

Superfine sheep and wool are his passion

Kevin Dunn



Pictured: Kevin presented with honorary Life membership by ASWGA President –Simon Cameron

Superfine sheep and wool have been a dominant part of Kevin's life for its duration. Kevin Dunn has lived and farmed superfine wool merino's at Laharum all of his life. Superfine sheep and wool are his passion along with his family, his wife Margaret and five children.

He is renowned in the district for the quality of stock and animal husbandry skills applying the mantle of a truly professional superfine wool producer. The history of the Dunn family has always been in traditional quality woolled sheep with great production. This has always been the type of the Avondale Hills

flock through three generations supplying the Northern Grampians region with quality genetics.

In 1932, Kevin's Grandfather founded the Avondale flock with the Avondale Hills stud formed in 1938 by Kevin's father Norman Dunn. The stud was formed on Saxon sheep being both productive and with quality wool. It was in the 1970's that Kevin began to take direction of the stud. This has not wavered with the Avondale Hills stud always maintaining these characteristics.

Kevin is held in very high regard in the Laharum district in which he lives through his love for wool, his honesty and integrity. Kevin has served the community in many ways, including various sporting clubs and local council representation serving as Shire President at one point.

Kevin is a renowned woolclasser, classing wool clips in both Victoria and Tasmania. One prestigious clip under Kevin's classing for a long period was "Connorville" who achieved a world record price in 1989 of \$3070 per kilogram under Kevin's classing. Very few can boast classing world record priced wool.

Another aspect of Kevin's service to the wool industry and community was his role as an advisor and confidante in the running of the Wimmera Wool Factory. Kevin acted in a consulting role with Wallace Reynolds and Austin Eagle offering considered advice on the requirements for producing ultrafine wool, both in animal nutrition and genetics required.

Kevin's service to the ASWGA can only be described as outstanding. Kevin is a founding member of the ASWGA in 1971 and at regional level, he has served for almost 40 years on our regional committee and as a delegate to the National body. He was President for 13 years, with at least 4 years Secretary/Treasurer.

At the National level, as before Kevin has been a delegate on council for at least 30 years serving a 6 year term in the Vice President role, 3 years as National President and then a further 3 years as immediate past President with a stint as Secretary to the Executive in 2015. This reflects a long period contributing to the leadership of the Association. Kevin's steady hand, thoughtful advice and years of experience have all contributed to his integral part of the Association. These lengths of service have been difficult to obtain at the regional level as our original minute book had been lost in 1984 and so Kevin may have some more years in service at a regional level.

Kevin has always served with selfless expectation from any position held having the best interests of the Association at front of mind at all times. Kevin is not noted for self praise, but this reinforces the quality of the man. His integrity, honesty and his love for family and superfine wool is what marks Kevin.