

may 2009

australian
belted
galloway
association

Welcome to our new *look!*

We're having a whole new look at the way we can present things. Check out what's inside and let us know if you like the changes so far!

We hope that we can improve things over the coming issues by including more facts and information on growing Belties.

But it is about YOU.

This newsletter can develop its full potential if we pull together and share our experiences.

What are your dreams? How are you going about them? What success have you had? What problems are you experiencing and how do you think you will overcome them? What have you learnt? What are your real thoughts and opinions? What can you share with others?

The Australian beltie story is YOUR story!

We'd love it if you would take the time to jot down a few words to tell it. Maybe you've made a good sale, had success in a show or carcass comp, made inroads into a new market or learnt something new?

Or, if you've just started out, why not send us your questions? We can print them and perhaps someone will respond with practical advice for you. And we'll print that too...to everybody's benefit!

So get to it! We will be publishing again in August so make sure your copy and photos are submitted by the middle of July to Rebecca Avery dravery@netspace.net.au (Tel: 03 5688 1038).

*There's an opportunity here, people...
GO FOR IT!*



*breeding
better
beef*

Belties in Trial Breeding Programme with Preferred Angus Breeder

In a positive move for the Belted Galloway breed, Barry Henderson of *Skibo Downs*, near Gloucester, NSW and a preferred Angus Breeder (800 cow herd) for Certified Angus Beef, have joined forces with Terry and Karen Pierce's Peppercorn Belted Galloway Stud, Barrington NSW in a trial breeding programme of joining Belted Galloway bulls to 165 heifers, six months earlier than the normal age of 26 or 27 months.

The aim is to produce a slightly smaller calf ensuring heifers experience problem-free calving. Its intended that the Skibo Downs heifers retained from this mob are likely to have an extra calf during their breeding life.

Steve Murray has been the property manager for Skibo Downs for the past seven years. Born into the cattle business, he used to be a meat buyer responsible for buying meat for Woolworths.

"We have normally calved down our previous straight-bred angus heifers as three year olds as we didn't get the growth in our location as you would in, say, the tablelands," Steve said.

"Now that we have two-year old crossbreds as big as our 3-yr-old straights, we are able reduce the joining age by six to eight months. This is our third group to achieve this."

"This time round we are using beltie bulls. Last time we used Santa and Angus bulls. Those cows are calving now."

Skibo Downs follows Dept. of Agriculture guidelines for cattle production. "Essentially, this means they favour Angus," said Steve.

"We were looking for Angus bulls to lease, not buy. They were to do only the one job and it seemed silly to buy. We initially approached two Angus studs but they wanted to only sell bulls, so we needed to find an alternative."

Despite initial doubts by the owner about using Belties, Steve Murray felt optimistic. "The Belties just fell into our lap. Really, we had always chosen Angus for convenience. As long as someone came in with a low birth weight breed that suited our environment, they would have got the contract. Terry Pierce got there first," said Steve.

"Its basically a dollar decision, not a breed one. If using Belties don't make the dollars, they'll be dispensed with."

Next Newsletter out in August 2009!

Deadline for copy submissions is Friday 17th July 2009 – no exceptions! Earlier submission would be appreciated.

Submissions should be emailed to the newsletter editor, Rebecca Avery at dravery@netspace.net.au

Front Cover Photo: Bekadan Bonnie, Best Exhibit, Sydney Royal 2009 with breeder, Merv Presland.

Disclaimer: Opinions in this publication may or may not be the opinions of the Australian Belted Galloway Association Inc. or of its members. Information published is of a general nature only and offered in good faith. Readers are advised to rely on their own enquiries and seek further advice from appropriate sources.



Peppercorn Wisdom - Senior Champion Bull Sydney Royal 2004 (also Grand Champion Bull Sydney & Brisbane Royals 2003).

"However, our first priority is to get calves out of the heifers, the second priority is to make a profit."

While the bottom line is of prime importance, Steve is quite positive about using Belties.

"About 30 years ago, I saw Brahman x Beltie cows and consider them as good a mob as any I had seen for that type of country [Northern Rivers]," said Steve.

"I also recently saw a small hobby farmer I know with six new pet belties, sitting on his porch drinking a beer and patting his cow. I thought to myself, if a novice owner can do that with a new cow then the breed must be pretty quiet and easy to deal with."

Eighty percent of the heifers being joined are Angus x Santa Gertrudis, with the remaining twenty per cent Angus or Angus cross heifers.

Four of Peppercorn's Belted Galloway bulls, Peppercorn Xtra (6794-ABGA), Peppercorn Wisdom (6239-ABGA), Peppercorn Albert (7827-ABGA) and Peppercorn Appollo (7824-ABGA), were put to the heifers for a period of eight weeks starting on 1st May.

Two more beltie bulls, Barrington Lazarus (10549 - GC&BMA), from the Pierce's second stud *Barrington*, and Peppercorn Ben (7832-ABGA) will act as cleanup bulls for the following three weeks. All bulls are 100% full blood.

Heifers will commence calving in early January. All calves will be weaned in July 2010.

After having calved their beltie progeny, the Skibo Downs heifers will then be joined to Skibo Downs' bulls, uniting with the main herd's normal calving programme to calve in June/July.

