

THE BELTIE BANTER

EDITION 2 | March 2025

Presidents Report



What a year 2024 was! For most breeders, there has been either way too much rain or not enough. A lot of the southern parts of Australia continue to be suffering

drought conditions, with feed becoming increasingly expensive. Here in the Barossa Valley, the cost of hay has almost tripled, with less than 23 mm rainfall in the last 4 months. As a stud breeder who runs two different breeds, it is safe to say that the belties have been the best for doability, holding onto their condition far more effectively and with good feed efficiency (turning feed intake into kilos) even in tough times.

The ABGA By-Laws are being reviewed currently and once completed, a draft will be provided to members for your feedback. This is an important process to ensure that the needs of members as a whole are met and the integrity of the association is upheld. This is a part of our 5 year Strategic plan with the Constitution to follow.

Herd inventory returns should have been returned by now, and herd Inventory payment is due by 31 March. In order to keep to the March 31 deadline and facilitate a change to invoicing prior to payment being required, members were required to submit their returns by 1 March, with payment being on 14 day invoices. If you have had any issues with meeting these deadlines, please send an email through to the secretariat so we can help.

With the 50th Anniversary this year, we are looking for members who would like to contribute to the magazine, looking back at the last 50 years of the ABGA as a primary focus in an anniversary special. Council would like anyone who is an avid ABGA history buff to make contact with us with any stories, information or photos that you may feel is relevant for inclusion.

Finally, with the AGM being held in the Barossa Valley, South Australia this year, I hope that you will have all marked the dates down in your calendars. We will release detailed information of the planned festivities in due course. Hope to see you all there!

Cheers, Scott Carter

Tattoo Letter

W

For 2025

AUSTRALIAN BELTED GALLOWAY ASSOCIATION INC
ABGA EXECUTIVE OFFICE, ABRI,
UNE ARMIDALE, NSW 2351
TELEPHONE (02)6773 3243 | FACSIMILE (02) 6772 1943
beltedgalloway@abri.une.edu.au
beltedgalloway.org.au





Introducing your Qld Rep

Baden Geeves (Freedom Rise Stud- Yarraman)

Baden and his partner Raymond have been breeding cattle for around 20 years, and have focused on Belties for the last 15 years. Their main aim has been on producing structurally sound miniatures suitable for carcass, but also as a “paddock decoration” for the many tree changers that are buying acreage around South East Queensland. These people want something eye-catching to keep the grass down, and often something that their grandchildren can interact with. With this in mind their primary focus has been on temperament, and all of their animals are sold halter trained and leadable.



Every year Freedom Rise attends between 6-10 local shows and have also attended shows as far away as Mullumbimby (Nth NSW), and Canberra. This ensures that judges are critiquing our cattle for correctness and helps to create a public awareness of belties

Baden & Raymond hold an annual Field Day in early September. Here they teach many of the basics, including Tattooing, inserting ear tags, how to make you own leads, and castrations. The most popular session of the day is showing how to break and lead cattle. This uses a combination of methods taught to them at field days that they have attended, and advice from a few old cow-cockys. You'll be notified of the date from this years' field day in early June. Anyone is welcome to attend.



Baden has had formal training in accounting, and spent most of his career as an -in-house accountant/ bookkeeper. This experience has enabled him to offer useful insights into the monthly financial reports of our association that an untrained Councillor may not pick up.





Bovine Ephemeral Fever by Fiona Manderson

For cattle people, walking into your paddock and finding cattle down and clearly sick is not what you were hoping for that day! Finding one is a problem, but watching your herd get sick one by one is even worse. Bovine Ephemeral Fever is a fairly common occurrence from the Hunter north in NSW (particularly the more coastal areas) and Queensland. It can occur from late November right through to Early June but most cases occur between January and April.

Referred to by most cattle peeps as “Three day,” Bovine Ephemeral Fever is a viral disease thought to be spread by mosquito’s and possibly midges/sandflies. The numbers of infections, and the exact nature of the illness does look different from year to year: some seasons there are very few cases, and



others it is widespread. At least one report came to me from north Queensland that the “Three Day” strain they had a year or two was unlike anything that they had seen before, and more animals than usual were sicker than usual from it, and an abnormally high death rate was involved.

