's property is considerable. Total cost to control the fire is \$450,000. (Helicopters, fire department staff and vehicles etc. plus property damage.)

Who is responsible for this cost? Probably or possibly you, because you lit the fire originally!!! Scary isn't it!!

Those seeking to recover costs will consider who is worth pursuing – in our case we probably are, as we have obvious assets worth over \$450,000.

There are other Acts under which property owners can get into trouble, such as – Bio Security Act, Firearms Act and the Resource Management Act.

In our case the annual premium is about \$280 and that has fire cover of \$5million. We could have had a lower level of cover with a \$200 premium but the "fire cover" dropped way down to \$250,000 - given my track record with fire that may not have been very wise!! These premiums are a whole lot lower than a commercial farmer can get away with – so it is not all bad.

My second bit of advice is the same as the first – get advice. Also hunt around – you may get a better deal than we did.

*-Hamish Ensor*

*(Hamish wrote this discussion paper for the last Mainland Group Meeting. For those who may not know Hamish, up until recently he farmed "Glemaan", a 4000 hectare station overlooking the Rakaia River in the South Island high country. This is still farmed by son Paul. Hamish and his wife Belinda, have retired to a small holding in West Melton near Christchurch. Some years ago, Hamish was injured when a burn off at Glemaan got out of control and trapped him.)*



## JORJA'S STORY

Our front cover picture is of Jorja and her calf Lady Brianna being awarded another ribbon at St Josephs School Calf Day.

Six year old Jorja Rosser has always loved animals and never been scared of them. She was riding Grandma's kune kune piglets before she could even walk and the faster they ran, the more she would laugh!! She has a pony that she loves and so naturally when the school said they were holding a calf day, Jorja was in!!

Jorja became involved with Dexters because her Grandparents are Raewyn and Brian Rosser who live in Stratford and who have bred Dexters and been members of the society for many years. It wasn't long before Jorja had a pet Dexter!!

As a five year old, she took her first calf to the school calf day in 2008. She came home with a second in leading and a third for grooming. As a six year old in 2009, she was an old hand at this showing business and had another calf, Lady Brianna (from Grandma and Grandpas). She went to the 2009 School Calf Day and won first for leading, second for grooming and won the overall junior champion cup. The judge said he was very impressed with the relationship between Jorja and her calf – they were at ease with each other, trusted each other and it was obvious they had spent a lot of time together.

Jorja's Grandparents would pick her up after school even in the rain and she would groom and tend to Brianna's needs. She loves to groom her calf as much as leading her around, talking about whatever was on her mind!! She is a very determined little girl and one day when it was very cold and windy, Grandma suggested that they forgo the grooming and just do leading that day – Jorja was adamant the grooming had to be done so poor Grandma had to shiver and shake in the cold until Jorja was sure the job was done properly with no short cuts.

Jorja then convinced her four year old brother to take a calf to the 2009 Stratford A & P Show. Raewyn and Brian would pick up both children and away they went working hard on their calves for many weeks. At the show Jorja got a first and Dakota was more than happy with his third place ribbon.

Jorja is all set for the 2010 show season but Dakota said it took too long and he might get a lamb or ride his motorbike!!

The Dexters always make a stir at St Josephs School in Stratford because a lot of people don't know what they are. Jorja also causes a stir because she is so little and the calf is a great size for her. Parents with lifestyle blocks are always asking questions about Dexters and keen to find out more about them.

After many years of showing Raewyn and Brian announced at the Stratford A & P Show in November that they were retiring from showing which may be the case but they have a Granddaughter who has been well schooled in showing, who will be around for many years to come and I am sure will be well supported and encouraged by some very proud Grandparents!!

*-Carol Rosser*



## MAINLAND GROUP NEWS

On the 5th December twelve keen Dexter enthusiasts met at the home of Hamish and Vicki Ferguson and their two little boys, in mid Canterbury. I say keen - because it was a cold and damp day and that did put a lot of people off joining us.



Hamish is an agricultural contractor and they have a lovely peaceful property some distance from Dunsandel or Rakaia. Vicki loves her small herd of Dexters and is looking forward to the day when the boys are a bit older and she can spend more time among her cattle. She is in the process of grading up the herd which presently consists of mixed grades and ages. Jimari's McGosh has just been visiting the cows so calves are expected in the winter of 2010.

We had lunch and then a meeting where we discussed Public Liability insurance and the milking of Dexters. Louise did another session on quick halter making for those who had missed out last time and requested a repeat.

