



October 2016

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Rongo to Aaron

It was a great night on Friday, as nearly 60 people got together for the Beef + Lamb NZ Awards Dinner to celebrate the success of all the award winners.

B+LNZ CEO, Sam McIvor, who attended an awards dinner for the first time, was guest speaker. He spoke about the

group of young people born in the 1980s and 1990s, known as millennials – their dependence on smart phones, their eating habits including dining out, their shopping generally, what their expectations for jobs etc. Interesting and relevant in different ways to all those there – although not many millennials at the function!

The winners of the awards have already been published, but there were some interesting outcomes.

* Aaron Smale, who has not entered the awards for some years, won three different awards – the MPI Rongo (pictured at left with MPI's Sam Pickering), the AGMARDT Agribusiness Award and the Federated Farmers Rural Photography Award. The photo depicted a high country muster and illustrated one of the award-winning articles on the fortunes of the wool.

* Susan Murray won two awards – the Federated Farmers Broadcast Journalism Award and the Horticulture New Zealand Journal. One item which was entered in both, a story about the demand for top quality horticulture land around Pukekohe and the demand for increased land for housing, took second place in the recent international broadcast journalism award, run by the International Federation of Agricultural Journalists.

* The Guild Encouragement Award





was won by Pat Deavoll (pictured below with Guild president Ali Spencer), who came to journalism of any sort only about 18 months ago. Pat, who is based in Christchurch, works for *NZ Farmer*, and has a long association with farming.

Aaron Smale's winning photo was taken during a high country muster.

2016-17 national executive

Two members of the national executive stood down at the recent annual general meeting, and one new member was elected. This year the office holders are: President, Ali Spencer. Vice-president, Elaine Fisher. Secretary, Sue Miller. Treasurer, Mick Calder.



Jon Morgan stood down after many years service, including two years as national president. Jackie Bedford did not seek re-election. Standing for the first time was Cheyenne Stein, from *Dairy Exporter*, who represented New Zealand at the Alltech Young Leaders bootcamp and Congress 2016. She received the IFAJ Alltech Young

Leader in Agricultural Journalism Award in Bonn.

So the new executive members elected are: Liz Brook, Gerald Piddock, Jackie Harrigan, Sara Passmore, Leigh Catley and Cheyenne Stein.

Sue, Mick, Hugh life members

Three new life members for the NZ Guild were confirmed at the recent annual general meeting: Hugh Stringleman, Mick Calder and Sue Miller (pictured below with Guild president Ali Spencer – Hugh was absent).

All have been active members of the guild for many years, on the national executive for a number of years, and all three were heavily involved in the planning and administration of last year's Congress 2015. Hugh was congress planning team chairman from the start, Mick was treasurer and in charge of the registration and Sue was co-ordinator. Well done everyone!

Communicator of the Year

We are very close to signing an agreement for the very important Communicator of the Year Award. This is the guild's most prestigious award, presented during National Fieldays in Hamilton, in June. We hope to be able to confirm the new sponsor of this award in the next couple of weeks.

Nadine donates winnings

The winner of this year's Rural Women New Zealand Award, Nadine Porter, has generously donated her award winnings to the Farming Mums NZ initiative. This is an online support group for farming women, and has over 5000 members, increasing by around 60 members per week. Find out about this interesting and deserving support group by going to farmingmumsnz.com





How to shake hands and hold together a photo frame at the same time !

