



AUSTRALIAN SOUTH DEVONS

NEWSLETTER

April 2022

Welcome to the latest newsletter.

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PLEASE NOTE; the email addresses in the column to the left of this page are the correct ones to use for any contact with myself, James McUtchen, or David McDonald. Can you please only use these addresses for emails pertaining to South Devon matters?

I know I keep commenting on the weather, but it really has been a topsy turvey last few weeks, especially on the eastern side of this big country.

While south-eastern Queensland, and it seems like most of eastern NSW as well, has been absolutely drenched with enormous amounts of rain and terrifying floods, we in supposedly tropical Qld have not had a wet season. In fact, the joke here is that if you want to drown in our creek, first you have to find a waterhole and then you have to lie face down in it.

Having said that, we have had enough rain to keep the grass growing so it is not doom and gloom on the cattle feed front, but we have empty dams and dry creeks, and not too far from us they

haven't even had the grass rain. Just shows how very variable our weather can be, and yet, if you listened to the mainstream media reports, you could be forgiven for thinking that all of Australia has been having a wet summer. The map of actual rainfalls that is shown on Landline shows the areas of Australia that are still looking for the promised La Nina influence from last year and quite a bit of cattle country is included in that area. This weather directly impacts on cattle prices because there are already places turning off stock that they wouldn't normally sell at this time of year as they are not prepared to gamble on late rain and they don't want to have to feed through winter.

On a much more cheerful note; shows have restarted after the past couple of Covid interrupted years, and we have results included in this edition. It's great to see our cattle out and about promoting our wonderful breed. Well done to all of our members who get out there and compete in either led or carcass classes or competitions of any kind, and please send me reports and photos so we can share your efforts with our fellow South Devon breeders.

As you will have seen from the email David McDonald has recently circulated, the AGM will this year be face to face at Adelaide in September. I know it takes considerable organisation to attend these events when we live so far apart, but believe me, it is worth every bit to actually meet and make new friendships or renew old friendships with our fellow breeders from all over Australia. Adelaide is as close to halfway as you can get – it is about 100km further from Mackay to Adelaide than it is from Perth, so you can't get much fairer than that. The dinner is really just a gabfest with good food and good company, but it's nice to be a bit dressy instead of always seeing each other in jeans – I live in shorts or jeans, so I'm looking forward to wearing a dress.

Rick McDouall (who is always thinking up ideas on how to promote South Devons) has very kindly offered to fund a run of (financial year) desk calendars to be distributed to other than Australian SD breeders. i.e., Overseas breeders etc. Kath McUtchen and I will do the organising but we need excellent photos of South Devon cattle from all over Australia, and my preference is for the photos not to be show ones. I love seeing our cattle in their home environments. As I have said at the start of this newsletter, we have such a huge country with a dramatic difference in climate and topography – lets showcase the versatility of our breed.

Because I am running late with this newsletter, we really need the photos to be in our hands by mid-May so we can sort them and do the layout. I was thinking maybe have a collage of photos for each state but it will depend entirely on the quantity and quality of the photos received. **Over to you members.**

NEWS FROM NEW SOUTH WALES.



We'll start our show reports with a photo of the purebred SD steer that Stephen and Lisa Harris (Braxton Stud) have supplied to their local high school, and which is competing right now at Sydney Royal. **Braxton Rory**, along with three other steers supplied to South Coast schools by our very active members on the South Coast of NSW will also compete in the very prestigious Stan Hill interbreed teams' competition (think Hordern trophy in Melbourne and Thomas Foods in Adelaide). *(There will be a full Sydney Royal report in the next newsletter.)*

I was hoping to have a report on the excellent results for Brejayanne in the Lardner Park steer trials, but I will have to include it in the next newsletter.

More news from Victoria, with many thanks to Sarah Bolte and her family.

Stock & Land Beef Week 2022



EBENEZER PARK: Sarah and daughter, Kat welcomed around 50 guests who called through to inspect the remaining young sale bull and to also meet Roy, the quirky steer, who showcases the unflappable South Devon temperament.

On Thursday 3rd February we had cattle on display as part of Stock & Lands Victorian Beef Week. This was my 4th year participating and the first time I have taken heifers along to display as well. The kids also insisted Roy the steer got to come along for the trip.



Tyrendarra Show 2022

Our first show in what feels like forever. The girls and nephew Bailey came along to enjoy the day out and catch up with friends. There was a good turnout considering this is normally one of the last shows for us, with 6 studs competing on the day.

Ebenezer Park Stanley was Champion South Devon Bull and only just missed out on Supreme Beef Bull by a whisker.

Ebenezer Park Shakira was Champion South Devon Female.

Ebenezer Park Shakira and Ebenezer Park Sophia placed 3rd in pair of animals

Ebenezer Park Stanley, Ebenezer Park Shakira and Ebenezer Park Sophia placed 3rd in group of animals.

All 3 kids had a go at junior handlers and judging with great feedback from the judge to go home and practice.

(R) Chatting with the judge after the Supreme Beef Bull award was presented

Below L Ebenezer Park Shakira and Kat about to be presented with her Championship.

