

AND HERE IS THE LATEST NEWS.....

- **25 Jan 16** - Today I have finished sorting, classing & baling the majority of the Sunrise Park Alpacas 2015 & 2014 fleece clip for inclusion into a consignment being prepared for overseas export. This job involved sorting by colour, by micron & by length of staple. All fleece (with the exception of 9 fleece which we will retain for private sale) have now been bagged & loaded into our alpaca trailer for delivery to the consignment. Included below are photos of the mammoth job I faced at the start of the process through to when the entire 2014 & 2015 clip had been sorted, bagged & loaded onto the alpaca trailer for transport. The final shot shows the last 8 fleece that we have kept. They are all under 20 micron.



- **27 Jan 16** - Bulk fleece consignment delivered to Yaringa Alpacas in Bald Hills for inclusion with their consignment for export.
- **27 Jan 16** - SRP Brandi has an appointment with Dr Jane Vaughan, a specialist fertility vet who was visiting Yaringa Alpacas for ET procedures. Brandi has not yet delivered a cria despite being 'supposedly' pregnant on a number of occasions. It was decided that a scan was required to determine if she was currently pregnant & if not, whether there were any obvious reasons for her status. The scan showed that she was not pregnant, but all internal reproductive organs were normal, of correct size & placement & she showed no signs of infection or other abnormalities. The vet concluded that she needed further regular exposure to the mating process with a backup scan to confirm the pregnancy. A decision was made to leave Brandi at Yaringa to enable weekly matings with Legend until her pregnancy is confirmed by scan, hopefully in 8 weeks.



- **02 Feb 16** - Finally we are receiving some decent rainfall, with 18.mm registering in the gauge this morning, following 20.5mm on 30 Jan & 3.5mm on 29 Jan 16. Hopefully, we might see some green shoots appearing on the ground before long, which will certainly help with our feeding regime. We are currently feeding out hay daily & 'hard' supplementary feeding on a weekly basis. The rain is still falling with another decent recording on the cards for tomorrow.
- **04 Feb 16** - Today we made our very first animal sales & are happy to announce that Sunrise Park Priapus & Sunrise Park Doriet have been purchased by Sharon Harrison from [Sharanpa](#). We wish them well in their new home & hope they fit in nicely with Sharon's herd. We are sure they will fulfill whatever purpose Sharon has in mind for them & will go some way to effectively increasing her herd over the coming years.



Bye Doriet!



Enjoy your new home, Pria!

- **07 Feb 16** - Chris, (with a little help) has spent this week improving our fencing to prevent the escape of those of our 'critters' (sheep, cria, lambs & dogs), who all seem to think the grass is greener on the other side of the fence, or in the next paddock or worse still, in next-doors paddock, or even, along the roadside! So far, he has completed ring-locking the fences down one side of the driveway & most of the front paddocks. All up, he has done 4 fences in 2 days. What an effort!



Four fences now ring-locked to prevent animal escapees.

- **07 Feb 16** - Looking forward to our impending cria births for the season. We only have 2 due this year, as we ran a limited mating season due to the lack of feed & to being unable to decrease our stock numbers as much as we would have liked. Callista (mated to Conquistador), & due at the end of February, is currently carrying her 4th cria since being at Sunrise Park (she is the Dam to; Brandi, Bakardy & Princess), whilst Valentine, who is due to drop in mid-April is carrying her 1st cria. Valentine was mated to Classic Darkness Before Dawn, owned by Yaringa Alpacas. We are eager to see both productions!



Callista is nearly ready to drop!



Val has 1 month to go!

- **09 Feb 16** - Today I have been busy preparing my entry forms for the Mt Pleasant Show which will be held on Saturday, 19th March. I am entering 8 alpacas including: SRP Quistiara, SRP Otto, SRP Rex Spirituum, SRP Conelena, SRP Princess, SRP Gynti, SRP El Dorado & SRP Pinto Amelie. We are hoping they grab a few ribbons between them!



- **16 Feb 16** - Today we celebrated the birth of our first cria of the season. A little dark brown girl born to Callista (following her mating to Conquistador) at 1020 hrs, after what seemed to be a very short birth. Bub was sitting soon after delivery, but was pretty reluctant to get up on her feet. After taking 30 mls of glucose solution, she was on her feet within 10 mins & finally suckling from Mum at 1140 hrs. She is a nice size & has all the bits in the right places. I have named her Sunrise Park Lysandra.



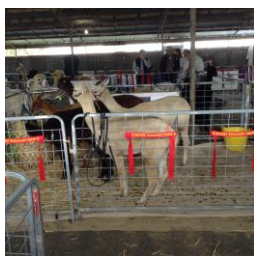
- **25 Feb 16** - We farewelled 2 of our newly wethered 'boys' who have been sold to novice alpaca owners, Sam & Jemima Snelling from Aldgate. We hope SRP Arrow & SRP Marquis (aka Bear) will be happy in their new home & hope Sam & Jemima will be equally happy enjoying their first foray into the wonderful world of alpacas!



- **17 Mar 16** - Today we farewelled Yaringa Amigo & SRP Randolph (arguably our best 2 guards), who were sold to Adrian Wait from E.G. Wait Pty Ltd as sheep guards for his property at Tintinara. This is his first venture into using alpaca guards with his flock & we know that he will not regret his purchase of our 2 'boys'. Adrian has indicated that if all goes well, he may be in the market for 4 additional guards next year. We certainly hope so!



