



Australian Lowline Cattle Association Inc.
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ALCA Council 2017/2018

The weekend of 7th October 2017 in Brisbane, Queensland, 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.

Changes agreed by members at the AGM –

1. A Commercial Register to be established for the recording of any unregistered Lowlines & any Lowline crossbred cattle
2. The amnesty for late registrations will continue for another 12 months which means that no late fees will be charged for the registration of animals over 12 months of age for the next year.
3. No Joining Fee to be charged for new Commercial members
4. The Registration fee for bulls will be increased to \$100 +GST.
This is to encourage members to only keep quality bulls entire & make the other bull calves steers for meat production.

Discussion took place about the sale of the University of Queensland Animal Genetics Laboratory to GeneSeek Australasia.

The consequences of this were discussed & members will be informed by Council of any changes over the next weeks.

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)
Ku Lacey (Qld)



Back row (left to right), Gordon Guthrie (NZ), Phillip Worthington (NZ), Colin Schiller (Qld), Klaus Emmerich (SA)
Front row (left to right) Lucy Kuipers (NSW), Julie Knight (Vic), Michele Molloy (Qld)
Carole Johns (Executive Officer)
Absent: Ku Lacey (Qld)



ALCA's 25th Anniversary Dinner

Celebrating 25 years & looking forward to the next 25!

After the AGM & Members Forum, we celebrated the association's 25th anniversary at the Gallopers Sports Club in Hamilton, Brisbane.

Plenty of good food & good company ended a very successful day for all of us.



Above: Young members, Imogen & Cassidy Tennent blew out the candles

Left: Foundation member, Jeanette Stebbins cuts the cake.



Welcome to New Members

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

ADA Furnaletto P/L (Full membership)
Lemnos, Vic – Oak Bank Lowlines

Michelle Dempsey (Full Membership)
Mount Molly, QLD – Gumtree Lowlines

Tania Cuskey & Robert Faulkner (Full Membership)
Tungamull, Qld – Bella Grove Lowlines

Terry & Miki Hill (Full Membership)
Mount Burrell, NSW – Wondeen Lowlines

Bruce Pilgrim & Karen Morgan (Full Membership)
Taloumbi, NSW – Little Clarence Lowlines

Agnes & Alexander McLachlan (Full Membership)
Nth Canterbury, Sth Island, NZ –
Dalbeg Pass Lowlines

Jake, Mike & Dayna Bourdreau (Full Membership)
Danville, Vermont, USA – Four Towns Lowlines

Karl & Joanne Jesser (Full Membership)
Romsey, Vic – Appleshaw Lowlines

FHB & LF Goodrich (Full Membership)
Ambrosia, QLD – Ambrosia Lowlines

2018 ALCA Journal

Due to the publication of the ALCA 25th Anniversary book in 2018, it has been decided to postpone the 2018 ALCA Journal for a few months.

The Journal is expected to be available for the 2018 Rockhampton Beef being held in May next year.

Members will have the opportunity to publicise their studs internationally by advertising in this publication which will be handed out at Rocky Beef.

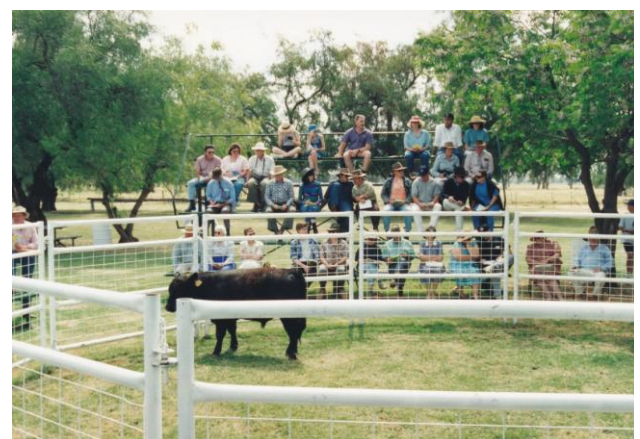
25th Anniversary Book

Preparations are well underway with the Anniversary Book, which is now expected to be at the publisher in early January 2018.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the book won't be ready before Christmas as previously thought.

We have been inundated with photographs & stories from members, past & present enabling us to produce something that will be of interest to everyone & a credit to the breed.