Below R – sisterly love





Junior handlers' class

L-R

Bailey & Ebenezer Park Stanley, Kat & Ebenezer Park Shakira, Steph & Ebenezer Park Sophia



Results:

1st Steph

2nd Kat

3rd Bailey

Junior Judging evened things up for the girls which made the drive home ok

1st Kat, 2nd Steph, 3rd Bailey

QUEENSLAND REPORT (with thanks to the McUtchen family).

Bell Show 2022

This year proved to be a challenging start to the 2022 show year. Jambili and Kildare Studs arrived at the Bell Showgrounds to a very sodden welcome. Bell had received 104mm only a day prior to the start of the show and ended up with 5 ½ inches in total for the week. Someone



smiled down upon us and greeted us with the most pleasant summers day on Show Day. South Devons had the largest showing in the British ring and was equal to the Braford's for largest breed numbers; together we had 17 head plus a calf. The day started with Jambili Twister (South Devon X) winning the Lightweight Steer Class, Jambili Rude (South Devon X) taking out 1st in the Middle Weight class and Jambili #1 (South Devon x) placing 3rd in the Heavy Weight Class. Jambili Twister

narrowly missed out on the Champion led steer award which was given to the Winner of the Heavy Weight Class.

Pictured Above – Callum McUtchen with Twister

The South Devon Ring Results were as follows;

Heifer Under 12 Months;

1st Jambili Sleepn Beauty, 2nd Kildare Dianna 114 (B) 3rd Jambili Sarabi

Heifer 12 – 18 months

1st Jambili Red Riding Hood

Junior Champion Heifer – Jambili Sleepn Beauty

Res Champion Heifer – Kildare Dianna

Senior Female 18 – 24 months

1st Jambili Rapunzel

Senior Female 24 months and over

1st Jambili QP

Senior Champion Female – Jambili QP

Res Senior Champion Female – Jambili Rapunzel

Grand Champion South Devon Female – Jambili QP

Bulls under 12 months

1st Jambili Salakaia – Loto

Bulls 12 – 18 Months

1st Kildare Rio Grande 2nd Kildare Remarkable

Junior Champion Bull – Kildare Rio Grande

Reserve Junior Champion Bull – Jambili Salakaia-Loto

Bull 18 – 24 Months

1st Jambili Radradra

Bull over 24 Months

1st Jambili Rokocoko

Senior Champion Bull – Jambili Rokocoko

Res Champion Senior Bull – Jambili Radradra

Grand Champion South Devon Bull – Kildare Rio Grand

We were very excited when Jambili QP was named British Interbreed Champion Female and Kildare Rio Grande took the double by winning the British Interbreed Champion Bull beating out the other British exhibits.



Jambili South Devons,(McUtchen Family) was named the most Successful exhibitor for the Stud Beef Section.

Jambili and Kildare were entered to attend the Barraba Show, however due to Covid impacting their plans they were unable to travel. We look forward to the Toowoomba Royal Show at the end of March.

2022 Toowoomba Royal Show

The 160th Toowoomba Royal Show was held recently. 16 head of Registered South Devon and South Devon infused cattle were presented before the judges in the show ring. Kildare and Jambili Studs represented the South Devon Breed in the Stud Ring and Jambili presented 3 South Devon infused steers in the Led Steer Section.

Results were as Follows;

2022 Led Steer – Judge Julie Pocock-Iseppi

Middle Weight Champion Steer – Jambili Tricky, 538kg

2nd Heavy weight class – Jambili #1, 624kg



2022 South Devon Stud Results – Judge Graeme Hopf

Female;

6 – 12 months

1st Jambili Sleep'n Beauty 2nd Jambili Sarabi 3rd Kildare Dianna 114

12 – 18 months

1st Jambili Red Riding Hood

Calf Champion – Jambili Sleep'n Beauty

Res – Jambili Sarabi

18-21months & Junior Champion - Jambili Rapunzel

24+Months & Senior Champion - Jambili QP

Grand Champion – Jambili QP

Bull

6-12 Months & Calf Champion - Jambili Salakaia-Loto

12 – 18 Months - Kildare Remarkable

18 – 21 Months – 1st Jambili Radradra 2nd Kildare Rio Grand

Junior Champion – Jambili Radradra Res – Kildare Rio Grand

24+ Months & Senior Champion – Jambili Rokocoko

Grand Champion – Jambili Rokocoko - photo below

Judge Graeme Hopf said, 'that this was the best team of South Devons he has had the pleasure to judge in this country in the past 40 years.' Graeme said that he was very impressed in the muscle pattern of the bulls which he awarded the broad ribbons. The judging was viewed by a number of South Devon enthusiasts with Rick and Stuart McDouall of Kildare making the 8 hour round trip to watch the judging.





All Calf and Junior Champions were later presented for the Junior Interbreed. Comments were favourable; however, we weren't successful in receiving a placing.

The two Grand Champions then competed in the Interbreed, *Jambili QP* (photo above) placing in the Top 4 for Females. The judges complimented her on her udder and her 'honesty' as a cow.

I would like to be able to present another newsletter by the end of June, but it will depend entirely on the quantity of news and photos supplied to me. There will definitely be a report on Sydney Royal and Qld's FarmFest.

I look forward to receiving quantities of wonderful photos to be considered for inclusion in the calendar.

HAPPY READING – STAY WELL.

Heather Lindsay – Newsletter Editor.