

SOUTH DEVON HERD BOOK SOCIETY

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PATRON: HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES



DECEMBER 2008 NEWSLETTER

Contents:			
Jim Hosking; membership subs	3	Breedplan website photos; show judges; Bluetongue vaccination	10
Smithfield results	4	Welsh TB; Journal 2009/2010	12
Auction of Promises; Club draw	5	Steers wanted; Cattle for Sale	13
Society Sales (new declarations)	6	Diary; New members	14
BCBC conference	8	And finally ...	15
TB compensation	9	Mailing reply slip	16

Dear Member,

The Royal Smithfield Christmas Fair has just been held, where the South Devons were represented by some very good beef animals which were *all* a credit to the breed. It was a real delight to applaud Hillwood Estate's winning of The Queen Mother's Perpetual Trophy, sponsored by St Merryn Foods, for Best Pure Native Breed Beast – *Aldbourn Chase Audrey 46* – shown by Richard Davies. Equally delightful was receiving Reserve Championship for The Best Group of Three Pure Bred Animals in the Duke of Norfolk award. Well done to all exhibitors who showed their cattle at this elite national primestock show – we need more of you!

There are just a few days to go before Christmas, so if you have any last minute shopping to do, please let us know as soon as possible, and we will endeavour to help. We still have a few calendars left, and they do make very attractive presents!

It is with sadness that I have to report the recent death of two members: Mr Hamilton Pearce, who owned the Townsend herd at Polruan-by-Fowey in Cornwall, from 1974; and Mr Jim Hosking, owner of the Fentongollan herd, Tresillian, Truro, Cornwall, and past President of the Society.

Elections for Council are now due, with vacancies in Cornwall, Devon, and Wales & the West Midlands. Members of the Society are invited to nominate a representative from their Region by the closing date of Friday 9th January. If there are more nominations than vacancies there will be a postal ballot.

I will be starting work on the Journal shortly, so please would you let me have any articles and advertising copy as soon as you can. Advertising rates are given inside.

Female registration fees have been maintained at the same level for the past four years, and so have not kept up with inflation. Council have now decided that they should be raised to take account of the "real" value, so as of 1st January 2009 the cost of a female registration will rise by £5 to £30 for heifers up to four months of age, with a £1 per month increment up to twelve months, and £50 thereafter. Female transfers will also rise to £30. (All registration/transfer fees incur VAT at 15%). The cost of bull registrations and transfers will remain unchanged.

Please note: If your pedigree registered heifers are slaughtered before they reach 30 months of age, a credit of £30 per animal plus VAT will be credited to your account upon written proof of slaughter/casualty.

It is very much in your interests to continue to register as many females as are eligible, for the purpose of adding value to your herd in a market which has seen such a big rise in the value of South Devons in the past few years, as well as to be eligible for pedigree valuations in the event of TB casualties. If you need any help please let me know.

We are attempting to reduce our postage costs which have risen significantly in the last year alongside postal rate increases, by giving members the choice of receiving newsletters by e-mail or by post. Please would you help us by completing and returning the reply slip at the back of newsletter.

The office will be closed from Tuesday afternoon, 23rd, until Friday 2nd January, so if you have anything urgent for us to help with, please let us know as soon as possible.

From Liz, Debbie and myself, we wish you all a very happy Christmas, and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

With best wishes

Caroline

JIM HOSKING

It was with much sadness that we learned of the death of Jim Hosking from Fentongollan on the Fal estuary in Cornwall.

Jim was a well-known and much respected member of the Society, and his Fentongollan herd of South Devons was one of the oldest, with its first pedigree registrations published in Herd Book volume ten in 1908-1909. The herd was dispersed at Liskeard in 2002.

Jim was President of the Society in 1996, and was very involved in helping to organise the World Convention and Centenary Celebrations in the UK in 1991. There was a farm visit, young calf leaders competition, and a memorable barn dance at Fentongollan. As chief steward of the Flower Tent at the Royal Show that year, Jim also hosted a private view and reception for all the Convention visitors.

