



THE BEEF SHORTHORN

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BEEF SHORTHORN SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA HOME OF THE AUSTRALIAN SHORTHORN

www.beefshorthorn.org.au

APRIL 2022



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The Federal Secretary • Beef Shorthorn Society of Australia
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PRESIDENTS REPORT



As we make our way into the new year, we find ourselves once again enjoying the past freedoms we had before the pandemic – albeit during this time, the cattle industry thrived and we were also fortunate enough to experience competitions conducted virtually, a process that took much creative thinking and revision. We are now navigating towards a new normal, a sentiment that has been expressed more and more after months and months of lock down.

‘The show must go on’ and with that in mind the Royal Canberra Show was held at the end of February; although no Beef or Australian Shorthorns entered, the quality and calibre of all breeds on display was outstanding. A great prelude heading into the Sydney Royal Easter Show where we have Australian Shorthorn entries from Roly Park x 11 (Scott Bruton – 8 stud and 3 steers), Meadow Vale x 2 (Harris family), Tipperary x 2 (Julian Schneider) and Ardyakka x 1 (Cranston family). Mr Tim Lord, of KO Angus has been nominated to judge the Shorthorns.

On a surprising note, whilst at Canberra, I also had the pleasure of meeting with the Chair of the Organising Committee for the forthcoming World Shorthorn Congress, Mr James Playfiar-Hannay (pictured below). James and his Debbie

were in Australia visiting their daughter Anna who since 2018 has been employed as Woolworths’ Sustainable Agriculture and Animal Welfare Manager located in Forbes.

This year marks a milestone date for the Shorthorn breed when we celebrate the 200th anniversary of our first herd book by hosting the World Congress in the UK. Two centuries ago, George Coates saw the benefit of selective breeding in cattle and founded the first herd book in the World, the Coates’ Herd Book and with it, the foundation of the Shorthorn breed. The influence of the Shorthorn breed has been substantial over those two centuries, its impact has seen a resurgence many other parts of the world.

With a focus on looking towards the future, a key aspect of the congress will be youth participation and how digital and scientific innovations can aid the breed’s development going forward – later on in this edition you will find the relevant itinerary and booking form, or visit www.worldshorthornconference2022.co.uk

Markets have continued to be strong and members have advised excellent returns on cattle sold. MLA reports that the National cattle herd rebuild will continue into 2022, summarising with key points:

- National herd forecast to grow by 1.1m in 2022 as herd rebuild becomes more pronounced.
- Slaughter numbers forecast to rise by 11% in 2022, driven by increased supply.
- Production volumes expected to reach 2.08m tonnes, a positive for export markets.

You will by now have received your 2022 membership subscription and I thank those of you who have settled their account; there are a few payment options available to you as described on your invoice.

I take this opportunity to welcome new members;

I hope that your association with the Society grows and you will become familiar with the various events we are engaged in throughout the year; you can bookmark the URL for our website (www.beefshorthorn.org.au) where you will find information on a variety of topics that are relevant to our breed and members.

Regards

Marion Spencer, President



BEEF SHORTHORN SOCIETY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2021

The Beef Shorthorn Society exists to serve its members, in whom are included breeders of stud Beef and Australian Shorthorns, commercial shorthorn breeders including participants in the Thousand Guineas program, and young people with hopes and plans to become cattle breeders. Money-making is not the reason for its existence. Profit is not its motive in setting fees and charges. It wants to keep costs down, living within its means, whilst providing and improving services for its members.

The Society's financial performance in 2021 supported its objectives. Fees and charges were held at 2020 levels except that TG members' subscriptions were aligned with the subscriptions payable by Full members – in return for which

TG members were granted full membership entitlements. In a world in which most costs are increasing all the time, this was good for members. Total income increased despite there being no change in charges and, whilst expenditure also increased, the Society's overall financial situation improved. This was despite there being extremely low interest rates on funds which the Society had on term deposit. For some years now, I add, interest earned has been a very useful tool in keeping fees and charges down.

Further as to fees and charges, it is a pleasure to report that there will be no increases at all in 2022.

The other side of the equation is the provision of services. There were improvements in 2021, but more remains to be done.

