

JOURNAL OF THE AUSTRALIAN  
**LOWLINE**  
CATTLE ASSOCIATION **ISSUE NUMBER 22**  
**MARCH 2010**





# ELANDRA PARK STUD

**CHAMPIONS FROM CHAMPION GENETICS**



## **ELANDRA PARK ANGUS**

**ROYAL CANBERRA SHOW 2009**

**SENIOR CHAMPION BULL**

**GRAND CHAMPION BULL**

**& SUPREME LOWLINE EXHIBIT**

## **ELANDRA PARK BOMBSHELL**

**ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW 2009**

**RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION FEMALE**

**ELANDRA PARK BOMBSHELL**

**BENDIGO NATIONAL BEEF 2009**

**SENIOR CHAMPION FEMALE**

**GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE**



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COVER PHOTO: Kin Kin Xaviera and her young friend Celina

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# LOWLINE STUD *Rotherwood*

*Flawless ... When only the best will do*



## ROTHERWOOD CHEROKEE

ROYAL MELBOURNE 2008

3rd Sires Progeny Best Head of 3

ROYAL CANBERRA 2009

Junior Champion Bull,  
1st Sires or Dams Progeny Group,  
1st Breeders Group,

ROYAL MELBOURNE 2009

Reserve Senior Champion Bull



## ROTHERWOOD BOXERS GIRL & ROTHERWOOD DREAM GIRL (calf)

2008 ROYAL MELBOURNE

2nd Cow or Heifer 24 - 30 mths,  
3rd Sires Progeny best of 3 head

ROYAL CANBERRA 2009

Senior Champion Female,  
Grand Champion Female,  
1st Sires or Dams Progeny Group,  
1st Breeders Group,  
Equal 6th Beef Interbreed Female (out of 19 Breeds)



## ROTHERWOOD DIABLO

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**W**HAT a privilege it is to be elected to lead our breed Association at any time, but in this very special year it is a challenge indeed. I thank the members of the Association and my fellow Councillors for their support. With a united team, we will succeed in our plans for the breed.

In the future, Lowline breeders will look back on 2010 as a watershed year. The year Lowlines stepped into the spotlight of the Sydney Show stage. The year Lowlines met the challenge of becoming a truly commercial breed. The year our members held the Lowline flag high and proud. The year our young people came of age as a fully fledged Youth Group.

The enthusiasm in the air is contagious as we approach our biggest display of Lowline cattle ever seen in Australia. Showing cattle at the best of times is not an easy undertaking, but we have faced numerous extra challenges over the past year.

Many places have experienced extended periods of drought and just one year has passed since the disastrous fires in Victoria. The Global Financial Crisis has touched us all and the escalating Australian dollar has affected the beef industry adversely.

But, undaunted, 49 breeders have committed themselves and 173 of their animals to the Sydney Australian Lowline Cattle Muster. They are to be congratulated for their faith in the breed.

### Commercial emphasis

In step with the current surge of excitement and expectation felt within the membership, your 2009/2010 Council has moved forward with our most urgent project – fine-tuning plans for promoting Lowline cattle as the commercial animals they must be.

I believe the breed is at a point in its history where it must come to grips with its commercial potential. Failure to do this will have long reaching catastrophic results. Individual



**President: Lee Labrie**

members have been working quietly in the commercial field for many years. Now your Council has plans that will put commercial production within reach of all our members. There will be exciting announcements at Sydney Royal. Every member should be at the Forum on Sunday, April 11 to be part of the future of Lowlines. No matter how many head you own, you can be part of the commercial Lowline plan.

### New Youth Group

For a number of years now Council has supported the development of our Youth department, but this year we can look with pride as our young people work towards becoming a fully fledged Youth Group.

The inaugural Youth Muster was a huge success by any standards. There has been an influx of youth memberships as well as an obviously increasing level of expertise within our youth.

With an air of camaraderie that belies their competitiveness, our youth are gaining skills that will stand them in good stead as they come of age in the beef industry.

Council is extremely thankful for the sponsorship support we have received for our Sydney event. All our sponsors appreciate that this is more than just a show. This is the marketing opportunity

of a lifetime for all involved. Our major sponsors include International Animal Health, which has organised a team of Lowlines, using IAH products, to enter the Steer Competition, as well as providing financial support for the event. The data collected in preparing the steers will be available to help the breed with future steer production. Pfizer Animal Health has donated a number of Genestar tests and given us financial help.

Global Procurement Services have supplied the furniture and fittings for our promotion site as well as banners and flags to dress up the cattle stalls. When we fly our Lowline flag high or set up at a field day display in the future, we will most probably be using flags and banners produced and donated by GPS.

Thank you to all our sponsors, large and small. Without your support we could not hope to produce the display that you will see in April in Sydney.

### Hard work paying off

Achieving the awarding of an honour such as the Sydney Royal Feature Breed status, gives pause for thought. How far have we come in such a short time? Did our founding fathers ever think we would be where we are today?

When they dreamed about the future of the Lowline breed, was this what they saw? All the hard work in the beginning, setting up the Association, compiling the herdbook, promoting the breed, standing tall in the face of criticism and sometimes ridicule... We thank them for their foresight and determination. The Sydney Australian Lowline Cattle Muster Down Under in 2010 is because of them.

As exciting and invigorating as all this activity is, I strongly encourage members to take the opportunities that 2010 will bring and carry the initiative forward. In 2012, our twentieth year, let us measure the progress the breed has made since 2010, the Year of our Australian Lowline Cattle Muster Down Under.

– Lee Labrie

A new era for Lowlines is around the corner. Lowline and Lowline-cross meat will expand in popularity as consumers continue to opt for quality and flavour over sheer size of portion. The day of the giant T-bone steak hanging over the sides of the dinner plate is over. Now it's the turn of the tender, flavoursome, sensibly sized portions of Lowline-derived meat.

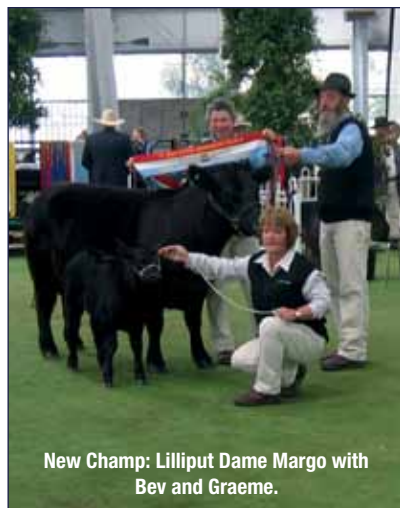
– Lee Labrie, President



DON'T forget that the online Lowline community is just a mouse click away at Lowline Country. Blogs, galleries, forums – it's the complete Lowline lovers website. You can find all you need at [lowlinecountry.com](http://lowlinecountry.com) so sign up today if you're not already a part of the biggest online gathering of the breed's aficionados.

THE Small Breed Triple Crown contest is on again at this year's Brookfield, Woodford and Samford shows. All registered small breed cattle are invited to attend, but each exhibit must be judged at all three shows.

There's \$500 prize money for the overall top cow and bull. Last year saw a Dexter win the Triple Crown Bull title, but Lowline pride was restored with Allambie Riesling exhibited by Weeroona Lowlines taking out the female title. The shows are on in May, June and July respectively and there is no additional entry fee. More information from Andrew O'Hara on 0414 275 066.



New Champ: Lilliput Dame Margo with Bev and Graeme.

## There 'aint nothing like this Dame

THERE'S a great story behind the Supreme Lowline Exhibit at Melbourne Royal last year, Lilliput Dame Margo.

She was a last minute addition to Graeme Podbury and Bev Crowley's show team because one of the other cows was injured.

Margo was seven years old and had never been broken in, much less been to a show.

The old girl always allowed herself to be petted by Bev, which led to the mistaken conclusion that she would be easy to break in. There was a little over three months to have her halter trained and behaving properly in the ring, but it looked as though

time would win out as Margo showed depths of cunning unheard of in a normal cow.

Bev says she was never nasty, just extremely clever at evading her lessons.

Naturally, Graeme and Bev were astounded that she behaved so well at the show. They were even more surprised when she won her class then the Senior Champion Lowline Cow. But that was just the beginning. Grand Champion Cow, Supreme Exhibit and Interbreed Champion followed.

Makes you wonder how many gongs she'd have won were she shown earlier in her seven-year life.

# BIG BOSS



Contact Ross French  
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[raaneip@bigpond.com](mailto:raaneip@bigpond.com)

# Youth on the moooooove

By Emma Germany

At last we have formed a Lowline Youth Group, meaning better opportunities for youth members.

The youth group will be responsible for the annual National Lowline Youth Muster. We also envisage that we will implement programs such as a work experience and more sponsored trips for youth members, as well as provide opportunities for youth members of all ages.

The first Lowline Youth Muster saw a great number of enthusiastic young people with an eagerness to learn. It also, however, saw the need for a better formed youth group and the need to train future leaders.

Now we are on the way, but in order for the group to be a success we need support from all youth members. Up until now, the driving force has been past ambassadors. This doesn't have to continue to be the case. In fact, it will be an opportunity for future ambassador applicants to show their enthusiasm and commitment to Lowline Youth.

The Australian Lowline Youth Group is Australia wide, which means it covers a much larger area than current promotion groups. We will manage this by having area representatives who will report to

state representatives who will then report to a Youth representative and then on to council.

Currently we have state representatives for Queensland, NSW and South Australia. We also have a youth representative who reports to Tim Franzman as our Council representative. Some area representatives have already been appointed. We are still seeking representatives for Victoria, Western Australia, Tasmania, Northern Territory and New Zealand.

The state representative's role is to be the "go to" person for youth members in their state and to help to co-ordinate the Australian Lowline Youth Muster.

Area representatives will help co-ordinate small youth events in their areas and assist at state level.

We hope to have our first AGM and elect office bearers at the 2010 Lowline Youth Muster.

If you are interested in becoming either a state or area representative or know somebody who would be willing to step up to the role please contact me, Emma Germany, on 0425 311 066.

For information on 2010 Australian Lowline Youth Muster see the advertisement on the following page.

## IN MEMORIAM



**ELANDRA PARK SAM**

**("SANDAL")**

**24/4/1997 to 23/11/2009**

To our beautiful bull "Sammy",  
Your impact on our stud and many  
Herds in Australia and overseas  
Has been undeniable.

Most importantly you have been a  
wonderful pet

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Shop

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Rivenmead  
Lowlines

Wanamara  
Lowlines



This is a great opportunity to meet lots of new people, gain experience with cattle showing and any questions you have, can be answered by industry professionals



## Chances to win:

- ✓ Herdsman Competition; Paraders Competition; Junior Judging Competition
- ✓ Win a registered Lowline Heifer
- ✓ Chance to work with a Lowline Breeder at Sydney Royal 2011
- ✓ and much more...



*We are also seeking sponsorship for  
2010 Lowline Youth Muster*

Contact Emma Germany or  
Your State Youth Representatives.

Emma Germany: 0425 311 066

NSW/VIC: Hayden Hollis: 0404 056 318

QLD/NT: Christina Schiller: 0448 856 257

SA/WA: Heidi Cory: 0447 195 967



# Carcase proves the case

**T**HE recent success by a number of our breeders in carcase competitions has helped cement the Lowline breed as a viable commercial alternative in a cross breeding program.

Using Lowline bulls over a commercial herd of Limousin/Murray Grey and Senepol cross females has certainly proved successful for Margo Hayes of Vitulus Lowlines.

She has twice won the Grand Champion Beef Carcase at Royal Brisbane Show, first in 2007 and more recently in 2009. And, with more than 250 entrants, this is no mean feat.

But last year saw history made when Margo won both the Light and Heavy weight divisions of the competition with Lowline cross animals – something never before achieved by any breed or breeder in the 140-year history of the Royal Brisbane Show.

The 2009 Grand Champion and Light weight winner, Vitulus Delicious (carcase pictured), was 75 per cent Lowline and 25 per cent Senepol, aged 18 months and weighed 396kg. The Heavy weight winner, Vitulus Cryovac was 50 per cent Lowline, 25 per cent Limousin and 25 per cent Murray Grey aged 22 months and weighed 530kg.

