

Clippings

MOHAIR AUSTRALIA Ltd., HAGSA Ltd and
Friends

Victorian Region Newsletter
February 2021



Diary Dates for 2021

Late April - Field Day in Langwarrin

Focus will be on correct handling and preparation for show as well as animal husbandry throughout the year. Everyone welcome.

Bendigo Sheep and Wool Show - 16-18 July

Details to be finalised. To quote the CEO of the show

'We are planning for an event – Covid friendly but time will tell.'

At this stage HAGSA will have a stall in the Woolcraft section of the Show

If you want to keep up to date with what's happening with the show, information is on their website at

<https://www.sheepshow.com/>



Message from the editor

As we begin a New Year, it's easy to hope that the challenges of 2020 are behind us. However there are still events being cancelled and we face an uncertain future with respect to social and farming activities. As a result, the diary dates section of our publication is looking a bit bare.

Berwick Show and the NATS have both been moved to an online forum, or cancelled all together. At this stage The Bendigo Sheep and Wool Show is on track to proceed. We are still hopeful that Mohair will have a presence at this show this year.

In this edition of Clippings, we have some reports about what's been happening with the Heritage Angora Goat Society of Australia Ltd., as well as a report from our MAL's national President. There is also a 'hot off the press' release from ISC about enhancements they have made to the functions available to farmers' accounts.

Don't forget, you now need to use the new NVD forms when selling goats.

Just a reminder that if you would like to make a contribution to Clippings, please email me, I'd love to hear from you.

Happy reading

Lill (lill@netspace.net.au)

A little cutie enjoying the sunshine. Photo courtesy Stephen Wright.



A Message from your President Margaret Nicholls

We begin 2021 still with Covid 19 hanging over what we can do.

The NATS show has been cancelled this March and now the Berwick show for Angora goats has been put off until next year. We will try to stage some events during the year, such as a demonstration day about what a good commercial mohair growing angora goat should be bred like, with goats available for people to handle and learn the different points .

Also we could go through a yearly calendar for a farm so our members don't get behind with the jobs needed to keep their goats healthy.

Otherwise not much else to report so I have taken the liberty to include photos of our beautiful twin grandsons. They are growing fast and will be 12 months old by the end of March . I love them so much.

Alfred (left) and Fredrick



Creativity and recycling at its very best. Alfrado Manor, a home made for two little boys by their parents.



AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Heritage Angora Goat Society of Australia Ltd. (HAGSA) was held via Zoom on 11 December 2020. It was very pleasing to see so many of our breeders on the screen. There were 11 in attendance, even if there were times when internet coverage 'dropped out'.

For some of us it was the first time we had ever seen each other. We are located across the country with breeders in Victoria, NSW and Queensland. Minutes were ratified, reports accepted, thank yous given and officer bearers were reappointed unopposed.

They are:

Lill Roberts - President, Catherine Fox - Secretary, Roger Sawley - Treasurer and Bella St Clair - Director

After the formalities of the AGM, we conducted a general meeting. This gave attendees a chance to introduce themselves to each other. Linda Donald gave a presentation on the work she has been doing (see separate report) and issues such as possible fleece sales, maintaining the gene pool through cross breeding and finances were discussed.

While it is true that the pandemic has caused untold harm to our world, one small plus has been that many of us are now comfortable with using Zoom for meetings and that helped make the AGM a success. Thanks to all involved.

Moving Goats

After a very wet year, Lill Roberts and Roger Sawley in South Gippsland sadly decided to significantly reduce their holding of Heritage Angoras. The bulk of the breeding stock are going to NSW. Their first stop is Oakey Range near Goulburn. After that some will be headed to the Hunter Valley and some to a new breeder in Armidale. Due to the capacity of trailers and horse floats, the move is happening gradually. So far two trips have been made. The closure of the NSW/Vic border has stopped activities for the moment, but we are hopeful that more goats will be moved in February.

The drier NSW climate will mean that these very rare goats will no longer have to be subjected to internal parasite burdens and foot scald; a perennial threat in the wet South Gippsland climate.

