

## Presidents Report for the Year Ending December 2016

The New Zealand Milking & Pumping Association was established in 1932 so as NZMPTA President, I have the pleasure of reporting the year's activities and tasks undertaken on your behalf by your elected committee in the 85<sup>th</sup> year of the NZMPTA.

Firstly, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the Council Committee Members past and present for their efforts throughout the year. This a voluntary commitment to the industry and goes mostly unseen, the time and effort that is contributed to maintaining standards, affecting change and providing training programmes that benefit our members is an important role. Thanks also must go to those companies that make the commitment in releasing people to be involved, this demonstrates the importance that is attached to the efforts made by the MPTA.

A very special thank you to Maria Scott, our Executive Officer. Maria continues to drive the MPTA with commitment and a desire to make a difference for our members. In addition, I would also like to acknowledge Craig Burrows who is our technical resource on the committee and the "engine room" for a lot of the work that is done to investigate issues and opportunities for improvement within standards and guidelines but also represents the MPTA on the National Mastitis Advisory Committee.

### Results and Activity:

- Membership numbers remain very stable at 178
- In 2016, we ran 9 courses with 60 participants generating an income of \$73k, compared with 2015 17 courses with 116 participants and 2014 27 courses with 197 participants income of \$195K. The majority of the income coming from 3 Milking machine training courses, bringing in \$56k with 20 participants compared with 2016 \$92k with 36 participants. The milking machine training courses has and continues to be our main source of income.
- We currently have 172 registered milking machine testers with an additional 11 with provisional licenses pending their registration. With mandatory annual milking machine testing it is important that our members recognise the importance of having enough skilled and registered testers on staff to meet the demand. This is a critical responsibility for our industry to support MPI as they enforce the revised NZCP1 that we provide the necessary geographical cover to meet the demand nationally and to the required standard, so please take the opportunity to encourage training of additional testers.
- The Royalties figure to be transferred to MPTA from Technology Training Centre was \$14,617 compared with \$47,401 in 2015
- MPTA Member's Equity has reduced
  - \$200k in 2015 to \$171k in 2016
  - \$202k in 2014 to \$200k in 2015.
- The Apprenticeship was launched in March 2016 and is now providing a knowledge pathway for our members and their employees that will help with attracting and retaining people within the industry. It demonstrates to the market that the milking and pumping industry is professional and provides a measurable standard of work and goes to providing equity to the knowledge that has always been in place. We currently have 26 apprentices signed up to the apprenticeship with thirteen tracking down both the pumping stream and the milking stream.
- The MBIE continues the process of review of the Plumbers, Gasfitters & Drainlayers Act 2006. We had a response from the PGDB in recognizing the work our members do, but

as yet we have not been able to formalize this acknowledgement in affecting any amendments to the act. The PGDB continues to campaign for using only authorized plumbers to undertake work in relation to sanitary plumbing, our members need to be aware of the line where they impinge on to plumbers work. The MPTA will continue to look at our options to influence the review process to gain an acceptable outcome for our members

- The MPTA in 2016 progressed with scoping the development of a ISO machine testing methodology, this work will continue in 2017. We are taking the approach that we should be proactive in promoting the discussion around revising our standards to ISO. At this current time, industry and the marketplace would appear to have no appetite for moving to ISO for testing. We will continue to pursue an audience and look to garner interest wherever we can, as we believe that it is a responsible approach to future proofing our industry and maintaining its commercial equity.

### **General Comments:**

Our industry continues to operate in a largely unstable global economic environment that results in locally, a conservative approach to capital expenditure. There are certainly a lot of positive signals in various sectors of the rural economy but within the dairy sector coming off the back of two years of subdued revenue streams we would anticipate a continuing of the current environment.

In the president's report in 2016 I suggested we may see a drop in our membership, I am very pleased to see our member numbers has in fact increased for the year 2016, albeit by one. The challenge that I personally take on for this coming year, is to gain a greater engagement by our members, we continue to suffer from a lack of feedback and interaction from our member base when communication is sent out for comment. My intention in conjunction with Maria is to physically visit as many of the members as practicable around the country to gain there feedback on what services they understand the MPTA provides them and what it is they would like to see more of.

The apprenticeship is gaining momentum and is a mechanism that has actively engaged the industry. As the awareness of the availability of an apprenticeship increases I do believe this will help contribute to generate greater interaction and subscription with existing and new members. It is very important for the future of the industry as a whole that we continue the momentum and the commitment for the apprenticeship scheme so we build value the rural sector.

Again, I would like to acknowledge all of our Council Members who volunteer their time; working at their own cost for our Members and the betterment of the industry. The work that they do is invaluable to our respective industries and very much appreciated.

Thank You



**Simon Fletcher**  
**14<sup>th</sup> March 2017**  
**MPTA President**