



Australian Corriedale

Spring Edition



16th World Corriedale Congress

After 3 years of planning the Congress has successfully concluded. We commenced with a Pre-Conference Tour starting in Adelaide on Thursday 12th July with a Welcome Dinner at the Intercontinental Hotel. The tour included 4 participants from Peru, 4 from Argentina, 11 from the USA, 2 from W.A., Angus Gibb the Young Ambassador from New Zealand, Graham Jenke, Di MacKinnon and Penny Archer from Conference Design to ensure it all ran smoothly. Friday 13th we drove to McLaren Vale Distillery for a Master Class and Whiskey Tasting. From here we went to Corriedale Hills the home of Corriedale Hills and Y-not Studs. We were also presented with sheep from Lushford and Wattle Glen. After lunch, we went to the Thornby Sheep feed lot and finished the day at Rydge's Tailern Bend where Paul Leonard from Thomas Industries spoke to us.

The next morning, we went to Keith to the PG Wrightson's Seed Cleaning facility then onto the famous Willalooka Tavern for lunch followed by a Wine Tasting at Majella Wines. From here it was off to The Barn at Mount Gambier for the night via the Blue Lake. Next Morning (Sun 15th) we visited Donovan's Rotary Dairy, then travelled to Nayook Stud to see their sheep. We had a lovely lunch with Wally and Veronica and Leigh Jenkin. From here it was a long drive to Te Mania Angus Stud where Tom Gubbins discussed his business with us then it was off to West Cloven Hills to see the Stud sheep and for a barbeque dinner. After a night in Camperdown we went to Gambier View where Milton Savage had Stud sheep for us to look at and he cooked us Eggs and Bacon for breakfast. From here it was off to Jim and Brenda Venters for lunch, sheep and Irish Dancing. After this onto the Geelong Wool Museum then to Ballarat for the night.

Tuesday 17th we visited the Ballarat Wildlife Park where the visitors really enjoyed seeing the Australian Native Animals so close. After lunch it was off to Bendigo for the Welcome Reception.

The Welcome Reception was well attended and was a great start to the Conference. Wednesday 18th was Conference Day with 86 attendees. The day went very smoothly with Georgie Pengilly Facilitating. The speakers were all very interesting and varied. At the end of the day the Presidents or Representatives of each country attending gave a short talk finishing with The Australian Federal President Graham Jenke. That evening we had a Conference Dinner with live music from Nick Cole and his Band. It was heartening to so many young breeders attending the Conference and Dinner.

Friday 20th some of the tour ladies attended the Women of Wool Luncheon while Geoff Ruppert from the USA judged the Schools section. The next day was Main Judging day with Billy Prime (Peru) judging the Rams, Jim Sama (Argentina) judging the Ewes, and Peter Maclean (Chile) judging the Shorn classes. It was an extremely successful day and that evening most people attended the Victorian Branch Dinner. Sunday 22nd was junior Judging. The overseas visitors left on the bus at 1.30pm to travel to the airport or Melbourne.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those people that had confidence in the Organising Committee to put on a successful Congress and all those who were involved in the planning and implementation of the Congress.

Di MacKinnon

*"Welcome to
all Corriedale
members and
friends".*

September 2018

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From your retiring President



It was good to catch up with so many of you at Bendigo during the World Congress and the Sheep and Wool Show. For those who were unable to attend the pre congress tour and the congress,

I feel it was a great success with favourable comments from many who participated. The opportunities to converse with the overseas visitors was rewarding with new contacts and friends made. We have set up a WhatsApp between Australia, countries in South America, the USA and New Zealand so that we can share thoughts and ideas to promote Corriedales within our countries.

Well, what does the future hold for Corriedales in Australia? I have just attended the Hamilton Sheepvention in Victoria where there were many enquiries regarding Corriedales. There was some interest in Corriedale ewes, but most of the interest was in purchasing Corriedale rams to cross with other breeds to improve the wool on prime lamb producing ewes. It is becoming very obvious to these breeders that there is money to be made in wool from the ewes, as well as their lambs. They consistently said that the Corriedale ram was the obvious choice because it was the only wool sheep with a good carcase that could handle the climatic conditions in which most prime lambs are produced. In the best interest of all Corriedale breeders,

I asked these people for their email addresses so that we can forward ram sale dates and places etc to them, to give them a choice of rams which best fit their needs.