Membership Officer

At the January 2021 board meeting of HAGSA Ltd. directors, the appointment of a membership officer was approved. Angie Denyer from Tyabb has generously agreed to assist by putting together a duty statement for the membership officer and draft a set of procedures for membership applications and renewals. I asked Angie a bit about herself. She said:

"I have a background in nursing and journalism, but now run a small retail business selling gifts and homewares. I also run creative workshops in Tyabb. I have 2 dogs, 2 cats, 8 chooks, 4 extremely small ponies and 3 sweet Heritage angora goats. Oh and a husband and 3 teenagers. We also occasionally have random other pets such as stick insects and reptiles as there is always room for another creature. I'm keen to learn how to spin and dye my mohair and hope to add another goat or two to our flock."



Some of the boys who have made the trip 'up north'. Della Downs Hughie, Monash and Fuji in their new home just out of Goulburn NSW.



Data Base for Heritage Angora Goats

One of the highlights of the AGM was the presentation by Linda Donald covering the work she has done to update and edit the data base which has been used for many years as the Australian Heritage Angora Goat stud book.



Linda Donald with a Heritage Angora kid on her farm in Orbost

several possible data bases and decided on Breedmate, a highly customisable solution that can be put online.

The next decision was concerning the fields of information which needed to be captured. Examples of fields are White/Coloured, Dead/Alive, Pure breed/mixed (to allow us to capture information relating to goats bred from angoras other than pure Heritage goats). A lot of customisation was made to Breedmate to get the most benefit from the data. There were also multiple tagging systems used by the various breeders and these needed to be tabulated into a consistent format.

When all these decisions were made and the data cleansed, it was then a matter of importing it to the new software. While this may sound a simple task, it took great care and skill. The data had to be accurate, in the right format and compatible with the new software.

The best aspect of the data base is the way it can capture so much generational information which can be displayed as a family tree, or in circular form. Linda demonstrated how this data would look to the meeting. The package is able to be published on line which will allow breeders access to the information.

We are very grateful to the work Linda has done so tirelessly over the past 18 months to give us an electronic stud book which accurately records each of our precious Heritage Angora Goats.

Congratulations

Bella St Clair, Director of HAGSA, has been appointed the Caprine co-ordinator of the Rare Breeds Trust of Australia.

Bella's role highlights the importance of genetic diversity in our agricultural animals and will assist all Heritage Angora breeders raise the profile of these endangered goats.

Bella St Clair



The choice of an appropriate data base was an important step in the process. Linda looked at

Pedigree of: Croajingolong Katelyn Australian Heritage
Angora (AHA)
 Date of Birth: 29-07-2013 Sex: Doe Gen/Breed: Australian Heritage Angora (AHA)
 Colour & Markings: White Reg No: 13FAS0340
 Bred By: Valerie Donald

PARENTS	GRANDPARENTS	GREAT GRANDPARENTS	GREAT GREAT GRANDPARENTS
SIRE: Croajingolong Tuo Up White 09FAS0220 DOB: 19-08-2008	Croajingolong Benson White 05FAS0212 DOB: 07-06-2005 Croajingolong Liz White 05FAS0166 DOB: 11-06-2005	Croajingolong Rufus White 00FAS0082	Croajingolong Rex 98FAS0046 Croajingolong Keryll 94FAS0047
		Croajingolong Fifi Fawn & White 00FAS0133	Croajingolong Rex 98FAS0046 Croajingolong Fiona 99FAS0045 Croajingolong Zingo 97FAS0062 Croajingolong Bo 99FAS0132 Croajingolong Salome White 01FAS0135 Croajingolong Remus 99FAS0064 Croajingolong Keryll 94FAS0047
DAM: Croajingolong Maxine White 10FAS0271 DOB: 13-08-2010	Croajingolong Andre White 08FAS0214 DOB: 15-08-2008 Croajingolong Babs White 08FAS0217 DOB: 16-08-2008	Croajingolong Rufus White 00FAS0082	Croajingolong Rex 98FAS0046 Croajingolong Keryll 94FAS0047
		Croajingolong Gabriel White 05FAS0164	Croajingolong Dimithi 03FAS0146 Croajingolong Sonya 99FAS0113 Croajingolong Rufus 00FAS0082 Croajingolong Fifi 00FAS0133 Croajingolong Barbara White 08FAS0176 Croajingolong Dimithi 03FAS0146 Brac Verily Rose 04FAS0128

