

THE BELTIE BANTER

EDITION 1 | December, 2024

Presidents Report



Welcome to the first issue of the Beltie Banter! As you can see, the ABGA Newsletter as had a little bit of face lift and new name. As a part of the ABGA's strategy plan, templates for documents

such as our newsletter are being put together, applying our style guide to create a more consistent, cleaner image that is easy for both administrators and members to use. As documents are completed, these will be rolled out as required. Thank you to Alicia Axnick from AAXnick Art & Design for providing your services and expertise to provide ABGA with this. Thank you to those on Council who have assisted to get this newsletter out. Volunteers to assist future versions would be welcomed!

As you may be aware, recently there were some sudden and unexpected changes within ABRI which has impacted on the operation of our secretarial services, including several staff changes. As ABRI restructure, please be patient while we work with them to get things running efficiently.

These recent changes have driven an extensive

review of the ABGA operation and procedures currently in use. A special shout out goes to Fiona Manderson for her extensive work on reviewing and improving much of this. Council still has a lot of work ahead of them in order to complete and implement many of these changes.

Earlier this year, there was a supply issue with the ABGA Grand Champion tartan sashes which impacted the availability for some of the earlier royal shows which has taken some time to resolve. At short notice, Leanne Carter has generously agreed to take on this role, alongside the Supreme Exhibit sashes for each royal show in addition to the reserve, grand and champion sashes for the annual highland national show. Thank you mum, I owe you big time!

Finally, the 2025 AGM date has been set for the 30th of August, to be held in the Barossa Valley. Details of the AGM, including celebration plans for the 50th Anniversary of the ABGA over the weekend will be made available in due course.

Now, time for some Beltie Banter! Enjoy!

Cheers



Scott Carter, President

Tattoo Letter

V

For 2024

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Introducing our new secretariat

ABRI notified Council that they have commenced a restructuring process that has resulted in some change to staff looking after ABGA. We have farewelled Keryn, who has retired and welcome Maddie Brockhoff, our new Executive Officer. New arrangements were clarified with ABRI on 19 November.

Maddie was raised on a family farm close to Kingston SE in South Australia and has been enthusiastic about the agricultural industry from a young age. Prior to working with ABRI she was a trainee accountant. Maddie has been an Executive Officer at ABRI for the past 2 ½ years, and is a welcome addition to the team assisting ABGA.

Maddie has been thrown in the deep end, with only a short period of handover between when she took over and when Keryn left the organisation so if you have anything outstanding please contact Maddie, or your state rep so we can ensure nothing is missed in the change over period.



Introducing your NSW Rep

Fiona and Sean Manderson purchased their first belties in 2017 from Granite Belt and haven't looked back. Now with a herd of about

40 give or take, the focus is on a paddock to plate approach and occasional stud sales.



Fiona jokes that they made most of the errors so she is keen to warn others on how to avoid them – for example, their first purchase from Queensland had ticks and went to “cow jail” (aka quarantine), They managed to buy “steers” that were intact (that was expensive!) and then shortly after getting breeding cattle, headed into a very serious drought when the “permanent” water dried up.

Fiona reads widely, and has implemented a number of less common strategies to address fire weed and paramatta grass, the usual health issues within herds, and improving pasture. With no herbicide or ploughing, they've converted a paddock of fire weed and paramatta grass to lush multispecies pasture.

Fiona and Sean have been on Council on and off for 5 years. In professional life, Fiona is a lawyer, and has worked with not-for-profit and charitable entities for the past 10 years. She has been on 3 other charitable or not for profit boards and consequently, brings a fairly unique skillset to our Council and has hit the ground running. You will shortly see some of her work come to fruition with the 2025 calendar.





Cattle Ticks and Tick Fever

Tick fever (aka red water) is a disease of cattle acutely infected with one of three blood-borne parasites:

- *Babesia bovis*, babesiosis
- *Babesia bigemina*, babesiosis
- *Anaplasma marginale*, anaplasmosis.

