

SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE 2005

Name: Mike Wright

Summary of your study (approximately 100-200 words)

As one of the first batch of scholars, I set off with a list of names, a Uni ticket and a great deal of optimism. My first weekend in Auckland coincided with the Round the World Yacht Race and an air of enthusiasm in the city which got me well up for the next five weeks. During these five weeks I visited breeders of many different breeds of sheep and cattle and was impressed by their focus on objectives; through the openness of the focus farm discussion groups and, above all, their hospitality. I came back convinced that, as fellow producers in a global market we should have more contact and cooperation with New Zealand producers. It also confirmed my belief in the folly of breeding for scrapie resistance rather than getting rid of the infective agent.