



FROM THE PRESIDENT

For me, the 13th World Corriedale Congress began with an extremely early morning, the first of many. This one was necessary in order to make my flight connection to Christchurch. The flight over the Southern Alps in clear daylight was a suitably memorable beginning to a fortnight in New Zealand.

The welcome dinner that evening at Rydge's Hotel was noteworthy for a Haka, provided by an extremely impressive and formidable team of Maoris, both sexes represented. At its conclusion the President of every participating country rubbed noses with each member of the Haka contingent.

Next morning we began our bus tour. Those of us from Australia and the United States were most fortunate in our driver, Denis Pickens. In addition to being an excellent driver, Denis is an outgoing personality from a farming background.

Our first visit was to Glenbrae, the property of Eddie Orr, a canny Scot, renowned for his work in



J. A. Nicolson

breeding a Corriedale which is highly resistant to footrot. His, and sheep from other studs penned for our inspection, exhibited the good heads and open faces which were a feature of the majority of New Zealand Corriedales we saw. Three rams at Glenbrae which particularly caught my eye were from Glen Nevin, Wattlebank and Eudunda. I was also very impressed with the ewes from Teviotdale, the oldest existing Corriedale stud.

Both the Corriedale rams and ewes and the Hereford cattle yarded at Glenovis were beautifully true to type. We appreciated the hospitality of Doc (David), Jan and Andy Sidey all the more when we learned Doc and Jan's daughter was to be married that afternoon.

On our way to Longfield we were shown Hui Hui, **formerly** the property of the Little family who dominated

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

the Corriedale show ring in the mid nineteen hundreds. Later in the day we stopped in Waikari for the unveiling of a superb statue of a Corriedale ram in honour of James Little.

At Longfield, the stud of John Booker, a keen advocate of performance recording we saw an interesting representation of sheep from several studs, a Mairangi ram in particular attracting much attention. Clifton, owned by Arthur Blakely in conjunction with Matt O'Brien, was noteworthy for the length of body and excellent heads of the rams we saw.

Our last visit of the day was to Strathblane where John and Ann, James and Romona Sidey had a beautifully presented team of rams, soft handling wool being a feature. After we had seen the rams, James Sidey treated us to an extremely impressive demonstration with two of his sheepdogs, one a Huntaway, the other a Border Collie bitch with an absolutely superb cast.

After a drive through country interesting even by New Zealand standards, we stayed the night at Hamner Springs, a mountain resort. Dinner that night at the Heritage Motel was probably the most convivial of the entire tour, due largely to the congenial personality of Chilean delegate, Roderick MacLean.

Next morning, our journey to Glynne Wye Station through

absolutely spectacular mountain scenery was enlivened by the reminiscences of John Booker who had been a jackaroo on the property. At Glynne Wye we were shown a very even flock of finer woolled Corriedale ewes in an idyllic mountain setting and also a stockade containing young red deer, velvet from the stags being a major source of income. Interestingly, some of the hinds are mated to Wapiti stags, the resulting progeny being fertile. It was here I first sampled mate, a Latin American stimulant equivalent to our cuppa tea, in this case imbibed from a gourd through a straw.

We then travelled to Te Mania, a prominent Angus stud owned by the Wilding family where we enjoyed a sumptuous lunch in a delightful garden setting. All participating countries made a presentation and vote of thanks at each property we visited. Wal Jenkin and I shared this duty on behalf of Australia, both of us being considerably less loquacious than our Latin American counterparts.

At this stage, one bus load of delegates left for Christchurch to attend an important Rugby match. The remainder of us were distributed at random between the two remaining buses. For the next half hour I travelled in company with some very happy Latin Americans who had consumed three bottles of whisky. They all sang and most of them danced in the

aisle – a truly memorable experience; but I was glad to change buses when we left Mark Sidey's Lockerbie stud.

Next day we left Christchurch even earlier than usual so as not to clash with a Surf Fun Run. Our first stop was Wilfield, Robin and Gavin Wilson's stud, renowned for efficiency and performance recording. Both the pasture and the sheep from several studs in the Wilson's care reflected their skill and dedication.

Our next visit was to Erissey, the property of new Zealand President Gordon Gilbert and his wife Barbara. Here we also saw sheep from Kathryn and Geoff Millar's Wendrum stud, featuring an infusion of Quamby Plains blood.

At this stage, Joe Studholme joined us as tour guide. His memories of the background of the studs we saw and the country we passed through were of absorbing interest. We travelled through some marvellous agricultural land to Longbeach, formerly one of the great Corriedale studs, home of Bill and Penny Thomas. We were greeted by a piper, enjoyed a delicious lunch and were shown through parks and garden extending over several acres.

