

## HE PANUI

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### **Tēnā koutou e te whanau**

We all wait for Winston Peters to decide whether a coalition government will be formed with Labour or National. Winston says he'll know by 12 October. However, in total there are 23 Maori MPS – 10 Labour, 8 National, 1 Green and 4 NZ First – representing about 20% of all MPs. Do the sums yourself for the coalition with the largest Maori representation.

*Nga mihi nui, Derek Kotuku Wooster, Chairman*

### **Wet and Warm**

We have now officially hit spring time and the forecast for the remainder of the spring is for “wet and warm” – according to the experts! The wet part we can do without as Taumarunui has had more than its share for the year so far. The main concern for farming at present is that we seem to have slipped into a weather pattern that is like last year when the “wet” part continued until late October. Lets’ hope Tāwhirimātea is on our side and can turn the taps off for a while especially while all the new born lambs are turning up! The markets that are key to the Incorporation are going “OK” at present, a bit of a mixed bag some might say but this is the advantage of having a diverse business – it can’t all be good! Dairy is rebounding well and the lamb job looks relatively stable for the year ahead (these are the two big profit earners), but it looks like the beef could see some headwind and wool is really struggling. Looks like we need to get the country to stock up on steak for the summer BBQ and get back to buying woolen jerseys to counter this cold weather!

Like much of the farming community now we are watching closely the result of the election on 23 September and the impact that it will have on agriculture in New Zealand. What can’t be denied is that all the country want’s one thing – clean (swimmable) water. The key here is finding the

balance and ensuring that the focus remains on the areas that matter and will make a real impact. There is plenty of speculation and scaremongering that gets thrown around at times like this and of most concern is the emotional debate rather than the scientific one. Yes, there has been plenty that has already been done within the industry (including on Te Uranga B2) but there is also plenty more that can be done better as we look to reduce the impact that agriculture has on water quality but this takes time. One of the key actions here that is currently going on within the Te Uranga business is focusing not on “best land use” but on “most appropriate land use”. They are very different things when you think about it in a long-term context – the only way we can for Maori land.

*Darren McNae, Agribusiness Advisor*

### **Kaumatua Grant**

If you are **registered** to receive a kaumatua grant Evelynne will pay it automatically into your account at the end of the year.

If you’re aged 65 years or more and haven’t registered to receive the grant then contact Evelynne on 07 895 3013 or download the registration form our website at this address <https://teurangab2.co.nz/about/services-to-owners/>

### **Education Support.**

Early Childhood and School Grant applications are due by 30 September. If you are planning to apply for a grant, make sure you get your application in as soon as you can.

The Committee of Management is committed to our tamariki getting a good start in life through education, as this gives them better life choices and opportunities later in life. Early Childhood Grants are available for tamariki at a registered early childhood education center or at kōhanga

reo. School grants are available for students from Years 1 to 13.

For more information on the grants, check out our website or contact our Administrator at Balance Chartered Accountants.

*Jonathon Kilgour, Committee of Management*

### **New to Upoko**

We have some new additions to Upoko. Casey has had a baby boy Boden, who has kept Casey very busy and she is currently on maternity leave but is keen to keep her hand in and has made herself available for docking and any other up and coming bigger jobs. The other is A.J (Andrew) Preston who we recently employed to take on the shepherd



generals job. A.J and Josephine Fitzell have a 15-month-old boy, Tahuna Keven Fitzell A.J also has two other boys Anaru and Harley aged 7 and 3 years old. A.J and I worked together on Pukepoto for about 2 years I thoroughly enjoyed his company and constant smile. A.J is a great asset to Upoko he is an enthusiastic and energetic worker with a big smile and can-do attitude, I look forward to working with him again.

*Rod Walker, Upoko Sheep and Beef Manager.*

### **New Woolshed and Covered Yards for Upoko**

Because of the Koromiko Dairy conversion back in the 1990s the woolshed ended up being located at the southern tip of our sheep and beef farm. This meant sheep mustering became a long and arduous job when it came to shearing and dagging. The new woolshed being more centrally located will mean the job of mustering will take

less time and walking distance for the sheep and lambs will be shorter resulting in less stressed animals and time saved.

A new five-stand woolshed, covered yards and associated facilities such as storage for veterinary products, toilets, tea-making and Health and Safety sign-in kiosk, power and water connections and driveways will cost approximately \$240,000 which is well within the capability of Upoko's cashflow.

Construction and planning is on target for completion by main-shear in November of this year. *New shed and yards on the right.*



Plans for the woolshed and covered yards complex, include a five-bay implement shed and workshop. Currently farm machinery and implements are stored at several sites on the farm.

### **Proxy Forms**

If you can't attend the AGM on Saturday 25 November then you can pick someone else to represent you at the meeting. Remember you **cannot** pick a member of the Committee of Management to be your proxy.

### **2017 AGM – Saturday 25 November 2017**

We're a couple of months away from this year's AGM. The numbers attending our pre-meeting farm visits has been dwindling so we've decided to begin this year's AGM without the farm visits, instead having a full day farm tour in March next year.

So write on your calendar – 10.00 am, Saturday 25 November, Ngakonui Hall, Te Uranga B2 AGM!

Myself, Derek Wooster, and Richard Burgess retire by rotation this year and both of us are available for re-election.

### **Comments and contributions welcome**

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# TE URANGA B2<sup>Inc.</sup>

*Te toto o te tangata, he kai, Te oranga o te tangata he whenua  
Food supplied the blood of man; his welfare depends on the land*

[www.teurangab2.co.nz](http://www.teurangab2.co.nz)