

# Westpac Property Tours

## Beef Australia 2018



CELEBRATING  
**30 YRS!**  
1988-2018

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# Kaiuroo

Monday, May 7



Jennifer McCamley and Tom Emmery of Kaiuroo, are proud to be part of Beef Australia 2018 and look forward to welcoming guests as part of the Westpac Property Tour program.

Kaiuroo is a highly productive stud and organic commercial beef breeding, irrigation and drylands cropping enterprise in the heart of the fertile Fitzroy river basin.

Visitors will see first-hand Kaiuroo's unique and diverse mixed farming operation, large-scale irrigation systems and registered Grey and Red Brahman herd. What's more, guests will gain an insight into the cutting-edge breeding program employed at Kaiuroo.

An amalgamation of five neighboring properties nestled next to the MacKenzie River, visitors will be treated to a comprehensive introduction to operations led by Jennifer McCamley and Tom Emmery of Ag Resource Management.

Jennifer and Tom will showcase their innovative approach, which combines the best practical procedures with the very latest science in Brahman seedstock. They will present how profitability in their commercial herd has defined their objectives, and reveal how they have used a genotyping program to describe the genetic merits of animals in the seedstock.

The Kaiuroo registered herd is currently involved



Flight Time: approx 40 minutes

in a MLA Donor Company funded project. The project aims to measure phenotypes for male and female reproductive performance as a part of the Brahman Breedplan analysis from a seedstock herd.

David Johnston and Matt Wolcott from AGBU will be presenting the MDC project objectives, early outcomes, and the latest developments in the genetic evaluation for tropical beef breeds on the tour. Paul Williams from TBTS will demonstrate ovarian scanning as well as presenting key updates from the Brahman BIN project.

## Key Information

- Platinum Tour (Full Day)
- Transport via Light Aircraft
- Morning Tea & Lunch Included
- Price: \$750
- 8.15am Coach Transfer for a 9.00am Departure from Airport

# Mt Elsa

Monday, May 7



The Mt Elsa property tour will be particularly appealing to anyone interested in northern beef production. Mt Elsa is owned and operated by Steven & Claire Farmer.

Totaling 3885 Ha located in the Yaamba district, Mt Elsa consists of sandy loam river country, pondage pastures, irrigation and forest country. Mt Elsa was originally part of the Lake Learmonth aggregation, which has a long history in the northern beef industry.

There will be some expert speakers onsite including Ben Hayes, from UQ, who will be discussing optimising genetics through objective selection and genomics. Additionally, Ross Newman will be providing key information on the value of irrigated pastures and the benefits of Wagyu production, including the use of breeding and backgrounding first-cross Wagyu cattle through innovation and technology transfer.

Mt Elsa is EU accredited and consists of 250 stud Droughtmaster females. These females are supported by a commercial Droughtmaster herd comprised of 400 cows that are mated to Wagyu bulls for F1 production.

Cows are multi-sire mated and rotationally grazed between three paddocks. Data recording



Bus trip: approx 70 mins - 65km

and the use of BREEDPLAN is a big part of the SC Droughtmaster focus with all progeny DNA fingerprinted for maternal and paternal parentage.

Steve and Claire have successfully completed several of the Grazing BMP workshops, Breeding Edge, Nutrition and Grazing Land Management. They were also involved in the Smart Futures Fund Next Gen Beef Breeding Strategies Project, the Northern Genomics Project, and supplied bulls for the MLA-funded Repronomics and MDC-funded Northern BIN projects.