His involvement with the RASE included being a member of council, a steward, and a vice-president. He was also a founder member and one-time chairman of the Council for Awards of the Royal Agricultural Societies, and a Fellow.

The family business at Fentongollan was not limited to South Devons, and his passion for horticulture has seen the development of a large scale daffodil enterprise, covering some 160 acres of bulb and flower production.

Jim will be remembered as a staunch supporter of the breed and the Society. After the herd dispersal he continued to be an interested member, and was always keen to follow the breed's developments.

The enormous respect he commanded across a wide section of the community was reflected in Truro Cathedral being filled to capacity for his memorial service. Our sincere condolences are conveyed to his family.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS AND ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS

Membership subscriptions for 2009 become due on 1st January. We are pleased to be able to hold subscriptions at the same level as last year – ie, no change since 1st January 2003.

Debbie will be sending you invoices in due course which we would ask you, please, to settle promptly to avoid further costs in collecting payment. For those who pay by

Standing Order, your invoice will just be confirmation of payment – *please don't be tempted to pay again!!*

If it is easier for you to pay us electronically, please remember to include your name with the payment advice so that we can identify you easily. Electronic payments can be made to:

Name of Account	SOUTH DEVON HERD BOOK SOCIETY
Account Number	00410188
Sort Code	30-96-06
Bank	LLOYDS TSB, NEWTON ABBOT

SMITHFIELD CHRISTMAS FAIR

This year's Royal Smithfield Christmas Fair was held for the second time at the Bath & West Showground, Shepton Mallet. South Devons were represented in their classes by eight cattle forward, all good beef animals, with correct shape and size. They certainly held their own in the competition, as the results testified.

SOUTH DEVON CLASS RESULTS

Class 3 – Pure Breed or Sired by South Devon Heifer

- 1st Hillwood Estate ALDBOURNE CHASE AUDREY 46
(s. Trewint Jester, d. Nether Mynton Audrey 22) 626 kg, 594 days
- 2nd W Radmore PENROSE GUSTY
(s. Treguddick Landmark 19, d. Penrose Kestle Camellia) 618 kg, 792 days
- 3rd S J & S M Ward BILLINGTON GEMMA'S ZEN
(s. Billington Pastiche 24, d. Billington Gemma's Pride) 532 kg, 587 days

Class 4/5 – Pure Breed or Sired by South Devon Steer up to 580 kg

- 1st N & E Bunkum FREDIE MAC
(s. Juniper Eclipse, d. Maisie) 574 kg, 626 days
- 2nd Mr & Mrs R Clemens TINY
(s. Treglinnick Crusader, d. Penrose Stonehedging Lisa 20) 471 kg, 586 days

Class 6 – Pure Breed or Sired by South Devon Steer over 580 kg

- 1st R K Rundle KESTLE SAMPSON
(s. Lumbylaw Leo 2, d. Kestle Dorothy 84) 642 kg, 616 days
- 2nd M A & L H Richardson 2-FACE
(s. Coton Poser, d. Hereford cross) 574 kg, 626 days
- 3rd N & E Bunkum WOMBAT
(s. Portman Burtley Trooper 4, d. Brafferton Stella 25) 680 kg, 624 days

OVERALL BREED CHAMPION

Champion	Hillwood Estate	ALDBOURNE CHASE AUDREY 46
Reserve	N & E Bunkum	FREDIE MAC

INTERBREED CLASSES

Queen Mother's Cup – Best Native Breed Animal

Winner Hillwood Estate ALDBOURNE CHASE AUDREY 46

Duke of Norfolk Cup – Best Team of Three (native and continental)

Reserve N & E Bunkum FREDIE MAC

Hillwood Estate ALDBOURNE CHASE AUDREY 46

W Radmore PENROSE GUSTY

AUCTION OF PROMISES 2009

The Society's biannual Auction of Promises, first launched in 2001, will be held at the Devon Hotel, Exeter, on Tuesday evening, 24th March, immediately following the Annual General Meeting.

