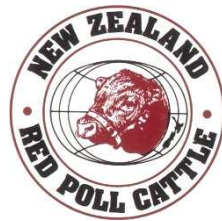


# RED POLL

# NEWS



Autumn Edition

April 2016



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**NB:** This newsletter is on the website in a PDF file

*The Association accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of any published opinion nor information supplied by individuals or reprinted from other sources. Items may be abridged or edited.*

**Closing date for next newsletter is July 10<sup>th</sup> 2016**

**Cover:** Rosemarkie Mort's Ash, (18months) led by Taratahi Farm Training student in Junior Handlers Class at Masterton A & P Show in mid February.

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## **PRESIDENT'S PAGE**

This year is well under way and the late spring and summer have been very favourable to most of the country. Good grass growth makes farming much more enjoyable and young stock do so much better with a cow milking well.

Although cattle prices are steady at the moment, things can change very quickly and profit margins can come down.

Sheep farmers are in a tight situation with falling prices and no hint of things getting better in the near future. Dairy farming continues to be in the doldrums with returns continuing to fall. I hope this does not impact on our breeders, as many of us sell young bulls to put over their young stock.

The show season is almost at an end with very few of our members showing. It does take many hours to prepare animals and get them ready to exhibit but it is one of the best ways to put the breed out in the public eye.

Rosemarkie Red Polls have been showing a very nice yearling bull this year and pleasing to see this bull in front of the public.

Our Annual AGM and Herd Tour is to be held in Canterbury from Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April till Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2016.

Canterbury breeders always put on a good tour and I would like to see as many breeders as possible attend.

It is this time of the year to think about weaning calves that were born in the spring so I urge members to register these calves. This means the Association will have an adequate income and keep us in a good financial position.

The next World Congress is to be held in America from June 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 till 25<sup>th</sup> June 2017. These tours are a great way to share ideas amongst breeders from all around the world and make lifelong friends. Details of this event will be on our website and communicated to members in due course.

*Graeme Evans*

## **SECRETARY'S SAY**



Well, we can't complain that summer hasn't been hot enough! Many said winter was like it used to be with heavy frosts and clear, cool days – February has been like Februarys of old with scorching hot days. We have even had some very humid days down here – unusual for us.

**AGM and HERD TOUR:** You should all have received a copy of the itinerary for this year's herd tour and notification of the 95<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting in Canterbury. Looking forward to seeing many of you in April. The Minutes of last year's AGM were posted to you in the middle of last year. If you would like another copy please let me know and I will e-mail or post them to you.

**REMITTS:** If you have any remits for this year's AGM, please get them to me before 1<sup>st</sup> April, so I can circulate them.

**AUSTRALIAN MAGAZINE:** This is available on their website ([www.redpoll.org.au](http://www.redpoll.org.au)), but I have ordered a few copies for those of you who are not partial to sitting in front of a computer screen and enjoy having the magazine to browse through at your leisure. Just let me know and I will post you a copy.

**WANTED:** *Heifer calves at weaning – I have had an enquiry from a new breeder near Blenheim who would like to buy approx 25 calves. Please let me know what you are likely to have available, so I can co-ordinate delivery in the simplest way.*

Anne McSweeney

282 Woodside Road, R.D.21,  
Geraldine, 7991  
Ph 036938862  
Email: [redpolls@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:redpolls@slingshot.co.nz)

## **FROM THE EDITOR**



Hi everyone

Thanks to those of you who sent in articles for the magazine. It would be a bit slimmer without the Australian tour write ups though!

I still have a "Feature Cow" article up my sleeve although any item about your favourite cow that has made a big contribution to your herd is always welcome.

Does anyone know what happened to the Woodhouse Cup, which was donated by Mrs Airini Woodhouse of Blue Cliffs Station, in 1926 'to be awarded to the best type of Red Poll cow or heifer which had been tested under the C.O.R system'?

(Can a ex/dairy farmer advise me on what the C.O.R. system was please?)

I would like to have a photo of the cup and its current whereabouts if possible. It may have been won outright, or returned to Mrs Woodhouse when no longer being competed for, or just left with the exhibitor who won it last.

*Helen*

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## **THINKING OF YOU**



To Life Member, John Watson, of Dipton and the members of his family, we send our condolences on the recent passing of his wife, Robbie. Fondly remember by older members as a lively hostess, and great supporter of John during his time with Red Polls.

## PATRONS' PAGE I



### **Calf Trouble**

About fifteen years ago I had a mob of Red Poll beef cows and calves grazing in a ten acre paddock which lies across the heavily contoured face of a hill. This field overlays a limestone formation, containing a number of caves and tomos, which are like pipes and caverns sunk into the ground.

Over the years we have had stock caught in these sink-holes. On this day I was mustering the mob only to find I was one calf short. My farm boy, (a Brazilian with a limited grasp of English) and I, eventually discovered it stuck in a tomo with its head and front legs out and the rest stuck in the mouth of the waterlogged limestone pipe.

We had not come equipped for a rescue mission and our attempts to grip ears and shoulder failed to heft the slippery animal out. Next came some improvisation. I took off my jeans and we looped the legs around the front of the now bellowing calf and hauled. We nearly had him out of the hole when the jeans tore in half leaving us with two garments only suitable for use by a deformed one legged man. At this stage I sent farm boy back to base to collect better rescue gear while I kept an eye on calf.

With a hand winch and ropes we set up tackle and managed to slowly pull the calf out, much like pulling the stopper from a bottle. An obviously wet, cold and cramped animal then received my attention as I massaged life back into its limbs. My assistant expressed some concern that a revitalised calf might be more than we could handle but I assured him that this was of quiet temperament and friendly disposition. At that very moment the calf sprang to its feet, rushed forward and hit me in the midriff, knocking me flat onto my back. To add insult to some considerable injury it then used me as a springboard as it bounded off in search of its mother.

I duly arrived home in a dishevelled, wounded and partly clothed state. My family were naturally curious but on relating the tale they expressed very little sympathy for me but lots for the poor calf.

*Robin Shepherd*



## **PATRONS' PAGE II**

Remembering **Michael (Mick) Condon** *by Peter Fleming*

Mick Condon who did a great job of recording the History of the Red Poll Breed in New Zealand recorded that his Herd, the Ratanui Herd, was founded in 1959. This was in Waverley with later additions from S E (Ernie) Rhodes' (Piakau Herd), Wanganui. Ernie was a relative of Sir Heaton Rhodes, the first importer of Red Polls into New Zealand. Mick records that there were later additions from Taonui (later Robert Campbell's herd and Parihauhau LC (Bill) Anderson's herd.

