

Alpacas - Anecdotes and Advice

Joy E Allenby-Acuna
La Granja Holistic Alpacas



SHOULD YOU PREGNANCY SCAN YOUR EWES?

Alpacas are a member of the camelid family, along with Llamas, Guanacos and vicunas and they come from South America. Despite their ability to interbreed and produce fertile offspring, each form remains classified as a separated species.

Alpacas were fully domesticated in South America and grew fibre for weaving. There they were a source of meat and fuel in the form of manure and hides.

They all have a three compartment stomach and chew their food. They all have long necks. Thin legs, padded cloven hooves-two-toed, which are good for the land, as they tread softly and large round eyes and a gorgeous fleece. They weigh about 45-80 kilos.

In Cuzco, Peru, the Inca capital one was sacrificed every morning or evening to honour the Gods and to mark special events.

In the 1860's Sir Titus Salt brought them to the UK for their valuable fibre and it became a permanent branch of British commerce. Charles Ledger also brought them to Australia in the 1800's but it was a disaster and they disappeared.

The present booming industry here started again about 1983 and has continued to go from strength to strength.

In the next column I shall give more facts about Alpacas and how to treat them.



For spring lambers now is the time to scan ewes for pregnancy and for twins. Scanning technology and sheep handling methods have progressed since the pioneering days of researchers Doug Fowler and John Wilkins from NSW DPI at Glen Innes and Tamworth nearly thirty years ago. John reminded me that the Armstrong system was the only sheep handling technology available then. This required keen blokes with strong backs to drag ewes over the board while the operator, sitting on a drum, slapped peanut oil on the ewe's belly before searching for unborn lambs.

Doug and John developed the foundation for a technology that is now widely adopted in the Australian sheep industry. Scanners can now do a couple of thousand ewes in a day with the ewes standing in a covered crush for testing.

In the last few days, I have caught up with a couple of professional sheep scanners, Justin May and Trevor Pearce, to check on their findings. Both report that pregnancy rates and twinning rates are exceptionally high this year. This is great news but the challenge will be to turn these potential lambs into real sheep. A spring would be a big help.

Trevor and Justin tell me they prefer to scan ewes about six or seven weeks after the rams have been removed (assuming a six-week joining). Multiple lamb detection is more difficult because, as the lambs grow inside the uterus, it is tricky to separate the images into one or more lambs. It is easiest to pick multiple pregnancies when ewes are less than 100 days pregnant. They prefer that ewes be held off feed from a few hours to overnight to reduce gut fill. This makes it easier to handle the sheep and see the lambs. It will cost about 45-50 cents per head to scan for a pregnancy and 70 to 80 cents to scan for multiples with some travelling on top.

Most people who employ a scanner only want to know whether the ewes are pregnant or not. This is valuable information because it gives you an early warning if there has been a

Continued over

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At Your Goulburn Library

Discover Your Library

Have you been to the Goulburn Library lately? If not you will be surprised at the resources and services the library has to offer.

Events – Throughout the year the library offers local residents a variety of events to suit people of different ages. These events are advertised in the 'What on @ your library' section of the library website (www.strl.nsw.gov.au), in the newspaper and in library. In November the library will be hosting a visit by the popular Australian author Tamara McKinley and the League of Legends display celebrating 100 years of Rugby League.

Adult Fiction – No matter what your fiction reading tastes are the library has a great selection of books from the classics of Jane Austen and Ernest Hemingway to the new releases of Kathy Reichs, Peter Robinson and Barbara Vine.

Adult Non Fiction & Regional History – Is great for educational and recreational interests. This collection is often called upon to assist with assignments ranging from Australian history to religion. It is also well used by people who throughout their lives need an answer to a question from how to write a wedding speech, to how to look after the pet dog, to finding the local grave site of an ancestor.

Junior & Youth Resources – Picture books, early readers, junior fiction and non fiction are all available at the library for young readers. The library also has a range of Premiers Reading Challenge books for all of the levels and regularly gets the new releases by the popular authors.

