

---

## **Murray Grey Stalwart Honoured With Life Membership**

The name Barry Tainton is a name synonymous both with the Murray Grey breed and the Borthwick Trophy. Due to Barry's tireless efforts to boost the profile of the Murray Grey breed and his involvement over the years, Barry has been honoured with the Murray Grey Beef Cattle Society's highest honour, a Life Membership.

In a fitting ceremony following the hoof judging of the Borthwick trophy teams at the 2009 Royal Melbourne Show, Barry was presented with his Life Membership.

Barry Tainton started breeding Murray Greys 1968 and joined the Murray Grey Society in 1969 starting Jimba Vale Murray Greys.

He has been a stalwart of the Murray Grey Beef Cattle Society since that time and has worked tirelessly to promote the breed including many years of service on a number of committees including:

- 8 years on the Murray Grey Committee with 6 of these on the Executive
- 8 years as Chairperson of Gippsland Breed Promotion Group
- 10 years with Stud Beef Victoria including 4 years as Treasurer and 2 years as Vice President
- 10 years Carcase Competition Steward at Royal Melbourne Show

Barry also

- Co-initiated the Beef Week idea in Victoria & set up the criteria & conditions for running the event with the late John Gilly.
- Co-initiated the Premier Murray Grey Sale and was chairman for 8 years

Barry is passionate about Murray Grey cattle and has always promoted the carcase characteristics and quality of the breed to the commercial producer.

He is also passionate about the involvement of youth in the breed and the industry and has worked with many schools. The schools Barry was involved with include Warragul Secondary College, Geelong Grammar Timber Top, Casterton Secondary College, Leongatha Secondary College, Hamilton Good Shepherd College, East Loden College, Marist-Sion College and Northern Melbourne TAFE. Each of which is still heavily involved in agriculture

During his involvement with the schools, Barry established the Jimba Vale Youth Award which saw Jimba Vale heifers sold at the Premier Sale. The proceeds were divided up so that half went to the school and half to a student of the school to help with their education.

However, Barry's best known achievements are probably associated with the Borthwick Trophy at the Royal Melbourne Show. Here Barry chaired the selection committee for eight years in which Murray Grey steers won the trophy four years in a row.

In the past thirty years a Jimba Vale sired steer has been in the Borthwick team almost every year, seeing many wins across the years.

When asked about his breeding program, Barry boted “I have bred the type of cattle I want to breed and not followed fashions. The Murray Grey cattle are still the best cattle, you can do anything with them for any market.”

Barry dedicated his award of Life Membership to his wife who has been very ill recently.



*Barry Tainton receiving his Life Membership from President of the MGBCS Tony Dikkenberg.*