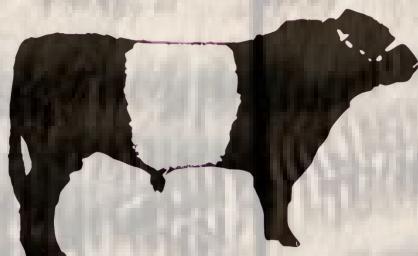




1975 - 2025

50th Anniversary



AUSTRALIAN
BELTED GALLOWAY
ASSOCIATION INC

INTRODUCTION

Our Councillors

PRESIDENT **SA Representative**

Scott Carter



TREASURER **QLD Representative**

Baden Geeves



VICE - PRESIDENT **NSW / ACT Representative**

Alexandrea Munday



COUNCILLOR **TAS Representative**

Karen Prien



INTRODUCTION

President's Welcome

In 2025, we celebrate 50 years of the Australian Belted Galloway Association—an important milestone that recognises five decades of commitment to one remarkable breed.

What began in 1975 in South Australia with a small group of dedicated breeders has grown into a national network united by a shared interest in the Belted Galloway. Those early members set a clear goal: to preserve and promote this hardy, distinctive breed within Australian agriculture. Their vision laid the groundwork for the Association as it stands today.

Over the years, we've faced the challenges that come with farming, evolving industry landscapes, and shifting priorities... not to mention a moody Mother Nature – kind one minute, cruel the next. Through it all however, the Belted Galloway has proven its value—resilient, visually distinctive, and well-adapted to Australian conditions. Whether in commercial enterprises, paddock-to-plate operations, pasture management, or smaller lifestyle herds, the breed continues to adapt and deliver.

To mark this special anniversary of fifty years, the celebratory Barossa Beltie Bash was held alongside the AGM on 30 & 31 August 2025 in South Australia's picturesque Barossa Valley. It was a wonderful opportunity for members—past and present—to come together, celebrate our shared history, exchange knowledge, and reconnect. Though modest in size, the energy and spirit were strong—a reminder that our greatest strength lies in the community and connections we build together.

That sense of fellowship has always been at the heart of the ABGA. It sustains the Association through change and helps ensure its ongoing relevance. Like any community, it thrives on participation—whether it's helping at events, offering guidance, or simply staying involved.

Reaching fifty years is a rare and valuable achievement. It speaks to the enduring nature of the breed, and the dedication of those who have supported it over time. This milestone belongs to everyone who has been part of the ABGA story.

As we reflect on the past, we also look to the future. The ongoing strength of the Association will depend on how we continue to work together—collaboratively, respectfully, and with shared purpose. We are stewards of a breed with a unique story and a future worth investing in.

Thank you to all who have contributed to the ABGA's journey so far. May the next 50 years bring continued progress, connection, and pride in the Belted Galloway.

I hope you enjoy this special 50th Anniversary magazine. For some, it will be a walk down memory lane; for others, a look at how far we've come—and where we're headed. Either way, it's a story worth sharing, because preserving our history is a foundation for our future.



Scott Carter
President
Australian Belted Galloway Association Inc

FROM THE BEGINNING

A Message from a Founding Member

Stan Robinson joined the Association on the day it was formed in Adelaide in 1975. Stan was made an Honorary Life Member in 2001, and was the first person to receive this honour. Stan and his wife Lorna are well known through Stan's Stud "Cumbria" and Lorna's Stud "Koralea", which produced many Show winners.

The ABGA wishes Stan and Lorna a happy 90th & 80th birthday respectively and we thank them for their significant contribution to the Belted Galloway breed in Australia.

By Stan Robinson

When I bought my first Beltie Bull in 1972 I had no idea that I would be still breeding belties 53 years later.

Because of buying this bull I was invited to a meeting at the Adelaide Showgrounds in 1975. This meeting decided to form the Australian Belted Galloway Breeders Association. Later to become the Australian Belted Galloway Association. I was herd No 6. I don't think any of the other people at that meeting are still breeding Belties. I don't know whether any of the others are even still alive!!

After having registered cattle for 40 years I have now only pure commercials bred from registered base animals (62 calves born this year)

After buying a bull which had been imported from New Zealand by another breeder I started to upgrade from registered solid Galloways. After buying the bull Midfern Kingsley in 1983 I began showing at Melbourne Royal which went on to be 20 years at Melbourne.

Breeders at that time were very keen to attend shows and field days to promote the breed. This was evident at the Ballarat Feature show when 79 cattle from the states attended. Also at Launceston when 50% of the cattle were from mainland states.

People I think have done a lot for Belties are the Grimshaw family (Midfern Stud). Most people have some Midfern somewhere in their herd. Allan Snaith and Lizzet have also had an impact with their paddock to plate business, "Warialda Meats" making the public aware of the eating quality of Belties. They also market hides and hide products.

I have always believed that Belties should all be in one herdbook or at least all associations should have the same rules – One day perhaps!!

It is now up to the younger breeders to make sure that the breed is still here in another 50 years and is still an easy care, hardy & tasty animal



LORNA & STAN



MIDFERN KINGSLEY

SECTION ONE

Our History and Heritage

The first Official Annual for the Association was printed in 2001. Ian Marjarson was President at the Time, and wrote a rather fitting introductory Presidents Report:

President's Report (2001)

It is my great pleasure to present the President's Report in this our first Annual.

The concept of an Annual has been discussed on many occasions over the years. However this year the support of the Members has been overwhelming and it's terrific to have our first addition out this year.

This can be our contribution to the Centenary of Federation.

It has been a long time coming. Our Association was formed in 1975 with a few enthusiasts of the Belted Galloway breed. One of the foundation members, Stan Robinson is still an active breeder.

Since its inception in 1975, our Association has gone from strength to strength. We currently have 154 members and most Belted Galloways in Australia are registered with our Association. Accordingly, our resources are used only in promoting the Belted Galloway breed. This is one of the reasons for our strength as an Association and the unity of our members. I know that since I joined this Association in 1985, I have always found the Secretariat and the members only too pleased to assist in any way they can.

We have had only 6 presidents in our 26 years of existence. Our Secretariat has always been based in Adelaide and has provided the members with terrific support. It has been especially pleasing lately to see the breed gain in popularity in both Queensland and Tasmania. The majority of our cattle are still in Victoria and New South Wales, but members in other States are growing rapidly. Already this year, many of our members have been busy with Shows. We have already had the Royal Canberra, Royal Bathurst and the Royal Sydney. Royal Melbourne this year shall have the Belted Galloway as the Feature breed, and hopefully many members can make the trip to Melbourne.

Also next year, Belties shall be the feature breed at the Royal Canberra Show as part of Muster Down Under. Hopefully we will have a good roll up of Belties at that Show.



Foundation Day Herds

Member Name

Y & W HEITHERSAY
K MARTIN
BLACKWELL/MCNEILL
L N RONALDS
R J HAYES
CUMBRIA PARTNERS
B S & V A GIBSON
H MACDONALD
S C & A N SIMPSON
H M HEDGES
J D REID
R F STOWE
MALSEED
C H HACK & SON
BROOKFIELD/SMITH
MIDFERN PTY LTD

Stud Prefix

UGANDA
WINNI ROYD
BALMORAIN
WANDELLA
PRIMROSE PARK
CUMBRIA
HILDEN
BELMONT PARK
COOLLOONGATTA PARK
LARPENT PARK
DORACK PARK
DEVEREAUX
MULGA PARK
TARAMIMI
BROOKFIELD
MIDFERN



The History of Belted Galloways

By Joanne Kreher - 10th March, 2022

The first pair of Belted Galloways were reportedly imported into Australia from New Zealand in 1957/58 with a bull calf being born in the first half of 1958 at Dunalister Stud, Elmore, Victoria. Due to quarantine bans, it wasn't until 1973, when another 3 bulls and 6 cows were again imported from New Zealand. In the meantime any Belted Galloway breeding was reliant on cross breeding till the quarantine bans were lifted.

However, it wasn't until a group of 19 likeminded people gathered at the Adelaide Showgrounds on the 30th August 1975 and the Australian Belted Galloway Cattle Breeders Association Incorporated was formed. In 2000 the association changed their name to what we now know it today, the Australian Belted Galloway Association – a smaller mouthful.

The first meeting was convened by Bill Heithersay of Uganda Stud in South Australia. He was to be the association's first president and held office till 1979. The initial secretariat for several years was the Royal Adelaide and Horticultural Society of SA before moving to the Livestock and Business Centre at Kiama NSW in 2003. ABRI in Armidale NSW being our Secretariat since 2010.

The association was formed to be better able to promote the breed for commercial and stud purposes, to increase the interest for butchers and maintain a high standard of excellence.

In the early days the main concentration of studs were in South Australia and Victoria with a few in New South Wales.

At that first meeting, Mr Athol Malseed was welcomed and later appointed as the first classifier for the ABGCBA at \$25 AUD a day plus expenses. The association was reliant on the classifier for the D to A gradings on any animals. As the breeding up process was taking place in the first 2 years of the association, the emphasis was being placed on confirmation first eg an Angus or Galloway was classified as a D and any perfectly marked heifer of excellent conformation was then classified as an A. Apparently Belted Galloways in Australia started out on the same basis that Scotland had in 1925. In 1976 there were 479 females and 22 bulls registered.

