

# RED POLL ANNUAL 2017



# red WARD



**Redward Finesse** with Redward Style at foot Melbourne 2014

**Redward Style** now a mum herself Whittlesea 2016  
6 week old calf

**Redward Pazazz** - Reserve Junior Sydney Royal 2016 (9 months) - Junior Melbourne Royal & Whittlesea 2016 - Junior & Grand Yea 2016 - Interbreed Junior Dandenong 2016

**Redward Forest** - Junior & Grand Bull Melbourne Royal 2016

**Redward Steer** achieved Grand Champion on the Hook - Pakenham Carcase Competition



PAKENHAM AGRICULTURAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Inc.

~ 2016 HOOF & HOOK COMPETITION ~

GRAND CHAMPION HOOK SECTION

**ENQUIRIES GAY WARD**

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## President's Report

Report by Gay Ward

Hello Everyone, I hope this message see's all our regions having a great season. ...what a relief after so many not great seasons...

I think we would all agree how good it is to see dams with water, paddocks with grass, our cattle content and looking great for the start of the summer season.

We're getting closer to our next World Congress. Being held this year in the USA the Itinerary looks really interesting, and I know the ARPA are looking forward to hosting. For those of us attending we're certainly looking forward to supporting and enjoying time with friends and fellow Red Poll breeders from around the World whilst also experiencing some wonderful highlights and hospitality for which our friends in the United States are renowned.

Red Polls have continued to have consistent Carcase results through 2016.

Having regularly entered carcase competitions for some years now, it was a great thrill to recently achieve a Grand Champion carcase.

This is another terrific result for our Red Poll breed with the particular competition having 6 Red Polls entered all of which scored highly on the hook.

These competitions are very challenging, hard to win, and with strong competition where you are competing on equal terms with other pure and cross breeds.

With very detailed result sheets breeders are able to accurately assess the meat they are producing and compare your cattle with other breeds. With the quality of their meat being the trait assessed there can be no dispute or preference for colour of the coat. I encourage everyone to enter competitions like these in your local area or wider network.

While there are certain criteria that must be met for an entry to be accepted these are relatively easy to conform to while providing valuable information on your animals.

All said there are many and varied ways you can promote Red Polls, whether in carcase competitions, at field days, agricultural shows, handler's camps, field trials. These provide valuable feedback and information on your cattle while positioning Red Polls at centre stage for the industry, both stud and commercial, to acknowledge.

As always there are interesting times ahead for the Industry with quite a few enhancements being proffered. One of these, DEXA Technology, will allow the Industry to move to real value based marketing. The full article from MLA has been included in the Annual for your interest.

Cattle prices have remained strong, we all look forward to this continuing providing us with a much more reasonable return on the quality product we provide.

Thank you very much to your hard working Executive representatives and also to all Regional Executive position holders, for your voluntary hard work and time which is given so generously to ultimately benefit and improve the Red Poll Breed.

Best wishes to all for a happy and healthy 2017 and continued good results for Red Polls and our Industry.



# Executive Officer's Report

Report by Keryn Hutton

As 2016 comes to a close the Red Poll breed can look back on a year full of activities and events showcasing the breed. Member dedication and hard work in promoting the breed is invaluable. The expertise and experience of the 'old brigade' has complemented the enthusiasm and originality of Red Poll youth. Let us continue to work together for the success of the breed.

I had the pleasure this year of attending the South Australian herd tour along with the AGM in Clare. It was a great opportunity to view the large established herds of the Wilsons, Grahams, Malone's and Daley's. The countryside and hospitality were superb. As we move on the Victorian region will host next year's AGM and tour to provide another snapshot of the breed which should not be missed.

The next world congress is just ahead, this time in the USA. This will be a unique opportunity for Australians to familiarize themselves with the American Red Poll system. I wish all who attend a wonderful and informative time.

Membership of the ARPCBI remains steady and a big welcome to all new members. I would encourage your participation in the events and meetings of the Red Poll breed. Please do not hesitate to contact either

myself or Sharon if you have any questions regarding your membership or animals, or to simply share ideas. Constructive feedback is always welcome, and can provide a guide for both executive and secretariat to enable us to cope with the challenges ahead. Please keep in touch in 2017.

Lastly thank you to all who contributed to this magazine. Without your stories and advertisements the Red Poll Annual would not be published.



# What's on in 2017

<p>JANUARY 27 TO FEBRUARY 4</p> <p>VICTORIA / NEW SOUTH WALES Autumn Beef Week</p>	<p>FEBRUARY 5-8</p> <p>SOUTH AUSTRALIA Beef Field Days</p>	<p>FEBRUARY 24-26</p> <p>ACT Royal Canberra Show</p>	<p>MARCH</p> <p>NNSW/QLD On Farm Challenge</p>	<p>MARCH 26-31</p> <p>VICTORIA On Farm Challenge</p>
<p>MARCH 30 TO APRIL 2</p> <p>VICTORIA Farm World, Lardner, Warragul</p>	<p>APRIL 6-19</p> <p>NEW SOUTH WALES Sydney Royal Easter Show</p>	<p>JUNE 1-25</p> <p>USA 15th USA Red Poll Congress and Tour</p>	<p>JUNE 6-8</p> <p>QUEENSLAND Farmfest Field Days Toowoomba</p>	<p>JULY 10-12</p> <p>VICTORIA SBV Handlers Camp</p>
<p>JULY 17-20</p> <p>SOUTH AUSTRALIA Junior Heifer Expo Adelaide</p>	<p>AUGUST 11-20</p> <p>QUEENSLAND Royal Queensland Show</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER OCTOBER</p> <p>Red Poll National Youth Camp</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER 1-10</p> <p>SOUTH AUSTRALIA Royal Adelaide Show</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER 23 TO OCTOBER 3</p> <p>VICTORIA Royal Melbourne Show</p>
<p>SEPTEMBER 23-30</p> <p>WESTERN AUSTRALIA Perth Royal Show</p>	<p>OCTOBER 3-5</p> <p>VICTORIA Elmore &amp; District Field Day</p>	<p>OCTOBER 28-29</p> <p>VICTORIA AGM &amp; Stud Tour</p>		

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independently assessed by RaynerAg

# Stormley Red Polls



## ***Stormley Lara***

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Melbourne Royal Show 2014-2016**

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**Enquiries Welcome**

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**Barham NSW**



## Redward secures CHAMPION CARCASE

Redward Red Polls achieved Champion Carcase at the recent Pakenham Agricultural Society's Carcase competition

In a region renowned for quality cattle, this year's competition was no exception with 40 head entered across 3 classes.

The purebred Redward Steer was in the 330 - 385kg live weight class in which there were 20 entries.

Live weight for the steer was 340kg, HSCW 203kg with a dress percentage of 60% and a winning score of 88.676.

The local Abattoir who support the event also allow viewing of the body which is a great opportunity for all exhibitors, Red Polls had a successful event with 6 entered in total, 4 in Class 2 and 2 in Class 3 - on the Hook all 6 finished in the top half of their classes.

### These entry's comprised

- > Tiraslea Red Polls of Anne and Frank Moya had two heifers entered in Class 3, one of which secured 3rd placing on the hoof, and went on to be a very close 4th on the hook and their second heifer placing 8th on the hook.

- > Red Cactus exhibited 2 steers which both placed in the top half of the hook results in Class 2.
- > Redward exhibited 2 steers who placed 1st and 3rd in Class 2 on the hook.
- > The Red Cactus and Redward steers were all 9 months of age, from first calving heifers and all sired by Eurimbla Fable.

These great Red Poll results follow consistent results for Red Polls from Victoria which were entered in Carcase competitions toward the later part of 2016.

- > Whittlesea Agricultural Society - 36 entry's in total.
- > Class 1 - Lightweight.
- > Redward steer 4th on the hoof and 2nd on the Hook with 3rd & 4th place on the hook going to B.E & L.E Johnson from Lynbarry Red Polls.
- > Lynbarry also took out a 2nd on the hook at Yea Agricultural Society where there were 40 entries in total.

Red Polls consistently highlighting the top quality meat they produce for the market.



### *Breeding for Excellence*

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**Turanga**  
RED POLL STUD Est. 1985

# Why we chose Red Polls

Report by Reg Simson - 'Gananny' Quirindi NSW 2343

We have been a Poll Hereford/Hereford herd for sixty five years. Our decision to choose Omega 3 Red Poll bulls was easy.