Skibo Downs may retain some F1 heifer calves for ongoing trials with their new crossbreed.

The rest of the trial progeny will be sold privately or to the marketplace, and about 50 F1 heifers and around 80 steers should be available after weaning in July 2010.

One possibility is to unload them into the vealer market via the Northern Co-operative Meat Company at Casino. Steve doesn't anticipate any prejudice. "If they are good enough, they will match other breeds in price. Because in that market, breed is not an issue," he said.

- Terry Pierce (Peppercorn-165), NSW, April 2009
Steve Murray interviewed by Andrew Monaghan, April 2009

news

ABGA Steer awarded inaugural Beltie Carcass Champion Shield

An ABGA-registered steer, Jandrew Charles (8221-ABGA) has been recognized by the Galloway Cattle and Beef Marketing Association and awarded the inaugural 2009 Belted Galloway Carcass Champion Shield for the highest scoring Belted Galloway bred by a GC&BMA member in 2008.

Jandrew Charles scored 85.97 points in the Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza carcass competition held in November at Scone NSW last year. This event was reported in detail in the December 2008 ABGA newsletter.

The GC&BMA felt the Beltie community has been well served by a number of individuals who have sought to breed for muscle and correct structure with good results. Belted Galloways are now being bred that have equal carcass qualities to many other breeds including solid Galloways. Belties and their crosses are now successfully challenging more familiar breeds in carcass competitions. It was felt a separate award for Belties would honour this type of Galloway and encourage its development.

The GC&BMA's Jim Wilson Memorial Trophy for the highest scoring Solid Galloway carcass was awarded to Greg Stuart (*Minto*) for a steer scoring 81.59 points. The 2008 recipient of this award was Merv Presland (*Bekadan-506*) for a beltie steer scoring 89.92 points.

- GC&BMA, March 2009

NSW advertising working well

The fortnightly running of advertisements in the livestock classifieds section of the NSW weekly newspaper *The Land* is proving successful. The repetitive ad promotes Belted Galloways and the ABGA.

"Every time the ad runs, we always get enquiries here at the Livestock Business Centre from the public for the ABGA info pack," says Kerren Britton, who is also the ABGA Federal Secretary. "Sometimes as many as three or four enquiries a week."

"The recent editorial and advertising in *Small Farms* magazine also produced phone calls, and information packs have gone out to these potential members."

- Kerren Britton, LBC Kiama NSW, April 2009

Stock Owners Fined for sending tick-infested cattle to Saleyards

Two north coast livestock owners have each been fined \$550 for sending cattle tick infested cattle to market.

Regional veterinary officer with NSW DPI, Paul Freeman said the most recent detection at Lismore saleyards on February 23 involved three head of cattle originating from the Mullumbimby area. "The earlier detection at Murwillumbah saleyards on February 1 involved six head of cattle from the Tumbulgum area," Mr Freeman said.

Stud Beef Victoria Cattle Handlers Camp 2009!

This wonderful Handlers Camp started in 1988 by Stud Beef to ensure that the next generations were properly educated in cattle skills. Participants are instructed on handling cattle – how to wash, groom and clip cattle, etc. Everyone has heaps of fun learning in a relaxed, friendly & caring environment!

The Camp is for the young (from 8 yrs) to the young at heart (ie. 70s). Participants come from a wide range of backgrounds and cattle skill levels.

Talk to Carol (from RASV) on 03 9281 7407, or Allen (Stud Beef Victoria Chairman) on 03 5787 1560. They will be able to answer all your questions.

Where? Melbourne Showground
When? 7th – 10th July 2009
How Much? \$140 pp if paid by 5th June
(\$160 if paid by closing date, 19th June)

Entry forms and further deals are available on the web site: www.studbeef.com.au/handlers

Gain confidence! Open up a whole new world!
Enrol today & reap the benefits for years to come!
Many great friendships are made at Handlers Camp.

-Kerry Heazlewood, Victorian Councillor

"These cattle were clearly infested with ticks which could easily be seen on the animals from three or four metres away," he said.

Mr Freeman reminded stockowners in the north of the State to check their cattle for ticks and ensure their boundary fences were secure to stop the spread of ticks.

"It is important that stockowners have good biosecurity, that is, they keep their fences in good order and they check, and possibly treat, their stock for ticks or disease before moving them to another property.

"Producers have a responsibility under the *Stock Diseases Act*, to ensure that stock infested with cattle ticks are not delivered to saleyards."

Cattle ticks are a Notifiable Disease that can spread tick fever, which has potential to cause damage to the State's beef and dairy industries. The tail butt and the area between the animal's back legs are where ticks are often found.

Information sheets on how to inspect cattle for ticks and how to identify ticks are available from North Coast offices of NSW DPI and the Livestock Health and Pest Authority.

- NSW Dept. of Primary Industries Press Release, March 2009

Xmas Party Raffle Winners

The results of the special effort at the Victorian Breeders Christmas Party are 1st: Terry Cliff, 2nd: Michelle Bancroft, 3rd: Lucy Cruff and 4th: Pam Edwards. A total of \$195 was raised for the feature show. We wish to thank all that purchased tickets and those who generously donated prizes.

