



# THE TRACTOR TIMES

## TIME FOR SOME FESTIVITIES

Hi everyone, it might not have looked like it over the last few weeks however, welcome to Summer. With the slow start to the season it is going to be a very busy few months around Southland and Otago for most of you. Hopefully you can take some time to enjoy the festive season, as always, we are here to keep you moving and our team are only a phone call away 24/7.

There has been plenty happening around Southland and Otago in the last couple of months, especially with most of our demo machines and equipment getting out to our customers. This season we have been lucky to have an array of demo tractors and equipment and it's a great chance to have a go with a piece of machinery you might have your eye on (more on this on pg 3).

The most satisfying part of our demos this year has been seeing our very own demo Silage Chopper out in paddocks across Southland and Otago. The John Deere 8600i has performed very well and if you have not seen it in action book a demo with your nearest branch or check out our social media sites. I would like to thank the customers that have given our Silage Chopper a go, the massive support from the team at John Deere and our amazing staff that have embraced our new challenge of having a "Chopper" franchise - from being out in the paddocks with Demos, to keeping other John Deere Silage Choppers moving.

A highlight at the end of year for me, is handing out the tenure awards, celebrating our staff's dedication and hard work ranging from 5 years to 40! We're proud to be able to bring you that wealth of experience.

After we have all got over the busy festive season, we have a very big event that I am sure like us you are all looking forward to - The Southern Field days is back! After the event being cancelled in 2022 the countdown is on till February, and we will see you there with our biggest range of

equipment we have ever had on site highlighting our ability to provide ALL of your agricultural machinery needs.

Finally, from myself and the entire team at Southland and Otago Farm Machinery, have a safe and enjoyable festive season with your families and friends and if we don't catch up before Dec 31st, see you in 2024.

*Stacey Hitchens*

Stacey Hitchens  
General Manager



**WE WILL BE CLOSING AT 12PM ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 22nd, AND CLOSED ON THE BELOW STAT DAYS ONLY**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
X 25	X 26	27	28	29	30	31
X 1	X 2	3	4	5	6	7

Our parts & service teams will be on call all through this period if you need them.

*we look forward to seeing you in* **2024**

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# DEERE DEMO SEASON

We've had a great range of machinery available to demo this year including the John Deere C441R Baler Wrapper and the John Deere 8600i Self Propelled Forage Harvester, plus the tractors you need to accompany them.

This is our first Forage Harvester since adding the franchise to our portfolio and there was quite a buzz around seeing it in action.

With the assistance of a crew from John Deere including Bevin Wolland (Product and Systems Specialist NZ) and Roberto Scheidt (Product Specialist – Hay & Forage AUS/NZ), the workshop got some hands-on training with the Forage Harvester before it headed out on its first demo.

Demo plans were a little stilted by the lack of good weather, but as soon as we got a break we made the saying 'make hay while the sun shines' come to life!

Andrew Barron, Precision Ag Consultant has facilitated the demo's highlighting not just the horsepower and steel, but the features and benefits of the technology that is built into these machines.

"The idea is to help increase efficiency and productivity, for anyone in agriculture these are key" said Andrew Barron, Precision Ag Consultant.

"These demos are the ideal time to show people how some of the technology can make a difference to their operation, and how the data they can get back can help with decision making" he said.

"With Harvest Lab and Operations Center you are able to see yield monitoring with moisture and dry matter measurements in real time" said Andrew.

These technology features combined with the efficient running of the machine have been the main points of feedback we've received so far.

If you're in the market, and keen to try something new before making that investment, get in touch with your local sales team to see what they can arrange for you.

Or if you'd like to know more about how the John Deere technology could assist you, or be added to your existing fleet, get in touch with the PA Team - [patech@sfml.co.nz](mailto:patech@sfml.co.nz)



*The John Deere support crew, from left: Jaiden Drought, Bevin Wolland and Roberto Scheidt.*



## JOHN DEERE 7R 290

Showcasing the benefits of the John Deere technology and power in the Waikerikeri Valley.

