



Australian Lowline Cattle Association Inc.
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ALCA Council 2016/2017

The weekend of 1st October 2016 saw a well supported ALCA AGM & Members Forum, followed by a face-to-face meeting of the new Council the following day.

A big Thank You to all who attended & offered many useful & constructive ideas to the breed discussions at the Members Forum.

Two changes agreed by members at the AGM –

1. Twelve month amnesty for late registrations which means that no late fees will be charged for the registration of animals over 12 months of age for the next year.
2. No Joining Fee to be charged for new Commercial members

Both these changes will be reviewed at the next AGM.

ALCA Life Membership was awarded to Foundation members Peter & Jeanette Stebbins of Ardrossan Stud, Victoria, for their continued promotion & support of the Lowline breed throughout Australia & overseas.

Congratulations to Peter & Jeanette!

Social Media was one of the main discussions at the Members Forum. Some of the younger members will be working together to promote Lowlines through these avenues.

The Australian Lowline Cattle Association is now on Instagram as well as Facebook so follow these sites to support the breed & keep up with the latest news.

Further discussions took place at the Council meeting the following day & planning strategies for the next year are now being finalized.

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ALCA Councillors for the next year will be;

President: Gordon Guthrie (NZ)

Vice President: Julie Knight (Vic)

Secretary: Phillip Worthington (NZ)

Treasurer: Colin Schiller (Qld)

Michele Molly (Qld)

Lucy Kuipers (NSW)

Klaus Emmerich (SA)

Christian Grieves (NSW)

Ku Lacey (Qld) – co-opted member for Youth



Back row (left to right) Klaus Emmerich (SA), Christian Grieves (NSW), Gordon Guthrie (NZ), Colin Schiller (Qld), Carole Johns (Executive Officer)

Front row (left to right) Julie Knight (Vic), Lucy Kuipers (NSW), Phillip Worthington (NZ)

Absent: Michele Molloy (Qld), Ku Lacey (Qld)



Ardrossan Lowlines, Victoria

It was with great pleasure at the recent ALCA AGM that Council awarded Foundation members, Jeanette & Peter Stebbins, a Life Membership for the Association.

Peter & Jeanette purchased their first 2 Lowline cows in 1992 & established Ardrossan Lowline Stud on their 11 acre property at Emu Creek, near Bendigo in Victoria. In 1993 they purchased another 13 Lowlines from the final Trangie dispersal sale, becoming Foundation members of the association.

With their Lowline herd outgrowing the smaller farm, Ardrossan Lowlines moved to 85 acres in Strathfieldsaye in 1996 & finally moving to their 193 acre Princetown property nine years later where they are running about 300 head of cattle.

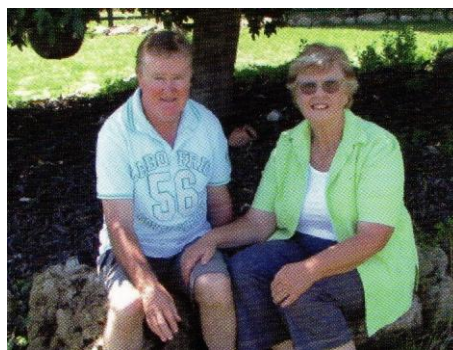
Right from the start Ardrossan Lowlines put a lot of emphasis on friendliness and assistance to others joining the breed.

'We really pride ourselves on the service side of things,' says Jeanette. 'Because they were a new breed of cattle, we treated our clients as our friends. We didn't want them to feel when they got their cattle home 'Oh, what do I do now''

There isn't much that Ardrossan hasn't achieved in the stud business. Embryos and/or live cattle have been dispatched to China, New Zealand, Canada, USA, Asia and Great Britain.

In 2008 Peter & Jeanette established a partnership with Gary and Terry Gilbert in Hermantown, Minnesota called Ausmerica Alliance Lowline Stud. Live animals and embryos were sent to Minnesota to breed elite Ardrossan genetics for the American seedstock market.