We decided that the traits we wanted were:

- > easy calving - for joining to heifers at fifteen months
- > quiet temperament
- > an established breed
- > consistent cherry red colour
- > good doing ability
- > saleability

... and the Red Poll breed ticked all these boxes.

Red Poll is a very long standing Australian breed with natural constitution, hardiness and adaptability. Crossbreeding produces progeny with a consistent and appealing cherry red colour, a colour that handles the heat and at times intense solar conditions well.

Good doing ability, the Red Polls put on weight and condition in all seasons. Our cows and calves were only supplemented with vitamins, minerals and protein meal in a dry lick. There was no backlining or drenching and their progress was amazing with no tail in the mob.



Saleability was important and at the Gunnedah Powerhouse weaner sale the Red Poll/Hereford cross steers made the same cents per kilo as any other breed on the day. The highlight of the sale was the heifer sisters who sold above comparable rates from other breeds.

Both the steers and heifers, after a tough season, presented well as very even, bright red in colour, quiet natured and well-muscled animals.

An added benefit was that the Red Poll eliminated all horns from the progeny.





## Estimable Awards

There are three awards Red Poll breeders regard with high esteem which have a comprehensive history

### The Parker Performance Award

The award was donated to the Red Poll Cattle Breeders Association of Australia by Mr and Mrs E Parker of South Africa to commemorate their visit to Australia in 1965.

This is presented annually to the most successful exhibitor at a nominated Royal Show within set classes and the championships.

Conditions apply before points can be gained and the Executive Officer calculates the award winner annually. The award has been won by many studs over the years with the 2016 recipient being Red Cactus.

### The Brigadier G.S. Hurst Memorial Trophy

One of the great characters in the Red Poll breeds history was Brigadier George Hurst DSO OBE, who founded and ran Larkhill Stud at Goulburn from the mid 1940s to its dispersal in 1971.

As well as initiating the Red Poll magazine in 1962, serving in the NSW committee for more than 20 years and having two stints as Federal President, the pipe smoking former Indian Army officer almost single handedly raised the profile of Red Poll cattle in the post-WWII years.

Hurst began a Red Poll vealer production herd in 1938 and was so pleased with the results that by 1945 he'd quit other breeds to opt for a 100% Red Poll operation, including Larkhill stud. By 1954 Hurst had 1000 breeders and their steer calves were giving notable and financial evidence of the Red Poll's outstanding ability as a vealer breeder. Soon he was running field days and clinics at Larkhill for breeders of all type as of cattle.

Initially, and with Mrs Hurst's permission, the federal council at the time, introduced the hoof and carcass competition which was known as the Brigadier Hurst Memorial Trophy for the highest aggregate of points scored by Red Poll steers or steers sired by a red poll bull in steer and carcass competition.

*The Brigadier Hurst Memorial Trophy perpetuates the memory of one of the great larger-than-life individuals of Red Poll history in Australia.*

Nowadays, this trophy is awarded to the most successful Red Poll prime steer exhibitor. It is open to all breeders and fatteners of Red Poll or Red Poll cross cattle. Prize money is presented by the National Executive for the highest aggregate of points scored by exhibitors in all breed steer and carcass competitions throughout Australia. The competition is run over a calendar year and breeders are required to submit entries to the Executive Officer before January 31 of the year following the competition. Recent winners of the Brigadier Hurst have been Oakwood and Redward Red Poll Studs with Redward the 2016 recipient.

### The Princess Royal Cup

This was presented by the Red Poll Society of Great Britain and Ireland and is offered for competition each year at the Melbourne, Perth, Sydney, Brisbane and Adelaide Shows. In the first year of competition (1953) the trophy was awarded for the most successful exhibitor in the Red Poll section. Regional groups now determine by a majority decision what the trophy is awarded for at their show. The Princess Royal Trophy is not actually held by the winner but the appropriate Royal Show Society on behalf of the ARPCBI. It presents prize money to the winner at the relevant Royal show.





## Glenwyn Red Poll Stud

By Carlie Mackelmann

### Why I started a Red Poll stud

My grandpa had a big Red Poll bull from the stud Almora, he was super quiet and I loved the colour, temperament and the calves he sired.

### When I started

I started my stud in March 2013 when I was 12 and bought my first 6 heifers. I went to the Whittlesea Maine Anjou and Red Poll sale in 2013 and was looking for a couple of heifers to breed from to the Red Poll bull we already had. I ended up buying 6 heifers that I personally liked. I wasn't going by structure as I didn't know anything about stud cattle or running a stud. It was from there I was encouraged to start a stud and become a member.

In 2014 I went back to the Whittlesea sale and bought the top priced Red Poll bull and heifer from Stormley Red Poll stud. I loved the big frame, colour, temperament and structure of the bull and the heifer's temperament and looks.

In 2015 I went back again and bought the full blood sister to the heifer I bought in 2014.

### Located

Congupna, north of Shepparton.

### Future

I plan on increasing the quality of my stud to breed better quality animals that would be eye catching to people that don't know the breed and to other breeders.

### Animals I have

I currently have 10 cows with calves, 2 older bulls, 2 joined heifers and 4 red poll crosses.

### Showing

Every year I go to the local show with a cow calf pair and a heifer! Mainly just for fun and to show off the breed. I get a few comments on how well they look and the colour of them.

Recently I have sold one of my own bred registered bulls (Glenwyn Harold) for cross breeding and 2 heifers (Glenwyn Faye & Mia) for commercial breeding.

*"Throughout, I have found the Red Poll society and senior members very helpful encouraging and supportive!"*

## **GLENWYN RED POLL STUD** **C. MACKELMANN**

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# Everyone wants a curve bender... at both ends

## Report from the Progeny Test Group

For those unfamiliar with the term 'Curve Bender' it is used to describe those animals which do not abide by the normal rules of development.

A normal growth graph will be a regular curve with birth weight, growth at different ages, and mature size all above or below average. In breeding cattle we desire a low birth weight and low mature weight but a high growth to market weight. These are the ones called curve benders. They are comparatively rare in the population and hence genetically very valuable.

We also use the term a little loosely to describe an animal which breaks the normal links between traits e.g. it is normal that animals which carry more muscle also carry less fat, so one that carries above average muscle and above average fat is again a 'curve bender'.

Sounds pretty basic stuff but gets a lot more difficult when you set out to identify and then breed them.

**Example 1:** A bull with a typical growth curve. He is in the top 1% of the breed for 200, 400 and 600 day growth, but carries with that a well above average figure for birth weight and mature weight.

	GL	BW	200	400	600	MCW	Milk
<b>EBV</b>	+0.3	+5.8	+27	+41	+56	+61	+6
<b>ACC</b>	61%	91%	82%	75%	75%	66%	69%

**Example 2:** A bull that is a curve bender at the top end. He is in the top 1% for 200 day growth, top 4% for 400 day and top 7% for 600 day growth but has a well below average figure for mature cow weight. At the lower end (birth weight) he is still well above average.

	GL	BW	200	400	600	MCW	Milk
<b>EBV</b>	+1.3	+5.6	+30	+36	+42	+17	+13
<b>ACC</b>	64%	84%	86%	83%	81%	74%	87%

**Example 3:** This bull is a curve bender with Birth Weight figures in the top 1% (low) in the breed but maintains an above average figure for 200, 400 and 600 day growth and is only marginally above average for mature cow weight. This bull also has very high accuracies. (Note 97% for BW).

	GL	BW	200	400	600	MCW	Milk
<b>EBV</b>	-3.4	-2.3	+20	+26	+34	+31	+8
<b>ACC</b>	68%	97%	94%	93%	81%	70%	70%

The EBV's of the three example bulls should be compared with Breed Average EBV's below.

### Breed Average EBVs for 2014 Born Calves

	GL	BW	200	400	600	MCW	Milk
<b>EBV</b>	-0.3	+1.7	+16	+23	+30	+30	+6

In the last year the Progeny Test Group has had many discussions on this subject. Every time the conclusion becomes 'Get the data on your animals submitted to BREEDPLAN and you will find the animals to work with'... and they are starting to emerge.

The Progeny Test Group started three years ago among a group of breeders who were interested in working together, and with the BREEDPLAN system, to improve the commercial performance of our Red Polls. In those days it was unnamed and the early action was to try and import semen from an overseas bull which had strongly measured traits. This overseas introduction would have provided a direct linkage and ultimately comparison of performance across countries. When these negotiations could not be finalized the group set about using a high performance Australian bull across eight herds. The objective of this move was to ensure strong linkages across herds. Using one bull could help identify superior cows and also provide strong comparisons between the performance of the AI sire and the herds own sires. Some herds already had strong linkages from other sires.

