

# AUGUST 2021

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# HADDONRIG

## 2021 CALENDAR

### ON-PROPERTY OPEN DAY:

**Thursday 2nd September**

#### ON-PROPERTY OPEN DAY AT THE HADDON RIG WOOLSHED

All 330 auction rams available for inspection with full catalogue

*Due to Covid please contact Paula to make an appointment*

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### 2-TOOTH SALE:

**Thursday 9th September**

**130 MERINOS**  
**200 POLL MERINOS**  
**ON-PROPERTY AND ONLINE**

Interfaced with



[www.haddonrig.com.au](http://www.haddonrig.com.au)

Visit our website for all our updated news and to download upcoming Ram Sale Catalogue.



**PB190678 PURCHASED \$65,000**

### Dear Merino Breeder,

The HR Stud has been blessed here in the Macquarie with a second good season in 2021, despite some flooding earlier this year.

We are thankful the two main income drivers of wool and lamb are holding up well, however we have not escaped the effects of COVID.

The scarcity of labour and long lead times for materials and equipment have shown us that even with good seasons and prices you still need to continually review your on-farm efficiencies and that planning ahead is vital.

To that end, we are reviewing our shearing shed and domestic facilities (hoping to keep our shearing contractor and crew happy, whilst complying with industry requirements). The board will be changed from a left to a right-hand drag and we are investigating new chutes and doors.

Sheep delivery to the shed will be improved with a revised laneway layout through the property.

We have invested in solar power (with assistance from the NSW Govt), hoping to wholly supply the HR station with a 90kw battery system, with battery back-up for communications to use in emergencies and for farm safety.

In terms of planning, we have looked at what inputs the farm will need into the future in terms of machinery, labour and spare parts to hopefully stay ahead.

As we have a two-year lead time for ram production, you can help immeasurably by indicating your own predicted ram requirements from HR well ahead of time. Please discuss how we can help you with our HR Reps, Staff and Classers.

Sally and I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank our Staff and Clients for their hard work and continued support, Covid willing, we look forward to seeing many of you before the end of the year.

Kind regards,  
**George Falkiner**

### A TRUE DUAL PURPOSE SIRE

PB 190678 (PP) X W170018

2020 TEST	FD	SD	CV	CF	PWT	YWT	CFW	DP+
	19.70	3.10	15.70	99.70	8.70	11.80	28.70	171.50
2021 TEST	FD	SD	CV	CF	PWT	YWT	CFW	DP+
	19.70	3.50	17.90	99.10	9.60	12.60	29.00	178.90

The latest ASBV run has him in the top 1% for post weaning weight and yearling weight. 10% for clean fleece weight and both MP+ and DP+ indexes.

PB 190678 has a sires presence and outlook with a robust constitution. His 150 kg frame as a 2 year old is still well balanced and correct. His topline is broad and straight with a wide brisket and full, meaty hindquarters.

All these positive attributes are carried on four upright feet and finished off with a soft true medium wool.

# 2021 TOP ON-PROPERTY POLL AUCTION RAMS

## LOT 1: HRP 201452

HRP 1452 is a square deep bodied sire with an excellent barrel. He has a very masculine head and soft white muzzle. He has a dense, well nourished bold medium wool with great staple length. HRP 1452 figures are in the top of the 2020 drop sale rams (YCFW +32, YEMD +1.2, DP+ 174.9).



Sire: PB160612

DAM: 170025

FD	SD	CV	CF	BWT
20.8	2.9	13.9	99.5	113
YWT	YEMD	YFAT	MP+	YCFW
7.5	1.2	0.1	166.72	31.3

## LOT 2: HRP 201387

HRP 1387 is a very square, well sprung, balanced sire with a solid loin and a pure soft long muzzle supporting a gutsy heavy cutting well nourished medium wool with great lock and structure. HRP 1387 also has outstanding figures for both wool cut, early maturity and growth.



Sire: PB160612

DAM: 170004

FD	SD	CV	CF	BWT
19.5	2.7	13.8	99.7	110
YWT	YEMD	YFAT	MP+	YCFW
7.0	1.1	0.1	166.03	29.5

## LOT 3: HRP 201442

HRP 1442 is an extremely square plain bodied sire with a great stretch of body and excellent top line. This ram is producing a long stapled free growing bright well crimped soft medium wool. HRP 1442 is in the top 1% for figures in the sale with a PWWT of +6.1 and a dual purpose index of 175.6.



