



# RED POLL

# BEEF CATTLE

## NEWSLETTER † APRIL 2011



## PRESIDENTS POST

Well, hasn't this year gone off with a "bang"! Other than the south west corner of W.A. there has been more rain than any of us can remember at this time of the year. After the Qld floods I rang two of our members, Jill Bockman and Bev Hutchinson, and heard the most amazing stories of cattle survival and individual risk which I am sure will make most interesting reading, just like Ian Staff's story of the Victorian bushfires the previous year.

Murray Williams also experienced cyclonic weather, which unfortunately, was responsible for the death of Sally Boulton, the wife of a former Federal President. In my region of S.A., I have had 7 ½ inches creating conditions that we often wish for in early winter. The unseasonal conditions are now reflected in the markets with some of the best prices seen in many years and escalating demand, especially for breeding stock.

On Saturday 5/3/11, I flew to Melbourne and then drove to Whittlesea for the Victorian regions sale by Helmsman buying system. The weather was fabulous, the breeders very welcoming and the bidding very spirited. It was a pleasure to witness a large gallery enjoying the opportunity to purchase quality breeding stock at very good prices, especially the commercial lots.

So far, during my Presidency, I have been lucky to witness the exuberant enthusiasm of the W.A. breeders for showing cattle and the keenness of the Victorian breeders in running a very professional sale. I have been working with the N.S.W. region also to arrange the next A.G.M. at the Richmond Field Day on Saturday 12/11/11 where we intend to present a seminar on steer selection and preparation. Further information will be available as the event evolves so keep this date in mind for now.

It has been brought to my attention that some members have been tardy in transferring bulls to other members. They have been purchased with the understanding that they were going into stud herds with progeny able to be registered.

This has made it difficult for those members who wish to utilize the offspring of these bulls in their breeding programs or enter

them in shows. It is in all our interests that cattle are transferred punctually when sold, as you never know who may take the opportunity presented and become a new member. It also indicates our professional attitude in maintaining the business of stud breeding.

Most of you will be aware of Oakwood's generous donation of a heifer to the A.R.P.C.B.I. to raffle as a fundraiser for the breed. This has proved a difficult exercise and Keryn has spent a lot of time gathering information from the various state gaming boards. The regulations vary greatly between states and at this stage we have been unable to proceed even though tickets had been organized and requirements met by Alan Wilson. We had planned to have it up and running for Canberra show and were ready to go, until the regulations got in the way. At this stage, we are re-assessing our options.

I will be attending the Sydney Royal and would like to catch up with as many members as possible, especially those of you I have not met and please be prepared to discuss any areas of concern you may have with the organization.

The next Federal Council tele-conference is planned for the 9th of May. Following, on the 27th of May, Kay and I will be heading off to the World Congress with the following members that I am aware of so far; Alan and Marilyn Wilson, Jill Bockman and John Rhea, Murray Williams and Jill Feibiger, Kate Goulding and Dean Jensen, Albert and Hancock and Douglas D'Oliver. We will also have some commercial members with us. This will make a good delegation from Australia and we intend to propose to the Congress that Australia hold the next congress in 2015, starting at the Perth show in October and finishing in Brisbane, with the Congress to be in Albury.

RICHARD DALEY

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# WESTERN AUSTRALIA REPORT

It has been a very difficult time for the West Australian farmers with the worst season in recent history in 2010 still having a follow on effect.

With record high grain and hay prices and still no rain in sight, one positive is the good cattle prices with eastern states re-stockers still buying along with a large amount being live exported .

The W.A. region of the ARPCBI has been relatively quiet in 2011 compared to the huge 2010 that was well received by all.

There was just the one Red Poll bull offered at the Knutsford Invitational Bull sale in February, the bull Yongerellen Endeavour Innaloo was sold to commercial cattle producer for \$4500, a welcome result considering the recent bull sales in W.A.

The Yongerellen Stud of Quairading exhibited at the Wagin Woolarama in March, with 2 bulls and a heifer being paraded in front of the judge to good reviews, but unfortunately no interbreed win this year after 2 in a row with Yongerellen Romeo Englander.

Harvey show was held on the 2nd of April with 3 Red Poll exhibitors in attendance, the Juniper, Bellahway and Ranfurley Studs paraded cattle before the judge with great reviews, with Ranfurley Julietta, a 10 month old calf going on to win Junior Champion British Bred Female.

The West Australian Youth Cattle Handlers Camp will again be held at the end of April, with Red Poll cattle and members in attendance.

