



**PRESIDENT'S PIECE \_\_\_\_\_ MAY 2017**

I would like to draw your attention to two documents that are going to be provided with this newsletter. The first is a proposal regarding the current proceedings to be published as a scientific journal. This is something that the New Zealand Society of Animal Production has been considering for some time. The Management Committee believe that the timing is right for this to happen and a motion will be put forward by members of the Management Committee at the AGM being held on 28<sup>th</sup> June, at the Distinction Hotel in Rotorua. As stated in the Society's Guidelines "*At any meeting of the Society or of the Management Committee, matters shall be decided by a majority vote of those present in person at the meeting*". So the motion will be voted on at the AGM and, if required, the name for the Journal will also be voted on by show of hands. Please read the proposal. Time will be allowed for discussion of the proposal at the AGM. If you have discussion points that you would like to contribute, but are unable to attend the AGM, please put your considerations into writing and arrange for a proxy to provide your discussion at the AGM however, the Guidelines do not allow for a proxy vote.

Speaking of Guidelines, the second document relates to the Society's Guidelines. The NZSAP Guidelines are our "rules" and provide guidance on how the Society operates. It has come to my attention that there has not been a full review of the Society's Guidelines since 2008. There has been much change in how the Society operates over the last 9 years, including some new awards. So the Guidelines need to be updated to reflect this. Also I was flabbergasted to see reference to "his" or "he" when talking about members of the Society or the Management committee. Many minor changes in the Guidelines included ensuring the wording was gender neutral and also defining the roles of the Executive vs. Minutes Secretary when the role is listed as "Secretary". Chris Logan and I spent a whole day working through the Guideline documents and updating them as required. Because I am now très au fait with the Guidelines I can tell you "*the rules of the Society may be altered, added to or rescinded at any general meeting of the Society*" so the updates made to the Guidelines will be put forward as a motion for ratification at the AGM. In order to make it clear what the changes requiring ratification are, I have compiled a document outlining the old vs. new wording which is provided along with this newsletter. There will also be opportunity to discuss the amendments to the Guidelines at the AGM.

As with any Society, voting privileges at general meetings are only for those members that are financial i.e., have paid their subscription. So, please consider this a reminder that you need to have paid your subscription to the Society by now! If you would like to check if your subscription is up-to-date, please contact the Executive Secretary ([nzsap.inc@gmail.com](mailto:nzsap.inc@gmail.com)).

In other news...

It was a pleasure for me to present a NZSAP sponsored ribbon at the Future Beef “Hook and Hook” competition last week. The goal of Future Beef NZ is to provide young people from all backgrounds with the opportunity to be involved in the beef industry. Each year Future Beef organises a fun, hands-on educational weekend and ‘Hoof & Hook’ competition in conjunction with the NZ Beef Expo. This year NZSAP sponsored the Champion/Reserve Light weight Steer on the Hook. Below is a photo with the breeder (Jim Syme) who provided the Steer for the young competitor for the “on the hoof” section (the competitor was at school for on the day of prize giving).



I look forward to our up-coming conference in Rotorua 28-30 June. The conference organising committee have pulled together a great programme which really highlights the breadth of animal science in New Zealand. Early bird registrations close on May 28<sup>th</sup> so make sure you register soon! <http://www.nzsap.org/content/conference>

I draw this Presidents Piece to a close because there is already lots of reading to do and you will hear more from me at conference!

Nicola Schreurs  
NZSAP President

**NOTICE OF:**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION**  
28 JUNE 2017, 4:45PM  
FENTON ROOM, DISTINCTION HOTEL

**NEWSLETTER DOCUMENTS ATTACHED:**  
1) PROPOSAL FOR PROCEEDINGS TO A JOURNAL  
2) AMENDMENTS TO THE GUIDELINES DOCUMENT  
Please read the attached two documents relating to General Business items that will be considered at **The NZSAP AGM** on the 28<sup>th</sup> June in Rotorua

**VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION FOR THE 2017 NZSAP CONFERENCE**  
ENDS ON THE **28<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2017**. SEE:  
<http://www.nzsap.org/content/conference>

