



Australian Lowline Cattle Association Inc.  
Website: [www.lowlinecattleassoc.com.au](http://www.lowlinecattleassoc.com.au)

E-mail: [office@lowlinecattleassoc.com.au](mailto:office@lowlinecattleassoc.com.au)

## Happy New Year

A new year has begun with most of Australia experiencing record breaking high temperatures. For those of you who don't live in Australia, these conditions are extremely difficult as they usually accompany lack of water, lack of feed, lack of available supplementary feed, continuous monitoring of water supplies, early weaning of calves if feed is a problem & high fire risks.

This is where the Lowline cow proves its worth by producing & rearing good calves in difficult conditions while surviving on sparse feed.

The life of the farmer is never easy but Lowlines make it enjoyable!

We just have to plan ahead, be positive & hope that the next few months show improvement of weather conditions.

Despite all this, ALCA continues to grow & diversify to suit the changing times –

- The Association is receiving applications for new members every month from within Australia & from overseas.
- The Lowline Shop is fully operational online. All orders for merchandise, clothing, registrations, memberships & anything 'Lowline' can be purchased or ordered via this site. Instructions for using The Lowline Shop are in this newsletter.

Don't forget to notify us of any EVENTS coming up so we can advertise it on the website, Facebook page or in the newsletter.

We always like to hear stories about yourselves & your Lowlines that we can share with other members on our social media.

Email: [office@lowlinecattleassoc.com.au](mailto:office@lowlinecattleassoc.com.au)

### Inside This Issue

Happy New Year	1
Year Letter for 2019 is Q	1
Ian Pullar, Foundation & Life Member	2
2019 Royal Canberra Show	2
2019 Royal Sydney Easter Show	2
2019 Toowoomba Royal Show	3
Welcome to New Members	4
Registrations, calf recordings, transfers	4
DNA Requirements for Neogen	5
Giving your calf the correct ID	6
How to know if a bull is an approved AI sire	6
Member Accounts – The Lowline Shop	7/8
Discussion for a new Membership Category	9/10

## Year Letter for 2019 is Q

The new year also brings the change of the Year letter identifier for our calves born this year.

This means all calves born from 1<sup>st</sup> January until 31 December 2019 will have 'Q' in its Animal ID number.

Eg. XYZ Q013



Extremely dry conditions in Northern Victoria



## Ian Pullar, Foundation & Life Member of ALCA

Early January saw the sad passing of Ian Pullar after a short illness.

Ian Pullar was a Foundation member of ALCA, having been the first person to purchase the Low Line Angus from the Trangie Research Centre in 1990.

Ian was also the first ALCA President when the Australian Lowline Cattle Association was formed in 1992.

In 2000, Ian was presented with the first Life Membership for the Association and has continued following the breed with interest over the years after his retirement & sale of his stud, Brambletye.

During the writing of the book 'Australian Lowline', Ian Pullar was a wealth of information and knowledge. Ian's story including the truth of how the breed began is now in print and preserved for the future.

We send our condolences to Ian's wife, Erica and their son, Craig and family.

Ian's legacy are all those beautiful black cattle we see in our paddocks.

Without Ian's foresight, the Australian Lowline breed would not be here today.



Ian Pullar with his first bull purchased from Trangie in 1990 – Trangie J222 (Brambletye Admiral)

## 2019 Royal Canberra Show

The 2019 Royal Canberra Show will be held at Exhibition Park, Canberra from 22 – 14<sup>th</sup> February.

**Entries Close: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

Online entries –

<http://www.canberrashow.org.au/cattle>



## 2019 Royal Sydney Easter Show

The Sydney Royal Easter show will be held at Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush, NSW from 12 – 23 April 2019.

Australian Lowline cattle will be on display from 12 – 16<sup>th</sup> April in the Cattle Pavillions

**Entries Close: Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

Online entries – <https://www.rasns.com.au/sydney-royal-competitions/competitions/cattle/>



## 2019 Toowoomba Royal Show

Australian Lowlines will be the Feature Breed at this year's Toowoomba Royal Show to be held from 28 – 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at the Toowoomba Showgrounds, Qld.

