

Spring 2016

Thank you for supporting people with an intellectual disability

'For sale' sign goes up at Pinetree farm

The 'For sale' sign is going up at the gate of Pinetree Farm at Te Kuiti. After more than 30 years, it's the end of the road for the 4ha smallholding donated to IHC by rugby great Sir Colin Meads.

IHC Calf Scheme patron Colin, who headed up IHC in the King Country after he retired as an All Black, wanted people with intellectual disabilities to be able to learn farm skills and have the chance of employment on farms. He donated money from speaking engagements to purchase the farm in 1988.

The five men who live on the farm are moving to other IHC homes. Hemi Winikerei and Andrew Sirl have lived at Pinetree for 15 years, Ian Ram 12 years, Harry Wallace 10 years – and Geoffrey Triggs three years. Geoffrey is moving to another house in Te Kuiti; Hemi and Andrew to Otorohanga; and Harry and Ian to Hamilton.

Hemi's move will be short-term as he is looking forward to moving into his own flat near the Otorohanga house.



Residents Andrew Sirl (left) and Hemi Winikerei with Colin Meads at Pinetree Farm. Andrew and Hemi are moving to Otorohanga.

Harry's goal is to move from Hamilton closer to his family in Tauranga. Geoffrey is moving in with friends in his new Te Kuiti home and Ian is going to board with a family, which he prefers. Some of Andrew's support staff will move with him to Otorohanga.

By the end of September Pinetree Farm will be ready for sale. The farm – bearing Colin's nickname – is on State Highway 4 on the outskirts of Te Kuiti. "When we first got it, we used to have pigs there. We had farm boys in the house – and they were the farmers – but that is all gone," Colin said.

In its heyday as many as 20 people grubbed thistles, mended fences, cut firewood, looked after cattle, sheep and pigs, cared for the large vegetable garden and collected calves for the IHC Calf Scheme. The farm

used to supply the local IHC homes with meat and vegetables. But as time passed, and health and safety regulations became more stringent, it was too hard to keep the farm going.

For some years Pinetree Farm has been used by local farmers to run stock in exchange for looking after the property. Last year, Colin suggested to the IHC King Country Association that it might be time to move on, and arrangements are being made to sell the farm and reinvest the money in housing improvements in the King Country for people in IHC residential homes.

All of us at IHC send our thoughts and good wishes to Colin and his family as they go through this tough time with Colin's illness.

Hot pink stock sticks a sell-out

It turns out that hot pink stock sticks are a hit with farmers. At Fieldays this year, RX Plastics added a new look to the black alkathene pipe stock sticks they make to raise money for IHC.

“Normally we just do a pink stripe down the side but this year we did a jacket on them,” says Karl Greenland, Territory Manager Auckland. The hot pink jacket matches the pink in the IHC brand.

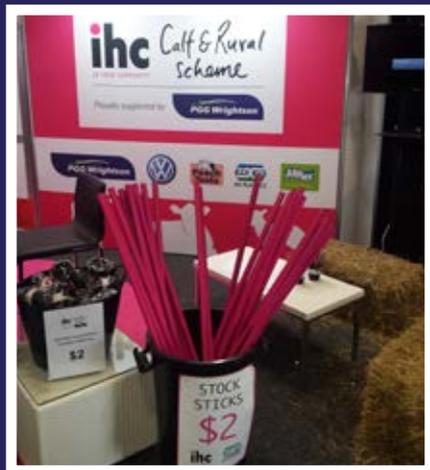
RX Plastics made 300 – the same number as last year – but they hadn’t counted on a rush on sales. “We took 300 last year and came home with some. This year we sold out on day one pretty much,” Karl says.

By the time it came to ‘Townies Day’ people were asking how they could get hold of one, but farmers had snapped them up.

“The thing that came back from a lot of people was that they could see them in the grass if they dropped them,” Karl says. “People were saying that they wanted them for dog trials.”

Karl says he is a bit disheartened when he thinks about how many more they could have sold for IHC. “Next year I am going to try for 1000 stock sticks – we will hit it harder next year.”

RX Plastics have been supporting IHC by providing stock sticks for Fieldays for more than 10 years. In addition, Karl says many of the territory managers, who have come off farms, have also raised calves for IHC through the Calf & Rural Scheme.



The stock sticks sell for \$2 each and were available from the IHC stand at Fieldays.

Peach Teats and IHC – ‘sweet as’

Hunterville dairy farmer Robert McIntyre had a great idea back in 1990 when he invented a revolutionary calf feeding teat, his Peach Teat, which he launched on the market in 1993.

Then, in 2000, he had another great idea. He suggested to IHC that he produce peach-flavoured lollies to say thanks to farmers who donate calves to the IHC Calf & Rural Scheme, while promoting his teats at the same time. Peach Teats not only sponsors the scheme, but the family have been donating calves since the fundraiser started in 1984.

