

A herd of black Galloway cattle is gathered in a lush green field. In the background, a misty mountain range is visible under an overcast sky. A white fence line runs across the foreground, supported by a black post. The text is overlaid on the top half of the image.

**World Galloway
Conference
Switzerland 2023**

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GALLOWAYS AUSTRALIA'S WORLD GALLOWAY CONFERENCE REPORT 2023

A big thank you to the Conference organisers for providing us with such an interesting program, your great efforts are appreciated.

Galloways Australia promotes and registers Galloways, Belted Galloways and White Galloways in a genetically appropriate manner, this includes what are termed Miniature Galloways.

Since the last conference in Melbourne, Australia, we have seen a steady stream of new members. Since the lifting of COVID restrictions, members have shown at many Royal and regional shows with considerable success. This includes assisting schools showing Galloway and Belted Galloway steers in carcase competitions.

Galloways Australia has engaged in four major tasks, since the last conference:

1. **Maintaining services to members.**

Our services include:

- 4 detailed e-Bulletins a year plus publishing a glossy magazine – free to members,
- 4 articles and editorials in a national farming magazine and encouragement of members to submit their own articles promoting themselves and the breed,
- Stud (pedigree) cattle registrations, managed by an external agency,
- Availability of committee members to assist members,
- Updated website, with access for members to promote their studs or farms.

2. **Market reach:**

We have been developing both a small farm and a more commercial marketing focus. The feedback from this has been very positive. This done by:

- encouraging members to direct market their own Galloway/Belted Galloway beef in order to get Galloway beef out in front of the retail customer's eyes,
- Updated website with inclusion of "where to buy" sections,
- Participation in a number of commercial small farm type field days and
- recently participating in field days aimed more at broad acre farming.

3. **Galloway Research:**

We have been progressing validation of Galloway characteristics (traits) through a Galloways Australia sub-committee.

- The sub-committee has been investigating how trials might be undertaken under Australian conditions to confirm the Galloway/Belted Galloway's ability to improve pasture composition by consuming woody herbage by way of

their non-selective grazing habit. This has been undertaken in the UK and Europe but not under Australian conditions.

- It remains a long term aim of Galloways Australia to investigate the genetic origins of the Galloway's commercially valuable characteristics such as marbling, feed efficiency, weaning efficiency and eating quality.

4. **Protecting our genetics:**

As a society we aim to protect our unique genetics and also work to meet the need of our members.

- One area we have worked extensively on, since the last conference, is providing confidence to both breeders and buyers that what is termed a Miniature Galloways will remain miniature (within the height range to maintain their registration).
- There have been too many examples of Miniature Galloways growing too tall, at a show this year the Miniature (over height) Belted Galloways were taller than standard Belted Galloways. Damaging both the breeder and the breed itself.
- Currently, Miniature Galloways are ineligible for registration as Galloways (Section 1 of the Galloways Australia Stud Register) due to their lack of breeding providence. However, Miniature Galloways provide an alternative market for breeders and are sought after by a specific customer.
- To alleviate this problem, Galloways Australia engaged consultants to formulate scientific breeding principles to allow breeding down in size, from registered animals, over 5 generations, while accommodating the existing lack of breeding providence.
- Over time this will provide confidence that Galloway Australia's listed Miniature Galloways will maintain their height and protect the reputation of those breeders truly seeking a miniature animal.

For more information on Galloways Australia's activities, please take a copy of the Galloways Australia Magazine.

Questions?

Greg Stuart

Galloways Australia

www.gallowaysaustralia.com.au



AUSTRALIAN BELTED GALLOWAY ASSOCIATION INC.

Hello and welcome to all of our extended Galloway Family.

First of all, I would like to thank Switzerland for hosting the 2023 World Galloway Congress and taking on this monumental task. As the last country to host the WGC, we understand just how much hard work and dedication it takes to pull together such an event.

One of the most exciting things to happen this year for the ABGA is the Strategy Planning Workshop which is set to bring in a whole herd of positive changes of growth and improvement, working with like-minded individuals, dedicated to preserving and promoting this wonderful breed. It is a community of passionate, dedicated breeders who only want to see their breed achieve their full potential and make those outside the breed ask "well, why not get involved?".

Unfortunately, over the last few years we have lost many great, dedicated long standing members. Members who gave it their all for the ABGA to survive and thrive. In the last 2 years, we have lost members such as Ian Marjason, who was our President for many years and the Chairperson for the 2018 WGC committee. Glen Preen, who also served on Council. Their herds continue to thrive however under the guardianship of their families.

We have also seen our membership numbers stay stable; however, membership growth is the pinnacle of success for any breed association and one of the factors contributing to the ABGA 5 year plan strategy plan. Our aspiration is "To increase ABGA member numbers and the association's financial viability by being the first choice for Belted Galloway registration." Which is an aspiration we can achieve with the help of our volunteers both on Council and those who are not.

