#### ALCA NEWSLETTER



Australian Lowline Cattle Association Inc. Website: www.lowlinecattleassoc.com.au

E-mail: office@lowlinecattleassoc.com.au

#### New Councillors 2016/2017

The ALCA Council for the next year welcomes three new faces - Christian Grieves from New South Wales, Klaus Emmerich from South Australia and Ku Lacey from Queensland who is a co-opted member for the Youth Committee.

Council looks forward to a new year with new faces and new ideas.



#### **Christian Grieves**

Christian brought his small farm (53Ha) near Gilgandra 2 years ago, and for the first time started breeding Lowline stud cattle.

Ascot is currently running 25 stud cows. While it may only be a hobby for him, he still wants to breed stud cattle to make a profit. Christian works as the CEO of a large charity in Dubbo which employees 270 staff. An avid art lover, Christian collects Norman Lindsay prints in his spare time.



Klaus Emmerich

Glen Willow Lowline Stud was established in 2006 after purchasing 25 acres in Tantanoola, followed by a further 50 acres later on.

Klaus is involved in the Lutheran Church, is a Committee member of the local show society and has been a past Chairman of the South Australian Lowline Promotional Group. He works on his farm, supplies kindling to local outlets and does various other jobs, including hay contracting.

Wife, Jo-Anne works as an Enrolled Nurse at an Aged Care Facility in Millicent.

Although not blessed with children, Klaus and Jo-Anne have cats, dogs, rabbits, chooks, Dorper sheep and numerous Lowlines as their extended family.

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#### Ku Lacey

Ku is a married mum of 3 boys and a high school agriculture teacher. She has previously worked as a dairy farm manager with the DPI.

Ku is currently employed as the Agriculture Program Coordinator at Rockhampton Girls Grammar School. She has introduced cattle showing to the school and the breed of choice for this activity was lowlines. Ku found it wasn't enough to be looking after school cattle and that she had to have some of her own. In partnership with Christine Hine, Desire Red Lowlines was born. Desire Red Lowlines focus is on the development of the red coat coloured animals which are well suited to the tropical Australian climate. As she likes to keep busy, Ku is working on her PhD which aims to unearth best pedagogical practice in agricultural education. She also serves as President of the Queensland Agricultural Teachers Association.



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# 2017 Lowline Journal - Advertising

Preparation of the 2017 Journal is underway.

After much discussion between members at the AGM Breed Forum and Council, it has been decided to publish a Journal next year as well as having an E-Journal available online via the website.

The ALCA Journal has been used as a marketing tool for the breed since its inception but has been produced at a high cost to ALCA for the past years. The lack of member support for advertising in the publication has meant financial losses to ALCA. Further losses will mean no printed Journals in the future.

If you want the Journal to continue support it by advertising your stud or business.

Our Journals are taken to Shows and Field Days by the Promotion Groups and show participants and used for promotion of the breed. We get a lot of enquiries for people looking for the Lowline cattle at the office and we send them a journal which they use as a future reference for contacts.

Please contact Annette Weatherstone at Rural Weekly directly to discuss you advertising requirements, and the placement of your add in the journal.

Annette's contact details are ph 07.4660.1360 or mobile 0428 844 937 or e-mail

Annette.Weatherstone@ruralweekly.com.au

If you have any questions please either direct them to Annette or myself on (02) 6773 3295.

#### Cover Photo for 2017 Journal

We are also looking for Lowline photos suitable for the Journal cover.

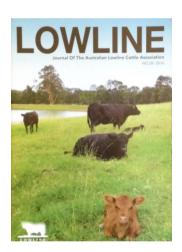
If you have photos you would like to submit for consideration please email as soon as possible to office@lowlinecattleassoc.com.au

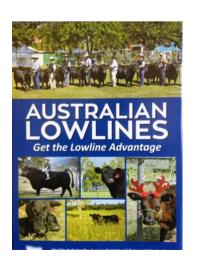
## New ABRI Registrar -Laura Teege

In October, ABRI has welcomed a new Animal Registrar, Laura Teege.