A new edition to the WA region was the safe arrival of Bridgette Owston who was born on the 25th March and who has already been introduced to the Ranfurley Red Poll herd and who created great interest from the cows.

With all the little arrivals in the Red Poll Lane over the last two years we think that this year's promotional bay may turn into the Red Poll Creche instead. We wish all Red Poll members a good 2011 season



Sue Lutey with Ranfurley Julietta, age 10 month - Junior Champion British Bred Female at the Harvey Show.



Congratulations Wayne & Belinda Owston on the arrival of Bridgette. Wayne and Belinda are doing well and we have it on good authority that the adoring Dad does not hesitate in changing nappies and giving her a bath most nights and also coos and goo's along with her.

WAYNE OWSTON

The ARPCBI welcomes the following new members:

Matt Boyle, Greenbushes, WA and Margaret Wuchatsch, Pirron Yallock, VIC

# SOUTH AUSTRALIAN REPORT



I was speaking with a member towards the end of last year and he questioned me about whether or not the continued success of the region in carcass competitions had translated into sales.

At the time, I was not able to give him a definitive answer; however, I can now say that it has with all the S.A. breeders experiencing excellent sales and enquiries.

Moyle Park sent a pen of 10 steers, 7 to 8 months old and weaned only 2 weeks, to Strathalbyn feature sale before Christmas. There were 1200 similar aged cattle on offer, mostly Angus, and that pen was a close second to the best pens on the day.

The interesting thing about the sale was that the purchaser of the steers hobby is cattle cutting using horses. Since he has had them home, he has taken them to two events where they were the preferred cattle to draft, and the transporter said they were excellent cattle to load.

The quality of the stock greatly impressed the organizer of the event, a cattle buyer by profession who attends all our local sales. The Strathalbyn auctioneer has since made contact looking for more steers to put through his market.

The previous buyer has an order for forty steers this year and has commented that the Red Poll performed so much better than the other thirty Angus cattle he took home.

A young breeder who was selling Murray Grey's at Strathalbyn and looking to replace his Murray Grey's with Red Polls has also contacted me. He was accommodated and now has eleven stud cows and a bull. We hope he will follow up with a membership in time. Another purchase of ten stud cows occurred at the S.A. Beef field days with a future order for heifers, and again with an interest in becoming a member.

A commercial repeat buyer at Kadina took up a draft of twelve cows from Maleer and the Malones have again sold a bull to a Charolais stud breeder who has always expressed pleasure over the product that the cross with his Charolais produces. Lately, Kev Graham has sold a draft of cows locally and bulls have been supplied both locally and interstate by Oakwood.

On another note, John Malone is the Belalie Arts Society concert chairperson for the Bundaleer Festival to be held on 10th April - a weekend with James Morrison, Silvie Paladino, David Hobson, Andy Firth with Richard Daley acting site manager.

This is a big event, with over 2000 people expected to attend the main event held in the Bundaleer forest on Saturday night.

We have been advertising state wide with a feature article in Saturday's Advertiser, centered around John conducting Richard's Red Poll cattle in concert. The journalist who came to interview John and Richard suggested this angle, and as there was no complaint from members, we were only too happy to lap up the publicity for the breed.

Over the years, the S.A. region has been able to generate considerable publicity because of the varied activities of members outside the breed and the fact they raise Red Polls somehow always comes up.

Sydney show will have two entries from S.A. this year and soon after that, a contingent from our region of Alan and Marilyn Wilson, Richard and Shirley Sampson and Kay and Richard Daley will be heading off to the World Congress in the UK.

As we will have to consider our entries for the Adelaide show before we go, I would like to remind everyone that this will be the 50th year of continuous showing at Adelaide by Oakwood and we would welcome your support for the Wilson family.

As the season has been so kind, ground preparation and seeding will be starting very soon, so for those of us going away we have a lot to do in the next month.

The SA region hopes you all have a drought free year.

RICHARD DALEY

## NEXT NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION DATES!

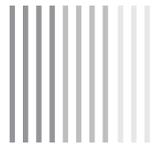
SUGGESTIONS AND STORY IDEAS  
WELCOME!

Deadline for material:  
**July 14th, 2011**

Newsletter posted by:  
**July 29th, 2011**

Advertising accepted:  
Contact the Federal  
Secretary for rates

# VICTORIAN REPORT



This year has kicked off with quite a lot of activity. The On Farm Challenge was held between the 19-22 of January.