For several years, livestock producers have had to battle disaster after disaster. Floods, fires, droughts have tested the endurance of producers, not to mention the added strain that Covid-19 added to the everyday operation, such as trading or operating across state borders and the inability to promote in the way of showing or displaying livestock. However, the passion of Belted Galloway custodianship has never been stronger. Covid-19 has also brought along some positive changes, including the adaption of a more technological way of management, as well as the many people making the move from the city to a country lifestyle, fuelling the sales of cattle breeds suitable for smaller landholdings, such as Galloway and Belted Galloway.

We have just seen 50 years of Belted Galloways in Australia, and we are also approaching the 50th anniversary of the ABGA and already ideas are flowing about what the best way is to celebrate this wonderful milestone. Once plans start falling into place, you are all welcome to come join us to celebrate this fantastic achievement.

Thank you once again to the 2023 WGC committee for putting together this wonderful event, bringing such passionate breeders together for a time of fellowship and celebration of the Galloway Family.

Scott Carter
ABGA President

Our Mission: "To promote and register distinctive heritage Belted Galloway cattle, through accurate genetics, education and fellowship for past, present and future generations."

Australian Galloway Association
Report for World Galloway Conference
September 2023

I'm Pauline Dunk, a representative for the Australian Galloway Association. I've been a member of the Association since 2011 and am a current committee member. My late husband Alan and I ran a very successful miniature Galloway stud, which has now been dispersed and the cattle are being enjoyed and cared for by other AGA members. This is my second World Galloway Conference, and I have thoroughly enjoyed the excursions and meeting new people.

The Australian Galloway Association registers and promotes all types of the Galloway Family: Galloways, Belted Galloways, miniature Galloways and miniature Belted Galloways. We have many members with varied interests, spread throughout Australia. Our membership has grown quite significantly in the past two years, by nearly 40%, with current levels of life, commercial, junior and stud membership numbering around 180.

We have been trying to interact more with our members and have been presenting webinars on various topics, including digital marketing, halter training young cattle, pasture management and selecting and managing the cow herd. These webinars have been enthusiastically received by our members with many questions asked during the webinars and discussion taking place at the end.

As well as the webinars we have increased the number of members forums, which are mainly held electronically and where our members can come together and discuss topics that interest them and ask questions of the committee and each other. These forums have also been very well received by our members.

Members of the Association are spread across all states, so there is generally someone who is near by who can help with cattle queries, or to just have a chat to about Galloway cattle. On farm field days and workshops have been run by members in various regions, and the Association encourages all members to participate in these events and also to be actively involved in promoting the Galloway breed through showing, field days and carcass competitions. These are great opportunities for networking and meeting other Galloway enthusiasts and promoting the cattle.

A Galloway Feature Breed was held in conjunction with the Royal Canberra Show in 2019, with members exhibiting over 80 head of Galloway cattle. The show was livestreamed to the world, and generated much interest and exhibitors and onlookers enjoyed friendly camaraderie both in and out of the ring.

A miniature Galloway bull, Torcroft Thyme received many awards during his showing career, and was awarded Champion of the World in the Other Recognised Breeds category of PJ Budler's facebook competition. A great promotion for Australian miniature Galloways.

Members are continuing to attend Royal and regional shows, getting their Galloways out in front of the public, turning them out to a high standard and being successful against many other breeds.

Carcase competitions have also been well supported, with several of the Royal Shows attracting entries, which have received good results over the past few years. Greenethorpe Galloways, which has been providing Galloway and Belted Galloway steers to schools for many years and has enjoyed much success, provided three steers to Murrumburrah High School for Canberra Show 2022. The students prepared and presented the steers for the steer competition, with the two entered in the middleweight class being placed first and second. This year at Royal Sydney Easter Show, Greenethorpe Galloways provided seven steers to two schools, with the most successful gaining 85/100 points and being awarded highly commended.

Several members have had success in the saleyards with their Galloway cross cattle. Galloway bulls have been put over Angus cows to produce a composite animal; the hybrid vigour producing lovely beefy animals which have achieved high returns for their breeders.

Allen and Lizette Sanith, whom some of you would recall meeting, are successfully continuing to market their Belted Galloways from Paddock to Plate. They attend many farmers markets and continue to be successful in having their natural grass fed beef accepted in many restaurants. They have been successful in winning many awards for their produce over the past several years.

There has been a huge amount of interest in miniature Galloways over the past few years, with registered miniatures, both Galloway and Belted Galloway being sought after with high demand rates. Many steers are sold as pets to people who have small acreages and want to take advantage of their great nature for pets, or for grazing their paddocks to keep the grass down and regenerate weedy and overgrown pastures. Some miniature Galloways have been introduced into therapy programmes, with their quiet nature and small size making them ideal for interaction with people who may not have previously encountered cattle.

The riggitt patterned Galloways have recently attracted interest with several members working towards some riggitt calves. They have proved elusive so far but hopefully there will be some calves hitting the ground within the next twelve months.

Australia has continued to exchange Galloway genetics with other countries with the view of diversifying the Galloway Breed gene pool.

With membership of the Association continuing to grow and increasing numbers of registered stock, in Australia the Galloway family is heading in the right direction for the future of this wonderful breed.

