



a true agricultural & horticultural show experience

SHOW REPORT - ALPACA SECTION

(to be read in conjunction with the Pre-Show Report prepared for the postponed ORM dated 5/3/19)

Our pre-show flyer, issued in the week leading up to the Show - set the scene. The following extracts tell of our expectations.

“ The 91st Red Hill Show is all set up and ready to go, with the first alpacas due to arrive on Friday afternoon for their overnight stay.

..... on Show Day, visitors from far and wide come to watch the famous wood chop, and where else in Victoria can you see a Grand Parade led by vintage cars, followed by the majestic Clydies, cattle, schools parading their sheep, and of course our talented Young Paraders with their alpacas. Then come the miniature goats, chooks, ducks and the rats!

.....being the long weekend, with the Peninsula overflowing with visitors, we are looking forward to a bumper crowd and the alpaca pavilion abuzz with interested people”.

And so it all came to pass or did it? You be the judge!

- the overnight stay on the Friday, which accounted for 34% of the alpaca exhibits, proved popular with participating exhibitors.
- Show Day dawned and visitors certainly came from far and wide the weather perfect; the Peninsula overflowing; the anticipated bumper show crowd was all of that and more - exceeding record levels.
- Red Hill Show 2019 was indeed abuzz with atmosphere that was truly agricultural and horticultural. The ovals and surrounds were packed with trade stalls, activities, displays, agricultural machinery, the much contested woodchop, the popular Clydesdales, the dog high-scramble, the highly patronized MP Paddock, featuring exclusively - Peninsula produce, food and drink stalls, a cider show marquee and local producers who ran interactive displays and workshops.
- alpacas were ever present:
from early morning until mid afternoon, the Alpaca Youth Paraders' competition was in full swing, with the Showmanship and Stockmanship sections eagerly contested under the watchful eye of their judge, Louise Lazarus. Later in the day, the group assembled in the central show ring in the Alpaca Pavilion for the presentation of awards by Daniel Boote, from Avenel - a co-ordinator within the Parader family. Congratulations to all!

2.

in the Alpaca Pavilion - a focal point for an interested public, throughout the day, our halter class judge, Jillian Holmes, after assisting with the set up of the Alpaca Youth Paraders' competition on their outdoor site, enthusiastically threw herself into the process of judging the alternating classes of suri and huacaya, engaging the listening audience with concise and valuable commentary in support of her judging decisions, reaching out equally to the individual place getter, fellow exhibitors and the large numbers of visiting public.

At the conclusion of judging and what had been a highly contested Alpaca Section competition throughout the day, the Supreme Champions were awarded their sashes by the indefatigable Jillian Holmes, with trophies presented by our dedicated and hard working Ring Stewards - Arthur Biri and Alan Steele:

Supreme Champion Huacaya was awarded to Ashbourne The Hipster, a 12 months old white male - exhibited by Shane Carey from Miners Rest, Victoria.

Supreme Champion Suri was awarded (for the second year in succession) to Chakana Blue Time Machine, a 21 months old white male - exhibited by Julie & Tim Blake from Seville East, Victoria.

Before closing, some observations, from the Pavilion.

To our exhibitors:

- How good did you all look in the new dress code black? Thank you for making the effort. Very professional; made for a great showing from ringside.
- Thank you also for your co-operation with the last minute decision to alternate the suri and huacaya classes during showing - well done for the apparent ease in which you adapted and were at all times ready for presentation for judging, contrary to the order of the programme.
- Pleased that we could offer more space in which to conduct the Show. Hope you felt the benefits. The relocation of the Black & Coloured sheep, the re-siting of the miniature goats when their exhibit numbers climbed higher than could be easily accommodated within the Pavilion, made it all possible. It would be great if it could be repeated next year. We will have to work on it - let's wait and see!

In closing,

Special thanks go to our fabulous sponsors:

Main Ridge Veterinary Clinic
(Supreme Champion Trophies - Suri & Huacaya)

olieve&olie
(Handcrafted, organic, olive oil skin care produce - Judge's Gift)

Australian Alpaca Fleece Ltd
(Supreme Champion Awards - Suri & Huacaya,
(100% Alpaca Scarves)

3.

and those who have donated stud services and product for our
RED HILL SHOW SILENT AUCTION

Australian Alpaca Fleece Ltd

- a luxuriously soft alpaca throw - a must for those cool autumn nights!

Alternative View Alpacas - Brigitte & Keith Kat

- a stud service to outstanding grey huacaya - *Autumn Gold Kalahari*

Pitchingga Ridge Alpacas - Jean & David Daddo

- a stud service to new kid on the block, *Baarrooka Durango's Fleet Street*,
medium fawn son of the well known Durango.

And finally, a closing thank you

to the Red Hill A & H Society Inc; our Award Sponsors; General Sponsors; Show Judges; MC/Compere; Exhibitors and the 23 strong support team of stewards, marshalls and assisting personnel involved with the Alpaca Section and the Alpaca Youth Paraders' competition, sincere thanks are extended for the very real part played in the success of the alpaca showing at Red Hill's 91st Annual Show.

A special thank you is passed on to Maddy Bissels and Lynda & Nic Holdsworth for their considerable assistance and support. Your help has been very much appreciated.
Maddy, for her overview of the eAlpaca process and for the considerable time given in the production, publishing and presentation of the catalogue;
Lynda, for her efficiency and effectiveness in the posting of all details, relevant to the Show, on the Region's website, facebook and other social media;
and *Nic*, for all matters Treasury and trailer.

Lastly - a big thank you to the fantastic members of our Peninsula locality group, MPAB, for their time, effort and unflinching support, so willingly given before, during, and after the Show!

David Daddo
Convenor - Alpaca Section
RED HILL SHOW 2019

22nd March 2019