Interestingly, neither steer scored higher than fifth in the led section of the competition.

Margo says carcase competitions demonstrate to commercial producers that using Lowline bulls not only reduces calving problems, but also produces carcasses that fit trade specifications perfectly. The domestic/supermarket trade is the premium end of the beef market and a considerable number of large commercial producers now target it. Reduced running costs and premium saleyard prices are just two reasons why.

Vitulus has recently developed and trademarked [lowlinebeef.com.au](http://lowlinebeef.com.au) to strategically target both the restaurant and



The Grand Champion Beef Carcase at Brisbane last year from a 75 per cent Lowline animal.

retail butcher trade. The stud has teamed up with beef wholesaler Farmers Choice Meats to distribute its branded product.

It's early days yet and the markets for distribution will be small, but as the product gains a reputation and new markets are developed market share will

expand. Online beef will also be sold and delivered to Brisbane suburbs.

All beef will be MSA graded. Steers used to supply the market will be sourced from Vitulus and other local breeders with at least 50 per cent Lowline component. Steers, from 15 months onward, will be finished for 90 days using a specially developed mix to balance the ratio of omega-6 and omega-3 fatty acids.

Pasture-fed animals will also be marketed once Aus-Meat standards allow pasture-fed beef to be graded under Meat Standards Australia program.

The pasture-fed standard will require cattle to be fed only grass or pasture for their entire lives and not fed grain or confined to a yard. They must also be free of antibiotics and hormone growth promotants.

Grass-fed standards will also pave the way for greater inclusion of purebred Lowline steers.

■ **Proof grass-fed beef sells P11**

## ITALY JOINS THE LOWLINE SEMEN LIST

A RECENT agreement between Vitulus Lowline Stud and Italy's largest independent semen distributor has seen the recent sale of 12 embryos and 200 straws of Lowline semen heading to northern Italy.

The independent AI company is headed by one of Italy's most experienced dairymen, with 35 years experience as a sire analyst for the Holstein breed. The company markets semen from their own Holstein bulls and imports semen from the USA and Canada.

The Lowline semen will be used in the dairy industry where there are literally thousands of small dairy farms facing the same problems as Australian dairy farmers, namely low milk prices and increasing production costs.

Dairy farmers are looking for "an efficient new option" and see the answer in Lowline dairy cross animals for Italy's very popular veal market; so popular, in fact, that demand far outweighs local supply.

Veal calves are kept in closed barns for the whole fattening period and they receive a milk replacer diet to obtain a so-called white meat with a pale pink colour due to a low content of myoglobin in the muscle tissue.

The veal calves reared and slaughtered in Italy represent 67.6 per cent of the total demand while the remainder is covered by importing veal, mainly from Holland and France. Only one third of the animals slaughtered in Italy are born in the country. The others are imported from France or Eastern Europe.

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Kobblevale Gibb (4 Months)



# Proof grass-fed beef sells

**M**UDDY Creek Ranch Lowlines is a fully integrated cattle operation located in Wilsall, Montana in the heart of cattle country. It has a 100 per cent grass-fed, all-natural herd.

Muddy Creek says grass-fed beef is better for the consumer and the animals. A high-grain diet can cause physical problems for ruminants, who are designed to eat fibrous grasses, plants, and shrubs rather than grain.

Grass-fed beef can contain up to ten times the antioxidant beta carotene and three to four times more vitamin E than grain-fed beef as well as a healthier omega 3 to omega 6 ratio.

Muddy Creek breeds Lowlines with native Montana cows to come up with a unique commercial herd. The cows are finished out at around 453kg, are highly efficient on pasture and are great milkers. They produce a market animal that is adaptive to Montana's climate and that converts grass to high-quality tender beef. These 1st cross progeny are finished at 17 months of age.

MCR uses ultrasound technology to



preselect the animals to be slaughtered. The meat is then sold to the public through local farmers markets or restaurants. The ranch has part ownership of a local bar and cafe, which serves Lowline beef for lunch and dinner.

Each year at the National Western Stock Show in Denver, Colorado, MCR takes one of its chefs to serve Lowline beef all week for breeders to sample. The queue gets longer each day as word get out about cuts such as braised brisket and marinated ribs.



TOP: Lowline cross animals at Muddy Creek Ranch. ABOVE: Staff serve Lowline beef samples at the Denver show.

Muddy Creek's mission is to produce quality seed stock, productive commercial cows and predictable carcasses for a growing demand for grass-fed beef. ■

## No small claim to beef about

**"BEST Beef Ever".** It's a big claim, but John and Nadine de Bruin of California Lowlines in Santa Barbara have found it a succesful catchline.

The couple find their mild year-round climate ideally suited to raising Lowlines for beef. The breed's smaller size and ability to finish well on grass was just what the de Bruins were looking for when researching suitable breeds of cattle for their 68ha (168ac) ranch.

What sets their location apart is the abundance of water and a fairly long growing season.

John and Nadine raise seedstock for local California ranchers interested in downsizing their herd or looking for a smaller breed for smaller acreages. They found early on that crossing Lowlines with

their commercial cows gave them just the right size steer for their market.

They focus on raising all-natural grass-fed beef for the local Santa Barbara community, where many health and environmentally conscious customers seek an alternative to grain-fed beef.

California Lowlines' steers weighing around 450kg are slaughtered at a local abattoir approximately 1½ hours from their ranch. These Lowline steers typically yield a 270kg carcass and around 180kg of cut and wrapped meat ready for sale. All the meat is vacuum packed in 1-2kg packages and frozen.

The couple advertise their

beef on the web and sell from their house, as well as at five different farmers markets. Their next major initiative is develop an online store that allows people to order directly from the website and have it delivered using standard commercial methods. ■



John and Nadine de Bruin selling Lowline-infused beef at a farmers market near Santa Barbara.

# Delivering the goods

It makes a lot of sense to add value to your animals by selling your own meat at the farm gate. But Bob and Lynda Quayle of Ellinvale Lowlines, Yea, have taken the process one step further by delivering their meat to their customers.

The Quayles have been breeding Lowlines for more than eight years and run around 45 Lowline and Lowline-cross cattle on their 35ha (86ac) farm.

"The paddock to plate business is relatively new to us, but it makes good business sense," says Bob.

"It's also very appealing to consumers. Our customers know where the beef is coming from. Until relatively recently we sent our animals to the saleyards, however our business is now based on value-adding our product and giving our customers a guaranteed eating experience."

Naturally, the Quayles give their customers the full story on the Lowline advantage: how they're the perfect breed for the smaller farm with more being

able to be run per hectare than with full-size conventional beef cattle. Then there's the number of carcase competitions Lowline and Lowline cross cattle have won at Royal Shows.

The buyers, however, don't need to be told about the outstanding flavoursome, tender, fine grained beef.

"It's been a little more than a year since we started selling our beef direct," Bob says. "We now process an animal per

week via an accredited processor and licensed butcher, where they are aged for eight to nine days."

The meat is then delivered to the customer's door in a refrigerated van.

"We believe there is a big future for the paddock to plate industry, and part of that relies on us providing a quality product.

"The Lowlines give us the premium quality beef that keep our customers coming back," Bob adds. ■



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Hilery Belton

## Booking her place

HILERY Belton says establishing Urila Lowlines was a partnership between a librarian and an aerospace engineer. She was the librarian, her husband Bill the engineer.

"Yes, it did work," says Hilery. "Primarily due to the engineer."

They started breeding Lowlines at the stud on the Mornington Peninsula 11 years ago and haven't looked back.

It all started with two of the foundation herd cows; one from Trangie (J203) and another from Glen Innes (N361). Now their daughters are the matriarchs of the herd.

Hilery says that having a wide range of successful stud activities – showing, carcass competitions and selling easy-calving bulls to beef and dairy farmers – has helped "demonstrate the potential of Australian Lowline cattle, a high performance breed".

Urila is about to have some grass-fed steers assessed by a leading Melbourne restaurant.

"These purebreds will be featured as Lowline beef from paddock to plate," she says. "As the breed population increases, we breeders should establish co-operative structures to facilitate the reliable, regular supply of Lowlines to such enthusiastic markets."

## Natural born farmer

JULIE Knight has put her heart and soul into developing her livestock skills. Over the years she has undertaken numerous beef, pasture and AI/reproductive short courses.

It's no wonder that she is the main farmer in the Wanamara Lowlines enterprise, though husband Greg's off-farm work is also a factor.

The couple first bought Lowlines 15 years ago and have run them on three different properties over the years, the latest 102ha (254ac) at Major Plains, between Shepparton and Benalla, where they have a total of 70 purebreds and crosses. Julie says the cattle have always adapted well to the moves to new properties. The challenge at Wanamara's latest HQ is the lower rainfall. However, greater soil fertility and a warmer climate partially compensates.

"Calves at weaning have been much heavier [here] and the cows are keeping much better body condition than in the colder climate," she says.

"Calf birth weights have also been slightly higher.

Greg and Julie are almost empty-nesters, with the last of their five children in her final year of school. She says it's a relatively quiet life, with just the many cats, dogs and, of course, cows.



Julie Knight

# Tartan Farms

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**Breeders of Lowline Cattle  
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*All Enquires Welcome*

# TARTAN'S Scotch fillet

There's plenty of evidence supporting the superior eating quality of Lowline and Lowline-cross cattle, a fact endorsed by Tartan Farm's customers. **Stephanie Maunsell** profiles the NZ North Island-based operation's stud and boutique beef business.

I RECENTLY attended the Pokeno Farmers' Market in search of the man selling pepperoni salami. I had been given some by my mother-in-law and it disappeared overnight in our household of meat lovers.

The search for this spicy salami led me to Tartan Farms' stall where I uncovered a unique Lowline-infused cattle meat business that is ensuring this breed stays true to its original purpose – providing quality meat.

Early on, a group of people saw the benefits of Lowlines for smaller block holders and boutique beef.

The cattle are placid, compact animals without recessive genes. Their size is about two thirds of Angus beef cattle. The fact that they are light on the land, good foragers reaching early maturity, easy to handle and do not require a capital investment for extensive cattle yards gives them a point of difference for marketing to people on smaller blocks of land who want a source of beef.

With Lowlines, farmers can run more stock to the hectare. The females are excellent mothers and the calves and dams are robust, which takes much of the hard work out of calf rearing.

Robert Baird became involved with Lowline in the early days of the breed's introduction to New Zealand. He has an interesting past, coming from a farming family in the Wairarapa. Early in life he decided to be a wool buyer/seller, which saw him jet setting the globe, living in London, Australia, New York and eventually China.

It was in China that he was called upon



Robert, dog Suez and some of his Lowlines.

by some New Zealand breeders who had bought some of the foundation herd of Lowline from Australia and sold embryos to a Chinese farming enterprise. Robert, speaking not very fluent Mandarin, was asked to approach the enterprise to help complete the business deal.

Upon returning to New Zealand Robert continued a relationship with the breeders. Due to unforeseen circumstances on Robert's part, he wound up being owed money, which was paid in pregnant Lowline cows and several bulls originating from the original imported stock. It was from these cattle that Tartan Farms began.

Tartan Farms is owned by Robert and his partner Trish Rankin. It is one of New Zealand's largest Lowline cattle breeders. Situated in Mercer, south of the Bombay Hills, the farm comprises 20 hectares of rolling terrain with lush pasture from the

top, where there is a covenanted historical site of trenches, to the wetlands below. There they farm 30 purebred Lowline stud cattle and around 100 Lowline crosses, or what Robert prefers to call Lowline-infused cattle.

These cattle are used for Tartan Farms' meat products, which are sold at the local Pokeno Farmers' Market and online.

The stud stock at Tartan Farms supply a good return with bulls being used to service other breeders' cows and heifers. Young bulls are sold on to dairy farmers for easy first calving for heifers, and purebred cows and heifers are very popular with smallholders.

These days Tartan Farms' principal interest is in their Lowline meat and supplying bulls to the dairy industry.