## Key Information

- Full Day Tour
- Transport via Bus
- Morning Tea & Lunch Included
- Price: \$140
- Boarding from 7:00am for a 7:30am Departure

# Stockmanship & Why It Matters

Monday, May 7



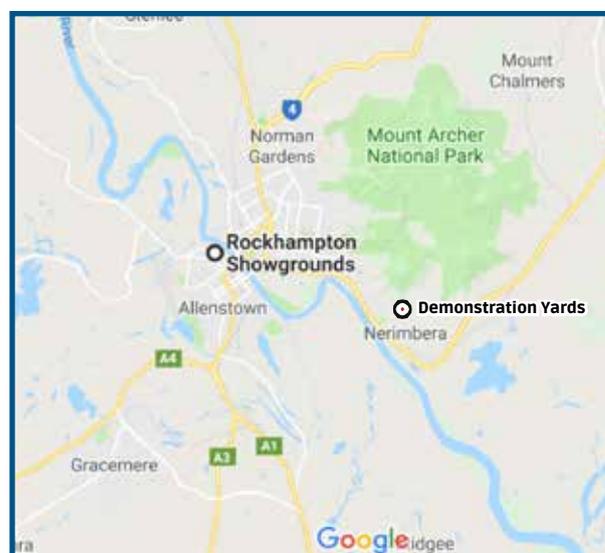
**P**resented by Boyd Holden & Dr. Ron Gill, proudly brought to you by Savage, Barker & Backhouse & Arrowquip

This half day tour will take attendees to the SBB Demonstration Yards located at Nerimbera, just outside of Rockhampton. The tour will showcase the demonstration facility, including a fully operational set of stockyards with the latest low-stress stock handling products by Arrow Farmquip.

## The Speakers

On this tour participants will hear from Boyd Holden who is a livestock handling and animal welfare consultant based on the Northern Rivers of NSW. His expertise in training people in livestock handling and developing problem solving systems, have been rolled out across the Live Export Industry, the Meat Processing Sector and are internationally recognised for setting the standards globally.

Participants will also witness practical demonstrations from Dr. Ron Gill who has been a Professor and Extension livestock specialist for Texas A&M AgriLife Extension for 33 years. Gill provides leadership in Extension programming related to animal well-being, stockmanship and low-stress livestock handling.



Bus trip: approx. 25 minutes - 15km

## DEXA TECHNOLOGY

Also included in the half day program is a brief presentation on Dual Energy X-Ray Absorptiometry (DEXA) by TEYS Australia. DEXA is being used to measure the amount of fat, bone and meat in a carcass. DEXA will provide beef producers with better feedback about the quality of their meat and make farming processes more efficient.

## Key Information

- Half Day Tour
- Transport via Bus
- Morning Tea Included
- Price: \$90
- Boarding from 6:30am for a 7:00am Departure



# Barfield Station

Monday, May 7

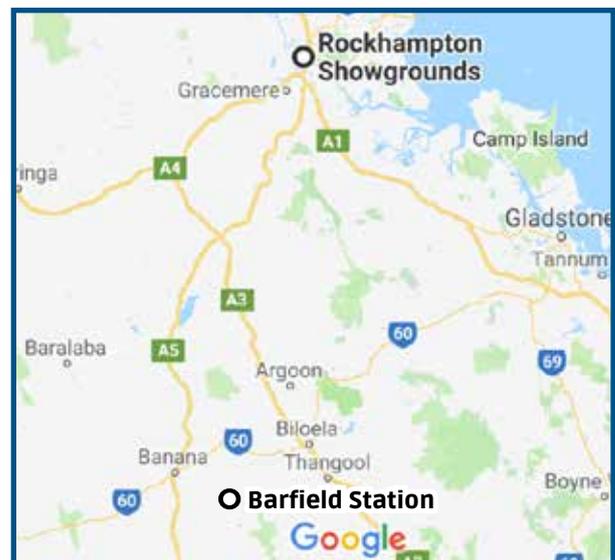
This full-day tour will take participants to Banana where they will be able to take a first-hand look at Barfield Station, owned and operated by Robert and Melinee Leather.

At Barfield Station, the Leathers run a Brahman based herd with 500 organic breeders. The Leathers are constantly looking for new ways to improve the quality of their herd. Currently, they are expanding their herd to include some Belmont Red, Limousin, Senepol and Brangus bloodlines to lift the marbling in their meat.

