

Record sale for Nyowee



Right: A large crowd turned out for the auction.

Left: Leo Redden Landmark, Lauren Michael, stud principal Ian Michael, Tony Wetherall Elders, Andrew Hendy of Fox and Lillie, and Jake Michael, with top selling rams, \$14,000 (left) and \$10,000 (right).

THE wintery weather didn't deter sheep buyers who headed to the annual Nyowee Poll Merino stud on-property auction on Wednesday.

A large crowd was on hand to see all 205 rams sold in what was a record sale, with an excellent average of \$2549.

The first ram on offer, a 16-month-old with a 19 micron fleece and CF of 99.3, was sold for \$10,000 to a partnership of Victorian Merino studs, Oakbank in St Arnaud, and Belbournie in Marnoo.

Things got better for Nyowee, when the ram in Lot 2 sold for a record high of \$14,000, bought by YP stud, Carricowie, Brentwood.

The sale continued strongly, with keen bidding continuing through the afternoon. Nyowee stud principal, Ian Michael, was thrilled with the sale and support from clients, including a number of first time buyers.

"We had great support from our commercial clients, existing and new, and backs up our fantastic results at the Royal Adelaide Show where six rams sold to an average of \$11,000," he said.

Top volume buyer was WG and EM Bendall of Lake Cargelligo, NSW, buying 20 rams to an average of \$1320, followed by LN, SM Bury and Sons of Quorn, who bought 17 rams to an average of \$1852.



Auctioneers in action at the recent Nyowee on-property ram sale, held last Wednesday.



Graham goes back to his roots in the Mid North

THE opportunity to return to wool buying with an Australian-owned business in his home region was simply too good to pass up for Quality's newest wool representative, Graham Duffield.

After a diverse career in wool spanning five decades, the Booleroo native has returned to his roots to take over from the retired Dave Kelly in Jamestown.

Having grown up on a sheep and wheat farm north of Booleroo Centre in a generational farming family, Graham said the opportunity to return to the area was part of the attraction to his new role.

"Many of Quality's current customers I know very well, either as a result of going to school with them or playing sport, despite it being decades ago," he said.

"I still have some ties with the area as my wife is also the daughter and sister of Booleroo farmers."

"I have still have a lot of friends and family within the district."

After originally completing a wool classing course at Marlestone TAFE in the late '70s with the intention of returning home to the family farm afterward (which never happened), Graham's career in wool has taken him on an expansive journey spanning different states and continents.

Upon completion of his classing course, he was offered a wool buying position in Sydney with the Australian Wool Corporation (AWC), looking after the northern centres such as Brisbane, Newcastle, Goulburn and Sydney.

Graham is also in the rare position of experiencing working in the industry overseas, having served as managing director of H Dawson UK from 2014-17, based in Bradford, Yorkshire.

He said it was an eye-opener, dealing with a huge range of different wools with wide-ranging uses.

"As a wool trader, we were buying from 35



different countries and selling to 45," he said.

"The wool ranged from superfine to carpet types, exotics and other noble fibres such as cashmere and alpaca."

"The largest volume of wool originated from the UK and Ireland, and the largest markets were the UK and China."

"I found much of the business practices were very similar to what I was used to in Australia, but there were some differences which was interesting."

"From a personal point, it was a great experience for my wife, Leanne, and I to live in the UK and play tourist throughout Britain and Europe."

An avid outdoorsman, Graham's extensive list of interests outside work include running sheep on his hobby farm at Sampson Flat, camping, four wheel driving as well as the customary South Australian passion for Australian Rules Football.

For more information contact Quality Wool & Livestock National Marketing Manager, Alison Tierney, on 08 8341 0000 or at atierney@qualitywool.com.


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