During calving season, Tartan Farms rears up to 100 four-day-old Lowline/Jersey crossbred calves.

Photo: Stephanie Maunsell



These are progeny bought back from dairy farmers who have purchased and used Robert's bulls over their heifers.

Once Robert and Trish have the calves reach 60kg, they wean them and sell them on to lifestyle farmers who need stock to graze their pasture and fill the freezer. The calves are weaned at 60kg (rather than the recommended 100kg of say, white-face calves) because of their size difference.

"The meat from this F1 [first cross] is tender and does not have the yellow fat associated with Jersey. The meat yield is generally a lot better than say, the white face as our F1s are lighter boned," said Robert.

"When the calves first arrive they are a beautiful chocolate brown colour, however as they become older they turn black. We find the calves from this first cross are easily identified as they have a dark ring around the eye."

Once these F1 calves that have been sold to lifestyle farmers become yearlings, Robert buys many of them back for finishing on his block.

Then customers often take another consignment of weaners.

"This has been working well for both

parties as they are returning approximately 50 per cent on their investment and we have a supply of animals for finishing," said Robert.

"However, you must be aware that prices do change from year to year and season to season. October is the time of the year that prices generally peak due to the supply of grass."

Robert and Trish's goal is to expand this business to ensure they continue to meet the demand for the progeny and their meat business. They obtained the first licence in New Zealand to sell Lowline meat at Farmers' Markets and the business is thriving.

"We sell all the beef cuts and have them processed and vacuum packed in approved facilities by the NZFSA.

"As marketers of our own beef, we have to abide by all the requirements of the NZFSA to ensure consumer safety."

Robert transports animals himself to be slaughtered at AgResearch Ruakura. From there they go to Rotorua where they are



rested (hung) for eight days after slaughter, then processed and vacuum packed.

With almost a carcass a week being processed, further growth in clientele will see a definite need for a rise in F1 progeny. Further reason for a rise in herd numbers is the growing popularity of the breed since recent Australian competitions have been won by Lowlines over the so-called mainstream beef breeds in all classes.

Through the Farmers' Market and their website, Tartan Farms is continuing to grow with orders for this lean, boutique meat. Robert also fills orders for local restaurants. Smaller cuts of meat are now more popular – people no longer want a steak the size of their plate. Lowline cuts are filling a gap in the market and providing quality cuts that don't need trimming to meet chefs' requirements.

*This is an edited version of a story that appeared in New Zealand Lifestyle Farmer magazine. [www.lifestyle-farmer.co.nz](http://www.lifestyle-farmer.co.nz)*

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## Let me inside, mum...

**SOME** bulls are just too quiet for their owner's peace of mind. That's Rotherwood Cherokee enjoying a pat from Vicki Gilbert of Rotherwood Lowlines. Cherokee was Junior Champion at Canberra and won his class at Melbourne last year. It's possible he's been just a tad spoiled, so much so that Vicki reckons he'd happily go inside the house if invited. Vicki and husband Philip hail from Cann River in Victoria, and we're assured the rest of their cattle display equally mild temperaments.

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WHITBY FARM IN LOVE WITH LOWLINES



## SNIPPETS OF INTEREST

THE total number of beef cattle and calves in Australia in 2009 was 24,784,000, a decline of 2.3 per cent from 2008. Nearly half of the national herd resides in Queensland, which has 12,005,000 head of beef cattle and calves. The next largest beef producing state is Western Australia with 2,148,000 head.

**MEANWHILE** the US and Canada have announced that cattle numbers in their respective countries have fallen between 1 to 2 per cent. As of January 1, 2010 the total number of cattle and calves in the US dropped from 94.5 million to 93.7 million during the past year. In Canada, numbers dropped from 13.2 million to 13 million during the same period.

AUSTRALIAN Beef Association Chairman Brad Bellinger has condemned the importation of beef from BSE-affected countries. "A vast majority of grass root producers ... are vehemently opposed to the importation of beef from BSE affected countries," he said. "No independent producers, or producer representative associations, were consulted on the importation." BSE, or Bovine Spongiform Encephalitis, is a fatal disease that affects a cow's central nervous system. Eating the affected meat can lead to Cruetzfeldt-Jakob Disease in humans.

**DESPITE** the contribution of Lowlines, the average carcass weight in Australia increased to 246kg, from 243kg last year. The average carcass weight has been steadily increasing and is now 100kg more than in 1962.

BRITAIN'S *The Guardian* newspaper has revealed that a quarter of the meat imported into the UK has been sourced from farms in other countries that do not have to meet national standards for animal welfare. Farmers and consumers are now demanding greater import restrictions.

## CORRECTION

IN last year's *Journal* the Show Champions page displayed the wrong bull as Junior, Grand and Supreme Champion at Melbourne Royal.

The actual bull, Yarra Ranges Jackaroo, is pictured below.





# TRIP OF A lifetime

By Christina Schiller

**I**MAGINE spending 27 unforgettable days in the United States visiting ranches and many other spectacular sites. Well this is what it was like for Hayden Hollis and me after our Youth Ambassador tour earlier this year.

January 6 saw us arrive in Denver, Colorado, where we would spend the next week and half. We were greeted by a very enthusiastic Brian Walters from Walters Cattle Company, Ft Lupton, Colorado.

After sleeping in till mid morning the next day we ventured out into the snow with Brian for a guided tour around their ranch and the leased properties on which Brian and his wife, Jocelyn, run breeders and replacement animals for future matings.

The Walters use an incredible 80,000ha (200,000ac), which includes the rented pastures borrowed from family and friends.

One thing I find particularly interesting is that most beef breeders in the US do not fit their commercial animals for particular markets like we do here. They simply just send them to the market if they're not good enough.

Brian took us to see one of the largest dairy properties in the US which we soon learnt was home to an incredible 50,000 head. Another area of interest we decided to investigate was education. This brought us to the Colorado State University, because Hayden and I wanted to see what the typical university in the States looked like. We learnt that each dorm on the campus was fitted to a particular major. This I thought was a good idea compared with back home, where all majors are in different dormitories.

My highlight of the stay with Brian was a visit to Kody Lostroh's place. Now, for you people who don't know, Kody Lostroh is



Hayden Hollis and Christina Schiller flanking US Youth Ambassador Beverley Shirts, who will be travelling to Australia on exchange this year.

one of the biggest names in the Pro Bull Riding circuit.

Kody's wife, Candice, gave us a tour around their ranch because Kody was competing in New York.

After spending two busy days with Brian and his wife, we headed to the Embassy Suites Hotel, where we would soon meet with show hosts Tim, Shane and Trevor from Smiths and Associates, one of the biggest fitting companies we saw in the States.

They fitted for many full blood and percentage Lowline exhibitors at the show, many of whom were willing to let us help prepare their entries for the ring. We were very grateful for this experience.

The hard work paid off because we were awarded Grand Champion Full Blood Female with Kobblevale Surprise and Topline Julius, as well as Supreme Female with a Junior heifer by the name of Whitney.

After the stock show we were hosted by separate ranches – Double K Adventures, owned by Karla Kovac-Grier of Stewartsville, Missouri, and Tummons

Cattle Company, owned by Jamie, Brad and Julie Tummons of Gallatin, Missouri.

While staying with Karla, I visited the Pony Express Museum and the Angus Hall of Fame where we managed to find one of the original Angus bulls used in the Trangie trial. I also got a chance to finally go shopping, as well as visit many of the local farming businesses in the district, allowing me to expand future job options.

While I was staying with Karla, Hayden was busily helping Brad Tummons prepare Jamie's grandfather's Herefords for the Junior and Open Hereford at Fort Worth Show in Texas, which he enjoyed greatly.

My next port of call was Tummons Cattle Company in Gallatin, Missouri, where I was hosted by Julie Tummons.

Julie and I were extremely busy over the week with her Corgi pupping, Boer goats kidding and cows needing to be fed because of the worst winter in years. Jamie and I had a great time socialising with people during the Boer goat sale, something I had never experienced back home. While attending the sale, I learnt there were specific requirements that had to be met just to enter animals in the sale.

During my stay with the Tummons I was able to expand my knowledge of animal welfare and inspection through handling cattle, goats, horses and donkeys. Working with different ranches enabled both of us to expand our horizons for the future.

Hayden and I would like to personally thank everyone we met, stayed with and worked with while in the United States. We hope to return some day and work with everyone further.

Without our youth exchange we would not have gathered the experience crucial for our development. ■



# EYE OF THE firestorm

One hundred and seventy-three people were killed in Victoria's Black Saturday bushfires on February 7, last year. An additional 414 were injured and property losses included more than 2000 homes, countless outbuildings, hay stacks and dairies as well as thousands of kilometres of fencing. More than 11,000 head of stock were killed or injured. Here, ALCA member **Paul West** of Brindabella Lowlines, Jindivick, describes the events of that day.

**S**ATURDAY: As the fire left Bunyip State Park and headed south fed by a strong north wind, Labertouche and its dairy farms started to burn.

The fire roared back towards Jindivick and West Drouin as the wind changed to the south-west. Fed from the huge ember attacks, Jindivick went up in smoke.

While Joan and Malcolm Adams from Bembridge Stud at Darnum watched with concern as embers landed at their place, Brindabella stud was raised to ground by the worst firestorm ever.

Eighteen homes were lost at Jindivick; my neighbours let their homes burn to save their dairies (you can't milk 300 cows sitting on a stool with a bucket).

I sat at the police roadblock at Main Neerim Road, but no one was getting in, not even the CFA firefighters. I was anxious to discover if our Lowline girls had

survived. After staying at the roadblock that night (who could sleep?), I took off through a neighbour's farm. The police still had the roadblocks up because the road to the farm was a mess of fallen and burning trees.

When I turned into our road it was total destruction. I saw our beautiful 140-year-old oak lying on the road, giant blue gums 200 years old lying across where our fences used to be.

However, our Lowline girls had survived, thanks to the efforts we had put into fireproofing our property.

We had only had the farm just over a year, leased it back to the previous owner for a year, and only had the paddocks back in our possession for two weeks when the fire came.

We lost two machinery sheds, a hay shed and hay, a dairy/cattle crush and

yards (pictured above), water tank, everything.

All our beautiful cypress shelter belts in every paddock, our old oak tree, massive Strzelecki gums 200 to 300 years old, all our roadside and some internal fencing. I know other people lost a lot more. The Labertouche/Jindivick fires were the biggest area burned in the state, but fortunately no lives were lost. Not much has been written about this area in the media.

## WHAT WE DID AND WHAT HELPED

I had always been worried about the roadsides and the amount of undergrowth and tree litter there. Not being able to touch it, I kept the fence line as clear as possible but it didn't help one bit.

With the 30-metre-high super-heated





OPPOSITE PAGE: The shed and dairy two days after the fire.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: The cypress shelter belts after the fire; the same trees before the fire; shed and dairy site after a clean-up in spring.



flames, like everywhere else, the fire came up the roadway.

We had cut all the roadside paddocks for hay, so there was only stubble. The fire went through this very quickly and lost a lot of heat with the lack of fuel. This stopped the fire on our property as it hit the green of our creek flats.

Our neighbour had millet paddocks (very green), so the fire was stopped there, too. The cows were in a sacrifice paddock, south facing and naturally wet. Oak trees don't burn like gums, and I kept a 20-metre mowed zone around this paddock.

My advice to anyone with a property, particularly in a high fire risk area, is to follow all the CFA guidelines on fire; clean up everywhere. Embers start spot fires.

### WHAT WE ARE DOING DIFFERENTLY

All our sheds and yards were near the roadside, our new shed is now away from the road and further removed from risk.

We now have two tanks to stock troughs instead of one, and in different places.

We will plant a lot more deciduous trees (they don't burn) and only smooth bark gums. Always have a sacrifice paddock or two, all structures to be steel (no timber), spray all fence lines to keep down grass.

### THE FUTURE

One year on and we are still replacing fences. We hope to build a house by

Christmas. I estimate it will be three to four years to get back to the pre-fire situation in our new home, but we can never replace the lost trees.