A large number of fantastic cattle will be paraded by individual Lowline studs & schools at this event. The Feature Breed has great support and we would like to thank the following sponsors – Australian Lowline Cattle Association, McIntosh Creek Lowlines, Rotherwood Lowlines, Ebony Lowlines, Susan Smith – Vern Park Lowlines, Rosbrook Pastoral Company, Furney's Stockfeeds Toowoomba, Limitless Cattle Supplies, Blimey Bags, Pittsworth Glass & Patios, and South Queensland Lowline Promotion Group.



Judging of the Lowlines will be on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March.

Also at this show we will hold a Youth Judging competition with the major prize being \$500 to support travel to the Canterbury A & P Show in the Christchurch, New Zealand.

ALCA Youth are invited to enter. The Youth event will be held on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

For further information contact  
[colin.schiller@bigpond.com](mailto:colin.schiller@bigpond.com)

**Entries Close: Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January**

Online entries :

<http://www.toowoombashow.com.au/royal-show/schedule/>

### Important information from Kev Loveday, Toowoomba Royal Show Cattle Steward

'Here is the reasoning behind the change of age and elimination of bull and female classes under 8 months of age. This decision was made by the cattle steward following the 2018 show.

The fact is that the class is redundant because calves (and particularly stud cattle calves) are normally not weaned until they are 8 months old at least. Obviously drought can change this in commercial herds but weaning at a minimum age of 8 months is accepted husbandary practice. The mothers of these stud calves are in many (but not all) cases, show females themselves.

No competitor would lead a female in milk into a show ring WITHOUT the calf. They are in combination, a complete breeding unit but if the calf has previously been shown in a junior class by itself, this calf then CANNOT be shown with its mother.

A calf under 8 months old may be shown but it must be in the first class which is over 8 months.

As such, any calf is ineligible to be in the ring with her mother as a calf at foot when the mother is judged if it has been shown by itself at the same show.

I trust the above reasons are valid explanations why the decision was made. The above reasons also have, in the past, resulted in minimum or nil numbers of calves being entered in the class (under 8 months) so the class was considered unnecessary and, as well, not in conformity with good breeding practice."



## Welcome to New Members

Our membership continues to grow. A warm welcome to our latest new members.

Joao Carlos Dib (Commercial Membership)  
Hastings, North Island, NZ

Debra Ehrlich (Full Membership)  
Toowoomba, QLD – Wyandah

Stewart Pattison (Full Membership)  
Merricks North, VIC – Eureka Sunrise

Jenny Black (Full Membership)  
The Caves, QLD – Killeen

Owen Tunney and Miss Sophie Tunney (Full Membership)  
Cuddington, Cheshire, England – Sunshine

Warren Butterworth (Full Membership)  
Maungaturoto, North Island, NZ – Heathcote

Leanne & Darryl Chapman (Full Membership)  
Whiteman Creek, NSW – Leedar

John, Pauline & Andrew O'Neil (Full Membership)  
Southbrook, QLD – Rosbrook

Denise Warner (Full Membership)  
Waroona, WA – Paragon

Michael Cook (Full Membership)  
Darra, QLD – Bilkurra Rise

Gracie Ann Walker (Youth Member)  
Yeppoon, QLD – Woodvale Park

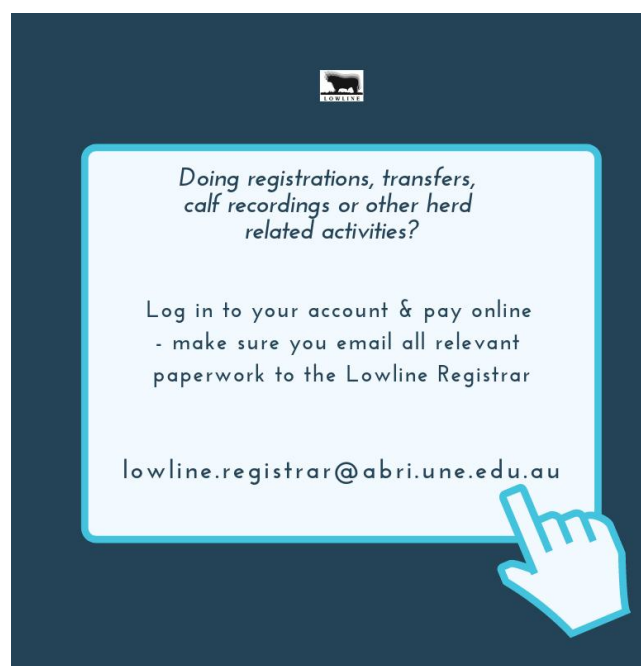
Robert Booth (Full Membership)  
Repora, North Island, NZ – Top Line