There is a section in the library that is dedicated to young people. It contains youth fiction, graphic novels, HSC collection and youth magazines. The library receives the popular fiction for youth including *Breaking Dawn* by Stephanie Meyer and *Brisingr* by Christopher Paolini.

Magazines – This collection is increasing in size with new titles including *Architecture Australia*, *G. magazine*, *Notebook* and *Wartime*.

Internet and Audio Visual Resources – Internet access is available to local residents and visitors. Bookings are essential and are for 30 minutes and black and white printouts are available for 25cents. The library has a range of audio books on CD and DVD's for loan. Recently added to the library are the Playaway MP3 audio books which are available for loan.

To find out more about what the library has to offer and how easy it is to join please telephone the library on 4823 4434, come on in and talk to library staff or check out our website.

The Goulburn Library is open
Monday to Friday 10:00am – 6:00pm,
Saturday 10:00am – 1:00pm
and Sunday 2:00pm – 5:00pm.



SHOULD YOU PREGNANCY SCAN YOUR EWES?

Continued

disaster and helps planning and feed allocation. However, savings may not be great if only 5% of your ewes are dry.

To me the main benefit is in appropriately allocating feed and sheltered paddocks to single versus multiple bearing ewes. This means that single bearing ewes aren't over fed and so produce big lambs with lambing troubles and that twin bearing ewes don't get underfed and so suffer from pregnancy toxemia and lamb losses.

I like the idea of scanning ewes and separating them according to their feed and management requirements. It removes one element of uncertainty from a very uncertain business. However, some good analysts think pregnancy scanning ewes doesn't pay. They argue that you should lamb in the spring when you are likely to have plenty of feed and if you do so there is not much benefit in separating off the multiple bearing ewes.

However, as we all know not everyone lambs in the spring and we don't always have the feed we would like at lambing. Under these circumstance scanning ewes and feeding accordingly is more likely to pay.

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Church News

Catholic Church Services

Parish Priest: Fr. Tony Percy
Assistants: Fr. Damien Styles &
Fr. Francis Kolencherry

Contact 4821 1022

There are no regular Masses in **Marulan**

Mass times in **Goulburn** are:

Saturday vigil Mass 5pm. at

St. Peter & Paul's Old Cathedral

Note the earlier time during winter

Sunday 8am. at Fatima, North Goulburn

Sunday 10 am. at Sts. Peter & Paul's.

St. Joseph's Church, Tarago

1st Sunday of each month 10.30am

Enquiries: 4842 2444



GOD'S REMNANT ASSEMBLY AUSTRALIA (GRA Australia)

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We are a husband and wife team with GRA, a trans-denominational missionary movement. GRA works around the world, including Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, Nigeria, Sudan and is new to Australia. We believe Australia needs the Word, fresh and new, as it is being shared around the world and setting lives alight with the beauty and Truth of Jesus.

We have started a home Church in our community and introduce ourselves – Bunja and Judith Smith. If these words have stirred or touched you please contact us to hear more about this Ministry that is new to Australia:

by phone - **0401 912 193** or by post -

Pastors Bunja and Judith Smith

Gods Remnant Assembly Australia

GPO Box 1695

Canberra City ACT 2601

Be part of this exciting work in our community:

Sunday morning - we sing and study His profound truths

Tuesday evening – we plan the ministry, outreach and study His Word

Thursday evening – we praise and enjoy a power prayer hour.

Anglican Church Services

OCTOBER

St. Mark's - Bronte

Sunday 12th - 11.30am

St. Bartholomew's - Windellama

Sunday 26th - 11.30am

NOVEMBER

St. Mark's - Bronte

Sunday 9th – 11.30am

St. Bartholomew's - Windellama

Sunday 23rd - 11.30am

A Big THANK YOU to Neville Croker and helper Stephen Hawk for installing a water tank and attachments to the toilet at St. Mark's, Bronte.

Best wishes and congratulations to Doris and Neville Croker on their 62nd wedding anniversary.

Our Rector Robert Lindbeck may be contacted on 4821 3631

Although both our Churches are nominally Anglican, worshippers of all denominations are welcome at all services.