Because of various calving times and individuals programs we now have calves weaned and measured and others at various stages along that path. Other bulls have been selectively used in the most recent round of AI programs and the plan is to select the best progeny and collect semen and use across the group. The exciting time will be to see whether the best performing young bull comes from the AI sire or someone's existing sire.

The Group meets via telephone hook up every couple of months and has valued the input from overseas breeders who have contributed their thoughts via email. Making best use of the telephone hook ups has been a learning process which has matured and is working well. The Group is still developing the most suitable business model.

The Group was fortunate to have a full session with the manager of a major Stud from another breed who provided an insight into their operation and gave some very practical tips on making systems work. One of his strong messages was that not every buyer wants the same type or performance from their purchases and the other was that there is always a market for low birth weight bulls. What this also tells us is that we must have verification of the accuracy of the predicted performance of the traits required.

Catriona Millen from SBTS has joined our phone hookups and provided meaningful advice to our discussions.

There has been a major boost given to the work of the Group by the Breed changing from the old ILR1 computer system which only ran an annual GROUP BREEDPLAN analysis to ILR2 which produces a monthly analysis. This means that within a month of any new data being inputted that data is reflected across all herds.

# This has the potential to completely change the face of our industry as we know it

What are the implications for us as Livestock Producers? The answer is pretty simple. Every animal we sell will be subject to this x-ray process and we will get a very accurate measure of the fat meat and bone in the animal.

If this includes meat eating quality, then we have all of the information required for a value based payment system. Each animal you sell will be valued according to the final value it achieves when it has been boned out and packed.

So, this brings on the genetic race big time. We already know that there are huge differences between animals in their final value. I have seen examples of \$100 differences in small groups of animals from the same herd the same age and similar weights. Just imagine how good it will be to find the bull who sires steers that are worth \$50 or a \$100 a head more than the bull you used last year. And get paid for it! Well, all of this is going to become possible.

*We certainly live in exciting times*

## DEXA technology

Over the past three years MLA has worked with industry, research institutes and technology providers to develop the application of DEXA (Dual Energy X-Ray Absorptiometry), an objective measurement tool which measures meat, fat and bone in a carcass (carcass composition).

This information can help the entire red meat value chain make more informed business decisions to improve on-farm and processing efficiency and deliver a product which is preferred by consumers.

Longer term, investment in DEXA and other objective measurement technologies currently under development will help to reduce the industry's annual multi-million dollar cost of grading.

## What DEXA does

DEXA has been used for decades in the medical industry to measure bone density and body fat composition. By using an existing mature technology, MLA, in collaboration with industry partners, has shortened the timespan to apply it to lamb and beef carcass scanning.

In the red meat industry, DEXA technology provides timely, accurate, transparent and objective information on the lean meat, bone and fat composition of each carcass which can be added to existing eating quality carcass feedback.

# TANAMERAH RED POLLS

JOHN RHEA & JILL BOCKMAN

WINNERS OF BEST EXHIBITOR AWARD

NORTHERN NSW/QLD INAUGURAL ON FARM CHALLENGE 2016

(over 100 entries)

**\*\*GRAND CHAMPION BULL \*\* GRAND CHAMPION COW \*\* RES. CH JUNIOR BULL \*\*RES. CH JUNIOR HEIFER PLUS  
\*\*COMMERCIAL AWARDS**



**Tanamerah Elton Jon TBK 271**



**Red Poll Braham X steers**



**Pride & Prejudice**

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JOHN - MOBILE 0427 721 343

EMAIL - jack.n.jill@bigpond.com

ADDRESS - 2376 WARWICK-ALLORA RD ALLORA QLD 4362

**We would like to extend our warmest wishes to the USA for hosting the 2017 Red Poll World Conference.**

**We hope that you have a successful event.**

## What DEXA enables

Sharing the data provided by DEXA along the value chain to complement other industry systems will allow all sectors to make more informed business decisions based on objectively measured information.

DEXA SCANNER DEXA FEEDBACK SHEET	PROCESSORS	PRODUCERS AND LOTFEEDERS	SEEDSTOCK PRODUCERS
<p><b>DATA-BASED DECISIONS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ optimise carcass sorting and matching with customer specifications</li> <li>▶ optimise labour requirements</li> <li>▶ influence feedback grid information based on carcass composition, eating quality and other valued attributes</li> <li>▶ explore automation opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ target estimated breeding values (EBVs) with a focus on carcass composition</li> <li>▶ improve animal management to enhance compliance to carcass specifications</li> <li>▶ explore live animal objective measurement opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ target EBVs with a focus on carcass composition while improving growth, fertility, eating quality and meat colour</li> </ul>
<p><b>COMMERCIAL BENEFITS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ increased carcass value</li> <li>▶ better understanding of supply based on the carcass composition of individual herds</li> <li>▶ increased boning room efficiency (less labour required to trim fat)</li> <li>▶ leveraging boning room automation with DEXA technology</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ increased compliance to market specifications</li> <li>▶ more informed on-farm management decisions around breeding to optimise feed utilisation and turnoff times</li> <li>▶ stock selected for leanness and muscularity can be finished to heavier slaughter weights without being penalised for over fatness</li> <li>▶ transparency of carcass composition data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ satisfied producer clients by supplying livestock with enhanced genetics</li> </ul>
<p><b>INDUSTRY VALUE</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Fast-tracking the implementation of DEXA systems for beef and lamb processing will increase the gross benefits from objective measurement. Independent economic modelling indicates these may rise to \$280 million/year by 2030 based on more widespread adoption and greater measurement accuracy. These benefits are shared between producers and processors.</li> <li>▶ Providing feedback along the value chain would place Australia at the forefront of global competitors in the area of producer feedback.</li> </ul>		

DEXA is not new to the meat industry. Some companies use the technology when scanning the chemical lean content of trimmings. However, the adoption of DEXA technology to measure entire carcasses is in its infancy in Australian plants.

Source: MLA Factsheet



## Northern NSW/QLD Report

Report by Tim Light

As another year comes to a close, I would like to welcome the new members to the region, it's been a big year promoting Red Poll beef cattle at all sorts of events

Hosting the 2016 National Red Poll Youth Camp was a great success and I would like to thank the hard working Youth Committee and all the cattle donors. Congratulations to Lilleah Newberry on winning the Red Poll Member Award.

Christmas came along and we had a wonderful time at Rockview Red Poll Stud; thank you Eliza and the Cunningham Family, we had a lovely day.

In February the region travelled to Tenterfield for our Red Poll Feature show. Thank you to everyone for making the effort to put together such a great display of cattle. Well done to Rosalee Red Poll Stud on taking out the Grand Champion bull and Rosedale for taking out Grand Champion female.

The On Farm challenge took off in March; this was a great event connecting the region through Stud, show and commercial breeders. Thanks to the committee for a job well done and to Mr Jason Sidell for overseeing and judging this wonderful event. I feel this will become a much bigger event next year.

Once again, Red Poll cattle were on display at Farm Fest in Toowoomba. Thank you to Willanstie, Kookabookra and Lagoon for lending time to promote our breed and provide cattle for this event.

Brisbane soon came around with 15 head exhibited with 8 studs represented. Congratulations to Eliza Cunningham on getting the opportunity to be the first ever Associate Judge of the Red Poll breed. Eliza gained some invaluable knowledge from Steve Crowley and we thoroughly enjoyed having them judge us in the Red Poll ring. Well done to all for competing so well. Congratulations to all ribbon winners and well done to all exhibitors for having a great line up of cattle.

In closing I feel we have done a marvelous job at promoting our breed in the show ring and at other events, and with climbing sale high prices and a wet

season ahead the New Year is looking promising. Thank you for your support in my first term as President of the Northern NSW Queensland region and I look forward to holding this position for a further 12 months and to promoting the breed we love.

### On-Farm Challenge 2016

The QLD/Northern NSW region kicked off their first On-Farm Challenge in April 2016 after seeing how successful the event has been run in the Victorian region.