- **19 Mar 16** - We attended another delightful rural show at Mt Pleasant today, taking 8 of our alpaca, including 5 females & 3 males. We were extremely worried about their presentation condition, as it rained quite heavily prior to loading and our animals were not under cover & got quite wet & bedraggled. Fortunately, the 1 hr journey & the 10 am show start worked in our favour & allowed all the animals to dry out prior to the commencement of the judging. It was a long day with a 7 am start & entries in both Male & Female classes ranging from Junior, to Intermediate, Adult & even Senior. We were even more thrilled to take out 3 x Second place ribbons. These were awarded to: SRP Quistiara in Class 303 - Intermediate (12<18mths) Female - Med/Dark Fawn, SRP Princess in Class 502 - Adult (18<30mths) Female - Light Fawn & finally, to SRP Conelena in Class 504 - Adult (18<30mths) Female - Brown. Connie managed to win her ribbon despite being presented with a right eye which was showing signs of a recurrent eye infection which we have been treating for some time. We had a wonderful day but were glad to get home at around 7pm & return our animals to their paddocks & other alpaca friends.



- **21 Mar 16** - Our 2 weanling boys, Otto & Rex are now being integrated into the paddock with the Big Boys, Conquistador, Bakardy, El Dorado, Cougar & Matador. Unfortunately, it didn't quite go to plan, as Bakardy somehow decided that Rex was a female & needed to be mated. As a result, we separated the weanlings & left them in the Race compound overnight with Matador & Quisty in the hope that things would be calmer tomorrow. The next morning, Bakardy seemed to have calmed down, but by this time, Quisty had decided that he could no longer tolerate Otto, so this time, I moved Otto & Rex into the main paddock with all the Big Boys except Quisty & Cougar who remained in the Race. It looks like this process is going to take a few days!
- **22 Mar 16** - Good news received from Susan Haese who has been agisting & monitoring our female, Brandi during her recent matings & spitoffs with Alpacaspecialist Legend. The pregnancy scan undertaken by Dr Jane Vaughan today indicates that Brandi is currently 4 wks pregnant. This is great news considering the on again off again pregnancies we have endured with Brandi during the last 2 yrs. To ensure her pregnancy has further time to establish & strengthen, Brandi will remain at Yaringa for the next 6-8 wks to ensure that all continues to go as expected. We look forward to having her home in April or May, but we are more eager for the birth of her 1st cria next year. Many thanks go to Susan Haese & Dr Jane Vaughan for their expertise, assistance & care in getting Brandi to this point.

- **24 Mar 16** - We have finally overcome the issues being experienced in getting Otto & Rex integrated into the Adult Male herd. Bakardy has stopped regarding Rex as a female & Quisty has now stopped attacking & being aggressive to them. All animals are now settled together in the top front paddock, which will make it much easier for feeding, maintenance & husbandry tasks.



- **25 Mar 16** - Well, we thought we'd solved the integration problem, but it seems that Quisty has other ideas, so he & Cougar have now been separated from the rest of the boys & we spend some time at feed time each day with Quisty, Otto & Rex in a small yard where we can control their interaction. Hopefully in a day or 2 we will be able to leave them in the pen alone together & eventually, let them all out into the paddock together permanently.
- **02 Apr 16** - After finally having all the males together in the same paddock for a day or two, it appears that the unrest is not going to abate. The 2 youngsters are being monstered by their older counterparts & in the interests of their safety & to bring back harmony to the male herd, the 2 young boys have been moved in with Alfred, Allan & our Wiltipoll ewes. All animals are much happier & peace now reigns in the paddocks!



- **04 Apr 16** - 3 of our remaining 8 fleeces were sold today via the Australian Animal Fibre Sales Facebook page. We hope Christine Brockett will be happy with the purchase of Fleece by Otto, Rex & Gynti. We look forward to seeing some pics of their fleece after Christine has spun it & produced some fine product.



- **06 Apr 16** - Visited Arcadian Alpacas at Wistow today to check out their selection of Stud Males with a view to organising matings for 4 of our females. We had a comprehensive tour & useful discussions with Denise Moysey & Tom Gouldie & have now decided on our 2016 mating strategy. We will be returning to Arcadian Alpacas on 13 Apr 16 to undertake the matings of Sunrise Park Princess with Arcady Rum Punch, Yaringa Amber with Blackgate Lodge Sunseeker & both Sunrise Park Candi & Yaringa Regina Nocturnum with Arcady Quidam.
- **09 Jun 16** - Brandi's finally back home! Following a spate of fertility issues, Brandi was taken over to Yaringa Alpacas on 27 Jan 16 for an appointment with the specialist alpaca vet, Dr Jane Vaughan. Following a scan which indicated that she was not pregnant, she was re-mated with Alpacaspecialist Legend on 7 Feb 16 & a pregnancy was finally confirmed by scan on 22 Mar 16. She has spent the intervening weeks on agistment at Yaringa Alpacas in order to establish her pregnancy & to ensure that she had negotiated the first trimester without any further problems. We are happy to say, that all is well, she is still spitting & is now back with her herd mates at Sunrise Park. We look forward to seeing her first progeny in Jan 2017. Whilst we were collecting Brandi from Yaringa Alpacas, we also took Juliet to be mated with Classic Darkness before Dawn (in lieu of Valentine, who is also experiencing some fertility issues) & Valentine for checking. Juliet's mating was quick & easy & hopefully, she will soon show the appropriate signs during 'spit' tests. Surprisingly, Valentine sat during Juliet's mating, which meant there was no requirement for further medical treatment prior to undertaking a new mating. However, in order to reduce the stress on her, we decided to mate her with our own stud male, Bakardy, until such time as she is able to continue a pregnancy to term.

She sat quite happily after our return to Sunrise Park & we hope that she too will soon be displaying the appropriate pregnancy behaviours. The pics below were taken during the mating of Valentine & Bakardy.