From Longbeach we travelled to Coldstream, the property of Joe and Alistair Studholme, where we saw some very stylish fleeces and a flock of ewes generally

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

regarded as the best seen during our tour.

Joe remained with us for most of our drive to Omarama, keeping us entertained with reminiscences of life in the MacKenzie country.

At dinner that night Brenton Lush and I sat with the younger delegates from the United States and learned how they prepare and exhibit sheep on their show circuit.

Our first call next day was Collie Hills, situated in rugged country, where we met Eric Ross. The ram hoggets here impressed with excellent loin and length of body, as did one particular older sire. I was also interested to see a pen of superfine Merino rams (Moutere blood) and to meet a delightfully friendly sheepdog.

After our only mechanical breakdown we eventually arrived at Wattlebank to be greeted by Bill and Pauline Bain, also one of Bill's three brothers complete with bagpipes. Here we saw a particularly impressive team of rams, beautifully presented. I enjoyed the opportunity to renew acquaintance with Bob McRae (Glendhu stud) and to meet Alan Parker, Bill Bain's shepherd who showed me a wonderful album of photographs of the MacKenzie country. Following a delicious lunch in the Wattlebank garden we travelled on to Queenstown.

Dinner at the Copthorne Hotel was memorable for me as I shared a table with Franz Fischler, an Austrian economist who was one of three extremely interesting and entertaining speakers at the World Congress.

Next morning I flew back to Christchurch a day earlier than the other delegates in order to meet Judith who arrived from Tasmania that evening. Di Rawlinson and Helen Shrewsbury earned my lasting gratitude for arranging my change of schedule smoothly and at short notice.

At this stage of our tour John Savage became ill and spent some time in Invercargill Hospital. Fortunately he and Jan were able to rejoin us in time for the Congress.

The tour being completed, Sue Cole and Geoff and Margaret Risbey returned to Australia. James Walker arrived from Tasmania on the same flight as Judith.

The first day back in Christchurch was occupied by the South Island Agricultural Field Day at Lincoln where we experienced our only wet day. Characteristically, Veronica Jenkin was able to provide several of us with light raincoats. The various Presidents left the Field Day early for a pre-Congress Board Meeting. This was largely occupied discussing wool marketing, no firm decision being reached.

The World Congress itself was chiefly memorable for

the quality of the three Keynote Speakers – Franz Fischler, former European Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development; Hayley Moynihan, Senior Analyst, Rabobank and Professor David Hughes, Professor of Food Marketing, Imperial College, London. David's presentation on marketing and consumers was definitely the highlight of the Congress for me, as it was for many other delegates.

Two delegates who particularly impressed me were Alberto Paz of Argentina, whose charm, intelligence and ability to communicate were outstanding and also Anatoli Lykho, Honorary Consul of Ukraine, a delightful personality who presented a most interesting report. Alberto's advice to Corriedale breeders I quote in full – "The best equation for a double purpose sheep is the one that produces the highest gross income; but without forgetting the quality of wool and meat."

The Corriedale Show was held at Canterbury Agricultural Park the day after the Congress was completed. Rams were judged by Gordon Gilbert and Luis Gallinal and ewes by Di Rawlinson and Shirley Foster. The judging ring was rather small which necessitated several of the classes being divided, the top three or four from each division being rejudged for the final placings. This led to a very lengthy day.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

However, Shirley and Di combined splendidly, and the eventual champion ram met with everyone's approval. I enjoyed the day, partly from the opportunity of seeing once again sheep which had impressed me on the pre-Congress tour and also enjoying the company of Alastair and Pam Mackintosh. The Show also gave everyone another chance to see and order from

the photographs taken by Kerry Walker during the tour.

The two youngest Australian delegates, Charles Archer and Leigh Ellis, totally different personalities, will both be remembered for their enthusiasm and cheerful dispositions.

The Congress itself generally lacked any worthwhile discussion.

The greatest benefit that we, the twenty five Australian delegates, derived was from the pre-Congress tour where, apart from enjoying the wonderful, everchanging scenery, we were able to see and form opinions of the sheep from the various studs and also to meet so many other Corriedale breeders.

Regards
Andrew Nicolson



After the Haka, a memorable feature of the Welcome Dinner at Rydge's Hotel



*Statue of Corriedale ram at Waikari to commemorate James Little with representatives of countries at Congress
L to R: Andrew Nicolson, Rodolfo Concha (Chile); Arthur Blakely (NZ); Charles (Billy) Prime (Peru); Jorge Jamieson (Argentina).
Front Row: Emilio Mangarelli (Uruguay); Jorge Antonio Guerra (Brazil)*

World Corriedale Congress – Australian Attendees

Richard Apps (*Sheep Genetics Australia*); Charles Archer; Richard Archer (*Delegate*); Suzie Archer; Nicholas Cole (*Delegate*); Sue Cole, Bronwyn Ellis; Leigh Ellis; Graham Foster; Shirley Foster (*Delegate*); Jim Gough; Midge Gough; Veronica Jenkin; Wally Jenkin; Brenton Lush (*Delegate*); Andrew Nicolson (*Delegate*); Judith Nicolson; Geoff Risbey; Marg Risbey; Jan Savage; John Savage; Craig Turner; Brenda Venters; Jim Venters; James Walker.