Originally held as a fundamental part of the Society's fundraising activities, the Auction has become an important social function, very generously supported by members and non-members alike.

If you would like to be part of the fun, you can either donate a "promise" or participate in the Auction itself on the night or by making a postal bid.

We are always looking for new ideas to add to those more traditional "lots" which include holiday accommodation, fine wines, whisky, South Devon semen, and unique crafts.

Please put your thinking caps on, and have a go! Thank you for your support, which is always very gratefully received.

In 2007 we raised about £5,000 and it would be nice to make that the target for 2009. There will be a further reminder in the newsletter in January, when a closing date for the "promises" will be announced.

CLUB DRAW

The second of this year's Club draws was made at the Council's December meeting, and the winning ticket belonged to:

Mr John Pollock, Mountainstown, Castletown-Kilpatrick, Navan, Co Meath, Ireland

A cheque for £215 will be sent to John, together with our warm congratulations. He is a particularly deserving winner, always supporting the Society in its fund-raising activities, and in its breed promotional work in Ireland.

SOCIETY SALES

HERD HEALTH DECLARATIONS

The Society's Spring Show & Sale will be held at Exeter on Wednesday 25th March, and will be conducted by Kivells.

As announced in a previous newsletter Council have voted to introduce another big step in its Herd Health initiative, through the introduction of **Herd Health Declarations** at Society Sales.

The purpose of this is not to make things more onerous for vendors, but to standardise herd health declarations and information presented in order to provide both members and new buyers alike with clear, accurate herd health information at the point of sale and in sale catalogues. As a result the Society aims to further raise the level of buyer confidence and ultimately cattle values.

Vendors will have already been invited to complete a Pen Card at recent sales, denoting the health status of the herd from which the animal for sale has come. As of the forthcoming sale at Exeter in March, entry forms will be sent to vendors together with Herd Health Declaration forms to be completed at the same time, and returned to the Society office before the closing date for entries.

Please be aware that you do not need to be a member of a CHeCS scheme (Biobest Herdcare or SAC Premium Cattle Health Scheme) to complete at least a part of this declaration; for example there is a place for noting the date of BTV vaccination, and for declaring the date and regularity of TB tests.

This information will be published in two places: in the sale catalogue and on the cattle pens. In the sale catalogue there will be a condensed version of the information printed with the Vendors' Index at the front of the catalogue. *This will replace health status information previously printed with the Lot details.*

If you choose not to complete a declaration it will say "no herd health declaration" in the sale catalogue.

By definition the declaration refers to the herd, and not to an individual animal. Information relating to individual animals may be given by vendors on the animal's pen. However, it may be said that any test result is only valid at the time of the test, and does not guarantee the health status staying the same.

The Society is continuing to help herds that wish to join either the Biobest Herdcare or the SAC's Premium Cattle Health Scheme, by giving a credit of £5 per pedigree registration for animals in a joining herd.

It is increasingly apparent that high health is a valuable asset, both in terms of values of cattle, and in terms of reducing production costs (through losses in the herd). The industry is increasingly focussing on the need to monitor and control herd health, and to move towards eradication of specific diseases, such as BVD. It is in members' interests to protect their herd and enhance its value where possible.

UNDESIRABILITY OF WHITE

Following the recently held Judges Training Days, and the Judges Seminar, the issue of white on the underside of an animal's body has been discussed at a number of meetings, including by Council.

In the Breed Journal, it is stated that "any white under-body (is) undesirable particularly in front of the navel". Obviously using such a bull in a pedigree breeding herd will risk spreading the white further, and Council have therefore decide to take further measures to control (rather than attempt to eradicate) the extent of white.