He exhibited his cattle at the Royal shows in the North Island and at the Wanganui and Feilding A & P shows.

This piece of history shows that the X bred Red Poll Jersey was a highly sought after animal. In fact, Jack Prosser of the Rockdale Herd, believed that he could produce as much from the cross bred as the pure Jersey. The X bred Red Poll started the herds of Gil Nisbet and Robin Thomson, the Davie-Martin's and Mike McSweeney's. Mike tells me that he used the Red Poll bull over Jerseys because of the easy calving progeny and consistent colour of the calves.

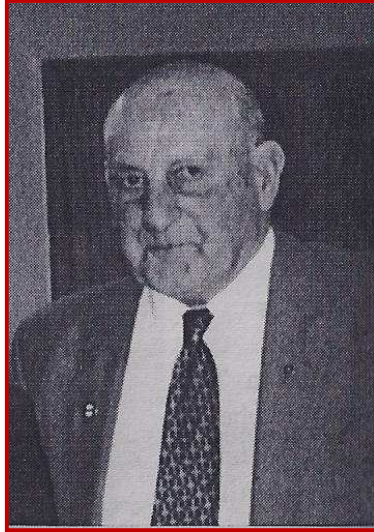
I took over as Secretary from Dr L.J. Wild in 1967 and I think that Mick came to that first meeting [that he attended] as it was a farewell to Dr Wild. If this wasn't the first meeting Mick attended, then it was in 1969, when we revised the Breed Standard Description. At that meeting I still remember that Mrs Woodhouse, (Sir Heaton's cousin) said we must have "Tail: Long and thin".

Mick was elected as Vice President, and I can still recall him saying "That promotion with Red Polls was very fast." That meeting was held at the National Party rooms in Lichfield Street, now no longer, after the 2011 earthquake.

Mick did a lot of research in Wellington for the History. He was able to fit this in when he travelled to 26<sup>th</sup> Battalion reunions as he had served in the Battalion during World War 2.



Mick was obviously prepared to travel for the Red Poll breed, for on page 167 of the History he has included a photo of himself as judge decorating the Champion Red Poll bull, at the Canterbury Show. It is worth recalling, that nearby [Page 164 - Editor] that Mick recalls that the Red Poll bull was not allowed in the Meat & Wool Cup at the Royal Show in Invercargill that year, even with a good number of entries. This took a year to rectify as Red Polls were previously entered in the dairy section.



Mick went on to be President from 1971 – 1976. His herd was dispersed in 1981, and we are eternally grateful to Mick, encouraged by his lovely wife Charm, that he was able to research this History in time to have it published for the World Conference held in New Zealand in 1986. He was able to publish this at no cost to the Association.

*Cheers  
Peter*

#### *Editor's Addition*

The editor met Mick Condon when she was first starting out with rare breeds in the late 1980's. He came along to the Manawatu (Palmerston North) Show and assisted us at our display.

Michael Condon was amazing. His research was both painstaking and widespread, involving the records of many of NZ's A & P shows from Canterbury, Dannevirke, Egmont, Feilding, Horowhenua, Invercargill, Manawatu, Southland, Strath Taieri, Timaru, Waimate, Wairarapa and no doubt others. To obtain these records Mick must have visited the Show Offices for those areas and/or local archives and libraries, including the General Assembly library in Wellington. This was all accomplished in the days before computers and cheap phone calls.

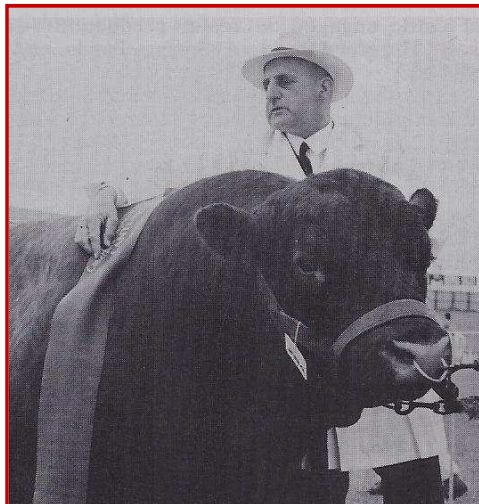
Our breed history is the best I've read of any breed's, be they sheep or cattle, in that it also gives a social context of the agricultural scene in each year he writes about; as well as the evolution of our association and the Red Poll cattle breed in New Zealand.

Mick acted as judge at Royal A & P Shows, was a member of council 1968-85 and President of the Association 1971 – 76. His cattle were registered in volumes XXV to XXXII of the Herd Book and the herd was dispersed in 1981.

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*Mick Condon puts the sash on Fleming & Son's champion Red Poll bull, Woodland's Park Napoleon 3<sup>d</sup> at the Canterbury Show, 1970*

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In 1998, when the Association celebrated its centenary, Mick was then joint Patron with Mrs Pauline Miles.

Ken Elliot wrote a forward about the Patrons for the Centenary publication which up dated the history re herds established since its publication.

I include a couple of extracts from that piece:-

'During his term in the chair he had the difficult task of tracing Red Poll females, that had been sold without registrations, and getting the records up to date.

Mick and his lovely wife, Charm, spent a lot of energy encouraging and helping young breeders. They were also at the forefront of the annual tours which took breeders around New Zealand to see where and what the breed could do.'

[As I best I could establish Mick passed away in November 2001 - Editor]

## RED POLLS AT OPOUTERE

Greetings, fellow Red Poll breeders,

We had 200mls of rain for January, consequently there is a surplus of grass, and the Red Poll cattle are looking very well with their sleek and shiny coats.

We loaned a two year old bull Tamihana Egmonts Pietro to Beat and Ann Marie Murer in Katikati, to run with their small herd. The gentleman who bred that bull, celebrated his 70th birthday recently. We went down to help him and Ann with the celebration, and enjoyed drinking his champagne.

On the way home, we called into to see Sean and Alex Trafford for a very quick visit. They are both looking extremely well. Their little boy has just turned two and is a strong sturdy looking little fellow.

Their Ayrshire cows, looked well and plenty of grass and crops ready for the dry spell, when it comes.

All in all it was a great weekend.

*Regards  
Helen & Alan Bridson*

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## ANNUAL TOUR, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & SALE

Just a reminder about the upcoming AGM etc, about which, you will have all previously received a flyer from the Secretary in the mail.

