

Alpacas

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ISSUE Nº 1 • SUMMER 1994

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ALPACA INDUSTRY**

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PROFILE**

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**PREMIER ALPACA
AUCTION**

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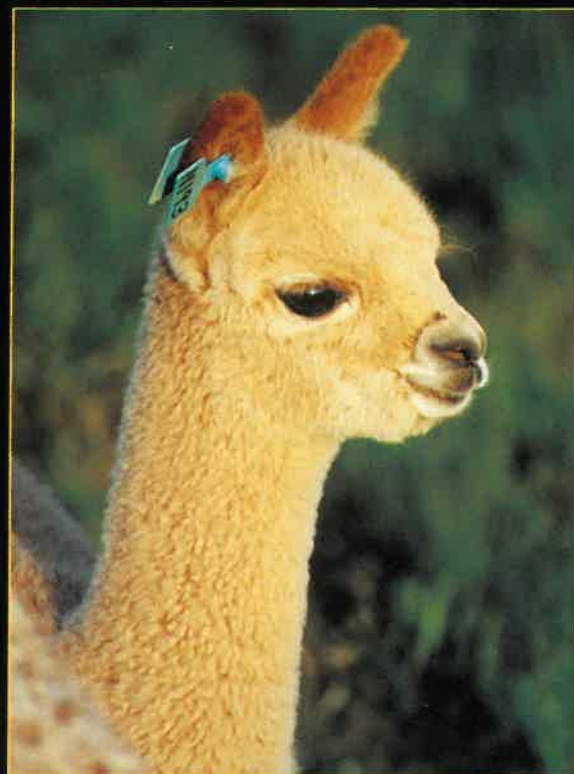
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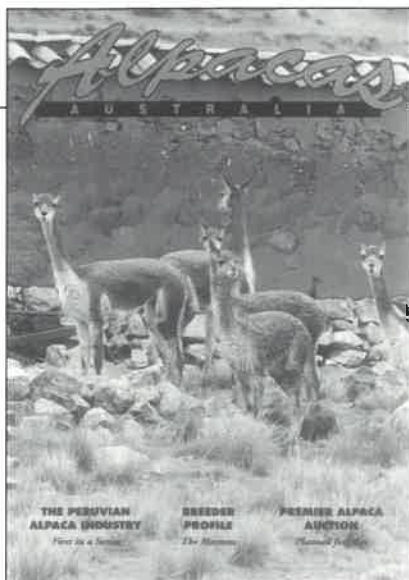
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Cover: Chris Tuckwell
Small, delicate vicunas — snapped by Chris Tuckwell during his recent study tour in Peru.

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ACROSS THE EDITOR'S DESK

*Every day brings new
developments in the
alpaca industry.*

Our industry is steadily moving forward. Among the developments we report on in this issue are: a seminar and auction organised by the NSW Central/Northern region; our national industry seminar in Canberra; the prelude to an extensive report on the Peruvian alpaca industry and its implications for our market; the opening of an alpaca shop (selling alpaca products *not* alpacas!); and the use of alpacas as sheep guards against foxes and as pets for therapy. What a versatile animal the alpaca is.

Further good news for breeders — if the general meeting in March accepts the proposal, we should have a fibre classing warehouse up and running by the middle of the year.

Alan Hamilton will cover his study tour of Peru with Chris Tuckwell in the next issue. He reports that France and Italy are buying most of the baby alpaca fleece produced in Peru and this is driving prices up — particularly for finer fibre. While the mills are modern, the classing of the fibre from the grower to the sorting warehouse is primitive. Our superior classing and handling systems will ensure that we have a competitive edge in this area. Because they have selected in Peru for white animals for so many generations, there is now a shortage of coloured fibre. A 30 per cent premium is currently being paid for black fibre. Again, our population of quality coloured animals will give us a head start.



In preparing a report for the fibre sub-committee, John Aldred found that several high profile fashion industry labels were featuring alpaca in their winter ranges, among them Hugo Boss, Peter Weiss, Max Mara, and Armani. I am looking forward to the day when these and other labels will feature the Australian Alpaca mark. One vital thing we can all do to contribute to this outcome is to keep our animals on clean, seed-free pastures. Clean pastures mean clean fibre and higher prices.

Finally, I should extend a welcome to Simon Traynor. Recently appointed to the position of AAA's Industry Development Officer, Simon is a valuable addition to the Association.

Hope to see you all at the Canberra seminar. Don't forget to book this week — it's going to be sold out!

Cherie Bridges

Cherie Bridges
EDITOR

Alpacas
AUSTRALIA

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THE PERUVIAN ALPACA INDUSTRY

By Chris Tuckwell

*Chris, Livestock Officer,
Developing Industries
with the South
Australian Department
of Agriculture, was a
guest speaker at the
Association's Tocal and
Roseworthy seminars.*

INTRODUCTION

This is my first article for the Alpaca Association on my recent study tour of the Peruvian Alpaca industry.

The study tour was funded by the Rural Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC). One of the initial conditions set by the corporation was that funding of the trip was subject to the nomination of an 'appropriate' industry representative to accompany me. I approached the committee of the Alpaca Association for a nomination of an industry representative and was subsequently advised that the president, Alan

Hamilton, would accompany me to Peru. As RIRDC funding was limited, Alan generously agreed to privately pay all of his own expenses for the trip.

Alan and I met with many interesting people and saw a wide range of alpacas and llamas in Peru, including those presented at the national Arequipa Expo. In later articles we will attempt to provide you all with all the relevant information that we collected while in Peru. However the information will first be provided to the organisation which funded the trip, RIRDC, in the form of a comprehensive report. Only when the

BENLEIGH ALPACA STUD

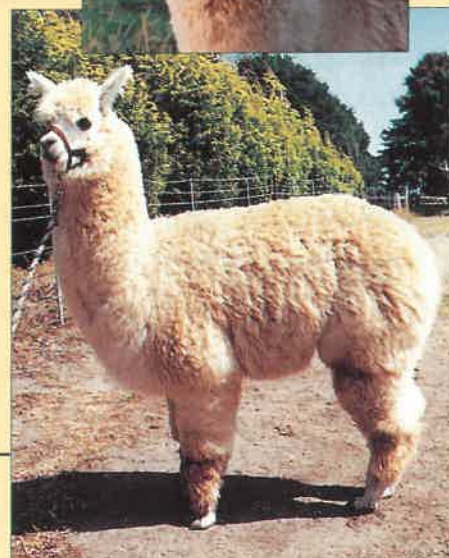
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report has been accepted by the RIRDC will it be made available to the public and any interested person will be able to access the report.

This brief report is intended to provide an introductory overview of Peru, its political background and a recent alpaca industry history.

I have also provided some background information on Senor Bernardo Montesinos, who assisted with the organisation and planning of the trip, and Don Julio Barreda who is regarded by many as one of the best alpaca breeders in Peru. These summaries were compiled with the help of articles written by Bernardo Montesinos.

A final introductory titbit, Quechua Indians traditionally called alpaca *pacocha* (which means brown) and Ayamaran Indians called them *allpachu*. The term *alpaca* is a relatively new Spanish description of the animals.

GEOGRAPHY

Peru covers 1,285,215 square kilometres and is the third largest country in South America. The country is divided into three main regions: a narrow coastal belt separated from the Amazonian rainforest by the wide Andes mountain range. Most of the Andes lie between 3,000 to 4,000 metres above sea level (up to 6,768 metres) and supports half of the country's population.

More than 60 per cent of Peru lies in the Amazon basin to the east of the Andes, but supports only five per cent of the population.

CLIMATE

Peru's weather varies greatly depending on the geographical region, but climate can generally be divided into either the wet or the dry seasons. The western coast is desert and during the summer period (January to March) the weather is hot and humid with

clear skies. During the remainder of the year the sky is almost always cloud covered and the sun is rarely seen.

The western slopes of the Andes generally are hot and sunny through most of the year. The Andes proper experiences very definite wet and dry seasons (dry season from May to September), but because of the altitude (3,500 to 6,000 metres) nights are generally cold.



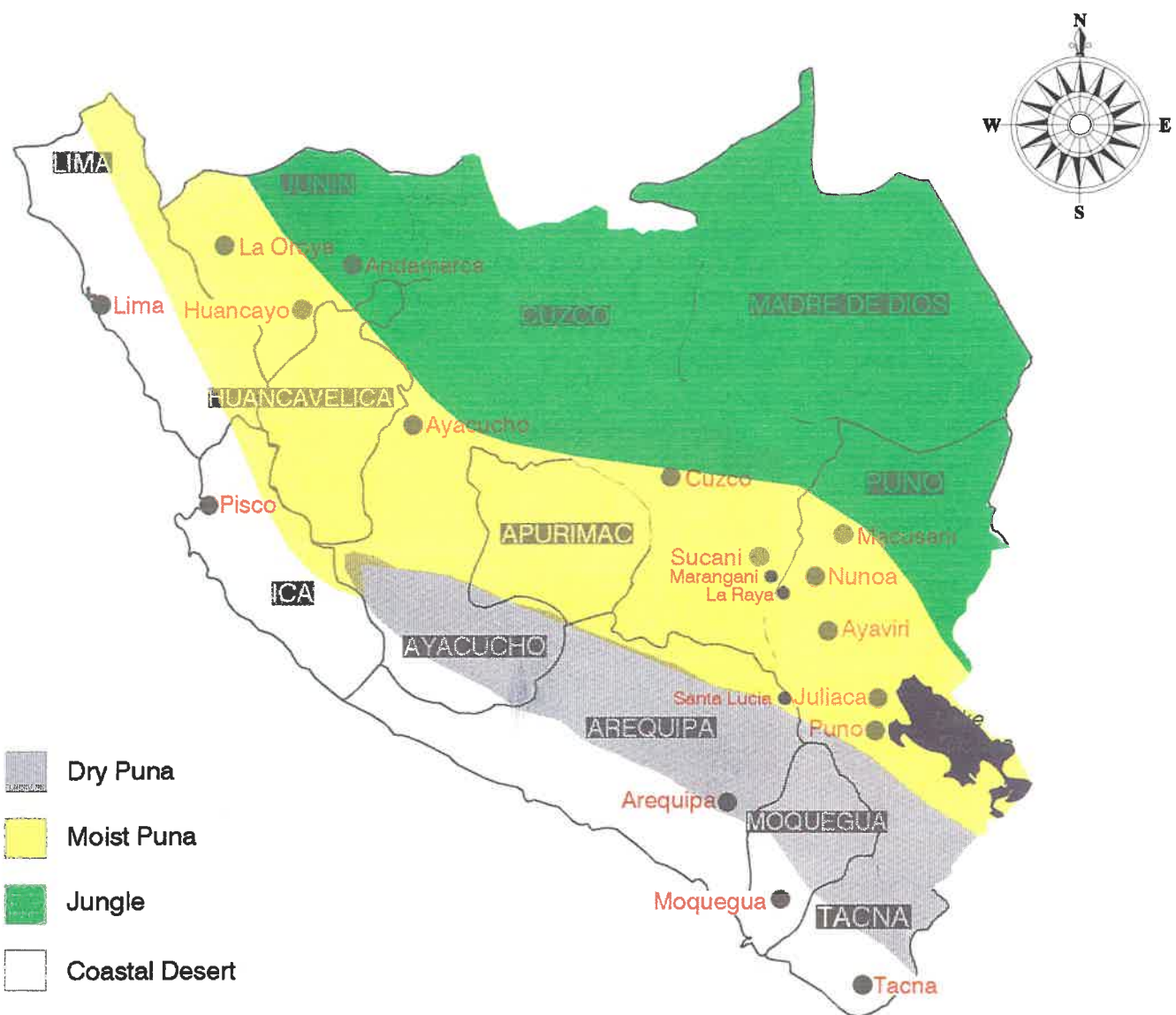
Chris Tuckwell and Alan Hamilton in Peru at Arequipa Expo.

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Peru

The eastern slopes of the Andes are much wetter and lead to the Amazon jungle.

RECENT GOVERNMENT HISTORY

The country is divided into 23 states which are further subdivided into 150 provinces. These provinces are subdivided into 1,322 districts.

Until 1980 the country was ruled by a military government. In 1980 this military regime called elections, based on a new constitution written in 1978-79, that saw a civilian president, Belaunde Terry, come to power.

This new government initiated few changes and is recorded as providing little more than a continuation of past policies of socialism (paternalism).

In 1985 the country was in economic crisis and a new communist president (Alán García Pérez) was elected. García and his government led the country into deeper trouble with significant increases in terrorism, inflation, corruption and disease, all of which contributed to a massive devaluation of the Peruvian economy. One of the most serious problems was inflation (2,000 per cent in 1989) and huge foreign debt (US\$20 bil-

lion). García's government also severely reduced Peru's commitment to repaying its foreign debt which isolated the country from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the world banking community. This meant Peru was unable to access international finance and had an interest bill equal to 27 per cent of its annual export earnings.

In 1990 Alberto Fujimori was elected to power and although there was an initial increase in inflation and terrorism, both are now well under control. It appears that corruption has been removed, or at least significantly

ship with their animals and the land. Many of these people had to pay bribes to terrorists to survive, while they maintained low profiles, high up in the Altiplano.

The mismanagement of the industry led to a drop in fibre quality and price which meant many producers were unable to sell their fibre. Many animals were subsequently killed for food and many llamas were crossed with alpaca (llama \times alpaca = *huanizo*; alpaca \times llama = *misti*) to produce larger animals for increased food production.

