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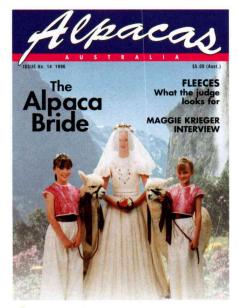
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Message from

the President

Welcome to 1996...

I hope that all members had an enjoyable holiday and many cria to make the new year especially welcome.

Congratulations to Maree Buck, who was recently elected President of the Victorian Central Region. It's great to see another woman at the helm of a region.

In my last message, I discussed the need for consolidation in our industry. Our pilot fibre collection scheme has been completed and, whilst we were disappointed with the quantity received, we learnt a great deal about the logistics of such a system. Our fibre specifications may also need to be modified in the light of further examination.

All members will shortly be receiving notices for a general meeting to be held in Sydney on Sunday 13 April 1966. The National Committee and Executive are looking forward to hearing from our new members so that we can continue to take our Association down the paths that our members feel are appropriate for our future growth.

'Victoria on Show' was an exhibition held by the Victorian Government in conjunction with the opening of the new Victorian Exhibition Centre.

The Victorian Eastern Region, headed by its President, Bill Plunkett, accepted the challenge of organising our industry's participation in the



four-day exhibition. Alpacas were the only animals on display and some 250,000 people went through 'Victoria on Show'. The exposure for alpacas and alpaca products was extremely valuable and Bill and his team are to be congratulated on an outstanding success.

Our next major event is our Industry Seminar which, this year, will be held on 5, 6 and 7 July at the Sea World Nara Resort on the Gold Coast in Queensland. It follows the Thirteenth International Congress on Animal Reproduction and our organising committee is trying to persuade a number of top line visitors to stay on for our seminar.

The 1996 Alpaca Industry Seminar is shaping up to be a great event, so please write those July dates in your diary now.

There's further information on page 44 of this issue and full details will be mailed to all members shortly.

Gray Morgan

PUBLISHER

Alpacas Australia is published quarterly by the Australian Alpaca Association Inc., Suite 2, 476 Canterbury Road Forest Hill 3131 Victoria

(PO Box 464, Brentford Square, 3131) Telephone: (03) 9877 0778 Fax: (03) 9877 0770

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SUBSCRIPTION RATE

A\$28 a year : Australia A\$35 a year : New Zealand A\$45 a year : International

CIRCULATION

5000 for current issue

PRODUCTION & ARTWORK

PTW Desktop & Design Film Separations: Reprocolor Pty Ltd Printing: The Craftsman Press Pty Ltd

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