

14th December, 2020.

Dear Friends,

We are all saying "what a year it has been" but is it all over? I do think we have to get in the mind frame of saying "get on with life". Time is too precious to be worrying about something that is out of our control at this point in time.

Hasn't it been a wonderful season! For most of us with small stock numbers the grass has been overwhelming. Our NEW slasher has been working overtime. There is still going to be a lot of seed in the wool but at least we know that there will be wool to shear and excess sheep to sell after the wonderful spring lambing. Our oat crops were outstanding this last winter so the sheep and cattle have come through in such good order. At present we are about to strip a crop of oats. Something we have not been able to do for many years. New pastures are being planned and there is a feeling of optimism in the air. We are hoping that this experience is happening with you all. So many we talk to can't believe their lambing percentages especially in the merinos. Cattle! It's hard to believe the prices we are getting but it certainly takes the burden off the costs we all experienced during the drought. It's so easy to look at our paddocks now and forget the labour and sweat and money we put in feeding during those years of "nothing."

Family. We have seen a lot of family this year. Some of our grandchildren came and spent a few weeks working at their jobs on their computers. We have a grandson with us at present. Great for us. Some family members came home for shearing but had a Covid test before they came and then Cindy and Rylan came home for lamb marking.

I received my "OBE" back in February and Leo & myself have just celebrated our 60th Wedding Anniversary. Seems hard to believe. We look back and wonder where time has gone but then we ponder on what we have achieved and in most cases it is gratifying.

We both realise that we are slowing down but keeping good health generally. Always those minor irritations and aches and pains but we are rolling along and can keep up with most things. We both still drive and hope that we can for many years yet. Having two good men on staff does help as we both find some of the outside work too much for us.

The catalogue for our ram sale on February 10th, 2021, will be printed in January so you will be able to see it online. We will also have details of the two rams we will be selling in Armidale on 3rd February 2021. The rams are very well grown and carry full SG measurements. For more information please do not hesitate to contact either Leo on 0428 431 065 or Scott on 0429 999 385.

I believe I have covered the Westvale news. Our love and best wishes to you all. May the New Year bring us all peace and the world a better place to live in.

Leo & Judy