Canadian Galloway Association Report 2023

The past 3 years have been very trying for everyone and first of all my regrets and sympathy to Jon and Sylvia Bednarski for their time and effort to try and stage the WGC in 2020 and then 2021 in their beautiful part of the world in Kentucky. All the organizers that have hosted the Congress know the time and effort required to host this event.

Thanks to the Swiss Galloway Society and their committee for hosting this year's event.

Canadian Galloway Association membership numbers have decreased dramatically since 2019, partly due to Covid, partly to decreased activity during this period, partly due to increased corn and bean prices making more profit for grains than raising livestock and partly due to dramatic increases in land values over that period. It is easier to grow grain for 5 months than feed cattle for 12 months. This has been a general trend in all breeds with the cow herd numbers in the USA and Canada peaking about 1995 and Canadian numbers are at levels of the 1970's. This has been great for grass fed cattle when they are marketed as they haven't had the input of high priced grains that have been fed in feedlots. Renting land for grass or hay production has been a problem for some farmers.

About 25 to 30 years ago, a dramatic change in Canadian cattle feeding whereas the majority of calves were raised in Saskatchewan and Alberta, shipped by rail and truck up to 3000 km to Ontario feedlots, fed with Ontario corn and then shipped to market.

When a couple of packing plants were built in the west, this movement of cattle west to east ended. Ontario farmers, instead of growing grain for livestock, now grow it for food and ethanol. Isn't that a bright idea, growing food so you can put it in your car.

As a self sufficient country in beef product, we still help other countries out by importing beef from many countries including the USA, Mexico, Argentina, Uruguay, Australia and others, wherever it is cheaper than Canadian product. We ship almost nothing to China as they don't like our prime minister.

Regarding the CGA, most meetings are now conducted by Zoom alleviating costs of traveling large distances for directors and members. We now register Riggits in a new Section 4 of the Constitution. A problem that comes up for new breeders or prospective new breeders of Galloways is the explanation of the possibilities of colour patterns that occur sometimes in the progeny of cattle. The seller needs to inform the buyer that, for example, a black and a black could give you a red if both parents were red gene carriers, a white and a white could give you a black calf, which leads to another can of worms. If the black was a female, it can go into the CLRC registry bank and if it is bred to a white bull and has a properly marked white heifer calf, it can be put in the herd book. This only happens for females, bulls are discarded if they are black from a white mating. It is a chore to explain this to a new or sometimes an existing breeder. This is a partial reason why there are a lot of Galloways, no matter the colour pattern, in Canada that are not registered.

Since 2003, Galloway breeders have been mostly unable to export live cattle to most parts of the world, the USA and Mexico being an exception.

Semen and embryo sales have continued as there is still a demand for different genetics within the breed. Sales have been made to Chile, Australia, Germany, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Ireland, among others. There has also been imports from Australia, Austria and Scotland, and possibly others.

2 questions

- 1- How do we attract and encourage new breeders
- 2- Does the numerous breeds or colour patterns deter new breeders to be part of this great breed of cattle.

In August, Myself and Udo Wipfler undertook an almost 8000 km road trip to the west, a trip that we had planned for 5 years.

After Udo was photographed, finger printed and paid 6 US dollars, we were allowed to enter the USA. The first day, we travelled 1400 km and I told Udo we were in the middle of nowhere. The next day in Minnesota we visited the Hipshers, the Riemers, near Alden, the Berry's, and the Coles near Mora. We felt sorry for the Reimers being in severe drought. We then headed to Montana to the Waples near Terry, then passed Ingomar on the way to Blegens at Roundup another dry area, and a side trip with Harley to a 10000 hectare ranch running Corriente and Longhorn with many different crosses including some Galloway bulls.

Ingomar was interesting and had quite a history, partly for having a rail terminal until the 1990's. Millions of sheep were raised in the area in the 1920's with the railroad bringing 90,000 litres of water each week and shipping sheep east. In the mid 1960's, Susan Waples was on cattle drives from Terry to the Ingomar train terminal. The population of Ingomar is listed as 33 today, they do have a post office but the school and the Jersey Lilly bar are closed and for sale.

We then left Roundup for Calgary, and saw Bob Airth's herd, then to Caroline, for Brian Robertson's, and Allan and Ward Marshall's where they have a herd of Galloways and Charolais, of which they sell 100 Charolais bulls at their spring bull sale each year. Our last Alberta stop was at Russel Horvey's before heading home. The wildfires of British Columbia and the Northwest Territories were evident with the smoky air restricting our view from Minnesota to Alberta until we got almost to Winnipeg. Returning home we visited Dedmans, the Cards, and O'Dells. This is a trip of varied landscapes, climates and great Galloway cattle adapting to 2 to 5 cm of rain in 3 months in southern Minnesota and Montana to 35 cm of rain in 3 months in southern Ontario.

Respectfully submitted to the World Galloway Congress 2023, Bern, Switzerland

John McIlwraith

France

As you know there is no national organisation for taking care of Galloways in France.

All I can tell you is that there are several breeders who have a Facebook page to show their cattle and to sell meat. Generally, meat is sold directly from the breeder to the customer in 5kg or 10kg packs.

