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2019 MARCH BRAHMAN NEWS DEADLINES
Bookings required by FRIDAY, 1ST FEBRUARY 2019
Artwork & photos required by FRIDAY, 8TH FEBRUARY 2019
Editorial

As 2018 draws to a close it has been a successful year for the Brahman Breed with many great results in Commercial competitions, Show ring competitions and topped off in the selling ring with a top for the breed of $100,000 at Brahman week for the polled Clukan Axel 333/7 closely followed by the top red bull, also poll, selling for $95,000, Muan A Sundown 5561. These two top price bulls were closely followed by very good money which was outlaid for top sires with many reaching over the $50,000 mark during Brahman week but also during the private sales surrounding it, despite the ongoing dry conditions over most of the country. Not only were the top end of these sales strong the overall averages were very impressive.

As you will see in this edition we have all the stories about the sales that have been in the last 3 months but the opportunity could not be missed to ask Rodger Jefferis his thoughts on the breed and where it has been and what he can see in the future after resigning from the board he has served for the past 25 years. Rodger has been a tremendous asset to the breed as councillor and Vice President and then President and he will continue his work on various committees for the Association imparting his words of advice.

I have visited many sales and events throughout the year especially in the last three months and I have very much enjoyed the opportunity to meet and speak with many members and hear their thoughts on various subjects including so much positivity about the breed and its continual progress. Thanks for coming to have a chat.

In this issue we also remember several breeders who we have lost in recent times who have made a large contribution to the breed in their own way. Our thoughts are with their families.

2019 is looking to be another exciting year for the breed with many promotional opportunities in the works between feature shows, field days and the sales, Bull and Female, spread throughout the year.

Wishing all a happy and healthy Christmas with a large dash of rain.

Until 2019 all the best.

The Editor

On behalf of the President, Council and Staff, I wish to extend to you the compliments of the season and best wishes for health and prosperity in the New Year!

Anastasia Fanning,
Manager

Merry Christmas

DECEMBER 2018
The 2018 year has been one that has posed many challenges and added stress to many cattle producer households due to exceptionally unfavourable seasons. But the smiles and laughter shared between all, be they few and far between sometimes; is testament to all of our producers, their families and friends of the strength and resolve to not “throw in the towel” and support each other through these times.

With poor growing conditions experienced throughout the year, it is of no surprise the projected 2018 slaughter for 2018 is 7.8 million head. These figures will decline with the availability of cattle for slaughter becoming increasingly hard to find outside of the feedlots because of the ongoing dry conditions. The country’s breeder herd continues to decrease as producers are forced to reduce their numbers. It has been noted beef production is projected to finish the year at 2.3 million tonnes (cwt) an increase of 6% on the 2017 year with an estimated beef export of 1.1 million tonnes (swt) 9% higher than 2017 with increases to the Asian sector of Japan (7%), Korea (15%) and China (55%). The live export market continues to be very strong with many times throughout the year this market was one of the strongest down the east coast. Many new projects are in development to handle the larger numbers of export cattle being moved through holding yards.

Australian domestic markets remain relatively stable despite the drought conditions with the commercial Brahman market and Brahman genetics shining through due to the breeds hardiness and feed efficiency. The ABBA Commercial Brahman Promotion Committee and the Board are currently investigating various avenues in which we can highlight our breed in the year ahead. There will be two Brahman Feature Shows to be held in 2019. The first at Rockhampton Show in mid-June followed by the Ekka in August. Also to partner with the Feature Show at the Ekka the association is looking for strong support for a new class that has been included into the Paddock to Palate competition. The new class will be a Non – HGP class with 7 head per pen and the cattle will be fed for the 120 days. The Association will continue its support of producers being involved in this competition with $10000 being given to each exhibitor for their participation with pure Brahman pens.

Two extra Field Days are also on the agenda with a BeefUp Forum including the BIN Project animals on display to be held at Narayen, Mundubbera on March the 6th. Another Field Day will also be held at the Mogul Stud, Yorklea via Casino, NSW on the 1st of June.

Stud sales have been predominantly outstanding with very solid averages and excellent clearances, which is a testament to the quality lines of cattle being presented and sold. There is no doubt that the Brahman Breed is improving tenfold and that quality top end of the market spectrum genetics can be found from many studs which has shown to be true at recent sales. I recently attended the Gold City Sale in Charters Towers and the yarding was the best to date and I congratulate the sale organisers and vendors on an excellent offering.

I had the pleasure of catching up with many of our members at the recent sales; it is reassuring and humbling to see Brahman breeder families of various generations and newcomers alike, affording a comfortable living from the production and sale of our ever-evolving breed. I feel it safe to say our fore fathers and followers of past that are no longer with us, would be very proud to see the advancements the Brahman breed has achieved.

The festive season is upon us and I hope that everyone has the opportunity for some time out to relax with friends and family with the hope that 2019 will be kind and prosperous to all.

All the best for the festive season

Regards

Anastasia Fanning

Manager
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TROPICAL CATTLE
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Some of the females scheduled for May IVF program at Dalkeith Downs Gracemere.
In October 2018

Bought Carinya Danney (IVF) ($65,000)
Weight 945kg at 22 months.
His sire was USA Show Bull of the Year 2011 and trait leader for docility. Full details next issue. Semen export only.

In February 2019

Selling four bulls (2 polled) at Big Country, Charters Towers.

Some quality herd bulls still available. Discounted price for bulk buyers.

Wishing all a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year from All at Tropical Cattle.
Buyers’ positive attitude buoys RBWS results

By Cindy Benjamin, photos by Kent Ward

The 2018 Rockhampton Brahman Week Sale (RBWS) has matched last year’s excellent result, with a gross earning of $7.75 million. The 2017 and 2018 sales now jointly hold the second best result in the RBWS 42-year history.

The 804 head sold for an average $9639, overtaking the 2017 sale by a handy average of $450 per head. Stud and commercial buyers clearly maintain a positive outlook and are looking forward to improved seasonal conditions.

Twenty-five per cent of the sale’s gross earning, worth $1.93 million, was raised from 419 head, which attracted $3000–7000 each.

On day 2 of the sale the top priced grey bull changed hands. Lot 364 Clukan Axel 333/7, bred by Steve and Theresa Taylor, Jambin sold for $100 000 to the Harriman family, GI Brahmans, ‘Thagoona Station’, Muttaburra.

The 25-month polled bull weighed in at a whisker over 900 kg, has a scrotal circumference of 42 cm and an EMA of 144 and was the Harriman’s sole purchase.

The Taylors said the son of NCC sire El Toro and Clukan’s leading polled donor cow Destiny 254/3 has tremendous bone and muscle attributes. They sold a 3/4 share and full possession of Axel, plus 50 straws of semen.

He led the grey contingent at the sale to achieve a gross total of $4.6 million for 479 bulls to give an average $9628.

Reds performed well overall, achieving an average of $9,655 for 325 head sold, generating a total of $3.1 million for vendors.
Although only nine herd bulls were sold at the 2018 RBWS – 4 grey for a total of $30,000 and 5 reds for a total of $29,500 – the average price was well up on last year’s event. The average price achieved for herd bulls was $6611 ($4625 in 2017) compared to an average $9673 paid for the 795 registered bulls.

Bulls were sold to almost 270 buyers during the 3-day event with the largest haul of 23 grey bulls going to the Gulf’s Lawn Hill & Riversleigh Pastoral Holding Company for an average of $4673. Hartley Grazing, Mitchell invested $136,000 in 21 bulls (15 grey, 6 red) for an average $6476.

The largest investment was $152,000 by the Curley family of ‘Gipsy Plains’, Cloncurry in the purchase of three grey and two red bulls for an average price of $30,500. Their draft included the second-top priced red bull, Kandoona 14031 (AI) (ET) (H) for $80,000.

The highest average price paid was $44,166 for a draft of three bulls (2 grey, 1 red) by Yoman Cattle Company. The leader of the draft was equal-second priced Brahrock Ashley Sir Brandon (IVF) (D), bred by Ashley Sommerfeld and sold for $72,500.

Steve and Teresa Taylor’s Clukan prefix, Jambin posted the best result for vendors at the sale, selling a draft of seven bulls (six grey and one red), including the sale topping bull for $100K, for an average $27,786 to generate gross earnings of $194,500.

Close on their heels in the averages was Mitch Kirk, Gayndah who achieved an average $26,167 for three bulls, including joint 4th top-priced grey, Carinya J Wolverine who sold to Paul and Linda Oates, Borilla Creek Brahman, Emerald for $65,000. Wolverine is a son of Garglen S Cooper, whose progeny have averaged $47,500 so far at auction.

The vendor selling the largest draft was John Kirk’s Carinya prefix, Gayndah. The draft of 24 Carinya bulls averaged $22,812, with four buyers purchasing two bulls each.

The draft also attracting three of the top 5 prices at the sale for Lots 162 Carinya Chevy (sold to Ruan Grazing for equal 2nd top price $72,500), Lot 159 Carinya Dupont (sold to Peter &
Joy Newman for $70,000) and Lot 157 Carinya Danney (sold to Tropical Cattle Brahmans for $65,000).

At 23 months Carinya Chevy is a big boned, powerful young sire with a strong pedigree and great temperament. The rising two-year-old tipped the scales at 915 kg, with an EMA of 146 sq cm and a scrotal circumference of 41cm. He is the homebred son of sire Carinya Jigsaw 392/0 and dam Carinya Lady Denton.

The other bull to attract the 2nd top price of $72,500 was Lot 149 Brahrock Ashley Sir Brandon, the IVF progeny of JDH Sir Hudson Manso 596/7 and Brahrock Ashley Taylor. Sir Brandon was Ashley Sommerfeld’s only offering at the 2018 fixture and sold to Yoman Cattle Company.

Buyers waited patiently to bid for Lot 873 late on Day 3 when Biggenden vendors Len and Sandra Gibbs’ polled red Muan A Sundown 5561 attracted the top red price of $95,000 from repeat buyers Annabelle and Keith Wilson, ‘Samari Plains’, Surat.

Sundown’s sire is imported US bloodline SRS Mr Troubador 933 and his dam is homebred polled cow Muan A Diane 3999. The 23-month-old Sundown 5561 weighed in at 874 kg with scrotal circumference 43 cm and EMA 130 sq cm.

The second-top red price was paid for Bevan and Elizabeth Radel’s Kandoona 14031, knocked down to Gipsy Plains Cattle for $80,000. He is the IVF progeny of sire NCC Muscat 2061 and Kandoona dam 9695. At 22 months Kandoona 14031 had scrotal circumference 40 cm, weighed 880 kg with an EMA 135 sq cm and rib fat score 11.

Lee and Gillian Collins snapped up Stewart and Stephanie Nobbs’ red bull Yoman 2792/6 for $71,000. The son of Carinya L Warrego and Yoman cow 2181/3 led Stewart and Stephanie’s 16-strong offering at the 2018 RBWS. He was the only addition that the Collins’ made to their Wandilla stud, Marlborough at this event.

Parker Grazing Trust, ‘Clare Station’, Jericho is the new home for red Oline Kansas who sold for $50,000. The son of Carinya L Warrego and Yoman cow 2181/3 led Stewart and Stephanie’s 16-strong offering at the 2018 RBWS. He was the only addition that the Collins’ made to their Wandilla stud, Marlborough at this event.

Matthew said the 890 kg 24-month old Utah has the presence, skin type and performance of a genuine sire, with 41 cm scrotal circumference and 146 sq cm EMA.

Fifth highest price of $60,000 topped the 14-strong grey bull offering from vendors Tony and Katherine Mortimer, Token Brahmans, Dalma to reach an average $12,928.

The three-quarter share and full possession of 34-month-old Token Interest was the sole purchase of Brett Nobbs, Nobbs Cattle Co, Duaringa. Described as ‘a powerful bull with very good temperament’, Token Interest is the son of Gracemere prefix sire Longfellow and Token Miss 262/0.

Carinya Darcy 7/698 was a joint purchase of Andrew & Anna McCamley for their 2AM Brahman stud, Dingo and David & Julie McCamley for their Palmal prefix, Dingo. Bred by John Kirk, Gayndah, the 22-month-old IVF son of US Show Bull of the Year 2011, SCD Didor Esto 623/1 and Carinya Miami, sold for $45,000.

Lot 391 Carinya M Hawkwood bred by Matthew Kirk sold for $38,000 adding to the draft of four bulls purchased by Viva Brahmans for an average $17,875.

First grandson to auction through NCC Sugarwood son, Carinya Norwood, and Carinya M Marcella, Hawkwood was the best priced grey bull in the draft of 12 grey and red
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Kandoona 14031

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QUALITY RED & GREY Paddock BULLS FOR SALE
bulls, which averaged $16,125 for the Carinya M prefix.

The sole purchase of Spinafex Brahmans, ‘Deearne Station’, Eidsvold was the best priced bull in draft of 22 greys from Tony and Joanne Fenech and family’s Fenech Brahmans, Wowan.

With strong Lancefield lineage on his sires’ side, FBC Jackpot Manso 111/2 was valued at $36,000.

The 22 month-old son of Lancefield S Isaac 5062/1 and FBC Lady Lilly De Manso 331/1 weighed in at 856 kg with a 37 cm scrotal circumference and 137 sq cm EMA.

Red 22-month-old NK Hustler changed hands for a tidy $45,000, but will stay in Central Queensland. A product of NK Hills prefix, Theodore, Hustler finds a new home in Shane and Sandra Bishop’s Garglen Brahman herd at Moura. Sired by Stockman Mr Impressive, Hustler was the Bishop’s sole purchase at 2018 RBWS and led a 10-strong mixed team from NK Hills, averaging $11,600.

Muan Pastoral, Biggenden offered eight reds, which sold for an average $14,812. Leading the Gibbs family team was Muan Scout 5394, the son of NCC Skoda and polled dam Muan Aruma 4434, sold for $45,000. 2-year-old Scout weighed 814 kg with a scrotal circumference of 37.5 cm and 137 sq cm EMA.

Successful buyer, Villawood Pastoral, purchased two reds for an average $33,500.

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Robinson 2nd 2805 is a maternal sister to Tarramba Palissimo, Gunthorpe’s resident herd sire.

Kandoona 14046 attracted a winning bid of $36,000, the second highest price for the 20-strong red draft catalogued by Reade and Jill Radel from Kandoona Red Brahman, Injune, to average $13,450. The 23-month-old son of NCC Muscat 2061 and Kandoona 9695 weighted 860 kg with a 39 cm scrotal circumference and EMA 136 sq cm. Kandoona 14046 joined two grey bulls to complete a Yoman Cattle draft of three for an average $44,166.

The six new vendors at the 2018 event were all well supported, selling all bulls offered.

On day 1, Grant and Jo Bulmer offered a draft of two grey bulls from their Mountana Brahman Stud near Kyogle, NSW. Mountana Uno, sired by polled Lancefield S Dunbar 4844/1 was the sole purchase of Nosilla Brahmans while Mountana Ginger, the son of Lancefield Hawkesbury 4802/1 joined the 21-strong draft finding a new home at Hartley Grazing.

Day 2 featured four new vendors Wendy and Reg Valmadre of Cedar Bend Brahman, Jambin; John Randell of Crinum Stud, Tieri; Emanuel and Tracey Mifsud, Maru Brahman, Sarina and Del and Narelle Chapman, Bardia prefix, Wowan.

Wendy and Reg Valmadre’s Cedar Bend Warrior 157/7, the son of Clukan Whisky 276/4 and Cedar Bend D16 sold to Hill-Rise Pastoral Co, Proserpine, who also took home another grey bull from Jim and Bonnie Besley’s Bungarribee prefix, Baroyston.

John Randell of Crinum Stud, Tieri catalogued four bulls – three grey and one red – for the 2018 sale. The grey bulls Crinum Benny Manso, the son of Blue Blood Charming and Crinum Serapak Manso 1432 followed by Crinum Jester 1754 and Crinum Banjo 1750, both sired by Wilangi Allo Allo, sold to Bluff View Grazing, Olive Brahmans and Malaroga Grazing Co respectively.

Lot 588, a polled red bull Maru Jamal, son of Three D Platinum and Maru Bela Manso listed by Emanuel and Tracey Mifsud, Maru Brahman, Sarina was the sole purchase of Alastair Besch, Dululu for a tidy $18,000.

All the way from Port Headland, WA, the Bettini family of Bettini Beef selected Del and Narelle Chapman’s polled Bardia Creedence, sired by Bardia Ambassador and out of Bardia dam Tegan to complete their draft of four grey bulls for an average price of $21,000.

On day 3, Crinum Feldt, the homebred son of Crinum Boston 1445 and Crinum Stephanie 1386 sold to Allan Wild, ‘Lynd Downs’, Taroom who also bought red Jacana Magnum Power 2/16 son of JCC Poll Calibre on account of Jarrod Wohlsen, Jondaryan.

Jesse Zischke, Balara Stud, Gympie sold Balara Bos Our Roundup, the son of Balara Bos Sunrise and Cherokee Miss Gi Star Mover Deman and homebred Balara Bos Diamond Sunset, the son of Bos L’I Red Sunset and Dancing In Tune to Fairfield Ag.

Thank you to the buyers and agents for a great result for the Brahman breed and the beef industry as a whole.
Clukan Axel chosen for polled genetics and sire potential

By Cindy Benjamin

Steve and Theresa Taylor, Jambin were pleased to see their 25-month polled bull Clukan Axel 333/7 gain the attention of buyers on Day 2 at Rockhampton Beef Week Sale.