It was a huge success with over 90 stud cattle and 60 commercial and xbred cattle entering the competition. Competitors were located far and wide with judging occurring in the Wide Bay/Burnett region in the north through the Darling Downs and Lockyer Valley in southern QLD and then down into the Northern Tablelands around Glen Innes/Inverell and finally at Quirindi, NSW in the south. The judging took place over two weeks followed by a lunch presentation in Armidale.

The QLD/Northern NSW region wanted to help lift communication between both stud and commercial breeders throughout the region and also keep the interest of breeding Red Poll cattle alive and healthy. The On-Farm Challenge was certainly an event that delivered the goods!

The judging was expertly handled by Jason Siddell – a NSW Senior Land Services Officer for Livestock, who also runs an Angus stud and is involved in many steer judging events in the region. The On-Farm Challenge was a cost effective way of promoting each breeder's cattle. It gave each of the entrants an opportunity to talk with Jason and discuss all types of issues ranging from animal structure, through to industry trends and market specifications. It was also a great chance for people to view how other entrants were running their cattle business and what future directions they were taking.

## The following traits were judged by Jason

Breed Attributes	Structure	Production Traits	Female Traits	Male Traits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Colour</li> <li>&gt; Size/ Confirmation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Backline</li> <li>&gt; Shoulder Angle</li> <li>&gt; Shoulder Prominence</li> <li>&gt; Front Feet (side on)</li> <li>&gt; Front Feet (front on)</li> <li>&gt; Front Feet</li> <li>&gt; Rear Feet (side on)</li> <li>&gt; Rear Feet (rear view)</li> <li>&gt; Rear Feet</li> <li>&gt; Rump Width</li> <li>&gt; Rump Angle</li> <li>&gt; Rib Spring</li> <li>&gt; Jaw Set</li> <li>&gt; Walking</li> <li>&gt; Pastern Angulation</li> <li>&gt; Claws Length</li> <li>&gt; Claws Divergent or Scissor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Temperament</li> <li>&gt; Capacity</li> <li>&gt; Balance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Outlook</li> <li>&gt; Udder (Teat Placing)</li> <li>&gt; Udder (Teat Shape)</li> <li>&gt; Udder (Attachment)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Outlook</li> <li>&gt; Testicle (Attachment)</li> <li>&gt; Testicle (Size)</li> <li>&gt; Pizzle Attachment</li> </ul>

The scoring for traits ranged from 1 to 9 with 5 being ideal. Champion results detailed below.

Due to its success, the On-Farm Challenge will be run again in 2017 with well renowned cattle judge/expert, Graham Hopf to be the judge. It's certainly one not to miss as Graham's knowledge of all things cattle is remarkable.

### Major Prize Winners

- > **Junior Champion female**  
Omega 3 Gabriel - N & P Lee  
**Reserve** Tanamerah Kaitelynn - J Bockman & J Rhea
- > **Senior Champion female**  
Cooeeyana Pride - J Bockman & J Rhea  
**Reserve** Wilanstie Good Girl - S & K Williams
- > **Junior Champion Bull**  
Rockview Uncle Albert - E Cunningham  
**Reserve** Tanamerah Go Gettum - J Bockman & J Rhea
- > **Senior Champion Bull**  
Tanamerah Elton Jon - J Bockman & J Rhea  
**Reserve** Derrileen CRB - B & L Beckham

#### Photos top left - left to right

*Photo 1 Commercial heifers at Brett Munt's property, Cooyar QLD.*

*Photo 2 Awards presentation - Jason Siddell with commercial breeders Cameron and Judy Lisle.*

*Photo 3 Omega 3 Gabriel.*

#### Photos right of page - top to bottom

*Photo 4 Awards presentation - Jason Siddell with stud breeders Jill Bockman and John Rhea and Elisa Cunningham.*

*Photo 5 Jason Siddell, judging the Wilanstie herd at Greenmount QLD.*



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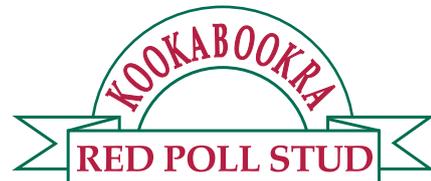
	GL (days)	BW (kg)	200 day (kg)	400 day (kg)	600 day (kg)	MC (kg)	MILK (kg)	SC (cm)	Carcase WT (kg)	EMA (sq cm)	Rib fat (mm)	Rump fat (mm)	IMF (%)
EBV	-1.1	+1.4	+22	+37	+40	+39	+8	+0.2	+34	+1.4	+0.7	+0.7	+1.2
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Enquiries always welcome



## New South Wales Report

Report by Jill Coghlan

Our main event for the year was Sydney Royal where we had exhibitors from all regions except South Australia

Ross Draper was awarded the WK Cowlshaw Trophy with Red Cactus Joe awarded Grand Champion Bull and Best Exhibit. JH Williams and Co. Yongerellen Esma Kitty was awarded Grand Champion Female. We hope the NSW's regions' knack of sharing the trophies around will entice more interstate exhibitors to this year's Sydney Show.

Once again, our Red Poll steers performed particularly well in the Carcass Section where we won 3 Bronze Medals from 6 exhibits across the 3 classes. Congratulations to the Belault Stud and the exhibitors, Braidwood Central High School for gaining Bronze in the Lightweight section, to Garrick Mulcahy who gained a Bronze medal in the Middleweight section (also a Belault bred steer), and to Yanco Agricultural High School who gained a Bronze in the Heavyweight section for a Eurimbla steer.

Our AGM was held in September at Prairiewood High School where a new committee was elected. Garrick Mulcahy continues as our Secretary and Treasurer, Robert Drysdale was elected Vice President and Jill Coghlan is our new President. We especially thanked Richard Wilkinson for his time and effort on the committee as well as his great support in the Red Poll section at Sydney Show over many years.

Our members met again in November at Margaret and Naggie Sorrial's Wongajong stud at Goulburn. Thank you to those members who could come and especially those who travelled distances. It was great for us to meet and plan our future as well as enjoy an inspection of the Wongajong Red Polls. Thank you Margaret and Naggie for hosting us so well.

Our focus will be on the Red Poll youth, particularly bringing an awareness about the Programs and Activities that the Red Poll breed offers; securing free semen for schools with Red Poll herds and working with TAFE to set up an online social media course that is specifically concerned with marketing Red Poll cattle. We'll expect to offer this course to the broader

membership and its main components will be about developing a strategy and then knowing what form of social media to use for that strategy; as well as the importance of quality visuals. We consider this course will give participants the capability of marketing their cattle very effectively and at no cost.

Upcoming events for the NSW branch are Sydney Show with judging on Sunday 9th April. Entries for Sydney close on 8th February. Interstate exhibitors are very welcome. Canberra Show judging will be on Friday 24th February at 1.30pm with entries closing on 4th January. Canberra is a friendly and easy show to take your cattle before Sydney. Also coming up is Beef Week where Eurimbla Red Polls will be open on Friday 3rd February. Everyone is welcome. Our next meeting will be at Sydney Show where date and venue will be advised.

Our NSW members look forward to a productive and rewarding year ahead. The region is generally experiencing a great season and coupled with good cattle prices that are forecast for a few more years, our members are feeling optimistic about their cattle.

I thank the NSW members for their support and I look forward to working with you in the coming year to help make our branch even more interactive and progressive.

*Best wishes for a great year in 2017!*

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*Photo 1 Mrs Pam Kemp who comes each year to Sydney Show to present the Cowlshaw Trophy. Pam is Ken Cowlshaw's sister who had the Arrow Red Poll Stud.*

*Photo 2 Margaret Sorial and Letisha Salzke at Wongajong.*

# National Youth Report

Report by Rachael Hancock

## Over the past twelve months the National Youth Committee has really been focusing on two things

The first has been how the National Youth category is structured and the method by which members are nominated and selected for the National Youth committee. Ideally, the regions would have a role in selecting and nominating 'keen' members, ensuring continuity and the numbers are available for the National Youth Committee to continue.

The other focus has been on how the Red Poll Youth membership is structured within the ARPCBI. Are the current guidelines benefiting the breed by clearly allowing the Youth membership to progress into Full membership? These issues were raised to the National Youth committee by a Youth member who wanted to be more involved through having a vote, but was struggling with the current fee structure, chiefly the expense of full membership. The National Youth Committee attempted to resolve the issues but they continued to surface, hence a letter was directed to the regions asking their thoughts on these key issues. The findings of these letters will shortly be discussed and reported to the Federal Executive.

