

# 2008 Angus Youth Management Committee



AGM Report

## **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

### **Penny McArdle**

The 2009 Landfall Angus Youth Round Up is upon us already and the Round Up Committee have put in so much time and effort to make this event a huge success and I don't think we will be disappointed. Round Ups are a big event on the Angus Youth calendar and are a fantastic opportunity to learn, compete and build an extensive network of friends, all at the same time. With the host city being Canberra, our nation's capital, the Landfall Angus Youth Round Up is certainly being put on the map!

I'd like to say a big thank you to Bob Dent, our past Youth and Extension Coordinator, who has recently retired. Bob went above and beyond his role and had a genuine passion for young people in the beef industry. Bob has had a great influence on the skills I have today, which have also helped me to achieve many goals in Angus Youth and the beef industry. I am sure others feel the same. In saying this I extend a warm welcome to our new Youth and Extension Coordinator – Emma Weatherly – who comes to us with a wealth of experience, knowledge and passion for the industry. Emma was also heavily involved in Angus Youth in the past so her knowledge is first hand. I wish Emma all the best with her new role and I look forward to working with her.

Angus Youth members continue to succeed and strive for big things right across the country. We had a great representation at the SA Heifer Show with members taking away a swag full of prizes. Other members have also done well in handler and junior judging competitions. Queensland also held its annual Young Beef Producers Forum in Roma, which was another huge success, and South Australian members have become hands-on in organising the SA Beef Cattle Assessment School.

Another new and big achievement in 2008 was the fundraising event held at the Melbourne Royal Show for the Matthew George Memorial Foundation. An auction was held a special dinner raising \$88,000 for the foundation, which will provide a scholarship for a young Australian cattle enthusiast to visit Canada. The foundation was developed in memory of Matthew George, an enthusiastic Angus breeder and Angus Youth member, who tragically lost his life in a car accident late in 2007. Well done to all those involved in the fundraising event and the foundation is a fantastic way to remember Matthew.

Due to work and family commitments, I will not be continuing my role with the Angus Youth National Management Committee, however I will continue to be an active member. Being involved in Angus Youth has not only helped to build my beef cattle knowledge, encouraged my personal development and widened my industry networks, it has also been very rewarding.

If you ever thought about being a part of or involved with an Angus Youth committee please speak to Jim Klarner. There's a committee or state representative in each state and the National Management Committee is often looking for new people to be involved. If you'd like to be more engaged in the activities that Angus Youth and Angus Australia support, or be a part of the decision making that makes Angus Youth such a great group to be a part of, than enquire about how to be involved.

I wish you all the best for the 2009 Round Up and for your future beef careers.

With Best Regards,



## **NSW ANGUS YOUTH STATE REPORT 2008**

### **Josee Sergi**

The dedicated Angus Youth paraders at the Sydney Royal Easter, Angus feature was a great success. The NSW state committee will again be continuing the competition in 2009.

NSW Angus Youth members excelled this year with members taking out all the major awards. The winners include:-

- Matthew Cherry, Gunnedah – University of Illinois
- Shelley Piper, Caroonna – Semex Genetics Michigan State
- Jasmine Nixon, Taralga – New Zealand Exchange
- Glenn Bulloch, Burrell Creek – Te Mania Most Potential Breeder Award
- Kate Boardman, Camden – PJ SA heifer show award

NSW was well represented in the 2008 Ambassadors with Sam Martin, Scott Vale, Glenn Bulloch and Eliza Newcombe.

## **QLD ANGUS YOUTH STATE REPORT 2008**

### **Kate Tickle**

Over sixty competitors and seventy heifers converged on the Bell Showgrounds over the ANZAC long weekend, in the eastern Darling Downs of Queensland. After a 15 year absent the Queensland Angus Heifer Show made a strong comeback. With the competitors aging from 5 to 25, and the majority being from Queensland, the event drew competitors from NSW and even overseas.

Andrei Beskow, Brazil was introduced to Australian cattle showing, as part of his exchange scholarship offered by Angus Youth, while traveling around Australia visiting various Angus studs.

Over the two days participants enjoyed a combination of education and competition, with all experience levels catered too.

For many the heifer show was their first experience with showing cattle, and not just the competitors but most of Queensland Angus studs who have not shown before or regularly in past years, made heifers available especially for this event. This strong support from local breeders enabled the competitors an experience of looking after and preparing their own allocated heifer.

Educational session presented by prominent beef industry members covered areas including breaking in cattle, parading, cattle assessment and the finer points of selection. Participants then tired out this newly acquired knowledge in junior judging, parading and heifer classes.

