



# New Zealand Wool Classers Association Inc.

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018**

**At Burnside Rugby Room, 342 Avonhead Road, Christchurch**

**Meeting commenced at 4.08pm**

**Board Members Present:** Bill Dowle (Chairman), Bruce Abbott (Executive Officer), Trudi Landreth, Vivienne Lewis, John Sanders, Don Urquhart, Terence Mulcahy and Murray Ross

**Classers Members Present:** Nigel Cossar, Brian Ponsonby, Eric Laurensen, David Daunton, Richard Moriarty, David York, Ann Johnstone, Ian Shaw and Struan Hulme

**Associate Members Present:** Donald Aubrey

**Guests Present:** Mary-Liz Sanders (Matangi Station)

**Apologies Received:** Allan Frazer (Vice Chairman), Tony Cunningham (Board Member), Margaret Forde, Graeme Bell, Vicki Jones, Murray McLachlan, Simon Harvey, Harata Taunoa, Lindon Sanders, Rose Barnett, Simon McRae, Ian McKenzie, Pagan Rimene, Tom Moore, Christine Forsythe and Dave Carr

***Move that the apologies be accepted and leave of absence be granted***

**Moved: Terence Mulcahy**

**Seconded: Nigel Cossar**

**CARRIED ALL**

## **CHAIRMANS WELCOME**

Chairman called for one minutes silence for the passing of our Patron Dave McPherson (A3) and other classers that have passed over the last year.

*Dave was one of the first to be signed up for a wool classing stencil, his number being 3. He was also a strong supporter of the N Z Wool Classers Association when it was set up in 2006. Dave was Patron for many years.*

*Dave worked up until his death, having his farewell on the 28<sup>th</sup> February at C P Wools and passing away on the 4<sup>th</sup> March.*

*Dave will be missed by us all.*



# New Zealand Wool Classers Association Inc.

## MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM

Meeting was held at the PGG Wrightson Wool Store, 530 Blenheim Road, Christchurch on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May 2017

Minutes circulated and taken as read

Matters arising from last AGM minutes:

Correction to be made – year incorrect

***Move that the minutes represent a true and correct record of the Annual General Meeting.***

***MOVED: Nigel Cossar***

***SECONDED: John Sanders***

***CARRIED ALL***

## CHAIRMANS REPORT

Circulated and Read by Bill Dowle

**APPENDIGE A**

***Move that the Chairman's report be accepted***

***MOVED: Eric Laurenson***

***SECONDED: Trudi Landreth***

***CARRIED ALL***

## FINANCIAL REPORT (01/01/2017 to 31/12/17)

Annual accounts circulated and taken as read

***Move that the Association's Financial Annual report be accepted***

***MOVED: Don Urquhart***

***SECONDED: Ian Shaw***

***CARRIED ALL***

- Current Annual Classer Registration Fee

***Move that Annual Classer Registration fee be increased as per the table below and that no early payment discount be offered;***

Full Membership	From \$110.00	To \$120.00
X & FX Stencil	From \$69.00	To \$120.00
Q Stencil	From \$69.00	To \$75.00

***MOVED: John Sanders***

***SECONDED: Terence Mulcahy***

***CARRIED ALL***

# New Zealand Wool Classers Association Inc.



*And that the Associate Membership Fee remain the same*

Associate Membership	Currently \$110.00	To remain the same
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***MOVED: Don Urquhart  
SECONDED: Nigel Cossar  
CARRIED ALL***

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT

Circulated and Read by Bruce Abbott

### APPENDIGE B

Bruce thanked the classers for their support and feedback over the last year it has been appreciated

***Move that the Executive Officers report be accepted***

***MOVED: Trudi Landreth  
SECONDED: David Daunton  
CARRIED ALL***

## ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Vivienne Lewis & John Sanders stand down by rotation and have made themselves available for reelection

Murray Ross has resigned due to other commitments.

One nomination has been received: South Island – Tracy Patterson

***Move that Vivienne Lewis & John Sanders remain on the board and the Tracy Patterson's nomination be accepted to the NZWCA Board as a replacement for resigning Board member***

***MOVED: Don Urquhart  
CARRIED ALL***

***CORRECTION: Vivienne Lewis was not retiring by rotation it was Trudi Landreth. Trudi was also happy to make herself available for reelection***

## MOTION

The NZWCA Board recommends that the board membership increases from 8 to 10.

