

SIMMENTAL

As most of you already know, the finished cattle price is the bottom line that drives our trade. It is at last starting to show signs of recovery, having been at its lowest level since pre-horsemeat scandal days in early 2013, with predictions that the rise could be quite rapid in the coming months. This will hopefully help instill some confidence back in to the market, where money remains extremely tight following the winter of 2017/2018. The extra costs incurred that winter have had a ripple effect throughout the industry, which will likely continue for a year or so yet. The Brexit situation - in, out, deal, no deal - has further created uncertainty and scaremongering in many areas. Furthermore, we now have to deal with vociferous anti red meat campaigns; we must remain positive about the benefits of our industry's produce, and not be dragged into the vitriolic name-calling of those with differing opinions. Be positive about beef!

Our spring sales have seen some selective trade, and, on the whole, good bulls have sold well. We must all remember that the commercial farmer creates in excess of 90% of our sales, and more and more are looking to buy a better quality bull to increase the profitability of their own unit. The commercial farmer's family relies on the performance of his cattle; we should be mindful of that at all times when considering quality offered at our sales. In recent years we have seen huge lifts in the quality of animals offered for sale – that trend needs to keep moving in the same direction.

Wishing everyone the best of luck for the summer show season

Neil Shand
Chief Executive

STIRLING FEBRUARY BULL SALES, 17th - 18th February 2019

98 bulls sold through the ring to an average of £4975, achieving a clearance rate of 63%, with eight bulls selling to 10,000 gns and over.



ISLAVALE ILLUSIVE 17 - topped the day's trade at 14,000gns. Bred by Mr WS Stronach, and purchased by HJ Warnock, Carrowdore, Co. Down (Templefyn)



ISLAVALE INVINCIBLE 17 - joint second highest price at 11,000gns. Bred by Mr WS Stronach, purchased by Seamus O'Kane, Drumquin, Co. Tyrone. (Dressogue)



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BLACKFORD ISLAND WARRIOR 17 - bred by Mr WG Macpherson (A Firm), and sold to D & G Manson and Sons, Brodieshill, Forres for 11,000gns.



BLACKFORD ISLAND ROCK 17 - bred by Mr WG Macpherson (A Firm), and sold for 11,000gns to A & B Munro, Beaully (Wellhouse)



DENIZES IMPRESSIVE 17 - bred by MA Barlow, sold for 10,000gns to JH and VG Wood, Preston. (Popes)



ISLAVALE INPUT 17 - bred by Mr WS Stronach, sold for 10,000gns to MJ & A Mill, Cardenden (Shawsmill)



INNERWICK IVOR 17 - bred by Mr & Mrs L Moffat, sold for 10,000gns to Delfur Farms, Dundurcas, Rothes (Delfur)



WOODHALL INSTINCT 17 - bred by H & J Macaskill, exhibited by Geoff and Kate Anderson. Sold for 10,000gns to Delfur Farms, Dundurcas, Rothes. (Delfur)



STERLING FCUK IMPULS - Female Champion, bred by Boddington Estates Ltd, exhibited by Mr J McMillan, sold for 13,000gns to Backmuir Farm, Keith



DENIZES FANCY THERESE 5TH - with her heifer calf at foot. Bred by MA Barlow, sold for 5,000gns to DL & S Currie, Pinclanty, Ayr

ABERDEEN & NORTHERN MART SALE, 27th February 2019



TILLYEVE INVINCIBLE 17 - bred by Messrs C & M Bruce, sold for 6,000gns to Mr G D Wilson, Huntly.



ISLAVALE IVAN 17 - bred by WS Stronach, sold to Messrs R & J Francis, Inch for 5,500gns

NEWARK SALE, 23rd March 2019



MIDHOPE I AM THE BEST - Female and Overall Champion. Bred by WJ Hollingsworth, sold for 4300gns to SW Smith, Alfreton, Derbyshire. (Oakerfields).



HEATHBROW INFAMOUS 17 - Bred by DA & LA Sapsed, sold for 2800gns to Baumber Park Farms, Horncastle.



BURGHBRIDGE ISAIAH 17 - Bred by CJG Clarke and Partners, sold for 2800gns to RG Taylor & Sons, Skegness.

