



BRITISH WHITE CATTLE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

SOUTHFIELD ROAD, WOODBASTWICK, NORWICH, NORFOLK NR13 6AL
Tel: (01603) 722288 Fax: (01603) 721168 E.mail: BrtWhiteCS.aol.com

MARCH 2008

Dear Member,

Welcome to the March newsletter. The first two months of 2008 have been very buoyant with a good number of cattle bought and sold and several new enquiries about the breed. This seems to be against all the odds considering the normally quiet time in January and February, high feed prices and Blue Tongue restrictions. In the words of the Chuck Berry song 'it only shows you never can tell'. Thank you for the help and encouragement so many of you have given, and continue to give, to new breeders.

We do not yet know how the Blue Tongue will develop as spring and summer unfolds as far as sales, shows, events and general trading is concerned. Having spoken to the Show Societies over the last few days they certainly are all intending to go ahead as normal. They tell me that DEFRA is happy with the current arrangements and if the shows are not able to go ahead it will be due to some E.U. ruling. I have listed below some facts from the latest Blue Tongue stakeholders meeting of 20th February. Please do contact your Vet and put your name on a list for Blue Tongue vaccine. The Protection Zone will get priority but this is likely to continue to expand. There was some discussion about rare and minority breeds also being given priority but RBST are unable to confirm this is the case at present.

Please send anything in for the June newsletter by 31st May please. Angela

BLUE TONGUE

Following 66 cases confirmed during 2007, another 15 cases have now been confirmed in 2008. These are all in cattle and have been found through pre-movement testing during the Vector Free period. All of these are thought to have been infected in 2007 and there is no evidence of the virus circulating in 2008 so far.

Over 40,000 blood samples have been tested pre movement.

22.5 million doses of vaccine have been ordered licensed for cattle and sheep.

Cattle need 2 doses 28 days apart. Effective

immunity should develop 14 days after 2nd jab. Cost of vaccine has not yet been decided but should be one standard price of between 50p and £1 per dose.

Farmers will have to pay full cost of both vaccination and administration. The plan is to begin vaccinating known infected premises, followed by stock within the Protection Zone, then the Surveillance Zone and then to cover the whole of England once the vaccine becomes available.

IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO MOVE CATTLE OUT OF THE RESTRICTED AREA INTO A FREE AREA, THEY MUST BE TESTED AND MOVED BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON 15th MARCH 2008. THIS IS WHEN THE VECTOR FREE PERIOD ENDS

**HERD VISIT, WEST SUSSEX, SATURDAY
24th MAY 2008**

Jeff and Marion Scotcher have very kindly offered to host an open day on Saturday 24th May 2008. The day will consist of:

10.30 Meet and coffee then

Visit the Amberley Brooks for a talk on conservation grassland and farming within its constraints

1 pm Lunch

After lunch there will be a talk by a representative from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Visit the Pulborough Brooks reserve, owned by the RSPB

Visit the Bridge Homestead Herd of British White Cattle.

Back to Bridge Cottages, Greatham for tea.

This promises to be a very interesting and informative day.

Please let Angela know if you would like to come so we know how many to cater for.

(01603) 722288 Thankyou

**FINAL DATE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS AND ARTICLES FOR THE
2008 BREED JOURNAL WILL BE 31st
MARCH 2008
MARION (01798) 875588**

SHOWS - 2008

Although the Blue Tongue situation as the summer progresses is still unknown, as far as the show societies are concerned it is 'Business as Usual'. Please prepare your cattle and make your entries in the hope that they can be exhibited in the normal way. Depending on how the shows run will also determine how the Bull, Cow and Heifer of the Year Trophies are judged. Hopefully qualification for these trophies will run as usual, however things may change depending on how the spring and summer unfolds. Hopefully more in the June newsletter on this.

