

JOHN STEWART-MOORE

TELEMON, FOUNDATION STUD.



BORN IN TASMANIA, educated in the UK at Dartmouth Naval College, an officer in the British Navy during WW2, moving back to Australia with his wife Joanna and young daughter in 1948 to take up the reins of the family wool growing operation at Telemon and Dunluce near Hughenden. John Stewart-Moore's life was one of great diversity. Never afraid of a new challenge, John became interested in the cattle being exhibited at the Townsville show by Monty Atkinson in the early 1950's, and so began a lifelong involvement in helping develop and nurture the Droughtmaster breed into the success it enjoys today.

John joined a Cherokee Brahman Stud bull to some red Shorthorn heifers and these became the foundation of the Charraboon and Telemon studs, with the family moving to Charraboon at Toogoolawah in 1958. There

was immediate success in the showing as Charraboon won a number of Grand Championships at the Brisbane RNA, but there was always a strong focus on performance, notably fertility, growth rates, and tick resistance.

Charraboon stud was sold to Gordon Ferguson in 1965 and Telemon continued to thrive and grow in the north at Dunluce where 3rd generation Jack and Kylie Stewart-Moore continue to breed an excellent herd. An agistment payment of some stud cows to John's daughter Carol and husband Ed McCormack was the beginning of the successful Clonlara Stud, today operated by their son Gus and Jen McCormack. Carol and Ed's daughter Clare and husband Pete Mailler have also developed the Coolibah Stud from these base genetics.

John was the DSBS's second president from 1963 to 1966 and again from 1978 to 1981. He was awarded life membership in 1981 and was the Society's patron from 1994 to 2001.

Never idle, as well as his dedication to the Droughtmaster Society, John was founder and managing director of South Seas Fishing Co, a joint venture with Japanese partners who were instrumental in pioneering the prawn fishing industry in the Gulf of Carpentaria, as well as overseeing the management of Dunluce's 25,000 merino sheep and the Telemon Stud along with son Ninian and his wife Ann.

John once said a career in the navy was useful in becoming a grazier, but an agricultural degree would have been better!

Contribution by Ninian Stewart-Moore