



# It's simply been one of those years where everything you work so hard for comes together.

It's simply been one of those years where everything you work so hard for comes together. We were over the moon to win the Pen of Three Bulls Competition at the World Angus Forum, and to top the 'Angus on Ice' frozen genetics auction with an Australian Record all on the same day. As I said to Stu "this is the best day of our lives!!" to which I got a stern look and later clarified "the second best day of our lives" (d'uh wedding).

We were also delighted with our 2024 bull sale average of \$15,909 for 83 bulls with highlights including Ben Nevis Ultra selling to Boambee Angus for \$100,000 and Ben Nevis Undertaker selling to Palgrove for \$56,000. In total, 12 bulls sold into studs across the eastern seaboard. While this raised the average, a third of the catalogue (and brothers to the top bulls) still sold for \$6,000 to \$10,000 making them accessible for our commercial clients.

Yours, Stu and Erica Halliday







## WORLD ANGUS FORUM EXPO

The Expo at AELEC in Tamworth attracted the largest gathering of registered angus cattle in the Southern Hemisphere, attracting over 500 head and 90 competitors over the two days.

Against excellent competition our 14 month old pen of three bulls won the Junior then the Grand Champion pen of bulls. We selected a bull from each of our main sire groups in the sale being Sunstone, Rambo and Quinella. Our Senior Champion winning pen of females were by Real Deal, Rawhide and a daughter of our Ben Nevis Jean S47 cow. Her brothers will feature heavily in this year's sale.

The pen competition was scored by a panel of three Judges including Dan Shike, Illinois USA, PJ Budler Texas, USA and Roger Evans Tamworth NSW. Animals were scored for their type and structure, their genomic EBV's and their uniformity. The Ben Nevis bull and heifer teams were praised by the judges for their structural integrity, thickness and temperament as well as

their superior genetic blueprint. The bulls were taken out of their contemporary of 80 bulls for the two-day event and we were able to integrate them straight back in which was a huge bonus.

Thank you so much to Jack and Maggie as well as Lorenzo Sangalli to get the cattle ready for the event, transporting them and taking care of them as well as setting up our display while Stu and I were on the World Angus Forum pre-tour. You guys did a super job and ... yes... we owe you big time

We were very proud to be one of the sponsors of the Youth Competition at the EXPO, as well as the snake pit 'Dan's Reptile Solutions' to educate and fascinate people with our beautiful and deadly wildlife.





Anti-Clockwise, from left:
Mags with V32; Lorenzo
Sangalli; Hap and Stu with
Paulo Costa, Portugal;
Thommo and Hap on TREK.
Far right: Stu with Sam
and Jenny Bailey at youth
function; Hap with Sara
Stevenson and Jane
Callentine Montana
USA and Al Laurie; Hap
and Marg Will with
the legendary Frank
Mitloehner, CLEAR
Center USA.



The World Angus Forum and Expo were simply amazing, and it felt wonderful to be wrapped in the global angus family.

I was super proud to be part of the organising committee and want to thank Jake Phillips for creating something special in the Expo, Angus Australia particularly Scott Wright, Kathryn Duddy and Mel Strasburg and to the wonderful committee whose mix of big ideas and practical initiatives made this event such a success. Marg Will and Sinclair Munro thankyou so much for your daily wisdom and support. To my family, thankyou for making so many sacrifices so I could be involved. I know it was a once in a lifetime experience and I am so glad its over (LOL) and that we did it!



### BEN NEVIS BREAKS AUSTRALIAN RECORD

The World Angus Forum Expo at Tamworth hosted the Angus Australia Frozen Genetics Auction which was the first of its kind open to international bidding on an online platform.

We decided to offer a pick of our three top Jean cows and created a campaign called 'The genes are in the Jeans'. It featured our star Jean M30 (pictured below) (x Sunstone), her sister Jean N238 (x Sunstone), and her niece, the young gun Jean S47 (x Knowla So Right).

Our sale topping package of four embryos included two x M30 and two x N238 to Dunoon Sunstone and they sold for an Angus Australia record of 6,000 per embryo to Macka's Pastoral. Losing bidder Marc Cockburn (for Bruce Wallace), of New Zealand secured an additional package of the Ben Nevis Jean S47 x Knowla So Right embryos after the sale for 5,900, and Daryl and Sara Stevenson of Down T Ranch in Montana, USA secured another package of the S47 x So Right embryos for a swap deal.

This is the first time that we have sold embryos at an auction (other than a charity auction) and we were excited to see Jean's genes shared not only in Australia but overseas.

