

What a year! The Demons broke a 57 year drought, the Rabbits went oh so close, the Wallabies won five on the trot, the cricketers got another World Cup, and the cattle market hasn't been too bad either! Simply put, a one in thirty-year season coupled with once in a lifetime trading conditions have us all smiling. The commitment to maintain our herd two years ago is paying off in spades.

This time last year we were ecstatic when our 180 spring born steers averaged just on \$1900, thinking it doesn't get any better than this! This year's first double load went in mid-November at 14 to 15 months averaged \$2700 – a huge step up again. The industry is obviously in good shape and whilst no doubt there will be a correction at some point, the underlying demand will remain strong.

It is giving us the opportunity to keep raising the bar in our search for the latest genetics and maintain our rate of genetic gain in both our stud and commercial herds. Earlier in the year we teamed up with Booragul Angus to purchase the \$65,000 sale topper at Te Mania, Qontemplate Q1149. His first calves will be on the ground in the autumn, and semen shares have been sold to Rennyalea, Boonaroo, Gates, Kunuma, Bald Blair and Booramooka studs giving us very strong data links with those herds.

More recently we were lucky enough to be part of the syndicate put together by Jack to purchase the record-breaking Lawson's Rocky R4010 for \$130,000 as a 13 month old calf. Described by Harry Lawson as a once in a lifetime individual, he has a terrific data set combined with sire appeal and exceptional thickness and so is an exciting addition to our sire battery. Dunoon, Gilmandyke and Kelly's are our partners but if early semen inquiries are anything to go by, he is going to be one of the breeds high use sires with several other prominent studs already using him.

Our 2022 team is starting to take shape with 125 bulls in the mix at this point, and they are making the best use of the season and looking impressive. Whilst we have a number of our proven sires represented, such as Highpoint and Monty M186, King K306, Kind K1354 and Novatel N131, a feature is the number of first-time sires represented. The two Reality blood bulls, Karoo Realist N278 and Inglebrae Reality N6 both have large drafts of sons as do the two USA semen sires, GAR Ashland and Baldrige Alternative. Homebred bulls, Payload P175 (by Eastern Plains Estate H38) and Nobleman N127 (by King K306) are well represented, as well as the Tasmanian bred Landfall Keystone N106.

We feel we have the right mix of calving ease prospects alongside a number of high-performance individuals allowing a range of choice. As always, our focus is on maintaining good carcass data across the sire group options. We continue to test our sires in industry trials or competitions and this commitment to carcass improvement adds value to both our own and client's herds. As we have begun to increase our use of home bred genetics, such as Quantum Q41, Payload P175, Nobleman N127, Packer P130 and Pepper P91, it is exciting watching their calves develop alongside industry feature sires such as the \$140,000 Dunoon Prime Minister.

In our December newsletter last year, we featured Prime Minister and Quantum Q41. Both bulls have outstanding calves on the ground and will be both in high use again this year. There are good reports coming in from around the industry on the Prime Minister calves and we are liking what we see here as well, with the bonus of getting very strong links in our herd with a prominent industry sire. Q41 has developed into an impressive individual and he is going to have a noticeable impact on our sale teams in the next few years. With a nicely balanced data set, tremendous temperament, and silky skin we are excited with what he has to offer.



Lawson's Rocky R4010

CE.Dir	Birth	400	600	EMA	IMF%	\$A-L
+6.5	+2.4	+101	+126	+11.4	+5.5	\$443



Knowla Quantum Q41

CE.Dir	Birth	400	600	EMA	IMF%	\$A-L
+1.1	+3.9	+103	+129	+10.0	+4.2	\$357

MARK THE DATE
14th Annual Sale
FRIDAY JULY 29th 2022

INDUSTRY OPEN DAY
at Moppy
FRIDAY May 13th 2022

Record Sale Result

Stud breeders and large-scale commercial operators competed against each other from the outset to produce records in every category at our thirteenth annual sale. 43 rising two-year-old bulls sold to \$40,000 to average \$17,255 and 36 yearling bulls sold to \$36,000 to average \$16,805 for an overall average of \$17,050 for the 79 bulls offered. Six PTIC stud heifers sold to \$17,000 and averaged \$9,666 whilst 91 unjoined commercial heifers topped at \$4,200 and averaged \$3,278.

