

BRITISH WHITE CATTLE SOCIETY

MAR 2026

NEWS



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REGARDING HIHEALTH
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CLOSURE**

**CONTACT BWCS BREED SECRETARY SARAH COOK
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TO STAY UP TO DATE BETWEEN NEWSLETTERS, VISIT OUR WEBSITE

BRITISHWHITECATTLE.CO.UK



Follow us on social media for more!



MEMBER NOTICES

Hard Copy Herd Books

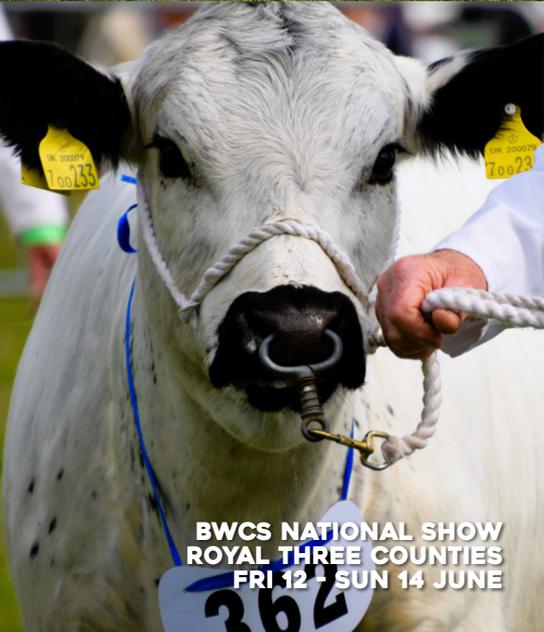
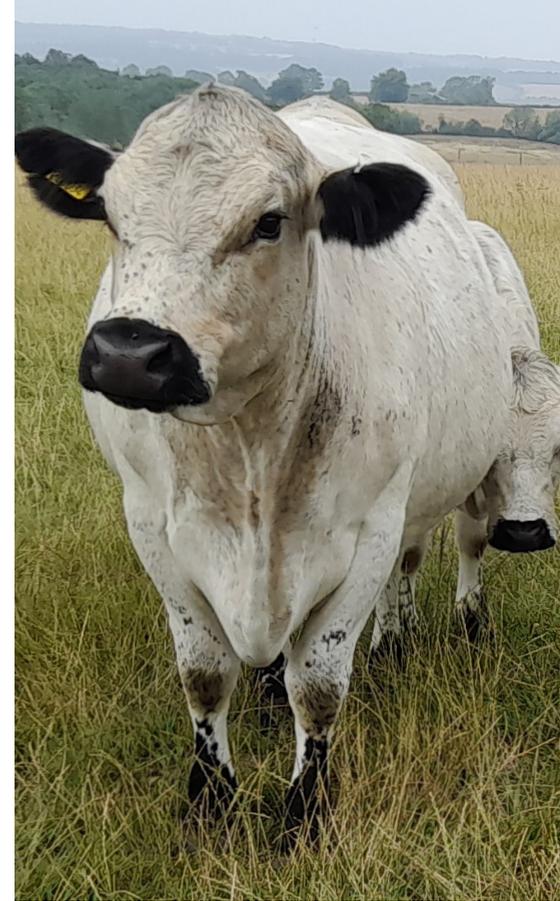
Vol 85 (2025) of the BWCS Herd Book will be released in March - see page 6 for full details. Full Members can request their hard copy FOC by contacting the Breed Secretary by email at admin@britishwhitecattle.co.uk or phone/WhatsApp on 07771 333303.

Bluetongue Virus (BTV) updates

Keep an eye on the latest information and movement restrictions regarding BTV by visiting www.gov.uk and searching 'Bluetongue'. Bluetongue is notifiable disease which you are legally obliged to report to APHA, even if you only suspect that an animal may be affected. If you suspect BTV, report it immediately by calling Defra on 03000 200 301. In Wales, call 0300 303 8268.