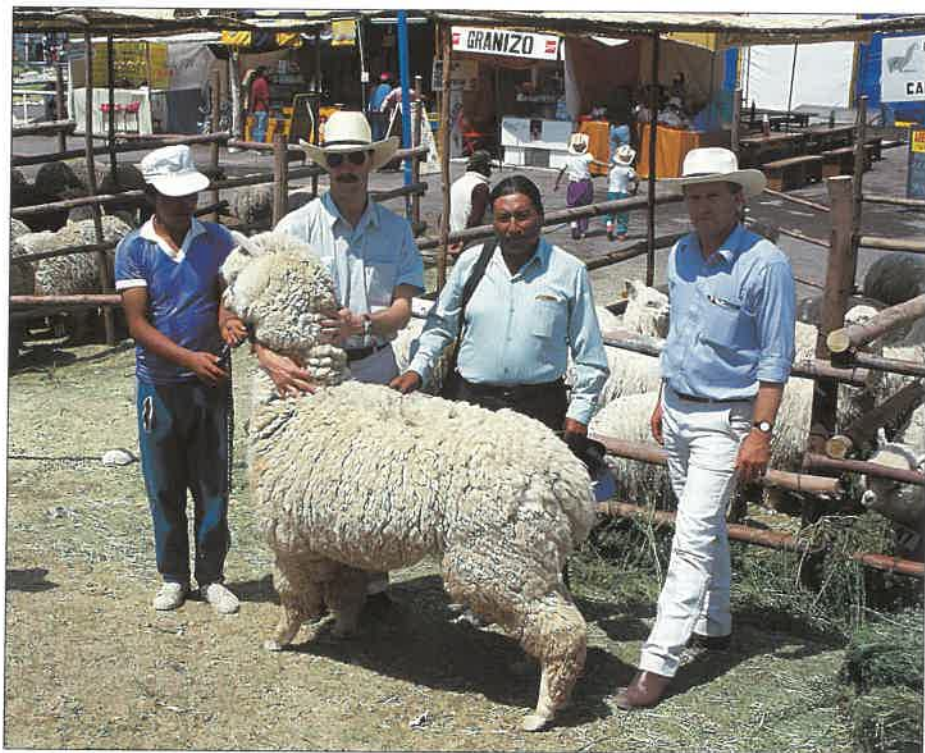
Subsequently there was an increase in cattle and sheep breeding which was more profitable and which meant the genetic quality of a large percentage of alpaca deteriorated even further as breeders paid even less attention to breeding programs of the now lowly profitable alpaca and llama.

ALPACA FIBRE PRODUCTION

During the agro reform period, fibre was sold to three main companies, including Inca Tops and Michells, which themselves had a difficult situation. Generally, there was little or no demand and there was a significant stockpile of fibre. Low demand reflected prices paid for fibre of US\$1.55 to US\$1.75 per kilogram.

In 1985-86 a boom in the trade of llamas to the USA provided some breeders with a welcome new source of income. More recently, exports of alpaca to the USA (via Bolivia) or reportedly to Australia and New Zealand (via Chile) have contributed significantly to breeder incomes.

Input into alpaca production research has been gradually increasing in recent years, particularly with the assistance of overseas researchers. Many alpaca producers, researchers and fibre processors in Peru, are keen to ensure their industry develops. However there are many difficulties,



Arequipa Expo Grand Champion, 1993.

the greatest of which is the fact that in excess of 85 per cent of the alpaca population is controlled by the peasant (*campesinos*) population in a myriad of small herds. A large herd is considered one with more than 5,000 to 8,000 alpaca, a medium herd is one which comprises 3,000 to 4,000 alpaca and small herds have less than 2,000 alpaca (generally closer to 50 or 100).

There is a growing confidence in the 'new' Peruvian alpaca industry and in late 1993 alpaca fibre prices showed some dramatic improvement which has provided some cautious optimism for the Peruvian industry. For example, in September 1993, the average price for alpaca fibre in Peru was approximately US\$3.00 kg (A\$4.00). In November 1993, the average price was approximately US\$7.00 kg (A\$10.50) and in December 1993 average prices were from US\$9.00-10.00 kg (A\$13.50-15.00). Baby alpaca was returning about US\$13.00 kg (A\$19.50).

However there are no price premi-

ums paid for superior quality fibre in Peru because of current, inadequate fibre production and handling systems and almost non-existent quality control from the time of fleece removal until arrival at factories. Prices paid tend to be 'across the board' with rare exceptions of premium prices for high quality fibre for a few very good producers.

INDUSTRY STATISTICS

Past statistical information supplied by the Peruvian government is, at best, of doubtful accuracy. We were advised by one government official that, in times past, compliance with requests for statistical information was required within very short time frames. The result is that many of the statistics on the Peruvian alpaca industry provided since 1985 have determined by blatant guess rather than other more accepted methods of data collection. This was necessary to avoid earning the displeasure of political masters if information could not be supplied very soon after it was

reduced, from upper levels of government but still exists in middle level government management.

AN HISTORICAL SUMMARY OF THE ALPACA INDUSTRY IN PERU

The original alpaca industry was decimated by the Spanish invasion of Peru in the 1500s. The industry remained almost non-existent until the 1860s when a British fibre processor (Sir Titas Salt) processed a nuisance bale of unknown fibre which was branded as 'alpaca'. The result of this 'nuisance' processing led to a resurgence of the alpaca industry in Peru. This new industry continued until the Peruvian agrarian reforms of the 1960s.

Until 1968-69 alpaca breeding was controlled by breeders who owned huge tracts of land with large numbers of animals. In 1969 a military coup heralded the beginning of a period of extensive and harsh agrarian reforms which continued through the 70s and 80s. During the reforms control of large tracts of private land and government co-operatives was taken away from long-time landlords and given or made easily available to government officials and to Indian employees. The alpaca industry suffered a severe setback during this period as new owners of huge tracts of land carrying large alpaca populations were disadvantaged by lack of practical knowledge of alpaca production. Subsequent inadequate management saw co-operatives quickly become run down and financially unviable.

As these new owners were not technologically equipped to manage the land or the alpaca and llama herds they held, they were 'encouraged' to employ managers, vets, economists and older breeders that were nominated by the government to assist with management. These advisers similarly had little or no practical

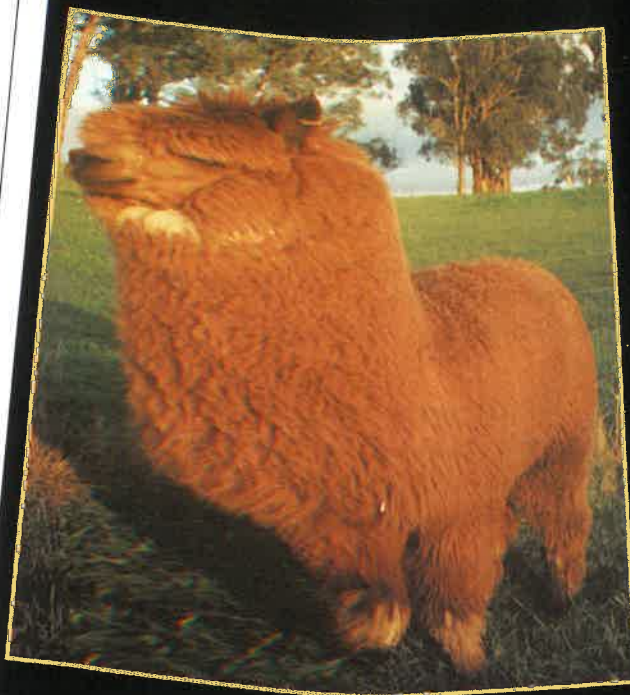
alpaca and llama management skills so properties were exploited for short-term financial gain, while the alpaca industry deteriorated even further.

Despite the new government provided by García, the alpaca industry and agriculture generally continued to deteriorate badly. They spent little or no money on agriculture; there were several severe droughts and terrorists decimated alpaca herds. (At the la

Raya university all alpacas were killed, buildings, data bases and expensive modern equipment were severely damaged or destroyed.) As a result very few breeders maintained their alpaca flocks and associated controlled, long term, breeding programs. Those who attempted to maintain such programs tended to be people with a basis in native culture and who had a traditional relationship

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requested, and because most people were unwilling to risk travel in the terrorist controlled Altiplano at that time.

However, in 1987, the population of alpacas in Peru was estimated to be 3.1 million and current estimates vary between 2.1 and 2.5 million. Government sources hope to be able to provide more accurate statistics in the future, although current staff shortages will still make collection of relevant data difficult.

SEÑOR BERNARDO MONTESINOS

Bernardo Montesinos was born and raised in Peru, was educated in Germany and England, and speaks four languages fluently. He has an excellent command of the English language acquired during employment in English textile businesses.

As a representative of the South American fibre processing company, Michell Brothers, he was responsible for selling alpaca silvers, tops and carded and worsted yarns. Today Michells employs in excess of 500 people and sells alpaca products to Japan, Europe, North and South America.

In 1985-86 Señor Montesinos established the alpaca fibre processing and marketing company, Coberg SRL in Arequipa. Today, companies such as Coberg, Michell and Inca Tops are looking to expand the international market for alpaca fibre. The pursuit of the Japanese market, which consumes approximately 35 per cent of the Peruvian alpaca fibre, took Bernardo to Japan on behalf of Michell and Misti Lana, the carded yarn factory of the Michell group. In Japan, he created a woollen yarn collection named 'Ikebana' after the Japanese art of flower arrangement.

Bernardo went to the USA as an emissary of the International Alpaca



Don Julio Barreda.

Association (IAA), its president, in 1991. The IAA licenses the use of their trademark alpaca symbol that is used by licensees to mark the purity of products which use alpaca fibre in their manufacture. The IAA, which represents primary processors of alpaca fibre, is very interested in encouraging growers and breeders to participate in their organisation. The IAA has had three conferences since incorporation in 1983 and its current president is from Japan.

Bernardo feels South American breeders can benefit from research and animal husbandry techniques developed in Australia, and the industry is keen to develop a good working relationship with the Australian industry. This exchange of information with the Peruvian industry has tremendous potential for Australian alpaca breeders.

We were very fortunate to be introduced to the Peruvian alpaca industry by Señor Montesinos. He has an excellent knowledge of fibre processing and marketing, and has a broad knowledge of the Peruvian alpaca industry. We are in his debt.

DON JULIO BARREDA

Don Julio's mother bred alpacas prior to his birth and Don Julio began learning the art of breeding camelids and harvesting their fibre from thirteen years of age. Today, Don Julio is widely regarded as one of Peru's most important alpaca breeders.

Through-out his forty year devotion to the alpaca industry he has helped improve and develop the breed.

His ranch 'Accoyo' is situated near the village of Macusani, approximately 5,000 metres above sea level. Macusani has been called the centre for alpaca fibre production.

Don Julio believes that the greatest damage to the alpaca breeding industry occurred at the time of the Spanish invasion. At that time the professional, highly qualified Indian technicians and breeders, the Camayoccs, and most of the superior alpacas were destroyed. As the Indians had no written language to record their history and other information, the knowledge of the Camayoccs died with them.

continued on p. 41

KEEPING FOXES AT BAY

*Can alpacas protect
lambs from foxes?
Initial trials
near Geelong
in Victoria suggest
that they can.*

With little value for pelts, there has been a huge increase in the fox population on the Bellarine Peninsula near Geelong, Victoria. Vast numbers of chickens and lambs have fallen prey to these predators.

Allan and Carolyn Jinks of Benleigh Alpaca Stud, who also breed merino sheep and beef cattle, were finding that the loss of newborn lambs to foxes was becoming acute.

Allan had noticed that their two sheep dogs never entered the paddocks where alpacas were kept except on the back of a ute, although they were well accustomed to working

with sheep and cattle. It was decided to try keeping two adult male alpacas (who were not considered to be of a standard required for breeding) with 100 lambing ewes in a 3 ha paddock.

It was hoped that the foxes would show the same reluctance to enter as the dogs.

The first night, one lamb was lost near the fence line and had been partially eaten, but this was a bonus from the usual loss of up to six per night. The gravity of the problem was highlighted by one grazier reporting having seen foxes take lambs before the mother had stood up after birthing.



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Two lambing seasons have now passed with no evidence of lambs having been taken by foxes. It would appear that two male alpacas have been most efficient guardians in small paddocks — ideal for stud sheep breeders.

One sheep farmer, who was becoming desperate due to the loss of lambs, was loaned two male alpacas by the Jinks. After a week, he returned to buy the alpacas.

From a sheep farmer's point of view, there are other advantages in having alpacas as guardians — they can line up to be shorn with the sheep, and certainly take less management.

At Benleigh, one of these 'ever so useful' males is a multi-coloured with superb fleece. He creates quite a conversation piece as part guardian of a flock — and he really seems to adore

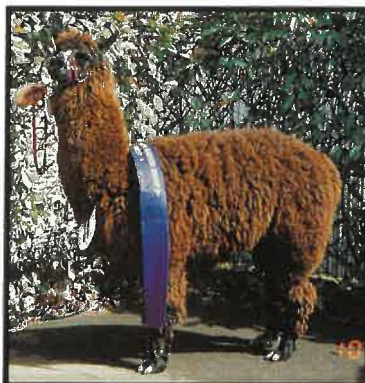


Two male alpacas guard sheep at Benleigh. Initial tests indicate foxes are reluctant to attack lambs when alpacas are with a flock.

'his' group of ewes and lambs.

Passing motorists have been known to call in with the news that there are a couple of alpacas loose

among the sheep. This opens up great opportunities to share the joys of owning alpacas and proving there is a need for them all!



Wyona Solo – 1st over 2 y.o. Male

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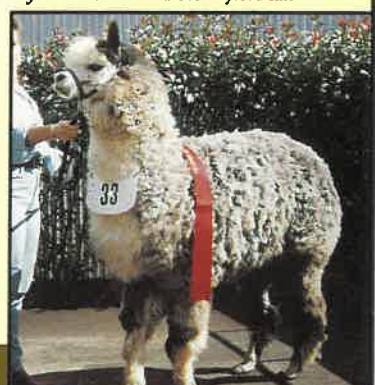
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PREMIER ALPACA AUCTION PLANNED FOR MAY

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Farmer Premier
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May 21 and 22, 1994,
at the Country Comfort
Inn at Mudgee.*

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The venue for the event, the Country Comfort Inn at Mudgee, is set in attractive landscaped gardens and has large and very impressive convention facilities. It was selected as the venue for the sale because it provided a suitable backdrop for these glamorous animals. The Country Comfort Inn will be offering a very attractive package for accommodation and our special gala dinner.