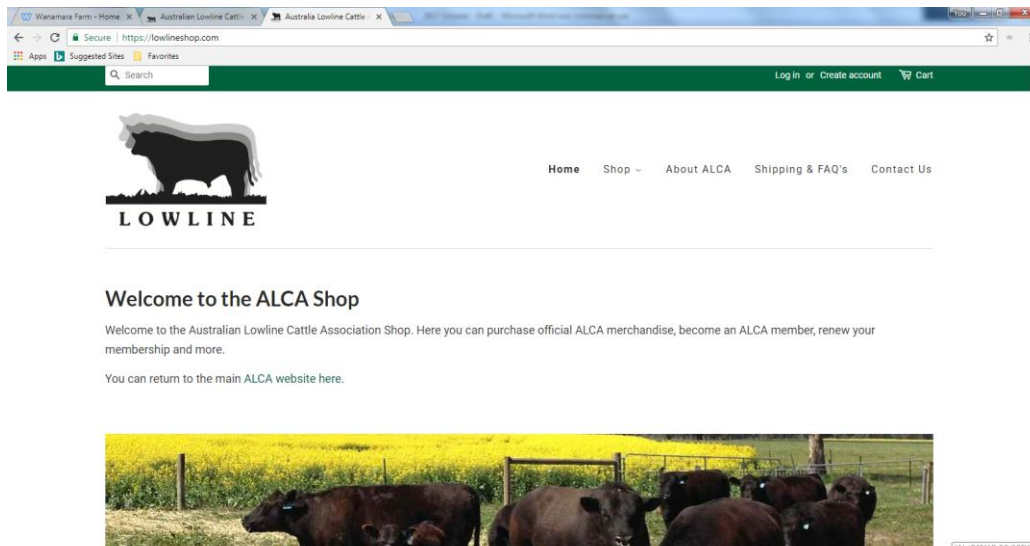
Pre-orders will be taken through the Lowline Shop very soon.



Trangie Sale 30th October 1993 – one of the many original photos from this sale that will be in the Anniversary book.



The Lowline Shop - www.lowlineshop.com



ALCA website => MEMBERSHIP drop-down tab => SHOP

We now have a one-stop Lowline Shop available for all your Lowline apparel, merchandise, promotional material and for the easy payment of ALCA fees and services.

All you have to do is add an item to your Shopping Cart and payment is made directly online.

You will receive a confirmation email with your ORDER NUMBER.

If your order requires a Form (eg.Registration Form), a download link with this form will be included with your confirmation email.

Please include your ORDER NUMBER on any paperwork you return to the ALCA office.

For all clothing orders, please allow 3 weeks for dispatch as clothing items are not held at the ALCA office

Australian Lowline Cattle Association Shop



Order #ALCA-1001
Thank you Jane!

Your order is confirmed

We've accepted your order, and we're getting it ready. Come back to this page for updates on your order status.

Order updates

Updates will be sent to example@gmail.com

[Get shipping updates by SMS](#)

New Membership - Commercial Membership

Membership Application Form 3 November 2016 website version.pdf (315 KB)

[Download Now](#)

New Membership - Associate Membership

Membership Application Form 3 November 2016 website

	Ladies Polo Shirts Size 8-14 8 / Black UPF50+	\$36.00
	Membership Renewal Full Membership	\$200.00
	New Membership Commercial Membership	\$50.00
	Ladies Polo Shirts Sizes 16-24 Chocolate UPF50+ / 18	\$36.00
	Men's Chambray Shirt XL	\$50.00
	New Membership Associate Membership	\$70.00
Subtotal		\$442.00
Shipping		\$13.80
Taxes		\$44.20
Total		AUD \$500.00



2017 Royal Melbourne Show Results

The Royal Melbourne Show was another success for the Lowline breed. A quality line-up made judge, Ross Canning's decisions very difficult at times. A very experienced all breed judge, Ross first judged Lowlines 20 years ago & has previously judged them at Melbourne, Adelaide & at the New Zealand Royal Shows as well as being the On Farm Challenge judge in Victoria a few of years ago.

Another 'first' at Melbourne this year was the first red Lowline exhibited at the show. Bred in Queensland & now making himself at home in Cann River, Victoria, Platinum Park The Red Baron turned many heads.

Congratulations to all the exhibitors at Melbourne. It was another fun & friendly show. Thank you to the other Victorian breeders who came on judging day to give us all a hand & their support.



The Senior Bull class had everyone watching!

