Dexter Promotion Group of Tasmania



Hi Everyone

I cannot believe three months has gone so quickly.

Our new brochure has been well received and we have 16 studs who have participated, meaning for \$40 each we have again self funded this important marketing tool.

We will have to look at acquiring some new noticeboards as the old ones have well and truly past their use by date, and have done a great job for us over the years.

We had a very successful Taste of the North West and our roast beef & gravy rolls sold out in record time, with the sausage sizzle not far behind. We kept our prices realistic and could have sold another 50 rolls easily. We now know for next year. Thanks to all those who came and helped, many hands make light work and that was certainly the case in our stall, we were packed up and on our way home by 2 pm. And we raised \$860 for our funds, so our bank account if looking very healthy. It may allow us to purchase some much needed items to help us look more professional at functions we attend.

Agfest is over for another year, while Mark & I are happy to supply cattle it is a lot of work which we could not undertake on our own. So a grateful thanks to those who came along and helped muck out, setup and pack away. The pack up was done in record time this year with the help of Ron & Julie, Michael, Sue H, Peter and David & Catherine, a massive effort saw us mucked out cleaned up and gone in just under 45 minutes. We had a large number of enquiries this year from both the north and south of the state. Our recently acquired new green marquee looked great, certainly adding some wind and rain protection for the cattle. It would have been

great to see more of our southern members, but maybe next year someone from down there could bring the cattle along. Perhaps we could have one stud from down south and one from up north, to give us an even representation. Once again our thanks to Highfield Industries (Arrow) who continued their support by supplying the cattle panels, without these our display would not look as great as it does. I urge anyone wanting some cattle yards to give Highfield a call to get a price, if you mention the Dexter Group you may be able to get yourself a discount.

The Burnie Small Landholders day was held on the wettest day we had encountered for some weeks. Fortunately the cattle were able to be moved into a shed and did not get too wet. Thanks to Sue H, Ron & Julie, Jenny & Allan for assisting us talk to those interested.

The open days held as part of the National Trust Heritage Festival were very quiet, but a big thanks to Campania and Goldshaft studs for opening their "gates" and to the members of other studs who came along and gave them moral support.

We currently have 29 members to our Group and I feel very proud that we are one of the few Groups growing in Australia, I think it has something to do with the great group of people we have in our Group. I know I am proud to be part of this great Promotion Group.

Thanks to everyone who sent back their surveys, they do help to provide an overview of member's interests and possible topics for the future.

This will be my last Newsletter as Promotions Officer as I am finding my DCAI Council commitments a little more than I had anticipated, but don't worry I have recruited someone very capable to take over who has already nominated for the position. I would not leave you in the lurch!! It has been a rewarding time in Tasmania as we have continued to grow and prosper, I will only be a phone call away should anyone need assistance.

Marg Rawlings Promotions Officer

For Sale

There are bottles of "Dexter Red" available for purchase. We have been fortunate to obtain a limited amount of Fleming's Wines of South Australia's 2008 Shiraz. This is a quality red suitable for drinking now or for putting away for later. For orders please contact either Andrea O'Grady on 6496 1969 or Peter Fleming on 6396 1136. Prices are \$10 each or \$54 for 6 or \$96 for a dozen. Be quick because they are selling fast!!!





Dexters in Tasmania mugs are available for sale again at the same low price of \$5 each. They proved very popular last time with some going overseas and interstate. Ring Andrea O'Grady to place your order 6496 1969.

From the Chair

Winter is here. Short crisp days, long cold nights and frosty mornings. I haven't had to break any ice in the water troughs yet. Hay is being fed out on a daily basis – an essential part of winter. Winter grasses although may be plenty does not have much goodness in it. Cattle need roughage for proper digestion so feeding good quality hay is important. Keep your minerals up to them too.

Our calving season is drawn out this year. Over half the calves have been born with very pleasing results. I had 4 out of 5 cows take with AI last year and out of the 4 calves born all are heifers. My heifer ratio seems to be better this year, so far 6 heifers and 3 bulls, possibly due to the fact that we applied fish and kelp to the paddocks last autumn (2011). Kelp for some strange reason seems to increase the females born. Another old wives tale is the position of the cow when mated/impregnated. My crush faces due west so

I could say that to get heifers make sure your cow is facing west when mated!!!

Welcome to all our new members. I am sorry I haven't welcomed you personally - I hope you are finding your Dexters as enjoyable as I do. Please do not hesitate to contact me (or anyone on the committee) if you have any questions, comments, suggestions etc.

Unless anyone else would like to step up to the plate and have a go at Chairperson, I intend to be here another year. Family commitments are heavy but my passion to our breed is strong so I will not leave you in the lurch. I am looking forward to seeing as many of you at the AGM as possible at the wonderful Clarendon House, our unofficial "home".

Happy Dextering

Andrea

New Members

A warm welcome is extended to our latest new members, Olga & Jim Stack who have recently moved to Scottsdale from Mudgee in NSW and Jennifer Burt and Lauren Houghton who are in Gunns Plains.

NLIS Tags & PIC's

A PIC (Property Identification Code) is required by all owners of livestock to enable them to purchase and sell animals. This also forms the for (National Livestock the NLIS Identification System) and serves as a means of giving lifetime traceability to animals. electronic tag needs to be applied to all animals prior to them leaving their property of birth. It is then the responsibility of the new owner to transfer the animal to their own PIC. The NLIS database is accessed going by www.nlis.mla.com.au or for more information contact DPIWE in Tasmania through their https://pras.biosecurity.tas.gov.au website phone 1300 368 550.

Dates for the Calendar

7 July AGM Clarendon House 11:30 am with lunch to follow.

Fundraising

Graham Redhead holds cheesemaking courses in Launceston. The Group provides catering and washing up at these courses as a fundraiser. If interested in attending, costs and further details can be found at www.cheesemaking.com.au

Don't forget to visit our website www.dextersintasmania.weebly.com

AGM

Don't forget to get your nomination into Catherine Thomas our Group Secretary for positions on the Committee. Personally it has been a rewarding experience and one I would recommend if you want to get some hands on knowledge of Dexters.

I look forward to catching up with many of you at Clarendon House on 7 July and enjoying a shared lunch together. It is nice to hear what everyone has been up to and hope you will join us.

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.

Chairperson

Andrea O'Grady - Phone 6496 1969 goldshaft@hotkey.net.au

Secretary

Catherine Thomas - Phone 6382 4878 swnygwyntfarm@bigpond.com

Treasurer

Peter Fleming - Phone 6396 1136 p-t-fleming@bigpond.com

Promotions Officer

Marg Rawlings - Phone 6429 1287 rawlingsdexter@westnet.com.au



Agfest 2012, don't our displays look great



Open Farm at Campania Springs Dexter Stud



The cows at Goldshaft



Halter training at Rawlings Dexter Stud