I, the undersigned do hereby certify that the foregoing particulars are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
 SIGNED _____ DATE _____

National news from Mohair Australia Ltd Australian President Nick Gorrie

Dear Member, Mohair Grower and Stud Breeder,

Good bye 2020 and welcome to 2021 on behalf of the Mohair Australia board. We are all back on deck with our first board meeting for 2021 scheduled for the first week of February.

Sue Jordan reminds us that you need to use the new 2021 NVD when undertaking animal transactions, the old NVDs are no longer acceptable. Allow 6 weeks for new books to arrive from Integrity Systems Company (ISC) its parent company is Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) or register for the eNVD (electronic) online. More information is available at www.integritysystems.com.au/envd-help or 1800 863 111. With eNVD once you complete the data set and submit you need to print out 3 hard copies for your records, transport driver and destination buyer.

The herdbook recording system on the Mohair Australia website is now operating to register new animals and print out new or existing MAL registration certificates.

Please note Mohair Australia memberships are now due and need to be actioned by paying the annual membership fee and sending in a completed & signed membership form. EFT payment, credit card (\$2.50 extra charge) or cheque in the post is ok.

With many of the eastern NSW shows cancelled we thought it was timely to invite breeders and growers (membership needs to be paid) to send in a listing with photo/s of upcoming animals for sale which we will publish free of charge online on www.mohair.com.au and in the upcoming March newsletter. Any news or information for upcoming Mohair News please send to Kimberly at mohair@mohair.org.au email address.

We have heard from Brian Smith that Tasmania are going ahead with their event on the 31st January.

Internationally there has been strong Angora Buck sales in South Africa despite the Covid 19 unknown. On the 14th January 2021 in Willowmore South Africa 60 angora bucks all sold and recently on the 21st January 2021 in Jansenville South Africa 80 angora bucks all sold. Prices were good and a summary will be printed in the upcoming newsletter with some photos from the House Of Fibre Facebook page. This is an encouraging sign that growers in South Africa are rebuilding their herds after drought and they have confidence in the mohair market.

Yours sincerely,

Mohair Australia Ltd.

Koonkie Woorun Angora Stud, Upper Beaconsfield, Vic

FOR SALE - Koonkie Woorun 1702

Sire: Champion Ancor 4428 (Registration No 193623)

Available for viewing December 2020

Contact: Hilary Day 0417 038 935 or hmday@ozemail.com.au

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In a Nutshell—news and views from the internet. (Thanks to Goat Veterinary Consultancies—Goatveto. et.al.)

Worms and in particular Barber's Pole worm.

There have been several article about the challenges of intestinal worms, and the wet summer makes this aspect of our animal husbandry activities particularly important. The articles are generally about sheep, but apply to goats as well.

https://www.sheepcentral.com/la-nina-fed-pasture-growth-creating-worm-issues/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Sheep%20Central%20News%20Headlines%20January%2025%202021&utm_content=Sheep%20Central%20News%20Headlines%20January%2025%202021+CID_432548de653dbc580079539ee773819c&utm_source=eGenerator&utm_term=Click%20here%20for%20full%20story

An article specifically about the challenges of La Nina and also covers nutritional value of pastures and external parasites such as fleas and lice.

