

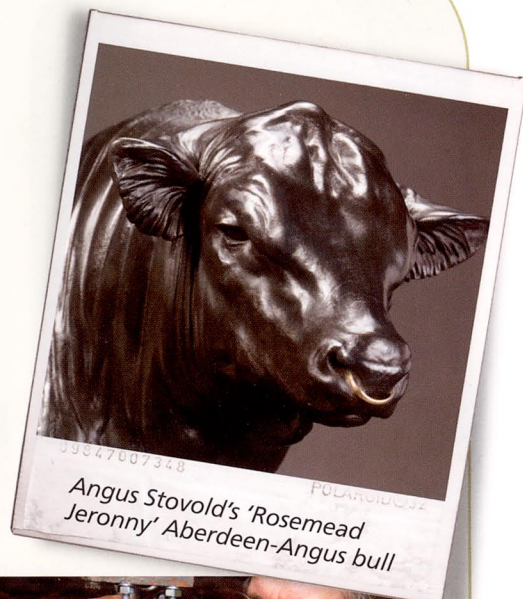
# Champion livestock



*Hard, cold bronze is transformed to convey a truly lifelike impression*



*'Dittisham Lady' from Champion Animals exhibition*



Angus Stovold's 'Rosemead Jeronny' Aberdeen-Angus bull



*Nick Bibby – capturing livestock spirit meticulously*

ONE of the world's most sensitive animal sculptors has won high praise from a top pedigree cattle breeder – and with good cause.

No better judge of stock than Angus Stovold, scion of the Surrey farming dynasty and former president of the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society, has commended sculptor Nick Bibby for his meticulous accuracy and ability to suggest movement in 'Rosemead Jeronny' (pictured), a bull from the Rosemead herd of pedigree Aberdeen-Angus cattle based at Lydling Farm, near Godalming in Surrey.

Gerry Farrell, director of the Sladmore Contemporary gallery in London, which exhibits Nick's work, writes of his remarkable feel for the spirit of the animal. "The veins and muscles seem almost to move under the skin. Bronze, a cold hard metal, is transformed into very real fur, flesh and sinew by his incredible modelling skill."

Widely acknowledged as one of England's finest animalier sculptors, Nick renders the form, texture, movement and character of each subject with astonishing attention to detail and a remarkable feel for the spirit of the animal.

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Born in County Durham in 1960, Nick has always been inspired by the natural world. Largely self taught he sold his first artwork aged thirteen and began sculpting commercially at sixteen. His first bronze, a Kingfisher, sold out in weeks in 1992, setting him on the road to artistic success.

More recently he was in the news with the Oxford Street installation of his monumental bronze sculpture, Indomitable, depicting a life-size Kodiak Grizzly Bear. Originally commissioned by Brown University in the USA the 2250kg (5000lbs) 4.5m (15ft) giant involved over 100 skilled workers at Pangolin Editions foundry in Chalford, Gloucestershire, to bring to fruition.

Nick lives and works in rural Devon with his wife and daughter, surrounded by the landscape and subjects that give him such inspiration.

Mr Stovold, a keen collector of cattle sculpture, is now hoping Nick will create a perfect cow as mate for Rosemead Jeronny.