Admired by many, the Knowla Monty M186 son at Lot 3, Quadranner Q124 set a new overall sale record when he sold to \$40,000 to Bill and Judy MacDonald, Blackjack Pastoral, Lostock. Q124 had a sale weight of 914 kilograms with a 46cm scrotal as well as having twelve EBV traits in the top 20% of the breed. The yearling record was also established when the first Full Force son in the ring, Reactor R31, from Doris K73, sold to \$36,000 to Paul Barnett, Mondrook, Wingham. R31 was the heaviest of the yearling group weighing 766 kilograms at 17 months of age and had twelve EBV traits in the top 20% of the breed. Both of these operations secured a second bull paying \$16,000 and \$13,000 respectively.

The five Full Force sons from K73 averaged \$28,000, with Reactor R51 going to Herb Duddy's Sara Park Angus at Glen Innes. Another of the flush sold to long term clients, John and Di Stidolph at Markwell. Matt Stidolph Waukivory, selected two sons of Knowla Novatel N131 at \$34,000 and \$32,000, whilst Yamba Angus, Orange paid \$20,000 for their pick of the Novatel's, Royal R15.

Repeat clients, the Johnston family, Gloucester River, and Mark and Wendy Vaile, Cedar Party both paid \$28,000 for their choices, Quasimodo Q142 and JRGV Quamby Q119 respectively. Don and Alison Cameron, Glenora, Walcha, paid \$26,000 for their choice, the Monty son, Q118.

Ellerston Pastoral, Scone, took home eight bulls at close to the sale average with a top of \$22,000 for another of the Full Force K73 sons. Several buyers put together a draft of two bulls including new clients the Hayes family, Inverary, Scone, Rob Blain, Mt Crosby, Gloucester, Brent Dunning, Gresford, Geoff and Ros Morgan, Dwyers Crossing, Smith Brothers, Callaghans Creek, and Kingaroy Pastoral, Ebor.

Repeat clients, Tomkat Pastoral, Bunyah and Victoria Park, Tea Gardens also put together drafts of two bulls. Long term clients, Col and Kerry Meyn Singleton, Penny O'Meara, Gresford, Garry and Kerry Gooch, Bulahdelah, Tim and Robyn McNamara, Halliday's Point, Ken and Kellie Harvey, Markwell, Jim Dixon, Coonanmble, Mark and Lee Lathem, Curlewis, and Josh and Penny Evans, Vacy were all successful securing single lots towards the front of the catalogue above the sale average price.

Regular local clients, Allen and Di Shultz, Cameron Laurie Partnership, Bob Crittenden, Kyran Laurie, the Moore family, Joe Berry and Greg and Gai Falla all selected one bull.

One of the pleasing aspects of the sale was the number of bulls that sold in the \$10,000 to \$12,000 range catering for all budgets. New clients, Steve Carter, Rangari, Gunnedah put together a draft of three bulls at an average of \$10,666 and Ralph Schroers, Kangaroo Hills, Walcha, secured three at an average of \$10,000.

The demand for good genetics did not waiver when the female portion of the catalogue entered the ring. The PTIC stud heifers reached \$17,000 when Ben and Archie Crowe, Glenfaba Angus, Timor selected Kruger Q153, PTIC to Knowla Nobleman N127. Losing bidder on Kruger Q153, Jeff Duddy, Glen Innes operating via Auctions Plus then went onto secure Sal Q171. Craig Atkinson operating on behalf of Segenhoe Stud, Aberdeen put together a draft of three stud heifers at an average of \$7,666.

