

Rosemead Jeronny

14 *Aberdeen Angus Bull*

Sire Ellin Erroneous

Dam Rosemead Jessica

Native Superbull Champion

Kent Show 2008

Superbull Champion

South of England Show 2008

Male Breed Champion

The Royal Show 2008

Owner Mr Angus Stovold

Size 15 × 21 × 7½ inches

Although I had already sculpted the bust of Galawater Bold King, I still wanted to include a full study of a champion Aberdeen Angus, as a counterpart to Ash Nik-Nak, the champion White Park already in the collection. I had seen a splendid Aberdeen Angus that won at the Royal Show the previous year, called Rosemead Jeronny. I phoned his owner, Angus Stovold and organised a trip over to Surrey to see him.

The Stovolds are one of Surrey's oldest farming families with records dating back to 1367. The Rosemead Herd of Aberdeen Angus Cattle was established in 1936 by Percy Stovold, who recognized the Aberdeen Angus' potential on Surrey's light soils. The herd he originally purchased in Perth, Scotland, was hidden from his somewhat sceptical father for two years, in what is now the Refectory Restaurant, Milford, Surrey. His father was duly amazed when the new herd appeared on a tour of English shows, including the Royal, in 1938, winning many of them. So Rosemead Jeronny had quite a pedigree to live up to, but he did not disappoint.

As I pulled into the yard, Tom Beadle, Angus' Stockman was washing Jeronny down, ready to be measured and photographed. Rosemead Jeronny was absolutely magnificent! 1.4 tons of gleaming black muscle. I introduced myself to Tom and Angus, who had just pulled up. As I took my reference shots and measurement, I was amazed to hear that Jeronny is so good-natured that as he lay resting, after his win at the Royal, he allowed

young children to climb all over him without protest. Watching Jeronny walk about the yard, I was struck by just how deep and broad he was and, like Galawater Bold King, his beautiful head – very different in character, but equally striking. After an evening, visiting friends in London, I drove home and began work on the sculpture.

This being one of the last pieces sculpted, I was feeling pretty tired by this stage, but working long hours, fuelled by copious coffee and enthusiasm for my subject, the clay was completed in just over a month.

Once again, the patina of choice for the finished bronze was rich, deep, glossy black – a classic patina that really shows Jeronny at his best.