As I said earlier, prime lamb breeders were looking for rams to put a fleece of value on their ewes to increase their income. They were consistently after rams below 30 micron. If you look at the wool prices that I quoted at the world congress, taken at the end of June, you will understand why. Prices based on a fleece weighing 7kg and yielding 70% were:

32 micron @ 313 cents	\$21.91
30 micron @ 486 cents	\$34.02
28 micron @ 719 cents	\$50.33
26 micron @ 1075 cents	\$75.25
24 micron @ 1505 cents	\$105.35

In relation to this, I would like to float the idea that now is the opportune time to look at the type of Corriedales we are breeding, are they relevant to the commercial market, bearing in mind that the original breed type standards were set up in the early 1900s. As we look to the future of the Corriedale breed, are they still relevant 100 years on? I would encourage you to speak to your Federal Councillors so that we can work together to continue to develop the Corriedale breed into the future.

I see a bright future for the Corriedale in the sheep industry in Australia. It is up to all of us to work together to achieve this. Last of all, I'd like to congratulate our incoming Federal President, Bron Ellis, and ask that you will give her as much support as you have given me.

Graham G Jenke

Corriedale Youth ASWS 2018

This year at the Australian Sheep and Wool Show in Bendigo, there were many young people involved in the Corriedale breed that showed great enthusiasm and passion for their sheep. Once again, the Showmanship Award was held where the young people are judged on their handling skills and interaction with show officials. They were judged over the Friday and Saturday of the show with the 81 participants competing in the award doing their best to help where possible and doing all the small things that they could to help everyone out. The judges were again very impressed with the eagerness of the participants and their willingness to learn and participate as much as possible. Congratulations to Trent Oats who came first in the Senior section and winning a registration to the South Australian Sheep Expo in 2019.

On behalf of Corriedale Youth, I would like to thank the Australian Corriedale Association for their continued support of the young people that are involved in the breed and also to AWI for their support of the Showmanship Award. It is greatly appreciated, and we wouldn't be able to do the things we are without that support.

Kate Methven
Corriedale Youth

Placings were as follows:

Senior:

1st - Trent Oats
2nd - Jessica Ellis
3rd - Erin Douglas

Junior:

1st - Georgia Van Der Veen
2nd - Zoe Lush
3rd - Joel Langer

Encouragement Awards

Jayde Jones
Eva Mosele
Rupert O'Neill
Tsono Lakatsang



Geoff Ruppert



Geoff Ruppert from USA was the judge for the Schools Competition

The 2018 World Corriedale Congress is in the books, but our memories of the friends we made will certainly last a lifetime. It was such a privilege to judge the Australian Sheep and Wool Show Corriedale Schools and Novice classes and to work with so many dedicated, hard-working young people.

On my first visit to Bendigo in 2011, I was also asked to judge the schools classes. Seven years later, I was absolutely thrilled to see the increased number of sheep and exhibitors in these classes. It seems that the schools concept has taken root and is gaining momentum at a fast pace. The dedication of the students and mentors really showed in the quality of sheep in the ring.

The number of sheep and young exhibitors was excellent, and it's no exaggeration to say that the quality of the animals was very good from top to bottom of the classes. I appreciated the innovation of splitting the classes to recognise bred and owned sheep, as these shepherds deserve extra credit for their achievement. I also noted that some young folks are making the transition from schools showing to founding their own studs, a critical element for future success of our breed.

I was most pleased with my champion and reserve champion winners. These sheep stood on solid bone, had exceptional breed character and displayed the soft, stylish wool that is a trademark of Australian Corriedales. I noted that several of the schools and novice sheep went on to place very well in the open competition. This is further proof of the hard work and progress of these young shepherds.

