

## Top Nott's TOTS - November 28, 2012

The rich patch of form for part-time Blenheim shearer Tony Nott continued when he won the Top of the South (TOTS) circuit Open final at the Nelson A and P Show on Sunday, November 25. Although a regular finalist in the Marlborough region in an Open-class shearing career

stretching-back more than 20 years, top placings at Nelson had been sparse, and demanded a search back through history, highlighting a need for competitions to maintain a record of the results.

According to the records, its 14 years since Nott had featured in a TOTS final, a third placing in 1998, and to find out whether he'd ever won it it meant going to the man himself.

As it turned out, back in 1990 she shore with regular Top of the South and Nelson winner Sam Win in the first of the short-lived Regional Team Shearing finals at Kumeu, selected for his region as a result of having won the TOTS final at the Flaxbourne A and P Show at Ward the previous year..

This year's win, at the age of 51 and now running a concrete-pumping business, completed a notable double success for Marlborough shearing, enjoying a resurgence in the competition arena. Renwick's Chris Jones, the defending champion, was runner-up in the 20-sheep final, having the previous day won the Nelson A and P Show Open final, in which Nott was third.

In the Top of the South final, Jones beat Nott off the board by over half-a-minute, the time of 24min 27sec stamping the contest as one of the most testing finals on the Shearing Sports New Zealand calendar of more than 60 shows from October to April.

Once the judges had completed their job, Nott's better quality had overcome the time-points deficit, enabling him to win by more than 2pts.

Nott had the previous week finished eighth in the national Corriedale Championships at the 150th Canterbury Show, all-but securing a place in the PGG Wrightson National finals in March with just three of the five qualifying rounds shorn.

The 2012 final winner, Angus Moore, from Ward and now based in South Otago, is already a certainty to defend the title in the finals at the Golden Shears, while Jones is also a prospective finalist.

North Canterbury shearer Dave Brooker, of Hawarden, was last off in the Top of the South final, taking 27mins, but ultimately claimed third place ahead of Richard Sampey, of Blenheim. The



Dave Brooker, from Hawarden, put in one of the longest of competition final performances, shearing for 27 minutes in the Top of the South final won by Tony Nott, of Blenheim, at the Nelson A and P Show on November 25. Brooker was pictured nine days earlier in the New Zealand Corriedale Championships semi-finals in Christchurch.



Renwick's Chris Jones, who won the Nelson A and P Show final on November 24 and the next day was runner-up in the Top of the South final, which he won in 2011. He was pictured in the Canterbury

Top of the South Senior final was won by Travers Baigent, of Golden Downs, near Nelson, while Aaron Booker, of Ward, scored a weekend double, winning the Nelson Show and Top of the South Intermediate finals.

he won in 2011. He was pictured in the Canterbury Show's Corriedale Championships semi-finals.

The show also featured woolhandling in the Novice, Junior and Senior grades, the Junior event attracting a healthy 7 entries and being won by Tapawera-based Dannah Emms, of Takaka.

Meanwhile, Taranaki farmer Paul Avery, who won the 2008 Nelson show final just weeks after winning the World title in Norway, completed 20 years of consecutive top-three placings at his home contest when he won the Stratford A and P Show Open final, also on Saturday. Te Kuiti shearer Mark Grainger was second and new World champion and Scottish Taranaki farmer Gavin Mutch was third.

Avery, now an occasional competition shearer having branched successfully into multisport and completing two Coast to Coast events, has won the Stratford title at least 14 times, and has been first or second every year since 1995.

Jack Fagan, of Te Kuiti, won the Senior title, his third in the grade this season after victories at the Poverty Bay and Wairarapa shows, and David Gordon, of Masterton, claimed his fourth Intermediate victory of the season, having already won at the Wairarapa, Manawatu and Central Hawke's Bay Shows.

In the Junior final, Quinton Sanson, of Feilding, had a comfortable 6pts win over regular rival Liam Quinlivan, of Waipukurau. They've met five times in finals this season, each winning twice, while Sanson also had a season-opening win at Gisborne.

The Nelson and Stratford shows completed the pre-Christmas phase of the Shearing Sports New Zealand season, the next competition in the North Island being the Western Shears' National Lambshearing Championships at Raglan on January 5, and the next in the South Island being the Peninsula Duvauchelle Show a week later.