At the Red Poll feature show in Sydney 2014 the National Youth raised over \$1,000 which has been used to support Red Poll youth in Australia. We have been able to provide financial assistance to both the South Australian Junior Heifer Expo recipient and the National Youth Camp held in Glen Innes.

Currently there are only a hand full of events available to the Australian Red Poll youth which is something we would like to see improve. If someone is thinking of running an event then please contact members of the National Youth Committee and we will help launch your idea.

### Youth Committee

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#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Tim Light, Trent Storm and Dylan Summerell

# National Red Poll Youth Camp Report

Report by Lileah Newberry, 2016 Member Award Winner

## Held in Glen Innes NSW 7-9 October

Once again the Red Poll Youth Camp Committee hosted another fabulous weekend at the Glen Innes showground. It was great to see some old faces as well as many new ones. All participants were made very welcome by the committee and upon arrival, all were provided with buckets, brush, cap, shirts to wear at the final presentation event, a copy of the Red Poll Annual (a book that helped to guide us through the weekend) and lots of other bits and pieces from the major sponsors, the Schools of Health, Science and Technology, and Earth and Rural Sciences at the University of New England (UNE). Soon after arrival we were allocated our cattle for the weekend and had an opportunity to handle the cattle with the organisers on hand in case any changes needed to be made.

For the first activity, the participants were split into three age groups and rotated across the following events: Stall management and knot tying with Jesse McClenaghan, herd management with Sam Hamilton and Kelso Looker from Angus Australia, and marketing cattle by Tim Bayliss. Following that activity participants enjoyed lunch; a great meal cooked by the kitchen team. This break gave us a great chance to catch up with friends from previous years.

After lunch on day one participants then went to the prime beef yards where they heard a great talk by Angus Laurie, a local stock and station agent from Landmark Glenn Innes, about prime beef cattle selection. It was very interesting to hear about his point of view on prime beef judging. He also told the story of how he got to this point in his life; a stock and station agent who owns his own business while only in his mid twenties. His story was a great motivator, especially for anyone thinking of a future in the area. Using the tips he provided, the participants completed their own prime beef junior judging of four cows on display. This was an exciting but nerve racking experience, especially having to speak to the group about the cattle selection. However, the opportunity to speak at such an event is a great confidence builder.

It was then time for the fun to begin. Sam and Kelso presented an extravaganza of questions about cattle and games to make us work as a team. It finished with a lot of laughs and memories. It was then time to go back to the cattle, muck out the stalls, feed up and water for the night. The senior participants also had to make sure they helped the juniors as needed. It was then a race to see who could get the first shower and make their halters for the Sunday parade.

Feed and muck out for the start to a perfect second day was followed by a delicious breakfast; we were then straight into more great activities. The session on weeds with Georgia Oaks was great as it taught us about testing soil and how to identify the weeds that are often in our paddocks; the cattle session with Bob Dent gave us



information for the junior judging competition to be held on the last day; Ashley Horn gave a great talk on breed plans; Bruce Scott demonstrated the finer art of clipping, which was great to watch; Sue Frances covered the important aspects of parading, and we all learnt a lot from her; Tahnee Manton demonstrated us show preparation; Louise Looker showed us what to do when there is a Stewart in the ring; Albert Hancock also gave us a great talk on the history of Red Polls; and Ian Vivers gave a talk on low stress handling of cattle. Jesse McClenaghan organized a heifer fitting challenge, which entailed getting a heifer ready for and into the ring in 5 minutes. This activity was a lot of fun and great to hear everyone cheering on the people as they tried to prepare their heifer. After all that excitement we fed up and watered our cattle.

That night we had a games night that entailed great fun and games organised by Rachael Hancock. There was a lot of laughing and we all ended up with mess left on our faces at the end. It was a great way to end the second day.

The final day started like every other day; muck and out and feed up. But there was excitement in the air for it was presentation day. Organisers put on a great breakfast to get us started and we were then straight into washing the cattle. The seniors first helped out the juniors; then intermediates and finally the seniors washed their cattle. Participants then changed into their 2016 Red Poll Youth Camp shirts and Eliza Cunningham took the official photos of the group.

Junior judging then commenced with a great judge, Ben Rumble. Seniors were first then intermediate and finally the Junior participants. Everyone had the chance to speak in this event and all participants spoke well; even those who had never spoken in public before went really well. We then had lunch and moved into preparation for Paraders. Everyone was brushing like mad to get their animal looking the best for the judge; and all were hoping for the best result. Sue Francis judged the Paraders event. Everyone looked great as they walked in to the ring. In each age group there was a 1st 2nd 3rd and Highly Commended awarded. This was followed by an Open Paraders competition for parents, instructors and judges. This was really fun to watch, as many of the competitors had no idea what they were trying to do. The 1st place getters in juniors, Intermediates and Senior Paraders got to judge the Open event, which made it even more interesting.

To wrap up a wonderful weekend we moved into the Presentation of awards event. Winners received amazing awards from an outstanding presentation table. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all award winners; these are listed in a following article. At the conclusion of the awards I was very honored to be presented the 2016 Youth Ambassador. My goal over the next year is to encourage more young people to become involved in the Red Poll breed and to represent the breed well throughout the year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the organisers of the wonderful Red Poll Youth Camp. The camp is extremely well run; all participants are treated in a friendly and respectful manner. The participants all appreciate the hard work put in by the local Red Poll Club and the Organising Committee, appreciate the support from all sponsors, and look forward to participating again next year.

### Major Award Recipients

- > **Grand Champion Stud Beef Junior Judge**  
Lileah Newberry
- > **Combined Highest Scoring Prime and Stud Beef Junior Judge** Kieran Sullivan
- > **Grand Champion Parader** Molly Trindall
- > **2016 National Red Poll Member Award Winner**  
Lileah Newberry

*Photo 1 Kieran Sullivan and Tahnee Manton.*

*Photo 2 2016 National Red Poll Youth Camp.*

*Photo 3 Molly Trindall Champion Parader and Overall Champion Herdsman with Judge Tahnee Manton.*

*Photos courtesy of Eliza Cunningham.*

### 2016 Member Award Winner Lileah Newberry



# South Australian Report

Report by Peter and Kristen Wilson

2016 has been another consistent year for South Australian Red Polls with our membership continuing to promote the breed across the state and country

The main events for the state were the SA Beef Field Days, SA Junior Heifer Expo, Adelaide Royal and the AGM/Stud Tour in October.

Moyle Park represented the breed in the field days and reported positive interest and good sales as a reflection of the beef industry and the continued desire for Red Polls in commercial herds.

Local SA girl Cassie Hughes, who was the winner of the National Junior Ambassador award, represented the breed in an excellent manner at the 2016 Junior Heifer show. Many thanks to Richard Daley for once again providing heifers for the show.

Adelaide Royal this year saw numbers down a little but the quality of the cattle was still of a high standard. Oakwood Red Polls were successful in both the Grand Champion bull and cow results. In similar fashion to last year our steers didn't get the desired carcass results, but we were still well represented with 11 steers and many schools making comments that "we love the Red Polls" and they are "always the steer we give to the new kids because they have such a good temperament".

We welcomed the members of the National Executive and several keen Red Poll breeders to South Australia

in October. It was a great opportunity to show visitors our properties and plenty of cattle to inspect. The weekend started at Oakwood where around 150 Red Poll Females, Bulls and steers were yarded. Following lunch at Oakwood, a stop at the Virangra stud of JK Graham and co was a must to see the source of many carcass champion breeding females. Kev's words of wisdom were appreciated by the tour members. The AGM held in Clare was well attended and followed by a good social opportunity over the other type of local "Reds ". Sunday, it was up to Jamestown to inspect the large Maleer herd with tour guides John and Chris showing visitors the cattle and the varied terrain they run them on. Lunch under the trees at Richard and Kay Daley's Moyle Park stud was very relaxing, followed by Richard's guided tour of the Moyle Park cattle to finish a great weekend. I can highly recommend these weekends as a great opportunity to visit fellow Red Poll breeders properties and inspect their cattle in natural surroundings. Looking forward to next years!

Richard Daley has now retired from the SA Presidents role with Peter Wilson elected to the position at the recent AGM. Many thanks to Richard for his work and promotion of the breed as our President.

