



Cattle Society of New Zealand (Inc)

the South Devon

JUNE 2016

NEWSLETTER 60

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President's Message

This year's AGM Tour was held during Tru Test Beef Expo 2016 and what an Expo it was for the breed with Burtergill Horace 1413 winning Champion of Champions, the first time for a South Devon in the 27 year history of the event. Loch Lomond Syd Tessannette placed 6th in the Allflex Champion Heifer performance class and a Burtergill bred steer placed first on the hook and second overall in Future Beef's Light Weight Purebred Steer Competition.

The genetic sales were a success with the four South Devon heifers entered in the Allflex Champion Heifer Class selling exceedingly well. Four of the five bulls offered sold with an average price of just over \$5,000, two of them going to stud.

Congratulations to all members who exhibited stock. I appreciate their commitment and dedication in showcasing the breed. I must make special mention of John Holt who at 82 years of age halter trained a R2 bull for the event. There is no more graphic illustration of commitment and dedication, and with no disrespect to John, no better testament to the docility of the breed!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsors of Beef Expo - NZ Agri, Pivot Design, Silver Fern Farms and Merial Ancare. Their generous donations of product were greatly appreciated by our members. I would also like to thank our judge, John Hayward from Judge Dairys in Te Awamutu. You may ask why a dairy farmer as a judge? John is no stranger to the beef industry being brought up on a stud farm and working for many years as a professional fitter in the industry in Australia.

The AGM was held at the PBBNZ Office and was well attended; I was informed by two Past Presidents that the meeting was conducted in record time. Fraser Wilson retired from the Board after six years of invaluable work. He has been replaced by Bridget Lowry, one of our newest breeders, whom I would like to welcome to the Society. Bridget brings experience from other Breed Societies and a passion for promotion.

The Breed Dinner and Awards Ceremony were held in Feilding at Amayjen Restaurant. John Holt was awarded a Life Membership to the South Devon Cattle Society but unfortunately unaware of the award he had retired early so was presented his

certificate the following day. John's Life Membership recognises forty three years of breeding and promoting South Devons in New Zealand. Fraser Wilson was awarded the President's Trophy for his conscientious work during his time on the Board of Management.

As I write this President's Message we are well through another bull sale season. All the South Devon on farm sales have being completed and most other breeds are in a similar position.

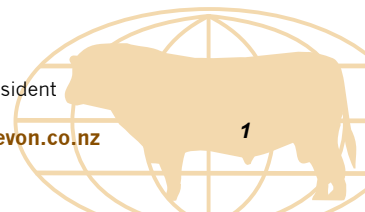
A casual glance at the daily, sometimes twice daily, sale results from around the country emailed or text through by the various agents, suggest there has been a significant swing away from Angus sires. My observation was endorsed while speaking to a very experienced and well travelled stock and station agent recently. His sentiments were the tide is turning, marketing had done a great job for the Angus breed but the animals had failed to keep pace with the hype.

The commercial beef farmer was now looking for an alternative. They want to put extra weight and growth in their weaner calf of finished carcass in the shortest time frame possible and they are finally being paid well for achieving it. This presents the South Devon Breed with an incredible opportunity! We know, as breeders, we have a great product. It is now up to each individual breeder to promote it! The Expo successes are a great start, it has got the Breed national media attention. Bridget is absolutely passionate about promotion and is just waiting for material to load onto the Breed Society's Website or Face Book page. These mediums are free to you and global but in order for them to be effective it needs to current and frequent. We nearly all carry phones nowadays so let's get her some photos, send her some kill sheets, talk up your, or your clients, successes at weaner fairs. Be proactive, promote yourself and the breed!

"In order to succeed we must first believe that we can". -Nikos Kazantzakis

I wish all members the best with calving and look forward to receiving any feedback, ideas or suggestions.