Matt & Amanda Elston (Full Membership)  
Longwarry, VIC – Woodnote

Martin Page (Full Membership)  
Tallegalla, QLD – Smart Lowlines

Robyn & Greg Abbotts (Full Membership)  
Koongal, QLD – EKM Grazing

## Registrations, Calf Recordings, Transfers



ALCA is using the Lowline Shop for all transactions for services as well as purchases of merchandise & apparel.

All members now have their own account in the Lowline Shop – [www.lowlineshop.com](http://www.lowlineshop.com)

Registrations, calf recordings, animal transfers, embryo transfers, embryo flush recordings & any other animal related service can be organized & paid for through the Lowline Shop.

Payment can be made by credit card or debit card as an online transaction, making the process quick & easy.

Services will not be processed without payment.

Animal details can be added to the notes on your order but you will also need to email the Lowline Registrar with full details & any relevant paperwork, eg. Signed transfer certificate, DNA/PV results

Send to Natalie Herd, Lowline Registrar  
[lowline.registrar@abri.une.edu.au](mailto:lowline.registrar@abri.une.edu.au)





## DNA Sample Requirements for Neogen

### Cattle Genotyping Application Form Entry Guide

#### 1. Fill in your contact details at the top of the form

Neogen Australasia Cattle Genotyping Application Form									
Name: John & Jane Smith					Address samples for DNA Typing to:				
Address: 123 Cow Lane					Neogen Australasia				
COWTOWN Q 4123					PO Box 1388				
Breed: YOUR BREED			Herd Prefix: SM		UQ Gatton Campus				
Date: 17-05-18			ABN:		Gatton QLD 4343				
Ph:			Mobile: 0412 345 678		www.lowlinesgen.com				
Email: chernthal@gmail.com					For Terms and Conditions please visit our website: <a href="http://genomics.neogen.com/au/">genomics.neogen.com/au/</a>				
Payment will be made via									
Association or Society Account*: please contact your society for the customised submission form (contains all relevant tests for the breed)									

The Cattle Genotyping Application Form can be found on the Lowline website => The Association => Forms & Downloads or Members Area

This is an interactive form that can be filled out on the computer.

**Neogens will no longer accept forms filled out by hand.** All tests required are to be submitted on this application form.

Type in details, save the form on your computer and send a copy with the DNA samples.

The form is also to be emailed to Neogen (in Excel format). Instructions are on the form.

#### 2. Enter your animals' details

Test codes are available by drop down menu:

CASE NUMBER	Collector Barcode (from Hair Card or TSU)	primary ID			SEX	D.O.B.	TEST 1	TEST 2
		Animal ID	Registration	EID				
1		SM1123	SM1123		F	01-01-17		
2								

CASE NUMBER	Collector Barcode (from Hair Card or TSU)	primary ID			SEX	D.O.B.	TEST 1	TEST 2
		Animal ID	Registration	EID				
1		SM1123	SM1123		F	01-01-17		
2								
3								

AM REGO / IDENT	details.	
	Test Request	Service Description
	MP**	Microsatellite Profile
	MP+PV**	Microsatellite Profile + Parentage
	SeekSire	*500 SNP
	SeekSire+PV	*500 SNP + Parentage
	COAT	Redfaiack coat colour

DNA Tests must be specified for each sample from the drop-down menu on this form.