FEMALES

Heifer, 12 To 16 Months

- 1 Whitby Farm VoVo – K & G Lorains
- 2 Wanamara Licorice Allsorts – G & J Knight
- 3 O'Hara Miss Sue-Ellen – W & T Hall
- 4 Whitby Farm Fine Lady – K & G Lorains

Heifer, 16 To 20 Months

- 1 Rotherwood Lady Madonna – Matt Cooney

Junior Champion Heifer

Whitby Farm VoVo – K & G Lorains

Reserve Junior Champion Heifer

Wanamara Licorice Allsorts – G & J Knight



Lowline line-up at Melbourne show

Cow, Over 36 Months

- 1 Rotherwood Kindred Spirit – Vicki Gilbert
- 2 Elle Kay Ruby – L & L Kuipers

Senior Champion Female & Grand Champion Female

Rotherwood Kindred Spirit – Vicki Gilbert

Reserve Senior Champion Female

Elle Kay Ruby – L & L Kuipers

BULLS

Bull, 12 To 15 Months

- 1 Whitby Farm Hecta – K & G Lorains
- 2 Wanamara Talisman – G & J Knight

Bull, 15 To 18 Months

- 1 Rotherwood Masterpiece – Vicki Gilbert

Bull, 18 To 20 Months

- 1 Cann Valley Momentous – Matt Cooney
- 2 O'Hara Charleston – W & T Hall

Junior Champion Bull

Rotherwood Masterpiece – Vicki Gilbert

Reserve Junior Champion Bull

Cann Valley Momentous – Matt Cooney



2016 Royal Melbourne Show Results cont.

Bull, 24 To 36 Months

- 1 O'Hara Sir Charles – W & T Hall
- 2 Wanamara Cavalier – G & J Knight
- 3 Platinum Park The Red Baron – Vicki Gilbert
- 4 Whitby Farm Squizzy – K & G Lorains
- 5 Whitby Farm Jim Whipp – K & G Lorains
- 6 Elle Kay Ledge N Derry – L & L Kuipers

Senior Champion Bull

O'Hara Sir Charles – W & T Hall

Reserve Senior Champion Bull

Wanamara Cavalier – G & J Knight

Grand Champion Bull & Supreme Exhibit

Rotherwood Masterpiece – Vicki Gilbert

Best Three Head, Any Age, Both Sexes

- 1 G & J Knight – Wanamara
- 2 Tracey Hall – O'Hara
- 3 K & G Lorains – Whitby Farm

Sire's Progeny

- 1 Tracey Hall – O'Hara Master Gerald
- 2 K & G Lorains – Whitby Farm Taylor Made

Best Two Females, Under 20 Months

- 1 K & G Lorains – Whitby Farm

Most Successful Australian Lowline Exhibitor

Vicki Gilbert – Rotherwood



Junior Champion Bull & Supreme Exhibit –
Rotherwood Masterpiece with Judge, Ross Canning,
Vicki Gilbert, Matt Cooney & Shannon Lawler,
Australian Animal Health

Changes to DNA Testing- Geneseek Australasia

On 1 September 2017, GeneSeek Australasia Pty Limited (GAA), a wholly owned Neogen Corporation Company, acquired 100% of the assets and business of The University of Queensland's Animal Genetics Laboratory (UQ AGL).

Over the next 3 years, Geneseek will be phasing out the microsatellite testing (MiP) which is the DNA/Parent Verification testing that we use in Australia at the moment (using tail hairs).

Single Nucleotide Polymorphism (SNP) testing is one of the newest forms of DNA technology & needs a tissue sample rather than the tail hair samples.

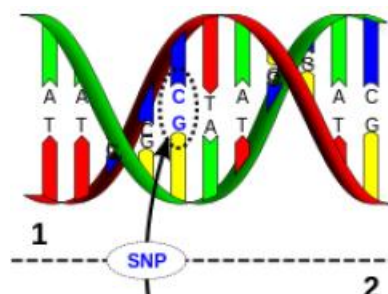
SNP DNA testing is available now for your cattle DNA & Parent verification.

If you decide to change to the new SNP testing the parent animals require their previous DNA samples to be re-tested under the new SNP technique so Parent Verification can be done for any progeny.

It will not be compulsory to change to the new SNP testing yet but after 3 years, if you continue to use the Geneseek Laboratory, you will have to change testing to SNP.

Zoetis, another genetic testing laboratory, will not be changing solely to SNP testing, so you can still have the usual MiP testing (using tail hairs) for DNA & Parent verification done at this facility.

For further information, contact Carole at the ALCA office office@lowlinecattleassoc.com.au



Dusty's Story

by Stephen & Ann-Marie Kennedy

Dusty is the name of our newborn Lowline. Our son-in-law named the bull calf, when we found it being harassed and attacked by his sire, just after it was born on 7th October 2017 around 8:00pm. The bare ground the calf was lying on gave rise to his name Dusty.