Type Classification

To book a Type Classification appointment for your herd, contact Jackie Clark at NBDC. 01923 695208 jackieclark@nbdc.uk www.britishwhitecattle.co.uk/type-classification



**BWCS NATIONAL SHOW
ROYAL THREE COUNTIES
FRI 12 - SUN 14 JUNE**

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TIDY UP YOUR GRASSROOTS HERD RECORD

Keep your herd record up to date in the Grassroots Online database by checking that you have completed all of the following animal information:

- Births
- Deaths
- Castrates
- Transfers

Making sure that your record is up to date will help us to complete accurate breed analysis used to determine population size, kinship, and much more, so please take a few minutes to check yours!

Grassroots Online Login Page > <https://breeds.grassroots.co.uk/BRWH>



WINTER WORKSHOP HOSTED AT OLDINGTON

KINDLY RUN BY THE PENNINGTON FAMILY NEAR BRIDGNORTH ON 21 FEB, MEMBERS WERE INVITED TO LEARN ALL ABOUT HOW TO GET STARTED IN THE SHOW RING.

A popular feature returning to the BWCS events calendar this February was the well-attended Winter Workshop, held this time at Oldington Farm in Shropshire where Paul, Catherine, and James Pennington (pictured above) provided the perfect setup to demonstrate how they work on their cattle in preparation for the summer show season.

The casual format allowed for plenty of conversation, with great questions and input from the members, and topics

discussed ranged from at home preparation to show day planning, etiquette and ringcraft to equipment and paperwork.

Members' donations towards the excellent catering provided will be split between the Shropshire Air Ambulance and Lingen Davies Cancer Centre charities, and the Society is grateful to the Pennington family for all of their efforts to run such an enjoyable day, as well as the members who came along to support the event.

MISSED THE WORKSHOP BUT STILL LOOKING TO GET STARTED AT SHOWS?

The BWCS can put you in touch with members who can provide practical help and advice, so just contact Breed Secretary Sarah Cook with any questions. Remember not to leave it too late! Schedules & entry forms are already available for a number of shows for 2026, and it's never too soon to start preparing.



TOP TIPS FROM THE DAY

INTRODUCE NEW EXPERIENCES GRADUALLY WHEN HALTER TRAINING TO BUILD ANIMALS' TRUST AND CONFIDENCE

SEVERAL WASHES IN EARLY SPRING WILL HELP REMOVE STAINING AND BRING OUT THE SUMMER COAT

ANIMALS PRESENTED IN SHOW CONDITION WILL ALLOW THE JUDGE TO SEE FULL POTENTIAL, BUT CATTLE SHOULD NOT BE FED TO THE POINT OF COMPROMISED WORKING PERFORMANCE

REMEMBER ALL EQUIPMENT AND PAPERWORK BY MAKING A LIST

PRACTICE GOOD BIOSECURITY AND KEEP LINES CLEAN AND TIDY FOR OTHER EXHIBITORS



VIEW ALL PHOTOS FROM THE DAY ON THE BWCS WEBSITE!

NEW SHOW EXHIBITORS TO RECEIVE £50 BONUS

Members showing British White cattle for the first time in BWCS breed classes during 2026 will now receive a £50 New Exhibitor bonus!

This incentive has been introduced to encourage new faces to the show ring, and to reward our new exhibitors with a 'thank you' for representing the breed for the first time. Your payment will be made at the end of the show season, and can be used as credit to your Society account if preferred.

**HELP BRING
BRITISH WHITE CATTLE
TO A WIDE AUDIENCE**

**PROMOTE
YOUR
HERD**

**JOIN OUR
FRIENDLY
SHOWING
COMMUNITY!**



BWCS HERD BOOK VOL. 85 (2025)

The 85th volume of the BWCS Herd Book is due for publication during March, and for the first time we are asking any member who requires a printed copy to request one from the Society office.

We are aware that not every Full Member would like a printed copy of our Herd Book, and so to avoid unnecessary printing & postage, please contact the Breed Secretary to order a hard copy.

These copies will continue to be provided FREE OF CHARGE, one book per Full Membership.

As always, the most current information regarding an animal's ownership, registration status, registration type, and classification score is also available to view on the Grassroots Online database.

WHO USUALLY RECEIVES A COPY OF THE HERD BOOK?

