



International *Back to Back* Wool Challenge

Media Release

World Results

Sunday 12th June 2016

Europeans Spinning a Wool Record

Groenewoud team of handspinners & knitters from the **Netherlands & Germany** handspun and knitted a jumper from sheep's back to theirs in a new European & The Netherlands record time to win this year's *International Back to Back Wool Challenge*.

And their time - **just touch under TEN MINUTES** off the *Guinness World Record*.

Australia's Merriwa Jumbucks at Merriwa, NSW, hold the **World Record Time** of **4 hours 51 minutes and 14 seconds** established in 2004.

Tocal Agricultural College at Paterson in New South Wales hosted the **Newcastle Knitwits team**, the final team in the world to compete, their time being **6 hours 31 minutes 19 seconds**, gaining second place.

Six teams of blade shearers, handspinners and knitters entered at their **different venues** around four world countries in the *twenty second* Challenge, completed on or before Sunday 12th June 2016.

Each team consisted of **a blade shearer**, a country of origin **sheep** and **seven handspinners** (with spinning wheels) and **knitters** who follow the identical Challenge rules and pattern to knit **the adult size jumper**.

Each team not only promoted wool world wide but raised substantial funds for Cancer Research.

Countries competing with **Australia** this year included **The Netherlands, Canada & United States of America**.

Results:-

First :- *Groenewoud Garden Guesthouse, Swalmen, The Netherlands* **5 hours 01 minute 07 seconds.**

Second:- *Spinning Knitwits Newcastle , Tocal Agricultural College, Paterson, NSW, Australia*
6hours 31minutes 19 seconds.

Third:- *Poly Westers Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada* **7 hours 47 minutes 00 seconds**

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Sunday 12th June 2016 ~ 5pm Australian Eastern Time

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Guinness World Record Time :-

**4 hours 51 minutes 14 seconds ~ Merriwa Jumbucks ~
Merriwa ~ NSW ~ 2004**

2016 Awards:-

Scottish Wool Centre Trophy - The winning team world wide.

Groenewoud, Netherlands/Germay Swalmen, The Netherlands **5hr 01min 07sec**

City of Geelong Trophy - Winning Australian team.

Spinning Knitwits, Newcastle, Patterson, NSW, **6 hr 31min 19sec**

Shipway Trophy - For the winning New South Wales, Australia, team.

Spinning Knitwits, Newcastle, Patterson, NSW, **6hr 31min 19sec**

Canadian Cooperative Wool Growers Ltd Trophy for the winning Canadian team.

Poly Westers Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada **7 hr 47 min 00 sec**

Brigadoon Trophy- The team with the greatest donation to charity.

Results to be announced when all the results are in.

2016 Results

Annual Challenge

22nd International *Back to Back* Wool Challenge

Promoting Wool World Wide
Fund Raising for Cancer Research

PLACE	TEAM	2016 TIME	PREVIOUS BEST TIME
FIRST	<i>Groenewond</i> -	Groenewond 8, Swalmen, The Netherlands	
		5 hr 01 min 07 sec	5 hr 01 min 28 sec 2015
		NEW MAINLAND EUROPE RECORD	NEW THE NETHERLANDS RECORD.
SECOND	<i>Spinning Knitwits Newcastle</i> -	Tocal via Patterson, NSW, Australia	
		6hr 31min 19sec	5hr 43min 26sec 2004
THIRD	<i>Poly Westers</i> -	Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada	
		7hr 47min 00sec	8hr 35min 27sec 2013
FORTH	<i>San Diego County Spinners</i> -	Bonita, California, USA	
		8hr 41min 00sec	8 hr 9 min 5sec USA RECORD
FIFTH	<i>Maritime Gimmers</i> -	Gaspereau Valley, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Canada	
		9hr 53min 48sec	9hr 11min 49.54sec 2015
SIXTH	<i>Shear Luck</i> -	Bloomfield, New Brunswick, Canada	
		10hr 32min 00sec	13hr 36min 45sec 2014

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