- Rebecca Avery, VIC Councillor

Feeding the Beast:

A beginners guide to carcass competitions



Merv Presland (Bekadan - 506) has been feeding steers for carcass competitions since the 1980s with great success. In 2000, he first fed Belties bred by Peter Koppman (Greenthorpe) before setting up his own stud in 2002. With a steer of his own breeding, he

won Champion Lightweight Steer at Sydney Royal in 2007, the first time a Belted Galloway had been awarded a broad ribbon in this competition. The full blood steer achieved 89.92 points. This was also the year that Belties managed to achieve 2nd place in the prestigious Stan Hill trophy. Here, Merv provides some of his tips for feeding steers.

Researching and planning ahead is essential before entering your steer. Outside of the feeding and fattening regime, much of the preparation and organization required is similar to stud showing.

Start planning at least four to five months ahead. Obtain a copy of the rules and learn the specifications for the competition you are interested in. You need to know that you have chosen an animal that meets the specifications. Get advice on selecting the appropriate animal from an experienced steer feeder or breeder, or approach your local DPI beef cattle officer for help.

Study the general maturity patterns of beef cattle and compare and assess you own herd in this regard to discover how your animals may differ.

Some competitions are for milk tooth animals and some competitions are for two tooth animals. Your steer must only have milk teeth and no erupting mature teeth for a milk tooth competition.

Identify your feeding strategy and appropriate ration. Most animals in average condition take approximately 90-100 days on grain feed (not grass) to 'finish'.

Introduce grain feeding slowly until the complete feed ration eventually equals 3% of the animal's body weight. Monitor the quantity of feed being eaten – you want to know if any is being left to go off.

Cattle like routine. Ensure that you feed consistently, sticking everyday to the same feeding pattern you established at the beginning. Introduce any changes to the ration slowly.

Drench your animal at the beginning ensuring that they are worm and parasite free.

Weigh regularly to monitor progress. If the steer is not gaining at least 1kg a day, seek advice.

Start breaking in the steers in much the same manner as you would for showing stud stock. This will include washing, clipping and leading.

Be patient with breaking in. Its imperative to remove or reduce as much stress as possible so that the eating pattern is not interrupted.

Complete the paperwork on time. Check that the NLIS number is correct and accurate. Ensure that you take to the show a completed Vendor Declaration form and a copy of the competition schedule. Make sure you have spare copies on file.

At the show, procedures are much the same as for stud showing. Check your schedule for weigh-in times – and don't miss it! After the steers are judged on the hoof, follow instructions as to the loading of the steers for their journey to the abattoir.

Judging of the carcass will generally happen on the day after slaughter when enough time has passed for the carcass to chill. Results are generally announced that evening or the following day.

Most people generally enter steers over heifers due to a better muscle to fat ratio. Steers also generally yield higher. However some competitions do allow heifer entries.

It is not necessary to have purebred or full blood stock to participate in a steer competition. Many competitions cater for commercial or trade steers.

If you do have purebred or fullblood stock, there are often sections for these animals to compete in. However, not all competitions require these entries to be registered with an appropriate breed society. The purebred or fullblood claim is often only limited to the honesty of the breeder.

Clarification – this article was originally published in an edited form in the December 2008 issue of The Land's lifestyle farming magazine, Farming Small Areas, and accredited to me. The article was developed as a series of articles forming a media release focusing on the achievements of Merv and Chifley College, Shalvey NSW regarding feeding steers, and following the journey of two beltie steers involved in the 2008 Scone Carcass Competition. While I wrote the actual article, the source of information was actually Merv Presland – and that didn't come across properly in FSA edited version. The article is reprinted here in its original form and without editing.

- Andrew Monaghan (Jandrew-427), NSW

Champion steer-feeder, Merv Presland passes on some personal hints!

- If you use prepared pellets that are buffered, you have a greater margin for error regarding the amount of grain/concentrate you start to feed with initially.
- If the steer is early maturing and that causes it to run to fat too early, slow down the quantity of concentrated feed.
- Use cereal hay, not lucerne. Lucerne, a green feed, can colour the fat yellow causing a loss of points (white fat is more commercially desirable).
- Feeding longer chaff (5-8cm) rather than shorter chaff (1-2.5cm) slows down feed travelling through the system enabling better absorption of nutrients.

in print

Belling the Opposition!

A double-page article with the above title featured in the February 2009 edition of The Land's *Farming Small Areas*, with more on the theme of carcass competitions, and breeders Peter Koppman (*Greenthorpe, Vombatus-129*), pictured right with *Greenthorpe Dennis the Menace (8489 – ABGA)*, and Andrew Monaghan (*Jandrew-427*) who entered the first belties into the 2008 Scone NSW Competition. Here's an extract:

'If anybody is responsible for placing Belted Galloways firmly on the carcass competition map, its Peter Koppman, of Bumbaldry, near Cowra in Central West NSW.

Mr Koppman, who has been breeding belties and solid Galloways in his studs, Vombatus and Greenthorpe, since the early 1990s, after a few years of stud showing turned his attention in 1996 to carcass competitions with remarkable success.