The first stud registered was Uganda in SA, owned by Bill and Yvonne Heithersay and the first animal registered was a bull, Uganda Rushworth 4th. In 1977 the classification system changed to where approved D class females had to be "registered Stud Angus or registered Stud Galloways".

Any subsequent perfectly marked females were then marked up the grade scale

By 1979, I believe there were 38 full members, 8 associates and 2 junior members. At that years AGM, the classifier, Mr Malsteen stated in his report that in "some 10 months, he had had the pleasure of inspecting cattle on 20 different properties in NSW, Victoria and SA – and it was pleasing to report 286 of these animals were classified making a total of 1380 females and 132 males" and that "this had all taken place since his first classification on the 11th November 1975".

In 1982 the grading by-laws were changed to include registered Red Angus and registered Red Poll in the D classifications. That same year the committee also approved for each state to have their own classifiers thus saving time between request of a classification and it getting done.

January 1980 saw 52 full members in the Association and over the years, numbers fluctuated depending on the good or bad seasons, reaching a peak in 2003 of 158 financial members with Belted Galloways being represented in all states and territories of Australia apart from the Northern Territory. Since our last annual in 2018 we have seen severe droughts, absolutely devastating bushfires, the financial stress of COVID restrictions targeting the number of actively registered animals and just recently the horrific flooding in southern Queensland, northern rivers and eastern coast of NSW.

As at the 10th March, 2022, we have 99 financial members who between them have 652 registered animals, both standards and miniatures, 63 of them being bulls.

In regards to the showing circle, the first Belted Galloway was shown at the Royal Adelaide show in SA in 1976. 1977 saw them at Melbourne in Victoria whilst in 1978 they were parading in Perth, Western Australia and Sydney, NSW. 1999 saw them in Brisbane in Queensland and around 1980 in Canberra, Australia's capital. The first feature show was in 1978 at Mt Gambier, SA where 8 breeders from 3 states exhibited.



The First Belted Galloway by Edith Smith - 1988

Unique and of national interest is the first Belted Galloway to be bred in Australia At Dunalister stud at Elmore on Victoria's Campaspe River a young 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 sign, for the Galloways are not only adaptable, hardy, and excellent beef cattle, they are also good milkers and able to rear their young well.



Past Presidents of The Association

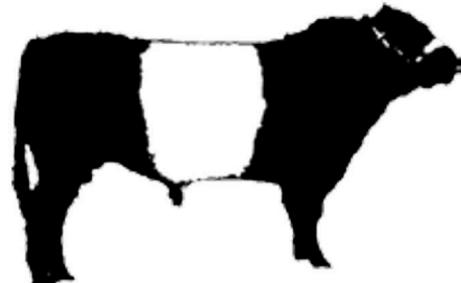
W Heithersay	1975 - 1979	South Australia
D L Marinovich	1979 - 1981	Victoria
H Macdonald	1981 - 1983	South Australia
B Martin	1983 - 1986	South Australia
J Patterson	1986 - 1995	Victoria
H Macdonald	1988 - 1996	South Australia
I Marjarson	1996 - 2004	New South Wales
R Summers	2004 - 2006	Tasmania
C Walker	2006 - 2010	Queensland
F Maclean	2010 - 2013	New South Wales
I Marjarson	2013 - 2018	New South Wales
A Wilson	2019 - 2022	Victoria
S Carter	2023 - Present	South Australia

In their native Scotland (where their origins have been lost in the mists 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 for themselves, ranging far and wide, and eating up roughage, but they 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 judgement 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.



*Belties Breed
Better Beef*

SECTION TWO

From The Archives

This poem was printed as a welcome in the first ABGA Annual (2001)

What it's all about? - By Barbara Holmes 09/03/01

From the Highlands of Scotland
With a black and white pelt
To our great Aussie land
Came a breed with a white belt.

Long coat, heaps of courage
Black or dun, ringed with white
Small head, low ground forage
Easy birth, black and white.

Cows protecting their young
What a sight to behold
Their praises are sung
By the young and the old.

Tender meat for the barbecue
Do you need to hear more?
Lean steak for the juicy stew
"Magpie" mat for the floor.

Don't believe just my words
Flick the pages for more
Read of black and white herds
From farmers galore.

Reading on will enforce
The best breed on this earth
Belted Galloways of course
With their white ribboned girth



Irish Beef Casserole

A recipe by Eve Cullen from the 2003 Annual

Ingredients:

1 kg shin of Beef (always the best meat - long slow cooking. This cut is often overlooked)

2 large brown onions

3-4 cloves garlic

1 large carrot

3 - 4 bay leaves

Sprig of fresh thyme

1 tablespoon flour

1 tablespoon peanut or canola oil or butter

(or a mixture of these)

2 cups Guinness

2 tablespoons chopped parsley

1 small cup of very soft prunes or prunes soaked in Guinness

2 tablespoons roasted chopped hazelnuts

Method:

Dice the meat, not too small – toss in the flour and shake off the excess. Sauté in the oil or butter or a mixture of both until the meat is golden brown. Remove the meat, add the chopped onion and carrot and the garlic and allow to colour slightly. Be careful the garlic doesn't get too brown. Add the meat, cover with parsley and thyme and enough good stock or water to just cover the meat.

Cover with a tight fitting lid and place in a preheated oven (130° c) and cook for about 2 hours. Add the prunes, salt and pepper and cook again for 10 to 15 minutes.

Sprinkle with the hazelnuts before serving with - guess what – potatoes mashed with lots of butter, milk and salt, pepper and nutmeg.

ABGA's 50th Anniversary Celebration & AGM

By Anne Edwards and Kerry Heazlewood

The weather proved quite challenging for flight arrivals on the Friday. Several delays and turbulent conditions made an interesting start to the weekend. Adelaide welcome to us, was cold and wet wintry weather.

A quick trip out to Nuriootpa in the beautiful Barossa Valley, saw the start of our weekend. We soon warmed up with a welcome from President Scott and a scrumptious dinner at the Angaston Pub.

Saturday, the weather was a total reversal from Friday, sunshine and no wind. We ventured to the Barossa Farmers Market, for breakfast. A huge array of food was on offer, with excellent coffee.

Then to Amrabull Park for the Forum and AGM. Sadly, a small number of breeders, both in person, and on zoom, were in attendance. We still managed to discuss a lot of issues and ideas. Members in attendance were made more aware of issues occurring behind the scenes.

After lunch, we ventured to Maggie Beer's Farm Shop for a fabulous Wine and Cheese tasting afternoon. Many yummy treats were purchased by all of us, Pear Brandy being a clear favourite.

The 50th Anniversary dinner was held at the Vine Inn in Nuriootpa. Again, numbers were small, but it was lovely to see several previous members in attendance. Scott honoured the occasion, by sharing a wee dram of whiskey with each us, in a traditional Scottish quaich (a symbol of unity, hospitality and friendship).

Next morning, most of us shared a lovely breakfast at Barossa Co Op. First class food and company. Then on to the University of Adelaide, Roseworthy campus, for an informative tour.

Huge thanks to Scott, Luke, Scott's parents and friends and the ABGA committee for organising such a great weekend. Sadly, many missed out on such a special weekend. Lots of laughs were had, and many different tasting experiences... especially for the non drinkers....



SECTION THREE

People Of The Breed

Across Generations - Stories of families passing down the passion

A Family Passion: Our Journey with Belted Galloways By Fergus Prien of Kookaburra Belted Galloways

Our family's journey with Belted Galloways began in the early 2000s when my family purchased a farm just outside of Launceston, Tasmania. With both of our parents having grown up on dairy farms, their love of cattle was something they hoped to pass down to their four sons. But the big question was: what breed should we focus on? Ultimately, our parents were drawn to the Belted Galloways distinctive appearance—those unmistakable belts—and their reputation for being calm and easy to handle. And from the beginning, Belted Galloways became a central part of our shared family experience.

Building the Herd

Today, we breed both black and red standard-sized Belted Galloways, with a strong focus on maintaining genetic integrity, good carcass traits, and structural correctness. All of our cattle possess POIS status (Progeny of Imported Stock), which has proven to be an invaluable way for us to maintain breed standards and preserve quality lines within our herd.

One of the aspects of the stud we've always valued is the opportunity to dive deep into genetics.

Some of my fondest memories are the long hours spent with my father and brothers studying pedigrees, discussing traits, and debating which animals we should introduce into our program. These conversations were about much more than cattle—they were moments of connection that brought us closer together. Since my father's passing, my mother has taken on a more active role in the breeding program, and I now enjoy continuing those same conversations with her.

Showing the Breed

A major highlight in our early years was the 2004 Feature Show in Launceston. With over 60 Belted Galloways exhibited, it was a stunning showcase of the breed - from the male side, for instance, the highly-regarded bulls Clanfingon Limelight, Oradala Red Ochre Mountain, Warialda Thomas, Myrtlevalle Woodbine, and Cumbria Buttermere William were all on display at the same time - and a fantastic opportunity to meet fellow breeders from across the country for the first time. That experience lit a fire in us, and we soon began showing our animals across Tasmania.