## Rousies in the limelight at national Maori Sports Awards - November 26, 2012

Woolhandling had its greatest triumph on the wider sports stage when World champions Joel Henare, of Gisborne, and Australia-based Joanne Kumeroa, of Whanganui, won the Team of the Year title at the national Maori Sports Awards on Saturday (November 24).

The win was complemented by the naming of Golden Shears society president Mavis Mullins as Administrator of Year for leading the organisation in staging the 15th World Championships in which Henare and Kumeroa won their title during the Golden Shears in Masterton last March. Mullins had previously won the award in 2005 as manager of the New Zealand team to the World Championships in Toowoomba, Queensland.

It was at those championships that Kumeroa won an Individual and Teams titles double, having won the



Joel Henare and Joanne Kumeroa, Maori Sports Awards Team of the Year, at the TelstraClear Pacific Events Centre, Manukau, November 24, 2012.

individual and teams titles double, having won the Individual title for the first time at Edinburgh two years earlier.

With a Teams title in Norway in 2008 she has six World titles to her name, to go with record numbers of wins in several of New Zealand's major events, including six in the Golden Shears Open in 1995, 2001, 2004 and the last three consecutively, and six in the New Zealand Open Championship in Te Kuiti between 1992 and 2007.

This year's World Championships were the first for Henare, who, now aged 21, has one New Zealand Open Championship title to his name, in 2010, and has also had five successive victories in the Woolhandler of the Year final at the Otago Championships in Balclutha. Mullins also had a competitive background in woolhandling, winning the Golden Shears Open Woolhandling title in 1987 and 1993.

To win the award on Saturday, the Henare and Kumeroa had to overcome the claims of World champion shearers and Hawke's Bay and Ngati Kahungunu sports awards Team of the Year winners Cam Ferguson, of Waipawa, and John Kirkpatrick, of Napier.

It's speculated their first and second placings in the Individual event gave them the nod over the shearers, who were second and third to Taranaki farmer and Scottish shearer Gavin Mutch in the Individual shearing final.

Well supported by three tables with more than 30 Shearing Sports New Zealand representatives and families and friends among the 1000-plus crowd for the televised awards at the TelstraClear Pacific Events Centre in Manukau, it was a rare moment for one sport to fill two of the three finalist berths in any category in the 22 years of the awards.

The other finalist was the World Waka Ama Championship Junior Women's title-winning team, Aotearoa Whakaarorangi.

Also at the awards, Henare was among 11 people recognised as Individual World Champions, and the two shearing sports teams were among four teams recognised as Maori World Champion Teams. Woolhandling has been contested as a sport in New Zealand for many years, with events having been held at A and P Shows more than 50 years ago, notably the Hawke's Bay Show.

A woolhandling contest was held at the first Golden



Mavis Mullins, Maori Sports Awards Administrator of the Year 2012.



Joel Henare (fifth from left) lines up as one of 11 Individual World champions from a variety of sports, recognised at the Maori Sports Awards



Shearing Sports champions and the Shearing Sports New Zealand team at the Maori Sports Awards

The award winners at the 22 Maori Sports Awards were:

**MAUI TIKITIKI-A-TARANGA** - Maori Sports Administrator of the Year: Mavis Mullins MNZM (Rangitane, Te Ati Haunui-a-Paparangi, Te Arawa) of Dannevirke - shearing sports.

**TE TOIHUAREWA** - Disabled Maori Sports Person of the Year: Cameron Leslie (Ngapuhi) of Whangarei - swimming.

**TE ARATIATIA** - Maori Sports Umpire/Referee of the Year: Glen Warrick Jackson (Ngai Tahu) of Tauranga - rugby

**NGA IKA A WHIRO** - Maori Sports Team of the Year: Joanne Kumeroa (Te Ati Haunui-a-Paparangi) of Whanganui, and of Victoria, Australia, and Joel Henare (Ngati Porou) of Gisborne - wool handling.