Corriedale Congress Report 2007

After seeing the sights and the sheep of New Zealand, the Corriedale people of the world converged on Lincoln University for two days of guest speakers, presentations and discussions.

The first guest speaker was Franz Fischler, from Austria, who was a former European Union Commissioner for Agriculture. He explained to us how the EU works, how it is an expanding organisation and what considerations there are for those wishing to trade with the EU.

Franz Fischler was followed by Hayley Moynihan, from Rabobank NZ, who spoke on the resurgence of the sheep meat industry world wide, and Professor David

Hughes, Professor of Food Marketing, Imperial College London, who gave us more information about the global meat market. The main message I took home from these speakers was the comparatively small part the lamb industry plays in world-wide protein consumption. After poultry, fish, pork and beef, lamb and mutton make up a very small part (about 2%) of Global meat consumption. As such it needs to be seen as a niche product in most markets as it will never be able to be produced as cheaply or efficiently as fish or poultry. It is by marketing as a niche product that lamb will attract premium prices compared with other meats.

There were also reports on wool production, financial markets and the work done by New Zealand researchers on parasite resistance, footrot resistance and cold tolerance, especially involving gene markers. Many of the studs we visited on the tour had genetic results presented for their sheep for footrot resistance and cold tolerance. These reports gave us insights into the use of technology in sheep breeding that can help improve productivity.

The Country Reports gave us a picture of what Corriedale breeders are doing and what issues they are facing in other countries. Countries represented were Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, Peru, Ukraine, USA, Uruguay and New Zealand. The Corriedale is still the dominant sheep breed in

South America, but they need to overcome climatic challenges, political difficulties, commodity prices and the effects of over-grazing in the past. The Americans like their sheep big and fast growing, and breeders love being involved in shows. They have a strong emphasis on youth involvement.

The Ukraine report was interesting for its possibilities. Since the fall of the Soviet system, agricultural production has declined over 50%, and its sheep flock fallen from around 13 million to 500,000. The Ukrainian Consul to New Zealand indicated that they were looking to rebuild their agricultural base and was looking at the possibilities Corriedales might offer.

A report on performance recording was also presented, with discussion of the Trans Tasman Analysis a key point. This analysis combines information from Australian Corriedales through Sheep Genetics Australia (Lambplan) with information from New Zealand's Sheep Improvement Ltd. Jim Gough and Richard Apps (SGA) spoke on Australia's behalf. Uruguay also has a similar programme.

One of the key moments of the Congress was the launch by New Zealand of Corriedale 2.0, a drive to re-introduce NZ sheep producers to consider Corriedales as a productive sheep.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

Detailing the breeds productivity, easy care attributes and disease resistance, among others, it is aiming to get the attention of today's sheep producers.

The final session of the Congress was led by John Sidey, a New Zealand Corriedale breeder who asked if we needed to broaden the genetic base behind the Corriedale for the breed to develop further. Some discussion was had on this, mainly by Aussies and Kiwis, without coming to any conclusions.

Overall, the Congress had some good moments, especially seeing how things are going in other countries. But in terms of developing and promoting the breed on a global scale, I felt that more needs to be done in between congresses to develop communications and build relationships that could give the Global Corriedale more strength to push its case.

*(From
Brenton Lush)*



Scene at the Canterbury Livestock Auction Centre –

(Photo courtesy Richard Apps).

*L to R: Richard Archer,
Jim Gough with
John Booker and
Robin Wilson
(Photo courtesy Richard
Apps)*



'Bred to perform'

At the recent Corriedale World Congress in Christchurch New Zealand, fellow breeders, delegates and speakers came from all over the world to discuss the latest developments on the world's true dual-purpose sheep.

The conference presentations, delivered by leading industry figures, covered a wide range of topics including: meat marketing, our relations with the European Union and associated export opportunities, parasite management and Corriedale performance on the varied grazing conditions worldwide (from below zero with snow, to the arid land we call home).

After much scientific research and on-farm trials in New Zealand and South America, 'gene marking' for footrot resistance and cold tolerance (especially important at lambing) is now a proven and practised technique for Corriedale breeders. A simple blood test enables individual animals to be ranked according to their resistance.