A special thanks to Vicki and Hamish for opening your home to us and allowing us this pleasant social and informative time.

On the 27th March the Mainland Group is having a Field Day in Upper Moutere at the home of Rob and Elaine Partridge. There has been good positive response from our Top of the South members and I hope that one or two more Canterbury people will make a weekend of it too. Beds have been offered - so get in contact with me if you would like to take up one of those offers. This will be a fun weekend and a good opportunity to meet some of those people we don't get to see otherwise.

There has been a lot of activity buying and selling through the Mainland email system and this is offered to all members with registered stock who wish to use it. Any breed of any livestock will survive only if we have a use for them and a ready market. There comes a time when we run out of buyers if we are only just breeding and selling calves to people who are starting up in dexter cattle. Promotion of milking and/or beef will ensure new members are retained if they have a market for their stock.

A reminder to those of you living in the Nelson, Marlborough, West Coast or Canterbury regions - If you are not presently receiving email contact from me and you do have email- please contact me so as I can put you on the mailing list. My contact is printed in this Dispatch on page17.

The field day organized for 13th February in Ashburton has had to be cancelled. Sara has been put on bed rest for the remainder of her pregnancy so is unable to host us. Our best wishes go to Sara and her family for a safe and uneventful delivery of a healthy baby.

If there is anyone in the Ashburton (or surrounding areas) who would like to have some fellow Dexter enthusiasts visit - please let me know and we could plan a date to visit you . . . or if there are two people not too far apart, we could visit two places. No pressure - it is informal and no big deal really. Enjoy the rest? of the summer.

*-Marion Mangnall*



## DEXTER DISPLAY STAND, TE PUKE SHOW

At the Te Puke show on Saturday 13th February we had a Dexter Promotional Stand, as we have done for the last few years. There was a lot of interest in the Dexter Breed and we made some good contacts. Thanks to Mary and David Howard for helping out during the day.

One of the chance contacts we made that day was with a guy named Mike Donnelly who lives in Te Puke. He had no personal interest in Dexters, except that his family had this photo that he has so kindly allowed us to publish in this Dispatch.

This photo is of Mike's Grandfather, whose name was Francis (Frank) Mutlow, leading this Dexter Bull at a show. To the best of their family's recollections, the photo was taken about 1936-1937 possibly at Basingstoke which is near Hampshire or maybe Wiltshire in England. Frank did own this Dexter bull, rather he most probably was working for someone else who owned Dexters and Frank was showing it as part of his work.



Frank did own this Dexter bull, rather he most probably was working for someone else who owned Dexters and Frank was showing it as part of his work.

*-Heather and Keith Wratt*

## SOUTHERN GROUP

It seems to have been a busy summer and we are having a real one, not just one day a week, but quite a stretch of hot weather. So much more acceptable when we have water just below the surface and while grass growth has slowed this month it is okay.

No-one can do anything without water and we do sympathize with those watching for rain clouds to come especially those of you in Northland. We went through that two years ago and just as our northern cousins can't handle our winters; we are not geared up to handle prolonged hot dry periods.

Our group as a whole hasn't met yet this year, but I have been learning of and meeting new folk. I know there has been a bit of buying and selling going on and its great to know our cattle have very real markets out there.

Our thanks must go to those who go to the trouble of showing at the A & P shows throughout the area. They are the ones who are really promoting our breed, thus making markets for us all.



Our March Field day is being hosted by Ian Booth at his property on SH1 at East Taieri, on Sunday March 7th. I will report on this and the Wanaka show in the May Dispatch.

At the Waimumu Fielddays, Colin and I had a talk to the man at the Zee tagger display. I told him that Genemark sold Zee taggers for our tissue sample kits. He gave us a tool on the proviso that we buy our next set of tags from Zeetags - no worries. I had just ordered one of these for the group to share, for the tissue sample, so we'll split the difference. The tool costs \$49 new, so a freebie is great. Right place at the right time eh.

There are plans afoot to have a display at the Waimumu Fielddays in two years time. This is a big and tiring commitment, but it will be very worthwhile. The Pinzgauer and Galloways were there and took quite a few orders for animals - so we can too. Watch this space!  
-Marion Corbett

## **DEXTER DISPLAY STAND, TOKOROA A&P SHOW**

On 5th December, Stan and I got up at 5.30am to hear the rain still (from the day before) pounding on the roof. A quick check at the on-line weather forecast told me it was going to clear! Ever the optimist, I assured Stan (who stated we must have 'lost our marbles' to be even considering driving to Tokoroa to set up a stand in such weather) that sometimes the weather forecasters ARE right!