At any future Society Sale, vendors of pedigree breeding bulls will be required to declare at time of entry if there is any known white, and this declaration will then be published in the sale catalogue. If white is found during an inspection prior to the sale and it has not been declared, then such declaration will be made in the sale ring. *This measure is only for bulls.*

Obviously the breeding potential of a bull in a commercial herd is not so affected by the existence of a small bit of white, and it is only to raise the awareness of this undesirable characteristic in a pedigree breeding bull with the objective of avoiding the spread to future generations.

MYOSTATIN DECLARATIONS

If you are the breeder or owner of a bull which has been tested by DNA for myostatin status, you may wish to sell at Society sales with a declaration of that status.

Entries to Society sales will now allow, *on a voluntary basis*, the publication of myostatin status (as certified by Merial) in the "Vendors Notes" section of the lotting details.

In order to avert any misinterpretation of this information, we shall also publish an explanation of the implications of the myostatin status at the front of sale catalogues, along the lines produced in the last newsletter.

BRITISH CATTLE BREEDERS CONFERENCE

Annual Conference, 19th-21st January 2009
Telford Golf & Spa Hotel, Telford Shropshire
e-mail: lesley.lewin@cattlebreeders.org.uk
tel: 01409 241579

The venue of this year's British Cattle Breeders Conference is new, to accommodate an increasing number of delegates. The Conference is an excellent technical forum for cattle breeders and for any one interested in the beef (and dairy) industry in the UK.

This year's theme is "Bringing Science to the Field", and the programme for the Beef Day is as follows:

Ian Biggs, Genus Americas, USA – **"What can the Cattle Industry learn from the Pig Industry?"**

Richard Whitlock, Frontier Agriculture, Sandy, Beds – **"What effect will Biofuels have on the UK Cattle Industry?"**

Tom Keating, Dept of Agriculture, Ireland – **"Mechanical Grading of Beef Carcasses – the Irish Experience"**

Rick Sanderson, Buy-Local Ltd, Beds – **"Going to market at the Click of a Mouse!"**

Frank Foster, Linden Foods, N Ireland – **"Rose Veal Production from B&W Bull Calves"**

John Hoskin, farmer, Dorset – **"Working in the Supply Chain, the Farmer View"**

Richard Phelps, Blade Farming, Somerset – **"Working in the Supply Chain, the Processor View"**

Alice Pattinson, Tesco, Herts – **"Working in the Supply Chain, the Retailer View"**

Farmers Weekly Beef Farmer of the Year winner – **"How to make a profit?"**

Marcia Dutra de Barcellos, Brazil – **"How will global beef consumption affect us?"**

The Conference will be preceded by a BLG-run Livestocks & Genetics Export Workshop, a BLG wine reception, and a pub quiz (the South Devon team were close runners-up last year!!)

For more information, and to book, please contact Lesley Lewin by telephone or e-mail.

COMPENSATION FOR BOVINE TB

Payable during December 2008

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NON PEDIGREE AND PEDIGREE IS HIGHLY SIGNIFICANT – IT IS IN YOUR FINANCIAL INTERESTS TO CHECK THAT YOUR REGISTRATIONS ARE UP TO DATE!

NON PEDIGREE BOVINE

Male		Female	
Age	Compensation due	Age	Compensation due
Up to 3 months	177	Up to 3 months	143
Over 3 months up to 6 months	362	Over 3 months up to 6 months	306
Over 6 months Up to 9 months	436	Over 6 months Up to 9 months	355
Over 9 months Up to 12 months	547	Over 9 months Up to 12 months	443
Over 12 months Up to 16 months	668	Over 12 months Up to 16 months	546
Over 16 months Up to 20 months	755	Over 16 months Up to 20 months	647
20 months and over	834	20 months and over	728
Breeding bulls 20 months and over	990	Calved	870

PEDIGREE BOVINE

Male		Female	
Age	Compensation due	Age	Compensation due
6 months up to 12 months	*	6 months up to 12 months	*
Over 12 months up to 24 months	3,557	Over 12 months up to 24 months	1,217
24 months and over	2,222	24 months and over (not calved)	1,252
		Calved under 36 months	1,372
		Calved 36 months and over	1,405

*Compensation to be determined using individual valuation

BREEDPLAN WEBSITE PHOTOS

We now have the know-how to “upload” good photographs to the Breedplan website, to accompany the pedigree information published from our database.

