



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This year the theme for Sheepvention is Managing Change

A Sheepvention theme creates a focus to tie in all the activities that happen over the 2-day event. It is also quite relevant at present, as there are big changes happening within the agricultural sector and the broader community, such as land use change, climate change and economic change.

There will also be changes at Sheepvention 2009. Alterations are occurring to make the lay out of the grounds and site numbering system more user friendly. We are currently working on establishing a shearing and wool handling competition, an exclusive food and wine area, and an expansion of the Alpaca Show. The Sheepvention committee has also developed a new image for our programs, prospectus and catalogues.

As part of the on-going development of the Showgrounds the Hamilton P & A Society are planning a new conference and catering facility.

There will also be the usual competitions and attractions that Sheepvention has become well known for - the Ram Sale, Sheep Show (Hampshire Downs feature breed), Ewe Weaner Competition, Farm Dogs Championships, Specialist Seminars and Inventions 2009 along with the Fashion Parade and Young Designer Wool Awards. Again the trade will be as diverse as in the past, catering for families through to the primary producer.

2008 was another fantastic event, with near record sales in the Ram Sales. There was a distinctly positive and enthusiastic feel in 2008, and it is again felt in the lead-up to this year's event, as the committee and volunteers that make the event happen, plan for Sheepvention 2009.

It is a great feeling to be involved with the planning of a continually evolving event that benefits all our community.

**Simon Menzel, President
Sheepvention 2009**

managing climate change & economic change