The show circuit in Tasmania from the early 2000s to the 2010s was both vibrant and very competitive. We loved being part of it—not just for the thrill of competition (though winning was certainly exciting!), but for the camaraderie and exchange of ideas among breeders.

Learning from Others

When we were first starting out, we made a point of visiting some of the top Belted Galloway studs in Australia—Ashleigh Park, Belmont Park, Clan Ranald, Montrose, Clanfingon, Myrtlevalle, and Karandrea, to name just a few. These visits were invaluable. They pushed us to aim higher and to be more disciplined in our own breeding decisions. We learned the importance of culling wisely and selecting animals with the right structure, temperament, and performance history.

What Matters Most

Looking back, the cattle have brought us a great deal of joy. But perhaps the greatest gift of running a Belted Galloway stud has been the people we've met along the way. The generosity, advice, and friendship of both past and present breeders in Australia have shaped our journey and enriched our lives.

We remain deeply grateful to be part of a community that shares our passion for this remarkable breed. Whether it's talking genetics, seeing how certain joinings pan out, visiting each other's studs, or catching up with old friends at a show, our experience with Belted Galloways continues to bring us great satisfaction.

Longfield's Legacy

By Henry Marjason of Longfield Belted Galloways

I have been involved with breeding and showing Belted Galloways from almost the time I could walk. I am now 34 years old. I grew up on Longfield Farm just outside Bungendore, New South Wales. My late father, Ian Marjason, who was involved with the breed for over 30 years, had a passion and love for Belties which is how I ended up sharing the same love for the breed.

Some of my fondest memories from growing up breeding Belties was preparing the cattle for shows with Dad, showing at various local and Royal shows, and working with cattle in the yards. From a young age, I was always very interested in the genetic side of breeding Belties. I would study each animals breeding certificates and I could remember every Beltie we owned going back almost 3 generations! All I ever wanted to do was breed Belties and show them (and still do!).

Around the age of 10, Dad transferred me two heifers and I started my own stud "Aberfeldy Belted Galloways". I bred up my herd and I ended up breeding some very good females. One heifer in particular, Aberfeldy Xsara, I showed her at Royal Canberra one year when I was about 12 years old. Dad had another heifer in the same class and I beat him! It was a special moment and Xsara ended up taking out junior champion female.

I also competed in junior judging and junior parading at local and Royal shows. Dad and I built up a very successful herd over many years. We ended up breeding two very sound bulls being Longfield Roberto and Longfield Viper. I still have semen from both bulls.

After Dad's passing in 2023, I took over Longfield Farm and Longfield Stud and have continued breeding Belties, although a much smaller herd from previous years. Breeding Belted Galloway cattle will always be a passion of mine in life and I will always love it. I feel very fortunate to have had the upbringing I had breeding Belties.



HENRY & LONGFIELD ROBERTO



Cheryl Cruff Shiralee Belted Galloways

Shiralee Belted Galloways was founded in 1988 when Cheryl Kent purchased two Belted Galloway Cows from Debbie Fewings and one from John Paterson (CPR Partnership), "just because I wanted some cute cows". Cheryl went up to Canberra Show to watch the Belted Galloways Show, in February 1989, where she met her future husband, Rick Cruff. Rick had some Black and Dunn Galloway Cattle but after we were married, in 1990, he was persuaded to sell them and breed the Belted Galloways.

We purchased 24 acres at Byrneside (West of Shepparton, Victoria) and grew our herd. Our aim was to breed frame score 5+ cattle, with good hind quarters, length of body, good feet and legs, good fertility and particularly a good belt.

Our most successful showing was in 1994 at Ballarat Feature Show where 79 cattle were present coming from Victoria, South Australia and New South Wales. This, at the time, was the largest gathering of Belted Galloways at a show anywhere in the world. We won Champion Female, Champion Male, Supreme Exhibit and most successful exhibitor over all breeds.

The best bull we bred was "Shiralee Moonshine". He was long bodied, had good hind quarters, large eye muscle and good feet and legs along with an exceptional belt and was the quietest mature bull we had ever worked with. We sold semen on "Moonshine" to USA, Canada, Scotland and Uruguay. Moonshine was used in, what we consider to be, two of the most renowned Belted Galloway herds in the world. Aldermere (USA) and Mochrum (Scotland).

We had the privilege of meeting AH Chatfield Jnr and viewing the Aldermere herd in 1995. We also had the privilege of having Flora Stewart visit our herd.

One of the best things about breeding and showing Belted Galloways was the camaraderie between exhibitors. We have many happy and fun memories of showing our cattle and made a lot of lifetime friends through those years.

A very special friend, Lorna Andrews (Koralea), was always helping every-one, she always had a batch of hot sausage rolls and pizza rolls at the ready, along with slices and cakes. Lorna would help entertain the kids and we couldn't have done, what we did at shows and field days, without her. We sold our whole herd to Ian Marjason (Longfield Belted Galloway Stud) in 1998.



SHIRALEE MOONSHINE



Philippa Goninan Ironbark Belted Galloways

What first drew you to Belted Galloways, and how did your breeding journey begin?

I was on a family holiday in Tasmania 22 years ago and we drove past a paddock of belted Galloway cattle - they were so eye catching I had to stop in to the stud and ask about them. My family have always had cattle (& sheep) and I just had to find out more about this particular breed. It made me laugh how when trying to find out all about them and what set them apart from other breeds that all breed societies say the same thing about their breed, ease of calving, high fertility, utilise feed better than others, good foragers, excellent eating etc etc.

What was the cattle industry like when you started out?

Well I started with my parents over 50 years ago breeding Herefords & then Salers. We had the first embryo transfer program using Salers in Australia. So the industry was evolving and the fads came & went. Really the more a breed society spends on marketing the more popular the breed they are promoting. Angus obviously do an incredible job of marketing their product as do Wagyu but as we know, that takes enormous amounts of capital.

Did you have any mentors or early influences in your career?

During my investigations in to the breed I met Francie Maclean who had a beautiful stud near my family farm between Tamworth & Armidale. I visited her property and was so impressed with the condition and temperament of these animals. That was 22 years ago and Francie & I are still the best of friends now, she has only in the past few years switched to Angus but I still breed Belties in the Gold Coast hinterland. After so many years of breeding I am dabbling in reds & duns as well now which I am really enjoying. I really enjoyed all the AGM's I attended over the years meeting people from all walks of life who all had 1 thing in common - their love of the Belted Galloway breed.

What traits did you come to value most in your cattle?

Temperament is extremely important to me. I don't want to work with an animal that is difficult or anxious in the yards.

What do you believe sets the breed apart from others, especially from a breeder's perspective?

Most probably their ease of calving & where we are there are wild dogs but the herd are amazing in protecting each others little ones during calving time. I am now running our property alone and whilst I have reduced my numbers from over 100 to now 40 cows, they work calmly and quietly through the yards and are very manageable for me.

What advice would you offer to the next generation of Belted Galloway breeders?

Enjoy the breed, their distinctive appearance and their ability to mother and forage during hard times, but don't take it too seriously. Once it's not fun anymore it's time to move to something new.

How do you hope your work contributed to the breed or broader industry?

I really just want people to enjoy the breed, to appreciate their uniqueness.

What kept you motivated all those years?

It's a lovely thing to be able to care of an animal and to see it produce progeny that we can enjoy and then sell on to other breeders or hobby farmers to appreciate. I've met some lovely people through the years of breeding and being involved with Belted Galloways. I was on the council of the ABGA for years as well as President for a stint. Somehow this took the joy out of the breed for me, too much politics, everyone thinking their way is the best. We should really all just put breeding in to perspective in life - it's a joy to breed, understand there need to be standards within the breed, but remember that everyone is just doing the best they can do. These are cattle. Love them, care for them the best you can and most of all enjoy being their custodian.



Hettie Biersteker Silvan Park Belted Galloways

What first drew you to Belted Galloways, and how did your breeding journey begin?

The unique look of the Belted Galloways! My journey started with 2 pet cows..... now we run 75 breeders!

What were some of the biggest changes you witnessed in breeding practices over the years?

For myself one of the biggest changes has been the use of AI and so getting the use of other genetics. Our young bull Silvan Park Viking for example is the result of an AI mating and he is a magnificent animal. His sire Midfern Kingsley was a very successful bull in the mid eighties. It is great how we can still use these genetics through AI.

What traits did you come to value most in your cattle?

I believe temperament is the most important trait. Our breed is naturally very docile and we select our bulls on temperament without sacrificing on soundness and structural correctness. Temperament is highly heritable and we love to have quiet, easy to handle cows.

What do you believe sets the breed apart from others, especially from a breeder's perspective?

Belted galloways are still more classed as a hobby farmers breed. This can be good in the private sale sector but in the commercial market the demand for Angus or black cattle is so strong that there is not much room for any other breed, including belted galloways. The private market is the best option, but is also a lot more work. It is a shame that we don't have EBV's for our breed, it would be very helpful with making choices of which bulls to use and I believe more people would be wanting to buy them if this data was available.

What advice would you offer to the next generation of Belted Galloway breeders?

Listen to everybody and pick out the things that fit with your operation. Start with good natured breeders and breed your own favourite type up from them. Make sure you enjoy it!