The following shows have designated British White classes:

South Suffolk - Sunday 11th May 2008

Secretary Geoff Bailes (01638) 750879

Entries closing - 26th April

Royal Bath and West Show - May 28th – 31st

May 2008. Stall bookings close on 15th March

Schedules available from the Livestock Secretary:

(01749) 822209

British White cattle need only attend on Saturday

2nd June, can be admitted between 6.30 and 8.30

pm on Friday evening or between 6 and 8 am on

Saturday

South of England - June 5th - 7th 2008

Secretary Mrs. E. Cuff (01444) 892700

Entries closing - 1st April

East of England - June 13th - 15th 2008

Livestock Manager Kerry Buttriss

(01733) 234451

Entries closing May 6th 2008

Please note this will be named entries **not** just stalls booked as in 2007

Cheshire Show - June 17th and 18th 2008

Schedules available from (01565) 650200

Entries close 16th May

British Whites will be judged on Tuesday 17th and

it is preferred they stay for 2 days but not essential

Royal Norfolk - June 25th and 25th 2008

Secretary Mary Wright (01603) 731965

Entries closing 11th April

Royal Show - July 3rd - 6th 2008

Secretary (02476) 696969

Entries closing - 30th April

Maximum 5 stalls, as the entry closing date has

been extended **no** late entries will be permitted

Royal Welsh - July 21st –24th July 2008

Secretary (01982) 553683

Entries closing: 7th May

Newbury Show - 20th and 21st September 2008

Secretary: Mr. Ian Wilson (01635) 247111

Entries close: 1st August

The following shows have rare or traditional breed classes and have had British White exhibitors present in previous years:

Heathfield and District, East Sussex 24th May

Mr. N. Wilson (01435) 864587

Entries close 2nd April

Newark and Notts Show -10th and 11th May.

There are no designated British White classes but

the Society do offer a rosette for the best British

White in the Traditional Breed class.

Secretary (0870) 224 1036 Entries close 26th

March

Three Counties Show - June 13th - 15th

Catalogues from The Showground, Malvern

(01684) 584900

Entries closing 24th April 2008

Rare Breeds Sunday 15th only

Tendering Hundred Show, Essex

13th July 2007

Currently traditional breed class, will hold British

White classes if enough entries (01206) 231821

Entries close 19th June 2008

Singleton, Rare and Traditional Breeds -

Sunday 20th July

Mr J. Bushrod (01243) 811363

Cranleigh Show, Surrey - Sunday 3rd August

Mrs Troughton (01306) 712050

Edenbridge and Oxsted - Sunday 24th and

Monday 25th August. Entries close 15th July

Mrs. J.Shearman (01737) 645843

Dorchester Show - 6th and 7th September

Traditional and Rare Breed classes

(01305) 264249

Westmorland County - 11th September

(01539) 567804 Entries close 18th August

INSURANCE AT SHOWS - REMINDER

The British White Cattle Society has public liability insurance which covers animals representing the Society at open days or on a tradestand. This cover does not, however, cover members' cattle being shown in that member's name at a show.

We would strongly advise all exhibitors to check their public liability insurance to ensure they would be covered should an accident occur with their cattle at a show.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Mr. and Mrs. M. Campbell, Castle Farm,
Arncliffe, Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 5QE
(01756) 770269

Herd prefix: Yew Cogar

Mrs. J. Hancox, Butts Farm, South Cerney,
Cirencester, Gloucestershire. GL7 5QE
(01285) 869414

Mr. M. Hill, Cressy Hall, Gosberton, Lincoln-
shire. PE11 4JD (01775) 840084

Mr. M. McHugh, Tossbeck Farm, Middleton in
Lonsdale, Cumbria. LA6 2LZ (01524) 276244
Herd prefix: Tossbeck

Mrs. N. Miller, Low Crompton Farm, Royton,
Nr. Oldham, Lancashire. OL2 6YP
(01616) 24 6798

Herd prefix: Low Roy

Mr. J. Shakerley, 2 Bodinnick Heights, Boddinick,
Fowey, Cornwall. PL23 1LX

Mrs. P. Wood, North Ardoyne, Inch, Aberdeenshire
AB52 6RR

Wye Community Farm, 2 Briar Close, Bramble
Lane, Wye, Ashford, Kent. TN25 5HB
(01233) 813313

TRANSPORT OF LIVESTOCK**Please remember:**

From the end of April 2008 under new Welfare in Transport regulations anybody transporting cattle, sheep, pigs, horses or poultry by road over distances of 40 miles in connection with their economic activity, will need to be assessed in their competency. All transporters and handlers will need to take a straightforward test on technical rules such as an animal's fitness to travel, loading, unloading, means of transport, space allowance, combinations of stock which can be travelled together etc.

Assessment for competency is carried out by independent bodies agreed by defra and the test can be taken at a variety of locations such as Agricultural Colleges, slaughter houses, NFU offices and larger transport yards.

Sanctions will be taken against transporters not in possession of such a certificate by the end of April 2008.

