

40th Anniversary Open Day - Island of Luing

Friday 18th August - 1.45pm

Cadzow Brothers have been planning this celebration for several months and look forward to welcoming many of you to Luing on Friday 18th August.

This is a unique opportunity to visit the birthplace of our breed, the original Luing herd and, we believe, the largest pedigree beef herd in the UK.

There has already been huge interest in the event and since the logistics of getting a large number on and off the island is slightly complicated, a brief outline of the procedure follows!

Directions: Leave the A816 about 7 miles south of Oban and follow the B844 towards Balvicar and the Cuan Ferry on Seil Island (about 30 mins. from Oban). Car parking will be signed and from 1.00pm buses will run between the car park and the pier to catch the 1.30pm ferry. (Ferries do not run between 12.30pm and 1.30pm).

Programme Transport on the island will be by tractor and trailer, three or four trailers at a time leaving the ferry for the farm tour at 20 minute intervals from 1.45pm onwards. There will be four stops en route to the farm steading with cattle on view and speakers covering different topics – breed origin, management, feeding policies, animal health, looking ahead – at each stop. On arrival at the steading additional groups of cattle will be on display as well as a number of stock bulls and there will be a stockjudging competition.

Once everyone has gathered at the steading (5.00pm prompt) John Cameron, Balbuthie and Ronnie McLauchlan, Ballachulish will say a few words before an anniversary cake is cut by Ralph Cadzow. This will be followed by a barbecue and ceilidh. We hope that many of you will plan to remain on the island until well into the evening and enjoy the fun.

Return to the mainland There are no ferries between 6.00pm and 7.30pm so there will be transport at 5.30pm for those of you who must get back quickly – and beef rolls to eat on your journey! Buses will then run from the steading every half hour from 7.15pm until 9.45pm. The last ferry leaves at 10.00pm.

For those who wish to take their own transport onto Luig The farm tour is only suitable for 4wd vehicles. The ferry can only take four or five vehicles or 40 foot passengers at a time so you are advised to be on the island before the ferry stops at 12.30pm. There are no facilities on the island for eating, drinking or comfort stops except at the farm steading later in the day!

Waterproofs It rains almost every day on Luig! If it rains you will get wet. Please come prepared.

North West Beef Event

The focus of this event, held at Tongue at the end of May, was 'improving breeding stock and encouraging the use of native breeds'. Robert McNee and Gavin Hill gave an excellent presentation on heifer replacements, Society literature, promotional boards and the powerpoint presentation attracted keen interest, particularly in SimLuings, and there have been a number of sales since.

Ballymoney Show

The 40th anniversary demonstration mounted at Ballymoney Show by our Northern Ireland breeders was an unqualified success with a great show of stock and the engraved Anniversary Quaich awarded by Neil McCorkindale to Robert and Martin King. Our thanks to Drew Peoples and his team for their enthusiastic participation, for the sponsorship obtained and for a great promotional effort.

Beef 2006

This was generally felt to be the most successful Beef Event yet and the Luings were thought by many to have the best demonstration. Society representatives were immensely proud of their stand and particularly of the cattle on display. The effort that goes into sourcing and preparing cattle for these events and building, manning and dismantling the stand cannot be overstated and thanks go to all involved, especially the McNee family, Neil Anderson and Charles Symons.

The stand was constantly busy with very positive interest that has since converted into membership and purchases.

Beef 2007 is to be held at Skipton Agricultural Centre on Thursday 17th May and Council have agreed a presence there.

Royal Highland Show 2006

Another very busy promotional event with a lot of encouraging enquiries. A big thank you to Charles and Mary Symons who again provided cattle of outstanding quality and temperament for display – a great credit to them and to the breed. Undoubtedly the cattle draw the visitors in. Many thanks to all of you who made time to spend on the stand. Cattlemen enjoy cattlemen and that was very obvious. Council have agreed to repeat the same formula in 2007.

Heather Trust Meeting - 11th September

With the aim of providing breed publicity as well as encouraging the re-introduction of cattle to heather hills, Robert Dalglish and the Heather Trust are hosting an afternoon at Ulzieside Farm, Sanquhar when a maximum of fifteen people are invited to meet with them to discuss results to date. Please contact Neil (01852 316282) or Judy (01575 560763) by **4th September** if you would like to join the party.