Sire: PB160612

DAM: 160391

FD	SD	CV	CF	BWT
18	2.3	12.8	99.8	112
YWT	YEMD	YFAT	MP+	YCFW
8.5	1.1	0.3	170.16	23.7

## LOT 4: HRP 201303

HRP 1303 is a square young ram with great width, he stands well with a pure open soft muzzle. His skin shows thickness and carries a very well crimped quality medium wool with character. HRP 1303 also has exceptional figures for growth and wool cut.



Sire: PB160612

DAM: 161704

FD	SD	CV	CF	BWT
19.7	2.7	13.7	99.9	107
YWT	YEMD	YFAT	MP+	YCFW
6.4	0.5	-0.2	167.56	27.2



# 2021 TOP ON-PROPERTY MERINO SALE AUCTION RAMS

## LOT 5: HR 200531

HR 531 is a huge long bodied ram with a massive barrel and a very straight square back line. He displays a gutsy soft medium wool with a very good skin. HR 531 has one of the top EMD's in the Merinos.



Sire: 180084

DAM: AI EWE

FD	SD	CV	CF	BWT
20	3	15	99.6	115
YWT	YEMD	YFAT	MP+	YCFW
3.1	0.8	0.1	135.33	14.1

## LOT 6: HR 200629

HR 629 is a very deep ram with a clean open face and good horn setting. 629 has a long stapled white medium wool with great barrel and width.



Sire: 160175

DAM: AI EWE

FD	SD	CV	CF	BWT
20.6	3.7	18	98.2	113
YWT	YEMD	YFAT	MP+	YCFW
3.7	0.6	0.0	129.49	17.9

## LOT 7: HR 201851

HR 1851 is a very square balanced ram with a straight broad back. He has a soft masculine pure sires head and outstanding presence. 1851 carry's a thick, dense quality medium wool with the correct development.



Sire: 20STUDSYN

DAM: MA STUD

FD	SD	CV	CF	BWT
18.5	2.5	13.5	99.8	114
YWT	YEMD	YFAT	MP+	YCFW
4.3	-0.4	-.04	143.37	

## LOT 8: HR 200493

HR 493 stands very squarely and has an excellent conformation. He has a true sires head with a very pure muzzle and eye. 493 has a gutsy medium wool with handle and softness.



Sire: 180084

DAM: AI EWE

FD	SD	CV	CF	BWT
18.4	2.9	15.8	99.7	104
YWT	YEMD	YFAT	MP+	YCFW
2.9	0.6	0.2	136.84	10.4

# 2021 TOP AI SIREs

## MERINO SIRE: HR 200199

HR 199 is a son of HR 316 and is a sire with good depth and a great spring of rib. He has a very soft pure clean muzzle and his horns are well set. He carries a very white rich well crimped medium wool with character.



**Sire:** HR 180316

**DAM:** Special AI Ewe

FD	SD	CV	CF	BWT
19.5	3.5	17.9	99.3	112
YWT	YEMD	YFAT	MP+	YCFW
3.2	0.5	0.1	130.5	13.6

## POLL SIRE: HRP 200037 PP

HRP 37 is a long bodied correct sire with a beautiful broad soft, clean muzzle and a good deep dry Poll. His wool is extremely soft with exceptional handle and crimp. He is a son of PB 180832 and is a quality sire with great finish and lustre.



**Sire:** PB 180832 PP

**DAM:** M18K041

FD	SD	CV	CF	BWT
18.6	2.2	11.8	100	110
YWT	YEMD	YFAT	MP+	YCFW
4.2	0.5	0.1	158.9	22.3

## STUD UPDATE ANDY MCLEAN

What a huge difference the change in season has made at Haddon Rig over the last 12 months. The Haddon Rig ewes have performed extremely well on the natural feed that is growing.

We weaned just over 100 percent of huge healthy lambs to ewes joined in August last year. The ET and AI lambs were exceptional for quality and growth and the Ram lamb portion have grown and matured into an excellent line of sale rams. The Poll Rams are nothing short of excellent and will provide our clients with some great opportunity to purchase the rams they are looking for to improve their flocks. Whether you are trying to improve your growth figures, fertility, wool quality or constitution these rams will certainly give you a boost. As the HR Poll stud quickly builds its numbers, the quality is improving with every drop of lambs. We can now apply a lot more selection pressure. We will be increasing our on-property Auction Poll team numbers in September 2021 to 200 Poll Rams.

Haddon Rig did extensive AI and ET programmes at the end of last year, we have just marked both lots of lambs and the Poll ET lambs are the best mob of lambs I have seen in a long time (exciting times ahead). We joined the 8000 Stud and commercial ewes in mid-December last year for 6 weeks, when Craig Chad came to scan them on the 8th of March it was up there with one of our best joining's in the past years. The maiden ewes had up to 50% multiples in them and scanned over 145% in lamb and the mixed age ewes had over 60% multiples and had over 160% of embryos in them. We are now marking these lambs with some huge percentages in the paddock.

