

## World Shorthorn Conference New Zealand March 2013

Planning is well underway for the World Shorthorn Tours and Conference in New Zealand March 8<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> 2013.

We have appointed a travel company, KIRRA HOLIDAYS CHRISTCHURCH, as our travel agents and with them we are planning a diverse tour of New Zealand for you all to see as many SHORTHORNS, both BEEF and DAIRY as well as some of our beautiful scenery and great tourist locations.

The Conference Tour will start in Christchurch, yes Christchurch is still operating and looks forward to welcoming you all to the start of this magical journey we are planning to help celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> year of Shorthorns in Aotearoa New Zealand

New Zealand – Land of the Long White Cloud – consists of two main islands known as the North and the South Islands. It is similar in size to Japan or Great Britain and has a population of 4.1 million. Much of the land is preserved in National Parks and Reserves and is known as the Adventure Capital of the World. So we intend to show you as much of this fine country as we can.

Our Pre Conference Tour will start in Christchurch and we will travel via the Mackenzie Basin Central Otago and the Southern Lakes to Queenstown visiting farms and tourist locations along the way. For those who are thrill seekers Queenstown will entice you to Bungy Jump at the Skippers Canon or ride the Shotover Jet. There is also plenty to do in Queenstown for those that just want to explore a majestic alpine town.

From Queenstown we will travel on to Mt Linton Station in southern Southland where we are pleased to report that our Crossbreeding Trail is progressing well. Ceri Lewis is pleased with the calves that are just being born so we will be watching their progress with much interest. We look forward to taking you to this station to not only see the results of this trail but to see such a vast area of high country being farmed commercially with sheep and cattle.

From Mt Linton we will travel up the East Coast visiting Beef and Dairy Herds heading to Kaikoura. Kaikoura is another stop where you will get the morning

off to explore this seaside town. Kaikoura (meaning meal of Crayfish) has a fascinating history with the early Maori hunting for Moa (now extinct) and using the coastal caves for shelter. Seals and Whales and the mountains meeting the ocean feature here.

On to Blenheim to tour the Omaka Aviation Heritage Centre that Sir Peter Jackson, director of Lord of the Rings, has made a major contribution too.

We will then cross Cooks Strait by ferry sailing from Picton through the picturesque Queen Charlotte Sounds to Wellington.

A morning off in Wellington will give you a chance to explore a little of our capital city. Here you can visit Parliament Buildings and the Beehive or the Museum of New Zealand, Te Papa, as well as some great shopping on the Lambton Quarter.

From Wellington we will head up the East Coast, once again stopping at farms and tourist locations along the way to Rotorua. Rotorua is like no other place in the world. Here you can stand on active volcanoes, peer into massive craters, watch mud boil and geysers erupt and the smell!!

Some more farm visits both beef and dairy we will see us end up in Auckland. Auckland is our biggest City, often known as The City of Sails home to a huge sailing fraternity and the famous Sky Tower.

We are gradually getting you to where our Conference is to be held. With a few more interesting stops we will end our tour in the beautiful Bay of Islands. Home to where shorthorns were first introduced into New Zealand by Samuel Marsden in 1814. A fitting place for Shorthorn Breeders and Friends to come together and celebrate a milestone for our great breed.

Shorthorn Beef New Zealand invites you all down under in March 2013. We believe the itinerary we are putting together will certainly give you a wide look at Shorthorns both stud and commercial farms as well as mixing some great tourist spots and activities for all ages. The diversity of our landscape in short distances is second to none.

**COME AND JOIN US IN MARCH 2013**

Judy Austin

Chairperson World Shorthorn Organising Committee

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