Day families continue to set the high bar

An absolutely outstanding line-up of 85 highest quality and industry relevant Poll Hereford bulls greeted a big crowd of around 170 people at the 20th annual bull sale for the Day families at Bordertown on Monday.

With 57 registered bidders from 3 states active, the top end of this combined Allendale & Days Whiteface sale was exceptionally strong; 22 of the offering selling for \$10,000 or better and topping at \$26,000.

With very dry conditions in the northern pastoral zones, regular pastoral orders were completely lacking this year, which resulted in extreme value in the latter half of the sale, but an overall average of \$8568 accurately reflected the sale's overall strength and quality.

That average was down \$946 on last year's combined result when buying strength was sustained right through. However, when considering that two pastoral region buyers with a combined purchase of 20 bulls last year were missing this year because of those extremely dry conditions, the achievement of the Day families in producing such a result was outstanding.

Days Whiteface made the big decision to only offer bulls at this sale this year, bypassing the Wodonga and Dubbo Nationals in May and June, so they had the larger offering of 49 bulls. Allendale still have their top selections catalogued for these national sales that have rewarded them so consistently for so long, offered 36 bulls in this sale.

Although their result doesn't read as well in comparison with Days at a quick glance, Alastair and Jayne Day and family still had a very solid sale result, selling 33 of 36 offered, topping at \$18,000 and averaging \$6727.

The sale topping bull was Days Horizon M028 (AI)(P) and with a pedigree full of great Allendale cows it created a lot of stud interest which converted into a new record price for this sale of \$26,000. This was paid by Yarram Park Herefords, through Elders Hamilton, and was \$2000 higher than last year's top and previous record when Allendale sold their top lot to Laucke Merrina for \$24,000.

The \$18,000 top priced bull from the Allendale line-up was Allendale Collingwood M012 (ET), sired by Allendale Anzac H187 (ET). The successful buyers, Max and Jan Randall, Lynwood Pastoral, Cobbadah Station, Cobbadah, NSW and buying through Landmark's Tamworth agent, Howard Carter, made a significant impact on their first buying trip to this sale, purchasing three bulls at an \$11,333 average, including 2 from Allendale.

The Randalls run 900 commercial Poll Hereford cows and in explaining their buying decision on A. Collingwood M012, Jan Randall said, "We liked everything about him, and especially his magnificent temperament."

"He has great length, is balanced and has real depth of breeding behind him with Allendale having kept a full brother of his," Max Randall added.

To demonstrate the fluctuations that often occur in an auction sale, the \$18,000 bull's full ET brother was offered in the following lot, yet only made \$5000 despite only marginal difference in

appearance and performance. The beneficiary was John Young, representing long time volume supporters of this sale. This year he purchased 3 bulls, all from Allendale and at a \$5000 average.

Jamie Beckingsale, Rodwells Mansfield continues to bring a strong group of central Victorian buyers to this sale year after year, this year being no exception with a combined total of six bulls at a \$9500 average purchased by his clients. Leading the volume stakes was Tim Roberts-Thomson, Howquadale Station, Mansfield who purchased four of them to an \$8000 top, with 2 from each vendor. PL & T O'Halloran purchased the first bull offered by Allendale, Allendale Collingwood M006 (ET) (P) for \$9000. Howes Creek Station, Mansfield rounded out the Rodwells Mansfield buying, having supported the top end of this sale for a long while, including the \$17,000 top in 2015.

Another extremely strong supporter of this sale over the years has been the Witherow family, Shiloh Park, Mt Gambier and their manager John Richardson. Buying through Brian Spring, Ray White Keatley, Mt Gambier, they purchased four bulls at a \$10,000 average. Three of these came from the Allendale offering, their top Allendale purchase being Allendale Hyde M120, an impressive long and deep sided son of A. Collingwood J29.

Cam Anderson and Sarah Harvey, Eringoarrah Station, Winderadeen Corporation, Wantabadgery, NSW and buying through Pattison Livestock Wagga, were one volume buying account from the last two years who were back and bidding strongly. They purchased nine bulls averaging \$8778 in committed bidding. Buying from both vendor drafts, their buying average was actually up \$64 on last year when they purchased seven lots to a \$10,500 top. Their \$10,000 top Allendale purchase this year was for Allendale Hayes M022 (AI) (P), a high performance heifer's first calf sired by Wirruna Justin J13.

