



# One Stop Ram Shop



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Wax-eye amongst bottle-brush flowers. Wax-eyes disperse seeds. Flocks of seventy in winter.  
OSRS, 2018



Recycling. Swatted flies fed to ants.  
OSRS, January 2018.



Bliss. Arthur, a twelve-year-old Kuni-Kuni 'cooling off'. Arthur, Martha, Ginger enjoy overseas visitors. Arthur was born in Dipton, Southland.  
January 2018



Beef & Lamb Condition Scoring Workshop at OSRS, Forty farmers attended.  
Feb 2018.

## There has been lots of travel within NZ by OSRS

32 days were spent 'on the road' (12150 kms). 170 farm calls, Beef and Lamb workshop at OSRS, Massey University discussion day, Waimumu Southern Field days. Plenty of communications!

Waimumu is a biannual highlight. OSRS has exhibited seven times. Sue and Jeffrey Moss 'made' the 2018 visit. They are so thorough, think of everything and create a relaxing atmosphere for visitors, sheep and the team. Southern Hospitality at their Clinton home guaranteed talk for hours after long days. Friday night's 'last supper' of Clinton fish-n-chips was our celebration.

Three people in two cars drove from Hawkes Bay with pictures and promotional material. Show sheep were sent to Jeffrey's farm in January. Afterwards, they were trucked to OSRS flocks on both islands. We headed home on Saturday. **Waimumu 2020? Yes** OSRS's exhibit site is on a busy corner close to entrances, car

parks and main thoroughfares. It cannot be missed. Farmers 'drop-in' at the beginning of their day. Clients, friends and acquaintances from 'way back' call for a chat, Sue's fruit cake and coffee. About 1200 stop by. *A perfect site at a wonderful rural show.*

Yet again, nobody guessed the combined weight of the OSRS rams. **Kay McKenzie** was close and won the prize (a ram) with 900 kgs. Only .5 kg wrong. In 2016 **three** people were close so, **each won a ram. Limestone Hills School farm group** (Centre Bush) showed masses of enthusiasm but little accuracy. **OSRS gave two rams** for their flock; *encouragement.*

Prior to leaving the Deep South, Andre conducted interviews (15) with farmers. He asked about flock management and productivity changes attributed to OSRS genetics. This information will be used for marketing Cordeiro Biz, OSRS's partner in Brazil.



Andre and Joy stuffing envelopes with newsletters. Thousands are posted. Responses are appreciated by OSRS.  
September, 2017



Seventh exhibit at the Southern Field Days. Biannual treat for 'Team OSRS'. Talk sheep with southern friends.  
Waimumu 12-14 February, 2018



Iranian Politicians. Members of the influential Parliamentary Agricultural Committee visited OSRS. Experienced rural experts.  
23 February, 2018



Yummy T-bone lamb chops. They were pre-ordered. Lamb meat availability is spasmodic, unreliable.  
Ponta Grossa, Brazil, July 2017



Accidents happen. RAM4U pranged, 8.30am on a Sunday, by a farm ute. Damage limited SI visiting. South Canterbury, October, 2017



Contented Finn Texel ewes. Waikakaho Valley, Marlborough. Mary O'Sullivan, October, 2017



Peter Doncaster selecting his 3/8 FT & TS rams in Jeff Moss's woolshed. 15 December, 2017



John and Rob Chapman farm 1/4 FT sheep. The beautiful farm slopes north, from the summit road above Port Chalmers. Clinton, December



Craig & Therese Scott. 3/8FT sheep are ideal for their productive Invercargill land. Clinton

## North Island.

And the rains came! Western farms were water-logged from May until late spring. Waikato by June had many new lakes. Year-on and parts are still 'yellowish' wet. Not nice. July southerly storms caused huge tree damage in the western hills. Feed was always short; cattle and sheep quite light. Bought-in feed was expensive. Churned tracks attested to the difficulty of feeding out. Conversations when visiting, centred on the weather. Older stock accounted for most of deaths. Weaning weights were down but survival numbers pleased most farmers.