Robert and Melinee use a parallel production system to run their business in conjunction with their other property Four Mile. Four Mile is a non-organic property which runs 1000 breeders and the progeny from there are transported to Barfield Station to be finished for the EU and PCAS markets.

Since buying Barfield Station the Leathers have planted 600 acres of leucaena to strengthen the production system and make the property more resilient through dry times.

Visitors will see various stages of leucaena plantings as Barfield is planned to have 10 000 acres of leucaena established over the next ten



Bus Trip: Approx 2 hrs - 160km

years. Other areas of the property have been seeded with legumes and grasses to improve feed quality and ground cover.

This tour will offer participants an insight into the operations of a certified Organic, PCAS, EU and Grazing BMP property. Attendees can also look forward to a delicious lunch in the Leather's picturesque front gardens.

## Key Information

- Full Day Tour
- Transport via Bus
- Morning Tea & Lunch Included
- Price: \$140
- Boarding from 6:30am for a 7:00am Departure

# Bald Hills

Tuesday, May 8

**B**ald Hills is a unique coastal property located in the Marlborough region, owned and operated by Ray and Leah Vella.

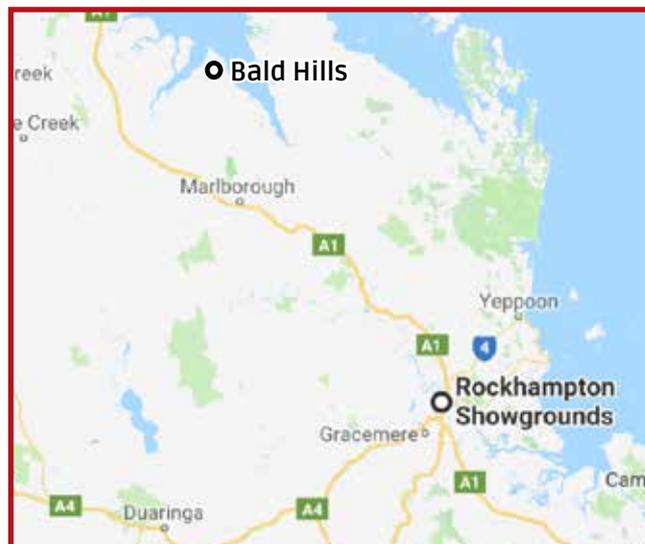
With 20 kilometres of coastal frontage, and Styx River and Herbert Creek as its boundary, Bald Hills is unlike your average Central Queensland property. The property is comprised of softwood scrub and brigalow country with a high carrying capacity along with guaranteed rainfall.

On this full day tour, Ray and Leah will be showing visitors some of the beef genetics and pasture management practices Ray learned on the Australian Nuffield Scholarship sponsored by Meat and Livestock Australia in 2012.

A key area of the Bald Hills operation is the rotational grazing of pastures incorporating a feedlot system which enables the property to remain drought free all year round.

Ray and Leah Vella will also be showcasing their Artificial Insemination program. The Vellas believe it is the most economic and effective method to ensure they are getting optimal genetic traits in their commercial and stud herds.

In 2000, the Vella family purchased Bald Hills as a bare paddock with two sets of yards, eight paddocks,



**Bus Trip: Approx 2 hrs - 150km**

no dwellings and they arrived with 1000 head of cattle.

Now, Bald Hills is 7200 hectares with 46 paddocks and additional watering points, two new cattle yards and four major laneway points with approximately 3000 head of EU and MSA accredited Brahman cross composite cattle.

In the future, Ray and Leah hope to increase Bald Hills' carrying capacity while maintaining and improving their soil.