These technologies offer enormous benefit to all Corriedale breeders given the wide range of climatic conditions faced.

Many of the countries talked about how much they have genetically advanced over the last ten years with particular reference to Australia and New Zealand who are using 'Performance

Recording' and 'Trans-Tasman Corriedale Analysis'.

From Tierra del Fuego (South America) where ewes lamb in snow and sub-zero temperatures, further north in Uruguay's semi-tropical weather and back home in our arid climate, the Corriedale is in demand because of its commercial qualities of wool and mutton. Its self replacing and disease resistant ability is one of its most important traits making it attractive to other countries trying to re-establish their sheep industry.

To see the pressures and extremes Corriedales are farmed, and thrive in, proves the Corriedale truly is *the* versatile sheep bred to perform.

Consider Corriedales for your farm; log on to www.corriedale.org.au and find out the latest breed information and details of your local breeders.

**(From
Bronwyn Ellis)**

***New Zealand
Conference
Show***

The Show at the Canterbury Showgrounds, Christchurch, was a fitting finish to the tour and Conference. The venue was a great undercover setting with tiered seating.

The South Americans with their usual zest, looked at the sheep before the show started. You have to give them credit for their enthusiasm.

Luis Carrau Gallinal from Uruguay, and Gordon Gilbert from New Zealand, judged the rams. Diane Rawlinson from New Zealand and me judged the ewes. The four of us judged the supreme champion. Diane and I created interest with the South Americans as they had not seen women judge sheep. It was good to see a lot of the rams again that we had already seen during the tour.

The classes were divided into age groups under 20 months and over 20 months. The shearing dates were after 20th July and after 15th November. There were also the SIL classes. The sheep were very well presented and a credit to the owners.

In the ram classes with the shearing date after 20th July there were fourteen rams in each class, and a very even line-up.

The champion ram, which went on to be supreme champion from the Strathblane stud of John Sidey and family was from the under twenty months class after 20th July shorn. This ram was very true to type with good bone and a white stylish fleece.

Reserve champion ram was from the Clifton stud.

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

It was an honour for me to have the privilege to judge the ewes.

The biggest class had nine ewes in it. There were no lambs at foot as all studs spring lamb.

I found the standard very high in all classes.

They were large framed sheep with open faces, good bone and carried a stylish fleece. Excellent commercial ewes.

Champion ewe: Wattle Bank stud owned by Bill and Pauline Bain. This ewe was an unhusbanded ewe from the SIL class.

Reserve ewe was exhibited by the Clifton stud.

The day and Conference concluded with a lavish dinner and party.

(From Shirley Foster)

Flock Returns

The 2007 annual Flock Returns were due at Head Office by 31st May.

There are still 14 Flock Returns outstanding.

Australian report for World Corriedale Congress delivered by Andrew Nicolson, Federal President of the Australian Corriedale Association at Lincoln University, Christchurch, New Zealand, on 29th March 2007

I would like to take this opportunity to express my own and my fellow Australian's thanks to the President and members of New Zealand's Corriedale Sheep Society for the truly superb hospitality we are enjoying. I must congratulate the World Corriedale Congress Organising Committee for the enjoyable and interesting pre-congress tour we have just completed. I also extend our sincere thanks to Jim & Brenda Venters and to Di Rawlinson, Helen Shrewsbury, Arthur Blakely and Ricardo Shaw for the manner in which they have ensured the success of the Australian and New Zealand pre-congress tours.

I anticipate that this, the 13th World Congress, will be the most meaningful and have the most far reaching consequences of any since the first, actually entitled the World Corriedale Type Conference, was held on this site in November 1950.

As many of you are already aware, much of pastoral Australia is, and has been,

suffering severe drought conditions, in many areas for several years. The pictures showing stud ewes at Streanshalh, Tasmania, early this month give a good indication of the prevailing conditions and the manner in which breeders and their sheep are coping with the situation. During the past year I have visited every region of Australia where Corriedales are bred. Without exception I have always been delighted and favourably impressed by the excellent condition of the sheep I have seen, both in the paddock and housed for show. The care and attention that Australian breeders have always given to constitution and suitability for the environment is being well rewarded.