We are novices & admit we made several mistakes that night. Our first and biggest mistake, was that we did not separate the pregnant heifer (dam) from the sire. We had no idea how aggressive the bull would be as the two previous calvings he had not been aggressive towards the newborns.

Our second mistake was that we didn't realise that this heifer was about to calve. We had been checking another pregnant cow that appeared to be further advanced in her pregnancy, in the same paddock, on a regular basis throughout the day, thinking that she would calve first. At least that's what our records indicated.

Arriving in time to shield the calf from the sire, we separated the calf, and then the dam from our small herd. We assumed the new mother would continue mothering her calf but were surprised when she became aggressive towards it. She was pushing him away, at times kicking out at him, with enough force to push him over and away from her. Any attempt from us to address the aggression was fruitless. We carried him, all of 18.9 kilograms, to a safe place (the cattle trailer with straw) for the night. It was now 11:00pm. From then on we hit the internet, and other resources, with haste.

Initial concerns

1. We knew that the calf needed colostrum on the first day but we weren't sure how that could happen at 11:00pm on a Saturday night. Between the four of us, son-in-law, daughter, wife and self, there had to be a way.
2. We had to give the calf a safe place for the nights ahead – the dam would not protect it.
3. Should we give him some nourishment in the meantime?

With no previous experience in a situation like this, we were determined to help this little guy, no matter what. The collective brainstorming began.



The weekend.

We decided the calf needed some nourishment. My wife washed the empty wine bottle from dinner, warmed up some milk, & with a pierced finger from a rubber glove taped around the top, gave him a feed. He drank with no trouble. Living away from town, long life milk (semi skim) was our only choice. He was put in his straw bed in the cattle trailer. We put an old dog collar on him to make him easier to manage. Unsure that we had made the right move, we went to bed, with our IT apps to Google some 'wisdom'. Our internet search suggested 'force feeding'. We have a quality cattle yard. Early the next morning, with all four of us on deck, the dam's head was locked in the cattle yard with her legs tethered. The calf fed from the mother.



Dusty's Story cont.

We repeated this procedure throughout the day trusting that he was feeding on sufficient colostrum. How were we to know? After each feed, we carried him to the trailer and let mum loose in the cattle yard. In between feeds we built a temporary pen with a roof, water and straw bedding. That was Sunday. Our daughter and son-in-law returned to their home that afternoon.

Hoping that we had given the little guy his fill of the magical stuff, called colostrum, we let the mother go and carried Dusty back to the trailer for Sunday night.

The next 10 days

On Monday morning we fed him some more milk, from the make-shift feeding apparatus, and raced off to our local rural store arriving as the doors opened! The folk there were very helpful.

We purchased a feeding bottle and powdered milk enhancer.

Back home, using the instructions on the 20kg bag of powdered milk we decided to feed him 50gms in 750ml of warmed water four times daily.

Tuesday saw a continuation of this feeding regime.

Concerned about his physical exercise, we put him on a lead and encouraged him to do what calves are supposed to do (that was fun). He jumped, ran, and twisted his way around the yard then we let him go on a loose lead.

We also attempted to reintroduce him to his mother. She fussed but would not let him drink. We continued this process over the next few days and, although the mother fussed and bellowed she would not allow him to feed.

We tried locking them in the cattle yard together but she continued to refuse him.



We knew that socialisation with his own kind was paramount so we let him loose in the paddock with his mother and the other females. He simply raced around trying to find a way out.

We were coming to the realisation that we had a poddy calf on our hands. It would be up to us now to care for him until weaning. We had read that this would take three months.

The 11th day

On the 18th October, the 11th day, we took Dusty to his mother before his morning bottle feed. We still had this residing hope that she would accept him. For some unknown reason she accepted him! At first she hesitated then he attached and she allowed him to suckle.

He is now with his mother full time. He races around the paddock at full pelt and sleeps as one would expect, safely surrounded by the rest of our females.

We have read that after 12 days the dam's milk will lose its quality and begin to dry up. Dusty still seemed to be managing but we continued to give him a small top-up every morning. However, on Saturday 21st he did not want to drink from us. Apparently he is well fed. Observing him in the paddock he is full of energy and keeping 'mum' busy.

Conclusion

We think our Dusty will be a great show fellow. He is more than happy to come when called and doesn't mind the halter. We might just keep him.