Jeanette & Peter have seen a number of changes during the past 24 years. They started the promotion group in Victoria with Jeanette the inaugural chair. She also served on the ALCA Council in the early days, as did Peter later on.



Peter & Jeanette Stebbins

Jeanette was an early advocate of active marketing of the breed. 'Once again, we felt there had to be promotion. As I say to my clients: 'Don't expect to sit at home and someone comes and knocks on your door, you've got to get out there and sell them'.

Jeanette says the major change during the past 20 years is the increasing focus on commercialization rather than just stud cattle. Their business has grown from focusing on export and stud cattle to include selling Lowline bulls to dairy farmers in their area, and steer production for Certified Lowline Beef which they are producing and selling under the banner of Boulevard Boutique Beef.

The stud has its own 'bruise-free' cattle transportation business run by their son, Chris Stebbins and his wife Donna.

Jeanette & Peter were thrilled to be awarded the Life Membership for ALCA.

Jeanette says 'We have always believed in the idea of the Lowline breed and its place in the big picture of agriculture, both as a seedstock and commercial commodity. We will continue to support breeders in promoting the Lowline breed in all aspects of the industry.'



Welcome to New Members

ALCA would like to welcome the following new members to our Association –

Brad Marsh (Full membership)
Waikato, Nth Island, NZ – Kingfisher Farm Lowlines

Scott & Belinda Read (Full Membership)
Mandalong, NSW – Tara Glen Lowlines

John & Kay Steedman (Full Membership)
Gunalda, Qld – Red Acres Lowlines

Joshua Meijer (Full Membership)
Molong, NSW – Langdons Lowlines

Shannon & Michelle Millar (Full Membership)
Papakura, Auckland, NZ – Ironclad Lowlines

David & Katrina Birchall (Full Membership)
Ohiaewai, Nth Island, NZ – Mangapiko Lowlines

Wild Creek Farms Ltd. (Full Membership)
Puhoi, Warkworth, Nth Island, NZ – Kelham Lowlines

Michelle Moffat (Full Membership)
Woombye, Qld – La Granja Lowlines

Lowline Muster Fundraiser

To assist with costs for the Lowline Muster, the Youth Committee is having a fundraiser which they are hoping members & others will support.

1st Prize is a Lowline Heifer from Whitby Farm

Other prizes of semen packages will interest Lowline breeders & a great Lowline Weather Vane made by Ken Lorains.

Tickets are \$2 each & are available from
Lucy Kuipers – ellekaystud@hotmail.com
Matt Cooney – mattcooney98@gmail.com

Australian Lowline Youth Muster 5th – 8th January 2017



Don't forget ENTRIES for the Lowline Muster & Show CLOSE 30th OCTOBER 2016

For further details or schedule and entry forms please contact

Lucy Kuipers – ellekaystud@hotmail.com

or

Matt Cooney – mattcooney98@gmail.com

2017 ALCA Journal

The production of a 2017 ALCA Journal was a topic of discussion at the recent Members Forum.

Do we continue producing the Journal in a printed version or do we revert to a digital e-journal which will be more cost effective?

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 resulted in the association having to cover costs into the thousands of dollars annually.

After much discussion, it has been decided to produce a printed Journal as well as a digital Journal for 2017 & re-assess next year. 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.

USE IT or LOSE IT



Ballarat Grammar's Ag students are taking to the show ring

SARAH HUDSON, The Weekly Times - September 21, 2016

(Photos by Dannika Bonser)



This year's Royal Melbourne Show will be a particularly proud one for Matt Dickinson.

The Ballarat Grammar agriculture and horticulture teacher will work alongside seven of his students in the show ring, presenting 10 of the school's stud Lowline cattle — in this, the 20th anniversary of Lowlines being shown in Melbourne.

But best of all, his 17-year-old daughter, Emma — who is studying Year 11 agriculture — will for the first time be an associate judge for belted Galloways, Limousin and Red Poll classes.