If we can help anyone with any fire-planning give us a ring on 03-5973 6556.

– Paul West

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The Australian Lowline Cattle Muster Down Under at the Royal Easter Show, Sydney, in April will see the largest assembly of Lowline cattle ever displayed.

Fifty breeders and close to 200 head of cattle will celebrate the achievement of Lowlines when they assemble for competition as feature breed on judging day April 10.

The Australian Lowline Cattle Association wishes to thank the many sponsors who have helped make this major milestone possible.

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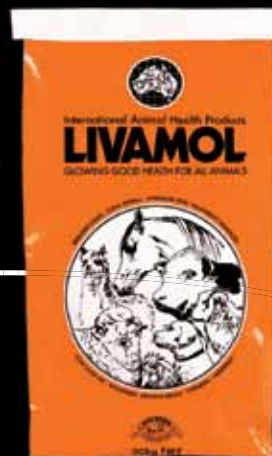
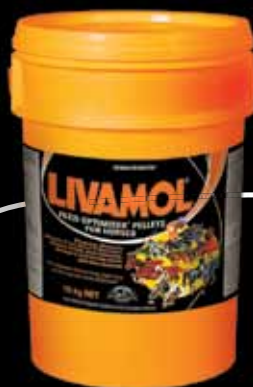
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Back in 1992 when Lowlines were a newly became its foundation members. Today, on principals of both studs about the early da the past 18 years. The results make intere

# A LONG

# love affair

## ARDROSSAN

### THE DETAILS

**Where:** Princetown, Vic.

**Property size:** 78ha (193 acres).

**Annual average rainfall:** 1000mm (40 inches).

**Number of head:** 300.

**First bought Lowlines:** May, 1992.

It was a love of farming that led Peter and Jeanette Stebbins into Lowline breeding. Well, it was Jeanette's love of farming really. She had already established an indoor piggery on 4.5ha (11 acres) at Emu Creek, selling pork to the residents of nearby Bendigo, while Peter ran his own insurance business.

"It was in my genes," Jeanette says. "I was a frustrated farmer all my life."

In 1992, their son, Chris, was in Year 12 and wavering between farming and truck driving as a career. By chance, they learned that a new breed of cattle called Lowline Angus would be on display at the Seymour Alternative Farming Expo and they thought them worth a look.

Smaller cattle could give Chris some farming experience and Jeanette liked the idea of a freezer-sized carcass.

The Lowlines they saw at the Expo had been brought down by Ian Pullar in the back of a Land Rover ute and they fitted the bill perfectly. Peter and Jeanette ordered two in-calf cows and they arrived in May, 1992. Ardrossan Lowlines was born.

Those two original cows provided a heifer and bull calf. They were joined 12 months later by two more cows, Jessie and Josie, who had also enjoyed a trip to the Expo in Ian Pullar's ute, this time in 1993.

A flash of foresight saw the Stebbins flushing the original two cows, the first to do so with the Lowline breed. The profits from the embryo sales provided sufficient capital to purchase 13 head at the final dispersal sale at Trangie in October, 1993.

Right from the start, Ardrossan

Lowlines put a lot of emphasis on friendliness and assistance to others acquiring the breed.

"We really prided 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 back home 'Oh, what do I do now.'"

Eventually, the stud outgrew its home and more land was required. So in 1996 the operation moved to 34ha (85ac) at nearby Starthfieldsaye, where the family remained for nine years before moving once again to Princetown on Victoria's southern coast.

These days the Stebbins run 300 head of cattle

on 78ha (193ac), all sired by Lowline bulls. Half the herd is purebred and the remainder are F2 crosses.

There isn't much that Ardrossan hasn't done in the stud business. Embryos and/or live calves have been dispatched to China, New Zealand, Canada and the US. The stud has its own "free" cattle transportation business run by Chris and his wife Donna (thus giving Chris control with both farming and truck driving).

But perhaps the biggest development came in 2008 when the Stebbins established a partnership with Gary and Terry Gilbert of Hermantown, Minnesota called Ausmeri

**Continued page**





established breed, 25 studs attended the first official ALCA meeting and by two, Kemoi and Ardrossan, remain as active members. We asked the guys of the Association and the many changes that have occurred during the meeting reading.

## KEIMOI

### THE DETAILS

Where: Goulburn, NSW.

Property size: 40ha (100 acres).

Annual average rainfall: 661mm (26.5 inches) but a lot less recently.

Number of head: 50 to 60.

First bought Lowlines: mid-1992.



# UNSEASONED SUCCESS

FOR a couple of self-confessed "city slickers", Keith and Moira Smith have achieved an enviable level of expertise in the cattle industry.

In the early 1990s the couple had bought land outside Tarago, near Canberra, where Keith worked as a public servant, and were looking for a line of small cattle that would suit a compact holding. They had been running superfine-wool Merino sheep, but the bottom had fallen out of the wool market and they were keen to turn to smaller-sized cattle that would be easier to maintain and simpler for inexperienced people to own.

The trouble was that all the breeds they looked at didn't have what they were seeking: purity of genetics without "grading up", an even line throughout the breed and affordability.

Keith was a canary breeder, so he knew something about genetics – the principles

of breeding remain the same no matter what the breed or species. So Keith and Moira were seeking a breed uncompromised by infusions from other strains.

Around mid-1992, the answer came in an advertisement in *The Canberra Times* offering Australian Lowlines for sale. The purveyor was Des Owens, who had recently bought stock from the Trangie Research Station. Keith, Moira and Moira's father (who was born and raised on a farm and knew a fair bit about cattle) visited and inspected the cows. They were really impressed and next day were the owners of two cows with heifer calves at foot and two older heifers ready for joining. Thus was Keimoi Lowline Stud born.

"The quality of the cattle stood out," Keith says. "They were not 'graded up' by cross breeding with other breeds of cattle; the Lowlines had a consistent type and look ... they were very obviously beef animals."

Keith and Moira were so taken with their beasts they attended the final dispersal sale at Trangie in October, 1993. They bought another two cows with calves at foot and a bull, K085, whose half brother, K208, was acquired a couple of years later.

Continued p 28 ➤



# COLOMBO PARK



## AUSTRALIAN LOWLINES



*Tannhauser, still holds the record for the largest EMA scan at an Aust Royal - 120cm sq. at Canberra Lowline Feature Show 2003*



*Xerxes, the great looker, that went to Kobblevale... and now they have Bartok too*



*Zeffirelli, up at Vitulus...*

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# A LONG love affair



Alliance Lowline Stud.

"As soon as the cattle leave here we share," says Jeanette. "He [Gary] has the land, and I supply it with the cattle, so it's all on a share basis."

The Stebbins have sent eight live animals and dozens of embryos to Hermantown and they have a part ownership in recipients there.

Jeanette says the cattle have adapted well to Minnesota's winter extremes and enjoy being calved down in a warm barn. The cattle are all hand-fed because the grass is covered in snow from November to May.

The partnership has done more than disseminate elite genetics. In January this year, the Grand Champion Bull at the National Stock Show at Denver was sired by the Stebbins' Ardrossan Neron.

Jeanette and Peter have seen a number of changes during the past 18 years. They started the promotion group in Victoria with Jeanette as inaugural chair. She also served on the ALCA Council in the early days, as did Peter later on.

She 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 early days of ALCA were a bit of a boys' club and "the meetings were quite fiery". And there were

some who just wanted a quick buck.

"A lot of people came in and they wanted to be millionaires tomorrow [but] Peter and I were in for the long haul... We really believe in the breed and the commercial side of things now. We've progressed from those early days, and a lot of people, if they didn't make any money, they got out quick smart. A lot of them didn't do the hard toil."

She says the major change during the past 18 years is the increasing focus on commercialisation.

"We just had to go commercial," she says. "There's not many stud animals being sold at the moment, but we're busy selling bulls to dairy farmers down here. We've had to find another angle as well as our export business."

Jeanette was also one of the early advocates of keeping the breed at the same size rather than breeding them down, as some early members sought. "All certain breeders wanted was small, small, small. I could see no viability in the smaller animals," she says.

The stud's current location at Princetown has seen a move from a 500mm rainfall area to a more reliable rainfall 1000mm (40 inches).

"This is heaven. It's just absolutely wonderful for cattle raising, even though we have mud in the winter we don't get sore feet or anything like that. And you're not lying in bed wondering where you're going to move the cattle tomorrow

because you haven't got any grass."

Jeanette says that she tries not to compare Lowlines with other beef breeds. However, when pressed, she admits that they suit small acreages, are docile, are good eating "and they're just a joy to work with".

"They suit people who haven't got a lot of experience. I mean even in the yards, they don't knock your yards around or anything like that."

And would she do it all over again?

"Yes, if I was 30 years younger. That's the only thing that's against me at the moment, I'm 60 and I wish I was 30 years younger because I've got a lot of things I could do with Lowlines; a lot of things."

It's that love of farming. It just won't go away. ■



# UNSEASONED SUCCESS

**“We’ve got videos of that first judging and the people are just packed around the judging ring.”**

## From p 25

The average price of the 115 animals on sale that day was \$1984.35.

In those days of the early to mid 1990s, the fledgling ALCA was keen to promote the breed through showing. And, though Brisbane Royal saw the first public display of Lowline cattle in 1994, it was the Royal Easter Show in Sydney the following year that witnessed a frenzy of public interest.

This had been whipped up because of the earlier campaign to save the remainder of the Trangie herd from the abattoir, as the Department of Agriculture had been threatening after the growth rate experiment had been terminated. Don Burke (who, along with Ian Pullar and Des Owens, was also a foundation member) had been especially effective in tugging the public’s heartstrings on his TV show.

Keith and Moira found themselves exhibiting cattle for the first time in the midst of this tumult at Sydney Royal.

“That first show in Sydney was an amazing experience,” says Moira. “Never

having shown before, we stepped into the limelight with this new breed and there’s all these TV cameras and TV personalities wanting to interview you and talk to you.

“We just completely stepped straight off the farm into this miasma of people and publicity.”

Keith found himself being interviewed by both local and international TV crews. “The first show was hectic, but it was really, really exciting to be in there with a new breed,” he says.

Keith: “We’ve got videos of that first judging and the people are just packed around the judging ring.”

Moira: “They were three or four deep all around the ring and all the stands were full.”

By this time, Keimoi had moved to a larger 40-hectare (100-acre) farm near Goulburn and by 1996 the couple were engaged in embryo transfer work. They exported a couple of dozen embryos (as well as live cattle) to the US “when the prices were heady” and heifers were

selling for \$10,000.

But while Keith and Moira were grateful for those early high prices, they were not in the game for short-term gain. They were more interested in the long haul and seeing the breed established properly.

Part of that was a resistance to reducing the size of the breed, as some people were calling for. In fact, one of their early bulls was cheaper to buy because, while well within the breed’s size restraints, he showed a little more size than others.

Moira says it’s very difficult to get pure Lowlines any bigger than they are.

“We found we didn’t want to get too small an animal,” she says. “We wanted to keep the meat qualities in there and we found if they kept getting smaller and smaller they kept getting weedier. There just didn’t look as though there’d be as much meat.”

Keith and Moira have seen a lot of changes during the past 18 years. The heady excitement of being part of a new breed was often balanced by the acrimony within breeder ranks.

The very first Annual General Meeting held in Canberra saw about 16 people in attendance.

However, it was at a later AGM at The Rocks in Sydney in 1994 that really saw the fur fly. “There were a lot of conflicting personalities and differences of opinion about where ALCA and the breed should be headed that’s for sure,” says Moira. “But that makes life interesting.”

“There were probably 70 or 80 people there and the AGM went all day, which is pretty unusual,” says Keith. “There was a lot of heated discussion, I suppose you could say,” he adds with a laugh.

Moira: “And you sort of wondered what you’d got yourself into.”

Keith: “We were a bit like babes in the



Keith at Camden Show in 1997.





Keith and John Hutt with Junior Champion Bull, Keimoi Kinsman at the Sydney Royal 2009

woods at that stage."

