

# Chance to meet the amazing alpaca family

**JESSICA CLEMENT**

**GALSTON** farmer Sue Maynard remembers the exact moment the humble alpaca stole her heart.

"I had always been an animal person but I can remember watching the Easter parade in 1991 and thinking 'what are these amazing animals?'," she said.

Fast forward 20 years and Ms Maynard, along with partner John Hay, are the driving force behind the champion-producing Gunnamatta Stud at Galston.

Mr Hay and Ms Maynard are on a high after a prestigious victory at the Hawkesbury Agricultural Show.

The stud's prized medium fawn adult male Gunnamatta Catalyst was awarded the show's supreme champion.

This weekend Gunnamatta will throw open its doors to the public as part of National Alpaca Week.

The open days will give the community a chance to get up close to these curious fleece-producing animals.

"They're very interesting animals and they all have different personalities. There's a real pecking order with alpacas," Mr Hay said.

"They have this appeal that makes people, old and young, fall for them."

● Head to Gunnamatta Stud on Saturday or Sunday at 16 Mansfield Rd, Galston from 10am-4pm. Details: 9653 2277



**Sue Maynard and John Hay (left) run an award-winning alpaca farm at Galston, called Gunnamatta Stud, and it is open to the public this weekend.**

Pictures: PETER KELLY



More information and frequently asked questions about alpacas  
[www.hornsbyadvocate.com.au](http://www.hornsbyadvocate.com.au)