Eastlands; wet too! Spring was delayed. Excellent survival with sluggish pasture growth caused weaning weights to be down. Market prices compensated for late finishing.

Arable work was delayed as wet paddocks dried like concrete. Summer was patchy, finishing slow. Green-feed crops helped until day and night temperatures soared. NI baked for two months. Summary. Difficult. Some good months. Too wet, too long.

## South Island.

Similar wetness for months. Spring arable work was delayed as drying soils set solid. Paddocks never reached full production, ewes milked poorly, lamb finishing delayed. Fewer lambs and Northern Southland 'seriously dry', led to early sales. Store selling became a nightmare when Mycoplasma Bovis and stuttering NAIT combined to create doubt countrywide. Store stock eventually moved to HB and Manawatu finishers.

Summary. Difficult. 2017-18 has not been easy. Excellent prices and strong autumn growth cheered farmers before winter.



Even-sized triplets are a feature of multiple suckling ewes with Finn genes. Every lamb can have a feed. OSRS, October 2017



Gorse is spreading. Lax grazing without sheep. 2.4 million hectares of gorse is fast expanding. Killmog, Dunedin, Otago



Westhaven Resort farm has hardy Texel sheep. Entrance to tranquil Wanganui Inlet, one of NZ's most beautiful, secluded areas. NW Nelson, October 2017



Southern Rata. A visual delight. South Westland, December 2017



90 day weaning after the slow spring and good survival. Texel Suffolks were lighter than usual. OSRS, November, 2017



Relaxed Finn Texel lambs prior to the weaning weigh. OSRS, November, 2017

**Producing rams is competitive, never easy.**

An initial lamb crop of 'potential' sale rams is large. They come from 15 flocks throughout NZ.

Ewes are culled for production faults at scanning, lambing and weaning.

Lambs with faults, are culled as soon as possible. Colour marked, they stay to weaning only. Data from eliminated animals is recorded.

After weaning the rams settle ok but soon play 'rough' games. Bunting, chasing and riding one-another leads to losses. There is no let-up. *They're forgiven; rams need to be sexy.*

Rams from all sources are given



'Sex games' ruin ram lambs. Would ACC accept claims for injuries? Feb 2018

equal opportunity. Salmonella, Facial Eczema and internal parasites are a threat from February to sale time. Each weighing provides an opportunity to cull any unthrifty rams. Experience and stockmanship is vitally important and 'shapes' the ram crop (and ewe replacements).

A veterinarian palpates the rams after shearing. Rejects are blood-tested along with senior breeding sires. Rams remaining have passed the physical and visual tests OSRS requires; *all are possible sale rams.*

SIL summaries arrive from Clare in October. **SIL's performance predictions still excite.** The SIL breed summaries, representing many days of work, are the **tool** for grading rams genetically.

Records are used to allocate each ram a productivity prediction with a price colour coding. The data within the index has been accumulated over decades. OSRS has total confidence in the predictions. 'Proof' is the increasing productivity of OSRS sheep.

Without accurate recording and the tough culling the genetic

gains(invisible) could not have been made. Rams need to look good and be backed by proven, reliable, practical genetics (records).

Annual culling (and accidents) reduce the maternal breed sale lambs about 50% and terminals around 30%.

Although comfortable with the standards, OSRS strives to improve. Visits to farms and talking with farmers almost every day, gathers ideas and practices which are incorporated into OSRS breeding programmes.



Gary & Sandy Powell prefer Perendale Texel . Waimiha, King Country. December, OSRS



Dean Wilson has used Texel Suffolks for decades on steep Owhanga hills. King Country



Alan Curry is a thinker, practical, interesting to converse with. A favourite client from Mapara. King Country. TS rams.



Robert & Dawn Mills. Breeders of Finnsheep, New Plymouth. Their new stud ram is a top index Finn.