**TE MARU O TUMATAUENGA** - Maori Sports Coach of the Year: Waimarama Taumaunu (Ngati Porou) of Wellington - netball.

**TE TAMAHINE-A-PAPATUANUKU** - Junior Maori Sportswoman of the Year: Kataraina Brown (Ngati Hako) of Manurewa, Auckland - waka ama.

**TE TAMA-A-RANGINUI** - Junior Maori Sportsman of the Year: Jason Emery (Ngati Maniapoto) of Manawatu - rugby.

**HINEAHUONE** - Senior Maori Sportswoman of the Year: Lisa Carrington (Te Aitanga-a-Mahaki) of Ohope, Bay of Plenty - canoeing.

**TE TAMA-A-TANENUIARANGI** - Senior Maori Sportsman of the Year: Storm Uru (Ngai Tahu) of Cambridge - rowing

**RONGOMARAEROA, ALBIE PRYOR MEMORIAL** - Sports Person of the Year: Lisa Carrington.

Shears in Masterton in 1961, although it did not become a regular event at the World's biggest shearing festival until 1985, and it was introduced to the World Championships in Masterton in 1996.

The major award on Saturday night went to sprint canoeist Lisa Carrington, of Ohope, the first Maori to win an individual gold medal at the Olympic Games. She claimed the Albie Pryor Memorial as overall Maori Sports Person of the Year, having also been named Sportswoman of the Year. She had won both titles last year.

The Sportsman of the Year was Olympic bronze-medal winning rower Storm Uru (Ngai Tahu), of Invercargill.

The Maori Sports Media Award went to Ngati Porou's iwi team for coverage of grassroots rugby, and the performances of East Coast in winning the Heartland Championship.



The Kumeroa whanau gathered in force to support Joanne Kumeroa as she and Joel Henare were named Team of the Year.

## The south takes charge of all-breeds shearing - November 22, 2012

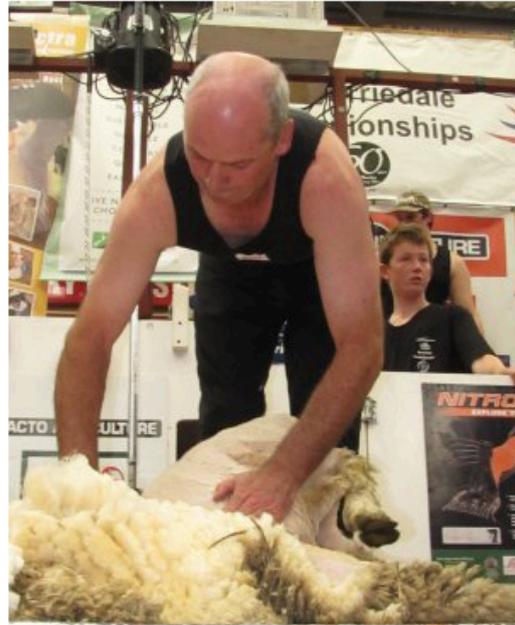
The Top of the South is emerging as an unlikely leader in all-breeds shearing with the possibility four shearers from the Nelson-Marlborough region and the West Coast will be among the 12 qualifiers for New Zealand's premier all-breeds championship finals at the Golden Shears in Masterton in March.

The possibility has arisen after last week's New Zealand Corriedale Championships, in Christchurch, the third of five qualifying rounds in the PGG Wrightson National, incorporating the McSkimming Memorial Triple Crown.

The series opened with the finewool round at the New Zealand Merino Championships in Alexandra and the longwool of the New Zealand Spring Shears in Waimate last month, and continues with the national lambshearing championships at Raglan's Western Shears next month, and the second-shear sheep of the Pahiatua Shears at the end of February.

Points range from 12 for the top qualifiers in the heats at each event to one for 12th, and defending champion Angus Moore, the now South Otago based farmers' son from Ward and a former Head Boy at Marlborough Boys College, has cemented his place with 11pts, to go with 3 from the opening round at the New Zealand Merino Championships and 10 a week later on the long-wool of the New Zealand Spring Shears in Waimate.

Blenheim concrete-pumping contractor and 51-year-old now part-time shearer Tony Nott, who last week said he'd entered the series for the first and probably last time so that he could support Moore in his quest for another title and encourage other young shearers, will almost certainly also qualify, having been fourth in Friday's heats to card 9pts, on top of 9 in the opening two rounds.



