



Highland Fling

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JUNE 2019

WINTER 2019

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BIG RIVER HIGHLAND BEEF FLYING HIGH



Big River Highland Beef have hit the media again, being featured in the Business section of the inflight magazine of Rex Airlines, True Blue.

True Blue is a magazine dedicated to telling the stories of interesting Australian people and aims to capture the spirit of regional and outback Australia by exploring the industries that they work in and the places they call home. 1.2 million people travel on Rex Airlines annually and the magazine is seen by 100,000 people each month.



Commercial AHCS breeders Rebecca Tudor and Rebecca Lynd of Big River Highland Beef (Plenty, Tasmania) featured as interesting Australians in the Business section of the Dec 2018 / Jan 2019 issue of the inflight magazine for Rex Airlines, True Blue.

....Read the full True Blue Big River Highland Beef feature on page 8...



2019 National Highland Cattle Show & Sale



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10:00am



S
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3:00pm

(2018 National Show Supreme Exhibit - Caleb of Amrabull Park)

Sunday 9th June 2019 - Portarlington, Victoria



In conjunction with the
National Celtic Festival
(7th - 10th June 2019)



Elite Stud Stock Sale



(a chance to take home some of the cattle that are shown)

www.australianhighlandcattle.org/ahcs-national-show.html

Enquiries: highlandshow2019@outlook.com

YOUR COUNCIL

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HIGHLAND FLING COPY SUBMISSIONS CALENDAR

We would love to receive contributions from members around the country for future newsletters, to make the *Highland Fling* a true members' publication. Whether it is the story of how your Fold came to be, a learning experience or farm management piece, you and your coos on display or appearing in the media, or suggestions for future inclusions, we would love to hear from you!

Of course, your photos would be extremely welcomed too, as who doesn't enjoy getting a fix of looking at pictures of "Heilan' Coos"!

We cannot guarantee every article or photo will be published but we do appreciate all submissions.

Submission deadlines for each of the issues planned over the next 12 months are provided in the table below.

Send your articles, photos and ideas for content by email to The Editor, Alison Scott, at: publishing@australianhighlandcattle.org.

Issue	Submission Deadline
Spring 2019	1st August 2019
Summer 2019/20	1st November 2019
Autumn 2020	1st February 2020
Winter 2020	1st May 2020

REGISTRAR

All member applications and animal registrations are to be submitted to:

The Registrar - Laura Teege

Australian Highland Cattle Society Inc.
c/- ABRI, UNE Armidale, NSW 2351
email: highland@abri.une.edu.au
phone: 02 6773 3144

MERCHANDISE OFFICER

For orders or enquiries about AHCS Merchandise, contact the Merchandise Officer Scott Carter on phone 0438 815 610 or email amrabull_park@hotmail.com.

Disclaimer: The views expressed by contributors and claims made by advertisers are not necessarily endorsed by the AHCS. Although every effort is made to provide informative and accurate content, neither the Editor nor the AHCS take any responsibility for the accuracy of the information contained within this magazine, nor the outcome of any action taken by readers or others based on the information contained therein. We welcome contributions, however all articles will not necessarily be printed. All text or images contained within any publication or media produced by the Australian Highland Cattle Society Inc., is the intellectual property of the Society and as such cannot be reproduced without the express permission of the Society.

HIGHLAND CATTLE OR PRODUCTS FOR SALE??

If you are a current financial member, advertising of your registered Highland cattle or Highland cattle products on the AHCS website is free.



The AHCS Classifieds website enables Members to create their own ads directly online in any of the following six (6) categories:

- Stud Cattle For Sale
- Commercial Cattle For Sale
- Wanted To Buy
- Bulls For Lease
- Bull Semen Sales
- Highland Cattle Products

To create an ad, simply do the following:

1. Go to the AHCS Classifieds Home page at www.highlandcattle.org.au/classifieds;
2. Select the Category you would like to list your ad in;
3. Follow the prompts to "Publish a new advertisement";
4. Once you publish your ad, it will be submitted to our Moderator and, once approved, will appear as a listing in the relevant classifieds section.

If you require any assistance with uploading your ad or you have any questions about use of the Classifieds website, you can submit an enquiry through the Contact Form on the Classifieds website or alternatively send an email to Alison at publishing@australianhighlandcattle.org.



Join us on
Facebook

Did you know that the Society is on Facebook?

The AHCS Comms Committee hosts both a Facebook Page and Facebook Group in which society happenings can be communicated to members and the broader community.

Events such as the National Show and annual Photo Competition will be posted on these pages and, by joining up to the Facebook Group, you will receive alerts when member news items have been distributed.

You can join us by:

1. **Liking the Society's Official Page:** Search for Australian Highland Cattle Society Inc or go to direct link:

<https://www.facebook.com/australianhighlandcattlesociety/>



2. **Joining the AHCS Facebook Group:** Search for The Australian Highland Cattle Society Inc or go to direct link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/australianhighlandcattlesociety/>



AHCS WEBSITE

Want to check on the latest society news between newsletters?

Need to download Membership Application or Animal Registration Forms?

Want to look up the online pedigree of your Highland cattle or cattle you are considering purchasing?

Want to search for other breeders in your area?

You can do all this and more on the AHCS Website at:

www.highlandcattle.org.au



FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the 2019 Winter edition of the *Highland Fling*.

As I write this our annual **National Show is just around the corner** and it's looking to be an extra special event this year, being held **in conjunction with the National Celtic Festival** at Portarlington on the Bellarine Peninsula in Victoria. The show-ring is set to be a spectacle for the festival with almost 50 head of Highlands entered. This year's event will also see the running of the society's **inaugural Elite Stud Stock Sale**, giving breeders the opportunity to purchase animals exhibited at the show. A catalogue of animals up for auction has been emailed to members (if you missed it it is also available for download from the AHCS website at www.australianhighlandcattle.org/ahcs-national-show.html) and all sale animals have also been listed on the AHCS Classifieds website at www.ahcsclassifieds.org.

Our front cover for this issue features the "Bec's" from Plenty, Tasmania (Rebecca Lynd and Rebecca Tudor), after their **Big River Highland Beef commercial Highland operation again appeared in print**, this time taking to the skies, featuring in the Business pull-out of the inflight magazine for Rex Airlines, *True Blue*. You can read the full article on page 8.

Although we all know that Highlands are a premium beef animal, in this issue we look at some of the **other attributes that make the 'hairy coo' an animal of value** from page 10. Highlands are unique compared with other more mainstream breeds of beef cattle in that they don't solely or primarily rely on needing to prove themselves as a commercial beef animal in order for the breed to survive, with so many other features attracting a variety of breeders to invest in preserving the breed.

On page 12 we honour specifically the value of the Highland's long coat with an article on **crafting with Highland fibre** authored by AHCS member Erica Smith of Glenstrae Highlands, published in a recent issue of the *Indie Road* fibre magazine.

The Highland on its looks alone has wide appeal and lends itself well to an artistic and literary subject. On page 14 we read the story of **how Erica Smith became a published children's book author** and the evolution of her character "Kenzie the Highland coo".

For our Fold profile this edition, we travel overseas to the **Tilbouries Fold in UK** with an article that was published in the UK *Farmers Guardian*. The article contains a host of interesting information about the Tilbouries **purebred and crossbred Highland beef operation**, and how multiple breeds are run on the farm to complement each other and introduce hybrid vigour. Read about Tilbouries Fold on page 16.

We have some exciting news for meat producers in NSW with the **imminent launch of Australia's first fully-accredited mobile abattoir**. The "Provenir" enterprise was the brainchild of a chef, a vet and a farmer team, all concerned with implementing a solution that would provide optimum livestock welfare and meat quality by processing animals on-farm. Read about Provenir and their on-farm processing solution on page 18.

On a related topic, on page 42 our Tassie State Rep Craig McSwain reports on the **2018 Sprout Tasmania Cross-Pollinate Conference** that brought together like-minded **small meat producers looking for high welfare options for processing their livestock**, with strong interest in implementing amended legislation to permit on-farm processing.

With the **increased activity of animal activist extremists** over recent time and some members raising concern on how to manage such a threat, on page 20 we provide some **guidelines from the National Farmers' Federation on managing farm trespass**. And following on from our articles last issue about managing properties through drought, on page 21 we provide some information on **"FarmHub"**, a recently-released national online tool developed to assist Australian farmers suffering drought.



From page 22 we look at **methods of permanent ear-marking identification** of cattle, including detail on Australia's National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) and instructions on **NLIS ear-tagging**, followed by an instructional article on **how to tattoo** your cattle, in support of the transition to reintroduction of mandatory tattooing of all AHCS animal registrations from 1st January 2020.

Our **state round-ups** this issue (from page 27) show how busy our members and breeders groups have been, already **promoting the breed at several events across the country to kickstart 2019**.

Don't forget to check out the **latest Council News** on page 58, which includes announcement on the **implementation of three new form templates** designed to make our members' lives easier for commonly encountered issues when selling and transferring animals to new owners.

Happy reading and hope to see some of you at the National Show!

Alison

Alison Scott
Editor



From page 10 we consider the other attributes that make the Highland coo valuable over and beyond its role as a premium beef animal, including touching on the new wellness trend "Cow Cuddling".

ANIMAL REGISTRATION & TRANSFER RULES



***See below for a summary of some key regulation rules
regarding registration and transfer of AHCS animals.***

The full HerdBook Regulations can be downloaded from the website at www.highlandcattle.org.au.

If you have any questions about interpretation or application of the rules, please contact the Registrar during business hours for assistance on phone 02 6773 3144 or email highland@abri.une.edu.au. Enquiries can also be submitted via the AHCS website contact form at www.australianhighlandcattle.org/contact-us.html.

- Sellers, not buyers, are to pay animal transfer fees on the sale of an AHCS-registered animal.
- On sale of an animal, sellers are to submit animal registration certificates, with transfer details completed on the reverse, to the Registrar, accompanied by payment for corresponding transfer fees.
- Animal Registration and transfer fees are listed on the Fees Schedule available for download on the website.
- Only Full, Life and Junior financial members can register animals with the AHCS.
- Non-members can transfer animals but they are required to pay double transfer fees.
- The Registration status of an animal lapses when ownership passes to a non-member. On transfer of that animal to a financial member or change of status of the owner to financial member, the Registration status of the animal is automatically reinstated to active.
- Only a member being recorded as the registered owner of a cow on the date that cow has a calf can register that calf with the society.
- If a member did not own the sire of a calf they wish to register at the date of joining with the calf's dam, then a service certificate must be provided by the registered owner (as of joining date). The bull's owner must be a financial member of the AHCS for the registration to be accepted.
- Progeny of any bull born after 1st Jan 2009 can only be registered if a DNA number has been provided for that bull.
- Members are to ensure to always use the latest animal registration form (downloadable from website or obtain from Registrar).
- Only horned animals can be registered in the Purebred register.
- Progeny can be registered to an AI sire not owned by the registering member only if:
 - that AI sire has been correctly registered with the society;
 - the sire's semen is licensed; and
 - the registration application is accompanied by a valid AI service certificate.
- Progeny can be registered to an AI sire that has had semen collected privately (i.e. unlicensed) only if the registering member is the recorded owner of that sire at the time of service and all other normal registration rules are met.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

(joined between 12/04/19 - 30/05/2019)

FULL

JAY TUFFLEY, ARCADIA FOLD, VIC

COMMERCIAL

SAMANTHA LIMBERT, WILD DOG HIGHLANDERS, SA

MICHAEL WORTMAN, FOREST LODGE PTY LTD, TAS

ASSOCIATE

JUDY WASHINGTON & IAN GLASSPOOL, JARRAH GLEN CABINS, WA



BIG RIVER HIGHLAND BEEF FLIES HIGH

Land of Plenty

Article published in the December 2018/ January 2019 issue of True Blue, inflight magazine for Rex Airlines.



DOWN IN TASMANIA'S DERWENT VALLEY, JUST 40KM OUT OF HOBART, IS A LITTLE HAMLET CALLED PLENTY. ON THE FACE OF IT, THE NAME ALONE INVITES WOULD-BE "TREECHANGERS" TO COME AND FIND THEIR FORTUNE – AND THAT'S EXACTLY HOW THE STORY OF BIG RIVER HIGHLAND BEEF BEGINS.

Bec Lynd, born and bred in Tasmania, was living in Darwin in 2010, but dreamed of returning to her home state, finding both enough room to keep her horse and a way to live off-the-grid.

"Initially I wanted at least 100 acres," she says, "but I saw this place and just fell in love." The property she fell for and ultimately purchased had more than enough room at 200 acres, with a north-facing slope and a pleasing ratio of 60 per cent bush, 40 per cent cleared land. "I was trying to design the lifestyle I wanted," Lynd says. "The actual progression was pretty pragmatic." The property had no infrastructure when she bought it, missing both fencing and driveway, so there was a significant time investment needed. The area and its slope, while stunningly beautiful, experiences some of the highest



highs and lowest lows of Tasmanian weather patterns. It's a bushfire-prone zone, with rocky slopes, so this made the choice of livestock quite specific.

"sustainability means environmental, but it also means emotional, economic and financial sustainability."

"She investigated different options," says her partner, Bec Tudor, "and ended up with Highland cattle. They keep the grass down, and they're very hardy. They're not daunted by slopes, hills or dales, and they can handle weather extremes because their coats act as insulation, so they're very robust."

An added and very important bonus is how little extra farming interference is required by Highland cattle; they tend to

breed and feed quite independently, which was essential given that Lynd started her farming concern entirely solo.

However in 2013 she met Tudor, who was living in a small apartment in Hobart at the time. Cue treechange no.2.

"When I moved out to the farm in 2014 it was a huge lifestyle change," says Tudor. "I'd lived on hobby properties in rural areas and I loved visiting farms when I was a kid, but going 100 per cent off-grid was all a bit different."

By this time Lynd was running a significant fold of Highland cattle – as their herds are named –



including calves born in 2011. Her pragmatism governed what happened next.

"I only want animals with purpose, not just as fluffy pets," she says. "When I did more research and found out how good the meat is, I grew it."

So Big River Highland Beef was launched in 2015, just as those 2011 calves came of slaughter age. The fact that Lynd and Tudor let the animals mature for four years before slaughter is markedly different from bigger, supermarket-grade beef concerns that may send to the abattoir at one or two years of age – and that's the first of many differences that identify them as an ethical, sustainable and very much boutique business.

"That was part of our ethic from the beginning: market demand wouldn't change our philosophy about how we manage the



cattle,” says Tudor. “We have a strong sense of sustainability, and we care about the best welfare for the cattle and what works for us.

"We only supply to southern Tasmania – that's how boutique we are. The gourmet food market around this region is so strong that that's enough for us, and the chefs seem to appreciate it. We deliver our own beef to our customers, who are not paying for marketing or branding, just for the quality of meat itself. As for the animals, they've had the benefit of free ranging for those years, eating a variety of foods. It's not practical with our landscape to be sowing different grasses – the cows eat weeds and native and introduced grasses of their own accord, and are 100 per cent grass fed, all of which flows through into the flavour of the meat."

Highland cows are famously

visually striking, and come in a huge variety of colours, from red through to brindle, fawn, black and mahogany*. Lynd and Tudor are passionate about minimal waste, and get the hide of each slaughtered animal tanned by a northern Tasmanian grandfather-granddaughter team. Even the horns and skull sets are sun bleached and marketed as art. “The horns can be really quite spectacular objects in their own right,” says Tudor.

Their “hands off” way of raising the cattle is born of the surprising fact that both women still work full-time jobs – Lynd in the state ambulance service and Tudor at a museum. But they purposely keep the fold limited in number to suit the amount of feed available on the land. Although they can go up to 100 head of cattle, they are currently running just 60 head, which suits the current state of the property with the prospect of a long, dry

summer ahead. Having a higher slaughter age additionally means it's essential to look years ahead. However, the intentionally limited scope of the business also brings something vitally important to the mix.

“Sustainability means environmental,” says Tudor, “but it also means emotional, economic and financial sustainability. We don’t want the strain of debt on our relationship, and we want to be on this land for many decades to come, so we won’t design systems that aren’t sustainable on a personal level. We want to have a work-life balance, to enjoy our farm as well. People talk about farmers burning out so often, and we think holistically as it’s much more productive for yourself.”

With the business running at capacity and a new baby now, Lynd and Tudor are very comfortable, though juggling as

much as any new family. So has Lynd found the fairytale of Plenty she was looking for? She barely pauses. "Yeah, absolutely yes," she says. And pauses, and says a happy "yes" one more time.

AuzBiz.



**Note: The official colours recognised by the AHCS in the breed standard are black, dun, silver dun, red, yellow, white, brindle & parti-colour.*





HIGHLANDS - NOT JUST FOR EATING

Some thoughts on other attributes of value of the 'hairy coo'....