Sally McPhie, our previous Registrar, has moved to the Wagyu Association at ABRI. ALCA would like to thank Sally for all the work she has done for our Association, especially during the early days of the red Lowlines and Deemed registrations.

Welcome to Laura Teege who will now be the ALCA Registrar processing our DNA's, cattle registrations and recordings.







# Changes to the ALCA Website

A few minor changes have been made to the website to assist members.

#### To register for MEMBERS AREA -

Instructions are now on the LOGIN page

#### FORMS & DOWNLOADS -

A new tab has been added under THE ASSOCIATION. All ALCA forms & relevant material is now included here as well as in the MEMBERS AREA.

#### HERD HEALTH and SHOWING -

New tabs have been added under MEMBERSHIP and the information available in the MEMBERS AREA is now available here too.

## Lowline Chambray Shirts & Show Vests

For those members in the north, Show season will begin soon. With Christmas holidays coming up & businesses closing for the holiday season, you will need to place an order for Show Uniforms now.

Carole Johns at the ALCA office will be placing a bulk order for Chambray shirts & Lowline vests at the beginning of December so they will be ready in the New Year.

If you need a Chambray Shirt or Lowline Vest -

- Check the MERCHANDISE page on the website for sizes
- Download the ORDER FORM
- Email your order to Carole at office@lowlinecattleassoc.com.au
- Make payment via bank transfer

Contact Carole if you have any queries (02) 6773 3295

### Expressions of Interest -Heritage Embryos & Semen

Past ALCA members have kindly offered donations of embryos & semen from older Lowline genetics.

The embryos are in Victoria & the semen is currently in Queensland but they will soon be transported to Total Livestock Genetics (TLG) in Victoria.

ALCA is asking for expressions of interest from members who might like to purchase some of these heritage genetics.

EMBRYOS – all embryos are registered with ALCA & any resulting progeny from these will be eligible for full registration. The embryos are from Liz Mitchell, Bungaree Stud.

SEMEN – all semen is from Al Registered Sires so any progeny is eligible for registration. It has been donated by Denis Hickey, Donovan's Knob Stud.

Handling & transport fees for any purchased semen & embryos are at the purchaser's cost. The transfer of any embryos will incur a \$33 Transfer fee to ALCA.

If you would like a list of available embryos or semen, please contact Carole Johns at ALCA.





**ALCA Newsletter** 

As some members new to the association may not be sure how to record and register their stud cattle, we have included instructions for your information. All instructions are available on the website.

ALCA Registration Form - cattle can be recorded and registered with using the Registration Form found on the ALCA website under THE ASSOCIATION tab - FORMS & DOWNLOADS. It can also be found in the MEMBERS AREA.

Online Registration - registration can also be done ONLINE using the ALCA Herdbook Database but members will need to LOGIN to this area to use this section.

Instructions for both ways to Record and Register your cattle follow -

#### Collect DNA Sample - Tail Hair

Before registration, all Lowlines must have DNA collected for DNA & Parent Verification (PV) using tail hairs taken from each animal.

- 1/ Hair Sample Kits are available from the ALCA office
- 2/ Pull about 20 hairs from the tail of the cow/bull.
- 3/ Follow directions for attaching hair samples to the card
- 4/ Fill out the relevant Form for University of Qld (UQ) or Zoetis - forms are found on the ALCA website under 'FORMS & DOWNLOADS' in the Members Area or under The Association tab.
- Post your hair sample & form to UQ or Zoetis. You will be invoiced by ALCA for these DNA & Parent 5/ Verification samples. Unless requested otherwise, the results will be sent to ALCA.

### Instructions for ALCA Registration Form

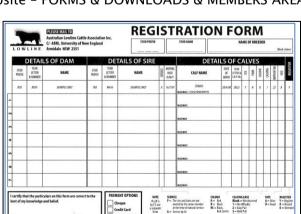
The Registration Form can be downloaded from the ALCA website - FORMS & DOWNLOADS & MEMBERS AREA.