See descriptions of each test used by Lowline breeders above.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** the Neogens team do not know to run parentage unless parents are nominated on this front sheet. If parentage is not required, please do not list parents on the form.

You are more than welcome to request more than one sire and/or dam per calf (using the Optional Sire and Dam list tabs) but please reference these lists on the front sheet as "SEE SIRE/DAM LIST".

It is especially important to list parents on the front sheet for these cases. Nominated parents must include both the UQ AGL case number or the NAA barcode and the ident/name of the animal. If these are not listed, there may be additional administration fees applied for the time taken to recover.



## Giving your calf the correct ID

Whether you are new to breeding Lowline cattle or have been doing it for years, it is always an exciting time when calves are born.

The next process is allocating an Animal Identification (Animal ID) number for calf recording/registration in future months.

**Animal ID needs to include your Stud /Herd prefix (3 letters), the Year letter, & an individual 3 digit number to make up the Animal ID.**

In the example, XYZ D002, XYZ represents the stud/herd prefix as registered with ALCA, D represents the year letter and 002 indicates that this animal is the second calf born to that particular stud.

Calf numbers are allocated consecutively as they are born regardless of whether they will be registered or not.

The numeric sequence continues in following years – it does not return to 001 at the commencement of each year.

The individual calf number can be any number from 001 to 999 but no two calves can have the same animal ID in the herd.

As a new breeder the first calf born on your property will have the number Q001 eg. XYZQ001



## How to know if a bull is an approved AI Sire?

Artificial insemination (AI) is a great way to improve your herd with new genetics.

To use semen & have the resulting progeny eligible for registration, the bull needs to be an approved AI Sire, registered for AI with ALCA.

The AI Sires List, which lists bulls owned by current ALCA Members, can be found on the website => BREEDING LOWLINE CATTLE => AI APPROVED SIRES.

There are many other bulls approved for AI that will not be on this list as they are dead &/or the owners are not ALCA members.

You can check to see if the bull is approved for AI by checking the bull details on the ALCA database where it will be noted if the bull is approved for AI or not.

If you are interested in using semen from some old Trangie or Glen Innes bulls, you will need to check if the bull is registered as an AI bull on the ALCA database to ensure that any resulting progeny is eligible for registration.

To do this you will need to find the bull on the database.

When the Lowlines were sold at the Trangie dispersal sales, the studs purchasing these animals were encouraged to give them a stud name rather than just their Trangie or Glen Innes numbers.

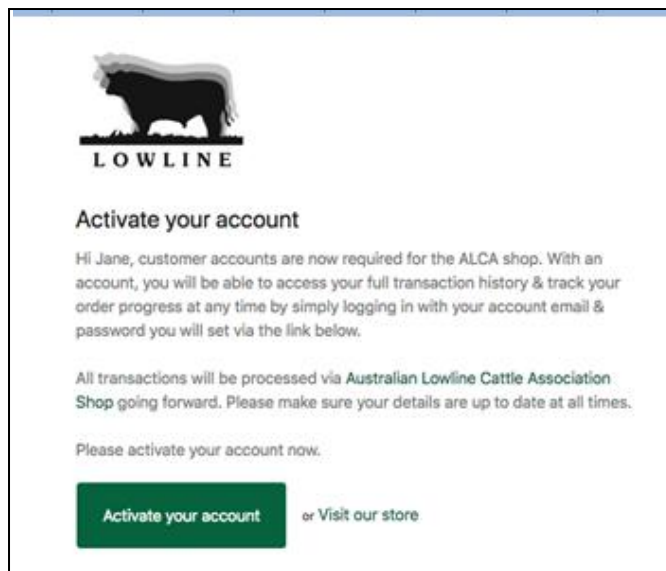
Eg. TRA L204 became known as Binnowee Samson

To find 'Binowee Sampson' on the ALCA database, you need to type 'Trangie L204' in the Animal Name field of the Animal enquiry to get the details for this bull, including his AI Approved status.

If the bull is a Glen Innes bull, eg. GI N323, type Glen Innes N323 in the Animal name field to get his details.