*"These cattle
are magnificent,
sentient beings
that have a
powerful energy
and appear
sacred in
nature."*



Whilst it appears to be a commonplace opinion in the beef industry that to keep a beef cattle breed viable it needs to be eaten, there are some who are of the opinion that there are other reasons for keeping cattle, and that Highland cattle in particular possess some unique attributes that make them valuable in many other ways, and not solely for beef.

One of our AHCS breeders with such an opinion has put forward some thoughts to share with our members on other reasons for breeding Highland cattle besides eating them – Bronwyn Stewart of Sea Crest Highland fold on the Mornington Peninsula in Victoria was initially attracted to the spectacular look of the Highland breed and knew that she would be involved with Highland cattle from an early age. Bronwyn grew up on a cattle farm in outback NSW and it was there that she learned how to treat, train and gain the trust of bovine animals through the methods and management used by her father. Today, Bronwyn's breeding program goals are to produce high-quality Highland cattle with easy-to-handle and quiet temperaments.

"My cattle are all trained to halter lead and tie up, they are quiet and can easily be handled in the paddock", Bronwyn says.

Cows as Sentient Beings

There are a number of findings in scientific literature that show that cows are far more sophisticated and sensitive than the simple grazers they are perceived to be by the large number of people who see the cow only as a commodity.

Current scientific literature demonstrates that cows:

- have distinct personalities;
- are able to make sophisticated discriminations amongst individual humans; and
- possess not just simple emotions, but also a level of complexity of emotions found in other mammals and recognised as a sign of intelligence.

Source: *"The Psychology of Cows"* Essay published in the *Animal Behavior and Cognition Journal* by Lori Marino and Kristin Allen.

"I know that if my father could see me now, he would be very proud."

As a naturopath and former nurse, Bronwyn has been working in the health industry for many decades and has been able to experience the coming together of the knowledge

gained in clinical practice with her passion for breeding Highland cattle. Whilst Bronwyn says she has eaten meat throughout her life to this point, she has recently made the personal choice to reduce her meat consumption for health, environmental and spiritual reasons.



Bronwyn Stewart of Sea Crest Highland fold on the Mornington Peninsula, Victoria, describes her Highland cattle as "moving sculptures".

Bronwyn says of her Highlands: "These cattle are magnificent, sentient beings that have a powerful energy and appear sacred in nature. They are low maintenance, hardy animals that are affectionate, easy to handle and attractive just to watch. I enjoy being around them and feel that it is a mutually harmonious relationship."

"I concentrate on breeding excellent cattle for bloodstock, showing and selling to small farm owners who need mowers for environmental management."

Bronwyn believes that the relaxing, stress-free nature of the Highlands provides an opportunity for how they can also be used to help relieve stress in humans. She says it is surprising how many times a week she is contacted to conduct farm visits with the cattle for stress therapy and comments that her cattle "are so effective in grounding people who feel extremely stressed by modern life."

"People visit the farm to spend time with the cattle - brushing, talking or just to be with them. Equine therapy is a well-known

form of therapy for people and I am seeing the same results from my bovine friends."

"I don't breed my animals for their meat and I am okay with that. I believe there are other reasons to protect and nurture this breed. Their hair is excellent to spin either on its own or combined with wool, alpaca, angora or even dog hair. This yarn can be made into a very warm, water repellent clothing or rugs."

"These animals can be used as part of the ecosystem on an

organic or biodynamic farm where they free range and, as I have witnessed, they can be powerful healers and help humans to reconnect to nature and lower their stress levels."

"I am extremely grateful to have this opportunity to combine my vocation in the health world with a passion for the Highlands and wanted to share my perspective and include some other reasons for sustaining this ancient and wonderful breed of cattle."



Cow Cuddling Therapy

"Cow Cuddling" in recent times has been promoted across the internet as a new "wellness trend".

An animal sanctuary and human wellness retreat in a nature reserve area of New York, US, currently offers "cow cuddling" therapy for people, with Highland cattle cross-breeds. The sanctuary, known as "Mountain Horse Farm", says of their therapy:

- "Cuddling up with a cow, feeling that lower heart rate and higher body temperature, is very relaxing."
- "They will pick up on what's going on inside and sense if you are happy, sad, feel lost, anxious or excited. They will respond to that without judgment, ego or agenda."
- Cow cuddling can provide a peaceful, healing, learning, relaxing, fun and playful interaction for both humans and cattle.

Many of our AHCS breeders have already seen and experienced first-hand the benefits and joy that can be obtained from cuddling a 'hairy coo', for breeders, handlers and the general public alike.



CRAFTING WITH HIGHLAND FIBRE

Indie Road magazine - The Highland Coo



By Erica Smith, Glenstrae Highlands, Traralgon, Victoria

Article published in the April 2019 issue of [Indie Road](#), a magazine dedicated to showcasing "scrumptious yarns, heavenly threads and exotic weaves that brings the designs of yesterday to our modern palette".

In the rugged highlands of Scotland, the majestic Highland cattle are a well known sight. With their horns and long flowing locks, they are the epitome of a Scottish icon, but while people recognise them as uniquely Scottish, that is usually where their knowledge ends.

The Highland cattle, or Heilan' Coo as known in Scotland, has a history dating back to the clans, with archaeological evidence placing them in the Scottish Highlands as early as the sixth century. Small farmers (crofters) lived principally on fishing and by subsistence agriculture and the Highland was kept as a dual purpose animal producing both milk and beef. Their milk has a very high butterfat content and their meat is lower in cholesterol than other varieties of beef.

The Highland has an unusual double coat of hair with a thick, oily outer layer (the longest of any cattle breed), that covers a downy undercoat. This thick coat of hair makes them well suited to cold weather climates. Because of their coat they have less fat, which contributes to the meat being lower in cholesterol and higher in iron and protein. The Highland also comes in seven colours – black, red, yellow, white, dun, silver dun (white with black nose) and brindle.

Highland breeders who participate in cattle shows will brush their animals, often dropping the hair on the ground for birds to collect and use in their nests.

A SCOTTISH ICON WITH LONG FLOWING LOCKS

Although the Highland is a beef breed, it is their hair that is often overlooked by many, but not Brenda Wanket of Leaning Pine Ranch in Pagosa Springs, Colorado. Like many breeders, Brenda was first attracted to the breed for their unique appearance, but one day while out brushing them, she started to wonder if anyone spun cow fibre.

"I had never met anyone who had spun cattle fibre, so I decided to try it," Brenda said.

layer covers the undercoat which is a softer layer and the insulation for the animal. It is very short and hard to card. Highlands will shed both coats in spring and only have a short coat left for the summer months.

Brenda uses several methods to collect hair from the cows. In the spring while they are shedding, she will take her brushes and bags and collect all the hair she can brush off them.

Another method utilises the longer, softer hair of the Highland calf. "My favourite fibre is from the baby calves," she says. "When they are about four to six months old I cut their long locks off with scissors. This is by far the best fibre to use and I get most of my fibre from the babies."



single ply yarn but never washes it before she spins it. There is a danger of felting the Highland fibre which can turn into a bunch of felted fibre balls. She learned this the hard way.

One of Brenda's success stories was in making a Scottish kilt out of Highland cow fibre. She wasn't sure it was possible to make the fibre into a kilt, but she spun close to 700 yards of Highland/alpaca into yarn to make the attempt. After being told by a master weaver that tartan weaving is an advanced art, she really considered she may be wasting her time and energy.

Brenda is a self-taught weaver but found a Scottish Tartan Authority online that gave good directions on how to weave a true tartan. She took the time to get all the thread counts figured out, and decide which colour went where. Since her Highland/

"I love to see the expression on people's faces at craft fairs when they realise that the cow they are looking at produced the pillow they are holding"

Since then, by trial and error, she has been successful in making the hair into some beautiful items.

The outside layer of the Highland is the coarser of the two and can reach up to 14" in length. This

Once the Highland hair is collected, Brenda will card it with alpaca or churro wool. She likes to do a blend of one of these with the Highland fibre as it stretches it a bit and also helps the fibres stick together in a roving. Brenda will hand spin the fibre into a



alpaca fibre was not very strong, she used it only on the weft. For the warp she used a strong commercially spun wool.

Brenda made about two and a half yards of fabric which was used to make a kilt skirt. She questioned her own sanity at the length of the process and the magnitude of this daunting task. As she says, "Sometimes it isn't about time, but it is about setting out on a mission and being successful. Or maybe it is about the journey. I had a lot of fun investigating and experimenting and to me that is priceless. I learned a lot during the process which made it all worth it."

Many compliments were given when she wore her new kilt to a Celtic festival and people were amazed that it was made from Scottish Highland fibre.

Generally, though, Brenda likes to weave the yarn on her loom into decorative pillows, table runners, placemats and rugs as the yarn from Highland cattle is not very soft.

"I love to see the expression on people's faces at craft fairs when they realise that the cow they are looking at produced the pillow they are holding. So for me, the reason to spin Highland cattle fibre is to prove you can spin just about anything to make yarn. These magnificent creatures are not only good for beef, but also to make something out of their long locks of fibre."

Indie Road



AHCS BREEDER PUBLISHED

Cow love brings kids' story to life

Former CQ breeder turns children's author

Article published in Queensland's [Morning Bulletin](#) by Steph Allen on 12th October 2018

AFFECTIONATELY known as the "heilan coo", a certain Australian breed of cattle is getting its chance in the spotlight with the release of a CQ children's book.

The book *Kenzie in Search of a Friend* is the brainchild of Moranbah author, carer and former journalist Erica Smith.

While living in Moranbah, Ms Smith spent a lot of her time rescuing native animals and breeding brahmans.

However after moving to Victoria in 2012, she discovered a love for highland cattle.

"(I) decided on highland cattle for their temperament and mothering ability, among other things," she said.

"Plus they are just gorgeous to look at."

When she tasked her illustrator friend, Ashleigh Webb, with sketching her a new logo for her cattle breeding and showing, she was struck with the idea of writing her own children's book.

"I sent her a photo of one of my calves and she sent me back something I knew wasn't suitable as a logo but the second I saw it I knew I had my story," she said.

"The inspiration came from the image, the antics of my own cows and the native animals that are around.

"I also wanted it to have a message and purpose."

Ms Smith also brought her designer friend, Alicia Axnick, onto the project to provide watercolours for the illustrations.

The story centres around a highland calf, Kenzie, who is searching for a friend "just like her".

Kenzie sets off through the Australian bush to find a friend like her but meets a whole range of other friends.

"The basic message is that we don't have to be the same to be friends," Ms Smith said.

"We can be friends with a variety of people (or in this case animals) in all shapes and sizes and ages.

"A second underlying message is to help people where we can."

Ms Smith said these messages were particularly important for young people who live in an age when bullying is prevalent.

"We don't always embrace the uniqueness of other people and as much as we hate to admit it, there is an element of needing to be the same to be friends," she said.

"Children don't have that as much but I still think it's important to teach children, especially from a young age, that



we can find new friends everywhere."

Despite the challenges of self-publishing, Ms Smith has sold almost 1000 books, 300 of which have been sent to schools, libraries and children in rural Australia.

"I pushed Ashleigh and Alicia pretty hard to meet the deadline of launching at the National Western Stock Show in Denver, Colorado, in January 2018, as this is the USA National Highland Show," she said.

"There are quite a lot of US highland cattle breeders, so I saw this as a great place to launch.

"I sold almost 100 books that first month."

Kenzie's second adventure is currently in the works, with a number of other books in various stages of writing and plenty of other ideas on the horizon to expand the Kenzie experience.

The Bulletin

An Author's Journey - Where it all began

Taken from a blog post from ["Erica Smith Author"](#), 6th February 2019



My journey to published author has been a long and windy road, with a few roadblocks, more than one washed away path and a whole lot of dirt and dust. But with support and encouragement from many, in January 2018 I joined an illustrious list of published authors.

My children's picture book Kenzie in Search of a Friend tells the story of a lonely heilan' coo (highland calf) and her search for a friend just like her. My dream to write a story started a very long time ago in an English class with one teacher who had a profound impact on my life (thanks Mrs Rayna Morris!). In class we had to write a children's story and bam! Seed was planted.

After taking an alternative path as journalist, then even more alternative path as business development officer, banker, admin officer and carer (told you the road was interesting!), in 2012 I bought my first Highland Cattle. But still ... it was just a dream. I had no inspiration. No idea where to start. No idea what to write about.

Then in 2016 I asked a very dear and extremely talented friend if she could draw me a character to use as the logo for my highland cattle. Ashleigh Webb* drew me this:



Erica with Highland calf "Cookie", part of the inspiration behind "Kenzie".

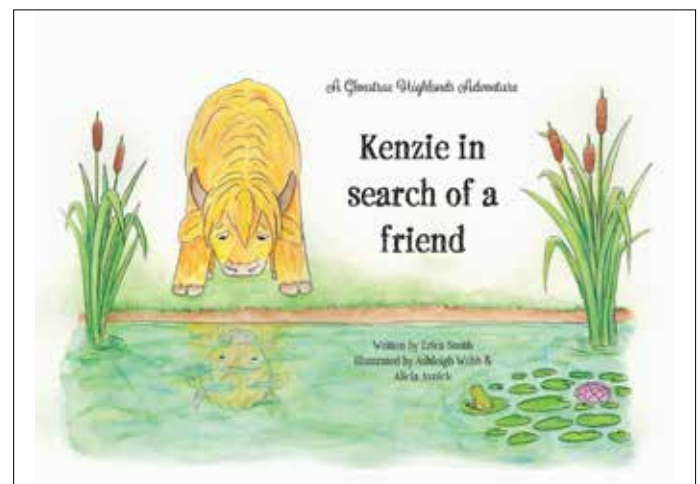
While this character is cute as – it wasn't exactly suitable as a logo for my Highland fold...

BOOM! Ideas flew. And just like that, Kenzie was born. Antics of my own calves and cows, and just some outright creativity kept my brain churning with ideas.

But something was still lacking. A little thing called ... CONFIDENCE.

Such an important part of the creative process, and yet, I just didn't feel I could do it. And then a very important person said something that changed it all. After encouraging me previously during a visit to Australia, the parting words thrown at me during that last goodbye was "write your damn book". So I did.

Kenzie was born ... illustrated ... painted ... designed ... and finally published!



*Ashleigh Webb, children's book illustrator, of Tropical Sloth Studio
(www.facebook.com/TropicalSlothStudio-1674665092571080/)



TILBOURIES FOLD, UK

‘Of all the breeds I have, Highlanders are my passion’

Article published in the [Farmers Guardian](#) (UK) by Katrina MacArthur on 16th April 2019.

Farmers Guardian

Often seen as a hobby breed, more breeders across the country are demonstrating Highland cattle's ability to not only breed cross-bred replacements which boast hybrid vigour and hardiness, but quality beef carcasses.

Aberdeenshire farmers Jim and Sheila Fraser, together with their daughters, Mary and Alison, have been finishing pure Highland calves, which are sold to Dovecote Park's Highland scheme for 10 years.

The scheme is a specialist range of beef which is available specifically for the Christmas season at Waitrose.

This has become the family's main market for pure Highland beef and they now fatten between 80 and 100 calves each year at 28 to 40 months of age.

They are sold at an average weight of 242kg deadweight and regularly peak at 390p/kg.

The Fraser family has been farming at the 80-hectare (200-acre) unit, East Tilbouries, near Maryculter, Aberdeen, since 1965, and they rent a further 20ha (50 acres) at their original unit, Turfcraig, and another 80ha (200 acres) annually.



Highland cattle have been bred pure since 1992, when the Tilbouries fold was established, although Mr Fraser's late father, John, had been buying pure Highland cattle from the west coast as far back as the late 1960s to cross with the Hereford and then the Simmental.

Mr Fraser says: "Of all breeds that I have on the farm, Highlanders are my passion. You cannot beat the breed for its hardiness and low maintenance characteristics, and it has the ability to be crossed with any other beef breed, producing first cross Highlanders which are milky, good mothers and can still be out-wintered all-year-round.

Pedigree

"Highland cows have a good nature and last long. Our oldest cow to date was 21 years of age."

At present, the 115-cow herd includes 77 pedigree Highlanders and 26 pedigree Simmentals, while the remainder are either Highland cross Shorthorns or Highland cross Simmentals.

Original Highland stock bulls used on the fold were Ballach Gael of Breachacha and Alasdair Ruadh 2 of Douneside, while Dalinlongart Jamie Dubh, bought in 1997 as an 18-month-old bull at Caledonian Marts, Stirling, is

the sire of some of the oldest home-bred cows found in the herd today.

