



VICTORIAN EASTERN REGION

**Australian Alpaca Association Ltd.**  
ACN 067 146 481 ABN 30 067 146 481  
**Victorian Eastern Region Secretary, Wendy Talbot**  
19 Doran Rd. Bunyip 3815  
Telephone +61(0)3 5629 5234  
Email [ver.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:ver.secretary@gmail.com)  
Internet [ver.org.au](http://ver.org.au)

## MINUTES ORDINARY REGIONAL MEETING

**DATE: Sunday, March 20th, 2016**

**At: Ripplefield Alpacas, 65 Rule Rd, Lardner**

**Meeting opened:** 11.10 am

**Present:** Michelle Bissels (Moresby Park), Maddie Bissels (Esperance), Joy Skinner (Almora), Wendy Talbot (Ralwental), Lindy Smith (Clifden), Heather & Paul Gardner (Tarcoola), Sue Hatfield (Ripplefield), Bob McLeod (Kalpara), Jen McDavitt (Merungle), Louise & Pat Lazarus (Nil Desperandum), Gwyn Morgan (Pacarina), Christine & Russell Pendlebury (Kellbury Park), Heather Scott & John Spencer (Surinti).

**Apologies:** Robin & Joanne Daniel (White Cloud), Martin Bissels (Moresby Park), Trish & Sean Munley (Langsyne), Hans & Christine van Poppel (Joma), Russell & Lauren Hayes (Sante Fe), Daphne & Keith Gregory n(Chiverton), Delice Guscott (Mary Meadows), Robyn & David Callaghan (Langi-Doon), Tammy Attenborough (Boolaroo Suri), Lezley & Steve Golding (Steveley Park), Allison Quagliani (Toomuc Riodge), Wendy Lyons & Marie Fitzgerald (Wenmar), Annette & Keate Woodgate (Annkea), Bob & Denise Beard ( ).

**Welcome:** The President, Michelle Bissels, welcomed those in attendance.

**Minutes of previous ORM held on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015:** (distributed to be read)

**Confirmation of Minutes of Previous ORM, December 13th, 2015**

Confirmed: Gwyn ; Seconded: Louise Lazarus ; Carried

### **Business Arising from Minutes of Previous ORM:**

1. Presidents' Meeting:

Michelle reported re Regional Presidents' meeting. When she asked questions about AFL and supporting AFN as it was doing a great job with fleece sales as well as promoting our alpacas and fleece internationally, she was just shut down, ignored and board members refused to answer.

2. Shows
- more publicity and display signage needs to be at shows so the public knows alpacas are there - quite a few banners and signage are available in trailer.
  - Sale of Show animals at Berwick - 6 animals were put up for sale – there was some interest by spectator/visitors but no animals sold – studs may be contacted re other animals. After some discussion about success at Berwick, it was decided that show animals will continue to be available for sale at shows – too late for Red Hill but definitely at Lardner. Exhibitors who had animals for sale said that they would do this again.
  - Lardner Venue – due to cost, show committee will investigate another venue to hold this show – too late this year as venue has been hired but will look at for future

- as alpaca entries are more expensive than other animal exhibits and we get little in return, it was suggested that show committee and convenors investigate this and approach Ag Show Committees to see if they could make alpaca show costs more comparable with other animals (eg cheaper animal/fleece entries and show entry for exhibitors) and see if the Ag Societies will finance our judges as they do other animal exhibits.
  - Show Committee to investigate the possibilities of more shows in region.
3. VER website – need to talk to webmaster to see if any other way to locate members than by electoral region or postcode  
eg Can all VER members and addresses be listed alphabetically openly in the members' section as do other regions?

**Correspondence:** Wendy Talbot (N/A)

**Business arising from correspondence:**

All necessary information is forwarded to all members

**President's Report:** Michelle Bissels (as read)

**Treasurer's Report:** Russell Hayes - not provided because in February, AAA office altered the accounting system from Notebook based to a Cloud based MYOB. The Treasurer has not yet had the chance to enter into the new system and start operating – hoping to do so after Easter.

**Business arising from Treasurer's report:** N/A

**Portfolio Reports:**

**Show Committee:**

Red Hill has 37 fleeces and 102 animals entered.

Gillian Holmes is judge for the Annual VER Fleece Competition in May.

**Convenors reports:** none available

**Training and Education:**

1. 2 day Birthing Workshop with Adrienne Clark to be organised for May or June – possible dates 14/15 May, 21/22 May, 25/26 June. Louise to investigate and report back to committee  
– frozen crias required - circulate need to members
2. Castration Day - 23rd April  
- by vet using local anaesthetic and emasculators – no antibiotics, sedation or pain killers  
- castrations - \$50 per animal , certifications - \$55 per animal  
– certification paperwork responsibility of owner
3. Breeders' Workshop – hands on alpaca basics – fleece, halter training, confirmation, etc August 14<sup>th</sup> – Chris to investigate and organise

## **Farmworld:**

report attached

## **General Business:**

1. Sponsorship – only one since last ORM

2. resignation of Robin Daniel due to family situation

3. Shows entries:

After some discussion, it was decided that electronic entries to close 3 weeks before show and snail mail entries to close 1 week before electronic entries ie 4 weeks before show. No pedigree paperwork required because all checked on IAR database.

4. AAA - general discussion re finances

Why so much spent on National Shows?

Where is advertising?

What is benefit of AAA membership these days if AAA doesn't support regions financially?

5. Spectacular:

tickets now \$60 each

6. Alpaca Week:

April 30<sup>th</sup> – May 7<sup>th</sup>

Comment: Mainly a tourist attraction rather than Alpaca support and promotion as most visitors are tourists and not interested in alpaca as such ie not for breeding/farm.

Michelle Bissels thanked Ripplefield Alpacas for suppling great venue for meeting and members for their attendance.

Next ORM - June 5<sup>th</sup> at Steveley Park Alpacas

Meeting Closed: 1.00pm

Michelle Bissels thanked all for attendance and closed the meeting.

**ORM closed      pm**