UPCOMING SALES

Worcester – 4th May

Stirling – 6th May

Worcester – 21st September

Stirling – 20th – 22nd October

CARLISLE SALE, 12th April 2019



DENIZES INVICTUS 17 - Male & Overall Champion, bred by MA Barlow, sold for 4000gns to Messrs Fleming & Sons, Kelso



CASTLEWIGG IFAN 17 - Bred by Frank Gwynne, joint second top price, sold for 3000gns to McDowall & Co, Newton Stewart



CORSKIE INGENUITY 17 - Bred by WJ & J Green, also sold for 3000gns to Messrs McBryde, Lockerbie





Denizes Simmentals

Semen for sale ■ Something for everybody

Blackford Galaxy
ROYAL HIGHLAND SHOW CHAMPION 2018



Sire: Curlieu Knight
Dam: Blackford Aero

First two sons sold for 11,000gns each
at Stirling Feb 2019.
We are very impressed with Galaxy's calves.

£10 per straw, £60 Royalty

Denizes Hamish
"MUSCLE MACHINE"



Sire: Dinton Nautical
Dam: Auroch Eve

Dam Auroch Eve was two-time Royal
Highland Show Champion 2015, 2016.
First sons will go to Stirling in Feb 2020.

£50 per straw, no Royalty

Slievenagh International (PP)
HOMOZYGOUS POLLED OUTCROSS



Sire: Samson
Dam: Linde Laika (PP)

Half a share with
Slievenagh Simmentals.
Ideal for Heifers.

£20 per straw, no Royalty

Barlow Brothers Littlewood Hall Farm, Croston, Lancashire ■ Call 07921 674041 or 07850 602679

SCOTTISH CLUB EVENTS

6th May – Sale Simmental x females.

Scottish Club sale; commercial Simmental females.

CLASSES FOR PENS 4 BULLING HEIFERS, AND SIMMENTAL X HEIFER WITH CALF AT FOOT.

Entries to -United Auctions, Stirling.

13th-14th July - Herd visit Weekend to North -East Scotland.

Visits to Islavale, Auchorachan, Backmuir, Rockytop, visit to Glenlivet distillery. please contact Richard 07739 079403 or Nadia 07585554463 for details.

2nd June 11am - Drumsleed (by kind permission of the Smith family).

Herd visit and cattle dressing training day. Open to all ages. Please let Richard or Nadia know if attending.

26th-27th July - Scottish National Show- Kelso.

Contact Tom Henderson, Show Convenor for details 07989 528357 or Richard 07739 079403. www.borderunion.co.uk for schedules.

OFFICE UPDATES & REMINDERS

• **Mandatory society sale requirements:**

1. DNA for sire verification must be received at the office **before close of entry** for the specific sale for which the animal is entered.
2. Herd Health Declaration must be received at the office **before close of entry** for the specific sale for which the animal is entered
3. All other Society sale requirements can be found on pages 10-11 and 207-208 of the 2018 Annual Review.

Any new or inexperienced breeder who wishes to ensure they meet Society sale criteria, please contact the Society office well in advance of any sale closing date. Late arrival of DNA and health declarations seriously slows down catalogue production, and hinders effective sale promotion, which is to the detriment of those breeders who provide the correct information on time.

- **GDPR** – Show season is fast approaching. In order for us to publish details of class winners on the website, or in the annual review, we must have received your GDPR form. If you haven't done so already, please ensure you send it back to the office as soon as possible. A copy of the form can be downloaded from the website.
- **Email addresses** – As technology continues to move forward, so do we! Please ensure the Society holds a valid email address for you. Invoices/query letters etc are being emailed to members rather than being sent in the post. You can email an updated email address to information@britishsimmental.co.uk

- **Council** – Iain Green (Scotland), David Donnelly (England), and Peter Burgess (England) will retire from Council in October 2019. We sincerely thank them all for their support and hard work. Election papers will be sent out to the membership in due course.
- **23rd May - NBA Beef Expo** - North West Auctions, Cumbria
- **30th May - Scottish Beef Event** - North Bethelnie Farm, Oldmeldrum, Aberdeenshire AB51 0AN.
- **English National Show 26th & 27th June** – The dinner will be held on the 26th June. Please contact the office to book your tickets.
- **Young Members Trip 23rd – 25th August 2019.** This year it will be held in Scotland. Arriving in Lanarkshire on Friday 23rd for a farm walk at Mr & Mrs Ward & Sons (Westridge herd). Stock judging, farm tour and cattle clipping at Richard McCulloch's (Overhill House herd) on Saturday the 24th, followed by the presentation evening.
- **Open Day - Sunday 22nd September 2019** – Pool Farm, Silver Moor Lane, Banwell, Somerset. By kind permission of David Edwards and family. More details to follow nearer the time.