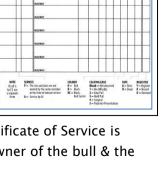
- 1 / Fill out your stud details -Stud Prefix (eg. ABC) Stud Name Name of Breeder
- 2/ Details for the Dam, as in Example
- Details for Sire 3/
- 4/ Service -

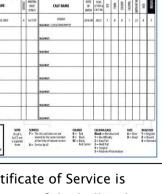
P = If the sire is not owned by the breeder wanting to register the calf a Certificate of Service is required. This form is available from the website & must be signed by the owner of the bull & the owner of the cow. Cost is \$33 (incl GST)

A = Artificial Insemination

Natural service by your own bull - leave blank









## Instructions for ALCA Registration Form....cont.

Date of Mating – If joining by AI or if you have seen the joining occur, the date of mating will be known. Otherwise leave this blank.

- 6/ Calf Name whatever name you would like to give your calf
- 7/ Date of Birth
- 8/ Year Letter & Calf No. (eg. M032, M033, M034)

The Letter used for the year the calf was born (eg. M for 2016)

Calf Number - sequential numbers given to the calves born in your herd. These should continue over to the following year so numbers are not duplicated.

If you are a new stud breeder, your first calves should start at 001, 002, 003.

- 9/ Sex M (bull) or F (heifer)
- 10/ Twin N (no) or Y (yes)
- 11/ Color B (black), R (red) or RC (black coat color but red gene carrier).

Red animals, calves from Red animals & calves from Red Gene Carriers all need to have DNA for Coat Color as well as the normal DNA & PV.

These forms can also be downloaded from FORMS & DOWNLOADS on the website.

12/ Calving = Calving Ease

If the calf was not seen being born, leave this blank.

Otherwise use the numbers suggested to represent the type of calving.

13/ Birth Weight - the weight of the calf at birth.

If you have weighed the calf at birth please fill in the weight (eg. 22), otherwise leave blank.

- 14/ Fate A (alive) or D (stillborn/dead)
- 15/ REGISTER
  - Y Register the calf: DNA & PV is required. Full registration is \$38.50 (incl GST)
  - R Calf Recording: No DNA or PV required. Calf is recorded on the database & can be registered, once DNA/PV has been supplied, at a later date without incurring late registration fees. Cost is \$5.50 (incl GST) per calf.
  - D Deemed Registration: This is for animals that have not been registered by the original breeder. With the appropriate DNA/PV & the approval of Council, a subsequent owner of the animal can have it recorded on the Database so any progeny can be accepted for full registrations.

Sign & Date the Registration form & mark Payment options. This form can be scanned & emailed to the ALCA office office@lowlinecattleassoc.com.au or posted to ALCA.

Registrations will be processed once DNA/PV results have been received & Payment has been made.

An ALCA Certified Registration Certificate PDF will be emailed to you once the registration has been finalised.

If you would like a paper Registration Certificate please comment on the Registration Form or notify Carole Johns at ALCA. Then a Registration Certificate will be posted to you.

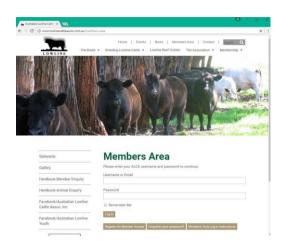
LOWLINE

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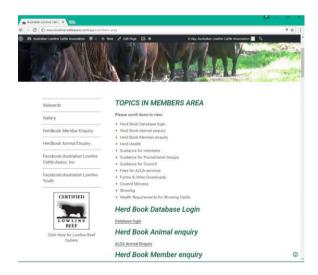
## Instructions for ONLINE Cattle Registration

To do Online Registrations – click on MEMBERS AREA. Go to User Name and Password. Fill with your details for access.