Past achievements include the 2008 champion on the hoof at the Goulbourn Hoof and Hook Competition, and displaying the 2007 lightweight champion carcass at Cootamundra.

The 351-kilogram steer at Cootamundra had a 70-square centimeter ribeye and a carcass score of 82.5 points.

The steer's carcass would have scored 88.5 points under the older ABCAM system, half a point shy of his highest-scoring beltie carcass.



"If the animals score well, it shows they have a legitimate commercial and trade value."

In the past six years at the Sydney Royal, belties posted two fourths and a second in the Stan Hill trophy, which is a very respectable result for any breed.

Many schools – including Oakhill College, Castle Hill; Bede Polding College, South Windsor, and Richmond High, Richmond – have all prepared Koppman steers, an effort he appreciates.

"Without these schools, it would have been much harder to bring the Belted Galloways' carcass attributes to the attention of the meat-producing community," he said.'

questions & answers

Year Tattooing

Would someone be able to tell me the tattoo letter for 2008? I know 2007 was the letter B but I don't know if they are consecutive e.g. A, B, C, D, etc.

- Mark Wensley (*Minhamite - 457*), QLD

Firstly, 2007 is actually the C year, not B. And yes, the letters generally do run consecutively. The year letter for 2008 is the letter D. In each newsletter, the Year Letter is published (see box below), so keep an eye out for it.

Year Tattooing

2006 – B
2007 – C
2008 – D
2009 – E
2010 – F
2011 – G
2012 – H

Year Letter 2009

E

Before you tattoo your animal, *double-check* that you have the tattoo letters assembled right in the tattoo pliers. Test this on a piece of cardboard to see if it is correct.

Make sure you have clipped the ear hair right back and sterilize by cleaning thoroughly with methylated spirits. Make sure the pliers are also sterile.

Place tattoo paste both on the tattoo pins and the place where you will tattoo the ear. After tattooing, rub in plenty of ink well. Be generous. A toothbrush is ideal to apply the ink. Green ink seems to be better.

Try to get the tattoo well into the ear. Try not to tattoo over the veins. Generally there will be a nice space between the two major veins in the middle of the ear.

Make sure that you head bail the animal. Clamp the plier's jaws firmly together so that the pins will pass through the flesh - and expect the animal to jump!

If you have made a mistake tattooing, get back in contact and we will see what we can do to fix it. Let me know how you've got on.

- Francie MacLean, NSW Councillor

Got a query? Need an answer?

Send your question to our newsletter editor, Rebecca Avery at dravery@netspace.net.au and we'll print it here!

show business

2008 Geelong Royal VIC

Belted Galloways were exhibited at Royal Geelong show on Friday October 17th 2008 and judged by Peter Cyosra. Three studs presented a total of eleven animals. These were Bellandean, Manoora Park and Cumbria.

Results

Bull 20-24 months

Cumbria Buttermere Dundraw

Bull over 2½ years

Bellandean Scott

Champion Bull

Bellandean Scott

Reserve Champion

Cumbria Buttermere Dundraw

Heifer 8-12 months

Cumbria Branthwaite Lady 9th

Heifer 12-16 months

Manoora Park Cassandra

Heifer 16-20 months

Bellandean Watch This Space
Cumbria Brayton Lady 10th

Junior Champion Heifer

Bellandean Watch This Space

Reserve Champion Heifer

Cumbria Brayton Lady 10th

Cow 20-24 months

Bellandean Fiona
Cumbria Branthwaite Lady 8th

Cow over 2½ years

Bellandean Fifi
Manoora Park Aurelia
Cumbria Branthwaite Duchess 12th

Senior Champion Female

Bellandean Fifi

Reserve Champion Female

Bellandean Fiona

Group of Three

Bellandean
Cumbria

Pair of Females

Bellandean
Cumbria

- Rebecca Avery, VIC Councillor

2008 Ballarat Show VIC

Ballarat Show was held on November 8th 2008 with Jonathon Crilly as judge. Due to knee injury, Bill Virtue of Manoora Park was unable to attend which left Cumbria as the only Beltie exhibitor with eight animals.

Results

Female 9-14 months

Cumbria Branthwaite Lady 9th
Cumbria Branthwaite Lady 10th

Female 15-20 months

Cumbria Bayton Lady 10th

Female 21-26 months

Cumbria Branthwaite Lady 8th

Female 27 months and over

Cumbria Branthwaite Duchess 15th
Cumbria Branthwaite Duchess 12th

Bull 21-26 months

Cumbria Buttermere Dundraw
Cumbria Bewaldeth Derwent

Group of Three

Cumbria

Champion Female

Cumbria Branthwaite Lady 8th

Champion Bull

Cumbria Buttermere Dundraw

- Rebecca Avery, VIC Councillor

2008 Beaufort Show VIC

Beaufort show was held on November 16th with Peter Schembri, a Simmental breeder as judge.

There were five breeds of cattle present – Belties, Angus, Santa Gertrudis, Shorthorn and Beef Shorthorn, from eight exhibitors. Three Beltie breeders exhibited a total of twelve animals. They were Manoora Park, Rowsley Park and Cumbria.

