Tasmanian Tails

SPRING 2021



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Pick up some of our beautiful goat milk soap \$2.50 or 5 for \$12 and show your bias by buying one of our Udderly Delicious goat milk mugs. They are only \$10 each

All proceeds support the ongoing work of DGSA Tas Branch.

Website: dairygoatstas.com.au



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Office Bearers 2021/22

PRESIDENT/ TREASURER: Steve Baldock 195 Hydehurst Rd. Lachlan 7140

Ph 0407 537 692 or 6261 5311 email: highveld@activ8.net.au steve.baldock@nyrstar.com

VICE PRESIDENT: Wayne Lomman 596 Hop Valley Rd.Blackwood Creek 7301

Ph: 0418 744 203

email: waynelomman@gmail.com

SECRETARY: Margaret Lomman 596 Hop Valley Rd.Blackwood Creek 7301

Ph: 0418 810 633

email: w.m.lomman@bigpond.com

COMMITTEE:

Sue Davey: Ph: 0417 936 149 or 6261 5311

Desely Golightly: Ph.0421 938 929

Margaret Payton: Ph 0428 406 466

Scott Payton: Ph: 0429 426 810

Eian Rayner: Ph. 0409 423 474

Anna Shepheard: Ph. 0408 131 923

email: sue.davey256@gmail.com

email: margaretembrey@yahoo.com

email: scottpayton@bigpond.com

email: moderngame@westnet.com.au

email: anna.shepheard@gmail.com

OTHER ROLES:

Steve Baldock **Public Officer** Milk Awards/ Branch Awards Steve Baldock **Show Administrator** Sue Davey **Publicity Officer** Anna Shepheard **AGW Correspondent** Sue Davev **Property Officer** Steve Baldock Tas. DGSA Website Manager Scott Payton State Commercial Liaison Officer Margaret Lomman

TASMANIAN TAILS EDITOR: Desely Golightly Ph.0421 938 929

email: deselvgolightly@gmail.com

Articles, Advertisements etc: Do you want to advertise or submit an article to the Tasmanian Tails? See inside the back page for deadlines, advertising rates and submission information! **Disclaimer:** The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or of the Tasmanian Branch Inc.

From the President



SPRING 2021

The more things change the more they stay the same it would appear. With all the lockdowns, restrictions and uncertainty around at the moment it does make planning for anything very difficult. We are however in a lot better position than several mainland states.

With most of the AG shows cancelled again we have managed to have some events on the calender for this show season. The Royal Hobart Show will hold its 200th Show this year. It will be the last on the site until around

2025 because of site redevelopment. The Brighton Show has been cancelled but the committee are keen to have a small event which we will be part of. It will be our Branch Show. The Scottsdale AG Society are keen to do something similar and we have indicated that we would be interested in having a Dairy Goat show there. Tim and Anna have offered to hold a show at their property and the All Breeds Show will be held again in February next year.

We had a Goatfest planning meeting in September and the event will be held on the 30th of January in Longford. We are looking for donations for our online competitions which are run just prior to Goatfest so if you have anything suitable, please get in touch with us. Goatfest is also looking for a new logo as the old grey scale one has been around since the events inception. If there are any graphic designers out there, we would love to hear from you. The logo will need to cover Dairy, Angora, Miniature and Boer goats. We will also attend Agfest again next year. All the above events will go ahead subject to the whims of the State Chief Health Officer.

More information about these events will be sent out as they get closer. You can also find further information on the Tas branch and Goatfest facebook pages and the Branch website.

Our recent Branch AGM was held in July and the updated committee and Officer positions can be found in this newsletter.

Please come and say hello if you are out and about at any of our events over the spring and summer.

