

# Braveheart of Stern NZ Sire of the Year 2012



It was a phenomenal year for Braveheart with sons selling all over NZ and Australia. When the dust settled 66 sons were sold or retained for an average of \$11,000 with seven sons exceeding \$30,000. At Stern sons topped the sale at \$36,000.

Most leading herds around NZ have now used Braveheart or purchased sons.

## 2012 Sale a Celebration of 75 Years Breeding

Lot 1 a pick of all stud PTIC heifers was the feature lot of the 2012 sale, celebrating 75 years breeding Angus stud cattle. The successful purchaser was NSW breeder Keith Kerridge, Bannaby Angus, who stopped the bidding at \$13,000.

Tangihau Station Gisborne purchased the top priced bull and overall PWA agent Hamish Lane commented the sale "was very fair for purchasers who were able to select good bulls throughout the sale at realistic values".



## Australian Demand for Stern Genetics

Growing Australian demand for Stern genetics has added a new dimension to our business. Sales of semen from Braveheart have surged there following his success in New Zealand and now embryo sales form part of our export trade as well.



Donor cow Braveheart's Dam



Embryo donor cow

The recent million dollar female partial herd dispersal at Millah Murrh NSW further highlighted the Stern Australian presence. Crusader of Stern daughters sold to NZ\$20,000 and this follows Millah Murrh's Australian record bull sales for the last two years that included Highlander of Stern sons.

# Client Profile



View from Devils.

## Four Peaks Station

It's usually the glamour properties that get the coverage for top calf prices or performance, but the hard yards are most significant on the tough properties where cows are challenged continuously and a top calf is a 200 kg weaner that finishes to good weights. One such property is Steve and Jo McAtamney's Four Peaks Station, South Canterbury. The property covers over 6000 ha from the Te Moana gorge in the East behind Geraldine, over the Four Peaks range (1650m Devil's peak), to the West where the homestead is located 20 km north of Fairlie.

'Oregon' a 350 ha finishing property at Mayfield is run in conjunction and fattens all surplus stock from the 400 cows, 7000 Halfbred ewes, 1500 merino ewes and 500 hinds. A further string to their bow is the successful Four Peaks High Country Track, a walk and mountain bike trail traversing the property over three to four days with upgraded musterer's huts accommodation.

Rainfall ranges from 700mm at the homestead, 375mm on the northern Mowbray side, to 1500mm on the Geraldine side with snow coating the mountain for several months. It's a tough working life for the Angus, Hereford and their cross's who spend their adult lives on the steep scrub covered faces across the property. Steve started buying Angus bulls in 2008 when he purchased the western portion of the property which was using Stern bulls. The cows calve in mid October and the calves are weaned at the end of May with the top calves over 200kg. Calves winter on kale before replacements are selected and the balance are sent to Oregon in September where Steve finds the Stern bred calves really show their potential.

Store lambs, weaner deer and rising two year cattle make Oregon an intensive unit. Steve and Jo have enjoyed developing the property including irrigation and extensive shelter belt planting over the last thirty years and now their focus has shifted to Four Peaks Station where the cows are very much a development tool in conjunction with subdivision. The Angus and crossbred steers finish first at Oregon and the balance are cleared up by March. Steve is a strong believer in contracts and works closely with SFF and Merino NZ in marketing lamb, beef and wool, it's a

strategy that has enabled the integrated farming business to minimise risk and enhance returns.

It's easy to think Jo met Steve at a rugby match, after all she is the sister of Robbie Deans, and Steve has represented both Mid and South Canterbury at provincial level. But no, they met on the tennis court and Jo had limited interest in the game that is synonymous with the Deans family, in fact she needed side line rules assistance from sister Nicky to impress Steve! They have three sons Daniel, Josh and Matt who are all keen and passionate about farming.



For further pictures of Four Peaks Station view our website at [www.sternangus.co.nz](http://www.sternangus.co.nz)

## \$180,000 Bike Ride

We sometimes do strange things: In February James joined 180 riders on the 380km Central South Island Charity Bike Ride to raise funds for South Canterbury Hospice, Alzheimer's and other local charities.

The circuit was from Timaru up the Waitaki Valley to Omarama and Tekapo, then back to Timaru, and while he found it enjoyable he's only been on the bike once since! Next year's target is apparently around Lake Taupo. Go Jimmy!



## Rural TV episode shot at Stern

In February this year Rural TV shot a short programme on Stern Angus, its people, history, and breeding philosophy in addition to a snap shot of clients.

It's a light magazine style introduction to Stern that you may find interesting - view it through our website [www.sternangus.co.nz](http://www.sternangus.co.nz)

Thanks to our clients Matt McKenzie, West Otago; James Clouston, Walter Peak and Steve McCall, Castle Rock for their generous comments.

# View our upgraded website NOW!



[www.sternangus.co.nz](http://www.sternangus.co.nz)

2013 bulls feature sons of Braveheart, Stern yearlings and:

**Kessler's Frontman ROO1**



BW	200	400	600	MLK	SC	EMA	IMF
+1.2	+42	+85	+102	+19	+1.5	+7.7	+0.6

**Ardrossan Equator A241**



BW	200	400	600	MLK	SC	EMA	IMF
+3.9	+51	+97	+122	+12	+2.9	+7.3	+2.0

**BT Right Time 24J**



BW	200	400	600	MLK	SC	EMA	IMF
+4.8	+46	+89	+114	+18	+1.6	+5.2	+1.2

**Dunoon Midland**



BW	200	400	600	MLK	SC	EMA	IMF
+4.7	+46	+82	+93	+7	+2.8	+7.5	+1.4

# 44th Annual Sale

## 100 Bulls



### Thursday 20th June, 2013

Bull walk Tuesday May 21st, 10am - 4pm

Sterndale, Totara Valley

Pleasant Point, South Canterbury

**NOTICE BOARD**

- \* Bull walk at Stern, Tuesday 21st May 2013, 10am-4pm
- \* Chris Watt, Balcutha, has a line of PTIC Stern bred R2 heifers for sale. For more information email [chriswatt23@hotmail.co.nz](mailto:chriswatt23@hotmail.co.nz)
- \* We have two clients looking for a keen single or married person. Any suggestions are appreciated.
- \* October 2013 Stern hosts PGG Wrightson World Angus Forum. Details on our website.

email: [frasers.sternangus@xtra.co.nz](mailto:frasers.sternangus@xtra.co.nz)

or view our website

[www.sternangus.co.nz](http://www.sternangus.co.nz)

**Why  
consider  
Stern?**

- Large herd of pedigree Angus - 1000 head / 500+ cows
- Large selection of sale bulls
- Strong EBV performance - ave SRI in top 30% of breed
- Strong deep bodied cattle