Blenheim shearer Tony Nott, during the semi-finals of the New Zealand Corriedale Championships in Christchurch on November 16. While failing to reach the final, he obtained enough series points to be placed fourth in the PGG Wrightson National after three of the five rounds and become a likely qualifier for the finals at the Golden Shears in March. At 51 and now only a part-time shearer it is the first time he's contested the series.

PHOTO/DOUG LAING, Shearing Sports New Zealand

West Coast shearer and surprise Corriedale Championships final winner Jason Win and Renwick veteran Chris Jones are knocking at the door of qualifying, with 11pts each, the threshold for 12th place after the final two rounds on lambs at Raglan in January and second-shear strongwool at Pahiatua in February having ranged in recent years from 12-16pts.

Win, now based in Australia, headed the qualifiers last season but had to settle for sixth in the final, shorn on all five wool types.

Three-times series winner Tony Coster, of Rakaia, and regular qualifier Grant Smith, also of Rakaia, lead the current series with 27 and 26 points respectively, while new Shearing Sports New Zealand chairman Gavin Rowland is also near-assured of qualifying, on 15pts.

Reigning Golden Shears and New Zealand Open champion John Kirkpatrick, of Napier, is the only North Island shearer currently in the top 12.

The series marks the 40th anniversary of the first presentation of the McSkimming Memorial Triple Crown and attracted 29 entries for the compulsory opening round.

But they don't include the series' most successful shearer, Te Kuiti icon David Fagan, who won the final nine times from 1986 to 2008, when he was the last North Island shearer to win the title. The South has the overall advantage, with 24 wins to 16.

Both Nott and Jones are expected to compete at the Nelson A and P Show on Saturday and Sunday, including the finals of the Top of the South competition.

Leading placings and points after three of the five qualifying rounds in the PGG Wrightson National Shearing Circuit are: Tony Coster (Rakaia) 27pts, 1; Grant Smith (Rakaia) 26pts, 2; Angus Moore (Balclutha) 24pts, 3; Tony Nott (Blenheim) 18pts, 4; Gavin Rowland (Rakaia) 15pts, 5; Darrin Forde (Lorneville) 14, 6; Chris Vickers (Palmerston) 13pts, 7; Nathan Stratford (Invercargill) and John Kirkpatrick (Napier) 12pts, 8eq; Chris Jones (Renwick) and Jason Win (Coleraine, Aus, and Ikamatua, NZ) 11pts, 10eq; Josh Hull (Australia), Shaun Matheson (Riverton) and Tom Wilson (Darfield) 10pts, 12eq.

### Win win situation as coast shearer comes home - from Oz - November 19, 2012

West Coast shearer Jason Win scored possibly his biggest victory in years of Open class competition at the 150th Canterbury Show on Friday, November 16, doing what last year's winner did - making a rush trip from Australia.

The 35-year-old father-of-two, who hadn't won a final in New Zealand since Methven in March 2011, looked in surprisingly good control at the New Zealand Corriedale Championships as he mastered a six-man final in the climax of a 48-hour trip from his new home in Coleraine, West Victoria.

Having just made-it into the final in sixth place, it was, however, a fulfilment of considerable promise for Win who won the Golden Shears Junior title in 1994, and is in his 15th season of Open competition after departing Senior ranks with 13 wins in 1997-1998.

But his previous wins had been mainly in the Top of the South shows of the West Coast, Nelson and Marlborough, his best previous Open season having been 2006-2007 when he reached the Christchurch final for the first time, won the Southland title, and was runner-up to James Fagan in the South Island Shearer of the Year final. It wasn't until last year that he reached a NZ Corriedale Open final again, finishing third to Australian invader Shannon Warnest and Invercargill gun Nathan Stratford.

He had however warmed-up with a win in his "local" Coleraine show a fortnight before the trip to New Zealand, where his goal had been merely to do well in the heats and secure sufficient points in the PGG Wrightson National Circuit, in which he was sixth last season after heading the 12 qualifiers going into the finals at the Golden Shears.