Steve Baldock



DAIRY DOE OF THE YEAR – MAHREL MAIRI

Upcoming events

Event	Date	Location
Launceston Show	2021 Cancelled	
Hobart Show	20 th -23 rd October	Hobart Showgrounds, 2 Howard Road, Glenorchy
Brighton Show	TBC – contact Steve Baldock	Pontville Recreation Grounds, 325 Brighton Rd, Pontville
Huon Valley Show	2021 Cancelled	
Scottsvale Show	TBC – contact Steve Baldock	Scottsvale Showground, Rose Street, Scottsvale
Deloraine Show	20 th November	Deloraine Showgrounds, Highland Lakes Road, Deloraine
All Breeds Show	February 2022	TBC

From the Editor

Spring again! Another year has rolled on by and most breeders will have kids on the ground for this year. I am loving all the photos everyone is sharing on social media. Cuteness overload!

Even though I don't have goats at the moment, I was lucky enough to visit Touchwood Farm and cuddle up to a few of their little bundles of joy. They are doing some great things in the commercial market out at their place and often have open days, so drop by if you are visiting the Huon Valley area. I am looking forward to sharing an article in the next newsletter. If anyone else would like to send through a story about your herd, a special goat or anything else goat related, please send them through!

Can't wait to catch up with everyone at the shows/events that are still going ahead

Cheers Desely



Annual General Meeting Reports

President's Report

The 2020/21 year has seen another increase in membership numbers for our branch. This has been the case for the last several years and is great to see. With each membership the receives a \$21.17 rebate from our Federal body each year which assists us with the promotion of the Society. We also had a surplus allocation during the year which also helped greatly.

Our presence at shows and displays state-wide was hampered by cancellations due the Covid effect and this is expected to continue through the rest of 2021 and maybe 2022.

We were fortunate enough to be able to run GoatFest this year as well as attend Agfest along with holding 3 shows. All 3 shows for the season were well attended.

GoatFest was a great success for the Branch and the goat industry in general. Agfest wasn't all that successful for barious reasons.

As in previous years the committee has reduced the number of Branch meeting to avoid unnecessary cost and travel for members many of which also attend Goatfest planning meetings as well. Our Facebook page sees a regular stream of enquires and comments and along with our website puts our Branch out there as the go to place for information on Dairy goats in Tas. A big thankyou to Anna Shepheard for her efforts in keeping our Facebook page relevant and answering any enquiries promptly. Thanks also to Scott Payton for keeping an eye on our website and attending promptly to enquiries.

I would like to thank the Branch committee and our office bearers and members who have supported our activities throughout the past year. No doubt the future will look different, but we have the people who are able to respond to the challenges.

Secretary 's Report

Our membership has grown over the past year. We welcomed new members and transferring members. As at the 2 July 2021 we had 34 members, the chart gives a break down of memberships.

	2019	2020	2021
Affiliate Member	0	0	0
Honorary Member	1	1	1
Junior Member	0	1	0
Life Member	3	3	3
Member	23	29	30
TOTAL MEMBERS	27	34	34

We were eligible to have 2 Federal Directors at the Federal Council meeting in May. Steve Baldock as Branch President is automatically a Federal Director and a Federal Vice President. Sue Davey was elected the second Federal Director.

We held 3 committee meetings in the past year and maintained contact with both committee and branch members via email.

Treasurer's Report

Income & Expenditure Statement for the financial year ended 30th April 2021

Income	
Soap & Merchandise Sales	1466.00
Membership Rebates	587.49
Federal Surplus Funds	489.63
Miscellaneous	14.30
Book & Mug Sales	55.00
GoatFest	2108.80
TOTAL INCOME	\$4721.22

Evnanditura	
Expenditure	
Soap	1399.20
Sponsorship - shows	100.00
Miscellaneous	576.50
Shows	313.41
Goatfest & Agfest	1146.98
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$3536.09

Miscellaneous Income -Federal Sashes \$14.40
Miscellaneous Expenditure – Website \$161.11, Branch Award trophies \$50.00, Auditor gift \$23.99, Corp Affairs Annual Return \$64.80, Postage \$6.60, Meeting room hire \$270.00