A very technical article specifically about Barber's Pole worm [https://www.journalijar.com/article/16217/haemonchus-contortus-and-ovine-host:-a-retrospective-review./](https://www.journalijar.com/article/16217/haemonchus-contortus-and-ovine-host:-a-retrospective-review/)

Article about worm eggs surviving in pasture longer under wet humid conditions. [https://www.journalijar.com/article/16217/haemonchus-contortus-and-ovine-host:-a-retrospective-review./](https://www.journalijar.com/article/16217/haemonchus-contortus-and-ovine-host:-a-retrospective-review/)

Antimicrobial veterinary medicines

A paper by Animal Medicine Australia on the issue of resistance to antimicrobial treatments aimed at the veterinary industry. It is probably more suitable for commercial producers, rather than people who have an emotional attachment to their animals as the use of culling is frequently recommended. https://animalmedicinesaustralia.org.au/media-release/protecting-sheep-health-and-preserving-antimicrobials/?fbclid=IwAR0LP_OaaxqQvw4FIWXXkuiipfVeFGel5Vgeh8yqK-vi5LDSf1i8PQbCY6hE

Kid losses

An article about the causes and costs of kid losses. It's about Boer goats, but can be applied to angoras as well.

https://www.sheepcentral.com/goat-fertility-study-estimates-cost-of-kid-losses/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Sheep%20Central%20News%20Headlines%20January%2027%202021&utm_content=Sheep%20Central%20News%20Headlines%20January%2027%202021+CID_a42b0e25c71e12eb53092e38086e86d9&utm_source=eGenerator&utm_term=Click%20here%20for%20full%20story

Supplementary feed: Lucerne or Barley

A paper on whether Lucerne or Barley are beneficiary as a supplementary feed to pregnant angora does.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0921448820302522>

Drug resistance

The first report of multidrug resistance in gastrointestinal nematodes in goat population in Poland

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32746828/>

Dental Examinations

A You Tube on how to examine a sheep's teeth. It's just as applicable to goats. (As a side issue, I left this running on my computer by accident. There are several videos after the dental examination one which may be of interest to everyone: e.g. selenium deficiency, correcting a goat born with stiff tendons, skinny animals and more)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?fbclid=IwAR1qkdNfXPHBQWlt2Zptx04s9x_6d3ckG0eL5tWaKYxUjHRN2hNwmsBWzD8c&v=ICnqHJQqKd4&feature=youtu.be)

[fbclid=IwAR1qkdNfXPHBQWlt2Zptx04s9x_6d3ckG0eL5tWaKYxUjHRN2hNwmsBWzD8c&v=ICnqHJQqKd4&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?fbclid=IwAR1qkdNfXPHBQWlt2Zptx04s9x_6d3ckG0eL5tWaKYxUjHRN2hNwmsBWzD8c&v=ICnqHJQqKd4&feature=youtu.be)

Temporary tube cystostomy

An article about risk factors for, frequency, and type of complications after temporary tube cystostomy in goats, sheep, and pigs. This is used when a buck has urinary track blockage (Urinary Stones)

[https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1111/vsu.13553?](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1111/vsu.13553?fbclid=IwAR1neY48cMwtZM4hho_lcMJDJaN_4d6X77eYHEWKzuZJzwHGbtF0nXtLBI)

[fbclid=IwAR1neY48cMwtZM4hho_lcMJDJaN_4d6X77eYHEWKzuZJzwHGbtF0nXtLBI](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1111/vsu.13553?fbclid=IwAR1neY48cMwtZM4hho_lcMJDJaN_4d6X77eYHEWKzuZJzwHGbtF0nXtLBI)

Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) - Integrity Systems Company (ISC) - information source <https://www.integritysystems.com.au/>

I recently gave some feedback to ISC about the new functions which have been added to registered users' accounts. Below is a press release about this initiative. Members are encouraged to give their feedback to ISC.

New digital record keeping tools to help goat producers

Record keeping just got easier for goat producers, with updates to the Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) system providing a suite of digital tools for producers to create and store records online.

As of December 2020, [property risk assessments](#) and [farm biosecurity plans](#) can now be completed and uploaded in a fully electronic form as shown below.

Biosecurity Plan:

- Complete the details section and save
- Upload your property map or link to one previously uploaded.