The program for the weekend begins with an informal seminar/workshops from 10 am to 5 pm on Saturday 21. The main focus will be on fibre and group leaders will include leading textile craft tutors and fibre scientists — the aim being to

further the understanding of alpacas fibre and its use. There will also be a technical surprise or two and some very special veterinary expertise.

At 7.30 pm there will be a formal dinner-dance which will incorporate a special auction of selected alpacas, all of whom will be proven show winners.

On Sunday the main auction will take place. Alpacas in the sale will be available for inspection from 11 am in the beautiful grounds of the Country Comfort Inn. The Mudgee wine and honey industries will be assisting with the hospitality and the auction will commence at 1.30 pm in the auditorium.

A range of alpacas will be offered for sale, including elite breeding males and females, stud breeding males and females, and wethers — all to be sold in individual lots. Some females may have cria at foot.

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cation which has consistently assisted in the promotion of alpacas since their arrival in Australia, and we are proud that they are sponsoring the first major activity for this very large region.

Our auctioneers for the event, Elders Ltd, need no introduction and their network of 230 branches in all states will be able to offer purchasers the option of telephone bidding and also organise after-sale livestock transportation.

Wilburtins Livestock Insurance Brokers are also assisting us and will be offering special insurance packages for both vendors and purchasers.

Potential vendors who are members of the Australian Alpaca Association will be receiving an information package in the mail. Anyone not getting one can phone or fax Aloha Hunter-Barnes on



Mudjee Country Comfort Inn — venue for The Town and Country Farmer Premier Alpaca Auction.

(063) 588 212 and she will be happy to assist with all your enquiries. We recommend that anyone interested in

getting a foothold in this exciting industry come along to this event — they will not be disappointed! 🐾

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VARIETY IS THE SPICE...

By Kim Kime

Diversification into alpacas keeps opening up opportunities.

To be quite honest, it's easier to care for alpacas than sick people.

My parents, the principals of Heathray Pty Ltd, Heather and Ray Russell, owned and ran a private surgical hospital in the Sydney suburb of Petersham for 31 years. On selling the hospital in 1987 their family was drawn to the Southern Highland of NSW. My brother, Paul, and I trained as registered nurses. Paul has continued to make it his career.

It was country lifestyle after the rigours of city life that drew us to Brookville, a 30-acre property in Wildes Meadow in 1987, and then Cotswold Farm in 1988.

COTSWOLD

Cotswold is a 238-acre property just outside Mittagong township. It has good volcanic basalt that grows great rocks. Hereford cattle were our first experiment as commercial meat producers. On a property the size and value of Cotswold it is important to make the best use of the available space in respect to financial return.

We next tried the thoroughbred horse industry and we still continue with this today, running three well bred brood-mares of our own and agisting and spelling horses from the racetrack.

My husband, Michael, a bricklayer by trade, developed a chronic back problem that would only get worse with the constant bending required for his job; so he began to manage the farm and cattle. Our attention was drawn to the Red Poll cattle which are a smaller framed animal with a background of dairy and beef breeds from England. They continue to feed their young on a high butter-fat milk until they are weaned at 10 months, at which time they are usually finished off, giving us the opportunity to carry more breeders.

WHAT NEXT?

The thoroughbred horse industry, although on the improve now, was not very healthy in 1992, although the cattle were holding their own. We felt that we needed to diversify again

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into another rural industry. Factors to be considered included: the limited availability of paddock space on the two properties; starting costs in relation to returns; and Michael's time limitation. He was already running stud and commercial herds on both properties with numerous shows each year. It became obvious that I would have to manage the new animals. It therefore had to be minimally time consuming, easy handling and something that I could adore. We have two boys. Nicholas is two and Timothy four, and they still require a full-time mum.


After really getting to know them at RAS 1992, and having seen them at several shows in past year, there was no other alternative, I was hooked on alpacas. We all sat down and had one of those family meetings. Paul and Karen who live at Brookville were fascinated by them. Sums and long term analysis were done: ostriches, dairy sheep and goats were passed over because they didn't meet our criteria — and the day after the show was finished we had bought our first seven alpacas. We didn't procrastinate at all. On the whole we purchased a broad spectrum of quality in our animals, even bought some sight unseen. Even though I don't regret getting into the industry as quickly as we did, my advice to all new breeders is to have a good look around and find the animal that really suits you.

Our herd is now 23 strong. The herd is a mixture of mediocre Chilean females and top quality Australian born girls, a couple of stud males and four wether quality males. We have proved to ourselves the ability of these average Chilean girls to produce something quite special through just one generation of selective breeding. When choosing the right male I think it's necessary to try to mate colour to colour so that the industry can begin

to sort out the genetic colours. I take a critical look at each individual girl and choose a male that may help correct her faults, e.g. denser or finer fleece, correct size of ears, good shaped jaw, etc. I find this a rewarding challenge compared to just buying a bull and putting it in the paddock to cover the whole herd on a commercial level in cattle. I think in a fledgling industry it is important for

studs to get as wide a genetic base as possible.

Long term, we would hope to have top quality stud stock of varying colours. Due to the limited space on Cotswold, it is impractical to think that we could sustain a large commercial herd in future years, so at the moment we will be concentrating on quality, not quantity. However, we don't rule out a move in years to



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'Something that I could adore...' Kim Kime and friend.

come to be able to fulfil a vision — our own alpacas covering the hills as far as the eye can see.

PROMOTING THE INDUSTRY

Once involved in the industry I found that I was quite happy to put in more time than I had originally planned, to promote both the industry as a whole and our own stud.

The industry gave me the opportunity to turn Cotswold into a tourist farm, the alpacas being the main draw-card. We host coach tours and family car groups from young school kids to the elderly. There are no other major special attractions on the farm, but everyone who has come has left wanting to take home an alpaca. This gives me a good opportunity to sell my fleece direct to the public. I have also had the opportunity to promote the breeding side of the industry through an alpaca retail shop in Bowral on weekends. You can't walk too far down the main street of Bowral with alpacas without being stopped by people asking questions and wanting to pat them. I will know that I've got the message across to

people when I *don't* hear, 'What is it? A llama?'

Cotswold played host to a Field Day early in November 1993, with three guest speakers, shearing and halter training demonstration. We were blessed with good weather and our notorious winds behaved themselves for most of the day. The event attracted people interested in entering the industry and new owners keen to learn more about their animals.

LESSONS LEARNED

Our first showing experience was not one I'd care to repeat. We made our debut at Sydney Royal 1993 with two 15-month-old males. During preparation and grooming Monty, our chocolate brown male, attempted to jump a steel pipe, landed on it and injured himself — although I didn't know that, at the time.

The next day I was off to Sydney Show with the cattle and, although there is someone always on the property, I didn't see Monty for a week — not, in fact, until the day I had to take him into the show. By then, Monty had survived nine days with a

ruptured bladder; underwent a long operation the day before judging; and recovered — to the absolute surprise and joy of both owner and vets.

'How hardy are they?' people ask. To my mind, you won't find many other livestock species hardier.

There were a few lessons learnt out of this experience.

Don't handle alpacas for long periods of time as they tend to hold on to their water until they are back in their paddock.

In the camelid family, when the bladder is full, it sits at the front of the abdomen; this means any major pressure can cause spontaneous rupturing.

Because a sick alpaca tends to try and keep up with the herd, it is sometimes hard to tell when one is unwell. You need to know your animal's temperament.

LOW MAINTENANCE ALPACAS

Alpacas were chosen for their low maintenance and minimal time required for herd husbandry and I haven't been disappointed. Along with other livestock on the property, we routinely vaccinate and drench them every six months. Toes and teeth are checked at this time.

We have found that the best way to find out any major change in our alpacas' health is to weigh them on a monthly basis. We have cattle scales so this is not financially impractical. We also have the females spit the males off at this time as a pregnancy check. We do random blood tests periodically to make sure that the necessary nutrients are getting through. Any nutrients lacking are replaced in a pellet that is given on a daily basis. This may occur when the pasture is stressed, because of dryness during winter.

Having three males standing at stud this year has increased the work-

load to some extent. We usually mate the alpacas early in the morning or late in the afternoon when it is cool.

Decisions also had to be made this year: whether to show the males or whether to shear them to make their lives easier while working. We decided to shear. However, we will still be showing some of our young girls at local shows and RAS.

November 93 began our second year of crias, and so far we've had three out of four girls, so we can't complain. It's usually 50/50.

Our only male cria was orphaned when he was four days old. His name is Ashley and I don't know that he wants to be an alpaca. He has Di-

Vetelact feeds 6 times a day, totalling 10% of his body weight, and boiled water.

The boys just love him to death, but he seems to tolerate them. He has time with the other alpacas in the paddock as well as time with the family. With our heavy promotion effort, he will be a great asset.

We have confidence in the alpaca industry in Australia. The quality of fibre, the appeal of the animals themselves will continue their increasing popularity.

I can't imagine our lives without alpacas and for that reason Heathray will be doing its best to make the alpaca an adapted native Australian. 🐾



Kim and Michael Kime with their sons Timothy and Nicholas.

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old folk.*

You might expect a dream girl to jump out of a cake. Although the more liberated of us may object on ideological grounds! (Anyway, that icing just ruins a girl's hairdo!)

Nevertheless the sight of Dream Girl jumping out of a van is quite a novel experience, particularly as Dream Girl is an alpaca. She travels

happily in her owners' van and often visits elderly people in the Geelong area.

One-year-old Dream Girl is in great demand. She enjoys meeting people and creates a great deal of interest wherever she goes.

There's evidence that the presence of animals can enhance the quality of

*Jan and Noel Laity
of Parkview
Alpaca Stud in
Geelong are
the owners
(and chauffeurs)
of Dream Girl.*



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life in institutions which care for the elderly.

A number of retirement and nursing homes have pets — cats are popular, for example.

A visiting alpaca is probably quite a novelty, but there is no doubt that it is one of the few animals which has the ability to respond to humans. Its physical characteristics are attractive and it is perceived as a gentle animal.

While it may be generally believed that the use of animals to improve the quality of life for those in institutions is a new idea, this is not the case.

A recent article in *The Bulletin* about Australian asylums in the 19th century, described the terrible conditions and treatment the patients had to endure. Dr Frederic Norton Manning (1839–1903) was a reformer committed to seeing these conditions improved. In 1886, the Queensland Government commissioned Manning to review and improve 'Woogaroo', one such asylum.

...Manning let the patients have pet parrots and cockatoos in the wards and found tame kangaroos, emus and other animals for the grounds. One original idea was to introduce alpacas, thought to be particularly amiable animals. One contemporary observer especially commended the alpaca's 'peculiarly soft and expressive countenance'. On the way down to Iron Cove one can still see some images of alpaca a patient carved on the rocks...



Dream Girl accepts a tit-bit from a friend during one of her visits to elderly folk.

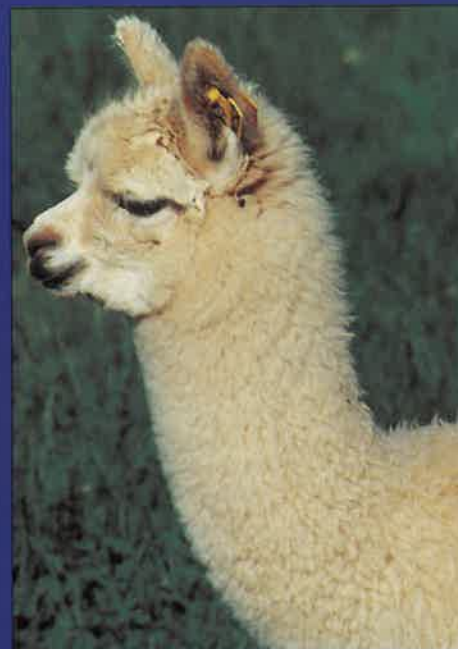
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WESTERN AUSTRALIA



BREEDER PROFILE: FROM KAKADU TO SAMARKAND

By Riki Marten

*'Plunging into
retirement' in Tasmania
wasn't quite what the
Martens had
planned.*

Ten years in Kakadu. Ten years of dry and wet, fire and flood, storm and drought. Ten years of exploring the wilderness of stone and wetland, surrounded by the splendour of Aboriginal culture. But above all, ten years of unrelenting heat. Even having a saltwater crocodile living in the lake at our front door could not make up for the endless heat. The last build-up, when temperatures stayed over 40°C for nine weeks at 80% humidity, sealed our resolution to depart.

We had spent the holidays of the last years looking across Australia for our ideal retirement country.

We found it in Tasmania, Christmas 1991. It took us just two days to decide. Tall trees, air like wine, water that brought memories of childhood, rain-water tanks, brooks, meadows, barrel fat cows and horses knee deep in green grass. Not too many people, not too much development. A kindly blend of European trees and gardens, the elegance of Georgian architecture surrounded by the massive ramparts of Australian wilderness. And the joy of seasons again.

Back to the Park where Rainer worked as a nuclear engineer with the Commonwealth Research Institute and I messed around with novels and poetry when not working for Parks and Wildlife as a text writer and librarian.

It took another year before we sent our belongings south to Hobart and packed our caravan with the intention of wending our way slowly through

the Centre and down to Melbourne and the ferry to Devonport.

ON THE ROAD TO PEACEFUL RETIREMENT

We left Jabiru on 16 January 1993 on a perfect wet season day, pouring rain and steaming roads. Our intention to wend quickly turned to flight as the January dragon breathed over us. We fled across the fly-encrusted desert and only stopped when we reached the cool shade of the Flinders Ranges.

