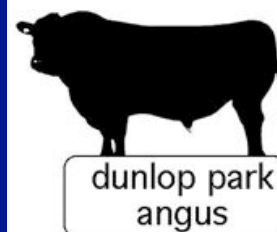


# Dunlop Park Summer 2009/10



*To our friends, clients and fellow Angus breeders,  
**Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for the coming year,**  
from *Bruce and Pat*  
*Brian and Dorothy*  
*Ian, Judy, Simone, Thomas and Rachel**

We hope that you enjoy our summer newsletter which, in the lead up to our field day and sale, has been produced to keep you up to date about what is happening at Dunlop Park.

## **Dunlop Park Beef Field Day**

Our field day scheduled for October unfortunately had to be postponed, due mainly to the very wet weather. It has now been rescheduled for Friday January 29<sup>th</sup> and you are invited to come along.

**When: Friday January 29th**

**Where: 'Dunlop Park', 4938 Exeter Highway, Thirlstane**

**Starting Time: 10.50am**

*The field day will go ahead and you are welcome to turn up on the day, however to know how many to cater for it would help us if you could let us know that you are coming beforehand.*

Phone            Bruce; 64 269 229 or mobile 0419 269 239

                     Brian; mobile 0400 950 872

E-mail           bstewart1@iinet.net.au

**Field day Program overleaf**

### Field Day Program

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 10.50am | Introduction - Brian Stewart (Dunlop Park Angus Stud)   |
| 11.am   | The use of gene marker technology in the beef industry<br>- Dr. Aduli E.O. Malau-Aduli (University of Tasmania) |
| 11.30am | Developments in GeneSTAR DNA marker technology<br>- Deborah Collins (Pfizer Animal Health)                      |
| 12am    | Lunch   |
| 1pm     | Profitable beef production - Peter Ball (DPIWE)   |
| 1.30pm  | Gallagher Smart TSI weighing and data collecting system<br>- Steve Sullings (Gallagher Australia Pty. Ltd.)     |

### Other News

#### **Landfall Angus National Youth Roundup**

The roundup is a national event run by the Angus Society every January for junior members of the society. The attendees learn cattle handling skills and the basics of selecting animals as well as have a good time. Bruce and Pat took their grandchildren Thomas and Rachel to the 2009 Roundup in Canberra in January. Bruce and Pat have for many years helped with the running of the event and Dunlop Park sponsors one of the cattle handling events. This January they will be off again, with Thomas and Rachel, to the 2010 Roundup which will be in Wodonga Jan 14 to 17

#### **2009 Sale**

One of our clients said to us that he and his wife enjoy coming to our sale because of the friendly relaxed atmosphere. I don't think we could have had a better compliment. Our sale, held using the helmsman system, was in March and attracted many return buyers. It would be nice to get a few new buyers but it is pleasing to know that we have a product that buyers keep coming back for.

#### **The 2009 Season**

What a year it has been unbelievably dry followed by unbelievably wet. Our dams were empty in June, chock full by September. The spring rains meant that planting of some crops such as poppies were delayed and of course our field day had to be postponed. To add an extra blow to what had been a difficult year, McCains recently announced that they were ceasing green vegetable processing in Tasmania. Our last crop of peas for McCains was harvested at the end of November.

#### **2010 Sale**

Our sale will once again be in March and will be in the same week as the Antu and Quarterway Sales. Antu will be on the Wednesday, Quarterway Thursday and Dunlop Park Friday. The date should be confirmed early in the New Year.

For our 2010 sale we have some promising young bulls sired by

**Talooby Westminster W50** who has produced some outstanding calves over the years, this will be the last batch of his calves.

**Talooby Zulu Z98** a son of Reiland Verdi. Zulu has put extra frame size into his calves.

**Dunlop Park Yamba Y72** is a son of the bull that set the sale record at Woodbourn several years ago and a Creekton Umbra cow.

**Dunlop Park Alpine A68** a son of Yamba Y72 Alpine was one of the best bulls for EMA in his drop and has good marbling.

**Dunlop Park Ambassador A82** a son of Dunlop Park Yalanda Y7 a bull with some New Zealand blood

## **Trip to England**

In July and August Brian and Dot traveled to the United Kingdom for a 6 week holiday. Whilst there they managed to visit 6 Angus studs and also the Angus headquarters in Perth. They had morning tea and a chat with Ron McHattie the general manager of the UK Angus Society. A report of their trip appeared in the Tasmanian Angus newsletter and will also be posted on the Dunlop Park web-site.

One of the studs visited was the Netherton Stud at Blackford, Perthshire, Scotland (not far south of the famous Gleneagles golf course). Last year we used semen from Netherton Lord Jordan F402 and now have some very promising calves on the ground sired by him. The photo is of William McClaren Jr. of the Netherton Angus stud with Netherton Lady Jane C240 the dam of Netherton Lord Jordan. William is also currently president of the Angus Society in the UK. A comment about the cattle seen at Netherton and other Angus herds in the UK is that although they have greatly increased the size and growth rate they have kept the traditional Angus shape and confirmation.



## **Our Logo**

Recently, much to our surprise, an ad appeared in the Stock and Land that used the bull from our logo. The bull is Dunlop Park Jetsetter J1 a son of QAS Traveler 23-4 who we used extensively in the herd. Below is the original photo used to produce the logo. The logo is not copyright and having thought about it we feel that it can only be a compliment to have bred a bull that can be used to represent the breed. Therefore we would be very happy for others to use it in their advertisements.





## **Dunlop Park Breeding Program**

From when the Dunlop Park herd was founded by Bruce in the 1970s the breeding program has always been based on maintaining the characteristics of the Angus breed such as the structural correctness and shape, the carcass attributes, the ease of calving, the do-ability of the breed. At the same time we have slowly but steadily improved the growth rate and frame score of our cattle. Many practical measures confirm for us that we are on the right track, a recent episode where several pens of Dunlop Park steers gained premium prices at the Quoiba sale being just one example among many. In our breeding program we will breed a good bull back through the herd to consolidate the line, for example this means that we will use a son of Netherton Lord Jordan in our herd.

Breedplan is just one of several selection tools that can be used however our breeding program makes its use difficult. To achieve accurate and reliable breedplan figures you need one of two things, either i) an animal with a large number of progeny and/or parents with a large number of progeny; or ii) linkages to animals in other herds with a large number of progeny. Unfortunately as we use home bred bulls or genuine out cross bulls we can fulfil neither of these conditions, so very good animals go unrecognised by breedplan. Just by way of example although Netherton Lord Jordan is one of the top British sires, because he has very few progeny in Australia, he has been given very low \$index values in Australia. It will take him quite a while to build up a sufficient number of progeny to earn his stripes (so to speak) with breedplan in Australia. But we know his value and we will continue to use him.

## **Website**

We recently obtained a sub domain for the Dunlop Park Website giving us an easier to remember URL. The site will be progressively updated over the next month. It can be found at;

**<http://www.dunloppark.iinet.net.au>**

Our sale catalogue, including photos, is normally posted on the site in early February.

## **Odds and Ends**

Bruce and Pat missed their first Devonport Show in over 50 years, since Bruce who is an Angus Society Director, had to attend the Board meeting in Armidale which unfortunately was scheduled in the week of Devonport Show. Brian presented the Dunlop Park award for champion interbreed cow.

Thomas and Ian have taken up go-kart racing this year. We are still trying to persuade Thomas to have a Dunlop Park bull on his kart, it would look great.