President Don Castle commenced the day on Wednesday with Judge Arch Stevenson at home in Stoneyford. After assessing his 12 cattle, they moved on to Mortlake to see the herd of Greg Abbott, followed by Bob Nutting's cattle at Hawkesdale. On Thursday, they took a long drive to Shane Storm's property in Barham, followed by Lesley John's herd at Elmore.

A change of chauffer occurred on Friday with Doug D'Oliver driving the Judge to his property at Leongatha North, to Mark Harris' herd at Lang Lang and then on to Ian Staff's property at Pheasant Creek.

On Saturday, there occurred a get together of Red Poll members and visitors to witness the Judge's explanation of his judging system and words of wisdom about evaluating structure, milking ability and fertility assessment in cattle.

The presentation of awards followed with the following results. All told there were 73 females and 17 bulls entered from 8 herds.

Publicity in the Stock and Land and The Weekly Times helped promote the Breed.

The Judge stressed the selection of females for herds by looking at the major working parts - the feet/legs, the rump and the udder. If you identify a fault in a breeding female, it is important to use a bull that does not have the same fault, but that will counteract or diminish it.

He preferred moderately sized animals over excessively large ones and looked especially for good hip to pin length and slope and a wide set of pins. He used the Australian Beef Type Classification Reporting System, which contains a range of scores from 1 to 9 for 21 characters. The median score of 5 is preferred whilst animals with scores tending towards 9 or 1 would be too extreme.

He suggested a way forward for the Red Poll Breed would be to identify elite females and flush them using semen from elite bulls to produce embryos for rapid increase of quality animals in the Breed.

**CHAMPION FEMALE: Sophronites Satara - N & I Staff**

**CHAMPION BULL: Stormley Strad Dale - Storm & Sons**

The Victorian Region manned a site at the Sungold Field Days on 18-20 February. Don Castle and Greg Abbott provided animals and Don and Nell and Ian Staff assisted at the site for the three days.

Greg found that the officials were deadly serious when they said no vehicles were allowed through the gates after 9am.

Greg arrived with his bull at 9.02 and was forced to leave his vehicle at the gate and to lead his bull across the full width of the area to the Red Poll Site. Interest was good and resulted in the sale of 7 females.

Great publicity on Red Polls was also provided by the local Warrnambool Standard. We believe that the establishment of the Sungold site has contributed greatly to the increase in Red Polls in the whole region.

The Seymour Alternative Farming Expo was held in the same week and Ross Draper organised his own Red Poll Site there. He experienced a lot of interest, handed out 80 catalogues for the March Red Poll Sale and some people came to the sale as a result of this experience.

Mark and Elke Harris and Doug D'Oliver organised the Red Poll Site at Lardner Park on 24-27 March. We were fortunate to be offered the Hereford site which is double the size of our former site and much more open. This resulted in a much greater number of visitors and interest and was an enjoyable few days. Other members helped on each day.

IAN STAFF

## RED POLL FEATURE

Geelong Show on 13 - 16 October

In recent years Red Poll Breeders have done a tremendous job supporting our Feature Shows.

Let's try to keep the momentum going and present a great spectacle. As well as Feature Breed Classes, other options include Carcase Competitions, all Breeds Heifer and Junior Bull Competitions, Junior Judging and Handling Classes.

Please mark on your calendars and try to make the trip, perhaps you could incorporate this show with the Royal Melbourne Show. Even if you can't exhibit cattle, it would be great if you could support in the form of sponsorship of a Class.

**Organising Committee:**

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0428 510 252, [redcactus@bigpond.com](mailto:redcactus@bigpond.com)

**Gay Ward:**

0417 558 508

# WHITTLESEA SALE 2011



Buyers were busy at the 2011 Maine-Anjou and Red Poll Sale held at the Whittlesea Showgrounds, VIC.

Red Polls dominated the Sale with the top priced animal being a 19 month old bull presented by BE & LE Johnson of Kinglake Central. The bull - Lynbarrly Impulse - was Reserve Champion Red Poll bull at Royal Melbourne Show in 2010 and was purchased by Don Castle of Stoneyford for \$3700. Red Poll Stud Bulls averaged \$3000 and Red Poll Stud Females (mainly heifers) averaged \$1640 ranging from \$1200 to \$2000.