I can also tell you that I have several people a year asking me for details about Galloways and asking if I have any to sell alive.

It is still questions from very small breeders, from people who want to add cows to their horses or to make pedagogic (Educational) farm.

Emmanuel Rizzi

Bundesverband Deutscher Galloway-Züchter e.V.



Arno Molter

1. Vorsitzender des
Bundesverband Deutscher
Galloway-Züchter e.V.



Jana Fengels
Geschäftsführerin des
Bundesverband Deutscher
Galloway-Züchter e.V.



Geschichte BDG / History of BDG



Gegründet im Jahr 1983

The BDG was founded in the year 1983

2023 – Jubiläumsjahr 40 Jahre
BDG

In April 2023 we celebrated the great anniversary “40 years BDG” in Bad Schwalbach.

Aktuell über 700 Mitglieder in
ganz Deutschland
und dem benachbarten Ausland

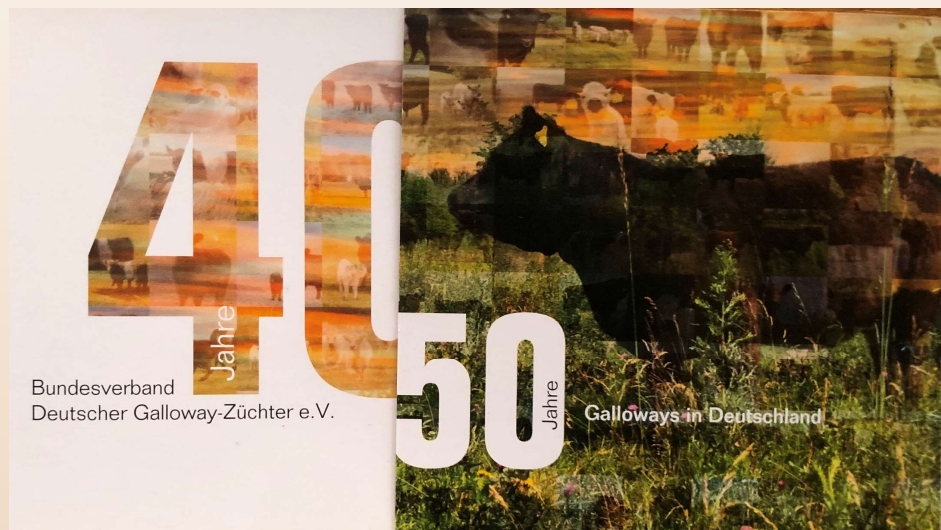
Currently over 700 members
throughout Germany and
neighboring countries



50 Jahre Galloways in Deutschland 1973 - 2023



Helmut Schornstein,
a Hessian brought
the first Galloways to
Germany already 50
years ago



Email: info@galloway-deutschland.de

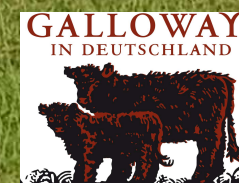
Homepage: www.galloway-deutschland.de

Instagram: gallowaydeutschland

Facebook: Galloway in Deutschland-BDG



Anzahl Betriebe / Number of holdings			Anzahl der Tiere / Number of animals		
Herdbuch/ Herdbook	Haltung/ Livestock	Insgesamt/ In total	HB-Bullen Herdbook bulls	HB-Kühe Herdbook- Cows	Insgesamt/ In total
503	98	601	344	3.766	4.110



Unsere Schwerpunkte in Deutschland

- Zucht und Haltung
- Fleischvermarktung



In Germany we have
two focuses:

- Breeding and keeping
- Meat marketing



Über 90% wird das Fleisch in der Direktvermarktung vermarktet. Dies ist weltweit einmalig und wird sehr gut von der Bevölkerung angenommen.

Over 90% of the meat is marketed directly. This is unique in the world and is very well accepted by the population.



Thank you for your attention and thank you to the organizing team for the wonderful days with you in Switzerland. Come all back home well.





KIRGISTAN

199.951 KM²

Number of inhabitants

6.500.000

Main-CITY Bischkek

Deepest point	132 Meters	The highest Point	7.499
Average	2.988 Meters	90% off Kirgistan is higher than 1.500 Meters	

The project Kirgizstan

Was started in 2020 with first discussions, which race is the right one to produce meat at the millions of hectares' grassland cross the country, especial at the Tian Shan-mountains.

Tilek Ashimov travelt to Moskau and met Roman Kostuniak, Director of Beef-Cattle Russia.

He got the telephone-number of Georg Menke. After first f-calls and Mails the first meeting in Germany was placed in Lower Saxony.

As part of the preparation for Galloway breeding in Kyrgyzstan, many topics were discussed. These included the robustness of the animals, easy calving, marbling of the meat, nutritional quality, health aspects, the influence of animal feeding on human cardiovascular diseases and economic aspects.

In addition to all the organizational points, the question of perspective must of course also be discussed before starting such a project. How is food procurement organized during the winter, as the Galloways in the high mountains do not have the characteristics of yaks and scrape up snow and ice to look for food. The Galloways always receive hay as an offering during the winter.