My Association is currently experiencing a rapid increase in the number of registered breeders. In addition to the landowners who are beginning, or in two cases resuming, stud breeding, schools and agricultural colleges are applying for registration on a frequent and regular basis. These institutions are receiving every encouragement from Federal Council, State branch committees and individual breeders. With a view to the future, several very promising students have been donated sheep to begin studs of their own, which often involves travelling several hundred kilometres to make delivery. I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to those breeders who make semen available from

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

their top sires, with extremely beneficial results. The Victorian state committee is providing special classes for colleges and novice breeders at major shows and also guidance in standards of show preparation. Nearly all of these studs are necessarily restricted to a small number of breeding ewes and rely on sires or semen provided by other interested stud masters. Denmark Agricultural College, near Albany, about 400 kilometres south of Perth in Western Australia is, however, much larger with a breeding flock of 100 ewes. Under the guidance of Tom Bradshaw it was founded with sheep from a long established flock of carefully bred commercial Corriedales, this now being Federal Council policy. The excellent quality of the Denmark College sheep I have seen in recent months is evidence of the wisdom and success of this policy and also of the dedication and skill of Tom Bradshaw. The pictures taken during judging at Perth Royal Show give a good indication of the type of Corriedale being bred in Western Australia by Corralyn, as well as Denmark Agricultural College. The number of breeding ewes and overall quality of their flock places the college in the fortunate position of being able to use sires of their own breeding should they choose to do so.

The longest established of these studs are Smithfield Plains High School in South

Australia, managed by Alex Suljagic, and St. Gregory's College, just south of Sydney, managed by David Baker. I have seen a good deal of the St Gregory's sheep as they exhibit at shows I attend and I am greatly impressed by the quality of both the students and their show teams. The St. Gregory's photographs taken at Dubbo, NSW, Canberra and Bendigo sheep shows give an excellent illustration of both the students and their sheep. I take this opportunity to pay a very sincere tribute to the masters (and in one instance mistress) in charge of these colleges. In addition to Tom Bradshaw and David Baker, Andrew Cosby of Elisabeth Murdoch College, Brian Adams of Lithgow High School and Joanne Hellard of Woodleigh School are travelling considerable distances with their pupils and sheep. These journeys frequently involve staying away for several days – a considerable undertaking.

Junior judging and junior ambassador competitions are now a very important feature at major shows, the Australian Sheep & Wool Show at Bendigo, being the one I am most familiar with. The continuing success of these competitions is due in large measure to the enthusiasm, dedication and guidance of Bruce and Julie Hamblin and Peter Baker. More than seventy young people now compete each year for these awards which are proving a valuable training ground for judging at both provincial and major shows. Matt Brown, a

successful contestant from St Gregory's in 2005, has acted most satisfactorily as associate judge at Dubbo, where Corriedales were feature breed and is now joint owner of a small Corriedale stud. One of the newer studs, Woodleigh School for Girls, has competed at several country shows, including Geelong, and also competed in the junior judging competition at Bendigo with considerable success.

On a broader spectrum, sheep are, and will continue to be, vitally important to the Australian economy despite a decline in number from 180 million in 1990 to 103 million at the latest (2005-06) census. Changing market conditions have however resulted in a dramatic alteration in the actual composition of the flock. In many regions prime lambs are now more profitable to breed than fine wool which is causing an ever increasing demand for prime lamb mothers. The benefits to be derived from a self-replacing flock that cuts a bulky fleece and does not require mulesing are becoming increasingly apparent, particularly in view of ever increasing government regulations. Due to pressure applied by animal rights groups, mulesing as we know it is to be phased out by 2010. My own experience of the various alternative methods of mulesing currently being trialled agrees with the generally

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

held opinion that clips are not a practical alternative.

They certainly appear less distressing to either lamb or an observer than conventional mulesing. However they are very much more time consuming to apply and there is also the problem of the clips not being biodegradable. I was much more impressed with Trisolfen which, although expensive, appears to have excellent anaesthetic and healing qualities. In view of this, I am firmly convinced of the desirability of breeding a sheep such as the Corriedale which cuts a bulky, payable fleece yet does not require mulesing.

Seasonal conditions and market fluctuations have compelled many farmers in Australia to diversify their operations. We as Corriedale breeders are in the fortunate position of having a dual purpose sheep ideally suited to cope with both climatic and market variations. In Victoria's Corriedale heartland, the Foster family combine maintaining a high profile show team with the lot feeding of Corriedale and Corriedale cross lambs. These lambs are fed approximately one kg of grain based pellets daily for forty days at a cost of \$35 to \$40 per head. Haven Park lot fed lambs, 27.9kg carcase weight, sold for \$3.40 per kg, which with an added skin value of \$14 gave a return of \$108.86 per head. This is one example of the manner in which breeders are coping

with the current seasonal conditions and financial situation.

It is vitally important that every one of us continue to maintain and improve the unrivalled dual purpose qualities and constitution for which the Corriedale is renowned. As we are all aware, markets are volatile with the relative profitability of wool and meat always liable to sudden change. By constitution, I mean the ability to thrive under all conditions whether favourable or not – a characteristic for which the Australian Corriedale has always been renowned.

