



AUSTRALIAN AYRSHIRES NEWSLETTER MAY

To all members and breeders,

Welcome to our latest newsletter

Firstly, I want to congratulate our breeders on our remarkable success in the World Federation photograph competition. In all we won 6 Champions and 3 reserves from the 10 classes and we won 9 of the 10 people's choice awards. The world conference show at IDW was an outstanding success and the photographs in the competition have put us on the world stage. We should all be very proud of our success. Also we are so fortunate to have Bradley Cullen and his team. His results speak for themselves.

Your Federal board have recently met and decided to leave our membership and registration fees at current levels. These fees make us the cheapest of all dairy breeds. We are currently working on updating our LBC and Australian Ayrshires websites. I will take this opportunity to thank Anne and Janelle at LBC for their continued support.

The building that has been our home in Kiama has been sold. As your director I will keep you informed of the relocation process.

It is great to see our show circuit recovering.

Sydney Royal went ahead without an issue and although numbers across the breeds was light, quality was first class and the interbreed tremendous. I am confident that Brisbane exhibition and Adelaide royal will go ahead thank you to the breeder's support.

The board has decided to continue to advertise in the Australian Dairy Farmer magazine.

A delegation from the board along with David Mayo and Trevor Saunders has continued to have meetings with Matt Schaefer and more recently Peter Thurn from Data Gene in an effort to isolate Ayrshires from other red breeds with BPI index results. The great news is that we should achieve this for the December proofs. We have been many years trying to achieve this, Matt was a great mediator at the time of amalgamation and Peter will be overseeing the implementation of the project. I attended College with Peter almost 40 years ago and I am confident that he can achieve a result. Looking at standalone genomics for our breed is difficult as we need to get enough animals genotyped. Data gene is offering the opportunity to genome bulls in the Australian population. There will be a process to work through getting information from AI companies and requesting from breeders to supply straws of semen from older bulls that had an influence on the breed and getting them to Agri Bio for genotyping. Data gene intend to assist with this. The list of bulls is extensive and I can safely say that any bull would be of help however the bulls with a high daughter population would be of most benefit. Compensation for the semen from breeders would be available on request and keep in mind that the subsidies are still there to have your bulls and females genomic tested. Any questions you can contact myself, Bill Macadam, Anthea Day or Karl Munden or any member of your board. Some of our breeders have been affected by the flooding in eastern states I would particularly want to mention Mick and Janine Eagles and family and wish them well for the recovery. Some of our members have been a lot of assistance to them. Their generosity we should all appreciate. I think that is all for now but I would like to wish the SA breeders success with their sale on 31st of May. Thank you to my board for your continued help and contribution

Brett Hayter Federal President

cows.hayter@bigpond.com

0412860681