He summed it up well by asking: 'If I told you I was going fishing in this weather, you'd tell me I was mad, wouldn't you?' I had to agree I would!!

Stan's brother phoned twice from Tokoroa before 7am to tell us it was pouring with rain there. I phoned the A & P Show organiser who said they'd had a bit of rain but assured me it would stop and it would 'be sunny by 10'. He said we might want to bring an umbrella though! Obviously also an optimist, I thought - but I didn't tell Stan that!



Since we'd committed ourselves to providing Dexters for the stand and were already well awake, we packed up, loaded Cherry Oak Carmel and her calf Cherry Oak Gretchen into the float and set off at 7am for the hours drive to Tokoroa. It rained the whole way; Stan said that if it was still raining when we got there, he was going to turn around & drive home!

When we arrived at the showgrounds, it was just drizzling. By the time we found our spot to set up, we didn't even need an umbrella. And, amazingly.....it *was* 'sunny by 10'!!!! We'd made sure we'd put our thermals on and had our warm hats, which were much needed, as there was a chilly wind early on.

Our display was between two pens of Highland cattle which brought some amusement - the Irish amongst the Scots!

The morning was a bit quiet (couldn't blame the locals for waiting until the sun warmed the day up). The TOPP TWINS stopped for a chat and obliged by posing for a photo with Carmel and Gretchen. They performed on stage in the afternoon. The afternoon saw a steady stream of people coming by after the Christmas parade in town. There was a lot of interest in the Dexters. Some people had never seen them before and several thought that Dexters are always black.

By 3pm, we were steaming hot and had taken off all our 'woollies' from the morning.

Thanks to Margaret & Hilton Perry who came down from Tauranga to support us. Despite the dismal start, it turned out to be a great day; helped in part by the beautiful weather (the weather forecasters ARE sometimes right!!!) *-Betsy Smith*

## TAURANGA SHOW REPORT

The days preceding the Tauranga show held on 23rd January were fine, but oh so windy. We had a working bee for three days to prepare the grounds as the cattle and horse numbers swelled to over 200 horse and 75 cattle entries. The three of us responsible for the cattle (all breeds), erected tents for shelters which blew down as fast as we tried to secure them.



Hilton and I camped on the grounds on Friday night with only one tent secure. Imagine my thoughts on Saturday morning when at 6 a.m., the first load of dairy cattle arrived and took up the whole section. The exhibitors had milked their herd at 2 a.m. and travelled over the Kaimai to come to our show. Now that is commitment!

The lads from the sports club running a spit roast directly behind our show area came to the party and before we knew it, three other tents were in place before the rest of the exhibitors arrived. The wind had dropped and the day was fine. I was so thankful. At 6 a.m. I had thought "I don't think I can do this!" I sent up a quick prayer which always helps. Late entries always make it challenging and we had a few of these. Thankfully all the dexter competitors had their entries in early.

It was great to see Shirley Spick and Megan Becker win and place second in the beef steer section with their Dexter entries as well as in the Dexter classes. Well done to both of you. You repeated this at Rotorua Show the following week.

The Tauranga judge was Graham McKenzie, a well know beef and dairy judge from Ngakuru, near Rotorua, while Carl Botha with the help of daughter Danielle as steward, judged the dairy section of the show.

Thanks so much to the local BOP Dexter members who arrived to help with the preparations and steward at the show. We couldn't have done this without you. Thanks also to the exhibitors who came from the Waikato, as well as the Bay, to present their cattle before the judge and give exposure of Dexter cattle to the public who seemed to appreciate and enjoy looking at our beautiful animals.

The Tauranga Show for 2011 is scheduled for possibly a two day show. Dates yet to be confirmed are 22nd & 23rd January. We will be aiming at the 22nd which is a Saturday for the Dexters. Happy showing.  
-Margaret Perry

Cow 3 years and over	1st	Cherry Oak Carmel	S & B Smith
Heifer 2 years	1st	Bellebrae Geneva	Becker Family
	2nd	Turoa Holly	H & K Wratt
Yearling Heifer	1st	Turoa Ivy	H & K Wratt
	2nd	Cherry Oak Fifi	S & B Smith
	3rd	Spring Hill Donner	Shirley Spick
	4th	Bellebrae Holly	Meagan Becker
Heifer Calf	1st	Cherry Oak Gretchen	S & B Smith
	2nd	Turoa Jess	H & K Wratt
	3rd	Caron Heights Duana	Ashlee Burdon

