

DATES FOR THE DIARY – 2020

20 th May	Dingwall Spring Sale – Dingwall Mart
27 th May	NBA Beef Expo – Darlington POSTPONED
8 th July	NSA Scotsheep – Finlarg, Tealing POSTPONED
14 th August	Open Day – Nunnerie, Elvanfoot, Biggar CANCELLED
31 th August	Applications close for inspection of bulls for Premier and Dingwall Sales 2021.
19 th September	Entries close for Stirling Autumn Sales
1 st October	Closing date for Journal advertisements (Please note date.)
29 th October	Stirling Autumn Sale – U.A. Agricultural Centre
14 th November	Society Approved Sale, Isle of Luings Production Sale Oban Mart
11 th December <u>2021</u>	Entries close for Castle Douglas Premier Sale
4-5 th February	AGM, Annual Dinner and Premier Sale, C.D.
28 st February	Deadline for registration of 2020 (Z) calves

Breed Secretary

As you all will be aware, the Breed Secretary finishes on the 19 June. It would be appreciated if all outstanding payments and queries could be address to allow a smooth change over.

CORONA VIRUS – SHOWS

As you are all aware the pandemic of Covid 19 has seen us in unrepresented time. Daily changes have affected homes and businesses. Events are being cancelled or postponed and changes are inevitable as the virus runs its course. NBA Beef Expo has postponed with the hope of running later in the year. Royal Highland Show has cancelled for 2020 returning 2021; Scotsheep has postponed to 2021; Royal Welsh Show is cancelled to 2021; other shows and events have not made a decision yet as much can change, so dates could alter or be cancel by the time of reading.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

**If you haven't already done so, please make payment for your annual subscription (£50.00 incl. VAT). BACs - Luings Cattle Society Ltd, sort -800629
A/C – 00515344 or Cheque**

The Silent 'U'



Luings



SPRING 2020

DINGWALL SALE – 20TH MAY

The twelfth official Luings Cattle Society Sale at Dingwall will take place on Wednesday 20th May at Dingwall Auction Mart. Sale catalogues are enclosed and there is an entry of **137** head – This year sees us in unknown times and this has led to this May's sale being a **Timed Auction**. There will not be a show this year, but our priority is to ensure we continue with the sale. I am sure you will all support this sale all be it in a different format this year.

Friend at the end of the phone

As highlighted earlier, the United Kingdom is in unrepresented times due to the Covid 19 pandemic. In lockdown times we find our industry being classed as one of the "essential workers". We can travel to and from markets and abattoirs or go to the local town/village for groceries. But we are still in isolation albeit some with family around them. Our society has been recognised for its friendly attitude and the members of the board are always at the end of a phone should you wish to discuss Luings or anything else.

STAY SAFE.

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DINGWALL SALE 20th May 2020

Following long and detailed discussions with Dingwall and Highland Marts with regard to the current Covid-19 situation it has been decided that the sensible and responsible way forward this year is to hold a timed auction. This will work in the following way.

1. The catalogue will be printed as usual. Any extra information that a vendor would normally give to the auctioneer on sale day will be in the catalogue.
2. Videos / photo's will be on Dingwall Marts website and can be seen from the 19th May when bidding can commence.
3. The bidding on pen 1 will stop at 10.05am 20th May, the bidding on pen 2 will stop at 10.10am 20th May and so on in strict 5 minute slots.
4. Buyers must register with Dingwall and Highland Marts before they will be able to bid.
5. The vendor will deliver cattle to Dingwall mart, on a date or dates to be to be agreed, for onward movement unless a private arrangement is made with the purchaser
6. Vendors may place videos / photo's on The Society Facebook page clearly stating that the animals will be sold by Dingwall and Highland Marts 20th May.

Anyone wishing to discuss anything relating to the sale please feel free to phone The Fieldsman on 01573440207 or Paul Spencer on 07813893963.

2020 AGM

A smaller attendance of members at the 54th Annual General Meeting of the Society, this year's changes in the office bearers' team were, Bruce Gilchrist, Pip Simpson and Chris Young stepped down after three years.

We welcome Kirsty Dunlop (Comonside, Hawick), Shona Marshall (Concraig, Aberdeen) and Alan Cowens (Teviot, Selkirk) to the board for a 3-year term.

2020 DAVIDSONS FEEDS PHOTO COMPETITION

This year the competition was run online again and entries increased greatly. Some cracking photographs have been taken and the viewers voted with likes. A huge thank you to all that entered and supported this annual competition. Remember to keep snapping over the year.

Davidsons representatives, Emma McAlister, Sharlene O'Hara and Carolyn Ross.

The prize winners were Dave Stanners, Gareth Lawton, Zoe Ballantyne, Linda McGregor, Rory Cameron and Pip Simpson.

2020 ANNUAL DINNER AND RAFFLE

100 Luings breeders, members and friends enjoyed the surroundings of The Market Inn. Newly appointed directors Shona Marshall and Alan Cowens took on the task of selling the raffle tickets with much enthusiasm for the chosen charity –RSABI.

Luings members raised the fantastic amount of **£800. Thank you to all who donated.**

Record Price for Luings Bull.

The Luings Cattle Society staged its 55th Annual Premier Sale at Wallets Mart, Castle Douglas on Friday 7th February 2020.

At the pre-sale show, judged by Alan Cowens, Philiphaugh, Selkirk, selected the champion pair of in calf heifers from Robert McNee Ltd, Benhar selling to SK & S Brown, Woodmarsh, North Bradley for 2,500gns. Reserve champion in calf heifers went to S Murray, Rockcliffe. Top price for in calf heifers was 2,600gns from Robert McNee Ltd being purchased by SK & S Brown. Overall average for 31 in calf heifers forward and sold was 1,619gns (£1,700).

The champion pair of bulling heifers was awarded to D & A Barr, Milkieston which went on to sell for 2,400gns to P Simmers, Backmuir. Reserve champion pair of bulling heifers went to Messrs W Graham, Craigdarroch selling to 2,600gns to M Halligan & Burke, Stewartson, Eddleston. Top price for the bulling heifers was 2,600gns (Craigdarroch) with the overall average for 85 bulling heifers forward and sold being 1,610gns (£1,691).

The breed witnessed a new record of 25,000gns for Nunnerie Xenon from CC MacArthur & Co, Nunnerie, being purchased by Mr. T Renwick & Sons, Blackhouse. Of the 33 bulls forward for sale, 31 found new homes giving a clearance rate of just over 94% and three bulls being purchased 10,000gns and over.

Other prices: - 14,000gns was Benhar Xerox from Robert McNee Ltd, Benhar, purchased by P Simmers, Backmuir; R & H McNee, Finlurg went on to sell Finlurg Xplosion to Kedzlie Farms, Galashiels for 10,000gns. Overall average for bulls was 5,865gns (£6,158).

2020 Open Day– Nunnerie, Elvanfoot, Biggar – 14th August.

Unfortunately, our open day has become the latest victim of the Covid 19 and has been cancelled on the 14th August. Let's all keep safe and return stronger in 2021.