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## Red Poll Members visit South Australia for the Annual General Meeting and Herd Tour

Report by Kate Goulding

### 22 – 23 October 2016

This year's AGM and tour started on a windy Saturday morning at the Wilson family's Oakwood stud at Brentwood on the Yorke Peninsula. As we drove into the farm we saw a splendid mob of cows and calves in the front paddock. Peter and Alan had organised several pens to view – cows and calves in sire groups, young bulls, young heifers and steers about to enter Southern grass-fed carcass competition at Naracoorte. On display were the Adelaide Royal show team of Oakwood Beef BBQ and Oakwood Cheddar & calf, and comfortably residing undercover, Oakwood Bright Light, looking great as a 10 year old bull. After much cattle viewing we then enjoyed a lovely lunch and wondered around Marilyn's beautiful garden.

Next we travelled not too far up the road to Kev Graham's Virangra stud near Ardrossan. On display were some great cattle, including heifers and cows. Sadly Kev has decided it is time to disperse his herd, hopefully a few will go across to the eastern states. Kev has an amazing knowledge of cattle breeding which is demonstrated in his herd.

The tour then took us onto Clare for the night where the AGM was held at the Taminga Hotel. There was an excellent roll up at the AGM, and we then enjoyed socialising over dinner. Many a story was shared between young and old.

Sunday morning was less windy! Our first stop for the day was at the Malone family's Maleer stud where we saw a large mob of cows and a few young bulls. A quick drive to the ridge tops was taken by some for a view of excellent crops.

Hunger called and we headed just up the road to Richard and Kay Daley's for lunch. Again, another wonderful spread by the South Australian's. After lunch we went to view the cattle and Richard gave a talk on his breeding program. A thoroughly enjoyable day! Sadly then it was time to head off home.

As we travelled around over the two days, it was easy to see that South Australia was having an amazing season, and I'll add that I was very envious of Richard's oats! Well done to all the SA members involved hosting this enjoyable weekend.

If you haven't yet been on an AGM Tour, I recommend that you try to get to one. It's a great way of meeting breeders from other states, seeing other farming practises, viewing cattle (of course!), and you never know but you might learn something new!

*Bring on the 2017 Victorian Tour!*

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# South Australian Heifer Expo Youth Awards

Report by Cassy Hughes

The winner of the 2016 ARPCBI Youth Award was Cassy Hughes of the Booleroo Centre in South Australia's mid north. Cassy's application impressed as it showed enthusiasm and passion for the beef industry, and in particular Red Poll cattle

My name is Cassy Hughes, aged 17 from Booleroo Centre in SA's Mid North and this year I was lucky enough to represent Red Polls at the 2016 South Australian Junior Heifer Expo after being awarded the ARPCBI Youth Award. I had attended the SAJHE two consecutive years prior to 2016; handling heifers from Moyle Park Red Poll stud, and was the recipient of the NHD young breeder's award in 2014. Since then I have started my own Red Poll cattle stud, Wilsdon View.

The 2016 SAJHE was a great learning experience! Over the three days participants were given complete responsibility for a heifer and the opportunity to learn from people in specific areas. Educational sessions included butchering, EBV's, mineral nutrition, careers, marketing, feedlotting, scanning and aspects of showing such as parading, clipping and junior judging. There is so much to learn that a few days does not feel long enough! The part I learnt the most from was from the feedlotting session, where I was lucky enough to be given a tour around Princess Royal Feedlots near Burra, SA. On the final evening and following morning there are heifer and handler classes that everyone participates in, and there are stewards around the ring to help out, or give tips to, first timers that may not have shown before.

It's not just about the educational sessions but the people you meet and contacts you make. As it was my third year attending I already knew a lot of people and talking to others with the same passion for cattle regardless of the breed enables you to pick up and adapt different ways of doing things to suit you and your animals.

At the end of the expo, there are many awards given out to recognise those that excelled in the different areas. I was awarded the Intermediate Encouragement Award.

During the rest of 2016, I have continued working with Richard Daley, to prepare and show his cattle at the Crystal Brook Show and Royal Adelaide Show (unfortunately other local shows were cancelled due to weather). As the only SA youth member I also attended the Red Poll AGM and tour. It was great to meet heaps of new people from throughout Australia and hear about their studs and involvement with the breed.

In the last two years I have met and worked with the previous two winners of this award, Kieran Sullivan and Briony Looker. I think the award presents a great opportunity to have interstateers attend with different styles and views on cattle. The way things are done

elsewhere can be vastly different to here in terms of show preparation. This year there were only two Red Poll representatives, myself and my sister Tiana. I would encourage anyone interested in attending the SAJHE to give it a go, it's a great experience and a lot can be taken away from it.

*"I think the experience of starting a cattle stud from scratch, along with learning opportunities such as attending the SAJHE, are great ways to understand and develop in the agricultural industries." Cassy Hughes*

*Photo 1 Cassy receiving the Intermediate Encouragement Award.*

*Photo 2 Handlers class with Moyle Park Dillwynia.*



# Western Australia Report

Report by Murray Williams

Seasonal conditions throughout the agricultural area have been very favourable for much of an extended growing season. Some areas have lost yield potential with waterlogging in late winter and spring has been cold with many grain crops frost affected. There are estimates of around 20% grain loss across the board but some individuals will be devastated with major loss.

There has been limited activity in the Region during the year. Members did enjoy hosting last year's AGM and stud tour. Two members exhibited with success at Sydney Royal Show again this year. Cattle have also been exhibited at Wagin and Brunswick Shows.

Numbers were down considerably for Perth Royal with only three studs exhibiting a total of 12 animals. However the breed received very favourable comment on the quality of animals exhibited and awards were well distributed amongst the three studs. It is hoped that some changed circumstances will see the usual exhibitors back next year.

Locally while commercial prices are good demand for stud cattle has been very limited.

## VALE Robert Hall

By Quentin Hooper

It was with deep regret that the WA region lost member Bob Hall of the Hallmark Red Poll Stud on Saturday 2nd July. Bob and Bev ran the Hallmark stud and were the last WA members of the association before the merger.

Bob was a loyal family man with a strong sense of community. He grew up on the farm 'Sleepy Hollow', and farmed alongside his wife Bev on the property 'Koolena'. He was softly spoken but always listened to.

Bob originally ran a herd of mostly angus commercial cattle but in 1974 purchased six mated stud red poll females to start the Hallmark stud. Luck however did not always run Bob's way and those six females produced five bull and only the one heifer calf. Over time using his home bred bulls Bob turned his commercial herd to mostly red, but he did mention one day that he had one animal that would qualify under the upgrading rules at the time as a purebred Red Poll, but it was completely black.

He was often short of feed and developed a strain of hardy cattle that were of medium size and adapted to the conditions. During tough financial times he maintained the registrations of the cattle through the Association Herd Books. He bemoaned the higher costs of the Society and a lack of understanding and support for the breed from agents but always remained committed to the qualities of the cattle.

Bob always was a willing worker for the Region and members enjoyed his participation and visits to the 'Koolena' farm. When he retired, eight years ago, the herd was dispersed with members afforded the opportunity to select any cattle they desired. Some of the cattle and their descendants are still flourishing in herds today.

Most WA Red Poll stud breeders were in attendance to pay their respects at his funeral on the 9th July. We share a poem penned by Bob's son Glenn, which was read at his funeral. The poem is written as if thru Bob's eyes and allows us all to reflect.

## Time Is Precious

Written and delivered by Glenn Hall.