How do you hope your work contributed to the breed or broader industry?

We breed and sell beautiful, quiet, quality animals that are easy for anyone to work with. It is the best advertising for our breed beside the tastiness and eating quality of their meat.

Do you have a favourite memory? – perhaps a show win, calving season, or unexpected moment?

Silvan Park Viking winning the Junior Bull Bonanza interbreed at only 8 months of age. Standing up against the big breeds that were more than twice his age and size! 3 judges agreed unanimously that Viking was the one!! So proud of him! We believe he can make a big contribution to the breed.



**HETTIE BIERSTEKER & ANDRE GROOT
SILVAN PARK BELTED GALLOWAYS**

Dennis Griffis Kimbriki Belted Galloways

What was the cattle industry like when you started out?

When I started out there were many saleyards in close proximity all doing multi species on the same day. Abattoirs were also multi species doing much smaller kill numbers than we see today. They were very flexible in terms of carcass size which nowhere near the specifications that we see today and without the penalties that apply today for exceeding or missing specifications. Advertising and marketing was somewhat limited compared to what exists today. Trucks were smaller and nowhere near as mobile. Our current truck with long range fuel tanks, air bag suspension and sleeper cabin can move cattle long distances in a relatively short time. There were fewer industry bodies and things like vendor declarations and national livestock identification scheme did not exist.

Did you have any mentors or early influences in your career?

My family were great mentors to me as both my parents were of farming families. During my teenage years I worked for Bill Kennedy who had a large Ayrshire stud next to us. Bill taught me so much about intensive farming and encouraged me with my love of agricultural shows and showing cattle. I was most fortunate to receive guidance and advice from Bill Godbolt, an uncle of Mum. Bill was brilliant with cattle and worked for many years for Rick Pisaturo of Mandalong Stud. There have been some great cattle breeders within the breed that I feel fortunate to have worked with in my time.

What were some of the biggest changes you witnessed in breeding practices over the years?

Clearly the advancement in artificial breeding has meant you can make huge improvements in a relatively short time. When I started out artificial insemination was somewhat limited and mostly used by the dairy industry.

Were there any particular challenges or turning points that shaped the way you managed your herd?

With the advent of the likes of MLA, NLIS, MSA etc. compliance with all things related such as animal welfare practices, on farm audits, chemical use and record keeping has added much to do, but it has most certainly been for the betterment of the industry.

How have Belted Galloways evolved since you first started working with them?

The structure and muscling has improved greatly and with astute breeding delivers animals that can meet specifications and read well on the kill sheet.

What do you believe sets the breed apart from others, especially from a breeder's perspective?

Consistent temperament across the breed makes it so much easier for me to get other traits corrected. Structure, fertility, performance in that order.

What kept you motivated all those years?

A genuine love of the industry and the people within it allows a fulfilling and balanced lifestyle.



DENNIS GRIFFIS
KIMBRIKI BELTED GALLOWAYS



Alexandrea Munday 7 Hills Belted Galloways

What were some of the biggest changes you witnessed in breeding practices over the years?

The movement towards Artificial Breeding has meant that we have been able to source genetics from Australia and Internationally through the utilisation of Artificial Insemination and Embryo Transfer in our breeding program. The advancement in breeding technology has allowed us to be able to have our bull's semen collected and our female's embryos collected also. We believe its important to continue to do so to increase the genetic diversity and preserve these genetics for the future of the Belted Galloway population in Australia.

Were there any particular challenges or turning points that shaped the way you managed your herd?

A severe drought saw us sell a majority of our herd in 2020 including all of our Purebred bloodlines. We then transitioned to only breeding Fullblood POIS (Progeny of Imported Stock) genetics. With the loss of some of the larger herds over recent years, it has become harder to source new bloodlines unrelated to our herd.

What traits did you come to value most in your cattle?

Structural Integrity, Temperament, Carcase Attributes and Performance. These four traits are very important in our breeding program. We regularly have our cattle come through our yards and record and track our data via an app. This includes regular visual assessments and performance recording to make sure our cattle reach the benchmark of our breeding objectives. We also have exhibited steers in carcase competitions and have recorded the carcase data.

Were there any standout animals or bloodlines you're particularly proud of?

7 Hills Nutmeg and her son 7 Hills Qaiser.

7 Hills Nutmeg as a heifer, was the Galloway Family Supreme Exhibit at the 2019 Canberra Royal Galloway Family Feature Show as well as winning many other broad ribbons in her show career.

Her son 7 Hills Qaiser won three Royal Show Supreme Exhibits in the one year, including one against over 30 head of very competitive cattle at the Sydney Royal Easter Show in 2022.

How do you hope your work contributes to the breed?

By undertaking multiple Artificial Breeding programs, we have been utilising genetics from both Australian and International pedigrees. We have been collecting semen and embryos from these bloodlines and have been able to offer other breeders these genetics to strengthen their breeding programs aswell as to increase the genetic diversity of the Australian Belted Galloway population. By implementing this now and into the future, with both old and new genetics, we can preserve them for many more generations to come.



ALEXANDREA & PETER MUNDAY
7 HILLS BELTED GALLOWAYS

Kerry Heazlewood Pine Gully Park Belted Galloways

What were some of the biggest changes you witnessed in breeding practices over the years?

Biggest changes in breeding practices would be the introduction of DNA and then PV DNA. Breeders now can be confident that an animal is exactly who the animal is. No more oopsy moments.

Were there any particular challenges or turning points that shaped the way you managed your herd?

Challenges in breeding practices have been various over the years. Our first drought certainly made us very conscious of the number of head we could easily carry; the need to off load sooner, rather than later, and just how much hay we need to hold in reserve, at any one time.

What traits did you come to value most in your cattle?

The most valuable traits are temperament, first and foremost; and then structure. Everything else follows behind, if you have these two items correct.

What do you believe sets the breed apart from others, especially from a breeder's perspective?

As much as others don't like it, the very distinct hide, sets Belted Galloway apart from every other breed. No other breed looks like a Beltie, which in some ways, gives us an advantage. They taste pretty damn good as well, but we are bias.

Our stand out animals are the following, Pine Gully Park Jess, not just for the ribbons she has won, but her structure. To this day, she still has perfect feet. Jess has breed many bulls/steers giving us great results through the abattoirs.

Our other stand out, was Cumbria Bewaldeith Countess 8th, ie Tess. She was our first Beltie; our first Beltie to win a broad ribbon; gave us many calves, and lived till she was 17 ½. Tess's temperament was the best any breeder could ask for, especially for beginners.

Do you have a favourite memory from your breeding days—perhaps a show win, calving season, or unexpected moment?

Favourite memory would be multiple. The wonderful people we have met in our time with Belties, many have become lifelong friends. The cattle themselves, all have been special in their own ways, and have given us so much. Every show ribbon was a very emotional win, but the very first ribbon, was a thrill like no other, thanks to Tess.



**KERRY & RICHARD HEAZLEWOOD
PINE GULLY PARK BELTED
GALLOWAYS**



Baden Geeves & Raymond Cross Freedom Rise Miniature Belted Galloways

What first drew you to Belted Galloways, and how did your breeding journey begin?

We bought a 5 acre “weekender” in 2004 and soon got sick of spending our weekends mowing the lawn. Our first cattle were two Dexter heifers. In our quest to learn more about cattle we went to a cattle expo and saw our first Belted Galloway. We were attracted to the look of this bull, and negotiated to buy him. The first-cross calves all had belts and we just fell in love with them.

What was the cattle industry like when you started out?

As hobby farmers we didn’t really know much about the cattle industry, but through showing our cattle we have learned about the many hardships and highs that cattle breeders have.

Did you have any mentors or early influences in your career?

In the beginning of our cattle journey, we were basically on our own and had to learn through field days and expos. That is one of the reasons that we now hold an annual field day ourselves every year.

Were there any particular challenges or turning points that shaped the way you managed your herd?

As breeders of miniature Belties we found it very difficult to find decent unrelated stock. This has led us to maintain distinct bloodlines in our herd. We currently run 4 unrelated bulls in our herd, as well as many female lines from across eastern Australia. As a result, we don’t have a “type” in our herd.

What traits did you come to value most in your cattle?

Beyond a doubt, it is their wonderful temperament. As our target market is Tree Changers who are usually retiring with small grandchildren, it is critical that our animals as quiet as possible around new people.

What advice would you offer to the next generation of Belted Galloway breeders?

Choose your market, and find foundation animals that will help you to satisfy it. Having animals that will easily sell takes a lot of stress out of the equation.

Do you have a favourite memory from your breeding days—perhaps a show win, calving season, or unexpected moment?

Three years ago, I was “stuck” raising a rejected calf. Having to bottle feed twice a day for 6 months really tied me down. But now this animal “Tempest” is my favourite and she returns my affection many times over each day.