One distinct improvement was the change to processing most transactions – invoices, payments and receipts – online. There was improvement in turnaround times and there was less paperwork for both members and the Acting Secretary.

For stud breeders, the registration system known as ILR Online became a reality. Teething problems remain, however, despite the best efforts of the Society's President in discussions with ABRI.

The Society's participation in the Thousand Guineas program continues. It is very pleasing that there were in 2021 – and it continues this year – new breeders wishing to access the program by joining the Society at a very cost-competitive annual fee. As those who are involved know, there are multiple advantages in the program, including feedback.

Communication between the Society and its members is important. The available mechanisms are the Newsletter, the 'In the News' texts, and the Society website. There is absolutely no doubt that not enough members provide information about favourable sales or about stock for sale, or provide other newsworthy information. The Newsletter as an advertising medium is inexpensive and it reaches – because it is downloaded onto the Society website – a large potential audience. Advertisements – for instance, stock for sale – may also be placed directly onto the website.

David Ashley, Treasurer

NEW MEMBERS

As new members of the Beef Shorthorn Society of The Society welcomes the following new members:

Louis Rogers	(Junior)	<i>Victoria</i>
David Thornton	(Full)	<i>Nyngan, NSW</i>
Thor Burey	(Full)	<i>Guyra, NSW</i>
James & Freyr McCormick	(Full)	<i>Blackwood Creek, Tasmania</i>
David Parker	(Full)	<i>Wangaratta, Victoria</i>
Susan Crawford	(Full)	<i>Stockinbingal, NSW</i>
Timothy Phillips	(Full)	<i>Kelvin, NSW</i>
Gavin Stuckey	(Full)	<i>Condoblin, NSW</i>
Angelo Carter	(Full)	<i>Tongala, Victoria</i>
Cranston Family	(Full)	<i>Carlingford, NSW</i>
Brazel Family	(Full)	<i>Walcha, NSW</i>

17TH WORLD SHORTHORN CONGRESS



PROPOSED ITINERARY FOR SHORTHORN WORLD CONFERENCE

Day 1: Thursday 7 July 2022 **Overnight Windsor**

Arrival to London, meet & greet and transfer to Windsor for welcome drinks reception and buffet style meal

Day 2: Friday 8 July 2022 **Overnight Cardiff**

Visits to: Stanford Park Beef Shorthorn, Lunch / Classification workshop
Charles Horton's Hannington Beef herd, early evening BBQ Continue to Cardiff for overnight

Day 3: Saturday 9 July 2022 **Overnight Chester**

Visit to: Messrs Thomas's Drisgol Dairy herd, Pembrokeshire, lunch included Continue to Chester for overnight

Day 4: Sunday 10 July 2022 **Overnight Chester**

Visit to: Mr Stuart Royle, Dunham Herd, Altrincham, Cheshire

Lunch. Return to Chester for free time to explore this historic city

Day 5: Monday 11 July 2022 **Overnight Harrogate**

Visits to: Cogent Breeding Ltd, Chester
Chatsworth House, Gardens & Estate Tour
Continue to Harrogate for overnight

Day 6: Tuesday 12 July 2022 **Overnight Harrogate**

Full day visit to the Great Yorkshire Show – Beef Judging day & Shorthorn Celebration Parade
Youth Program Participants join the tour at this point
Return to Harrogate for overnight

Day 7: Wednesday 13 July 2022 **Overnight in Harrogate**

OPTION: Great Yorkshire Show – Interbreed judging

OR Harrogate or York – free time to explore

Celebration Dinner in Evening at Showground.
Return to Harrogate for overnight

Day 8: Thursday 14 July 2022
Overnight Durham

Full day visit to the Great Yorkshire Show – Dairy judging Continue to Durham for overnight

Day 9: Friday 15 July 2022
Overnight Durham

Full day Conference in the Lumley Castle Hotel
OPTION: Visit Durham City
Medieval Banquet Dinner in Lumley Castle Hotel
Overnight Durham

Day 10: Saturday 16 July 2022
Overnight

Visits to: Beamish Heritage Museum
World Council Meeting / Country Reports
Page Farms Partnership, Beef Herd - evening food & refreshments Return to Durham for overnight