**95<sup>th</sup> AGM & Herd Tour, Canterbury Area, Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2016.**

**Accommodation:** The Famous Grouse Hotel, 2 Gerald Street, Lincoln  
Phone 03 325 2408 Tell them you're with the Red Poll Conference

**Don't forget to get your accommodation booked before 20<sup>th</sup> March!**

**Any queries contact:** Ian & Anita Fleming 03 329 1787 or  
Anne & Mike McSweeney 03 693 8862

## **SUCCESSFUL MOTHERING ON OF AN EXTRA CALF TO RED POLLS**

*By Nina Walker, Houto Stud*

I have been asked to write about how I get my Red Poll cows to mother on extra calves so here goes.

I wait until the cow has been calved about 1-2 days then I take the cow's calf off her and shut it in the calf shed overnight. She can hear the calf but can't see it so in the morning she will be waiting at the gate to the small pen in front of the calf shed.

I let her into the small pen and then push out her calf and the extra calf from the shed. It is important to let her calf get on the teat and start sucking before you try to get the extra calf on. I find it best to try to get it sucking from behind as the cow is usually so interested in checking out her calf that she doesn't notice and once the calf starts sucking she can't see it if it is straight behind her.

If the teat angle doesn't work for behind, then put the extra calf on the outside of her calf on the same side so when the cow tries to sniff their bums she smells her calf first . I usually stand in the pen and stop the cow from trying to push and knock the extra calf around.

As soon as the calves have had a good feed they go back into the shed and the cow gets pushed out into the paddock to graze. She is waiting at the gate in the afternoon and I repeat the process. At no time do I give the cow the chance to bully or chase the extra calf.

These steps are repeated night and morning for about 4 days until the extra calf learns where it gets a feed from and it starts smelling like her calf once her milk goes through its stomach. After 4 days I let both calves out with the mother into a small paddock after the morning feed and keep watch to see if the extra calf is getting a feed. Once that is happening they are all let out to join up with the cow and calf mob which usually after about 3 days so the whole process usually takes 7-10 days.

I have used this process to mother on hundreds of calves over the past 20 years and have never had any problems with mothering on. The younger the cow; the better to start with.

I have found heifers are really easy to train to take extra calves as they really don't know what to expect and once you give them the extra calf they are usually so happy to get their baby back that they will accept it as the price to pay to have their baby back.

In saying that I have also been able to train older cows to do it as well so it just depends on your level of dedication to the task. The cows soon work out what is happening each season and some of the older cows actively try to hide their calves or run away up the paddock when they know I'm coming to get the calves in for the first time, but they soon accept the situation and learn that they get their calves back sooner if they accept the extra calves quickly.

Other tips I have found are: -

1. Try to match the colour and sex of the extra calf to that of the cow's calf.
2. With the Red Poll cows, I have found they prefer solid colours, i e; red, gray, or black rather than broken colours or white patches.

At first I thought it was the white that they didn't like but I have been able to mother straight white calves on with no trouble so it is more the broken colours that they don't like.

3. Plenty of patience plus a firm, calm, attitude is also required to achieve the desired results.

I hope this is of some help and interest.

*Regards  
Nina Walker.*



## **DAWN MIST REPORT**

Summer has been good to date - January rain and a hot February have meant good crop and grass growth and more baleage made. The cattle are all doing well and their calves are looking good. We are very pleased with some of our bull calves this year - some from Australian semen.

We have 4 Autumn born calves to date with 4 more due by the time you read this. Mum's and babies doing well.

Our daughter, Angela, and hubbie, Andrew, have just had their third son. Gunnar Milne arrived on 23<sup>rd</sup> February and is doing well. We had the older boys for a week and with all the extra attention they get here, they were not in a hurry to go home! Both are very doting of their new baby brother.

We have been watching a programme on BBC Knowledge on Thursday evenings, called "Countryfile". It is about rural life in Britain and although it is a couple of years old it is very interesting, especially when a lot of the areas are familiar to us. There is always a segment on rare breeds - Gloucester cattle, Hackney and Suffolk Punch horses, to name a few - and what is being done to increase their numbers.

Many of you will be affected by the new ruling from NZ Rural Post that all our mailboxes must be on the side of the road that the postie delivers on. They will no longer be allowed to cross the road to deliver mail! Mike spoke to our mail lady recently to be sure he was relocating our mailbox to a suitable site and she suggested he might need a consent from council to move it. You can imagine his reaction!!! Imagine all the councils through the country seeing this as a nice little money making venture delivered to them by Rural Post. The whole thing is going to cause such debate.

We look forward to catching up with many of you next month.

*Anne & Mike McSweeney*

## KAIHINAU REPORT - Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

Surrounded by today's mail, I have managed to find an area of table on which to write at. It is good to have an avenue of expression with our own thoughts rather than those selling product of either advice, whether it be financial, or something we must have on the farm.

Our hay is all in the shed, as many bales as last year. Our sheep are shorn, just the second shear over the two tooth to do. No lambs have been sold as yet, but we will struggle to get \$90.

Last year's Red Poll calves, now rising 18 months, are still in the paddock awaiting autumn rain enthusiasm from buyers. To all accounts their value is holding well. We are still milking 15 cows once a day and feeding calves that could well be weaned.

Our 120 Red Poll cows have calved well with all very boisterous offspring. There is no challenge to the reputation for quiet cattle that we claim for our breed.

Lately a lot of breed photographs seem to be showing a distinct pair of non pink nostrils (flesh coloured). The Australian magazines seem to reflect the correct type more than us. *[I think this may be the quality of the magazine printing rather than the cattle – Editor]*

We're looking forward to seeing everyone down South.

Regards  
*Kelvin and Kath*

Looking for a home one senior herd sire, bred by Ken Elliot, Garthmyl.  
Quiet; creditworthy in all respects, including feet. Too good to kill!  
**Garthmyl Vidar.** By G. Seamus Century Ex G. Quench. Born 12/9/2010

Apply: Kelvin Lane, ☎ 06 362 7254 or

Email: [kathrynlane201@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynlane201@gmail.com) for details

## ATHBEY FARM REPORT

With a few 2015 spring calving problems (coming from one bull) we have still ended up with 11 heifers and 2 bull calves to register, with all assisted ones tagged for culling. Mister AFFCO has already taken care of the offending bull. Rather disappointing after all these years of not touching a calving cow, then for this to crop up.

Was it bought in genetics, the season, or just one of those unexplained things? Anyway all offending heads are being chopped off, and we can continue with our guarantee to purchasers of stock from us that we only breed from totally free-calvers.