The pedigree Simmental herd was founded in the 1980s, with the purchase of an in-calf Simmental heifer at Oban and the private purchase of a cow and calf outfit, Plurenden Drollete 7 and her polled heifer calf, Watergate Mary, from a herd on the Black Isle.

The last three Simmental stock



bulls have been bought privately from the Heathbrow herd, Hertfordshire.

In more recent years, the family has introduced pedigree Beef Shorthorns to the farm, with the hope of using their own bulls for crossing.

There are currently three heifers in the herd, including two homebred twin heifers which have both calved heifer calves and one female purchased at Stirling Bull Sales, last year.

The family's Beef Shorthorn bull, Fordie Harrison, bred by Fiona Davidson, was shown successfully last year by freelance stockman, Nick Robertson, and the Frasers hope to show a heifer at the local shows this year.

At the society's spring show and sale in February 2016, the Tilbouries team sold its first bull at Oban for 9,000gns, to the Cladich fold after it stood reserve champion in the pre-sale show.

This was Campbell of Tilbouries, a son of Campbell 1 of Tordarroch, out of Ciara Dubh of Lismore, which was ably shown by Maureen MacArthur and John Ashton of Allanfean Highlanders.

Other home-bred bulls have been sold privately and the Frasers hire out bulls to other folds.

While pure Highland cows are out-wintered all-year-round and fed a mix of home-grown and bought-in silage, Simmentals and cross cows are brought inside from the end of November through to May and receive a silage and straw ration.

Mr Fraser says that cows used to be fed draff, but with a growing number of anaerobic digestors, the animal feed is becoming almost impossible to source.

Finishing

Pure Highland calves which are born in April are weaned from their mothers inside in the following January/February, before heading back outside in May.

It is only in the last two months, before going to Dovecote Park, that the cattle are brought inside, with heifers picked out as replacements or for finishing at 20 months of age.

"Calves are finished on homegrown silage, straw and a barley beef blend, while the smaller calves receive a different blend," Mr Fraser says.

"Most calves are home-bred, but we do buy-in steer calves in December from the Achnacloich and Applecross folds.

"The calves go away to Dovecote Park at an average age of 36 months and must be sired by a pedigree Highland bull and be farm-assured.

"They travel south to North Yorkshire with haulage firm Thomson of Sauchen.

"The facilities are fantastic at Dovecote Park. It is a very modern set-up and they have very strict rules on animal welfare."

Cross calves are weaned in January and fed a silage and straw mix, before being sold privately as yearlings or through the store ring at Aberdeen and Northern Marts' Thainstone Centre.

In the last few years, pure Simmental heifers which are not kept on for breeding at East Tilbouries, have been sold privately to returning buyers.

Each year, 15 pure Highland heifers are served at three years



of age, while cross heifers are served at two years of age to the Simmental.

Most cross cows are then served to the Beef Shorthorn to introduce hybrid vigour, as are a small selection of pure Simmental heifers.

"We are fairly strict when it comes to culling cows and we focus strongly on temperament, udder confirmation and condition of feet," says Mr Fraser.

"Fortunately, Highland cattle are good-natured animals, so we do not often have to cull for bad temperament."

Although the Frasers have only ventured to Oban once with cattle, it is the local shows which keep them busy throughout summer.

Improvements

The family has been exhibiting at local shows since 2010 and has scooped a number of championship wins in the

Highland cattle section.

"Like all breeds, improvements need to be made and one which I believe should be made a stipulation for Highland cattle is a bull assessment on all bulls forward for sale," says Mr Fraser.

"We are one of the very few societies which do not do this and, as a result, there are too many bad bulls being put forward at society sales. Not only is this incorrect and can lead to further problems down the line for breeders, but it also gives the society a bad advert when so many bulls are being unsold."

In the meantime, calving has got off to a good start at East Tilbouries with the family's show cow, Anna 2 of Southmuir, having just recently calved twins of both sex.

The Frasers are also looking forward to being host of this year's North of Scotland Highland Cattle Club show in June, welcoming fellow breeders from near and far.



Campbell of Tilbouries, who sold for 9,000gns at the 2016 Oban Sales. Photo: [The Press and Journal](#) 21st Feb 2016.

AUSTRALIA TO SEE LAUNCH OF FIRST MOBILE ABATTOIR

In April 2019, the imminent launch of Australia's first mobile abattoir was announced in the media. Provenir, an Australian-owned entity founded in 2017 (and formerly known as FarmGateMSU Pty Ltd), is set to introduce its mobile on-farm processing solution for the Australian livestock industry by the middle of this year.



[Provenir](#) all started when a farmer, a vet and a chef, all serious about finding a solution to the problems each had experienced within the current red meat production system, got together. Their aim was to solve the current issues with live transport of animals to processing facilities, stemming from the requirement that all livestock destined for commercial sale of meat must by law be processed in a fixed abattoir.

Their solution in-principle was simple – *instead of animals going to the abattoir, the abattoir goes to the farm*. Whilst this might sound simple in concept, actually implementing the solution had, and still has, many hurdles to overcome, including, but not limited to: financial investment, technical design, meeting regulatory requirements, resistance within the industry and the need for law changes.

At the 2017 [SproutX Accelerator agtech program](#), Provenir won both the Judges' and People's Choice Awards at a *Shark Tank* style pitch event in front of a crowd of more than 250 investors, the press and agricultural industry representatives.

Chris Balazs, CEO and co-founder of Provenir, comments on his own experience as a farmer: "As a farmer myself, I hate loading my livestock onto the back of a truck. I work so hard to get them in top condition only to risk losing it all to a bad trip. I always knew there had to be a better way.

"Mobile processing makes so much sense, for farmers, for livestock and for consumers. It's the way of the future for red meat in Australia."

In addition to the high welfare of livestock, as its name suggests, Provenir is also focused on providing full traceability and true 'provenance'. By processing on-farm and using the latest in digital traceability technology, Provenir's solution is able to provide full transparency and guaranteed provenance that is validated by the customer themselves.

"instead of animals going to the abattoir, the abattoir goes to the farm"

The Provenir team holds the belief that the stress of transportation, combined with restricted access to food and water, along with exposure to foreign animals and unfamiliar environments, creates a systemic problem in the meat industry. Recognising that all these factors were not only bad for animal welfare and for Australia's farmers (due to loss of yield and profit), but also bad for meat quality, the Provenir founders' aim was to come up with a solution that would be better for farmers, for livestock and for the end-consumers.

Provenir sought inspiration and advice on how to develop and implement their model from Hålsingestintan, a successful Swedish on-farm processing company founded in 1999. The Provenir team and Hålsingestintan founders, Britt-Marie and Anna Stegs, share a common vision and concern for animal welfare, traceability and provenance through technology for consumers, and on-farm processing to ensure superior meat quality.



Provenir Founders (L->R): Merissa Martinez, Christopher Howe, Phil Larwill, Chris Balazs (CEO), Jayne Newgreen

To ensure they meet their full traceability guarantee, Provenir has developed a vertically integrated solution, with full control of the end-to-end value chain, from on-farm processing in the commercially licensed mobile abattoir, through to artisan butchering, and sales and distribution of their packaged and self-branded meat product.

Provenir recognises that there is a growing number of consumers wanting to know where their food has come from and how animals have been treated before processing, and CEO Chris Balazs acknowledges this: "We understand that for today's consumer, knowing the provenance of their food, how it was produced and whether it meets their personal values is imperative to their purchasing decision."



stress on the animal, which will result in meat of exceptional quality, taste and tenderness."

Provenir's on-farm slaughter unit will be manned by four people, including a qualified meat inspector. A second refrigerated trailer will transport processed carcasses and the "non-edible resources", such as heads, hooves and offal, off farms. Provenir says they have buyers lined up to purchase not only meat, but also side-products like hides and blood.

"Because of visible traceability, we connect the farmer to the consumer in a very direct way."

Provenir has partnered with more than 10 farmers in the Riverina region in NSW to purchase and process their livestock on farm, producing meat to sell under the company's premium brand. "We are looking at bricks and mortar retail partners where we can supply directly and we have quite a queue of top-end restaurants that are keen to see the meat quality of non-stressed meat," Chris said.

Although Chris rears his own cattle at Bannockburn in Victoria, Provenir's operations are planned to commence in NSW, due to a combination of supporting factors, including: availability of premium quality cattle, keen farmer support, and state legislation that allows vehicles to operate as abattoirs.

Provenir has launched a crowd-funding campaign that will enable consumers to pre-purchase Provenir's branded meat product, that will come with a "Six Star Provenir Promise":

1. Highest welfare.
2. Processed on-farm.
3. Full traceability and true provenance.
4. Grass-fed and free range.
5. Exceptional eating quality.
6. No added hormones, herd antibiotics or intensive feedlots.

Provenir has set a crowd-funding target of \$33,000 with end date of 26th May 2019, and the first release of Provenir meat to consumers is solely dependent on reaching this target. Provenir has also set a "stretch target" of \$100,000, which if attained will enable them to start financing their next mobile processing unit. Provenir's ultimate aim is to have multiple units in operation across Australia.



Article sources:

Provenir website: <https://provenir.com.au>

Provenir crowd-funding campaign: <https://www.pozible.com/profile/jayne-newgreen/>

What's New in Food Technology & Manufacturing magazine – Eliminating live cattle transport prior to processing, 3rd April 2019 - <https://www.foodprocessing.com.au/content/processing/article/eliminating-live-cattle-transport-prior-to-processing-358592681>

The Weekly Times – Australia's first mobile abattoir to start operation, 17th April 2019 - <https://www.weeklytimesnow.com.au/news/national/australias-first-mobile-abattoir-to-start-operation/news-story/75126e52c22ea9c44f0896d1af5c94a1>



"an increasing group of people are willing to pay a price premium if they are sure the animals have been treated well"

"Provenir's unique on-farm processing is the answer to the rapidly growing market of conscientious consumers. The company's technology will eliminate live transport prior to processing and the associated

Provenir's Swedish mentor, Britt-Marie Stegs has observed that "an increasing group of people are willing to pay a price premium if they are sure the animals have been treated well."



Responding to Activists

Steps for Handling Farm Trespass



Organisations Key -

National Farmers' Federation (NFF)

www.nff.org.au

The peak national body representing farmers and, more broadly, agriculture across Australia.

AustralianFarmers

farmers.org.au

An online resource created by the NFF to share a farmer's perspective on industry news and issues which are relevant from paddock to plate.

Aussie Farms

www.aussiefarms.org.au/

An extremist animal activist organisation and registered charity whose core value is a belief that animals should not be owned for any human purpose - including primary production and pet ownership.

Over recent times the work of extremist animal activists has become more common, with many of these activists not afraid to trespass on private property or break the law to communicate their message. The [National Farmers' Federation](http://www.nff.org.au) provides some tips for farmers on how to prepare for, and respond to, such activist threats.

A particular activist organisation that has been causing problems for farmers and property-owners is "Aussie Farms". The core value of the extreme group "Aussie Farms" is a belief that animals should not be owned for any human purposes – including for primary production or pet ownership.

Aussie Farms has published a map that contains the details of hundreds of farmers implying a connection to animal cruelty and urging people to gather images, videos and other documents in relation to the addresses revealed.

Promoted via Facebook, readers of the [Aussie Farms map](http://www.aussiefarms.org.au) are encouraged to upload imagery and documents from each address, which it is presumed in the majority of cases will be (and has been) captured via covert (and possibly illegal) methods.

What if your property is on the map?

For added protection of your privacy and property, the NFF recommends the following steps:

1. **CHECK** if your name and address features on the Aussie Farms map at map.aussiefarms.org.au.
2. **REQUEST** directly for Aussie Farms to remove your details via www.aussiefarms.org.au/about#contact.
3. **COMPLAIN** formally to the Australian Information Commissioner. Obtain information on how to lodge a complaint here: www.oaic.gov.au/individuals/how-do-i-make-a-privacy-complaint



Activist Response Tips for Farmers

1. Adhere to best practice

Regardless of the risk of activist intrusion, every Australian farmer has a responsibility to uphold our industry's world-class standards. We also recommend you consider erecting 'Entry Prohibited' signs on your main entries, as well as keeping main gates shut and locked.

2. Call 000 or local police

If activists are found trespassing on your property, call 000 immediately. You might also try your local police station if you think they'll respond quickly.

3. Explain the harm

Clearly articulate to the police operator the risk trespassers are posing: to your property; workplace safety; biosecurity; animal welfare; lost production etc.

4. Ask them to leave

It's unlikely they will respond to this request, but it's important for establishing trespass that they have been told to vacate.

5. Do not engage

Do not engage directly with protestors. Keep calm (even if provoked) and keep your distance while you wait for police to arrive.

6. Film what you see

Video footage and photographs can be used by police to apprehend and charge intruders. You have the right to record those who intrude without permission.

For more information: <https://farmers.org.au/news/activist-trespass-response-tips-for-farmers/>

“FarmHub” Drought Assistance for Farmers



In January 2019 “FarmHub” was launched by the [National Farmers’ Federation \(NFF\)](#). Funded by the Commonwealth Government, FarmHub is an online service that provides Australian farmers with a single destination or ‘one-stop-shop’ for those seeking drought assistance and support.

NFF developed the tool with the intent to help relieve some of the pressure on farmers managing drought – in particular, to ease the burden of spending time making phone calls or trawling the internet to determine their options and eligibility for help when they have other worries on their plate, such as feeding livestock, replenishing water sources and making important farm management decisions. A variety of services is accessible through the [FarmHub tool](#), including aid for livestock fodder, household expenses, mental health support and much more.

The St Vincent De Paul Society is one of the services available via FarmHub and has given positive reports of the service, saying that it is an extremely useful national resource that is helping raise awareness of many organisations and assistance services available to farmers across the country.

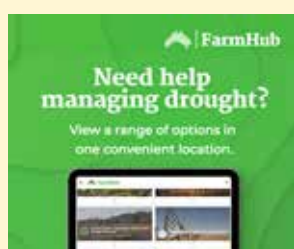
In its first three months of operation FarmHub has helped and informed more than 10,000 people and to ensure that FarmHub continues to

provide accurate and relevant information and resources, users of the service are invited to complete a [survey](#) via the [AustralianFarmers website](#) to give feedback on their experience using the tool.

FarmHub is set up in such a way as to enable farmers to search for services by state or by support category, with the following categories covered:

- Business Support (e.g. grants, loans, rebates & financial counselling services)
- Household Support (e.g. community and family support & aid services and organisations)
- On-Farm Support (e.g. natural disaster and drought relief services, permits & licences, pest & weed management)
- Personal Support (e.g. mental wellbeing & relationship counselling services)

[FarmHub’s Knowledge Centre](#) also provides a library of resources on a variety of topics, including climate, livestock management, financial assistance, business tools, and managing and recovering farms through natural disasters and drought.



National Livestock Identification System (NLIS)



The National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) is Australia's system for the identification and traceability of cattle, sheep and goats. NLIS reflects Australia's commitment to biosecurity and food safety and provides a competitive advantage in a global market.

Key aspects of the system are:

- [Registering for NLIS](#)
- [Buying, selling and moving livestock](#)
- [Tagging livestock](#)
- [Using NLIS to manage livestock](#)

How does the NLIS work?

The NLIS combines three elements to enable the lifetime traceability of animals:

- **an animal identifier** (a visual or electronic ear tag known as a device)
- identification of a physical location by means of a **Property Identification Code (PIC)**
- a **web-accessible database** to store and correlate movement data and associated details

Key Points

- *Australia was the first country to implement a national livestock tracing system.*
- *NLIS gives whole-of-life traceability for individual animals.*



Click the image above, or go to YouTube link www.youtube.com/watch?9=&v=U5IACzvYj_0, to watch a video overview of Australia's NLIS system.

Using this information, the NLIS is able to provide a life history of an animal's residency, and to discern which other animals livestock may have come into contact with. The NLIS is required to facilitate the traceability of animals in accordance with the National Traceability and Performance Standards.

Statuses may also be assigned to individual animals (provided they are electronically tagged) or to properties to record pertinent information about these animals and properties on the NLIS. For example:

- a device status may be assigned to a device to indicate that the device is damaged, lost, has been stolen or that the animal it is attached to has been vaccinated against a particular disease
- a property status may be assigned to a PIC to indicate that the property is LPA-accredited or EU-accredited, or that all of the animals on a property may have been exposed to a residue or contaminant.

Any device or property statuses that indicate that any animals may pose a biosecurity or health risk are reported to processors to ensure that the affected animals are tested at slaughter. This maintains the safety, quality and integrity standards of Australian red meat and livestock and reduces the impact of a potential livestock disease epidemic or residue incident.