It is very encouraging to see the wool market continue to climb after the effects of Covid in 2020. At Haddon Rig we recently sold wool off some 2020 Drop wether lambs that were shorn at 8 months of age, the fleece wool was 17.5-micron, 65 mil, 51 newtons and received 1220 cents kg greasy. This is a return of over \$2200 per bale or \$45 per head. We are now selling the wethers for over \$210 a head. I hope everyone has rebuilt some of their sheep numbers and are taking advantage of the excellent wool prices and record surplus sheep markets.

I look forward to seeing you all in the coming months and hope everyone is fortunate enough to be enjoying the season that we are.



George Falkiner & Andy Maclean





Lloyd and Sue Graham

### LLOYD AND SUE GRAHAM BELLERIVE PARTNERSHIP, DUNEDOO

- In May, the Graham's sold 260 NSM Merino ewes on AuctionsPlus, fetching \$286 a head.
- The ewes were three years old and only sold due to the Graham's downsizing their flock. They were purchased by a repeat buyer at nearby Mendooran.
- The Graham's have been using Haddon Rig genetics for more than 50 years. Lloyd bases his selection on size, good head characteristics and a straight back.
- The Graham's run 1000 self-replacing Merino ewes, focusing on wool production. In 2020, they averaged 6.5kg wool cut and 19-micron average.



The top wether lambs of Tim and Jane Murray were sold at 7 to 8 months old, weighed an average of 46kg and sold for \$170/hd.

### TIM AND JANE MURRAY 'NEWFOUNDLAND' LOUTH

**"Last year we weighed the lambs and sold the lighter lambs first," Tim said. "This year we bit the bullet and sold the heaviest first, and the tail six weeks later. By the time we sold the last lot, they weighed as much as the tops."** – TIM MURRAY

- The Murray's have offloaded more than 4500 pure HR blood wether lambs so far this year, fetching an average of \$160/hd.
- The lambs were August/September 2020-drop.
- The top draft sold for \$170/hd and weighed 40 to 53kg.



Lucy, Henry and David Green are pictured with Tim Mackay, Forbes Livestock, and buyers Robin, Alexandra, Charlotte and Sarah Lindsay, "Ellerslie", Tottenham. (Photo: The Land)

### THE GREEN FAMILY 'OLIEVIEW' PARKES

- For the past seven years, the Green family at "Oliewiew", Parkes have topped the Merino category at the annual Forbes first cross ewe sale.
- In January this year, Richard and Anna along with sons David and George, sold their surplus Haddon Rig blood ewes for \$340 a head.
- The ewes were a line of 148 May 2019-drop with wool of 20-micron.



Rodney and Dianne Whittaker

### RODNEY AND DIANNE WHITTAKER 'DUDLEY VALE' YEOVAL

**Along with son Adrian and his wife Donna.**

- Sold a run of pure HR Merino ewes at the weekly Dubbo sheep sale at the start of July. They made \$220 a head.
- Have been running on HR genetics for 25 to 30 years
- Started buying Poll rams in recent years for ease of management.

# FORBES MURDOCH RUNNING TO HIS 90'S



We were delighted to share a special celebration to mark Forbes' eighth decade at a small lunch held by his family at Tamworth in June.

There were many familiar faces from his long career in the Merino industry including who first worked alongside Forbes when he started as a Jackaroo in 1960 at Haddon Rig; former Overseers who trained under his exacting tutelage whilst Stud Manager and now play key roles in Agriculture and other industries; and Stud principals with whom he works closely to breed the Australian Merino and Poll Merinos of the future.

The speeches were kept to a minimum, but a good amount of ribbing came from his friend Dick Manning and brother Murray, with a warm and yet typically laconic salute delivered by his Grandchildren, Evelyn, Forbes Jnr, Alice and Jose who particularly enjoy their weekly phone catch ups with their grandfather.

Forbes's eternal energy continues, the Falkiner family remembering his habit of running the 30 kms to town and back in his early days with no car; his love of Chad Morgan and Slim Dusty played LOUD, his huge appetite and his love of competition and sport, playing tennis and golf and contriving devilish techniques to show off his roses to full advantage at the local show.

In 2021 we see no lessening of energy or enthusiasm, particularly for sheep, covering many miles to check out a ram who might be worth having a look at and reporting back with a full video and stills on his latest iPhone plus their statistics, whilst visualising how they will breed with ewes. Forbes is still running around Evans Head in a shearer's singlet with his headphones on to this day.