Presently, our finishing mob of eighteen month crossbred heifers are on Barkant turnips and weight gain results will be to hand at our conference in April. Past years have shown slow to negative growth rates during this period on grass alone.

At time of writing it's good to see a firming of the beef schedule. Woodville is still green but only just holding in there. A good soaking rain is our immediate wish.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the conference and herd tour.

*Athol & Betty Sowry*



*The two 2½ year old Red Poll Jersey cross heifers (in front) we milked to cafeteria feed bought in dairy beef calves*



**RED POLL INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS 2014  
ALONG THE ROAD TO CANBERRA, THEN NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November, Day 15**

An overcast and cool day greeted us as we boarded the bus at 8 a.m. for the journey to Canberra. We head south, then turn east heading towards Tallangatta, a small town that was moved in the 1950's to facilitate the building of the Hume Weir (Dam). This dam is normally 79% full but after 12 years of drought is only at 25% of capacity. We travelled along the Murray River valley, and climbed up through the 'high country' of the Great Dividing Range where cattle are allowed to roam as a preventive measure to keep down the undergrowth and stop bushfires.

Our immediate destination was the Eurimbla run off block, situated in the Mitta Mitta Valley. It was purchased 12 years ago as a way of drought proofing the breeding and fattening operation. The block consists of 200 acres of flats. It can get very cold in the Winter, with a dam in the shadow of the hill staying frozen during for the duration. The first calving heifers, predominantly Red Poll but also some Shorthorn and Shorthorn/Red Poll get run here to grow out on the river flats. The sale ones will be sold as "springers". The bottom cut of second calvers have been mated to Charolais and will be sold later.



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*Ian Coghlan and  
Eurimbla Atlas  
(IJC 2108).  
Ian says he has very  
impressive and  
balanced Breed Plan  
figures*

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We saw the oldest Eurimbla cow, Eurimbla Party Girl, born 1<sup>st</sup> October, 1996. She has had 16 calves, including an impressive young bull (Eurimbla Boomer) who was at foot. Party Girl's dam, Conmurra Goodtime Girl is still alive and fit at 21 years of age but is no longer being joined. Party Girl was by Eurimbla Revenge.



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*L-R Alan Bridson & Warwick Potts (NZ) discuss the cattle at Coghlan's runoff.*

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Ian kindly kept the information that, as it was cool morning, the tiger and brown snakes were not out and about until we were leaving – thankfully!

*[Thanks to Ian for sorting my uncertain geography out Editor]*

From Coghlan's we headed off toward Tallangatta (both air conditioners and chimneys on every roof) then towards Corryong (Victoria). This area was the home of Jack Riley – thought to be the original 'Man from Snowy River'. Murray Williams read us the poem by Banjo Patterson as we travelled along.

In 1839, Count Pawel Strzelecki, the Polish explorer and geologist, along with a small party of men, including the afore-mentioned Jack Riley, explored the Australian Alps and the Snowy Mountains. He later climbed and named Mt. Kosciusko. In the 1860's the area was opened up to farming. We did not stop in Corryong but carried on to Khancoban, NSW, Australia's trout fishing capital.

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*Mike McSweeney, NZ and Terry Mancey UK, enjoying lunch at the lookout*

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From there we entered Kosciusko National Park as we wended along and up the Alpine Way where we had our first view of part of the Snowy Mountain Power Scheme. A while later we stopped for our packed lunch at the Scammell Ridge Look Out. The roadside trees were now bigger; stringybark and mountain ash. The road was not quite two lanes with no white lines.



At 1,582 metres we passed through Dead Horse Gap and down on through Thredbo; better road now on this side of the hill. Next stop, Jindabyne, once a Snowy River Power Scheme dormitory town. From here it is 167kms to Canberra. There was a brief stop for the loo and to take in the scenery. Back on the road again. North of Berridale we saw huge [granite] boulders both sides of the Road – famous as the Berridale Boulders.



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*A huge statue of Pawel Strzelecki graces the waterfront of Lake Jindabyne.*

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Cooma township has an historic avenue of flags set up in 1959 to commemorate those countries involved in the building of the Snowy Power Scheme and features the Snowy River Discovery Centre. The road from Cooma to Canberra is known as the Monaro Highway. With 34 kms to go we crossed out of NSW and into the Australian Capital Territory. This is run by the Federal Government, the same as the Northern Territory. Canberra is the Federal Capital. Australia was federated in 1901. Rather than have Sydney or Melbourne as the capital it was decided to buy land and in 1911 the ACT was officially created. The city layout was designed by an American architect, Walter Burley Griffin and his wife Marion Mahony Griffin who won an international competition. The lake between the two halves of the city is called Lake Burley Griffin.

The original Federal Parliament buildings were opened in 1928. In 1988, a new much larger Commonwealth Parliament House, situated on top of Capital Hill was opened in an elaborate ceremony that was the centrepiece of Australia's Bicentenary celebrations.

Buffet dinner was at the Novotel hotel where we were to stay the next two nights. Lovely mutton! Overnight temperature forecast at 6°C and tomorrow it's supposed to be 24°C.

## Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November, Day 16

This was the last day for Martin and Ann Hopwood from Jamaica. After a late breakfast we met at the bus at 9.30am go to the Australian War Memorial Museum, which opened in 1941. The Museum staff were beginning the preparations for Remembrance Day ceremonies on the 11<sup>th</sup>. The official guided tour was 90 minutes and then we had free time til lunch which just whizzed past. One could easily spend a whole day/s there. We were split into two groups but they didn't visit the same things in many cases. My group went into one area where they had a short movie of a WWI dogfight over France made by New Zealander, Peter Jackson, of 'Lord of the Rings' fame and the folk at Weta Workshop.

*[Can find it on YouTube if you'd like to see it – google 'Australian War Memorial WWI dogfight movie' and it comes up]*

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*'Simpson And His Donkey 1915',  
by Peter Corlett, 1988.; bedecked  
with poppies for Remembrance  
Day*

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This Museum alone is well worth going to Canberra for. There are some fabulous bronze commemorative plaques and statues which are also works of art in their own right.

Written on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier were the words, "He is all of them, he is one of us"

After lunch at the Museum Cafe went for a bus tour up to Mount Ainslie Nature Reserve where we all posed in various formations for group photos of the tour participants. From there we went to Parliament House. We saw the House of Representatives and the Senate. Inside we viewed some of the Parliament House Art Collection which included beautiful botanical





*#1 Power Station, Snowy River Scheme*



*Exhibit at War Memorial Museum*



*Wild flowers at Scammell Lookout*



*Aboriginal Embassy, founded 1972*



*National War Memorial, Canberra*



*Papua Embassy frontage*

lithographs from the Joseph Banks expedition. They were not printed in colour til quite recently as it is a very expensive process.