There was also a discussion about how to imagine the marketing of meat. What possibilities are there to profitably place this high-end product, which is very unique in the region, on the national market? With the brochure GALLOWAY THE REAL ALTERNATIVE (Greg Stuart and Georg Menke), the people involved were given the arguments that distinguish Galloway meat from the meat from other breeds.

The plan was made, to export 32 Galloway heifers and 2 bulls to Kirgizstan. Beginning November 2021 the pregnant heifers reached Bishkek, where they have been the winter and calving-time. In the spring they were brought into the grassland at the Tian Shan in 2000 to 4.000 meters. The basic camp is at 3650 meters. The calves went down in September and came back into the mountains in the next spring. The cows are at the mountains the wool wintertime too. In opposite to some other

cattle breeds the Galloways have no problem to life at these high mountains. In the spring 2023 the next calving has been at the mountains. It was working very well, without problems.

In September 2022 Georg Menke visited Kirgizstan. Together with Djingish and Tilek he made the trip to the Galloways in the Tian Shan. It was a great joy to see the Galloways in a very good condition. Two shepherds, living there in yurts with her family, looked after the herds of cattle, horses and yaks on a huge area. Herd digs supported you in their work.

Project No. 2:

What options are there to produce more meat with Yaks.

In the summer 2021 we made a test to artificial insemination 50 Yak-cows with Galloway-seamen. In the first step 26 cows were pregnant and got 26 healthy calves. This project will go further on also.

GWC 2023

At the GWC 2024 in Bern/Swiss Kirgizstan was represented first time by Tilek Ashimov. Tilek had the chance to learn a lot off Galloway-marketing and breeding strategies.

Visiting Germany

To discuss the further development of Galloway-project at Kirgizstan in November 2023 Tilek Ashimov visitetd Marie-Luise and Georg Menke again at home in Ganderkesee. This time Tilek was on tour with Temir Sarijew, former Prime minister of Kyrgyzstan. During a Galloway-lunch he took advantage of the opportunity to get a lot off information about Galloway breeding. As a gift he got the brochure GALLOWAY THE GENUINE ALTERNATIVE and further brochers about Galloway marketing.



Yak x Galloway



Galloway-Kirgizstan will not be a short time project. Actual we are in the start position of a very hopeful way for the future.

Tilek Ashimov and Georg Menke



Shared streets



Shared grassland



Dshingish and his Galloways



In winter the Galloways get hay



From right: Tilek Ashimov, DshingishGeorg Menke

13th WORLD GALLOWAY CONGRESS
BERN, SWITZERLAND
16-23 SEPTEMBER 2023

NEW ZEALAND COUNTRY REPORT
(new society logo)

Since the World Galloway Congresses last meeting in Melbourne, Australia in 2018 the Galloway Cattle Society of New Zealand (GCSNZ) has been extensively expanding and revitalising its web site – www.nzgalloway.co.nz, and now provides a Members Portal giving members access to all herd book data, with all historical records loaded. This includes metadata for all registered cattle along with their 5-generation pedigrees, plus access to all membership data, info on the Breed and the Society – its Rules and By-laws, Herd Sires, Stock Wanted & For Sale, a Photo Gallery, together with Links and Resources, including Meeting Minutes, Annual Virtual Show Results, and Gazette & Newsletter publications.

The Society has now approved the formal recognition of the Riggitt as a separate colour pattern of the breed and a separate herd book has been established accordingly. The GCSNZ logo now reflects this expansion, with the 4 colour pattern types now represented on it logo.

GCSNZ membership is steadily increasing, the biggest increase being in Riggitt breeders. We have four colour patterns in New Zealand now, Whites are in the majority followed by Belted, with Riggitts coming in third. Standards are still in favour with a few dedicated breeds, although low numbers they are holding steady. Standards have quite a history in New Zealand as they were used to break in the rough hill country of many places, especially in the central North Island, where over time they were crossed with Angus as the land became more productive.

The GCSNZ celebrated its 75th Jubilee (1949-2023) in style on 28-30 April 2023 with a combined Celebratory Dinner, Workshops, a Silent Auction, and Annual Virtual Show presentations at Warkworth, near Auckland. This was followed by a herd tour of local studs to round off a full, but very enjoyable weekend.

It is with great sorrow we recorded the passing of our ex President and fellow breeder Barry McAlley, on 9 July 2021, aged 81. Alongside an illustrious career in aviation, Barry was best known to us all as foremost a Galloway breeder, but more importantly for his contribution to the Galloway Breed, both in NZ and internationally. Barry's passion for, and knowledge of the breed, together with his wisdom and dedication towards ensuring the successful future of the breed throughout the World was exemplary. At the 10th WGC in Germany, Barry, along with Wolfgang Reschl of Austria, was one of only two delegates to receive an award in recognition of attending all 10 WGC meetings since the Inaugural Meeting in Alsfed, Germany in 1998. Barry attended a total of 12 Congresses, but also took numerous trips to Scotland, Germany and Canada over the years in search of best genetics, and attended, and judged numerous major Galloway Cattle Shows.

