



*Bruce Classing at Lowther Downs, December 2019*

## Registrar Report Bruce Abbott A1457



One of my more important tasks for your Association is keep our membership informed of what your management is doing and also advise you of any information regarding our industry that could affect what we do.

– Click below to read more –

[http://www.woolclassers.org.nz/images/newsletters/December2019/Article\\_1.pdf](http://www.woolclassers.org.nz/images/newsletters/December2019/Article_1.pdf)



## NZWCA Chairman's Report Bill Dowle D1076



–Click below to read more –

[http://www.woolclassers.org.nz/images/newsletters/December2019/Article\\_2.pdf](http://www.woolclassers.org.nz/images/newsletters/December2019/Article_2.pdf)



## NZWCA Membership to other Organisations

In the last newsletter we advised we had been invited to join the National Council of N Z Wool Interest. We have also become a member of Wool Research of New Zealand. Joining these two very important organisation in our industry give us the opportunity to be in a position to put forward proposals to enhance what classers/graders do. It also ensures that we can have the opportunity to convey any concerns we may have that affect our industry. Most importantly it gives your organisation a seat at their table.

## WOOL PREPARATION/MARKET UPDATE



Roger Fuller  
Supply Relationship Manager  
and South Island Wool Auctioneer,  
Christchurch

- Click below to read more –

[http://www.woolclassers.org.nz/images/newsletters/December2019/Article\\_3.pdf](http://www.woolclassers.org.nz/images/newsletters/December2019/Article_3.pdf)



## STENCIL NUMBER

At a recent board meeting it was passed that our stencil number will be referred to now as a REGISTRATION NUMBER. We are going through all our documents to effect this change.



Rational - The stencil number does not reflect how important a job you do and in most cases our job is looked upon as a trade. Most trade people have an affiliation to a controlling body that issues registration numbers to people qualified in their trade. So in future your prefix will indicate what you have qualified for (e.g. A – all breeds, M – Merino, QX grading XB) and the number will be your registration.



## Field Days



The basis of these days is to reinforce basically the same messages with regard to contamination, correct bale pinning procedures, or accurate specifications and bale descriptions, and to refresh and upskill some practical skills. In addition more specialised and up to date preparation requirements are shown and demonstrated, and relevant industry speakers attend and give presentations on their particular subject, such as the Drug Detention Agency, or Tahi Ngatahi

There were 28 attendees, including shed staff, young farmers and classers at the recent field day held at Michael Norcote Farm, Waiau, Canterbury.

Participating in the wool identification exercises designed to educate, refresh and keep everyone on the same page



*At Waiau experienced classer Dave Carr giving some helpful comment to Ursula.*

*Participants at Waiau*







## Field Days, contd.....

*Nicola Peddie (NZM) explaining skirting levels required in the preparation of merino wool and identification of oddments and fleece wool that need to be removed on the table for the different processing and contract requirements.*



This week we held a field day held in Lumsden on Thursday 5th December at Lowther Downs wool shed. The day is planned to cater for wool handlers, pressers and anyone with an interest in the wool harvesting industry.



*Jenny Harraway N Z Merino explaining the correct skirting of Crossbred*





## Field Days, contd.....



*Therese Gibbens presenting at Lumsden Field Day*



*Jenney Harraway presenting at Lumsden Field day*



## Field Days, contd.....

### Responsibility for clear branding and specification accuracy

While it may be the presser's job to press and clearly record the bale and its description, it is the registered classer, Q stencil holder, or leading shed hand that has the ultimate responsibility and accountability to ensure that it is done correctly for not only what is put in every bale, but how it is described. All should be done according to the "Clip Preparation Best Practice Guidelines," and if not done so, to rectify the matter by having it re branded or re pressed.

No descriptions, incorrect descriptions, and bale number double ups cause huge disruptions to the processing of clips in the store.

The responsibility is on you, the classer, or head wool handler to ensure this vital paperwork is accurate for every shed you work in. Get yourself a routine. Establishing a regular routine system for recording, checking and double checking bale numbers and descriptions is part of being a professional.