Once we left parliament we went for a tiki tour round the embassies – some with very individually designed buildings. Dave, the coach captain's, favourite was the Papuan Embassy, a very striking frontage. From Embassy row we went down for a quick look at the Captain Cook Memorial Fountain on the Lake.

After arrival back at the hotel several of us went to PJ O'Reilly's Irish pub where the Guinness was very popular. After an hour's rest back at the hotel it was time to get changed ready to go to the Museum of Australian Democracy - Old Parliament House - for dinner. Chris (Tour director) had warned us it was very much a dress up occasion so everyone found their glad rags. Before sitting down to eat we had a guided tour of the old House of Representatives and the Senate chambers. We even saw Bob Hawke's rooms – he was the last Prime Minister in the old House of Parliament.

Dinner was lovely, with the wine included! There was a set menu – entree was scallops with a light sauce, followed by barramundi with slices of apple and a small amount of salad on a bed of mushy peas. Very light and tasty. Dessert was a coffee mousse slice with chocolate icing, two tiny meringues and whipped cream. A beautiful meal indeed. It was the last night of the Tour for Alan, Marilyn and Peter Wilson too. *Below – getting ready to dine*



## **EVANLEA REPORT**

Another show season for us has finished. Attended the Wairarapa A & P at Carterton, Royal Show at Hastings and Masterton A & P. It is disappointing that all these events only attracted a limited number of entries. We exhibited a cow and calf at Carterton and Hastings and two Yearling heifers at Masterton.

We have had a good late spring and summer, but as we near the end of February it is getting very dry but with the stock in good order we should get through with little trouble. We are looking forward to some good Autumn rain to set us up for the winter.

This year's crop of calves is well grown and looking extremely well, as are the cows. Weaning will be done in early March. Plenty of baleage and hay have been made this year and the winter should be no problem.

After a lot of research, title and photograph searches and visits to the local archivist, Gareth Winter, we applied to Century Farms for recognition of 150+ years continuous farming and living on the property by the Evans Family. The family will be travelling to Lawrence to attend the award ceremony in May. This is very exciting as Luke Evans, Graeme's great grandfather took up land here in 1858, Graeme has been farming here for 50 years and he has turned 70, so quite a momentous occasion for us all.

Judy went to UK in January to visit family and friends. I was lucky enough to be near Stoke on Trent and was able to spend some time with Helen and Terry Mancey. I spent a morning helping feed some of their lovely Red Poll cows and Helen's Hebridean sheep; visited the Potteries (not a good idea as only had minimal luggage capacity!!) and also visited my old boarding school which is now an aged dementia home – Is there a message there????!

Looking forward to the April herd tour and catching up with your news.

Regards to all

*Judy & Graeme Evans*

## **RANGITIHI REPORT – Summer**

Wow, what a wonderful summer for grass and we were threatened with a drought. For the first time ever we have so much extra grass in February that we are having to make baleage. As you can guess, all the cattle and horses are looking in prime condition. Calves are growing very well so we have to be careful not to tempt fate and have bloat or another metabolic affliction.

With only one empty cow we had a 96% calving rate. Thirteen heifers and nine bull calves. We have left the males entire.

For those of you attending the annual herd tour and AGM we send our best wishes.

This season marks 40 years since we bought our first Red Poll bull from Jean Boubée, Tahiti Berger. It has been a great journey working with these lovely animals and a wonderful experience being part of the New Zealand Red Poll family.

*Gena & Robin Shepherd*

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### **😊 A BIT OF A LAUGH 😊**

These fit so well they should be in a dictionary:-

**Adult :** A person who has stopped growing at both ends and is now growing in the middle.

**Beauty Parlour:** A place where women curl up and dye.

**Chickens:** The only animals you eat before they are born and after they are dead.

**Committee:** A body that keeps minutes and wastes hours.

**Egotist:** Someone who is usually me-deep in conversation.



## **WELCOME WORLD RED POLL BREEDERS,**

Excitement for the **FIFTEENTH INTERNATIONAL RED POLL CONGRESS AND TOUR** in the USA in 2017 is starting to build and we, the American Red Poll Association, extend an invitation to all Red Poll breeders to come to the USA and see our cattle and our country. The tour schedule is attached. It is 25 days and will encompass Red Poll cattle in differing US management styles, agriculture, historical places ranging from Appalachian settlements to the Biltmore Estate, entertainment from baseball to the famous Budweiser Clydesdales, as well as relaxation to visit and discuss the day's happenings. Also included are the payment procedure and the registration forms. We request one for each person attending. Any questions contact Melissa at Croswell Tours or Dan or Mary Jo Schmiesing at [mardanacres@gmail.com](mailto:mardanacres@gmail.com).

### **WORLD RED POLL CONGRESS JUNE 1-25, 2017 Tour Number G39010 25 Days – 24 Nights – 66 Meals Revised 2/1/2016**

- June 1:** 5:00 PM: Depart for Versailles Winery from Comfort Inn Troy Ohio for "Meet and Greet Dinner"
- June 2:** Depart Comfort Inn, Troy for Indiana. Host visits: Jackson Farms; Spegal's Red Polls. Harness racing and casino. Two night stay in Anderson Indiana; **Breakfast, Lunch included. Dinner on your own.**
- June 3:** Host visit: Shuter Sunset Farms, Frankton, Indiana. **Breakfast. Lunch and Dinner included.**
- June 4:** Depart Anderson, Indiana for Host visit at Carl's Red Poll en-route to Shipshewana, Indiana for a two night stay. **Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included.**
- June 5:** Amish tour including lunch. Then, dinner and show at Blue Gate Theatre. **Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included.**
- June 6:** Depart for West Lafayette, Indiana for a two night stay. Host visit, Mickey Parks truck farm and Red Poll Herd. **Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included.**