"I'm always proud of the Ballarat Grammar kids — last year we won supreme for the Lowlines — but this year, as a dad, I'll be proud to see my kids standing up there," says Matt, whose 14-year-old son Henry will also assist in showing.

"Emma has done well to succeed at this level."

The winning father-daughter team started when Emma was just five, showing cattle out of Matt's Buninyong Lowline cattle stud, which he started 10 years ago.

"I started out because Dad did it but now I do it for myself," says Emma, who wants to become a large animal vet.

"I want to be in the industry when I'm older and I see showing — and now judging — as a good learning opportunity, an easy way to get contacts and work experience and find other opportunities."

Matt himself started showing with his father, as a young lad growing up on a Suffolk sheep stud at Tooradin in west Gippsland.

Matt studied teaching and moved to Ballarat Grammar a decade ago. There, he has helped develop the school's agriculture curriculum, which now has 70 students in Years 10, 11 and 12.

"We are the second biggest boarding school in Victoria and so a lot of the students come from farms and want to work in the industry," says the 47-year-old.

Having locked in the curriculum, six years ago Matt helped establish the school's newly purchased 50ha farm campus, 3km from the main school, where he now lives with his family as farm manager.

Alongside a vegetable patch, apple orchard, and crops of oats, lucerne and pasture, the farm also has 100 purebred Corriedale ewes and 24 purebred Lowline breeders (established from his own stud stock), operating as a formal stud and selling excess stock at Ballarat saleyards.

He says showing was a major focus in establishing the farm and ag curriculum.



Ballarat Grammar's Ag students are taking to the show ring cont.

"My area of interest is the livestock and because of my background in showing I've seen that as an important element to have in the school," says Matt, who has a farm assistant who specialises in horticulture.

"Showing teaches kids responsibility. It's a way to get out of the classroom and learn in a safe, encouraging way."

While it's not unusual for schools to attend agricultural shows, arguably not many teachers are as dedicated as Matt is to the show ring.

Each year he and a select group of students attend about eight sheep shows, starting with Holbrook in June and including three shows in three weeks (Bendigo, Ballarat and Hamilton's Sheepvention).

This is in addition to about eight cattle shows a year, which have even included Canberra and Sydney in past years.

Given that Matt is a full-time teacher, full-time farm manager and parent, how does he find the time to attend so many shows?

"No one says I have to go — in fact the school often tells me to do less. But I see it as a good opportunity for the school and students and I love what I do — it's the best of both worlds.

"The focus is friendly, not too competitive."



Ballarat Grammar
is ready for
Melbourne Show

"We don't go there thinking we have the best cattle or sheep and we're going to win. Just getting there is an accomplishment.

"Breeders are very supportive of us," he says.

"The Lowline in particular is a small, boutique breed and lots of farmers who are breeding them are not long-term experienced cattle people.

"The focus is friendly, not too competitive."

While some students have experience in showing their own family's livestock, Ballarat Grammar pupils prepare for the show ring by attending Stud Beef Victoria's Cattle Handlers Camp in July in Bendigo, a four day intensive.

It was there this year that Emma was chosen to be an associate judge.

Emma entered the Cattle Handlers Camp junior competition, which involved about 50 students choosing what they believed were the best Charolais bulls and heifers.

"I think I won because I've been involved with junior judging at the Ballarat Show for many years and whenever I'm in the ring I listen to the judges' comments," Emma says.

Her advice for wannabe show winners is to find a spot on the animal where it likes to be scratched: "Use that to your advantage. Don't get angry or frustrated with the animal because that just makes it worse".

And, she says, be confident. "Judges always pick up on whether you're having fun or about to cry."

See Melbourne Show results Pg 8



2016 Royal Adelaide Show Results

The Royal Adelaide Show has the atmosphere of a big friendly country show & it is always a pleasure to participate. Exhibitors travel from most states with their best cattle to compete.

This year Lowlines were shown by Glenlonny Lowlines (Glencoe, SA), Serena Downs (Windsor Downs, NSW) & Wanamara Lowlines (Major Plains, Vic.) The Lowline judge was cattle breeder & meat buyer, Ben Davies from Wodonga in Victoria, who was really impressed with the quality & carcass attributes of the cattle presented to him.