After spirited bidding the hammer fell, selling Axel to Ron, Grace and Kelvin Harriman, GI Brahmans, Thagoona Station, Muttaburra for $100,000.

After spending time to select a short list from the grey polled bulls on offer at the sale Kelvin and Libby Harriman could see the value in the three-quarter share and full possession of Axel, the son of NCC sire El Toro and Clukan’s leading polled donor cow Destiny 254/3, plus 50 straws of semen.

“We went to RBWS specifically looking for a polled grey who had the potential to add thickness to our herd and Axel certainly has the bone structure and eye muscle traits that we were looking for,” said Kelvin.

Described as having great sire appeal with plenty of growth potential, Kelvin said that Axel’s early maturing fertility traits will carry forward into his female offspring, making him a good fit for stud and commercial breeders looking to improve carcass quality and gain polled genetics.

“Our focus is on breeding polled red and grey Brahmans and we were impressed with Axel as we went around inspecting all the bulls prior to the auction,” said Kelvin. “He has an eye muscle area of 144 cm2 and a great temperament too, so we were expecting strong competition for him.”

“We have used only polled bulls in our stud for 40 years and see the benefits in our weaners with excellent growth and good feeding behaviour after branding, compared with their horned counterparts,” said Kelvin. “We now have less than 10 per cent horned calves in most mobs on the property.”

“Initially we will use him as an AI sire over our grey herd at GI Brahmans and sell semen to other studs wanting to access his great traits,” said Kelvin. “The semen collected before the sale had good morphology so we are very confident that he is going to be a great addition to our operation.”

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Rocky Repro connecting in Colombia SA

Contributed by Kent Ward for Rocky Repro

Rocky Repro proprietor Sally North, recently attended the 19th World Brahman Congress 2019 in Colombia as one of 15 Australian Delegates. Sally and the team toured for 17 days, taking in the Congress proceedings and visiting leading cattle production facilities across Colombia.

Sally expressed that the prime motivation in Rocky Repro’s decision to attend the international event was the enormous potential Colombia offers Australian seedstock producers and facilities like Rocky Repro. She went on to say, “Colombia is the fourth largest beef producer in Latin America, and is ranked 14th in the world for beef production (Australia is ranked 7th), we see it as a vast untapped market for our seedstock producers”.

Rocky Repro believes many Australian seedstock producers are capable of tapping into this market simply by putting forward bulls that carry good Breedplan and performance figures as well as excellent quality semen, appealing to the massive Fixed Time AI programs carried out by Colombian and other Latin American beef producers. Rocky Repro’s semen collection centre now facilitates regular exports of genetics to Colombia, despite their long road to gaining accreditation. Sally explained, “The entire process, from when we realised there was a market in Colombia for Australian breeders, to when we gained ICA approval and accreditation, was 12 months of intense communication with the Colombia Government.

We’re excited, because it’s the first time that a northern-based reproduction centre has gone to Colombia for the purpose of marketing Australian genetics and we now have the ability to expose it to a wider audience and place Australian cattle on a greater world stage.

This process has long been in the works, when in 2013 a delegation of 180 Colombian cattle producers took part in a five-day visit to Queensland including the central Queensland region. This trade mission was one of the largest undertaken by Quadrant Australia, Agtours, and was supported by Trade and Investment Queensland, Austrade, DPI, and MLA. Rocky Repro continues to actively secure new markets for their clients across South America in countries such as Argentina, Paraguay, Brazil, and Uruguay.
Top red polled Sundown at 2018 RBWS

By Cindy Benjamin

The top red price at Rockhampton Brahman Week Sale was knocked down on Len and Sandra Gibbs’, polled red Muan A Sundown 5561.

The 23-month-old son of imported US bloodline SRS Mr Troubadour 933 attracted the top red price of $95,000 as the sole purchase of repeat buyers Annabelle and Keith Wilson, Samari Plains, Surat.

Specialising in polled red Brahmans, the Wilsons operate a stud herd of between 300 and 400 breeders on Samari Plains, south of Roma. Samari prefix is operated alongside Samari S, owned by the Wilson’s daughter, Sally Sweetland and her husband Ben.

Samari Plains produces about 60 registered and herd bulls per year. The two prefixes had great success at this year’s RBWS, selling a draft of 10 bulls.

“Other than his polled trait, we were impressed with his scores, particularly his eye muscle and scrotal circumference measurements,” said Annabelle.

“Sundown stood out as a beefy sire with good bone structure and a good temperament.”

Although Sundown is the first Muan A bull the Wilsons have purchased, they have recently used polled red Muan Rafa 5184 as an AI sire and are looking forward to seeing the performance of his progeny.

Sundown is already at work, running with a herd of 40 Samari and Samari S prefix cows. Annabelle said they have also collected semen for future use in both studs.

“He is a good looking bull with great character and genetic potential,” she said. “We expect to see good results from him as we strive to produce good quality registered and herd bulls for other beef producers.”
Importance of Good Quality Semen in Artificial Breeding Programs

Contributed by Dr Graham Stabler, Director & Collection Centre Manager (Etna Creek) Beef Breeding Services

It is extremely disappointing and frustrating to have embarked in an AI, ET or IVF program only to achieve poor results.

There are several factors that may contribute to the failure of such a program including seasonal conditions, drought, nutrition, technical problems and semen quality.

Research has established that the use of semen below certain minimum standards is more likely to result in an unsatisfactory outcome. This does not mean that a particular bull will not achieve satisfactory results with natural mating, however if the batch of semen being used in a program is of lower quality, results may be poor. This can be very disappointing and costly in terms of time, drugs for synchronisation, labour and personal stress.

Progressive motility is the most commonly used criteria for presale semen testing and is usually included in supplementary sheets (along with EBV, EMA, weight etc) given to buyers on sale day. Progressive Motility alone does not give a good enough indication of semen quality in "Post Thaw" semen.

Semen is often rated using two numbers (eg 40/45). The first value given (40) represents the percentage of Post Thaw sperm that are alive and the second value (45) represents the percentage of those alive sperm that are swimming normally.

Our minimum for motility are 35/35 for domestic semen and 40/40 for export semen.

Concentration of semen is also important. We aim to provide 25 million sperm in each 1/4ml straw and of those we expect to have no fewer than 8 million live normal sperm available on insemination.

Motility rating does not take all of the abnormal sperm into account (eg sperm with proximal droplets and sperm with vacuoles will appear to swim normally but will not result in a successful pregnancy).

The higher the percentage of these defects, the lower the chance of a normal sperm reaching the egg first.

The detailed examination of semen to evaluate the percentage of abnormalities is known as Morphology. This should be done with a microscope capable of 1000 times magnification.

When we are asked to examine straws from batches which have produced poor results in a program, we frequently find defects in morphology which would not be obvious with just a Motility assessment.

My recommendation is that, if the semen you are planning to use does not have a “Post Thaw” assessment available, you should have Morphology, Motility and Concentration done before you begin your program. We can do this for you.

Failures in AI, ET and IVF programs are preventable. There are enough other factors that may affect your success. Semen Quality does not have to be one of them!
Large drafts trucked from RBWS 2018

By Cindy Benjamin, photos by Queensland Country Life

The largest draft to be trucked from the 2018 Rockhampton Brahman Week sale went to the Gulf’s Lawn Hill and Riversleigh Pastoral Holding Company for an average price of $4673. The 23-strong, all-grey contingent included five Ahern prefix bulls bred by Paul Ahern, Gayndah.

Also securing a large draft was Hartley Grazing, Coopermurra, Mitchell, investing an average $5476 in a mostly-grey draft of 21 sires. The top-price of $11,000 was outlaid on polled red Yoman 2885/6.

Seventeen sires were snapped up by the McAulay-Powell family for their Central Queensland property ‘Stockyard Creek’, Clarke Creek for average of $3265 and Spring Creek Station, Charters Towers selected 16 red sires, investing an average $6844. Leslie and Kellie Brummell’s polled red Big River Bently, was their top-price choice at $10,000.

Regular RBWS bidders, Warrick and Kell Freeman, ‘Meeleebee Downs’, Wallumbilla invested in 16 bulls for an average of $8625. Six of the mostly red sires found values of $10,000 plus.

An all-grey team of 14, including $34,000 JRL Mr Jose Manso, have found a new home at Hacon & Sons’ ‘Buckingham Downs’, Dajarra for an average $9643. Beco Pastoral Trust also bought 14 reds for an average $4179, adding to the sire battery at their Hughenden property, ‘Boonderoo’.

Another dozen reds were selected by the Bennett Family Trust for their operation at ‘Dally Up’, Theodore, for an average $4250. Central Highlands’ cattleman John Braitling also picked out 12 new sires for ‘Marie Downs’, Springsure, investing an average of $6958.

The Fry family of Arafura Cattle Pty Ltd, ‘West Inverleigh’, Normanton were once again active buyers at RBWS, taking home nine red and two grey sires for an average $6045.

Four of the 11 bulls purchased for ‘Branxholme Station’, St Lawrence were valued at $10,000 and over, with the draft averaging $8818. Warraka prefix bull, Griffin 3058, was their top choice at $12,000.
CLUKAN AXEL 333/7

908kg  EMA 144cm  Scrotal 42cm  11/7mm
(at 25 mths)

CKN333/7M  28/08/2016  POLL (AI) (ET)
S: NCC EL TORO (IVF) (D)
D: CLUKAN DESTINY 254/3 (AI) (ET) (P)

$100,000 Top Priced Bull
2018 RBWS

Semen Available

ruraldesign.com.au  kentbward.com

KELVIN & LIBBY HARRIMAN  +61 427 031 320
gibrahmanstud@bigpond.com

SALLY NORTH  +61 428 332 913
rockyrepro.com.au
‘Malarga’, Brooweena is the new home of ten sires purchased for an average $9550. Malarga Grazing made significant investments in new genetics, with half the bulls valued at over $10,000 and peaking at $17,000 for Hazelton Halefax 4472.

Also securing ten new bulls was Rolfe Grazing of ‘Foyle Park’, Springsure for an average $7650, outlaying $14,000 each for two bulls.

Another ten were knocked down to the McLoughlin family for use on their Queensland and Northern Territory properties for an average $5750. Carinya Cosmo 7/718 was their top pick for $13,000. The Jones family also chose ten new sires for an average $5100 for use in their operation at ‘Boundary Creek’, Bowen.

Parker Grazing Trust, ‘Clare Station’, Jericho purchased a mixed lot of nine sires for $15,833, the highest average price for drafts of seven or more head at this year’s fixture. The draft included six bulls knocked down for over $10,000 each, including red Ooline Kansas, who sold for $50,000.

The Mackenzie family of Coolmarina Pty Ltd, Dingo were the successful bidder for nine lots, investing an average $11,333. More than half the selection were knocked down for over $10,000, peaking at $26,000 for Carinya prefix sire, Remelus.

Another nine lots went to the Bonisch family, ‘Lau Mar’, Injune for an average $6,833 and the Hyden family, ‘Mt Pleasant’, Rolleston, also invested in nine bulls at an average price of $4667 for the draft of mostly red sires.

Racesea Pty Ltd, Sarina and Diamond Hill Grazing Co, Bundaberg both secured eight bulls for an average price of $7750 and $6125 respectively.

Clukan tops the sale and vendor averages at 2018 RBWS

By Cindy Benjamin

On the top of the averages leader board at the 2018 Rockhampton Brahman Week Sale was Steve and Theresa Taylor, Jambin with a mixed draft of red and grey Clukan prefix bulls earning a very worthwhile average of $27,786. Their draft included sale-topping Clukan Axel 333/7, who sold for $100,000.

They were followed closely by Mitch Kirk’s Carinya J prefix, Gayndah with a draft of three bulls averaging $26,167, including joint 4th top-priced grey, Carinya J Wolverine for $65,000.

Coming in fifth was the best performing draft of red bulls catalogued by Alan and Leoni Trail, Elmo prefix, Baralaba with three bulls reaching an average $22,667. Their top price for this draft was $34,000 for polled Elmo Phoenix 1022/7, son of polled parents Brolga Gully 2254/0 and Elmo Chloe 566/0.

Just missing the 2018 Top 20 list was a large draft of 20 red Kandoona prefix bulls, with an average of $13,450 on account of Bevan and Elizabeth Radel. This draft included the second-top priced red Kandoona 14031 for $80,000.

The Top 20 averages are calculated on individual stud prefixes/individual vendors (not combining family totals) and only studs with sales of three or more bulls are included. Prices have been averaged up to the nearest dollar. The colour listed is the colour of the top priced animal from that vendor.

### TOP 20 VENDORS RBWS 2018

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<th>AVG</th>
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People at RBWS 2018
Palmal Brahmons would like to thank everyone who supported us throughout 2018. We look forward to catching up in 2019!

A special thanks to those who purchased our bulls in 2018, including:

- **ABBOTT (Sc)** - $56 000
  - Elrose
- **ARGYLE (PP)** - $34 000
  - Gulf Coast Stud
- **BIG DEL** - $37 500
  - Aris Creek
- **DUKE** - $37 500
  - Elrose
- **MAXIMUS** - $32 500
  - Hazleton
- **EVERETT** - $32 000
  - Stanbrooke Pastoral

For photos of our 2019 Big Country Sale Bulls visit www.palmal.com.au
Second Bizzy and Jomanda sale attracts loyal buyers

By Cindy Benjamin, photos by Margaretta Travers and Colin Johnson

The second Bizzy and Jomanda Bull and Female sale again drew interest from top grazing and breeding operations across NSW and Queensland, with buyers spoiled for choice with a quality line-up of Brahman, Brangus and Charbray bulls and Brahman heifers.

The Fahey family’s Bizzy prefixes, Copmanhurst sold 16 registered Brahman bulls for a total of $78,000 plus $18,000 for four good quality Brahman herd bulls and the Johnson family, Jomanda prefix, Clarenza sold nine Brahman bulls for $45,000 and six females for $18,950 at the Grafton Saleyards on 1 September 2018. The cattle offered have superior bloodlines and are born and raised in coastal environments ensuring great potential to enhance quality genetics in all areas.

The sale’s top price bull, Jomanda Gerry, sold for $9500 to Tracey Conroy from Lilydale, and is a half-brother to Jomanda El Toro 802, who broke a 40-year record at 2016 RBWS when he sold for $150,000. Jomanda Gerry is a 28-month old bull sired by NCC Solitaire, who was also auctioned for $5500 at the Grafton event. NCC Solitaire has maintained a solid reputation for producing high quality progeny that are proven performers in Brahman herds throughout Queensland and New South Wales.

Bizzy Beau L22 sold for $9000 to TMMM Pastoral, Nymboida, recording the second highest price of the event. The 34-month old red bull, sired by Bizzy Beau 326, displays promising sire characteristics including +18 EBV for carcase weight.

Several repeat buyers were in attendance, expressed confidence in the industry-leading genetics available to enhance bloodlines in quality breeding programs. Marlu Cattle Co. from Tenterfield and WR Bultitude from Fine Flower, both snagged a genetic value pack with the purchase of three Bizzy bulls each, for an average price of $4100. S & R Allen from Bonalbo purchased multiple Jomanda lots, one heifer and three registered bulls sired by NCC Solitaire, for an average price of $4500. Dent Timbers from Pulganbar took home three bulls, Bizzy F L22, Bizzy RDB L8 and Jomanda Fletcher 864, for an average price of $5800.

Fetching the top female sale price of $4200, Jomanda Robin 957 led the field of heifers with quality bloodlines and superior genetics. She is a red
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70 UNRESERVED SALE

Females

Vendors
- Glengarry
- Avee
- Bulloak
- Pioneer Park
- Bardia
- Leichhardt
- El Ja
- Palmvale
- Stockman
- Halgenaes
- Elmo
- Bungarribee
- Muan

ABBA BRAHMAN GRAPHICS
14-month old, sired by NCC Rushmore, and sold to SEE Performance Brahmans from Wingen, near Scone. The red Jomanda Merlene 922 sold for $4000 to the Kent’s of Ooline Brahmans, Goovigen in Queensland.

Sale agents, Mitch Donovan of Ray Donovan Stock and Station Agents, Casino and Darren Perkins of George & Fuhrmann, Grafton both commented that the 2018 sale had exceeded the expectations of the vendors in a very difficult year for many buyers.

“Repeat buyers from both New South Wales and Queensland were key to the sale’s success,” said Mr Donovan. Mr Perkins also said that there was a good demand for the heifers and the bulls presented with great temperament and were sold accordingly.


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February All Breeds Sale

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Thank you to all buyers, under bidders and bidders at RBVS 2018
Y3K - 3 bulls av: $14667
Wilarandy - 2 bulls av: $8000

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a wet, prosperous and Happy 2019

Y3K Brahman

Wilarandy Brahman

Steve & Sharon Turner, ‘Foxtail’ Calgoa Rd, Woolooga QLD
4570
MOB: 0417 492 225/0418 335 666
Woolooga tops $13,500 at first Brahman bull sale

Contributed by Felicity Rockemer, photos by Corinne Rockemer

The Woolooga Select Sire Sale presented a quality line of Brahman Sires at its inaugural sale held at Woolooga Saleyards, Woolooga on Saturday 8 September. Sixteen local vendors offered a superb line up of both Grey and Red Brahman bulls.

Over 200 people packed the stands to capacity to watch Lot 1 go under the hammer, a quality son of the reknown Sire Glengarry Sub Zero 1590 (H). “Blue Blood Princely (D)” fetched the royal sum of $13,500 for vendors, Drew and Kirsty Curtis of “Blue Blood Brahmans”, Mooloo near Gympie. The impressive quiet natured grey, weighing in at 1095 kg with an eye muscle area of 131 cm and a scrotal circumference of 42 cm.