**BADEN GEEVES & RAYMOND CROSS
FREEDOM RISE MINIATURE BELTED
GALLOWAYS**

SECTION FOUR

The Belted Galloway Breed In Australia

What is ‘Traditional Conformation’? Why does it matter? By Fergus Prien, Kookaburra Belted Galloways

You may have heard, or you may hear, the expression “traditional conformation” when breeders talk about Belted Galloways. But what does it actually mean – and does it matter today? In short, traditional conformation describes the heritage-informed, functional form that developed over centuries in the rugged hills of southwest Scotland. It emphasizes moderation, structural balance, and hardiness, traits that allow cattle to thrive on pasture, maintain condition on coarse forage, and produce high-quality beef.

It is important to note that conformation refers specifically to the animal’s body structure and shape, including head, neck, topline, ribs, hindquarters, legs, and pelvic structure. Markings, such as the iconic white belt and the absence of other white spots, are separate from conformation. While markings are essential for breed identity and visual purity, they do not affect the structural functionality or performance of the animal. Understanding these characteristics helps farmers and breeders appreciate the breed’s heritage and its suitability for sustainable, low-input beef production today.

Compact, Efficient Build

In traditional conformation, Belted Galloways are moderate in size, deep-bodied, and strongly made. Short, sturdy legs and well-formed hooves allow cattle to navigate boggy pastures and steep slopes without injury, while a level, wide topline provides strength and supports even weight distribution.

Broad, well-sprung ribs, a strong loin, and well-developed hindquarters provide meat yield and structural balance. These traits were honed by the challenges of Scottish hill farming and continue to support efficient, grass-fed beef production today.

Distinctive Head and Neck

The short, broad head of traditional conformation is practical as well as distinctive. A wide muzzle and strong jaw allow efficient grazing of coarse grasses. The short, muscular neck blends smoothly into the shoulder, providing balance and stability on steep or uneven ground, and supporting efficient grazing and movement over rough pasture. A hallmark of traditional type is the dense, wavy or curly hair on the forehead, which protects the eyes and face from cold, wind, and driving rain, while also reflecting the breed’s heritage as hardy Scottish hill cattle. Being naturally polled, the breed avoids horn injuries and reduces management labour – a feature that has always contributed to ease of handling in traditional conformation.

Double Coat for Hardiness

A dense double coat is a hallmark of traditional conformation, protecting cattle from cold and wet conditions. A coarse outer layer sheds wind and rain, while the soft undercoat insulates against chill.

This natural protection allows energy to be directed toward growth and marbling, rather than maintaining body heat. It supports the low-input, pasture-based management for which traditional Belted Galloways were historically selected.

Muscling Patterns and Pelvic Structure

Cattle with traditional conformation are smoothly muscled, with strong hindquarters and well developed loins that produce excellent meat without compromising mobility. Broad bone structure in the hips and pins supports calving ease, while the level topline and well-sprung ribs maintain overall structural balance. Together, these features allow animals to thrive on coarse forage while producing tender, flavoursome beef, making traditional conformation ideal for sustainable farming systems.

Temperament, Fertility, and Longevity

Maternal, calm, and easy-calving, cattle with traditional conformation require minimal intervention. Correct leg structure and strong hooves support longevity and productivity, while a naturally placid temperament facilitates low-stress handling. These traits were selected over centuries to ensure survival and reproductive success in challenging environments and remain defining features of traditional conformation today.

Tail, Belt, and Overall Harmony

The tail is moderate in length, set slightly below the topline, with thick hair at the base for fly protection. The iconic white belt is broad, evenly set, and encircles the midsection. Most importantly, traditional conformation emphasizes overall harmony: head, neck, body, legs, rump, hips, and tail all combine in proportion to create a cattle type that is both functional and visually balanced.

Why Traditional Conformation Matters

Today every element of traditional conformation – from the broad, polled head with its curly forehead hair to the deep, well-fleshed body, strong legs, balanced pelvic structure, and iconic belt – reflects adaptation to tough Scottish landscapes. Maintaining these traits supports cattle that perform well on pasture, produce high-quality beef, and retain the resilience for which Belted Galloways were historically valued. Recognizing and preserving traditional conformation ensures that breeders and farmers continue to benefit from the practical and productive strengths of the breed – a legacy of Scottish hill farming that still matters today.

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Belted Galloways Standard of Conformation

VISUAL SELECTION GUIDE

Conformation of an animal is a very important aspect when choosing which animals to breed on with and which to cull. Use this guide to help determine which animals you will breed on.

HEAD:

Bulls: Polled; forehead moderately broad, tapering towards the nose; nostrils wide and open; distance from eye to nostril of moderate length; eyes bright, full and expressive; ear of medium size, well set and well covered with hair.

Cows: Polled; forehead of moderate width, tapering towards the nose; muzzle of good width; nostrils wide and open; distance from eye to nostril of moderate size.

NECK:

Bulls: Of medium length, muscular and crested according to age, spreading out to meet the shoulders. Full maturity occurs at around 48 months.

Cows: Of medium length, tapering from shoulders to head.

SHOULDERS:

Well laid in, covered on the blades and on the top, which should be in a line with the back and moderately broad.

CHEST:

Wide and deep.

BRISKET:

Standing out between the legs and moderately covered with flesh.

RIBS:

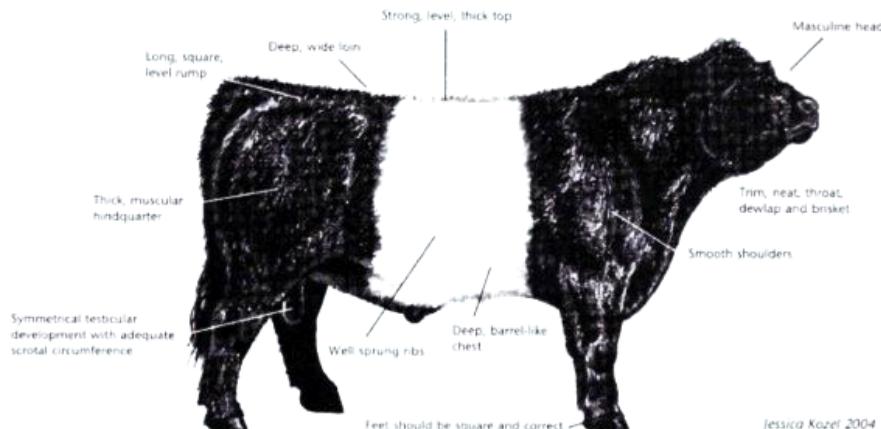
Well sprung from the backbone, arched and deep, neatly joined to the withers and loins.

BACK:

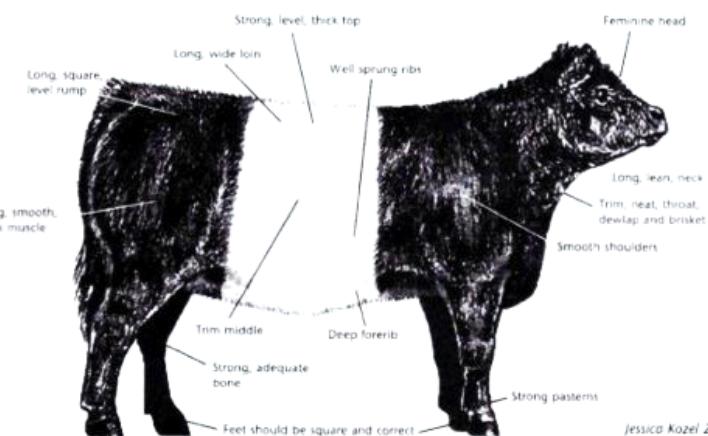
Broad and straight from the withers to the tail head; loins strong; hook bones moderate in width, not prominent, and well covered; rump long, full, level and rounded neatly into hindquarters.

HINDQUARTERS:

Deep and full, exhibiting meatiness; thighs thick, muscular and in proportion, with muscling and width carrying well below the stifle.



Jessica Kozel 2004



Jessica Kozel 2004

TAIL:

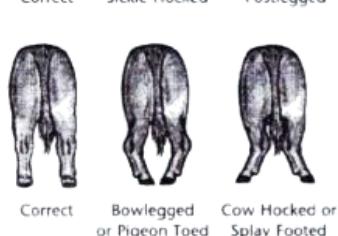
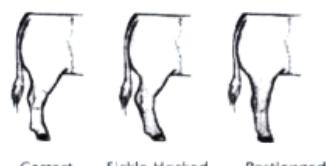
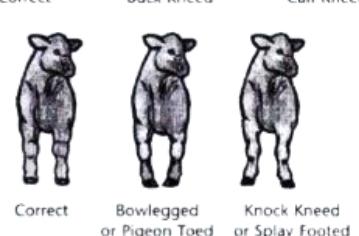
Thick, coming neatly out of the body on a line with the back, tapering towards the brush and hanging at right angles.

UNDERLINE:

As nearly as possible, parallel with the top line; flank full and soft.

LEGS:

(Pictures exaggerated for emphasis)
Of medium length and squarely placed on all four corners; allowing free carriage; hind legs slightly inclined forward below the hocks; forearm muscular; cannon bone of medium thickness and good length. Hooves should be well shaped, not long or cracked.



Belted Galloways Standard of Conformation

VISUAL SELECTION GUIDE

FLESHING – MUSCLING:

Even, well developed and firm.