**APPLICATIONS FOR NZSAP ANIMAL SCIENCE TRAVEL AWARDS**  
DUE: **31<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2017**  
DETAILS CAN BE FOUND HERE: <http://www.nzsap.org/nzsap-animal-science-award>

**2017 MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS**  
**NOW OVERDUE**  
MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE OVERDUE FOR PAYMENT.  
Contact the Executive Secretary at: [nzsap.inc@gmail.com](mailto:nzsap.inc@gmail.com) to arrange payment of your subscription

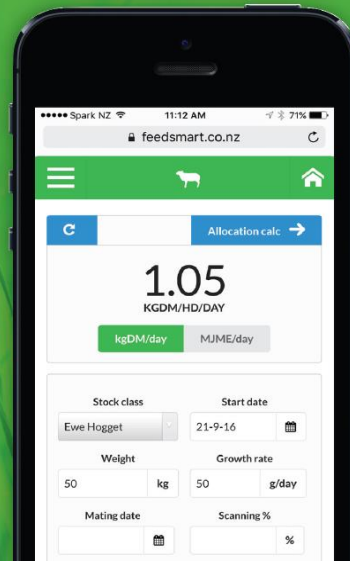
# Introducing the new FeedSmart app

Developed by Beef + Lamb New Zealand in conjunction with the Red Meat Profit Partnership, the app will help farmers estimate the feed requirements for sheep and cattle at any time of the year and for different levels of production.

The app is available free of charge at [www.feedsmart.co.nz](http://www.feedsmart.co.nz) and once downloaded, it works offline anywhere, anytime a device is turned on. The app is compatible with any computer, tablet or smart phone.

*This information has been provided independently by B+LNZ and NZSAP do not provide an endorsement of this product.*

Compatible with   



For more information on the app, including user guides, see [beeflambnz.com](http://beeflambnz.com) or [youtube.com/beeflambnz](https://www.youtube.com/beeflambnz)  
**0800 BEEFLAMB (0800 233 352) BY FARMERS. FOR FARMERS**

## NZSAP CONFERENCE 2017

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The 2017 NZSAP conference will be held at The Distinction Hotel in Rotorua from 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

You can now register for the conference online. Note: early bird registration ends on the 28<sup>th</sup> May 2017. For registration go to: <https://www.eiseverywhere.com/ehome/235248/532536>

For conference details including the programme visit the NZSAP conference website page: <http://www.nzsap.org/content/conference>

We would also like to thank our 2017 NZSAP conference sponsors:



## NZSAP PROCEEDINGS – FREE ONLINE

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The proceedings of the NZSAP is now open access and can be accessed using the following link: [www.nzsap.org/proceedings](http://www.nzsap.org/proceedings)

## TRAVEL AWARD REPORTS

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### TRAVEL REPORT FOR ANIMAL SCIENCE AWARD

Lydia Farrell, Science Intern, DairyNZ/AgResearch

The joint New Zealand and Australian Animal Production Science Conference in July of 2016 was the first experience I had attending a conference. This was also my first opportunity to present research findings and I presented some of the research project from my Honours degree entitled “Urine volumes of non-lactating dairy cows in late gestation fed forage based diets in winter”. The opportunity to listen to and interact with many researchers was incredibly valuable to me at this early stage of my career. I am sincerely grateful to the New Zealand Society of Animal Production for granting me this travel award so that I could attend.

The conference occurred during the time I was an intern working in an animal behaviour and welfare research team therefore the theme of the conference was extremely relevant to me. On the second day of the conference there was panel of representatives from various livestock production sectors in Australia who presented the industries’ handling of animal welfare issues to date. This was a thought provoking session in which we were asked to evaluate for ourselves whether we felt satisfied with each of the industries’ progress in this area. I thought about why animal welfare matters to me; as a consumer, a person, and someone who works in animal production science. This also sparked discussion with other attendees from New Zealand comparing the progress in our animal production industries. Soon after the conference I attended a workshop focused on animal welfare in the New Zealand dairy industry and enjoyed contributing ideas influenced by what I had learnt at the conference.