Day 11: Sunday 17 July 2022
Overnight Gretna

Visits to: Alnwick Castle & Gardens
James Playfair Hannay's Tofts Beef herd
Youth Show Presentation, lunch included
Continue to Gretna for overnight

Day 12: Monday 18 July 2022
Overnight Gretna

Visits to: James Robinson's Strickley Dairy farm, lunch included
Barwood Beef herd (Morrisons - Paul Coates), early evening BBQ included
Return to Gretna for overnight

Day 13: Tuesday 19 July 2022
Overnight Gretna

Visits to: John Thomson's Shawhill Beef herd, lunch included at Hetland Hall Hotel
Messrs Biggar's Chapelton Beef herd, refreshments included

Return to Gretna for overnight. Final tour dinner at Gretna0

Day 14: Wednesday 20 July 2022

Depart to Glasgow Airport OR Scotland Post Tour Option

SCOTTISH POST TOUR OPTION:

Day 14: Wednesday 20 July 2022

Visit to: Carey Coombs Dunsyre Beef herd
Continue to Perth for overnight

Day 15: Thursday 21 July 2022

Visits to: Major Gibb's Glenisla Beef herd Glenrinnies Beef herd

Return to Perth for overnight

Day 16: Friday 22 July 2022

Visits to: Fearn Farm Beef herd.
Continue to Inverness for overnight

Day 17: Saturday 23 July 2022

Depart to Inverness Airport

<<< End of Arrangements >>>

PLEASE NOTE:

Arrangements are subject to change .

To register your interest please
email: carolyne@fieldfarmtours.co.uk

Or visit the World Conference website
<https://worldshorthornconference2022.co.uk>

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ANY BUSINESSES THAT MAYBE
INTERESTED IN BECOMING A
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WORLD SHORTHORN CONGRESS 2022 - BOOKING FORM

Booking Deadline: 31st March 2022

All sections to be completed

UK ARRIVAL DATE: _____ AIRPORT: _____ TIME: _____ FLIGHT NO: _____

UK DEPARTURE DATE: _____ AIRPORT: _____ TIME: _____ FLIGHT NO: _____



Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss)	First Name (as per passport)	Surname (as per passport)	Date of Birth	Passport No.	Nationality	Special requests (dietary requirements)	Preferred Badge Name

Postal address: _____
Accommodation: Double Occupancy Twin Bed Occupancy Single Occupancy

TOUR COSTS:

CONGRESS TOUR (7 – 20 JULY) @ £ 1850.00pp x _____ (no of people) = _____
SINGLE OCCUPANCY SUPPLEMENT (7 – 20 JULY) @ £ 472.00pp = _____

POST TOUR ONLY (20-23 JULY) @ £ 502.00pp x _____ (no of people) = _____
SINGLE OCCUPANCY SUPPLEMENT (20-23 JULY) @ £ 95.00pp = _____

LATE PAYMENT FEE (bookings received after 31 March) @ £150.00pp _____

TOTAL DUE: _____

Email: _____

PAYMENT:

For International deposits via bank transfer, Pound Sterling Only: NatWest Bank plc, 1 Market Place, Newark, Notts, NG241DY, United Kingdom.

Sort Code : **54-10-23** Account Number : **12197386** Swift Code : **NWBKGB2L** IBAN : **GB02 NWBK 5410 2312 1973 86** **Date Transfer Made:**

For debit / credit card payments (no additional charges) :

CARD NO : _____ for the amount of £..... to be taken.

Cardholder's name : _____ Security (last 3 digits) : _____ Valid From: _____ Expiry date : _____ Issue No (debit card only) : _____
Cardholder's address (if different to the above) : _____

AGREEMENT: I have read and agree to accept the booking conditions **Signed:**

Date:

Please post completed form and full payment to: FIELD FARM TOURS LTD, Field House, 3 Stephenson Court, Stephenson Way, Newark, Notts. NG24 2TQ. UK

Or E-Mail to : carolayne@fieldfarmtours.co.uk

Congratulations to...