Full Memberships (UK Adult and Junior) include one Herd Book per membership per year, if required, in addition to the annual breed journal and quarterly newsletters. Associate Memberships (UK and Overseas) also receive breed journals and newsletters, but not Herd Books.

I'D LIKE TO START VIEWING HERD BOOK INFORMATION ONLINE, BUT I'VE NOT LOGGED INTO GRASSROOTS BEFORE

The Grassroots Online database is easy to use, and is the quickest way to view pedigrees and complete your registrations, transfers, death notifications etc. To get started, just email the Breed Secretary at admin@britishwhitecattle.co.uk.



NATIONAL SHOW

ROYAL THREE COUNTIES | 12 - 14 JUNE

**BWCS TO
AWARD
EXTRA £20
PER EXHIBIT
FORWARD!**

NATIONAL SHOW MEMENTOS & PRIZES

POST-JUDGING DRINKS RECEPTION

ALL MEMBERS & FRIENDS WELCOME



**ENTRIES CLOSE
MON 20 APRIL**

EVENTS CALENDAR 2026

Society Spring Show & Sale Melton Mowbray Market	Sat 28 Feb
South Suffolk Show Ampton Racecourse, Bury St Edmunds	Sun 10 May
Shropshire County Show West Mids Showground, Shrewsbury	Sat 23 May
Suffolk County Show Trinity Park, Ipswich	Weds 27 & Thurs 28 May
BWCS NATIONAL SHOW Royal Three Counties, Malvern	Fri 12 - Sun 14 Jun
Royal Cheshire County Show Clay House Farm, Knutsford	Tues 16 - Weds 17 Jun
Royal Norfolk Show Norfolk Showground, Norwich	Weds 24 - Thurs 25 Jun
Hanbury Show Park Hall Farm, Redditch	Sat 4 Jul
Great Yorkshire Show Railway Road, Harrogate	Tues 14 - Fri 17 Jul
Royal Welsh Show Builth Wells, Powys	Mon 20 - Thurs 23 Jul
Mid Devon Show Knights Hayes, Tiverton	Sat 25 Jul
Honiton Show Stockers Farm, Honiton	Thurs 6 Aug
Mid Somerset Show Cannard's Grave Road, Shepton Mallet	Sun 16 Aug
Society Autumn Show & Sale Melton Mowbray Market	Fri 11 - Sat 12 Sept
BWCS Annual General Meeting Location TBC	Sat 3 Oct



CHeCS STATEMENT REGARDING HIHEALTH HERDCARE CATTLE HEALTH SCHEME CLOSURE

The CHeCS Board wishes to express its sadness regarding the announcement of the immediate closure in January 2026 of Biobest and their HiHealth Herdcare cattle health scheme.

CHeCS understands that Biobest, operator of the HiHealth Herdcare cattle health scheme, has faced major disruptions over the past year due to essential upgrades to its rabies testing lab, resulting in lost customers and income. Increased regulations and costs have further impacted operations. Since all Biobest laboratory testing depends on the viability of rabies testing, they are no longer able to continue the HiHealth Herdcare health scheme.

CHeCS is aware that measures have been taken to complete testing for samples already at the laboratory, and that customers whose samples cannot be tested will be contacted.

All HiHealth Herdcare clients should have received a notification about the closure, as well as an offer of support to transfer to another provider with minimal disruption. For a full list of all CHeCS licensed health schemes, please visit the CHeCS website – find a scheme, where you can indicate your location and which diseases you wish to address. The Premium Cattle Health Scheme, managed by SRUC Veterinary Services, is one alternative offering similar services for farmers in Great Britain.

The CHeCS Board recognise that this must have been a challenging decision and wish to express our appreciation to the Biobest staff, some of whom have worked closely with CHeCS and contributed significantly over the years to both the Technical Advisory Group and the ongoing development of the CHeCS Technical Document. We extend our best wishes to everyone affected.



SCAN QR CODE FOR SOCIETY FEES 2026

CALVING STARTED?

DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER PEDIGREE CALVES BY THREE MONTHS OF AGE FOR CHEAPEST REGISTRATION RATES!

