

Perth Bull Sales February 2010

We will be holding the Annual Dinner on Monday 1st February 2010 at the Golden Lion Hotel, 8-10 King Street, Stirling FK8 1BD tel. 01786475351. The cost of tickets is £20 per person and these MUST be booked with the office by Monday 25th January 2010. We have again negotiated a special room rate for bed and breakfast of £37.50 per person sharing a twin/double room and £47.50 for a single room.

We have a limited number of rooms reserved at these rates so I strongly advise booking early. Please state that you are staying with the Shorthorn Society at the time of booking. I understand that the Aberdeen Angus Society is also holding its Annual Dinner on the same night at the same hotel so early booking is essential to avoid disappointment.

Health Pen Cards at Society Sales

Blood testing and displaying of health pen cards are now an integral part of Society Sales. The requirements have been widely and frequently published but if anyone is still not clear on the requirements please phone the office for advice. The testing has been very favourably received by purchasers and no relaxation of the rules will be allowed. If you have any doubts at all please check well before the sale. A minimum of 1 month should be allowed to test the animals prior to sale to avoid last minute complications. Remember the bottom line is

If completed pen cards are not on display at Society Sales the animals will not be allowed to be sold.

Sale of Semen for the World Conference

The sale of semen held at the October bull sales for the World Shorthorn Conference funds was a huge success and contributed nearly £9000 to the funds. We are indebted to the generosity of all those who donated semen and also to the spirited bidding which saw prices rise to a top of 230gns per straw for 5 straws of Dunsyre North Star. Semen from Lochawe Lysander and Tofts Romany also both attracted bids of 200gns per straw. Many thanks both to consignors and purchasers and also to United Auctions who kindly donated their commission to the funds.

Annual Subscriptions

A reminder that subs are due for 2010 on the 1st of January .



AGM

The AGM will take place on Sunday 31st January 2010 at 3.00pm at the Perth Bull sales.

The Directors are currently considering DNA testing for all service sires and we are hoping to have a presentation at the AGM on the benefits of DNA testing for the breed and the breeders and an indication of what is now available to breeders through recent technological advances to assist them in breeding decisions.

Postage Cost

Can you please ensure that the correct postage is used on items sent to the Society. We are receiving a considerable number of items with incorrect postage amounts for which the Society has to pay a **£1 fine as well as the extra postage.**

DECEMBER 2009 NEWSLETTER

World Conference

2010 is going to be a very exciting and busy year for the Society as we host the 13th Shorthorn World Conference



The booking form and updated itinerary is now available online at www.shorthorn.co.uk I hope that some of our UK breeders will join the tour and take the opportunity to meet some of our fellow shorthorn breeders from overseas.

You will meet some very interesting people and learn a lot about cattle breeding in other parts of the world. You will also probably see some very interesting parts of the UK which you have not visited before.

We have not yet finalised our actual Conference programme of speakers but we already have several very interesting speakers lined up. We are also pleased to have secured the services of Martin Redfearn, National Agricultural Specialist with Barclays Bank as our guest speaker at the closing Gala Dinner. Martin is a rare commodity these days – a banker with a sense of humour!

The host farmers for the tour are going to considerable effort and expense to provide hospitality for the delegates and so it will not be possible for people to just turn up at any of the venues without prior booking and there will be a cost of £25 per person for anybody wishing to visit individual herds at the same time as the Conference delegates.

Highland Show

As you know we are hoping for a great turnout of Beef Shorthorns at the Highland Show to put before our international visitors and it will be a wonderful opportunity for you to showcase your

cattle. In the last newsletter we gave details of a travel subsidy to encourage as many people as possible to exhibit at the Royal Highland Show. This subsidy was originally agreed for both the Royal Show and Highland Show and since the demise of the Royal show the Directors decided to change the subsidy slightly to reflect the fact that there was only one show and also to encourage exhibitors to attend the Dinner and trophy presentation at the Royal Highland Show which will be attended by the World Conference delegates.

