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## Welcome to our New Members

Jasmine Grant	ACACIA PARK	AP
P O Box 2045 WHYALLA NORRIE SA 5608		
Patricia Filippetto	ICALDI FARM	ICF
1925 Heathcote-Kyneton Rd MIA MIA VIC 3444		
Kayla Schroeder	TANGERINE	KGM
161 Eldon Rd WATERVIEW HEIGHTS NSW 2460		
Marian & Paul Shanahan	BWG MAPLE	MS
2B Hoddle St BURRAWANG NSW 2577		
<b>JUNIOR</b>		
Princess Sarah Dib	LILLY’S LODGE	TPS
645 Montpelier Dve THE OAKS NSW 2570		
Rod Faudell – <b>STUD NAME</b> added NARKOORI		



## President’s Message

Hello Everyone,

Spring is here. The days are getting longer. For many of you this means kids on the ground and finding out what sort of udders and production your first lactation does might have. Seemingly all the usual stuff for this time of year, however I know for some of you this is not the case. The economic pressures brought to bear by Covid has meant stock reductions for some members, fewer does mated and in some cases no does mated at all in order to lower goat related costs. How the DGSA has been affected by Covid may take several years to become fully apparent, but for some of our members the impact is real, and it is here and now. My thoughts are with all of our members that are doing it even tougher than normal.

In what has been close to a show free year in some states, there is a hint of light at the end of the tunnel. For other states, however, shows are still in the distant future. Shows are important as they help bring members together, but also because they allow the general public to encounter dairy goats – often for the very first time. A number of field days, Ag Fests, Goat Fests, etc have also been cancelled this year. Combined with the lack of shows this has dramatically decreased our “shopfront” to non-members. 2020, a year that none of us will ever forget. That all said, the DGSA has survived tough times before and we will also survive Covid. We look forward to being able to meet together in groups in 2021.

On the subject of meeting in groups, you will all be aware that we have struggled with the timing, logistics and some legal questions relating to the Society’s AGM and annual Federal Council Meeting. These matters have now all been resolved, and as you will read elsewhere in this AGW these meetings will now be proceeding on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of November as Virtual meetings utilising the Zoom platform. These arrangements should allow members who would not ordinarily travel to be part of the normal physical meetings to attend. There are quite a few Regulation 1 changes that have been sitting on the table for 18 months. These motions can finally be debated and voted on at the November meetings. For those unable to join us on the 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> of November I am hoping that we can include a summary, at least, of the outcomes of all of these motions in the December AGW.

Best wishes, *Ian*