



POLWARTH

SHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

President's Piece

Association Annual General Meeting

The association's Annual General Meeting and General Meeting were held via Zoom on Saturday 12th September where a small but enthusiastic group of members and life members enjoyed the opportunity to catch up online. Minutes for both meetings are enclosed with this newsletter. A summary of the main points is listed below:

- The Office Bearers and State Representatives remain unchanged for the 2020/21 year.
- Fees to remain unchanged.
- Junior Associate Membership introduced for \$20.00.
- Paid advertising on the Polwarth Facebook page. The executive to approve a package.
- Kayla Starkey was re-nominated as Polwarth Judge for the 2021 Australian Sheep and Wool Show.
- Mulesing—read the information and motion passed.
- Australian Sheep and Wool Show Schedule-wording for one of the Conditions of Entry simplified.
- Merino Infusion—open discussion encouraged during next 12 months.

Welcome to New Associate Member

- John Newson from Newham, TAS

Successful Ram Sale for Taljar

Following January's devastating bushfires on Kangaroo Island, Taljar Polwarths can be proud of the clearance rate at their 3rd Annual Ram Sale held on 6th October.

The rams miraculously survived the bushfire when part of their paddock was left untouched by the path of the fires.

Although the weather on sale day was a bit gloomy, buyer confidence was high following decent rainfall for the area.

45 out of 58 rams sold for an average of \$1070. The sale's top price was \$2300 with another two rams selling for \$2100.

The sale was supported by a contingent of regular buyers from Kangaroo Island, as well as buyers who travelled from the mainland.

Congratulations to David and Lynne, Jared and Talisa for presenting a quality line-up of rams after such a tough year.



LIMESTONE BUYERS: Glen and Zac Reardon of Willalooka on SA's Limestone Coast with the Lot 4 ram purchased for \$2100 and Taljar stud master David McArdle after the 2020 sale.



TOP RAM: Paul Jardine of Nutrien Ag and Greg Downing of Elders with Jared McArdle and the Lot 2 ram purchased by Phil Thompson of Yorketown for \$2300.

Clifton makes the Market Highlights at Tamworth

At the end of September, Kel and Norm Thomas from Clifton Polwarths sold 20 wether lambs from the November 2019 drop. The wethers, out of Rainbow ewes (flock 57) and Fairview rams (flock 700), were mentioned in the market highlights from a yarding of 2500 at Tamworth, NSW.

“Although the diminished wool market hampered the wool returns, this year has been a perfect example in demonstrating the duality of the Polwarth.”

“As newcomers to the breed, we have been surprised at every turn with the resilience and performance of the Polwarth. The maiden ewes cut 6kg, carried well through the drought, had no problems joining and were virtually unassisted during lambing with the exception of one ewe needing a hand with a sizeable lamb.” (Kel Thomas, Clifton)



Above: Ready for market. Clifton's Polwarth wether lambs were sold at the end of September in Tamworth.

Left: Growing nicely. Clifton lambs from the 2019 drop pictured in September 2020.



Below: Clifton ewes and lambs in June 2020. Favourable weather conditions resulted in an excellent percentage



From 'Streanshalh' to 'Toomwilloo' in Victoria

Back in January 2020, Jim Derham (owner of Toomwilloo Pastoral) and farm manager, Scott Worland ventured across Bass Strait to Andrew and Judith Nicholson's Tasmanian property 'Streanshalh' in search of 200-300 Polwarth ewes to bring back to Winchelsea.

Upon viewing the Polwarth ewes, Scott realised the potential of the sheep to thrive on their native Victorian soil.

Jim and Scott returned to Winchelsea with 1700 Polwarth ewes! On top of that was another 30 desirable rams and 70 young ram lambs.

The re-introduction of Polwarths to Toomwilloo is a throwback to old times when the Draytons and Worlands boasted high quality Polwarth flocks with Perc and Mick Drayton winning multiple awards for their sheep at various shows.

Fast forward to September and the team at Toomwilloo is extremely excited about the newborn lambs and their potential to setup a good quality stud in the near future.

The Toomwilloo Polwarth Stud will be the progeny of 'Streanshalh' ewes and carefully selected Fairview rams.

Of all 1956 Polwarth lambs born at Toomwilloo this past winter, no expense was spared as 949 ewe lambs and 109 ram lambs have been freeze mulesed and injected with Ovine Johne's Vaccine. 789 of these ewe lambs are ready for sale while the rest will be kept for the stud.

Email: toomwilloo@outlook.com

Scott Worland: 0408 664 973

Hugh Graham: 0497 129 234



Jim Derham's grandson, Hugh Graham (left) and Toomwilloo farm manager, Scott Worland (right) with one of the 2019 rams bought over from 'Streanshalh'. He certainly looks solid and well grown.

4 sale

'Toomwilloo'

500 Polwarth ewe lambs @ \$200 ea

30 Polwarth rams @ \$500 ea

(Individual wool test results available for rams)

Contact Jim Derham on 0408 688 008 or,

Scott Worland 0408 664 973

From Roxford in Tasmania

Thanks Simon for the recent pics of the 2019 rams plus their wool. The rams are due to be shorn in December.



Young ram stands out at Moorabbee

Right: "I assume you're all like me in that you closely follow the development of the new season's lambs, particularly a ram lamb that takes your eye. This is my favourite at the moment, an early one approaching 6 months of age. Got my fingers crossed for him." (Peter English, Moorabbee Polwarths)



More pics from Taljar Ram Sale



Office Bearers

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