Due to the ever-changing bus timetables, Sue Walley regrettably left the Society on the 11th January for pastures new. We wish Sue all the very best for the future. Louise Smith has joined the Society on a part-time/ temporary basis assisting Julie and Karen with sales and registrations.



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PLANNED SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Wednesday 29th July 2020

OPEN DAY – David and Rosemary Cornthwaite
Balgray Hill Farm, Lockerbie

Thursday 30th July 2020

10.30am – Livestock entry to Carlisle market
4.00pm – FARM WALK AND SOCIAL EVENING – Newbie Mains
Farm, Dumfriesshire

Friday 31st July 2020

1.00pm – Show day – Carlisle market
7.30pm Dinner Dance – The Shepherd's Inn, Carlisle

Saturday 1st August 2020

10.30am – sale of animals

All times subject to confirmation

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE.

PLEASE CALL 02476 696513

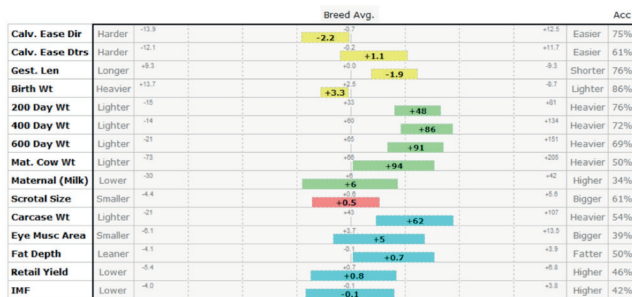
SUMMARY POINTS FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING IN DECEMBER 2018

- **Club Meetings** - Future club meetings will be held in alternate years due to recent drop-off in attendance. There will not be a club meeting in 2019.
- **Office Relocation** - The office move is being planned for the summer of 2019. Exit negotiations have started.



- **Society young bull proven scheme** – At this stage, it was agreed to import a further 300 straws of Linde General, which will be distributed to performance recording members at cost price; transfer and delivery costs to be paid by the member. Linde General's EBVs are shown in the graph below from July 16 - February 19. The changes are considerable, and he has moved into the top 5% of the breed. Please contact the office to order Linde General semen.

EBV Graph for LINDE GENERAL (P)



The Society is currently looking for young bull/s aged 14-18 months, which would be suitable for use in breed improvement programmes and provide an alternative to those being offered by AI companies. Should any member consider they have a suitable bull, please contact the Society. The only imperative criterium for selection is that the bull must have been bred out of a classified cow; all other considerations are open for negotiation.

- **Large Entries of bulls to sale**- When a contemporary group of bulls is entered to sale, and one is returned with an incorrect sire verification, the EBVs for the whole group could be affected. The EBVs can be corrected on the next blup run, but in cases where there is not time to do this, a commercial purchaser is potentially buying a bull with a completely different set of EBVs from those advertised in the catalogue. We are considering removal of the whole contemporary group from the sale in this instance.
- **ZooTech Regulations** – regulations were updated in November 2018. The new ratification allows for graded cattle to be accepted in to the herd book a generation earlier at 93.75% rather than 97%. The Council agreed to retain the use of the register, it is available for members should they require it.
- **50th Anniversary** - Outline plans have been put in place for the 50th anniversary celebrations in 2020. All times are subject to confirmation
 - **Wednesday 29th July** - Proposed Commercial open day – David Cornthwaite
 - **Thursday 30th July** - entry to market from 10.30am
 - **Thursday 30th July** - 7pm BBQ Newbiemains
 - **Friday 31st July** - 1.30pm – Show of all cattle
 - **Friday 31st July** - 7.30pm Celebration dinner
 - **Saturday 1st August** 10.30am - Sale of Leading Ladies
- Show entry fees will be sponsored by H&H and BSCS; normal fees will apply for sale cattle
- Sub Committee to help with organising event. Consists of Bridget Borlase, Simon Key, Jim Goldie, Michael Barlow, Stewart Stronach, Neil Shand, Julie Holmes.
- Prize money; 1st £250, 2nd £175, 3rd £100, 4th £75, 5th £50, 6th £40, 7th £30 and onwards.
- Young Handlers Classes agreed- 2 categories; Under 21 & over 21, and an overall winner