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PITA SHAND ALEXANDER - BACKGROUND

- ◆ 4 years working on New Zealand farms
- ◆ 3 years at Lincoln University - Farm Management and Valuation Qualifications
- ◆ 2 years Farm Project Lending Officer, Rural Bank - Registered Rural Valuer
- ◆ 6 years at Pyne Gould Guinness Ltd and PGG Trust Ltd - Credit Control, Estate Planning, Estate Administration, Farm Accounting, Trust Accounting, Estate Accounting
- ◆ Completed Accountancy Degree
- ◆ 3 years as Financial Trouble Shooter for South Island banks, stock firms and insurance companies
- ◆ 1 year 'Big Four' Accounting Firm
- ◆ More than 50 years in Practice as Specialised Farm Accountant
- ◆ 1990 - received Bledisloe Medal from Lincoln University for outstanding old student's contribution to New Zealand agriculture
- ◆ 1990 - received NZ Commonwealth Medal for Services to Agriculture (Queens Medal)
- ◆ 2010 – received Officer of the Order of New Zealand (ONZM) for Services to Agriculture in Queen's Birthday Honours
- ◆ Has driven around the USA seven times now involving five - seven weeks each time and averaging around 20,000-25,000 kilometres each time, looking and talking to farming couples particularly in the Midwest
- ◆ Has now addressed 105 conferences and seminars in Australia over the last 20 years and is constantly on a learning curve as a result – also one major farming conference in the UK
- ◆ Has also addressed some 534 farming conferences, seminars, field days, farm discussion groups in New Zealand over the last 50 plus years and is again constantly on a learning curve as a result
- ◆ Very much respects the family farm and the contributions of the men and women who own and manage them
- ◆ PS Alexander & Associates Limited is one of the larger specialised farm accounting practices in New Zealand
- ◆ Spent some time in United Kingdom in 1974 looking at farm machinery groups, with four large groups now operating locally - several for 50 years. A BNZ scholarship was the trigger to achieve this
- ◆ Workaholic. Does not want to play golf in case he likes it – would rather work than almost anything else
- ◆ Believes in advisers having their own financial and business affairs in very good order before they start advising others
- ◆ Very much wants his farming clients to be soundly and sustainably profitable and to be getting at least 90% job satisfaction
- ◆ Is getting enormous job satisfaction and wants to inject back into agriculture as hard as he can
- ◆ Finds farming couples very good to work with and helping them in their farm business is a very satisfying way to make a living
- ◆ Lives on Conical Hill in Hanmer Springs
- ◆ Married to Maureen for 43 years. She died in 2011
- ◆ Has a son Paul (Chartered Accountant), and Daughter Jane (Clinical Psychologist)
- ◆ Present Farm Accounting Practice is based in Papanui, Christchurch
- ◆ Practice Co-Directors and Shareholders are Alister Stevenson and Karen Prue



Pita Alexander
PS Alexander & Associates Limited