The politics of those early days soon settled down, however, and the new breed became a much slicker operation.

Keith says that one of the most significant changes seen during the past 18 years was when ABRI took over the secretarial duties of the Society.

"That was a big milestone, because that gave us more of a professional approach to running the Association," he says.

He also nominates the improvement in the standard of the stock as another achievement, "which is what you'd expect and hope".

"The quality of the animals at the show now is really good. I'm not saying it was bad before, but it has improved over the years."

A third highlight is the increase in the number of young people coming into the breed during the past few years.

Keith: "When it all started off I think we were about the youngest people and I was about 40-odd at that stage. We didn't have all the young people and school students that we have now. That's been really noticeable."

Is there more acceptance of the breed these days? "Definitely," they both answer.

"At some stages there was probably a bit of hostility from some of the Angus people," Keith says. "When we went to the shows we used to get a bit of a hard time, actually. Now we've got a lot of friends who are in other breeds and they

[Lowlines] have really been well accepted now.

"People can really see that Lowlines are a really good quality beef animals. And after some wins in carcase competitions they can see they really are a serious beef breed.

"I think some people might have thought it was just going to be a bit of a flash in the pan and the Lowlines would be gone again, but now after all this time they're still there and being feature breed in Sydney is reinforcing that."

So why are there only two studs remaining of the original 25 foundation members?

"Age," they reply in unison.

Keith: "As I said before, we were some of the youngest people in the Association at the time and Peter and Jeanette Stebbins are a similar age to us. I think it's just been a natural attrition of age."

Keith and Moira have both been very active at all levels of ALCA, including the National Council. Keith is the Association's immediate past Junior Vice President, he has chaired the Southern NSW Promotion Group, edited the *Journal* and sat on various committees, as has Moira. The couple have also been instrumental in organising the Muster Down Under at Sydney Royal.

They say it has been a rewarding experience, though at times "a bit of a tough haul".

"We've made a lot of friends and got a

lot of satisfaction out of seeing the breed grow," says Keith. "When we started, it was just centralised in NSW and then it spread around Australia and overseas."

And do they have any suggestions about where improvements can be made?

Keith: "The commercial attributes have to be consolidated. We've sort of started, but we need to concentrate on that more, because that is going to be the thing that will make or break the breed. At the moment we're tinkering around the edges.

"There's been a lot of distractions, I suppose, just getting the breed up and running and getting established overseas. There were a lot of opportunities available in stud breeding. Now the stud breeding has been consolidated and the natural way to go is to focus more on the commercial market."

If you ask Keith and Moira to nominate the advantages of Lowline cattle, their top four are: eating quality, docility, easy management and doing ability/hardiness. It's the latter aspect that has been proved on their property at Goulburn, where drought has been more constant than not during the past decade.

Keith and Moira have three daughters, who all live in Canberra, an hour by road away. These days Keith works three days a week for the Department of Health and Ageing in the national capital, while Moira works part-time from home for *Small Farms Magazine* as their livestock consultant.

They say they would be happy to wind down the operation and reduce stock numbers from the current 50 to 60 head as they approach their sixties. But they have no regrets about their extended role in the birth of a new breed and readily admit that if they had their time over they would do it all again.

"We love the cattle," says Moira. "You just go out there and walk around the paddocks and they just come up to you. They enjoy being around you, just as much as you around them. It's a real leveller. It's very grounding. You just walk out there and the cattle just settle your nerves."

## ROYAL CANBERRA SHOW CHAMPIONS

JUDGE: Graham Collins

February 27 - March 1, 2009. **NEXT SHOW:** February 26-28, 2010



**SENIOR & GRAND CHAMPION BULL**  
Elandra Park Angus, J & A Ristrom



**JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL**  
Rotherwood Cherokee, V M Gilbert



**SENIOR & GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE**  
Rotherwood Boxers Girl, V M Gilbert



**JUNIOR CHAMPION FEMALE**  
Trungley Jessie's Jem, B & B Higgins

## ROYAL SYDNEY SHOW CHAMPIONS

JUDGE: Bill Almond

April 9-22, 2009. **NEXT SHOW:** April 1-14, 2010



**SENIOR & GRAND CHAMPION BULL**  
Urila Claudius, WJ & HM Belton



**JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL**  
Kemoi Kinsman, Keith & Moira Smith



August 6-15, 2009. **NEXT SHOW:** August 5-14, 2010



**SENIOR CHAMPION BULL**  
Southern Cross Comet, A Woodford & C Burns

**PHOTO NOT SUPPLIED**  
**JUNIOR & GRAND CHAMPION BULL**  
Weeroona Cracker, Weeroona Lowlines



**SENIOR & GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE**  
Vitus Beauty Queen, ET, M Hayes



**JUNIOR CHAMPION FEMALE**  
Vitus Duchess, M Hayes



**SENIOR & GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE**  
Allambie Moonbeam, R&P Miller & T Breuer



**JUNIOR CHAMPION FEMALE**  
Allambie Jazzlyn, R&P Miller & T Breuer

## ROYAL ADELAIDE SHOW CHAMPIONS

JUDGE: Ian Durkin

September 4-12, 2009. **NEXT SHOW:** September 3-11, 2010



**SENIOR CHAMPION BULL**  
Wahroonga West Frankie, CM & BR Millard



**JUNIOR & GRAND CHAMPION BULL**  
Argio Park Frank, R & G De Koning



**SENIOR CHAMPION FEMALE**  
Argio Park Takarri, R & G De Koning



**JUNIOR & GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE**  
Argio Park Miranda Star, R & G De Koning

## ROYAL PERTH SHOW CHAMPIONS

JUDGE: Erica Halliday

September 4-12, 2009. **NEXT SHOW:** September 3-11, 2010



**SENIOR & GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE**  
Harcourt Juniper, Harcourt Lowlines



**JUNIOR CHAMPION FEMALE**  
Harcourt Katrina, Harcourt Lowlines



September 17-27, 2009. **NEXT SHOW:** September 18-28, 2010



**SENIOR & GRAND CHAMPION BULL**  
Whitby Farm Freeman, K & G Lorains



**JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL**  
Ausbred Dynamite, International Animal Health



**SENIOR & GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE**  
Lilliput Dame Margo, G Podbury & B Crowley



**JUNIOR CHAMPION FEMALE**  
Urila Delight, WJ & HM Belton

JUDGE: Lucy Newham

**ROYAL NEW ZEALAND CHAMPIONS**



**SENIOR CHAMPION FEMALE**  
Woolstone Park Black Stella, PA & KI Worthington



**JUNIOR CHAMPION & SUPREME FEMALE**  
Woolstone Park Black Barina, PA & KI Worthington

# METROPOLITAN ROYAL SHOW RESULTS

## ADELAIDE

Judge: Ian Durkin

### Cow or heifer, 10 months & under 16 months

1. Argio Park Miranda Star, R & G De Koning
2. Wahroonga West Donella, CM&BR Millard

### JUNIOR CHAMPION COW OR HEIFER

Argio Park Miranda Star, R & G De Koning

### Cow 30 months and over

1. Argio Park Takarri, R & G De Koning
2. Wahroonga West Victoria, CM & BR Millard
3. Culloden Iona ET, P & S Foureux

### SENIOR CHAMPION COW

Argio Park Takarri, R & G De Koning

### GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE

Argio Park Miranda Star, R & G De Koning

### Bull 10 months and under 16 months

1. Argio Park Frank, R & G De Koning
2. Karlee Park Desperado, P & S Foureux
3. Grant High School Royal Zoose, Grant High School

### JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL

Argio Park Frank, R & G De Koning

### Bull 20 months and under 30 months

1. Wahroonga West Frankie, CM & BR Millard
2. Wahroonga West Fraser, CM & BR Millard

### Bull 30 months and over

Karlee Park Bourban, P & S Foureux

### SENIOR CHAMPION BULL

Wahroonga West Frankie, CM & BR Millard

### GRAND CHAMPION BULL

Argio Park Frank, R & G De Koning

### SUPREME CHAMPION LOWLINE EXHIBIT

Argio Park Frank, R & G De Koning

## Sire's Progeny Group

Wahroonga West Francis, CM & BR Millard

### Breeders' Group

1. R & G De Koning
2. CM & BR Millard

### MOST SUCCESSFUL EXHIBITOR

R & G De Koning

## BRISBANE

Judge: Michael O'Sullivan

### Junior heifer 8 months and under 12 months

1. Kobblevale Isa ET, Kobblevale Enterprises
2. Kobblevale Roma ET, Kobblevale Enterprises
3. Weeroona Dolores, Weeroona Lowlines

### Junior heifer 12 months and under 14 months

1. Vitulus Duchess, M Hayes
2. Lik Lik Destiny, JMP Schiller
3. Weeroona Diamond, Weeroona Lowlines

### Junior heifer 16 months & under 18 months

1. Kougari Donatella, Kougari Lowlines
2. Kobblevale Skye ET, Kobblevale Enterprises
3. Vitulus Dame Kimberly, M Hayes

### Junior heifer 18 months & under 20 months

Allambie Lemon Pepper, Weeroona Lowlines

### JUNIOR CHAMPION HEIFER

Vitulus Duchess, M Hayes

### RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION HEIFER

Lik Lik Destiny, JMP Schiller

### Junior bull 8 months and under 12 months

1. Weeroona Dynamite, Weeroona Lowlines
2. Ausbred Dynamite, Ausbred Lowlines
3. Kobblevale Quilpie ET, Kobblevale Enterprises

### Junior bull 12 months and under 14 months

1. Ausbred Dominator, Ausbred Lowlines
2. Tanview DJ, KR & TL Falkenhagen
3. Vitulus Desirabull, M Hayes

### Junior bull 14 months and under 16 months

Tanview Duke, KR & TL Falkenhagen

### Junior bull 16 months and under 18 months

Kobblevale Investigator ET, Kobblevale Enterprises

### Junior bull 18 months and under 20 months

1. Weeroona Cracker, Weeroona Lowlines
2. Kougari Da Vinci, Kougari Lowlines

### JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL

Weeroona Cracker, Weeroona Lowlines

### RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL

Weeroona Dynamite, Weeroona Lowlines

### Heifer 24 months and under 30 months

1. Kougari Champagne, Kougari Lowlines
2. Pittsworth Curriculum, Pittsworth SHS

### Cow or heifer 30 months & under 48 months

1. Vitulus Beauty Queen ET, M Hayes
2. Vitulus Belle Epoque ET, M Hayes
3. Allambie Clarevalley, JMP Schiller

### SENIOR CHAMPION COW

Vitulus Beauty Queen ET, M Hayes

### RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION COW

Vitulus Belle Epoque ET, M Hayes

### GRAND CHAMPION COW

Vitulus Beauty Queen ET, M Hayes

### Bull 20 months and under 24 months

1. Southern Cross Comet, A Woodford & C Burns
2. Lik Lik Commander-in-Chief, JMP Schiller



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3. Tanview Country Boy, KR & TL Falkenhagen