Results

Bull 22-28 months

Cumbria Bewaldeth Derwent
Cumbria Buttermere Dundraw

Female 16 months and under

Cumbria Branthwaite Lady 10th
Rowsley Park Carla
Cumbria Branthwaite Lady 9th

Female 17-21 months

Cumbria Brayton Lady 10th
Rowsley Park Cara

show business

Female 22-28 months

Cumbria Branthwaite Lady 8th

Female 29 months and over

Manoora Park Aurelia

Cumbria Branthwaite Duchess 15th

Cumbria Branthwaite Duchess 12th

Champion Bull

Cumbria Bewaldeth Derwent

Champion Female

Manoora Park Aurelia

Most Successful Exhibitor

Cumbria

Belties had very good results in the interbreed competitions as follows:

Pair of Females

1st Rowsley Park

Pair of Bulls

3rd Cumbria

Interbreed Champion Female

Manoora Park Aurelia

Champion Bull

Cumbria Bewaldeth Derwent

SUPREME EXHIBIT OF SHOW

Manoora Park Aurelia

In the junior handlers competition for the Mathew George memorial trophy, there were 11 contestants with the trophy going to Charmane Callow and 2nd place going to Braydon Andrews, both using Belties.

All up a very good show for Belties!

- Stan Robinson (Cumbria-6), VIC

2009 Toowoomba Royal QLD

Belted Galloways were judged on Friday 27th February.

Eight animals were shown by two studs: Cassaglen (149-ABGA) and Lown Brae (208-ABGA).

Results

Class 27 - Bull, 6 months and under 12 months

1st Cassaglen Dark & Stormy (D&C Skillington)
- Calf Champion Bull
- Grand Champion Bull

2nd Cassaglen Dynamic (D&C Skillington)

Class 28 - Bull, 12 months and under 15 months

1st Cassaglen Dinkum (D&C Skillington)
- Reserve Calf Champion Bull

2nd Cassaglen Dinga (D&C Skillington)

Class 33 - Female, 6 months and under 12 months

1st Cassaglen Dazzle (D&C Skillington)
- Calf Champion Female

2nd Lown Brae Danza (C&R Walker)
- Reserve Calf Champion Female

Class 38 - Female, 24 months and over

1st Lown Brae Bonita (C&R Walker)
- Senior Champion Female
- Grand Champion Female

2nd Cassaglen Beckstar (D&C Skillington)
- Reserve Senior Champion Female

Class 38 - Breeders Group

1st D&C Skillington (Cassaglen)

- Andrew Monaghan (Jandrew- 427), NSW

2009 Canberra Royal NSW

Belted Galloways were judged on Friday 27th February.

Six animals were shown. Two studs participated, showing stalwart *Twin Oaks* (276-ABGA, W & K Edwards) and first-timer *Bekadan* (506-ABGA, M & B Presland), although animals from four studs were actually represented.

Results

Class 53 - Bull, over 20 months and not over 24 months

1st Bekadan Caesar (M & B Presland)
- Senior Champion Bull
- Grand Champion Bull

Class 58 - Heifer, over 15 months and not over 18 months

1st Twin Oaks Cheer (W & K Edwards)
- Junior Champion Female

Class 61 - Cow/Heifer, over 24 months and not 30 months

1st Hawkshead Banda Bedelia (W & K Edwards)

Class 62 - Cow, over 30 months

1st Twin Oaks Bella (W & K Edwards)
- Senior Champion Female,
- Grand Champion Female

- SUPREME CHAMPION OF THE BREED

2nd Bekadan Bonnie (M & B Presland)
- Reserve Senior Champion Female

3rd Ashleigh Antoinette (W & K Edwards)

One Belted Galloway x Red Poll steer was entered into the National Capital Steer & Heifer Hoof & Hook Competition (ABCAM employed) at Canberra. Bred by Peter Koppman (*Greenthorpe*) and prepared by Henry Lawson High School, Grenfell NSW (who named the steer 'Pork Chop'), the steer achieved a total carcass score of 82.5 points. The 'C' muscled, 314-kg steer placed 5th out of eleven steers in the Light Domestic (250-340kg) class. It dressed out at 57.3% (carcass weight was 180kg), had a 66 sq. cm ribeye, a pH of 5.55 and zero points for marbling.

Two solid Galloways also bred by Peter Koppman and prepared by Henry Lawson High School were entered into the competition's Light Domestic class, scoring 85 and 81.5

show business

points. Two White Galloways prepared by Queanbeyan High School also featured in the Medium Domestic class, and scored 68.5 and 76 points.

- Andrew Monaghan (Jandrew- 427), NSW

Celebrating 25 years at Lardner Park Farm World Field Day!



Stan and Lorna Robinson (*Cumbria*, 6-ABGA and *Koralea*, 87-ABGA)), pictured above, attained twenty-five years of exhibiting at Lardner Field Day held 26-29 March this year. This magnificent achievement is extraordinary considering Stan and Lorna live three hours drive from Lardner.

The weather was kind to all at Lardner this year, lovely sunshine most days – though many would have been very happy to have rain instead of sunshine. Stan and Lorna had lots of interest this year, with several sales already completed. Considering the bad start to the year, this is a fantastic feat.