### TRAVEL REPORT FOR AGRESEARCH ANIMAL GENOMICS AWARD

Mallory Crookenden, PhD Student, DairyNZ

The NZSAP AgResearch Genomics travel award supported my attendance at the Australasian Genomics Technologies Association (AGTA) conference. The AGTA conference was held in Auckland during October (9th-12th), 2016. The AGTA conference is Australasia’s leading genomics technologies conference. It showcased ‘-omics’ research across multiple disciplines and across a wide range of topics. This conference is also well-attended by industry representatives, providing a valuable link to the industry in the areas of next generation sequencing (NGS) and genomics.

The conference provided a great opportunity to meet scientists and fellow students who also work with NGS technologies. This conference was held in partnership with the New Zealand Next Generation Sequencing Conference, and attracted researchers from all over Australasia. Additionally, this conference provided the opportunity to engage with industry representatives from companies that provide and develop NGS services. This provides exposure to leading technologies and methods that can be used to conduct genomics research.

The range of topics and technologies covered by the speakers provided a valuable learning experience. Several talks were concerned with animal genetics including regulatory elements in livestock, SNP Chips in sheep for disease markers, and bovine milk QTLs. Seminars were not limited to livestock and included talks on genetically modified crops, the genetics of oysters, and transcriptomics in tiger prawns. Research on human genetics also covered a wide range of technologies and disciplines including transcriptomics of breast cancer and personalised medicine, founder population genetics and disease susceptibility, the genetics of dwarfism and

sex development disorders, and the use of exosomal transcriptomics for identifying RNA biomarkers of neurodegenerative disease.

During my PhD I have had the opportunity to use transcriptomics techniques including RNAseq and miRNAseq, both of which were discussed at the conference. This helped me to complete the final chapter of my PhD, which dealt with RNAseq. Furthermore, exposure to how these technologies are used for research in humans provides an indication for areas for advancement in livestock research with the use of ‘-omics’ techniques. As such, this conference was thought provoking and a wonderful opportunity to engage with people across all ‘-omics’ disciplines.

## **NEW MEMBERS**

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The NZSAP would like to welcome our new members:

Mrs Natalie Chrystal  
Miss Grace Cun  
Paul McKee

Miss Amber Jensen  
Ms Isabel Tait  
Alexander McIntosh

Brooke Ramsay  
Miss Hannah Freeman

## **2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF NZSAP**

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The 76<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Society of Animal Production Inc. will be held at The Distinction Hotel, Rotorua, New Zealand on the 28<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

### **Agenda**

Apologies

Minutes from 2016 Meeting

Matters Arising

Presidential Report

Treasurer's Report

Editor's Report

Publication Manager's Report

Election of Officers

Next Conference

General Business:

- Proposal for publishing Proceedings as a Journal
- Amendments to Guidelines

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## NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES 2016

Meeting Date : 5 July 2017  
Meeting Time : 18:00 h  
Meeting Place : Ballroom 5, Stamford Grand Adelaide, 2 Jetty Road, Glenelg, South  
Australia

President Chris Logan declared the meeting open at 18:00 h on the 5<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

In attendance: 36 members.

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#### Apologies

Kate Crookston, Andy Greer, Mark Illston, Kirsty Hammond.

*Apologies received and accepted.*

*Moved: Rebecca Hickson. Second: David Scobie. Carried.*

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#### Approval of Minutes

On page 7 of the circulated minutes it was stated that the Sir Arthur Ward Award was not awarded, however this was actually awarded to Gordon Greer.

Motion that after the above correction the minutes of the AGM on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June 2015, as circulated in the newsletter, are accepted as a true and correct record.

*Moved: Chris Logan. Second: John Booker. Carried.*

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#### Matters arising from the minutes

None.

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#### President's Report

Key points:

- The NZSAP objectives are:
  - To provide an organisation to bring about active collaboration among those involved in the science of producing food, fibre and other products from livestock.
  - To provide an annual meeting for members which will encourage both intra- and interdisciplinary exchange and discussion of findings.
  - To assist young people in a manner which develops an interest in the science of food and fibre production.
  - To provide visions for the future of animal production in New Zealand.
  - To promote the value of science in the development of animal production.
  - To take such action as may be deemed necessary to foster improvement in animal production.
- These objectives are being met and some of the key aspects that indicate the achievement of the objectives are:
  - Promoting collaboration through the annual conference.