We'd like to thank everyone at Holbrook Breeders, especially Debbie Mills for working so tirelessly to get the export embryos across the line, and to Lane Evans for taking such good care of our girls.

## THE START OF SOMETHING BIG

We wanted the World Angus Forum to showcase how elite Australian genetics are on the World Stage and to use it as a springboard to launch the increased export of Australian genetics overseas. Last year's release of the World Angus Genetic Evaluation with Australia, the US, Canada and New Zealand clearly shows that the Australian Angus population holds it own for growth and fertility and excels for carcase. The international visitors were then blown away by the good type of the Australian cattle that they saw at tour and at EXPO and the very competitive grass-fed systems that raise them.





## THE SALE TEAM





**DUNOON SUNSTONE** 

## **OUR SIRES**

### THE FIRST OF OUR DUNOON SUNSTONE PROGENY

We purchased Sunstone at the 2023 Dunoon Autumn Sale for \$65,000 and he was taken up by ABS to become their biggest selling Australian bull of 2024. We have used Sunstone to go over our Ben Nevis Rambo progeny using his extra scale, neck extension, doing ability and deep soft muscle pattern to complement Rambo's more moderate mature size and extreme muscling. The results have been exactly what we hoped, and we are proud to present you with this run of bulls. Docility is a feature, as is extra depth of heel and hoof shape, softness, depth of rib, flank and quarter and a deep volume of muscling. These bulls can be used to correct tail set angle and much needed length from hip to pin to provide balance and facilitate calving ease and structural longevity. They also present you with a double whammy of IMF under the hide without sacrificing type.

#### **RAMBO CONTINUES TO IMPRESS**

After buying back a share in the Ben Nevis Rambo bull we are really starting to reap the rewards with his first daughters shining and our first Rambo x Sunstone calves being the highlight of our 2025 bull sale draft. Rambo is unique offering a rare combination of heavy muscle and top 2% IMF with exceptional fertility. Rambo sired both the \$230,000 Banquet Tom Cruise and the \$40,000 Ben Nevis Tribune T302 that featured in the Genetics Australia Catalogue. His Bulls stand out for their masculinity and commercial relevance and this year is no exception. They stand out in this exceptional draft of bulls.

### QUARTZ WORTH HIS WEIGHT IN STONE

Millah Murrah Quartz has a small but valuable impact on this sale with 4 exceptional sires in our Spring group and more to come next year. Quartz is the \$42,000 son of the current Australian Mature top price female in the \$140,000 (half share) Millah Murrah Flower N30. He offers a deep, soft muscle and extra body with easy fleshing and a lovely nature. These could be some of the sale highlights.

#### HART NETWORK DELIVERS

We are among the first studs in Australia to sell Hart Network Progeny this sale season and they have lived up to the hype. We feature a flush of Hart Network out of our rising star Ben Nevis Jean S47 whose embryos featured at World Angus Forum. S47 is the granddaughter of the \$82,000 Ben Nevis Jean H215, and her dam is a full sister to Newsflash who bred Ben Nevis Rambo. Born small, these calves developed fast into a powerful crush of width and dimension with delicious softness and depth. Like their dam they are very docile and scored 6's across the board for their very tidy feet and B- muscle from our independent structural assessor Roger Evans. They are backed by an excellent set of numbers verifying the extra quality they will continue to add under the hide.

#### **QUINELLA AN EASY BET**

It's our second year of the Quinella bulls and their sisters have also had their first calves. The three super females in Quinella's cow line are coming through and the daughters are wedgy with beautiful udders while the bulls continue to impress with their type and inherent carcase. Lot 4 is a stonker so check him out.

### INVESTMENT IN TWO FAMOUS US DAM LINES

As you know we have always strived to have our leading sires out of superior cows. We have made a real feature of the Baldridge Isabel Y69 cow over the years so when the opportunity came up through Jack Laurie to invest in her daughter F415 by Hoover No Doubt we jumped at it. The G274 Baldridge Blackbird cow is a maternal sister to Baldridge Command who has always been a real favourite here, so we invested in her too. The resultant progeny by exclusive US sire Schaack Satisfaction is worth a look. They have enormous rib and hip shape quite unlike any bulls we see in Australia, weigh like lead and are easy fleshing and kind. They are real herd improvers, and we have kept one of the F415 sons for our herd, Ben Nevis Viceroy V441.