For more information please contact the Welfare in Transport helpline on 0845 603 8395

**TRADITIONAL CATTLE BREEDS SALE
WORCESTER 12th APRIL 2008**

There will be a sale of traditional native cattle breeds at
Worcester Livestock Market,
Nunnery Way,
Worcester
On Saturday 12th April 2008

Worcester Market is (at the time of writing) in a Bluetongue Surveillance Zone and can accept entries from both the Surveillance Zone and the Clear Zone (although cattle coming from a Clear Zone cannot return to that zone if not sold)

TB pre-movement testing, as from 1st March 2007 all cattle aged 42 days and over are required to be TB tested negative within 60 days of movement off the farm if you are in a 1 or 2 year testing period. If you are in an area where testing is less frequent i.e over 2 years, you do not have to be pre movement tested.

Entry is open to all Traditional Native Breeds and is for registered stock only

Entry fees are £20.00 + VAT (£23.50) per lot

Entries close Friday 7th March

Please telephone McCartneys' office for entry forms (01905) 769770

MELTON MOWBRAY SHOW AND SALE

The sixth Melton Mowbray Show and Sale will take place on Friday 12th and Saturday 13th September 2008 at Melton Mowbray Market. There will be a show on Friday 12th and the cattle will be sold on Saturday 13th.

It will be administered, once again, directly from the Auctioneers. For entry forms and catalogues please contact:

**Melton Mowbray Market, Scalford Road
Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire.**

LE13 1JY (01664) 562971

Closing dates for paper entries 20th July

On line entries 25th July

More details in later newsletters

HERD COMPETITION 2008

The competition for the Randolph Turpin Perpetual Trophy for the Herd of the Year was judged for the sixth time in the summer of 2007. A big thank you to all those who took part and congratulations to Angie and Ruhi Hamilton's Dallyashes Herd in Carmarthen who was the overall winner. Angie and Ruhi now have the dubious honour of travelling the country to judge the 2008 competition.

Three silver plates, which were historically presented for the old Midland British White breeders club, have been re-incarnated and were presented in 2007 for the best small, medium and large herd in the national competition. Mr. David Flynn, stockman for Lady Iliffe at Yattendon Estates, judged the 2007 competition and selected the following herds as winners in each of these size categories, congratulations to all them all.

Best small herd - Mr. Peter Schofield's Latchygors Herd

Best medium herd - Mr. Simon Willes Ladbarrow Herd

Best large herd - Mr. Mick Wright's Castleton Herd

Also deserving great praise are Sean and Michelle Partington and their Savin Hill Herd who won the British White Cattle Society Enterprise Cup for the second time since it was kindly presented by Colin and Pauline Cooke in 2004. This competition will be judged at the same time as the Herd Competition and you will be automatically eligible when sending in your entry form. This cup will be awarded to the member whom the judge feels is being most 'enterprising' with his or her herd of British Whites and this can be interpreted in many different ways.

You are invited to enter your herd for the competitions and the entry form is enclosed with this newsletter. The entry fee will again be £10, this fee going a **very small** way towards paying some of the judge's costs. If I could receive the entry forms back at this office by the 20th March that will give Angie and Ruhi plenty of time to plan their route. They are intending to set off on their travels in on the 18th May and allowing until 31st May to complete the judging. Let's give them plenty of cattle to look at!

Thank you.

MILLENIUM PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM

Many of you will remember way back in 2001 there was some discussion regarding the production of a millennium photograph album. The background to this was that at the memorial service of our former President, Mr. John Cator, held in October 1999, the retiring collection was made on behalf of the British White Cattle Society. Much discussion then followed as to how to use the money donated to provide a fitting tribute to his memory. Henry Cator suggested that a photographic record be made of the British White cattle and their breeders going into the new millennium. We would like to produce a photograph album containing photographs of as many herds within the breed as possible, this should provide a pictorial record of our cattle for the future.

It would be wonderful if you were all able to contribute to an album, which will become part of the breed's history, by sending in two photographs that represent your herd. These can be either of individual animals or groups, taken on the farm or at an event and it would be nice if the breeders, owners or representatives were included where possible, the greater variety the better. The photos will, ideally, be 7" x 5", colour or black and white and marked on the back with some information of the contents.

Some of you did send in photographs when this idea was originally proposed and I will contact you to see if you would like to update your contribution!

For those of you who have ever entered the herd competition and who are short of time (or a camera) it may be possible to obtain some photographs from the judges. Hundreds of photographs have been taken over the six years this competition has been judged!