This will allow for the Board to include representatives for the Wool Brokers, Wool Scour, Wool Merchant, Shearing Contractor, Owner Classer and one independent member

***MOVED: Bill Dowle  
SECONDED: Terence Mulcahy  
CARRIED ALL***

# New Zealand Wool Classers Association Inc.



## ELECTION OF PATRONS

With the passing of our Patron Dave McPherson, Bill Dowle nominates that David Daunton (FX1136) as our new Patron

*David is 88 years old, lives in Waipawa and has been classing for many years. In the 1950's David even classed at Ngamatea Station [Renata Apatu's farm]. Today David won the 2018 Classers North Island Merit award for his Crossbred clip at Te Kaihi.*

***MOVED: Bill Dowle  
SECONDED: Trudi Landreth  
CARRIED ALL***

## GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Change the wording of the Annual Membership Invoice from 'Subscription' too 'Renewal of Registration'.
2. Further discussion on the Primary ITO training presentation by Joan Grace, Special Projects Officer at today's Field Day.

***MEETING CLOSED 5.00PM***



## APPENDIGE A

### NZWCA CHAIRMANS ANNUAL REPORT 2018

I have begun the last 2 years annual report with a comment that Bruce Abbott as Registrar/executive officer had done great work in promoting our association to people and organisations that may not have realised what we do in the wool harvesting industry, this year that great work has continued, and the results of his efforts since taking the position are coming through. This is reflected from the support he has managed to bring on board for the Field days that have been run under our banner and the support for them from other Wool Industry players as well as the Wool Harvesting side, who have themselves had plenty of issues to grapple with. We have also begun to run more field days than has happened for some years, this adds to our costs but the up side is it spreads the message and improves our profile, which in turn improves our membership. The increasing number of associate members and support we are receiving from other wool industry players is very encouraging.

We have again continued to try to cut our costs. By this time last year we had managed, at great effort by some, got email addresses for all members (who have email) communicating this way saves a lot of time and expense by not having to print, fold, envelope stuff and post newsletters, only needing to post a handful. This has led to reducing the number of newsletters and having more frequent, and sometimes targeted emails going out so the message is delivered at a more appropriate time and sent to those that we want to send it to rather than the broad brush approach.

Again our message has also continued to be put in the Shearing Magazine, I'm confident in saying that ideas and articles would be appreciated. As I have frequently said it is the member's organisation, so if you have something that may be worth putting out there, information, and story or just interesting send it to Bruce and it can go from there.

In addition to our private Facebook page, we now have a public page. It is getting a wee bit more use, but the contributors are not as wide spread as hoped. If you have something "Wool" related put it up there.

Our Web Site has recently had an overhaul and is more user friendly with the added ability to search for members by inputting the Classers Registration number. It is hoped that by this the brokers can check who has put a number on a line of wool, and check that they are a member and hence allowed to use the number. Other enhancements were aimed at ease of use, especially for those using phones and smaller devices which can distort what we see on a computer. Some of us have difficulty seeing the small screen so don't appreciate the difference.

Once again much of our effort has gone on the Training front. Our thanks again to Allan for his efforts with Wool Industry Education Group (WIEG). Last year I commented on the disappointment of Lincoln/Telford nearly getting underway then pulling out. To have Te Ako



## New Zealand Wool Classers Association Inc.

recently folding is another blow to our industry training. We desperately need someone to get this going and stay there for the long period. It is difficult enough getting some of our handlers to take up the theoretical side of training without the changes that keep happening. Allan's report will explain the progress made on this front. I am fully convinced that without education our industry will disappear, I sometimes fear this will happen anyway as the wool industry struggles to survive (especially in the cross bred sector) but the added value we can contribute by ensuring standards with proper preparation and presentation we must persist as wool is such a great fibre as we all know.

I have commented before that perhaps we should be talking more of the discount for poor preparation and presentation of wool rather than the bonus from the good. The cross bred side is still in the doldrums and to see that Dupont are joining with Wools of NZ is a new approach, maybe they are starting to see the positive of our fibre that does not pollute the environment with Micro Plastics.