**MOOGINELLA QUINELLA** 



SCHAACK SATISFACTION







MILLAH MURRAH QUARTZ

### **BEN NEVIS** 18MO BULLS



 LOT 1. NBN24V86
 Three Rivers x JSRL Joker

 BW
 600
 EMA
 P8
 IMF
 \$A Rank

 6.6
 158
 2.4
 -5.9
 4.1
 6%



 LOT 2. NBN24V447
 Rambo x Full Power

 BW
 600
 EMA
 P8
 IMF
 \$A Rank

 7.5
 159
 8.9
 -3.3
 3.3
 22%



 BW
 600
 EMA
 P8
 IMF
 \$A Rank

 5.7
 153
 9.6
 2.2
 2.4
 9%



 LOT 4. NBN24V432 Quinella x Command

 BW
 600
 EMA
 P8
 IMF
 \$A Rank

 4.7
 142
 11.7
 -1
 2.9
 5%



 LOT 5. NBN24V435
 Satisfaction x Isabel F415

 BW
 600
 EMA
 P8
 IMF
 \$A Rank

 4.3
 141
 7.7
 2.1
 2
 29%



BW 600 EMA P8 IMF \$A Rank

3.8 124 9.5 -0.2 3.3 5%



 LOT 7. NBN24V119 Nutella x Infinity

 BW
 600
 EMA
 P8
 IMF
 \$A Rank

 5.2
 151
 5.9
 -0.1
 1.6
 16%



LOT 9. NBN24V26 Sunstone x Pacific										
BW	600	EMA	P8	IMF	\$A Rank					
2.1	136	6.4	-1.6	5.1	5%					



LOT 10. NBN24V27 Quinella x Quantico									
BW	600	EMA	P8	IMF	\$A Rank				
3.9	152	4.5	-1.3	3.4	10%				



LOT 11. NBN24V74 Quinella x Beast Mode

BW	600	EMA	P8	IMF	\$A Rank
3.6	120	10.9	1.5	5	18%



LOT 16. NBN24V113 Quinella x Ascot Global

BW	600	EMA	P8	IMF	\$A Rank
6.4	139	12.2	-3.7	4	16%



LOT 18. NBN24 V434 Quarterback x Guardian

BW	600	EMA	P8	IMF	\$A Rank
2.2	128	3.8	1	3.2	47%



LOT 20. NBN24V430 Satisfaction x Blackbird

DVV 000 EIVIN 10 IIVII	<b>4</b>
RW 600 EMA P8 IME	\$A Rank



LOT 23. NBN24V132 Rambo x M Proceed

1.3	113	11.6	-1	2.6	21%
BW	600	EMA	P8	IMF	\$A Rank



LOT 31. NBN24V439 Rocky x Braveheart

BW	600	EMA	P8	IMF	\$A Rank
3.7	104	10.2	-0.6	1.1	84%

### **BEN NEVIS** 12MO BULLS



LOT 35. NBN24V213 Sunstone x Exclusive

BW	600	EMA	P8	IMF	\$A Rank
5.6	124	8.8	-0.9	2.5	5%



LOT 39. NBN24V350 True North x Beast Mode

Ī	BW	600	EMA	P8	IMF	\$A Rank
	Figur	es will b	e availat	ole in Ju	ıly 31 an	alysis



LOT 44. NBN24V205 Quartz x BN Podium

BW	600	EMA	P8	IMF	\$A Rank
3.4	134	7.4	3.6	4.1	5%



LOT 48. NBN24V475 Network x BN Monarch

BW	600	EMA	P8	IMF	\$A Rank
4.6	139	8.6	-5.9	2.8	8%



LOT 83. NBN24V314 Rambo x Pythagorus

BW	600	EMA	P8	IMF	\$A Rank
2.8	109	8	1.4	3.7	8%



LOT 102. NBN24V241 Rambo x Paratrooper

BW	600	EMA	P8	IMF	\$A Rank
4.3	134	7.1	3.1	2.9	8%







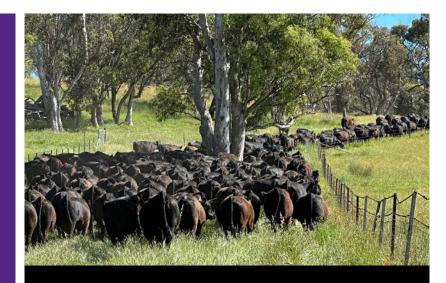


### **EXPANSION**

In 2024 we were able to secure the property 'Summerhill' at the back of our Mingary property as a bull depot. It's a perfect fit for the boys and we sowed it down to a salad mix just before summer. They have just powered on. The turnip, rye corn, tillage radish, ryegrass, cow pea and vetch mix is a perfect rough up and root down exercise for the soil before we go in with the following season with oats, under sown with a permanent of chicory, plantain, vetch, arrowleaf clover, perennial rye and fescue.