If you have not Registered yourself for the MEMBERS AREA, fill in for registration.
(Instructions for LOG IN are on the page)



HERDBOOK DATABASE LOGIN -Click on <u>Database Login</u>

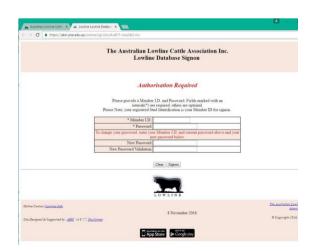


This database area is a separate system run by ABRI so you need a separate login & password from the one you use on the ALCA website.

If you are unsure of your database login, please contact the ALCA office for verification of your User ID and Password.

You will then need to enter in your Database login details to access this area.

This will then enable you to have unlimited search functions and submit registrations online.





## Instructions for ONLINE Cattle Registrations cont.

To begin the recording or registrations of your animals.

click 'ONLINE TRANSACTIONS' (right hand side)



You will have to click 'CREATE A NEW BATCH'



You will be required to enter all information manually, at this point.

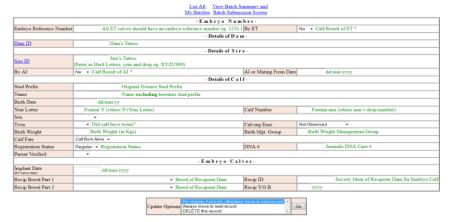
In COMMENTS - give a name to this batch of Recordings/Registrations. Eg 2016 Calf Recordings

Click 'CREATE"



You now need to 'ADD' a record to start your batch registrations





The final step is completing all information in the screen and click 'GO'

If you are RECORDING your calves, rather than registering them, you will not need your 'ANIMAL DNA CASE #' so leave this box blank.

You will need to change the REGISTRATION STATUS box from 'Register' to Record'.

If there are any warnings or error messages these will need to be rectified before submitting.

These Instructions can be downloaded from the website in FORMS & DOWNLOADS.



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### 2016 Murrumbateman Field Days - NSW Promotion Group

The New South Wales Lowline Promotion Group in conjunction with Barrenjoey Lowline Stud attended the Murrumbateman Field Days held over the weekend of 15 and 16 October 2016.

This was the Promotion Groups first field day exposure for 2016 and promises to be the start of a number to come in 2017.

This Field Day is the flagship event for the Yass Valley, which is located approximately 30 kilometres North-West from Canberra. Due to its proximity to the national capital and associated small farm interests, it was considered an ideal platform to promote the Lowline breed. Beautiful sunshine ensured that the event was well attended with just short of 22,000 people coming through the gates to see approximately 500 exhibitors present their wares. Lowlines were one of a number of cattle breeds on display.

Barrenjoey Lowline Stud presented a bull and a cow with calf at foot for inspection of the visitors at the Field Day. The bull, Trungley Tungsten was the 2016 Grand Champion Bull at Sydney Royal. The cow presented, Trungley Pebbles was the 2011 Supreme Champion at the Sydney Royal whilst her bull calf, Barrenjoey Captian Jack shows significant promise for the future. The yarding of these cattle demonstrated the type, quality and nature of the breed that we were there to promote. We can say from the many comments that the cattle were well received, particularly as to their docile nature.

Our Lowline presentation was located on the side of Murrumbateman Oval which provided good exposure to the visiting public as they circulated between the entrance way and the general exhibitors. Being the first cattle exhibit, close to the farmyard nursery, we were inundated by many families with children eager for contact with the cattle. Generally, the comments were on how gentle and docile the cattle were. This demonstrated breed quality was one that appealed to many people of all ages, interested in getting into cattle for the first time. Bill and Lee Brydon from Barrenjoey Stud manned the Lowline exhibit along



with the helpful and knowledgeable assistance of another member of the Promotion Group, Tracey Hall and son Isaac, from O'Hara Lowline Stud. Promotional material in the form of show bags, a photo board, information pamphlets, banners and bunting all helped get our message across. We were indebted to the Victorian Promotional Group for allowing us to use their beautifully presented pamphlets. In addition we provided the public with business cards for many of the NSW and Victorian breeders. It was good to see a number of new and old members of the Association make the effort to drop in to discuss current issues and generally lend their support to the promotion. We hope that many more members will attend these Field days in the future.

