

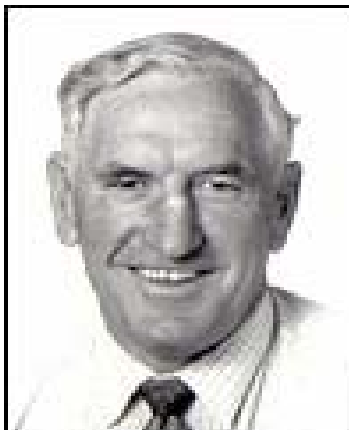
HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Denis G Elvidge

We have much pleasure and pride in nominating our colleague and valued member of the New Zealand Society of Animal Production, **DENIS GRAEME ELVIDGE**, for Honorary Life Membership of the Society.

Denis has been a member of the Society for as long as he has been a member of the Lincoln University staff, and that is a mere 34 years. His contribution to the Society has been effective at all levels, from a committed supporter of Annual Conferences, through mentor to many younger members, to his extended term (8 years) as Editor of the Proceedings and culminating with his Presidency in 1999.

It is perhaps in his role as Editor that Denis had his greatest impact on the affairs of the Society. It was a brave man who took over editorial and publishing duties when Denis did in 1992. For a number of years the Proceedings had rocked from one publishing crisis to the next with the attendant risk to publishing deadlines and the Society's credibility. Denis essentially single-handedly and with his well-recognised passion for 'getting things done', not only re-railed the train but upgraded the timetable to introduce pre-publishing of the proceedings. It was also during his editorship that the peer review of papers that we now all take for granted was instigated. He also supervised the change from the now archaic type-setting of papers from typewritten manuscripts to the current photo-ready manuscripts produced from computer files; all by a man who claims he is not particularly computer friendly.



Denis's matter-of-fact, no-nonsense personality, honed by many years in the front-row of old-style amateur rugby teams has stood him in good stead in his dealings with recalcitrant authors and students. Only recently an old student was heard to remark that he would "Never have risked getting out of line in Mr Elvidge's lectures". We know that his 'hard line' image belies a very sympathetic personality. Denis's commitment to student welfare, to course advice and personal counselling is manifest by the never-ending stream of

students that wait their turn outside his office. This care and consideration for young people has also been manifest in the interest Denis has taken in the Society's Young Member's Award. He has adjudicated as President, as Editor and as a substitute for other judges when the need has arisen. He is fair but discriminatory and quick to offer supportive comment and praise.

In latter years, increasing deafness has made it more difficult for Denis to take full part in many debates and conversations. However recently, after extremely successful surgery, his hearing has been remarkably restored. So although Denis has officially retired from active duty in animal science at Lincoln University, he should now be good for many more years of mentoring young members and judging awards.

On the basis of this stalwart contribution to the Society and animal production teaching, it is with great pleasure that we nominate Denis Elvidge for Honorary Life Membership of the Society.

*AM Nicol
AR Sykes
GK Barrell*