*Rob Lynskey of PGG Wrightson Wool talked through the process of transferring bale information from the bale book onto the specification form, once again emphasising the need for accuracy and the need for clear branding of bales numbers and legible line descriptions for EVERY bale*







## Tom Bryant (A16) – Profile.

### Oldest financial member of the NZ Wool Classers Association

Many young people find approaching 60 a scary prospect, but not so for Tom Bryant who is nearing his 60th year of continuous active shed classing. A truly momentous milestone!



*Tom in his backyard with a little tribute from his wife Margaret.*

– Click below to read more –

[http://www.woolclassers.org.nz/images/newsletters/December2019/Article\\_4.pdf](http://www.woolclassers.org.nz/images/newsletters/December2019/Article_4.pdf)



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & INDUSTRY DAY

*Pencil this in your diary*

We are investigating holding this day in Oamaru in the early part of May 2020.

So far we have arranged a visit to the Godfrey Hirst Oamaru facility that shows you the processing of the fibre to yarn; also they have within the site processing that makes conventional yarn as well as fully worsted combing for Merino fibre which we make for carpets as well, so you will see a wide spectrum of processes.

Other arrangement still to be made and we will advise you all early next year of progress.



## NAME CHANGE

Due to your association being more involved with people working in the wool handling/grading side of our industry the NEW ZEALAND WOOL CLASSERS ASSOCIATION name does not now reflect who we are representing and working with.

We are asking for suggestions on a new name and your input would be welcome. Any recommended change will be put to the membership at the next Annual General Meeting.

*To start the ball rolling my suggestion is:  
NEW ZEALAND WOOL CLASSERS  
& GRADERS ASSOCIATION.  
Bruce Abbott.*

Email through your suggestions to:

[secretary@woolclassers.co.nz](mailto:secretary@woolclassers.co.nz)

OR

[eo@woolclassers.co.nz](mailto:eo@woolclassers.co.nz)







## Education Update by Allan Frazer



### NZWCA and Facilitator Wool Industry Education Group (WIEG)

In his education role Allan's recent activity has been focused on these educational issues:

- 1) In conjunction with Bruce: continuing to work with Laurie Boniface in his CWT tutoring role.
- 2) Providing video materials for students participating in the Certificate programme.
- 3) Finding ways to promote our industry: Identifying young people in the industry who are able to participate in career promotion events; planning for input into the Career teachers conference; and attending AGMS and various forums.

–Click below to read more –

[http://www.woolclassers.org.nz/images/newsletters/December2019/Article\\_5.pdf](http://www.woolclassers.org.nz/images/newsletters/December2019/Article_5.pdf)



## WOOL TECHNOLOGY COURSE

We are proud to confirm that the 2020/21 course is going to be available through the Southern Institute of Technology operating out of their Telford Campus.

Applications are now being accepted through their web site (click to access site)

<https://www.sit.ac.nz/programme/id/11405/xmps/1441>

WRONZ and NZWCA scholarships of \$1000.00 are available for this course  
Please find the application form on the NZWCA website (click to access site)

<https://www.woolclassers.org.nz/awards-1/scholarships>

If you know of anyone that would be interested in doing the wool course please pass this information on.



**SIT2LRN**  
DISTANCE LEARNING



## CERTIFICATE IN WOOL TECHNOLOGY



**SIT2LRN**  
BLENDED DELIVERY



**LEVEL 4**



**DURATION**  
Feb - Dec 2020

### PROGRAMME OUTLINE

"Quality" is becoming an increasingly important word in the wool industry, and more and more emphasis is being put on maintaining quality standards from the sheep right through to the finished product. In addition, the way in which our clip is handled has been changing. Some of these changes are:

- Rationalisation and consequently simplification of the classing of wool.
- Reduction of re-handling in brokers' stores. Thirty-five years ago 60% of wool was re-handled; now that figure is less than 15%.

These changes mean that the clip is being handled less often, and that people like you play a much greater role in determining the quality of the final product. To maintain quality standards it is important that people in every link in the chain carry out their own job to the highest standard and also have an appreciation and understanding of the roles of people in other links in the chain.