Kind regards,
Richard van Asch - President



TRU-TEST BEEF EXPO 2016



Monday 16th May (Show Day)

This year saw four different breeders exhibit five South Devon Bulls and three breeders with Heifers. The Judge for the bulls was John Hayward. The impressive parade of bulls was overseen by many observers, final placings were:

CHAMPION

Burtergill Horace 1413 R A & D A Van Asch

RESERVE CHAMPION

Burtergill Hogwart 1409 R A & D A Van Asch

THIRD

Woodah Royal Flush 14/009..... L J Holt Ltd

Late afternoon the Heifers were judged by Sam Hain, the first class was the Visual which did not see any South Devon's placed. In the B+LNZ Genetics Performance class, Loch Lomond Syd Tessanette was placed 6th in a class of 17 (9 Simmental, 1 Angus, 2 Shorthorn, 1 Murray Grey, 1 Charolais and 3 South Devon).

Unfortunately, one South Devon heifer was withdrawn from the show and sale, but was later sold privately.

Tuesday 17th May (Sale Day)

Prior to the sales the Champion of Champion event was judged, this entitles champions of each breed to be judged again by all 7 Breed Judges. One judged Burtergill Horace as 3rd, two had him placed 2nd with the remaining Judges all placing him in 1st Place. A very well deserved win for the van Asch Family.

The following sales resulted as follows.

HEIFERS

Burtergill Javelins Doris..... \$2,200 Sold to Ollie Nicholas
Woodah R Pansy \$2,700 Sold to B J Thomson
Loch Lomond Syd Tessanette \$3200 Sold to Ollie Nicholas
(4th Highest price paid)

BULLS

Burtergill Horace..... \$6,000 Sold to P & C Foss
Burtergill Hogwart \$5,000 Sold to K McConnell
Loch Lomond Syd Jnr..... \$4500 Sold to
Harvey Partnership, Taranaki
Woodah Royal Flush Unsold
Kaimoa Inquest..... Private Sale

Sales seemed very slow this year and this was experienced across the board by all breeds. Many were very shocked at the heifer prices, not only in the R1 group but also within the in-calf heifers on offer (no South Devon).

In general, I believe all involved in the very full on FBNZ weekend and Beef Expo returned home smiling, whether due to sales or a weekend spent with other like-minded breeders. Thank you to all for attending Expo, exhibitors, visitors and purchasers.



Richard & Denise van Asch receiving the Champion of Champions Award with Burtergill Horace 1413.





With the 2016 Future Beef Hoof & Hook competition looming and two young handlers, plus myself to find steers for, it was going to take some serious hard work and dedication to locate and break in some animals. Living in the Manawatu, we were lucky enough to have a favourable Autumn and Ben Burgess and I were struggling to find suitable steers for the competition. An SOS phone call to Richard van Asch proved worthwhile and he was able to track down three steers for us; two pure bred South Devons and one South Devon/Angus cross.

Fortunately, Brian and Kathy Dobson (Blenheim), the owners of the steers, had them in fantastic condition and after a three day crash course in humans and being led, less than one month prior to competition we were happy that they would be suitable. The steers travelled up to the Manawatu for the final breaking in process, two weeks out from Future Beef. We finished breaking them in and were impressed with the way they handled the transition, new property and unfamiliar yards, largely down to the calm nature of the breed. The final week proved a challenge with a lot of the training being done in the dark, including a wash, blow dry and clip the night before heading in.

After arrival at Manfeild Park in Feilding, the steers were weighed coming in at 512kg (Pure South Devon), 526kg (Pure South Devon) and 522kg (SD/Angus cross). They settled well and the two young handlers were thrilled to have such good natured animals to work with. One of the steers in the Pure Bred Light Weight section came second in his Hoof Class before going on and winning the Light Weight Class on the hook and coming second overall in the Light Weight Pure Bred section. It was also noted that he had the highest marbling score from all 72 steers in the competition.

Other notable results included myself winning the Senior Handler Class and Grand Champion Handler with the South Devon/Angus cross steer and Michaela McCracken, Georgia Whitworth and myself also had several placings in the judging and modules section of Future Beef. Overall, this year's competition was successful, with sourcing of South Devon steers for the 2017 Future Beef in the pipelines.



