

# SHEEPO'



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Journal of The Shearing Contractors' Association of Australia

## Welcome to the new look circular

Over past months the management committee of Shearing Contractors' Association of Australia (SCAA) have been busy creating Sheepo as a means of better informing members of news and views on the industry. Sheepo aims to keep you informed on the issues that are critical to the effective management of your contracting business. We hope you enjoy reading Sheepo and we look forward to any feedback you may have.

### The Elections

Stage 1 of the election process was to elect the new Committee of Management. This was completed in late May.

We are currently in the second stage of the election process, to elect Office Bearers within the Committee of Management. Those positions to be filled are: President, Vice-President (x2), Secretary-Treasurer, Trustees (x2). Nominations for this stage close on the 17th of August. Please note that if there is only single nomination for any particular vacancy, a ballot will be unnecessary as that nomination will be automatically elected.

### Sponsorship

SCAA is very pleased to announce that we continue to enjoy support from our friends at Australian Primary Superannuation. This year they have again offered significant

assistance with printing, website development and other administrative costs.

We would like to say sincere thank you to Australian Primary Superannuation for their continued assistance in the development of the shearing industry.

### Traineeships

In NSW the traineeship program to improve the skills of new and experienced shearers has been a great success. Employers are eligible to receive up to \$5,400 compensation as well as having their workers' trained by industry professionals.

Although the traineeship money is sourced from the Federal government, it is administered by the relative State Department of Education. Unfortunately no two states have exactly the same program, which has resulted in varying

levels of accessibility to the money in each state. If you interested in the program, in NSW contact Jim Murray on 0428-467-585, in Victoria, contact Philip Pretlove 03 5443 5244

### AWI - Funding Industry Training

Australian Wool Innovation (AWI) has allocated \$3 million of their budget to shearer and shed training over the next three years. The program is at the committee stage and the specifics of the program will be notified to members in due course.

Congratulations to Michael Schofield (Executive Committee member of SCAA) who has been appointed to the AWI National Advisory Committee. Phillip Pretlove, CEO of Shearer Woolhandler Training Inc (based in Victoria) has also been appointed to the AWI National Advisory Committee.

### Change of Secretary

As most members will be aware, Kevin Crawford has retired from the position of Secretary and replaced with Jason Letchford. Jason can be contacted on 0412 600 586 or emailed on Jason@scaa.org.au.

### Regional Meetings

This years round of regional meetings were a great success with attendances up on last year. The meetings achieved their objective to keep members informed on pertinent industry issues, and provided invaluable networking opportunities for attendees.

We would like to thank all the guests including: Felix Sher of Australian Primary Superannuation, Dave Summer from True-Test, Nick Endacott and Leo Fittler from Armidale TAFE, Chris Yiallourous and Deano Hedley from Workcover South Australia and Ross Pollock from Australian Wool Innovations.

The up coming Dubbo meeting will be held in early September in conjunction with the OH&S workshop. Members will be advised of the exact date at the earliest opportunity

### Department of Employment and Workplace Relations -

SCAA has been in approached by Jophn Morris of this Department, to see if we can offer assistance with placing longer term unemployed people back into the workforce. The obvious benefit being more workers available for our industry. The Committee has been working with TAFE, with the view to offering some initial training for people who have never worked in the industry.

We would encourage your feedback on this potentially rewarding program both for the industry and the challenging issue unemployment in regional Australia. In addition, there are financial incentives in excess of \$4,000, to place particular long term unemployed individuals.

### OH&S Workshop

SCAA has been working hard to initiate and deliver a program of OH&S education for the shearing industry. NSW Workcover has been the major sponsor of the project, which is now in its final stages.

This vitally important information will be disseminated to members and to other interested parties (for a fee), through 3 one-day workshops over September and October. The meetings will be held in Dubbo, Armidale and Wagga Wagga with specific dates to be advised.

## Member's Website

We are pleased to announce the launch of the SCAA website. Site features include: news and industry info, links to critical government websites, awards and an online mail order facility. Visit: [www.scaa.org.au](http://www.scaa.org.au)