The Society extends its congratulations to member Andrea Falls and partner Dan Toynton on the arrival of Miss Eliza Jayne Toynton born 8 December 2021 .



Eliza pictured with grandfather Peter Falls.



Dan, Andrea and Eliza.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sydney Royal Easter Show
8 April

Shorthorns Judging
10 April at 1.30pm

**National Shorthorn Show & Sale
(Dubbo)**
14 – 15 June

Royal Brisbane Show (EKKA)
6 – 14 August

Royal Adelaide Show
3 – 11 September

Royal Melbourne Show
22 September – 2 October

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THE COATES HERDBOOK (A LESSON IN PERSISTENCE) – 200 YEARS AND COUNTING

DR. BERT MOORE • FEBRUARY 1, 2022

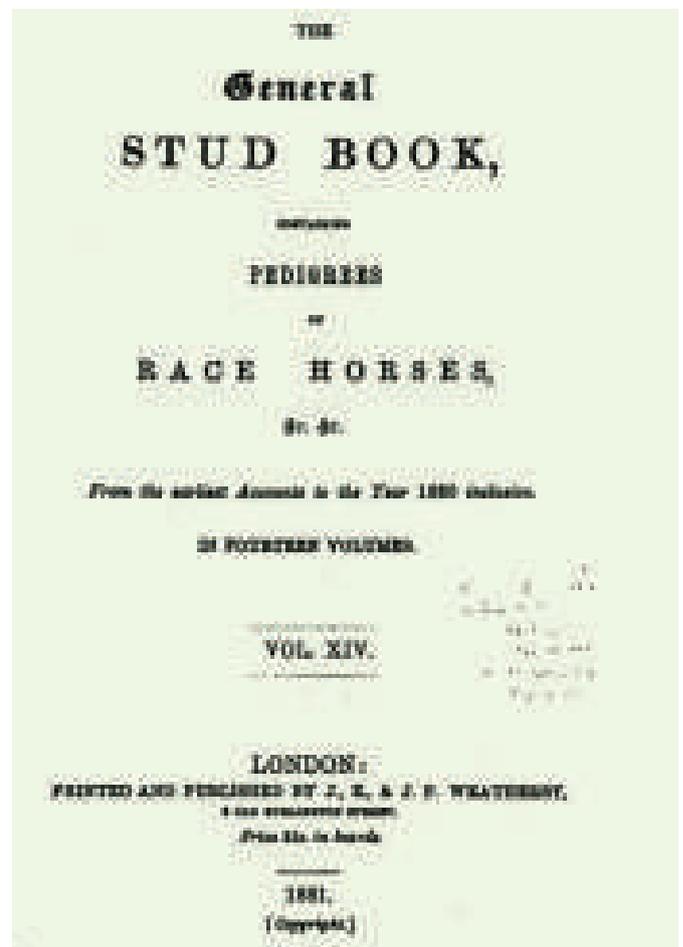


Robert Bakewell.

The Shorthorn breed had taken form by the late 18th century with the earliest representatives reaching the shores of Virginia as early as 1783. This was achieved with the application of breeding principles initially developed by Robert Bakewell, the recognized “Father of Animal Breeding.” His methods of carefully selecting foundation stock of desired type and then using a well-defined system of breeding “like to like” regardless of relationship (linebreeding/inbreeding) could create a group of similar individuals that were fixed in type and would breed true. Stock belonging to “breeds” created using this breeding method then could have economic value. These principles had created in the fledgling Shorthorn breed... cattle which could contribute increased growth for production of beef, add scale to the local cattle strains for use as work oxen, as well as improve the ability to fatten and increase milk production. By the early 1800s these useful traits combined with strong promotional efforts in exhibits and sales made Shorthorns popular and well recognized throughout Great Britain, Continental Europe, and North America.

At this time in Great Britain, much of a person’s position in life was determined by their social class and heritage. A small portion of the population which included the British nobility and a British social class referred to as the “landed gentry” owned a major portion of the land. They could live entirely on rental income or at least had a country estate. Land ownership would be passed on through generations.