His 11th placing in the heats was a "poor" result, he reckoned, and it left him doubting whether he will continue to chase points in the fourth and fifth rounds in Raglan and Pahiataua. He said it was possible he wouldn't be back in New Zealand until the Golden Shears in March.



The crowd packs into the pavilion in Christchurch in readiness for the Open final, symbolically surrounding eventual winner Jason Win (pictured centre, black singlet).



The new New Zealand Corriedale Shears Open champion Jason Win, with the prized Canterbury Show 150th anniversary commemorative medal.

Among the field were former winners John Kirkpatrick, Stratford, and Tony Coster. But Win all-but cleaned them all out, finishing the 10 coarse-wooled sheep in 12min 40.05sec to beat Napier gun Kirkpatrick by nine seconds in the race to be first off the board.. More than 2.5pts separated them as winner and runner-up when the result was announced moments later.

Stratford, after being runner-up four years in a row, had to settle for third and Coster head home the remaining three, all from Rakaia. Grant Smith, who top-qualified from the heats, was fifth and Shaun Burgess sixth.

Among those who failed to qualify for the final were World champion Gavin Mutch, who was next-man-in, 13-times winner David Fagan, new PGG Wrightson circuit champion Angus Moore, and 2010 World champion and 2012 Golden Shears and World Championships runner-up Cam Ferguson.

It was a popular win for Win, fellow competitors commonly congratulated him: "About time you won one."

Another encouraging performance from the Top of the South loyals was that of Blenheim's Tony Nott whose first and probably only year in the national circuit will almost be certainly be celebrated with a trip to Masterton. With good points from Waimate and Christchurch he is already above the usual 12-16pts threshold range for a place in the Top 12.

#### **LOWER GRADES**

The Senior final at Christchurch was won by Corey Palmer, of Dipton, who had been fourth off the board and 1min 15sec behind first-man-off Brett Roberts, from Matura. Roberts' quality on the day let him down, and at the final count he had to settle for fourth place, Palmer pipping North Canterbury craftsman and contractor Rowan Nesbit by two-tenths of a point for top honours with Jack Fagan third, almost two points further adrift.



Dressed for the part, Norm Harraway fronts-up in his finest for the last of the instant prizegiving ceremonies at Christchurch.



Brian Thomson leading New Zealand to victory in the Transasman blades shearing test. Soon afterwards he won the Corrierdale Championships blades shearing final, his first at Christchurch since 2001.

Another of the Rakaia brigade, 20-year-old Phoenix Hawkins, originally from Martinborough, was only third finished in the Intermediate final, 26 seconds after first-man off Lyall Windleburn, of Waiau, but crushed all-comers with a remarkable outcome from the judging in the pens.

His 70 marks was less than half that of any other finalist and allowed him to win by 15.593pts from runner-up Windleburn, with another 4.788 to third-placed Paul Hodges, from Geraldine, with a further 2.557 back to 2012 Golden Shears Junior champion Andrew Leith, of Dipton.

### BLADES

Brian Thomson, who led New Zealand to a blades shearing test win over Australia, completing a 2-0 series win after a win three weeks earlier in Warrnbambool, finally notched a win in his home Christchurch show, beating runner-up and World Championships teammate Mike McConnell in the blades final, win which Transtasman series teammate Tim Hogg was third, and heats top-qualifier Noel Handley was fourth.

In the test Thomson and Hogg beat the Australian team of John Dalla and Peter Artridge by more than 18pts, Artridge, now 50, later saying he would keep going in the disappearing and ancient craft, determined to eventually beat the Kiwis.

It was a rush trip, with Artridge heading straight home to head for the Errowanbang festival, showcasing a treasured survivor of the blades era, a shed of 42 stands.



Senior final winner Corey Palmer.



Intermediate final winner Phoenix Hawkins

## WEST OTAGO

Meanwhile, Stratford and Roberts bounced back from their defeats in Christchurch to win the Open and Senior finals respectively at the West Otago A and P Show at Tapanui on Saturday. Stratford and Darrin Forde were both-burned off by first time Open finalist Leon Samuels, who shored the 15 sheep in 14min 23sec, but claimed first and second overall, Stratford a comfortable winner by more than 4pts.