Nell Matheson has very kindly agreed to help with the compilation of this album and we are also very lucky to have Mr. Andrew Renshaw amongst our membership. Andrew has a great knowledge of the printing and publishing business and has already offered us some very useful advice.

We are aiming to publish this book in 2009 and knowing how quickly the months roll by it would be good if the photographs could begin to come in as soon as possible. If you send them to the office at Woodbastwick then I will liaise with Nell as they arrive, it would be marvellous to have as many of the herds represented as possible. Angela

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2008

The AGM will be on Saturday October 4th 2008 at Valley View Farm, Leire, Leicestershire by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Colin Cooke. This will celebrate the centenary of the Faygate Herd established in 1908 by Sir Claud Alexander in Sussex and sold to Mr. and Mrs. Cooke in 1989.

There will be an Executive Meeting at 10 am followed by the Annual General Meeting at 11 am. Lunch will be at 1 pm and we will then have a tour of the Faygate Herd after lunch. There will be more details with directions and suggestions for places to stay in the June newsletter

RARE BREEDS SURVIVAL TRUST WATCHLIST

Founded in 1973 the RBST is a conservation organisation whose aim is to secure a sustainable future for native British breeds of farm animals identified as being rare or threatened within the UK. The annual Watchlist is based on numbers of registered breeding females and is how the RBST measures a breed's rarity.

Critical	less than 150
Endangered	less than 250
Vulnerable	less than 450
At Risk	less than 750
Minority	less than 1500
Mainstream	more than 1500

Genetic basis and breed density and distribution are also taken into account

The British White will be categorised as Category 5 - Minority for 2008

BULL CALF REGISTRATIONS

The following bull calves have been fully registered up to 29th February 2008:

The Albany Herd - Mr. L. Cook

Albany Pablo LMC107-03225 17/11/07
Sire: Dallyashes Heart of Oak Dam: Albany Petal
Albany Pancho LMC107-03227 22/11/07
Sire: Dallyashes Heart of Oak
Dam: Albany Posy
Albany Ole LMC107-0097E 08/09/07
Sire: Dallyashes Heart of Oak
Dam: Albany One Dollar

Albany Sierra LMC107-0099E 25/09/07
Sire: Dallyashes Heart of Oak
Dam: Albany Smasher

The Hevingham Herd - Miss D. Birkbeck

Hevingham Minstrel 11/05/07 HEV107-03221
Sire: Hevingham Sheikh Dam: Hevingham Minuet
Hevingham Statesman 15/05/07 HEV107-03223
Sire: De Beauvoir Harlequin Dam: Hevingham Starlight.

BULL CALF NOTIFICATIONS

The following bull calves have been notified up until 28th February 2008:

The De Beauvoir Herd - Ms. A. Dunn

UK240353/200136 25/12/07
Sire: De Beauvoir Huckleberry Finn
Dam: Kelmarsh Marigold
UK240353/500139 12/02/08
Sire: De Beauvoir Moorcroft
Dam: Westwick Virginia

The Dallyashes Herd - Mrs. A. and Miss R. Hamilton

UK740712/700097 17/12/07
Sire: Albany Pendil Dam: Dallyashes Teaseloft
UK740712/300100 14/01/08
Sire: Albany Pendil Dam: Dallyashes Tarradiddle
UK740712/400101 19/01/08

INDUSTRY NEWS

2008 is expected to see a further decline in prime cattle supplies accompanied by a recovery in exports and a reduction in imports. Although cow beef supplies are expected to increase this is unlikely to undermine the strengthening market for home produced beef.

2007 saw prime cattle supplies down 2.3%, this being in line with the continued decline in the national dairy and suckler herds, the suckler herd reducing by a further 2% to June 2007. However a national increase of around 12kgs in average carcase weights due to heavier beasts and a greater proportion of steers, led prime beef production to be 1.4% higher than in 2006. A very much higher feed cost since last autumn is considered likely to cause a reduction in slaughter weights for 2008 and onwards, with production forecast to be reduced by 1% as a result.