## Key Information

- Full Day Tour
- Transport via Bus
- Morning Tea & Lunch Included
- Price: \$140
- Boarding from 6:30am for a 7:00am Departure

# Belmont Research Station

Wednesday, May 9

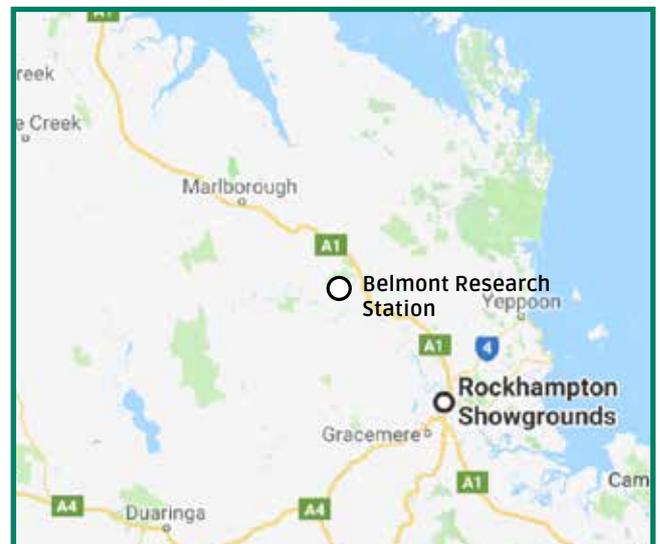


**B**elmont Research Station has been the premier research station for the north Australian beef industry for over 60 years.

The 3260-hectare property is located 37km north of Rockhampton on the Fitzroy River. It provides the ideal environment for research into livestock production in the tropics and sub-tropics of northern Australia.

Technological solutions are CQUniversity's Precision Livestock Management team's specialty. Technologies in use at Belmont include walk-over-weighing systems connected to auto-drafters and vision recognition technology. Telemetry is used to monitor water troughs, GPS collars to track animal behaviour, virtual fencing, accelerometers, proximity loggers, on-site data processing, and low-band, mobile and satellite communications infrastructure.

The systems are being tested and enhanced with a view to integrating a wide range of systems into simple, practical solutions that can drive improved herd management and profitability. Data from these technologies is analysed as part of research activities with insights presented via CQUniversity's DataMuster app – a fast, simple and accurate tool for monitoring herd performance right down to the individual animal.



**Bus Trip: approx. 40 mins - 38km**

The Westpac Beef Australia 2018 Tour participants will enjoy demonstrations of the cutting-edge research currently being conducted at Belmont, including the latest in automated livestock monitoring systems, sensor technologies and farm management apps. Additionally, participants will tour the neighbouring Beef Breeding Services laboratory and see first-hand their artificial reproduction capabilities.

## Key Information

- Full Day Tour
- Transport via Bus
- Morning Tea & Lunch Included
- Price: \$140
- Boarding from 6:30am for a 7:00am Departure

# Aintree

Wednesday, May 9

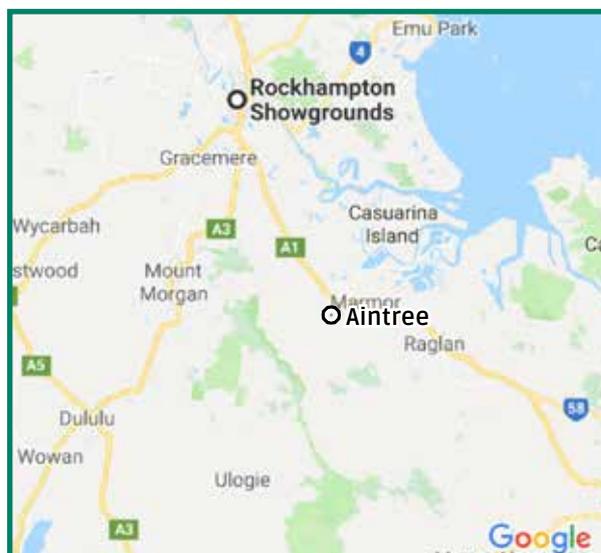
**A**intree is a coastal property located approximately 50km south of Rockhampton.