A big Thank You to the SA Promotion Group & members for their support.

JUNIOR HEIFERS

Heifer, 10 To 16 Months

1. **G & J Knight:** WANAMARA FIRESTORM
2. **C & M Noel:** SERENA DOWNS LEISEL
3. **S. Foureur:** GLENLONNEY LUNAR

Junior Champion Lowline Heifer

G & J Knight: WANAMARA FIRESTORM

SENIOR COW or HEIFER

Heifer, 20 To 30 Months

1. **S. Foureur:** GLENLONNEY KENTUCKY WOMAN

Senior Champion Lowline Cow

S. Foureur: GLENLONNEY KENTUCKY WOMAN

Grand Champion Lowline Female

G & J Knight: WANAMARA FIRESTORM

JUNIOR BULLS

Bull, 10 To 16 Months

1. **G & J Knight:** WANAMARA CAVALIER

Bull, 16 To 20 Months

1. **C & M Noel:** SERENA DOWNS LUKE THE DUKE

Junior Champion Lowline Bull

G & J Knight: WANAMARA CAVALIER

SENIOR BULLS

Bull, 20 to 30 Months

1. **S. Foureur:** GLENLONNEY KALAN JOEY

Senior Champion Lowline Bull

S. Foureur: GLENLONNEY KALAN JOEY

Grand Champion Lowline Bull

G & J Knight: WANAMARA CAVALIER

Supreme Lowline Exhibit

G & J Knight: WANAMARA CAVALIER

Breeders Group

1. **S. Foureur:** GLENLONNEY

Most Successful Exhibitor

S. Foureur : GLENLONNEY



Wanamara Cavalier



Glenlonney Kalan Joey



Glenlonney Kentucky Woman



Wanamara Firestorm



Best Junior Judges named at Beef Expo

Article by Amy Lyne (Rural Weekly - 2 September 2016)

The best junior judges were on show as Toowoomba's Queensland Beef Expo got underway this week.

Students from schools across the region, including Pittsworth, Oakey, Wilsonton Ag Field Study Centre, Dalby, Crows Nest, Scots PGC College and Downlands, put their skills to the test.

Pittsworth State High School student Riley Clancy took out one of the most coveted prizes of the competition, a trip to New Zealand.

The Southern Queensland Lowline Promotion Group sponsored the trip, which will involve Riley travelling to New Zealand's Canterbury Show later this year. There she will stay with a host family, Phil and Kay Worthington, and be an associate judge at the show. Year 11 student Riley was overwhelmed when she was announced the winner.

She said she had been participating in junior judging since Year 8. "I did it because I like animals," she said. "I like the steer side of things. You look for muscling ability, the fat and how well they lay it down."

Riley said she hoped to continue with cattle as a hobby after she finished high school, but what she really wanted to do was become a nurse in the Royal Australian Navy.

Another big prize awarded on the day was first place in the junior judging competition, which went to Dalby State High School student Sarah Wirth.

"This win was great," she said. "It is actually my first time winning anything with judging – first place anyway."

Year 12 student Sarah had been involved with junior judging for the past four years and grew up on a small property just outside of Dalby.

Her first place win was also at her last cattle show of her high school career.

"I just enjoy all the breeds and experiencing new things, I learn new things every time I do it," she said. "I actually want to be a vet nurse and go out to rural properties."



WINNERS: Riley Clancy (left), Pittsworth State High School & Sarah Wirth, Dalby State High School
(Photo Amy Lyne)

2016 Royal Melbourne Show Lowline 20th Anniversary

This year marked the 20th Anniversary of the first showing of Australian Lowline cattle at the Royal Melbourne Show in 1996.

The stands were packed with ALCA members, past & present, other cattle exhibitors, as well as many interested public. The Lowline judging on Sunday afternoon proved to be a drawcard. Photos of past Melbourne Show Lowline winners were displayed on the overhead screens during judging bringing back many memories to past exhibitors.



