

## Banquet Breakout: Young commercial heifers to \$3050

For the second year running, Banquet has assisted with the auction of PTIC Banquet blood commercial heifers on their bull sale day, immediately prior to the bull auction. In an arrangement with long term Banquet clients and family friends, Margaret and Robbie Patterson, Drysdale Partnership, Mortlake, the Bransons have pointed them to clients who sell weaner heifers in the western district weaner sale. After purchase the Pattersons grow them out and mate them, some by AI with semen from the great Dylemma Raider W42 and some by paddock mating.

Jack Hickey, who has won the right to compete in the upcoming National Young Auctioneers final performed the auctioneering duties admirably, with the 122 heifers selling in eight lots to a top of \$3050/head and averaging a terrific \$2910.

The top priced pen of 18 heifers averaging 615kg liveweight sold to Webb Pastoral Co, Yea. They also purchased the first bull offered in the Banquet bull sale for \$13,000.

The heaviest pen of 20 heifers averaging 690kg sold for \$2900/head, going to Keska Management through Auctions Plus co-ordinator Peter Rollason. Keska Management principal John Clements, 'Cremona Park', Molesworth runs 400 Angus breeders and purchased these, plus two more pens comprising 27 more heifers as the first step in upgrading his herd. His 47 heifers averaged \$2889.

Jon Sutherland through Elders Bendigo paid \$2900/head for two pens of 19 and 18 heifers, while Bengarna, Mortlake (10 at \$2800/hd) and P & J Lenehan, Larpent (10 at \$2900/hd) rounded out the buying.

Sale Summary: 122 PTIC Banquet bloodlines sold to \$3050 and averaged \$2910.

(In 2016 150 PTIC Banquet blood heifers sold to \$2700 and averaged \$2411).



Pictured in front of the \$3050 top priced heifers purchased by Webb Pastoral Co, Yea are auctioneer Jack Hickey, vendor Robbie Patterson, Drysdale Partnership, Mortlake and Banquet senior principal Stephen Branson.



Pictured after the sale are auctioneer Jack Hickey, vendor Robbie Patterson and John Clements, Cremona Park, Molesworth (biggest volume buyer with 47 heifers) and his buying agent, Peter Rollison, Elders A+ coordinator.