Father-daughter duo, Joe and Sharon Comiskey, run a successful commercial operation, where they grow and use fodder solutions (barley sprout) as part of their alternative feedlotting procedures.

The Comiskeys are focused on expanding their barley sprout production process, which they have found to be very successful.

In addition to the feedlot cattle, Joe and Sharon use Aintree to run Wagyu and Brangus breeders. The property boasts 205 acres under pivot irrigation where they grow a mixture of forage, rhodes and lucerne.

During the Beef Australia 2018, Westpac Property Tour to Aintree, visitors can expect to see the concept of self-sufficient farming showcased in best practice. This will be a definite highlight of this tour, as fodder solutions continue to emerge as an alternate feeding option in times of drought.



**Bus trip: approx 50 mins - 48km**

While the Comiskey's have been using this practice on a small scale for several years, they have recently expanded their fodder growing facilities.

While visiting Aintree, participants will be given a tour of the property, plus a look at the facilities used to produce the sprouts.

## Key Information

- Half Day Tour
- Transport via Bus
- Morning Tea Included
- **Price: \$90**
- Boarding from 7:00am for a **7:30am Departure**

# Berrigurra

Thursday, May 10



**B**errigurra is a 9,300 hectare property owned by Queensland Agricultural Training Colleges (QATC).

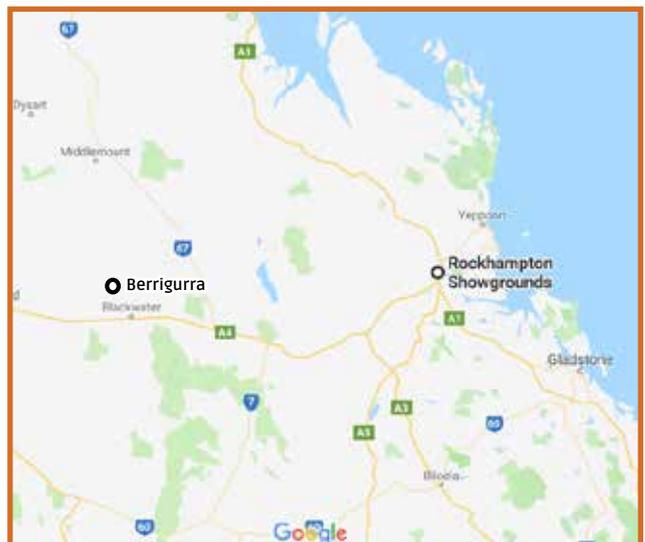
Berrigurra is used by the Emerald Agricultural College to provide students with the opportunity to gain experience and develop their skills in cattle production and stock handling.

Located 20km north-west of Blackwater, visitors can expect to see a large variety of digital technology practices in use on the tour. There will be demonstrations of some telemetry technology such as the animal recording and cattle performance recording systems as well as management of water infrastructure.

Other technology practices that will be showcased will be the use of drones to muster and monitor the livestock, and the Aglive and Maia Grazing software programs.

This tour will give visitors the chance to see a model of how a beef enterprise embraced and adopted current commercial and pre-commercial digital technologies to improve the management of the property infrastructure.

In the next five years they are hoping to develop a world best practice beef production enterprise that provides industry with a showcase production-scale enterprise upon which they can see first-hand the



**Bus Trip: approx. 2hrs 15 minutes - 210km**

opportunities for the introduction of technology into their own enterprises, to boost their own productivity.

They will also continue to use Berrigurra as a training facility to provide vocational students and CQUniversity Bachelor of Agriculture students with the opportunity to undertake their training on a leading tech-based enterprise.

## Key Information

- Full Day Tour
- Transport via Bus
- Morning Tea & Lunch Included
- Price: \$140
- Boarding from 6:30am for a 7:00am Departure

# Central Queensland

# Livestock Exchange (CQLX)

Thursday, May 10

CQLX is part of the RLX portfolio which is a network of modern and innovative livestock selling facilities that currently handles over 754,000 cattle and 2,350,000 sheep annually.