## Member Accounts - The Lowline Shop

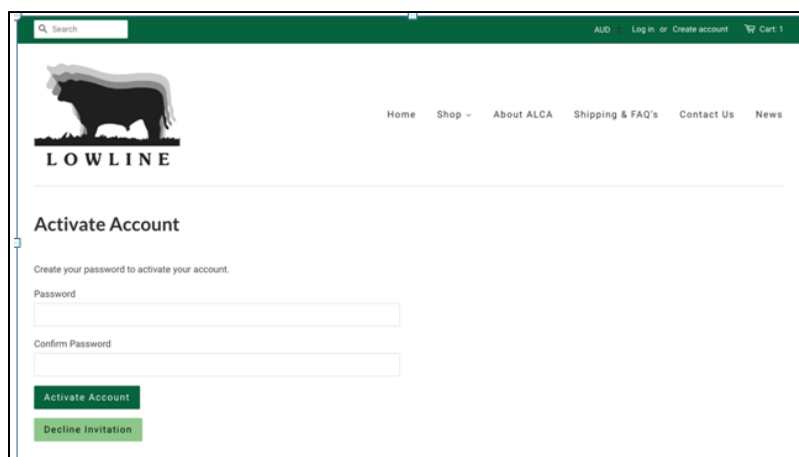


[www.lowlineshop.com](http://www.lowlineshop.com)

By now all members will have received an email requesting you to activate your Lowline Shop account.

If you haven't already done so, please click the Activate Your Account button which will take you to the following page.

All transactions for ALCA services will now be processed through the Lowline Shop. It is a quick & easy process.



Once your account is activated you will be able to login at any time and see your transaction history.

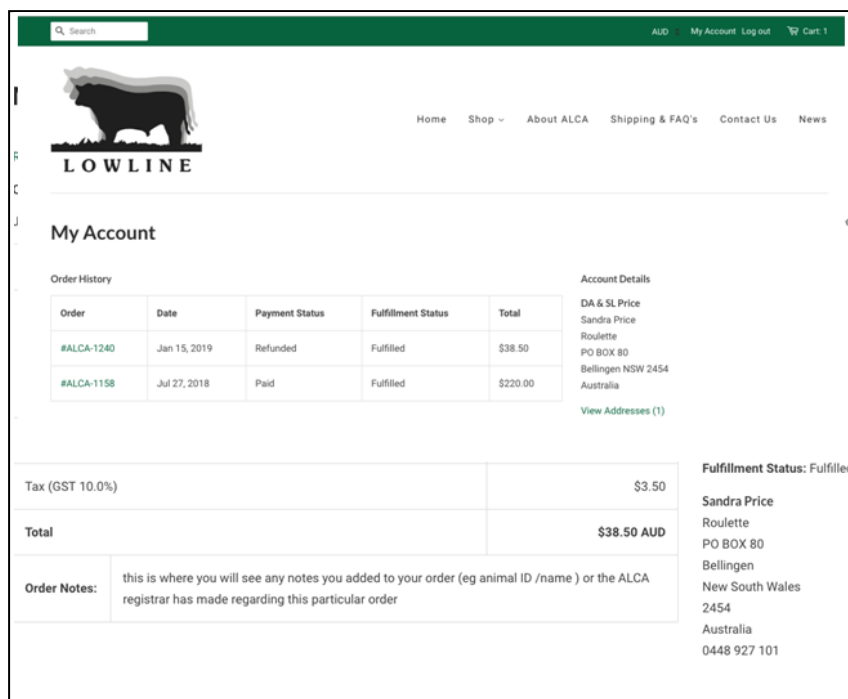
By clicking on the individual Order Number you will see further details of that purchase.

On this page, under Order Notes, you will also see any notes pertaining to that order (see below)

By returning to the first page of your account you can make updates of your address or phone details by clicking View Address.

