



RETALLACK
In Pursuit of Perfection

**BORDER
LEICESTER
STUD**

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2008

**Retallack
Directory**

Retallack Border Leicester Stud

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"Retallack" Aria Park, NSW 2665

THE TEAM

PRINCIPALS

Graham & Isabella Grinter

AGENTS

Elders

Stud Stock Riverina

Michael Glasser 0419 600 355

Colin Weissel - Wagga

0427 694 643

James Tierney 0428 317 059

Michael Coggan 0409 848 411

Landmark

Stud Stock Goulburn

Kevin Coves 0409 158 164

Rick Power - Boorowa

0437 131 925

Grant Elwin - Bombala

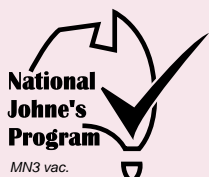
0409 372 833

Todd Schirmer - Wagga

0429 130 280

Neil Grimmer & Co - Temora

Neil Grimmer 0428 694 315



We extend a warm invitation to purchase the

"TOP OF THE DROP"

at

RETALLACK'S 23rd

ON PROPERTY

PRODUCTION SALE

Friday 17th October, 2008



12 of the 38 strong show team at the 2008 ASBA Show at Bendigo were from embryo's from twin Retallack stud ewes sired by Camp Cook.

OFFERING

- * **80 Stud Ewes**
- * **30 Stud Sires**
- * **150 Flock Rams**
- * **300 Semen Straws**

All August/September 2007 drop

Sale commences at 1.00pm
Pre-sale inspection by appointment or
from 10am day of sale

Stud Principal Graham Grinter

I can't believe another year has passed so quickly, but undertaking new ventures, receiving great results from the introduction of our embryo program and keeping up with our clients success has seen the time fly.

As mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter I am grateful of the opportunity given to me to assist at the Wagga sheep and lamb sale every Thursday, allowing me to break in some of our young dogs, under tough conditions. The highlight, however of my time spent at the sale is to see the endless rows of high quality second cross lambs, produced from a Merino/Border Leicester ewe and sired by Poll Dorset's. These type of lambs are the ones that attracts the buyers who are prepared to pay top dollar for lambs with length, depth and good skins, the type of sheep we aim to breed at Retallack. Despite another tough year season wise at Retallack, the increased sales of Merino rams and the above average prices being paid gives breeders confidence that flock numbers in Australia will start to climb, with the increase in Merino ewes sure to bolster Border Leicester sales in the future as farmers look to produce quality first cross ewes, taking advantage of a strong lamb market.

We have been excited with the progress of our embryo program, with twelve of 38 sheep entered at the recent Australian Sheep and Wool Show from twin stud ewes, 204-05 and 205-05, who were the mothers of the Champion Border Leicester ram and ewe at the last two shows. It is believed to be the first time ever that twin ewes have produced dual champions. The champion ram and ewe were born prior to the first collection of embryos, and their outstanding quality as lambs led us to use their dams in the program. This year we have finished lambing our 2008 embryo collection, with a different combination of genetics, with a 71 per cent lambing of a magnificent drop of young sheep, which will take us into the next season and continue to improve our quality to meet ever increasing industry demands.

It is most rewarding to see our clients performing well at several major shows, taking home broad ribbons as it shows that our genetics perform well outside of Retallack. As I have always said, we can only measure our own success by that of our clients. Isabella and I congratulate them on their success.

This year we have introduced a third selling agent, Landmark, under the guidance of Rick Power, Boorowa to work along side Elders, Wagga and Neil Grimmer and Co. and we welcome them all to Retallack's annual production sale.

The offering of stud ewes, stud rams and flock rams at our forthcoming sale are in good condition given the fact they have had to receive some supplementary feeding from lack of rain and green grass.

This year we are presenting 80 stud ewes, 30 stud sires, 150 flock rams and 300 semen doses from our three young keeper rams, to be sold in 100 dose packages under three hammers. As per last year we will retain our CFA ewes to offer at our summer sale.

Isabella and I look forward to meeting up with all our clients, friends and agents at our 23rd annual production sale on the 17th of October. Morning and afternoon tea and a light luncheon will be available in the gardens at "Retallack".

Please do not hesitate to call us prior to then if you would like to inspect our sale sheep or view the operations at Retallack. Here's fingers crossed for some decent rain before then.

