



Welcome to **NZ WOOLCLASSERS ASSOCIATION**

2026 AGM/INDUSTRY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

Venue – Peter Lyon Shearing Cook Shop, 22 Hillview Rd, Alexandra

FRIDAY 15 MAY 2026 TIMETABLE

8.15am to 8.30am – Registration

8.30am to 8.35am – Karakia and Health and Safety for the day briefing

8.35am to 9.50am – Wool exercises

9.50am to 10.05am – Tracy Paterson chair NZWCA Welcome, NZWCA update, announcement of the next recipients of the WRONZ/NZWCA scholarships for NZ Certificate in Wool Technology and Classing students + presentation of NZWCA Perpetual Cup to Ngahua Wilson (if attending) the top 2025 completion wool student.

10.05am to 10.25am – Morning smoko provided (wool exercise papers to be handed in by end of smoko)

10.25am to 10.55am – Wool exercise answers and questions including Ultrafine merino classing session with Kevin Waldron of PGG Wrightson based on the wool exercise samples from The Bend

10.55am to 11.25am – Jane Avery: Champion of wool fashion, supreme winner of Wool On 2023, furrier, designer, and now producer of the big annual Wool On event tells her story and offers a hands on experience with her creations <https://lapin.nz/>

11.25am to 11.45 am – Why and how NZWCA began, and why support for the organisation is vital for the NZ wool industry – Martin Paterson, former chairman

11.45am to 12.30pm – Lunch provided

12.30pm to 1.15pm – AGM including Patron’s address + Wool Classer 2025/26 Season Awards announced and presented

1.15pm to 1.45pm - Brokers key messages for 2026/27 season wool prep and classing, and chance for discussion and questions with wool reps from PGG Wrightson Wool, Zentera Wool, Wools of NZ, WoolWorks Grower Direct and Hickey & Son

1.45pm to 2.05pm – Working with pressers: Master presser Vorne Wheki explains and takes questions on what classers do to help or that can hinder pressers

2.05pm to 2.20pm – Wool Alliance, the first six months: Ross McIsaac on the new collaboration between Wool Impact, Campaign for Wool New Zealand, Wool Research Organisation of New Zealand, and Beef + Lamb New Zealand

2.20pm to 2.40pm – Afternoon smoko provided

2.40pm to 3.05pm - Animal Welfare and Calm Sheep Handling courses explainer by Noel Handley of Elite Wool Industry Training, including time for discussion

3.05pm to 3.30pm – Working with shearing contractors: Peter and Elsie Lyon offer insights into their business and history + things that classers do that help and things classers do that don’t help shearing contractors

3.30pm to 3.55pm - draw for \$995 wool rug donated by:

Acknowledgements, questions, suggestions, time to fill out feedback forms on the day, wool exercise top scorers announced

Brenworth
WOOLCARPETS+RUGS

3.55pm to 4pm – set up for Rural Athlete®

4pm to 4.45pm - Rural Athlete® a workshop with movement educator and rural wellbeing specialist Laura Hancock, designed for people in the food and fibre sector working in physically demanding roles. It will focus on practical, easy-to-apply techniques to help participants manage stiffness, improve movement, and support their bodies through the demands of daily work. Provision of a spiky massage ball for each participant to take home, and the workshop itself, is sponsored by **Segard Masurel New Zealand**