When the next heat wave caught us in Robe, we pushed on to Victoria, sensibly stopping at Mt Gambier in order to be in plenty of time to book the ferry to Tasmania. It was with surprise we learnt from the travel agent that other people were interested in going to Tasmania as well. Quite a lot of other people. In fact, two weeks of other people.

Why were the gods intent on keeping us in Victoria for two weeks? Little did we know. Destiny was luring us into her stockyards.

After gazing in awe at the grandeur of the Great Ocean Road we reached a small, peaceful caravan park at Forest. Exploring the Otways by day, spending the evenings discussing what we would do in Tasmania. We imagined a large forested property of 100 acres or so, five to ten acres cleared around our house and garden.

Rainer would do his wood turning and I would continue to write novels. And animals? No, we didn't think animals would be suitable; too much commitment, although I still had a

dream of returning to horses some day, much missed in Kakadu.

We failed to hear the celestial laughter at the joke about to be played. No, definitely no animals at the moment — perhaps tourist cabins instead.

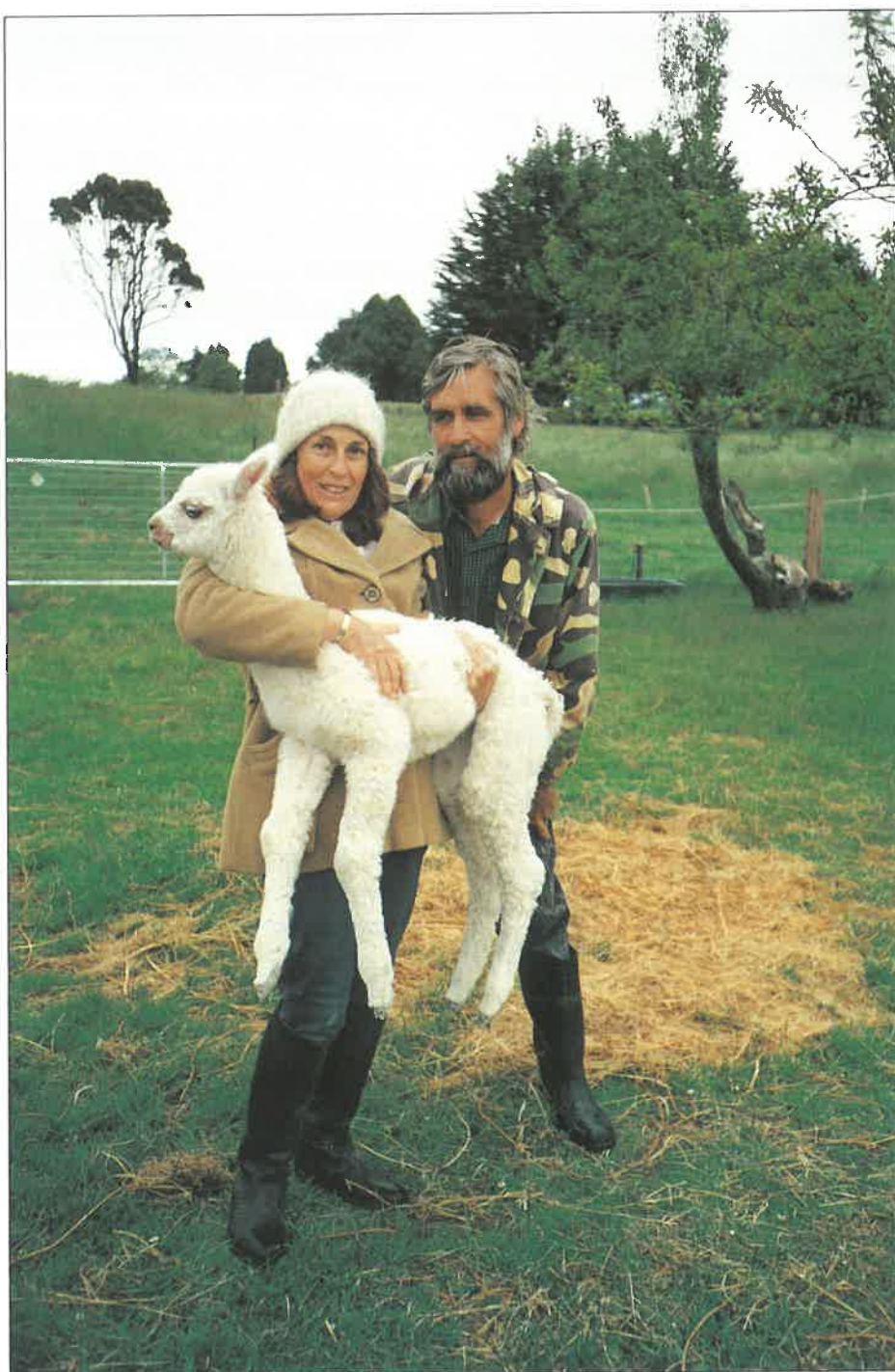
Events moved swiftly. A trip to Apollo Bay on a summer morning. Into the small newsagency crowded with Lotto buyers. Finding a new journal on alternative farming. An article on alpacas in amongst the deer, ostriches and emus. We were impressed, especially by their low environmental impact. What beautiful animals. Look, here's an ad for an alpaca stud. Shall we just go and see? Destiny's sheep dog had us by the heels. The yard gates were open.

A CHANGE OF PLAN

On 17 February we drove into the stud. We were caught. The gates closed behind us. Three hours later we reeled away, our lives now heading in a new direction. Alpacas. No mention now of no animals. We knew only that we wanted them. They delighted every sense. They seemed an excellent investment. Our goal was set: to breed alpacas in Tasmania.

Now Rainer is not a man given to impulsive actions. We postponed the ferry and set about finding out. We saw an accountant, a discouraging fellow with little imagination. We travelled to a number of studs and talked to breeders, cheerful and full of imagination. Talking to ex-sheep farmers impressed us most. They were smiling. Smiling farmers are a rare sight in Australia today. These ones were smiling broadly. It looked good. Sound, stable and full of joy.

Yes, we knew no animals could be exported to Tasmania yet, but after talking to the Alpaca Association, we knew that too, was only a matter of *when* not *if*. Finally after three weeks travelling we purchased our first two



Riki and Rainer Marten at Robinswood.

pregnant females with cria (these new words, strange in our mouths: cria, tui, huacaya, suri) and a young gray male. We knew Tasmania would need good herd sires.

We haunted Geelong library, photocopying all we could lay our hands on. We borrowed a collection of US and NZ journals. We purchased the 'pink book' and Senor Calle's fascinating guide to breeding. We now had

back copies of *Alpacas Australia* and *Town and Country Farmer*. We joined the Association and enrolled for the Roseworthy Seminar. We arranged an in service day at an alpaca stud: shearing, drenching, teeth grinding, toenail clipping, halter training, and in the middle of it all, a benevolent female produced a cria for us. Rainer was presented with a spade and his first encounter with an after birth.

'THE OLD COX PLACE'

We sailed off to Van Diemens Land. Our lives had changed. No longer were we searching for forest and sea views. Now we looked for clean pasture, level paddocks. We kept returning to the green rolling country of the north west.

An age passed which turned out to be only three weeks.

'I have a property which might suit you,' said the real estate agent for the tenth time.

I bet it wouldn't. But it did. It was Robinswood. It wasn't called Robinswood then, just 'the old Cox place' at Staverton near Sheffield.

High on a plateau, 600 metres up above the snow line. Mountains Roland, Van Dyke and Claude ringed the east with their grey fastness. Forty kilometres to the north a blue line showed Bass Strait. Cradle Mountain and Black Bluff were our western neighbours. In winter the Aurora Australis danced in the southern sky.

Ninety years since the house and sheds were build of hand-split timber from trees felled on the property. The farm had been idle for years, but the pasture was clean and there were trees, springs and a creek and 45 inches of rain a year. There were robins, and the forest on the hill behind the house was full of them. 'Let's call it Robinswood,' said Rainer.

A month after arriving in Tasmania we moved in.

What about a stud name? Look, I have this page filled with possibilities, but Samarkand keeps coming to the fore. Samarkand: the Golden Road to Samarkand. The Old Silk Road, where the alpaca's cousins, the Bactrian camels carried the lustrous fibre from China. Well, this is the new Samarkand, and this fibre is as rich as the ancient silks. Samarkand it was.

PLUNGING INTO RETIREMENT

Many times during the months that followed we were to hear the ghostly laughter of the gods as we plunged into retirement. An odd retirement. We worked harder physically than ever before restoring house and farm.

We made contact with other Tasmanian members of the AAA. Rebecca Milkins, who had unsuccessfully tried for the past two years to import alpacas, gave us the names of Department of Primary Industry officers involved in the protocol for the importation. We met them in Launceston — efficient, courteous, supportive, but sorry, no, they couldn't say when, not just yet.

Back to Robinswood to roll up yet another kilometre of ninety year old fence. Slowly, infinitesimally, Samarkand was taking shape. Sheds came down, were relocated; new sheds built; gates ordered, by the dozen it seemed; pipes laid for water, fences strung and realigned; gravel arrived for the driveways by the truckload.

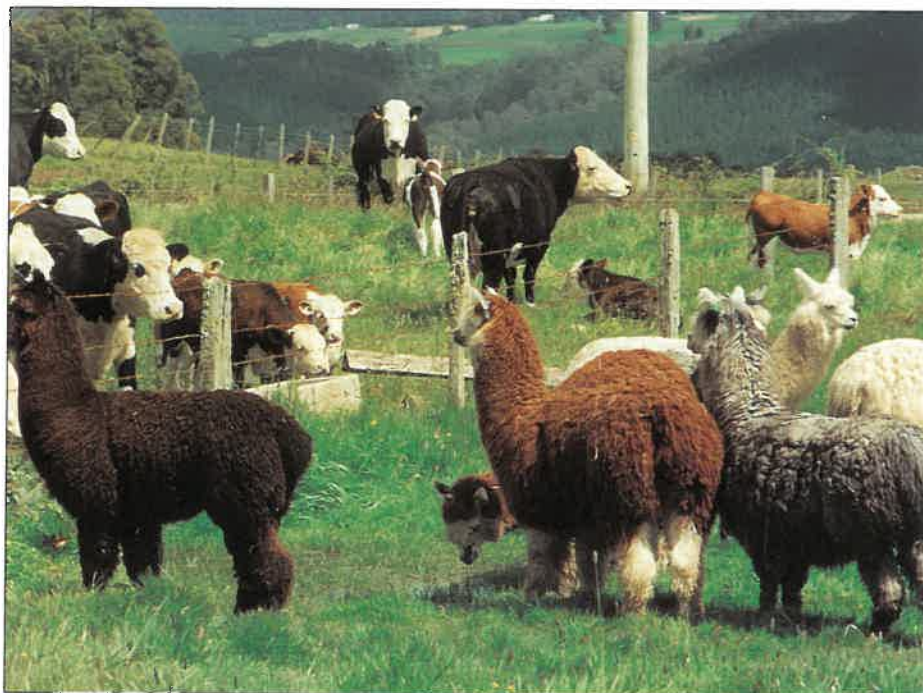
In July we went to Roseworthy. Roseworthy was definitely worthy. Murray Fowler's erudition charmed and delighted us and to meet the kaleidoscope of people interested in alpacas was a pleasure.

We had now purchased several more animals and we were grateful to be invited us to stay at this stud the week following the conference which gave us more invaluable hands-on experience, a chance to renew acquaintance with our animals and to see the Melbourne Wool Show at the week's end.

The day before the Show we rang the DPI in Launceston, to be told by a jovial Dr Graham Gregory, Chief Inspector of Stock, that yes! the borders were open! Protocol was in place; we could apply for a permit immediately.

PREPARING FOR ALPACAS

We flew home with mixed feelings of relief and anxiety. At last we could actually start farming alpacas. But we weren't nearly ready. We had planned five-star accommodation for the alpacas. At the moment all they



What more beautiful spot to pass the time? Lush pasture and panoramic views make home a very pleasant spot for alpacas and cattle at Robinswood.

skills were useful and practical for working with alpacas. Rainer's family background of farming in Germany stretched 300 years into the past. The nuclear engineer became a shadow and the real farmer emerged.

THERE IS ALWAYS MORE TO LEARN...

In early December we imported the remainder of our animals. Rainer and one of our friendly neighbours collected another ten, this time by ferry. By mid-December another two had appeared. Our first two births.

Every day now is experience gained. There are, of course, hundreds of anecdotes and stories to be told. Most breeders know them already. There is always more to learn.

We travel through the intricacies of alpaca personalities. We find they love change. We appear to be developing alpaca adventure playgrounds in most of the paddocks. Lichen-encrusted boulders are scored by curved lines of teeth marks as the alpacas do their own teeth filing. Acacia logs are great for nibbling on, and acacia twigs are used as treats.

We consider ourselves most fortunate in our veterinarian, Dr Kendall Crocker. We presented ourselves very early on, waving the 'pink book' and asking if he would like to become a camelid authority in Tasmania. Indeed he would, he had always been fascinated by camelids and to have thirty alpacas to care for was pure joy.

We again sought the resources of the DPI to give us a profile of our animals and their nutritional requirements. Soil, foliar and blood analyses produced a new perspective on the animals' development. And still the learning continued.

LOOKING AHEAD FOR TASMANIA

Tasmania has long been known for its production of fine and superfine

wool. We believe alpacas will thrive here with cooler climates, high altitudes and solar variation.

We look forward to tracking the fibre development of the animals, while revelling in the daily contact with their gentle, intelligent natures.

We hope to see the industry flourishing in Tasmania soon, and breeders eventually spreading from coast to coast across the Apple Isle.