Once an animal has had “Three Day”, they generally develop some immunity and do not have further issues. Younger cattle that

have not been exposed to “Three Day” are most at risk due to limited immunity. Symptoms can include:

- a fever of 40 degrees or above;
- animals are lethargic;
- animals are off their food;
- animals are reluctant to move;
- lame or move stiffly;
- drool or have a “snotty nose”
- watery eyes;
- shivering



- joint or jaw swelling;
- drop in milk production for lactating animals;
- Cows in calf may abort.

Generally if they are in the shade, cattle affected by “Three Day” will be reluctant to move from the shade. Most cattle recover within 3 days (thus the name!), although I am aware of a calf that was down for as many as 18 days recently in the Northern Rivers area in NSW. Bulls and heavy cattle are the worse affected and are more likely to suffer complications due to nerve and muscle damage from being down without moving for longer periods of time. Bulls can also be infertile for 3-6 months from the fever but generally recover.

Prevention options:

Self evidently, steps taken to minimise mosquitos across the property will likely help. A vaccine is available from vets. Cattle from southern and western areas generally have not been exposed to “Three Day” and therefore do not have immunity to it. If you are in an area that does have “Three Day” and are purchasing cattle (particularly adults) from an area without it, discuss the possibility of vaccinating any cattle you are purchasing from a southern or western area with your vet before shipping them.

Treatment options:

Supportive treatment is what is usually recommended. Ensure animals have shade (grab a shade shelter or similar and keep it handy for this sort of issue) and water nearby. Animals affected by “Three Day” often won’t necessarily move to usual watering sources. It is usually complications, such as dehydration, that cause the most issues long term so ensuring easy supply of cool water and hay close to the animal is ideal if you can stop the rest of the herd pinching it! For longer cases, using electrolytes such as vytrate occasionally rather than pure water can help. We have also had some success mixing vitamin c powder into the water of an affected animal in speeding recovery. According to the general guidance, calcium supplementation, and injections of anti inflammatories can assist but generally this is recommended earlier rather than later in the process and should be done under the supervision of a vet.

Here at Aloncaws, our usual treatment is alternate and definitely not in the average DPI or Vet textbook – using homeopathic remedies. So far, we have not had an animal not recover from “Three Day” within 24 hours using homeopathics (and usually, it’s within 12 hours that they seem to recover). Most recently, we had a weaner animal with a bad case – treated several times with homeopathics, 24 hours later she was mostly recovered, and came trotting in for her evening feed with her weaning buddies 😊. For northern members, we’d love to hear from you about any steps you’ve found to be helpful in treating “Three Day” in your herd!

Further information:

Further information is available from: <https://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/>, www.dpi.nsw.gov.au, www.mla.com.au, and www.business.qld.gov.au or if unsure, contact your local veterinarian.





Show Reports

ROYAL CANBERRA | 21 February 2025

The Belted Galloways were judged by Mr David Bolton and there were a number of competitors across the various categories.

Mr Bolton commented favourably on the fact that all of the handlers were in uniform, and that it was wonderful to see so many young people, and particularly young ladies leading cattle in this competition. He also noted that the Belties put on an “excellent display of livestock” on that occasion.

Thanks also to Alexandra Munday for providing the results and photographs for inclusion in this newsletter. 😊

Belted Galloway Female 8 – 14 months:

- 1 st – 7 Hills Voodoo Magic
- 2 nd – Camden Valley Viennetta

Belted Galloway Female 14 – 20 months:

- 1 st – Silvan Park Uno
- 2 nd – Benvuie Eve
- 3rd – 7 Hills Unchained Melody

Junior Champion Belted Galloway Female:

Silvan Park Uno

Reserve Junior Champion Belted Galloway Female:

7 Hills Voodoo Magic

Pair of Belted Galloway Heifers under 20 months:

7 Hills Belted Galloways

Belted Galloway Female 20 - 24 months:

- 1 st – Jameson Park Uptown Girl

Belted Galloway Female 24 - 30 months:

- 1 st – 7 Hills Telorah
- 2 nd – Jalaway Tic Toc Watch

Belted Galloway Female 30 m and over:

- 1 st – Silvan Park Smokie
- 2 nd – Jameson Park Sultana
- 3 rd – Pageoway Turmeric

Senior Champion Belted Galloway Female:

Silvan Park Smokie

Reserve Senior Champion Belted Galloway Female:

7 Hills Telorah



Grand Champion Belted Galloway Female

Silvan Park Smokie exhibited by Silvan Park (pictured next page)