YOUNG BULL INSPECTION RULES UPDATED

FROM 1 JANUARY 2026, THE BWCS BULL INSPECTIONS SCHEME WILL BE SUBJECT TO NEW MINIMUM WEIGHT FOR AGE REQUIREMENTS.

The BWCS Bull Inspections Scheme applies to all young bulls intended for pedigree registration, where bulls are usually inspected between 10 and 18 months of age to collect breed data such as frame score and weight for age, and run through a checklist of basic criteria.

For inspections conducted on or after 1 January 2026, new minimum weight for age thresholds will be introduced (see table opposite for new figures).

These updated numbers are being introduced by the Society's Committees now that a sufficient amount of bull data has been collected. When analysed, the data showed that increasing the minimum weight for age by 25kg to the new figures shown would bring each lower threshold to approximately 75kg below its average. This was adopted as a way for the scheme to still account for all systems of management, whilst ensuring a good standard for bulls coming through for full registration and selection for breeding.



TABLE OF MEASUREMENTS											
FRAME SCORE	3	3.5	4	4.5	5	5.5	6	6.5	7	7.5	8
8 MONTHS											
Hip Height (in)	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51
Min Weight (kg)	255	260	265	270	275	280	285	290	295	300	305
Min Testicle (cm)	26.5	26.5	27	27	27.5	27.5	28	28	28.5	28.5	29
9 MONTHS											
Hip Height (in)	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52
Min Weight (kg)	275	280	285	290	295	300	305	310	315	320	325
Min Testicle (cm)	26.5	26.5	27	27	27.5	27.5	28	28	28.5	28.5	29
10 MONTHS											
Hip Height (in)	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53
Min Weight (kg)	295	300	305	310	315	320	325	330	335	340	345
Min Testicle (cm)	27	27	27.5	27.5	28	28	28.5	28.5	29	29	29.5
11 MONTHS											
Hip Height (in)	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
Min Weight (kg)	315	320	325	330	335	340	345	350	355	360	365
Min Testicle (cm)	27	27	27.5	27.5	28	28	28.5	28.5	29	29	29.5
12 MONTHS											
Hip Height (in)	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55
Min Weight (kg)	335	340	345	350	355	360	365	370	375	380	385
Min Testicle (cm)	27.5	27.5	28	28	28.5	28.5	29	29	29.5	29.5	30
13 MONTHS											
Hip Height (in)	45.8	46.8	47.8	48.8	49.8	50.8	51.8	52.8	53.8	54.8	55.8
Min Weight (kg)	355	360	365	370	375	380	385	390	395	400	405
Min Testicle (cm)	27.5	27.5	28	28	28.5	28.5	29	29	29.5	29.5	30
14 MONTHS											
Hip Height (in)	46.5	47.5	48.5	49.5	50.5	51.5	52.5	53.5	54.5	55.5	56.5
Min Weight (kg)	375	380	385	390	395	400	405	410	415	420	425
Min Testicle (cm)	28	28	28.5	28.5	29	29	29.5	29.5	30	30	30.5
15 MONTHS											
Hip Height (in)	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57
Min Weight (kg)	395	400	405	410	415	420	425	430	435	440	445
Min Testicle (cm)	28	28	28.5	28.5	29	29	29.5	29.5	30	30	30.5
16 MONTHS											
Hip Height (in)	47.5	48.5	49.5	50.5	51.5	52.5	53.5	54.5	55.5	56.5	57.5
Min Weight (kg)	415	420	425	430	435	440	445	450	455	460	465
Min Testicle (cm)	28.5	28.5	29	29	29.5	29.5	30	30	30.5	30.5	31
17 MONTHS											
Hip Height (in)	47.8	48.8	49.8	50.8	51.8	52.8	53.8	54.8	55.8	56.8	57.8
Min Weight (kg)	435	440	445	450	455	460	465	470	475	480	485
Min Testicle (cm)	28.5	28.5	29	29	29.5	29.5	30	30	30.5	30.5	31
18 MONTHS											
Hip Height (in)	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58
Min Weight (kg)	455	460	465	470	475	480	485	490	495	500	505
Min Testicle (cm)	29	29	29.5	29.5	30	30	30.5	30.5	31	31	31.5
19 MONTHS											
Hip Height (in)	48.2	49.2	50.2	51.2	52.2	53.2	54.2	55.2	56.2	57.2	58.2
Min Weight (kg)	475	480	485	490	495	500	505	510	515	520	525
Min Testicle (cm)	29	29	29.5	29.5	30	30	30.5	30.5	31	31	31.5

FEMALES FOR SALE, SHOBY LODGE HERD

Four Hevingham cows, born 2021, three of which are in-calf to an Aberdeen Angus bull, the other one has an AAX bull calf at foot born Nov 2025.