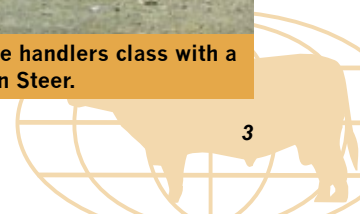
Georgia Davies after winning the Senior Handler class with a South Devon Angus cross steer.



Michaela McCracken (Northland) in the handlers class with a Pure Bred South Devon Steer.



Georgia Whitworth (Northland) prior to the steer class with the prize winning Pure Bred South Devon Steer.



SHOW RESULTS: TOKOMARIRO A&P (MILTON), WINTON A&P SHOW, GORE A&P SHOW, SOUTHLAND A&P SHOW



TOKOMAIRIRO A&P (MILTON) 12TH DECEMBER 2015

Toko show celebrated its 150th year in 2015. This resulted in one of the biggest turn outs of beef cattle seen for a number of years. Breeds included South Devon, Angus, Galloway, Highland and Dexter.

BULL ANY AGE

1st Brian Thomson Loch Lomond Syd Jnr
2nd Brian Thomson Loch Lomond Syd

HEIFER ONE YEAR

1st Brian Thomson Loch Lomond Syd Tess

HEIFER CALF

3rd Ebony Eden Java Marvel Natalia ET

CHAMPION MALE

Brian Thomson Loch Lomond Syd Jnr

CHAMPION FEMALE

Brian Thomson Loch Lomond Syd Tess

SUPREME BEEF ANIMAL

Brian Thomson Loch Lomond Syd Jnr

WINTON A&P SHOW 16TH JANUARY 2016

A reasonable turn out of good quality cattle. Breeds represented included, South Devon, Angus, Galloway and Shorthorn.

LARGE BREEDS - BULL CALF

3rd S & J Eden Java Teds Ed

ALL BREEDS BULL CALF

2nd S & J Eden Java Teds Ed

GORE A&P SHOW 6TH FEBRUARY 2016

As with most Gore shows there was a strong turnout of cattle with so many breeds being represented. Including South Devon, Angus, Hereford, Pinzgauer, Charolais, Galloway, Dexter and Highland cattle.

Large Breeds Judge: Andrew Stokes

COW 3 YEARS AND OVER WITH CALF AT FOOT

3rd Brian Thomson Loch Lomond Coral

HEIFER ONE YEAR

1st Brian Thomson Loch Lomond Syd Tess

BULL CALF

3rd Brian Thomson Loch Lomond Syd 18
5th S & J Eden Java Marvel Pickles ET

BULL ONE YEAR

1st Brian Thomson Loch Lomond Syd

BREEDERS GROUP OF THREE ANIMALS

2nd S & J Eden

PAIR OF YEARLINGS MALE AND/OR FEMALE

1st Brian Thomson

PAIR OF CALVES MALE AND/OR FEMALE

2nd S & J Eden

KANE TROPHY

Brian Thomson Loch Lomond Syd

SOUTHLAND A&P SHOW 5TH MARCH 2016

While not a big number of beef animals at this show, the quality of stock was great. Breeds represented included South Devon, Shorthorn and Speckle Park.

BULL CALF

1st Jake Eden Java Marvel Pickles ET

HEIFER CALF

2nd S & J Eden Java Marvel Natalia ET

PAIR CALVES MALE AND/OR FEMALE

1st S & J Eden

PROGENY PAIR CALVES SAME SIRE OR DAM

1st S & J Eden

CHAMPION CALF

Jake Eden Java Marvel Pickles ET

PET CLASS 8 YEARS AND UNDER

1st Jake Eden Java Marvel Pickles

RESERVE CHAMPION PET

Jake Eden Java Marvel Pickles

JUNIOR HERDSPERSON

Jake Eden Java Marvel Pickles

WYNDHAM A&P SHOW 5TH DECEMBER 2015

Large Breeds Judge: R Stokes, Canterbury

YEARLING BULL

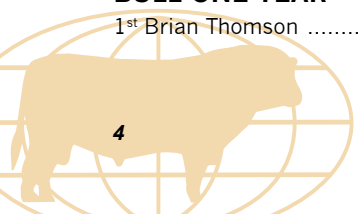
1st Brian Thomson Loch Lomond Syd
Champion Male
2nd Brian Thomson Loch Lomond Syd
Junior