- Being forward looking in nurturing young members, especially through the Young Member Award.
  - Developing new ideas for animal production through the research that is carried out.
  - Promoting the value of science through the research carried out and through advocacy of science and the activity on other committees with which members are involved.
- NZSAP in association with NZGA and NZGT underwrote the Hill Country Symposium held in Rotorua in April 2016, 320 delegates attended this successful event. An output from this symposium will be a position paper which will provide the foundation for a road map for future hill country research. This position paper will be presented to organisations including B+LNZ, DINZ, NZ Sheep & Beef Council, MBIE, and Regional Councils by the farmer representatives with support from scientists.
- During the past year the Society has assumed its usual activities including:
    - administration of the awards including the travel awards and those presented at the annual conference
    - publication of the conference proceedings
    - continued development of the Occasional Publications
    - publication of a newsletter
    - organising the annual conference in association with the Australian Society of Animal Production
    - Living Legend addresses – of which the fourth one is to be presented by Dr Graham Barrell at this 2016 conference
- Young Members Award applications have increased. This year there was 19 abstracts submitted.
- Vote of thanks to the members of the 2015-16 Management Committee of the NZ Society of Animal Production.
- Also acknowledgement of representatives for the Society:
    - Karin Schutz – National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee
    - Penny Back – Spragg Agricultural Trust
    - John McEwan – AgResearch Genomics Award Committee
    - Grant Edwards, Steve Morris & Mark Illston – Hill Country Symposium Committee
- Currently 224 paid members, with 427 in the member database. This indicates approximately 200 unpaid members which the NZSAP Management Committee intends to remove from the membership in the forthcoming year.
- Membership numbers have shown a decline on previous year which reflects the continued downwards trend in membership over the past 30 years (1980's there was 600 members of the Society). This parallels a decline in the number of animal scientists and a decline in funding for animal science.
- Awards in 2015:
 

○ McMeekan Memorial Award:	Velmurugu Ravindran
○ Sir Arthur Ward Award:	Gordon Greer
○ Young Members Award:	Jasper Munro
○ Lincoln University Centennial Award:	Not awarded in 2015



- NZSAP Jubilee Anniversary Award: Massey University: Holly Phillips  
Lincoln University: Richard Barry
  - NZSAP Innovation Award: Not awarded in 2015
  - Landcorp Farming Ltd Lecture: Not presented in 2015, however there was an invited address by Lee Leachman
  - Living Legend Lecture: Past and Present Invermay Agricultural Centre Staff
  - Life Member: None presented in 2015
- An additional address was presented by Dr Alistair Nicol which looked at the past 25 years of the Society.
  - Travel Awards 2015:
    - Animal Science Awards: Nick Sneddon, Melissa Hempstead, Laura Deeming, David Scobie, Rhiannon Handcock, Lydia Farrell and Duc Lu
    - AgResearch Animal Genomics fund: Hayden Craig and Suzanne Rowe
  - Sponsorship: Otago Science Fair. Under advice from John McEwan and Grant Shackell NZSAP continued sponsorship of the Otago Science Fair. The continuation of this sponsorship will be reviewed by the Management Committee in the next 12 months.

*Move that the President's report be accepted. Moved: Chris Logan. Carried.*

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### **Treasurer's report**

Presented by Thomas Lopdell.

Hard copies of the Annual Financial report for the year ended 31 December 2015 were made available at the meeting for the members attending the AGM.