These organisms are transmitted by the cattle tick and cause red cell destruction and pathology in numerous organs. Clinical signs may include fever, anaemia, jaundice, red urine and nervous signs; but these signs will vary depending on the parasite, its virulence, and the stage of infection. The disease is widespread in cattle tick-infested areas of northern Australia, including Queensland. A slow painful death is often the result in an infected animal. Other effects can include greatly reduced fertility in Bulls and abortions.

There is a strong link between age and resistance. Most outbreaks occur in animals 18 to 36 months of age. Calves exposed to tick fever organisms between 3 to 9 months of age rarely show clinical signs and develop a solid, long-lasting immunity. Cattle born and raised in areas where cattle ticks are endemic can develop natural immunity through exposure to ticks infected with tick fever. However, exposure of calves to ticks infected with tick fever (and subsequent development of protective immunity) can be highly unpredictable. Exposure is influenced by factors such as breed, season and tick-control strategies. All cattle raised in areas free from cattle ticks are at risk of tick fever if introduced into areas where ticks are present.

The following link will provide a bit more detail [Tick fever \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/tick-fever)

If you are moving cattle from a Ticky area to an area that is tick free, you must comply with the quarantine requirements. For example, moving cattle from the Gold Coast to northern NSW requires pre-treating cattle with a recognised tick treatment a set number of days before movement, and then presenting animals to a designated tick inspection location for inspection. The animal is then inspected for ticks and dipped. If ticks are present, the animal is quarantined and will generally be dipped again. Dead ticks on the animal will still result in the animal being quarantined. Costs will be charged for feeding animals in quarantine, and dip fees. We recommend strongly that you check the requirements carefully as they do change from time to time. DPI NSW is particularly active as there have been several outbreaks of cattle tick in northern NSW over the past 18 months, and a number of properties are under quarantine presently.

Animals can be vaccinated against Tick Fever using a live blood-based vaccine. Animals are said to be “blooded”. The vaccine is available from the Queensland DPI. ([Ordering tick fever vaccine | Business Queensland](#)) Phone the Tick Fever Centre on (07) 3270 9600 or their Customer Service Centre on 13 25 23, or email tfc@daff.qld.gov.au (enquiries only, not for orders). The vaccine is sent out twice weekly to anywhere in Australia. It only has a shelf life of 3-4 days and must be kept cool.

Chilled vaccine costs \$5.95 (incl. GST) per dose and is available in packs of 10, 20, 25, 50 and 100.

The following fees also apply (as at 23 August 2024):



- processing fee – \$ \$39.39 (incl. GST) for orders less than 100 doses
- freight – charged at time of invoicing and based on courier service charges.

Ideally, cattle should be vaccinated at least two months prior to relocation to allow the vaccine time to work. It takes time for the tick fever vaccines to work and field infections can occur during this period. Ideally, cattle should be kept tick-free before vaccination and for at least three weeks thereafter. The one vaccination usually provides lifetime protection.

Other Vaccines should not be used at the same time as it will inhibit the Tick Fever Vaccine. As a general rule, vaccinate for tick fever at least two weeks after giving any other vaccine.

If tick fever vaccine is used first, wait at least four weeks before administering others. Tickicides and drugs used to treat internal parasites do not affect the tick fever vaccines, or the development of immunity to tick fever. If you are dipping animals, vaccinate them beforehand. This will reduce the chance of abscesses developing at the injection site.

