NEWSLETTER
May 2023

R J PRESTON LTD
Rural Accounting Specialists | Chartered Accountants
Throughout Canterbury Region
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Latest Updates

R J PRESTON LTD TO OPEN SATELLITE OFFICE

By Grant McCulloch

Plans for the 2023 financial year is for R J Preston Ltd to operate a satellite office.

Grant and his family are relocating to Blenheim in July 2023 and will run a office from the farmhouse.

We have the privilege and opportunity to take over the hill block on my wife Anna's, family farm. This has been in the planning stages for the last eight years and we are looking forward to the plans finally coming to fruition. The property is in the Omaka Valley, consisting of 490 hectares, the majority hill with about 30 hectares of flats. We intend to continue running sheep and cattle on an extensive basis and will initially run similar total stock numbers to the property we farmed at West Melton.

In terms of accounting work, my plan is to continue serving the same client base as before. We have streamlined our operations by integrating our phone and computer systems with cloud software, allowing for easy accessibility through the internet. This means you can still reach me using the existing office phone number, ensuring smooth communication and uninterrupted service.

While I will be primarily based at the satellite office in Blenheim, I will make regular visits to our Christchurch main office once a month, for a week, to facilitate any necessary face-to-face meetings or engagements.

Rest assured, our Christchurch main office and its staff will continue to operate as usual. They are fully equipped to provide all the services you require in a timely manner. We are committed to maintaining the high standards and professionalism you have come to expect from us, regardless of the physical location of our offices.

After experiencing burnout last year, this decision has not been taken lightly. Moving forward, our goal is to ensure the continuity of smooth and efficient services. To achieve this, I have implemented the following measures:

- Using dedicated focus time to complete accounting tasks. This is something that I have been trialling over the last six months where I block out time and disruptions are minimised.
- We are involving extended family in our farming company in order to spread the workload, this should allow me to get off farm for both accounting work and relaxation.
- Learning to schedule in time for rest and relaxation. Technology these days with phones and laptops means that work can be done at any time, and this is a lesson I learned the hard way about turning those devices off outside work hours.

By implementing these measures, I aim to create a healthier work-life balance and maintain the quality of our operations.

Any queries or concerns don't hesitate to contact me to discuss further.

BENCHMARKING AND STATISTICS

By R J Preston Ltd

We will be shortly starting a new project to upgrade our benchmark statistics using the Figured Insights platform.

Following the move to Xero and Figured software, there should be improved functionality to produce our year end statistical analysis. The main benefit will be internally and should streamline our system and going forward we should be able to provide reports on a more timely basis.

We met with the Figured team in early May 2023 to get the project under way and hopefully we will have some reports completed around June 2023 in order to benchmark the 2022 financial year.