In all, 46 head from 54 head offered sold, representing a pleasing 85% clearance despite continuing dry conditions.

Second top priced bull of the sale was purchased by the Bishop family of Garglen Brahman Stud, Lot 19, Cedar Brook Halapeno, weighing 1002 kg with an ema of 137 cm. Halapeno was sold by GML Pastoral of Boobubyan. The magnificent red power house was sired by Cedar Brook Elsyd. Halapeno was successfully shown at Beef 2018 and the Bundaberg Feature Show. Another sire, Cedar Brook Pursuit, 948 kg, ema of 140 kg sold to D and N Christensen for $6000. In all, their four bulls sold for an average of $6375.

Jim and Jenny Bauer of Elanora Park sold 3 poll/scurred, grey bulls for an average price of $6,166 while Allan Ford of Cedar Lane /Ego studs sold a very handy line of grey bulls, the top “Cedar Lane Ready Beat” selling to local producers the Hughes family, Marlarga Grazing Co, Brooweena.

The Rockemer family of Gigoomgan Brahmans sold 7 lots for an average of $4285 with a top price of $5500 for “Gigoomgan Vincent”. Steve and Sharon Turner of Y3K Stud sold two bulls with a top price of $5500 for “Y3K Cavalier” sold to the Backhouse family, Kandanga. Ken Schultz and family of “Hillview” Brahman Stud sold 3 bulls for an average of $4333.30. The Aberdein family “Carleesa” of Biggenden sold five lots for an average of $3400. Len and Peter Gibbs, “Muan” sold three bulls for an average of $3,500.

Volume buyer was Sam Slack, Gayndah, taking home seven quiet
handy bulls for an average of $3714. Sam also was the winner of the painting “Bull Congo” donated by Felicity Rockemer.

Other multiple buyers included the Charles Darwin University, NT who purchased three lots and P and M Kelly purchased the entire draft of Bill and Sue Blakeney, “Warraka Stud” Coondoo.

Other vendors at the sale included the Weis family “Besanthervale”, Dave and Robyn Raymont “Sha-an”, Ian and Deb Frampton, “Little Creek”, Grant Berrie of “Mt Shamrock”, Mike and Jenny Peters of “Bremer Vale and the Sommerfeld family “Brahrock” Maryborough.

The sale was conducted by Sullivans Livestock and Rural, Gympie and GDL Dalby.

**Sale results**

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Ryan Gould with his favorite “Cedar Brook Halapeno” 2nd Top price.

Shane Bishop Garglen Brahms, Bill and Sue Blakeney Warraka, Coondoo and Curtis Sutton, Gympie

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Future females shine at Hamdenvale sale

By Cindy Benjamin, photos by Media Digital Marketing

The 2018 Hamdenvale Females of the Future Sale, held at Mackay Showgrounds on Friday 26 October, again showcased a quality line-up of females from four respected Central Queensland studs.

David and Joy Deguara and family, Hamdenvale, Mackay, and invited vendors Fenech Brahmans (FBC, Wowan), Akama (Gargett) and Pioneer Park (Pleystowe) studs cleared 27 females.

The four vendors achieved a sale total of $152,000 with a lot average of $5519, and three semen packages at $1000 each, or $200 per straw.

Brett Nobbs, NCC Brahmans, Duaringa was successful in securing the top-priced female of the day for $12,000. Fenech Brahmans’ FBC Mayro Lox Manso 69/2 is the two-year old daughter of FBC Garth Manso 537/1.

She was joined to FBC Elliot Manso 52/2 for two months then ran with FBC Frosty Manso B2/2 from the 24 August until sale. She offers EBVs of +52 EBV for mature cow weight and +28 EBV for carcase weight.

Emanuel and Josephine Pace, Blue Water Hills, Mackay saw great potential in the polled 3-month old heifer Hamdenvale Jane 1404/79, an IVF daughter of imported polled sire MR V8 279/7. Her dam, Hamdenvale Alda 822, is an imported daughter of FG Monterrey.

As the successful bidders on the second top of the sale and top-priced Hamdenvale female, the Paces purchased the recipient cow and registered calf for $11,500.

FBC Lady Brony Manso 293/2, a polled daughter of FBC sire Jordan Manso 292/1, caught the eye of Luke Stevens, Cremona Brahman Stud, Julia Creek. Lady Brony has impressive +68 mature cow weight and +34 carcase weight EBVs and ran with FBC Elliot
Manso 52/2 and then FBC Frosty Manso 82/2 prior to the sale.

She sold for $10,000 and joined Mr Stevens’ team of five new females, including representative from each of the participating vendor prefixes, for an average $5800.

Among the group selected for Cremona stud was Damien Sturdy’s, Akama prefix heifer Debbie, a 20-month old daughter of PBF O’Hara Manso 811/7, who sold with three straws of semen from homozygous polled Graceland Noisy Boy 02 for $6000.

Another draft of five females plus the two FBC Impact Manso 821/1 semen lots (5 straws and 5 registrations) sold to Hammer & Co, Annavale, Charters Towers. The five females averaged $4200, led by Hamdenvale Ashleigh, a polled daughter of polled sire JDH Summit Manso 941/1 and Hamdenvale Miss Rachel 497/9 for $7000.

Joining Ashleigh in the team was her full sister Hamdenvale Kendyl for $3000. The third of the sisters, Hamdenvale Raquel was selected by Terry Randell, Tleri for $6000.

Three, three month old heifers were on offer at the sale.
PBF sale toppers head north

The imposing PBF Garside Manso, at 23 months, 1,019kg and selling at Lot 1, fired up the Annual PBF Brahman Sale from the ‘get-go’ with Sale topping bidding that reached a high of $42,500. Paul & Brigid Fenech have a high opinion of this long bodied, blue grey son of PBF Western Manso and a JDH Modelo Manso daughter. “He looks a sire to me and his natural beef performance is extraordinary, exactly what the industry wants,” Paul Fenech said.

The Fenechs were pleased with their Sale day result although recognising that, with only a limited number of commercial bull buyers active in the market on Sale day, bulls of commercial quality were undersold a little. “We are building our numbers up every year now so that the Sale again will cater to more herd bull buyers, with a bigger selection of bulls,” Paul said.

Many compliments were made by Sale visitors and buyers about the attractive evenness of quality and type through this year’s offering, which created good interest across a number of bulls. The entire PBF draft of Sale bulls and heifers this year are by our homebred sires and it showed in the eye catching quality consistency that Stud breeders strive for in their breeding programme.

The Lot 1 Sale topper was knocked down to Rob Flute, Chatfield Brahmans, Richmond, a repeat buyer of PBF bulls. “We’re pleased to see Rob take home a prospect like Garside to the North,” Paul Fenech said, “he’s an excellent cattleman and breeds a lot of bulls for Northern herds.”

Also heading North from the Sale is PBF Campbell Manso after selling to Frank Jodrell, Delaym Pastoral Co., Mingela for $37,500. This well bred son of PBF Mc Manus Manso scaled 947kg at 25 months and features strong pigment, excellent muscle pattern and good bone. Early in the Sale Gordon & Sue Rickett, Curra Rural, Clermont selected another McManus son for $18,000. Their purchase, PBF McKeon Manso, is a dark grey 2yo, very strong along the topline, and displaying excellent breed character and sire features. He is very well credentialled on his data also, weighing 913kg and recording the biggest EMA (142sqcm) and IMF (6.8%) of the Sale in the Brahman section.

The Randell Family, Mt Stuart Trust, Capella picked out PBF Fearnley Manso, a rising 2yo of outstanding carcass qualities, and they bid $17,000 to take him home. Mt Stuart has been a longtime supporter of the PBF Sale, and their 2018 purchase appeals as a good constitution type that will breed well. Sue Hammer of Annavale Brahmans, Charters Towers added to the Northern buying strength at the Sale by purchasing PBF Garside Manso, the $42,500 Top Price Bull of the Annual PBF Brahman Sale at “The Chase”, Sarina in late October, stands proud and strong after the Sale with his purchaser Rob Flute, Chatfield Brahmans, Richmond (middle), and James (left) and Paul Fenech of PBF Brahman Stud.
Value

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PAUL & BRIGID FENECH
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PBF McHorton Manso for $15,000. She satisfied her target of securing a PBF McManus Manso son, and this bull's proven damline will also underwrite the success of his Stud breeding performance in the future. He is from the same family line as the $42,500 Sale topping bull.

Dark pigmented 2yo bull PBF Marschall Manso, by PBF Mortlock Manso, was a $14,000 purchase for Appleton Cattle Co of Charters Towers. From a JDH Shannon/JDH Westin damline and scaling 873kg, this square and strong bodied bull was good value at his purchase price.

Among the buyers of well credentialled, strong beef performance bulls were Don Heatley & Family, Heatley Cattle Co of Home Hill who purchased an impressive group of 6 bulls at an average of $8,000, as well as John & Julie Borg, Harrybrandt Grazing Co, Nebo who took home 4 bulls averaging $10,250.

Stylish heifers sell strong

There was buoyant bidding activity when the Sale line of 22 attractive Stud heifers had their turn in the Sale ring. The PBF Stud heifers were joined by a selection of quality females from Tony & Trish Brown’s Pioneer Park Stud of Mackay. There were 13 individual buyers of heifers on the day, reflecting the strong interest from Stud breeders looking to invest in their herds.

It was a poll Pioneer Park heifer that topped the Sale’s Heifer section. After a long bidding battle, Pioneer Park D Lady Chantilly was knocked down for $21,000 to Ruan Grazing, Clermont. She is a stylish, sound and regally bred female by Willtony Stetson out of a damline that has produced at a high level consistently. $15,000 was needed by the Pearce Family, Telpara Hills Pty Ltd, Upper Barron to land the sweet yearling heifer PBF Levy Manso, a daughter of PBF McCheeko Manso. She is high quality with eye catching softness, abundant femininity and lovely skin. Kelvin & Margaret Maloney, Kenilworth Brahmans, Mt Coolon took home the poll Pioneer Park heifer Miss Velvet for $14,000 while Fenech Brahmans T Division outlaid $13,000 for the smart PBF McManus daughter Remkes Manso.

The first heifer into the ring, PBF Airlarne Manso, is a long bodied, stylish daughter of JDH Sir Gates Manso bred out of a McManus cow. She was a $10,000 purchase for Owen & Lee Scott & Family, Ruan Grazing, Clermont. Dan Beauchamp, Allendale Station, Ingham was at the Sale and he invested in two quality heifers. His top purchase at $10,000 was the powerfully pedigreed, 15 month old Pioneer Park Caitlin. She is by JDH Sir Garlan Manso out of a Palestimo/Madison/Lancefield Marybelle damline which has bred with great success. On type, structure and pedigree, she appears to be a fine investment.

Agents: Elders and McCaffrey’s Australian Livestock Marketing.
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Abbott leads Lancefield sale prices

Contributed by McCaffrey’s Australian Livestock Marketing

The rising 2yo grey scurred bull, Palomal Abbott, backed by strong weight (832kg) and carcass scan (142 sqcm EMA) performance, topped prices at this year’s Lancefield Brahmans Invitation Sale at CQLX, Gracemere. He was purchased for $56,000 by Rodger & Lorena Jefferis of Elrose Brahams, Cloncurry, who have sourced numerous leading sires for their Stud enterprise from this Sale over the last 30 years.

The Sale was full of highlights, recording a 100% clearance of 106 bulls at an average of $10,780. Bidding was buoyant right throughout the auction with quick starting bids made, and spirited competition, by commercial producers and Studmasters alike. “It was a good Sale atmosphere and we were pleased to see a broad cross section of buyers in attendance from as far away as New South Wales, the Northern Territory, North West Queensland and the Gulf regions, Charters Towers, the Darling Downs as well as many Central Queensland districts,” Scott McCamley said on behalf of the Vendor group.

The Sale featured a selection of generally 2yo bulls from the Lancefield, Lancefield M, Palmal, ZAM and Elrose Studs. The Sale enjoys a very strong, longtime, repeat buyer support, and we were delighted to see so many of them return to buy this year,” Scott McCamley said, “seasonal conditions are far from the best in most of Queensland’s cattle country so this valuable, repeat demand for our Sale’s bulls endorses the beneficial job they continue to do for many cattle breeders across the industry.”

It was another young, grey poll bull, Lancefield S Hemsworth, that achieved the Sale’s second top price of $52,000. At 19 months he was one of the youngest in the Sale however his attractive breed style and sire potential caught the eye of his purchasers, the Everingham Family, Oak Park, Einasleigh.

NCC Studmaster Brett Nobbs was at the Sale and bid to $47,500 to secure Elrose Marshalling, a 2yo of 822kg and 145 sqcm EMA. This sire prospect shows strong masculinity coupled with the best attributes of superior beef performance.

Stanbroke Pastoral Co. Fort Constantine, Cloncurry represented by Will Creek at the Sale, invested in 4 grey sires at an average of $25,125. Top of their shopping list at $45,000 was the impressive blue grey sire Lancefield S Mr Murphy. Just

Two happy ladies; Brooke Jefferis, Elrose Brahams, Cloncurry and Julie McCamley, Palmal Brahman stud, Dingo with the poll Sale bull Palomal Abbott. Elrose purchased the bull for $56,000 to top prices at the Lancefield Brahams Invitation Sale.
What a year it has been!

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FAIRY SPRINGS DURACELL 3606 (P)
Sire: FAIRY SPRINGS JANSEN 4543 (AI) (P)
FAIRY SPRINGS JAN 2363 (P)
LANES CREEK RED MONTAGUE (AI) (H)
Dam: FAIRY SPRINGS ESTELLA 3431 (H)
FAIRY SPRINGS ESTELLA 2061 (AI) (H)

Purchased privately from Fairy Springs for $30,000. Duracell 5161 oozes sire appeal, breed character, temperament, fertility, beef, bone and length from a functional female line. He has an exciting future here at Elmo Red Brahmans.

A huge thank you to all our buyers and underbidders.

- Elmo Picasso 1023/7 (PP) - $40,000 to Rockley Brahman Stud - Sold privately at Beef 2018
- Elmo Phoenix 1022/7 (PP) - $34,000 to Bettafield Charolais Stud - Sold RBWS 2018
- Elmo Peace Pipe 1011/7 (P) - $28,000 to Redstone Brahman Stud - Sold RBWS 2018
- Elmo Pharoah 1000/7 (P) - $6,000 to BN Taylor - Sold RBWS 2018

We will be offering another quality line of red females by Brolga Gully 2254/0 (PP) and Walton Downs Barnaby 710/1 (P)

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over 2yo, this strong breed character bull scaled 907kg and recorded a 145 sqcm EMA. He is bred from the highly successful Amelia damline and also features a naturally quiet temperament.

Stanbroke also outlaid $32,000 for Palmal Everett, a very attractive beef and breed type, that also benefits from a super strong and well balanced set of Group Breedplan EBV’s.

It was a quick and extremely profitable return for Palmal Brahmans as they had purchased Everett as a calf on his mother, Elrose Carolyn, at the mid-2017 Elrose Stud Breeder Reduction Sale for only $3,500.

A further two Palmal sire prospects made $37,500 each. Tim & Lynette Olive of Apis Creek Brahmans bid to that price for Palmal Big Del, a son of NCC Lord Delaware, displaying excellent bone, heavy muscling and attractive breed character. Big Del carried the Sale’s biggest EMA scan of 148 sqcm. At the same price of $37,500 Rodger & Lorena Jefferis of Glengarry Brahmans, Kunwarara selected another Lord Delaware son, Palmal Duke. This rising 2yo is a great doer of good pigment and constitution, that has a tremendous hindquarter on him.

The 2yo homozygous poll sire Palmal Argyle weighed in at 854kg and furnished with very good Group Breedplan growth and carcass performance EBV’s. He was selected for $34,000 by Gulf Coast Stud and will go into the grey bull breeding programme for Van Rook Station, Normanton.

Brett & Susan Kirk & Family, Hazelton Brahmans, Middlemount liked the overall natural beef credentials and breed style of the rising 2yo Jaffra Maximus, sold in the Palmal draft. A milk tooth of 820kg and excellent marbling of 6.2%, he too was purchased on his dam, at last year’s Jaffra Stud Dispersal Sale. The Kirks bid to $32,500 to secure him.

Hacon & Sons, Cloncurry selected a younger grey sire prospect for $20,000. Their purchase, Lancefield S Truman, is a scurred grandson of influential sire Lancefield Buster, however he is bred from a marvellous damline, proven successful over many years at Lancefield. $20,000 was also needed by Geoff, Gladys & Scott Angel of Glengarry Brahmans, Kunwarara to secure Elrose JFK, a bull that, at only 22 months, offers impressive breed character and style, natural softness and correctness, and strong pigment.

The Red Bull section topped at $20,000 when Lancefield M Beckett, the heaviest (870kg) milk tooth bull of the Sale, sold to Andrew & Anna McCamley’s 2AM Stud, Dingo. Beckett’s EMA of 144 sqcm, 40cm testicles and 80% semen motility added to the strong sale data for this son of Lancefield D Bazuka. One lot earlier in the Reds, Jason Hampson, Jasal Brahmans, Innisfail bid online to purchase the rising 2yo pollen sire 2AM Principal for $13,500.

Rob Flute, Chatfield Brahmans, Richmond was at the Sale and purchased 3 bulls including, at $17,000, Palmal Dorian, a strong headed, 842kg, 140 sqcm EMA, 2yo grey, backed by strong damline fertility. The Sypher Family, Omega Alpha Pty Ltd, Alpha liked the high weight performance of 858kg, excellent carcass data and damline fertility of the 2yo Palmal Daniel offered early in the Sale, and bid $16,000 to buy him.