A portion of the crowd of 100 who attended the Whittlesea Sale

The Red Poll Commercials created the most interest, with the top-priced pen of 5 cows and Poll Hereford cross calves offered by Douglas Payne of Kilmore being knocked down to new buyer James Sprunt of Forrest, Western Victoria for \$1750 per unit. Seven pens of Red Poll commercials brought a total of \$35,790 (average \$5113) and they went to properties from Flowerdale to Forrest, LaTrobe in Tasmania and Braidwood, NSW.

Overall, Red Polls sold for a total of \$61,190 for 21 out of 26 lots - a clearance rate of 81%.

Maine-Anjou Cattle also sold well with the smaller offering of 18 lots of 19 animals having a 72% clearance rate. All stud females were sold up to a price of \$2600 and 3 bulls went for \$1500 and \$1600 with an average of \$1533.

A good crowd of about a hundred watched as the auctioneers ran out of bidding cards and had to recycle the used cards to satisfy the high activity of the bidders.

Ross Draper, Chairman of the Sale Committee and Landmark Agent Andrew Embling said it was the most successful Sale



Top-priced animal of the Sale - Lynbarrly Impulse - offered by BE & LE Johnson handled by Keith Johnson. Sold to Don Castle of Stoneyford for \$3700.

they have seen in a long time using the Helmsman Auction System.

Thanks go to Gay Ward, Nell Staff, Lynette Johnson and Judy Munro for providing great meals and refreshments all day. Bridgid Fry and other Maine-Anjou ladies provided lots of yummy cakes.

IAN STAFF

## WHITTLESEA MAINE-ANJOU & RED POLL SALE - 5 MARCH, 2011

### RED POLL STUD & COMMERCIAL

#### TOP PRICE

**19 month old - Lynbarrly Impulse - owners BE & LE Johnson, Kinglake Central, VIC - purchased by D Castle, Stoneyford for \$3700.**

**AVERAGE - Red Poll Stud BULLS - \$3000**

**AVERAGE - Red Poll Stud FEMALES (mainly heifers) - \$1200 - \$2000**

#### TOP PRICE

**Red Poll Commercial - 5 cows plus Poll Hereford X calves - owner D Payne, Kilmore - purchased J Sprunt, Forrest, VIC for \$1750 per unit**

**AVERAGE - 7 pens Red Poll Commercials - \$5113 for a total of \$35,790**

**TOTAL SALE RESULT - \$61,190 for 21 out of 26 lots, clearance 81%**

# 2011 JUNIOR AMBASSADOR



The Red Poll Youth Award provides young beef enthusiasts with educational opportunities that help them to develop the skills needed for the beef industry and ultimately, to contribute to the ongoing success of the breed.

Involvement with and passion for the Red Poll breed has secured Tim Light of Lagoona Red Poll Stud,

New South Wales the Red Poll Youth Ambassador Award for 2011.

This award will give Tim the chance to compete in the South Australian Junior Heifer Expo and further enhance his knowledge and skills within the beef industry.

Tim commenced with the Red Poll breed in 2005 when he established, with his sister, the Lagoona Red Poll Stud after purchasing two heifers and a bull at the Glen Innes Red Poll Sale. The stud has grown considerably since then and now exhibits throughout Queensland and New South Wales.

Tim regularly competes in Cattle judging and junior parade competitions. In 2007, he was selected to attend the Rotary Youth in Agriculture (RYAG) Youth camp and was named the student with the most ability, potential, background and desire to continue with a career as a judge, parader and stock master.

In the same year, he came fifth at the Sydney Royal Junior Judging State Final.

In 2009 he was awarded second in the Prime Beef judging and fourth in the Stud Beef judging at the Brisbane EKKA.

He is currently Youth Publicity Officer for the QLD region and for the past 4 years active in organizing and facilitating the annual Red Poll Youth Camp held in Glen Innes. Tim holds the position of Armidale Show Youth co-ordinator running the Twilight Youth Show and the cattle judging.

Tim enjoys public speaking and auctioneering and participates in the local weekend cattle sales. He is currently employed by Armitage & Buckley, one of the major Auctioneer, Stock & Station and Real Estate Agents in Armidale.

The Australian Red Poll Cattle Breeders Inc. would like to congratulate Tim, wishing him every success at the South Australian Youth Expo in Adelaide, and future endeavours within the cattle industry.



## GUYRA FEATURE SHOW



Congratulations to the studs for exhibiting their cattle and having them in such fine form for a feature event. Well done to the Queensland Region for the display that surrounded the cattle. Many people commented on the display.