International highlights since we last met have been:

- NZ Galloways win 3 Golds, and Champion of the World at the 2022 World Galloway Combined Judge Virtual Show Competition. Beth McVerry of Cherrybank Stud won Gold for Mr Asia/Africa followed by Mr Champion of the World with Cherrybank Arapuni Pride, a rising 2-yo Riggitt Galloway Bull. Judges were Fernando Alfonso Bordaberry (Uruguay), Henrich Brewer (South Africa), William McLaren (Scotland) and Jill & Cole Harvey (Canada).
- Suncrest (down-under) Stud continued with its exports of genetics (semen & embryos), mainly to countries in the Southern Hemisphere, and has been instrumental in introducing the first White Galloway herd into South Africa, and just last year into Chile.

GCSNZ is proud to host the upcoming 2025 WGC and cordially invites all delegates and Galloway breeders from around the World to attend the 14th World Galloway Congress to be held in New Zealand. But more about that later...

Thank you for your attention!

Bob Curry
Co-Patron GCSNZ & NZ Delegate

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND ADDRESS TO THE 2023 WORLD CONGRESS – Switzerland.

It is hard to believe it is 5 long years since we last met in Australia, little did we know then, that the world would be rocked with a little known virus – Covid 19 or Coronavirus and the subsequent strains that kept us in lockdowns. It was a time of self-isolation, social distancing and adjusting to new routines, although for farmers and producers, it was very much business as usual. It certainly was a period of time that we would all wish to forget, and for those who lost loved ones, we send our deepest sympathies. For most, the isolation was the hardest part and it has had long lasting consequences for every age group. As we edged back into normality, Britain descended into the cost of living crisis, this was mainly due to Russia's war with Ukraine, as a result, energy costs have increased, with gas prices rising by 284%* which in turn increased the cost of animal feed and fertiliser, some fertiliser increased by 171%* and feed by 15%*. Farmers are a resilient lot and many have adjusted their farming policies to reduce their reliance on bought in feed and manufactured fertilisers. On the other hand, for the first time, beef prices rose to over £5.00 per kilo deadweight (6.35 US dollars or 5.84 euros), as you can imagine this is very welcome.

As with all other expenses, grocery prices in the UK have rocketed, the average weekly food cost for the typical UK household is now around £103,(for a family of 4) up around 18% from a year ago. Of course the farmer does not see much of this increase, and there is a call from the farming unions that the major super markets are profiteering.

Both the UK weather and Galloway Cattle sale prices have achieved records, on the weather front, the last five years has seen increased temperatures, with 2022 being the warmest year on record and June 2023 has been confirmed as the hottest month on record for the Great Britain. The total yearly rainfall appears to be increasing slightly, with only 2020 being below average. The UK seems to be having more extreme weather patterns, with warmer summers and prolonged colder, wetter periods together with storms, which have caused extensive flooding.

In the UK, both the Galloway female and male record prices have been broken, Beating the 2015 female record set at the Penninghame dispersal of 8500gns (gns is £1.05) was Blackcraig Fay A899 from John, Ann and Iain Finlay, Blackcraig, Corsock. This September 2018 born Blackcraig Vagrant daughter, and out of a Blackcraig Sam sired dam - Blackcraig Fay, sold to well-known livestock photographer Catherine MacGregor, Blairdrummond for 12500gns This much fancied heifer was sold in calf to Blackcraig Yahoo, and was the foundation female for Catherine's new herd. The resulting calf - Moss Fayjock, which was born in September 2021, has just been awarded overall champion at the 2023 Royal Highland show.



Blackcraig Fay A899

The 34 year old world record price for a Galloway was smashed at the 2023 Galloway Spring Show and Sale held in Castle Douglas. A call of 26000gns was made for the much fancied bull Blackcraig Dyker, again from the Finlay family. This 17 month old, by the homebred bull Blackcraig Acrobat and out of Blackcraig Bertha X633, stood senior champion and reserve overall male at the previous day's show. The bull had previously been greatly admired at the 2022 summer shows, receiving 1st prize calf award at Dumfries Show 2022. He went home with new Galloway Society member Glenrath Farms, Peebles for their 29 head herd, which was recently purchased from Joe Cockburn. I am sure you will agree it is a huge achievement for the Finlay Family to hold both male and female breed records.



Blackcraig Dyker

Over the past five years, Galloways have been wanted at our Society Sales, with 100 % clearance and averages have increased year on year, unfortunately the 2023 sales were not so successful and some cattle remained unsold. It is expected this is the result of increased costs hitting cash flow.

There has been a steady stream of new members and we are fortunate that over the last five years the number of registrations have stayed the same. The British Beef industry is facing challenging times, as; one newly published research on food security has found almost **14,500 hectares** of the country's best agricultural land has been permanently lost to development over the past 12 years. Also, the total number of cattle and calves in England has decreased by 0.7% between 2021 and 2022 and now stands at **5.1 million animals**. The beef breeding herd has decreased slightly, falling by 1.3% to 1.7 million animals in 2022 but continues to account for just over a third of the overall total number of cattle in England. Another threat is tree planting for carbon offsetting, with many hill farms being sold for forestry, at prices around £8000 per acre.