Numerous enterprises running highly regarded Brahman herds took the opportunity to invest in quality bulls at the Sale at a volume level. Among them were Barkly Grazing Pty Ltd, N.T. and APN Pty Ltd, NT which purchased lines of 11 and 8 grey bulls respectively, their purchasing handled by Brad Passfield of Hourn & Bishop. Drafts of 6 greys bulls were selected by Viva Brahmans, Middlemount; Everingham Pastoral, Einasleigh; and RM Pastoral, Marlborough.

Agents: Landmark, Hourn & Bishop and McCaffrey’s Australian Livestock Marketing.

SALE RESULTS

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The Lancefield Brahmans Invitation Sale Top Price Red Bull at $20,000 was Lancefield M Beckett purchased by Andrew & Anna McCamley of 2AM Stud, Dingo. Photographed with the bull are Sale Co-Agent Brad Passfield, Hourn & Bishop, Moura and the bull’s breeder, Matthew McCamley, Lancefield M Stud, Eulogie, Dululu.

Lancefield S Hemsworth made $52,000 at the Lancefield Brahmans Invitation Sale and stands with his purchasers Sally Everingham and her son Roland Everingham Jnr, Oak Park Brahmans, Einasleigh and Sale Vendor Scott McCamley of Lancefield Brahmans, Dululu.
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An increased selection of bulls catalogued attracted a substantial representation of leading Australian Brahman Studmasters and a keen grouping of commercial cattle producer ‘new faces’ to the Annual NCC Brahman Sale at Inverrio, Duaringa in late October. The Sale bull offering increased by 50% on 2017 reflecting the growth and progress of the NCC breeding programme.

“It is good to get to these numbers of high standard Sale bulls. We’re very pleased that leading cattle men and women backed our Sale’s growth and targeted the Sale to source high quality bulls for superior commercial production,” NCC Studmaster Brett Nobbs said, “beef performance is the essence of what we do.”

In a solid 3 ½ hours of Sale ring action, clearing every lot, bulls topped at $60,000 on four occasions, 23 bulls (19%) sold at $25,000 and over, while 38 bulls (31%) sold from $5,000 to $9,000, vindicating NCC’s pre-Sale photos from top to bottom.

NCC Victory, the first of the $60,000 NCC Sale Top sellers stands with Brett Nobbs of NCC Brahman and Rodger & Lorena Jefferis of Elrose Brahman Stud, Cloncurry who purchased the bull.

Brett Nobbs of NCC Stud congratulates Drew Hacon and his son Harry on the $60,000 purchase of NCC Manafort for Cubaroo Brahman, Cloncurry.

$60,000 sire NCC Caine was purchased at the NCC Sale by the Currant Family, Riverlea Grazing Pty Ltd, Rio, Duaringa, one of a tremendous line of 4 bulls they secured on Sale day. With the high quality sire are NCC Studmaster Brett Nobbs and auctioneer Ken McCaffrey, McCaffrey’s Australian Livestock Marketing.

A happy group of sellers and buyers with the $60,000 Equal Top Price Bull of the NCC Sale, NCC Vallance. L to R. Brett Nobbs of NCC Brahman with Callan Solari of Ingham and the bull’s purchasers in partnership, Peter Chiesa, PM Pastoral, Ingham and Dillon Scott, Rosetta Grazing Co., Collinsville.
The SBB & GDL teams would like to thank all Rockhampton Brahman Week Vendors for entrusting us with marketing their livestock, all buyers and underbidders for their support.

SBB & GDL, the team devoted to getting the best results for our commercial and stud stock clients. Supported by 16 branches serviced by a dedicated team of local livestock agents.
claims of affordability for commercial herd enterprises. A $2 million plus Sale gross and overall average of $16,856 for 122 bulls maintained Brahman at the lead of beef industry markets in the Nation.

Three of the four $60,000 Sale top sellers are sons of legendary sire Elmo. NCC Victory, a grey, was the first of them. He went to Rodger & Lorena Jefferis’ Elrose Brahman, Cloncurry who were attracted to the bull by his excellent length, correctness of type, big broad head and strong topline.

Fellow North West Queensland Brahman enthusiasts Drew & Annie Hacon, Cubaroo Brahman, Cloncurry accounted for NCC Manafort, also at $60,000. He’s a light red, 25 month old, 894kg on the scales and scanning a 146 sqcm EMA. Again strong boned, correct, well balanced and masculine, this Elmo son is out of a sister to the dam of the Victory bull purchased by Elrose half an hour earlier in the Sale.

A full brother to Victory, NCC Vallance was the third $60,000 top ranker, bringing up a unique Sale top price trifecta for the JDH Mr Elmo Manso cross over El Ja daughters of the Boswick/Navasota/Brianna 5th bloodlines. A strong pigmented, light red with a huge spring of rib, outstanding muscle expression and attractive breed quality, Vallance was purchased by a partnership of Rosetta Grazing Co, Collinsville and PM Pastoral, Ingham.

The rising 2yo creamy red sire NCC Caine by Carinya Tony was the fourth bull to realise $60,000. However unsurprisingly, the great Elmo also had a hand in his creation, as he is bred out of NCC Miss Cindy 1999, a daughter of JDH Mr Elmo Manso. Carrying an abundance of breed style and soft, easy doing beef performance, Caine topped the scales at 822kg and recorded a 144 sqcm EMA scan. This powerful sire type will go to the home of the Currant Family, Riverlea Grazing Pty Ltd, Duaringa who have been investing astutely in high quality red Brahman seedstock at recent NCC Sales. Caine is one of four bulls they purchased at the Sale.

The massive weight for age, poll, red sire NCC Benchmark, also by Elmo, was a $55,000 purchase for the Sypher Family, Omega Alpha Pty Ltd, Alpha. At 22 months he weighed 854kg and his weight performance was backed by outstanding carcass scans of 146 sqcm EMA and 14/10 fats. He is long, strong hindquartered, soft finished and super quiet.

A lot of good judges waited until later in the Sale for NCC Matrix, a strong performance grey son of Carinya Kirkwood and a Brahrock cow by JDH Martin Manso. Bidding was strong before Gulf Coast Brahman Stud, Normanton claimed him for $50,000.

William & Helen Tucker, Garuda Brahman, Bouldercombe set their sights on a highly credentialled grey sire early in the Sale. They selected NCC Etowah, by JDH Elmo out of a strong Elefante/Anna Bri 52 daughter, for $45,000.

Ron & Daphne Kirk, Yenda Brahman, Gayndah bought 3 grey sires at the Sale. Heading their purchases at $45,000 was NCC Emmons, coincidentally a full brother to the bull Garuda purchased earlier in the Sale for exactly the same price. Emmons again is all beef performance – 852kg, and 145 sqcm EMA. Yenda also outlaid $32,500 for NCC Exploit, a strong pigment bull, full of breed character. This son of Elmo will also fit the Stud breeding programme at Yenda perfectly.

As is customary, JDH Mr Elmo Manso sons were prolific among the Sale’s leading sellers, however this sire’s progeny record at the 2018 NCC Sale is of a level perhaps unmatched in any breed, in any sale, ever in Australia. 51 Elmo sons were offered and sold to average the exceptional figure of $18,970 per head.

The 900kg plus grey sire, NCC Captain, a son of Three D Platinum, was a $42,500 purchase for Eric & Lyn Slack-Smith, Gladevale, Richmond. His 150 sqcm EMA complements his high weight performance and backs his overall carcass credentials.

As is customary, JDH Mr Elmo Manso sons were prolific among the Sale’s leading sellers, however this sire’s progeny record at the 2018 NCC Sale is of a level perhaps unmatched in any breed, in any sale, ever in Australia. 51 Elmo sons were offered and sold to average the exceptional figure of $18,970 per head.

Stewart, Stephanie and Tom Nobbs, Yoman, Moura bid online through Elite Livestock Auctions to secure the 22 month old son of JDH Jene Manso, NCC Elk. This new sireline and his Brooks/Madison damline prompted the interest of a number of Studs eager to take on the potential of this youngster. Another Jene son, NCC Californication, a half-brother to the Slack-Smith's purchase Captain, was a $40,000 investment for Andrew & Anna McCamley’s 2AM Stud.

Steve & Theresa Taylor, Clukan Brahman Stud, Jambil put plenty of concentration into their bidding and investment in a new sire at the NCC Sale. They bid to $30,000 to secure a son of JDH Mr Elmo Manso, NCC Echuca.

Jeff Hyden, Mt Pleasant, Rolleston travelled to the NCC Sale and purchased 3 bulls for his herd, averaging $7,865.
Dingo. This long, stylish sire prospect stands out for his carcass qualities, length and bone combination, and eye appeal. Two lots after this bull was sold, Alan Williams, Riverside Pastoral Co., Nebo also bid $40,000 for NCC Eureka, an 882kg and 148 sqcm EMA son of Three D Platinum, out of a top producing Elmo daughter. A strong muscled sire, deep and full flanked and also showing attractive breed and sire qualities suited the Riverside requirements.

The 22 month old poll grey bull NCC Louisville, is well credentialled for sire duties. Ernie & Kylie Camp, Floraville Downs, Burketown purchased this top poll prospect for $40,000.

Another young poll, this time a red 2yo by Three D Platinum was a $38,000 purchase for Dan & Sally Beauchamp, Allendale Station, Ingham. NCC Studmaster Brett Nobbs has a high opinion of this bull, highlighting his outstanding natural carcass qualities and strong head and features. NCC Amarilla is out of a top producing Elmo cow from a strong Brahrock damline.

$30,000 sires were purchased by Steve & Theresa Taylor, Clukan Brahmans, Jambin (NCC Echuca, a son of Elmo) and also by Jason & Sherri Taylor, Creek Farm, Omega 5 Brahmans, Alpha (NCC Emoja, a son of JDH Mr Boswick Manso), while Troy Lindsay, Toy Boy Brahmans, Caboolture got in the bidding early taking home Lot 1, NCC Elston, a beautifully bred son of Carinya Kirkwood that scaled 974kg, for $28,000.

The broad selection choice brought another level of buyer to the Sale this year with several buying entities investing in impressive lines of bulls at volume levels, for properties in the Northern Territory, North Western Queensland, Charters Towers and Northern Goldfields, as well as Central Queensland areas. Among them were Ian Masterson, IM Pastoral, Greenvale (5 bulls), Robert & Mandy White, RM Pastoral, Marlborough (4 bulls), Herbert Hall Enterprises, Charters Towers (11 bulls), Lawn Hill Riversleigh Pastoral, Holdings, Doomagee (5 bulls), APN Pty Ltd, N.T. (4 bulls), Barkly Grazing, N.T. (3 bulls), TopX Taroom for a Central Queensland client (10 bulls), John Roberts, Springsure (4 bulls), etc.

Additionally, at the Stud end of the market, broad based buying support was strongly evident with Studs including Arizona, Lanes Creek, Viva, FBC, El Ja, Hamdenvale, Crown JA, Danarla, Barlyne, Ahern, Stockman and JRL also investing in NCC genetics on Sale day.

Sale Vendor Brett Nobbs said the Sale results were excellent and they reinforced his assessment that the 2018 Sale team was the best overall line-up of young bulls that NCC had offered. “We had a larger number of buyers take home bulls this year and they all seemed happy with their purchases after the Sale,” he said, “so that’s an indicator of a successful sale, if both sellers and buyers are all pleased.”

Agents: Queensland Rural and McCaffrey’s Australian Livestock Marketing.
Toy Boy Darius leads at 2018 Gold City sale

By Cindy Benjamin, photo by Matt Sherrington North Queensland Register

The 2018 Gold City Brahman Sale was well up on last year, earning vendors a tidy $418,000 for 92 good quality registered and herd sires.

Topping the annual Charters Towers event on 2 November was Toy Boy Darius, a 2-year old son of NCC Lancelot, snapped up by Droonoodoo Brahmans, Kingaroy for $27,000.

Darius led Troy Lindsay’s team of 13 registered Toy Boy prefix grey sires to average $6115. Overall, the sale’s 35 registered greys grossed $187,500 and averaged $5357.

Sale numbers were up by 35 per cent compared to the 2017 fixture, but the average price was slightly down at $4543.

Callan Solari’s XMS prefix entrant, Diplomatico 73/6, sired by another NCC bull, Rumpole, sold to Mt Coolan Pastoral for the top red price of $11,000.

The 37 registered red sires fetched $146,500 and averaged $3955.

Two grey sires, Northern Millennium and polled Toy Boy Hoffman, also attracted the buyers’ attention, fetching $11,000 each.

Bred by Diann Bush, Kennedy, Northern Millennium is a son of FBC Megatron Manso 345/1 and sold to Cargoon Qld P/L.

At almost three years of age Toy Boy Hoffman, a son of polled sire Lancefield A Cardinal 3739, has a new home with Riverside Pastoral Company, Nebo.

Largest draft of red sires catalogued for the sale achieved a gross $47,000 for Jim and Bonnie Besley’s Bungarribee stud, Barmoya, reaching a top of $6500 and averaged $4273. Nine of the 11 Bungarribee registered sires were polled.

Matthew and Anna Slaughter Eskwood prefix, Guthalungra sold seven registered and one herd red sires for a total of $27,500, with a top of $5000 for polled red sire Eskwood Titan.

Largest draft of registered sires (9) went home with Winsper Family Trust, ‘Korong’, Cloncurry for a total investment of $29,000 and an average $3222.

Swans Lagoon Pastoral Co, Millaroo selected another six registered sires for an average $4750. Their draft included Lance and Karen Pope’s, Glenborough Texas Ranger Manso for $9000. They also selected three herd bulls for a total of $12,500.

The 10 grey herd bulls fetched $39,500 with a top of $5500 for Peter Chiesa’s, Palm Creek prefix, Ingham bull Roger 15119, which sold to B & J Eppele.

Two red herd bulls also reached $5500. Lot 66 polled red Wallton Downs 2042A sired by polled Muan A Indus was offered by RD Wall, Clermont and sold on account of Est. SJ O’Sullivan.

Vendors Nick and Rhonda Dudarko, Kangarin Brahman’s, Biloela sold their Lot 15 to BD Fegan. The Fegans also selected Bungarribee Kempsey 2330, son of polled sire Garthowen Warrior, for $6500.

The 10 red herd bulls proved popular with the buyers to achieve a gross $44,500 and average $4450.
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Gravity tops Beef Country 2018 at $21,000

By Cindy Benjamin, photo by Media Digital Marketing

The eleventh annual Beef Country Sale attracted buyers to Nebo’s undercover arena to inspect 73 quality bulls from three Central Queensland vendors on 16 November.

El Ja, Hazelton and Crinum prefixes cleared 69 greys and reds, peaking at $21,000 to average $5529 per head.

Brett and Susan Kirk’s Hazelton stud, Blackwood, Middlemount, achieved the highest price and best sale average of $6512 for its large draft of 38 head.

Top price was paid by Brett Nobbs, NCC Brahmans to secure Hazelton Gravity 4754, a 2-year old homebred son of Hazelton B Sir Angelo and Hazelton Stephanie 1812. Gravity was NCC Brahmans’ only purchase at this sale.

Another two Hazelton bulls were knocked down for $13,000 each, with Hazelton Richmond 4713 going home to Tayglen Pastoral Co, Dysart and Hazelton Orlando 4567 joining the team at Riverside Pastoral, Nebo.

Richmond 4713 is sired by NCC English 1729 and Orlando 4567 is a son of FBC Aplon 359/1.

Two-year old light red polled Crinum T Great Northern was the highest priced Crinum bull, attracting $12,500 from 8PK Cattle Company. Bred by Terry Randell, Great Northern is a son of polled super-sire Three D Platinum and Crinum Red Ruby. He was the top price bull in the 8PK draft of five, averaging $7600.

Fort Cooper, Nebo paid the second highest average price of $8250 for four bulls, including two reds for $10,000 each. Polled Hazelton Reno 4634 is sired by polled Muan A Mitcham 3693 and his dam is Hazelton Miss 2750. Crinum Stinger is a son of Somerton Eric from the Randell family’s Crinum prefix.

Ted Murphy purchased six new bulls for use at Tayglen, Dysart for an average price of $7083.

The largest draft sold on the day were 11 bulls to the Gilliam family, Lake Elphinstone, Nebo for $33,000. Their highest bid was $11,000 for red Crinum Bolton sired by Crinum Wattle and out of Crinum Miss Ginny.

Another 10 bulls were trucked away by J and L Singleton, Turon Downs, Middlemount for a total investment of $34,000.

Peter and Brenton Malpass added six bulls to their sire battery at Swans Lagoon, in the Burdekin for an average price of $4583.

The 2018 Beef Country sale wrapped up with a clearance rate of 93 per cent and a total return to vendors of $381,500. The 38 greys and 31 reds averaged $5842 and $5145 respectively.

Top price bull Lot 31, Hazelton Gravity 4754 purchased by Brett Nobbs, NCC Brahmans for $21,000.
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By Cindy Benjamin photos by Sally Cripps, Kent Ward and Samantha Walton

After 25 big years serving as a director on the Australian Brahman Breeders’ Association Board, Rodger Jefferis is stepping back a little, while continuing to serve on the Commercial Brahman Promotion, Technical and Live Export committees and as chair of the Tropical Beef Technology Services Management Committee. Rodger will also continue as the ABBA representative on the Australian Registered Cattle Breeders Association (ARCBA) Executive.