Nine studs presented a line-up of top quality cattle which judge, Huw Evans found difficult to split for the top places in many classes. Ballarat Grammar led the way by winning the Supreme Exhibit with their cow, Ballarat Grammar Kate. They were also awarded the Most Successful Exhibitor.



2016 Royal Melbourne Show results

FEMALES

Heifer: 9 to 12 mths

1. Ballarat Grammar Lily – Ballarat Grammar

Heifer: 12 – 16 mths

1. Bayles Miss Black – Lucus Kallady
2. O'Hara Katie Scarlett – W & T Hall
3. Ballarat Grammar Lolly – Ballarat Grammar
4. Tarrawarra Electra – Jacqui Feagan
5. Tarrawarra Eulalie – Jacqui Feagan

Heifer: 16 – 20 mths

1. Cann Valley Lunar Eclipse – Matt Cooney
2. Whitby Farm Diamond – A & S O'Brien
3. Wanamara Fire Opal – G & J Knight
4. Riverside Ranges Lunar – H & L Corallo
5. Riverside Ranges Latte – H & L Corallo
6. Wanamara Firestorm – G & J Knight

JUNIOR CHAMPION HEIFER – Bayles Miss Black

RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION HEIFER – O'Hara Katie Scarlett

Heifer: 20 – 24 months

1. Ballarat Grammar Kayla – Ballarat Grammar
2. Whitby Farm Vogue – K & G Lorains
3. Ballarat Grammar Kendall – Ballarat Grammar
4. Ardeen Komodia – A & S O'Brien

Cow or Heifer: 24 – 36 months

1. Ballarat Grammar Kate – Ballarat Grammar
2. Wanamara Ruby Sunset – G & J Knight
3. Ballarat Grammar Kylie – Ballarat Grammar
4. Barregowa Jabiru – A & S O'Brien

Cow: Over 36 mths

1. Whitby Farm QT – K & G Lorains
2. Tarrawarra Chanel – Jacqui Feagan
3. Ballarat Grammar Jupiter – Ballarat Grammar
4. Ballarat Grammar Gwendolyn – Ballarat Grammar

SENIOR CHAMPION COW – Ballarat Grammar Kate

RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION COW – Wanamara Ruby Sunset

GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE – Ballarat Grammar Kate

BULLS

Bull: 9 – 12 months

1. Cann Valley Count Lucifer – Matt Cooney

Bull: 12 – 15 months

1. Tarrawarra Eclipse – Jacqui Feagan

Bull: 15 – 18 months

1. Wanamara Cavalier – G & J Knight
2. Whitby Farm Top Shelf – K & G Lorains

JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL – Wanamara Cavalier

RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL – Cann Valley Count Lucifer

Bull: 20 – 24 mths

1. O'Hara Sir Charles – W & T Hall
2. Cann Valley Count Knockout – Matt Cooney

Bull: 24 – 36 mths

1. Ballarat Grammar Kelvinator – Ballarat Grammar
2. Whitby Farm Steam Boat Bill – K & G Lorains

Bull: Over 36 months

1. Ballarat Grammar JD – Ballarat Grammar
2. Barregowa Jetstream – A & S O'Brien
3. O'Hara Master Gerald – W & T Hall

SENIOR CHAMPION BULL – O'Hara Sir Charles

RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION BULL – Ballarat Grammar JD

GRAND CHAMPION BULL – O'Hara Sir Charles

SUPREME EXHIBIT – Ballarat Grammar Kate

Best three Head: Any Age, Both Sexes

1. Ballarat Grammar
2. W & T Hall, O'Hara
3. G & J Knight, Wanamara
4. K & G Lorains, Whitby Farm
5. Matt Cooney, Cann Valley

Sire's Progeny Group:

1. Ballarat Grammar – by Ballarat Grammar Fordy
2. G & J Knight – by Whitby Farm Freeman

Best Two Females: Under 20 months

1. G & J Knight, Wanamara
2. Ballarat Grammar

MOST SUCCESSFUL LOWLINE EXHIBITOR – Ballarat Grammar



Left: Harry Turnham with
Wanamara Cavalier

Below – Heifer Class 16 – 20 months



Lowline Beef snags SA buyers

Article by CATHERINE MILLER, Stock Journal 28 Sep 2016

A burgeoning Australian Lowline beef brand is proof from little things, big things can grow.