SKIN AND HAIR:

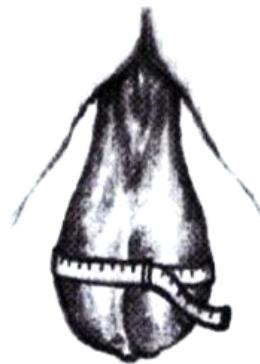
Of moderate thickness; abundantly covered with mossy undercoat and longer, soft, shaggy, guard hair. While natural coat is preferred, grooming and clipping for competitive shows is acceptable.

REPRODUCTION:

Bulls: Scrotum should be pear shaped, hanging straight without twist and be minimum 32-34cm circumference at one year of age. Bulls should be energetic in seeking out and breeding, cows in heat.

REPRODUCTION:

Cows: Udder should be well attached, have moderately sized teats, placed in the center of four well balanced quarters. Cows should ideally calve without assistance and immediately care for the new calf. Cows should rebreed within 90 days of calving. Heifers should attain 2/3 of expected mature weight before breeding ie. around 300 – 350 kgs, be at least 15 months of age and in good condition.



GOOD: A cow's udder should have moderately sized teats, placed in the center of four well-balanced quarters.



BAD: Teats too fat, could be difficult for a calf to nurse.



BAD: Teats too long, more susceptible to injury.



BAD: Udder underbalanced, may be an indication of less productive quarters.

Jessica Kozel 2004

COLOUR:

Either, black and white, dun and white or red and white, with the belt between the shoulder and the hocks. Other white markings are undesirable, (eg., white on feet or tail) and are not permitted on bulls. Mismarked female cattle will be downgraded. Black coated cattle may have a brownish tinge to the outer coat.

GENERAL APPEARANCE:

Bulls: Alert, proportionally developed for age, structurally correct.

Cows: Alert, proportionally developed for age, structurally correct.

TEMPERAMENT:

Should be of calm and quiet disposition, not exhibiting panic when approached nor showing aggressive behavior towards humans; the former applies when in familiar territory and may differ in strange situations. Some signs to watch for include pricking of ears, excessively alert eyes, swishing of tail and constant defecation.



Ashleigh Signature

The History and Value of Progeny of Imported Stock (POIS)

By Fergus Prien (Kookaburra) and Ashleigh Michael (Ashleigh Park)

Before there were Belted Galloways grazing in Australian paddocks, a handful of breeders set out to bring this distinctive Scottish breed to the southern hemisphere. Their work laid the foundations for the herds we see today. At the heart of that story lies the concept of Progeny of Imported Stock (POIS). These cattle form the genetic link between Australia's herds and the original Scottish Belted Galloways that defined the breed's type, temperament, and unmistakable white belt. Understanding the history of POIS reveals how the Belted Galloway took root in Australia, and why these purebred lines still play a vital role in the breed's future both locally and internationally.

The Australian Belted Galloway Association (ABGA) was established in 1975. Early in the Association's history, the Progeny of Imported Stock (POIS) category was created to distinguish animals of entirely pure Belted Galloway heritage. While the exact reason the term "POIS" was originally chosen is today unclear, it serves the same purpose as the "fullblood" designation now used by many other breeds. The herdbook was divided into two sections: one for POIS cattle, and one for bred-up animals. This ensured that the lineage of purebred Belted Galloways remained clear and traceable even as the breed expanded through breeding-up programs.

At the same time, the ABGA developed a classification system for bred-up cattle, which were animals being upgraded toward Belted Galloway type. These animals were graded D, C, B, or A by an ABGA classifier, depending on how closely they conformed to the breed standard. This system allowed breeders to work with both POIS and graded cattle, while keeping the purebred foundation clearly identified.

The foundation animals themselves were carefully sourced to balance quality and practicality. Semen from Scottish sires was imported to Australia to be used in artificial insemination programs to maintain direct connection to the original Scottish herds, while live bulls and cows were imported from New Zealand where the cost and logistics of live animal imports were more manageable for Australian breeders. Each POIS foundation animal had a minimum of nine generations of purebred Belted Galloway breeding, with the genetics imported from Scotland going back even many more generations. The goal was to ensure genetic purity and stability. The POIS sires were also used to increase the grade of each generation of bred-up cattle, expanding the population while keeping it true to type. In more recent times, Australian breeders have also imported semen from bulls that meet POIS criteria from countries such as the United States, Canada, England, and New Zealand.

In the last 10-15 years, the prominence of POIS has declined significantly as several long-time breeders exited the breed or passed away. Today it is not uncommon to hear breeders ask: is POIS still relevant? POIS remains deeply relevant for Belted Galloway breeders in Australia today. These cattle are living connections to the breed's origins, embodying the purity, predictability, and distinctiveness that define the Belted Galloway. They also serve as a benchmark for type and conformation within Australia.

This is because animals that have been bred for many generations within the same purebred population – known scientifically as a 'closed population' – have parents and grandparents that all belong to the same breed, with no outside bloodlines introduced. Over time, this produces animals that are more genetically consistent. In Belted Galloways, this means predictable transmission of key features such as correct belt markings, balanced conformation, and consistent double coats.

Scientific studies across livestock breeds support this idea: animals bred for multiple generations within a closed population tend to pass on their traits more reliably. In cattle, characteristics such as muscling, structure, and coat quality are partly determined by genetics – typically around 30–50% heritable – while the rest is influenced by environmental factors such as nutrition, management, and seasonal conditions. Therefore, purebred animals like POIS Belted Galloways express these traits more consistently generation after generation because their genetic foundation is stable and well-established.

POIS cattle also connect Australian breeders to the wider global Belted Galloway community. Because they descend directly from Scottish foundation stock, their pedigrees are internationally recognised as fully purebred. This means Australian POIS genetics – whether semen, embryos, or live animals – can be exported and used confidently in breeding programs overseas. This global compatibility strengthens both the breed's reputation and the opportunities for Australian breeders to participate in international breeding programs.

Australia's Belted Galloway breed-up programs have helped expand and diversify the population, and the passion and skill of the breeders behind these programs has produced many high-quality animals that represent the breed well. With this being said, we also need breeders focussing on preserving and promoting animals that meet POIS status. Outside of the benefits of POIS animals given above, it is important to keep in mind that POIS status cannot be conferred on animals whose pedigree includes bred-up lines. Even if one side of a calf's ancestry comes from true POIS cattle for multiple generations, the presence of graded or bred-up animals on the other side means the offspring cannot be considered POIS. Think of it like an artist's primary paints: these original colours are the pure and essential elements, which represent the foundation. Once the colours are mixed together they cannot be fully recreated. Similarly, once POIS genetics are combined with bred-up lines, the original pure foundation cannot be fully recovered.

Ultimately, POIS cattle represent both heritage and opportunity. They preserve the genetic legacy of the original Scottish foundation stock while ensuring that Australian breeders remain part of a global conversation about breed improvement and conservation. By maintaining and promoting POIS Belted Galloways in Australia, breeders not only honour the past but also safeguard the breed's future. In doing so, they ensure the Belted Galloway continues to thrive, true to type, across Australia and the world.



Benefits Of Artificial Insemination Of Cattle

Artificial insemination (AI) has emerged as a game-changer in the world of livestock breeding. This innovative reproductive technology involves manually depositing collected sperm cells from a male animal into the reproductive tract of a female, bypassing the traditional method of natural mating. The advantages of artificial insemination over natural mating are substantial and extend far beyond mere convenience.

Cost Savings and Efficient Resource Management

One of the most significant benefits of artificial insemination is the elimination of the need for maintaining a breeding bull within a herd. The costs associated with feeding, healthcare, and managing a breeding bull can be substantial. By opting for AI, breeders can redirect these resources toward other aspects of herd management, ultimately enhancing overall efficiency and profitability.

Furthermore, AI allows farmers to utilise semen from bulls that may be geographically distant, including international bulls. This means that superior genetic material can be accessed without the logistical challenges and expenses associated with transporting a live bull across long distances. This not only broadens the genetic pool but also promotes the use of genetic material from bulls with desirable traits that may not be locally available.

Size Disparity and Genetic Diversity

Artificial insemination enables the mating of animals with significant differences in size without risking injury to either party. In natural mating, the size and strength of the bull can pose a threat to the smaller female. AI eliminates this concern, allowing for the controlled and safe reproduction of cattle regardless of their size differences.

The process also facilitates genetic diversity by providing access to a wide range of genetics. This increased genetic diversity can result in a more resilient and adaptable herd, better suited to face various environmental challenges and decreasing the risk of inbreeding. Inbreeding can cause genetic defects and is very undesirable in cattle breeding. By utilising AI and genetics unrelated to your herd, the negative impacts of inbreeding is significantly reduced by creating more genetic diversity in your breeding program.

Improved Conception Rates and Record Keeping

Artificial insemination has been shown to increase the rate of conception in cattle. The precise control over the insemination process, including the timing and quantity of sperm deposited, contributes to higher success rates of early conception compared to natural mating. This efficiency results in a more predictable calving season, enabling better planning and management of resources. Moreover, AI facilitates better record-keeping practices. Farmers can accurately track the genetics of each animal, including parentage, birth dates, and performance metrics. This wealth of information is invaluable for making informed breeding decisions and enhancing the overall productivity and quality of the herd.

