



Credit: Matukituki Valley, 1932

# REEL LIFE IN RURAL NEW ZEALAND

A dynamic programme of films that pay tribute to the rich and diverse heritage of the Otago and Southland regions



**NGĀ TAONGA**  
SOUND & VISION



HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND  
POUHERE TAONGA

# REEL LIFE IN RURAL NEW ZEALAND: OTAGO & SOUTHLAND, 1913 – 2007

**Pre Movie:** Songs of Tuini Ngawai and Ngoi Pewhairangi: *It's Shearing Season*, Neil Colqhoun and the Folklore Singers: *Clear the Board* and Les Cleveland: *The Phosphate Flyers*.

## **THE FISHER MONOPLANE, 1913**

D.P. Fisher, invented this monoplane which was trialed in the Wairarapa. Pilot, Reginald White looks rather anxious, this was his first time in the cock-pit. Filmed by Charlie Barton

## **HARVESTING IN THE WAIKATO, ca1928**

Advertising film for “Bisleys” horse drawn farm equipment. A demonstration of ‘modern’ farming equipment and techniques, including the new hay stacker. Filmed by Harry Wood-year Smith.

## **MAC EWAN’S MANURE REMOVER & DISTRIBUTOR, 1930**

A real down on the farm invention - “Improve the surroundings of your cowshed with the “Flying Banana”. Filmed by Ian Mac Ewan.

## **WENHAM’S OUTLAW - PUSHMOWER ADVERTISEMENT, 193-** excerpt

The push mower, used by the Hamilton Beautifying Society is tested. One test includes mowing rocks and 4” bolts! Watson’s Camera House production.

## **THE FIRST ELECTIC TRACTOR IN NEW ZEALAND, ca1932**

The tractor is demonstrated, note the long electric cord! Filmed by Harry Woodyear-Smith.

## **SOUTHLAND SHOW 193**

Early sound newsreel of the show in Invercargill. Lange Productions.

## **MATUKITUKI VALLEY, 1932 excerpts**

Farming at Mt. Aspring Station with John and Amy Aspinall and children. Filmed by Roland Ellis.

**ROBERT JOHN GIBSON HOME MOVIES**, 2004 excerpts

“Oliverburn” at Rough Ridge, Puketoi was farmed by R.J.Gibson. In the 1930s he bought a movie camera and filmed farm activities. His son, John Gibson added a commentary in 2004.

**THE FARMING FRONT**, 194- excerpts

The impact of the Second world war changed farming life in New Zealand. National Film Unit

**THE ENDURING LAND: GREEN VELVET**, 1990 excerpt

The history of rabbiting in Central Otago and Southland in the 1940s. Gibson Group.

**FARMING...ANNUAL BAA...TH**, 1954

The old method of sheep dipping - poking the sheep in troughs with a stick to immerse them, is contrasted with the new shower method. Pacific Magazine 4, Pacific Films.

**FARMING, SHEARING**, 1955

A system of mirrors is used to entice the sheep into the shearing shed. Pacific Magazine 9.

**PATHE COLOUR PICTORIALS. NEW ZEALAND SHEEP** 1955

A promotional film made for the UK market draws parallels between Scotland and NZ.

**FARMING IN NEW ZEALAND**, 1952

The whole family helps out on the farm and the women enjoy baking. National Film Unit

**FAMILY TREE**, 1958 excerpts

Prime Minister Walter Nash and other dignitaries attend an unveiling of a memorial to pioneers of refrigeration, near Totara Estate. Pacific Films.

**A WOOL CHECK** 1960, excerpt

“Wool, the monarch of materials...” A woman models wool garments. A Tasman Vaccine Laboratory Film Unit production.

**NEW ZEALAND MIRROR** No. 20, 1957 excerpt

A young orchardist in Central Otago invents a novel scarecrow named Roxy. NFU.

**THE AUSTIN CHAMP IN NEW ZEALAND**, 1954 excerpt

The Cook brothers from Waitiri Station in the Kawarau George take the “Champ” for a spin around their station. Promotion by Austin NZ and photographed by A. J. Black.

**BEYOND A JOKE**, 1995 excerpt

Fred Dagg muses over Daylight Saving, item taken from *Gallery*, television show 1977.

**GODZONE SHEEP**, 1995

TV show clips – including *The Dog Show*, and a *Country Calendar* spoof. Greenstone productions.

**BLERTA REVISITED**, 2001 excerpt

Fred Dagg and the Trevs and a lot of barking dogs. Blerta Co. production.

**GOOD AS GOLD**, 1985

The brother in law from Kiwiland visits an Australian sheep station and tells the locals how to drench sheep. Advertisement made for Ci Coopers Nilverm by. Colenso.

**COUNTRY CALENDAR** 31/03/2007, excerpt

Peter and Elsie Lyon run New Zealand’s biggest merino shearing contracting business, based in Central Otago. TVNZ

**SLICE OF HEAVEN**, 1986

Dave Dobbyn and Herbs sing *Slice of Heaven*, from *Footrot Flats*. Magpie productions.

**ON OUR SELECTION - A CAMERA RECORD OF FARM WORK ON BUSHLEA**, 1937 excerpt

The things you can do with wool crutchings! Animation by Archie Fowler.