Texel Suffolks chosen by Dave Haliburton. Kotemaori, HB



Jeremy & Stuart Martin picking Finn Texels for Porangahau hills, Dec 2017



Extreme wetness was 'the issue' in Eketahuna, winter 2017. Stuart Mitchell bought Texel and 3/8FT rams for their hardiness



Julie & Steve O'Reilly are fast learners. Careful and conscientious they have 1/4 FT rams for exposed hills. Apiti, January, 2018

OSRS ram selling business is often exciting. Stabilised breeds still produce pleasant surprises. They continue to increase productivity in spite of lousy climatic conditions of late.

It is a challenge to stay 'significant' to changing farm owners. New bosses, new ideas. Cattle and sheep livestock policies alter. OSRS has experienced many conversions, grapes(20), dairy(30), deer, along with annual farm sales. *Why worry?* This season, 24% of farmers were second generation OSRS clients, 16% were first-time buyers.

**OSRS is 'significant'**

## Five liners

○ **NZ;** Kauri amber resin is spread through SI coal seams. 70 million years of fossil insect, spider, pollen, ant evolution is captured. Unique.

○ **NZ;** Wasp biomass exceeds that of all birds, rodents and mustelids. Wasps cost NZ \$133 million annually. A poisonous protein lure kills nests. *Since 2015, 97 queens have 'dropped in' from OSRS ceiling lights*

○ **NZ;** had more lizards and frogs per metre than any country. Predators changed that. Whittaker's Skinks may live for 50 years. A colony lives on Pukerua Bay bluffs; threats all round.

○ **NZ;** Foreign ownership promises much but provides temporary relief. Fonterra with Beingmate. PGG Wrightson, SFFarms, Prime Range, and others are affected. Investors want profits which eluded NZ owners. *Why do these sales never cease?*

○ **Australia;** Aussies play hard ball, they play **rough** ball. Stupid cricketers don't deserve sympathy. Many Kiwis have suffered 'rough ball' from Australians. *OSRS did, from trusted people*

○ **South Africa;** poaching of rare plants is rife. Cycads, living fossils, popular with thieves. Asian scientists stole from the Botanic Institute (Pretoria). Guards retrieved plants. *OSRS didn't pinch.*

○ **Gulf States;** want food security. Bahrain and Qatar import 90%. Food companies are being bought in Europe to feed growing populations. *Be prepared NZ!*

○ **UK;** Teenagers. Drink less, talk more with parents, focus on university. 15 yr olds average 146 mins/day on internet. Smartphones replace TXT, TV, Games. They are more **lonely, slow** to drink, have sex, earn, leave home, and to have kids. **Why worry, they live longer.**

○ **Gyms;** After the Xmas binge people join gyms. Next, they spend 18% more in sports shops, 15% in health shops. Membership is eight times greater at 'top' gyms. 50% attend twice weekly. *One in seven British adults are members.*

○ **France;** Women are delaying having kids and fewer have teenage pregnancies. They study longer and take longer to get jobs. France is likely EU's most populistic state in spite of a sliding birth rate.

○ **Norway/Italy;** Research has found that the Black Death which killed 200 million was likely spread by human lice and fleas. Rat fleas were not to blame.

○ **USA;** Hobby Lobby President "Our passion for the Bible continues and we will support efforts to conserve items...and enhance our understanding of this Great Book" His company was fined US\$3m for buying, since 2009, 'Ceramic tiles' which were manuscripts looted from Iraq. *Unto the rich, shall be given ceramic tiles, upon which are written words of earliest Christianity. Very likely?*

○ **World;** Tea tree and lavender oils are part of the 'essential oil' mix. Both promote oestrogen and inhibit testosterone, resulting in 'man boobs' *Suspected; likely proven*

○ **Electric motors;** use 40% of global electricity production. Best convert 97-98% to mechanical energy. Internal combustion engine best is 45%. Ms H Ford's car was electric.