Committee member, Rana Haager, Valorbrook Angus was pleased with the outcome of the show. "We saw the need in Queensland to provide opportunities for young people in the beef industry as they have been lacking in past years"

With the success of this years show, hopefully it will be bigger and better, with more studs, schools and sponsors becoming involved.

Optimum, opportunity and optimism were recurring themes throughout the fourth annual Young Beef Producers' Forum held in Roma on November 13 and 14.

The event attracted close to 100 young people involved in the beef industry, from the ages of 18 to 35, and was made possible by loyal sponsors, including platinum partners Meat and Livestock Australia and National Australia Bank Agribusiness.

The two days were made up of an innovative program presented by a high calibre of speakers, who came from a variety of locations to give a broad industry representation.

The forum was opened by AgForce immediate past president, Peter Kenny, who gave a thought provoking perspective on the future of the beef industry. Business section speakers included Michael Lyons, Wambiana, Charters Towers who spoke on his family's approach to balanced business growth, which has been a key in the operation expanding from 2500 head of cattle and two family members in 2000 to 12000 cattle and seven family members in 2008. National Australia Bank representative, Greg Noonan gave a detailed overview and forecast of the current and future economic climate in the agricultural industry. Young entrepreneur, Charlie Blomfield, Carthona Agriculture spoke on agricultural investment opportunities, particularly in relation to carbon, while MLA's Rebecca Austin gave an update on the key innovation and capability activities of the company, including new technology in the processing sector.

The production section proved popular with young producer Justin MacDonnell from the Acadia Valley speaking on the industry push for natural beef, a strategy being developed to create a certified grassfed product to benefit producer and consumer alike. Dalene Brook from Organic Beef Exports gave an interesting presentation on the marketing opportunities and challenges in organics, including entertaining examples of the variance of etiquette in overseas countries. Alf Collins Sr concluded the section, with an in depth presentation to challenge widespread management techniques in relation to cost of production, using his family's operation, Collins Belah Valley Brahmans to illustrate his ideas.

Sustainability and policy were covered by Drew Wagner from AgForce speaking on the current situation in regards to the topical Emissions Trading Scheme, while Oscar Pearse, AgForce's Cattle Policy Director gave the young crowd an overview of lobby groups and policy, and how they can get involved to influence industry decisions. Jane Hamilton and Rebecca Gowen from Queensland's Department of Primary Industries introduced the new initiative, FutureBeef to the crowd, and used the time to gain feedback and input from participants to shape this program.

A great night was had by all at Sandon Glenoch Angus dinner, which combined great food, great music and great entertainment. The sirloin that was donated by Certified Australian Angus Beef was cooked to perfection, and guest speaker Kirsty Dunphey made a great impression on the crowd with entertaining excerpts of her life journey from broke at 19 to retired at 27. A new initiative that certainly proved a hit was 'Perfect Match', a lighthearted game to address the realistic issue of finding a partner in the bush. Strategic questions developed by the committee were all bush related, and made for some highly amusing answers from the witty young men hand picked as contestants.

Friday morning saw a small group of speakers rise quite early to be interviewed by Arlie Douglas, rural reporter for ABC radio, who broadcast live from the forum.

In the personal and family section Andrew Badgery, Rural Retirement Specialists, Singleton give holistic insight to strategy for succession, while James Lord, May Downs, Mt Isa told his interesting story of property purchasing, business management and the psychology behind his decision making. Amelia Becker, McInnes Wilson Lawyers gave a presentation on estate planning documents, and certainly opened eyes to the importance of such documents, such as enduring power of attorney.

The forum was brought to a close with a tour to NAPCO's Goldsborough group of properties outside Roma, managed by Stewart and Emma Taylor. Stewart explained his management strategies to the group which he uses to operate the 43000 acres of backgrounding country.

Once again the Young Beef Producers' Forum was a great success, receiving an overall rating of 4 or 5 out of 5 from 96% of participants.

## **SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ANGUS YOUTH REPORT 2008.**

### **Jason Schulz**

The start of 2008 was a relatively quiet one for South Australian Angus Youth. However it was fantastic to see six of our Youth members attend the "Landfall Angus Youth National Round Up" which was held in Bendigo. The Youth that attended were **Bradley Jeffrey, Robyn (Thompson) Jeffrey, Henri Deans, Kate, Melissa, and Renee Nottle**. Both Penny McArdle and Jason Schulz also attended to assist in the Round Up's activities. This was a good opportunity for our S.A Youth members to meet and interact with Youth from all the other states.

South Australia also was fortunate to have two representatives attend the 2008 National Judging Competition which was held in Tamworth in February. They were **Michael Foster** from Pinnaroo, S.A and **Rachael Chirgwin** from Kangaroo Island, S.A.