The Certificate in Wool Technology is supported by the New Zealand Association of Wool Classers and the Wool Research Organisation of New Zealand.

### DELIVERY

Start study at your own home via our flexible learning system and then complete the qualification at our specialist agricultural campus based on the Telford farm in Balclutha, New Zealand.

#### RESIDENCY COMPONENT

26 OCTOBER TO 30 OCTOBER 2020

### COURSES TO COMPLETE FOR THE CERTIFICATE

**TOTAL PROGRAMME CREDITS 60** are required to achieve this programme

1.	WOSC 041	Wool Value Chain	15 credits
2.	WOSC 042	Wool Classification	15 credits
3.	WOSC 043	Working in the wool industry	15 credits
4.	COMP 021	Computing & Communications	15 credits

Inquiries to:  
[donna.osborne@sit.ac.nz](mailto:donna.osborne@sit.ac.nz)

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## WRONZ/NZWCA Wool Technology



### 2020/21 Scholarship

#### SUPPORTING TRAINING FOR THE FUTURE OF THE NZ WOOL INDUSTRY

WRONZ will provide \$1000 to five students annually to assist interested students to undertake the two year Certificate course in Wool Technology via distance learning at the Southern Institute of Technology. Applicants will receive funding in four payments over the period of study subject to completion of the course requirements.

“ The New Zealand Wool Industry is seeking new talent and ideas to capture the opportunities within our industry ”

For more information, or to apply for a scholarship, applicants should contact Mr Bruce Abbott, Executive Officer of the NZ Wool Classers Association on +64 272280868, or by email to [eo@woolclassers.co.nz](mailto:eo@woolclassers.co.nz)

- Wool Language
- Wool Properties
- Wool Assessment/Grading
- Wool Testing
- Wool preparation
- Processing Systems
- By-products
- Fleece Faults & Mitigation
- Work Health & Safety
- Team Management
- Professional Ethics



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NZ Wool Classers Association

Executive Officer  
N Z Wool Classers Association  
P O Box 16231  
Hornby  
CHRISTCHURCH 8441



Everyone knows Ecky!

A261

Featured in the Otago Daily Times

Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019

By Sally Rae

**ODT**  
Otago Daily Times

– Click below to read more –

<https://www.odt.co.nz/rural-life/rural-people/ecky-still-keeping-his-hand-after-50-years>

Classer training: A brief history

By Barbara Newton

With all the confusion and upheaval of classer training of late I thought it would be appropriate to give a very brief history, and by no stretch of the imagination a comprehensive record, of classer education in the New Zealand wool industry

– Click below to read more –

[http://www.woolclassers.org.nz/images/newsletters/December2019/Article\\_6.pdf](http://www.woolclassers.org.nz/images/newsletters/December2019/Article_6.pdf)





## The contamination of “Brands” in the wool clip.

– Click below to read more –

[http://www.woolclassers.org.nz/images/newsletters/December2019/Article\\_7.pdf](http://www.woolclassers.org.nz/images/newsletters/December2019/Article_7.pdf)

## Promoting Careers within the wool sector

<https://natco.nz/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Wool-Industry-Education-Group-DL4v.pdf>

## Profile on Hope Duncan



[http://www.woolclassers.org.nz/images/newsletters/December2019/Article\\_8.pdf](http://www.woolclassers.org.nz/images/newsletters/December2019/Article_8.pdf)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mWnEezS92k0&t=96s>



## FINALLY TO OUR VERY VALUED SPONSORS

A big thank you to all our sponsors again for without your financial assistance the Association would not be able to deliver the work that is done on behalf of the wool industry.

They are;

Sponsorship of Merit Awards: C P Wools, Peter Lyon Shearing, PGG Wrightson and Brendan Mahoney Shearing.

Sponsorship of Newsletters and operational cost: Federation of N Z Wool Merchants.

Sponsorship of Field days: N Z Shearing Contactors Association.

Sponsorship towards operational cost: Wool Research of NZ, N Z Council of Wool Exporters and N Z Wool Scouring Ltd

Sponsorship for scholarships: Wool Technology Course, Wool Research of N Z.



Merry Christmas,  
Safe and Happy Holidays