As always, the Beltie dinner was held on the Saturday night, with delightful food and company. As a total surprise, Stan and Lorna were presented with a beautiful chocolate mud cake – with an edible photo of *Cumbria Bewaldeth Zigmund* (6198-

ABGA) on the top, and a small gift. Its not often you surprise Lorna, but this certainly did!

Farm World is Australia's premier mixed farming Field Days and held at Lardner Park, near Warrugal, VIC. Over 650 exhibitors and 50,000 people attend the 4-day annual event. The dates for 2010 are 25-28 March.

Farm World also runs a steer trial which Beltie breeders may be interested in participating in – and its not just limited to Victorian breeders! For more information, go to www.lardnerpark.com.au and check out the steer trial section. Would be great to see you involved!

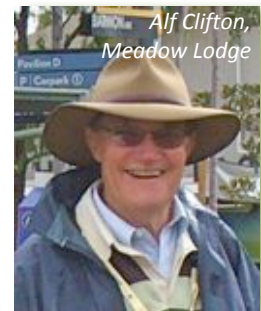
It was a great four days, and wonderful to catch up with fellow breeders. Congratulations Stan and Lorna on this achievement!

-Kerry Heazlewood, Victorian Councillor

2009 Sydney Royal NSW

Stud Belted Galloways were judged on Monday 21st April, with Open Steer judging held Thursday 16th April.

Like Canberra, numbers were substantially down compared to last year, with only three belties shown by studs new to the show ring, *Bekadan* (506 – ABGA, M & B Presland) and *Sassafras* (GC&BMA, J & K Astbury). However, it was a very enjoyable experience. Nice to see breeders such as Alf Clifton (who also presented ribbons), John Ford and Terry Pierce come along, all traveling the miles and armed with encouraging and enthusiastic words.



Results

Class 245 – Female, over 30 months

- 1st Bekadan Bonnie (M & B Presland)
- Senior Champion Female
- **BEST EXHIBIT**

Class 513 - Bull, over 20 & not over 30 months

- 1st Bekadan Caesar (M & B Presland)
- Senior Champion Bull
- Grand Champion Bull

Class 514 - Bull, over 30 & not over 36 months

- 1st Peppercorn Ben (J & K Astbury)
- Reserve Senior Champion Bull

(S520) Most Successful Belted Galloway Exhibitor

- 1st Bekadan (M & B Presland)

The judge, Bronwyn Nielsen described Peppercorn Ben as “a fine young bull with a big bold head, very mobile (loved his walk), nice muscle expression down through the hindquarter, later maturing, very sound and with lovely sire appeal.”

*Bekadan Caesar with breeder, Merv Presland
at Sydney Royal 2009*



show business

2009 Sydney Royal Cattle Show Weigh & Scan results

Bull	Kgs	Gain	Rump/Rib Fat (mm)	EMA* sq. cm
Bekadan Caesar	604	0.93	20/15	108
Peppercorn Ben	524	.50	8/5	88

* EMA was scanned and competitors informed but was not included on the competition weigh and scan sheet

Bekadan Caesar was described “with tremendous muscle from shoulder right through the top line, and with good convex expression in the hindquarter.” Further comments included “ amazing thickness and depth but did not exhibit too much muscle in the brisket.”

“A textbook-quality example of Belted Galloway female attributes,” was how Bekadan Bonnie’s description began. “Has depth through the barrel, adequate thickness, beautiful teat placement, and tracks beautifully. She exemplifies a quality matron.”

Judges were noted for positive commentary on the muscularity of both the belted and solid types of Galloways appearing in the male and female Interbreed classes.

Indeed, outside the show ring, the Senior Champion Galloway Bull, Mitchaliam Destroyer (*LMD D01 - AGA*) bred by Peter Koppman and owned by M&L Davis, was much commented on for his muscling by breeders of all breeds. Some even considered this bull the best carcass of the show.

In stark contrast to last year’s Sydney Royal, where a record number of Belties were entered into the carcass competition, no Belties were eventually entered this year.

However, five solid Galloways were entered. Two were bred by Greg and Chris Stuart (*Minto*) and achieved 82 and 67.5 points, with the latter steer fed by Northholm Grammar School. The steer, entered into Class 5: - Lightweight Open Steer 331-361kg Live Weight, place 5th on the hoof, 4th on the hook in its class and 2nd in the Virtual Taste test.

Two were bred by Greg and Kathy Venticinque (*Eadale/KKT Australia Pty Ltd*) and achieved 74.5 and 68.5 points. While positive comments were given, they did not place.

The fifth steer, bred by Peter Koppman (*Greenthorpe, Vombatus*), and fed by Oakhill College achieved 83.5 points. The steer, entered into Class 4: - Lightweight Open Steer 286-333kg Live Weight, place 5th on the hoof, 1st on the hook in its class and 2nd in the Virtual Taste test. This steer was not available for selection in the Stan Hill Team.

The breed average for this show for solid Galloways was



Last minute prep before the judging, Sydney 2009



Peppercorn Ben with Jason Astbury Sydney Royal 2009

75.2 points.

In the Stan Hill Trophy, the solid Galloways placed 9th out of ten teams achieving a collective score of 224 points. Limousins, with 270 points placed first, Charolais came in second on 261 points, and Shorthorns in third position on 256.5 points.