Forbes, we salute you and thank you for your energy, skill, and enthusiasm, you have kept Haddon Rig at the forefront of the industry for over fifty years and we value your continued expertise and friendship.

May we see many more days with your son Stuart, Grandson Forbes and you working together at the classing race.

**George Falkiner**

## STUD CLASSER REPORT

**The AI and ET lambs are off to a cracking start which was to be expected following such a brilliant season. The 2021 drop are very even, with good bone for age and as always the HR team can't wait to see them mature and reap the rewards of next generation genetics.**

The lambs from Poll Boonoke 190678 (HR's \$65,000 Sire purchase in 2020) look fantastic. We used 190678 in our AI and ET programmes and importantly made him earn his keep in the paddock where he performed his duties with distinction. Haddon Rig has repeat purchased another draft of 400 Poll stud ewes from Morundie Poll SA to keep building our poll numbers as quickly as possible to continue the supply of quality genetics to our clients.

In June I attended a DNA Ram breeder workshop on behalf of Haddon Rig. It was interesting to see how breeders are using Australian Sheep Breeding Values (ASBV's) in different ways to suit their stud's direction and environment.

The ASBV's we collect and provide give us and our clients additional sire selection tools. Haddon Rig uses ASBV's without compromising our sheep's wool quality and structural integrity. These traits pay extra dividends in wool and livestock sales through a Haddon Rig blood ewes ability to maintain quality wool, fertility and the ability to raise strong lambs well into their latter years.



The wool market is recovering well at present with medium wools making a timely rise. The historically tested Merino package is still at the forefront with its combination of wool \$, protein \$ (both lamb and mutton) and the strong confidence that re-stockers are showing in our industry with top dollars being paid for surplus ewes.

Merinos are a great animal which consistently withstands all that the Australian environment can throw. In the nineties after the wool crash one of my old clients in Blackall QLD made a statement that has always stuck with me, "They don't eat a lot, they don't drink a lot, they can survive the droughts and they are always growing wool". Always dependable!

I have been very pleased to see that some of my younger clients which in recent years have changed their mixed farming operations to a heavier percentage of Merino to crop have not lost any of their enthusiasm and are still very keen and optimistic about their Merinos.

**Stuart Murdoch**



# ON FARM UPDATE ROBERT LATHAM

With a busy start to the summer, we planted and watered up 410ha of cotton between Boomanulla and Braemar which went smoothly, it did not seem like long after that that we were into the full swing of harvest.

Starting on the canola in late October we had a few light showers which made the start of harvest terribly slow. The canola looked reasonable there was a bit of doubt about the yield from rain damage after wind rowing but once we got a decent start it did not take long to realise that the yield was still there.

Before finishing canola, we had started the barley which was Spartacus the yields on the barley were exceptional this went straight into the bunker to be left for feed and to cash once the cash price improved.

We then started on the wheat which was also yielding great. The Lancer was the best yielding out of the Gregory and the Spitfire. The quality of the wheat went well with the majority going H2 which was a fantastic result after the previous years. We ended up putting about 2500t of H2 into a grain bunker which kept the headers moving. The chickpeas and lupins also yielded above expectation.



We then moved the harvest to "Rosewood", Forbes to complete the harvest there, the canola didn't go as well as hoped due to a late plant and a few other issues. The wheat yield was great but not the best quality as the variety was Flanker.

After irrigation during the summer and some great rain early this year it was soon picking and planting time. Picking went well with yields much higher than expected. Whilst still picking we started planting the 2021 crop. Starting with canola, oats, lucerne, wheat, lupin, faba beans, barley and chickpeas.

We have started unloading the barley bunker now that there has been a bit of a price rise which has been going well delivering to feedlots in southern Queensland and the Liverpool plains.

With a good start to 2021 let us hope it keeps up and hopefully everywhere else is having a good start to the season.

## 2020 Wheat Harvest



# UPDATE FALKINER FAMILY

### TOP RIGHT

Grace & Florence Falkiner currently living & working in the UK

### BOTTOM RIGHT

Alistair Wilson, Olivia Falkiner and James Wilson at the 2020 On-Property Sale

### FAR RIGHT


Charlie & Raffaela Blomfield & Eleanor Falkiner enjoying the warmer climate at Haddon Rig





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# OUR TEAM

## TEAM NEWS

The family is excited to be continuing the growth of the Merino and Poll Stud with new purchases, a fantastic season and buoyed interest in the sheep game. We look forward to seeing you at the 2021 On-Property Sale in September.



**Geoff Parsons making stand for new 90kw solar battery**

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