Rodger first became involved in the Brahman breed’s leadership team in 1992 when he was co-opted to the Board by the late Jeff McCamley. The following year he was elected to the Board and served as Vice President from 1998 to 2004 and President from 2004 to 2007.

A strong believer in the potential benefits of genomics, Rodger has keenly promoted the involvement of the Brahman breed in the beef genomics research and has backed this up with his own resources to supply cattle from Elrose for data collection.

In his last ‘President’s paragraph’ in the December 2007 issue of this magazine, Rodger outlined his vision for the future for the Brahman breed, which continues to guide his direction more than a decade later:

My last president’s paragraph has me thinking how quickly the last three years have passed and what a future I believe the Brahman breed has to look forward to.

Not only has the cattle industry in Northern Australia been built on Brahman, I see them being the solid rock in the whole Australian Beef Industry.

Let me relate some points to the four main influences on profitability in the beef industry in order of importance.

Firstly – Survival: Stating the obvious however the Brahman of today is far more than just a survivor.

Secondly – Fertility: While we hear theories that other breeds can improve fertility, these are simplistic arguments mostly tried in better than normal conditions. Cow and bull longevity as well as mature cow weight are becoming more accepted as relevant points in some herds that have changed tack.

Thirdly – Weight Gain: The only situation where Brahmans are topped in weight gain is where heavy grain or crop feeding is involved. High grain prices and rising land prices has forced the economic reality that every mouthful of feed has a value and net feed efficiency results show that daylight is second to Brahmans in this area.

Fourth – Market Suitability: Ethanol and human food demands across the world will continue to exert more pressure on grain availability and Brahman cattle can hit a greater variety of markets. The ability to gain enough fat cover to grade on

Fertility gains: Rodger and Lorena Jefferis, pictured sorting up weaners at home at Elrose, McKinlay, are among the northern producers taking part in the genomic fertility project.
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I have been very fortunate to have looked at the Brahman breed in many parts of the world during my term and am seeing the demand for our genetics increasing with the realization that our cattle are expected to perform under fairly demanding production systems.

With his wife Lorena, and children Grant and Brooke, Rodger owns and operates one of Australia's largest cattle studs, 'Elrose', and a 20,000-strong commercial Brahman herd on properties spread from Cloncurry to Moura.

Elrose Station has been in the Jefferis family since 1911 when Rodger's grandfather, Rowland L. Jefferis, drew the 32,000 ha block of country 70 km south of Cloncurry. Later, Rodger's father was one of the first to take Brahman cattle into western Queensland.

"We have operated a stud at Elrose for over 40 years alongside a substantial commercial herd," said Rodger. "I firmly believe in the benefits derived from running a stud in parallel with a commercial operation. This is the best way to ensure that you stay grounded and keep producing the type of stud cattle that the industry needs. Having a commercial herd means you have to focus on the drivers of profitability."

Rodger and Lorena were newlyweds when the beef industry slump of the early 1970s started to bite, and they took on the management of a Brahman stud in the Northern Territory, owned by a USA-based investment company.

"We also got involved with the very early days of the live export trade, at a time when the buyer would bring scales to the property to weigh the
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cattle because there were no scales at the saleyards."

In 1990 the late Dr. Brian Burns, Principal Scientist (Beef Breeding and Genetics) with DPI, drove out to Elrose and suggested that the Jefferis’ join BREEDPLAN.

“We became avid ‘measurers of what’s measurable’ and have been using BREEDPLAN data to improve our herd and make decisions when buying bulls and females for Elrose,” said Rodger.

In the early days, Rodger and Lorena joined with Noel Daley’s Caiwarra stud and Graham McCamley’s Tartrus stud to sell bulls at the Cloncurry Cattle Country Sale. Then for 11 years they sold from a facility at Elrose, putting together large lines of bulls and females.

“It was a long way for buyers to come and we appreciated the clients who regularly made the trip to bid on our cattle,” said Rodger. “In the end, drought, distance and feed costs put an end to the annual sales at Elrose. We now do mostly paddock sales but have enjoyed the opportunity to catalogue bulls in the Lancefield Brahman Invitations’ Sale for the past two years at CQLX Gracemere.”

“This has been an excellent way to show our cattle to potential buyers who might otherwise not see them.”

Highlights of Rodger’s career as a director of the Australian Brahman Breeders’ Association have included founding the Commercial Brahman Promotion Committee and championing the Association’s involvement with the Beef CRC genomics and commercial females research efforts.

“The Commercial Brahman Promotion Committee includes members from the meatworks and processing sector and commercial beef producers,” he said. “Amongst many other things we initiated the Brahman Commercial Female Sale that gave producers an opportunity to access good lines of quality females not readily available elsewhere. In the same year that a line of Charolais commercial females set an Australian record, it was topped by a line of Brahman females at that sale.”

The Association’s involvement with the Beef CRC research into feed efficiency, meat tenderness and female fertility provided invaluable information for Brahman breeders and producers, and dispelled several myths that had plagued the Brahman breed,” he said.

Because of the foresight of Rodger and others, the Brahman breed is on the front foot when it comes to making the most of advanced in genomics and genetic technologies.

Elrose contributed sires to all three rounds of the ABBA Progeny Beef Information Nucleus (BIN) project. This project collected performance data on 844 steers and 949 heifers for the Brahman BREEDPLAN traits for weight, carcase scanning (rib fat, rump fat and eye muscle area (EMA)) and flight time, along with structural soundness assessments. Female progeny were retained in the project for their first two calves with joining information submitted to BREEDPLAN to calculate Days to Calving EBVs. Full MSA chiller assessments were conducted on the 844 steer carcases with meat samples analysed by the UNE meat...
Rodger and Lorena are fully convinced of the value of BREEDPLAN data, which is the first ‘screen’ used when selecting bulls to introduce to Elrose Stud. In recent years they have invested heavily on the basis of solid data and ‘an eye for good cattle’.

They have paid record-breaking prices to win bulls like NCC Justified at an Australian Brahman breed and beef cattle record auction price of $325,000 in 2017, Lancefield Ambition in 1998 for $60,000, $240,000 for second-top priced bull in Australia Lancefield-M-Billionaire Manso in 2007 and Lancefield Signature in 2001 for $87,500.

“We chose Ambition because he was rated in the top 5% of Brahman BREEDPLAN for growth, carcase weight, RBY% and EMA, and his dam line exhibited high fertility under the extremely dry conditions central Queensland suffered in the 1990s,” said Rodger. “When his first five sons went to auction they earned $72,000, more than paying for our initial investment.”

Similarly with Signature, one son returned $85,000 and he has gone on to sire a million dollars’ worth of progeny. The Jefferis’ are hopeful that Justified will also make good on their investment.

“At Elrose, the focus is on producing large lines of bulls with the attributes to lift returns in our clients’ herds,” said Rodger. “We make use of all the technologies available to collect meaningful data and use it to select and cull animals to hone in on the traits we believe are most important to our commercial herd and our clients’ herds.”

On the genome front, Elrose Naomi will become a reference animal for the Brahman breed, making it possible for researchers to delve further into the DNA sequences of 50 top Brahman bulls, to identify the genes associated with specific traits.

“This is the type of research that has been so exciting to be involved with,” said Rodger. “The ABBA board and committees have been very proactive in supporting scientific developments that benefit the Brahman industry as a whole. Always looking for new things to learn and that is something we should be proud of – it’s hard to fathom just how much we have learned in the last 20 years!”

With Brahman and Brahman-cross cattle accounting for more than 80 per cent of the Northern Australian herd, Rodger sees the need for the industry to stay open to new ideas and to maximise the potential of the breed throughout the Tropics.
David and Joy Deguara and their family are building up their Hamdenvale stud with a special focus on intensive breeding for elite females.

With a stud depot at Simla Station, near Mackay and a commercial operation spanning two properties – Moorvale and Daunia – in the Nebo district, the Deguaras are well aware of the importance female genetics can play in herd improvement.

“We have maintained a 400-strong stud operation but have reduced the size of our commercial herd to around 1600 breeders due to the very dry conditions,” said Joy. “Our son Jarrod and his wife Leanne take care of the commercial properties while David and I concentrate on the stud. We have a particular interest in intensive breeding programs using embryo transfer and in vitro fertilisation to infuse new genetics into our bloodlines, with a particular focus on JD Hudgins and VB bloodlines.”

Embryo transfer (ET) involves inducing super-ovulation of a superior (donor) female who is then artificially inseminated (AI) with semen from one sire. Seven days later the resulting embryos are collected and each one is implanted into a recipient or surrogate mother.

In vitro fertilisation (IVF) technologies involves the collection of Graafian follicles (structures produced in the ovary prior to ovulation) from a superior (donor) female and taken to a reproductive laboratory in Brisbane. The embryos are created in the lab using the sperm from selected sires and then at 7-days they are implanted in the recipient cows. The main difference in these techniques is the opportunity to combine the one donor cow genetics with multiple sires at the one time using IVF.

As IVF and ET are very intense breeding techniques, only the best 10 per cent of females from the herd being used as donor females.

Having specialised in breeding elite females, the Deguaras are keenly watching the developments in sexed semen and hope to employ this technology in their breeding program to focus on the production of female calves in the future.
As the name suggests, sexed semen has been sorted according to the X and Y chromosome present. Sperm cells carrying the X (female) chromosome contains 4% more DNA than the sperm carrying the Y (male) chromosome, making it possible to quite accurately sort the cells and dramatically increase the rate of male or female embryos produced. Until fairly recently the medium used to carry the sorted sperm has affected the rate of conception using sexed sperm but this problem is being resolved with the development of more compatible medium.

In the past, Joy and David have owned cows in the USA to facilitate the importation of embryos. “Owning females running in the States is a good way to access US genetics and import them to our herd,” said Joy. “We hope to buy some cows again for this purpose in the near future.”

“When we import genetics we are very selective when it comes to the traits on offer,” she said. “We look for a good Brahman type, good conformation and temperament, good back legs and an ability to handle Australian conditions.”

The stud cows that are not used as donor females in the intense breeding program at ‘Simla’ are bred naturally and with AI to Brahman bulls and most are run on the family’s home property ‘Moorvale’. A small proportion of the stud cows are bred to Charolais bulls for use in their commercial operation.

The Hamdenvale stud utilises polled genetics in their red and grey Brahman breeding program and hope to increase the level of pollness in their females as time goes on. They have found that while pollness is certainly an important trait that buyers are often looking for, there are other traits that may be more important to commercial productivity that ultimately might sway a purchase.

“We are on the look-out for quality polled bulls that also carry the other traits that are very important in an overall breeding program,” said Joy.

About 50 per cent of Hamdenvale bulls are sold as herd bulls through paddock sales and the rest are catalogued at major sales such as the Rockhampton Brahman Week and Big Country sales.

Their females are offered at the annual Hamdenvale Females of the Future Sale, held at Mackay Showgrounds. For the last seven years they have invited three other vendors, Fenech Brahmans (FBC, Wowan), Akama (Gargett) and Pioneer Park (Pleystowe), to join in the sale.

The Deguaras collect EBV data on their cattle and find that most buyers want to review the data and then make their final decision based on what the data tells them and what they see in the individual animal’s visual appeal.
A fond farewell after 25 years of writing for the Brahman News

By Lindel Greggery

It’s hard to believe that I have been writing for the Brahman News for 25 years! What a privilege it has been to record the changing face of the breed and its people over the past quarter of a century.

My first Prime Objective column appeared in the June 1993 issue of the magazine, where I reported that 1197 commercial females averaged $225 a head at the drought-affected Dalgety Brahman Female Sale at Gracemere.

This being the pre-digital era, I remember writing the article on an electric typewriter (while juggling a toddler on my hip), then correcting any mistakes with Liquid Paper before faxing it off to Rockhampton.

The reason for these recollections is that this is sadly my last article for the Brahman News, as I set forth to explore new challenges in the communication and mindfulness training sectors. After writing about the industry across four decades – starting as a cadet journalist with Queensland Country Life (QCL) in 1984 – I hope you can indulge me a few column centimetres to reminisce.

My first exposure to Brahmans came from the Lawes Brahman Stud at Queensland Agricultural College, where I was studying Farm Management in the early 1980s. Perhaps I can blame the partying for my lack of clarity about those cattle, however I do recall they carried the famous Cherokee bloodlines.

These studies fortuitously led me to a fulfilling career in rural journalism and public relations, working with QCL in Rockhampton, Roma and Brisbane, before starting my own PR firm, Wagtail Media, based in Dalby and then the Sunshine Coast.

I remember my first week in Australia’s Beef Capital clearly. Fronting up to the QCL office, fresh faced and wide eyed at 21, I was handed a notebook and camera and instructed to hit the road in search of stories. Thankfully, I was extremely fortunate to be mentored by two of the best rural journos in the business: the legendary Russ Boadle, who knew everyone and everything there was to know about primary production in Central Queensland, and (the late Qld Press Club Hall of Fame inductee) Malcolm McCosker OAM, who took me under his wing for the first few weeks while Russ was on holidays.

While I only stayed in Rockhampton for 2.5 years before transferring to Roma, this formative time introduced me to the ABBA and all things Brahman. My weeks were punctuated by visits to prime, store and stud sales at Gracemere, as well as covering the stud cattle judging at every country show within cooee, taking stand-up photos of stud bulls for sale previews, and writing “on-farm” stories about progressive beef producers (and almost every other rural topic under the sun).

When I first started writing about Brahmans the common belief from outside the industry was that their beef was tough and their temperament was … temperamental. It’s pleasing that concerted collaborative efforts between the ABBA, researchers and breeders have well and truly changed those perceptions. Advances in genetic testing, performance recording, ET and IVF technology, and the introduction of ground-breaking programs such as the Brahman BIN Project, have been key drivers for improving performance and reputation.

Another game changer was the 1982 opening of the Cocos Island Quarantine Station and the approval of imports from the United States. This was an exciting time in the industry, with studmasters rushing to America to select bulls and semen in attempts to create the ideal beast for our conditions. Fads came and went as studs experimented widely with the influx of long legged and long eared Brazilian and Indu-Brazil genes and the earlier maturing types from Hudgins and VB Ranch.

While the JDH prefix established its dominance during this period and continues to leave an indelible mark, others blazed brightly to become household names for a time. McKellar Ricardo, CMT Jarocho 309/0 and Mr VB 464/4 were Sires of the Year in the 1990s, bringing a new style of Brahman to the show ring, the paddock and the cover of the Brahman News.

The one bull I remember writing the most about in this period was JDH...
Elefante R Manso 272/9, who was imported by FBC in 1991 for $60,000 and sold to Delta Grove stud in 1995 for a then record of $105,000. Other influential imports who constantly popped up in my stories included CMT Tuxpeno 308/0, Glengarry’s JDH Ernesto De Manso 838/4 and Yenda’s JDH Mr Manso 35/1, not to mention reds such as VL Rojo Grande 26/8 and a swathe of HK bulls who helped kick-start a long lasting resurgence in demand for red genetics.

Amidst the sea of US bloodlines, Wandarri’s Cherokee LC Silver managed to fly the flag for Australian genetics, being named Sire of the Year from 1992-94. NCC’s in vitro importation of South African genetics in the early 2000s added yet another interesting chapter in the genetic diversity of Australian Brahmans.

The late-90s threw up some unique challenges for the breed, one being the introduction of MSA grading for beef in 1998. With the original pathway for 3-star beef prescribing less than 25 percent Bos indicus content, Brahman beef producers felt rightly discriminated against. Following much lobbying and more consumer research, it took seven years until the MSA model was expanded to allow 100 percent Bos indicus content in its grading system.

More recently, animal welfare concerns about live export and overseas slaughter practices, and management of Bovine Johne’s Disease have been two issues that grabbed headlines and affected stud and commercial breeders alike.

As well as writing about industry issues, one task I will miss greatly is reporting on the Rockhampton Brahman Week Sale. What a mammoth but enjoyable endeavour that has been! It would be mind boggling to tally the total hours spent trawling through spreadsheets of results, countless pages of buyers’ instructions and online pedigrees, and phone calls to happy vendors and buyers, to make those multiple stories come together. Thanks to all the staff at ABB and to the selling agents for collating and passing this information on to me, not only for RBWS but for all the sales, both stud and commercial.

Other major events I’ve enjoyed covering have been two of the three Brahman World Congresses held in Rockhampton, and the majority of the Beef Australia expos. Returning to Rockhampton for the 2016 World Congress was like a step back in time and gave me the chance to reconnect with many breeders I hadn’t seen in years or had only spoken to via phone or email. It was also memorable to meet the smooth talking Texans from the big-name US studs, finally getting the chance to put faces to names that I had long reported on. I could share the story of one elderly US Brahman breeder who became a little too enamoured with my “work” at the Congress, but at the risk of embarrassment will keep that one under my hat!

At the Congress it was touching to see the founders of many of Australia’s leading studs – such as Mogul, Tartrus, Lancefield, Yenda and Apis Creek, to name just a few – formally acknowledged for their huge contribution to the industry. I’ve loved telling your studs’ stories, and in many cases continuing that conversation with your sons, daughters and grandchildren who have now taken over the reins.

It has been a great pleasure to meet and write about both the up and comers and the movers and shakers who have shaped the industry.

One story that created a strong media buzz was the knighting of No mode of transport was out of the question in the search for a good story.
Tartrus founder Graham McCamley in 1986. I remember much discussion and not a little consternation as egalitarian Aussies struggled with how to address the down to earth cattle baron who had suddenly become the recipient of one of the Queen’s highest honours.