Belted Galloway Bull 20 – 24 Months:
1 st – Pageoway Ugo



2 nd – Jameson Park Uptown Boy
3 rd – Ellanedry Urban Show Off

Belted Galloway Bull 24 – 30 Months:
1 st – Silvan Park Top Gun

Senior Champion Belted Galloway Bull:
Silvan Park Top Gun

**Reserve Senior Champion Belted Galloway
Bull:**

Pageoway Ugo

Grand Champion Belted Galloway Bull

Silvan Park Top Gun exhibited by Silvan Park



**Belted Galloway Sire's and Dams Progeny
Group:**

Cumbria Branthwaite Greystoke exhibited by
Pageoway and Silvan Park Belted Galloway
Breeders Group



Supreme Belted Galloway Exhibit:

Silvan Park Smokie





Council notes:

ABGA CONTACT DETAILS:

As part of addressing a number of issues, the Council have taken steps to obtain an independent email address with a custom domain – watch out for the change of email address information coming to an inbox near you soon!

Rest assured, arrangements will be made to ensure that any emails sent to the address at abga@abga.edu.au are not missed.

CALENDARS:

We do have some additional calendars which will be sent to new members as they join. A small number may be available for handing out at shows and the like. Please enquire with the office.

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!!

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!

We are in need of some assistance with:

1. Contributions for newsletter articles;
2. Compiling the newsletter articles;
3. Compiling articles and photographs in preparation for printing of a magazine for the AGM;
4. People to be regularly posting on the ABGA facebook site; and
5. Someone to start an ABGA Instagram account and take the lead on regular posts.

If you can help, please contact your State Council member – they would be delighted to hear from you!

Many Victorian members, will remember Carol Mazurek from RASV.

Carol had a long-time involvement with Melbourne Royal and was a wonderful employee of Melbourne Royal for more than 43 years and held various roles across several competitions including dog and cattle.

Carol was known to be a wealth of information, keeping impeccable records and would welcome all with a friendly smile. Carol was also fondly known for baking batches of biscuits including being famous for her melt in the mouth Yo Yo's, and was duly acknowledged for her involvement with Melbourne Royal receiving Honorary Life membership in 1994.

Carol was our go to lady for the entry of our Melbourne Show animals, for many years. Carol had her 'finger on the pulse' of all things cattle, at Melbourne. She was always very kind, helpful and tried to do the best by all parties. Vale Carol Mazurek.

VALE CAROL MAZUREK





Welcome to our newest members:

QLD – 810 – Georgina Hale – Misty Valley

QLD – 811 – Lee & Adam Zampech – Adalee Downs

VIC – 812 – Leeanne Stanley – Timar

Upcoming Events

- Toowoomba Royal: 27- 29 March
- World Galloway Congress, NZ: 27 March – 2 April 2025
- Seymour Alternative Farming Expo 4 – 6 April 2025
- Sydney Royal: 11- 22 April 2025
- Royal Bathurst: 2-4 May 2025

PUBLISHING INFORMATION:

We welcome new articles/puzzles/reports/photos etc from members. Please send them to

beltedgalloway@abri.une.edu.au

SUBMISSIONS CLOSING DATE:

30 May 2025

Council Details

President -SA Rep

Scott Carter
T: 0438815610



amrabull_park@hotmail.com

Vice President – NSW Rep

Fiona Manderson
T: 0417 692317



office@aloncaws.com.au

Treasurer – QLD Rep

Baden Geeves
T: 0417 859 799



freedomrise@bigpond.com

Committee-

Karen Prien – **Tas Rep**
T: 0409132644



kookaburra.belties@gmail.com

Kerry Heazlewood – **VIC Rep**
T: 0431 144 347
E:



pinegullypark@bigpond.com

Sonya Heron – **VIC Rep**
M)
E: sonyarheron@gmail.com

Secretariat – ABRI

Maddie Brockhoff
T: 02 6773 3243



beltedgalloway@abri.une.edu.au

Registrar – ABRI

Laura Teege
T: 02 6773 3243
beltedgalloway2@abri.une.edu.au

Disclaimer

The views expressed and claims made by contributors are not necessarily those of the ABGA. While every effort is made to provide informative and accurate content, neither the Editor nor the ABGA take any responsibility for the accuracy of the information contained within this publication. We welcome contributions, however all submissions and any modifications made will be at the discretion of the Editor and ABGA and will not necessarily be printed.

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.