Merino and Mid Micron still seem to be selling well, long may it last.

This year we have had a larger board than previously with the addition of Rob Cochrane as a Brokers Rep representative beside Don Urquhart as Merchants Representative and Tony Cunningham from the wool scouring sector. The added input has been good.

Once again I would like to thank Bruce for his sterling work. He took on the job when we were in a position that we wondered if we had a future and has pushed us out to where I am sure we are seen as a vital part of the industry. We recently put out a message asking for someone to take on a role assisting Bruce. It is disappointing to report that at this stage we have had no one put their hand up, nor anyone putting up someone else's hand. Tis would be an interesting position for someone to become involved in the industry outside the normal wool shed role. There must be someone out there with the interest that just needs a small push. Not only is it interesting but a great personal development opportunity as well.

Annette has continued to keep us all in line and doing what we should. Her new job has made some things more difficult for us in some ways but we can always work around these small issues. Her work is invaluable and she keeps the finances tidy and up to date.

The rest of the Board have all made a vital contribution and as I have said before, multiple times, we need new blood on the board. I feel I have been here probably too long so would welcome someone keen to take over as chair.

Thank You

**Bill Dowle**  
**Chairman**  
**NZWCA**



## APPENDIGE B

### NZWCA EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Another year has passed and I am very pleased to report we have made progress on a number of fronts.

The association has a higher profile due to our heavy involvement in the promotion and securing of a Certificate of Wool at Taratahi Agricultural College. Our thanks go to our Deputy Chairman, Allan Frazer for his untiring work in this field. The profile of our stencil number has been lifted to the wool industry due to the increase in accountability and traceability requirements for the wool clip.

During the year we held 5 field days for our members and included senior wool handlers and pressers. Overall we had an average attendance of 34 and a survey approval rating of 9.2 out of 10. We received many comments stating that the time they spent at the day was very worthwhile and participants went away knowing a lot more about what happens to wool after it leaves the shearing shed. In 2018 we plan to hold 7 days and have already held one in Blenheim and today's one in Christchurch.

Our big advancement this year has been the increase in membership. 18 months ago we initiated an approach to the fine wool farmers and other sections in the wool industry and now have 56 associate members. With their support the association has been able to increase its involvement in the wool harvesting industry by increasing field days, promotion of a wool course and general contact with the industry. It is also pleasing to see former members re-joining the association.

The association has produced a Power Point Presentation (PPP) that gives an outline of where the association has come from what it doing now and where it would like to go in the future. We are very pleased to be invited to present this PPP at the conferences of the Federation of Wool Merchants and N Z Shearing Contractors Association. Arrangements have also been made to present to the wool broker's wool staff.

The web site has been given a much needed revamp and I believe it much more user friendly. The main change has given access to the wool trade to be able to search for a classer by stencil number so they can see who the person is that classed/prepared the clip. It's now important for members to update their details on their site profile.

We had intentions to increase the number of newsletters from 2 to 4, however we can now email the majority of members and we have been able to communicate on a more regular basis. We now intend to produce a newsletter after our AGM and one at the end of the season.

You will have received a survey from the association the object of which is to find out from our members what they expect from their association and what direction it should be taking. Your feedback will assist the board and me in the future management of your association.

# New Zealand Wool Classers Association Inc.



This year the Merit award has been given a higher profile thus increasing the number of recommendations for these awards. We have also changed what the recipients receive with the intention that they are able to be more recognisable as award recipients.

Our involvement with the Primary ITO through the IPG group has been a very frustrating due to the failure of different trainers for the wool harvesting industry. The fact is our industry does not fit the mould that is set by government and unless there is more input from the wool industry we can only see the problem reoccurring. A solution needs to be found because as classers if we do not have well trained wool harvesting staff it will make our task of preparing the wool for market very difficult.

In conclusion I would like to thank our Secretary, Annette for her contribution in the last year, our Chairman, Bill for the unpaid time spent on the association business, Deputy Chairman, Allan for the work on reinstating the wool course and promotion to attract people into our industry. Lastly I thank the board for the support given to me over the past three years.

**Bruce Abbott**  
**Executive Officer**  
**NZWCA**