One of the most noteworthy and pleasing developments within the Australian Corriedale Association is the increasingly active role women are taking in stud breeding, breed promotion and administration. This, together with the dedication and ability of our Secretary, Peter Weston, and the positive approach and enthusiasm of our members give me great confidence in the future prospects and continued wellbeing of the Australian Corriedale.

South American Visit to Australia

Our visitors from South America arrived early morning on Friday March 16, at Tullamarine but as the second plane was delayed in Sydney we were late setting off on our journey to Ballarat.

It wasn't long before the hunger pangs began to dictate the itinerary and by 11.00 a.m. just on the fringe of Ballarat we were settled in at Macca's for a light lunch being served by a very frantic staff. On then to the Sovereign Park Hotel where all cases were taken to rooms and everyone freshened up.

The Wildlife Park was delayed until 3.00 p.m., however, koalas, wombats and kangaroos kept everyone entertained while they were hugged and patted with many calls of photo, photo, photo.

By 4.50 p.m. the party came to life with a request to go to a Farmer's Market, so Landmark was visited for blundstone boots, and farm tools. From there an inspection of the saleyards, where the tandem trucks and loading races impressed everyone. A final stop at Ray's Outdoor Store for more shopping and then home to the evening meal at the hotel which was fantastic.

Early the next morning we assembled by the bus in the cool Ballarat air. Our first stop was to be Gambier View and as we approached Mount Elephant the bus stopped for a photo and stroll upon some open country to look at grass which appeared to be non-existent due to the drought. The Savage family welcomed us at the gate and from there a short stroll to the woolshed and sheepyards. The sheep were keenly inspected by the menfolk and tag numbers were discussed.

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

Finally a cuppa with morning tea and Jan's famous fruit cake. Jan remarked later 'I don't know about the sheep but they sure liked my fruit cake!' John presented the bus with a number of bottles of red wine and we were on our way to Stanbury.

Once more sheep were keenly inspected especially the rams tethered in the woolshed. Lunch was served BBQ style by Geoff and young Nick and it was excellent. During lunch young Nick entertained with his guitar. A tour outside to see the feedbins and older rams, visit to Lillies Wolbul Hereford stud and then on the bus to tour the Camperdown Botanical Gardens.

While looking at the surrounding view, a wedding party came by, duly set the family picture in place and the photographer set for action when three South Americans sprang quickly into their picture with the Corriedale flag set before them. At first the wedding party was quite taken aback, as we all would be but then they burst into laughter and it was a highlight that will be the topic of conversation for some time to come!! On to the motel but as there wasn't sufficient room for the entire group some were taken to the bed and breakfast, Historic Timboon House, which was an absolute delight. I'm sure the chosen few thought the time spent there was all too short.

The next day was spent touring the Great Ocean Road viewing the Twelve Apostles etc before enjoying lunch at Te Mania Angus stud. During the afternoon the bus detoured to view the old Stanbury farm before arriving at 'Springdale' Stonehaven the home of the Liberton stud. Michael Deppeler used his skills to send his well trained sheepdogs to skirt each side of the paddock and bring together the mob of ewes and then drive them home to the yards. It was a wonderful spectacle and the busload of South Americans plus numerous guests thought so too.

Once again more handling of sheep in the yards and the shed whilst the ladies strolled through the garden as they were entertained by a quartet of young musicians from Geelong College who played so beautifully and the Geelong hand spinners who showed many facets of hand spinning, dyeing and felting. A delicious evening meal was enjoyed in the comfort of the homestead and then all gathered together to listen to Sam Ingles from Marcus Oldham Agricultural College, Geelong, speak on agricultural education in Australia.

Overnight stay at the Mecure in Geelong and then on route to the Airport, a stopover at the Landmark wool store to see handling and baling of wool. A quick flight to Launceston, Tasmania where we were met by Suzie Archer who directed the bus to Quamby Plains. More sheep

and rams were presented and a beautiful lunch served under the shady trees in the gardens where everyone enjoyed the relaxing atmosphere.

Late afternoon we all had a short time to settle into our motel before we enjoyed an evening river cruise complete with the evening meal. Early next morning the bus set forth for the platypus farm. This was most interesting and the facts about the platypus were excellently delivered. The seahorse exhibition was next door where some of our group ventured to seek information.

On then to Streanshalh the home of the Australian Corriedale President Andrew Nicolson and his wife Judith. There were also other visiting studs and again eager interest to view the sheep by the guests. Another wonderful lunch prepared and eaten in the gardens and on the verandah at the homestead.

The visit was all too short as we had to leave early to catch our planes to Sydney and Melbourne. At the conclusion of each visit, members of the South American group would present the host with a plaque of acknowledgement and appreciation of the visit. It was a very touching tribute and showed sincerely their thanks for the fantastic hospitality everyone had enjoyed.

