



Hi everyone and welcome to the first albeit late newsletter for 2026.

From the President

Already six weeks have passed since our AGM back in March. My initial step into South Devon politics involved missing out by way of election on an eight person board, so to find myself sitting at a board table with one other and our secretary was somewhat disappointing. We had a quorum courtesy of zoom but a far cry from days gone by.

The AGM itself was a fairly standard affair, the President's and Treasurer's reports are included in this newsletter and the minutes are available on request from the office. We had a very enjoyable evening at The Farmer's Son, where funnily enough a fair bit of South Devon discussion was had.

We visited Christine Eagle's Rosewood herd on the out skirts of Feilding and spent Thursday morning looking over a very impressive lineup of animals. Of particular interest was Christine's South Devon X Wagyu animals that she has been experimenting with.

Please don't be scared to send Facebook material into Julia or Lindy to be posted.

Regards

Peter Foss

AGM report

The annual general meeting for the society was held on 18 March 2026 at PBB in Feilding.

Presidents Report

It is with mixed emotions that I write my report to the 2026 AGM. On one hand we are seeing unprecedented stock prices on the back of a worldwide shortage of red meat protein. On the other hand, I believe that the life of the South Devon Society as we have known it is going to have to change. Last year's fee increases have gone a large way toward balancing income with expense, however as members and cow numbers decline, so the portion of fixed costs rise. This in turn necessitates the need for faster fee increases if we are to maintain our

status quo.

On our Performance Analysis front, well over half of our registered cows reside in three herds

and as a whole we are performance recording about 700 calves. I believe that these two points are bringing into question the validity of our analysis. We have had no luck to date in even getting the English to the table to talk combined analysis, which would help to increase the data input. At what point do we allow our members the freedom to choose their own analysis path? This could well mean the end of the current ABRI model.

I would like to acknowledge the terrible tragedy that unfolded for Lindy and her family last year. On behalf of our members, I can only reaffirm our support.

To Jamie and her team at PBB, thank you for the work that you do to ensure that our affairs operate as smoothly as they do.

Finally, to our small band of loyal members who keep flying the flag, thank you.

Peter Foss

Treasurers Report

I regret to announce an after-tax loss of \$6,612 for the 2025 financial year. This comes after a \$14,136 profit for the previous year. The reason for the 2024 profit is almost solely down to the "World Tour" recorded in that year. As for this year's loss, members only have to look at our expenses column to see the extent of the problem that the board has had to face. ABRI has virtually doubled the cost of its "service fee" for a program that has been promised for more than 10 years but hasn't arrived yet. Added to that PBB's disastrous loss due to losing the DNA testing for live export which has now been passed onto the Breed Societies. Our base service charge has increased by \$500 per annum and our hourly service fee has risen from \$42/hr to \$75/hr, an increase of 80%. This increase has only been in effect for six months of the last financial year. All this should give members the reason for the steep increase in Dam Fees, "stuff runs downhill" as the saying goes. Cow numbers are at a relatively stable 823 total. I would like to end on a positive note by informing members that NZSDS have a \$20,000 12-month term loan to PBB at 6%. This year's accounts have not been audited which has saved the society \$4,200 up from \$1,500 for previous years. I am more than happy to discuss this move with the membership. No planned meeting in Feilding in July will also save the society money. I would also like to thank the office staff in charge of the financials, Nicole Fairless and Gillian Thorburn for their professionalism and their patience in the last 12 months."

Fraser McKenzie

The Board of management for the 2026 year is Peter Foss, Fraser McKenzie, Richard Van Asch, Jeanette Maxwell and Paul Goodwin.

Bull Sales

Hauroko Bull Sale was 27 May 2026

Ipurua Bull Sale is 4th June 1pm

Burtergill Bull Sale is 15th June 1pm

Private treaty bulls

Manuiti have a selection of bulls for sale via private treaty.

MAN24001

MAN24002

MAN24003

MAN24010

MAN24011

MAN24016

MAN24018

MAN24020

Bull Sale Results to date

Kaimoa 22/22 bulls sold at an average of \$12,500.

I will post further results in the next newsletter.