An inside look at the industry



Following on from a suggestion by Elders, Wagga to give me the opportunity to break in some of our young working dogs for Jim and Jan Luce I have commenced working at the Wagga sheep and lamb sale every Thursday. This I take great pride in and a real sense of satisfaction after a long day with sheep, working dogs and work mates.

The knowledge gained from many of these people with a vast and extensive background in the industry is substantial.

My day at the yards can start from home anytime from 1am, especially when the yardings are up around 40 to 50,000. The lamb sale commences at 8am followed by the sheep, which by the time all stock are delivered to the trucking yards may be from midday onwards.

Apart from being beneficial to the training of our young dogs, it has given me a chance to make contact with some of our clients, talk to agents and buyers and inspect the quality of the yarding. The time I have spent there so far has provided me with one of the biggest learning curves of my working life, seeing things from the other side of the industry I am involved in. It is pleasing to hear from the majority of buyers who state that they have faith and confidence in purchasing well bred sheep, with those bred from the traditional, proven breeds at the forefront.

Some of the most sought after lambs at the sale are the second cross lambs being Merino/Border Leicester dam by a Poll Dorset sire. Row after row of quality second cross suckers is a magnificent sight to a Border Leicester breeders eyes. It gives me confidence to see buyers seeking length, depth and good hindquarters in their lambs, and carrying quality skins, as this is what we are striving to breed at Retallack. I have been alternating with the training of six dogs, taking four each week, which are required to work up to 10 hours a day, from the start of unloading trucks, working in the drafting area, through to deliveries at the end of the sale.

A day at the yards under tough conditions, striking everything from tough Merino rams and wethers, through to cross bred ewes and sucker lambs gives the dogs an ideal start to their working lives. With further day to day working and 1500 Border Leicester's at Retallack bringing out the best in them.

At the end of their early training Jim and Jan take on some with the view of three sheep or yard dog trialing, others are sold on as started dogs by Jim and maybe the occasional exceptional female is retained for breeding. Jim has been breeding and training kelpies for over 40 years and is known as one of the leading working dog trainers in Australia.

Earlier this year Jim and Jan traveled to New Zealand with "Tim", as one of Australia's members in the Trans Tasman Challenge. "Rex" is eligible for the same event next year.

Isabella, with the help of Aimee, Meg and Callum, our grandchildren, take on the responsibility of the rearing of quality pups bred at Retallack for the Coogee Working Kelpie stud.

For further information contact Jim Luce on (02) 6342 6397 or myself on (02) 6974 1153.

Benefits of wool quality

As a Border Leicester breeder I am often asked: 'Why place emphasis on the quality of a Border Leicester's wool as it is of minimal value?'

As stud breeders, we at Retallack endeavor to breed sires that produce quality first cross ewes with many strong commercial maternal traits, including a heavy, dense, high yielding fleece.

If the end user of these 1st x ewes (the prime lamb breeder) is able to achieve positive financial gains from these maternal traits, plus added dollars received from a heavy cutting ewe, which could possibly be in excess of a kilo per head. This will go a long way in covering the cost of shearing.

Lamb skins, either from first or second cross sucker progeny must also be considered from the use of Border Leicester sired or first cross dams. Traditionally the value of lamb skins can be as much as 12-15% of the value of the lamb.

These well bred animals will do both these attributes; cut more wool and produce quality skins, both without any more grass (money for nothing).

As Border Leicester breeders it is our responsibility to the first and second cross sheep industry. If we let the quality of wool decrease, it will take a long time for us to get it back to the high standard it currently is.

At Retallack, we have always placed emphasis on wool quality and we always will.

Retallack Genetics Success



Graham & Isabella are pictured congratulating Ben Clarke, Deepdene Border Leicester stud, Aimee Schmidt, Metallack stud and Jamie Buerckner, Bauer stud on their success at this year's Sydney Royal. Also pictured are Retallack's grand champion fleeces and two of the Australian Kelpie representatives that have qualified for the Trans Tasman test against New Zealand.

Retallack genetics have been at the forefront of all major shows in NSW and Victoria this year. Isabella and I would like to congratulate Jaime Buerckner, Aria Park on winning champion ram at the 2008 Sydney Royal show, Russell Clarke, Deepdene Border Leicester stud, Wagga Wagga on winning the performance class at Sydney Royal and 1st group of one ram and two ewes, reserve champion junior ram and ewe, pair of rams and supreme British Breeds group at the ASBA Show in Bendigo. Also our grandchildren, Aimee, Meg and Callum Schmidt on their success at the Sydney Easter show where they won champion Border Leicester ewe. It is pleasing to see other studs who have used pure Retallack genetics being rewarded in the show ring. It is satisfying to share these results with our clients; as we at Retallack believe that our success comes through our client's success.