In November 2014, South East breeders Denise and Peter Moloney, Burrungule, joined forces with Sue Foureux, Glencoe, after being frustrated by poor prices for their Lowline and Lowline-cross cattle.

"We thought there had to be another way to do things," Mrs Moloney said.

"We knew our beef was good, but we weren't being paid for it in the traditional market."

Their value-adding venture, **Burrungule Boutique Beef**, began selling sausages in bread at the Mount Gambier Farmers Market.

But within a few months they had gained SA Meat Hygiene Unit accreditation to sell fresh meat from their mobile cool room.

They are receiving rave reviews for their gourmet sausages, Steak and Guinness and Chunky Beef pies at the market every Saturday morning, as well as fresh meat packs.

"We have had people say our mince makes the best spaghetti bolognaise and had other customers travel more than 100 kilometres to the market," Mrs Moloney said.

Burrungule Boutique Beef has also catered for local events of up to 5000 people. This weekend they are catering for Round 2 of the Drift Car Challenge at the Lakes.

Mr Moloney, a butcher with more than 35 years experience, has been a major part of the success, making the red wine and garlic, and plum and sweet chilli gourmet sausages and packaging the meat in sizes for singles, couples and families.



VALUE ADDING:

Sue Foureux, Glencoe, and Denise and Peter Moloney, Burrungule, are enjoying strong demand for their Burrungule Boutique Beef at the Mount Gambier Farmers Market each Saturday morning

He says the early maturity of Lowlines is a plus, but the real difference is their carcase yield.

"Most breeds have 30 per cent to 33pc loss from carcase weight, whereas with Lowlines and their crosses, it is closer to 25pc," he said.

"That 7-8pc less wastage makes a big difference." The animals used in the brand are turned off at 14 months of age at about 180 kilograms dressedweight and processed at the Edenhope abattoir in Vic.

"Supermarkets look for a 240-250kg carcase, but at 180kg Lowlines are the perfect sized steak," he said.

Patronage of the Mount Gambier Farmers Market has increased dramatically in the past year as more and more consumers look to connect with the people who produce the food they eat. They also like the story involved in the produce and that it is local.

On the back of this they hope to increase their sales, so none of the saleable cattle from their joint holdings go to the traditional market.



Lowline Beef snags SA buyers Cont.

“People may say they are short-legged little things, but value-adding to receive up to four or five times more than saleyard prices puts a smile on our faces,” Mr Moloney said.

The Australian Lowline Cattle Association is succeeding at getting more consumers tasting their members' top quality beef

Its Certified Lowline Beef program requires participating breeders to enter into an agreement with ALCA guaranteeing their animals are at least 50 per cent pure Lowline, being either sired by a registered Lowline bull or from a registered dam. This can be verified by DNA testing

Across Australia there are about 20 ALCA members who have signed agreements, including four in SA, enabling them to supply CLB direct to the public and to selected butcher shops.

Denise Moloney, who is a member of ALCA council, says the program and labelling is a great initiative.

“We are trying to give more to our commercial members and emphasise the brand just like the Angus and Hereford societies have done,” she said.

Sue Foureur, who has been breeding Lowlines for nearly 20 years, says selling branded beef and participating in the CLB program has been a huge boost.

“We are promoting the breed for what it is – a great beef animal,” she said.



Burrungule Boutique
Beef & Lowline Beef
Pies



Lowline Breed Show Vest



Chambray Shirt

Lowline Merchandise

Show season has begun in the southern states so if you need a breed uniform or any promotional material or items 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.

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.....