If you have a photograph of your bull (preferably haltered and posed), please e-mail it to the office.

SELECTION OF JUDGES

Our panel of Judges Advisers recently met with the Executive to make selections for judging shows in 2009 and 2010.

Those selections have now been sent to the major and one-day shows at which we have South Devon classes, and we hope that the recommendations made by ourselves will be followed by the show secretaries!

However, as with all “best laid plans”, there are factors beyond our control which may affect the selection, and different appointments may be made.

Please would all judges respect the Society’s informal ruling to try to avoid accepting more than one invitation to judge in any one year. If in doubt, please speak to Caroline.

BLUETONGUE VACCINATION

**WITH GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO ANDREW TAYLOR, CHAIRMAN
OF BRITISH LIVESTOCK GENETICS CONSORTIUM**

Following the discovery of BVT in England in 2007, no new cases of circulating disease have been found in 2008. This has been primarily due to the very successful vaccination campaign during 2008, when over 90% of susceptible animals in East and South East England. However, the uptake of vaccine has been much lower in other parts of the country, giving an estimated overall coverage of about 60%. Wales and Scotland have been running separate vaccination campaigns and there is no data available yet to indicate the level of coverage.

There is a risk that the farming community might become complacent, thinking that BTV in Britain has been beaten and that there is no need to vaccinate again in 2009. However, you only need to look at the latest map of BTV throughout Europe

to see that the risk is not only still present but even greater than ever. BTV8 has spread throughout most of Western Europe, with the exception of the Republic of Ireland and Portugal. It has spread as far south as Spain and Italy, north to Sweden and east to Poland, Hungary, Slovakia and Romania. Even more worryingly, BTV1 has now spread to north-western France and BTV6 has been found in the Netherlands. There is no vaccine available against BTV6 and there is no cross-immunity between BTV8 and BTV1 or BTV6.

Britain therefore remains at risk of reintroducing BTV8 and of introducing BTV1 and BTV6 either by cross-Channel spread of vectors or by the legitimate trade in animals imported from other EU member states. To control those risks, the British farming community therefore needs to:

- Carry on vaccinating against BTV8 during 2009, giving boosters to all animals vaccinated during 2008, preferably before the vector becomes active in the Spring, and by vaccinating any animals born during 2009
- Be very careful not to import disease when importing animals

IMPORTS OF LIVE ANIMALS

Because the BTV Protection Zone that covers all of mainland Britain is confluent with the BTV8 PZ in Europe, there are no BTV-relating restrictions applying to imports of live animals from within that PZ. In effect it is just the same as, for example, moving animals from Kent to Lancashire.

However, there are risks in doing this as has been shown by the post-importation testing carried out by Defra. In 2008, at least 10 groups of imported animals have been found to be positive to BTV8 virus and on 25th November it was announced that a group of cattle imported from south west France were positive to BTV1 virus. Fortunately there has been no evidence that any virus circulated from these imported animals to other animals in the country and, in effect, we got away with it. But there is no doubt that these importations not only endanger our livestock industry and our exports but they are widely reported and give a dreadful image to the wider world.

The importation of BTV1 infected animals has stimulated a widespread call from both veterinarians and farming groups to the livestock industry to stop importing animals from mainland Europe. After months of urging members to take care with European imports, the president of the NFU, Peter Kendall, has now called for an official ban.

WELSH TB ERADICATION PROGRAMME

The introduction of a tougher TB testing regime has been announced by the Welsh Assembly.