Embryo Program a success

The results at the recent Australian Sheep and Wool Show in Bendigo were a strong indication of how successful Retallack's embryo program has worked. Of the 38 strong show team, 12 entries were from the 2007 embryo breeding program with all the embryos flushed from twin Retallack maiden ewes 204-05 and 205-05. The decision to collect embryos from these ewes resulted from their outstanding first drop of lambs.

The champion Border Leicester ram at the Australian Sheep & Wool show this year, who was also Supreme Border Leicester in 2007, Retallack Pocket Watch was from 205-05 whilst the champion ewe and overall supreme Border Leicester exhibit at this year's show was from her twin sister 204-05, a remarkable achievement and probably the first of its kind.

According to Graham, the sale of embryos at the 2007 Retallack production sale was a little disappointing, however he believes that since it was an Australian first offering of Border Leicester embryos, people were unsure of how the end result would turn out or were apprehensive on how successful an embryo program would be. Graham believes that once stud breeders become aware of the success and positive results being achieved at Retallack they will become more confident in extending their breeding programs to include the use of embryos.



Selling Agents

There has been a change to the number of selling agents at this year's Retallack on property production sale. In addition to Elders and Neil Grimmer and Co, Isabella and I would like to welcome Landmark to our sale. All contact numbers for the selling agents can be found on the front page of this newsletter, so please feel free to contact your nearest agent regarding any of our sale offering.

RETALLACK CREDIT FACILITY TERMS CAN BE ARRANGED

Vendor terms, interest free, will be available on all 2008 Production Sale sheep. Arrangements are to be made with Elders prior to the day of the sale.

A 12% deposit will be payable within 14 days of purchase and the balance payable to Elders by 30th June 2009

Retallack Client Profile

Paul Jarick - "Glenlea", Jindera



Pictured are Matt Jarick and his father, Paul, looking over some of the stud's young Border Leicester rams.

Retallack client, Paul Jarick knows the benefits of investing in high quality rams, paying \$3000 at Retallack's last production sale for a ram by Boss Drover. Mr Jarick said he had named the ram Impact as he hoped the ram would take his stud in a new direction, with some impressive lambs already on the ground by this young sire. Despite only running a small stud Mr Jarick said that paying a little more for quality paid off in the long run, especially when he receives premium prices for his flock rams, first cross ewes and wethers.

Mr Jarick's Glenlea stud was established in 1977 with the aim to breed his own Border Leicester rams to join to Merino ewes and supplement his income by selling quality flock rams. Starting off with a small number of ewes, his flock has now grown to 120 stud ewes, with property recently leased with the aim of further increasing stud numbers.

This year Mr Jarick sold 200 first cross ewes through his local sale-yards, with the ewes purchased by lamb producers and heavyweight wethers sold at the Corowa market, all making top prices.

Mr Jarick said he has always been keen on Border Leicester's and found Retallack stud manager, Graham Grinter extremely helpful. "I have watched Graham's sheep develop over the years to become the benchmark of the industry," said Mr Jarick. "Graham is switched on with the industry's needs and Retallack genetics are in line with the direction the sheep industry is heading."

Mr Jarick said buying a ram from Graham didn't mean that was the end of your dealings with him. "Graham would have to be one of the most helpful blokes around. "He takes an interest with all his clients; he offers the complete package." Mr Jarick said it was important to be in tune with the prime lamb industry and it was encouraging to see Graham keen on helping the prime lamb industry grow and breed quality over quantity.

The Jarick's farm is small in comparison to other nearby properties, with a beef herd of 30 cows and very little cropping carried out. He, like many others, has had to reduce livestock numbers due to the drought.

Mr Jarick's sons, Matt and Peter are also keen Border Leicester breeders having been left a small stud, Munga, and land adjacent to their father's property by the late Mrs Kate Clarke, who was a strong supporter of Retallack genetics. According to Matt he is very humbled by Graham's generosity, lending them a ram, Retallack 332-06, a son of Camp Cook, by the Boss Drover, to use within their stud. Matt said the late Mrs Clarke had had success showing her Border Leicester's at local shows and both he and Peter were keen to go down that path. Presently both Matt and Peter work off farm to supplement their incomes, with Matt a third year apprentice plumber and Peter, who has recently returned from England, working as a mechanic.