Article Source: [Meat & Livestock Australia - About the National Livestock Identification System](#)



As animals are bought, sold and moved along the supply chain, they must be tagged with an NLIS-accredited tag or device. All animals leaving a property (PIC) must be identified with an NLIS accredited device before moving off the property, unless a permit is obtained from the state or territory. Each movement they make to a location with a different PIC is recorded centrally on the NLIS Database by people with NLIS accounts. NLIS accounts are free to open and operate.

National Livestock Identification System (NLIS)

What is an (electronic) RFID? What is a (visual) NLISID?

An electronic Radio Frequency Identification Device (RFID) has both an NLISID and an RFID number. Both of these numbers can be used to individually identify animals on your property. When you buy NLIS devices for your PIC, the device manufacturer registers the NLISID and RFID numbers on the Database, so when you use the Database, you can enter either the NLISID or the RFID associated with a specific animal.

An NLISID number is printed on the outside of an electronic ear tag, or on a visual ear tag indicating a rumen bolus was applied (cattle only). An NLISID number can only be read visually (e.g. when you look at the number on the device on a tagged animal). The first eight characters of an NLISID are the PIC the device was issued to.

An RFID number is assigned to the electronic RFID chip inside a device. An RFID number can only be read electronically (e.g. when you scan animals with a reader).

I've received an animal without a tag. What should I do?

If you receive an animal without a tag, you should apply a **post-breeder** tag to the animal.

Post-breeder tags for cattle are orange instead of white.

How can I find out an animal's tag number if I can't get near the animal?

If the animal is electronically tagged, try to read the animal's device electronically using a special NLIS tag reader, if you have one (or employ an agent to do so). If you can get the animal in a crush and head bail, this may enable you to get close enough to read the tag number.

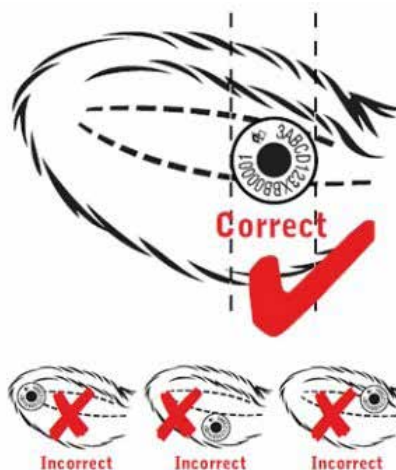
Alternatively, the previous owner of the animal may have a record of the animal's tag number. If you can at least obtain the unique last 5 digits of the animal's tag number and have the previous owner's PIC, the NLIS Helpdesk may be able to help you work out the animal's full tag number.

Please note that it is not possible to record a movement of electronically tagged livestock without an RFID or NLISID number.

What is the correct way to tag livestock?

Livestock should be tagged so that the tag is applied in the middle of the animal's ear, in accordance with the tag manufacturer's instructions.

A correctly applied cattle tag should be applied to the animal's right ear, as shown below:



When must livestock be tagged?

Any livestock that are sold or moved off your property must be tagged with NLIS-accredited tags.

Do I need to notify the NLIS when I tag an animal?

No. You do not need to notify the NLIS when you tag an animal on your property.

Please note that the NLIS Database does not distinguish between tags that you have applied to your animals and tags that are still unused.

All devices are automatically registered to your PIC by the relevant tag manufacturer when they are issued.

Terminology

NLIS = National Livestock Identification System

PIC = Property Identification Code

RFID = Radio Frequency Identification Device

breeder tag = white NLIS tag applied by the breeder of an animal

post-breeder tag = orange NLIS tag applied by the new owner of an animal that is received without a, or lost its, NLIS tag.



TATTOO BRANDING

The AHCS will reintroduce mandatory tattooing of all new animal registrations submitted to the Registrar from 1st January 2020. Although tattooing provides an additional means of animal identification, tattoo-branding can **not** be used as a substitute for application of an NLIS device.

This article outlines the steps required to successfully tattoo brand your cattle to aid you in the transition to mandatory tattoo-branding of your registered animals.

Ear tattooing is performed using special tattoo pliers that create numbers and letters in the skin in the inside of the ear by means of a series of needle-like points. Special indelible ink is then forced into the puncture holes made by the points. As the punctures heal, the ink is trapped under the surface and shows up as a number or letter. If a proper job of tattooing is done, tattoos will remain in the ear throughout the life of the animal. The AHCS will require that green ink be used when tattooing.

Tattooing Procedure:

1. Select a type of pliers, numbers, letters, and green tattoo ink or paste that will enable you to create a tattoo that aligns with the



Correct positioning of the tattoo pliers on the left ear when branding. You may alternatively prefer to hold the plier handles below the ear rather than above. Whichever method you use, ensure that the letters will be stamped into the ear in such a way that they appear upright when the animal is viewed from in front.

AHCS Herdbook Regulations – i.e. Fold Prefix (2 or 3 letters) + Year Letter + calf serial number, applied in two rows as shown. The AHCS will require that only green ink or paste be used in order to optimise legibility of the tattoo on any coloured animal.

2. Select the proper combination of numbers and letters and place them in the tattoo pliers. Check to make sure they are correct by first practising on a piece of paper, soft cardboard or felt. This should be done before each animal is tattooed.

3. Secure the animal in your crush and head bail to ensure the head is safely restrained.

4. Use a cloth to remove dirt and wax from the inside of the animal's LEFT ear (your right hand side as you face the animal), then clean the skin with disinfectant.

5. Select an area on the inside of the ear as near the centre as possible, where there are no freckles or hair growth, and ensuring to avoid veins and cartilaginous ridges. It may be necessary to clip or trim the ear to prevent hair from interfering with the tattoo application. With your thumb or finger, spread a thin layer of ink or paste in your selected spot between the middle ribs on the inside of the ear.

6. With the calf securely restrained, insert the ear between the jaws of the pliers with



A pair of tattoo branding pliers.

Pliers which only hold 1 row of characters will require double application, whereas pliers which hold 2 rows of characters will enable the tattoo in each animal to be done in one go.

the numbers on the inside of the ear in the area where the ink is spread, ensuring that the pliers are positioned so that once the tattoo is applied, the characters will be upright and readable when viewed from the front of the animal. Close the pliers quickly and firmly and release quickly to avoid tearing the ear.

7. Spread another layer of ink over the punctures and rub it into the holes with your thumb or finger. Be sure you force ink or paste into each puncture. Failure to do this step properly is the cause of most non-readable tattoos.

8. If you make a mistake, you are required to tattoo a sequence of X's over the top of the whole tattoo, and then reapply the correct tattoo in a fresh section of the ear.

KEY POINTS

- Tattooing your cattle provides backup identification in the case of loss of NLIS tag, as well as additional assurance to buyers of your animal's breeding.
- Tattooing must be done prior to submitting your animal registration form to the AHCS Registrar.
- **Green** ink only is to be used for AHCS tattoos.
- Tattoos are to be applied in two rows in the animal's **left** ear (opposite ear to NLIS tag) as follows:

Fold Prefix

Year Letter + Calf Drop Number

- For example, if your Fold Tattoo prefix were ABC, for the 3rd calf born in your fold during 2019, its ear tattoo would be:

**ABC
J3**



COMMON CAUSES OF TATTOOING FAULTS

- Failure to remove grease or wax from the surface of the ear before applying ink (or spreading wax across the ear rather than cleaning it off)
- Excessive bleeding caused by puncturing the large veins of the ear.
- Applying the tattoo to parts of the ear where hair is growing.
- Use of poor quality ink and/or worn or dirty equipment. To achieve optimum results, it is recommended to use tattoo letter and number pieces with chisel points.
- Tearing the skin due to slow release of the tattooing device after puncturing the ear.
- Being careless when inserting and checking the numbers and letters in the tattooing pliers and failing to ensure the brand is accurate and applied in the correct orientation.
- Not being thorough in the second application of ink after the ear has been punctured.
- Tattoo being disturbed before it is completely healed.



Picture providing an indicative representation of where an ear brand tattoo should be located. As per tips above, make sure the ear is clean and do not apply the tattoo over hair shafts, veins or cartilaginous ridges. Clipping or trimming may be necessary.

**TATTOO
LETTER
FOR
2019**

J

**TATTOO
LETTER
FOR
2020**

K

9. Sanitise the tattooing equipment between animals with disinfectant applied to the pliers and individual tattoo pieces which have been used. A wire brush can be used to clean off ink and debris build-up from the equipment before or after a tattooing session.

10. After tattooing each animal, ensure the animal's tattooed area cannot be disturbed until it is completely healed - this could be anywhere from 5-21 days. It is also recommended that freshly tattooed calves be separated from their dams or other calves for a few hours following the tattooing procedure to prevent other animals from licking or chewing the ear and rendering the brand illegible.

Following the above tattooing procedure carefully and thoroughly should result in the ink drying and flaking out of the ear after several weeks, leaving behind a legible tattoo as a permanent means of identification of your animal.



Article References:

1. AHCS Herdbook Regulations.
2. Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities, Plant & Animal Sciences, YAND-170 – Identification of Beef Animals.
3. How To Tattoo Cattle, Halliburton Farms British White Cattle, <http://britishwhite.com/how-to-tattoo-cattle>.
4. How to Tattoo an Angus, Canadian Angus Association, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rBX_rM6qnKw.



AHCS STATE REPRESENTATIVES

Do you know who your State Rep is?

If not, look below to find the name and contact details of the representative for your State.

State Reps are also listed on the AHCS website, along with the AHCS Councillors, at: www.australianhighlandcattle.org/council-officers.html

*Your State Rep
would love to
hear from you!*

State Representatives provide a single point of contact for members, prospective members and the general public with respect to regional enquiries.

They can provide you with information on Highland cattle breeders groups or events organised in your State.

They would also love to hear what you are up to with your own Highland Cattle or your particular areas of interest.

Why not make contact with your State Rep today?



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*Have you had
your Highlands
Out & About?*

*If so, please email
through details
and photos of
your experiences
to*

*[publishing@
australianhighlandcattle.
org](mailto:publishing@australianhighlandcattle.org)*

Moovin' Out & About

In this issue.....

...we hear from all our membership states with a variety of events our members have been busily involved in to kick off 2019....



After being quiet for our past two publications, we are pleased to hear from **NSW** this issue, with our NSW State Rep **John Cummings** from **Kalinda Road Highland Cattle** exhibiting for the first time at the **2019 Glen Innes Show**, followed by a Highland steer bred by our Patron Susan Elder topping the Taste Test charts at the **2019 Sydney Royal**.

Next in **South Australia**, our members in the **South Australian Breeders group** are treated to some **ringcraft lessons** at a **cattle-handling field day**, and Amrabull Park gets out on the show scene yet again at the **Mount Pleasant Show**, with our **SA State Rep Scott Carter** earning the title of **Mt. Pleasant Show Rural Ambassador**.



Our members in **Victoria** have again been busy getting out and promoting the breed, with the running of a **Highland Cattle Feature Show** at the **2019 Warragul Show**, followed by Erica Smith from Glenstrae Highlands taking part in the **Ringwood Highland Games & Celtic Festival**.

In **Tasmania**, **Craggy Island Highlands** has had a busy start to the year with exhibition of their Highlands at **three events**, including the **Bushy Park Show**, **Bream Creek Show**, and having Highlands take part in the **Tasmanian Junior Beef Expo** for the very first time. Our **Tassie State Rep Craig McSwain** also gives a report on his attendance at the **2018 Sprout Tasmania Cross Pollinate Conference** and AGM towards the end of last year.



Queensland continues to be on the mooove with State Rep Carolyn Keans organising yet **another field day** and supporting **first-time exhibitor Jules Colgan** of **Farm Fun** fold and her daughters parading their Highlands at the **2019 Marburg Show**.

And last but not least, we head West to catch up with **Western Australian State Rep Nathan Perry** from **Mac-Ladanae** fold at his first exhibition event for the year at the **2019 Harvey Ag Show**.



Do you have any 'Moovin' Out & About' experiences you can share with us?

Whatever the outing, big or small, if it is to do with promoting or enjoying the Highland breed, we'd love to hear from you! Send in your item and photos by email to publishing@australianhighlandcattle.org.

GLEN INNES SHOW 2019

16th February 2019, Glen Innes, NSW.

by Brad Crompton, Dalmara Highland Fold.



In February this year my wife Annette and I were asked to visit John and Julie Cummings at their property Kalinda Road Highlands, on the Northern Table Lands of NSW, and then accompany them to the Glen Innes Show for two days following, where they would be exhibiting their stud Highland bull, Aonghus Arrow of MacAnLeister.

850 kms to get there - wow was it worth it! Kalinda Road is a great hideaway north of Bendemeer, and then onto Glen Innes. The [Glen Innes Show](#) this year was Celtic-themed to the hilt. Aonghus Arrow (affectionately known as "Goose") won Senior and Grand Champion Highland Bull and was runner up in the Celtic Bull division. Well done.

Wait for it... the Grand Parade, of what is an extremely large rural show, was led out by "Goose" and a lone piper, such great exposure for our breed.



Kalinda Road's Highland bull Aonghus Arrow of MacAnLeister, aka "Goose", leads out the 2019 Glen Innes Show Grand Parade.



Aonghus Arrow of MacAnLeister, owned by John & Julie Cummings of Kalinda Road Fold - Grand Champion Highland Bull at the 2019 Glen Innes Show.

2019 GLEN INNES SHOW RESULTS

GRAND CHAMPION HIGHLAND BULL

Aonghus Arrow of MacAnLeister (8482)

DOB 02/03/2016

Sire: Adamh of Kardella Ky (8256)

Dam: Socair Ban of Bairsley (7573)

Owner: John & Julie Cummings, Kalinda Road Highland Cattle



First-time Highland exhibitors, John and Julie Cummings of Kalinda Road Highland Cattle (Bendemeer, NSW), proudly display the sashes for Senior Champion Highland Bull and Grand Champion Highland Bull awarded to their stud bull Aonghus Arrow of MacAnLeister at the 2019 Glen Innes Show.



Kalinda Road "hideaway" north of Bendemeer NSW, home to John & Julie Cummings' Kalinda Road Highland Cattle fold.



Time out for some sightseeing: Julie Cummings (Kalinda Road Highland fold) and Brad & Annette Crompton (Dalmara Highland fold) at the [Australian Standing Stones](#) in Glen Innes Highlands, NSW.

Created in 1991/92, with the first Stone being raised on September 7, 1991 by the local Tug o' War team, the Australian Standing Stones is the national monument to Celtic people, past and present. The Stones acknowledge the contribution to Australian culture made by people from the Celtic nations of Scotland, Ireland, Cornwall, Wales, the Isle of Man, Brittany, Asturias and Galicia.

The site provides the location for the annual [Australian Celtic Festival](#), renowned as the premier Celtic event of New South Wales. Each year up to twenty different Clans and representatives from the six Celtic nations turn out in force to hold their annual Celtic ceremonies and spectacles.



Fellow AHCS councillors and friends enjoying each other's company at the home of Kalinda Road Highland Cattle in Bendemeer, NSW, before making the trip to the 2019 Glen Innes Show. L->R: Annette & Brad Crompton (Dalmara Highland Fold), and Julie & John Cummings (Kalinda Road Highland Fold).



HIGHLAND BEEF



CARCASE AWARDS PROGRAM

FOR THE PROMOTION OF HIGHLAND BEEF

**open to both members and
non-members**

who have entered eligible carcase competitions
between 1st January - 31st December

HIGHLAND EXHIBITORS WINNING CARCASE AWARD

Annual Prize of \$500

For winning carcasses in any class of a recognised
competition.

Sire or dam to be of Highland breed.

Open to Members and Non-Members.

HIGHLAND MEMBERS CARCASE AWARD

Up to three Annual Prizes

1st - \$300

2nd - \$200

3rd - \$100

Prizes awarded based on the highest carcase score
80pts+ earned in any recognised competition during the
calendar year. Does not have to be a winning carcase.

Sire or dam must be AHCS-registered.

Open to AHCS Members only.



For more information on the rules and conditions of entry,
download the AHCS Carcase Awards Entry Form from:

www.australianhighlandcattle.org



SYDNEY ROYAL 2019

12th - 23rd April 2019



Sydney Royal 2019: Highland steer parades during competition

Article published in [The Land](#) by Lucy Kinbacher on 21st April 2019.

IN an era where led steer judging rings are dominated by well-groomed British and European breeds many onlookers were left glancing twice when a shaggy steer presented in the ring of the heavyweight open steer competition.

Exhibited by Frensham school, the steer was purchased from nearby breeder Susan Elder to compete at the Sydney Royal Show.

The steer, known as Tigger, was sired by Blackadder of Durness DUR4W and out of Sibella 9th of Durness DUR4S weighing 518 kilograms with rump and rib fat depths of 17 and 10 millimetres.

The school are no strangers to exhibiting Highland cattle, with parader Xanthe Hart confiding that their head mistress had quite a liking to the breed.