*(From
Brenda and Jim
Venters)*

Wagin Woolorama 2007

Quality and competition featured strongly in the Corriedale judging this year despite there being only two exhibitors.

This year it was Gidgegannup-based Shade Park stud versus the Inlet Views stud of the WA College of Agriculture, Denmark, and in the end the broad ribbons were divided between the two.

But taking out the breed's major broad ribbon was a young ram from the Inlet Views stud stable.

The ram had earlier been awarded first place in the objective and subjective class for a ram under one year showing milk teeth before being sashed the champion ram.

This year Corralyn stud principal Arthur Pederick, Wagin, who had relinquished



Student Bayden Reid was this year's novice winner in the Corriedale competition – (Photo – courtesy Farm Weekly)

his exhibitor role to take up the challenge of judge, said the champion ram had scale and was true to type.

“He was structurally the best ram I'd seen and very square,” Mr. Pederick said. “He also had a nice, even fleece of good, soft wool.”

In his first class where measurements were taken into account with a visual appraisal the champion had recorded figures of 62kg, 31 EMA and 5 fat.

Reserve was a ram from the Inlet Views stud, which was square and had a great shoulder setting.

The winner of the champion ewe ribbon- who then went on to be the champion long-wool ewe of the show – was a classy little ewe from Shade Park. She had progressed up the ranks from the ewe over one year class.

*WA College of
Agriculture,
Denmark,
sheep training officer
Tom Bradshaw (left),
student
Karly Burridge
and judge
Arthur Pederick,
Wagin, and the grand
champion and
champion Corriedale
ram exhibit from the
Inlet Views stud.*

*(Photo – courtesy
Farm Weekly)*

In making his decision Mr. Pederick said she had an even fleece of quality wool that displayed softness. “She also has size for age and carries herself well down through the hindquarter”, he said.

Reserve champion was a ewe from Inlet Views that had slightly more size and scale despite being from a younger class and carried a soft fleece of wool.

The Inlet Views stud won three group classes including pair of rams under one year showing milk teeth, and the pair of ewe class of the same description, as well as a group of one ram and two ewes.

Shade Park took out the sash for the group of one ram and two ewes over one year.

*(By Claire Allen
Farm Weekly)*



**Mount Gambier Show
2006**

Judge was Mr. Jim Gough

Wattle Glen Trophy – Pair of rams, and pair of ewes any age:

G.G. & D.L. Jenke.

Wye Corriedale Trophy – Ram with the best head:

A.R. & J.L. Hunt.

National Australia Bank Trophy – Ram and ewe under 1 ½ years, unhusked:

Ram – A.R. & J.L. Hunt.

Ewe – G.G. & D.L. Jenke

Noorla Trophy – Most points in the unhusked section:

G.G. & D.L. Jenke

Champion ram:

A.R. & J.L. Hunt

Reserve champion ram:

A.R. & J.L. Hunt

Champion ewe:

G.G. & D.L. Jenke

Reserve champion ewe:

J. M. Savage

Rabobank Trophy – Most successful exhibitor in Corriedale section to be competed for at both Adelaide and Mt. Gambier Show 2006:

J.M. Savage.

Adelaide Show 2006

Judge was Mr. Michael Deppeler

H.L. Lush Memorial Prize – Ram under 1 ½ years:

J.M. Savage, 1; A.R. & J.L.

Hunt, 2 & 3.

The Lambplan prize:

A.R. & J.L. Hunt

The Maluka Carcase Trophy Objective Measurement Class:

A.R. & J.L. Hunt, 1 & 2;

J.M. Savage, 3.

Champion ram:

J.M. Savage

Reserve champion ram:

A.R. & J.L. Hunt

Champion ewe:

J.M. Savage

Reserve champion ewe:

J.M. Savage

The T.R. Secker Memorial Trophy – Group of three rams and two ewes:

A.R. & J.L. Hunt, 1; J.M.

Savage, 2.

Breeders Group:

A.R. & J.L. Hunt, 1; J.M.

Savage 2.

Most successful Corriedale exhibitor:

J.M. Savage

Dubbo Show 2007

There were over 770 stud sheep at Dubbo this year with most breeds represented, approximately 220 Dorpers and 200 White Suffolks, which were the feature breed.

The Corriedale breed was well represented by 5 studs and 44 sheep. It was the Corriedales best show ever as we won the Tink Shield for schools, exhibiting the best of all breeds, this year taken out by St Gregory's College, Campbelltown, with their well presented Corriedales.

Roseville was particularly delighted when they won the most successful exhibitor award and also supreme exhibit with their champion Roseville ram.

