

MEDIA RELEASE

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For immediate release



Association announces new President

The 2009 Canterbury Agricultural & Pastoral Association President was announced at the Association's Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday. Donald Wright from Sheffield takes over from outgoing President Keith McIntosh of Springfield. John Grigg, Darfield moves to Senior Vice President and Peter Gardner, Amberley becomes Junior Vice President.

Donald Wright, a fourth generation arable farmer at 'Mountain View', has been a great supporter of the Canterbury A&P Association for many years, both as a volunteer and life member.

Donald has been a member of the Canterbury A&P Association General Committee since 1989. His father and grandfather both served on the Committee; his father was President in 1984. Donald began stewarding in the cattle and sheep sections of the Show, eventually moving to the machinery section. An award winning invention further inspired his involvement in the trade and machinery sections of the Show.

Donald and Jenny Wright have two sons and one daughter; sons Paul and Stephen farm the family business.

Donald's wife and daughter have both competed in equestrian events over the years.

"I have very fond memories of attending the Show in Canterbury; as far back as the age of five I can remember attending the Show on the coat tails of my parents. It was always a day to look forward to with family and friends and the picnic lunch at the back of the car on Show day", added Wright.

The Canterbury A&P Association has held the annual Show every year since 1862 and has been granted Royal New Zealand Show hosting rights until 2012 inclusive.

The Royal New Zealand Show is the largest A&P Show in the country, held at New Zealand's first purpose built Show facility. The Show attracts 120,000 people, over 7000 livestock and feature competition entries and close to 600 trade exhibitors.

The Canterbury A&P Association will host its 147th Show and the 79th Royal New Zealand Show in Christchurch from 11 to 13 November 2009.

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