She said getting the steers up to weight had been a challenge.

"We got him from a breeder near school about two years ago and we have just been practising and teaching him how to do it the last two seasons," she said.

"Last year we had them at school but they didn't get into Sydney Royal because they weren't big enough, fat enough, so it's taken two years to get him here but once they do, they have really good fat scans and weight."

Tigger competed in a class of 24 head but didn't make the top line under judge Ben Davies.

Highland cattle are a Scottish breed usually featuring long horns and wavy woolly coats to help withstand weather conditions in the Scottish Highlands.

Males only grow up to about 120 centimetres but their meat is popular due to its lower cholesterol levels compared to other breeds.



Xanthe Hart, Barraba, with the Highland steer, Tigger, from Frensham school who was exhibited in the led steer competition. Picture: Rachael Webb.

THE LAND

Tigger Comes out Top in Taste Test

"Tigger" was bred by Susan Elder of Durness Highland fold, which sadly dispersed in 2016. Susan was appointed to the position of Patron of the Australian Highland Cattle Society Inc. in 2017 and was also awarded Honorary Life membership during her time as an active breeder, to recognise the contribution she has made to the breed in Australia. Susan was a foundation member of the initial committee of the society at its inception, and is well-known and respected for producing animals of a consistently high quality under the Durness fold name, as well as readily sharing her expansive knowledge on the breed for the benefit of others and their breeding programmes.

Susan donated two Highland steers to the Frensham school and the school had prepared both for entry into this year's Sydney Royal, but unfortunately due to show rules the better steer of the pair was disqualified from the competition due to a disallowed permanent tooth eruption.

Although Tigger was not placed in the on-the-hoof judging, he out-performed all the other smooth-coated breeds in the Virtual Taste Test judging of the on-the-hook section of the competition, earning First Place in his Open Heavyweight class, out of 24 carcasses (including Angus, Charolais, Simmental and Limousin, amongst others). The Virtual Taste Test competition assesses carcasses using Meat Standard Australia (MSA) grading standards. Each carcass is given a score out of 100 that reflects the predicted eating quality of a range of cuts from the carcass. To be eligible for entry into the Virtual Taste Test competition, a carcass must have a pH of less than 5.70 and a minimum rib fat depth of 3mm. In addition to judging of placings in the individual classes, an overall Champion Virtual Taste Test prize was awarded to the highest score across all 13 classes. The Champion prize was awarded to an Angus carcass in the Lightweight category with a score of 62.8 points, but Tigger came overall Runner-up with his score of 61.7 points, out of a total 225 carcasses and average taste test score of 60.2, not a bad effort!

Even though Tigger was overlooked in the on-the-hoof competition, he is a good example of where it's what's under the skin that counts in beef assessments and, as Susan Elder says: "It's all about quality, not quantity!"



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BREEDERS GROUP REPORT



Feb - March 2019

by AHCS South Australian State Representative, Scott Carter

CATTLE-HANDLING DEMONSTRATION DAY, FEB 2019

Pewsey Vale, Feb 9th 2019

This year the SAHCBG (South Australian Highland Cattle Breeders Group) started the year with a basic handling demonstration day run by myself and Luke Godly, for both new and not-so-new members alike.

The demonstration included a basic run-through of handling cattle at both home and show, halter selection, show cane work as well as some ringcraft etiquette.

Amrabull Park supplied a cow and heifer for the handling demonstration, giving each member the opportunity to put some of the things that they had learnt into practice.

The demonstration was followed by a SAHCBG meeting, where various issues were discussed, including breed promotion, fundraisers and sponsorship. Organisation is also underway for our annual state show, where it was decided that Gawler Show will host the show for another year. Thank you to Trevor and Robyn Perry for hosting the breeders group meeting.

MT. PLEASANT SHOW, MARCH 2017

[Mt. Pleasant Show, March 16th 2019](#)



While the early shows are over for the year already for South Australia, with only one country show having Highlands exhibited, the animals entered were highly noticed and represented the breed well. Three junior heifers from Amrabull Park were exhibited at Mt Pleasant Show in March, amongst a record number of entries with a total of 120 head of cattle of various breeds from several different studs being entered. 57 junior females were entered, which counted for almost half the number of animals at the show. The heifers aged between 9 and 12 months were split into two heats, due to 28 heifers being entered. Laura Angela of Amrabull Park and Emma Rose of Amrabull Park, who were the two youngest in this age category, competed in the first heat, and were placed in the top 5. The pair later competed in the top 13 from both heats for the age category. Laura Angela of Amrabull

Park was placed 5th overall, which is a great achievement for the breed in such a tough competition. Eevie Grace of Amrabull Park was exhibited in the female 14 and under 18 months old but unfortunately was not placed. Laura Angela and Emma Rose were later exhibited as a pair in the Pair of Females under 24 months, along with over 20 other pairs entered across several other breeds. The Amrabull Park pair was placed 3rd overall, with some fantastic feedback from the judge.

To top off a great show, I was selected to represent Mt Pleasant Show as Rural Ambassador at the 2019 Central Districts Show Association Finals in May. I plan on using the Rural Ambassador program to help promote rare and heritage breeds, especially Highland Cattle. What a great way to end a fantastic show!

On a final note, I would like to encourage all South Australian breeders to compete at as many local shows as possible. As an incentive, they will then be eligible to compete for the Tri Wiz-Herd Cup in the 2019 Tri Wiz-Herd Tournament.

For more details, feel free to contact me on 0438 815 610 or email me at amrabull_park@hotmail.com.



Scott Carter demonstrates show ring cattle handling techniques, with young heifer Eevie Grace of Amrabull Park, to onlookers from the South Australian Highland Cattle Breeders Group at Pewsey Vale on 9th February 2019.



2019 Mt. Pleasant Show 9-12mth interbreed heifer class: at centre - Emma Rose of Amrabull Park handled by Scott Carter of Amrabull Park fold; at right - Laura Angela of Amrabull Park handled by Luke Godly also of Amrabull Park fold, Nuriootpa, South Australia.



2019 Mt. Pleasant Show Female 14 months and under 18 months class: Scott Carter of Amrabull Park fold (Nuriootpa, SA) stands up Eevie Grace of Amrabull Park.



Laura Angela of Amrabull Park, handled by Luke Godly, and Emma Rose of Amrabull Park, handled by Scott Carter, are awarded 3rd place out of 20+ entries in the interbreed Pair of Females under 24 months at the 2019 Mt. Pleasant Show.



Scott Carter of Amrabull Park is awarded the 2019 Mt. Pleasant Show Rural Ambassador Award with the 2018 Rural Ambassadors looking on.

2019 MT. PLEASANT SHOW RURAL AMBASSADOR AWARD

(in conjunction with the Agricultural
Societies Council of SA)

SCOTT CARTER

of Amrabull Park Highland cattle



To earn the title of Mt. Pleasant Show Rural Ambassador, Scott demonstrated an enthusiastic and knowledgeable interest in rural life and affairs and agricultural shows. Scott was also judged on community involvement, country show involvement, general and rural knowledge, skills, ambitions and goals, and personality and communication style, along with grooming and deportment.



Scott went on to compete and earn the place of Runner Up at the Central District Shows Association Rural Ambassador Competition Finals at Angaston on 11th May 2019. Great effort Scott!



HIGHLAND FEATURE SHOW - WARRAGUL SHOW 2019



This year's [Warragul show](#), held by the Warragul and West Gippsland Agricultural Society, on 2nd March 2019, proved to be an ideal location for a feature show.

Despite the hot weather and smoky conditions from nearby bushfires, the facilities were exceptional and the hospitality even more so. Our position under the shady trees was ideal and provided a cool reprieve for the animals and the crowd.

The Highlands were well received by fellow exhibitors and organisers, and, as always, a massive hit with the general public.

Unfortunately, due to the conditions, horse and dog events as well as the fireworks were cancelled. This resulted in lower crowd numbers than usual. Although disappointing for organisers, the show was still a successful event and a lot of fun.

Our Highland breed was well represented with around 20 animals entered.



Judging for the day was conducted by a father and son team, Gary and Harry Turnham, who were very thorough in their job and provided a lot of positive feedback on the animals exhibited. A lot of reference was made to the quality of the animals entered and I think they were well impressed by the standard presented.

The award for Supreme Highland Exhibit of the show was awarded to heifer Eadie May

of Bairnsley, exhibited by AHCS Junior member Coen Miljkovic of Hillsvue Highlands. Coen also went on to receive the Robin Bjorksten Memorial Trophy for Best Herdsperson Award.

All in all, the day was fun, casual and a huge success.

*Shona Miljkovic
for the Victorian Highland Breeders Group*

2019 Warragul Show Highland Feature Show Results

JUNIOR FEMALES

Class 551 - Heifer, under 12 months

1ST MOLLY MOR DUBH OF BAIRNSLEY (8711)
DOB 13/03/2018

Sire: Uallach Dubh 1st of Bairnsley (8048)

Dam: Newlyn Dubh of Bairnsley (6194)

Owner: Glen Hastie

2ND SIUBHAN OF SEA CREST (8617)
DOB 21/04/2018

Sire: Dougal Brogarth of Sea Crest (8072)

Dam: Solta Lass of Sea Crest (8245)

Owner: Bronwyn & Malcolm Stewart



First place heifer under 12 months Molly Mor Dubh of Bairnsley (8711) handled in the ring by Jessica Taylor for Bairnsley Highlands.



Bronwyn Stewart of Sea Crest Fold of Flinders (Vic) with 2nd-place heifer under 12 months, Siubhan of Sea Crest (8617).

Class 552 - Heifer, 12 months and under 15 months

**1ST RENA OF SEA CREST (8617)
DOB 14/02/2018**

Sire: Dougal Brogarth of Sea Crest (8072)

Dam: Carina of Sea Crest (7674)

Owner: Bronwyn & Malcolm Stewart



First place heifer 12 and under 15 months RENA of Sea Crest (8617) handled in the ring by Jacob Loft for Sea Crest Fold of Flinders (Vic).

Class 553 - Heifer, 15 months and under 18 months

1ST SASSENACH DUBH OF BAIRNSLEY (8607)

DOB 01/10/2017

Sire: Calum Seoladair Dubh 2nd of Killochries (UK GRA010077)

Dam: Bean Dearn of Bairnsley (7292)

Owner: Glen Hastie



Glen Hastie of Bairnsley Fold (Gisborne South, Vic) with winning heifer 15 and under 18 months, Sassenach Dubh of Bairnsley (8607).

2ND POPPY DUBH OF OMAROO (8673)

DOB 10/10/2076

Sire: Sterling Silver of Durness (7894)

Dam: Ciara of Omaroo (8016)

Owner: Coen Miljkovic

3RD ST. TIFFANY OF KARDELLA KY (8546)

DOB 05/09/2017

Sire: Fergus of Blue Rock (8253)

Dam: Lady Phyllis of Kardella Ky (8355)

Owner: Peter & Penny Westgate



Coen Miljkovic of Hillsvue Fold (Alexandra, Vic) with 2nd-place heifer 15 and under 18 months, Poppy Dubh of Omaroo (8673).

Class 554 - Heifer, 18 months and under 21 months

No entries

JUNIOR BULLS

Class 555 - Bull, under 12mths

1ST CALEN ODHAR OF SEA CREST (8756)

DOB 03/05/2018

Sire: Dougal Brogarth of Sea Crest (8072)

Dam: Cloudia of Sea Crest (8059)

Owner: Bronwyn & Malcolm Stewart



Bronwyn Stewart of Sea Crest Fold of Flinders (Vic) with winning bull under 12 months, Calen Odhar of Sea Crest (8756).

CHAMPION JUNIOR FEMALE

MOLLY MOR DUBH OF BAIRNSLEY (8711)

RESERVE CHAMPION JUNIOR FEMALE

RENA OF SEA CREST (8617)

CHAMPION JUNIOR BULL

JACOBITE DUBH OF BAIRNSLEY (8614)

RESERVE CHAMPION JUNIOR BULL

CALEN ODHAR OF SEA CREST (8756)

2019 Warragul Show Results cont.

Class 556 - Bull, 12 months and under 15 months

1ST DONNAN RHUAD OF SEA CREST (8707)

DOB 11/02/2018

Sire: Dougal Brogarth of Sea Crest (8072)

Dam: Bonnie Lass of Sea Crest (7773)

Owner: Bronwyn & Malcolm Stewart



Winning bull 12 months and under 15 months Donnan Rhoad of Sea Crest (8707) bred and exhibited by Bronwyn Stewart of Sea Crest Fold in Flinders (Vic).

Class 557 - Bull, 15 months and under 18 months

1ST JACOBITE DUBH OF BAIRNSLEY (8614)

DOB 23/09/2017

Sire: Calum Seoladair Dubh 2nd of Killochries (UK GRA010077)

Dam: Isla Ruadh of Bairnsley (7282)

Owner: Glen Hastie

2ND RABBIE GEAL OF DUN AIRCHILL (8680)

DOB 28/09/2017

Sire: Ghost of Cawdor (6818)

Dam: Ronnachmore Odhar 2nd of Bairnsley (8024)

Owner: Peter & Penny Westgate



Winning bull 15 months and under 18 months Jacobite Dubh of Bairnsley (8614) bred and exhibited by Glen Hastie of Bairnsley Fold in Gisborne South (Vic).

Class 558 - Bull, 18 months and under 21 months

No entries

SENIOR FEMALES

Class 559 - Female, 21 months and under 24 months

1ST PIEGI OF SEA CREST (8456)

DOB 19/01/2017

Sire: Dougal Brogarth of Sea Crest (8072)

Dam: Sona Pollach of Sea Crest (8032)

Owner: Bronwyn & Malcolm Stewart



Bronwyn Stewart of Sea Crest Fold of Flinders (Vic) with winning Senior Female 21 months and under 24 months, Pieg of Sea Crest (8456).

Class 560 - Female, 24 months and under 30 Months

1ST EADIE MAY OF BAIRNSLEY (8481)

DOB 23/10/2016

Sire: Uallach Dubh 1st of Bairnsley (8084)

Dam: Beitidh Buidhe of Bairnsley (6984)

Owner: Coen Miljkovic



Coen Miljkovic of Hillsvue Fold (Alexandra, Vic) is awarded the prize for his winning Senior Female 24 and under 30 months, Eadie May of Bairnsley (8481).

CHAMPION SENIOR FEMALE

EADIE MAY OF BAIRNSLEY (8481)

RESERVE CHAMPION SENIOR FEMALE

PIEGI OF SEA CREST (8456)

GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE

EADIE MAY OF BAIRNSLEY (8481)

GRAND CHAMPION BULL

JACOBITE DUBH OF BAIRNSLEY (8614)



Winning Senior Female over 30 months Bonnie Beitidh May of Glenstrae (8371) with 2-week old bull calf at foot, bred and exhibited by Erica Smith of Glenstrae Highland Fold in Traralgon East (Vic). Calf handled by Javi Miljkovic of Hillsvue Highland fold (Alexandra, Vic).

Class 561 - Female over 30 mths

1ST BONNIE BEITIDH MAY OF GLENSTRAE (8371)

DOB 02/04/2016

Sire: Adamh of Kardella Ky (8256)

Dam: Isobail of Cruachan (4167)

Owner: Erica Smith

SENIOR BULLS

Class 562 - Bull, 21 months and under 24 months

No entries

Class 563 - Bull 24 months and under 30 months

No entries

Class 564 - Bull over 30 months

No entries

CLASS 565 - PAIR OF FEMALES

1ST SEA CREST (BRONWYN & MALCOLM STEWART)

CLASS 566 - PAIR OF BULLS

1ST SEA CREST (BRONWYN & MALCOLM STEWART)

CLASS 567 - GROUP OF THREE (3 head, with both sexes represented, bred by the same exhibitor)

1ST BAIRNSLEY (GLEN HASTIE)

2ND SEA CREST (BRONWYN & MALCOLM STEWART)



Winning pair of females exhibited by Bronwyn Stewart of Sea Crest Fold of Flinders, Victoria.



Winning pair of bulls exhibited by Bronwyn Stewart of Sea Crest Fold of Flinders, Victoria.



Winning Group of Three exhibited by Glen Hastie of Bairnsley Fold (Gisborne South, Vic)



Runner-up Group of Three exhibited by Bronwyn Stewart of Sea Crest Fold (Flinders, Vic)

SUPREME HIGHLAND EXHIBIT

EADIE MAY OF BAIRNSLEY (8481)

MOST SUCCESSFUL HIGHLAND EXHIBITOR

SEA CREST (BRONWYN & MALCOLM STEWART)

BEST HERDSPERSON AWARD

COEN MILJKOVIC (HILLSVUE)



Champion Junior Female, Molly Mohr Dubh of Bairnsley (8711) handled in the ring by Jessica Taylor for owner-breeder Glen Hastie of Bairnsley fold (Gisborne South, Vic).