THANKYOUS

Before I end, Rainer and I would like to thank all those who helped us so much during the past year.

Your friendliness, splendid hospitality and willingness to share your skills has enabled Samarkand to grow from the seed of a dream, to the reality of today.

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THE PERUVIAN ALPACAS SALE

By Mike Safley

*The first ever
sale of Peruvian
alpacos in the US
was a resounding
success.*

On Friday, October 8, 1933, the international Alpaca community gathered on the shores of Lake Charlevoix in Northern Michigan. They assembled to participate in the first ever sale of Peruvian Alpacas held outside of South America. By Sunday at noon, every last alpaca was sold. Two hundred and seventy-seven alpacas had gone to new homes. Alpaca breeders in North America will be improving their stock for many years with their acquisitions from this sale, and the alpaca market will be forever stronger.

The Pet Center Inc. and Camelids of Delaware joined together to import 277 alpacas of rare quality from the Andes of Peru to the United States. The animals were all selected by Clyde Haldane of Australia. The quality of each alpaca was obvious to everyone who attended the event.

The sale was held at Jim Vickers' picturesque Maplewood Farms. The countryside was a picture of blazing colour painted on the leaves of Michigan's maple trees. The farm's emerald green paddocks were populated with lovely white and light fawn alpacas.

Jim, his wife, Nel, and their daughter Katie, own and operate Maplewood Farms. Together they tend a beautiful herd of llamas and alpacas. Not long ago, they also collected an annual harvest of maple syrup from the farm's trees. Today, the farm is devoted exclusively to the business of breeding camelids. But for three days in October the hardworking Vickers clan transformed their farm into the perfect site for the largest ever sale of alpacas.

Jim, Anthony Stachowski and myself teamed up to conduct the sale

*Beautiful animals
in a beautiful setting,
these alpacas were
part of the first
ever sale of
Peruvian Alpacas
held outside
South America.*



on behalf of the importers. We decided early on to make the sale an event which would interest the entire alpaca industry. Everyone was welcome. There was a veterinarian seminar on colour genetics conducted by Dr Brad Smith of Oregon State University. A presentation on the origins of the import was given by Dr Jerry Callis, who shepherded the alpacas through the various international bureaucracies.

All the alpacas were sold with reproductive warranties. Many were pregnant. Each animal was evaluated and placed into one of three categories: 1. *superior*; 2. *excellent*; or 3. *good*. These rankings were decided on by Jim Vickers, Anthony Stachowski, myself and Jodi Sleeper, who is the past president of the Alpaca and Llama Show Association and a widely respected alpaca judge.

The judging relied heavily on the

quality of the fleece, but conformation was also considered. Alpaca with poor bites or other flaws were graded lower, regardless of fleece quality.

There were very few defects in the herd. Clyde Haldane's initial screening, done almost one year prior to the sale, held true. The alpacas were of uniformly high quality.

SALE BY LOTTERY

The importers decided to create a sale format that provided each buyer an equal opportunity to purchase the alpacas of their choice. The first two hours of the sale were devoted to previewing the animals. Buyers then submitted purchase orders to the sale clerk for the alpacas of their choice. A lottery was conducted for any animals receiving multiple orders.

The Huacayas were sold on an individual basis and the Suris were sold in packages.

The Suri purchasers submitted their purchase orders to the clerk, and a drawing was held to determine (1) who would be allowed to purchase the packages; and (2) in which order the individual animals would be selected.

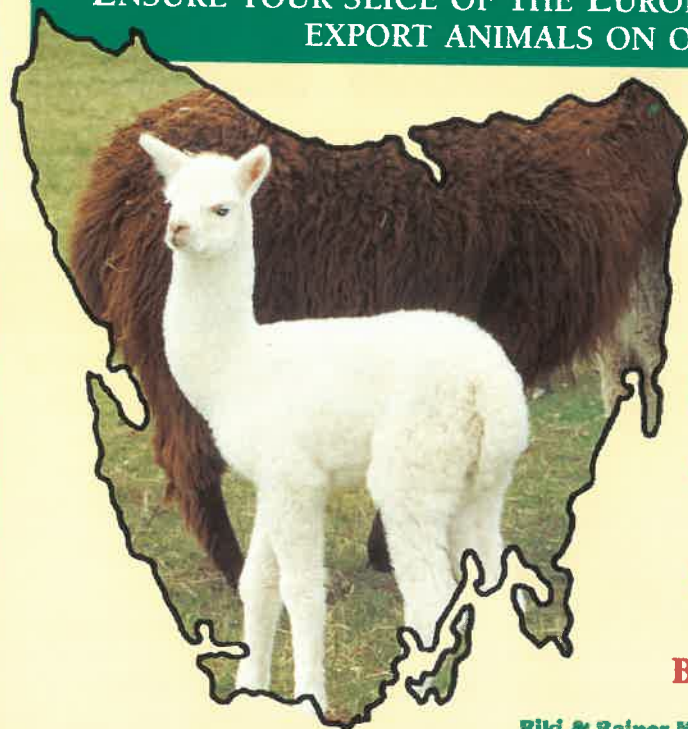
After the winners of the Suri packages were determined, the Huacaya lottery began.

The individual Huacayas which attracted more than one buyer were placed in the lottery. The lottery was executed by placing plastic chips in a hat with the purchaser's buyer number written on them. The winner's number was then selected by Jodi Sleeper and the new owner was announced to the crowd.

Most Huacaya alpacas at the sale had multiple purchase offers. Several animals had over 20 buyers vying to make their purchase. One alpaca attracted 29 purchase orders. Alpacas

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which were not purchased during the lottery were then made available on a first-come, first-served basis.

After completing the Huacaya lottery at about 4 pm on Friday, the Suri package buyers made their individual selections.

The Suri sale was wrapped up just as day turned to night.

The first session of the sale produced over 200 individual alpaca sales. The second session witnessed another 50 alpacas selling.

By noon on Sunday every alpaca had been sold. The gross sales exceeded US\$4,000,000.

BUYER PROFILE

Who purchased all those alpacas?

There were buyers from the Netherlands, Canada, Australia and the United States. The Huacaya stud males sold briskly, with many reselling several times after the lottery.

The Peruvian Legacy Sale purchasers were often first-time buyers, such as Shirley Applegate of Oregon who purchased on alpaca, and Michael Anthony of Canada, a veterinarian who purchased three alpacas. Many new faces were in the sale crowd, and many new herds were created over the October weekend.

One of the most interesting aspects of the event was the number of well established llama breeders who made their first purchases of alpaca. Tim Vincent, Steve Roling, Brad Sprouse and Tom Hoffmaster all acquired their first alpacas. These buyers are of particular note, since the llama community in the US has been slow to purchase alpacas.

Llama breeders vastly outnumber alpaca breeders in America. If only a small percentage of these breeders were to acquire alpacas, the existing supply of animals would come under heavy pressure.

WHAT'S AHEAD?

The Peruvian Legacy Alpaca Sale was a stirring success. The future of alpaca breeding in the US has definitely been enriched. The progeny from those Peruvian animals will soon display their genes in the show ring. Once the 50 Peruvian males go to work, fleece quality in the American herd will improve across the board.

I'm also sure that some of these

precious Peruvian genes will soon make their way down under to Australia.

Many breeders and first time buyers were unable to fill their needs at the Michigan sale. Demand far exceeded supply. Farm sales at existing ranches are currently at an all time high.

This is a very good time to be in the alpaca business.

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THE ALPACA SHOP

*A new venture
in Kyneton
looking to promote
Australian alpaca
products.*

Jerry Krupa and Tracy Emerson are relatively new to the Alpaca industry. They first saw alpaca on display at the Kyneton Show in 1991 and were intrigued by the charm of these wonderful animals.

After investigating the industry and what was known about the animals at the time, they purchased the basis of their herd in 1992.

In January 1994, they opened 'The Alpaca Shop' in Kyneton, Victoria.

As a result of their involvement in various show and from speaking to members of the public, they found that there is a growing awareness of what an alpaca is. However, most people seem to see them as cute and pet-like, while generally being

unaware of the quality of fibre they produce.

Kyneton has a growing tourist profile which provides the opportunity to educate the public about the fibre as well as promote the animals. Jerry and Tracy feel it is important to the industry that as many people as possible be exposed to aspects of the fibre and textile industries. This is particularly the case with children, as they will become the market of tomorrow. In order to secure the future of the natural fibre industry, they need to be educated about the advantages of natural fibre as opposed to synthetics.

Initially, Jerry and Tracy considered opening their farm to the public and establishing a retail outlet from

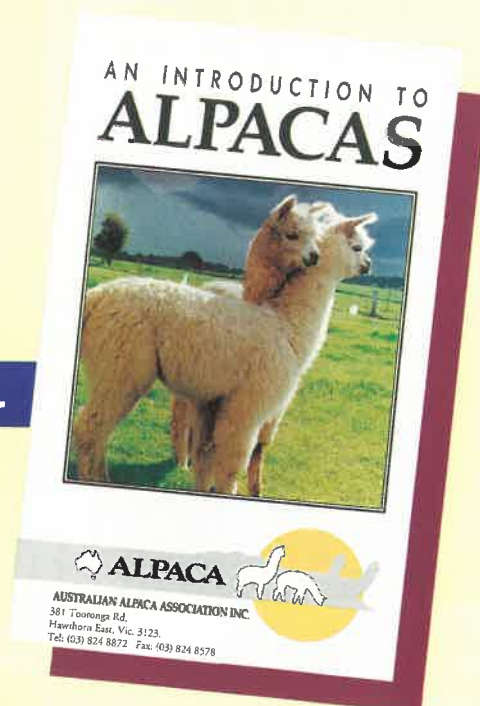
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'An Introduction to Alpacas' is an Australian-produced video which provides an attractive and concise overview of the history, management and pleasures of these delightful animals.

It's a video you'll play again and again.

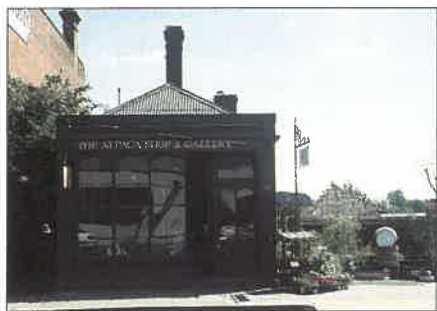
To order, send a cheque for \$39.95 + \$5 postage and packaging (total of \$44.95) made out to Australian Alpaca Association Inc. to:

**Australian Alpaca Association Inc.
381 Tooronga Rd, Hawthorn East, Vic. 3123.
Tel: (03) 824 8872 Fax: (03) 824 8578**



the farm. However, council requirements made the option impracticable.

Luckily, they found a charming period shop available for lease in historical Piper Street, Kyneton, which suited their needs. It has open fire places which warm an information centre, spinning and knitting displays — essential during the brisk Kyneton winter. Outside, a roomy backyard provides space for displaying alpacas.



'The Alpaca Shop' — Piper Street, Kyneton.

The inclusion of Kyneton in the recently revamped Macedon Ranges Tourist Region will increase the profile of the area and should generate additional tourist trade.

At present, the shop features mainly imported yarns and garments. The aim is to increase the Australian content and Jerry and Tracy hope that many of the local breeders will take the opportunity to promote their studs through 'The Alpaca Shop'.



The interior of 'The Alpaca Shop' exudes old world charm. Cool in summer and warmed by open fires in winter, the shop is proving to be a great tourist attraction in Kyneton.

Anyone wishing to promote Australian produced alpaca garments and crafts through 'The Alpaca Shop' should contact Jerry and Tracy. Phone: (054) 226 471; or, if unattended, phone: (054) 223879; or fax: (054) 223 304.

'The Alpaca Shop' is open Thursday to Monday and all public holidays (excluding Christmas Day and Good Friday) from 10 am to 4 pm.



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Alan Cousill

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Fax : 052 633364



'Pretty Boy'



'Persie'



'Pretty Boy' — Co-owned by N. & M. Giles



MARTY McGEE & TTEAM IN AUSTRALIA

More on the TTEAM Training clinics.

Marty McGee will conduct TTEAM clinics for the Australian Llama Association in March and April.

The clinics teach a different way of thinking about animals and how they learn. TTEAM breaks through the old patterns of mental and physical tension to create a relaxed and willing participant. Primarily it is a method of conditioning an animal to any person's touch. Once accomplished touch becomes part of the training process which is designed to place as little stress as possible on your animal.

The Llama Association of Australia has secured Marty's services for five one-day clinics across three states and registration response from llama and alpaca owners has been excellent.

Each clinic will be held from 9.30 am to 4.30 pm, with a 45-minute break for lunch.