This system also prompted the issuance of many long-term leases which could also be passed on to succeeding generations. Those who held these leases were still referred to as “tenant farmers” but had control over large tracts of land with many employees. This social system with the importance of family lineage was certainly a driving force behind the establishment of a herd book for the Shorthorn breed. This maintenance of records and documentation of ancestry was an important step in their improvement and expansion.



The first herd book for any livestock species to be published in Great Britain was *The General Stud Book* for Thoroughbred horses first printed in 1793. Its intended purpose was to be a public registry system for pedigrees to identify those horses that qualified for specific races. Although slightly different in their intentions from the *General Stud Book*, the first cattle breed herd book published in the British Isles was for Shorthorns. In 1812 a meeting was held including respected Shorthorn breeders Sir Henry Vane Tempest, Col. Totter, and George Coates to discuss the publishing of a herd book. These same breeders met later that Fall in a second meeting which included several more prominent Shorthorn breeders. Among those present were members of the Colling family, the Booth family and Thomas Bates, all who had already figured prominently in the founding and expansion of the breed. All those in attendance endorsed the idea of a herd book and since many of these Shorthorn breeders also raised horses, they looked to *The General Stud Book* as a model.

The attendees also agreed that George Coates was the person to gather the information and lead the task as editor. It was believed that he was fitted for the duty by his large knowledge of pedigrees, great interest in the cattle, knowledge of the breeders and confidence they placed in him. Sir Henry Vane Tempest who had extensive land holdings and coal mines in northeast England agreed to offset the expenses of gathering the data and printing the book.

Coates immediately got to work on the project, only to be stymied nine months later with the unexpected death of Tempest. Although, the loss of “Sir Henry” delayed the project indefinitely, Coates continued his work of gathering data that would one day be needed to publish a herd book. Alvin Sanders described Coates’ work in his book, *Red, White, and Roan*: “This difficult task was successfully undertaken by a well-known character of his day and generation, old George Coates, who rode up and down the valley year after year in quest of necessary data. His familiar figure, old white nag and saddle bags, traversing the highways and by-ways of that historic region. Coates also attended the “fairs” or market days, held at Yarn and Darlington and other points, where the Shorthorn fathers were wont to gather to exchange views and discuss ways and means of promoting improvement in the local cattle stock.”

Another gathering of Shorthorn leaders occurred after Robert Colling’s sale in 1818. Printing of the book had remained on hold, but it was decided



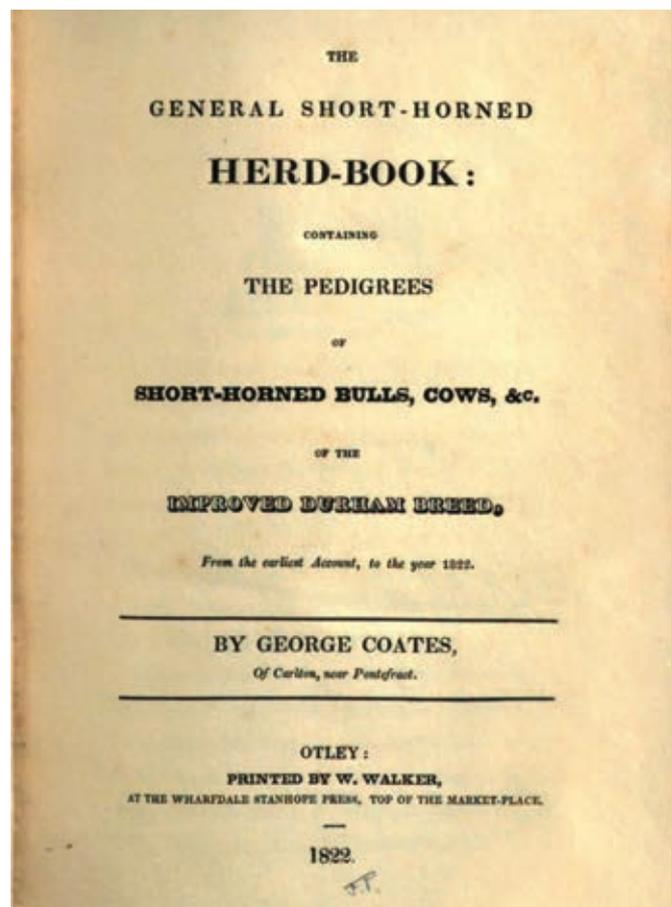
Sir Henry Vane Tempest.