The purpose of the Promotions Group in attending the Field Day was to put the Lowline breed out there; to answer the question, what is a Lowline, and why are they the best breed to use. The Promotions Group wanted to put the breed firmly in the minds of those taking the first steps into small scale farming, whilst also inviting those already established in agriculture to make a change to Lowline based on the breed's commercial and show versatility. The vast bulk of the inquiries seemed to centre on the initial cost of the cattle, the stocking rates per acre compared to the larger breeds, general animal management and registration requirements. Hopefully for many, those questions were answered. It was comforting that those who had heard of the breed spoke so positively about the cattle.

### Murrumbateman Field Days...cont

The final outcome of the Field Day was very positive. For our first larger scale promotion in some time we feel that our goals were achieved. It confirmed the need to be dynamic in a competitive environment. It was also an educative experience for future Field Days on how to better represent the Lowline breed to the appropriate target market. We look forward to conducting a number of field days in the New Year with Murrumbateman a definite return project.

Since the conclusion of the Field Day we have had an inquiry to purchase a number of cattle and some interested members have had their details passed onto the prospective buyer. In addition, a Facebook review of the event has prompted 1600 views from both within Australia and overseas. That was the exact exposure the promotion group was hoping to achieve.

Bill Brydon
Barrenjoey Lowlines

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### **NSW Promotion Group Report**

Exciting times are ahead for Lowline cattle breeders in NSW.

With the success of our first Small Farm Field Day of 2016, future field days are high on the agenda for the coming year.

Invitations have already been sought from Moss Vale Field Days 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> February 2017 and Berry Field Days 10<sup>th</sup> – 11th September 2017.

Murrumbateman Small Farm Field Days in October 2017 is already locked in.

Your NSWPG committee are seeking an expression of interest from members in the central west, mid north coast and the far north coast to participate in future field days in those regions.

Send your expressions of interest to <a href="mailto:nswalcpg@gmail.com">nswalcpg@gmail.com</a> and a committee member will make contact and give you further information. NSW Promotion Group contacts can be found on the ALCA website.



2016 Canberra Show

Angus Gorman with his winning bull Wigram Roma

A reminder to all, entries to the Canberra Royal Show opens within four weeks (mid November). Please think about attending. It is a great weekend to promote your stud and our breed. To our interstate friends we would love to see you there.

Do you require additional show vests, breed shirts or a tie or pin for the 2017 show season?? Don't leave it too late to place your order through ALCA.

If you have not shown and would like to show contact your promotion group in your state for some helpful hints on how to go about showing or contact one of us, we would be happy to help.

To our international friends across the Tasman, the NSW show & events season commences early every year and we would love to welcome you at one of our annual events.

If you were thinking of attending one of our spectacular events, our committee members would be happy to assist with arrangements should that be required.

#### Our 2017 season commences with

Australian Lowline Muster & Show, 5–8th January

Moss Vale Small Farms Field Days, 4–5<sup>th</sup> February The Royal Canberra Show (ACT), 24–26<sup>th</sup> February

Sydney Royal Easter Show, 6–19<sup>th</sup> April Bathurst Royal Show, 28–30<sup>th</sup> April

Hawkesbury Show, 5-7th May

**NSW Promotion Group** 



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### Three day Sickness (BEF) -Be Prepared

Three day Sickness (BEF - Bovine Ephemeral Fever) vaccine is now available for purchase. Due to the early wet weather & the prevalence of mosquitoes this season it is expected be a major problem.

Bovine Ephemeral Fever (BEF) is a viral disease of cattle that is spread by mosquitoes and biting midges. It occurs in northern Australia and along the eastern seaboard south to the NSW-VIC border.

It is called three day sickness because the clinical signs of the disease usually last for three days. BEF causes cattle to go down with fever and muscle stiffness. Cattle that remain down from too long may suffer from muscle and nerve damage that prevents the animal from being able to stand again. Pregnant cows are at increased risk of abortion.