Westwater Dispersal Sale

It was sad to see the Westwater Luing herd dispersed early in June – the first ever major dispersal of Luings at auction. There was huge interest in this sale with six first time buyers and a number of people recently into the breed taking the opportunity to increase their herds. The cattle were a credit to the Westwater staff and sold extremely well. Further details will be carried in the Journal

33rd Annual Autumn Luing Sale of Breeding Stock - Stirling

This will take place at the United Auctions Kildean Market on Monday 16th October. Conditions and entry forms are enclosed with this Newsletter for all those who registered calves born in 2005.

Anyone else wishing entry forms should contact the Luing office. Please note that entries close on **17th September**. This date will be strictly adhered to so that catalogues can be circulated to all interested parties in good time – there are currently almost 100 people who receive catalogues in addition to all members.

Remember that pedigree certificates must accompany entries for all registered animals born after 1st January 2001.

Bull Inspection

Applications for bull inspection close on **31st August**. It is hoped to undertake inspection in early November. All bulls to be entered for the Annual Sale in Castle Douglas must be inspected by the Fieldsman and certified as being of a suitable standard.

If the dam of the bull is alive in the vendor's herd, the bull will only be accepted for the sale if that dam has been presented for classification at the time of inspection.

You are reminded that the minimum scrotal circumference measurement for bulls increases to 38cm at the February 2007 sale. Application forms are enclosed for regular consignors and early return would be appreciated. Anyone else wishing an application form or wishing to have any other cattle inspected, please contact the office.

In order to try to raise the profile of the premier bull sale and to encourage sellers and buyers to make their sales and purchases at this sale Council has agreed that from February 2007:

- Only bulls with dam scores for feet, hind legs, udder and teats all of 5 or above (out of 10) be accepted for sale.
- An upset price of 1500 gns will be introduced.
- The transfer fee for all bulls sold privately be increased to £100, to be paid by the buyer before any calves off the bull can be registered.

Annual Journal 2007

Any contribution for the Annual Journal will be very welcome and we would particularly ask you to consider taking an advertisement to promote your cattle and/or any other project. A form for booking space is enclosed.

Registrations

All calves born in 2006 must be registered by 31st January 2007. Those of you adjusted to the computer age are encouraged to get your password from the Secretary and register on-line. This is very simple and solves the problem of missing information or illegibility!

Wanted

Council are on the lookout for another bull from which to take semen for home and for export. The bull selected must have its dam classified and must have proved himself to be a very easy calver with excellent feet. If you feel that you can identify or offer a suitable bull, please contact Finlay (01575 560236) or Robert (01501 731980) before the end of August.

Breed Development

You are reminded that the Society will bear 50% of the cost of testing tail hairs from any bull (i.e. the Society will pay £10 and the breeder will be charged £10). Gene marker tests currently cover tenderness, carcass traits and milk quantity and protein. These are all scored on a scale 1 – 10. Kits available from the office

Dam Classification

Council have agreed to update the Society's unique dam classification to scores out of 10 so that genemarkers and dam traits can be illustrated together by use of bar charts. Those dams already classified will have their scores doubled or will be re-classified on request. The new scores will be demonstrated at the Open Day on Luing.

Welcome

A warm welcome to the following new members who have joined the Society since last August::

Angus MacFadyen & Son, Bragleenmore, Kilninver.
Brian Kirkham, Brunstane Farm, Penicuik
Scott Renwick, Clachan Farmhouse, Lochbroom, Ullapool
Scott Girvan, Buckholm Farm, Galashiels
G.B. Gillon & Son, Angus Limestone, Eassie, Forfar
W. Birnie, Conon Mains, Conon Bridge
Scott Gibbons, 5 Heath Hill Drive, Stacksteads, Bacup
Robert and Alistair Warden, Skelfhill Farm, Hawick
Nigel Jones, Holmhead Farm, Cushnie, Alford
Malcolm Fawcett, Merkland, Thornhill, Dumfries-shire
John Whiteford, Maxwelston, Girvan, Ayrshire
R.J. & J.M. Vevers, Mossknowe, Canonbie
G. & V. Roddam, Blackcarts Farm, Humshaugh, Hexham
Billy Renwick, Craig Douglas, Yarrow
Rory K Bell, Roxburgh Mill, Kelso
Richard Nelson, Cuttlehill Farm, Crossgates, Fife
Colin Thomson, Wester Tulloch, Midmar, By Inverurie
Robert J. Carr, Reedy Loch Farm, Edrom, Duns
Ken Hardie, Firthview, Clashandorran, By Beauuly