Roberts, almost 2pts ahead of runner-up and Christchurch winner Palmer, was almost a minute quicker than next-man-off Brook Todd in the Senior final.

Leith was not so fortunate, having to settle for third in a final won by new-face Ngamore Wickliffe, of Mataura.

West Otago shear organiser was rapt with the day, saying the shearing had record entries for the show which attracted big crowds.

## Sometimes is enough as lady in the office wins woolhandling title - Nov 15, 2012

Shearing gang office staffer Taiwha Nelson hasn't done a lot of woolhandling lately, but what she had done proved quite enough practice as she beat two World champions to win the New Zealand Corriedale woolhandling championship open title in Christchurch today.

And it was a particularly memorable moment, as a recipient of the 150th Canterbury Show commemorative medal, being presented to all winners at the two-day shearing and woolhandling championships, which have been part of the show for more than 50 years.

While there was a smaller than usual entry, 37-year-old Nelson still faced tough opposition in the final, in which the runner-up was 2010 World teams champion Keryn Herbert, of Te Awamutu, and third place went to two-times World teams champion Tina Rimene, formerly based in Alexandra and Masterton and now employed as upper South Island chief woolhandling instructor for industry trainers Tectra.

Nelson, who lives in Clyde in Central Otago, hadn't won an event in over two years, since her third New Zealand Merino Championships victory in Alexandra, where she works in the office for major contractors Peter and Elsie Lyon.

Last of the three to finish and conceding almost 10pts to 2010 event winner Herbert on time, Nelson's wool points were far superior, and gave her a comfortable victory.

It was one of three woolhandling titles decided on the first day of the championships, with the Senior title going to Stevie Mason-Smallman, of Taihape, and 30-year-old Cheviot shearing contractor Kelly Paku claiming the Junior title in



Woolhandler turned office worker Taiwha Nelson puts some old skills to good use in a surprise victory in the New Zealand Corriedale woolhandling championships open title at the 150th Canterbury Show.



The Junior woolhandling final lineup, from left winner Kelly Paku, runner-up Daine Rehe, and third-placed Valerie Weatherburn

only her second competition - about 10 years after she made her debut in Masterton, where she grew up.

The only shearing event on the day was the Canterbury Circuit final, providing another victory for regular event winner and three-times national multi-breeds champion Tony Coster, of Rakaia.

Just beaten to the finish by Marlborough shearer Chris Jones, who shored 10 sheep in 12min 57sec, Coster produced the better pen judging points of the two and won the title by 1.5pts. It was, he guessed, about the 12th time he had won the title.

Results from the first day of the New Zealand Corriedale Championships, being held at the 150th Canterbury Show, Christchurch, November 15-16, 2012:

#### Shearing:

**Canterbury Circuit final (10 sheep):** Tony Coster (Rakaia) 12min 59sec, 69.85pts, 1; Chris Jones (Renwick) 12min 57sec, 71.35pts, 2; Grant Smith (Rakaia) 14min 9sec, 74.35pts, 3; Shaun Burgess (Rakaia) 15min 18sec, 76.4pts, 4; David Brooker (Hawarden) 14min 22sec, 82.6pts, 5; Tom Wilson (Darfield and Scotland): 13min 52sec, 86.8pts, 6.

#### Woolhandling:

**Open final:** Taiwha Nelson (Clyde) 273.25pts, 1; Keryn Herbert (Te Awamutu) 302.97pts, 2; Tina Rimene (Masterton) 306.426pts, 3.

**Senior final:** Stevie Mason-Smallman (Taihape) 207.81pts, 1; Anne-Maree Kahukura (Omakau) 247.87pts, 2; Sheree Peterson (Milton) 247.9pts, 3.

**Junior final:** Kelly Paku (Cheviot) 159.512pts, 1; Daine Rehe (Te Teko) 224.78pts, 2; Valerie Weatherburn (-) 228.9pts, 3.



The Senior woolhandling final in action, Stevie Mason-Smallman.



Tony Coster on his way to winning the Canterbury Circuit final, about his "12th", he reckoned.

## It's worth the wait, as Cam masters home champs - November 12, 2012

A week out from his local competition at the Central Hawke's Bay Show, former World shearing champion Cam Ferguson said he just couldn't wait.