Reserve Champion Junior Female, Rena of Sea Crest (8617) handled in the ring by Jacob Loft for owner-breeder Bronwyn Stewart of Sea Crest fold (Flinders, Vic).



Reserve Champion Senior Female Pieggi of Sea Crest (8456) exhibited by owner-breeder Bronwyn Stewart of Sea Crest Fold (Flinders, Vic).



Champion Senior Female and Grand Champion Female, Eadie May of Bairnsley, exhibited by Coen Miljkovic of Hillsvue Fold (Alexandra, Vic).



Champion Junior Bull and Grand Champion Bull, Jacobite Dubh of Bairnsley (8614) handled in the ring by Breeanne Francis for owner-breeder Glen Hastie of Bairnsley fold (Gisborne South, Vic).



Reserve Champion Junior Bull Calen Odhar of Sea Crest (8756) exhibited by owner-breeder Bronwyn Stewart of Sea Crest Fold (Flinders, Vic).



Father-son judging team Gary and Harry Turnham.



Judging of Junior Bulls 15 months and under 18 months.



Coen Miljkovic, Junior AHCS member (Hillsvue fold, Alexandra, Victoria), is awarded the Warragul Show Robin Bjorksten Memorial Trophy Best Herdsperson Award.

Pictured from L->R: Judge Harry Turnham, Coen Miljkovic, Judge Gary Turnham, and Warragul Show Committee Vice-President Leigh Price.



Supreme Exhibit of the 2019 Warragul Highland Feature Show, Eadie May of Bairnsley, exhibited by Coen Miljkovic of Hillsvue Fold (Alexandra, Vic).



Coen Miljkovic of Hillsvue fold with his heifer Poppy Dubh of Omaroo (8673).



Peter Westgate of Kardella Ky fold (Kardella, Vic) has a well-earned kip after the classes of the Warragul Highland Feature Show are all done and dusted, on what was an extremely hot and exhausting day for all.



First-time handler 7-year-old Javi Miljkovic from Hillsvue Highland fold (Alexandra, Vic) has a challenge on his hands leading 6-week old bull calf for Glenstrae Highlands - calf "Nevis" decided to use the "play dead" technique to avoid parading around the show ring, much to judge Gary Turnham's amusement.

RINGWOOD HIGHLAND GAMES & CELTIC FESTIVAL 2019



31st March 2019, Wantirna, Victoria

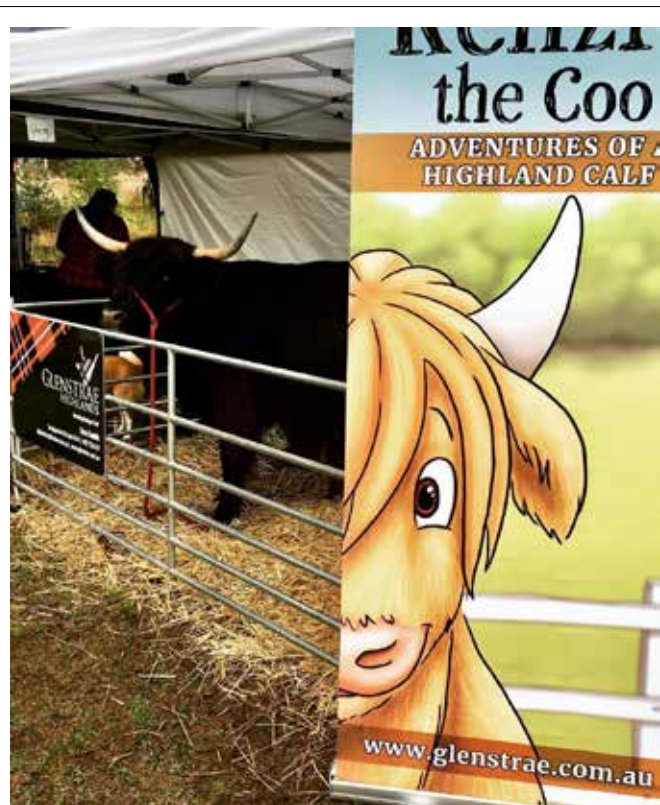
The [Ringwood Highland Games & Celtic Festival](#) is held annually at the JW Manson Reserve in Wantirna, Victoria, on the last Sunday in March, and is the last gathering of its type for the Victorian state season. The 2019 Gathering was held on 31st March and this year Highland cattle were represented thanks to the efforts of Erica Smith of Glenstrae Highlands from Traralgon East.

The event is opened each year with massed bands and a Clan March, and gathering patrons can enjoy all sorts of other entertainment, including Scottish Country dancing, pipe bands competition, Heavy games, Celtic Folk music, Highland Dance competition, Celtic face-painting and healing, and much more. This year event organisers were thrilled to have Highland cattle on display, and excitedly promoted their attendance on social media in the weeks leading up to the event. Glenstrae Highlands had two cattle on display – cow Bonnie Beitidh May of Glenstrae (aka “Betty”) with 6-week old bull calf at foot – as part of the attraction, gathering-goers were invited to put forward name suggestions for the calf.



With it being close to a two-hour drive from Erica’s fold home to the gathering location, Erica chose to make the trip to the Wantirna Reserve the day before – to take the pressure off needing to load the coos on the trailer in a hurry and having more time to set-up her exhibition stall. This worked out fairly well although the weather proved challenging for both loading and set-up, with what would normally (in the current drought climate around much of the country) have been a welcome downpour! The rain continued overnight and Erica, braving the elements and cosied up in her 3m x 3m marquee pen with the two coos and her trusty canine friend Gypsy for the night, had a bit of a rude awakening when she got up to tip the water off the marquee to stop some dripping, only to realise too late in her half-asleep state that she was standing on the wrong side of the marquee when the water fell!

Weather and sleep challenges aside, the actual day of the event went well and Beitidh and her calf were very well behaved in the face of crowds of people, strange noises, lots of dogs (and a goat!)..... they proved a great testament to the quiet temperament of the breed and were the main attraction at the event.



Real live Highland cow Bonnie Beitidh May of Glenstrae ready for the crowds at the 2019 Ringwood Highland Games and Celtic Festival, along with fictional character (based on real life inspiration) “Kenzie the Highland Coo”, promoting recently published children’s book “Kenzie in Search of a Friend” authored by Erica Smith of Glenstrae Highlands (see article on p. 14)



Erica Smith of Glenstrae Highlands catches up with her clan at the Clan Gregor tent at the 2019 Ringwood Highland Games and Celtic Festival.

Erica also had some Highland-themed merchandise on display, and was pleased to sell a few books, sculptures and mugs, with the funds from the sales going partway to funding the new cattle exhibition pen panels purchased for the event.

In-between fielding the crowds of people vying to get a look at her coos, Erica managed to catch up with clan companions at the Clan Gregor tent. Erica's fold name of "Glenstrae" has its origins in some of the lands originally held by Clan Gregor.

And as a bonus, in the wrap-up of the event, amongst the wide range of suggestions, Erica found a suitable name for her bull calf – "Nevis Stonemason of Glenstrae" – Nevis coming from "Ben Nevis", being MacGregor country, and Stonemason in honour of the calf's sire "Skye High Cornerstone" (US). Since the naming, Nevis has shown how apt his new name is - with his cheeky attitude and mind of his own, he is now known in the paddock as "Nev-Is", short for "Never Is...doing what he is supposed to"!



Nev-Is "Never-Is...doing what he is supposed to" displaying some of the attitude that has earned him his nickname:

Left: Playing dead instead of leading; Centre: On the wrong side of the fence from his Mum; and Right: Escaped and hiding in the garden



Gypsy the Border Collie manning the Glenstrae Highlands merchandise table. It's tiring work being part of the main attraction and receiving pats all day!



Bonnie Beitidh May of Glenstrae ("Betty") and newly-named bull calf at foot Nevis Stonemason of Glenstrae ("Nevis" for short), thanks to suggestions from the Ringwood Highland Gathering-goers.

SPROUT CROSS-POLLINATE CONFERENCE 2018

6th October 2018, Mount Gnomon Farm, Penguin, Tasmania.

by Craig McSwain, AHCS Tasmanian State Representative.



On a beautiful crisp, sunny spring morning I attended Mt Gnomon Farm in the North West of Tasmania for the 2018 [Sprout Cross Pollinate Conference](#). Mount Gnomon farm is on the edge of the Dial range that runs from Penguin through to Cradle Mountain. The farm is owned by Guy Robertson who raises ethically farmed pigs and fresh garden produce, both showcased in an on-farm restaurant. Guy also makes available a variety of fresh pork produce, as well as cured meats, at various events around the state during the year.

[Sprout Tasmania](#) is a not for profit organisation run by volunteers whose vision is for a knowledgeable and supportive local food community in Tasmania. At its core, Sprout Tasmania supports small food producers to mobilise and market their ideas and connect producers with consumers, as well as increase awareness with consumers of the seasonality and provenance of the food they purchase.

Sprout annually hosts its "Cross Pollinate" conference targeted at small-scale or start-up food producers in Tasmania (or those who love to cook and eat quality

local produce) and aims to educate and connect like-minded producers and consumers. The theme for the 2018 Cross Pollinate conference was "The Small Producer Puzzle – finding the right fit" – with a focus on the vast array of small producer businesses in operation, and in particular:

- 'lifting the lid' to see what makes the cogs turn;
- why particular producers chose to structure their businesses in a certain way; and
- how these businesses found the right fit for their farm as well as their family.

Hosted at [Mount Gnomon Farm](#), the 2018 Cross Pollinate conference included a farm tour, workshops, panel discussions, and wound up with networking drinks and nibbles.

The day began with a tour of the Mount Gnomon Farm - biosecurity was a major topic covered, with Guy explaining how easy it is to bring disease to a working pig farm. This topic was covered while we all took turns to disinfect our footwear in preparation for a walk around the farm. Guy talked about his rotational practices with managing his pigs and the work that he has done to balance his stocking rates to protect the viability of his land. Guy grew up on a pig farm - a traditional one - but decided that wasn't for him. After spending time studying and living the 'corporate dream', the farm life called him back. His family thought he was crazy when he said he was going to



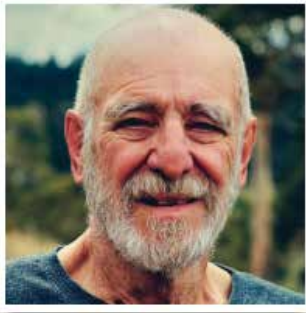
grow pigs again but he took a very different approach to the one he was familiar with growing up and now produces ethically grown pork that is butchered and processed on-farm (after being slaughtered in a local abattoir). Guy shared his journey, the ups and downs, the failures and successes, and really inspired others to keep their dreams of small-scale farming alive.

Next the group heard from the Sprout Co-Founder and 2018 Senior Tasmanian of the Year, Tony Scherer. Tony is an organic vegetable farmer originally from the US and was previously the owner of a large organic vineyard in Southern Tasmania. Tony shared his history as an organic farmer with an emphasis on the farmers' markets he helped set up in the US in the 1970's.

The original market he helped establish is still running today, offering fresh and local produce to customers in the immediate vicinity of the farms. Moving to Australia in 1990, Tony introduced several organic methods, passing his knowledge on to other organic farmers and demonstrating that organic agriculture was not only possible but could be profitable as well. As Tony spoke to the conference attendees, the pride was apparent in his smile as he talked about farmers markets finally being taken seriously around the country here in Australia, with Tasmania having several currently in operation.

After the farm tour and talk by Tony, the agenda moved onto the workshop component of the day.





2018 Senior Tasmanian of the Year

Tony Scherer – Tony is a pioneer of the organic farming movement and has helped the agricultural industry cut millions of tonnes of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, whilst growing healthy food.



2019 Cross-Pollinate Meat Producer Workshop Facilitator Allison Horswill - Member of the Board of Directors of the [Tasmanian Farmers & Graziers Association](#) (TFGA) and Vice Chair of TFGA's Meat Council, Allison works closely with peak industry bodies in her pursuit of long-term advancement of the interests of Tasmanian farmers across all commodities and recognition of the value in the Tasmanian agriculture brand.

There were several workshops run but attendees nominated a single workshop of particular interest to them to participate in on the day – the range of workshop topics on offer included three options - agri-tourism, regenerative agriculture, and state of play in the world of small meat producers. Whilst all topics would have been of interest to me personally, as well as having relevance to different aspects of managing a Highland cattle business operation, I chose to attend the workshop aimed at the small meat producer.

The Meat Producer workshop was facilitated by Alison Horswill, a Strategic Consultant in the red meat industry and broader agricultural sector, with a particular focus on business development, supply chain logistics and brand management to deliver high quality products and services to consumers. A Director of the Tasmanian Farmers & Graziers Association (TFGA), and Vice Chair of TFGA's Meat Council, Allison works closely with peak industry councils Sheep Producers Australia and Cattle Council of Australia, and Meat and Livestock Australia. Allison also recently participated in the National Farmers Federation delegation to Europe and the United Kingdom, meeting with farmers, peak agricultural bodies, and all levels of government in order to progress the position of Australian agriculture in upcoming trade negotiations.

The Meat Producer workshop discussion was insightful, with Allison having an extremely informed knowledge of the challenges in the industry. Amongst the participant contributions, I brought to the discussion the challenges commonly faced by Highland beef breeders around the country, with the main issues being around the horns and long hair not being readily accepted nor catered for in mainstream processing facilities. Sprout Tasmania's General Manager Jennifer Robinson advised the group that there is a currently an industry working party underway to address meat-processing issues in Tasmania and that Sprout would be happy to table any concerns or ideas from the workshop with this working party. The group agreed that it could be beneficial to take small producer concerns to the industry leads with the aim of giving a voice to these issues at a mainstream



The Mount Gnomon Farm on-farm restaurant and kitchen garden, with the 2018 Sprout Cross Pollinate Panel discussion tent at right.

The restaurant building (below) also contains a cool room and commercial kitchen certified for small goods production on-farm.



level. The primary concern amongst the workshop participants was around humane livestock processing, preferably on-farm, and if legislation changes could at all be considered to better support this. It was a great discussion with some very passionate farmers mostly concerned about the welfare of their livestock.

The day concluded with drinks and nibbles, showcasing local produce, including Mt Gnomon Pork, garden produce, and locally-made cheeses. A fantastic day was had by all in a beautiful location.

SPROUT TASMANIA AGM 2018

Following on from participation in the Cross Pollinate Conference, I also attended Sprout Tasmania's AGM in Hobart on 28th November 2018. It was another opportunity to catch up with the happenings in the industry and further discuss the key challenges facing Highland cattle beef breeders around humane processing of their

livestock, whilst honouring it as a premium beef breed and the value in other nose-to-tail products such as tanned hides and horns.

I again spoke with Sprout General Manager Jennifer Robinson about the issues we face with regards to mainstream processing facilities and she is very keen for Sprout to do what it can to help facilitate changes in the legislation to permit on-farm livestock processing. Jennifer also mentioned the value of the work AgriFutures™ 2017 Tasmanian Rural Woman of the Year Rebecca Lynd of Big River Highland Beef is undertaking, to design a small scale off-grid livestock and meat processing facility. Sprout is looking forward to the completion of Rebecca's report and design project to enable them to take her recommendations to the industry working-party that has been put together to specifically address meat-processing issues in Tasmania.



BUSHY PARK SHOW 2019

16th February 2019

by Craig McSwain & Alison Scott of Craggy Island Highlands.



Bushy Park Show was the first outing for us with our Highlands in 2019. We were prompted to enter this year when the show's beef cattle program organiser caught up with us at the 2018 Brighton Show and asked if we might consider bringing our Highlands along to Bushy Park in February.

[Bushy Park Show](#) is one of the oldest shows in Australia, having first been established in 1865 initially as a garden show, it now boasts a suite of agricultural events and demonstrations. It is hosted at the Bushy Park Showgrounds in Tasmania's picturesque Derwent Valley, alongside the River Styx. The weather this year was warm and sunny with clear skies, and although a bit on the warm side for our hairy coos during the afternoon, it was otherwise perfect weather for a show day.

The program catered for individual breed classes and organisers put on a set of dedicated Highland cattle classes for us. It was the first time that Highland cattle had been exhibited in the beef cattle classes at the Bushy Park Show and the organisers and other exhibitors were very welcoming to us - with the ring commentator making sure to thank us several times for being part of the show and warmly inviting us to return again next year.

