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NZWCA EXECUTIVE OFFICER/REGISTRAR REPORT 2019

Another year has passed and I am still in this position after 4 1/2 years when my initial commitment was a maximum of 2, so it's been a long two years. Over this time I believe the face of your association has changed from being an organisation having a couple of field day and a few newsletters per year plus maintaining the Register for Classer's. Your association over recent times has been in the forefront of promoting education not only for classers but also for the wool harvesting industry through its involvement with Wool Education Industry Group (WIEG) and Primary ITO. Due to the demise of Taratahi we have been working very closely with Southern Institute of Technology (SIT) who are operating Telford to secure the Wool Technology Course. With the Government review on Education we submitted on your behalf a submission to promote the wool course being retained by SIT (a copy of this submission is available on request to the EO/R). During the year with the assistance from the NZ Shearing Contractors Association we held 6 Field days throughout the country. Overall we had an average attendance of 32 and the comments from our surveys have been positive. The association web site has been upgraded once again making it more relevant not only to our members but to the wider wool industry.

Over the past year it has been actively been promoting your stencil to the wool trade including Wool Brokers and Wool Merchants and the N Z National Council of Wool Interest. We hope to be able to make an announcement in the near future of changes in this area.

We had endeavored to increase our membership last year but it has stagnated at around 250 which include 58 associate members. I believe that more effort should be put into attracting more associate members from the farming community who indirectly benefit from the work we are doing. I ask all classers to encourage your clients to join our association and assist us in the work we are doing.

I am disappointed to again see a financial loss for the year and if we continue with our current program this will continue unless we can attract more members or sponsorship. I can assure you that what Annette and myself get paid does not cover the time and effort we put in. I am pleased to advise that on top of the sponsorship we received last year Wool Research of NZ (WRONZ) has committed \$2000 pa toward our general expenses. Even with that we have budgeted for a \$3500 loss this coming year. A list of our sponsors is in our financial report and I thank them for their continued support over the past year.

NZ WOOL CLASSERS ASSOCIATION

It has been of great assistance to me having Barbara Newton come on board in December helping with the publicity side (Facebook, articles for Shearing Magazine and our newsletters) plus helping me organise and run field days. Thank you Barbara your work is much appreciated.

Thanks to the Board for their support in the changes that have taken place and the direction of the association over the past year. It is not only the support I have received but their constructive suggestion on the many issues that have been discussed. Vivienne Lewis is not standing for another term and my thanks to her for the input she has given from the view point as not only a classer but as a shearing contractor.

My thanks to our Chairman Bill Dowle for his support, Allan Frazer for his commitment in the education and recruitment area plus ensuring the association put out the correct information and most of all to our Secretary/Treasurer Annette Gamble for the time she puts into the association with the extra work load I have given her. Lastly my thanks to my wife Pat for correcting most of my communication and not only supporting but encouraging me to continue in this position.

To our membership thank you for your support over the past year. I have endeavored to raise the profile of the association and keep you informed by the way of emails I have sent regarding what the association is doing.

Regards

Bruce Abbott

Executive Officer/Registrar

NZ Wool Classers Association