Safety for Animals and Farmers

Traditional mating can be a risky endeavour, especially when dealing with powerful and potentially aggressive bulls. Artificial insemination significantly reduces the risk of injuries to both animals and farmers. The process is carefully controlled and conducted by skilled technicians, ensuring a safer environment for everyone involved.

The benefits of artificial insemination in cattle breeding are diverse and impactful. From cost savings and improved resource management to enhanced genetic diversity and safety, AI has revolutionized the way farmers approach livestock reproduction. As technology continues to advance, artificial insemination is likely to play an increasingly vital role in shaping the future of sustainable and efficient cattle farming.

Source

Article adapted from <https://oriontraining.edu.au/benefits-of-artificial-insemination-of-livestock/>



SECTION FIVE

Updates From Abroad

Canada

Hello to all from Canada. It is my pleasure to share about the Canadian Galloway Association from the past year.

Let's start out in chronological order. Last January Canada was represented by Glenfiddich Galloways of Ontario at the National Western Stock show in Denver, Colorado, USA. They represented well with a nice string of Galloways and were able to find new homes for some of them south of the border.

The spring brought some junior shows and 4-H achievement days that had multiple youth with Galloway or Galloway influenced calves being shown. Its always great to see youth involvement.

In late summer the Eastern Canadian Galloway Association hosted the first in person annual meeting since before the pandemic. It was held in Owen sound, Ontario. The last few years were conducted remotely so was nice to get folks together again in person for business and social activities.

Fall brought more junior shows and breed shows across the country. One in particular being the 50th Anniversary of Farmfair International in Edmonton, Alberta. In conjunction with the 50th the Canadian Galloway Association had its first National show in quite some time. It was well attended with 35 entries from 6 different breeders. Those to show were Big Deal Galloways the Horveys of Delburne, AB, Pearly

Watt Farm the Kendal-Price girls of Tomahawk, AB, Robertson West Livestock the Robertsons of Caroline, AB, Suncrest Farm the Salter/Blakes of Listowel, ON, TRI R WAY Livestock the Robertsons of Phelpston, ON and Whistling Heights Galloways the Tensens of Rocky Mountain House, AB. It was a great show that was well attended by exhibitors and spectators alike.

Here are some of the results for the day. Grand Champion Bull was Big Deal Lets Dream 20L, Grand Champion Female was R WAY Bangles 11B with heifer calf at side RWL Bangles 22M, Breeders Herd was won by Pearly Watt farm and Premier Breeder & Exhibitor was won by Robertson West Livestock.

The Ryal Winter Fair in Toronto, ON is another popular show in the fall that was attended by a couple of juniors showing Galloway heifers. These juniors did a great job representing the breed in the all breeds junior heifer show!

As a whole in Canada the cattle industry is at all time highs for prices. Thus, being driven by the lowest cow herd numbers in North America since the 50's and the growing demand of beef world wide.

Congratulations to the Australian Belted Galloway Association on this milestone anniversary of your 50 years.

BRIAN ROBERTSON
PRESIDENT
CANADIAN GALLOWAY ASSOCIATION



United States of America

Celebrating 50 Years of Excellence: Congratulations to the Australian Belted Galloway Association
From the United States Belted Galloway Society

The United States Belted Galloway Society extends its sincere congratulations to the Australian Belted Galloway Association as you celebrate an incredible milestone—50 years of dedication to the Belted Galloway breed.

Since its founding in 1975, the Australian Belted Galloway Association has played a vital role in promoting, protecting, and advancing the Belted Galloway across your country. Through five decades of progress, you have helped ensure that the breed continues to thrive, maintaining its unique characteristics, hardiness, and appeal. Your efforts have built a strong and passionate community of breeders, enthusiasts, and future agricultural leaders who share a commitment to excellence.

Here in the United States, we are proud to stand alongside you as fellow stewards of this remarkable breed. The United States Belted Galloway Society, established in 1951, serves over 1,000 members across the country. Our mission is to preserve and enhance the Belted Galloway breed through accurate registration, performance programs, education, and youth engagement. Like you, we recognize that the strength of our breed lies not only in its genetics but in the people who care for and champion it.

Over the past year, the United States Belted Galloway Society has continued to strengthen its commitment to breed advancement, member support, and youth development across the country.

One of the most significant milestones was the Society's move to Digital Beef, a modernized herd management and registration platform designed to improve efficiency, data accuracy, and member access. This transition represents a forward-thinking step in preserving the integrity of the Belted Galloway herdbook while enhancing services for breeders of all sizes.

The Society also celebrated the success of its first-ever Junior Nationals, welcoming enthusiastic youth and families for a week of learning, competition, and camaraderie. The event highlighted the growing strength of the junior program and the dedication of the next generation of Belted Galloway producers.

In addition, the Society supported a variety of shows, regional field days, and outreach efforts across the U.S., helping to raise awareness of the breed's unique characteristics—its hardiness, feed efficiency, and striking appearance—and its relevance in both niche and commercial markets.

With a strong focus on sustainability, education, and member engagement, the U.S. Belted Galloway Society remains proud of the progress made and excited for what lies ahead.

The international Belted Galloway community is built on shared values—heritage, integrity, and a deep respect for sustainable cattle breeding. As you mark this important anniversary, we celebrate your many accomplishments and the positive impact you continue to make.

Congratulations once again on your golden anniversary. We look forward to continued friendship and collaboration in the years ahead.

**CORINNA CARON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
BELTED GALLOWAY SOCIETY (USA)**



Germany

Dear Australian Galloway friends,

The Federal Association of German Galloway Breeders e.V. wholeheartedly congratulates you on your big anniversary.

Yes, the Galloways are a wonderful and special breed. They have established themselves from their homeland Scotland to almost every part of the world. In Germany, too, we were able to celebrate our 50th anniversary two years ago.

This breed contains such great potential that they can be used everywhere. With their variety of colors and different sizes, they are unbeatable. The animals have also taken on a different influence, or through their presence they have achieved something very special. They have brought people together worldwide.

These people all carry the Galloway virus in their blood, and this virus unites, and through this virus many friendships have been formed worldwide. In Germany, Galloways have taken on the care of our cultural landscape in many parts of our country. With their grazing, they keep the landscape open and thus protect it from bush encroachment.

Unfortunately, this is not recognized by large parts of the population, and there is hardly any understanding of agriculture, especially animal husbandry. People would rather keep the animals as pets and no longer as livestock for food provision.

More wonderful is the feeling to know that somewhere in this world there are people who share the same attitude and interests. That connects us very much.

Now we wish you beautiful anniversary days, celebrate these 50 years of the Australia Belted Galloway Association (ABGA), and it is nice to know that there are friends at the other end of the world with the same passion, the love for Galloways.

**JANA - CARINA ENGELS
MANAGING DIRECTOR / CEO
THE FEDERAL ASSOCIATION OF GERMAN GALLOWAY BREEDERS**

**GALLOWAY
IN DEUTSCHLAND**



New Zealand

Celebrating 50 years of the Australian Belted Galloway Association. Galloway Cattle Society of New Zealand would like to congratulate the Australian Belted Galloway Association members for producing, recording, exporting and promoting your Belted Galloways in Australia for 50 years. The Australian Belted Galloway Association was Founded in 1975, with the first Belted Galloways being Imported in 1973.

In New Zealand the first seven Belted Galloways were Imported from Scotland in 1947 by Mr I.R Donald who then started the Kowhai Belted herd 1B at Kowhai Flat, Martinborough in the North Island and in 1948 Mr N McGregor imported six and started the Mt Linton herd 2B at Mount Linton Station, Ohai, Southland in the South Island.

This led to the founding of the Galloway Cattle Society of N.Z (Inc.) in 1948, two Belted Galloway herds and seven Galloway herds registered.

In 2025 we have 35 Registered Belted Galloway Studs in New Zealand and many commercial herds. In 1986 ABGA became an Associated member to the Galloway Cattle Society of NZ.

The Importing and Exporting of Belties and A.I Semen between New Zealand and Australia has made a difference to the numbers, size and strength of the Belted Galloway cattle in our countries. In the 1970's the NZ Belted Galloway Studs of Reburn and Strathmore Park exported cattle to Australia to help increase the breeding cattle numbers.

In early 2011 Stuart Allan of Glencairn River Stud Imported a breeding group of 2009 born animals from the Budawang Stud. This was made up of six Red Belted Galloways, as only six would fit into a cattle crate for the plane flight over. Five heifers and one bull (Budawang Emperor).

This was the start of the Red Belted Galloways in the South Island NZ.

These Australian Bulls listed below have helped NZ make genetic gains through Importation and A.I Semen with progeny going into the GCSNZ Belted Herd Book.

It wasn't until 2003 that Australian Bull - Midfern Stuart was used in NZ and in 2004 the first progeny was recorded.

In the following years these bulls were used in New Zealand:-

2003-2008 Midfern Stuart was used in seven herds.

2004-2006 Oradala Red Ochre Mountain.

2005-2008 Karandrea Ronaldo.

2005-2014 Clanfingon Limelight was used repeatedly over four herds.

2006-2022 Peppercorn Zula was Imported by Rob Hall of Lilliesleaf Stud, Waikaka.