- June 7:** Congress at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana.  
**Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included.**
- June 8:** Depart for Peoria, Illinois for two night stay. Host, McMarshall Farms. **Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included.**
- June 9:** Host, Mc Marshall Farms and Caterpillar Company.  
**Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included.**
- June 10:** Depart for Kansas City.  
**Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included**
- June 11:** Host visit, Womelsdorf Red Poll Cattle. Depart for Wichita, Kansas. **Breakfast, lunch and Dinner included**
- June 12:** Host visit, Wiese Farms. Overnight this evening near Joplin, Missouri. **Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included.**
- June 13:** Travel to St Louis, Missouri area for a two night stay.  
**Breakfast Lunch and Dinner included.**
- June 14:** Tour Anheuser Busch Company, Clydesdales and Purina Research Farm. **Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included.**
- June 15:** Host visit, Kyle & Alyson Young, Simpsonville, Kentucky.  
**Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included.**  
Overnight near Louisville, KY.
- June 16:** Host, Mike Reed Family at Mammoth Caves. Depart for Nashville for a two night stay. Tickets included for the Grand Ole Opry this evening. **Breakfast, Lunch included.**  
**Dinner on your own.**
- June 17:** Host visit, Belyew's Red Poll Cattle, Big Sandy, TN.  
**Breakfast, Lunch included.** Return to Nashville to enjoy **dinner on your own.**
- June 18:** Depart for Asheville, NC with a stop at the Appalachia Museum. **Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included.**

- June 19:** Tour Biltmore Estates and then travel to Winston Salem, North Carolina for three night stay. **Breakfast, Dinner included. Lunch will be on your own today.**
- June 20:** Host Visit, Carson Farms, Statesville, North Carolina. **Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included.**
- June 21:** Host visit, Wilkshire, Burlington, North Carolina. **Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included.**
- June 22:** Depart for the Gallipolis area for tonight's overnight stay. **Lunch will be on your own** at Tamarack, West Virginia. **Breakfast and Dinner included.**
- June 23:** Host visit, Paul Dorrance Family, Chillicothe, Ohio before returning to Troy, OH. **Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included.**
- June 24:** Host visits, Mardan Acres, St. Henry, Ohio; Stonebrook Farm, Troy Ohio. **Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included.**
- June 25:** Junior Red Poll Association Show Miami County Fair Ground. 12:00 noon return to hotel. Hotel has shuttle to airport. **Breakfast included.**

**Tour Inclusion:**

Roundtrip Transportation via Crowell's VIP Deluxe Motorcoach  
 Twenty Four (24) Nights Hotel Accommodations  
 Twenty-Four (24) Breakfasts, Twenty One (21) Lunches,  
 Twenty One (21) Dinners  
 All Sightseeing and Admissions listed above  
 All Taxes and Gratuities on included meals and lodging  
 A bottle of water each morning  
 All Luggage Handling  
 Tour Escort

**Tour Cost Per Person:**

\$5000.00 Double Occupancy  
 \$7000.00 Single Occupancy

\$1000 Initial Payment due by January 1, 2017  
Final Payment due by March 1, 2017

**\*Tour Based on 30 Paid Passengers Per Motorcoach.**

**Price will increase without 30 Paid Passengers per Motorcoach**

**Payment Policies**

All Credit Card Payments will be charged a 3% processing fee.

**FOR MOTORCOACH TOUR ONLY:**

**Cancellation Protection** is available to you for **\$200.00** per person. Cancellations with **Cancellation Protection** will be guaranteed a full refund up to the day before the tour departure. Cancellation Protection allows a refund on any unused portion of a tour due to illness or emergency while on the tour.

**Cancellation without Cancellation Protection**

Cancellations prior to 60 days before tour departure qualify for a full refund. Cancellations 59 days or less before tour departure qualify for a refund minus a \$100 per person administration fee and any non-refundable fees paid out on your behalf.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**You MUST exchange foreign currency before you depart your country or at a United States airport, such as New York, Chicago, or Los Angeles. (Not the Dayton airport)**

**Update 1/3/16:** Just became aware we did not say what airport. It is Dayton International airport. **Almost No Direct International flights.** You have to make connections through Dallas, LA , San Francisco, Chicago, Cleveland , Detroit or somewhere. Your travel agent can help.

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***Editors Note:*** *I suggest you scan or photocopy the forms on the next page rather than wreck your magazine if you like to keep it.*

**Croswell Tours Reservation Form**

Tour Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tour Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tour Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Room Type:

Single      Double

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Tour Requires a \$1000 Deposit due by 1/1/17  
Final Payment is due by 3/1/17  
We accept VISA/MasterCard  
You will be charged a 3% fee for using a credit card**

Amount Charging: \_\_\_\_\_  
CC#: \_\_\_\_\_  
Exp: \_\_\_\_\_ Code on back of card \_\_\_\_\_  
Name as printed on card: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I want cancellation protection for \$200

Dietary Restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Note:** Foreign Currency **must** be exchanged before you leave your country or at a United States airport, such as New York, Chicago, or Los Angeles (not the Dayton airport).

Croswell Tours  
975 West Main Street, Williamsburg, OH 45176  
Phone: 513-724-2206 x4  
Fax: 513-724-3261  
Email: tours@gocroswell.com

**Croswell Tours Reservation Form**

Tour Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tour Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tour Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Room Type:

Single      Double

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I want cancellation protection for \$200

Dietary Restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

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## KENYA NEWS

Our paddocks range from 0.5 ha up to 25 ha. We just have to see what can fit in between quarries, sugarcane fields, forestry blocks etc. In fact, a lot of our grazing is off soft weeds growing in forestry areas and thick bush, rather than grass. If left to its own devices, the whole farm would revert to forest! We have to do a lot of bush clearing. We generally try to keep cattle in a paddock for anything up to 2 weeks and then move them on. We return to the same paddock after about 6-8 weeks. Each breeding herd has about 60 breeding cows plus followers and a bull is in with them throughout the year. Steers generally go into yards at weaning to grow there and heifers are kept out. The Borans will not be bulled until they are two years old but the RPs and others will go to the bull when they reach 250 kg at anything from 15 months to 2 years, depending on which herd they came from as calves. Very few of them would qualify to be bred before they are 15 months and even if they are weaned at that weight, they will wait until 15 months before seeing the bull. Ten years ago it was taking us until about 30 months to get to this stage. If they haven't reached the 250 kg by the time they are 2, they are sent to the butchery.

Weaning weights by your standards are really poor. Our cows apart from picking up feed under the bush are generally on rubbish ground, steep, rocky and eroded over centuries; it can't be used for anything else, so is really rough grazing. With our consistently warm temperatures, high humidity and rain every month, the indigenous grasses turn into standing matchsticks in weeks. Over the last 20 years I have purposefully overgrazed to get dung on the ground and to knock out the natural grasses and slowly, we are getting more nutritious species in, with some indigenous legumes coming in too. Unfortunately Kikuyu grass, which is indigenous to the country and is good, likes cooler climates but we have something called star grass (*Cynodon dactylon*), which is also good. Trials in this country in the 70s indicted that when well fertilised, Friesian cows grazing on this, could produce 25 kg milk/day with no concentrates. This is what we are starting to get into some of our paddocks. The picture of the cow with the hills in the background is taken where we are quarrying and that is some of our best grazing.