Disease restrictions affected exports in 2007. With no further disruptions they are expected to grow from 76,000 tonnes to 85,000 tonnes in 2008

STOCK FOR SALE

BULLS

Miss Birkbeck, Norwich (01603) 279202

Hevingham Sovereign 04/05/06 Sire: De Beauvoir
Harlequin Dam: Hevingham Solo

Hevingham Flavius 17/05/06 Sire: De Beauvoir
Harlequin Dam: Hevingham Flax

Ms. A. Dunn, Essex (01268) 710112

Yearling bull for sale, details on request

Mr. A. Fisher, North Yorkshire (01423) 711776

Tollesbury Quercus 21/01/06 Sire: Dallyashes
Heart of Oak, Dam: Tollesbury Jester

Mr. J. Hair, Lincolnshire (07973) 449115

Lagan Icarus 25/02/02 Sire: De Beauvoir St Louis,
Dam: Lagan Dig for Gold

Mrs. A. Hamilton, Carmarthen (01267) 253697

Dallyashes Thatch 08/02/07 Sire: Albany Pendil
Dam: Dallyashes Tarradiddle

Dallyashes lorry and caravan available after July
08, more details in June newsletter

Mrs. N. Hosford, Dorset (01258) 880258

Brooklands Magnum 02/11/03

Sire: Woodbastwick Randolph Turpin

Dam: Brooklands Snowdrop Very Quiet

Mr. G. Lethbridge, Devon (01548) 821089

Bickford Robin 11/01/03 Sire: Bishopswood

Luther Dam: Crug Bach Eclipse

Yetsonais Ezra 21/04/06 Sire: De Beauvoir

Lietuva Dam: Whitecroft Hettie

Dr. V. St Joseph, Essex (01621) 868531

Tollesbury Boromir 16/06/06 Sire: Woodbastwick

Bryan Boru Dam: Tollesbury Lady Victorious

Mrs. J. Fuller, Essex (01787) 460329

Five 2007 crossbred steers by De Beauvoir Hudson

Wanted - Bull for hire

Mr. Terry Durston, Chippenham, Wiltshire
(01666) 510509 Bull required for the summer.

FEMALES

Miss Birkbeck, Norwich (01603) 279202

In calf heifers and a selection of bulling and year-
ling heifers, all by Hevingham Domingo or
De Beauvoir Harlequin

**Mr. W. Christie, Northumberland
(01434) 673441**

De Beauvoir Merkys 01/10/03 by De Beauvoir
Harlequin. Steer calf at foot born 26/12/07 by Sta-
bleiser bull. A.I'd 10/02/08 to Woodbastwick
Randolph Turpin

Firtree Brier 23/02/05 by Hevingham Falstaff.
Heifer calf at foot by Hereford bull born 25/10/07.
A.I'd 13/01/08 to Woodbastwick Randolph Turpin
and P.D'd six weeks in calf.

Mr. J. Curwen, Lancashire (01524) 791260

Selection of cows, in calf heifers, bulling heifers
and maiden heifers. Details on request.

Ms. A. Dunn, Essex (01268) 710112

Two cows with calves at foot

One cow due to calve very soon

1 yearling heifer

Full details on request

Mr. A. Fisher, North Yorkshire (01423) 711776

Selection of females for sale

Mr. M. Forster, Warwickshire (07990) 530593

Elgany Eladora Born beginning February 2008.

Sire: Elgany Mountaineer Dam: Elgany Perfection
Potential show heifer. For sale at weaning.

Mr. H. Mitchell, Gloucestershire (01242) 820932

Selection of maiden heifers, bulling heifers and
steers for sale. Also some older cow. Will need
TB testing before removal.

Mr. J. Warrington, Powys (01938) 590235

Needing to reduce numbers a little. Choice of six
cows, 1 heifer and some young stock. Running
with, or by, Hevingham Dante.

CASTLETON HERD - FOURTH PRODUCTION SALE

Mr. Mick Wright is planning the fourth production
sale from the Castleton herd of British White cattle.
The planning of this sale is, obviously, being com-
plicated by the current, and ongoing, Blue Tongue
situation.

It is likely to take place at the end of May or the
beginning of June, with Saturday 7th June 2008
being the most likely date at the moment. (Blue
Tongue restrictions permitting).

Full details will be sent out to all members once
they are available.

**Mick Wright, Crickhowell, Powys.
(01874) 730990**

WANTED

Good price paid for pure bred finished British
White cattle.

Please contact Sean Partington (01539) 568410

**J. Martin and Sons, Grange Farm, Haddon,
Peterborough. (01733) 240060 or
(07801) 449285**

Looking for steers or heifers from 12 months
upwards for finishing, within 2 hours (100 miles)
from Peterborough please.