The sweets – hard toffees or soft and chewy – are in the gift pack that goes to farmers who donate calves. Every year they supply 5000 bags.

Robert recalls three years of hard work producing the teats from an old shed on the family farm.

The design was revolutionary because the teats contained valves that release milk to calves in the same way as a cow’s udder. Rob has patented three features of his design – the way the teat is cut with two milk openings on each side of

the nipple, the internal collapsing flap-valve that holds the milk in the teat, and the screw-in thread for fitting to feeders.

He has never had to modify the design, although there were a few teething problems at the start mainly related to the kind of rubber being used. He switched to Skellerup in 1998. “That is when the product really took off,” he says. “Skellerup is the manufacturer of the Peach Teat and they distribute the Peach Teat and they give the Peach Teat credibility.”

These days the 520ha farm next to the Rangitikei River is run by their son Richard, who farms 900 Friesians. “I virtually stopped farming when I started Peach Teats in ‘93.”

Peach Teats are now the biggest seller of calf teats in New Zealand, Australia and Ireland. The company also exports to the United States and in smaller numbers to a wide range of countries.

Robert admits to having had one or two good ideas since. “I try not to because I know what’s involved.” He says he has to stay focused on marketing Peach Teats and staying ahead of his rivals.



Rob’s grandson Colin McIntyre with Ned on the Rangitikei farm.

Winners head off on a mystery weekend

Congratulations to this year’s Mystery Weekend winners.

The draw for the North Island and South Island pre-pledges went to Malcolm and June Burkitt of Mangonui in Northland, and Winy Van Rossum of Invercargill.

Last year’s South Island winners, David and Sally Mavor from Ashburton, got

away to Rotorua in May this year for their break, enjoying sightseeing in the city and staying in the Millennium Hotel.

The Fieldays winners are Benjamin and Kim Sneddon from Tokoroa.

Thank you again to everyone for supporting the IHC Calf & Rural Scheme.

Charlie Ward is discovering the world in his own way.



Young Charlie is a great motivator

Glenn Ward has been dairy farming for most of his life and raising IHC calves for his employers.

But at Fieldays this year, Glenn signed up to raise two calves on his own account. He has some pretty good motivation – one of his two sons, Charlie, 4, has Down syndrome.

Glenn and his wife Sharon are contract milking just outside Papamoa, where they run 600 crossbreeds. “I grew up dairy farming. My parents sold the farm when I was 13 and I missed it so much I went farming,” Glenn says.

But the one thing that did take Glenn away from the farm was rugby – he had two stints playing overseas for the Greystones RFC in Ireland and later for Nottingham RFC in England, where he met his wife Sharon. They have two sons, James, 7, and Charlie. Both are growing up loving the farm and rugby too.

Glenn says Charlie is doing pretty well. “He is not talking yet, but he gets his point across and he understands everything. You can’t keep him off the farm. Charlie comes looking for me if I am not home by 5.30,” he says.

The Wards let Charlie discover the world in his own way. “People say how can we let him do this and let him do that – well how can you stop him? If he wants to roll down the hill, he will roll down the hill. I am just there to catch him. I just want him to fit in and to have as full a life as possible and be able to do whatever he wants to do.

“Getting ready for school is our next mission and that is quite scary in itself. He will go to the same school as James.”

And, of course, James will be close by. “James is very protective of him.” Glenn says he has always known that IHC was there, but Charlie’s arrival gives special meaning to raising calves for IHC.

Could you be a winner?

Do you like taking great farming photos like this one from Stacey Vette? Why not grab your camera and see if you could be a winner in our photo competition.

We will choose one winner from each category:

- 7 years and under
- 8 to 12 years old
- 13 to 18 years old
- Over 18 years of age

We would love to see photographs of your pledged calves, other animals or farming and rural scenes.

Please send your entry – one only per person – by Friday 25 November to calf@ihc.org.nz along with: Your name / Age / Contact phone number

And also please confirm that you took the photograph yourself, and that any people in the photo have given permission for the image to be used by IHC.

Please share your photo on your favourite social media channel, Facebook, Twitter or Instagram and tag it with the hashtag #ihcfarmpic.

The winner of each category will receive a \$100 Prezzy Card, and we will notify the winners by Friday 9 December. The winners will be announced on facebook.com/IHC.New.Zealand and twitter.com/IHC_New_Zealand.

Photographs entered into the competition may be used by IHC for promotional purposes. Visit ihc.org.nz/ihcfarmpic for conditions of entry.



NAIT and TBFree – seven easy steps

When you donate an animal to the IHC Calf & Rural Scheme, here’s what you need to do for OSPRI’s NAIT and TBfree programmes.

This is easy because IHC is an accredited information provider.