We have written this piece to help others who may be faced with this same situation. We are sure there are many who have and it would be great to hear of their experiences.

We have since heard that it is not unusual for a sire to act aggressively towards the birth of a calf. We probably need to consider as well, that the dam being a heifer, may not have known what to do even without the sire's interference.

It's mostly a mystery to us but, if all mysteries are like this one, keep them coming.



Certified Lowline Beef - DNA Testing

We have always known that CLB meat can be genetically traced and the parentage of the beef verified because all Certified Lowline Beef produced is at least 50% registered Australian Lowline. As all registered Lowlines have DNA and parent verification on record and have so for many generations, the meat itself can be tested. The DNA of the meat will establish the parentage of the animal that produced it, proving the provenance of the beef.

One enterprising producer, Cloudbreak Lowlines, has tested the system. Their butcher felt the carcass looked “different” from others he had processed. Mandy and Kell Tennent thought this would be a good opportunity to test the value and ease of the DNA traceability process.

They took a 3 x 3 cm piece of beef, froze it down and sent the sample in an esky by overnight courier to the Genetics Laboratory at the University of Queensland. There they performed MiP + PV testing. The results confirmed that the Cloudbreak’s registered Lowline bull was indeed the sire of the processed steer, which was unregistered.

The cost of the testing and transport was over \$100, so it was not a cheap procedure – but priceless for peace of mind and being able to validate the traceability of the CLB product.

It is also a tremendous point of difference for our beef – we can scientifically substantiate the provenance of our beef!

It is a valuable tool – whether to ensure your beef is what you claim it to be, or to resolve an issue or query from a customer, or to track meat carcass quality genetics – a myriad of possible uses.

And unique to Certified Lowline Beef!



Improving Temperament - effects on productivity & meat quality

Selecting cattle to improve temperament can benefit beef production and animal performance, in addition to improving animal welfare and human safety.

How is temperament defined?

Temperament is the way in which an individual animal reacts to an unfamiliar or challenging situation. Temperament of an individual animal is the result of both its inherent temperament and its environment, including handling and training.

It is therefore important to recognise that training may improve an animal’s reaction in a familiar situation but may not overcome an animal’s inherent reactions in unfamiliar environments. This is particularly relevant at slaughter, where it is important to keep animals calm so they do not deplete the high glycogen levels that are needed to produce beef that is acceptable to consumers.

Further reading on this interesting subject can be found on the following link:

<https://www.beefcentral.com/genetics/improving-temperament-effects-on-productivity-and-meat-quality/>

Source: FutureBeef



2017 Canterbury A & P Show - New Zealand

The South Island of New Zealand once again saw the parading of some great Lowline cattle at their recent show. Congratulations to all exhibitors & paraders.



Woolstone Park Genoa – Supreme Champion Lowline

The Judge was Wayne McLaren, Christchurch, New Zealand

Associate Judge was Dean Fogarty, Australia

Australian students, Dean Fogarty from Pittsworth State High School in Queensland, & Meggie Riethmuller, also from Queensland, took part in the show.

Lowline Scholarships were awarded to school participants who excelled at the Canterbury Show.

Rana Kumeroa won the Lowline scholarship to Rockhampton Beef 2018 & Caitlin Rhodes won a Scholarship to Future Beef 2018, both events to be held in Queensland next year.

Georgia Rhodes won the Lady Isaac scholarship to travel to Australia next year.



Woolstone Park Barker – Champion Senior Bull

Full Results from the
2017 Canterbury A & P Show &
Paraders Competition can be found on the
ALCA website => [NEWS & SHOWS](#)



Above: Meggie Reithmuller and Caitlin Rhodes with a pair of Woolstone Park yearlings, second in their All Breeds class.

All Breeds Classes

In six classes, across 16 breeds from 26 exhibitors, with 120 entries, the Lowlines got two seconds, two thirds and a fifth.

In every class that a Lowline was entered, a Lowline was ribboned

This is by far the best the Lowlines have done at Canterbury, the biggest A&P show in NZ for beef cattle entries. In the past our regular Lowline exhibitors have consistently had a crack at the All Breeds, often with two or even three entries in some of the six classes, and we have been very pleased to come out of this sort of contest with just one ribbon for a fifth or sixth place.

This year we were blown away with the result, part of which may have been down to having an All Breeds judge from Australia who is not averse to the smaller animals. (It was Tim Morrison from Downlands College.) But in saying that, his Associate Judge from New Zealand was equally impressed by the Lowlines.

Philip Worthington