**Champion Female**

**Reserve Champion Female** Cherry Oak Carmel

**Champion Grade Female** Bellebrae Holly

**Reserve Champion Female** Bellebrae Geneva

Yearling Bull 1st Cherry Oak Fergus S & B Smith

2nd Turoa Igor H & K Wratt

Bull Calf 1st Cherry Oak Granville S & B Smith

**Champion Male** Cherry Oak Granville

**Reserve Champion Male** Cherry Oak Fergus

**Supreme Champion Dexter** **Cherry Oak Carmel**

Steer any age 1st Cherry Oak Griff Shirley Spick

2nd Mykai Imran Megan Becker

Best Presented Dexter 1st Spring Hill Donner Shirley Spick

2nd Bellebrae Holly Megan Becker

3rd Bellebrae Geneva Lucy Becker

Youth Handler 1st Megan Becker

2nd Holly Berkers

3rd = Ashlee Burdon & Lucy Becker

Senior Handler 1st Shirley Spick

2nd Kate Becker

**MAINLAND GROUP FIELD DAY - 27 March 2010**

**Elaine & Rob Partridge**

**408 Central Road South, Upper Moutere (west of Nelson).**

***Elaine will display her cheese-making skills. Owen and Shirley Drummond invite members to see their Dexters on Sunday.***



## FRANKLIN SHOW REPORT

It was great to see Jo Brightwell at Pukekohe again this year with Sally, her yearling heifer. Well done to hubby and daughter for coming along to support them. Also well done to Anne Burdon and her 2 daughters for making the trip up from Otorohanga with their 2 heifer calves-Candra and Duana.

Pukekohe's a great venue for the Franklin Show. Where are all you upper North Island Dexter breeders? Come on . . . we need you at Pukekohe . . . hope to see you there next year.

There must be a lot of breeders around the Auckland area . . . come and join us, have some fun and show off your Dexters.

*-Betsy Smith*

Heifer calf	1st	Cherry Oak Gretchen	S & B Smith
	2nd	Cherry Oak Georgie	S & B Smith
	3rd	Cardon Heights Candra	Anne Burdon
Yearling Heifer	1st	Cherry Oak Fifi	S & B Smith
	2nd	Pukeko Ranch Sally	Jo Brightwell
<b>Champion Junior Female</b>		Cherry Oak Gretchen	
<b>Reserve Champion Female</b>		Cherry Oak Fifi	
Cow with Natural Progeny at Foot – 3yrs & over		Cherry Oak Carmel	S & B Smith
<b>Champion Senior Female</b>		Cherry Oak Carmel	
<b>Grand Champion Female</b>		Cherry Oak Gretchen	
Bull calf	1st	Cherry Oak Granville	S & B Smith
Yearling bull	1st	Cherry Oak Fergus	S & B Smith
<b>Champion Junior Male</b>		Cherry Oak Fergus	
<b>Reserve Champ Junior Male</b>		Cherry Oak Granville	
<b>Grand Champion Male</b>		Cherry Oak Fergus	
<b>Supreme Champion Dexter</b>		<b>Cherry Oak Fergus</b>	

## TE KAUWHATA SHOW REPORT

This show was on Saturday 12th December. There was occasional drizzle which meant it wasn't too hot and thankfully the rain held off.

It was a good day at a very pleasant venue – it was a shame we were the only Dexter breeders there. How can we encourage other local people to bring a Dexter or two along to show?

*-Betsy Smith*

Bull Calf	1st	Cherry Oak Granville	S & B Smith
Yearling Bull	1st	Cherry Oak Fergus	S & B Smith
Heifer Calf:	1st	Cherry Oak Gretchen	S & B Smith
	2nd	Cherry Oak Gracie	S & B Smith
<b>Junior Champion</b>		Cherry Oak Fergus	
<b>Reserve Junior Champion</b>		Cherry Oak Gretchen	

*-cont'd next page*



Cow 3 yrs & over in milk or  
with calf at foot

1st

Cherry Oak Carmel  
Cherry Oak Carmel  
Cherry Oak Carmel

S & B Smith

**Senior Champion**

**Supreme Champion**

## LEVIN SHOW REPORT

We had a good at the Levin A & P Show on Saturday 23rd January. The day started off quite wet and we all needed our water wings but by the time we started showing, the weather was not too bad. We just had the odd shower during the day; it would come out really hot and then go cool again and a bit more rain to end the day. Oh the joys of showing!!