*Life and time is precious, I know this fact  
There's no dress rehearsal, no second act  
So I took my chances and made a wonderful life  
With three great kids and an amazing wife*

*We toiled hard and farmed the land  
We did our best, in the "Koolena" sand  
Together we loved our family, they were our number one  
Bev we have guided them, an important job well done*

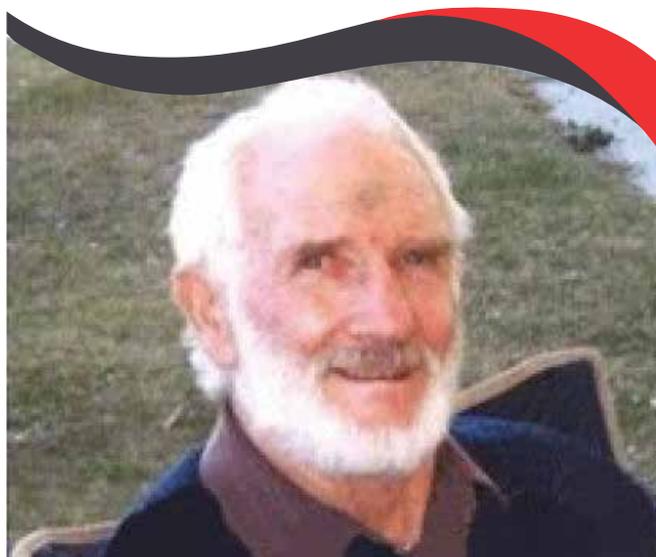
*Then, our small family eventually grew  
With three great spouses and six grandsons too  
So proud of them all and they brought me joy  
All showing traits, of the "Sleepy Hollow" boy*

*No regrets, as I take one last look  
Maybe, should have penned a history book  
I contributed to my community, where I could  
I treated all as equals - as everyone should*

*So you all carry on and do your best  
As I am weary and it's my time to rest  
Remember, love your families and devote them time  
Be involved in their life, as I did mine*

*Please grieve for me, but not too long  
For I am courageous and very strong  
Remember me and say my name  
Share happy stories, until we meet again*

*Well that's it folks, my time has come  
Be good to each other and look after Mum  
And as I end, my last poignant rhyme  
Move forward, enjoying, that precious time*

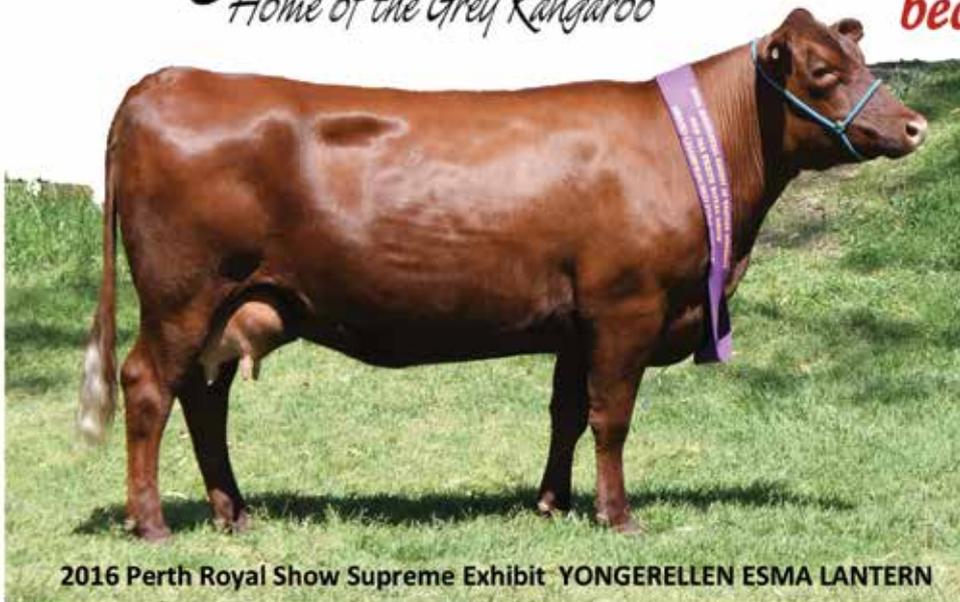


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welcomed.*



## Report for Victorian Region

Report by Ian Staff

The year kicked off with Greg Abbott's Open Day during Beef Week on February 3. The day was well attended by people from far and wide and Greg's Red Polls were very well presented and created a lot of interest. He is now selling branded Red Poll meat to a local Hotel.

Our Victorian Region On Farm Challenge, organised by a Committee headed by Don Castle, was held on April 17, 22-26 with Annette Walker officiating. Junior Champion Heifer went to Damian & Sandra McAlinden with Rua Mor Olive and Senior Champion Female went to Ian & Jill Coghlan with Eurimbla Next Door. Don Castle took out Champion Bull with Koallah Park Earnest. Nine Herds were represented with 84 animals entered. Great support was provided by drivers Don Castle, Doug D'Oliver and Anne & Frank Moya. Sincere thanks go to Annette for giving up her valuable time to do the judging.

Field Days attended for the year were Seymour Alternative Farming Expo (19-21 February) - Ross Draper and Gay Ward; Lardner Park (7-10 April) organised by Mark Harris; Elmore Field Days (4-6 October) Storm Family, Gay Ward, Ross Draper and Daryl Johnson. Ross Draper and Gay Ward also publicized the Red Poll Breed at the Bendigo Sheep Show with a stand and cattle on the 14th - 17th July. Significant sales have been generated by attending these events as well as promotion of the Breed.

Entries to Royal Shows - Once again, Stormley, Red Cactus and Redward entered cattle in Sydney Royal Easter Show on 17-30 March. Major Awards went to Ross Draper with Red Cactus Joe - Junior, Grand and Supreme Red Poll as well as the Brigadier Hurst Trophy and the W.K. Cowlshaw Trophy. Gay Ward was also successful winning Reserve Champion Junior Heifer with Redward Pazazz.

At Royal Melbourne Show, the major Red Poll awards went to Gay Ward who was awarded Junior and Grand Champion Bull with Redward Forest, while the Storm Family won the big ticket of Grand Champion Female and Supreme Champion with Stormley Lara.

Ross Draper was the first Inductee of the RASV Hall of Fame for his great services to the RASV and the Cattle Industry and received his award at the conclusion of judging of the Red Polls.

Once again, our Region supported the Stud Beef Victoria Cattle Handlers Camp held at the Prince Of Wales Showgrounds, Bendigo from 2-5 July. There were 158 participants and 168 head of cattle. The Red Poll Society sponsored the Champion Senior Parader which was fantastic to see and Hannah Holmberg won this section. Ballot animals were provided by Red Cactus and Stormley Studs. Darby McClaren was awarded fourth place in his Handlers Class and the Brian Alford Award for Best Herdsman in the Junior Section using a Red Poll. Annalise, Brittany and Jamilla Abbott from Turanga Red Polls participated with Turanga Red Poll heifers and Brittany being placed fourth in her handling Class.

Following on from last year's successes by steers of Don Castle and Greg Abbott in Noorat, members of the Region have had considerable successes in 2016. One of Gay Ward's steers was awarded Champion Carcase (88.676 points) and her only other entry was placed 3rd in the same class (84.327), on the hook. A heifer entered by Anne & Frank Moya was also ranked 3rd place on the hoof and 4th in a heavier class on the hook with 80.681 points. These Red Polls were against steers from breeds such as Limousin Cross, Belgian Blue Cross, Hereford Cross, Angus, Limousin, Murray Grey and Bazadaise Cross.

There have been really good direct sale results this year, with at least the following: there have been 14 working age bulls and over 30 females sold direct to Commercial Breeders. The Victorian Region supports members by offering free advertising for their Sale Cattle on our website - <http://www.redpollvic.com> which is maintained and updated brilliantly by Graham Neal. This has been very successful for those participating.

As requested by Executive, the Victorian Region has provided a proposal for a National Red Poll Sale to the Executive. We hope that this will provide a framework for filling a huge gap in the activities of the Red Poll organization and for showing a greater cohesion in the Breed.

*Photo 1 Annalise, Brittany and Jamilla Abbott from Turanga with their Turanga Red Poll heifers at the Stud Beef Handlers Camp in Bendigo.*

*Photo 2 Ross Draper - RASV Hall of Fame Inductee with Noelene King OAM and RASV Board Member and far right - David Bolton Cattle Committee Chairman.*

## 2016 BRISBANE SHOW COMPETITION WINNERS

*Judged by  
Stephen Crowley  
Barraba NSW*



*Photo: Associate judge Eliza Cunningham - Armidale NSW with Albert Hancock - Glen Innes NSW, Caroline Davis - Brisbane QLD, Blake Munro, Elders and exhibitor Rachel Hancock holding the Grand Champion bull, Kookabookra Banjo.*

<b>JUNIOR CHAMPION HEIFER</b>	T Light - Lagoon Nichola
<b>RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION HEIFER</b>	N & P Lee - Omega 3 Gabriel
<b>SENIOR CHAMPION FEMALE</b>	K Cagney - Little Miss Valkerie
<b>RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION FEMALE</b>	K Usher - Rosedale Wildfire
<b>GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE</b>	T Light - Lagoon Nichola
<b>SENIOR CHAMPION MALE</b>	AJ & RM Hancock - Kookabookra Banjo
<b>RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION MALE</b>	C Jones - Red Cactus Arthur
<b>GRAND CHAMPION MALE</b>	AJ & RM Hancock - Kookabookra Banjo