While Merv Presland, deputy principal of Chifley College, Shalvey Campus, NSW, did not enter belties this year, the college nonetheless entered five Angus, Murray Grey and Hereford steers as part of its agricultural curriculum.

Armed with the Presland feeding touch, the college once again walked away with swag of ribbons and awards for first and various other placings that included two bronze medallions. All that can be really said here is ‘thank God he’s a beltie breeder!’

This round up has to acknowledge the trojan efforts of Phillip Brine of Hunter River High, and Tim Eyes of Tocal Agricultural College. These students gave up their school holidays to act as cattle grooms for the Galloway teams, and were impressive with their handling skills and professionalism. All studs were thankful for their presence and support. Glad to hear you’ll be back next year boys! Bring your friends - you are lots of fun!

Also, acknowledgement is to be given to the Australian Lowline kids for showing their initiative in setting up a useful cattle wash service to raise money for the Victorian bushfire victims. People across all breeds were extremely impressed and the service well supported. Hats off to you.

- Andrew Monaghan (*Jandrew- 427*), NSW



Terry Pierce, Peppercorn, keeps a guiding eye on the young ones

show business

Melbourne Royal Galloway Feature Show www.gallowayfamilyfeature2009.com

The date is ticking ever so closer to Melbourne Royal Galloway Family Feature show. Planning and preparation is now in full swing!

Thanks to some huge efforts, we have been able to secure significant sponsorship from businesses such as:

- Aquatain
- The Farmers Mail Box
- Foddertech
- Nationwide Artificial Breeders
- Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria
- Ultimate Agri-Products
- Victorian Country Newspapers
- VPC Cattle Services

We would like to thank these companies for their support of the Galloway breeds.

We'd also like to thank the various Galloway studs across Australia that have also sponsored the Feature show. They include Belted, Solid and Miniature Galloway breeders:

- Amberley Park Galloways
- Ashleigh Park Belted Galloways
- Castle Douglas
- Catherine Fields Stud
- Clanfingon Belted Galloways
- Pine Gully Park Belted Galloways
- Romani

Well done to all who have made such a great effort in contributing so far; we are all working together to create an amazing show! If any breeder knows of a possible sponsor, we would love to hear from you.

We are confident that this Feature show will be the largest and most successful feature show that Australia has seen and one that will be talked about for years to come.

At this stage, we anticipate that well over 100 Galloway animals will be present at Melbourne. Early indications approximate at least 50 belties will be there, but as some breeders are still deciding on showing, this figure is likely to continue growing.

If you would like to know more about the show and/or our sponsors so far, simply log on to the official show website at www.gallowayfamilyfeature2009.com

The website promotes existing sponsors, and encourages further sponsorship from breeders and interested businesses. It also lists the cattle classes to be held.

Its very exciting! There are strong indications that overseas visitors from USA, Germany and New Zealand may be attending. This is a great opportunity for our fellow breeders from overseas to come and see some of the best Galloway Family cattle we have to offer in Australia, along with the fantastic opportunity for Australian breeders to meet and discuss our beloved Belties with fellow breeders.

Melbourne Royal Show commences on the 21st September, with The Galloway Family judging day on the 24th September. The Feature Show committee is in the process of organizing a 'Meet the Judge, Visitors and Sponsors' do, with drinks and nibbles after judging has finished. The last day of the show is 27th September.

On Friday night, 25th September, there will be a Slow Foods dinner – of course, using a Galloway Family steer. This dinner will be showcasing some of the fine foods from our wonderful country. Guest speakers will keep us entertained, along with other exciting surprises. Further details will be advised in the August newsletter.

Galloway Family steers will also be on the menu in the RASV committee dining room during the show. The free Breeders BBQ spit roast will also be a Galloway Family steer, which is being sponsored by Shannon Combridge and Associates – Wholesale Meats and Training.

If you have any queries, please contact either Kerren at LBC, Kiama or one of the Feature Show committee members listed below.

Members of all three Australian Galloway associations form the Royal Melbourne Show Galloway Feature Show Committee. Rebecca Avery (*Windy Hollow-213*), Jan Davidson (*Karandrea-96*), Kerry Heazlewood (*Pine Gully Park-278*), Ashleigh Michael (*Ashleigh Park-162*) and Allen Snaith (*Warialda-108*) represent the ABGA, Chris Hart and Greg Stuart (*Minto*) are representing the Galloway Cattle & Beef Marketing Association, and Judy McKinnon (*Clanfingon*) and Di Woolfe (*Wilkamdai*) are representing the Australian Galloway Association. Allen Snaith is our chairman.

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria website is www.rasv.com.au and the Melbourne Show's website is www.royalshow.com.au. Zoe Manoz is the Agricultural Events Co-ordinator and can be contacted on 03 9281 7412.

-Kerry Heazlewood, Victorian Councillor

Best Photo Competition for 2009 Melbourne Royal Galloway Show

To help promote the show, we are seeking exciting photos from breeders of both standard and miniature-sized Belted, Solid and White Galloways.

