

Dexter Cattle Promotion Group of Tasmania



Hi Everyone

Well it is time for another newsletter and I seem to have less time to get to the jobs I know need doing. This one will be short and sweet.

We have had a busy time since commencing our Dexter beef market venture and have not done as much promotion of the cattle as we normally would have. A huge thanks to those studs who took the time to attend agricultural shows around Tasmania, it is due to us continuing to be seen around the place that we will continue to grow in terms of breeders. The ribbons have been shared around and it is pleasing to see everyone rewarded for their efforts.

It is noted that some of our members have not renewed their memberships, I hope this is just an oversight and not because they no longer wish to breed their Dexters. It is not too late to renew memberships and DCAI is willing to look at payment plans if that is of any assistance.

Our calving has finished and we have been inundated with heifer calves, 23 females to 11 bulls, a pretty biased outcome. Especially when I wanted bulls for meat production, it is going to be hard to choose which heifers to keep and which ones will go for beef. Hope I make the right choices.

We have had disappointing numbers at both the Field Day and Christmas gathering and are at a loss as to what the membership would like us to do. Is distance the problem or is it just everyone is so busy with the hectic lifestyles we lead? Do let anyone on the committee know your thoughts on this one!

Don't forget if you have any animals you wish to sell, please take advantage of the For Sale page on the group website. It is there to help you promote and sell your stock, so please use this valuable resource. Did you know that we have over 40 page visits on average to the Promotion Group website every day? If you can take advantage of using our pages for selling your animals that is why it was created, but you have to take the time to do the listing. If anyone has any problems please let me know and I will try my best to assist you.

I will be redoing the Dexters in Tasmania brochure prior to Agfest, and it is noted that some of the members currently listed are no longer members. If any of our new members would like to be included on the next brochure, please let me know. It does not matter if you don't have stock for sale, but it does let prospective customers know you are there. The cost was only about \$40 last year and I hope it will be similar this year.

Marg Rawlings (Promotions Officer)

From the Chair

Hello, not a lot to report at this point in time, but we are heading into the business end of the year. We are fast approaching Agfest and the Taste of the Northwest. These are our biggest events on our calendar, needing as much help as we can get.

Taste of the North West: The Taste of the North West will be held on Saturday the 26th April 2014, 11am-4pm. Taste of the North West is a showcase of Tasmania's North West region's finest food and beverages, held in Sheffield's picturesque King George V Park with majestic Mount Roland as a backdrop. This is our group's main fund raiser for the year. So once again I am asking for volunteers to come along and help with this event. If you are available please contact me or Group Secretary Derek.

AGFEST: Agfest will be held over three days the 1st, 2nd & 3rd May 2014. I will be taking cattle again this year (3 head) and it would be nice to have cattle from another stud also represented. If you feel you can help with 2-3 animals please let me know. We will also be looking for volunteers to be in attendance at our display during Agfest. An essential, albeit unenviable job is for someone with a ute to help with the clean-up on Saturday afternoon. All the bedding and manure will have to be removed from the site, this is very important so please consider, if you are able to help with the clean-up or to choose a time to be on the roster please contact me.

Field Days & Workshops: We are planning to have a field in late May at Peter and Teressa Flemings

place at Glengarry, the subject of the workshop will be: Animal Husbandry and Farm Management. So put some time aside to attend even if it is only to socialise. I know that we are all busy in our lives, but I must say that I was disappointed with the turn out to our last workshop on Meat Cuts and Sausage Making, with only a handful of people attending.

Happy in Dexters

Ian Clayton (Chairperson)

Photos needed

We need photos to prepare the display boards for Agfest this year. If you have any great photos of Dexters at your place please send them through to Marg Rawlings, so that they can be printed and laminated. This is a really urgent call for new material for our display this year!

2014 Tasmanian Heritage Festival - Mountain River

Pam and Derek at Mountain River Dexter Stud are opening their property to celebrate a Dexter Cattle heritage day from 10am to 4pm Sunday 25 May 2014. We run a small stud of Dexter Cattle on our 22 acre Four Leg farm in Mountain River. We expect the arrival of 4 calves by May 2014 to take our herd to 10, including Rawlings Hey Presto, our very busy Bull!

The farm has opportunities for walks along the 500m frontage on the Mountain River, and through two stands of native forest. Light refreshments will be available.

We would particularly appreciate support from other members in the area just to help us with our first ever exposure of husbandry to the public!

Derek Pennington and Pam Sharpe

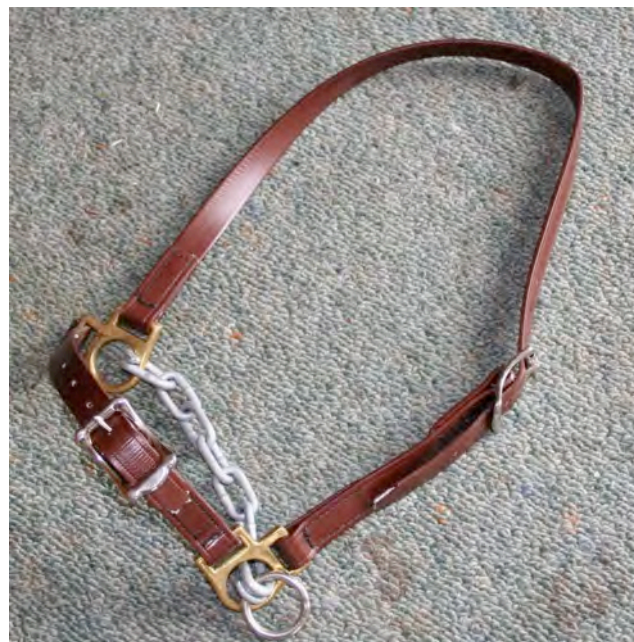


Mountain River Dexter Stud

Training halters

Latrobe Saddlery (Alan Geddes) is willing to make for us "work/training halters" (pictured above). If anyone is interested in buying one please contact Andrea so she can get numbers of how many we

would require. They should be around \$25-\$30 and are excellent for training etc. Andrea's email is goldshaft@hotmail.net.au or phone 6441 5032



Calves at Wyndex Dexter Stud – Wynyard

Committee Contacts

Please feel free to contact any one of us should you need some help, have any concerns or just ring for a chat.

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