Property Details *

Property owner Property manager

Health Details *

Veterinarian name Veterinarian phone Local Animal Health Office phone (government)

Stock Inventory *

Stock number (average for the year)

Cattle Sheep Goats

[Save details](#)

Further updates made to the LPA program in December 2020 have meant that all records required for LPA can now be stored in the 'record keeping' section of producers' LPA accounts. This enables the producer to store all required records in one central location and retrieve them at any time, saving time and ensuring easy access to records for both producers and LPA auditors.

Producers are encouraged to log in to their [LPA account](#) and become familiar with the range of helpful tools available to help run their goat enterprise.

Editor of the Mohair Australia (Victorian Division) newsletter, Lill Roberts, was encouraged by the new changes to the LPA program, particularly in respect to the new digital tools available to complete property risk assessments and farm biosecurity plans online.

"I'm encouraged that this is happening and I am encouraged that there will be some support for the record keeping requirement," Lill said.

As a goat producer herself, operating a lifestyle property producing Angora goats in the South Gippsland region of Victoria, Lill is critically aware of the need to maintain accurate on-farm records.

"With the threats that we have around biosecurity and the need for sustainable animal production...we've got this need to account for everything we do now," she said.

Lill is also eagerly awaiting further improvements to the digital record keeping tools currently available on user's LPA accounts, including the addition of editable versions of all LPA record keeping templates to the LPA system. This new feature, which will be available soon, will enable producers to make and update their records directly onto the template in their LPA account.

Feedback on the new system features is welcomed through the recently added 'feedback' tab on the right-hand side of the [LPA log in page](#).

For further information or assistance with LPA record keeping, contact the ISC Helpdesk on 1800 683 111.

Recent updates to the ISC Helpdesk system have meant that producers can now access a range of commonly requested services and information from the Helpdesk 24 hours a day, seven days a week using the Helpdesk's [new self-service function](#). The option to speak with a customer service officer at the Helpdesk during normal business hours (9am-5pm AEDT) also remains available.

Market Report—David Williams

There have been no sales in the Cape as yet. Their season starts soon.

However the wool market has experienced a sharp price rises. This has been due to what some are calling the eight wonder of the world - knitwear, whether it be - close to the skin active wear or women's wear, sweaters, skirts and dresses etc.

Interest was keenest in the fine end of the range (19.5 micron and finer). Nevertheless with only one major player (China) in the market, there was a bit of hiccup this week in Wednesdays sale when some uncertainty prevailed and the market faltered a bit. However by Saturday confidence seemed to be restored and more business concluded.

I would expect some spin off into mohair when the selling season starts. Keep your fingers crossed.

Let's hope this lasts for mohair to get a share of the action.



Mohair Buyers

A.M.T.

WE BUY MOHAIR DIRECT FROM THE GROWER

WE ONLY SELL TO PROCESSORS AND WORK CLOSELY WITH OVERSEAS TOP MAKERS AND MANUFACTURERS

WE OFFER:

COMPETITIVE PRICES FOR YOUR MOHAIR

PROMPT PAYMENT

SORTING REPORT (if requested)

ASSISTANCE ON PREPARATION FOR SALE

WE TAKE GREAT CARE IN CLASSING MOHAIR – NOT ONLY TO CUSTOMERS' REQUIREMENTS, BUT ALSO BY EXPLOITING THE NATURAL FEATURES OF OUR FIBRE (STYLE AND CHARACTER) TO GAIN THE MAXIMUM PRICE.

WE ARE SUPPORTING FURTHER PROCESSING OF AUSTRALIAN MOHAIR IN AUSTRALIA FOR ALL AUSTRALIAN GROWERS!

IF YOU NEED ANY ASSISTANCE DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL US

David Williams Mobile: 0419 352 399

John Hoornweg Mobile: 0428 488 422

Email: david@amtMoh.com.au

AUSTRALASIAN MOHAIR TRADING PTY LTD

Unit 2, 114 Fairbairn Road, Sunshine, Vic, 3020.

To facilitate ease of handling, please consolidate all bags into one (or more) bag or wool pack. Ensure all bags, bales are clearly with your name and address and AMT address".