

# MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

Summer 2022

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## OPEN DAY

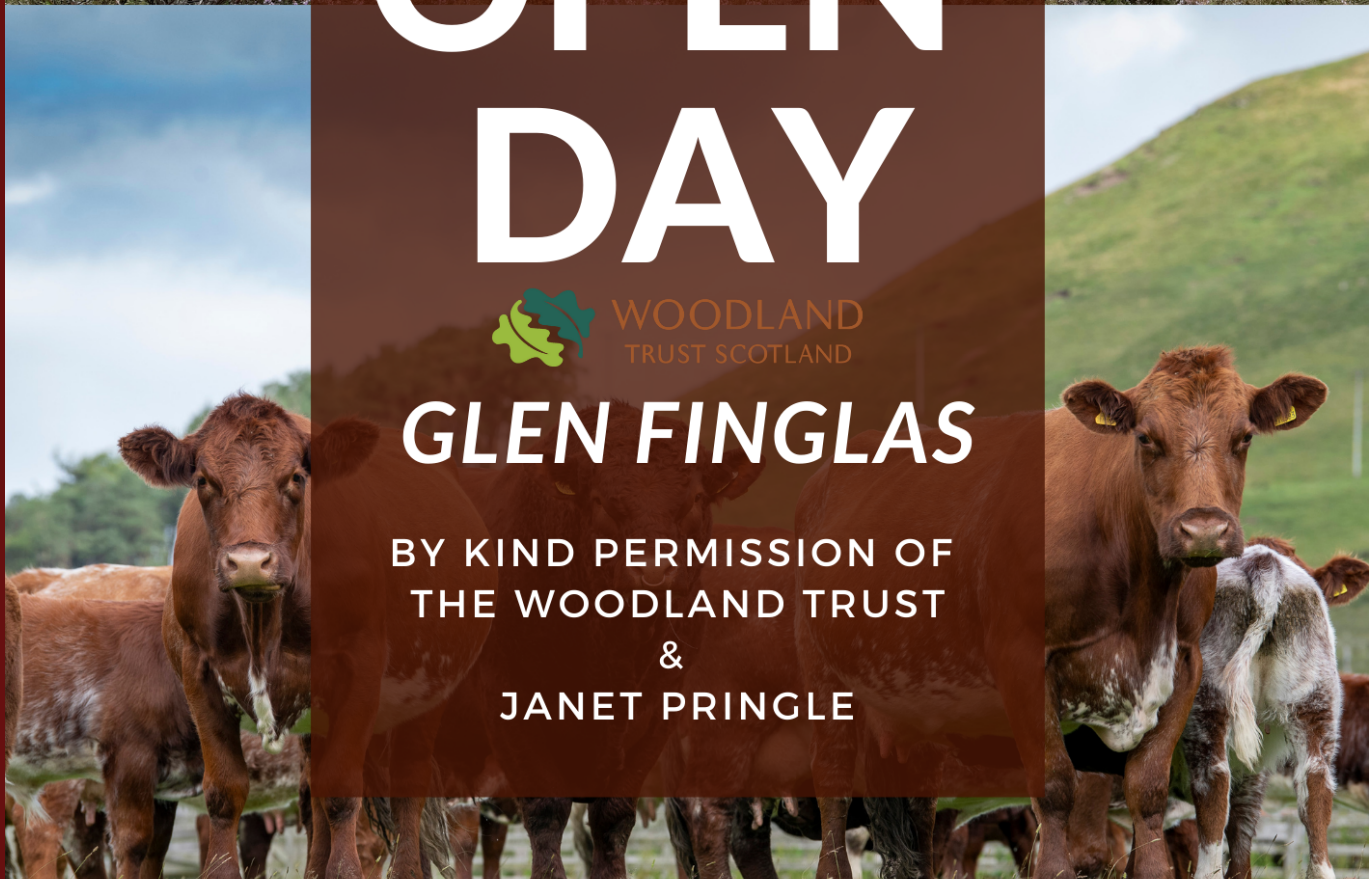


WOODLAND  
TRUST SCOTLAND

### GLEN FINGLAS

BY KIND PERMISSION OF  
THE WOODLAND TRUST  
&  
JANET PRINGLE

AUGUST 19th, 2022



**Glenfinglas, Brig O' Turk, Callendar FK17 8HR**

by kind permission of The Woodland Trust & Janet Pringle

<https://www.facebook.com/GlenFinglasWTS>

[@thewoodlandtrust](https://twitter.com/thewoodlandtrust)

[#Challenge 125](https://twitter.com/Challenge125)

Please note that the gathering point will be at **Lendrick Steading from 10-11am**, to allow transfer by bus to the tour start point.