Our mature bull, Belview Wee Man was again Champion Bull in both the Pure Bred Registered Beef Breeds and in the Lifestyle Show. He was Reserve Supreme Champion in both – see a photo of wee Man on the back cover. Our mature cow Poerewa Colleen was Reserve Champion Cow in the Female All Breeds.

-Liz Jones

### RED BULL FOR SALE

Born 1.10.09.

Sire Bentford John Freer (red), Dam  
Bentford Dolly (dun).

We will have him DNA'd and Chondo tested and will refund sale price if he proves to be a carrier but not very probable that he is as he has non-carrier parents.

**\$800 + GST**



### COWS FOR SALE

*We have a few cows for sale as follows:*

- Bentford Donna, Sired by Moomin Posh (Dexter Cattle Society UK Elite Bull M4213) DOB 2004 black. Carries the Chondrodysplasia gene. Horned (dehorned)
- Bentford Deilla, Sired by Moomin Posh. (Dexter Cattle Society UK Elite Bull M4213) DOB 2004. Black Non-carrier. Horned (dehorned)
- Bentford Doris Day. Sired by Kisimul McNeil (1375) dam Bentford Betty Grable, our best cow. Dehorned. Black, DOB 2006
- Bentford Emerald. Sired by Meadowpark Joseph. (354) DOB 2005 Black. Non carrier. Polled
- Bentford Franziska, Sired by Bentford Duhlin, (2915) DOB 2006 Black. Non carrier, Polled
- Bentford Haley, Sired by Bentford Errol Flynn (3291) Black, polled. DOB 2008 Non carrier
- Bentford Ida. (not registered yet) Sired by Bentford John Freer (red), horned, black and possibly a carrier DOB 10.9.09

*Photos available on request.*

All cows RWB Gilnockie Charlie Brown (3309) and priced at \$1,000. The weaner (Ida) is \$600

**Peter & Maggie Bentley**

Bentford Farm, 1815 Maniatutu Road, RD6., Te Puke. Ph 07 3624998 bentford@farmside.co.nz



# FOR SALE, WANTED, TO LEASE

## TO LEASE

Dundee Stud near Te Awamutu has Summer Wine Thady #3940 who is a Dun bull available for lease. Fees are \$80.00+GST per mating at leasee's property or \$80.00+GST per mating at our property plus \$10.00 a week grazing per head. All cartage to be at the owner's expense. Contact Dean Ph 07 871 1745. email: ann.bull@xtra.co.nz

## FOR SALE

Digby Hollow Stud have for sale Digby Hollow Kate a Dun Cow born 3/8/07. Good Pedigree. Halter trained quiet and leads well. She has been running with Kau-iti The Fonz 5139 (Dun) and should be in-calf. \$1000. Contact Lance and Karen Managh, email: digbyhollow@ihug.co.nz Ph 07 849 5591




**STALYBROOK**  
**D E X T E R S**

*Our aim is to breed quality, soundness & type*

Maureen & Wayne Pettersson  
Email: maureenandwaynep@xtra.co.nz

137 Colletts Road  
Mangaroa Valley  
Upper Hutt 5371  
Tel: 04 526 3785



**STALYBROOK**  
**S I L K I E S**

*Quality Silkie Chickens*

Maureen Pettersson  
Email: maureenandwaynep@xtra.co.nz

137 Colletts Road  
Mangaroa Valley  
Upper Hutt 5371  
Tel: 04 526 3785

## HOUSE/LAND SITTER - SOUTH ISLAND

*Do you have trouble getting away? We know what it's like!*

Let us look after things while you take a break.

Refs available from Dexter members.

Currently in the Nelson District.

**Rob & Jane Ph/Tx 0210536367**

**Email: robjaneandrew.lawson@xtra.co.nz**




**Bellebrae Dexters & Avocados**  
Hilton & Margaret Perry  
53 Rowe Road, Ohauti, RD3  
Tauranga 3173  
Ph 07 544 8992, Mob 027 274 2898  
email: hmperry@col.co.nz

## TUROA DEXTERS

*For sound mating advice, bookings and sales, contact:*

**Heather & Keith Wratt**

1000 No 2 Road, RD2, Te Puke 3182

Tel: 07 573 8558

email: keith.wratt@paradise.net.nz