“Fashion” and a calf, bred by Sir Henry Vane Tempest.

to move forward with the project. Robert Colling and Jonas Whitaker agreed to defer the expenses to print the book. Their money would then be recouped through subscriptions. However, Colling died in March 1820, which further delayed the project for lack of funds. After these delays, in 1822 Whitaker, who had become a large breeder and a leader in exporting cattle to America advanced the monies necessary to publish Shorthorn’s first herd book. The book got printed in the autumn of 1822 with 505 subscriptions, at a guinea each per book paid on delivery for a total of \$2,525. At this subscription cost, it was reported that it was not a profitable enterprise for Coates.

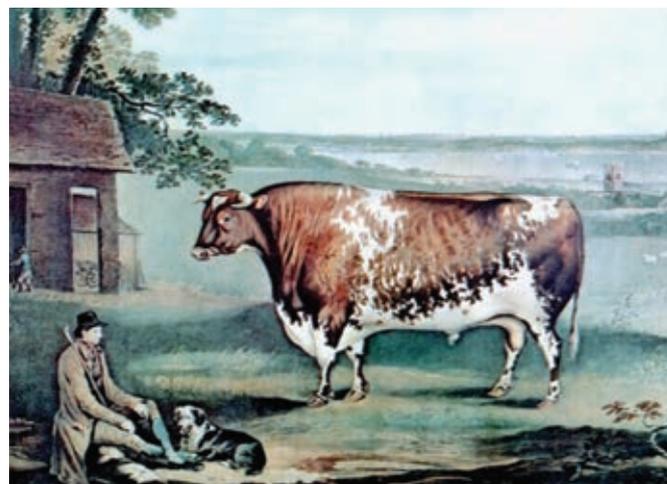
The first edition contained entries on 710 bulls, with about an equal number of cows. The early herd books sometimes had meagre pedigrees because the ancestry of many foundation animals was unknown. Coates had to depend on information from private herd records, which were frequently “sketchy,” and simple recollections and stories of many years distant from people who lived during those times. The earliest birthdate of an entry into this edition was the red and white Studley Bull (626) calved in 1737.



Bulls and cows were catalogued separately. Bulls were assigned a registration number and arranged alphabetically by their name. Cows were not given a registration number and were catalogued alphabetically by name with some of their progeny listed below. In reference, cows were identified by the herd book volume and page number where they were listed, i.e. (Lavina v.1, p. 373). Bulls and cows were catalogued separately until well into the 20th century. It was published under the title *The General Short-Horned Herd-Book: Containing the Pedigrees of Short-Horned Bulls, Cows & c. of the Improved Durham Breed*. It became known as the Coates Herd book and still bears this name today. As future books were published, the pedigrees could be traced back through the various editions.

As indicated, the first editor of the Shorthorn herd book, George Coates, was also an early breeder of Shorthorn cattle. Unlike many of his contemporaries

involved with the formation of the breed, Coates was not a man of means. Still, it would be Coates who relentlessly undertook the monumental task of gathering pedigree information for the contents of the first Shorthorn herd book. It appears that it had to be a “labour of love” because his compensation was very meagre. After the publication of the first Coates Herd book—which reportedly provided Coates with no remuneration—he nevertheless started collecting information for the second edition.



“Patriot” (486), bred by George Coates.

The second volume would not come out until 1829, with volumes after that being edited by Coates’ son and then Henry Strafford. In 1874, the Shorthorn Society purchased the herd book, moving it out of private hands. It is hard to find fault with anyone who worked so hard for so little financial reward as the elder Coates. Still there were some who felt that there was benefit when the society took over the herd book.

Shorthorns were among the first breeds to be improved but also had public pedigree information that was available earlier than for any other cattle breeds. Breeders of other breeds utilized similar breeding strategies at the fountain head of their breeds, yet they had no public herd books until later dates. Shorthorn ancestral information was available because of the publication of the Coates Herd book which also set a precedent to establish herd books for most other livestock breeds, regardless of specie. This was useful in developing expanded world-wide markets.