**Attendance must be previously notified for both transport and catering purposes. Please register at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/381838117087>**

**If you are supporting *RSABI* #CHALLENGE 125 there is a 15 mile hill road for cyclists**

## Important Dates For Your Diary

**19th Aug 22**

**OPEN DAY**

Glenfinglas, Callander, FK17 8HR

**31 August 22**

Application Deadline for Bull Inspections

Submission Deadline for hair samples (sale bulls)

[www.luingcattlesociety.co.uk/breed-development](http://www.luingcattlesociety.co.uk/breed-development)

**29 October 22**

Autumn Breeding Sale - United Auctions, Stirling  
entries close 16th September

**31 December 22**

Deadline for Census Update on Grassroots

**10 February 23**

Premier Sale - Wallets Marts, Castle Douglas



## OFFICE UPDATE

### APPLICATIONS FOR INSPECTIONS & DAM CLASSIFICATION

We are rapidly approaching the traditional time for inspections of young breeding bulls, which also includes the classification of their dams. Members are invited to make their applications for inspection by 31st August, latest. Application forms are available to download from the website at [www.luingcattlesociety.co.uk/breed-development](http://www.luingcattlesociety.co.uk/breed-development). There is also an online form available at the bottom of the page at the same address.

Bulls which are put forward for inspection should also have had a **DNA analysis result** or have had a hair sample **submitted by 31st August**, to ensure a timely result.

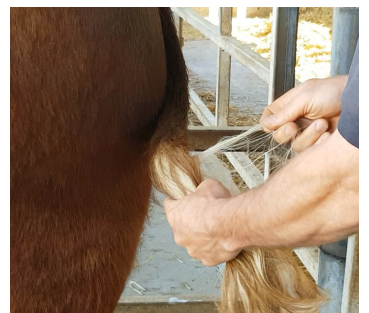
### OFFICE CHANGES

Council have considered and approved a change to the administration arrangements for the Luing Cattle Society, which will take effect from mid-August 2022. Administration work will be carried out by Pedigree Cattle Services (PCS) (owned by the Aberdeen Angus Cattle Society) from this point. In the short to medium term there will be no change to contact details or processes, as these will simply be merged into the PCS office.

Natalie will continue to oversee the Luing office management, while also moving over to work with PCS. The database will continue to be held on Grassroots, but will be administrated by the PCS office team. Post and hair samples can still be sent directly to Natalie. The Council feel that this move will provide flexibility for expansion, mitigate risk and reduce costs for the Society in the longer term.

### DNA SIRE PROFILING

Sires of 2022 born male calves that might be kept for breeding need to be DNA profiled to enable sire verification. If not already done, please take a clean hair sample and put in a clean bag and forward to the office. Please remember to quote the ear number and breeder or origin.



# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

## Young Members Group

The Council is keen to develop a Young Members Group to encourage younger breeders to come together to share their experiences of the breed, and to learn about the breed in a less formal atmosphere. At this stage Council is looking for expressions of interest so that it can gauge whether there is appetite for this venture among the younger members of the breed. If this is of interest to you, please drop us an email - [secretary@luingcattlesociety.co.uk](mailto:secretary@luingcattlesociety.co.uk).

## Performance Recording Proposal - Do you want EBV's for free?

Following recent requests, Council have discussed the merits of a breed-wide initiative to increase the number of breeders regularly recording performance data on both males and females. The aim would be to increase the accuracy of existing performance indexes (more data from more herds increases the comparison and thus the accuracy of the prediction). An exploratory discussion with Signet has resulted in a proposal that would see the Society pay a blanket fee which would enable all breeders to submit data and receive analysis in return, as part of their Luings Society membership. Signet will use this data for both within herd, within breed and across breed comparison. In order to make an assessment of financial efficiency, the Council would be happy to hear from any member who thinks they would make use of this initiative. Please email the secretary with your intention, should this be of interest to you.

## Myostatin

The Breed Development committee, in consultation with the whole Council, continue to monitor results, debate the implications and take advice on Myostatin in the Luings population. Only one variant has been found (F94L) thus far, and it exists in 25% of the tested population. The prevalence has been stable at circa 25% for a considerable part of the testing period. Council have sought and received advice on whether it is appropriate, feasible and legal to restrict 2-copy bulls from Society approval and sale. Council have agreed that it is neither legal or appropriate to impose such restrictions. The Council will of course continually monitor any new evidence available, to include any changes in Zootechnic regulations.

## The Chairman says...

*"The Luings breed is perhaps the only breed testing for myostatin that has not found any of the disruptive variants, which can give us a great deal of confidence in our cattle. To help breeders make informed decisions, F94L genotype results will continue to be published. Together with the knowledge of their herds and markets, this strategy allows breeders to follow their own breeding policy. I have great faith in our breeders continuing to make good decisions and breed good cattle, while maintaining the diversity required by the growing interest in our breed.*

*There is a clear mandate from the breed founders that the Luings is about the steer, and the mother of that steer – and we have a marvellous advantage as a maternal breed that produces a useful purebred finishing animal."*