○ **Snake** venoms evolve rapidly. A Brazilian scientist, (Sao Paulo), told OSRS of unexpected venom changes within species. Working antidotes are available in Brazil. *Evolution never stops.*

○ **Obese** adolescent and child numbers have increased ten-fold in 40 years (WHO). 20% are *unhealthy fat*. By 2022 there will be more obese than undernourished.

○ **Household smoke;** 5% of the world energy comes from solid biomass (wood, charcoal, dung). 2.5-2.8 billion cook and inhale smoke and 2.6 m die each year.

○ **Synthetic** food and fibres. It is *false labelling* when artificial protein is called **meat** or **milk**. Coconut **milk**, hazel nut **milk** are names: marketing gimmicks. Synthetic **wool** carpet is not wool carpet. **Mosameat**, produced from bovine stem cells is artificial.

○ **Cities** are changing because **lifts** provide vertical transport. One billion people use the world's 14 million lifts daily. Lifts operate up to 60 kms/hr. *The colosseum had 24 lifts.*

### More about guns.

Homicides, street shootings, school and church shoot-ups fill New York papers. Experts analyse killers *ad nauseum*. Each killer is a loner, supposedly with a mental problem. Invariably police have been warned about the killer's strange behaviour. Nothing changes. **93 more die each day.**

Tighter gun control; fewer deaths. Canada has controls and few shootings. Only huge public pressure will get USA gun legislation changed.

*Kids should not have to worry about being shot at school.*

Guns are big business, 66% US made. Of 3.7 million hand guns imported, 75% come from the EU. Makers give donations to the National Rifle Association, a powerful lobby group resisting law change. Largest seller? Walmart.

Films show that shooting gets rid of baddies and is tidy. *Killing is messy, noisy and smelly.* Goodies don't always win. Films demonstrate gun handling and provide ideas for 'copy-cat' killings. *Seeing is believing.* The industry has much to answer for.

US civilians have 310 million hand-guns (Congress Research Service).

*These guns were bought to use, terrify, kill and maim? New Yorker*



Taratahi Field Trip to OSRS. Excellent questions  
23 August, 2017,

### Brand-new purchases in a life-time

Chainsaws 4-6 cameras 6, computers 5, printers 4, rifles 2, binoculars, electric hedge trimmer, Rover ride-on mower, load bars, scales, crates and phones.

**Tractors, cars, motorbikes, farm machinery.....all second-hand.**



Ross Adams, 1/4FT & TS rams,  
Te Kuiti, September, 2017



Slow spring and 'hesitant' plantain. Texel Suffolk ewes with triplets.



"The Fives". Lambs get racy at 5pm. Each year has new players. Innate behaviour? OSRS, Aug 2017



April wetness prevented drilling. New grass 'away' at last.  
OSRS, October 2017



Phil Simpson picked TS rams in 1991, the very first in NZ. Son Dougal Simpson's TS rams.  
Marton, September, 2017



Porangahau. David and Mary Dalby's 1/4 FT ewe and triplets.  
17 October, 2017



Picturesque Porangahau village from Old Hill Road.  
October, 2017

### 2017. Many ewes had bearings.

What an unnecessary waste! *It need not happen!*

Bearings are a thing of the past on farms with Finn genetics. Yes, there is the *odd one or two*, but never the hundreds that some experience.

Traditional ewes being fed 'up to their eye-balls', in Autumn, were 'sitting ducks' after a mild winter. **The financial loss is horrendous, the mental stress unnecessary.**

Ask a farmer with OSRS Finn genetics about the number of bearings his ewes have? Don't be side-tracked by a consultant or Vet talking about mineral deficiencies, **get Finn blood and relax.**



Hinterland roadside planting; agapanthus, camelia. Farmers care.  
Tahora, Taranaki.