*Some of the best grazing in the quarrying areas*

Photo: Jimmy Brooks

The animals have ad-lib access to minerals. One of the big problems over a lot of this country is high levels of iron in the soil, which locks up so many of the other elements. We have to feed chelated minerals. Most of high quality are imported which, I believe, makes them very expensive. Our beef minerals are costing NZ\$ 1/kg and our dairy mineral twice that. We also have extra cobalt, copper and selenium.

Our limestone is a volcanic stone, so peculiar and only found near the surface in isolated patches, so in many of the paddocks we need to add it. Getting it there, when one can't get a tractor onto the ground due to the terrain, is a problem.

Our local Zebu cattle (Sanga) are pretty scrawny. It takes several generations of upgrading with reds to get a good animal, but the Borans from the dry country which have been bred for the last hundred years for commercial ranching, have good muscle. The photo on the next page is of a Boran bull. He was a bought in stud bull; a fair bit of muscling there!



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*Bought in Boran stud bull*  
Photo: Jimmy Brooks

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Even when we were keeping Holstein Friesians, a cow of 550 kg was big. As we target the small holder, a cow of even 430 kg is big enough. With the Red Poll and their hidden weight, this means that they can be pretty small cows, although for our own herd a cow of 450 - 500 kg is great.

Our bulls often do not even reach 700 kg, although a few have reached 800 kg.

I am a strong believer in keeping the Red Poll breed relatively small. I think we are going the wrong way when we try to compete head on with the Continental breeds on a weight basis. I don't think it is necessary to do that to get a good steer and from our perspective (and increasingly, globally) it is folly to try, because one struggles to finish them without grain. We don't have enough to feed the humans here, let alone livestock.

The bull below is by Balla Balla Bellamy (semen we imported through Semex from Australia).





His dam was a locally bred cow from Lolldaiga Ranch but her grand-sires were listed as Winbro Bionic (Australian) and Red Sands Charm (also Australian). I believe we saw some animals from the Red Sands stud (Quentin and Shezanne Hooper) at Murray William's place in WA and at the Brunswick Show. I see that Eurimbla Renoir was a grandson of Winbro Bionic Fashion 2nd. Not sure if this is the same bull. Unfortunately, those that would have known here in Kenya are no longer with us.

On looking at our cow pedigrees I see that Bionic features rather prominently in the original cows that we bought in. There is one that also has Maleer Lazarus as a grandsire.

Currently we are holding a few straws from a South African bull called Buttron Adelaide whose maternal grandsire is Oakwood Snowy River and I am in the process of getting semen from Eurimbla, Ketlang and Oakwood, which I hope will up our game.



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*A thirteen year old cow, after calving.*

Photo:  
Jimmy Brooks

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She is a Red Poll x Boran, currently producing 14 kg milk per day and feeding her calf, who looks good enough at 6

weeks. We are practising dairy ranching with this cow. She feeds the calf between morning and evening milking and then they are separated at night. We expect 3000 kg from her over her 305 day lactation plus a reasonable calf that we may use as a bull on our crossbred suckler herd.

The calf is by Fedw Stig.



*Bulling heifers*

*Photo: Jimmy Brooks*

A market for Red Poll bulls seems to be developing for this sort of bull where ranchers want to produce some crossbreds for selling as stores to a feedlot. We have sold 4 this year, more than in the last 10 years. Hopefully, the trend will continue upwards. The competition is with breeders of Charolais, Simmenthal, Angus and Santa Gertrudis and we are the "new kids on the block". Experience of some ranchers suggests that the RP crosses do better in the dry, and of course the maintenance requirements are less throughout, as the other breeds produce much bigger animals. The downside is we never beat them at the fat stock judging.

Having said that, at our Show we have a trophy, the 'Kinguku Trophy' for the fattest animal. Kinguku was a butcher whose market was for fat animals and he complained that ranchers were not producing enough fat animals. We won that in 2011, the first year that the Trophy was presented, with a Red Poll x Boran steer. As the fat stock judging and auction is organised by the Boran Cattle Breeders Society, they stipulate that all animals must be Boran or F1 crosses only. The crosses usually take the honours.

*Jimmy Brooks*

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**FOR SALE**

The weaner bull –

**Tamihana Elz Dallas # 4708** Born 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2015



**Sire:** Tamihana CP  
McEleazar #4441

*CP McEleazar is by  
McMarshall (AU2) 373  
Out of Elmwood Elisa*

**Dam:** Hororata CP  
Danielle #11727

*Danielle is by Willow  
Lea GF Designer out  
of Elmwood Danielle*



Enquiries to: Robin Thomson,  
Tamihana Red Poll Stud  
2528 Mokau Road, R D 47  
Urenui 4379

☎ (06) 752 6838

## **COLOUR DOMINANCE, OR LACK OF IT, IN RED POLLS**

- a few thoughts by *Helen McKenzie*

Red Polls, as we all know are red; or lighter or darker hues thereof. Generally speaking this is true. The founding stock of the breed were the Norfolk Red – which I understand were red, with perhaps a bit of white on the face and sometimes on the body, and horned; and the polled Suffolk Dun, which was no doubt called that because it was a dun colour – was this like the Murray Grey which has a darkish chocolate dun and a light silvery version?

The only references re colour in Suffolk Duns that I have come across are in Lawrence Alderson's book "The Chance To Survive" (ISBN 0 7470 00093) wherein he quotes the Rev. Arthur Young in his book 'the general view of Agriculture in the County of Norfolk' " ... the best milkers have been red, brindle or yellowish cream coloured..." The latter colouration is the one that I have always thought of in relation to the Suffolk Dun – a yellowish cream colour with quite a high sheen. In the black and white photos I have seen of them (x 3) they look to be a light colour.

Purebred Red Polls these days do vary a little somewhat in the shade of 'red' they may exhibit. Lighter coloured cattle may show an almost dark tan shade through standard Red Poll red and then into a dark 'mahogany' red which is the shade preferred by some breeders.

If your cattle are getting an 'orangey' tint on the tips of their coat hair, they may in fact be showing signs of a lack of copper, which is a common deficiency in NZ minerals. [It does need to be officially diagnosed by your vet – do not assume this is the case.]

Red Polls do not dominate with their colour. Unlike Herefords and Belted Galloways that colour-mark their progeny – a very useful trait for dairy farmers using follow up bulls after AI - the Reds seem to go with the flow. Over Friesians/Holsteins they will usually leave black unless the cow has a red factor in her background. Over Angus they would no doubt leave black again unless the red factor is present in the cow.