The Regional Livestock Exchanges (RLX) portfolio represents total turnover in excess of \$1 billion per annum. This half day tour will give participants an insight into the operations and management of a multi-million-dollar sale yard with several key stakeholders being represented – buyers, vendors, transports, agents.

The key areas of focus on the tour to CQLX include:

#### Work Place Health and Safety

- Low Stress Livestock Handling
- Online Induction
- Safe Work Practices
- Modern Infrastructure

#### Livestock Marketing

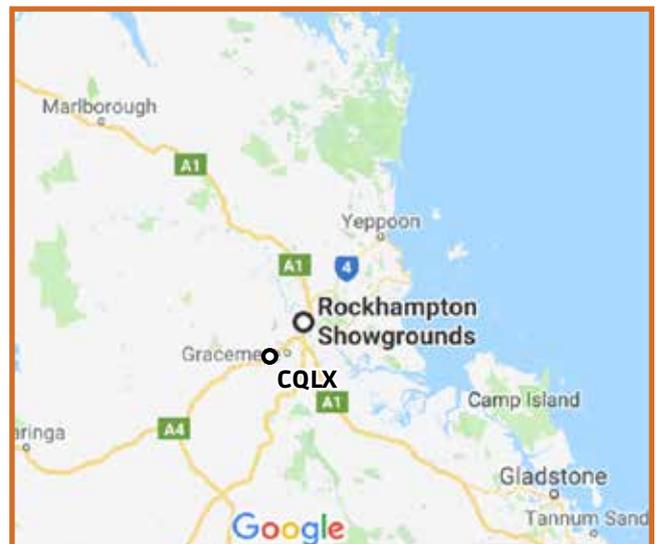
- Interfaced sales inclusive of livestreaming and online bidding
- Pre-sale listings

#### Operational Efficiencies

- Automated Weighing
- Animal Welfare
- Real Time Market Data

The AAM Investment Group, agricultural investment specialists, operate and manage CQLX and the broader RLX portfolio on behalf of Palisade Investment Partners Limited (PIPL).

PIPL invest superannuation funds contributed



Bus Trip: Approx - 15 minutes - 13km

by Australian's in a diverse range of infrastructure assets. The investment in the RLX portfolio began in 2008 and was the first major investment in Australian agricultural infrastructure which, today, exceeds \$110 million.

Commitment to environmental sustainability, innovative technology and high levels of animal welfare are at the forefront of CQLX's thinking, and contribute positively to their long-term value goals.

## Key Information

- Half Day Tour
- Price: \$90
- Transport via Bus
- Boarding from 7:00am for a 7:30 Departure
- Morning tea Included

# Foleyvale Station

Friday, May 11

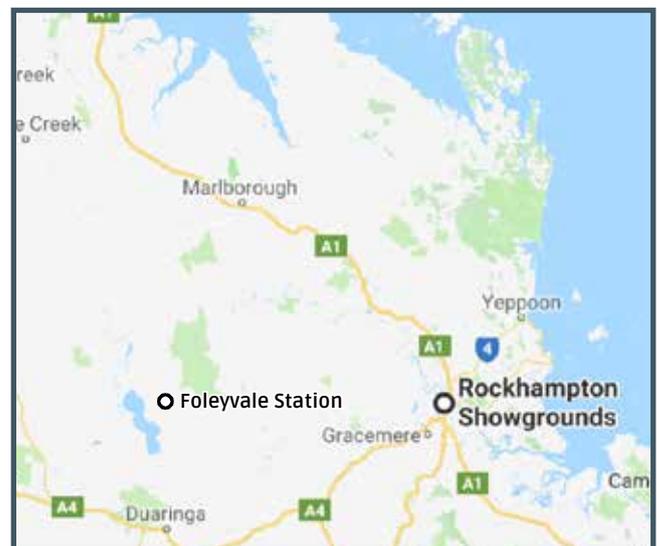
**F**oleyvale Station, located north of Duaringa, is one of six properties owned by the Woorabinda Pastoral Company

which focuses on educating and encouraging indigenous youth to apply for jobs in the agriculture industry.