Ron Frew motivated others to help with the Ohakune Heritage Walkway, as his family had done. Enlightened thinking. **Stop when next in Ohakune. Amble along the walkway. You will be glad you did.**



Six months; six metres of rain. Hills were super-saturated and clay soils slumped.  
Ohura, King Country, 21 September, 2017



Double-fenced waterways, Nth Wairarapa. Slumping saturated clay soil. A natural process which trees cannot stop.  
Tinui, 21 September, 2017



Although tree damage was largely hidden, vast areas of foliage was smashed by snow (18 July) throughout western Manawatu.  
Apti, 13 September, 2017



Breakfast for rams at Waimumu.  
Second day, 13th February, 2018



Waimumu attracts politicians. Nathan Guy, who knows OSRS activities in Iran, getting an update



Helene Harvey. Artist of the Limehills School Xmas card (top right) sent to thank OSRS for gifting two rams for the school flock. She was surprised to see the card exhibited at the OSRS site. Waimumu



Visitors. Many entered the ram weight-guessing competition, hoping for a free OSRS ram. Kay McKenzie from Winton won the ram.



Robin and Peter Black; staunch friends, with strong opinions. Peter, always practical, fair, seeking perfection. Few have contributed as much to the industry.



Andre with Anne and Philip Munro. More questions and answers for Brazil. Practical answers. Fairlie



Andre Troy (Brazil) interviewing Dave & Jan Riddell. They were generous hosts to Robin & Andre for the Field Days.



Robin, Dr Jock Allison and Beltex lambs. Lambs had 'real' Texel bottoms; they made one feel hungry. Waimumu, Feb, 2018



Andre interviewing Selwyn Earwaker, Tokanui, Southland



Keith Stackhouse, OSRS client since 1991 spoke with Andre. Omihi, NC



Andre and Mark Johnston, Mokoreta, Wyndham Feb, 2018



Robust 3/8FT lambs grown by Mary O'Sullivan, Waikakaho, Marlborough



Spitfire brassica. Ready for lambs. OSRS, late February, 2018



Break-feeding lambs. Ideal crops for HB summers. Lambs thrived. March, 2018



Seven barrow loads of cacti were dumped after the annual trim. Handled with care, they still managed to 'make a point'. Paratu, March, 2018

## False Science.

**'Science is the systematic study of nature and behaviour of the material and physical universe, based on observation, experiment and measurement, and formulation of laws to describe these facts in general terms'.** Collins Dictionary

**1**, NZ Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment has provided \$2.87 million for Maori Landscape Classification. Maori relations with land are rooted in the supernatural. Mauri is the spiritual life-force which enlivens lakes, rivers, plants, animals and people. NZ mountains are gods. Wanganui River is officially a person. *Liabie for drownings?*

**Science has dismissed the supernatural and life-force as fiction.** There is NO proof of their existence. I listened politely to a North American explain the life-forces in **coloured stones** she wished to sell. *Life-force is often about trading value and money.*

**2**, Lincoln University is to provide an organic diploma. Lincoln is there to educate, seek answers scientifically and independently. Prof T Walker exposed the 'organic myth' in farming. **There is NO science in organic farming.** It is a belief system based on a set of arbitrary rules and perpetuated by false claims. *Lincoln is responding to a 'market opportunity' and will be paid for teaching false science.*

**3**, Otago University has announced that the Ngai Tahu must be consulted about all matters of research before scholars may start. Proposals must be submitted to the Office of Maori Development.

**Ridiculous.** We are one nation and this is a 'power game' by one faction. Any delay is unfair and costly for scholars who are usually financially stretched. *What would consultation have cost for my thesis? What conditions would the Ngai Tahu have placed on the science proposed? Nobody in the world knew anything about the tiny Neuropteran insect, micromus tasmaniae.*

### **Job creation?**

**4**, The Royal Society of NZ has for 150 years fostered scientific research, provided independent advice and remained free of political, commercial or cultural bias. This could soon change as the *Treaty of Waitangi is placed "centrally (in the agenda) and*

*brings alongside the inequity and diversity issues in a holistic manner."* The Society appears to be heading to become a **forum for grievances.**

### **5, Green myths**

**A**, Genetic engineering has done only harm. *GE has not harmed people or the environment. Crops are better, and less insecticide used. (OECD)*