You may remember the Society secured funding for a Farm/Quality Assurance Scheme, sales and marketing campaign and learning journeys. I am pleased to say the marketing campaign was successful and in 2020 we secured a contract with Aldi (fourth biggest supermarket in the UK) to supply Galloway beef for their Christmas beef promotion, a range of roasts were on sale for the Christmas celebrations under their specially selected range. Now in its third year, this has been a successful campaign for Aldi, with the joints selling out within the week. Please visit our Galloway Beef web page www.gallowaybeef.co.uk for more information.



Galloway beef on sale in Aldi

Remember the three young men, Ian Carlisle, Colin Park and Fraser Cameron who travelled to the 2018 Congress on our learning journey grant, all three of them have become successful in their own careers, Ian spends his time between the family farm and the butcher shops, Colin returned home to the family farm and Fraser settled in Dumfries taking a job in one of the up and coming restaurants, Fraser has had amazing success winning numerous awards including CIS Young Chef of the Year and the Federation of Scottish Chefs, Scottish Young Chef of The Year. They very much enjoyed their time at the 2018 World Congress and they thank you all for being so welcoming.

With so many uncertainties in British agriculture, I am sure our breeders, being hardy, much like their cattle, will weather the storms and keep on producing this very special, quality product.

We would be delighted to welcome and help plan your trip to Great Britain and wish you a very successful and enjoyable congress.

Please keep up to date with all the UK Society news on our web page www.gallowaycattlesociety.co.uk or our facebook page.

*data from <https://lordslibrary.parliament.uk/rising-cost-of-agricultural-fertiliser-and-feed-causes-impacts-and-government-policy/>

WORLD GALLOWAY CONFERENCE 2023

REPORT FROM THE BELTED GALLOWAY SOCIETY OF THE UK AND EIRE

The Society looks after the Belted Galloway and White Galloway breeds in the UK and Eire. We have over 630 members and over 1000 female Belties were registered last year. Whilst the numbers of whites are much less, they too have shown a rise in registrations and numbers of breeders. The number of media articles remains high, as do the number of books featuring the breed, helping to foster a lively and ongoing interest as the above mentioned figures demonstrate. We now have regional groupings of members who gather to socialise and learn from each other.

Bulls of both coats have to be inspected and DNA checked for paternity prior to registration. Females are not inspected and slightly mismarked females can be placed in the appendix register, i.e. a white foot below the dew claw, and an incomplete belt. This allows for genetics to be kept and it takes 3 generations to bring their daughters into the full herd book.

The UK's exit from the European Union continues to affect agricultural policy and cross border trade. Much more emphasis is going to be placed on environmental management using native breeds, and grass fed beef. Any Galloway breed is therefore well placed to thrive and develop in this scheme of things.

2021 saw the **centenary** of our Society which we decided to celebrate with a special publication, and a week of events in August 2022, these been deferred from 2021 due to Covid. We had a huge National show at Wigtown, with over 90 Belties and 10 whites entered. Our Patron princess Alexandra came as did a posse of international visitors, and the Beltie champion was best interbreed. The week continued with more shows across Dumfries and Galloway, and splendid dinner, and finally, a wonderful day at Mochrum.

The rising popularity of the Beltie has seen an increasing number of shows with classes across all the countries. The emphasis on local food since Covid has no doubt helped those who market their meat, most of which is retailed through local and niche markets. A couple of national supermarket chains have held promotions of native breeds which have included Beltie meat.

As we all know, breeding cattle has challenges as well as joys, and once such challenge appeared in the autumn of 2022; Alpha Mannosidosis (AM) was detected in the semen of a Beltie bull destined for Australia. This is a genetic mutation which has been in Galloways for a long time, leading to dead, weak and deformed calves. The original studies were conducted in Australia on black galloways some 40 years ago, hence any material going there has to be screened. Our Society is very fortunate to have the guidance of Dr Harriet Bunning, and Jennifer Taylor on our approach to this issue. Any new bulls who are found to be carriers at registration cannot enter the herd book. We also asked all AI sires advertised in the yearbook to be tested and their test results shown. Testing of already registered bulls was encouraged and testing of females is voluntary. A campaign of information for members was started and remains ongoing. Via these measures a picture of the incidence within the breeds can be ascertained, and by removing the affected males, can be reduced and eventually eliminated.

Liz Wilkinson

President

The Riggitt Galloway Cattle Society

The UK based Riggitt Galloway Cattle Society continues to thrive, re-establishing this ancient part of the Galloway family. From humble beginnings in 2007 a dedicated group have expanded a population of approximately 60 breeding females to over 250. Active breeding herds currently number 30, ranging from one or two cows to commercial scale hill farmers with 40-50.

The register includes lines from registered White Galloways, solid coloured animals in the 'GCS' herdbook, as well as some belted and graded up genetic material. Some herds have a number of 4th and 5th generation registered Riggitt cows. Ever mindful of inbreeding, the society has kept the door slightly open to grading animals up. A printed herd book is produced every two years and is proving a valuable record of the progress of Riggitts in the UK.