## 2016 PERTH SHOW COMPETITION WINNERS

*Judged by  
Scott Myers NSW*



*Photo: Senior and Grand Champion Red Poll Female as well as Supreme Red Poll exhibit, Yongerellen Lantern with calf at foot.*

<b>JUNIOR CHAMPION FEMALE</b>	L & A Longford - Le Topaz Jacinta
<b>RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION FEMALE</b>	Q & S Hooper - Red Sands Up-Up Cronulla
<b>SENIOR CHAMPION FEMALE</b>	JH Williams and Co - Yongerellen Esme Lantern
<b>RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION FEMALE</b>	Q & S Hooper - Red Sands Tammy
<b>GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE</b>	JH Williams and Co - Yongerellen Esme Lantern
<b>JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL</b>	Q & S Hooper - Red Sands Ulysses
<b>RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL</b>	Q & S Hooper - Red Sands Unison
<b>GRAND CHAMPION BULL</b>	Q & S Hooper - Red Sands Ulysses
<b>SUPREME CHAMPION</b>	JH Williams and Co - Yongerellen Esme Lantern
<b>MOST SUCCESSFUL EXHIBITOR</b>	Q & S Hooper - Red Sands Stud

The judge commented that he was very impressed with the lineup of cattle and that they were the most well footed cattle he had seen. When questioned, he said his most difficult decision was between the Senior and Reserve Senior cows as they were both very good.

## 2016 ADELAIDE SHOW COMPETITION WINNERS

*Judged by  
Dion Brook  
Mooralla Victoria*



Photo: Exhibitors Peter and Alan Wilson - Minlaton SA with the Grand champion Red Poll bull, Oakwood Beef BBQ.

SENIOR CHAMPION FEMALE	RM Wilson & Son - Oakwood Cheddar
GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE	RM Wilson & Son - Oakwood Cheddar
JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL	RM Wilson & Son - Oakwood Beef BBQ
RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL	RM & KL Daley - Moyle Park Laverton
SENIOR CHAMPION BULL	RM Wilson & Son - Oakwood Beef BBQ
GRAND CHAMPION BULL	RM Wilson & Son - Oakwood Beef BBQ
MOST SUCCESSFUL RED POLL EXHIBITOR	RM Wilson & Son - Oakwood Stud

## 2016 SYDNEY ROYAL COMPETITION WINNERS

*Judged by Tim Morrison  
Toowoomba QLD*



Photo: Grand champion bull, Red Cactus Joe with exhibitor Ross Draper and ARPCBI President Gay Ward - Arthurs Creek VIC judge Tim Morrison - Toowoomba QLD and handler Melissa Ball - Whittlesea VIC.

JUNIOR CHAMPION FEMALE	Q & S Hooper - Red Sands Tammy
RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION FEMALE	Mrs G Ward - Redward Pazazz
SENIOR CHAMPION FEMALE	JH Williams & Co - Yongerellen Esme Kitty
RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION FEMALE	R Draper - Red Cactus Treasure
GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE	JH Williams & Co - Yongerellen Esme Kitty
JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL	R Draper - Red Cactus Joe
RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL	JH Williams & Co - Yongerellen Janitor Online
SENIOR CHAMPION BULL	N & P Lee - Omega 3 Reef Knot
RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION BULL	I & J Coghlan - Eurimbla Boomer
GRAND CHAMPION BULL	R Draper - Red Cactus Joe
THE BRIGADIER G S HURST PERPETUAL PRIZE FOR GRAND CHAMPION BULL	R Draper - Red Cactus Joe
THE W K COWLISHAW PERPETUAL TROPHY FOR THE BEST RED POLL EXHIBIT	R Draper - Red Cactus Joe

## 2016 MELBOURNE SHOW COMPETITION WINNERS

*Judged by  
Sean Kallady  
Yannathan VIC*



*Photo: Grand champion female, Stormley Lara with exhibitors Trent and Cody Storm - Barham NSW, Greg Abbott - Mortlake VIC placing the ribbon, Judge Sean Kallady - Yannathan VIC and associate Judge Emma Dickenson - Ballarat VIC.*

<b>JUNIOR CHAMPION HEIFER</b>	G Ward Redward Pazazz
<b>RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION HEIFER</b>	G Ward Redward Indio
<b>SENIOR CHAMPION COW</b>	S Storm & Sons Stormley Lara
<b>RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION COW</b>	R Draper Red Cactus Jessie
<b>GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE</b>	S Storm & Sons Stormley Lara
<b>JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL</b>	G Ward Redward Forest
<b>RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL</b>	S Stormley & Sons S. Prime Power
<b>SENIOR CHAMPION BULL</b>	R Draper Red Cactus Joe
<b>GRAND CHAMPION BULL</b>	G Ward Redward Forest
<b>SUPREME RED POLL EXHIBIT</b>	S Storm & Sons Stormley Lara
<b>BEST THREE HEAD - PRINCESS ROYAL CUP</b>	R Draper Red Cactus
<b>SIRE'S PROGENY GROUP</b>	R Draper Red Cactus Group by Red Cactus Jethro
<b>MOST SUCCESSFUL EXHIBITOR</b>	Gay Ward Redward Stud





## Crossbreeding in a Dairy Herd

Report by Brittany Abbott

Danny and Sue Blake are dairy farmers near Nirranda in South West Victoria. They have three herds of cattle—one beef and two dairy herds which run on 1400 acres. At present they are milking 450 Jersey cows and are looking at 500 cows next year as they have 130 replacement heifers. Their farms are clover based and they don't use nitrogen.

Four years ago they had been having difficulties with a different breed of bulls they were using in regards to their temperament and were concerned about the safety of their workers. They were also some calving problems with bulls throwing big calves resulting in them having to assist with calving hence putting stress on cows and calves and increasing the workload for the Blake's and their workers.

After a discussion with his father, Danny was advised to try some Red Poll bulls and contact was made to Greg Abbott, owner of Turanga Red Poll Stud in Mortlake. Ironically Danny's father had purchased some Red Poll bulls from the same stud many years earlier when it was owned by Eric Abbot, Greg's father.

After listening to Danny's story, Greg selected some young bulls that had low birth weights which Danny brought around ten months of age after they were weaned off their mothers. By selling some bulls early it allows Turanga Red Poll Stud to keep steers and grow them on to our 'paddock to plate' grass fed meat box business where the animals are processed between the age of 16 to 20 months. By doing this we are spreading income across the year and not solely relying on a particular market.

Danny likes the bulls at a young age so he can get them used to walking on concrete in the dairy etc before they go in with the milking herd. The bulls have to be docile as Danny and his workers are working in very close proximity to them and there are a couple in the herd at one given time. Danny on sells his bulls

aged 3-4 years of age as they get too big for his cows. The Turanga Red Poll stud has sold over twenty bulls to the Blake's over the last four years.

The Blake's AI for five and a half weeks using Jersey genetics from America and then using the Red Poll bulls in September to mop up. This year they preg tested 400 cows and only 8 were not in calf. Their cows calve for four months starting in May. Six bulls are used at each dairy and are run in pair rotations, one week on and then two weeks off, this allows for the bulls to remain fresh. The bulls are rested then return to work in a 80 cow crossbreed beef herd for 8 weeks. The bulls are rested and then they start the rotations again with the dairy herds. This year the Blake's reared approximately 50 Red Poll cross Jersey calves, 150 Jersey heifers and 50 Jersey bulls. For a Jersey calf to get on the calf truck it is only worth 8 to 10 dollars a calf, Danny and Sue saw this as a opportunity to 'value add' to their calves. Their calves are sold as either F1 crosses at five days old or are grown on until a suitable time to sell. In the future the Blake's are looking at selling the cross breed calves online.

The Blake's have been very impressed with the temperament of the bulls and they have even noticed a difference in the behaviour between their past breed of calves and the Red Poll cross calves. Danny has said that his past breed of bulls would cause lots of trouble, for instance they would fight in the yards amongst the cows and they were very flighty. He said 'the Red Poll bulls don't cause any trouble as they patiently wait until milking is finished, they are low maintenance and there has been no calving difficulties'. Nicole Pleming, Danny's head worker who runs the second dairy said she 'can't believe how quiet and how easy the bulls are to work with, they just chew their cuds and wait until I let them back in with the cows'.

It's great to hear feedback about the breed exhibiting traits of which they are regarded for docility, ease of calving and fertility.

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