# Small Ruminant Chapter – President’s Report 2017/18

Dr Sandra Baxendell

Fortunately the committee renominated to continue in their roles as we received no other nominations at the start of the year. 2017/18 was a year of consolidation. I have made sure we have something of interest in each College Courier and would welcome feedback and other contributions.

Keeping the members list has been a difficult task and while we have found some members via organisational changes to emails we still have the following emails bouncing for sheep members: Andrew Biddle, Stephen Eastwood, William Johnston, Shaun Slattery, David Malcolm Sackett, Gabrielle Morrice, Paul Gerard Niven, John William McDonald (all Australian) and Ian Fraser Hill (NZ). If you know them, please ask them to contact me (goatvetoz@gmail.com) and the college office.

2019 will be the examination year for sheep and goats so I ask all members to encourage other veterinarians to do their college exams in our small ruminant chapter as they will need to nominate soon. Setting the exams and holding them is a lot of work and we would welcome more than the one or two candidates we normally get. The subject outlines will be reviewed soon and if current members have any suggestions they should contact a committee member. Examiners are also open to receiving possible exam questions (and ideal answers) from interested chapter members. We are still looking for a deer examiner to offer deer exams and review the deer subject guidelines.

In late 2017 we finally completed negotiations with the South African Veterinary Association, who are the current copyright holders of the FAMACHA card. The first shipment of 200 cards were received and these are currently earning much needed funds for the chapter. Over half have now been sold with myself and Kylie Greentree running courses in 3 states. Members can buy these from the chapter by contacting me. This price is $30 each plus postage. FAMACHA cards score the level of anaemia in small ruminants by giving them a score between 1 (red) and 5 (white). Cards can only be purchased by veterinarians or people who have undergone appropriate training on all methods of internal parasite control. Our chapter will have a similar role to that done by the American Consortium for Small Ruminant Parasite Control ([www.wormx.info](http://www.wormx.info)) and must report annually on courses held and be responsible for the quality of those courses. Chapter members just need to provide a list of names of attendees and card holders. Kylie and I are using similar evaluation tools on the day and a common survey 12 months after the course. Non-chapter veterinarians must attend a FAMACHA course given by a chapter member before running their own courses.

I also manage the Small Ruminant Chapters webpages within the ANZCVS overarching website. Comments and suggestions are welcome. There is a section on FAMACHA courses and a private area for committee documents. See <https://www.anzcvs.org.au/chapters/small+ruminant+chapter> .