The wait was worth it on Saturday when he won the Show's open shearing title for a second time, the icing on the cake on a day in which he was also presented with his Master Shearer Award.

Ferguson finished the 20-sheep final more than 20 seconds behind race-makers David Buick and John Kirkpatrick, with Buick first-off in 17min 44sec, but showing some trademark grit and determination made up the time-points deficit of more than a point by producing easily the cleanest pen.

It was his first win since the Waitomo shears last March.

Asked if he had been confident of winning as he awaited the tallying of time and quality points, he said: "I made sure I won."

During the presentation of the Master Shearer Award by Shearing Sports New Zealand North Island south area delegate Philip Morrison, shortly before the Open final results were announced, Ferguson, 29, of Waipawa, said it had been his dream to achieve Master Shearer status.

Kirkpatrick, runner-up on Saturday and awarded Master Shearer status in 2007, congratulated Ferguson by saying it was "no easy feat" reaching the honour, with all the travelling and other effort shearing sports competitors put-n to reach their goals.

And veteran Te Kuiti gun David Fagan, third on Saturday and one of only a handful of other shearers apart from Ferguson to be made a Master Shearer before the age of 30, said "every young shearer" should also strive to achieve the status.



A memorable day for David Gordon at Waipukurau, pictured above (right) after winning the intermediate shearing final, and below (right) after winning the junior woolhanding. Pictured above from left are CHB show president Larry White, and intermediate shearing placegetters Adam Morton 4, Alex Smith 2, Fraser Quinlivan 3, and David Gordon. Below from left are the junior woolhanding sponsor's representative, and placegetters Jaz Lancaster, Kylie Ellen, and David Gordon.



The award to Ferguson recognised most his big wins in the Golden Shears Open and World individual and teams finals in 2010, and World eight-hour lambs record a few month later. This year he went close to repeating his individual double, being runner-up in both the

Golden Shears and World Championships individual finals, and teaming with Kirkpatrick to claim a second World teams title.

The stocks of another former World champion also improved at Waipukurau where 2008 woolhanding victor Sheree Alabaster, of Taihape, successfully defended the CHB title. Unbeaten in four previous finals this season, new World champion Joel Henare, of Gisborne, had to settle for second place, with Keryn Herbert, of Te Awamutu, third. Fourth was Pahiatua woolhandler Leisha Atkinson.

A unique achievement in Waipukurau was Masterton competitor David Gordon's wins in both the Intermediate shearing and Junior woolhanding finals, superceding the same-day double achieved by

sister Cushla in the North Island championships Novice shearing and Junior woolhandling finals at Feilding in 2008.

There was, however, disappointment for sister Samantha, who in a communication mix-up was announced winner of the Senior woolhandling final after a points tie with Hastings competitor Pania Piwari. It was Piwari, however, who claimed the title with the best wool assessment.

Levin shearer Michael Rolston, the Golden Shears Junior champion in March last year and winner of the CHB Intermediate final sooner after the start of last season, signalled he won't be hanging-around the Senior class long when he scored his second win in a row in his new grade, beating runner-up second-year senior Jack Fagan, of Te Kuiti, by 0.35pts. Both were beaten off the board by Hastings shearer Hemi Dellow in his third final in four weekends.

The Junior shearing final was won by home-show shearer Liam Quinlivan, his second win in four finals, and Barry Devine won a two-sheep Novice event in his first competition since arriving from Northern Ireland, where he won a Junior competition at Rickamore earlier this year.

Entries at Waipukurau were markedly down on last year when the Open events were parts of the World Championships qualifying series.

Among the Open shearers who were missing were Dion King, the Hastings shearer who celebrated his receipt of a Master Award at his home show last month with victory in the Great Raihania Shears final. Brothers Rowland and Matt Smith were also missing.

## **Nott claims fourth Marlborough title - November 12, 2012**

Blenheim shearer Tony Nott backed superior quality shearing to successfully defend the Open shearing title at the 140th Marlborough A and P Show Open title in Blenheim on Saturday. Shearing a 16 sheep final, Nott was almost 40 seconds behind fellow Marlborough shearer Chris Jones who won the race in 18min 15.62sec.