Inconclusive reactor cattle will be removed following a single 60-day retest, if that test is still inconclusive or shows it to be a reactor. This will replace the existing system, whereby two retests are allowed on inconclusive reactors before they are removed – as of 1st March 2009.

Cattle owners will also be able to opt for inconclusive animals to be removed before a second test.

JOURNAL 2009/2010

Advertisements for the new edition of the breed Journal are invited, from existing and new advertisers.

The Journal was produced in full colour for the first time last year and was met with much favour. We would therefore encourage advertisers to make use of colour in their advertisements, even just by going part-way and using one, spot colour to highlight the salient points. The difference in rates between spot colour and black and white is small, and colour greatly enhances the appearance of advertisements.

Members' rates (plus VAT) are unchanged from last year, as follows:

	FULL PAGE	HALF PAGE	QUARTER PAGE
FULL COLOUR	325	225	175
SPOT COLOUR	150	120	90
BLACK/WHITE	130	95	70

If you have not advertised before, and are interested in doing so, please ask for more information.

Advertisements can be received electronically, on CD, or on paper, and can be type-set for you at no additional cost.

WANTED

YEARLING STEERS – WELL-MUSCLED TYPE

Contact:

Tim Walford, Upton Bridge Farm, Long Sutton, Langport,
Somerset

Tel: 01458 241224

e-mail: walfor@globalnet.co.uk

CATTLE FOR SALE LIST

BULLS

WELLAND VALLEY HADRIAN 2

UK201140 400497

Born 14/05/2004

J B & C Webster
Lancashire – Region 7

01704 566159

NORTON COMANDER 6

UK262738 300304

Born 07/03/2005

J F Collinson & Son
East Sussex – Region 4

01323 897544

Z WOODHAYES HERMES 3

UK361609 700138

Born 29/10/2005

G E Pike
Northants – Region 5

01604 770368

(sale or exchange)

2 YR OLD BULL

by Erme Jambo

BRAFFERTON STARBUSTER 18

UK122117 300160

Born 23/01/2007

D P Crow
Shropshire – Region 6

01952 255650

J P Harrison
Yorkshire – Region 7

01347 838725

Z GODWORTHY EXCALIBUR 56

UK360143 300338

Born 23/03/2007

Mr & Mrs R C Burrough
Devon – Region 2

01404 881479

GODWORTHY LANDMARK 16

UK360143 600341

Born 28/03/2007

Mr & Mrs R C Burrough
Devon – Region 2

01404 881479

GODWORTHY LANDMARK 17

UK360143 100343

Born 30/03/2007

Mr & Mrs R C Burrough
Devon – Region 2

01404 881479

GODWORTHY ENTERPRISE 12

UK360143 600334

Born 30/03/2007

Mr & Mrs R C Burrough
Devon – Region 2

01404 881479

GODWORTHY ENTERPRISE 10

UK360143 200330

Born 19/03/2007

Mr & Mrs R C Burrough
Devon – Region 2

01404 881479

20 MTH OLD BULL

J Virgin
Dorset – Region 3

01258 817171

FEMALES

**COWS & CALVES, BULLING
and IN-CALF HEIFERS
5 BULLING HEIFERS**

R R B & S J Harvey
Devon – Region 2
J F Collinson & Son
East Sussex – Region 4

01548 830307

01323 897544

DIARY

January	19th	BCBC Conference, Telford
	27th	Executive meeting
February	12th	Council meeting
March	24th	Annual General Meeting, and Auction of Promises
	25th	Spring Show & Sale, Exeter
April	21st	Council meeting
May	2nd	Midland Club Sale, Stratford upon Avon
	15th	Truro Club Sale, Hallworthy
	21st	Beef Expo, Malvern
	29th	Devon Cattle Breeders Club Sale, Exeter