It was a day of firsts, with Judge Richard Bailey, NLRS* stock reporter, seemingly very excited to be judging Highland cattle for his first time, going by the big smile on his face when we entered the ring. On completion of awarding the placings to our



The Craggy Island Highlands Junior Handlers and Heifers line-up, from left to right: First-time handler Taylah Francis (12) with Polly of Dun Airchill, Hespera McSwain (12) with Penelope of Dun Airchill, Naomi McSwain (16) with Radella of Sea Crest, and Rasmus McSwain (11) with Jemima of Dun Airchill.

heifer line-up, he passed his mobile phone to one of the stewards and specifically requested they take a photo of him with our Highlands, to record this "historic" moment (as he described it).

Whilst at the show, we managed to squeeze a bit of time in between classes to catch up with fellow Highland breeders, Bec Lynd and Bec Tudor of Big River Highland Beef, who were also involved with the show - however this year they were without their Highlands and wearing different hats - Bec Tudor in an official capacity being on the show organising committee, and Bec Lynd part of the team of equestriennes running Mounted Archery demonstrations throughout the day.

As always, we received a lot of interest and questions from the general public passing through, all keen to have a pat of our hairy coos. Another great day out.

Show results next page....

*MLA's [National Livestock Reporting Service](#)



Beef cattle judge Richard Bailey was excited to be judging Scottish Highlands for the first time and was quite intrigued with the horns. Pictured here meeting young Highland bull Bobbie Geal of Dun Airchill, handled in the ring by Craig McSwain of Craggy Island Highlands.



2019 Bushy Park Show Highland Results

JUNIOR BULLS

**Class 1 - Junior Bull born on or after
1st June 2017**

**1ST BOBBIE GEAL OF DUN AIRCHILL
(8679)**

DOB 28/09/2017

Sire: Ghost of Cawdor (6818)

Dam: Bonnie of Kimberley Cottage (8195)

Owner: Craig McSwain & Alison Scott



Class 1 - Winning Junior Bull born on or after
01/06/2017 - Bobbie Geal of Dun Airchill.

SENIOR BULLS

No Entries

JUNIOR FEMALES

**Class 3 - Junior Heifer born on or after
1st June 2017**

**1ST RADELLA OF SEA CREST (8581)
DOB 12/11/2017**

Sire: Artair of Bairnsley (7757)

Dam: Raineach Odhar of Bairnsley (7579)

Owner: Craig McSwain & Alison Scott

**2ND POLLY OF DUN AIRCHILL (8682)
DOB 01/03/2018**

Sire: Ghost of Cawdor (6818)

Dam: Poppy of Bairnsley (8047)

Owner: Craig McSwain & Alison Scott

**3RD PENELOPE OF DUN AIRCHILL
(8685)**

DOB 29/03/2018

Sire: Ghost of Cawdor (6818)

Dam: Paeony of Dun Airchill (8677)

Owner: Craig McSwain & Alison Scott



Class 3 - Winning Junior Heifer born on or after
01/06/17 - Radella of Sea Crest.

SENIOR FEMALES

No Entries

2019 Bushy Park

Show Junior

Handlers Results

HIGHLAND EXHIBITOR PLACINGS

Junior Handler 9-12 years

**1ST HESPERA MCSWAIN (CRAGGY
ISLAND HIGHLANDS)**

**2ND RASMUS MCSWAIN (CRAGGY
ISLAND HIGHLANDS)**

BushyParkShow
GORDON RIVER RD, BUSHY PARK in THE DERWENT VALLEY

**CHAMPION
JUNIOR
HIGHLAND
BULL**

**BOBBIE
GEAL OF DUN
AIRCHILL
(8679)**

**CHAMPION
JUNIOR
HIGHLAND
FEMALE**

**RADELLA OF
SEA CREST
(8581)**

Success for 145th Bushy Park Show

Article posted in the [New Norfolk News](#), 16th February 2019.

TODAY'S Bushy Park Show was the most successful in five years, show society secretary Alison Hennessy said as the event wrapped up this afternoon.

A full program of events was enjoyed at the 145th show, held in warm and sunny conditions on the Bushy Park Showground on Gordon River Rd.

The predicted maximum temperature of 26 degrees was reached in the early afternoon and peaked at 28.6 as the show

was winding down at 4.30pm. Forecast light showers did not eventuate.

More than 2200 people attended the event, which was one of the best turnouts in recent years. Former Tasmanian of the Year and 21-time world champion axeman David Foster attended as an ambassador for the recently re-launched Derwent Valley Gazette and said he was impressed by the event, which he remembered visiting with his father in years past.



Young exhibitor Raz McSwain, 11, of Penna, with Scottish Highland calf Gemima, aged 11 and a half months.

New Norfolk NEWS



News



Classic show draws in big crowds

Eleven-year-old Raz McSwain of Penna and Scottish Highland calf Gemima were among many participants at last Saturday's Bushy Park Show. The 145th edition of the Derwent Valley show attracted 2200 people, one of the best turnouts in years. *Photo: Debbie Weston*



Craggy Island Highland exhibitors in the junior cattle handling were Taylah Francis, 12, left, with Polly, Hespera McSwain, 12, with Penelope, Nao(i)mi McSwain, 16, with R(h)adella, and Raz McSwain, 11, with Gemima. Their Scottish Highland calves were all aged between 10 and 14 months.



Youngsters show the future is in good hands

MARKET TALK *By Richard Bailey*

Christmas and Santa Claus have been a big part of the show for many years. The show is a great opportunity for young people to learn about the industry and to show their skills. The show is a great opportunity for young people to learn about the industry and to show their skills. The show is a great opportunity for young people to learn about the industry and to show their skills.

Bushy Park Show Beef Cattle Judge and NLR Stock Reporter, Richard Bailey featured his experience at the 2019 Bushy Park Show in his "Market Talk" column in the *Tas Country* newspaper on 22nd February 2019 - his report on all exhibitors participating in the show was a glowing one, but our Highlands made particular mention: "History was made with the first ever showing of the Scottish Highland breed at Bushy Park and I can tell you it was a first for me. They were beautifully prepared and paraded by members of one family, which was a highlight in itself."



A St. John's Ambulance volunteer, who also doubled as show photographer, takes the details of the Craggy Island Highlands Junior Handlers and heifers team at the 2019 Bushy Park Show for the New Norfolk News.



Hespera McSwain, with Highland heifer Penelope of Dun Airchill, is awarded the first-place trophy for the 9-12 years Junior Handlers class at the 2019 Bushy Park Show.



Rasmus McSwain & Jemima of Dun Airchill in-step in the Junior Highland Heifer class.



Naomi McSwain of Craggy Island Highlands with 2019 Bushy Park Show Champion Junior Highland Heifer, Radella of Sea Crest.



16-month old Highland bull Bobbie Geal of Dun Airchill, bred & exhibited by Craggy Island Highlands, Penna, Tasmania.



BREAM CREEK SHOW 2019

16th March 2019, Bream Creek, Tasmania.

by Craig McSwain & Alison Scott of Craggy Island Highlands.



Bream Creek is a small rural community in Tasmania's South East. It takes its name from a creek full of Bream, located near the picturesque Marion Bay beach. It was this part of Tasmania where Abel Tasman made his first landing and Bream Creek's climate,

rich soil and high rainfall attracted white settlers, who in turn brought sheep, crops and cattle to the region. The ideal climactic conditions have sustained agriculture in the region since.

2019 was our first year exhibiting at the [Bream Creek Show](#) and we found it to be a great country show full of atmosphere. We were blown away by the number of people coming through the show - we can't be sure what the total number was, but it is reported that crowd numbers typically average around 7,000 people in the day. We are pretty sure that a high percentage of that number came through the pens containing our hairy coos! We did not get a break for the whole day, with continual streams of adults and children alike, eager to have a pat and a brush, and to ask us all sorts of questions about the breed. Our coos were on impeccable behaviour and very patient with all the attention and noise. It was the first outing for two of our young recently-weaned bull calves, and we were ready to close up the pens if it all became too overwhelming for them, but they took it all in their stride and quietly accepted the hubbub for the full day. As always, we gained great satisfaction out of seeing the absolute joy our animals put on the faces of so many.



Craig and Hespera McSwain of Craggy Island Highlands with Highland cow Poppy and bull calf-at-foot "Little Casper" during the 2019 Bream Creek Show Grand Parade.



TASMANIAN JUNIOR BEEF EXPO 2019

29th-31st March 2019, Deloraine, Tasmania.



The Craggy Island Highlands Junior Team attended the Tasmanian Junior Beef Expo (TJBE) for the first time in 2019. It was a fantastic event with lots of educational activities, in a supportive environment amongst breeders and handlers of a variety of different beef cattle breeds. It was the first time that Highland cattle had attended the event and our team was made to feel very welcome.

Expo participants were split into four groups (Novice, Sub-Intermediate, Intermediate and Advanced) based on experience, to cater for all ages and skill levels. The two youngest members of our Junior team, Hespera and Rasmus, were assigned to the Novice group and had the benefit of an allocated "Buddy" from the Advanced group for the duration of the camp. This Buddy system worked really well and fostered a very encouraging and supportive environment for the younger and less experienced entrants. Our older child Naomi, who had a little more handling experience under her belt, was assigned to the Sub-Intermediate group.

The judges and workshop educators included three experienced and knowledgeable individuals with varied backgrounds, and expo participants were able to benefit

from the guidance and judging assessments these three judges imparted over the weekend:

- Overjudge: Tim Woodham, Landmark Studstock agent from Wagga Wagga, NSW.
- Grame Hopf, veteran international livestock judge from Murwillumbah, NSW.
- Jasmine Green, manages Summit Livestock Limousin stud with husband Hayden Green in Uranquinty near Wagga Wagga, NSW.

The Expo ran for three days in a camp-style format, with participants and nominated guardians camping at the showgrounds for the duration.

The first day of the camp (Friday) included registration and introductions, with some team-bonding activities, followed by a host of educational workshops in the afternoon.

Day Two included more workshops in the morning along with the Junior Judging competition, followed by the all-breeds competition in the afternoon. Day Three looked at ringcraft and culminated in the Junior Handlers competition.

During the Expo, I was pleased to be able to chat with two of the judges myself (Tim and Grame) and discovered that they both had extensive experience in judging and assessing Highland cattle. Grame on an international level. In the all-breeds competition, the judges made some very positive comments about our heifers, with two of our heifers scoring well up against some tough competition (made up of mostly Shorthorn,



TJBE 2019 Novice Handlers: Hespera McSwain with Polly of Dùn Airchill and Rasmus McSwain with Jemima of Dùn Airchill.

Simmental, Angus, Limousin and Murray Grey).

I was particularly interested to sit in on the workshops run by Grame Hopf and talk with him afterwards to glean some valuable breeding advice - apparently Grame is well-known for carrying a bag of bones around in the boot of his car, which he uses for the purposes of demonstration of correct structure. It was obvious when talking with Grame that he has a particular passion for this topic and for sharing his knowledge with others. His bone "props" were a real hit with expo participants and it was great to see the youngsters hanging on his every word in his workshop sessions.



Grame Hopf conducts a cattle structure and assessment workshop using bones as demonstration "props".

We'd like to extend a big thank you to all the Expo committee, judges, volunteers and sponsors for giving our kids and cattle the opportunity to attend this level of event in our own home state. We'd thoroughly recommend it to youth who are interested in getting into cattle-handling or learning more about the beef industry (the event is hosted annually and is open to entrants between the ages of 8-25). The TJBE invites and encourages participants not only from Tassie but the other mainland states as well. If you know of any youths who would be interested in attending the Tasmanian Junior Beef Expo, please feel free to contact me on email craig@craggyislandhighlands.com or phone 0408 590 678.

A full report from our team of participants at the Expo is included on the following pages.

Craig McSwain
AHCS Tasmanian State Rep
Craggy Island Highland Fold



Naomi McSwain

Throughout the weekend of the Tas Junior Beef Expo, we were shown and given information about owning, judging and handling cattle. There were a lot of different workshops, like ear tagging and tattooing, vaccinations and drenching, dissecting a sheep stomach (because a cow's was too big), what to look for in a cow and a few more topics.

Personally, my favourite workshop was probably the vaccinations. We got to practise giving needles on pieces of meat that still had the skin and hair of the cow on it – which helped me to get a feel of how it would actually be to vaccinate a cow, and how tough the skin is.

During the expo there were also team-bonding activities that they called the 'Barnyard Olympics' – my favourite activity in this was the three-legged egg-and-spoon race. There were other activities like an egg-throwing competition, a relay with a balloon between your legs, getting a cheezel to the end of your team by only using a straw in your mouth, and a relay where each person had to get dressed in firefighter gear. It was a lot of fun!



Learning how to administer vaccination injections.



Hespera McSwain

On Thursday the 28th of March my sister, my brother, my dad and I drove up to Deloraine Showgrounds for the 2019 Tas Junior Beef Expo. When we got there we put our heifers in the shed and then we set up our tent.

At 9:00am on Friday we registered and got all our gear for the weekend. Then we had a group meeting and we got told the rules for the Expo and joined up with our buddies. Because I was in the Novice group, I had a Buddy from the Advanced group who helped me through the whole camp. After that we got put into groups and did a few fun challenges.

We then had a workshop on tattooing and ear-tagging, which was when we ear-tagged and tattooed a paper cow. Then we learnt how to inject a needle into a cow, for this we practised on a bit of meat with the skin still on it. After the needles we did a dehorning workshop, where we got to use dehorning tools on rockmelon cow heads.

After the morning activities had finished we had a break for lunch.

For the afternoon activities, we started with a quick wash and blow-dry workshop. After that was done we did a calving ease and cattle structure workshop – this was one of my favourite things from the weekend because the judge had all the bones of a cow and he taught us what the cow's bones should look like. Then we had a workshop of cutting up stomachs but it was too stinky for me so I washed my heifer instead.

When the afternoon activities were finished I fed and watered my heifer and had dinner. After dinner we did the team-fitting competition, which was when we had to prepare a cow in our groups – the rules were that everyone in the team had to be doing something at all times.

At the end of the day, after I had checked my heifer I went to bed in our tent.

On Saturday we got up at 6:00am, fed and watered our cattle and had breakfast. We then had a quick group meeting. After that we did a cattle assessment workshop.

After Morning Tea I did my first Junior Judging competition, which was fun.

We then had a lunch break and prepared our cattle for the All-Breeds competition. In the competition my heifer didn't place but the judges gave very good comments on her and said they had almost placed her.

After the competition we fed and watered our cattle and had dinner.

After dinner we did the Team Barnyard Olympics, which included egg-throwing and the three-legged race. We were all tired after that so we went straight to bed (after checking on our heifers of course).

On Sunday we got up early again and fed and watered our cattle and had breakfast. The Ringcraft Workshop was the first activity for the day, where we learnt how to present our cattle in the ring. After that we got our cows ready for the Handlers competition while the higher-level groups competed in their Handlers classes.

After the lunch break I had my handlers class, which was fun.

At the end of the day, we had a pack-/clean- up time and then everybody came together for the presentations. I received an Encouragement Award and my buddy Connor did well being placed 3rd in the Advanced Judging competition and also receiving the National Junior Heifer Show Award. It really helped having my buddy at the camp because whenever I needed a hand or didn't know something he would help me out.

After a busy three days, we loaded our heifers and drove home.

Overall it was a great weekend and I learnt a lot!



The bones workshop.



Rasmus McSwain

On Thursday the 28th of March my sisters and dad and I went up to the Junior Beef Expo. When we got there we put our cattle in the cattle shed and then we set up our tent. Friday 29th of March at nine o'clock we got into our groups for team-bonding activities. Once we finished the team activities we checked our cows and had morning tea. After that we learnt how to give the cows needles and a tattoo and an ear tag, and also learnt how to cut the horns off if you need to. After we did all that we had lunch. After lunch we learnt how to wash and blow-dry our cows and I washed my heifer. We also got to learn about different parts of the cow by looking at bones and cutting up a stomach. It was pretty smelly and lots of people went to wash their cows instead but I stayed as I thought it was interesting. At the end of the day we had dinner, then we fed our heifers and gave them water, and then we went to bed in the tent. Saturday 30th of March we got up at 6 o'clock and gave our heifers food and water and then we had breakfast. At 9 o'clock we had a group meeting and they told us what we were going to do for the day. First we had a cattle assessment workshop. Then we checked our cattle and had a morning tea break.



Cutting up stomachs.

After morning tea we had the junior judging competition and I got Reserve Champion Novice Junior Judge.

After the judging we had lunch and checked our heifers, and then we had the all-breed competition.



After the competition was over we gave our cows food and water and then we had dinner. After dinner we had the "Barnyard Olympics" where we got to do lots of fun activities in teams.

Sunday 31st of March we got up early again and gave our cows food and water, and then had breakfast.

After breakfast we learnt how to lead a cow in the show better. Then we had morning tea and got ready for the cattle-handling competition. Then we had lunch.