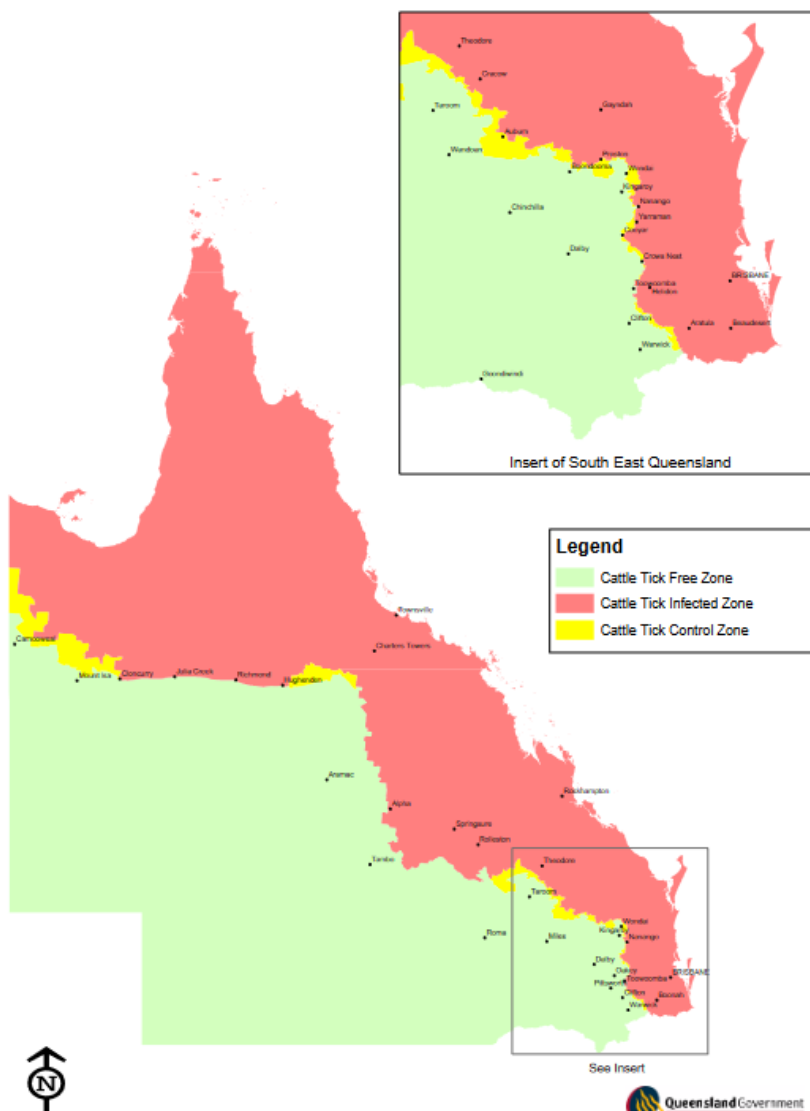
There is a school of thought that using the live vaccine in a herd not otherwise exposed is unwise as it introduces the disease. However, this vaccine is a live attenuated vaccine. This means the live virus strains are lab grown and modified, so they are replication inhibited. They are inhibited sufficiently

that the body can produce an immune response but not transmit and cause infection outside the inoculated animal."

Before using this vaccine, it is recommended that you seek advice from your Vet.

The Queensland Government has created a "Tick Line", one side of which is considered Tick Free, the other is considered to be Infected (Ticky).

Cattle ticks have problems existing in areas that have bad frosts or very cold winters. Whilst they have been traditionally mostly only found in the warmer parts of Queensland, they are gradually spreading to inland Queensland and have now been recorded as far south as Casino. Anyone who is not in a ticky area but is thinking of selling animals to a ticky area should take tick fever and its treatment into consideration.





Show Reports

ROYAL ADELAIDE | 31 Aug – 8 Sept

Numbers were low across all breeds this year and with just one belted Galloway exhibited.

Judge was Ben Crowley from Barraba in NSW. His comments on the heifer included that while she was young and still has plenty of growing to do, she was a good example of the breed and thanked the stud for exhibiting her.

Belted Galloway:

Class 16: Cow or Heifer 8 months & under 14 months

1 st – Amrabull Park Una Song (AI)

Grand Champion Belted Galloway Female

Amrabull Park Una Song (AI)

Exhibited by Amrabull Park Heritage Breeds

Photo Credit: Stock Journal



Melbourne Royal Show | 26 Sept–6 Aug

A solid turn out at this year's show by both ABGA and AGA members. Judge Lochie Mclachlan commented regularly on the quality and strength of the stock exhibited.

