

# THE NGUNI CATTLE BREEDERS' SOCIETY

## 1986 - 2011

A summary from available historical documents GJ Hallowell

In the years prior to 1950 very little had been said about the Nguni breed. It was only due to researchers such as JHR Bisschop, DE Faulkner, FN Bonsma and DL Brown to name a few, that research was done on the Nguni breed and its positive attributes became known. Out of this research, two breeding stations, Bartlow Combine in Natal, and Mpisi in Swaziland were established. The Mpisi herd was later dispersed, but the Bartlow Combine herd became the backbone of the Nguni breed as we know it today.

In the seventies, mainly due to a few farmers, researchers and officials, the breed started to gain momentum. In 1984 the


Registrar declared the Nguni breed, a "developing breed" and in 1994 a "recognized breed". The first request for the acceptance of the Nguni breed as a registered breed was submitted to the Registrar by Ted and Liz Reilly of Swaziland.

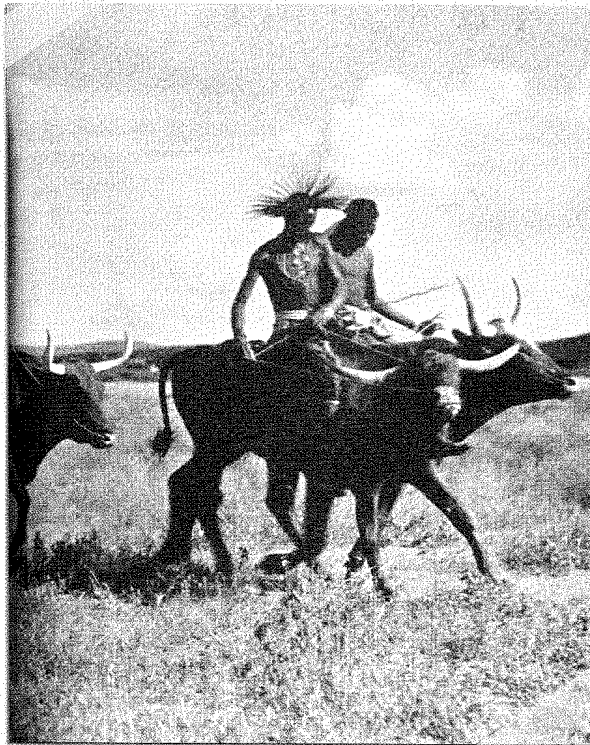
In August 1985, 53 farmers from the Eastern Cape, Transvaal, Natal and Swaziland, who were involved with the breeding of Ngunis, met in Dundee, Natal. Out of this meeting a decision was taken to form a Nguni Cattle Breeders' Society, which acquired legal status on 1 November 1986.

The steering committee, formed before the first meeting of Nguni breeders, consisted of JJ Odendaal, Dr P Ronchietto, Mrs Y du Preez, Mrs J Odendaal, Dr Max Bachmann, PL Moolman, M Eggers, G Wessels and P Warren.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING BAYALA 11 SEPTEMBER 1985		
NAME	ADDRESS	CODE TEL No
J. J. ODENDAAL	P.O. Box 113 Dundee 200	031 22003
DR. P. RONCHIETTO	P.O. Box 494, ESTCOURT	031 33068
MRS J. ODENDAAL	P.O. Box 335 HILTON 3310	03631 24424
MRS Y DU PREEZ (Mrs)	GELUK PAULPIETERSBERG 3245	1531
DR MAX BACHMANN	P.O. Box 181. PM Buig 3180	013307-3903
PL MOOLMAN	TIGERFONTEIN VREDE 2455	0152332-96
MARTIN EGGERS	ROSEN GRAVELLOTTE	
GUSTAV WESSELS		
PETER WARREN		

DIE Nguni-beestelersgenootskap se raadlede is (vnr) mnr. Gustav Wessels (Vrede), dr. Max Bachmann (Pietermaritzburg), mnr. Kiep Lepen (Ulundi), dr. Pier Ronchietto (ondervoorsitter, Pietermaritzburg) en mnr. Lafras Moolman (Paulpietersburg), Kobus Odendaal (voorsitter, Dundee), Piet Warren (Gravelotte) en Daan Nolte (Delmas).





At the meeting at Bayala in August 1985, the first Nguni Council was elected and made up as follows:

JJ (Kobus) Odendaal (President), Dr Pier Ronchietto (Vice-President) with Dr Max Bachmann (Pietermaritzburg), Kiep Lepen (Ulundi), Lafras Moolman (Paulpietersburg), Daan Nolte (Delmas) and Gustav Wessels (Vrede) as additional members. Initially Mrs Odendaal did the secretarial work until the appointment of a permanent secretary.

### *Secretaries:*

The first official Secretary was Mrs Maura Ronchietto who handled the secretarial functions until 15 October 1991. Mrs Ronchietto was followed, initially on a part-time basis, by Mrs Brigitte (Gitti) Kraupner. This was soon turned into a full-time basis

until 30 April 2000 when the secretarial functions were handed over to the Secretariat of SA Studbook. The Secretariat held office until 30 September 2006 when the Nguni Society appointed their own full-time secretarial staff who is at present still in charge Yolanda Venter, Louise du Toit, Elmarie du Preez and Maki Moshao.

### *Presidents:*

We have been fortunate in finding all the past Presidents still alive and well. The actual dates for which they served are not available, but the following is the order in which they served:

JJ (Kobus) Odendaal at present retired and living in Stellenbosch.  
 JAS (Jim) Hundleby retired and living in Stutterheim.  
 P (Peter) Kraupner still farming in Bergville.  
 Dr DS (Doug) Reed still an active Nguni breeder near Duiwelskloof.  
 PM (Pat) Hobbs still active Nguni breeder living outside Komga.  
 JA (Albie) Gibson retired Nguni breeder from Bloemfontein.  
 GJ (Deon) Richter still active and farming near Potgietersrus.  
 KC (Kevin) Watermeyer still active and farming near Graaff-Reinet.  
 WA (Archie) du Plessis present President farming near Jagersfontein.

Crucial matters handled over the past 25 years:

1. Moving of cattle between Swaziland and RSA.  
 The question of exporting of cattle, especially from Swaziland was a critical issue as, in the past the only animals imported into South Africa were, for example Sussex bulls from England, and the Nguni Council had to set the same standards. These included 3 or 5 generation pedigrees, as well as performance information, none of which was available and had an immediate effect on the first Reilly production sale. The matter was eventually sorted out amicably between the Registrar, SA Studbook and the Nguni Society.
2. Compulsory Performance testing and the effect on inspections.
3. The appointment of Data Farm as secretary.
4. The debate on data capture either at Studbook or Data Farm.
5. The meeting of 12 November 1999 and the decision to move to Studbook.
6. The special AGM held on 1st April 2000 at Bloemfontein
7. The moving of the secretary to the SA Studbook Secretariat.
8. The decision to appoint own secretaries with their own offices.