Key points:

- Revenue of \$65,202 which is approximately \$2,000 down on previous year. Expenditure \$48,342 which is down from 2014. This resulted in a net surplus, after impairment of investments of \$14,196.
- Main items of note in revenue were:
  - Conference income of \$2,893 which was up on previous year.
  - Interest similar to previous year
  - Proceedings sales are down from previous year by approximately \$3,000, but Occasional Publication sales increased by approximately \$4,000 from previous year.
  - No longer receive any income from SciQuest, now that the Proceedings are open access.
- Main items of note in expenditure were:
  - Audit fees are up by approximately \$500 on last year.
  - Awards substantially decreased. Nearly \$18,000 less monies were awarded in 2015 than in 2014.
  - Publications and printing costs were significantly down from 2014.
- Closing equity of \$652,623.
  - Total Assets: \$675,670 which is comprised of Current Assets of \$63,919 and Non-current assets of \$611,571.
  - Total liabilities have increased by approximately \$1,000.

- Murray Woolford Young Dairy Scientist Award
  - There is no award criteria yet, and there has not yet been sufficient interest to award a substantial amount of money.

*Move that the treasurer's annual financial report as circulated be accepted as an accurate record of the Society's accounts.*

*Moved: Thomas Lopdell. Seconded: Sam Peterson. Carried.*

*Move that the annual subscriptions for 2016-17 remain at \$85 for full members, \$42.50 for student and retired members and US\$85 for overseas members outside Australia. Also, that the cost of Publications remain the same for the 2016-17 year.*

*Moved: Chris Logan. Seconded: Nicola Schreurs. Carried.*

*Move that the AGM give leave to the Management Committee to appoint Auditors for the Society accounts in the 2016 financial year.*

*Moved: Thomas Lopdell. Seconded: Sam Peterson. Carried.*

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### **Editor's report**

Presented by Sam Peterson.

- 61 Abstracts were received for the 2016 Proceedings. Of this, 17 were rejected or withdrawn leaving 44 that were accepted and included in the Proceedings.
- The 2016 Proceedings comprises 16 Brief Communications, 29 full communications and the invited Living Legend address, making 45 papers in total plus the Presidential Address.
- Thank-you to the reviewers.
  - Particularly those that are prompt.
  - The best reviews provide both positive, as well as negative feedback.
  - It is requested that reviewers remove their identification from word files especially using tracked changes. This will allow anonymity to be maintained.
  - If using tracked changes make sure that reviewers also provide a recommendation report.
- The job of the Editor is to make the paper look good, maintain the style of the Proceedings, and to publish the Proceedings.
- Suggestions for authors preparing manuscripts for future Proceedings.
  - Format your paper for the NZSAP Proceedings.
  - The Editors suggestions are intended to be useful and are directed at improving the quality of the manuscript and maintaining format. Authors should implement the Editors suggestions.

*Move that the Editor's report be accepted. Moved: Sam Peterson. Seconded: David Pacheco. Carried.*

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### **Publication manager's report**

Presented by René Corner-Thomas

- A lack of interest in updating Occasional Publications 14 (Pastures and Supplements for Grazing Animals) and 11 (Meat Production and Processing) resulted in the decision to reprint the 2007 and 1989 versions, respectively, to resupply stocks.

- It was raised by Paul Kenyon that Brookes and Nichol know that there is a mistake in their chapters in OP14.
- There was interest in adding a horse chapter to OP14, however a lack of interest in updating the remaining chapters meant that this was not pursued. This may change in the near future.

*Move that the publication manager's report be accepted. Moved: René Corner-Thomas. Seconded: Kathryn McRae. Carried.*

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### **Election of officers (2016-2017)**

Nominations for the following positions were received:

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| • Past-president       | Chris Logan (Lincoln University)       |
| • President            | Nicola Schreurs (Massey University)    |
| • Vice President       | Racheal Bryant (Lincoln University)    |
| • Treasurer            | Thomas Lopdell (LIC)                   |
| • Secretary            | Kathryn McRae (AgResearch)             |
| • Newsletter           | Kirsty Hammond (AgResearch)            |
| • Publications         | Rene Corner-Thomas (Massey University) |
| • Website Manager      | Rebecca Hickson (Massey University)    |
| • Conference Organiser | Cameron Craigie (AgResearch)           |
| • Co-opted member      | John Booker (farmer liaison)           |
| • Co-opted member      | Mark Illston (farmer liaison)          |
| • Executive Secretary  | Kate Crookston                         |
| • Proceedings Editor   | Sam Peterson (Massey University)       |

*There being only one nomination for each position, the nominated persons were declared elected. Carried by acclamation.*

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### **General Business**

#### **75<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Technician Award**

Chris Logan spoke to this.