The market for these cattle has boomed with the increase of conservation grazing projects, and less intensive systems. Likewise, a steady demand for grassfed beef and steers to fatten on poorer quality pasture has supported breeders' markets.

Overseas.

The UK Society has kept a register for animals in New Zealand, although it is hoped that the Galloway Cattle Society of New Zealand will now adopt this register and take these Riggitts forward. Still in the Southern hemisphere, interest is growing in Australia, with genetics arriving as embryos and semen from New Zealand.

Across the Atlantic, in Canada George Ramsay's 'Ladywells' herd includes several Riggitt marked animals. While in the US, the AGBA have been pondering how to give Riggitts a place in their herdbook, with a steady rise in interest and a number of Riggitt marked animals known to be extant in herds of mixed White and Black Galloway cattle. It is to be hoped they can find their way forward and formally recognise their Riggitt animals, although import/export regulation makes it very difficult to get genetics into the US from elsewhere.

Back in the UK, several shows in the South have begun allowing mixed Galloway classes, which has proved to be a fabulous spectacle and the Society has now held two National Riggitt shows in conjunction with the Belted Galloway Cattle Society. An annual photographic "virtual show" is held every year, this year attracting 65 entries with some exceptional animals forward.

The Society meets twice a year with its AGM in the winter months, and a summer meeting held in a different part of the country each year, visiting herds – a convivial get together involving plenty of cake and the odd pub or two.



2023 Belted Galloway Society, Inc.

World Galloway Conference Report

Membership in the Belted Galloway Society, Inc has decreased slightly from the high of 1187 in 2017 to the current membership of 904, and has been steady between 900 and 1000 memberships since 2018. Current registrations have reached 22,931. The states with the highest animal numbers are Texas, Maine, Illinois, Iowa, and Oklahoma. The states with the highest membership counts are Texas, Maine, Illinois, Pennsylvania and Virginia and Wisconsin tied for 5th.

Long time Executive Director Dr Vic Eggleston DVM retired in May of 2022 after 12 years of service. Greg Hipple was hired as his successor. Breed Promotion and Marketing Director Corinna Caron, was brought on in 2022 as well to handle member outreach. The website www.beltie.org was completely overhauled. The US Beltie news, the monthly newsletter for members will be changing from a monthly 8 to 12-page newsletter to a quarterly publication in 2024.

The Harry T Burns award, presented to members singled out as having provided outstanding support and promotion to the Belted Galloway Breed was given to Michelle Ogle, of New Jersey in 2019. This is not an annual award and is only presented when merited.

The Belted Galloway Society, Inc continues to support the exhibition of Belted Galloways throughout the United States. The Society supports financially the shows held annually in New England, the Midwest, and in the Southwest with Belted Galloways being now shown at two new major shows, the American Royal in Kansas City and at Cattlemen's Congress in Oklahoma City. Points are tabulated from the results of these shows to determine the sire, dam, breeder, and exhibitor of the year. The Society has held its National Show in conjunction with the North American international Livestock Expo in Louisville, KY since 2018. The Belted Galloway Society annual meeting has been held simultaneously since that time as well.

The Belted Galloway Junior Association formerly Beltie Youth Group (BYG) is undergoing a complete remake at this time. Plans are being finalized for a first ever Junior National event to be held in Ohio in June of 2024. The Junior Association now operates with its own board of directors, and participates in the submission of news events for the Belted Galloway Society publications. The Belted Galloway Junior Champions were eligible to participate for the first time in the Supreme Drive at the North American International Livestock Expo in Louisville, KY in 2022.

The Belted Galloway Society, Inc realizes the economic impact of the conference, having dealt with the cancellation of the last conference and wishes the best for the current and future hosts.

2023 World Galloway Conference

Greetings from the American Galloway Breeders Association. It is great to be here with you. We are excited and pleased to be here after COVID appeared and turned the world upside down causing the last World Galloway Conference to be canceled. Thank You to Jon Bednarski for all of the work you did to plan it. Thank You to all of you that have worked to plan, organize, and create this Conference!

The American Galloway Breeders Association (AGBA) is still registering and promoting Galloways. The AGBA does sponsor 2 Galloway Shows: The National Western Stock Show at Denver, Colorado in January, The World Beef Expo at Milwaukee, Wisconsin in September.

The AGBA membership is rising as well. We have made an effort to contact previous members and potential new members to encourage them to renew their membership or join as a new member. It seems to always be a struggle to keep and get new members, this is something any association needs to keep working on.

We published a new Membership Directory this year. Hopefully you have one or get your hands on one as we did bring some here for you. The AGBA does also print and mails out a newsletter for members.

We do have an Annual Meeting of the Membership. It does rotate around the USA each year. This year it will be in Fountain, Minnesota at the Root Prairie Galloway Farm on the 4th of October. This gives us a good reason to gather and talk Galloways and see some Galloway herds in the area.

The AGBA is currently has a committee working on language to create a new section or Riggit in our Herd Book. This will be presented for a vote for approval at our annual meeting in October. We are always

looking for ideas and opportunities to improve our association and promote Galloways.

On behalf of the American Galloway Breeders I Thank You!

It is joyful to be here!

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