

Nearly everyone in the Australian Galloway community is likely to have now heard about Terry and Karen Pierce's historical success in exporting *Peppercorn Zula* to New Zealand in June this year. But this exciting story and the fame of Peppercorn Belted Galloway Stud continues to get bigger with *Zula's* successful debut showing at the Royal New Zealand Show. In her own words, **Karen Pierce** tells us a little more about this significant Australian first:

New Zealand headlines say "AUSSIE BRINGS TOUCH OF CLASS"

Terry and I arrived in Christchurch NZ on the evening of 12th November 2006. With absolutely no time for doing the tourist thing, the following day we went off to see Graeme and Dianne Williams at their property *Thistlestone*, in *Dunsandle*, thirty minutes west of Christchurch.

These kind people run a Beltie herd of about twenty breeding cows. Generously, they took in Peppercorn Zula after leaving NZ quarantine, and *Thistlestone* became his temporary home afterwards.

Graeme had not done any showing before and was very keen to see Terry prepare *Zula* for the show. He was amazed at the difference after a wash and blow made, and so out came the clippers! This was a real treat, as New Zealanders don't clip for shows like we do here in Australia. We had all the more fun getting *Zula* ready for the show ring.

There is only one Royal Show in New Zealand and this year, it's the 76th Royal New Zealand Show, Canterbury A & P Association, and is held over three days. They say there were more than six thousand livestock entries! The Show Association delivers to the showground fresh green feed



*Terry Pierce (left) blow-drying Zula, Graeme Williams holding lead
Photo: Karen Pierce*

every day, which is about 30 tonnes for the show's run. You just go out with your wheelbarrow and take what you need at no cost to the exhibitor - what a bonus!

The Belties were judged in their age groups on Wednesday 15th November. In NZ, all animals - belted or otherwise - come under the heading of Galloways. However, it was interesting that there were no solid-coloured Galloways on show this year.

Judging was at 1pm; so all hands were on deck! We were lucky to have the expert help of Greg & Chris Stuart (*Minto, Galloways*) who traveled over to lend us their support, which was much appreciated. The

judge for the day was Graeme Clinton from Wanganui in the North Island; the steward was Graeme Williams. Only one cow and two bulls entered, with the cows judged first.

Even though the competition was not large, it was not without quality. *Natures Pace Rosalee*, a 3yr with no calf at foot, was a very fine example of the breed and awarded Champion Cow. She was exhibited by Warren & Carole Millar from Leeston.

Now came to our turn. It was nerve racking. We were all so *on show!* All you wish, after having spent and invested so much time, money and energy in getting him exported to another country, is for *Zula* to

win his first international royal show. And how hard we wished! If he didn't win a ribbon, would all our efforts have been in vain?

The competition was for a class of bulls, two years and over. Peppercorn Zula had not actually quite turned two - he was twelve days short of his birthday. Our competition was a five-year-old bull *Kerrilea Noel 263*, exhibited by Rob & Lynn Hall from Gore in the south island.

So off they went, around and around the ring. The judge looked them over and over for some time. Then, it seemed so sudden, we were given first place in the class! We were delighted! Over the moon, actually! And then, *Zula* went on to win Senior Champion Bull! And then Supreme Champion Galloway! He also received the RAS Gold Medal and the RAS Trophy (Lawton Trophy) for Supreme Champion. The excitement was almost too much for all us - there was such great thrill in winning! Who would have thought that *Zula* would have achieved so much on his debut showing?



*The all-important gold medal
Photo: Chris Stuart*

All the decisions Terry has made for our stud over the past ten years, along with the hard work that he has put in, has been proven to be the right

decisions. Terry came out of the ring saying he only just realized that this has topped off our

“Zula was exported to New Zealand before he could begin his show career in Australia so



*Terry Pierce with Peppercorn Zula, the new NZ Champion Galloway
Photo: Chris Stuart*

success for Peppercorn Belties in a way that he had not dreamed of. In just one year, this year 2006, Terry has paraded and won two Supreme Exhibits, with two different bulls, of two different sires and two different dams, in two royal shows in two different countries.

The New Zealand press gave us great exposure prior to, and for the whole length of the show, including headlines in the paper as part of the show's advertising feature. On 16th November 2006, the Royal New Zealand Show Guide headlined an article *Allure of a Royal* saying ‘The Pierce's have gone to extraordinary lengths to be the first stud to export a live belted galloway bull from Australia to New Zealand. The ambitious plan came to fruition in June when two-year-old Peppercorn Zula, a belted galloway bull with an outstanding pedigree, arrived in New Zealand to his temporary home in Palmerston North [North Island]...

the timing of the Royal New Zealand Show is opportune. We felt he needed the chance to show his worth at a Royal Show.” says Karen Pierce.’

Christchurch Press on Friday 17th November 2006 headlined with *Aussie brings touch of class*, going on to say ‘A young Aussie bull has given the cattle competition at the Royal New Zealand Show a touch of international class. Multi-ribboned Peppercorn Zula became the belted galloway supreme champion in its debut showing this week.’

Peppercorn Belted Galloway Stud would like to congratulate Rob & Lynn Hall from the *Lilliesleaf Belted Galloway Stud*, Gore, South Island, for their purchase of *Peppercorn Zula* for an undisclosed amount. Terry and I believe that Zula has gone to the most progressive stud in NZ. Rob will continue to show *Peppercorn Zula* and we wish them both every success in the future.

For more information on this story and *Peppercorn Zula*, visit Peppercorn Belted Galloway Stud's website <http://www.belties.com.au>