The mix of the species helps quorum signalling for an overall balance of nutrients and minerals for the bulls, and the different species maturing at different times helps that sugars are always available in the plants. We have found that the ADG, overall health and immunity of the bulls has improved on these multispecies although the down sides are rough driving and a few turned ankles with the huge turnips we get. Also, it's not wise not to walk behind the bulls too closely...





### BEN NEVIS HEIFER NETWORK

In May we sold the first batch of our Ben Nevis Network Heifers. In total, we sold 400 PTIC Angus Heifers to a top of \$2,400 and an average of \$1919. These were Al'ed to our elite easy calving, high marbling sires Ben Nevis Rambo and Ben Nevis Smokin Jo to create pens of ten, all in calf to one due date. The concept is to create relationships with like-minded producers who want to invest in quality assured genetics especially those in flying herds. We are looking to buy Ben Nevis blood heifers back and expand the program going forward. This year we have 500 heifers secured and will AI them this spring to sell in May 2026. Please contact us for more information.

#### **JACK**

With so much going on this year we would have been lost without Jack, particularly the excess workload with Angus Forum and we would like him to know how grateful we are. Jack is gifted with both cattle and dogs and while he is enjoying a well-earned trip overseas at the moment Stu and I are both trying to steal his dog. Jack is going to reciprocate a visit to Lorenzo Sangalli in Italy to learn about their regenerative agriculture and their angus stud program north of Milan (as you do...).

#### **MAGGIE**

Mags is in her final year at UNE doing Honours in Rural Science as well as working at Ben Nevis. She earned a 2025 Angus Foundation Research Grant for determining the genetic relationship between meat carcase traits and methane emissions in Angus cattle and gets to work with Professor Sam Clark on this exciting project. Each of our kids got to select a female for their 21st, which they get ½ share in the progeny and they

are involved in the breeding decision for. Midas Mags has managed to produce this years Lot 3 bull (V32) which she reminds us all constantly.

#### **BONNIE COX**

My niece Bon has had a huge year continuing to work for AuctionPlus after her Angus Australia Foundation Cadetship and she has done us all proud as a finalist in The Land Sydney Royal AgShows NSW Young Women Competition. On top of this Bon was the Chair of the Angus Roundup Committee.

#### STU

Stuey went to Minitube Vet Conference in Brisbane in April to catch up on the latest advances in Bovine reproduction and meet up with friends and colleagues.

#### **CHERRY**

After the third operation in her life on her back after a horse accident when she was younger Mum has recovered well and is back in the cattle

yards. Mum has a great eye for cattle and she helped us lot the 102 bulls we have for sale this year. So it was three generations of Steel women and Stu (..he's fine:)). She and her wonderful group of friends all get together, have lunch, drink wine and fold these newsletters for us (some not as straight as others), and we are very grateful.

#### **EMPTY NESTERS**

Presently Stuey and I are empty nesters and after a few big years of me being President of Angus Australia and Chair of the World Angus Forum we are back working together ... It appears after being married for 27 years we still learning a lot about each other. According to our kids apparently one of us is very bossy and the other one doesn't take orders ... it may suprise you which one is which.

My sister Ky and our brother-in-law Grant have been working with us on the Heifer Network Program which has been awesome. We have also welcomed Sam Martin back to work with us which has been amazing.











#### **ABOUT BEN NEVIS**

Ben Nevis is a family run, fourth generation business and we have been selling bulls for nearly 80 years.

Our business focuses on temperament and type, utilising genomic selection and embryo transfer to splice into superior carcase traits.

This year's on-property sale will be held on Wednesday 10 September at 'Mingary' Sale Complex, Walcha NSW and interfaced on Stocklive. 100 of our pick bulls will be on offer, with additional paddock sales occurring throughout the year. Bulls destined for Queensland will be blooded and vaccinated for 3 day sickness.

Please phone Erica on 0427 780 154 or Stu 0417 674 412 for more information or to arrange an inspection.

### SIGN UP TO RECEIVE A COPY **OF OUR 2025 SALE CATALOGUE**

SIMPLY SCAN THIS QR CODE TO REGISTER.







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