Another Brahman leader to hit the headlines was Carolyn Briggs, who in 1995 became the first (and to this day, only) female president of the ABBA. Despite this being a pivotal time in the Association’s history, Carolyn responded with great humility and pragmatism, downplaying her status as a trailblazer for women in the beef industry.

Over the years I have been privileged to share many fascinating stories of ABBA Life Members and breed pioneers. The late Eric Nobbs from Lyndhurst springs to mind as one shining example of a hard working Aussie bloke who built a Brahman empire from scratch, all the while remaining humble, understated and true gentleman. I have also felt it a great honour to be asked to write obituaries for many breeders who are no longer with us, and I hope that my words brought some comfort and raised awareness of the legacy they left behind.

While the sands of time have continued to shift, I can confidently say that the nine different presidents at the helm during my time with the Brahman News have been a pleasure to deal with, each bringing different strengths to the role. It does seem somewhat surreal to have witnessed numerous father and son teams come through the ranks - such as Ken and Brett Coombe, Ted and Brett Kirk, and Jeff and Matthew McCamley - in what seems like the blink of an eye.

One constant through all this change was ABBA general manager John Croaker, who steered the ship for 23 of my 25 years with the magazine. It’s rare to have such a long working relationship with anyone, and I must pay special tribute to John for being so professional and easy to get along with. I’m glad I got the opportunity to attend John’s farewell dinner in Rockhampton in 2016, not only to chronicle the event but to join with others from the Brahman world in acknowledging his foresight and dedication to the breed.

Thanks too, to the ABBA staff, especially the graphic designers who I worked closely with to put the magazine together, for your efforts and collaboration over the years.

Of course there would not be any stories without the breeders, so special thanks for sharing your highs and lows with me over the years. I’ve never failed to be impressed by the solid values and community spirit of ABBA members and your willingness to take the breed forward and lend a hand to others in times of need.

I wish Anastasia, the ABBA executive and staff, members and everyone involved in the Brahman industry all the best with your endeavours and hope that our paths will again cross in the future.
A 21st birthday gift of Brahmans

By Matt Sherrington

When Injune-based commercial Brahman breeders John and Vikki Hartley asked their daughter Sophie what she’d like for her 21st birthday back in 2016, the answer was “a few Brahman heifers”.

The Hartleys run a herd of close to 1300 Brahman females across adjacent breeding blocks Bolonga, and Kinka at Injune.

Brahmans were initially chosen as the base breed as the extended Hartley family operated a larger family holding which has now divided through the family.

Mr Hartley said the family went with Brahmans due to their “survivability, and ease of use for crossbreeding”.

“We cross our Brahman females with Angus and Charolais bulls, from which the first-cross heifers are spayed and along with the steer progeny, are sold through the Roma Saleyards and JBS Dinmore,” he said.

Mrs Hartley said Sophie has always owned her own small herd, and from a young age has always been involved with her father in the day-to-day running of the operation.

“Sophie is involved in the decision making process, loves Brahmans, and with the six Brahman heifers she received for her 21st birthday out of the Rocky All Stars sale, which she has since introduced into her herd, she’s now breeding her own.”

“From these six heifers two of which were in calf, she was lucky enough to get a bull calf and a heifer calf.

“She has now returned those heifers to her herd, and they’re all in calf to a Garthowen bull purchased from the Kinbacher family, Garthowan Brahman and Droughtmaster Stud, Biggenden. Sophie selects all her own bulls, and has helped choose bulls at RBWS for the base herd.”

John and Sophie later drafted 60 good heifers out of the main mob to increase the program’s scope. The Hartleys returned to the sale last year and were the top volume buyers, taking home a draft of 12 heifers to further bolster the program.

The maiden heifers from the 2017 run were put with Angus bulls purchased at Ced Wise’s Glenisa Angus sale. These heifers will calve out soon, then go into the herd to be put with Brahman bulls next year.

“The overall goal is for Sophie to focus on continuing to develop her herd, with the aim of putting higher quality Brahman content into our entire herd with the replacement heifers she produces,” Mr Hartley said.

Mrs Hartley said the family chose to attend the Rocky All Stars sale in particular, as there is “a wide variety of bloodlines on offer from quality Brahman stud herds.

“The sale vendors and agents were very helpful and happy to provide us with any details we required on the lots we were interested in.”

“They were genuinely interested in why we were there, and provided us with excellent support post-sale.”

Sophie Hartley feeding a selection of the heifers she’s using in her breeding program which was created with the objective of putting higher quality Brahman content into the family’s entire herd.
Vale Keith Lansdowne

By: Jon Condon, Beef Central

Former Northern Territory cattle industry identity Keith Lansdowne passed away recently, aged 84.

One of the pioneers of Brahman cattle breeding in northern Australia in the late 1960s and early 1970s, Mr Lansdowne and wife Anne ran the successful Kumbidgee Brahman Stud from their Katherine River property of the same name for many years, selling herd bulls widely across the Northern Territory and into Western Australia.

Most of the cattle in the Territory at the time were Shorthorn-based, but the tropical adaptation and production advantages offered by Brahman cattle quickly caught on.

Mr Lansdowne spent a lengthy period as a director of the Australian Brahman Breeders Association, including terms as president. Mr Lansdowne was also instrumental and very passionate in bringing Brahman evaluation schools to the Territory for both fellow Brahman breeders as well as organising them exclusively for Aboriginal Stockman back in the early nineties. He was a major part of organising these and he would help run them for the 4 days. “We had a great time with him doing this” said Brett Coombe. He was later made a Life Member of the ABBA.

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He was the quintessential top end cattleman – tall, ramrod straight, quietly spoken, modest but self-assured – but with a great instinctive knowledge of the challenges involved in running cattle in the tough territory conditions.

Born in Murrurundi in NSW, he headed to the territory as a ringer in the mid-1950s, working firstly for the Australian Agricultural Co at Avon Downs on the Barkly, and later on Auvergne and Newry near the Western Australian border.

He was also a foundation member and later president for 15 years of the NT branch of the Australian Stock Horse Society, established in 1972, breeding, drafting and selling a string of top working horses over many years. By 2012, the NT branch of the ASHS had more than 170 members, with eight society inspectors covering the NT and Kimberley region.

He made countless contributions to the local NT community, chairing the Katherine Show society, sitting on the NT Land Board and the Conservation Commission, and chaired the Bushfires Council and Katherine Rural College board.

Mr Lansdowne judged Brahman cattle and stock horses across Queensland and the NT for many years.

Mr Lansdowne is survived by his wife Anne, son Kim, who remains at Soutterwood, and daughters Megan and Robyn.

The Lansdownes later moved from Kumbidgee to Maryfield, a larger property near Larrimah south of Katherine, and after 40 years in the territory, returned to Queensland, buying Soutterwood, a property west of Emerald.

The Lansdownes retired to Toowoomba five years ago.

Mr Lansdowne is survived by his wife Anne, son Kim, who remains at Soutterwood, and daughters Megan and Robyn.

Vale Mr Marcello Maggiolo 1931 - 2018

Memories shared by Mrs Maggiolo

Mr Maggiolo was a lover of the Brahman Breed and a lover of his Red Brahmans and was very proud of what he achieved with his stud, Bendamore Brahman, while breeding and showing them. He was thrilled when one of his heifers did very well during a large showing at a Rockhampton Show.

His wife, Mrs Oriente Maggiolo described him as a good man, quiet and not one who took praise easily. He was a pioneer in the sugar industry in the Ingham area and the family had sugar, bananas and Brahmans. The Maggiolo’s raised 4 children, 2 girls and 2 boys. Loretta, Teresa, David and Benjamin.

His favourite spot was working his cattle and he was “Happy as a pig in mud when he was in the yards.”

A heart of gold has stopped beating. His busy hands put to rest.

He will be sadly missed.
Vale Norman (Pat) Keith Hills 1941 - 2018

‘Keith’ was the third eldest son of Norman & Jessie Hills of “Hawthorn” Berajondo, a dairy farm on Baffle Creek.

Known as ‘Pat’, he had eight siblings: Colin, James, Ted, Jenny, Geoffrey, Lynne, Joanne & Bruce. The three youngest have survived him.

At a young age the family had a bit of a temper. So with Pat, it stayed, as we all knew him.

He attended North Baffle Creek school. The only highlight of school days was riding their horses and annoying Teachers. He often spoke of the cuts he got.

At 13, Pat left to work on the family property. Pat got a job on a sheep property near Winton, catching a lift with his brother Jim. After 12 months his dad requested for Pat to come home and help on the farm. Many a story was told of those days.

In 1960 the family moved to Bundaberg. Pat purchased “Walkers Flat” from his dad in 1961. He camped in a cream shed and slept with his horse tied to his arm until he got a yard built. It was very tough. He purchased “Whytallabah” which had a slab hut, “The Ranch” as it was known.

He & Ted lived there as it was well known amongst his friends. Stories of late nights and early mornings have been shared.

Pat was a wheeler & dealer and this continued throughout his life.

This was when Pat started buying Brahman Bulls. Doing outside work and on weekends chopped & cleared and pastured the property. Pat and Ted purchased “Deepwater” from Dick Lloyd Jones. This country was used as a winter block with 2 miles of unencumbered beach front and deep water boundary, not much fencing, but heaps of trees. This partnership was dissolved in 1970.

Pat met Kay in 1963 during a short spell in hospital where Kay was nursing. Pat always said “she got me while I was down:” Despite the fact his injuries caused him to mostly stand.

Cane cutting became the next option after being required to stay off the horses for a time. He worked doing cattle sales, timber cutting and mustering in Miriam Vale Shire. Visits to Town and phone calls were far & few between, unless he got a ride with a mate.

In 1968 Pat was offered the position as manager of Berajondo Pastoral Company, starting on Melbourne Cup Day.

After a 5-year courtship, Pat & Kay were married in the Sacred Heart Church Childers on the 25/01/69. This was a drought year and quite an experience in country life and caring for pigs was certainly new for Kay. Brian was born in April of 1970 & on Mother’s Day 1972, Fiona was born in Bundaberg while Pat was mustering. It was after they were married that the property became Glenmore Brahman Stud and Pat continued to attend Rocky Brahman Sales.


The bank manager wanted to know where the cash flow was? Kay went back to work at the Theodore Hospital and Pat went tordoning and made “Amaroo” what it is today.

Pat began to source his Brahman females from Studs like Avondale, Cherokee, Banyak Suka and Tartrus.

In 1988, we purchased Mt Kitchener and interest rates soared to 22%.

1992 saw NK Brahman Stud established. The bulls he bred have been sold at RBWS since 1990 and also at a sale developed at Springsure 13 years ago, as well as privately. Pat’s life ambition was to have good quality cattle.

Pat pre-empted the arrival of grandkids when Brian & Fiona married their respective partners. Pat started breeding the horses for the Grandchildren and Brian & Fiona had to ride those horses for years, so they would be ready for the grandkids with 7 arriving over 7 years and yes, they rode those horses.

2005, we purchased Oakdale and sold it to Brian in 2013.

In 2007 Pat received his first Cancer diagnosis; which returned in October of 2017.

Pat was so proud of his recent results with his last 8 decks of cattle averaging 310kg.

Right up until the day before his birthday, and even between surgery and treatment; he continued to follow his passion, in the buggy, with his dogs, out with the weaners.

Pat was always a lover of horses, cattle & dogs and believed in all three. He recently said, “My aim in life was to have good cattle and I think I have achieved that.

By Pat’s wife Kay and family.

Pat and Kay Hills at Big Country Sale this year with his beloved Brahmans never too far away.
AN ODE TO A BUSHMAN

By: Shona O’Keefe

Through years of drought & flood.
The good times and the bad times,
the bush was his blood.

His goal in life was simple,
to have good cattle to pass on,
to his children and the grandies,
when his last ride had been done.

The dogs weren’t to be beat,
as they took off round The mob.
There was many times they showed me,
just how to do my job.

Our vocabulary was bright!
“You useless bastard!”
He would roar.
But we never missed our Friday nights,
we’d have a ‘rum, or maybe four.

Your saddle is hung up now,
your cattle are nothing but the best,
it’s time to kick the boots off mate,
and finally take a rest.

So here’s an ode for the bushman,
who taught me what I know.
I’ll remember all our yesterdays,
and think of tomorrow.

In memory of PAT HILLS
14/08/1941 - 30/08/2018

Vale Neal George Ferris 6/7/2018

Neal was born Neal George Ferris in May 1964, the only child of Sybil Riley and Alan (smiley) Ferris... Sybil and Alan were both from pioneering families in the Bororen and Miriam Vale districts.

Neal grew up at Oakleigh and following school he headed off to Longreach agricultural college in 1982. He did not enjoy sheep and wool, so in 1983 he went to Wandoval where he revelled in the cattle work and the mustering camp.

He returned home in 1984 and started work at Turkey Station. Neal just loved working with cattle, horses and dogs. He had an outstanding dog called Slick who he lost when we were mustering in Eurimbula at 50kms away. Neal was devastated... Slick found his way home to Oakleigh a month later sore footed but very pleased with himself.

Neal was a very good all round sportsman. Bowls, cricket and rugby league. He loved his football and I can still remember him motoring down the field with ball in hand like a runaway train. A fearsome site for the opposition! He was a coaches nightmare as he was not keen on training, in fact I don’t recall him ever making a training session! He continued a Ferris family commitment to the Miriam Vale Bowls Club and has been the president for the last 7 years and Club Champion a number of times.

In 1986 he headed north on holidays. He got to Darwin and met a girl from Western Australia called Terri. He cheekily suggested to her, “You have had to travel all around the world to find someone like me!”

The relationship flourished and Neal returned to work at Turkey after his bank manager told him there was too much play and not enough work going on! Terri arrived in the district soon after and I recall saying to her “Terri, he is off the top shelf but he could be a bit rough at the edges.” She replied, “John, that is just the way I like him!”

They were married in the garden at Turkey in August 1991. Candice was born in 1992, followed by Holly and Kurt. The young have all got about building their careers. The girls both have their own successful businesses. Candice in Gladstone and Holly at Tannum, while Kurt has followed his father at Oakleigh.

The young have all got about building their careers. The girls both have their own successful businesses. Candice in Gladstone and Holly at Tannum, while Kurt has followed his father at Oakleigh.

Terri and Neal had a challenging start at Oakleigh but to their great credit they have developed the property and have bred an outstanding herd of red Brahmanos and have built the Red Oak Brahman stud which sells bulls across Northern Australia. They were Neals pride and joy and he recently said to Terri that this years weaners were their best yet.

They expanded the business by buying the neighbouring property Killarney in 2001 and recently the family added Lexivale to the stable.

To summarise, Neal George as we called him, has given life a red hot go in every way and fitted more into 54 years than most of us will fit into 104 years.

He loved the cut and thrust of business... He revelled in it!

Many of you will have had a call from Neal which started... Hey mate! And could have been about any one of the following: Fishing at Mondoolin or at the reef, bowls, selling bulls, timber, or a drink or three!!

We have lost a big man with a big heart far too soon and our lives will be much duller without him.

RIP. Big Fella

Written and kindly supplied by John Bell on behalf of the Ferris family
Brian Burns – just one more thing...

Contributed by Peter Johnston Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

Dr Brian Burns passed away on Friday 27 July 2018 in Rockhampton, after a six-year battle with prostate cancer. He was 63. Brian was a Principal Research Scientist with the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, specialising in beef cattle husbandry and genetics research, development and extension.

After completing his Veterinary Science degree at the University of Queensland in 1977, Brian began working for the Queensland Department of Primary Industries as a Meat Inspector in 1978 with the national Brucellosis and Tuberculosis Eradication Campaign. He then spent several years in private veterinary practice in Merriwa, New South Wales and Longreach and Mt Isa in western Queensland. He returned to the Department in a beef cattle husbandry research role in May 1983 based at the Brigalow Research Station near Theodore. He also held positions at Swans Lagoon Research Station at Millaroo, Richmond and Rockhampton.

While employed by the Department, he completed his Masters at James Cook University in 1990 and his PhD at Texas A&M University in the United States in 1995. From 2010 to 2015 he was a Senior Research Fellow at the University of Queensland, returning to the Department in late 2015. He also lectured in the School of Veterinary Science at both the University of Queensland and James Cook University, and supervised several Masters and PhD students.

Brian was a passionate veterinary scientist with lifelong focus on improving beef cattle production across northern Australia. He was well connected, with extensive producer networks that have proved invaluable in fostering industry collaboration, vital for effective research projects.

Brian’s rapport and reputation with beef cattle producers and the Tropical Breed Societies was also valuable in implementing BREEDPLAN across northern Australia. BREEDPLAN is the most advanced system of genetic evaluation in the world.

In 1999 Brian was awarded a Churchill Fellowship and travelled overseas to examine genetic improvement and optimisation of breeding programs to meet target market specifications. In 2016 his service to the beef industry was recognised with the North Australia Beef Research Council Medal for outstanding Scientist.

Throughout his career, Brian was consistently supportive of his colleagues within the Department, and in other research organisations. He recognised the value of collaboration and the need to pool skills and resources for practical, industry-relevant research. He published extensively in scientific literature with over 100 publications, 43 of them as senior author. He also wrote many articles for beef cattle producers, extension officers and consultants.

Throughout his illness, Brian remained in close contact with producers and colleagues, and was determined to return to the work and the industry, and the people he loved. A recent highlight was his role in the field tour to Steve and Claire Farmer’s Mt Elsa property north of Rockhampton during Beef 2018 in May. Even in his final days, he was active in discussing ideas on how to advance the cattle industry in northern Australia. Most phone calls or conversations with Brian would be peppered with him saying “and just one more thing...”. We can all take strength from the positive way Brian approached his challenge with cancer, and the long journey it became for him and his family.