**Bull 24 months and under 30 months**

1. Kougari Cromwell, Kougari Lowlines

2. Vitulus Champion, M Hayes

**Bull 30 months and under 42 months**

1. Kougari Bazooka, Kougari Lowlines

2. Elandra Park Blitz, Weeroona Lowlines

**SENIOR CHAMPION BULL**

Southern Cross Comet, A Woodford & C Burns

**RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION BULL**

Kougari Bazooka, Kougari Lowlines

**GRAND CHAMPION BULL**

Weeroona Cracker, Weeroona Lowlines

**MOST SUCCESSFUL EXHIBITOR**

Weeroona Lowlines

**Pair of females**

M Hayes

**Breeders group**

Weeroona Lowlines

**Group of three bulls**

Weeroona Lowlines

**Progeny stakes**

M Hayes

**CANBERRA**

Judge: Graham Collins

**Bull over 9 months and under 12 months**

Serena Downs Captain Arthur, C&M Noel

**Bull over 12 months and under 15 months**

Trungley Nugget, B & B Higgins

**Bull over 15 months and under 18 months**

Rivenmead Alpha Romeo, H N Hollis

**Bull over 18 months and under 20 months**

1. Rotherwood Cherokee, V M Gilbert

2. Lilliput Lord Crowley, G E Podbury

**Bull over 24 months and under 30 months**

Trungley Black Marble, B & B Higgins

**Bull over 30 months**

Elandra Park Angus, J&A Ristrom

**JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL**

Rotherwood Cherokee, V M Gilbert

**RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL**

Lilliput Lord Crowley, G E Podbury

**RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION BULL**

Trungley Black Marble, B & B Higgins

**SENIOR AND GRAND CHAMPION BULL**

Elandra Park Angus, J&A Ristrom

**Heifer 15 months and under 18 months**

1. Trungley Jessie's Jem, B & B Higgins

2. Rivenmead Chery Blossom, H N Hollis

3. Elle Kay Macpherson, L&L Kuipers

**Heifer 18 months and under 20 months**

1. Rotherwood Cherish, VM Gilbert

2. Meszline Charlotte, S Meszaros

3. Keimoi Prudence, C&M Noel

**Heifer 20 months and under 24 months**

1. Allambie Topaz, P Phillips

2. Meszline Ceres, S Meszaros

3. Kobbaleve Aurora, L&L Kuipers

**Cow or heifer 24 months & under 30 months**

1. Rotherwood Boxers Girl, VM Gilbert

2. Lilliput Lady Bionce, GE Podbury

3. Ashdanvid Blizabeth, A Kuipers

**Cow over 30 months**

1. Allambie Sunshine, P Phillips

2. Allambie Clareville, Ausbred Lowlines

3. Trungley Sapphire, B & B Higgins

**JUNIOR CHAMPION FEMALE**

Trungley Jessie's Jem, B & B Higgins

**RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION FEMALE**

Rotherwood Cherish, VM Gilbert

**SENIOR AND GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE**

Rotherwood Boxers Girl, VM Gilbert

**RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION FEMALE**

Lilliput Lady Bionce, GE Podbury

**SUPREME CHAMPION OF THE BREED**

Elandra Park Angus

**Progeny Group**

1. Rotherwood Boxer, VM Gilbert

2. Trungley Princestone, B & B Higgins

**Breeders group**

1. VM Gilbert 2. B & B Higgins

**MELBOURNE**

Judge: Michael Milner

**Heifer 12 to 15 months**

1. Urila Duchess, W J & H M Belton

2. Rotherwood Dream Girl, V & P Gilbert

3. Urila Deva, WJ & HM Belton

**Heifer 15 to 18 months**

1. Elandra Park Dotti, A & J Ristrom

2. Yerrinbank Dart, Barham High School

**Heifer 18 to 20 months**

1. Urila Delight, W J & H M Belton


2. Barregowa Delight, G & S Turnham

**Heifer 20 to 24 months**

1. Lilliput Lady Catherine, G Podbury & B Crowley

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# METROPOLITAN ROYAL SHOW RESULTS

2. Barregowa Celebration, G & S Turnham

## **Cow or heifer 24 to 30 months**

1. Yerrinbank Canning, Barham High School
2. Rotherwood Cherish, V & P Gilbert
3. Elandra Park Charm, A & J Ristrom

## **Cow or heifer 30 to 36 months**

1. Whitby Farm Ruby, K & G Lorains
2. Barregowa Marlowe, G & S Turnham

## **Cow 36 months and over**

1. Lilliput Dame Margo, G Podbury & B Crowley
2. Barregowa New Dawn, G & S Turnham
3. Monte Allegro Roberta, Mrs C & Dr M Noel

## **Bull 9 to 12 months**

Ausbred Dynamite, International Animal Health

## **Bull 12 to 15 months**

1. Rotherwood Diablo, V & P Gilbert
2. Lilliput Lord Denzel, G Podbury & B Crowley
3. Elandra Park Dreamboat, A & J Ristrom

## **Bull 15 to 18 months**

1. Barregowa Bendigo, G & S Turnham
2. Ausbred Dominator, International Animal Health

## **Bull 18 to 20 months**

Serena Downs Captain Arthur AI, Mrs C & Dr M Noel

## **Bull 20 to 24 months**

Lilliput Lord Charles, G Podbury & B Crowley

## **Bull 24 to 30 months**

1. Rotherwood Cherokee, V & P Gilbert
2. Elandra Park Cowboy, A & J Ristrom

## **Bull over 30 months**

1. Whitby Farm Freeman, K & G Lorains
2. Wanamara Guinness, G & J Knight

## **Best three head**

1. G Podbury & B Crowley:
2. V & P Gilbert:
3. G & S Turnham:

## **Sire's progeny group**

1. By Urila Monsieur Bean, WJ & HM Belton
2. By Rotherwood Boxer, V&P Gilbert

## **Group prize: best two bulls**

1. International Animal Health
2. V & P Gilbert
3. G Podbury & B Crowley

## **JUNIOR CHAMPION HEIFER.**

Urila Delight, WJ & HM Belton

## **RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION HEIFER**

Urila Duchess, WJ & HM Belton

## **SENIOR CHAMPION COW.**

Lilliput Dame Margo, G Podbury & B Crowley

## **RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION COW**

Elandra Park Bombshell, A & J Ristrom

## **GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE**

Lilliput Dame Margo, G Podbury & B Crowley

## **JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL**

Ausbred Dynamite, Int. Animal Health

## **RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL**

Rotherwood Diablo, V & P Gilbert

## **SENIOR CHAMPION BULL**

Whitby Farm Freeman, K & G Lorains

## **GRAND CHAMPION BULL**

Whitby Farm Freeman, K & G Lorains

## **SUPREME EXHIBIT**

Lilliput Dame Margo, G Podbury & B Crowley

## **MOST SUCCESSFUL EXHIBITOR**

G Podbury & B Crowley

## **SYDNEY**

Judge: Bill Almond

## **Heifer 9 months & not over 12 months**

1. Weeroona Diamond, Colin Woodard
2. Tralin Black Silk, Mrs Pauleen Spackman

## **Heifer 12 months & not over 16 months**

1. Allambie Lemon Pepper, R&P Miller & T Breuer
2. Kobblevale Skye, P A Labrie

3. Lik Lik Diamantina, JMP Schiller

## **Heifer 16 months & not over 20 months**

1. Allambie Jazzlyn, R&P Miller & T Breuer
2. Lilliput Lady Catherine, G Podbury

3. The Windmill Cecelia, G & J Hallam

## **JUNIOR CHAMPION FEMALE**

Allambie Jazzlyn, R&P Miller & T Breuer

## **RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION FEMALE**

Lilliput Lady Catherine, G Podbury

## **Female over 20 months & not over 24 months**

1. Allambie Perfect Princess, J & D Sainsbury
2. Kobblevale Aurora, LA & LM Kuipers

3. Allambie Cinamont, Colin Woodard

## **Female over 24 months & not over 30 months**

1. Pittsworth Curriculum, Pittsworth SHS
2. Tanview Baby Eve, K&T Falkenhagen

3. Trungley Pebbles, B & B Higgins

## **Female over 30 months**

1. Allambie Moonbeam, R&P Miller & T Breuer

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**SYDNEY 2010**



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2. Monte Allegro Roberta, C&M Noel

3. Elandra Park Bombshell, J Ristrom

**SENIOR CHAMPION FEMALE**

Allambie Moonbeam, R&P Miller & T Breuer

**RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION FEMALE**

Allambie Perfect Princess, J&D Sainsbury

**GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE**

Allambie Moonbeam, R&P Miller & T Breuer

**Bull 9 months & not over 12 months**

1. Ausbred Dominator, International Animal Health

2. Tanview DJ, K&T Falkenhagen

3. Trungley Black Lava, K E Jarvis

**Bull 12 months & not over 16 months**

1. Serens Downs Captain Arthur, C&M Noel

2. Weeroona Cracker, Colin Woodard

3. Eureka Quota, EA & PA Labrie

**Bull 16 months & not over 20 months**

1. Keimoi Kinsman, Keith & Moira Smith

2. Elandra Park Cowboy, J Ristrom

3. Allambie Capital Gain, R&P Miller & T Breuer

**JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL**

Keimoi Kinsman, Keith & Moira Smith

**RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL**

Elandra Park Cowboy, J Ristrom

**Bull 20 months & not over 24 months**

1. Urila Claudius, WJ&HM Belton

2. Kougari Cromwell, M Smith

3. Southern Cross Casanova, G&J Knight

**Bull 24 months & not over 30 months**

1. Elandra Park Blitz, J Ristrom

2. Wanamara Guinness, G & J Knight

3. Brindabella Bogong, Colin Woodard

**Bull 30 months & not over 36 months**

1. Lik Lik Blinky, JMP Schiller

2. Allambie Black Pepper, R&P Miller & T Breuer

3. Trungley Tyrol, B & B Higgins

**SENIOR CHAMPION BULL**

Urila Claudius, WJ & HM Belton

**RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION BULL**

Elandra Park Blitz, J Ristrom

**GRAND CHAMPION BULL**

Urila Claudius, WJ & HM Belton

**Two bulls not over 24 months**

G & J Knight

**Best exhibit**

Urila Claudius, WJ & HM Belton

**Roger Barlow Perpetual Trophy**

Urila Claudius, WJ & HM Belton

**PERTH**

Judge: Erica Halliday

**Bull born between 1/1/2008 and 30/4/2008**

Holiwell D067, Holiwell Lowlines

**JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL**

Holiwell D067, Holiwell Lowlines

**Bull born on or before 31/12/2007**

2. Harcourt Boris, Harcourt Lowlines

**Female born between 1/5/2008 and**

**31/12/2008**

1. Harcourt Katrina, Harcourt Lowlines

2. Harcourt Snowpea, Harcourt Lowlines

**JUNIOR CHAMPION FEMALE**

Harcourt Katrina, Harcourt Lowlines

**Female born on or before 31/12/2008**

1. Harcourt Junipa, Harcourt Lowlines

2. Harcourt Solitaire, Harcourt Lowlines

**SENIOR CHAMPION FEMALE**

Harcourt Junipa, Harcourt Lowlines

**GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE**

Harcourt Junipa, Harcourt Lowlines

**Progeny group**

Harcourt Lowline Stud

**ROYAL NZ (Canterbury)**

Judge: Lucy Newham

**Cow 3 years and over**

1. Woolstone Park Black Stella, PA & KI

Worthington

2. Woolstone Park Black Jewel, PA & KI

Worthington

**Cow 2 years**

1. Ashmore Casandra, GR & DA Guthrie

2. Woolstone Park Black Bounty, PA & KI

Worthington

3. Woolstone Park Black Bijou, PA & KI

Worthington

**CHAMPION SENIOR FEMALE**

Woolstone Park Black Stella, PA & KI

Worthington

**RESERVE CHAMPION SENIOR FEMALE**

Ashmore Casandra, GR & DA Guthrie

**Heifer senior yearling**

1. Woolstone Park Black Barina, PA & KI

Worthington

2. Woolstone Park Black Cresta,

**Heifer junior yearling**

1. Ashmore Jordan, GR & DA Guthrie

2. Woolstone Park Black Legacy, PA & KI

Worthington

3. Woolstone Park Black Viva, PA & KI

Worthington

**CHAMPION YEARLING HEIFER**

Woolstone Park Black Barina

**RESERVE CHAMPION YEARLING HEIFER**

Ashmore Jordan, GR & DA Guthrie

**Bull two years and over**

1. Woolstone Park Black Spencer, PA & KI

Worthington

2. Woolstone Park Black Stirling, PA & KI

Worthington

**CHAMPION SENIOR BULL**

Woolstone Park Black Spencer

**RESERVE CHAMPION SENIOR BULL**

Woolstone Park Black Stirling, PA & KI

Worthington

**Bull senior yearling**

1. Woolstone Park Black Avenger, PA & KI

Worthington

**Bull junior yearling**

1. Woolstone Park Black Statesman, PA & KI

Worthington

2. Woolstone Park Black Cadillac, PA & KI

Worthington

**CHAMPION YEARLING BULL**

Woolstone Park Black Statesman, PA & KI

Worthington

**RESERVE CHAMPION YEARLING BULL**

Woolstone Park Black Avenger, PA & KI

Worthington

**SUPREME CHAMPION LOWLINE**

Woolstone Park Black Barina, PA & KI

Worthington

**Two yearlings bred by exhibitor**

1. Ashmore Lowlines, GR & DA Guthrie

2. Woolstone Park Lowlines, PA & KI

Worthington

3. Woolstone Park Lowlines, PA & KI

Worthington

**Bull and two females**

Woolstone Park Lowlines, PA & KI

Worthington

**Two animals by one sire or one dam**

1. Woolstone Park Lowlines, PA & KI

Worthington

2. Ashmore Lowlines, GR & DA Guthrie.



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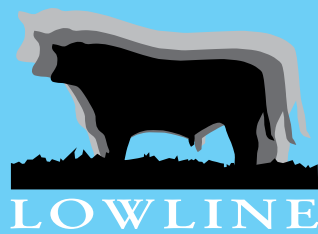
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## Lowline Plus

Lowline Plus had a busy year with Beef 2009 being our main event. This year has got off to a great start with an amazing number of new members. Everyone is looking forward to feature breed status at the Royal Easter Show, Sydney. Lowline Plus will also be providing financial assistance to its members to help with cattle transport costs for this fantastic occasion.

