

VER Presidents Report March 2019

Good morning and welcome to everyone. Firstly I would like to thank Julie and Tim Blake for allowing us to use their home for both the stewards workshop earlier today and the ORM as well as Chris Pendlebury for her organisation of the venue for the two previously postponed dates.

I would also like to say a massive thank you to all members and volunteers for all their assistance at the various events we've had in the last 12 months. Hans and Christine van Poppel have notified the committee that they will no longer be convening Alexandra Show and on behalf of the region I would like to thank them for all their hard work over the years.

As a committee we have successfully setup and designed our first survey using survey monkey. It is now ready to go but we are currently having a few minor issues sending it out. Keep an eye out for the survey in the coming weeks. Lynda has also developed a convenors helpful hints document which outlines some of the processes to be completed on eAlpaca prior to the show. We have recently established a new member mentor system where members from each north, central and east VER have volunteered to be mentors. These mentors have been added to the welcome email Lynda developed for new members. A list of qualified show stewards has also been put together by Lynda and is available to view on the VER websites members section.

We are having another promotional stand at Farm World this year with a major focus on alpaca fibre and the improvements in product quality over the years. The committee, headed by Lezley have also been working hard to get our annual dinner and awards night up and running. Lezley and her team have been doing a great job and I congratulate them for all their progress to date. Similarly, thank you to Paul and Heather Gardner and Joy skinner for taking on the massive task of the annual fleece show.

Finally just a friendly reminder all meeting minutes, including committee minutes, are available in the members section of the VER website.