To top off my experience with the youth program, I thoroughly enjoyed listening to reasons from the senior judging contestants. I didn't expect everyone to place the rams exactly as I did, but I wanted to hear the contestants discuss some key differences in the way the sheep were made, the breed character and the fleece type. I was not disappointed. These young judges talked about fundamental differences between sheep in a common sense way, so that I knew they were really digging into the class. I hope some of these people will come and judge our sheep in the U.S. in the years ahead. For now, I will be telling everyone how Australian youth are showing the way for the future of the Corriedale!

Geoff Ruppert

Around the show ring

Australian Sheep & Wool Show

Billy Prime from Peru was the ram judge. The Supreme Champion Corriedale was won by Sweetfield with the ram also winning Grand Champion and Junior Champion ram. Senior Champion Ram was won by Gambier View.

The Ewe judge was Jim Sama from Argentina. Loddon Park won the Grand Champion and Junior Champion ewe which then went on to be placed 2nd in the Longwool Interbreed.

The Senior Champion ewe went to Gambier View. Peter Maclean from Chile judged the Shorn classes with Sweetfield winning Champion shorn sheep.



Bron and Leigh Ellis Sweetfield stud with their Supreme Champion ram Pedro and Judge Billy Prime

Hamilton Sheepvention 2018

This year's Sheepvention was judged by Trevor James Victoria. This year's supreme Corriedale went to the Ram from Croydon Corriedales. This Ram also went on to win Supreme Interbreed Longwool Ram. Supreme Corriedale ewe went to Loddon Park and was also placed second in the Interbreed Longwool Ewe. The Corriedale group was won by Sweetfield who also went on to be 2nd in the Interbreed Longwool Group.

Right: Mike Deppeler of Croydon Corriedales Stud holding his Champion Corriedale ram



Ballarat Show



Bron Ellis was the judge this year at Ballarat. Gambier View won the Corriedale Ram and Ballarat Grammar winning the Champion Ewe. Ballarat Grammar won the group of 3 and then went on to win Interbreed Longwool group of 3.

Far left: Cecilia Hearn with the Champion Ewe
Right: Charlie Savage, Henry Dickinson and Noah Esmonde with the champion Interbreed Group

Royal Adelaide Show

Over 40 Corriedale sheep from three studs were presented to judge Bron Ellis at the Royal Adelaide Show recently, watched by a crowd of interested spectators.

Champion ram was awarded to Wattle Glen Corriedales with their ram over 1½ years, while Corriedale Hills took out the Reserve Champion ribbon.

Champion ewe was awarded to a 3½ year old ewe with lamb at foot, also from Wattle Glen, with Corriedale Hills awarded the Reserve Champion Ewe.

Both the Champion Ram and the Champion Ewe went on to be Reserve Champion Long Wool ram and ewe in the interbreed judging.

Champion Corriedale fleeces were shared with Corriedale Hills winning the champion ewe fleece and Wattle Glen the champion ram fleece.

In the Junior Judging under 15 years category, Zoe and Isaac Lush won 1st and 2nd place respectively. Well done, Zoe and Isaac!



Wattle Glen Corriedales won the Champion Corriedale ram. Di Jenke being presented with the ribbon from Bron Ellis

A non-farming perspective



Watching your children grow up in the suburbs can be a nerve wracking experience at the best of times. You hope that your children go through their teenage years making good decisions and avoiding the troubles and temptations that life sometimes throws at you. Looking back I feel lucky that my two adult children, have gone through the sometimes treacherous teenage years, unscathed. For my youngest, watching 'The Saddle Club' as a child and talking about one day 'being a farmer', it was no surprise that the agricultural program at her high school was on her mind when she commenced her high school years at Elisabeth Murdoch College in Langwarrin. For my family as non-farming people, we had no idea what lied ahead!