## JOHN DEERE 8R 310 + DUNCAN ATD DRILL

Using combined technology and power across implements in Gore.

## JOHN DEERE 6R 215 + JOHN DEERE C441R BALER WRAPPER

A very nice start to the season at Lorneville, Invercargill

# READY. SET. MOW! AND RAKE AND BALE STOCK AVAILABLE TODAY

**Comprima CV150XC**



**Active Mow 320**



**Vendro 820**



**Easycut R360 & R400**



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## LOGAN IS ON BOARD TO STEADY THE SERVICE SHIP

Since joining the Invercargill workshop in 2019 Logan Robertson's natural leadership has shone, and his consistency as the 'go to guy' not just for other technicians, but also for our customers has highlighted him as the natural choice for the role of Invercargill Service Manager.

"Having been there and seen what a difference it can make when you are able to diagnose and repair a fault quickly gives me a good insight into what is expected from the service team, and what I can do as Service Manager to help them achieve this" says Logan.

Logan had the spotlight on him when he was nominated for, and took out the title of 'John Deere Service Apprentice of the Year' in 2022. Logan had been on the tools for a while before picking up his apprenticeship and well understands the battle of having to complete bookwork when it's not your favourite thing to do, a part of his new role he knows he will have to adapt to quickly!

"Logan is a company guy and loves the product, this sees him go over and above when a customer is in a real bind and needs

someone there asap" says Stacey Hitchens, General Manager.

"This has been proven many times after hours and over the weekends - even if it's not his rostered week for after-hour callouts, he will always answer his phone and help the other guys out if needed", he said.

As the busy season hits, Logan isn't hanging up his overalls straight away, but is looking forward to the next challenge in his career.

"I have a lot of respect for anyone working in the agricultural industry - it's not an easy 5-day a week kind of job, and it's really key we understand this and do everything we can to support our customers to keep running", he said.

"Understanding that the customer has invested a lot to have a world leading machine and expect it to be so, I think will go a long way in this role", said Logan.



Logan Robertson (left) receiving his Award from Luke Chandler, Managing Director - John Deere, ANZ (right), August 2022



Logan is adapting to spending time at a desk in the Invercargill Service Department.

## SPARKING MEMORIES

This John Deere 2040S has been beautifully restored by long standing client Graeme Burnett of Dacre. Not only is it significant for Graeme, but also Invercargill Sales Manager Peter Shirley who used to work on this tractor when it was owned by Graeme's father-in-law Selwyn Wills.



## CONGRATULATIONS BROCK

Another of the Invercargill workshops young apprentices has become qualified. It's great to see the effort and work Brock has put in being rewarded.



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## THE OLD AND THE NEW

This new John Deere S140 for the Yates Family was delivered to the stunning Gibbston Valley by Cromwell Sales Consultant Russell Heron. The ruins behind was apparently the first house ever in Gibbston Valley



## TIME FOR AN UPDATE

A nice update for Richard Tucker of Springburn Partnership with the delivery of a new John Deere 6140M by Bruce Hughes, Cromwell Sales Manager. Thanks for the continued business.



## SHOW YOUR TRUE COLOURS

Gore Branch Manager, Reece Brown and Sales Consultant Michael O'Neill, got in on the action at the Gore Main School Colour Run - not hard to guess which colours they were keen to spread around!



## STICKING WITH A GOOD THING

A shiny new John Deere 6R 165 for Nathan & Joy Dodd, delivered by Gore Sales Consultant Michael O'Neill - thanks for your ongoing business guys.



## WHAT A WORKER

What a fantastic helper Stanley is to his Dad. We do wonder if his Grandad Gore Sales Consultant Michael O'Neill (Stretch) sold him that mower?



## GOOD TO GO!

Toby Mathieson of Wanaka Ag was very keen to pick up his new John Deere 6R 250 from our Cromwell branch, and put it to work in the Central Otago sunshine.



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