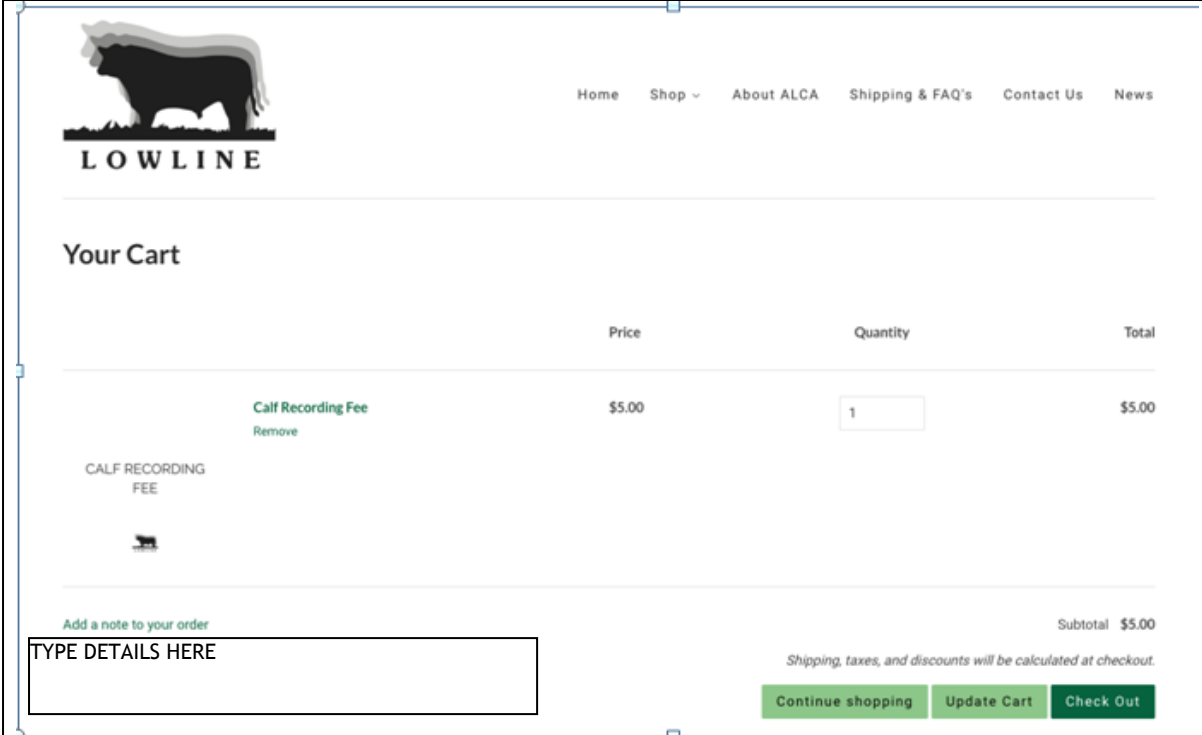
Note: To change your email address you will have to contact the ALCA office to make the change.

It is also advisable to contact the office if you change your address or phone so the office records can be kept up to date.



## Member Accounts - The Lowline Shop cont.


When making your purchase, on the **Your Cart** page you will see **Add a note to your order** – click here to add relevant details for the registrar.



**LOWLINE**

Home Shop ▾ About ALCA Shipping & FAQ's Contact Us News

### Your Cart

	Price	Quantity	Total
<b>Calf Recording Fee</b> <a href="#">Remove</a> 	\$5.00	1	\$5.00

[Add a note to your order](#)