MARTY MCGEE'S ONE-DAY CLINICS

These are designed to cover basic TTEAM philosophy, catching, haltering, grooming and interpreting

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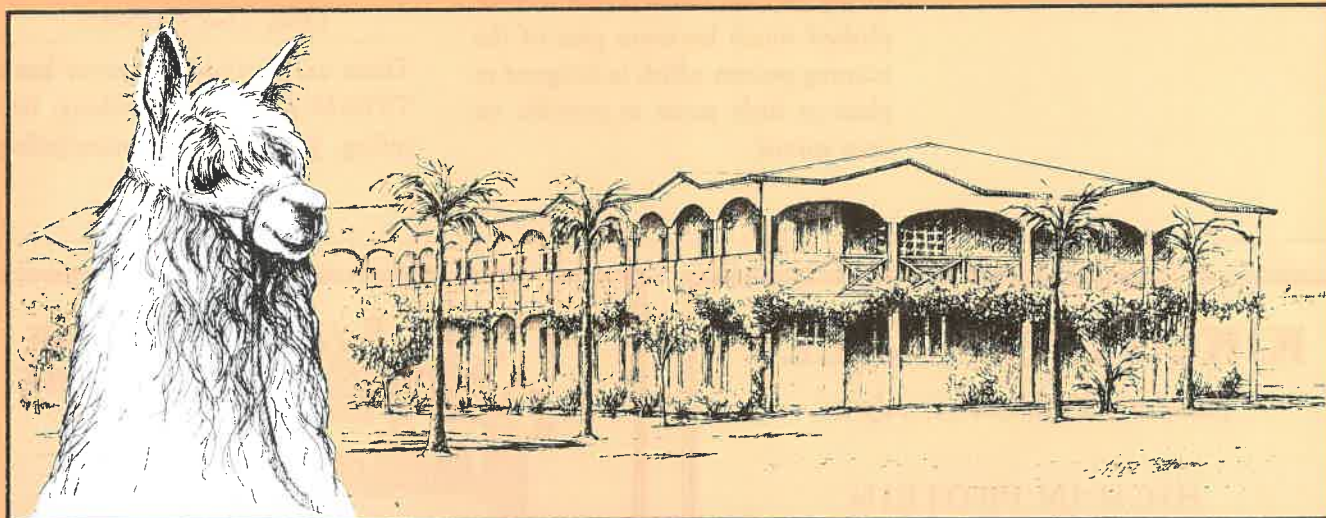
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visits to discuss your needs or to view these
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(063) 58 8212

21st & 22nd May '94

your animal's behaviour. Marty explains and demonstrates how TTEAM body work affects your alpaca. The types of alpacas and llamas attending this clinic are used to set the scene for coverage of behavioural problems.

TWO-DAY CLINICS

A two-day clinic is an extension of the McGee one-day clinic, the second day being devoted to a review of catching and haltering again this time with more detail. Also covered are: handling your animal's legs without restraint, TTEAM shearing, medicating without force, educating cria and weaners, behavioural problems (depending on the animals present), leading with refinement, obstacles, loading into a float or on to a trailer, and anything else requested — time permitting. The prerequisite of a one-day clinic is required.

CART DRIVING CLINIC

This is a follow-on from a two-day clinic. One cart driving clinic has been scheduled for Monday 14 March at Amberdale Alpacas, Skye Road, Coldstream, Victoria. It will include: TTEAM positions for increased communication and obedience; working off lead with your llama or alpaca; ground driving; giving signals; preparation for wearing a harness; and using obstacles to increase confidence and obedience.

CHILDREN

A clinic represents a long day for a young child and would not be appropriate for a child under the age of 12. We do lots of things that children would find fun and interesting, however there is a lot of sitting. We leave it up to the parents to decide whether or not their child will benefit.

continued on p. 40



TTEAM breaks through the old patterns of mental and physical tension to create a relaxed and willing participant.

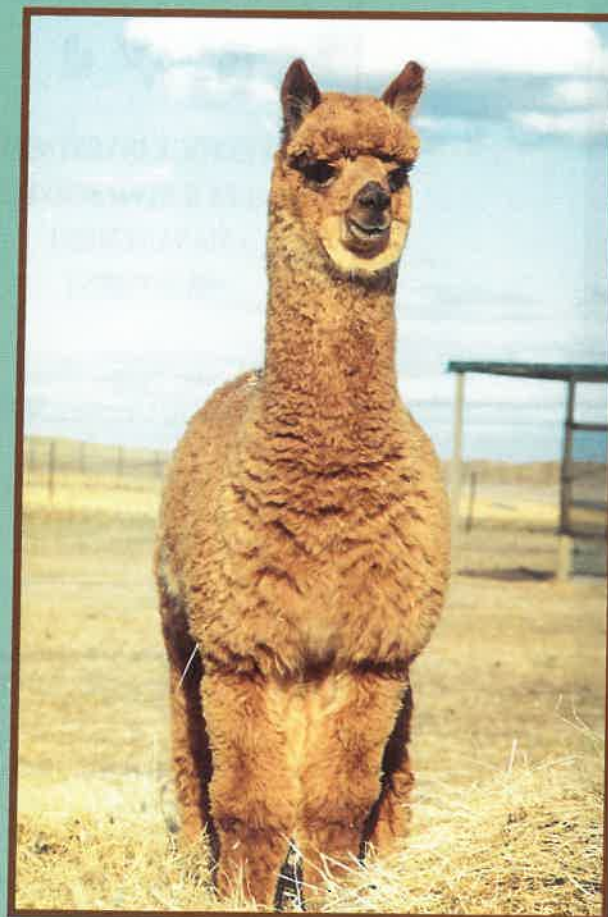


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ALPACAS AUSTRALIA AUTUMN 1994 EDITION

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Advertisers please note that the deadline for submission
of advertising material for the Autumn edition of *Alpacas Australia*
is Friday 29 April 1994.

For bookings and information on advertising rates,
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at Pass The Word Pty Ltd.

Phone: (03) 818 1237 or fax (03) 818 1010.

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from quarantine she is mated to a pure Suri.

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AAA'S NEW INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER



Simon Traynor

The Australian Alpaca Association has appointed Simon Traynor as Industry Development Officer.

Simon's job is to increase the profile of alpacas, the alpaca industry and, when the fibre marketing company is launched, alpaca products.

Simon will liaise with the media around Australia, creating media opportunities and making sure that all significant industry developments and events are given the coverage they deserve. The aim will be to increase the membership of the Association and to keep the market for alpacas strong.

As protocols are developed with European and other countries, part of Simon's brief will be to assist in the development of the alpaca industry in these markets — creating demand for Australian alpacas, alpaca fibre and alpaca products.

Simon is a Bachelor of Business (Marketing) gained at Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and has worked in advertising and public relations. He is enthusiastic about the future of our exciting new industry and his involvement with it. We welcome him aboard and look forward to the impact he will create. ▲

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- Beautiful silver-grey fleece
- Born in Chile
- Inspection invited
- Sired cria in New Zealand

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ALPACA LOVE

*By Joanna Close
– 11 years old.*

*A special thank you to
Joanna's mother who
sent the poem in.
We liked it so much
we thought we'd share it
with you.
Joanna also features
in 'PacaPics'
on page 46.*

The day was wet and the clouds rolled in,
But nobody really cared.
They just sat down low with their backs
to the wind.
All five of them were there.

The young fine fleeced female was
snuggled up
Against her soft warm mother.
The other three were quiet and
contented,
When from the skies there came some
thunder.

But nothing was changed from the small
group,
Except a tiny hum
From a cria called Juanita who was
snuggled up
Against her furry Mum.

Lulu didn't mind that Juanita was there,
She actually quite liked it,
To know she guarded her,
Of course when she was frightened.

The rain was slowly stopping,
And the skies were turning blue,
And Jemma turned her head,
Making Amber turn hers too.

Amber ran to the top of the paddock
Where there she found some hay,
And two very happy young children,
Come to the alpacas to play.

As soon as Megs could see this,
That Amber had started to run,
She stood up in a hurry
And followed along the fun.

And soon everybody had found
That food was up the top,
And again they did the same procedure,
Not ever once to stop.

They got there and the girls greeted
them.
'Hello, my dear friends.
We love you dear alpacas
And that love lives till life ends.'



YARRAMALONG ALPACA STUD

"Winner of Champion Male 1993 Sydney Royal"

- ◆ Pregnant females, young pairs and quality males now available for sale
- ◆ Agistment for purchasers available
- ◆ Ideally located to supply the Sydney, Central Coast and Hunter Regions from the beautiful Yarramalong Valley
- ◆ Advice and assistance to breeders and investors from experienced Veterinarian/owner.

ALL ENQUIRES: NICK AND LYNDY POLIN

"Robinvale Park" Yarramalong Road Yarramalong Ph/Fax (02) 982 9630

continued from p. 35

COSTS

The charge for all clinics is \$100 per day (which is a tax deductible expense) and includes lunch.

REGISTRATIONS (EXCEPT WA)

Although it will be too late for members who have not registered to do so for earlier clinics, there may still be places available for those held late March and early April.

If you are interested, please contact (asap) Nerida Aldred, Secretary, Llama Association of Australia:
Phone or fax: (055) 947 320.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA CLINICS

Western Australia is holding clinics on Easter Weekend (2nd & 3rd April) and a cart driving clinic on 4th April.

For more information or to make a booking for the WA clinics contact Wendy Fandry by phone or facsimile on 09 298 8617.

Note: The Victorian Department of Agriculture has been consulted. They

have approved the Victorian clinic venues and have been asked if they would like to be present at the clinics.

As the clinics are being held outside please be prepared for all weather conditions.

CLINIC DATES

<i>Day 1</i>	<i>Day 2</i>	<i>Location</i>
5 March	6 March	Arderee Llamas, 200 Hermsley Rd, Curlewis, near Geelong
12 March	13 March	Amberdale Alpacas, Skye Rd, Coldstream, Victoria
26 March	27 March	Llama Adventures, 26 Cobah Rd, Arcadia, NSW
9 April	10 April	Mt Pleasant Showgrounds, Mt. Pleasant, SA
Cart driving	14 March	Amberdale Alpacas, Skye Road Coldstream, Victoria.

ALPACAS FOR SALE

Being Australia's largest alpaca stud, we have a great selection of pregnant New Zealand born, Australian born and Chilean females for sale. Many of these fine animals are due to deliver their offspring immediately!

We specialise in assisting new comers into the industry with top quality breeding stock, and helpful, ongoing advice. Advice on any aspect of buying or raising alpacas is only a phone call away.

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Peter & Pauline Williams

Telephone: (052) 67 2353 . Facsimile: (052) 67 2628

**FREE
REPORT**

Investing in Alpacas

~ guide on how to turn \$25,000
into almost half a million
CALL TODAY!

continued from p. 10

In more recent times alpaca breeding has suffered at the hands of the social land reform. Don Julio's land once supported 16,000 alpacas but in 1991 his herd numbered only 4,000 head. His numbers are increasing again and today he runs closer to 10,000 head, approximately 25 per cent of which are suri with balance huacaya.

Throughout some very hard years Don Julio has made his property one of the best managed alpaca properties in Peru. He introduced many modern husbandry concepts to traditional alpaca farming including use of fences to control grazing and allow for pasture rotation. This simple change allowed him to double the carrying capacity of his land, increase hembra fertility and reduce cria mortality rates.



Marcusani — where Don Julio Barreda maintains one of Peru's best alpaca properties, 'Accoyo'.

Llama and alpaca crossbreeding to produce either an huarizo or misti is an extremely bad practice according

to Don Julio and should not be permitted under any circumstances.
continued p. 42

HEATHRAY



ALPACAS

- SPECIALIST ALPACA TRANSPORT
- QUALITY BREEDING STOCK
- AGISTMENT & HERD MANAGEMNET
- ASSISTANCE TO NEW BREEDERS & INVESTORS WILLINGLY GIVEN.



'ACE OF SPADES'

Ace is a jet black male with excellent conformation, magnificent fleece cover and soft handle

Also standing at stud:
Dark fawn & chocolate brown males.

All well worth your personal inspection.

Kim & Michael Kime - Cotswold Farm, Mittagong. Phone & Facsimile: 048 713 474

continued from p. 41

'There is absolutely no justification for these crosses whatsoever.'

On his property at Macusani, Don Julio maintains two herds of huacaya and one of suri. One huacaya herd produces a fine, less dense fleece with an average of 20 micron (down to 16 or 17 micron) and the other huacaya herd produces a very dense fleece which averages 24 micron.

Don Julio Barreda is aged in his mid-70s and now spends the majority of his time in Arequipa, but he spends a vital two to three months each year on his mountain property where he oversees breeding, feeding, mating, shearing, parturition and weaning. He is still very much in control of alpaca production on one of the best properties in Peru, Accoyo.

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR PERUVIAN ALPACA STUDY TOUR.

During the visit...

1. Obtain information on the alpaca industry in Peru including the production systems, disease status, fibre harvesting, processing of fibre, and the marketing of alpaca, fibre and fabrics domestically and for export.
2. Assess the constraints and opportunities for the industry in Peru and, if opportune, for both alpaca and llama in other parts of South America.
3. Based on 1. and 2., identify constraints, opportunities and action required for the further development of the alpaca industry in Australia.

4. Identify and evaluate recent, current and planned research and development for the alpaca industry in Peru.
5. Based 3. and 4., recommend the future research and development priorities for the alpaca industry in Australia.
6. Consider and recommend, if warranted, a visit by a research and development from Peru and provide TOR for such a visit. ▲

Chris Tuckwell will be a speaker at the Alpaca Association's national seminar in Canberra on 9 and 10 July 1994.

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'Waterford Calypso'

- All stud stock Registered with the International Alpaca Register
- Experienced animal husbandry
- Quality Females in advanced pregnancy
- Superior Stud Males available to select females
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PACA PICS COMPETITION

WIN \$50

Send us your pic with an appropriate caption.
We'll feature the best pics received, with a stud name credit.
Our judges will award \$50.00 to the sender of the winning entry in each issue.

If your photo is featured on the front cover of
an issue of *Alpacas Australia* you'll receive \$150.00.

Note that nobody has yet made the front page!

So, keep those shutters clicking and ...

keep those photos coming in folks!

Bethongabel Alpaca Stud

Jenny &
Lindsay
Gadsden
Medhurst
Road,
Coldstream

Animals
and
fibre for
sale



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white
male
Standing
at stud

Co-owners
Irene &
Ken
Allston

Telephone (059) 649 268

PACA PICS...