Guidelines for this award were put together by Chris Logan (President), Nicola Schreurs (Vice President) and Grant Edwards (Past President) in discussion with present and past committee members, and circulated in the May 2016 Newsletter

*Move that the 75<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Technician Award be ratified as published in the May 2016 NZSAP newsletter.*

*Moved: Chris Logan. Seconded: David Pacheco. Carried.*

#### **Changing the Proceedings to a Journal**

Steve Morris spoke to this.

Request for the Management Committee to consider changing the Proceedings to a Journal, as per the New Zealand Grasslands Association. Questions regarding the requirements of becoming a journal, copyright and format of the papers will need to be addressed. Grant Edwards, Chris Logan and Nicola Schreurs will investigate this, and report back with their recommendations to the 2017 AGM.

*Move that incoming Management Committee research the possibility of changing the Proceedings to a Journal Publication, and take a recommendation, backed up with evidence, to the 2017 AGM.*

*Moved: Hugh Blair. Seconded: David Pacheco. Carried.*

## **Discounting attendance for farmer members at the annual conference**

John Booker spoke to this.

Request for the Management Committee to consider also discounting attendance at the conference by farmer members, to encourage them to attend. This might encourage more farmer participation, as was seen at the Hill Country Symposium.

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Meeting adjourned at 19:01 h until the conference dinner

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Meeting reconvened at 19:57h on the 6th July 2016 at the Conference Dinner, Ballrooms 2 and 3, Stamford Grand Adelaide, 2 Jetty Road, Glenelg, South Australia.

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## **Awards**

- Awards in 2016:
  - McMeekan Memorial Award: Roger Purchas
  - Sir Arthur Ward Award: Julie Everett-Hincks
  - Young Members Award: Lisa Box
  - Lincoln University Centennial Award: Not awarded
  - NZSAP Jubilee Anniversary Award: Massey University: Carol Ann Hewitt  
Lincoln University: Anna N Arends
  - NZSAP Innovation Award: Not awarded
  - Landcorp Farming Ltd Lecture: Not presented
  - Living Legend Lecture: Graham Barrell
  - Life Member: None presented

Meeting finished at 20:24 h, 6<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

## **MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

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<b>Title</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Location</b>
PRESIDENT	Nicola Schreurs	06 951 8256	<a href="mailto:N.M.Schreurs@massey.ac.nz">N.M.Schreurs@massey.ac.nz</a>	Massey University
VICE- PRESIDENT	Racheal Bryant	03 423 0656	<a href="mailto:Racheal.Bryant@lincoln.ac.nz">Racheal.Bryant@lincoln.ac.nz</a>	Lincoln University
PAST-PRESIDENT	Chris Logan	03 423 0670	<a href="mailto:Chris.Logan@lincoln.ac.nz">Chris.Logan@lincoln.ac.nz</a>	Lincoln University
TREASURER	Thomas Lopdell	07 856 0518	<a href="mailto:tlopdell@lic.co.nz">tlopdell@lic.co.nz</a>	LIC Hamilton
SECRETARY	Kathryn McRae	03 489 9187	<a href="mailto:Kathryn.McRae@agresearch.co.nz">Kathryn.McRae@agresearch.co.nz</a>	AgResearch Invermay
NEWSLETTER	Kirsty Hammond	06 351 8000	<a href="mailto:Kirsty.Hammond@agresearch.co.nz">Kirsty.Hammond@agresearch.co.nz</a>	AgResearch Grasslands
PUBLICATIONS	René Corner-Thomas	06 951 8179	<a href="mailto:R.Corner@massey.ac.nz">R.Corner@massey.ac.nz</a>	Massey University
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Any contributions to the Newsletter should be forwarded to: Kirsty Hammond, AgResearch, Grasslands Research Centre, Tennent Drive, Private Bag 11008, Palmerston North 4442.  
Email: [Kirsty.Hammond@agresearch.co.nz](mailto:Kirsty.Hammond@agresearch.co.nz)