Contact James & Lucinda Lomas, Leics
Mobile: 07970 278529 / 07919 890205
Email: lucindalomas@gmail.com

FEMALES FOR SALE, RATHBORNE HERD

Five maiden heifers for sale, contact us for more details & photos.

Contact Charlotte Amos, Derbyshire
Mobile: 07710 087051
Email: charlotte@amosgroup.co.uk

BULL FOR SALE, CASTLETON HERD

Young homebred bull Castleton Owain, born 28 May 2024, sired by Castleton Ken EX95, dam Castleton Ladysmaid 2 EX90.



Contact David Wright, Powys
Mobile: 07841 764636
Email: davewright2483@gmail.com

BULL FOR SALE, JADEBEAM HERD

Fromus Reuben (R) is now for sale, having been working very successfully in the Jadebeam herd since 2022. Red pointed bull, sired by Woodbastwick Drakkar EX92.



Contact David Elliott, Staffordshire
Mobile: 07961 740070

BULL FOR SALE, THEBERTON HERD

Fromus Black Thorn, born October 2022 and sired by Woodbastwick Drakkar (EX92). Nice natured bull, halter trained and shown, ready for more work.



Contact Philip Baskett, Suffolk
Mobile: 07908 925856
Email: philpbaskett@btinternet.com

MEMBERS ADVERTISE HERE FOR FREE! JUST CONTACT BREED SECRETARY SARAH COOK WITH DETAILS AND PHOTOS TO PLACE YOUR ADVERT TODAY, FREE OF CHARGE TO BWCS MEMBERS.

BRITISH WHITE STORES & FINISHED CATTLE WANTED

THE BELOW MEMBERS ARE LOOKING FOR BRITISH WHITE FINISHING CATTLE IN ANY QUANTITY DURING 2026:

PAUL PENNINGTON, OLDINGTON FARM, SHROPSHIRE
PHONE: 07980 857967
EMAIL: PAULPENNINGTON83@GMAIL.COM
✓ STORES ✓ FINISHED CATTLE

MAT GRINDAL, MANOR FARM, LEICESTERSHIRE
PHONE: 07786 072703
EMAIL: MATGRINZ@HOTMAIL.COM
✓ STORES ✓ FINISHED CATTLE

CAMERON KNEE, AVALON FARM, SOMERSET
PHONE: 07889 522648
EMAIL: CAMERON.KNEE@THENEWTINSOMERSET.COM
✓ STORES ✓ FINISHED CATTLE

WANTED TO BUILD NEW HERD

Potential new member, making initial enquiries to replace a herd of White Park cattle after culling following an outbreak of TB. Working closely with APHA on a badger survey and expecting to follow up with a vaccination programme, although the outbreak was suspected to have been brought in from dormant bacteria in previous cattle and so, under APHA advice, will be looking to restock from end of April. The farm is about 150 acres of woodland pasture that needs conservation grazing from a small number of cows to encourage the diversity of wildflowers on what is one of the largest single blocks of SSSI in Wales. Looking to find about one to two dozen animals, preferably including some breeding stock, from a herd or herds with as long a TB-free history as possible.

William Collinson, Monmouthshire
Tel: 07976 941693
Email: williamcollinson@mac.com

WANTED TO EXPAND NEW HERD

Bulling heifers, born 2023-24, plus potentially a few steers. Could also be interested in in-calf cows or cows with calves at foot. Ideally from a high health herd and with an emphasis on a pasture-based system to get appropriate traits for our new herd in Herefordshire.

Russ Carrington, Farming Consultant
The Mynde Farm, Much Dewchurch
Tel: 07930 378413
Email: farm@themynde.com



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