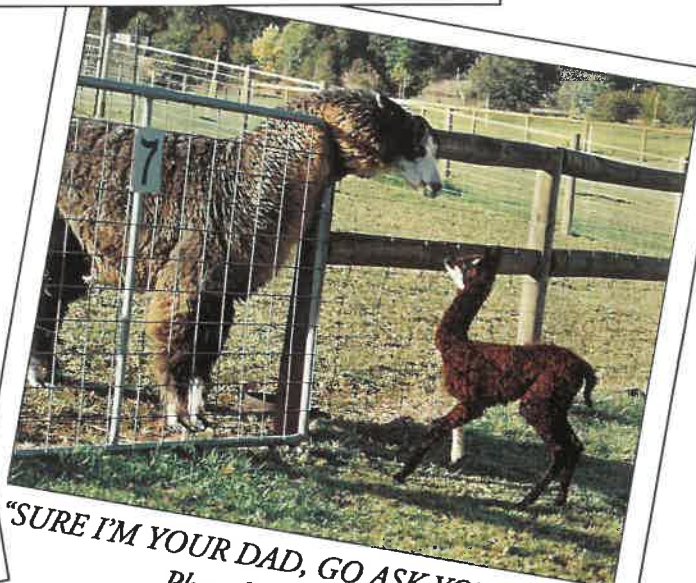
PIC OF THE PACK

*"WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT – HAVEN'T YOU SEEN
A TWO TONE ALPACA BEFORE?"*

Photo by Mark Jefferis, 4 Mile Stud Benalla.



"HEY - TWO'S COMPANY THREE A CROWD"
Photo by Andrew Caldwell, Wyona Alpaca Stud.



"SURE I'M YOUR DAD, GO ASK YOUR MUM"
*Photo by Tena Wheeler,
Windsong Valley Alpacas*

PACA**PICS**...



"LIFE IS VERY GOOD TO ME!!!"
Photo by Celia Cook, Illawarra Alpacas

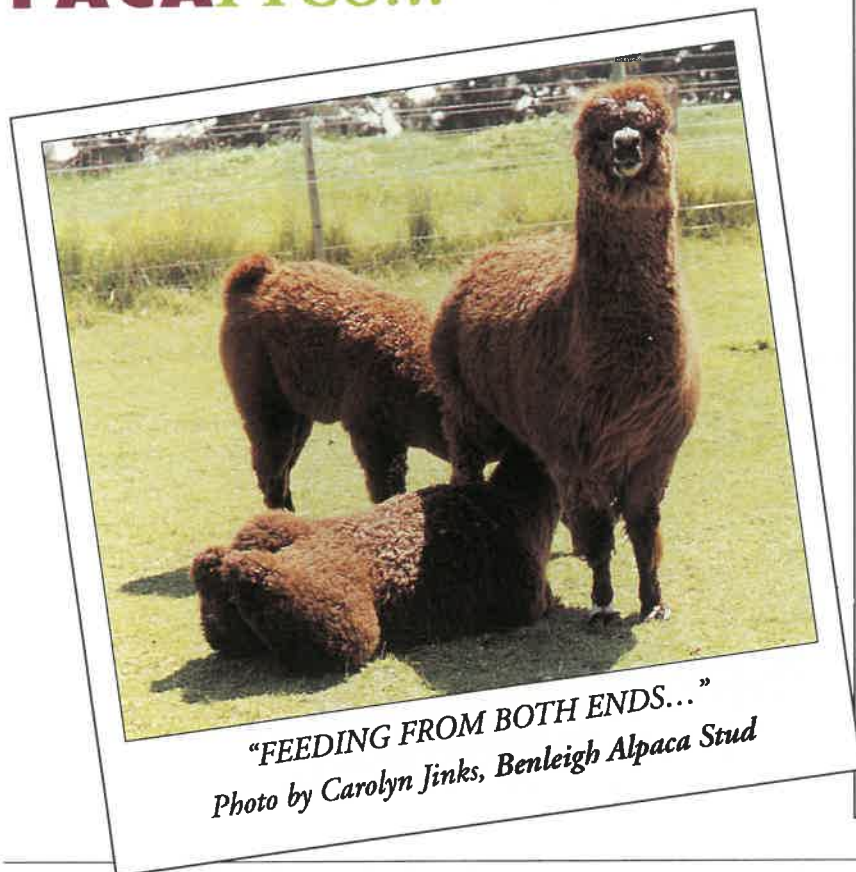


"COME ON EMMA, GIVE US A KISS"
Suzendy Alpaca Stud, Wodonga



"IS MY DISGUISE WORKING?"
Photo by Barbara Dobson, Falconstooop Alpacas.

PACA**PICS**...



"FEEDING FROM BOTH ENDS..."
Photo by Carolyn Jinks, Benleigh Alpaca Stud



"... AND PACA MAKES THREE"
Photo by Pam Close, Jojay Alpacas

INTRODUCING ILLAWARRA SIR FRANK

- ✦ Blue Ribbon Winner
Melbourne Show 1992
- ✦ Superfine fibre
(tested less than 20 μ
Melbourne College of
Textiles)
- ✦ Australian born,
June 1991



- ✦ Solid White
- ✦ Dark Eyes
- ✦ Gentle, even
temperament
- ✦ \$1400 per service
- ✦ Pregnancy guaranteed
by ultrasound



Harriet and Ian Davison, or Celia Cook
 'Consolation Creek', Main Road, Cambewarra, NSW 2540
 Telephone (044) 46 0096



SORTING OUT SURIS


*The AAA
plans to record
suri alpacas
within the current
registration system.
Here's why.*

Intending suri buyers should first sight the animals' registration certificates, regardless of the animals' appearance. Only the certificate will determine whether the animal is part or full suri: part suris may look the same as fullbloods — but will obviously throw a lower percentage of suris.

The genetics of suris and huacayas are quite different to other breeds of animals. Rather than a first cross looking like something between the two fleece types, they tend to throw either to the huacaya or the suri. Therefore an animal that is half suri and half huacaya can resemble either and throw either way. Fullblood suris can also throw huacayas, but this

seems to happen in less than 5 per cent of cases.

CHILIS

Some breeders currently refer to chilis as suris or suri-type. Whilst their fleece is similar to a suri with a less-defined staple formation, there is no evidence to suggest (either in Australia, US or South America) that they originated from suris, nor that they are the result of a suri-huacaya cross. We have a lot more to learn about the genetics of suris, huacayas and chilis. Until we do, the Australian Alpaca Association will record whether an animal is a suri (imported), bred from pure suris, or a part suri. (Also see p. 50) 

WILLOW PARK



We offer a complete service to alpaca breeders and investors.



Agistment at reasonable rates on ideal rural pasture conveniently situated just 10 minutes from Historic Windsor.



Experienced veterinarian (trained in Chile) on call around the clock.

We use ultrasound pregnancy diagnostic equipment. Microchip implants are also available.



Guidance and assistance to become established in alpaca farming.



Stud service with certified pregnancy guarantee.



High quality breeding stock.

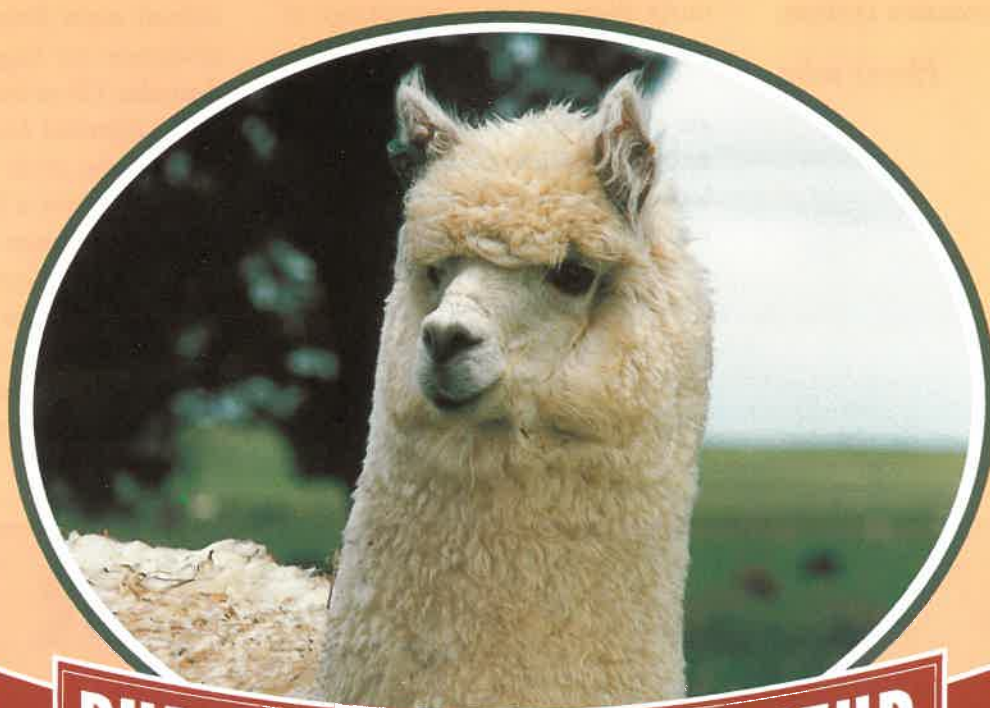
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For further information: Phone Harry and Jenny Liauben
(045) 75 1437 Willow Park Alpaca Stud Wilberforce (Sydney) NSW

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PURRUMBETE ALPACA STUD

We fell in love with these beautiful
animals and like obsessed collectors
we had to have some.

After seven years on the Alpaca trail the
fascination never ends.

Benefit from our years of experience in
selecting and breeding the
finest Alpacas.

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WILBURTINS/WEISS FOR RAS

*Great marketing
for alpaca fibre
this year at
Grand Champion
presentation.*

Wilburtins Insurance Brokers are once again sponsoring the 1994 alpaca exhibit and judging at the Sydney Royal Easter Show.

They have invited the internationally renowned fashion designer and manufacturer, Peter Weiss, to present the sash and trophy for the Grand Champion.

Peter Weiss, through Weiss Pringle men's shops in David Jones stores and Georges of Melbourne, has promoted a range of men's luxury alpaca cardigans and sweaters.

Is Peter Weiss a fan of alpaca fibre? An extract from one of his advertise-

ments, run in *The Bulletin*, gives the answer, and the alpaca fibre story, in a nutshell:

Its light airy character and nearly weightless warmth makes it one of the most remarkable fibres in the world. It is sought by many, and available only in limited quantities.

But we knew that already!

Thanks to Wilburtins and Peter Weiss for helping to make alpacas even more successful in this year's Sydney Show.

Judging commences at 9 am
Saturday 2 April.

WE'RE PUTTING OUR
BEST FEET FORWARD:

JOLIMONT ALPACA

THE ARRIVAL OF PERHAPS SOME OF THE FINEST CHILEAN BORN ANIMALS ONTO OUR SHORES IS IMMINENT AND WE INVITE YOU TO INSPECT AND CONSIDER THEM FOR INCLUSION IN YOUR CURRENT BREEDING PROGRAM. ALL OF THE ANIMALS HAVE BEEN HAND CHOSEN AND RIGOROUSLY TESTED PRIOR TO FINAL SELECTION AND WE ARE CONFIDENT THEY WILL BECOME AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE NATIONAL HERD.

OUR CREDENTIALS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES. WE HAVE BRED MULTIPLE CHAMPIONS IN BOTH MELBOURNE AND SYDNEY. STUD MALES, INCLUDING "BUSTER", ARE SOUGHT AFTER BY MANY BREEDERS AND WITH THE ADDITION OF OUR LATEST MALES INTO THE LINE-UP, YOU ARE ASSURED OF IMPLEMENTING A FIRST CLASS BREEDING PROGRAM.

THE FEMALES INCLUDE A VARIETY OF COLOURS, SOME WITH CRIA AT FOOT, ALL ARE YOUNG AND HEALTHY WITH EXCELLENT ATTRIBUTES. INCLUDING FIBRE, HANDLE, DENSITY AND MICRON READING.

PAT & ROSA VICECONTE

Ph: (03) 337 3387. Fax: (03) 337 0848.

AAANOTES

From Sandi Keane

ADMINISTRATION

Jenny Jones has just completed her first 12 months as our hard-working and enthusiastic Administrator. We congratulate her on the professional image she has given our fledgling association. We have certainly come a long way in the last year.

NEW APPOINTMENT

We now have an Alpaca Industry Development Officer, Simon Traynor (see page 38).

Simon is a highly motivated and talented young man whose brief is to increase the Association's income as well as yours! Simon will be contributing regularly to our newsletter on his progress. We welcome him to our team.

LOGOS

The National Committee has received several complaints about infringement of copyright by several members of our Association.

Many people are, unfortunately, unaware that the unauthorised use (or part thereof) of another breeder's or association's logo can have expensive legal consequences.

NEW BROCHURE

Good news! Our new 12- page full-colour brochure is on its way out to all members.

It is much more comprehensive than the previous brochure and you will find that it answers a lot of those 'first step' questions we get from interested buyers.

You will find this a most attractive production as well as a valuable promotional aid, so ring the national office on (03) 824 8872 and place

your order while stocks last.

Costs:

10 copies (min.)	\$2.00 ea
50 copies	\$1.75 ea
100 copies	\$1.50 ea
Postage and packing additional.	

ALPACAS AUSTRALIA BACK ISSUES AVAILABLE

We have back issues of the magazine available now. See page 19 for details

CERTIFIED BREEDING MALES

There has been a lot of confusion and concern about the introduction of this new category.

Please rest assured that members' concerns will be considered before the new guidelines are drawn up. Ken Allston is making great progress on this and we hope to have guidelines out to you after the next National Committee meeting at the end of February.

FIBRE MARKETING OPPORTUNITY

The Handweavers and Spinners Guild of Victoria are celebrating their 40th Birthday on 16 April with the theme 'Salute to Natural Fibres'.

We have been asked to mount a promotional display at the North Melbourne Town Hall. This will be a wonderful opportunity to help promote our product.

Jenny Cochrane is co-ordinating the display which will be the joint effort of the Central, Eastern and Western Regions.

It is important that we showcase only our best garments and fibre so all items will be assessed for quality before going on display.

If you have a suitable product or can help out Jenny would appreciate

hearing from you asap. Please phone her on (059) 425 453

SURI REGISTRY

There are now a small number of suris available in Australia.