**B**, Chernobyl radiation killed thousands. *68 died. Birth rate and cancers are the same as in any other Russian city (UN Survey).*

**C**, Fukushima explosion killed thousands of Japanese. *None. Health of Hiroshima and Nagasaki grandchildren is identical with that of any Japanese city.*

**D**, Fracking dumps chemicals into aquifers. *99.5% is sand and water. The rest is a mix of 13 chemicals found in most kitchens.*

**E**, DDT poisons humans and the environment. *It couldn't kill a Ukraine President with Dioxin at 50000 concentrations.*

**F**, Cell phone Towers endanger human health. *They do not.*

After Bob Brockie who led the **Royal Society** Panel which considered Green claims and checked science for the **correct answers.**

### **Global Warming;**

**Denier** No, **Sceptic** Yes. Global warming is happening. OSRS has written about the effect on farming. Woollen 'shearing' clothes were needed from April to December in 1970s. 40yrs later it's cotton clothing with a jersey, now and again, in winter. Weather is more cyclonic, variable, warmer.

**Denier** of global warning? **No** Any idea that temperature rises are due to rising 'greenhouse' gas emissions caused by human activities is *unacceptable.* There is no scientific proof of human influence upon global temperatures.

**Sceptical** ('doubting'. Collins Dictionary) about the cause? **Yes** Earth's temperatures (and emissions) always change. Ice-core samples show that temperature increased steadily over 6-800 years **before** CO2 levels rose due to human activity.

Extreme climatic effects; snowstorms, bush fires, tree die-offs, hurricanes are filmed

and called evidence of world climate change. This **false news** is beamed across the world. Backing 'evidence' is provided by 'models' which are *predictions* and **not scientific.** No model predicted the present break in global warming *proven* by satellite measurements. *Models; computer gaming, anyone can play*

Science cannot prove if water vapour increases or reduces the warming effect of CO2. As water vapour makes up 90% by volume of greenhouse gas, absence of proof affects all climate theory.

Science cannot prove the rate of climatic change in natural processes has increased in the last 50 years, *even as CO2 levels have risen.*

CO2, Methane, Nitrous Oxide are gases contributed partly by human activity. Where possible, emissions must be curbed.

Planet Earth offers a fragile living opportunity for many species. Shifting magnetic poles, continental drift and volcanic eruptions are normal tectonic activity. An asteroid collision or methane burp from the frozen mass in the ocean depths could finish all life in an instant.

Silent, insidious poisoning of Planet Earth by humans could be controlled. Billions of humans show little interest, or care to improve the fragile environment.

**'Super-rich' talk, but do little, other than to plan their own escape route.**

There is enough wealth and knowledge to make life sustainable on earth. If nothing is done pollution by too many humans will produce a slow lingering death of most species. Some species, capable of genetic change, might make it as did birds (flying dinosaurs).

Nine billion humans by 2050 is too many. Every ecosystem is being exploited and contaminated in 2018. This is called **progress.** What will be left by 2050?

Doug Edmeades, Bob Brockie, and many wise people. The author is an educated zoologist, geologist, farmer and practising conservationist.



Robin told Andre at Burkes Pass that he would see a mustelid 'road-kill' in the next three kilometres. This the **first of three!** Fairlie-Tekapo SH8, Feb, 2018



Two sheep enthusiasts. Conversations are lively, direct, stimulating. Richard Loe produces excellent Dohne sheep Time enhances these friendships. Oxford, February, 2018

### Ram Sales 2017-2018

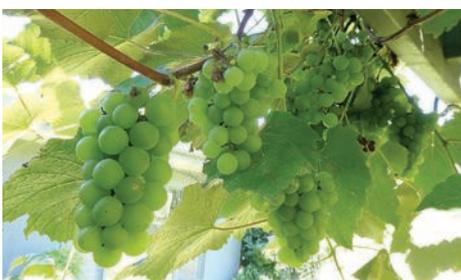
Record sheep meat prices did not disappear as expected. OSRS had *predicted price stability*. Strong demand and less sheep meat is available internationally.