- 1 Let IHC know your NAIT number.
- 2 If you haven’t already done so, give IHC permission to act on your behalf as an information provider so we can record the movement for you (you can do this on your pledge form or over the phone with IHC).
- 3 Tag your animal with the two tags provided to you by IHC – the NAIT tag and the paired pink IHC tag (make sure the animal has only one NAIT tag).
- 4 If the NAIT tag supplied by IHC is lost, contact the IHC Calf Scheme team on 0800 442 500. You can arrange for a replacement tag, or let them know you’d like to use your own NAIT tag and advise them of the tag number.
- 5 If you’re using your own NAIT tag, let IHC know the tag number so they can still process the movement on your behalf.
- 6 If you’re in a movement control area under the TBfree programme, call OSPRI on 0800 482 463 to book a pre-movement TB test (tests must be completed within 60 days of the animal moving off-farm).
- 7 Send your animal to the pre-arranged collection point or PGG Wrightson sale. You do not need to record the movement in NAIT – IHC will do this for you.

If you have any questions or need a hand with the NAIT and TBfree requirements, give OSPRI a call on 0800 482 463 between 7am and 6pm on weekdays.

IHC sales

Location	Date
Paeroa IHC Dairy Beef	Friday 21 October
Rangiuru IHC Livestock Wnr	Wednesday 2 November
Frankton IHC Dairy	Monday 7 November
Taranaki IHC Calf	Thursday 10 November
Tuakau IHC Dairy Beef Wnr Fair	Friday 11 November
Blenheim Open Cattle & IHC Calves	Thursday 24 November
Tinwald IHC Calf & Cattle	Thursday 24 November
Golden Bay IHC Calf	Thursday 24 November
Waiareka IHC Calf	Monday 28 November
Wellsford IHC Wnr	Monday 28 November
Kaikohe IHC Wnr	Wednesday 30 November
Brightwater IHC Calf	Wednesday 30 November
Manawatu/Wairarapa/Feilding IHC Wnr	Thursday 1 December
Canterbury Park IHC Calf	Wednesday 7 December
Lorneville IHC Livestock	Wednesday 7 December
Temuka IHC Wnr Calf	Thursday 8 December
Ross Cattle & IHC Calf	TBC
IHC Balclutha Calf	TBC
Stortford Lodge	TBC

Calling sheep farmers: If you would like to donate a lamb or sheep to the IHC Calf & Rural Scheme, please tell your drafter or contact the IHC team. Thank you.

Smart dogs and tricky sheep



Beau watched by owner Fraser Willson is ready for anything.

For 50 years some of the smartest dogs in the country have been rounding up the trickiest sheep at the Gisborne dog trials. And every year, money donated from the event has been making lives better for people with intellectual disabilities in the Gisborne/Poverty Bay area.

The 50th annual Poverty Bay J & T Hickey Trust Charity Sheep Dog Trial was held over four days in August.

The dog trials started in 1967 when local dog enthusiasts Harry Biggar and Eric Aylward came up with the idea. Eric, who had a grandchild with an intellectual disability, put in 50 pounds for prize money and the pair decided that any money raised should go to IHC.

Over 50 years this has amounted to a grand total of \$78,000. The money has been used for all kinds of projects to assist local disabled people. IHC Gisborne Association Chair Christine Morrison says this has included health and exercise programmes, sport, bicycles, televisions, phones, musical instruments, arts and crafts and other outdoor activities.

Eleisha McNeill, IHC National Fundraising Manager, says money raised by the event has provided huge support locally for a very long time. "This kind of ongoing

commitment from the local community is fantastic. It says a lot about Gisborne and its care for people. Thank you so much."

Since 1967, more than \$222,000 overall has been donated to charity, says trials spokesman Trevor Brown – and that's not counting the money raised this year.

For the first 10 years, all the money went to IHC in Gisborne. In 1977, when the event got bigger, organisers decided to split the proceeds between Gisborne Riding for the Disabled, IHC and the Crippled Children's Society (now CCS Disability Action). More recently the event has also distributed money to the Eastland Rescue Helicopter Trust.

For the past 20 years, the dog trials have been sponsored by the J & T Hickey Charitable Trust. One of the trustees, Colin Peach, says Jim and Tom Hickey were brothers. Jim had smallholding at Makauri on the outskirts of Gisborne where he ran cattle, and he drove trucks for a local dairy company. For 40 years Tom managed Puketoro, a 8423ha sheep station inland from Tokomaru Bay.

Money left by the brothers has been funding local charities and community groups, schools and sports clubs to the tune of \$80,000 to \$100,000 each year.

There is a team of great people behind the Calf Scheme

Farmers – who pledge and raise the calves and provide paddocks for the calves in transit

Canvassers – who visit the farms and collect the pledges

Transporters and volunteers – who collect the calves at sales time

Buyers – who purchase the IHC calves

Sponsors – Volkswagen New Zealand, PGG Wrightson, Allflex New Zealand Ltd, Peach Teats, Skellerup and RX Plastics

If you can help, please contact us on **0800 442 500** or calf@ihc.org.nz

Thank you everyone, on behalf of people with intellectual disabilities. You make the Calf Scheme the success it is.