At the moment, suris are simply registered as 'alpaca'. The pitfall for the unsuspecting buyer is not knowing whether the suri on sale is a 'pure' suri with suri dam and sire or the product of, say, a huacaya/chili dam mated to a suri sire. The progeny from such a cross can often look identical to a purebred.

In order to protect the integrity of the pure-bred suri genetics, the National Committee has resolved that all suris currently in Australia be re-issued with new registration certificates.

Owners will need to re-apply for suri registration to the Registration Committee at the National office in Hawthorn. They will be required to forward the pedigree of the animal, indicating whether sire and dam are suri, huacaya or chili; supply a side-on photograph and supply a staple of the fleece.

They will also need to supply photocopies of any import records which can support their application.

If the dam, for example, is huacaya, this would be recorded on the pedigree as follows:

<i>Alpaca Suzi</i>	<i>Sire: unknown</i>
<i>(Suri)</i>	<i>Dam: Alpaca Flossie</i>
	<i>(Huacaya)</i>

There's more information about the genetics of suris, huacayas and chilis on page 47.

continued from p 52

MAY 22

Hawkesbury Field Day — NSW

Held by Hawkesbury Blue Mountains Region at the Butterfly Farm, Wilberforce, from 9.30 am. Talks and demonstrations on alpaca husbandry. Contact: Margaret Hitchcock (045) 799 337.

JULY 16-19

Melbourne Sheep Show

Alpaca classes and promotional stand. Contact: John Hold (03) 376 3733.

SPECIAL DATE FOR ALL AAA MEMBERS JULY 9-11

Canberra Seminar — ACT

An exciting two-day industry seminar to be followed by a veterinary seminar on 11 July. The seminar will be held at the Australian National University, Canberra with top international speakers. There will also be a dinner dance on the Saturday evening in the Great Hall at the High Court of Australia. Book early — contact: Jenny Jones at AAA Office on (03) 824 8872. (See page 19)

ECLIPSE ALPACAS

PROUDLY ANNOUNCES THE ARRIVAL (IN SYDNEY) OF
INCA BLACK MAGIC

AUSTRALIA'S TOP PRICED ALPACA



- Jet black sire
- Senior Champion, Royal Melbourne Show

- Superb Fleece temperament conformation
- Progeny available for inspection

STUD FEE \$1250

Also standing at stud

GREY BEAR

- Beautiful light/medium grey
- Soft handling, fine dense fleece
- Excellent confirmation
- Stud fee \$1000

CENTURI

- Attractive Dark Fawn
- Super Dense Fleece
- Excellent coverage and confirmation
- Progeny available for inspection
- Stud Fee \$1000

- All possible advice and support to new and existing breeders
- Agistment available; All animals under 24 hour care

Enquiries and inspections welcome ...

Contact : Mandy or Craig Lawton

Phone: (02) 652 2638 or (02) 652 2777

Fax: (02) 652 2639

998. OLD NORTHERN ROAD, GLENORIE (SYDNEY)

If you are involved in the Alpaca industry as an owner, breeder or supplier or if you just appreciate these magnificent animals for their beauty - **Alpacas Australia** is essential reading. Don't miss another issue! Fill in and photocopy or cut out and return this card TODAY.

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ABOUT ALPACAS?**

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381 Tooronga Road, Hawthorn East, 3123 Victoria, Australia

COMINGEVENTS

MARCH 2-6

Newcastle Show — NSW

Promotional stand and twilight judging on Thursday 3 March with various Alpaca classes and also a fleece class. Further information from Central Coast Hunter Region show Committee. Contact: Colin Campbell (049) 831 276 or Julie Rigg (043) 511 244.

MARCH 5 - 6

Alpaca Fibre Course — Victoria

Two day fibre course to be held at the Melbourne College of Textiles. Vacancies still available. Contact: Jenny Jones on (03) 824 8872

MARCH 5 - 6

St Ives Show — NSW

One of the largest Sydney shows, it will only have alpacas and alpaca displays in 1994 but we want breed/ fleece classes in 1995. To be involved in the roster call Hugh Scarlett, Vice President Sydney Region: (02) 439 2751.

MARCH 5 - 6

TTEAM Training Clinic — Vic

Ardcree Llamas, 200 Hermsley Road, Curlewis, near Geelong. (See p. 33)

MARCH 11-13

Castle Hill Show — NSW

Judging Alpacas: Sat 12 March. Entries close 4 March. Castle Hill has both fleece and breed classes, and the Sydney Region will present displays of goods and alpacas all weekend. Contact Sydney Region President, Margaret Morton: phone (02) 764 4855 fax (02) 764 4679.

MARCH 12 - 13

TTEAM Training Clinic — Vic

Amberdale Alpacas, Skye Road, Coldstream. (See p. 33)

MARCH 18-19

South East Field Days — SA

Promotional stand, large animal display and fleece display. Contact: Keith Barnett, Phone or Fax (087) 660 026.

MARCH 19

Yarra Glen Agricultural Show — Vic

Alpacas on displa, information available. Contact: Dianne Condon (03) 730 1399.

MARCH 19

Mt. Pleasant Feature Show — SA

This show will hold alpaca show classes. Phone Rob Shepherd: (085) 246 150 or fax (085) 246 775.

MARCH 20

Special General Meeting — NSW

General Meeting to be held at the Commercial Club, Dean Street, Albury to consider the options to implement the process for the provision of the Rules and Regulations of the Association. Meeting to commence at 10.00 am with morning tea being served from 9.30 am.

MARCH 25-APRIL 5

Sydney Royal Show — NSW

Judging Alpacas: Sat. 2 April. Closing date (no late entries was 10 January. Animals must be penned Friday 1 April-Tuesday 5 April. This is the big one for NSW. Breed classes only. An AAA stall and displays planned. Contact President, Sydney Region, Margaret Morton. Phone (02) 764 4855 or fax (02) 764 4679.

MARCH 26

Red Hill Agricultural Show

Alpacas on displa, information available. Contact: Catherine Sweetnam, phone (059) 873 032.

MARCH 26

TTEAM Training Clinic — NSW

Llama Adventures, 26 Cobah Road, Arcadia. (See p. 33)

APRIL 9-10

Western Region Alpaca Show — Vic

At Geelong Showgrounds. Judging on Sat. 9 April and breeders' dinner. Sunday will feature a Private Treaty Alpaca Sale, Alpaca Craft Day and spinning and weav-

ing competition, as well as a National shearing/ spinning/knitting competition with a radio link-up for interstate regions competing. To register your regional team, phone competition organiser on (052) 502 737 or fax (052) 503 447.

Show contacts:

Secretary, Phil McConachy:

Phone (052) 224 991 fax (052) 223 369

Publicity, Jude Anderson:

Phone (052) 632 155 fax (052) 633 364.

APRIL 15-17

Hawkesbury & District Show — NSW

Judging Alpacas: Sat 16 April 1994. Closing date: 25 March. Another major show close to Sydney. It will have both fleece and breed classes, AAA stall and displays. Contact: Margaret Hitchcock, Secretary, Hawkesbury and Blue Mountains Region (045) 799 337; or Harry Liaubon (045) 751 437.

APRIL 15

Regional Annual General Meeting — SA

The Annual General Meeting, followed by a General Meeting will be held on this day. Venue and time to be advised. Contact: Kay Gursanskyby phone on (085) 249 093 or fax (085) 249 148.

MAY 14

Central Coast & Hunter Region General Meeting — NSW

The general meeting will be addressed by Pat Coleby. Topics will include Alpaca nutrition and their mineral and vitamin needs. Contact: Amanda Clymo, phone (043) 621 804 or Julie Rigg, phone (043) 411 244

MAY 21-22

Central/Northern Region — NSW

NSW Central/Northern Region presents the inaugural Town and Country Farmer Premier Alpaca Auction at Mudgee. Contact: Aloha Hunter Barnes. Phone (063) 588 212. (See page 14)

continued on p. 51



The Class of '94

We at Cedar House invite you to view our superb drop of '94. Sydneys most established stud is able to offer a limited number of breeding females, weanlings and superb males all exhibiting excellent conformation fineness and density.

Cedar House farms and manages a herd of approximately 250 Alpacas. We have investment advise available by a qualified accountant. Inspections welcome by appointment.



Video covering
"BREEDING, SHOW PRESENTATION & HUSBANDRY"
 \$35.00 (inc. postage)

Contact : Peter Sultan or Wendy Billington, on telephone / fax 048 877 397
 ROSEWOOD, Clearys Lane, Wildes Meadow 2577 via Bowral

THE CEDAR HOUSE



ALPACAS

STANDING AT STUD

'CHARLEMANGE'

PURE SURI

LIGHT FAWN

THE ONLY PURE SURI
 IN NSW

**'PURRUMBETE -
 DON QUIXOTE'**

LIGHT FAWN

SIRE OF CHAMPIONS

And

**'CEDAR HOUSE -
 KNIGHT RIDER'**

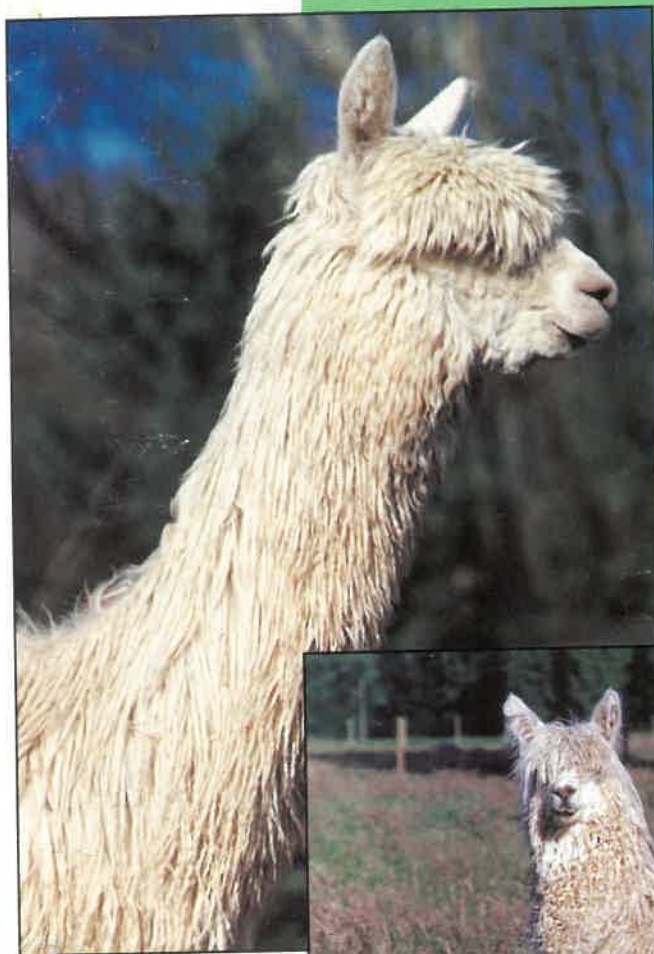
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WE HAVE MOVED

Cedar House Alpacas is now situated on 125 rolling acres in Wildes Meadow between Moss Vale and the historic village of Burrawang in the Southern Highlands just 1½ hours from Sydney.

Surilana

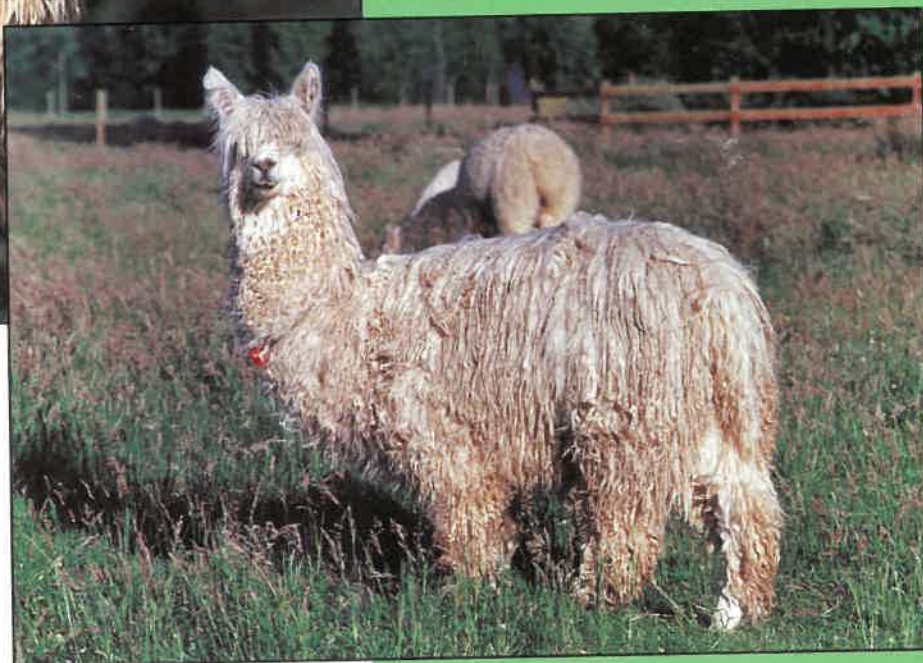
Breeding fine Suris



Suris are rare and exceptional alpacas. Their silky fine lustrous fleece fetches high prices and their scarcity guarantees high demand the world over.

We are delighted to announce their release from quarantine and the opportunity now available to alpaca breeders.

Bookings are
restricted



Inquiries to:

Jill Short & Martin Ruzicka
Telephone 03 818 1306
Facsimile 03 818 1010

Cherie Bridges & Alan Hamilton
Telephone 053 48 7744
Facsimile 053 48 7754

Three exquisite full blooded Suri males are now standing at stud (white, light fawn and mid fawn).

We welcome you to inspect these beautiful males who can add fineness, lustre and superb conformation to your herd.