Both father and sons are keen to continue building their Border Leicester studs and with the influence of top Retallack genetics, are looking ahead to a bright future.



Graham & Isabella's granddaughter, Aimee Schmidt, Metallack Border Leicester stud, Aria Park is pictured with her champion ewe at the 2008 Sydney Royal Show. Aimee also placed second in the junior handlers competition at Sydney, an event sponsored by Retallack to encourage younger people to become more involved in the sheep industry

Retallack Stock Notes

An invitation from Retallack

We welcome all clients and interested breeders to inspect our sheep at our annual Retallack on-property production sale on Friday October 17th, 2008.

We will be offering 30 stud rams, 150 flock rams, 80 stud ewes and 300 semen straws. This year we have included Landmark as a selling agent, leading the team will be Rick Power from Landmark, Boorowa who has an extensive history in both the stud stock and commercial sheep industries.

All sale sheep have been classed on breed, wool type and maternal EBVs.

Our 3rd annual Summer Production sale is to be held on Tuesday, the 3rd of February 2009. Further details will be available closer to the day.

Sale Ewes

This year we will be selling unjoined 2007 drop ewes. Once again our CFA ewes will be offered for sale at our summer production sale in February 2009. These ewes will be classed prior to the sale and offered in either pens of 5 or 10 through the sale ring.

Seasonal conditions

This year has been a frustrating time at Retallack, as the last 12 months has been one of the toughest periods ever experienced in the district, with even less rainfall than last year. Our sale sheep have continued to be paddock fed with a small amount of supplementary feeding. Once again our sale team will be presented in top condition and good working order on sale day.

Auction System

Following on from the success of lot branding last sale, we will continue to do so instead of using of colour tags, especially given the favourable feedback from clients and agents on the ease of selecting individual sheep penned in multiple lots.

Delivery Arrangements

Complimentary delivery of sale stock will be available to most areas in Southern NSW (Dubbo via the Newell Highway and Goulburn via the Hume Highway), as well as most areas of Northern Victoria. Delivery will be made within 14 days. We hope this service continues to provide a cost saving for our valued clients.

Complimentary advisory service

Many Border Leicester Stud breeders have taken advantage of Retallack's complimentary sheep classing and advisory service.

This service has been created to help existing and prospective clients achieve their breeding objectives. It is available throughout the year at a mutually suitable time. Please feel free to enquire about this service.

Commercial focus

All stock at Retallack are commercially reared. The show and sale sheep are machine shorn, unrugged and not shedded. We also refuse to use oil, powder or cosmetic products on our sheep.

Agent Profile

James Tierney - Elders Wagga Wagga

James Tierney - winner of this year's National Young Auctioneers Competition - will again take to the selling rostrum at Retallack this year.

After winning the NSW young auctioneer's title last year, James collected the top gong at the Sydney Royal Easter Show in April. He recently returned from a trip to Calgary in Canada, won as part of his prize.

James is no stranger to clients with one of his earliest experiences in stud stock sales being at Retallack. He also sells at the Wagga Livestock Marketing Centre's weekly lamb market and cattle sale.

The 24-year-old attributed his success to Elders staff, Riverina agents and Elder's clients, saying the large number of stock sold through the Wagga saleyards and the opportunity to auction at on-property sales enabled him to further develop his skills.



James is congratulated on his win in the National Young Auctioneers Competition by Keith and Lillian Prosser, from Schute Bell.

Rick Power - Landmark Boorowa

James will be joined on the auctioneer's rostrum by Landmark Boorowa's Rick Power. Rick is no stranger at Retallack as he has been an interested supporter and advocate of Retallack in recent years. Born and bred on the NSW Monaro, Rick started his career at Haddon Rig Merino stud at Warren, and spent five years working at the Merriman family's Merryville stud at Boorowa - during which time he developed strong links with the local livestock industry.

He has been employed by Landmark for almost a decade, most recently working with stud stock producers and clients in southern Western Australia.

The 33-year-old returned to Boorowa in August last year. His duties include selling at Cowra's weekly sheep and lamb sale. He has also judged sheep and cattle at a number of shows in Australia and New Zealand.

Rick said he aimed to build an outstanding reputation in the livestock industry.