After what was a quiet start to the year winter was a busier time for both the S.A. Angus State Committee and S.A. Angus Youth. It started with a boost of needed rain to what seemed like another poor season, with eastern parts of South Australia receiving great rains through July and August. This changed the attitude of our beef farmers and farmers in general, who became more optimistic about the season leading into spring.

In August, the SA Angus State Committee hosted the annual Beef Cattle Assessment School in Keith. Although participant numbers were lower than previous years the school was yet again a great success, with participants having more opportunity to learn one-on-one with their judges. A big thank you goes to the 2008 over-judges - Tom Honner, Bill Richards and Graham Collins. The school was organised and coordinated by the SA Angus State Committee, with S.A. Angus Youth chairperson Jason Schulz being actively involved in the operations of the three days. During dinner on one evening of the school, a farewell presentation was given to Bob Dent, thanking him for the many years that he has contributed to the assessment school, beef producers and S.A. Angus Youth. Angus Youth member National Chairperson and S.A Youth representative Penny McArdle presented Bob with a thank you gift to show our appreciation on behalf of the S.A committee. Looking forward into the future, the SA Beef Cattle Assessment School has just undergone a few changes with the forming the S.A Beef Cattle Assessment School committee, which includes S.A Angus Youth members Jason Schulz and Penny McArdle who will have an active involvement in facilitating the event.

The first Friday in September saw the start to the Royal Adelaide Agricultural and Horticultural Show. Show cattle numbers remained low due to feed and showing costs, however the quality of Angus cattle remained strong. Mr Chris Knox was the Judge of the Angus section with assistance from our committee steward, Bruce Creek. During the show the S.A. Angus State Committee AGM was held with Angus Youth representatives Penny McArdle and Jason Schulz re-elected to the board with the roles of promotions officers, along with Libby Creek.

## **WA ANGUS YOUTH STATE REPORT**

### **Trinity Golding**

THE WA Cattle Assessment School held at WA College of Agriculture, Harvey, in July saw a range of participants from all areas of the state including college students and lecturers, stock agents, hobby farmers and primary producers.

It was the sixth year of the popular event, which attracted around 50 applicants from ages nine to 80, from a range of knowledge levels.

This year's Cattle Assessment School overjudges chosen for their vast industry knowledge included Angus Society extension and youth manager, Bob Dent, Glen Innes, NSW, stud and commercial cattle breeder, Robert Bulle, Ardrossan Angus, NSW and stud principal, Lew Smit, Koojan Hills Angus, Kojonup, WA.

Mr Bulle said it was the first time he had been involved in a cattle assessment school like this one. "It was fantastic experience for me and great to see such the diverse group of participants from all ages and background that attended the school," he said. "I received so much positive feedback from them all. "They all worked together in such a close uniformed group. "The greatest aspect about this year's school was to see father and son, mother and daughter teams contend."

Altogether 70 guest including participants, committee members and major sponsors attended a dinner and presentations of certificates on Wednesday night. Speeches were made throughout the night by major sponsors NAB Agri-business representative, Mark Metternick-Jones, and the overjudge Mr Bulle. A special presentation was made to Mr Dent for his contribution with the Angus Society and the Harvey Cattle Assessment School.

Congratulations must go out to the overall cattle assessment winner, Don Fry, Benger, runner up Richard Walker, Wilga followed by Geoff Jones, Kojonup. The four cattle assessment school scholarships places sponsored by Merial and Angus Australia this year was won by Don Walsh, Byford, Rosemary Cumine, Munglinup, student, Hayden Harries, WA College of Agriculture, Harvey and Jenna Logan, Animal Recourses Centre, Murdoch.

#### IGA Perth Royal Show Results:

JUDGE David Greenup, Queensland, had his work cut out for him with an impressive line up of Angus cattle from five studs were presented before him at this year's IGA Perth Royal Show. New Generation Angus stud excelled at this year, taking home five of the major awards in the Angus Judging.

The supreme champion, New Generation Imran Wilcoola, emerged on top from the older female class, before going on to take the senior champion sash.

Reserve to Wilcoola in the senior champion competition was another New Generation entry, New Generation Rosebud.

New Generation also dominated in the bull section of the judging with their junior bull, New Generation Circle, Winning the junior and grand champion bull titles.

There were no entries in the senior bull categories, leaving little competition for New Generation Circle to step up and take gran champion.

That was not the case in junior female judging where stiff competition, particularly in the heifers born between January 1, 2007 and March 30, 2007 class, from which the champion emerged.

The progeny of an ET and AI program by the Golding family's Waterloo-based Little Meadows stud, Little Meadows Edwina C4 caught Mr Greenup's attention.

