



**LEFT:** Landmark auctioneer, Charlie Maher, with volume buyer, Sue Evans, "Martindale", Walgett, vendors, Tony and Annie Scott with son, Riley, 20 months, and Mrs Evans' husband, Mark, at the Karoo Angus annual bull sale. The Evans have been regular clients of the stud for 20 years, and this year purchased four bulls at an average of \$6800.

# Karoo to \$10,000 top

By ADAM VIDLER

PRICES jumped at the Reen and Scott family's Karoo Angus on-property bull sale at Meadow Flat last Thursday.

The field of 60 bulls topped at \$10,000 and averaged \$5216 for a total clearance.

This compared favourably to the already solid results for the 2008 sale, when 53 bulls were sold for a 93 per cent clearance, topping at \$8000 and averaging \$4222.

Fellow Angus stud, Waverley Station, Gundy, purchased four bulls including the top-priced bull, Karoo 04379 Infinity C111, for \$10,000.

The 25-month-old bull weighed 870 kilograms and was the first of the Infinity sons to be offered by Karoo.

He had estimated breeding values of +5.8 for birthweight, and +120 for 600-day weight.

The other major volume buyers were Mark and Sue Evans, "Martindale", Walgett, who purchased four bulls averaging \$6800.

The Mr and Mrs Evans said they had been regular clients of the Karoo stud for about 20 years.

"We're happy with the bloodlines of the Karoo bulls," Mr Evans said.

"They also perform well in our climate."

Vendor, Annie Scott, said the results were "very pleasing" for the stud.

In particular, she cited the dominant number of repeat buyers as something the vendors were proud of.

Most of the bulls went to NSW buyers spread across the State, with one lot to a West Australian purchaser.

Commercial buyers comprised the majority of the successful bidders, with six bulls going into studs, Mrs Scott said.

She attributed the sale's success to a number of factors.

Primary among them were the good estimated breeding values of the bulls, which Mrs Scott said "got people interested" and which were then visually backed up by the bulls themselves.

"It hasn't been hard to get them to sale quality this year – the season has been kind to us and they'd just come off a crop of oats," she said.

As well, the Karoo ethos of breeding bulls to suit multiple clients had ensured a wide variety of buyers were keen to secure their stock.

The sale was conducted by Landmark, and the auction was the last for local Landmark agent, Charlie Maher.