**May: Beef 2009 – the biggest Beef Expo in the Southern Hemisphere.** A wonderful display of Lowline cattle. It was also nice to meet the new members in North Queensland. They were very warm and generous in their hospitality organising dinners, hay etc. Congratulations to Lik Lik for showing Grand Champion Bull and Allambie for showing Grand Champion Female. Thank you also to Phil Worthington from NZ for doing such a great job of judging. Lowline Plus was able to provide financial assistance to its members for transport costs.

**July 11: Laidley Show – Lowlines win the day.** Congratulations to Vitulus with Junior Champion Bull, Lik Lik with Junior

Champion Female, Goomburra with Senior, Grand and Grand Champion British breed bull on their first showing ever and to Lik Lik with Senior, Grand, British, Interbreed Female and Supreme Exhibit of the show. A fantastic achievement for the Lowline breed.

**August 13: Brisbane Show.** With nearly 50 entries, the breed was well represented. Following the completion of judging drinks and finger food were provided, by both Queensland promotion groups, in the sheds. A fun night was had by all.

**November: Youth sponsorship to New Zealand.** Each year as part of the Toowoomba Ag show activities Lowline Plus provides funding for a Queensland Lowline youth member to travel to New Zealand as an Associate Judge for the Royal Canterbury Show in Christchurch. Airfares and travel insurance are provided and the winner is billeted with New Zealand Lowline members.

Congratulations to Lincoln McKinlay from the Pittsworth State High School, who was last year's winner. It is a wonderful opportunity to travel overseas, be an

ambassador for the Australian Lowline Association and experience judging at an international royal show.

Congratulations also to our most enthusiastic youth member, Christina Schiller, for being chosen as one of ALCA's Youth Ambassadors to travel to Denver, USA, in January this year. Christina was an excellent representative for the breed and we are very proud of her achievements.

– Margo Hayes (Chairperson)

## Queensland

QPGA had a relatively quiet year interrupted by the biggest cattle expo in the southern hemisphere. Our activity with Beef 2009 was to provide the attendees with a wonderful dinner held at Glenmore Homestead. A big thank you to George and Judy Birbeck for organising and providing what I thought to be the highlight of the week socially. Thank you to all the people who attended – hope you had a wonderful time.

Dennis Hickey attended the Caboolture Farm Fantastic putting on a display





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of animals. From all reports a very successful weekend with many inquiries. Congratulations Dennis.

I would draw members' attention to the ALCA-produced leaflets trialled at Beef 2009. So far we have four different leaflets pushing four different aspects of Lowline production. If you are attending a display or show and you would like to have information leaflets please contact me and I will send you some. ALCA has sent a number to all promotions groups and they are there for you to hand out.

Our breed has now moved northwards and I would like to welcome Stuart Liebmen and Steven Mereider to the Lowline fold. Both have started showing in the far north with impressive results. Steven had a great time in Malanda and Cairns shows while Stuart reports high interest when he showed at Tully. Congratulations to both and indeed to all exhibitors who have taken the time to prepare and show their animals.

We now look towards Sydney 2010. Congratulations to Lee Labrie, Paul Phillips and committee whose task it has been to

put Sydney together. So far, if plans come together, we are going to have one hell of a week.

Well that's it from a very wet Queensland. Our next event will be our AGM. Check the website and I will contact all members in the near future with a date.

– Tim Franzmann, President

## Southern Region, Victoria

An enthusiastic gathering of members of SRPG, including several new members, witnessed the first of last year's husbandry days. The day had been postponed several times due to the Victorian fires last summer, but was eventually held at Elandra Park, with the speaker for the day being Ian Moreland.


Some of the topics covered included halter breaking, leading, castration techniques, injections, muscle and fat cover, treatments for various cattle-related illnesses, and calving.

Ian gave a very comprehensive study of ➤

Right: Victoria's new promotional banner.

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# Lik Lik Lowlines



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cattle conformation, structure and traits related to better breeding. He explained in detail the correct structure to look for in breeding stock, demonstrating in some cases with skeletal sections he had brought.

He then ensured everyone put their "thinking cap on" and completed a judging sheet, which was then discussed. Many members took the occasion for a "hands-on" experience of handling cattle in the crush and tattooing.

A delicious barbecue lunch of Lowline beef (provided by Abaminga Stud), salads and other goodies provided by Committee members made for a very enjoyable and informative day.

Later in the year we held our AGM and Christmas in July Lunch, which enabled members to meet in an enjoyable social environment. Pre-lunch speaker, Ross Meredith, shared his wealth of knowledge on feeding and preparing cattle for the market. He also spoke of his experience preparing animals for carcass competitions, at which he has been quite successful. Ross was very thorough in his

explanations spending time explaining different aspects of feeding for good results.

In August, at the request of members, we held an Improve your Show Ring Techniques day with cattle judge, Melinda Kent. Leading, training, presentation and how to impress the judge were all covered. This was followed with a "video critique" following the hands-on ring practice. The cattle, venue and a scrumptious warming lunch (it was a cold, wet day) were kindly provided by the Ristrom family. It was revealing for those attending to discover how your presentation and ring craft can seriously affect the judge's final decision.

The Committee this year decided to give Southern Region Promotion Group a new look with the preparation of new A3 high quality DL brochures. They will be handed out at agricultural shows, field days and forwarded with information packages and, of course, by SRPG members themselves promoting their studs and Lowlines in Victoria. The brochures are complemented by a drop down colour banner which was very much admired at Royal Melbourne

Show. Work is in hand updating the SRPG website to give uniformity to the marketing tools used by the Promotion Group.

Royal Melbourne was again a resounding success with Australian Lowlines having a very respectable showing. Forty-plus animals were put before judge Ross Canning, who was very complimentary on the quality of cattle shown. At the conclusion of showing, SRPG held a presentation to the prize-winners followed by refreshments.

Quite a few SRPG members are continuing to improve the amount of beef sold direct to the public. It is an indication that Lowline beef is being taken seriously by the public and good news for Lowline breeders in Victoria. The Committee is aiming to organise a Marketing Lowline Beef forum for members over the next few months.

In the meantime there is Sydney Show and the Australian Lowline Cattle Muster Down Under. Good luck to all SRPG members entered and to the organisers. It should be fun.

— Joan Adams, Chairperson >

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## New Zealand: South Island

The Canterbury A&P Association is considering a high school teams competition in the beef cattle section to give them a chance to show cattle in the ring. The move comes after Woolstone Park Lowlines teamed up with eight Rangiora High School pupils in November at the Royal New Zealand Show in Christchurch.

The Rural Studies students were all show novices but helped with the preparation of the cattle at Philip and Kay Worthington's Rangiora property in the three weeks before the show and worked as part of the team for show week.

All thoroughly enjoyed the experience and have put their hands up for more. Their enthusiasm triggered the interest of Lowline and other beef breeders and the show committee is now investigating a special teams competition for students. One of the pupils who was part of the Woolstone team, Georgia Davies, is the South Island representative at the Lowline Youth Muster at April's Royal Easter Show at Sydney.

A spat over branding means that the Canterbury A&P Association will not host the Royal New Zealand Show in Christchurch this year. Christchurch had been due to host the Royal through until 2011 under a management agreement.

The Royal had previously rotated around five separate venues in the North and South Islands and it seems likely there will be no Royal show in New Zealand in 2010 because of the time involved in securing another venue. The Royal status of the Christchurch Show had added to the attraction for South Island Lowline breeders to use it as a showcase for the breed. However, we hope the competition will be just as strong at the November show even without the Royal tag.

Other local A&P shows that members attended were Ellesmere and Rangiora. Harvey and Sally Rhodes of Edsal Lowline Stud had great success with their heifer Edsal Belle at Rangiora. She was Champion Small Beef Breed, second in the All Breeds and runner-up to the Supreme Champion of the Beef Breed animals. As Harvey says he "loves the Rangiora Show as it is a great precursor to the Royal Show at Canterbury, the animals and I learnt a lot and it was fun". Ellis Wilson and Pamela Stuart of Nirvana Fields Lowlines did a promotional display with their animals at a Small Farm Field Day with the day including an auction of animals.

Finally we would like to congratulate Woolstone Park Lowlines for their tremendous effort at the NZ Royal Show held in November 2009. Woolstone Park

Lowlines did a clean sweep, winning all four champion titles. A great achievement and a well deserved result for the hard work they contribute to the breed.

– Debbie Guthrie, Secretary

## Western Australia

Lowlines were represented at the Brunswick Cattle Bonanza in March 2009, a young female show for all breeds. Harcourt Lowlines took three heifers and was very pleased to be placed second in two of the age classes. But most encouraging was the congratulations received from many of the non-Lowline exhibitors.

Harcourt also took a team of seven to the Perth Royal in September to keep the flag flying for Lowlines in WA. The highlight of the show was taking out the small breeds interbreed female with Harcourt Junipa with heifer calf at foot in a countback decision.

We have had several new members join the association and much interest for first cross heifers and bulls to mate heifers of other breeds. All in all we have kept a steady pace of activity through the year which is very encouraging.

We are planning to bring some females to Sydney for the feature breed muster at Easter so hope to see you there.

– David Collins, Chairman

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# PUPILreign

One New Zealand stud is set on a path to make youth show teams a far more common sight on the Kiwi show scene, while also promoting the superior aspects of the Lowline breed.

**T**EAMS of high school students showing cattle are common in Australia where the school showing circuit is strong and an integral part of the curriculum. In New Zealand that is not the case – yet.

One South Island stud keen for the schools program to gain momentum invited students from the local high school's rural studies department to become part of its team for the Royal New Zealand Show in Christchurch last year.

The premier show of the New Zealand show season, the Royal hosts cattle exhibitors from all over the South Island and some from the North, who make the trip south across Cook Strait for the three-day show each November. By the time the animals get home they have been on the road for up to a fortnight, so it is no small undertaking.

Woolstone Park Lowlines, owned by Philip and Kay Worthington, is near Rangiora, about 30km north of Christchurch, and the local high school,

Rangiora High School, is one of only two New Zealand schools with a farm attached.

Having students involved as a team in showing had been on Philip's mind for a

few years; last year the opportunity to offer a sponsored trip to the Youth Muster at the Royal Easter Show in Sydney as an incentive for one of the novice cattle >



Georgia Davies, winner of the trip to Sydney for the 2010 Easter Royal, leads the Supreme Champion Lowline, Woolstone Park Black Barina, in the Grand Parade.