# SBTS UPDATE



Ashlee Austin

In 2011, SBTS will again be offering the Australian Red Poll Cattle Breeders Inc and its members a range of services and activities relating to genetic improvement and associated technologies.

For members this includes on-property consultations, an opportunity to host a “closer to you Clients” workshop, a bi-annual technical newsletter, a webinar series focused on

the topic of DNA Technology and a one off webinar focusing on how small herds can obtain effective results from BREEDPLAN.

Further detail on the 2011 activities will be forwarded to members shortly.

Along with these activities, SBTS will continue to provide support for the Australian Red Poll Cattle Breeders Inc Council and members (by way of phone and email) on all BREEDPLAN and related genetic technologies including current DNA technologies and updates to the Internet Solutions facility.

The SBTS Team are looking forward to working with the Australian Red Poll Cattle Breeders Inc during 2011. Australian Red Poll Cattle Breeders Inc members are reminded and encouraged to contact Ashlee Austin, Red Poll SBTS Technical Officer with all breeding, genetics or selection technical queries.

**Ph - (02) 6773 3056**

**Email - ashlee@sbts.une.edu.au**

## NEW FACES



ABRI has recently reorganised the ARPCBI support team and as a consequence Aimee Klabe is now the person responsible for the processing of Red Poll registrations.

Aimee comes from a rural background

around the Guyra, NSW region. Aimee’s outgoing personality, rural background and in addition, the continued tutelage of Cheryl Green, should continue the excellent service level that Red Poll members are accustomed.

I am confident that Aimee will perform extremely well in her role for Red Poll breeders.

### CONTACT DETAILS:

**Ph - (02) 6773 3243**

**Email - aimee.klabe@abri.une.edu.au**



Jake Phillips will perform the role of BREEDPLAN processor for the breed.

Prior to joining ABRI, Jake completed a Bachelor of Agriculture specializing in Animal Science at the University of Adelaide in 2010.

Jake has gained considerable experience by working in many parts of Southern Australia specializing in stud beef consultancy as well as offering show and sale preparation work. Jake also worked on beef operations in North America in 2009 while undertaking a study tour scholarship. Jake is president of the National Murray Grey Youth committee and was named an Angus Youth Ambassador for 2011.

### CONTACT DETAILS:

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# FROM KERYN



On behalf of the ARPCBI Executive, may I send best wishes to everyone affected by the floods in SE Queensland and western Victoria and to those in SW Western Australia affected by drought and violent storms.

There has been one Executive meeting since the last newsletter was circulated in November. As was the case last year, meetings in 2011 will be conducted by teleconference to save the Society and representatives the cost of travel and accommodation.

The Executive has resolved to apply to hold the next World Congress in 2015. All members are encouraged to provide input and to help planning in progress. Members attending the UK event in May will no doubt return with a myriad of ideas and wonderful images to share.

The latest news, photographs and other information can all be "posted" on the website. However, the website needs your input before it can be of greater use in promoting the breed and facilitating communication. Recent events loaded to the website for viewing have included the Victorian regions Whittlesea sale and On Farm Challenge and the Queensland regions Red Poll Feature Show, held at Guyra. For archived reports/results look under News & Events/Red Poll results on the website.

The ARPCBI has recently invested in a more up to date accounting system by purchasing the software package MYOB. This will provide the Society with a simpler, less expensive and more flexible reporting system.

The Red Poll Executive exists to represent the interests of members and aid the advancement of the breed. The next teleconference is to be on 9th May. Please contact your representative if you have items for discussion or concerns.

KERYN HUTTON  
FEDERAL SECRETARY

## 2011 CALENDAR ✚

<b>May 18 - 22</b>	National Beef, Bendigo
<b>May 28 - June 15</b>	UK World Congress Tour
<b>Jun 7 - 9</b>	CRT Farmfest, Toowoomba
<b>July 18 - 21</b>	Junior Heifer Expo, Adelaide
<b>August 11 - 20</b>	Royal Brisbane Show (EKKA)
<b>September 2 - 10</b>	Royal Adelaide Show
<b>September 24 - October 4</b>	Royal Melbourne Show
<b>October 1 - 8</b>	Royal Perth Show
<b>October 8 - 10</b>	Red Poll Youth Camp
<b>October 19 - 22</b>	Royal Hobart
<b>November 11-12</b>	*Farming Small Areas Expo, Richmond

\* including the Red Poll Annual General Meeting and a seminar on steer selection and preparation for carcase competitions.

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