

President's Report for the Small Ruminant Chapter AGM August 2024

Dr Sandra Baxendell

Firstly congratulations are in order to Dr Diane Ryan who was awarded the AVA Fellow Award, for her significant contributions to the AVA and the profession. I was also honoured with a lifetime honorary membership of the UK Goat Veterinary Society.

The Small Ruminant chapter was approached by the Sheep Camelid and Goat Special Interest Group to sponsor a new chapter for livestock production consultants. A Zoom meeting between the committee and their representatives was arranged and then after agreement in principle, I reviewed the constitution. The college gave some useful feedback and so there were also some overdue changes i.e. Charman became Chair etc. This revised constitution is proposed to be adopted at the AGM on 4th August 2024.

Sales of FAMACHA© cards have continued via my recorded Zoom worm course plus written exam and videos of their proper use by participants. One new vet in Western Australia (my mentoree in the AVA mentoring scheme) has now started face to face training and so card sales may increase. This is the main source of income for the Small Ruminant chapter. The chapter has an agreement with the South African copyright holders. We need to buy more cards which will mean a substantial outlay but we profit from each card sold.

The Small Ruminant Chapter website under the college website (<https://www.anzcvs.org.au/chapters/small+ruminant+chapter>) has been kept updated and I have written some short items for the "Courier" about our chapter.

2025 is our year for examinations for sheep and goat vets and we need examiners. I am currently mentoring a candidate with monthly Zoom meetings so we need another goat examiner. I hope the chapter has even more candidates as I did a CVE University of Sydney Time on Line goats course for vets and there was a good enrolment so hopefully some will go on to do the Membership exam in goats. Please consider applying as an examiner. We also need short multiple choice questions for a question bank that is being developed so new exams do not have to be written every year. I was an observer for another chapter (a small animal subject) via Zoom after the college called for volunteers. I strongly recommend others do so next year as it is very educational to observe examiners at work. You can then check if you want to become a small ruminant examiner.