The six pens of unjoined commercial heifers also met with spirited competition topping at a record \$4,200 for a pen of 15 to Garth and Leanne Mathews, Gloucester River. Matt Moy, Sutton Forest, who purchased the top pen last year, returned to pay an average of \$3,400 for two pens. Mark and Liam Mowbray, Marlea Angus, Barrington paid \$3,200 for a pen of 15. Ross Wilkinson, Singleton was also a repeat purchaser paying \$2,700 for his pen.

The sale was conducted by Elders Walcha, in association with the Elders Stud Stock team. Paul Dooley acted as auctioneer.



Allan Laurie, Elders Walcha; Grant Whatham, Thomas Livestock; Bill and Judy MacDonald from Blackjack Pastoral; Paul Dooley; David Walsh, Blackjack Pastoral; James; and Peter Kelehear, Blackjack Pastoral with Knowla Quadranner Q124.



Allan Laurie, Elders Walcha; Georgia; Paul Dooley; Paul Barnett, Mondrook; with Knowla Reactor R31.

Thanks to all those supporters that make our sale a huge success.

- 79 Angus bulls average \$17050 • 6 PTIC stud heifers average \$9,666
- 91 unjoined commercial heifers average \$3,278



Rambo wins at Scone

Pymble Ladies College took the top carcass award at the Upper Hunter beef Bonanza with Knowla Rambo R554. Whilst unplaced on the hoof, he won Class 5 with 94.38 carcass points on the way to the Heavyweight and Supreme Champion carcass against mostly crossbred competition. Against 141 head entered in the competition, he also won the overall points Jackpot and amassed \$10,000 in prize money for the school's Ag club coffers. At 14 months of age Rambo dressed 301 kilograms with a 91 cm EMA and an Ausmeat marble score of 2 to produce an MSA index score of 67.59, also the highest in the competition.

Sired by Farrer Maxwell M99, we selected him on the back of the carcass data produced by the Maxwell steers in Cohort 9 of Angus Sire Benchmarking program, and for the exceptional temperament that his progeny exhibit. Maxwell's progeny were ranked first for EMA scan, fifth IMF scan, and fourth for carcass weight, but most importantly second overall for carcass value in Cohort 9.



Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza Grand Champion carcass – Knowla Rambo R554.

Vale Lindsay 'Doc' Roberts

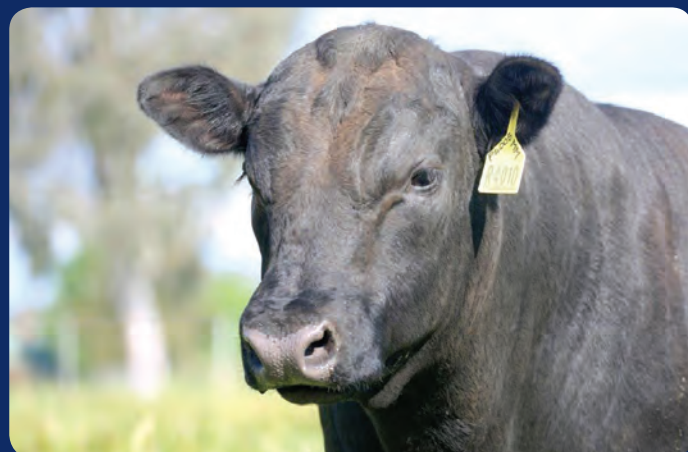
Vale Lindsay 'Doc' Roberts, 17.02.1932 till 21.07.2021. Annie's father, Doc was passionate about Angus cattle and helped us acquire some of our first Angus cows from Forres Angus in the mid 1990's. He also had a passion for tree propagation, and he planted numerous red cedar trees along the Barrington River at Moppy. He always had time for a chat, accompanied with a beer or whiskey!



Never has our cow country looked as well as it does this season, Docklands K18 cow with Prime Minister calf at foot.

Kingy

Kingy has had a tough year, broken leg in March requiring three operations, and then the first week back on the job in October he broke his jaw. Happily, he is now good to go and keen to get back on the job!



Lawson's Rocky R4010 – call Jack on 0467 484 479 for information on semen sales.



1965 model yards replaced.



Wishing everyone
a prosperous and happy
Christmas and New year.



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