Brian’s funeral service, held at St Joseph’s cathedral in Rockhampton on Wednesday 1 August, was well attended by family, friends, beef producers, research colleagues, and many current and past departmental staff. While Brian will be sadly missed, his research results live on in his published work, the genetic evaluation tools in use today. He will be remembered for his ethos and passion for hard work, collaboration, and never giving up.

“A good friend of mine, the late Dr Brian Burns described genetics is like a balloon full of water – you push on one side and something else gives.”

Dr Ian Braithwaite
The Hump Express – Variety Bash Top Hat Legends 2018

Contributed by Lyn Coombe

We did it again – the honours for highest fundraisers were bestowed upon The Hump Express team for the second year in a row after last year’s virgin entry also won this prestigious award! The 2018 Variety Bash started in Gladstone on August 22nd & went inland and finished up at Townsville on August 31st with overnight stays in Lake Monduran, Biloela, Blackwater, Dysart, Halliday Bay, Glenden, Bowen River & Charters Towers.

Brahman breeders Wendy Cole, Kenrol Brahman Stud, Gracemere and Lyn Coombe, Roxborough Brahman Stud, Moura steered The Hump Express on another successful Bash journey. Minus our partners from last year our trusty Bash car made the trip without any flat tyres again and only a minor hiccup with a loose wire which was taken care of by some fellow Bash mechanics. The Hump Express, with our trade mark Brahman bulls on the roof, was very popular with our Variety Bash friends and family.

At times we do feel like full blown celebrities and Variety Club itself pay special tribute to all the teams and cars that make up the Bash and the extraordinary effort made by all to fundraise. This year we travelled over 3500 kms and collectively raised an amazing $1.3 million to give Aussie kids a fair go. The Hump Express contributed over $101,000 to this total & were again Top Hat Legends – such an awesome team effort.

So many people followed our adventure via Facebook with quite a few of our posts getting over 1000 views with some up over the 4000 mark. Of course WIN news started the ball rolling with a great news piece which created a lot of hype before the Bash even started. This year we felt like old timers as we walked into the first function held in Gladstone. There were so many familiar faces and we truly got to know the meaning of what everyone talks about the “Bash Family”.

Some of the presentations we made to families along the way continue to remind us of why we are involved with the Variety Club. It is great to experience the enjoyment of the kids along the way and the gratitude expressed by the families receiving grants and equipment to help make their lives a little easier. Sometimes we think life is tough, we have no idea of what tough really is sometimes. More than $200,000 in equipment and grants were given out over the 10 days of the Bash. Two buses were funded by Variety QLD with the Mackay District Special School being the worthy recipients of one of the buses – boy were they excited to receive it. And who could forget the little boy Baxter from Blackwater who received a new Gravity Chair to help him with his everyday activities. Too many recipients to list and during the next 12 months so many more children will receive help and funding as a result of our fundraising.

One of the highlights of this year’s Bash was the pop up tent The Hump Express supporters set up out on the Redcliffe Road near the Cocklebinda turnoff. Tents set up on a lonely dirt track the Bashers were treated to smoked hump, cooked prior by The Smokin’Yak then warmed up in camp ovens, on a small piece of French stick with the very yummy sauce also provided by The Smokin’Yak. And low and behold the Bashers also had live animals there to pat, scratch, lay on, get photographs with etc – the cattle were so popular and truly demonstrated the wonderful temperament of Brahman cattle. The Bashers talked about this stop for days afterwards with many voting it as the number one stop of the 2018 Bash.

Of course the majority of cattle we saw along the way were either Brahman or brahman cross & in the recent dry times they certainly excelled and proved their worth. It was great to catch up with so many of our supporters and sponsors who made a special effort to visit with us. At nearly every school stop there were children and families there who knew we were coming and jumped in to get their photos taken with The Hump Express.

In finishing special thanks to everyone who supported The Hump Express in one way or another. By either donating or buying semen in our online auction (still a very much talked about fundraising idea with Variety), by supporting our Junior Beef show auction, providing money for fuel, car panel sponsors or by direct deposits - too many of you to thank personally but you know who you are. Please take this as our personal thanks to you all from The Hump Express Team. Imagine the number of smiles put on the faces of children and families who benefit from our amazing fundraising efforts – from those families - thank you!

Now just a pre warning to our supporters we are going again next year as the 30th Anniversary of Variety Bash QLD will start in Mackay to finish up at the Gold Coast. It will be a big celebration so how can The Hump Express not be a part of it. We think we’ll see a lot of cattle along the way with the Brahman influence and look forward to your continued support.
It was business as usual for exhibitors at this year’s Commonwealth Bank AgQuip field day, in Gunnedah. The event is staged over three days, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday commencing on 20th August, 2018. It is Australia’s biggest and one of the world’s largest agri-events, set on a massive 32 hectare site. Despite all the claims of fame this event carries, it was with a good deal of trepidation that studs from throughout NSW headed out to a region firmly in the grip of one of the worst droughts ever seen in NSW to man the ABBA site.

The studs represented included Bidgeeview Brahms, Narromine, BT Brahms, Dubbo Hope Brahman, Gunnedah Buckaroo Brahms, Willow Tree, and Mountana Brahman Stud, Kyogle and between them displayed a good selection of both red and grey bulls and heifers.

The ABBA shed was transformed into a very eye catching display with the use once again of the scrim from Beef and the talents of Lin Tink and Yvonne Carr who also did a roaring trade with the promotional items available for purchase. One could not question their commitment to the cause after seeing them sell their very own Brahman scarves which they were wearing, assuring the very grateful customers they could order more to replace them.

Clearly, the farming community were looking for an excuse for a day’s break from the daily grind, and arrived in droves to experience all that was on offer.

The Brahman site was a hive of activity, with a constant stream of people filing through to take a closer look at a breed which is not a common sight amongst the predominately British breeds used in the surrounding region.

Unbeknown to each other, Lyn Tink from BT Brahms and Jo Bulmer from Mountana Brahman Stud both arrived with 7 day old poddys. And what a hit they were, “Oh, look at their ears!!” could be heard regularly as children sat and patted the heifers and asked many questions about a breed which was quite a novelty.

Discussions revealed that many had seen first hand the benefits from the small number Brahms in the area as the drought had intensified. The ease of calving and their ability to do in the tougher conditions was very evident. These observations were a great introduction to conversations expanding on the benefits of cross-breeding and the resilience of Brahms in harsh conditions.

It seems the need for a breed that can handle the difficult conditions being experienced throughout so much of the country is beginning to make farmers who have previously made very few changes to their cattle breeding programs, begin to question what type of changes they need to implement. We believe we hold the answer to many of their challenges and that there are many opportunities arising for the Brahman Breed as we continue to battle against Mother Nature.
Big Country aims for new horizons

Contributed by McCaffrey’s Australian Livestock Marketing

After recording a highly successful 25th Anniversary milestone sale last February, which took total Sale lots sold to 6,137 head and total gross proceeds for the twenty-five Big Country Sales to over $30 million, Sale Agents Geaney’s and McCaffrey’s Australian Livestock Marketing, are aiming for new horizons for the next period in the life of Northern Australia’s Premier Stud Cattle Sale.

Entries closed in mid-November for the 2019 Big Country Sale event, to be held at Dalrymple Saleyards, Charters Towers on Monday 4th & Tuesday 5th February. Inspections at 49 Stud properties are in progress to finalise the catalogue offering of bulls and females. “We’ll be selecting Sale lots from Georgetown in the North, to Gympie and the Darling Downs in the South, so you can gauge the very attractive genetic diversity, and the high standard of beef and breed quality that will be on offer for prospective buyers on the two Sale days,” Ken McCaffrey of McCaffrey’s Australian Livestock Marketing said, “what will feature again though is the extra large selection of poll bulls and heifers; the biggest in the North, and always a highlight of Big Country.”

The Sale line-up of Vendor Studs emphasises the significance of the Big Country Brahman Sale to Brahman breeders and cattle producers Australia wide. Among the Studs with lots entered in the Sale are NCC, Carinya, Rockley, Ooline, Token, Palmal, Palmvale, Lanes Creek, Muan, Cambil, Kenrol, HH Park, Carinya M, Kangarlin, Karboe Valley, Kenilworth, Somerview, G.I., Arizona, etc. “We’re expecting a final offering of exceptional quality, right throughout, both in reds and greys,” Ken McCaffrey said.

Sale numbers will be selected to total approximately 175 Grey Brahman Registered Sires and Herd Bulls, 125 Red Brahman Registered Sires and Herd Bulls along with a magnificent “Brahman Belles” selection of 75 powerful pedigree, high quality, select Stud Heifers.

Brahman Belles Heifers a Stud Feature

Studmasters across the industry are urged by the Sale Selling Agents to consider the Big Country early February Heifer offering, as a valuable opportunity to secure some top class, proven breeding lines from leading Studs, that would strengthen their herd’s genetics and also enhance the marketing appeal of their sale turnoff in the future. “We have been fortunate to secure some lines of young heifers of top quality bloodlines for Big Country next year,” Ken McCaffrey said, “they are genetics that are not readily available, and the female offering also has a very strong poll influence.” The Brahman Belles will sell on the first afternoon of the Sale, Monday 4th February, following the completion of the Red Brahman bull offering.

Agents are aiming to have the Sale catalogue finalised for online viewing at www.brahman.com.au before the ABBA closes for the Christmas break on Friday 21st December.

Additionally, you can keep up to date with all Sale information on the Sale’s Facebook page.

Printed catalogues will be available on Monday 14th January 2019.
Brahman House steeped in history

By Cindy Benjamin

The heritage-listed AMP building in Rockhampton (now known as Brahman House) served as the central Queensland headquarters of the Australian Mutual Provident Society for 82 years. It is a fine example of the commercial work of the prominent Queensland architect FDG Stanley, who enjoyed a long and distinguished career.

Brahman House is one of the many beautiful historical buildings that line East Street in Rockhampton. The classical exterior design of the 1888 building illustrates its historical significance during the colonial boom in Central Queensland. It is one of the many heritage-listed buildings in the Rockhampton business centre, along with Walter Reid Community Arts Centre and the adjacent John Headrick’s Building. Like many of these historical properties, the AMP building was designed to portray the growing wealth and prosperity of the population in Central Queensland.

The AMP allotment is strategically positioned in the heart of Rockhampton’s commercial district and was originally purchased by business partners John Peter Bowen Hamilton ‘Alphabet’ Ramsay and William Gaden in May 1859 for 30 Australian pounds. In today’s terms they invested about $30,000 in this allotment. Ramsay and Gaden were squatters in Central Queensland who purchased Canoona run from the Elliott Brothers.

The allotment was subdivided in 1884 and the AMP Society purchased one of the two land allotments in 1886. AMP’s presence as a well-known and well-respected insurance provider encouraged further growth and commercialisation in Central Queensland. The Society’s reputation for providing security that underpinned pastoral and commercial development was portrayed through the architecture of their buildings, which were always ornate and built to stand the test of time.

The Rockhampton building is a two-storey structure completed for AMP in 1888, featuring classical designs of the well-known Scottish-born Queensland architect Francis Drummond Greville (FDG) Stanley. Francis Stanley was born in Edinburgh, Scotland and began his architectural training there in 1855. In 1861 Stanley emigrated to Queensland, first in his own private practice before joining the Colonial Architect Office in 1863. He was appointed as the Colonial Architect in 1872, and during his term he designed many notable works including the Supreme Court and General Post Office buildings in Brisbane, Maryborough Court House and Toowoomba Post Office.

During his term as Colonial Architect, Stanley also worked privately and, after resigning in 1881, he continued a very successful practice. He
Vallance

Semen Available

NCC Vallance (IVF)
S. JDH Mr Elmo Manso  D. El-Ja Vanity Fair Manso
24mths  842kg  11.7mm  EMA 145  IMF 4.4

SOMERTON KASH DZN451M
Sire: LANES CREEK DOLOMITE 1555 (AI) (ET) (P)
Purchased 3/4 share for $35,000 in 2016

SELLING AT
BIG COUNTRY 2019

Dunn Family
Lavinia Park, St Lawrence Q 4707
Ph 07 4956 9282

SOMERTON KRONE DZN441M
Sire: NCC RHAPSODY (IVF) (D)
5 sons sold at auction to an average of $13,500
has left a substantial legacy of commercial and church buildings in Queensland, including the former AMP building in Rockhampton.

William Cherry supervised the construction of the Rockhampton AMP building on behalf of Stanley, who was Brisbane-based. In 1897, AMP's in-house magazine describes the building's interior as 'having its floors being laid with decorated tiles, the general office fitted with elaborate cedar fixtures and the massive plaster ceilings decorated with panelled and enriched cornices'. The exterior of the buildings is constructed of an eye-catching rendered brick face that is painted with an ornamented façade. Four columns, connected by three archways, frame the front of the building, providing both strength and an aesthetically pleasing elegant touch. The building surface is decorated with exquisite mouldings, pedestals and railings, accentuating the line date ‘A 1888 D’.

In 1883 the AMP society began to divide Queensland into selling districts with an office established in a specially-designed building located in the central town of the district. Each district office building would carry the Society's
trademark statuary, 'the Amicus'. Charles Summers sculpted the original Amicus for the parapet of the Pitt Street office in Sydney, which opened in 1880 as the society’s head office.

The Amicus comprised Tyche, the Greek goddess of fortune and luck as the centrepiece stood beside a cornucopia, a symbol of plenty consisting of a goat’s horn overflowing with flowers, fruit and corn. In her left hand was a palm branch signifying victory and reclining on one side was a youth and on the other a woman and child. The statuary carried the Latin caption ‘Amicus certa in re incerta’, meaning ‘A certain friend in uncertain times’.

In 1970 the AMP Society moved to nearby premises on East street, selling the property in 1972 to the Australian Brahman Breeders’ Association. The building title was changed to ‘Brahman House’ and later decorated with two brahman bull profiles that were placed on the roof parapet, both facing East Street. The single storey extension and carpark are later additions to the property. Brahman House has many beautiful interior features including a strong room and an ornately carved cedar reception desk that is embellished with a number of panels of ceramic inlay and connects with carved cedar panelling that encloses the entry alcove.

A floor-to-ceiling timber and glass screen at the rear of the ground level area appears to have been added sometime after the original building fit-out.

The rear staircase balustrading is made of ornately carved, polished cedar, with its underside lined with ripple iron. The upstairs meeting room has a marble mantelpiece with columns of ceramic tiles decorated with an elegant botanical motif separating the mantel sides and the grate.

Brahman House provided a permanent base, allowing the Association to grow and provide the necessary support for members. The Australian Brahman Breeders’ Association, formerly known as The Australian Zebu Breeders’ Society, was formed in 1946 in Mareeba, Northern Queensland. Forward-thinking Australian cattleman recognised that the traditional British breeds struggled in the challenging climatic conditions experienced in the north and embraced the qualities that the Brahman breed, established in America, had to offer.

The development and improvement of the Australian Brahman breed has been described as the greatest livestock revolution in Australian history. The Northern beef industry was transformed from dire straits and bankruptcy to a highly profitable and well-respected industry that generates millions of dollars in domestic and export revenue.

The AMP Building (former) was entered on the Queensland Heritage Register in October 1992.
Manso genetics underpin early Australian Brahman development

By Cindy Benjamin

In the late 1990s, Terry O'Hanlon happened upon a set of six taxidermised bulls' heads in an old shed. When Mr O'Hanlon saw them he felt they should be preserved as unique pieces of Australian Brahman history, so he had the heads restored and displayed at the Great Western Hotel in Rockhampton, which he owned at the time.

“The current owners of the Great Western Hotel, Colin and Vickie Bowden, still have them displayed in the Bullhead Steakhouse,” said Mr O’Hanlon. “They represent some of the foundational genetics that helped build the Brahman breed in Australia.”

The six Manso descendants, J DH Duncan De Manso 594/5 (1948), J DH Moreno De Manso 390/6 (1950), Duke De Manso (1953), King De Manso 12 (1955), Horozonto De Manso (1956) and Cherokee L A Repucho De Man 77/2 (1962) are displayed with their pedigree information and were all owned and used by the late Lionel De Landelles in the Cherokee Stud, Canomie.

After establishing the Cherokee Stud in 1944 following the purchase of a number of Zebu cattle that were direct descendants from the 1933 Australian Zebu importation, the De Landelles family saw the value of introducing Manso genetics to their gene pool.

Manso is considered as ‘the father of today’s Brahmans’. Bred by Dinsmore Sartwelle of the Sartwelle Ranch, and born in 1928, Manso’s sire was Aristocrata 134 and his dam Penelope 567. Zac and Alberta Gayle purchased him as a yearling and having used him extensively in their herd, Mrs Gayle offered to swap Manso for one of Mr Walter Hudgins’ bulls. After initially refusing the swap, Walter came to see Manso for himself and instead offered to trade five young bulls for Manso. Known as ‘the Gayle Bull’, Manso died in 1944, having sired 316 progeny for the JD Hudgins ranch. His genetics are thought to be present in over 90 per cent of Brahman cattle around the world.

Like his descendants at the Great Western Hotel, Manso’s head is preserved and on display at JD Hudgins Ranch.

Cherokee was the third stud registered in Australia for the (then) Australian Zebu Breeders’ Society, which was formed at Mareeba, North Queensland, in 1946. The name was changed to the Australian Brahman Breeders’ Association in 1954.