Foleyvale Station is comprised of 16,187 hectares, 5,000 of which are cropping country consisting of a variety of crops including wheat, corn, chickpea, sorghum and mungbean.

On the remaining acreage, indigenous staff are employed to assist with mustering and processing of the 6000 Droughtmaster/ Brahman cross cattle. Visitors to Foleyvale will also have the opportunity to tour the cropping country, visit the grain storage facilities and the sheep & pig enclosures.

In the future the managers hope to improve their pasture and livestock practices at Foleyvale Station to make it more sustainable.



Bus Trip: approx. 1hr 45 minutes - 140km

Their aim is to have sustainable pastures, better hydration, larger grain storage, and to create a food bowl that will supply indigenous communities both locally and further afield.

## Key Information

- Full Day Tour
- Transport via Bus
- Morning Tea & Lunch Included
- Price: \$140
- Boarding from 6:30am for a 7:00am Departure

# Rowanlea Cattle Station

Friday, May 11



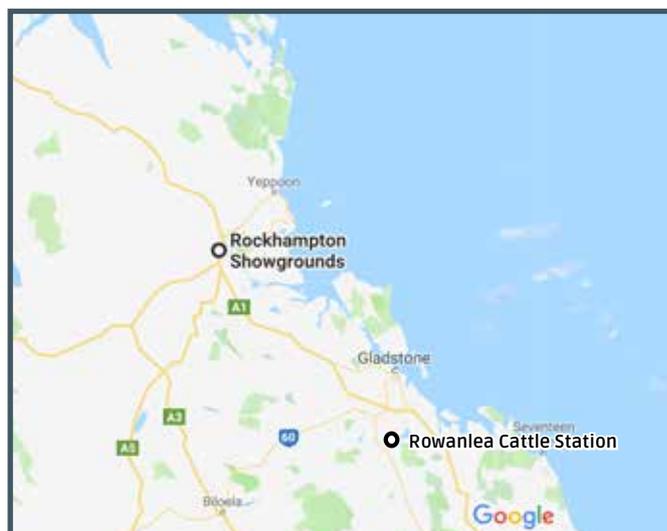
**R**owanlea Cattle Station is a 6885-hectare property situated 40km southwest of Calliope and is run as a Partnership of Bruce, Helen, Andrew and Kate Chapman.

“Rowanlea” is a mixture of creek flats and undulating hills which run into steep ranges where the Chapmans usually maintain around 2500 head of cattle. The herd consists of Santa Gertrudis and Brahman breeders including a Santa Gertrudis stud which is intensively performance recorded.

The last three generations of Chapmans have been proactively involved with research and development programs. Currently there is involvement in the MLA funded Repronomics and Northern BIN Steer projects.

To aid the efficient running of the operation, the family have developed what was predominately Black Spear grass country into high production grass/legume pasture. They continue to make improvements to aid pasture spelling by rotational grazing, dividing paddocks including laneway systems and water improvements. This is all serviced by modern yard facilities to handle procedures such as intensive data collection and breeding soundness evaluations.

With a balance of improved pasture development and management, animal data recording and



**Flight Time: Approx. 40 minutes**

processing, and practical management, the Chapmans aim to meet their breeding objectives of producing cattle on a coastal environment to meet the EU and Grasslands markets. The steer and cull heifer progeny are transferred to their property at Jambin to be finished on predominately leucaena pastures. The Platinum tour will give participants the opportunity to fly to “Rowanlea” via helicopter and enjoy a day of touring where they will look at several areas of the Chapmans very successful operation.

## Key Information

- Platinum Tour (Full Day)
- Transport via Helicopter
- Morning Tea & Lunch Included
- Price: \$1250
- 8.15am Coach Transfer for a 9.00am Departure from Airport