Australian Galloway Association Inc

2014 World Galloway Conference Report

The Australian Galloway Association recently held their AGM together with a Field day at a member's property just outside Canberra. There was a very good attendance of both new and old members and all gained from the demonstrations put on during the Field Day.

At this event we were able to congratulate Peter Koppman for his successes in showing carcass steers at both Royal Shows and Local Country Shows and Peter was presented with the Frank Allen Shield for the highest scoring Galloway Carcass Steer this past year.

Royal Melbourne Show saw Chris Malcolm's Southern Cross El Toro take out the Reserve Senior Interbreed Bull award.

On Monday 14th July 2014 in Sydney, Australian Galloway Association members, Allan & Lizette Snaith's Warialda Belted Galloway Beef were the primary winner for grass fed heritage beef in the ABC delicious. Produce Awards in the category, 'From The Paddock'.

Lizette and Allen have been medal winners in this category before, but this time they earned the grand gong of the category. Food Writer John Lethlean referred to the award as the "equivalent of a food Oscar".

The Awards were judged by a panel of national chef judges, Christine Manfield, Maggie Beer, Matt Moran, Alla Wolf-Tasker, Guillaume Brahimi and Shannon Bennett, and industry experts.

The Warialda Belted Galloway Story - Passionate about farming and food but frustrated with traditional methods of selling cattle through the saleyards, Allen and Lizette Snaith decided to think outside the square. They began selling sides of beef to local and Melbourne families and the exceptional feedback sparked what has become Warialda Belted Galloways Beef.

After attending a Farmers' Market conference in 2005, WBG began selling at Victorian Farmers' Market Association markets. They've since attained accreditation, proving farmer direct authenticity of their stalls.

In 2006 Allen and Lizette attended Slow Food's Terra Madre ('mother earth') in Tourin, Italy, to research traditional European meat processing methods. This became a fantastic opportunity to meet other business owners within the food and agricultural industry. From this inspiration the WBG Beef smallgoods range was born.

The sustainable philosophy of ‘nose to tail’, ‘paddock to plate’ and curing to minimize wastage stood out as something they do inherently in Europe, and aligned perfectly with their existing grass fed, slower maturing, rare breed belties.

Combining the stud cattle business, commercial cattle operation and the retail beef venture has been exciting and enlightening. The constant evolution of the food and beverage industry means that consumers have become more discerning, with an awareness of food production and manufacturing. Having regular direct contact with customers ensures WBG keeps up to date with the latest requirements/trends and adapts accordingly to maintain high standards and expand their product offering.

Congratulations to Allen & Lizette on this fantastic result.

Work is well under way for the National Show & Sale to be held in the Hunter Valley on 27th to 29th May 2016.

Membership is steadily increasing especially in Queensland.

The Australian Galloway Association and the Australian Belted Galloway Association are both reviewing their rules relating to the registration of Belted Galloways to ensure that both Associations have the same rules. This enables animals from either Association to be transferred more easily between both Associations.

The Australian Belted Galloway Association has invited the Australian Galloway Association to assist in the organising of the World Galloway Conference in 2018 or 2020 should their invitation be accepted. We have been in touch with the ABGA and will work with them to put together an interesting and enjoyable conference.

On behalf of the Australian Galloway Association, I would like to encourage anyone travelling to Australia to contact the Australian Galloway Association for details of where our members are. We would love to be able to show you our cattle and our country.