Belted Galloway:

Class GB02: Heifer, 12 to 15 months

1 st – Jalaway U R A Sweet Girl

2 nd – Silvan Park U-Bute

3 rd – Silvan Park Uluru

Class GB03: Heifer, 15 to 18 months

1 st – Belvue Ranch Ultima Unicorn

Class GB04: Heifer, 18 to 20 months

1 st – Belvue Ranch UBeauty

Junior Champion Heifer

Jalaway U R A Sweet Girl

Reserve Champion Heifer

Silvan Park U-Bute

Class GB07: Best two females, under 20 months

1 st – Silvan Park Belted Galloways

2 nd – Belvue Ranch

Class GB09: Cow or Heifer, 24 to 36 Months

1 st – Jalaway Loch Sassenach

Class GB10: Cow or Heifer, over 36 months

1 st – Silvan Park Smokie

Senior Champion Cow

Jalaway Loch Sassenach

Reserve Senior Champion Cow

Silvan Park Smokie

Grand Champion Belted Galloway Female

Jalaway Loch Sassenach

Exhibited by Ali Hilli



Class GB23: Bull, 24 to 36 months
1 st – Silvan Park Tambo

Grand Champion Belted Galloway Bull

Silvan Park Tambo

Exhibited by Hettie Biersteker – Silvan Park Belted Galloways



Supreme Champion Belted Galloway

Jalaway Loch Sassenach

Exhibited by Ali Hilli

BULAHDELAH SHOW | 15-15 November

We are delighted to announce that one of our junior members, Amarni exhibited heifer *Windaroo Unity Hope* at Bulahdelah Show recently and won small breeds Junior Champion, and Small Breeds Female Grand Champion. Well done Amarni!



Blast from the Past....

This blast from the past was an article which was first published in 1959...

“At *Dunalister* stud in Elmore on Victoria’s Campaspe River a young Belted Galloway bull has recently been born. Like all his breed he is an attractive fellow; black with a brownish tinge; and completely encircling his body is the distinguishing white belt that proclaims his true line. He and his parents, imported from New Zealand are the only Belties in this country and will remain so until either the ban on their import is lifted, or a new calf is born. The birth of this calf was naturally eagerly awaited, but until the ban is lifted the opportunity to expand the stud is restricted. In time the white belt should be a familiar sight, for the Galloways are not only adaptable, hardy, and excellent beef cattle, they are also good milkers and able to rear their young well. In their native Scotland (where their origins have been lost in the mist of time) the calves are often born in the snow and the cows are well able to suckle them. Many hill farmers there never house their cattle at all, yet in such hard conditions the Beltie will develop economically, and fatten readily later. They not only forage far and wide, and eating up roughage, but the improve the grazing for sheep. The *Dunalister* cattle are direct descendants of pedigree Belties imported from Scotland by New Zealand, where the breed was first introduced as recently as 1947. They have adapted themselves readily to the warmer climate, and there seems no doubt they will fully justify the judgment and initiative of Mr Bob Blackwell who, in buying them for *Dunalister*, is the first and to date the only one, to bring them into Australia.”





MORE NEWS!

PHOTO COMPETITION:

Thank you to those members who have submitted photos to the photo competition – you'll be seeing some of these soon in the 2025 Calendar. Meanwhile, the results are in...