This disease usually occurs between January and April, with the greatest number of cases in March. However, cases can occur from December through to early June. Cases in the winter or spring months, even in coastal districts, are rare.

For further details see <u>THREE DAY SICKNESS</u> under the HERD HEALTH tab.

ENSURE YOUR CATTLE ARE FULLY VACCINATED BEFORE THE VIRUS REACHES YOUR AREA.

\* Ensure you leave enough time for cattle that need two doses to receive both before an outbreak occurs.

Cattle have a better immune response to vaccines if vaccination occurs before the weather becomes too hot.

If you are in NSW, you can participate in the BEF vaccination program and order your vaccines through The University of Sydney, Livestock Veterinary Teaching and Research Unit, Camden, by phoning Ivana on (02) 46550777

Email: ivana.baran@sydney.edu.au.



The price this year is \$86.40 + GST per 10 dose vial.

HOW MUCH ARE YOU CATTLE WORTH .... \$8.64 + GST per animal is very inexpensive.

Vaccines can also be ordered through your local cattle veterinarian.

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# Southern QLD Promotion Group Report

It has been a wet winter and becoming a very dry summer, we have had several days over 32 degrees and what is left of the grass is very brittle.

Our Lowlines are surviving well and many new calves are on the ground.

There is a shortage of Meat animals for the Certified Lowline Beef market, so if you have any spare could you let us know please.

The Southern Queensland Lowline Promotional Group has picked up several new members this year and now have 57 members within our zone.

We are having a small get-together at the Norman Hotel, 102 Ipswich Road. Wolloongabba at 12:30 pm on the 10th December. Please RSVP to Christina by the 6th December if you would like to attend.

Our next meeting will be held on the 31st March at the Toowoomba Show. We need ideas on fund raising, group activities, marketing, etc.

ALCA is looking for articles, sponsors, pictures for the 2017 Lowline Journal, please send your information to Carole at ALCA for possible inclusion.

## 2017 Southern QLD Lowline Fvents

February 17/18 - Clifton Show

March 10/11 - Pittsworth Show

March 17/18 - Inglewood Show

March 30-April 1 - Toowoomba Royal Show

and Sth QLD PG meeting

April 29 - Goombungee Show
June 9/10 - Toogoolawah Show
June - Farmfest
July 21/22 - Gatton Show
August 14/20 - Brisbane Royal Show (EKKA)
September - Beef Expo - Toowoomba



#### Commercial Memberships

Many people don't realize that there is a Commercial Membership available with ALCA. With the changes to Joining Fees, it is now very affordable (\$55) for anyone to join as a Commercial ALCA member.

Although Commercial members have no voting rights & cannot register their stock, they can share other benefits of being a member – receiving regular newsletters & association information, free advertising on the ALCA website for stock, become a CLB Producer & the ability to network with other members with the same interests.

There are many people out there with a small herd of Lowline cattle that might enjoy being part of our association by being a Commercial Member.

Next time you sell a commercial animal mention the Commercial membership......





Stubby Holder

Lowline Polo Shirts

#### Lowline Merchandise

Christmas is only 4 weeks away!

If you are looking for Christmas gifts, why not purchase some Lowline merchandise for family and friends.

Clothing items will need to be ordered by the beginning of December to receive them in time for Christmas.

Other items in stock can be ordered directly from the ALCA office. Please contact Carole at the ALCA office to place your orders.

office@lowlinecattleassoc.com.au

For prices & available sizes check the MERCHANDISE tab on the ALCA website.

An order form can also be downloaded from here.

## 2017 Royal Canberra Show -Entries are open

2017 Royal Canberra Show will be held from 24th - 26th February at Exhibition Park in Canberra.

Entries for the Canberra Royal Show are now available.

The closing date is January 4, 2017.

Further information can be found at <a href="http://www.canberrashow.org.au/cattle">http://www.canberrashow.org.au/cattle</a>

If you would like to enter the show but need further information about the event, please contact the NSW Promotion Group <a href="mailto:nswalcpg@gmail.com">nswalcpg@gmail.com</a>