Rick Power of Landmark Boorowa.

Neil Grimmer - Neil Grimmer & Co

Selling at Retallack for his 15th consecutive sale is Neil Grimmer of Neil Grimmer and Co, Temora. A man with many years of industry experience, Neil grew up in the Ararat district in Victoria before moving to Melbourne to play football and starting his career as a stock agent with AML & F, spending a large amount of his time at the Newmarket/Dandenong stock markets.

Transferring to country Victoria in 1972, Neil spent time at Benalla, Ballarat, Beaufort and Swan Hill before moving interstate to Hay in 1979. From there he moved to Temora in 1982, into a job he was told was for six months only, however that was not the case and he continued working in the business until May 1990 when he resigned to start his own stock and station agency, Neil Grimmer and Co. in Temora.

The agency has been through many highs and lows but is prospering as one of the most successful in Temora. In 1990 Neil started up Temora's annual first cross ewe sale, which is held in Mid September each year. He also conducts a fortnightly sheep and lamb sale at the Temora sale yards and assists every Thursday at the Wagga sheep and lamb sale. Neil is not only well known as a successful agent, but is also notorious as being a strong Collingwood supporter.



Neil Grimmer of Neil Grimmer & Co

Retallack Production Sale Friday 17th October 2008

Show Success

2008 Gundagai Show

- * Champion and Reserve Champion Ram
- * Champion and Reserve Champion Ewe
- * Most Successful Exhibitor

2008 Canberra Royal Show

- * Supreme Interbreed Long Wool Exhibit
- * Supreme Long Wool Ram
- * Supreme Interbreed Long Wool Ewe
- * Champion and Reserve Champion Ram
- * Champion and Reserve Champion Ewe
- * Most Successful Exhibitor

2008 Boorowa Show

- * Supreme Interbreed ewe
- * Reserve Champion Ram
- * Champion and Reserve Champion Ewe
- * Most Successful Exhibitor

2008 Cooma Show

- * Champion and Reserve Champion Ram
- * Champion Ewe
- * Most Successful Exhibitor

2008 Sydney Royal Show

- * Reserve Champion Ram
- * Reserve Champion Ewe
- * Grand Champion Fleece
- * Most Successful Exhibitor

2008 Australian Sheep & Wool Show Bendigo

- * Supreme Interbreed Long Wool Group
- * Supreme Border Leicester Exhibit
- * Champion & Reserve Champion Ram
- * Junior Champion Ram
- * Champion Ewe
- * Reserve Champion Ewe
- * Junior Champion Ewe
- * Best group of four
- * Most Successful Exhibitor

2007 Melbourne Royal

- * Supreme Interbreed Group
- * Supreme Border Leicester
- * Champion Border Leicester Ram
- * Junior Champion Ram & Ewe
- * Champion & Reserve Champion Border Leicester Ewe
- * Best Border Leicester Group of three
- * Most Successful Exhibitor



Retallack Pocket Watch, Champion Border Leicester ram for the second consecutive year at the 2008 ASBA Show, Bendigo and Supreme Long Wool Exhibit 2008 Canberra Royal

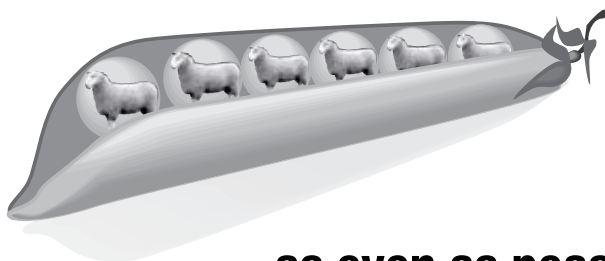


Retallack 574.07, Junior Champion and overall Reserve Champion Ram at the 2008 ASBA Show in Bendigo and Champion Ram at the 2008 Cooma Show.



Retallack's Supreme Interbreed Group at the 2007 Melbourne Royal

Retallack...



as even as peas in a pod

HEALTH REPORT

Retallack is committed to upholding exacting health requirements to ensure the stud sheep we deliver to our clients have a clean bill of health. Retallack are OJD MN3 vaccinated status with all sheep on the property Gudair vaccinated for the seventh year. Retallack is situated in the Condobolin Rural Lands Board and is classified low prevalence and trading with 12 OJD assurance based credit points. Retallack is Brucellosis Accredited Free and Footrot Free.