St Gregory's College is to be commended for also taking out reserve champion ram and champion ewe awards.

Rick Hoolihan, Roselea, won the reserve champion ewe award.

Judge John Armstrong, Yullundry stud, Cumnock, said "the exhibition was a delight to judge as both champion and reserve rams were good carcase rams. Corriedales are in the game for meat and the champion has the carcase."

**(From
Tony Manchester)**

REMINDER

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday, 20th July 2007, at 9.00 a.m. during the Australian Sheep and Wool Show Bendigo.

Venue is the Bendigo Club, 22 Park Street, Bendigo, Vic.



St. Gregory's College student, Jack Kennedy, Nyngan with reserve champion ram and Tony Manchester, Roseville, Kingsvale with their supreme Corriedale exhibit. (Photo: courtesy- The Land)

Campbell Town Show 2007

Corriedales at Campbell Town Show were judged by Peter Baker, with Stuart Burbury as his Associate, the two working in complete harmony. They were well supported by keen and experienced Steward, Tom Burbury.

The Glen Esk team, beautifully presented and exceptionally long stapled, provided exactly the sheep Peter was looking for, resulting in an absolute triumph for Ian MacKinnon who was most successful exhibitor, winning every ram class and the ewe championship.

His two year old ram and ram hogget won the supreme champion and supreme junior champion wool breed ram respectively, this being the second time in three years that Corriedales have won this prestigious double.

Quamby Plains won champion Corriedale fleece with a bulky, bold, sirey ram fleece.

A car boot luncheon on judging day was enjoyed by exhibitors and supporters, including noted former breeder, 89 year old Jim Osborne.

Detailed awards were:

Ram, over 1 ½ years, unprotected
Glen Esk, 1; Great Western, 2.

Ram, under 1 ½ years
Glen Esk, 1 & reserve champion and 2.

Pair of rams under 1 ½ years
Glen Esk, 1; Great Western, 2;

Ram 1 ½ years to 2 ½ years
Glen Esk, 1 and champion;
Quamby Plains, 2.

Pair of rams 1 ½ to 2 1/12 years
Glen Esk, 1; Quamby Plains, 2.

Ram, over 2 ½ years
Glen Esk, 1 & 2.

Ewe, over 1 1/2 years, unprotected
Glen Esk, 1; Streanshalh, 2.

Ewe, under 1 ½ years
Glen Esk, 1 and champion & 2.

Pen of three ewes, under 1 ½ years
Glen Esk, 1.

Ewe, 1 ½ years to 2 ½ years
Glen Esk, 1 & 2.

Ewe, over 2 ½ years
Streanshalh, 1 and reserve champion; Glen Esk, 2.

Glen Esk Trophy – Ram, with best head
Streanshalh.

Sires Progeny Group
Great Western, 1.

Ram, with Best Sire's Fleece – J.A. B. Finlay and Prell Trophies
Glen Esk.

CANDID CAMERA AT NZ CONFERENCE



THE FARMERS MAILBOX

Suppliers of a wide range of farm products

Free call: 1800 81 66 99

Free fax: 1800 007 134

Email: sales@fmb.com.au

Web: www.fmb.com.au

Mail: 40 Laurel Street, Whittlesea, Vic. 3757.

NLIS for Sheep & Goats

There are several compliant tags for NLIS for sheep and goat. Generally there are two types of tags available, the old standard style sheep tag that has been around for years and the softer flexible plastic or nylon tag that wraps around the ear.

At The Farmers Mailbox most of the popular brands of tags are available, Leader, Allflex, Austock and Stockbrands. These companies all have both styles of tags available for NLIS compliance.

The first thing a breeder must do is register their property with their local government body, RLB or DPI. They will be issued with a PIC or Property Identification Code.

Then ordering tags is fairly easy, it is as simple as quoting their PIC when ordering, however if they are not sure what is required we advise them to ring their local RLB or DPI first as procedures can vary from state to state.

NLIS compliant tags must only have the property PIC and the Australian NLIS Logo to be compliant, however, most breeders will have the animal identification number on the tag and we strongly recommend that breeders start using national year colours.

The size of the tag does limit the amount of information that can be printed, but generally most breeders have a prefix and number one side, OJD symbol and the NLIS Logo and PIC on the other side.

Tags that are printed in this way will cost around forty cents each with a minimum purchase of 25 tags. Mostly this has to do with the small size of the tag and how it fits into the machine to be printed.

At the Farmers Mailbox we have been selling NLIS compliant tags since 2004 when they were introduced for cattle and we now sell the full range of compliant tags for sheep and goat.

The Australian Corriedale Association Inc. has an official alliance with The Farmers Mailbox and highly recommends their service and efficiency.