**First Place – Vashti & Courtney Thomas (737)
Getaway Belted Galloways, NSW**



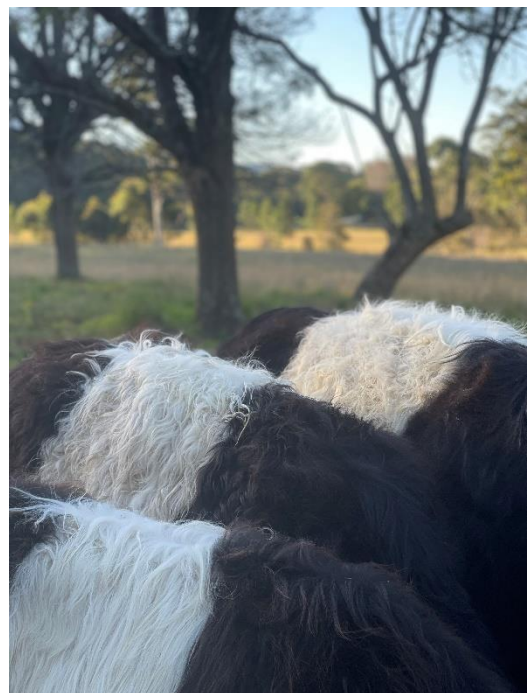
**Second Place – Vashti & Courtney Thomas (737)
Getaway Belted Galloways, NSW**



**Third Place – Neill & Susan Gauld (588)
Granite Belt Belted Galloways, QLD**



**Honourable Mention: Amarni Mitchell (805)
Amawill Belted Galloways, NSW**



**Congratulations to Getaway Belted
Galloways, Neill & Susan Gauld and
Amarni Mitchell.**



CALENDAR DETAILS:

Council has determined not to produce a breeders guide for 2025 in favour of concentrating on improving member services.

Instead, Council have produced a 2025 calendar featuring photos contributed by members in our 2020 and 2024 photo competitions, and a few other members who have contributed additional photos to help us produce this calendar.



Each financial member stud will shortly receive a 2025 calendar in the mail. There is no charge for this.

Additional calendars make a great gift and are available to purchase for \$15 each delivered. If you wish to purchase additional calendars, please email beltedgalloway@abri.une.edu.au with your name, email, the number of calendars you wish to order, and the address you want them sent to. Invoices will be issued, and calendars will be mailed out after payment is received. Calendars are available for purchase by non-members as well. While

stocks last as we are not planning to do a second print run on these calendars at this stage.

Upcoming Events

- Royal Canberra Show – 21-23 February
- Toowoomba Royal Show – 27-29 March

Miscellaneous Corner:

HYPO:

For those members who missed it or want to re-watch it, the last hypo webinar that was presented by DPI staff was recorded and the link has been sent to members. We recommend that all breeders understand the information presented, and consider carefully the implications for your herd. The take home message is that hypo is manageable, and knowledge is power. Testing of semen and bulls would be a good start.

VOLUNTEERS:

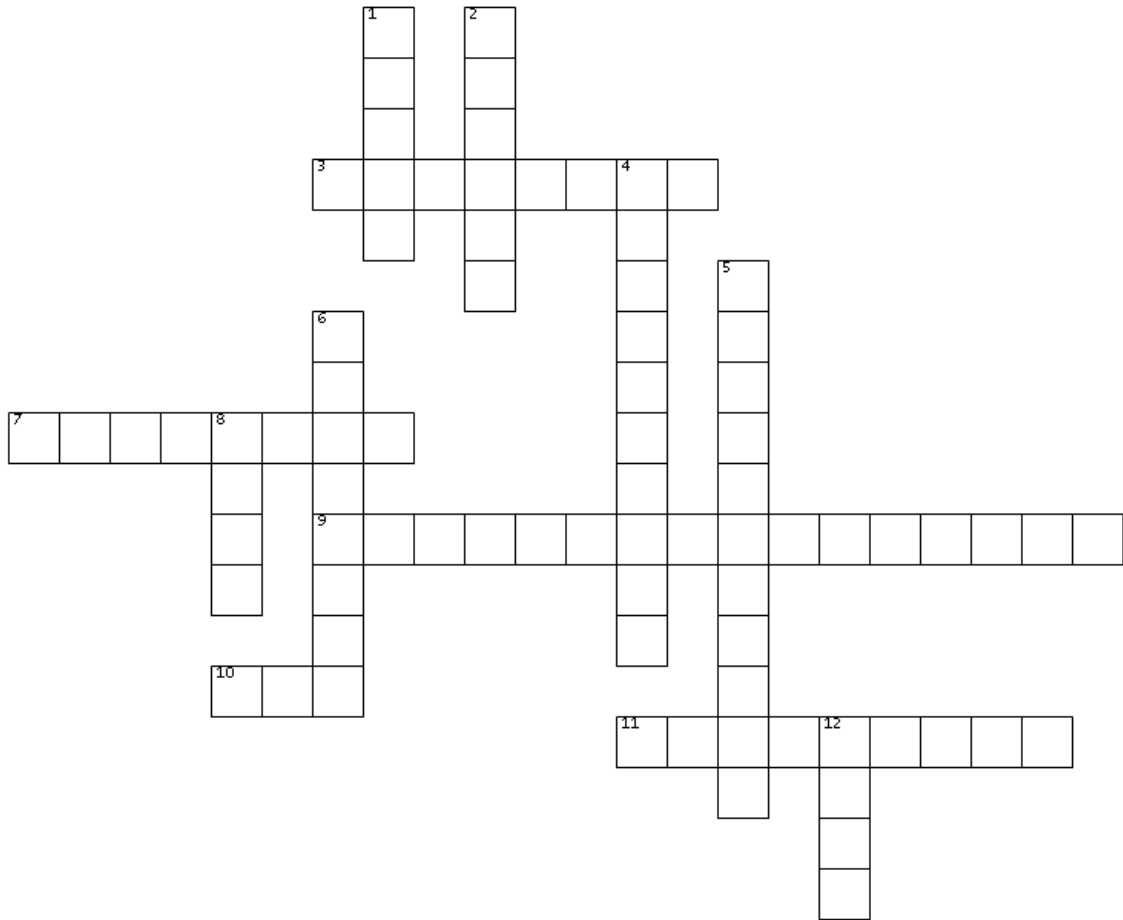
ABGA is a volunteer run organisation. All of the Council members have their own stud and “day job” to do and volunteer their time to the organisation – sometimes a thankless job!!

The short version? We would love you to get involved! Many hands make light work so if you think you could spare a few hours and have a particular skill set, please let your State rep/s know!





Puzzle Zone



Use the clues to fill in the words above. Words can go across or down. Letters are shared when the words intersect.

ACROSS

- country that the Belted Galloway breed was developed in
- the beef breed that was a foundation of the Belted Galloway
- the dairy breed that was a foundation of the Belted Galloway
- rare colour of a Belted Galloway
- small size registerable Belted Galloway

DOWN

- most common colour of Belted Galloway
- nickname for Belted Galloway
- country that is hosting the 2025 World Galloway Conference
- country that hosted the 2023 World Galloway Conference
- large size registrable Belted Galloway
- cookie sometimes associated with Belted Galloway cattle
- acronym for the Belted Galloway only association in Australia





Welcome to our new members:

Queensland: 801 Tara Shaw “Deervue Farm”
Queensland 802 Jon Mewett “Pecan Farm”
Queensland 803 Max & Annabelle Millen “Itchy Feet”
Queensland 804 Ashlyn Hoare “Rockview”
Queensland 806 Bruce Pattinson “Easterly”
Victoria 807 Sonya Heron “Balytyckle”
New South Wales 808 Stephen Sefton, “Trinity Galloway”
New South Wales Amarni Mitchell “Amawill”

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PUBLISHING INFORMATION:

We welcome new articles/puzzles/reports/photos etc from members. Please send them to beltedgalloway@abri.une.edu.au with the re line “Newsletter submission”

**NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS CLOSING
DATE:**

31 January 2025

Disclaimer

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The Australian Belted Galloway Association Inc mission:

To promote and register distinctive heritage Belted Galloway cattle, through accurate genetics, education and fellowship, for past, present and future generations.