We intend to display these photos at the Melbourne feature show in the promotional area. The winning photo will be blown up and on show. We will return the photo after the show.

Please email your photos to mckinninjudith@gmail.com as soon as you can! And phone me please on 08 8389 440 with any enquiries.

- Judith McKinnon, Clanfingon, SA



*Sarah and Chloe with four commercial calves
bred by Gary & Janice Bruem (Riverview - 259)
Wauchope, NSW*

why not join us?

If you are interested in Belted Galloways for any reason, why not join the association and learn more?
It's heaps of FUN!

Membership Fees

Annual Full Membership (Pro Rata):	
1st July – 30th Sept 100%	\$125.00
1st Oct – 31st Dec 75%	\$93.75
1st Jan – 31st Mar 50%	\$62.50
1st Apr – 30th Jun 25%	\$31.25
Once only Entrance Fee	
for Full Membership	\$50.00
Annual Commercial Membership	\$40.00
Annual Associate Membership	\$40.00
Annual Junior Membership	\$15.00

Check out the ABGA or LBC websites for membership application forms, or simply phone your state councilor for more info!

Updating your membership details!

Members' contact details can be updated by contacting Kerren at LBC, or online through the LBC website. Members are reminded that it is your own responsibility to ensure that your details are kept up to date with the ABGA. Please also check that your correct details are listed on the ABGA website.

Advertise in our upcoming Beltie Breeders handbook!

Take advantage of our 2 for 1 ad placement a smaller price for a BIGGER ad!

Full A5 page, high gloss hard inside cover (only two spaces available)	\$440.00
Full A5 page, full colour inside placement	\$330.00
Half A5 page, full colour inside placement	\$220.00

Over ten studs have booked already
Space and Time is running out!

Get in touch now with your photos, editorial ideas and updated details for the breeders' directory.

Contact your state councilor to
book your space today!

what's happening

May 2009

ABGA Council Meeting

7.30pm EST Monday 11th May 2009

July 2009

Stud Beef Victoria Cattle Handlers Camp

7th – 10th July

www.studbeef.com.au/handlers

Carol (RASV) 03 9281 7407

Allen Snaith (Stud Beef) 03 5787 1560

ABGA Members' Forum

10am for 11am Saturday 25th July

ABGA Annual General Meeting

2.30pm Saturday 25th July

ABGA AGM Dinner

7.00pm Saturday 25th July

These three events will take place at:

The Old Mill Hotel

98 Main St, Hahndorf SA

Tel: 08 8388 7888

Please RSVP to Kerren Britton at LBC or SA Councilor, Hume MacDonald by **17th July**. Also contact for accommodation options.

Beef Cattle Assessment Course

www.beefcattlecourse.com.au

NSW – Leanne Stuart 0408 621 784

VIC – Sue Morgan 0427 248 456

August 2009

Quirindi District Prime Stock Exhibition

Carcass Competition NSW

Kim Lawlor 02 6746 2881

Beef Cattle Assessment Course

www.beefcattlecourse.com.au

SA – Damien Brookes 0427 248 456

September 2009

Melbourne Royal Show

Steer Judging – Monday 21st September

Stud Judging – Thursday 24th September

Galloway Dinner – Friday 25th September

October 2009

Dubbo National Steer Show

Carcass Competition NSW

Kerry Lynch 6884 8355

Cootamundra Show

Carcass Competition NSW

www.cootamundrashowsociety.org.au

David Manwaring 02 6386 6289

November 2009

Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza, Scone

Carcass Competition NSW

www.beefbonanza.com.au

Lynda MacCallum 02 6545 7292

Have something to add to this list? Send it to our newsletter editor, Rebecca Avery at dravery@netspace.net.au !

kerren's kettle



The year is on the BOIL!

I like to thank all those involved in the showing season so far, particularly the first-time showing studs. Well done! It's a lot of damn hard work and effort in getting these animals to the show. Your support and enthusiasm for the breed is encouraging. More credit to you.

I'd also like to offer my encouragement to those who are gearing up for the big one for this year – the Melbourne Royal Galloway Family Feature Show. What a wonderful opportunity for the breed! Lets make the most of it!

2008 Herd Inventories

Members should be aware that the office should have received all 2008 Herd Inventories by 31st March 2009. Any late inventories may incur re-instatement fees for females.

Online Pedigree Searches

Members are also reminded that they can now access online pedigree searches. In order to do this, you will need to be online members at LBC.

This is easily done by going to the web site www.lbc.com.au and then onto the society tab for Belted Galloways.

Pretend to become a new member by completing all of the information required in the membership application section including proceeding to the payment section (if you have already paid your membership say you are paying by cheque).

This will then update the web site and send me an email I will complete the update of the web site and email you back with your password, and details on how to log on.

Web Site Link

Livestock and Business Centre are also happy to provide members with a web site link to our site for only \$22.00 per year. Contact me with your interest.

Breed Activities Published

If anyone has anything that they would like published on the web site about breed activities would they please send the details to me via email to kerren@lbcentre.com.au

- Kerren Britton
ABGA Federal Secretary
Registrar, Livestock Business Centre

australian belted galloway association

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www.beltedgalloway.org.au

Online Herd book at
www.lbcentre.com.au