## KIWI LOWLINE BREEDERS DIRECTORY

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lowline@casablanca.co.nz



LEFT: The Rangiora High School team at the NZ Royal – from left Chris Barber, Georgia Davies, Tegan McNeish, Joshua Archer, Rebecca Hennessey, and Hannah Stegehuis and, in front, Jessie Smith and April Donaldson. ABOVE: Teamwork – April Donaldson, Jessie Smith, and Rebecca Hennessey replenish bedding in the Woolstone Park stalls.

handlers, provided the impetus to get the school involved.

Woolstone Park Lowlines approached Rangiora High School with a proposal for students to join the stud's show team for the NZ Royal. In return the pupils would be entered in the young herdsman competition organised by the Canterbury A&P Association, which runs the Royal.

The best placed of the young Woolstone handlers in that competition would win the trip to Sydney and be attached to a show team there.

Eight pupils aged from 14 to 18 took up the challenge. A few others came twice to the farm as a group during class time, with teacher Robbie Fleck, to see the Lowline breed up close as part of their studies.

Those enthusiastic about the showing experience soon sorted themselves out. While some came from lifestyle blocks or had a farming background, none of them had experience of showing cattle, nor were any used to large animals other than ponies. A couple classified themselves as out-and-out townies.

In the fortnight leading up to the show they spent three hours a day after school and the whole day at weekends at Woolstone, working with the stud's cattle. They learned techniques of breaking in, leading, and preparation as well as fundamentals of stock judging, and becoming more familiar and confident with the show team of 13 animals, four with calves at foot.

By the end of the show all were at home with the animals and could confidently

lead any of them, including the three-year-old bull.

Days at the show were long – starting in the stalls as early as 5.30am and not finishing until 12 hours later. But, according to Philip, the team never flagged.

Mucking out the stalls, re-bedding and feeding the animals, washing them down and blow-drying them, or leading in competition and grand parades, the Rangiora pupils remained enthusiastic and willing – even when Christchurch turned on some nasty weather just as the Lowlines entered the judging ring.

"They worked as a team and took pride

in what they were doing. I think they got as big a kick out of the Woolstone successes as I did," Phillip said.

The stud won Supreme Champion Lowline as well as six of the eight other champion or reserve champion ribbons on offer.

All of the young handlers led in competition over the first two days and by the last day knew which of the stud's animals they would lead in the young herdsman competition. This consisted of two sections: they were judged first on their ability to lead and present their animals and second on their ability to



Jessie Smith introduces a Lowline calf to young members of the public in the Woolstone stalls.





ABOVE: The Woolstone Park Lowlines team leaving the stalls, Hannah Stegehuis in front. ABOVE RIGHT: Joshua Archer (left), Rebecca Hennessey, Chris Barber, and Georgia Davies wait with Rangiora High School teacher Robbie Fleck for their turn in the ring on Interbreed day. RIGHT: Jessie Smith leads the Reserve Junior Champion Bull, Woolstone Park Black Avenger, with two more of the Rangiora High School team, Hannah Stegehuis and Chris Barber, in the background. BELOW: Chris Barber with Reserve Senior Champion Bull, Woolstone Park Black Stirling, in the All Breeds class. BOTTOM: April Donaldson awaits her turn in the ring with the Champion yearling bull, Woolstone Park Black Statesman.

judge and comment on four similar animals of an entirely different breed, in this case yearling Simmental heifers.

The team acquitted themselves well, in spite of competing against almost three dozen young handlers up to the age of 24, most of whom were vastly more experienced and several of whom had travelled from the North Island to compete.

In their respective age groups the Rangiora pupils collected among them a medal and ribbon for judging and four ribbons for the combined scores. In the overall standings five of them placed in the top two thirds of the competition.

The best placed was Georgia Davies, 16, who will represent the stud at the Youth Muster in Sydney, where she will be attached to the Pittsworth High team from Queensland. She placed eighth out of 35 in the overall standings.

The other members of the team were Joshua Archer, Chris Barber, April Donaldson, Rebecca Hennessey, Tegan McNeish, Jessie Smith, and Hannah Stegehuis.

"They all exceeded my expectations and deserve full credit for what they have achieved," said Philip. "It

was great to see them grow in ability and confidence and I'd happily have them back with my team any time."

He said he was grateful to the school, particularly Robbie Fleck and Fiona Roberts of the rural studies department, for their support in getting the venture off the ground. He was also grateful to the pupils' parents for lending him their children for a week and agreeing to let them participate.

Subsequent feedback from pupils, parents, and the school has been very positive. Woolstone is keen to repeat the exercise, as are the students, and the Canterbury A&P is now looking at establishing a section for school teams as part of its focus on young handlers. ■



### Lik Lik Lowlines

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colin.schiller@bigpond.com

### Holiwell Lowline Cattle Stud

Kellie Paterson  
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08 9776 6046  
0419 918 209  
mail@walowline.com.au

### Ellekay Stud

Lana & Lucy Kuipers  
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Londonderry, NSW 2753  
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ellekaystud@hotmail.com

### Whitby Farm Stud

K & G Lorains  
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Zeerust Vic 3634  
03 5829 8294 0410 016 235  
whitbyfarm235@bigpond.com

## Hit and myth cow stories

We're grateful to Snopes.com for the following myths about cows.

**TRUE OR FALSE?** A crew of Japanese trawlermen were rescued from the sea after a cow falling from the sky had sunk their boat. It was later said that the Russian crew of a cargo plane had smuggled a cow on board, then shoved it out when it started rampaging while they were at 30,000 feet.

**NOT TRUE.** Someone in the German Embassy in Moscow invented the story and passed it on as a joke to a friend in the Foreign Ministry in Bonn. German newspapers got hold of the story and reported it as fact.

**TRUE OR FALSE?** McDonald's is the largest purchaser of cow eyeballs, which they use to fill out their beef patties.

**NOT TRUE.** If health authorities found just one eyeball in a beef patty McDonald's would have been closed down forever. Also, cow eyeballs are in demand for dissection in schools and are thus more expensive to buy than you'd think.

**TRUE OR FALSE?** Someone once wrote a cheque on the side of a cow and the bank was forced to honour it.

**NOT TRUE.** British writer A.P. Herbert created an eccentric character called Albert Haddock in Punch in 1924. The fictional Haddock was always involved in unusual legal situations. In 1967, the BBC brought the character back to life in a TV series called *Misleading Cases*, in one episode of which Haddock successfully wins a case forcing his bank to accept a cheque written on the side of a cow.

**TRUE OR FALSE?** Canadians paint the word "COW" in large letters on their beasts during hunting season so Americans seeking deer and moose to shoot won't kill their animals by mistake.

**NOT TRUE.** As Snopes says, it "is nought but a legend told in rural areas about members of citified groups deemed less savvy than their countrified counterparts".

## ALCA fees – all prices in \$A and include GST

Joining fee (once only) .....	\$110
Full membership .....	\$165
Commercial membership (plus full joining fee) .....	\$33
Associate membership (plus 20% joining fee) .....	\$33
Junior membership (plus 10% joining fee) .....	\$16.50
Special membership for schools (plus 10% joining fee) .....	\$16.50
Registration (bull) .....	\$38.50
– late registrations bulls > 12 months .....	\$77
Registration (female) .....	\$38.50
– late registrations females > 12 months .....	\$77
Transfers .....	\$33
Certificate re-issues .....	\$11
Donor AI sire registration .....	\$55
Compact Disc (CD) of registrations after FHB .....	\$11 (plus postage)
Addition of member's logo onto ALCA Website .....	\$55
Recording of flush of embryos (per flush) .....	\$16.50
Fee for lease of animal between two members of ALCA .....	\$66
Badges .....	\$5.50
Stickers .....	\$2.50
Additional hard cover folders .....	\$11
Mailing labels .....	11 cents per label

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# LILLIPUT LOWLINES

SIMPLY THE BEST



Lilliput Dame Margo – Supreme Exhibit Melbourne 2009

**WE DID IT AGAIN**

*Grand Champion Cow  
&  
Most Successful Exhibitor*

**FOUR YEARS IN A ROW**

*Are you sick of standing down the line?  
YOU NEED OUR GENETICS*

We believe Lilliput Lord Alkaloid has the qualities to revolutionise the lowline breed.  
Alkaloid is a multiple Champion Bull out of a fabulous female family.

This cow family has dominated Royal Melbourne Show (in the last four years) winning 13 Senior Broad Ribbons.

Alkaloid has stamped his qualities over the cows he has served and his calves have his Length, Volume, Structure and his fantastic Temperament.

*If you need convincing check out his calves at Sydney*

We will soon be able to offer embryos from Bionce, Anya and Flame by Alkaloid for Australia EU and US

**Registered Semen Available**



Lilliput Lord Alkaloid



Lilliput Dame Ellen 5 mths by Alkaloid and out of Margo

**We have for sale Cows, Heifers, Bulls, Semen and Embryos at Sensible prices**

All details on our website – [www.lilliputlowlines.com](http://www.lilliputlowlines.com)

**Enquiries to Bev Crowley or Graeme Podbury 1282 Trentham Rd Tylden 3444 Vic. Australia**

Ph/Fax +61 3 5424 8443 Mob: 0439038335 Email: [lilliput@netcon.net.au](mailto:lilliput@netcon.net.au)



# VITULUS LOWLINE STUD

**"Small Cattle with a BIG Steak in the Future"**

## LEADING THE BREED IN CARCASS COMPETITIONS

- 2009: Grand Champion & Champion Lightweight, Carcass Royal Brisbane
- 2009: Champion Heavyweight Carcass Royal Brisbane
- 2007: Grand Champion Carcass Royal Brisbane Show
- 2006: 1st MSA Eating Quality Awards Royal Brisbane Show
- 2005: 1st Light Weight Warwick Hoof & Hook Competition

## LEADING THE WORLD IN LOWLINE EXPORT GENETICS

- 2010: First Shipment of embryos and semen to Italy
- 2009: Siring Grand Champion Bull Denver, USA
- 2008: Siring Grand Champion Bull & Female Denver, USA
- 2008: Second Shipment of live cattle to Thailand
- 2006: First Shipment of live cattle to Thailand
- 2006: First shipment of embryos to England and Ireland
- 2005: Australian Record for semen rights to the USA
- 2003: First shipment of semen to Thailand

## SHOWING A SAMPLE OF OUR UNBEAT-ABULL RECORD

- 2009, 2008, 2006 Grand Champion Female Royal Brisbane Show
- 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999 Grand Champion Bull Royal Brisbane Show
- 2007, 2006, 2005, 2002, 2000 Royal Toowoomba Show Grand Champion Bull & Female

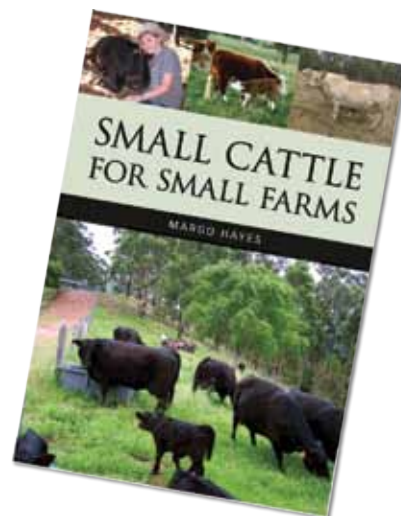
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We have been selling stud and commercial Lowline, chosen for their docility and beef producing qualities, for 14 years. We also have an extensive semen and embryo register qualified for domestic and international markets. Its all on our website along with our DVD and lots of useful resources and information.

- Find out about supplying our branded beef product [www.lowlinebeef.com.au](http://www.lowlinebeef.com.au)
- Purchase the book *Small Cattle for Small Farms* published by CSIRO
- Attend the *Small Cattle Care and Management Course*: practical on farm beginners guide to becoming involved with cattle



**Grand Champion Carcass  
2009**



**Vitulus Champion**

**Margo Hayes: 221 Mulgowie Rd. Thornton. Laidley. Qld. 4341**  
**Ph: 0413 153754 Email: [margo@lowline.com.au](mailto:margo@lowline.com.au)**  
**DON'T MISS OUR SMALL BREEDS OPEN DAY.**  
**SATURDAY 6th November 2010**

**[www.lowline.com.au](http://www.lowline.com.au)**