

## PRESIDENT'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

I was thinking, this morning, how great it was to be living in a country like New Zealand.

Amidst all the doom and gloom that is going on around us it pays to stop and think about what a great place it is.

New Zealand farmers provide food for all and earn large amounts of overseas exchange to give a good life for all, if they want it.

They do this in a sustainable way and are the worlds best in low carbon production and energy use.

New Zealand is the only country in the world to get such a high standard of living from agriculture; it is also the only country in the world to include agriculture in the Kyoto agreement.

A bit like a turkey voting for an early Christmas.

The Emission Trading Scheme has gone through Parliament and, although agriculture is not included for quite a few years, in its current form it will be eventually included. We worked very hard behind the scenes to try and put it on hold, to no avail.

We think the scheme is flawed and will be working hard to get rid of it or get it changed.

Rest assured the battle has not been lost.

The Government has been shown that the stock unit numbers are less now than in 1990, the date that reductions need to be based on (7million), so that would give the Government an out, if they chose to use

They don't seem to want to.

Anyway enough of that, do enjoy yourself this Christmas season, do try to attend one of the functions, because without interested and participating members this organisation is nothing.

So on behalf of the Executive, Sue and I extend to you Christmas greetings and hope that you all have a prosperous new year.

**Phil York - Auckland President**



## FRANKLIN SUB PROVINCE

### Transpower

The Board of Inquiry has finished hearing submissions for the proposed high voltage transmission line between Whakamaru and Auckland. They have indicated the decision will be released in a few months.

### Auckland Amenities Funding Bill

This Bill provides for a large number of organisations to be funded by way of a compulsory levy on all Auckland regional ratepayers and those Waikato regional ratepayers who live within Franklin District. Federated Farmers opposed the bill. It was recently passed into law with the support of the National Party.

### Contribution to Funding of Museums Bill

Franklin District Council is promoting a Bill which seeks to remove the obligation of Waikato regional ratepayers to contribute to the Auckland museums. Federated Farmers is supporting the Bill.

### Franklin District Council rates update

Franklin District Council found itself unable to change the stormwater ratios without further public consultation. To compensate, they have lifted the Uniform Annual General Charge by a significant amount.

### Candidates Evening

About 70 residents turned out to question representatives of the main parties at a recent Candidates Evening in Clevedon hosted by Federated Farmers.


### Coming Up

Federated Farmers is opposing a proposal by Manukau City Council to charge for permits to move stock on roads.


**For further information contact:  
Wendy Clark - President,  
Franklin Federated Farmers  
Phone: 09 236 3082**



# CHRISTMAS 2008 NEWSLETTER



AUCKLAND



*Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year*



**RODNEY DISTRICT'S  
CHRISTMAS PARTY  
& ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**6.30pm, Friday 28 November 2008**

**Top of the Dome Restaurant  
Dome Valley, Warkworth**

**TICKETS:** \$30.00  
Christmas Meal

**GUEST SPEAKER**  
Lockwood Smith, MP

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**RSVP** by 24<sup>th</sup> November to:  
James Colville | Phone: 09 423 9234 or  
Dean Blythen | Phone: 09 425 8258

James Colville will present his Rodney District Report at the meeting.



**FRANKLIN DISTRICT'S  
CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**6.00pm, Sunday 30 November 2008**

**St Margarets Gardens, Karaka**

**COST:** \$30.00  
Hors d'oeuvres | Gourmet Burgers | Dessert

**BYO DRINKS**

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**RSVP** by 23<sup>th</sup> November to:  
Doug Gellert | Phone: 09 294 8647  
Garth Ross | Phone: 09 238 7703 or  
Jean Hamilton | 09 292 7813