With the obvious expense and time involved in the importation of cattle, ancestral documentation surely had significant value. This was borne out when investment trips were taken to the British Isles to secure improved cattle breeding stock in the early part of the 19th century. With no specific breed designation or preference in mind, in most



"Patriot" (486), bred by George Coates.

cases they came back with Shorthorns that were offered to eager buyers. This coined the Shorthorns as "The Great Improvers."

The Coates Herd book also provided a model and information source for the American Short-Horn Herd book to be first published in 1846. All these events, no doubt provided an important encouragement to the ultimate popularity throughout the British Isles and expansion across the globe. They became the most numerous breed in Britain, North America and Australia well into the 20th century and have had major influences as foundation stock for many other breeds.

Shorthorns have a unique history in that breeders can retrieve pedigree information as far back as the founding herd books of the breed. Shorthorns that trace in all ancestral lines to these herd books have the designation of Heritage/Native Shorthorns and are identified and promoted by The Heritage Shorthorn Society.

Author Profile: Dr. Bert Moore

Bert Moore proudly admits that he "grew up on Shorthorn milk." Raised on a north central Iowa farm the only cattle that he knew were the red, white and roans. His first Milking Shorthorn came as a gift from his grandfather to his sister and him with the provision that they would receive every other calf and their father would receive the alternating year's calf to pay for feed. With ten stanchions in the barn, when eleven cows were "fresh" it was Bert's job to milk that eleventh by hand. This did not enamour him to the dairy business. Beef Shorthorns were added and comprised all his 4H projects. Shorthorns were the only breed both of his parents and both sets of grandparents raised making him a third generation Shorthorn breeder (on both sides of his pedigree).

Bert has a degree in Animal Science from Iowa State University, and MS and PhD degrees from North Dakota State University. As a faculty member at NDSU for over forty years he taught a wide variety of courses, advised students, conducted applied research and coached the livestock judging team. He has judged livestock shows from local to international levels in 29 states and 4 Canadian provinces and has given presentations in Great Britain and New Zealand. After leaving North Dakota State he served as the Executive Secretary of the American Shorthorn Association. He and his wife Millie currently live in Indianola, Iowa where they maintain a herd of Shorthorn cattle, a portion of which are Heritage Shorthorns. Because of his deep interest in beef cattle history, he has

amassed an extensive collection of reference materials, authored numerous articles, and co-authored a book on the history of Shorthorn cattle to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Shorthorn Association—"Shorthorn and the American Cattle Industry".



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SOLID PRICES AT

The following members have reported strong support for shorthorn bred cattle.

D Clarke "Rockgrove" topped the Mortlake market in January with a pen of shorthorn bullocks, 550kg at 445c; Daryl also reported a further sale of a pen of shorthorns, 478kg at 504c.

Robyn and Bev Harris of Meadow Vale Shorthorns, Clarkefield have reported that on 17 December 2021, PTIC heifers aged 27-28 months were sold at

the Ballarat Store Sale, realising \$3800.00 per head (pictured). The heifers will calve during February this year and were sired by home bred bulls. Robyn reported a strong demand for Shorthorn females in calf.

David Ashley, Morningtime recently sold a 22 month cull heifer at the Pakenham fat market. She made \$486 c/kg, \$2480, and was the top priced heifer in the sale in grown heifers 500-540 kgs.



SOCIETY RULES

Members are reminded that with respect to foundation females, the Society's Rules and Regulations (Rule E of the Australian Shorthorn Herd Book) the following applies:

The Council shall appoint a panel of inspectors for inspection of cattle in accordance with this Regulation. (2) An inspection of females shall, except if impracticable, be carried out by three persons selected by the Council from amongst the panel of inspectors appointed pursuant paragraph (1) hereof. (3) No inspection shall be carried out by persons other than those authorised and specifically instructed by the Council to do so.

Members are invited and encouraged to review the full Rules and Regulations of both herd books which are available online at the Society's website - www.beefshorthorn.org.au under "Breeding", "Stud Breeding".