

Minutes

Hunter LAN Meeting
held Sunday 6 Feb 11
at Lochinvar House

Attendees:

Heather and Phillip Vickery (hosts), Peta and Geoff Byers, Tina Davidson, Rhiannon Lindley, Malcolm and Rhonda Perry, Helen Sorby and Wayne McCauley, Paul and Deanne Thibault, Evelyn Thrift, Narelle and Peter Tulip, Carol Hammett, Nigel Thompson (coordinator/minute secretary)

Guests

Sue and Ian Forster, Ariana McCauley, Liz Thompson

Apologies

Carol and Robert Hill

Items:

1. Review of latest Committee and OGM Minutes.
 - Nigel spoke to highlights of the respective minutes and answered questions.
2. Tocal. The organisation for the Tocal Field Days was discussed.
 - Narelle will continue to coordinate organisation as no one else volunteered to take over. Some members will assist Narelle and Nigel was asked to follow up some aspects with the Regional Committee.
 - Tocal Field Days are on 28 April to 1 May which coincides with a number of other AAA activities and the gap from the Sydney Royal Easter Show is only a few days.
 - The availability of marketing materials for both events was considered an issue to be resolved.
3. Cessnock Show. Narelle had received an invitation recently to exhibit at the Cessnock Show which had subsequently been circulated to members.
 - Rhiannon and Carol are interested in exhibiting and other members were asked if they could assist.
 - Rhiannon will find out what support is available from the Cessnock Show before proceeding and has been advised to access AAA insurance policy if required.
4. NAW.
 - Narelle and Peter, and Helen and Wayne intend to host open farms on Saturday 7 May.
 - A separate local area event was also discussed and a proposal was made to run an exhibit day at Lochinvar House involving any interested Hunter and Central Coast members on Saturday 28 May.

- All members will be invited to bring animals for display to ensure a good representation of Suri and Huacuya across the colour range.
 - Suggestions were made in relation to complimentary activities to be invited to enhance the animal to product experience.
 - The proximity to passing traffic on the New England Highway is also to be exploited for marketing.
5. Local Area Show. Interest was sought in convening a show in the southern end of the region.
 - Heather Vickery has volunteered to convene a show. The proposal is:
 - A colour show
 - Dates proposed were 13, 20 or 27 August, preferably earlier depending on venue availability and conflicting events.
 - Venues discussed include: Tocal, Maitland and Wyong based upon cost, availability, proximity to convenor and suitability
 6. General Business.
 - Narelle advised the survey to National Show exhibitors would be worthwhile for other members and distributed some copies.
 - Availability and reliability of local shearers was discussed. It was suggested any new shearers should be approached for their details to be advertised on the regional website.
 7. Next Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for 10 April at the home of Peta and Geoff (North side of Paterson).
 8. OGM. There were no volunteers to host the next regional OGM however it was noted the dates around Easter are very busy for Alpaca activities.

Meeting closed and those remaining enjoyed a sumptuous lunch in the grand dining room of Lochinvar House.