But 1.75pts better on the board and almost 2.5 better in the pens, Nott was able to come home a comfortable winner, in what was a worthwhile shakedown before the Nelson Show and Top of the South finals on November 24-25.

Nott, who has won a handful of Open titles at the in the top of the south, including four at Blenheim (1991, 2002, 2011, 2012) had early shown potential for his best season to date when he qualified fifth from the heats at the New Zealand Spring Shears in Waimate last month.

Although failing to make the final among the tougher company, he did card an important eight points, and is hoping to be at the Canterbury Show on Friday for the New Zealand Corriedale Championships.

Having stuck mainly to the Marlborough-Nelson shows in more than 20 years of Open-class shearing, he plans to compete in the fourth national round leg at Raglan in his first New Zealand Lambshearing Championships in January, and also to compete at Pahiatua for only the second time in his career in the last qualifying round in February.

Spurred by fellow Marlborough shearer Angus Moore's win in the PGG Wrightson National Round final at the Golden Shears in Masterton last match, 51-year-old Nott decided as a bit of a "last hurrah" to support Moore around the circuit this season.

"I'll always do the local shows," he said. "There's no one else around to encourage the younger ones along, and the average age is about 50."

He sold his shearing business about eight years ago and is now running a concrete-pumping business, with some shearing on a three-stand mobile unit bought from Napier shearer Phil Wedd. The Senior final on Saturday provided another victory for defending champion Rowan Nesbit, of Rangiora. The runner-up, beaten by 2.62sec, was first-year senior Jotham Rentoul, from Wakefield, near Nelson.

The Intermediate final featured Irish shearer Joseph Stevens and Mrlborough shearer Aaron Brooker in a close race, in which Stevens got the nod by a blow or two, and ultimately a win by more than five points for a breakthrough win after reaching finals at Waimate and Ashburton.

## Getting our Share - November 7, 2012

Shearing Sports New Zealand congratulates our two World champion teams in being named two of the three finalists for the teams honour at the Maori Sports Awards in Auckland later this month. The finalists were named on Monday, with shearing champions John Kirkpatrick and Cam Ferguson and woolhandling champions Joel Henare and Joanne Kumeroa facing just one other finalist, the waka team of Aotearoa Whakaarangi.

In by far the shearing sports' biggest representation at a national sports awards, Golden Shears president Mavis Mullins, who headed the organisation of the World Championships in Masterton in March, has also been named a finalist, in the Administrator of the Year category.

The awards will be presented at a ceremony in Auckland's TelstraClear Pacific Events Centre on November 24.

## Wool wiz wonder boy Henare makes it four in a row - November 04, 2012

World champion woolhandler Joel Henare has stretched his new season's winning sequence to four-from-four with victory in the Open woolhandling final at the Manawatu A and P Show at Manfeild on Saturday.

Henare, who turned 21 last week, won the New Zealand Merino title in Alexandra in the first competition of the new season, and then won the Poverty Bay Shears tile in home-town Gisborne, and the Great Raihania Shears final at the Hawke's Bay Show in Hastings.

He won Saturday's event by a comfortable margin from runner-up and 2008 World champion Sheree Alabaster, of Taihape.

Meanwhile, Wairarapa shearer David Buick returned triumphantly to the scene of his first Open-class victory a year ago, with another big scalp as he won the Show's Open Shearing title.

From remote Pongaroa, he beat Golden Shears and New Zealand champion John Kirkpatrick by 11 seconds in the 12-sheep final and ultimately had a comfortable winning margin of 2.17pts.

When he won the show's final a year earlier, Buick beat the then defending New Zealand champion, Rowland Smith, and the World champion, Cam Ferguson.

Young Levin shearer Michael Rolston continued his march through the grades with his first Senior title. A winner of the Golden Shears Junior title in March 2011, he won Manawatu's Intermediate title last November.

Saturday's Intermediate final was won by Masterton's David Gordon, a week after winning another final at the Wairarapa Show, and young Gisborne shearer Duran Smith scored his first win, in the Junior final.

The remote farming locality of Pongaroa claimed a second victory for the day when Carmen Smith won the Senior woolhandling final, while the Junior woolhandling final was won by Ashleigh Hanson, of Feilding.