St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church

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Excerpt taken from Goulburn Post June 1943

Kangaroos

Windellama Wants Open Season

Kangaroos and wallabies in the Windellama district are giving farmers and graziers considerable trouble, and a petition has been sent to the Chief Secretary requesting an open season.

Evidently the country around Windellama is providing a happy hunting ground for the kangaroos and settlers have reported damage to crops, etc.

The Goulburn P.P. Board secretary, Mr. FD Davies, recently received a petition containing the names of about 16 Windellama district pastoralists who asked that an open season be declared against kangaroos and wallabies.

This communication was forwarded to the head office in Sydney, and then to the Chief Secretary, who has now asked the Goulburn Stock Inspector to submit a report on the matter.

Owing to the illness of Mr. F. Hildred, Stock Inspector, the matter was passed on to the District Veterinary Officer, and now it is understood that the Braidwood Stock Inspector will make a report.

At present it appears that if the Inspector contends that the damage being caused is sufficient to declare an open season for the destruction of these animals, the Chief Secretary will probably take the necessary steps to do so; or else he will issue permits to those persons interested to protect their properties.

The Muffet family exhibition at the Museum continues. Exhibits include a number of artefacts collected and used by the Muffet family over the last 120 years.

AND there is a NEW EXHIBITION – the POST OFFICE – all about early postal and telecommunications in the Windellama area. There are some very interesting exhibits including morse code equipment, as well as lots of photographs.

A recipe book written about 1910 is also on display in the Museum. This early cookery book was compiled by Emily Gegg and was donated by Emily's daughter-in-law, Dinah Gegg.

The Museum is open on market days – the third Sunday of each month. Come and see the new exhibition and don't forget to visit the machinery shed at the back of the Museum with some historic items of farming equipment including a wool press.

There is a selection of Windellama local history books and books by local poets for sale in the Museum, as well as bookmarks and postcards with images of early Windellama.

Our next meeting will be at the Museum on Friday 26 September 2008 at 2 pm and the Christmas meeting will be held in December – details in the next *Windellama News*. New members are welcome.

If you would like more information, please phone one of the following members:

Joanna Croker	4844 5125
Cynthia Hudson	4844 5005
Sandra Greville	4844 5047

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Coming Events...

All at Windellama unless otherwise advised.

November

- 1st Small Farms Field Day
- 4th Melbourne Cup
- 7th Kindergarten Orientation
- 15th Windellama Garden Club Country Fair
- 21st Kindergarten Orientation

December

- 13th Landcare AGM
- 19th School holidays begin
- 21st Hall Country Markets

January

- 1st Cricket Challenge versus Bungonia
- 18th Hall Country Markets

Fees for Hire of Hall or Supper Room at Windellama Hall

*HALL	ALL DAY	\$200
	DAY 4hrs or less	\$100
	EVENING/NIGHT**	\$200

*Includes Supper Room & Kitchen

** \$2 per hour for heating

SUPPER ROOM	(Includes Kitchen)
ALL DAY	\$80
DAY 4hrs or less	\$40
EVENING/ NIGHT	\$100

Use of the premises prior to your booked function will incur a surcharge of Supper Room Fee

**To Book please ring W. P. A. Secretary,
Frances Knights on 4844 5157**

TARAGO TRANSFER STATION

Fri, Sat, Sun & Mon. 8am-4.45pm.

Card required for household waste, or fees apply.
Free recycling of the following: Plastics, tins, oil, batteries, glass, metal, paper and cardboard.

Tipping Fees for Tarago

Sorted Waste - Domestic Residents only

Car, station wagon, small ute or small trailer	\$ 7.00
Medium trailer, large ute or 1-tonne truck load	\$13.00
Large trailer load	\$20.00

Unsorted Waste and Non-Residents Waste

Garbage & trade waste (uncompacted, per cubic metre)	\$45.00
Garbage and trade waste (compacted, per cubic metre)	\$ 80.00
Other unsorted waste—	2 x sorted rate per category

Hard fill demolition waste

0-5 tonne	\$125.00
5-12 tonne	\$250.00
12-20 tonne	\$600.00

Animals – Note: Animal carcasses cannot be dumped at Tarago as there are no facilities for burial.