Semen was collected from Zula and he was used extensively over twenty one herds, many of these were larger herds in the South Island.

2008-2011 Ashleigh Signature.

2008 Budawang Xavier.

2011-2015 Clanfingon Nixon.

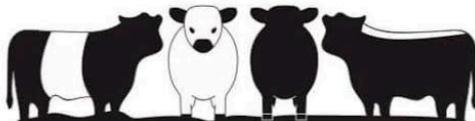
2011-2021 Budawang Emperor (Red) was Imported and used in Stuart Allan's Glencairn River herd.

In 2016, 2024 & 2025 A.I Semen of NZ bull, Castle Galloways Graham (Red) was bought by breeders in Australia.

Our New Zealand Belted Galloways are recognized for being a medium sized cattle beast for small or large properties, their hardiness to convert any type of grazing into marbled tender beef, Belted hides for floor rugs and leather goods and easy calving bulls to mate over dairy heifers that leaves a marked sellable beef calf.

**JILL MAXWELL - STRANG
COUNCILLOR
GALLOWAY CATTLE SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND**

**GALLOWAY CATTLE SOCIETY
OF
NEW ZEALAND (INC)**



United Kingdom

The Society looks after the Belted Galloway and White Galloway Breeds in the UK and Eire. Currently we have 659 members with 1125 Belted Galloway females registered last year. There were 73 BG Males also registered last year. Whilst the numbers of Whites are much less, registration numbers are increasing with a rise in the number of breeders.

Bulls have to be inspected and DNA checked for paternity prior to registration. Females are not inspected and slightly mismarked females can be placed in the appendix register, i.e. a white foot below the dew claw, and an incomplete belt. This allows for genetics to be kept and it takes 3 generations to bring their daughters into the full herd book.

Alpha Mannosidosis is now something which we test for when sending off the bull's hair sample for DNA testing. We started doing this at the end of 2022 and since then, over 1000 animals have been tested (1046 to the end of 2024). Of these 23% are carriers of AM. However, because breeders that suspect an AM problem are more likely to test more animals, we expect that the true proportion of carriers across the breed will be less than 23%.

Our Council currently consists of 21 and we meet 4 times a year in addition to keeping in contact via email. We are very fortunate to have a very proactive membership of breeders who continue to support and promote the breed whether it through media articles, shows or sales. We have 6 regional breeders' groups which organize social events and educational days which all help to continue the breeds promotion and popularity. One thing I must mention is how much enthusiasm has been shown by our young breeders and handlers, they are the future and we do everything we can to promote their growth. Stockjudgings, young handler's classes and even stock handling days have all been held up and down the country to encourage everyone to get involved.

2024 was the year of our last National Show, this time held at Malvern and the Royal Three Counties Showground. Again, this was well supported by breeders and was a great showcase of the breed. 2025 will see the addition of classes for the first time at the Royal Welsh Show which is held in July. This now means that Belted Galloways have classes at the 3 major UK shows, as well as 24 local shows. The society takes a stand to these major shows and can therefore provide a space for breeders to meet up and socialise and also where any new potential members can get information and questions answered.

We are now lucky enough to have 3 society sales taking place each year. Skipton in May, Ballymena in September and Castle Douglas in October. Last year at Castle Douglas we saw a new female record price achieved in the form 11,000gns for an in-calf cow and the male record price was equalled at 20,000gns for a 2-year-old bull. The enthusiasm for this breed is very encouraging as seen at these sales and long may it continue.

**CHRISTINA CORMACK
BREED SECRETARY
BELTED GALLOWAY CATTLE SOCIETY**



ABGA AI Sire Semen For Sale Listing

Licenced - Permit Required: Permit

7 Hills Qaiser 11039 (POIS) (Parent Verified)	Alexandrea & Peter Munday 7 Hills Belted Galloways 0435 713 683 beltedgalloways- 7hills@outlook.com	\$80 + GST per straw	Black Belted	
7 Hills Umberto 11529 (AI) (POIS) (Parent Verified)	Alexandrea & Peter Munday 7 Hills Belted Galloways 0435 713 683 beltedgalloways- 7hills@outlook.com	\$80 + GST per straw	Black Belted	
Longfield Norbert 11052 (POIS)	Alexandrea & Peter Munday 7 Hills Belted Galloways 0435 713 683 beltedgalloways- 7hills@outlook.com	\$80 + GST per straw	Black Belted	
Low Brae Kit 10415 (AI)(POIS) (Parent Verified)	Alexandrea & Peter Munday 7 Hills Belted Galloways 0435 713 683 beltedgalloways- 7hills@outlook.com	\$80 + GST per straw	Black Belted	
Newsome Peekay 11222 (POIS)	Alexandrea & Peter Munday 7 Hills Belted Galloways 0435 713 683 beltedgalloways- 7hills@outlook.com	\$80 + GST per straw	Black Belted	

ABGA AI Sire Semen For Sale Listing

Licenced - Permit Required: Permit

Shiralee Moonshine 384 (AI) (ET) (POIS)	Rick Cruff 03 5822 2742 0417 052 191 ccruff@bigpond.net.au	\$15 per straw Sire Permit \$100	Black Belted	
Silvan Park Whiskey 11108 (POMS)	Chris McIlroy Agrigene 03 5722 2666 chris@agrigene.com.au	POA	Black Belted (Red Gene Carrier)	

Unlicenced – No Permit Required: Unrestricted

Apriash Tristan 541 (POIS)	Brendan & Patricia Crowley 0438 331 700 apriash@bigpond.com	\$85 + GST per straw	Black Belted	
Apriash Yale 6991 (AI) (POIS)	Brendan & Patricia Crowley 0438 331 700 apriash@bigpond.com	\$85 + GST per straw	Black Belted	
Ashleigh Luigi 10480 (POIS)	Fergus Prien 0432 730 910 fergusprien@gmail.com	POA	Black Belted	

ABGA AI Sire Semen For Sale Listing

Unlicenced – No Permit Required: Unrestricted

Grandview Grantly 10078	Anne & Adele Wilson Grandview Belted Galloways 0418 139 621 anne.w5@bigpond.com	POA	Black Belted	
Grandview Joshua	Anne & Adele Wilson Grandview Belted Galloways 0418 139 621 anne.w5@bigpond.com	POA	Black Belted	
Kookaburra Red Quest 11075 (AI) (POIS)	Fergus Prien 0432 730 910 fergusprienc@gmail.com	POA	Red Belted	
Pine Gully Park Alto 7463 (AI)	Kerry Heazlewood Pine Gully Park Belted Galloways 03 5167 1018 pinegullypark@bigpond.com	\$25 per straw	Black Belted	
Shiralee Silverado 470 (POIS)	Brendan & Patricia Crowley 0438 331 700 apriash@bigpond.com	\$150 + GST per straw	Black Belted	

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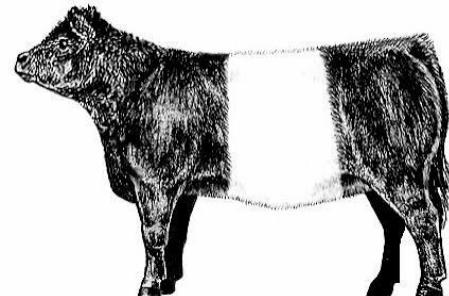
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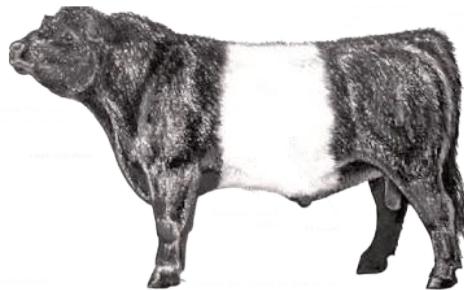
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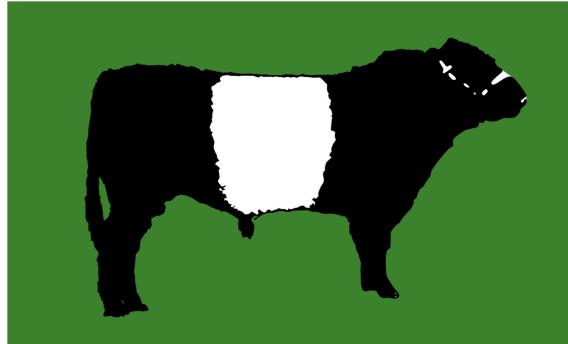
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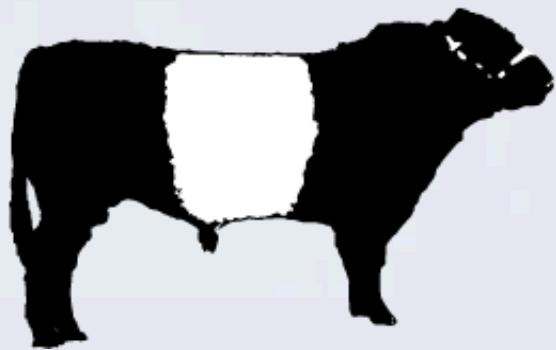
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**AUSTRALIAN
BELTED GALLOWAY
ASSOCIATION INC**

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AUSTRALIAN BELTED GALLOWAY ASSOCIATION INC