Shows: Sponsorship: Best Exhibit Prize Hobart & Branch Show

STOCK ON HAND Mugs 54

Soap 13 boxes +72 bars



BANK RECONCILIATION STATEMENT

BALANCE AS PER CASH BOOK

Balance B/Fwd – 01 May 2020 \$ 4321.31
Receipts +4721.22

Less Expenditure -<u>3536.09</u> \$5506.44

BALANCE AS PER BANK STATEMENT – 30th APRIL 2021 \$5506.44

GOATFEST MONEY \$2273.61 (INCLUDED IN BALANCE)

DGSA TAS BRANCH \$3232.83

Soap sales down, loss mainly show expenses Books were reviewed by Vicky Winley and found to be accurate. Thanks to Jane Hewlett for excellent soap sales.

Show Coordinator's Report

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic sweeping the world and because of its highly infectious nature, social gatherings have not taken place, and for good reasons. The Agricultural Society run shows were cancelled. The Tasmania Branch committee's hard work paid off with 3 shows being held during this time. The strict Covid-19 rules were implemented as per the Health Department requirements so these shows could go ahead.

The Southern Dairy Goat Show was held on 1st November at the Hobart Show grounds.

Anna & Tim kindly made their beautiful property and facilities available at Merseylea so a Branch Show could be held on 14th November.

The third show was the All Breeds Summer Show which was held on 21st February at the Deloraine Show grounds. This show brings together, Angora, Boer, Dairy & Miniature goats.

Local Judges were engaged because mainland judges were unable to travel here.

As these shows went ahead it allowed for the branch dairy doe awards to still be calculated.

A big thankyou to the many people who contributed their time and efforts so these events could take place. We wait and see if our shows will go ahead for this upcoming show season.

Branch Awards Coordinator's Report

Dairy Doe of the Year

Marel Mhairi *Q*2 33 Show points +4 Q*points = 37 (British Alpine)

Junior Dairy Goat of the Year

Jiel Kiari 27 points (Anglo-Nubian)

Dairy Kid of the Year

Lavender Park Amara 31 points (Toggenburg)

Congratulations to all winners.

Margaret & Emma Lomman for Marel Mhairi's Dairy Doe of the Year.

Anna Shepheard & Tim Saltmarsh for Jiel Kiari's Junior Dairy Doe of the Year.

Margaret Payton for Lavender Park Amara's Dairy Doe Kid of the Year.

I note that Kiari won the Kid award last year so it will be interesting to see how she goes in the Dairy Doe of Year this season



Milk Award Officer's Report

Highest amount of Butterfat in a 24hr test

Marel Merrylegs Q*2 (0.22kg) (British Alpine)

Highest amount of Milk in a 24 hr test

A.Ch F206 Marel Chaos *, *Q* (4.6kg) (Australian Melaan)

Highest Amount of Milk on Herd Recording

Highveld Kathryn-Pixie (1203kg) 287 days in milk 1st Lac Saanen. At the time of this report Kathryn was still on herd recording and yet to complete 365 days. Her herd recording figure is the total Kgs milked up to and including her June test.

Herd recording is great way to monitor and compare your does production during a lactation. Milk yield and butterfat as well as protein and somatic cell counts can be monitored. Herd recording can be done as farmer own or by a branch approved monitor. All the information about the Society's milk award system can be found in the Herd Book. Herd recording monthly analysis is done at the TasHerd facility at Hadspen.

If anyone would like assistance with any aspect of either herd recording or 24 hr production testing, please contact me.

Commercial Liaison

The commercial goat dairying sector in Tasmania seems to be in a constant state of change. Very few dairies continue long term.

In Tasmania there are currently 2 major processors of goat milk, who are supplied by independent producers. There are also boutique cheesemakers who process milk from their own small herds.

However, the uncertain nature of this industry in Tasmania impacts the makeup of the commercial dairy goat herd in the state, often resulting in less productive 'start up' stock making up the bulk of the Tasmanian commercial herd. For example, recently a large dairy herd was sold to the mainland. That genetic pool has left the local industry and any productivity gains they made are no longer easily accessible for other Tasmanian producers.