The revised subsidy package agreed by the Directors is that each exhibitor with cattle forward will receive 2 free tickets for the opening gala dinner of the World Shorthorn Conference at the Royal Highland Showground on Friday 25th June 2010 (extra tickets £50 each) plus a travel subsidy of £1 per mile one way (distance determined by route planner software as shortest distance from farm to Showground).

The Royal Highland Show have also agreed to provide extra classes which will be published in the scheduled early in 2010. Two of our members have also very kindly provided extra sponsorship for the Royal Highland show classes as follows:

Brenda Wear has donated the Redhill World Conference Perpetual Trophy to be awarded to the best pair of Beef Shorthorns bred by the exhibitor, the progeny of one animal, excluding ET progeny. Brenda has also donated prize money of £150 for the best pair and £50 for the reserve pair. Charles and Sally Horrell have donated prize money of £250 for the junior Champion.

We are very grateful to Brenda Wear and Charles and Sally Horrell for their generous sponsorship

Free registrations for members who scan.

As outlined in the letter sent out to all members earlier this year the Society is encouraging all performance recording members to scan their cattle. All cattle in the management group should be scanned at the time of weighing. Also a reminder that all calves should be weighed at birth and the weight recorded on the registration form of the calf. All members who register calves should have received a free weigh tape for this purpose and if anyone has not received a tape please let us know and we will get one sent out to you.

Don't forget that the Society is offering incentives as follows:

FORTHCOMING SALES

February 1/2nd
Perth Bull Sales in conjunction with UA

May 21st Carlisle
in conjunction with H & H

June 14th - Chelford -
in conjunction with Marshalls

August 28th – Chelford
Chris Marler's dispersal sale of breeding stock in conjunction with Marshalls

Oct 18th – Stirling
in conjunction with UA

Nov 6th – Chelford
in conjunction with Marshalls

November 13th
East of England Winter Stock Festival

From the 1st January 2010 all recording members who ultra sound scan their cattle will receive two free registrations per year from the Society. The free registrations will be applied retrospectively at the end of the year so that members who provide scan information in 2010 will receive their first two registrations free of charge in 2011.

2. From the 1st January 2012 only animals with a birth weight, an ultra sound scan and a check weight will receive full EBV's and a Shorthorn Society index.

If you want to book a scanning visit either contact Barbara Webster at Pedigree cattle Services on 01738622478 or contact one of the accredited scanners from the list .

Name	Telephone/Fax/Email	Address
JIM BARBER 3510	Tel: 01260 273421 Mob: 07973 307687 E: barberjames@btconnect.com	Peel Farm Astbury Congelton Cheshire Cw12 4rj
GORDON CLARK 3511	Tel: 01337 828632 Mob: 07850 885468 Fax: 01337 828632 E: gl.clark@virgin.net	Broombrae Farm Auchtermuchty Cupar Fife Ky14 7ee
JIM DENNISON 3505	Tel: 028 908 33123 Mob: 0774 617473 Fax: 028 908 42640 E: info@ai-services.co.uk	Ai Services (Ni) Ltd 671 Antrim Rd Newtownabbey Co. Antrim Bt36 4rl Northern Ireland
ADRIAN JOHNSON 3504	Tel. 01347 888665 Mob. 07702 000760 ajhnsn@tiscali.co.uk	Clarence House Farm Yearsley Brandsby York Yo61 4sl
LINDA MCKEN-DRICK 3503	Tel: 01334 840489 Mob: 07803 064452 Fax: 01334 840489 E: armydie77@hotmail.co.uk	Bankhead Farm Peat Inn Cupar Fife Ky15 5lf
WILLIAM TAIT 3509	Tel: 028 908 33123 Mob: 07833 968417 Fax: 028 908 42640 E: info@ai-services.co.uk	Ai Services (Ni) Ltd 671 Antrim Road Newtownabbey Co. Antrim Bt36 4rl Northern Ireland
WILLIE WILSON 3502	Tel: 01292 570629 Mob: 07740 611545 Fax: 01292 570629 E: willie-wilson@mlc.org.uk	9 Milton Park Coylton Ayr Ka6 6jf