Over cows with Murray Grey or Simmental present in their background they seem able to throw any cattle coat colour you may care to mention – even changing out of the same cow in different years. We had some commercial cows who were a light taupe colour - their calves by the Red Poll bull could be orange, red, brown mouse, dark brown with a very short curly coat and short tail, grey mouse or black; and over cows with any jersey in them you may also get brindle, red with a darker dorsal strip or a coat that starts off reddish black and ends up black with lighter colour round the muzzle and eyes.

While at first this lack of colour dominance would seem to be a disadvantage, it does mean that when used over Friesians or Angus (without a red factor) the black (and generally the polledness) will dominate, which suits people looking for polled, black-coated cattle, to fatten for the Asian markets where they seem to be preferred.



In my search for information on the Suffolk Dun and its possible colouration I checked out a blog ( on 6/3/16) on the origin of the dun colour in Dexters and amazingly I came across a letter quoting Prince Duleep Singh, whom I thought was the last owner of the breed in Britain, but on reading this, turned out not to be so.

*The following is an excerpt is from a book by Robert Wallace, "Farm Livestock of Great Britain", published by Oliver & Boyd, London, 1923.*

'A short account, written in October, 1907, by Prince Frederick Duleep Singh, of the "herd of Suffolk Dun-Polled cattle, afterwards the property of Arthur Wakerly, Esq., of Gedding Hall, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk": -

These cattle were for a considerable though undetermined period, kept at Riddlesworth near Thetford, Norfolk, which is on the borders of Suffolk. No record of their early history or breeding seems to have been preserved, but the late Sir Thomas Thornhill, Bart., of Riddlesworth – whose grandfather purchased Riddlesworth about 1803 – informed me that as far as he knew they "had always been there, and were the original breed of the country." It is perhaps only a curious coincidence that the ancient family of de

Riddlesworth, who took their name from this place and lived there until about 1450, should have borne, for their arms, a golden bull on a green shield ("vert, a bull passant, or"), gold being the shade which describes the colour of this breed better than 'Dun'.

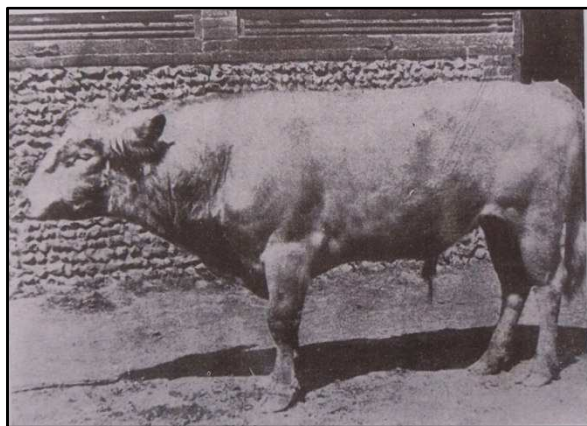
The only other fact that I remember Sir Thomas telling me was that a slight brindling was usually the sign of a good cow and typical of the old breed. This brindling is shown in the water colour drawing, dated 1813, of a bullock bred by a tenant on the Riddlesworth estate (which picture I had the good fortune to come across about 1898, in the possession of a descendant of the breeder of the animal, and which has since passed with the herd. At the sale of the Riddlesworth estate in 1890 the herd was dispersed. I do not know how many it consisted of then; but some, if not all, were bought by R E Lofft, Esq., of Troston Hall, Suffolk, who took them to that place and did his best to keep the breed going, until he sold off all his farming stock in 1895. Not hearing of the sale until the day it took place, I was only able to secure by telegram a certain number of the Dun Polls, but I subsequently acquired the remainder from Mr Garrett Taylor and another person. Even then the total number which I could muster was six cows and heifers and 1 bull. These I kept at Hockwold Hall, Norfolk, where I was then residing, until 1898, when I removed them to Old Buckenham Hall in the same country [sic]. They remained there until April 1902, when I sold the whole herd, increased by then to 14 head (which included 6 cows, 4 heifers, 1 heifer calf, 1 bull calf, and 2 bulls, to Lord Iveagh, K.P. of Elveden, Suffolk. Lord Iveagh only kept them to the end of 1904, when he informed me that he was anxious to dispose of them, and I was then fortunate enough to hear of a purchaser for him in the person of Arthur Wakerley, Esq., of Leicester and of Gedding Hall, Suffolk, who is the present owner of the herd. The number had now increased to 11 cows and heifers, 2 heifer calves, 6 bull calves, and 3 bulls, making a total of 22. Mr Wakerley took over the entire herd, except perhaps some of the bull calves. It will be noticed how a large number of bull calves were borne from 1902 to 1904. This disproportion between the number of male and female calves dropped, and a tendency to abortion, were two of the chief difficulties I had to contend with during the period of over 7 years in which the herd was in my hands. In order to try and perpetuate the breed even at the expense of its purity – acting on the advice of Mr R E Lofft - I crossed the Dun Polls both

ways with Red Polls, the latter being descended from the former, one felt it was the nearest cross that could be obtained without spoiling the type. The progeny of these were kept quite distinct from the pure Duns and were themselves re-crossed with the latter, the intention being to amalgamate eventually the two strains. This however it was never possible to carry into effect as Lord Iveagh would only have the pure Duns. The crossbreds therefore were dispersed. It was interesting to note how prepotent the Dun breed was, even the first cross taking, in nearly every case I think, the colour and characteristics of the older race. With regard to colour I found they varied from a dark cream to rich golden colour, and with very occasionally the brindle markings which Sir Thomas considered typical. The milk was good and yielded a good deal more cream than ordinary Red Poll milk. The quantity of milk did not approach anything like the wonderful records spoken of by Arthur Young, but on the whole the cows were good milkers, some of them giving up to 8,000lb in the course of the year. I kept the milk records carefully from 1898 to 1902.

*Frederick Duleep Singh*

A few years later the pure breed ceased to exist.'

*[See Page 23 of March 2011 issue for more info on Suffolk Duns -*



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*Suffolk Dun bull 'Sir Riddlesworth', the property of Prince Duleep Singh, 1900*

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**Photos Back Cover:**

**Top:** Evanlea Inspire by Glenone Sanson out of Rosemarkie Bel's Sorcha at Bridsons, early in 2014

**Bottom:** Bryandale Favourite and calf, 1997.

**Photo:** Robin Thomson