Car Bodies \$30.00

Tyres – Car Tyres (each) - per tyre	\$ 5.00
Motorcycle tyres (each)	\$ 4.00
Truck tyres (each) - per tyre	\$15.00
Tractor tyres (each) - per tyre	\$55.00

Community Information

Windellama Progress Association

Cathy Meehan (President) 4844 5554
 Frances Knights (Secretary) 4844 5157

Windellama Rural Fire Brigade

Jim Meehan (Captain) 4844 5554
 Bev McGaw (Communications) 4844 5147
 Bonita Armstrong (Treasurer) 4844 5387

Windellama Field Day Committee

Cathy Meehan (Sec) 4844 5554
 Frances Knights (Treas) 4844 5157

Windellama News

Denise Johnson (Editor) 4844 5087
 Gayle Stanton (Editor) 4844 5156
 Cathy Meehan (Sec / Treas) 4844 5554

Windellama Garden Cub Inc.

Pam Williams 4844 5194
 Colleen Ellis 4844 5207

Windellama Hall Country Markets

George & Annemarie Webb 4844 5038

Windellama Historical Society

Sandra Greville (Secretary) 4844 5047
 Joanna Croker 4844 5125

Windellama Landcare

Mick Ryan (President) 4844 5012
 Sandra Greville (Co-Secretary) 4844 5047
 Cathy Meehan (Asst-Secretary) 4844 5554

Windellama School P&C

Fran Satchell (President) 4844 5737
 Heather Caulfield (Secretary) 4844 5120

Nerriga Landcare

Di Roberts (President) 4844 5344
 Helen Rolland (Secretary) 9555 8676

Nerriga Rural Fire Brigade

John Rolfe (Captain) 4845 9160
 Justin Parr (Snr. Deputy Captain) 4845 9129
 Marie Kennedy 4845 9126

Jacqua Creek Landcare

Sue Armstrong (Secretary) 4844 4364
 Ken Moran (Chair) 4844 4234

Wires (wildlife rescue)

Marian Pearce 4844 5244
 Southern Tablelands WIRES 4822 3888

Community Health Goulburn

4827 3913

Community Transport

4823 4499

Justice of the Peace

Linda Shannon 0429 980 141
 "Stirlingbrae" 3186 Windellama Road, Windellama.

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Important Phone Numbers

Rural Fire Brigades

Windellama	Jim Meehan	4844 5554
Tarago	Des Kingston	4849 4503
Taylor's Creek	Dave Elward	4849 4240
Mt Fairy	Greg Brooke	4849 4681
Bungonia	Ian Tapper	4844 4460
Gundry	Tony Kent	4822 5078
Nerriga	John Rolfe	4845 9160

**PHONE 4844 5359 or
 CHANNEL 21/209 Base**



Windellama SES First Aid

Graeme McFarlane	4844 5506
Kevin Muffet	4844 7143

Police

Tarago Station - Constable Gerard Hespe	4849 4411
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Goulburn Base Hospital

4827 3111

Ambulance

000





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112

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OCTOBER 2008

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
		1	2	3	4 Willowglen Challenge	5 Willowglen Challenge
6 Bungonia Quilters Willowglen Challenge Labour Day	7 Willowglen Gardeners Get together	8	9	10	11 Bungonia Market Day	12 St. Mark's - Bronte
13 Bungonia Quilters School P&C Meeting	14 Hall craft arvo	15	16	17	18	19 Hall Country Markets
20 Bungonia Quilters	21 Hall craft arvo Progress Meeting	22	23	24 Kindergarten Orientation	25 Goulburn Classic Riders Club Fire Brigade Meeting & Training Day	26 St. Bart's - Windellama Daylight Savings Starts
27 Bungonia Quilters	28 Hall craft arvo	29	30 8 weeks to Xmas	31 Halloween		

For details of times and places - see articles inside this issue
Emergency phone numbers are on the back of this page.