## **TASMANIAN ANGUS YOUTH STATE REPORT 2008**

### **No Representative**

The Tasmania Angus State committee is pleased to announce that a cattle assessment school will be held during the middle of 2009. Stayed tuned for more information about dates and locations as they become available.

The Tasmanian Angus State committee has also offered bursaries to the 2009 Landfall Angus Youth National Roundup in Canberra 15 -18 January. With recipients still to be announced, Tasmania should expect a strong contingent at next years Roundup. At the 2008 Roundup in Bendigo, Tasmanians scored highly with Thomas Stewart, Thirlstane, receiving a novice encouragement award and Kate Murfet, Wynyard, winning the champion Intermediate Junior Judge.

Good luck to everyone who applied and on behalf of Angus Youth, the Tasmania Angus State committee, should be congratulated on the continued support of youth in Tasmania.

## **VICTORIAN ANGUS YOUTH STATE REPORT 2008**

No Representative

Gippsland Angus breeders cattle handlers information day – 15 June 2008

On Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> of June, Carol Grylls of EJ Angus and member of GAB, along with myself, hosted a handler's information day at the EJ Angus stud property. Over Forty cattle enthusiasts of all ages attended the day and made it a success.

Among the topics discussed and sessions organised were; Show handling and breaking in (Erin Grylls and Hayden Rogers), livestock judging (Larry Cutler), structural assessment and reproduction (Ian Moreland), Tattooing (Mark and Sheryl Atkinson), Clipping (Hayden Rogers), Nutrition (Claire Geri), and Public speaking.

Many aspects were discussed in each of the topics and participants were keen to be involved. Each participant took home an Angus Youth 'showbag' and plenty of tips and information to help them in their cattle handling and general cattle husbandry.

Many things were learnt also about organising such an event so that we can organise more like it.

Many thanks must go to the speakers mentioned above and especially to Des and Carol Grylls for the use of their property and the countless hours they put into preparation for the day and also the cleanup afterwards! And of course Carol's parents for their excellent contribution.

Thanks also to Westpac for the excellent donation and also to Gippsland Angus breeders.

## **NEWSLETTER REPORT 2008**

**Eliza Newcombe**

It has again been a fantastic year for Angus Youth and the annual newsletters were a great success with positive feedback.

A sixteen page autumn newsletter reported on events that occurred in the first half of the year. The front page of the newsletter featured a report from scholarship winners including the 2008 University of Illinois winner, Matthew Cherry and the 2008 Semex Genetics Michigan State University scholarship winner Shelley Piper. Shelley has just finished her semester with the Michigan State University and Matthew will start his term with the University of Illinois shortly.

Featuring in the autumn newsletter was a detailed report and photos of the 2008 Round-Up held in the hot town of Bendigo as well as the 2008 Landmark Ambassador profiles introducing the first year's Glen Bulloch, Sam Martin, Monique LeCerf, Scott Vale and second year myself. A great report from Andrei Beskow from Brazil who experienced Australia's beef industry was published along with the report from our own Andrew Carey who explored Brazil having won the COALAR Australia Brazil Exchange. The results and photos from the QLD heifer show held in Bell were also published and what a great event this was for QLD.

In each Newsletter there is a convenient update from your state and the upcoming events which you maybe interested in attending. The state reports briefed about their annual state judging competitions and the winners. If any Angus Youth members have achieved high results in any area that AY should know about, please let your State Co-ordinator or the Newsletter Co-ordinator know as did Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth show participants did.

The spring newsletter highlighted many events that took place in the second half of the year including the results from the NSW and SA heifer shows as well as the shorthorn heifer show as many AY members participated in all three events and achieved high results with major awards won by AY members. Events that are to take place in 2009 were published for reference including details of the state judging competitions, the paraders' competition that is to be held at the RAS again and details of the Norman Lethbridge Award.

Also included was Shelley's report on her first half of her MSU experiences having attended many Angus sales and studs. Details of the Matthew George Foundation Dinner were made Australian known having raised \$88,000 for the fund.

### 2008 Angus Youth Marriages & Engagements

Angus Newcombe married Kelly Haworth, Jason Schulz married Penny McArdle, Matthew Cherry proposed to Shelley Piper and Justin Boshammer proposed to Kate Tickle. We wish all couples the very best of happiness.

I would also like to congratulate all AY members who have had great success in 2008 and who have achieved highly. All the best for 2009 and I look forward to hearing from you.

### **PROMOTIONS REPORT 2008**

**Jasmine Nixon**

The new AY website was launched in 2008, with a fresh and vibrant look, highlighting the achievements of members.

Promotion has primarily focused on the 2009 Roundup, with interest fliers distributed at Sydney Royal and other major events thorough out the first part of 2008.