

President's Report ANZCVSc-Small Ruminant Chapter 2025-2026

While the International Sheep Vet Congress, held in Wollongong was an AVA event, many chapter members were heavily involved in organizing committees or as speakers. After this event the President gave a Zoom presentation on what she learnt at the Congress. As there were 3 streams running except for the keynote speakers, this was well received even by those who had attended. The President's talks plus supporting references were on a hidden page on her website i.e. <https://goatvetoz.com.au/conference> for vets to access.

Highlights of the International Sheep Veterinary conference



- Also covered goats, not just sheep
- Access to the 1.5 hours of lectures that I gave, plus the associated references and PowerPoints on a hidden web-page

See <https://goatvetoz.com.au/conference>

- Email goatvetoz@gmail.com to enrol

Goat Veterinary Consultancies - goatvetoz

Local Land Services (LLS) started FAMACHA © training again and it has expanded thanks to the efforts of Kylie Greentree, LLS vet for the Hunter region and a college small ruminant chapter member. Her first course trained 29 participants and she has run several more. Also she has trained other LLS vets and 2 more have now started running courses for local small ruminant owners in their own areas.



Another vet in Western Australia has also started to do FAMACHA © training. The President has a recorded Zoom training and this is combined with a written exam and small ruminant owners must send in a video of them using a dummy card to demonstrate proper technique. If passed then they can purchase a card from the college chapter. This is the Small Ruminant chapter's main income.

FAMACHA© cards give a score for the redness of the conjunctival mucous membranes and give a decision guide for whether a small ruminant needs to get a worm drench or not in *Haemonchus* areas. This discourages over drenching and allows for the selection of more *Haemonchus* resilient animals for breeding. The use of these cards should slow the development of drench resistance.

The President did the Goat Medicine & Surgery course for the Centre for Vet Education, University Sydney in May 2026. Numbers were small but did include a vet from Sweden who also wanted a FAMACHA© card. Hopefully some will go on to do their college exams in 2027.

Dr Sandra Baxendell