YEARLING HEIFER

1st Loch Lomond Syd Tess *Reserve Female Champion*

ALL BREEDS

Judge: L Carruthers, Middlemarch



SHOW RESULTS: WYNDHAM A&P SHOW, WANAKA A&P SHOW



YEARLING BULL & HEIFER PAIR

2nd Wainuka

3rd Loch Lomond

YEARLING BULL

1st Loch Lomond Syd Junior

4th Loch Lomond Syd

YEARLING HEIFER

4th Loch Lomond Syd Tess

TAIERI A&P SHOW 23TH JANUARY

Judge: Anton Gibson, Middlemarch

COW WITH CALF AT FOOT

2nd Loch Lomond Coral

YEARLING HEIFER

1st Loch Lomond Syd Tess

YEARLING BULL

1st Loch Lomond Syd - *Champion Male*

BULL CALF

3rd Loch Lomond Lowry

WANAKA A&P SHOW 11TH MARCH

Judge: T Peters - Millers Flat

A fine sunny day, 60 animals with 7 breeds presented.

BULL CALF

1st Wainuka Samson

YEARLING HEIFER

1st Loch Lomond Syd Tess

YEARLING BULL

1st Loch Lomond Syd

YEARLING BULL & HEIFER PAIR

1st Loch Lomond

PROGENY CLASS 2 ANIMALS SIRE OR DAM

1st Loch Lomond

CHAMPION FEMALE

Loch Lomond Syd Tess

CHAMPION MALE

Loch Lomond Syd

SUPREME ALL BREED CHAMPION

Loch Lomond Syd



Brian Thomson with Loch Lomond Syd Tess,
Champion Female at Wanaka A&P Show.

2017 AGM & TOUR



The 2017 AGM and Tour will be held in Dunedin between 15th-17th March. Full details will be available in the December newsletter or before if finalised.

For people travelling down to the AGM, the Wanaka Show is on the weekend before - 11th & 12th of March and is well worth a look.

ANY ENQUIRIES TO:

Brian Thomson, email: bjthomson@actrix.co.nz

SOUTH DEVON WEBSITE & FACEBOOK

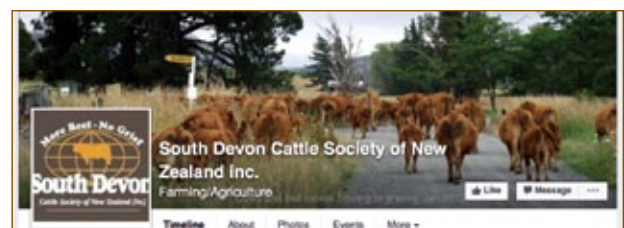


The website has been updated with new sections available for members including breeder profiles, photo galleries also our Facebook page is up and running for members who wish to add photos or any South Devon information so it can be shared with members.

PLEASE CONTACT:

Richard Van Asch, email: aschwood@xtra.co.nz or

Bridget Lowry, email: pinzridge09@outlook.com if you have items to be shared on either of these sites.



JOHN HOLT LIFE MEMBERSHIP PRESENTATION



At Beef Expo 2016 Richard van Asch presented John Holt with his South Devon Life Membership certificate.



2016 BEEF EXPO SPONSORS



A huge thank you to the South Devon Beef Expo sponsors. We all know how difficult it is to obtain sponsorship so we wish to acknowledge the very generous support from Merial Ancare for the product they supply; Silver Fern Farms for their product; NZX Agri and Pivot Design for the vouchers they provide.

We would ask our members to support the generosity of these sponsors:

Merial Ancare, Silver Fern Farms, NZX Agri & Pivot Design.



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2017 WORLD CONFERENCE



The World Conference is to be held in South Africa from 16th April–4th May 2017.

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