NEW MEMBERS

Full

Region 2 R P Hoare, Yattors Cott, Dainton, Ipplepen, Newton Abbot, Devon,
TQ12 5TQ Prefix: PENTOR

Region 6 R D Davies, Oak Hill Farm, Oak Lane, Llanellen, Abergavenny,
Monmouthshire, Wales, NP7 9LD
G Jones, Hollybush Farm, Dingestow, Monmouth, Wales, NP25 3DZ
Prefix: CASTLE VIEW

Youth

Region 3 Miss E M Wyatt, Walscombe Farm, Chaffcombe, Chard, Somerset,
TA20 4AN

Introductory

Region 1 T R Dart, Little Resparveth Farm, Grampound Road, Truro, Cornwall,
TR2 4LF *Introduced by G Dart* Prefix: WOODHAYES-OAK
C Freeman, Higher Penworthy Farm, Penhallow, Truro, Cornwall,
TR4 9ND *Introduced by Glen Bryant*
Miss H Rogers, t/a G & H Rogers, Hellesveor Farm, St Ives, Cornwall,
TR26 3AD *Introduced by Glen Bryant*

- Region 2 P Parfitt, 3 Courtyard Cott, Ugbrooke, Newton Abbot, Devon, TQ13
0AD *Introduced by Glen Bryant*
May & Son, Blatchford Farm, Lower Ashton, Exeter, Devon, EX6 7QN
Introduced by Jerry Horsman
A D Kingdon, Sowton Barton, Dunsford, Exeter, Devon, EX6 7JS
Introduced by Martin Partridge
- Region 5 T Lever, 2 Ivy House Cottages, Brockhall, Northants, NN7 4LA
Introduced by Richard Ford
Exning Estate Co, Estate Office, 9 Cotton End Road, Exning,
Newmarket, Suffolk *Introduced by Pat & Tony Rickett*
- Region 7 D E Conning, Fleet Bank Lodge, York Road, Tollerton, Yorkshire,
YO61 1RA *Introduced by Paul Harrison*
S Hollings, Carlton Boarding Kennels, Carlton Hall Farm, Carlton,
Yeadon, Leeds, LS19 7BG *Introduced by Paul Harrison*
A S Leadbeater, Fairfield, Hodgson Lane, Birkenshaw, Bradford,
BD11 2DA *Introduced by Tony Leadbeater*
- Resigning**
- Region 6 J E L Roberts, Upper Huntington Farm, Little Wenlock, Telford, Salop,
TF6 5AS Prefix: WREKIN

AND FINALLY ...

A friend of mine recently received a parrot as a gift. Unfortunately the parrot had a bad attitude and an even worse vocabulary. Every word out of the bird's mouth was rude, obnoxious and laced with profanity.

My friend tried and tried to change the bird's attitude by constantly saying only polite words, playing soft music, and anything else she could think of to clean up the bird's vocabulary.

Finally she became so fed up, she yelled at the parrot, and the parrot yelled back. My friend shook the parrot, and the parrot got angrier and even ruder. So in desperation she threw up her hands, grabbed the bird and put it in the freezer.

For a few minutes the bird squawked and kicked and screamed. Then suddenly there was total quiet. Not a peep was heard for over a minute. Fearing that she had hurt the parrot, my friend quickly opened the door to the freezer, and the parrot calmly stepped out into her outstretched arms and said, "I believe I may have offended you with my rude language and actions. I am sincerely remorseful for my inappropriate transgressions, and I fully intend to do everything I can to correct my rude and unforgivable behaviour."

My friend was stunned at the change in the bird's attitude. As she was about to ask the parrot what had made such a dramatic change in its behaviour, the bird continued, "May I ask what the turkey did?"

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



MAILING REPLY SLIP

Please would you tell us whether you would like to receive the Newsletter by e-mail or by post, in order to help keep our costs down.

NAME

ADDRESS

.....

E-MAIL ADDRESS

BY E-MAIL? yes/no BY POST yes/no