Blundstone boots, with a hint of sheep shit, and the smell of lanolin on her clothes started to become the 'norm'. Weeks passed and a few trips to ag shows started to fill the diary. Towing of trailers and late night visits to the school farm to check on animals became a part of our lives. And the arrival of two bottle fed twin lambs that shared our laundry, earmarked the beginning of what life was going to be like. For a person who simply 'drew pictures' for a living, and communicated with corporate people on a daily basis, this world was so foreign! How were we going to survive?

The very thing that has not gone unnoticed is the amazing level of support provided to not only my daughter but all the ag kids. The teachers, that show so much passion and give up their time on weekends to attend shows and support these kids in their quest to learn, is outstanding! But that's not where the support ends. We have been quick to realise

that the Corriedale Association are a very special group of people. It was soon that offers were coming in for our daughter to come and get some sheep to start her own stud. With one breeder even offering for her to take home a pony!! Problem is, you can't keep a pony on a normal suburban block! I remember thinking how giving these people are of their time and resources.

The time that the Australian Corriedale Association provide all of the students in their junior judging events held at various shows and also the Ambassador program, is further endorsement of a group of people who don't just think of themselves. After all, these kids are city kids with no real 'connection' to farming, such as my daughter.

So friendships have been born and connections made with people who are real. People who take the time to ring and sometimes not even talk about sheep or the rain, but to catch up on footy, cricket and other aspects of life. Invitations to visit farms has become a regular occurrence.

The daily checking of emails is starting to come second to checking for rainfall and lambs born, and feeding myself happens some mornings, once the sheep have been fed first.

With our daughter now having finished her ag degree, there is excitement for her of what lies ahead. I'm sure she will be fine as she now has some wonderful role models to follow in the footsteps of.

Thank you to the Australian Corriedale Association.

Gavin Leahy

Your Wool, your choice – Vote in WoolPoll 2018

In recent weeks you have probably heard some of the discussion about the WoolPoll process, which takes place this year. On the 20th of August, the nominated levy rate options were published by AWI, these being 0%, 1.5%, 2%, 2.5% and 3%, which gives wool levy payers the opportunity to maintain, increase, decrease or completely get rid of the levy they pay to invest in marketing and Research and development for the wool industry.

Over the next few months, you will get a steady stream of correspondence, and hear or read reports on this opportunity we have to vote. Voting will start in mid September, and there is a six week time frame for you to return your voting papers. This can either be

done by post, fax or online, but can only be done once for each business.

There is also information in the voting material on how to become more involved in your wool industry. All levy payers who sell more than \$5,000 worth of wool over the preceding three years can vote in Woolpoll, but they can only vote on issues relating to governance at the AGM if they are shareholders of the company, Australian Wool Innovation. There are contact details on the Woolpoll Voting kit on how to become a shareholder.

WoolPoll is a great opportunity to learn about your industry. Look through all the information as it comes through and have your say on the direction you think the wool industry should take. Vote in WoolPoll 2018.

Sale Calendar

Billigaboo open day

22 September
Narrandera NSW

Corriedale Hills

2nd October 12 noon
Inman Valley SA

Mooralea private sales

Inspections between the 8th-11th October
Macarthur VIC

Roseville Ram Sale

12th October 2pm
Kingsvale NSW

Blue Ribbon Multi-Vendor Sale

1st November 12 noon
Ballarat Showgrounds
Ballarat VIC

Gambier View & Compton House

5th November
Derrinallum VIC

Croydon

9th November
Condah VIC

Blackwood

19th November 11am
Evansdale TAS

Quamby Plains

19th November 1pm
Hagley TAS

Blue Ribbon Ewe Sale

January 2019
TAS

Blackwood Corriedales had another successful Sheepvention Ram sale pen of five in Hamilton Victoria, selling to \$3,750 and averaging \$2,950 for the five rams, which is a record average for this event for Corriedales. Top Price ram was purchased by Hutton Partnership Nigretta Victoria, with rams being sold to both stud and commercial interests.



Photo of Top priced ram Blackwood 170064.

STOP PRESS

At the Federal Council meeting held during the Royal Adelaide Show, Bron Ellis was elected president of the Australian Corriedale Association, and Peter Blackwood was elected vice-president.



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