Lionel De Landelles was awarded an MBE (Member of the British Empire) in recognition of his contribution to the Brahman Industry in Australia. Upon his passing in 1994, his youngest daughter Elsie Nicholas - De Landelles inherited Cherokee No 3. The Cherokee stud is still in operation today with a successful breeding, sales and AI program alongside the Zischke family’s BOS Indicus Cattle Co, Balara Stud. Jesse Zischke, the stud manager and co-owner oversees the breeding and sales program for both operations.

Elsie Nicholas (nee De Landelles) remembers her father’s foresight when it came to developing the Brahman breed in Australia, and her mother Ariel’s steady and supportive influence. “I think Dad would be pleased with what the Cherokee stud has achieved and the type of cattle we are producing,” she said. “In 2017 we undertook an AI program using pellets, which resulted in three bull calves being produced, one each from Duke De Manso, Cherokee L A Olympic King Manso 702 and Cherokee L A Hoss 00X/4 for Cherokee No 3. We have also accessed semen preserved from some of the early Cherokee bulls including Ben Ten Bears (poli), Cherokee Broad Hat...
802/9 and Cherokee My-Brazil, to further strengthen links to the early bloodlines, in keeping with my father’s vision.”

Jesse Zischke hopes to have their first Cherokee L A Repucho De Man 77/2 calf on the ground early 2019 following a recent AI program.

Three of the six bulls are registered to the Cherokee prefix, and, still in the De Landelles family, the other three are registered to Cherokee MI, owned by Ken and Patricia De Landelles, Blooela.

Born on April Fools’ Day in 1948, JDH Duncan De Manso 594/5 was bred by JD Hudgins Inc. Texas, USA. Imported into Australia in 1950 by Mr CW Wright, Waverley Station, St Lawrence, Duncan had 189 progeny registered with the Australian Brahman Breeders’ Association Ltd. The 20 males and 169 females were instrumental in the early development of the Apis Creek, Cherokee, Hillview, Waverley and Wandilla prefixes. He is registered to Cherokee prefix.

Duncan’s sire, Shaker 1/3, and dam Lady Aristocrat Manso 22nd 237/3, were both sired by a Manso son, Aristocrat Manso.

JDH Moreno De Manso 390/6 (born 27/10/1950) was bred by JD Hudgins Inc. Texas, USA and imported into Australia in 1953 by CSIRO. He was purchased in 1958 by Lionel De Landelles. Manso was Moreno’s great-grandfather in both his maternal and paternal lines. He is registered to Cherokee prefix.

Moreno De Manso had 80 progeny registered with the Australian Brahman Breeders’ Association – 37 males and 43 females – in the Avondale, Belmont, Cherokee and Pandoin prefixes.

JDH Valentino De Manso 606/5 was bred by Mr CW Wright, Waverley Station, St Lawrence. He was purchased in 1962 by Lionel De Landelles. Manso was Duke’s maternal great-great-grandfather (through Shaker 1/3) and a paternal great-great-grandfather through the male line of JDH Valentine De Manso 606/5. Voltaire Manso 884/2 and Aristocrat Manso 1175.

Half-brother to Duke De Manso, King De Manso 12 (born 30/03/1955) was bred by Mr CW Wright, Waverley Station, St Lawrence and purchased that same year by Mr Lionel De Landelles. King De Manso has 140 progeny registered with the Australian Brahman Breeders’ Association – 55 males and 85 females – in the Balara, Cherokee, Cornish, Hillview, Myola, Pandoin and Tartrus prefixes. He is registered to Cherokee prefix.

A very prolific sire, Duke produced 266 progeny registered with the Australian Brahman Breeders’ Association – 90 males and 176 females – in the Anvil, Amazon, Cherokee, De Park and Wandarri prefixes.
The fifth bull in the set is Horozonto De Manso (born 09 October 1956), also bred by Mr CW Wright, Waverley Station, St Lawrence, and originally owned by Mr Don Heron, Inkerman Station, Inkerman. He was purchased by Mr De Landelles in April 1962 for 2350 Guineas (equivalent to a little over $60,000 in 2018).

Horozonto is a full-brother of Duke De Manso and is registered to Cherokee MI. Horozonto has 101 progeny registered with the Australian Brahman Breeders’ Association – 28 males and 73 females – in the Brahma, Burnside, Cherokee, Clarina, Inkerman, Prairie, Mungulla, Stanley Park, Villadale and Woodlands prefixes.

Sixth in the line-up is Cherokee L A Repucho De Man 77/2 (born 6/6/1962), a son of JDH Duncan De Manso 594/5, bred and owned by Lionel De Landelles, Cherokee Stud. Repucho is registered to Cherokee MI.

Cherokee L A Repucho De Man 77/2 produced 329 progeny registered with the Australian Brahman Breeders’ Association – 124 males and 205 females – the Capricorn, Amaroo, Amazon, Cherokee, Mogul, Killarney, Tyagarah and Wandarri prefixes.

King De Manso 12, Royal Brisbane Show 1959.

Sire: JDH Valentine De Manso 606/5
Dame: Lady Impeto 719 719/3
Animal: Horozonto De Manso
Sire: JDH Queen De Manso 35/5
Dame: Princess Arislausanne

Selecting for fertility to boost profits in the north

Contributed by Wayne Upton retired NSW DPI Beef Cattle Breeding Specialist (source Beef Central)

**Female reproductive rate**
Female reproductive rate is one of the main profit drivers in a beef cattle enterprise, especially in northern Australia. Research, notably through Beef CRC in the early 2000's, highlighted the scope for genetic improvement of reproduction in Bos indicus and tropically adapted breeds.

Daughters of the best Brahman sires produced almost 30 percent more calves than daughters of the worst Brahman sires. We know these results are due to genetic differences, as the daughters were out of randomly allocated dams run under exactly the same environmental conditions.

The research, both in Australia and overseas, showed that two component traits of lifetime reproductive performance were highly heritable. Those traits were Age at Puberty, and the ability of females to conceive early while rearing their first calf (first post-partum anestrous interval – PPAI1).

Accurate measurement of Age at Puberty requires serial ovarian ultrasound scanning of young heifers to detect the age at which they reach puberty. Scanning is also required to pick the date at which the first calf females returns to estrous.

**Practical solution**
For most breeders of seedstock, scanning females to detect age at puberty and PPAI is out of the question, but recording days to calving is quite practical. Days to calving is easily recorded, requiring the date that the bull was introduced to the mating group and the birth date resulting from that mating. Cows that don’t calve are penalised in the evaluation.

While days to calving does not have the same high heritability as age at puberty and PPAI, it is much simpler to measure and is strongly related to these traits as well as lifetime reproductive performance.

The new single-step BreedPlan analysis will use days to calving plus genomic information to give more accurate indicators of the genetic potential for reproductive performance in both females and males. Days to calving is the trait used as an EBV in BreedPlan and the accuracy of days to calving has been improved by the use of genomic information.

While genomics can add significant information to the evaluation, it does not stand alone. Accurate genomic information requires a ‘reference population’ that is well-recorded for all fertility traits and whose genetic profile has been associated with the level of performance for the traits of interest.

Single step BreedPlan analysis is the most up-to-date method of incorporating DNA marker information into the BreedPlan analysis, in conjunction with the more traditional phenotypic measures.
Currently there are two very important projects that are building a reference population: Repronomics and the Kaiuroo project are both conducting extensive phenotypic measurements of reproduction as well as genotyping all relevant animals.

**Repronomics**

Repronomics is a large project based in northern Australian herds representing the three numerically largest breeds - Brahman, Santa Gertrudis and Droughtmaster. To date the project has produced more than 4000 calves and has conducted intensive measurements of phenotype and genotype on male and female offspring.

This project, under the control of Dr David Johnston of the Animal Genetics and Breeding Unit (AGBU), is continuing research into the genetics of reproductive traits in tropically adapted beef cattle, as well as contributing significantly to the reference population that will enable the use of both genomic and phenotypic measures in the genetic improvement of fertility.

To be of value, a reference population must be genetically linked to significant herds in the wider industry population. Animals that are genetically linked to animals in the reference population will have significantly higher accuracies for their own EBVs.

The project has used sires from a large range of industry herds to facilitate linkage across the northern beef industry.

Breeder who want to describe the genetics of reproductive traits in their own herds based on genomic information will benefit from strong genetic links to the sires used and evaluated in that study.

**Kaiuroo project**

In 2017, an MLA Donor Company-supported project was initiated which aimed to undertake intensive phenotyping for male and female reproductive performance, as well as genotyping of all animals evaluated for those traits, in a seedstock herd with good genetic links to industry and current research herds.

This study was proposed, and is part funded, by the managers and principal of the Kaiuroo Aggregation in Central Queensland, with assistance in the design and analysis provided by researchers from the Animal Genetics and Breeding Unit (Dr Matt Wolcott).

The male component of this work, which will see all bulls sampled to assess sperm morphology traits, is of particular importance, as the Repronomics project is evaluating all male progeny as steers to examine finishing and carcase traits. This means that the Kaiuroo MDC project will be the only source of sperm morphology phenotypes available from a designed research project for the Brahman breed since the end of the Beef CRC in 2012.

The motivation for Kaiuroo management to initiate the project came from an appreciation of the importance of female and male reproduction as a driver of profitability for breeders of Brahman cattle, a desire to better understand the genetics of these traits in their own herd, and to contribute to the quality and breadth of genetic description of reproductive performance in bulls and females at the breed level.

While undertaking the intensive recording required by the Kaiuroo MDC project, there has also been a significant effort made to introduce superior genetics for reproduction into the Kaiuroo stud herd.

“We saw genetic improvement as vital to our drive to improve productivity and profitability of our organic commercial operation,” says Jennifer McCamley, of the Kaiuroo Aggregation management team.

“Our 2017 drop calves were the first generated by the newly focused breeding program, and those progeny display significantly lower days to calving and higher 600 days weight EBVs, as well as higher JapOX indexes than those of previous generations,” she said.

Ms McCamley said she recognised that selection based on profitability would produce the optimal genetics for the Kaiuroo breeding program and bull buyers, and that single trait selection was not the way to go as there were a number of contributors to the profitability of a bulls progeny (both male and female).

In conjunction with AGBU’s Dr Matt Wolcott, Kaiuroo management have developed their own custom selection index, which aims to use a balanced approach to improve the genetics of reproduction, growth and carcase traits to increase the profitability of Kaiuroo bulls, as sires of commercial breeding females required to reproduce and survive under the harsh conditions which prevail in northern Australia.
Dr Woolcott said it had been enlightening to work with Jennifer and her dedicated team at Kaluuroo.

“They should be congratulated on their forward-thinking initiative to set up this project,” he said.

**Adding bulls to the equation**

Bull Breeding Soundness Evaluation (BBSE) has been used in the industry for many years to increase the chance that young bulls being purchased are sound and fertile.

Private industry consultant John Bertram has been a long-term advocate of BBSE and has been involved in training young veterinarians in the BBSE assessment at the University of Queensland Veterinary School for many years.

Mr Bertram says that in the next few days he knows of more than 1000 young bulls that will be examined prior to the next bull selling season.

“The industry is moving in the right direction, with more breeders and buyers recognising the importance of testing young bulls prior to expecting them to produce calves in a natural mating situation,” he said.

BBSE is important at the genetic level as there is a relationship between bull soundness at a young age and the reproductive performance of their daughters. However as with all phenotypic measures, to use it as genetic criteria, it needs to be turned into an EBV. There is an EBV available for percent normal sperm that will allow breeders to make selection of genetically superior males.

Adding genetically superior males into the equation has two effects: the bulls will produce more calves in their working life, and their daughters will have higher fertility.

BreedPlan uses the known association between days to calving and male traits such as scrotal size to increase accuracy of both traits. In time the EBV for percent normal sperm will be correlated to the female fertility traits and will also be used in a balanced breeding index.

The potential for genetic improvement of fertility in northern-based breeds has never been brighter with the implementation of phenotypic and genotypic measures of fertility.

For the industry to benefit, however, more breeders and bull buyers need to recognise the value and select their replacement bulls on the improved information.

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- Website design & development
- Content management systems (CMS)
- Search engine optimisation
- Ongoing website maintenance and support
- Email and Online Enquiry
- Online Sale Catalogue
- Photo Gallery
- Social media integration (Facebook, You Tube)

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- Reflects your logo, brand and image
- Can be managed by you or sit back and let us take care of it
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- Use the latest web development techniques (HTML5) (CSS3)
- Is correctly constructed ensuring fast performance and compatibility
- Will work across all media including mobile and tablet

Contact YARN at ABBA T 07 4921 2506 E jan@brahman.com.au
Congratulations....

Peter and Mariah Chiesa with daughter Elin, 5 weeks, Palm Creek Brahmans.
## 2018 SALE SUMMARY

### THE GREAT SOUTHERN BRAHMAN FEMALE SALE, TOOWOOMBA - 21 JANUARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Gross</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Top Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registered Females</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>$90,500</td>
<td>$2,155</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### BIG COUNTRY SILVER ANNIVERSARY SALE, CHARTERS TOWERS - 5 & 6 FEBRUARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Gross</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Top Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registered Bull</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>$2,291,500</td>
<td>$8,951</td>
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<tr>
<td>Herd Bulls</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>$104,500</td>
<td>$7,464</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Bulls</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>$2,396,000</td>
<td>$8,874</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registered Heifers</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>$215,000</td>
<td>$4,674</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>316</td>
<td>$2,611,000</td>
<td>$8,263</td>
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### FEBRUARY SUMMER BRAHMAN SALE, GRACEMERE - 13 & 14 FEBRUARY

<table>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Registered Bull</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Herd Bulls</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>$80,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Bulls</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registered Heifers</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>$153,000</td>
<td>$3,558</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>123</td>
<td>$565,500</td>
<td>$4,598</td>
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### ROCKHAMPTON BRAHMAN WEEK SALE, GRACEMERE - 1-3 OCTOBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Gross</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registered Bulls</td>
<td>2,123</td>
<td>$17,376,500</td>
<td>$8,185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herd Bulls</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>$669,500</td>
<td>$4,237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>2,281</td>
<td>$18,046,000</td>
<td>$7,911</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### 2018 SALE SUMMARY

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### REGISTERED BULLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Gross</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Top Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>Registered Bulls</td>
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<td>Herd Bulls</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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<td>$2,229,000</td>
<td>$14,698</td>
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### DECEMBER 2018

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registered Bulls</td>
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<td>$12,087</td>
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<tr>
<td>Herd Bulls</td>
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<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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<td>$282,000</td>
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### HAMDENVALE FEMALES OF THE FUTURE SALE, MACKAY - 26 OCTOBER

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<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registered Females</td>
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### PB FENECH SPRING INVITATIONAL SALE, SARINA - 27 OCTOBER

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<th>Top Price</th>
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<td>$172,500</td>
<td>$7,841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>45</td>
<td>$450,500</td>
<td>$10,011</td>
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### LANCEFIELD BRAHMANS INVITATION SALE, GRACEMERE - 29 OCTOBER

<table>
<thead>
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<td>$450,500</td>
<td>$10,011</td>
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### NCC ANNUAL BRAHMAN SALE, DUARINGA - 30 OCTOBER

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<th>Number</th>
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<td>$10,011</td>
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### BEEF COUNTRY BRAHMAN BULL SALE, NEBO - 9 NOVEMBER

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Gross</th>
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<tr>
<td>Registered Bulls</td>
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<td>Herd Bulls</td>
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<td>$84,000</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>92</td>
<td>$418,000</td>
<td>$4,543</td>
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### WILANGI INVITATION BRAHMAN SALE, CHARTERS TOWERS - 30 NOVEMBER

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<tr>
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<th>Gross</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Top Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registered Bulls</td>
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<td>$6,593</td>
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<td>Herd Bulls</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>234</td>
<td>$1,292,000</td>
<td>$5,521</td>
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**Sales and Events**

**FEBRUARY 2019**
- **BIG COUNTRY BRAHMAN SALE**
  - Locations: Charters Towers, McCaffrey’s, Geaney’s

**JULY 2019**
- **ROCKHAMPTON JUNIOR BEEF SHOW**
  - Locations: Rockhampton Showgrounds

**SEPTEMBER 2019**
- **BIZZY AND JOMANDA SALE**
  - Locations: Grafton Sale Yards, Ray Donovan Yards, George & Fuhrmann

**FEBRUARY ALL BREEDS SUMMER BRAHMAN SALE**
- Locations: CQLX Gracemere, Elders, Landmark

**MARCH 2019**
- **EDGAR HUDGINS SCHOLARSHIP**
  - Applications Close

**JUNE 2019**
- **NSW BRANCH OF ABBA FIELD DAY**
  - Locations: Yorklea via Casino

**AUGUST 2019**
- **WOOLOOGA SELECT SIRE SALE**
  - Locations: Woolooga Sale Yards, SLR, GDL

**APRIL 2019**
- **ROCKHAMPTON BEEF SHOW**
  - Locations: Rockhampton Showgrounds

**MAY 2019**
- **GINA & BETH BACON FEMALE SALE**
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**JUNE 2019**
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**JULY 2019**
- **ROCKHAMPTON BEEF SHOW**
  - Locations: Rockhampton Showgrounds

**SEPTEMBER 2019**
- **GOLD CITY SALE**
  - Applications Close

**NOVEMBER 2019**
- **ROCKHAMPTON BEEF SHOW**
  - Locations: Rockhampton Showgrounds

**DECEMBER 2019**
- **ROCKHAMPTON BEEF SHOW**
  - Locations: Rockhampton Showgrounds

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**Edgar Hudgins Scholarship**
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