# SOUTH DEVON CATTLE SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INC.

*Issue: Summer 2026*

Happy New year to you all. I don't wish to start on a negative note but the saying 'No news is good news' sure does apply to news from you, our members, for the Newsletter.

I have not received anything that you, the members, want to share so the Council might need to ask at their next meeting 'is there a need for the Newsletter?' We are all busy and I am aware that it's another task to communicate your news.

The upcoming World Conference is no longer a talking point but a reality about to launch on May 28, 2026. Some Australian members took part in the World meeting in December; as we have an unreliable zoom connection I was unable to take part but appreciated the summary sent out by the World President, Richard Camp, if you have not received this please contact Elizabeth and she can forward a copy to you. If you have any feedback from that please contact me, as your World representative. Those attending from Australia will be putting together a PowerPoint presentation (they may have just found this out reading this) so will no doubt be asking for photos and reports from you, the members, to include in this. Please start thinking now what you would like on your herd to be included.

The Itinerary and fee details can be found on the Farm Field website (Farm Field Tours UK). This tour will cover many areas not visited on the previous two UK tours with a renew your vows opportunity for couples at Gretna Green, the heart of Heartbeat country with a fish and chip lunch at Whitby and, if you have followed the Princes Trust and its work at Dumfries House with the youth of the area, the finished work of the skills taught to the young people of the area in the restoration. While the $ may not been our side the tax deductable holiday is.

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I have looked up the Newsletter from March 1986, mainly to fill a page! Stephan Spiker was the National President, taking the reins from Roy Scragg, Tom Nest the Association Secretary (when did we become a Society? anyone know) the Carlisle Stud of Paul and Olger Barnett of Gellibrand River were dispersing their stock at the Bendigo sale. In the Gippsland area, the breed dominated the second carcase competition for the year, Grahame Dettrick, Ian Risstrom and Bernie Blackshaw being the breeders, a camp draft was being held at Kalamurina Station and a report of the Tesbury Field Day. John Bruce and Tom Shatlock had extensively toured the UK visiting many herds and an extensive article on embryo transfer, and four studs had been part of the SA Field days' series. I wonder how many can recall these names within our Society?

If the Newsletter, is to continue **April 25th** will be the deadline for the next one, otherwise is unlikely that another issue will be printed until after the World Conference, where hopefully there can be a collective report from all Australian travellers.

Until I hear from you all, or the Newsletter becomes a has been, may 2026 be kind to us all after some major challenges for many in 2025.

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