

Wool producer's daughter wins Australian Wool Fashion Awards

ABC Rural Cassie Hough

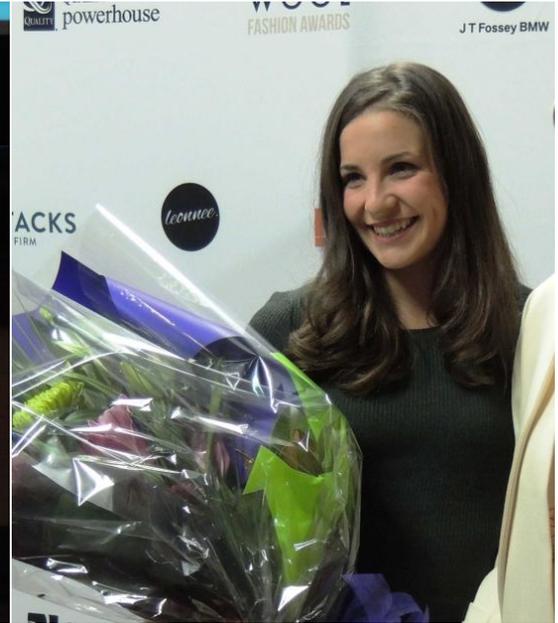
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TAWFA Secondary School award winner Mary Carter, Kentucky, with her dress on the model.
(Cassie Hough)

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Lucy Virgona (left) from Sydney with her winning design at
(Cassie Hough)



GALLERY: The Australian Wool Fashion Awards.

A wool producer's daughter has won the Secondary School award, at The Australian Wool Fashion Awards, for her take on the theme

New England Girls' School student, Mary Carter, from near Kentucky in northern New South Wales, was elated with her win which included a hat and a dress. She is a Design and Commerce student in Sydney.

Miss Carter was donated about two metres of wool jersey fabric to make her outfit which was a part of the showcase in Tamworth, northern New South Wales.

"I've always had sheep since I was young, and recently I've been able to understand the microns of wool and the inner depth of merino wool," she said.

"It's such a beautiful natural fibre to work with, it's not always that itchy jumper, you can also make it into beautiful evening wear dresses as well."

Lucy Virgona, from Sydney, won the Supreme Award for her cream and orange race wear outfit, using wool produced by Albury Wodonga woolgrowers.

"There are over 15 metres of fabric in it the dress due to the different drape and shapes within the dress," she said.

"Everything I design is foremost about wool and using wool in whatever way I can from basic active wear to the red carpet, I think there's so much to be done with wool."

Liz Foster started the wool fashion awards in 1981 and after handing over the reins for the event actually got to see the parade for the first time.

"It's wonderful to think that I have somebody really young, with as much fire and passion as I had when I was younger, so to see someone who is so talented."

Designers Sarah Jane Clark and Jonathon Ward as well as television personality Catriona Rowntree judged this year's Australian Wool Fashion Awards.

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