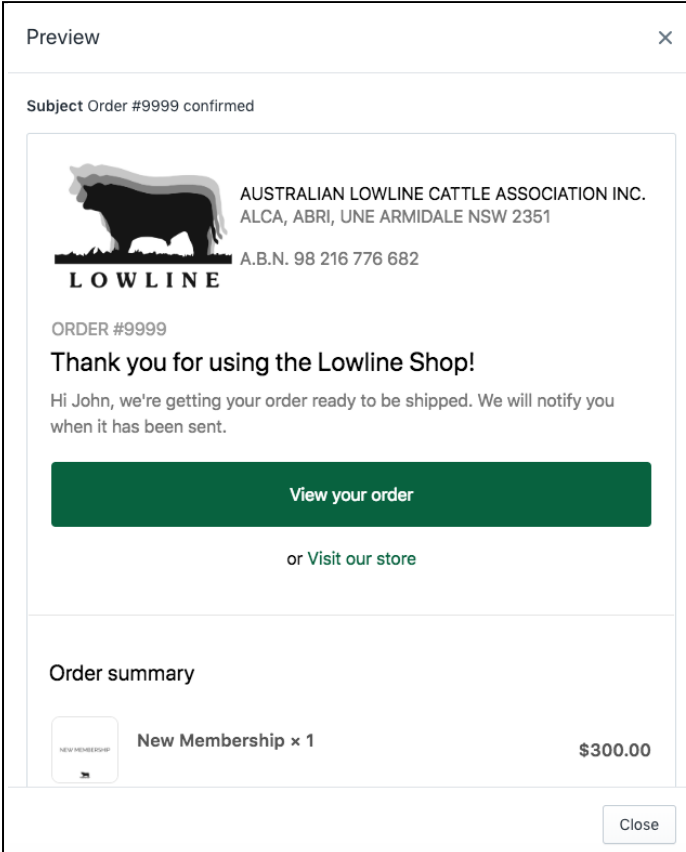
**TYPE DETAILS HERE**

Subtotal \$5.00

*Shipping, taxes, and discounts will be calculated at checkout.*

[Continue shopping](#) [Update Cart](#) [Check Out](#)

NOTE: It is still a requirement for all relevant documentation to be emailed to the Lowline Registrar, Natalie Herd – [lowline.registrar@abri.une.edu.au](mailto:lowline.registrar@abri.une.edu.au)  
 Eg. DNA results or a signed transfer on the Registration Certificate



Preview

Subject Order #9999 confirmed

**LOWLINE**  
 AUSTRALIAN LOWLINE CATTLE ASSOCIATION INC.  
 ALCA, ABRI, UNE ARMIDALE NSW 2351  
 A.B.N. 98 216 776 682

ORDER #9999


**Thank you for using the Lowline Shop!**

Hi John, we're getting your order ready to be shipped. We will notify you when it has been sent.

[View your order](#)

or [Visit our store](#)

**Order summary**

	New Membership x 1	\$300.00
---	--------------------	----------

[Close](#)

Continue to the Check Out screen to make your payment for the purchase or payment for a service.  
 Payments can be done via credit card or debit card.

Services will not be processed until all payments have been made.

On completion of your payment you will receive an email containing your Receipt for your purchase.  
 Copy & save this for tax purposes.





## Discussion for a new Membership Category

Times have changed dramatically since the inception of ALCA, community expectations have shifted and export markets aren't as easy or viable as they were. Paddock to plate has exploded & the consumer demand for proof of provenance is in almost every type of food now.

There is a rapidly growing sector of 'lifestylers' who are wanting to have the small holding and gain some level of self sufficiency. Lowlines 'fit the bill' in this situation & these are the people we need to encourage to join the association. This new membership category should suit.

Benefits	Lifestyle Member	Commercial Member	Junior & School Member	Full Member	CLB Add Ons*
Member ID & Herd/Stud Prefix for registration of animals			✓	✓	
Member ID	✓	✓			
Option to choose a herd name for calf recording purposes	✓				
Option to upgrade calf recorded animal to registered status *subject to terms & conditions	✓		✓	✓	
Register animals & access online registrations			✓	✓	
Export licensed semen & embryos				✓	
Can list a Bull on the Approved AI sires list			✓	✓	
Can record commercial animals	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Sell registered animals			✓	✓	
Use of trademarked ALCA Logo			✓	✓	
Join CLB programme		✓		✓	
Use of trademarked CLB logo					✓
Market & Sell Certified Lowline Beef					✓
Access CLB promotional material & promotion on ALCA CLB web page					✓
List stock for sale on ALCA Saleyards webpage	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Exhibit registered animals at Royal & local Shows			✓	✓	
Exhibit steers/ commercial heifers at Royal & local Shows	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Voting entitlements at AGM & postal/email ballots				✓	
Able to hold a position on ALCA Council				✓	
QLD Branding Exemption rule applies			✓	✓	

\* Must be either Full or Commercial Member and have joined the CLB programme to be eligible

It is important that we review the membership currently offered by the Association in order for it to remain fit for purpose.