It is very important that stud breeders concentrate on breeding productive, well uddered stock if they wish to sell sires into the industry. Herd recording, 24hr testing, classification and show results all work together to indicate the breeding potential of sires entering a commercial herd. I encourage anyone offering bucks for sale to make use of these tools.

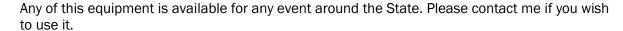
There were a number of enquiries regarding the dairy goat industry at Agfest with some proposing to enter the industry in Tasmania and a couple looking towards Victoria. My thanks to Tim Saltmarsh and Anna Shepheard for assisting in fielding these enquiries. With us having over 60 years of experience in dairy goat keeping and Tim's additional background with dairy cattle, we were able to provide valuable advice on the different challenges faced in goat dairying. I believe the information we were able to provide will be of assistance when or if they proceed with a goat dairying enterprise.

The Dairy Goat Society is a valuable resource for those looking to enter commercial production and to expand in this industry. It will continue to be the 'go to' place for information when starting out and sourcing quality genetics for herd improvement.

Property Officer's Report

At present the Branch equipment consists of the following items:

- 1 3x3 metre gazebo
- 2 sets of tattoo pliers with a full set of letters and numbers.
- 2 sets of breed/ Dairy Goats banners
- 1 TAS branch banner
- 1 set blue portable folding display boards
- 2 Folding display tables
- Several general display boards
- 1 set of pig tail stakes and rope
- 3 sets of milk weighing clock face scales
- 1 Stainless milk bucket
- 1 blue banner with 4 heads designed by Cathy Packham



The Tattoo set is available for a hire fee of \$5 plus postage.



Well we have had another interesting year, thankfully with a few events to attend.

Our Branch once again pulled together a GoatFest display to be proud of, with excellent attendance despite the change of location. It's great that we can work with our fellow breed organisations to promote goats to a wide audience. The GoatFest All Breeds Summer Show was similarly well attended and seems to be another growing event.

We used the GoatFest formula at Agfest this year, and although attendance numbers were limited by Covid caps, I think our display was well executed and we spent a lot of time talking to genuinely interested patrons. With the generous support of the GoatFest committee covering expenses, this was a successful event for us and we were able to raise some money. I would like to thank Margaret Lomman, Tim Saltmarsh and Eian Rayner for attending each day, and Steve Baldock and Sue Davey and Cindy and Stephen Fagg for making the trip up to join us for a day as well, along with everyone who helped with set up and pack up. Agfest was another huge joint effort between us, the MGBA, Boer Goat Breeders and Mohair Australia and I hope these collaborations will continue in the future.

We continue to refine our publicity display and have received positive comments from members of other branches on both our display and the events we organise. For a small Branch it is my belief that we are punching well above our weight.

Our Facebook page continues to field regular inquiries and the website is looking great thanks to Scott Payton.

Despite these interesting times we continue to maintain a presence both in person and online and are easily found by the general public. This is not an insignificant accomplishment given the challenges we continue to face, and I am impressed by the dedication shown by the members of this committee and our Branch.

Anna Shepheard



AGW Correspondent Report

Tasmania is the feature state in the October edition. This means all information, articles, photos and results must be with the Editor by the 15th of September for inclusion. This is advantageous because it is before the show season starts. As we did have 3 shows, GoatFest & AgFest our edition will have these events featured.

Fewer shows and publicity events to report will decrease the content.



If any member has an interesting story or a labour-saving idea regarding their goats, please share it soothers can benefit. We all love a good goat story!

Thank you to the members who have their cameras or phones ready to take photos at our events, these certainly help when it comes time to put our edition together.

Newsletter Editor's Report

All required newsletters for 2020/21 were issued. Over the past year we have gone with a seasonal theme for each newsletter. Thank you to all the members who made contributions to the newsletter. It's great to see what everyone is up to.