"We've had a good year really and currently have good paddock feed, so our buying decisions were not compromised. We have been extremely happy with the performance of the bulls we've purchased here over the last two years, and that's why we keep coming back."

"The quality is amazing, with such evenness right through, yet we felt it was still a very affordable sale", Cam Anderson said.

Regular top end supporters of this sale, David and Susan Sleigh, Sleigh Pastoral, Ruffey, Vic and buying through Elders Euroa's Damien Harrington purchased two outstanding bulls at a \$15,000 average. They went to \$13,000 for Allendale Anzac M001 (ET)(P), a very impressive and high performing son of Allendale Chisel G161. Allendale has retained a full brother, while their dam, A. Dawn B22 has had 9 sons sell to \$40,000 and average \$18,000, such is the quality behind this purchase. Three lots later, they outlaid \$17,000 to purchase Days Hat Trick M047 (AI)(P).

IM Ross, buying through Miller Whan & John, Mt Gambier purchased two bulls at a \$7000 average, including Allendale High Class M070 (AI) (P) for \$10,000. This stylish and high performing heifer's first calf was sired by Allendale JI Freeway K28 and nearly snuck through on their first bid at \$4000, but when others realised there was a class bull in the offering and potentially going cheaply, competition sprung into action.

Din Wooly Farm, through Landmark Hamilton was one buyer to receive extreme value. Their successful recipe which doesn't always work in strong sales was to wait patiently, purchasing four bulls, two from each vendor, but all at \$4000 each. In a sale with real depth of quality, to be able to average less than half the overall average was a significant achievement. Sixteen bulls sold at the extreme value base of \$4000 and 11 of these came in the last 20 bulls sold. This highlighted the impact of those missing pastoral supporters.

TDC Penola were strong buying agents for 3 accounts and purchased a total of 7 bulls. These included CL Kilsby & Co, Mt Gambier (three bulls including 2 from Allendale to \$6000) and Riverside Partnership, Mt Gambier (three bulls to \$8000, including one from Allendale).

The Auctions Plus network was connected to the sale for the first time, producing 12 bids and 4 purchases. Elders Naracoorte manager, Tom Dennis relayed the active bids in the sale barn from the over 40 logged in followers of the sale online.

Both vendors were very happy with the overall result with Alastair Day saying, "It was great to get such good support with buyers coming from near and far. There was real value at the end of the sale, but we were happy to have such a good overall result."

Landmark auctioneer Gordon Wood said, "The commercial relevance and industry influence of these two studs is outstanding, with the natural doing ability and fleshing on the bulls clearly evident all day."

Supporting that view, Elders auctioneer Ross Milne said, "It was a very solid result. There was strong interest and enquiry resulting in a very good top end and a pretty good clearance overall, especially considering pastoral conditions. Having said that, there was a large field of bulls that presented real value for money."

Sale Summary:

Overall, 74 of 85 bulls sold to \$26,000 and averaged \$8568. **Allendale** sold 33 of 36 bulls offered to \$18,000 and averaged \$6727.

Agents: Elders and Landmark

Auctioneers: Ross Milne and Gordon Wood



Pictured with Allendale Collingwood M012, the \$18,000 top priced bull from the Allendale draft at the combined Allendale & Days Whiteface bull sale at Bordertown are Landmark auctioneer, Gordon Wood; Allendale principal Alastair Day; purchasers Max and Jan Randall, Lynwood Pastoral, Cobbadah, NSW; Elders auctioneer, Ross Milne; and purchasing agent, Howard Carter, Landmark Tamworth.



Allendale principal, Alastair Day is pictured after the combined Allendale & Days Whiteface bull sale with the biggest volume buyers, Cam Anderson & Sarah Harvey, holding their daughter Annabelle, Winderadeen Corporation, Wantabadgery, NSW. They purchased nine bulls at an \$8778 average.



Pre-sale inspections of the bulls at the combined Allendale & Days Whiteface Poll Hereford bull sale.



The large crowd gathers pre-sale with lot 39 in the ring.



Allendale's first sale pen on offer, lots 9 (closest) & 10 in the sale ring. These 2 bulls sold for \$9000 to PL & T O'Halloran and \$18,000 to Lynwood Pastoral respectively.



Lot 39 in the sale ring, being sold to Winderadeen for \$9000.