It is for this reason that Council is in discussion with the membership about the addition of a new membership category that would suit those who have purchased a few registered Lowlines to farm on their acreage & who want to be involved with the association but are not interested in being a seedstock producer.

The facts are the Lowline breed is a closed herd. We cannot materialise new genetics from thin air, nor can we repeat how the breed came into being. We have to work with, and protect what we have.

It would be very sad to see the Lowlines become a rare breed instead of a heritage breed. So we are faced with how to continue to grow the breed and the Association and stop genetic leakage.

Some of the membership are taking for granted the great advantage that the Lowline breed has in its DNA traceability and genetic purity – many other breeds are struggling to catch up. The future of the breed lies in continued recognition of its unique heritage and traceability.

Also once people become part of the ALCA community they are exposed to other breeders who have made breeding Lowlines a success beyond the hobby market. They are also more likely to learn about the breed and perhaps even have their perception of the Lowline abilities increased.

Many of us started with one or two Lowlines & now have many. We love the breed & their wonderful breed attributes. Those who are passionate about Lowlines will realize the importance of safeguarding our Lowline cattle & genetics so they aren't lost once sold-on to the 'non member' – most never able to be reinstated in the ALCA Herdbook.

If you would like to discuss this with an ALCA Councillor, please contact Michele Molloy [mitchmay@bigpond.com](mailto:mitchmay@bigpond.com) or Sandra Price [roulettefarming@gmail.com](mailto:roulettefarming@gmail.com)



## Discussion for a new Membership Category cont

### **Lifestyle Membership Description:**

This level is designed for the Lowline owner who does not wish to operate as a stud or seedstock producer yet recognises the infinite value and importance of registration for the breed as a whole. It will allow those members to have the opportunity of having their ownership of registered Lowlines recognised on the database. So whilst you are enjoying your newly acquired Lowlines your membership will be quietly serving to help in both the maintaining of accurate breed records and with the preservation of this unique heritage breed of beef cattle.

This new membership category will fit between the Full membership & Commercial membership. The fee structure for a Lifestyle membership will be a reduced fee (\$100 + GST) from Full membership but the abilities of the Lifestyle member will also be reduced with benefit limitations.

In some situations, a person who qualifies for the Lifestyle membership category might find these limitations a hindrance for what they would like to do with their herd so the Full membership would be a better option.

There will always be the ability to step up from the Lifestyle membership to a Full membership in the future.

### **Membership Benefits:**

- Eligibility to this category will be for a herd of 6 or less animals.
- Member can have a herd name so any calves they choose to calf record will be recorded under their herd name
- Calves can be calf recorded but not registered
- Can upgrade recorded stock to registered ONLY if selling to Full/Junior/School member & subject to DNA & PV, fee payment & transfer papers submitted to Council for approval
- Can sell to another lifestyle member – stock will be transferred into new owners name providing DNA & PV is performed on any calf recorded stock before transfer in order that traceability is not compromised.
- Will receive newsletters, Journal, access to Saleyard page on website, join PG's, access office, join FB group etc, can show steers at major & local shows
- ALCA can retain accurate breed records without any compromise to the DNA traceability which is the cornerstone of the Association & the breed
- Can purchase registered stock which will be transferred into their name. Stock will need to remain active on the database to enable calf recording
- By having the ownership of your herd listed on the database it allows both full members and the wider community the opportunity to seek out your genetics – a win for all breed enthusiasts!

### **Membership Restrictions:**

- Once herd numbers have increased higher than 6, the Full membership is required, as they are actively breeding on a regular basis.
- Calves cannot have full registrations unless it is being sold to a Full/ School/Youth member.
- Registration fee for these animals will be slightly more (\$50 + GST) than for a Full member when selling to a Full/ Youth/School member.
- Will not be able to use the ALCA logo, vote, do online registrations/recordings or join CLB.
- Will not be able to show their cattle at shows
- Will not be eligible for QLD branding exemption rule