After lunch, we had the Handlers competition.

When all the competition was finished we packed up to leave and then we had the presentations. I got an Encouragement Award and received my sash for the Reserve Champion Novice Judge.



I wasn't sure before I went to the Expo if I was going to enjoy myself, but it was pretty fun. My favourite parts were the Barnyard Olympics and doing the hands-on learning activities - cutting up the stomach was pretty cool!



Naomi McSwain talks to overjudge Tim Woodham in the "Owned and Exhibited" class - this class was open only to entrants who were parading heifers that they owned. Instead of assessment of the heifer or the handler's skills as was normal of the other classes over the weekend, each participant was interviewed by the panel of three judges about their goals in their breeding programme and/or the industry - Naomi talked about her aspirations to breed good quality cattle and promote the Highland breed around the state, including working to dispel the fear around horns, and encourage other new breeders to get started with the breed.

The judges credited Naomi's presentation and answers with 3rd place and commended her on her work with promoting the Highland breed.



QUEENSLAND HIGHLAND BREEDERS FIELD DAY MAY 2019



5th May 2019, Rivertree Fold, Ferny Glen, Queensland

The month of May has been busy for the Queensland Highland Breeders, starting with our field day at Carl and Sarah Millen's Rivertree Fold at Ferny Glen. We welcomed potential future Highland breeders along with the AHCS Victorian State Representative Glen Hastie and partner Bree to our day.

The agenda was mainly around preparing for the upcoming agricultural shows at Marburg and Boonah. After initial resistance from some Queensland show societies to

accept horned cattle earlier in the year, Julie Colgan's three 12-month-old heifers were accepted as show entries to Marburg Show, while at Boonah they will permit some other Queensland members to also exhibit their Highlanders.

Topics at the field day included discussion on development of a beef enterprise for Queensland Highland Beef. Glen Hastie offered our group many good points with regards to developing a private beef market.



Carolyn Keans
AHCS Queensland State Rep

"Topics at the field day included discussion on development of a beef enterprise for Queensland Highland Beef."

MARBURG SHOW 2019

11th May 2019, Marburg, Queensland.

by AHCS Queensland State Representative, Carolyn Keans.



This was a huge day. My husband Ian and I were up early to travel 2 hours to the [Marburg Show](#) to meet up with Julie Colgan from Farm Fun fold and her two daughters, Jessie and Haylee. The girls had done a great job in prepping twin heifers Buttercup and Cupcake, and their third heifer Bare Butt (or "BB" for short), getting them washed and blow-dried. On the day of the show it was spot-cleaning, more brushing and a good amount of sweet talk.

Jules had entered her 3 heifers into the 12 month and under 15 months British Breed Class - unfortunately no other breeds were showing thus family members were up against each other. At the last minute Jessie had decided she couldn't quite manage showing Buttercup in the ring so in stepped Ian to save the moment. Haylee confidently walked into the ring with her charge Cupcake, followed by Jules and BB with Ian and Buttercup bringing up the rear.

The Judge took his time inspecting each heifer and then made his all-important decision and announced to the ring of onlookers the winner and his reasoning. Julie Colgan's Highlands walked away with first, second, third, Reserve Champion, Champion and Grand Champion of British Breeds Beef Cattle. Many thanks Jules for allowing Ian and myself to experience the moment with your girls Haylee and Jessie and for all your hard work on the day.

A plus side to showing at the Marburg Show was the interest the Highland heifers generated with the public and the many questions asked.

Next is the 2019 Boonah Show at the end of May - Leyburn Highland Stud and Rivertree Fold will be showing 2 Highlanders each.

And then it's off to the Nationals in Victoria for Leyburn Highland Stud where we will be competing at the AHCS National Show for the first time, so keep watching this space as Queensland is on the moooooove.....



Haylee of Farm Fun fold (Calvert, Qld) blowdrying Cupcake of Farm Fun in readiness for the 2019 Marburg Show.

2019 Marburg Show British Breed Results



2019 Marburg Show British Breed Junior heifer 12-15mths line-up, L->R: BB Bare Butt of Farm Fun handled by owner-breeder Julie Colgan of Farm Fun fold; Cupcake of Farm Fun handled by Haylee of Farm Fun fold; and Buttercup of Farm Fun handled by Ian Keans (Leyburn fold).

JUNIOR BULLS

No Entries

SENIOR BULLS

No Entries

JUNIOR HEIFERS

Class 7 - Heifer 12 months and under 15 months

1ST BUTTERCUP OF FARM FUN (8695) DOB 02/04/2018

Sire: McGonagle of The Ross (5891)

Dam: Heidi of Bo Gaidhealach (7074)

Owner: Julie Colgan

2ND CUPCAKE OF FARM FUN (8694) DOB 02/04/2018

Sire: McGonagle of The Ross (5891)

Dam: Heidi of Bo Gaidhealach (7074)

Owner: Julie Colgan

3RD BB BARE BUTT OF FARM FUN (8697) DOB 01/04/2018

Sire: Hamish of Bo Gaidhealach (7555)

Dam: Sunshine of Bo Gaidhealach (7541)

Owner: Julie Colgan

SENIOR FEMALES

No Entries



Grand Champion British Breed Female - Buttercup of Farm Fun - pictured with owner-breeder Julie Colgan and daughter Jessie of Farm Fun fold of Calvert, Queensland.

CHAMPION JUNIOR BRITISH BREED HEIFER

**BUTTERCUP OF
FARM FUN (8695)**

RESERVE CHAMPION JUNIOR BRITISH BREED HEIFER

**CUPCAKE OF
FARM FUN (8694)**



Reserve Champion Junior British Breed Female - Cupcake of Farm Fun - handled by Haylee of Farm Fun fold of Calvert, Queensland.

GRAND CHAMPION BRITISH BREED FEMALE

**BUTTERCUP
OF FARM FUN
(8695)**



HARVEY AG SHOW 2019

27th April 2019, Harvey, Western Australia

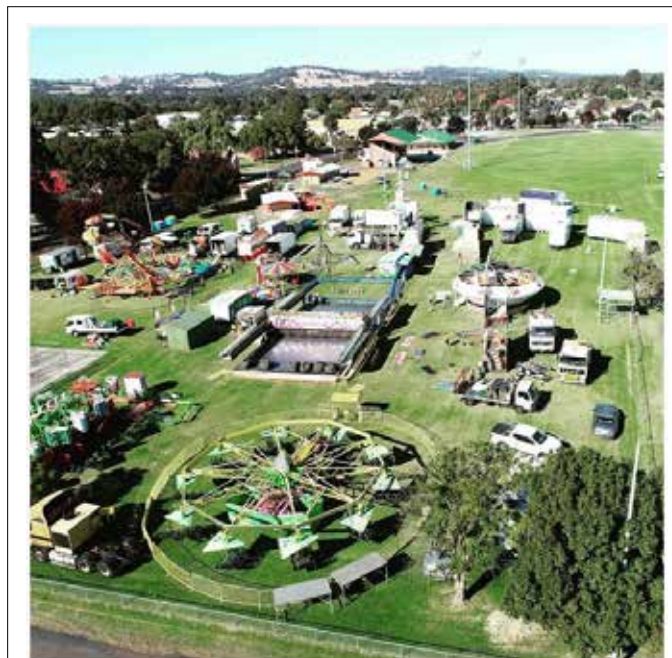


Harvey Show is a family-focussed event with an agricultural theme. 2019 was the show's 100th Anniversary and the first time Highland cattle had been exhibited at the show.

Nathan and Jessica Perry from MacLadanae Highland fold (WA/SA) exhibited a selection of their Highlands at the 2019 [Harvey Agricultural Show](#) in the show's Stud Beef Cattle competition. Genna McGregor and Nathan Gibson of Glenorchy Highland fold (Dardanup, WA) were also there in support to give Nathan and Jessica a hand with preparation and handling of their animals at the show. Genna and Nathan were not exhibiting their own cattle this time round due to their own cows being in late pregnancy, but with their property being only 30 minutes from the showgrounds, they did host the Mac-Ladanae team of coos for the night prior to the show to reduce Nathan & Jessica's transport time on the day.

The Stud Beef Cattle competition was divided into four sections – grouping together different breeds under the following categories: British, European, Compact and Bos Indicus. The Highland Cattle were exhibited in the British breeds section, and Nathan and Jess had 3 cattle on display - 11 year old cow Silver Dawn of Mac-Ladanae with her 6-month-old bull calf “Henry”, and heifer Elizabeth Dawn of Mac-Ladanae, Silver Dawn's 18-month-old daughter. All exhibits performed well, each coming top of their British Breed classes.

Throughout the day there was massive interest from the community with an inundation of questions from people excited to learn more about this unique breed. People of all ages flocked to the cattle lanes to see these beautiful animals that stood out from the crowd.



The Harvey Showground. Photo: Shire of Harvey.



The Mac-Ladanae Highland exhibits in the Stud Beef Cattle classes at the 2019 Harvey Ag Show, from L->R: Elizabeth Dawn of Mac-Ladanae (aka “Lizzie”), Henry of Mac-Ladanae, and Silver Dawn of Mac-Ladanae (aka “Honey”).



2019 Harvey Ag Show British Breed Results

HIGHLAND EXHIBIT PLACINGS

JUNIOR BULLS

Junior Bull under 8 months

1ST HENRY OF MAC-LADANAE (8825) DOB 11/10/2018

Sire: Campbell of Mac-Ladanae (8182)

Dam: Silver Dawn of Mac-Ladanae (6657)

Owner: Trevor, Robyn & Nathan Perry



Winning Junior British Breed Bull under 8 months
- Henry of Mac-Ladanae.

SENIOR BULLS

No Highland Entries

JUNIOR FEMALES

Junior Heifer under 24 months

1ST ELIZABETH DAWN OF MAC-LADANAE (8653)

DOB 01/11/2017

Sire: Jacobite of Mac-Ladanae (7664)

Dam: Silver Dawn of Mac-Ladanae (6657)

Owner: Trevor, Robyn & Nathan Perry



Champion Junior British Breed Female - Elizabeth
Dawn of Mac-Ladanae.

SENIOR FEMALES

Senior Female

1ST SILVER DAWN OF MAC-LADANAE (6657)

DOB 08/11/2007

Sire: Katrine of Rahil Park (3205)

Dam: Prince Charles of Mac-Ladanae (5532)

Owner: Trevor, Robyn & Nathan Perry



Champion Senior British Breed Female - Silver
Dawn of Mac-Ladanae.

CHAMPION JUNIOR BRITISH BREED FEMALE

ELIZABETH DAWN OF MAC-LADANAE (8653)

CHAMPION BRITISH BREED SENIOR FEMALE

SILVER DAWN OF MAC-LADANAE (6657)



Nathan Perry gives 6-month old Henry a
pre-show-week shampoo in the lead-up to the
2019 Harvey Ag Show.



30TH ANNIVERSARY LIMITED EDITION BELT BUCKLES



In honour of the 30th Anniversary of the AHCS celebrated in 2018, the Society has released a limited edition belt buckle.

These decorative custom-made buckles have been die cast in a three-dimensional design with antique bronze finish, with each buckle coming packaged in a collectible silver display tin.

Buckles retail for \$60 each (plus postage) and orders can be placed via the Merchandise Officer, Scott Carter, on email amrabull_park@hotmail.com. In your email, include your membership number or fold name, how many buckles you would like to order, and your postal address. On receiving your order, Scott will confirm the postal charges payable and the total payment required to place your order. Payment can then be made to the AHCS via bank deposit or cheque.

Buckles are also available for purchase by non-members and if you have friends or family (whether Australian locals or international residents) who might be interested in purchase of one of these collectible buckles, please forward this information on to them.





HAVE YOU CONSIDERED LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP?

To all members of the Australian Highland Cattle Society,

Your Council has come up with what it considers a novel and exciting way to be a member of the Society.....**LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP!**

This new membership option will be limited to the first 100 applicants at a once-only figure of \$2200 (inc GST).

Upon becoming a Lifetime Member you will receive a number between 1 and 100 and be recognised on the Lifetime Honour Board on the AHCS website.

We are working on special apparel to signify your inclusion in this exclusive Lifetime 100 club.

On receiving your lifetime membership, you will never need to pay annual membership fees again!

As a lifetime member, you will:

- be exempt from any future inflationary membership fee price increases;
- retain voting rights to enable you to play a continued role in the direction of the future society, even after you make the choice to retire from breeding; and
- be able to keep in touch with society news and the AHCS breeding community for your entire life.

Imagine the magnificent creatures that are Highland cattle being a part of your life in some way forever!

For those younger or Junior members, taking Lifetime membership now could save many years of fees and secure your breeding membership for the future.

For the special people in your life, you might consider an AHCS Lifetime membership as a gift. For budding breeders, it could make a wonderful 18th or 21st birthday present!

Note that this offer is not to be confused with Honorary Life Membership, which is when Council bestows a member with the status of Life Member to reflect the significant value the member has contributed to the breed and society.

Both Honorary Life Membership and Lifetime Membership equally represent a commitment to the future of the Australian Highland Cattle Society and preservation of this wonderful heritage breed in Australia.

Enquiries to The Registrar at highland@abri.une.edu.au or phone 02 6773 3144.

Upgrade
to Lifetime
membership before
June 30
to receive a rebate
of your 2019
membership fee

www.australianhighlandcattle.org/life-membership.html

AHCS COUNCIL NEWS

June 2019

2019 NATIONAL SHOW & SALE

Our 2019 National Show is just around the corner and the host committee from the Victorian Highland Breeders Group has been working very hard with preparations. This year we will see a very special event, with the show being run in conjunction with the National Celtic Festival in Portarlington. Also don't forget that we will be running an Elite Stud Stock Sale, where a selection of quality animals exhibited at the show will up for auction. The Auction Sales list has now been circulated to members by email and all sale animals are also listed on the AHCS Classifieds website (www.ahcsclassifieds.org). The Celtic Festival runs from Fri 7th - Mon 10th June and there will be cattle on display for the full event, but only in the show ring on Sat 8th and Sun 9th June, with the Stud Stock Sale being held on the Sunday afternoon. More information is available on the AHCS website at: www.australianhighlandcattle.org/ahcs-national-show.html.

2019 AGM

A reminder that the 2019 AHCS AGM will be held in conjunction with the National Show, at 5:00pm on Saturday 8th June 2019 at the Portarlington Guide Hall, Boat Road, Portarlington Recreation Reserve, Portarlington, Victoria. If you are planning on attending, your RSVP should already have been sent in to the Executive Officer or National Show Committee. If you are attending by Proxy, ensure to

have your Proxy nomination forms submitted to the Executive Officer no later than 5:00pm Wednesday 5th June 2019.

REINTRODUCTION OF MANDATORY TATTOOING IN 2020

A reminder that mandatory tattooing will be implemented for all new animal registrations submitted from 1st January 2020. This change has been implemented in response to ongoing issues with cases of inability to confirm the true identification of animals claimed to be registered with the AHCS due to loss of NLIS ear tags, especially in the case where animals have passed out of registered breeder hands and through the hands of multiple other non-member owners (who can often be less diligent with NLIS-tag replacement), before coming back into the hands of AHCS members wishing to breed with these animals but unable to accurately verify their identity. To help members prepare for the transition, an article on the technique of tattooing has been included on page 24 of this issue of the *Highland Fling*.

NEW RECORD OF SALE FORM

Council has recently implemented a new "Record of Sale Form" that is intended to offer buyers of AHCS-registered animals some protection in the case that the vendor delays sending in transfer paperwork or it goes missing. The form is optional for use but Vendors are required to fill out the form at the time of sale if a buyer specifically requests it. The Record of Sale Form is fillable by computer (if desired) and can be downloaded from the AHCS website.

NEW LOST CERTIFICATE FORM

To address the issue of owners of cattle at times losing animal registration certificates, Council has implemented a new "Lost Certificate Form". This form will replace the requirement to submit a Stat Dec in the case of lost registration certificates and gives the option for owners to reissue a replacement certificate in their own name or to enact a transfer to a new owner without the need for double-handling. The new form is available for download from the AHCS website and can be filled out on computer.

NEW BULK TRANSFER REQUEST FORM

A third new form that has recently come into effect is the "Bulk Animal Registration Transfer Form" that enables owners to fill out transfer details for multiple animals to the one buyer on one form. This replaces the requirement for sellers to complete the transfer on the back of every registration certificate on the sale of multiple animals. However, it does not void the need for the originals of the paper certificates of the animals being transferred to be surrendered to the Registrar along with the transfer form. The new form can be filled out by computer if preferred and is available for download from the AHCS website.

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CONTACT US

Please contact any of the Councillors listed in the front of this newsletter if you wish to discuss any of the Council News items, or if there are any other matters or areas of interest you would like to raise with us.



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