**All 2th., rams were sold**, except a few Finns. Ram hoggets filled the short-fall. Sales of ewes and hoggets finished mid June 2018.

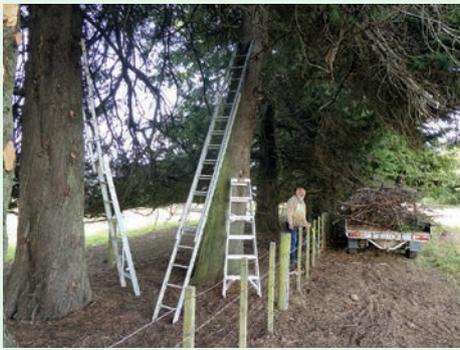
High numbers of lambs were weaned due to excellent survival. All breeds weaned more than 170%. Surplus stock was sold asap. Genetic progress is continuing nicely. **An increased number of rams is being wintered in 2018.**

A system is evolving which serves OSRS's long-term objectives. Sheep physical standards remain high. Rams for sale look good and have production records to back-up client's visual appraisal. Records prepared by Clare Callow (SIL) are ideal for rapid judgement at selection time.

Although long, the season was interesting, marred by only one unavoidable marketing failure.



Bumper edible grape crop. No wasps, no flies, just one spider per bunch. Six weeks of gluttony. OSRS



John scaled ladders to limb trees. Each ute load was stacked on the fire for later burning. OSRS repair man. March 2018

### Every Farm Needs A John Little

(Retired teacher/carpenter from Oregon, USA). John, came back for the **18<sup>th</sup>** time in February, 2018.

"What is my 'Project' this year?"  
"John you know where all the tools are! Take the ute to Waipukurau and buy anything you need, if I haven't got it. Then, go and do anything you think I should have **done years ago**"

John; Re-stapled fence battens.  
Pruned garden, shrubbery, trees and plants (my eyes kept shut)  
Renewed worn ute deck  
Rebuilt walls, floor and roof of the best motorbike trailer  
Rebuilt garden barrow and seats.  
Made free-standing shelving, for boots.  
Repaired grating, gates and rails in the woolshed.  
Repaired sheep yard rails and gates  
Trimmed low hanging macrocarpa (horrible scratchy job)  
Removed rubbish, limbs, blackberry, by the ute load.  
John slept well, enjoyed himself for three weeks. Thrived on grapes, Weetbix, meat and eggs. John ate well.



Strong regrowth in late March crops. 2018

### Metiria Turei (ex-Green co-leader) lacks manners

Last winter when driving to Christchurch on the West Coast highway Metiria's electric car ran out of umph. It was towed to a farmhouse and connected to the mains for recharging. Metiria was given tea and food. Very quickly she moved into 'self-righteous mode' and lectured the hosts about the 'failures of the system' which somehow was responsible(?) for Metiria's son. Her arrogance and stupidity disappointed (shocked) the hosts.

Turei flounced out when the car was charged without even saying 'thanks'.

**The car died at Maruia Springs. Obviously the 'system' failed her again. Next day everyone in Murchison knew of Metiria Turei's latest breakdowns.**

### Hogget mating has increased in 2018.

Surplus ewes were killed in spring as schedule prices were high. By autumn most regions had plenty of feed and too few ewes. Any sound ewe hogget has been mated; especially in the NI.

**Wean lambs from hoggets at 9 weeks. The hogget has peaked in milk production. FT and TS sired lambs can be weaned happily. Long lactations may jeopardize hogget growth.**



Owen River. 1/4FT hoggets with twin lambs sired by TS rams. Braden & Robyn Cooper. October 2017



Kevin Hermansen, contractor, drilled six paddocks after summer crops. April could have been too late. Warmer conditions make it safe in the 21st century. New pastures look great. Paratu, April 2018