As always, we are looking forward to receiving more articles, stories and photos as we head into 2022. I have enjoyed my experience as editor for the past year and look forward to doing it again if I am appointed. Thanks!

All things Goat in Tasmania

When I moved to Tasmania almost two years ago I came across a number of Goat places on the map. They are on my list of places to see when I still play tourist on my holiday breaks from work. I thought maybe everyone else would like to see them as well!

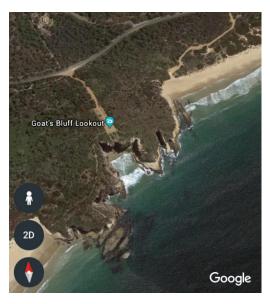
Goat Island

A small and unpopulated granite island located off the coats between Penguin and Ulverstone. You can walk across to the island at low tide. It forms part of the Three Sisters, Goat Island Nature Reserve. Probably named



because of the rugged rocks and peaks found on the island that only a goat would climb. Apparently, it's a great swimming and fishing spot and has a colony of Little Penguins if you are lucky enough to spot them.

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goat_Island_(Tasmania))



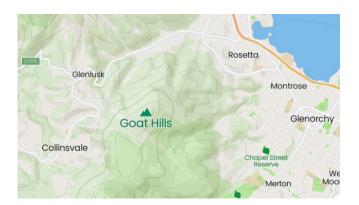
Goats Beach and Goats Bluff, South Arm

Goat Bluff is an irregular 500 m long section of 30 m high cliffed sandstone rocks that separates Calverts from Hope Beach. There is a lookout on the crest of the bluff with views south to Black Rocks and the larger Betsy Island. Goats Beach is a 60 m long pocket of rocks and sand set in a gap in the centre of the bluffs and immediately below the lookout. The beach consists of high tide cobbles and boulders against the base of the cliffs, then a sandy 100 m wide bar with rock outcrops that fill the gap. Very popular with surfers as it has a great break in the right weather conditions. The bluff is a great a great spot to stargaze and see the auroras however there is no safe access to the beach below.

(https://tasmanianbeaches.net/tag/goats-bluff/)

Goat Hills

Goat Hills is a 401m summit southeast of Glenlusk. There is a 5km hiking trail (Zig Zag track) to the peak from Collinsvale. (https://mapcarta.com/30051632)



Branch Award Photos



Dairy doe of the Year – Marel Mhairi *Q*2 owned by Margaret and Emma Lomman



Dairy Doe Kid of the Year - Lavender Park Amara owned by Margaret Payton



Junior Dairy Goat of the Year – Jiel Kiara owned by Anna Shepheard



The beautifully repurposed trophies for our winners!

Advertising and Submission Guidelines

Guidelines for Articles, Images etc.

Articles: Please submit all articles in .doc or .docx format. Images to be included with the article may be part of the document or as separate attachments in the same email. In the body of your email, include a list of everything you've attached.

Images: Reasonable quality (at least big enough to print at 100% quality on the full width of a newsletter page). Watch your backgrounds! A lovely picture of your goat is even better against a clean, distraction-free background, so check for people, clutter and other animals before sending the picture. Remember you can always take a picture of your show winner with his or her ribbons at home after the show.

Other content: Anecdotes, poetry, jokes etc. are welcome and will be published as time and space permits. Submission guidelines are the same as for articles.

ALL CONTENT SUBMITTED TO TASMANIAN TAILS MUST BE YOUR OWN WORK OR SOMETHING YOU HAVE PERMISSION TO COPY, PLEASE CONTACT THE EDITOR IF YOU'RE NOT SURE.

Advertising Rates and Payment

Cheques and money orders are to be made payable to the Dairy Goat Society of Australia Ltd.

Tasmanian Branch Inc. or contact us for eft details.

The next issue will be in **December**, please send your submission before the **end of November**.

ADVERTISING RATES FOR MEMBERS Rates for non-members are negotiable.

Size	\$ Per issue	\$ Per year
Full page	15	40
Half page	10	30
Quarter page	5	15