

SOUTH DEVON HERD BOOK SOCIETY

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PATRON : HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES



NOVEMBER 2007 NEWSLETTER

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Dear Member

The Autumn Show & Sale has been and gone – despite attempts by disease and government to prevent it happening – and it was, under the circumstances, a very good sale. Obviously the catalogue was significantly reduced by the BT restrictions, but those cattle which could not come are, for the most part, still for sale, and can be moved within the Surveillance Zone. Please see the updated cattle for sale list.

The Society is lobbying for firmer action to be taken against the spread of BT virus, alongside the rest of the pedigree sector, and we can only pray that the government will see the sense in doing everything possible to prevent the disease becoming endemic, and to take advice from other countries already under the grip of the virus.

Results of the Show & Sale are included, along with a frame score report. For the first time, a polled bull took the Male Championship – another good bull from the Colcharton herd and another Demetrius!

The supper which was held the evening before the sale was a warm social gathering, and we were entertained by Roger Clemens' amusing tale of his travels in judging the Wessex Competition – we hope you have your wheels back by now,

Roger! The first of six Club draws was made, and the winner was Mrs Thelma Broome who receives a cheque for £220.

Before you put this newsletter down, please take a look at our MERCHANDISE SALE – it's a very easy way to do your Christmas shopping, and there are bargains to be had. Just let Debbie know your orders. Buy now while stocks last – we have heavily reduced many items in order to clear the way for new merchandise in the New Year.

Finally, I have heard cheerful reports of both the Truro Club and the Cattle Breeders Club 60th anniversary dinners, and I was only sorry not to be able to attend them. Congratulations on an eventful year!

With my best wishes

Caroline

NOTICE OF REGIONAL MEETING

The Annual meeting of the Devon Region (Region 2) is scheduled to be held on Wednesday 5th December at 7.30 pm at Rattery Village Hall. The meeting will commence with a talk by Russell Jones from Schering Plough on pneumonia in cattle. All Devon members are encouraged to attend, and should find enclosed an Agenda.

“Politicians are wonderful people as long as they stay away from things they don't understand, such as working for a living.”

“Right now I'm having amnesia and déjà vu at the same time. I think I've forgotten this before.”

“A cement mixer collided with a prison van on the Kingston Bypass. Motorists are asked to be on the lookout for 16 hardened criminals.”

MERCHANDISE SALE – SPECIAL OFFERS!

Boxed pair of Crystal glass tumblers (Congress)	£18.00
Boxed Crystal glass tankard (Congress)	£15.00
Silk Tie, blue or green, (bull's head)	£14.50
Woven Tie, green (animal group)	£11.50
"South Devons at Water" print	£9.50
Apron, green or cream	£8.50
Silver roller-ball Pen (with logo)	£4.95
Silver Letter Opener (with logo)	£4.75
Baseball Cap, green	£3.50
Gold or silver Key-rings	£3.25
Pack of 10 Postcards	£2.70
Pack of 5 Postcards	£1.35

OTHER MERCHANDISE

CLOTHES

Reversible Bodywarmer, navy/camel	£29.50
Reversible Mistral Jacket, navy or green	£35.00
Full Zip Fleece, navy or green	£23.00
Half Zip Fleece, navy or green	£27.00
Sweatshirt, navy or green	£16.00
Poloshirt, navy or green	£9.99
T-shirt, navy or green	£4.99
"Beany" hat, navy, green or black	£6.50

ACCESSORIES

Lapel pin	£1.25	Sew-on badge	£2.75
Car sticker	£0.50	Lorry sticker	£3.00
Umbrella (elm handle)	£19.00		
Umbrella (plastic handle)	£16.00		
"Cow & calf" print	£16.00		
China mug	£3.50	Wheelcover	£48.00

BLUETONGUE UPDATE

Since the last newsletter there has been little change to the movement boundaries, although the terminology has changed and the area where infection has been identified is now called the Protection Zone, and the wider area to the west and north is now the Surveillance Zone. Movement to outside of the Surveillance Zone is not permitted, except to slaughter under licence.

A very useful overview was published in a recent issue of the Farmers Guardian, and also in last week's Farmers Weekly, and the bullet points are repeated below:

- About 60 farms have been affected since August, with just a few animals in each case. Next year is expected to be much worse, following the pattern in other parts of northern Europe, with more animals per holding affected, higher rates of mortality, and greater impacts on health and productivity of surviving animals.
- Vaccination is the only way to prevent infection.
- There is no vaccine currently available for this particular strain of the disease, but 3 companies are at various stages of developing inactivated vaccines, including Merial at Pirbright (although their license has just been revoked again).
- DEFRA issued a tender for 10 to 20 million doses of vaccine, which closed on 15th November, an amount which would be insufficient for a compulsory vaccination programme.
- There is money available from the EU to reimburse 100% of the cost of the vaccine and 50% of the cost of administering it, but DEFRA would have to pay initially. DEFRA is reluctant to do this, and appears to prefer to put the onus on farmers to buy vaccine from a vaccine "bank", which would likely cost the farmer more.
- The virus is unlikely to be contained without a compulsory vaccination programme.
- Meat and milk from vaccinated animals is safe and will be allowed into the food chain.
- Under current EU legislation vaccination is only permitted within a Protection Zone.

It is, indeed, a race against time to produce the vaccine before the virus spread is amplified by midges next year. The Society has an active voice in lobbying for the government to adopt the necessary level of responsibility towards control of the disease – through the Pedigree Breed Societies Group, and the NBA, for example – and we must all fight to protect our industry as best we can. It is agreed scientific opinion that we are likely to have to live with BT virus, and we need the support of DEFRA to be able to do so ...

CURRENT TB COMPENSATION TABLE

(Payable during November)

**PLEASE BE SURE TO KEEP YOUR PEDIGREE REGISTRATIONS UP TO DATE
– IT IS WELL WORTH IT IN VIEW OF THE CONTINUING SPREAD OF TB**

NON PEDIGREE BOVINE

Male		Female	
Age	Compensation due	Age	Compensation due
Up to 3 months	134	Up to 3 months	92
Over 3 months up to 6 months	301	Over 3 months up to 6 months	249
Over 6 months up to 9 months	403	Over 6 months up to 9 months	323
Over 9 months up to 12 months	477	Over 9 months up to 12 months	391
Over 12 months up to 16 months	544	Over 12 months up to 16 months	450
Over 16 months up to 20 months	586	Over 16 months up to 20 months	502
20 months and over	620	20 months and over	541
Breeding bulls 20 months and over	902	Calved	724

PEDIGREE BOVINE

Male		Female	
Age	Compensation due	Age	Compensation due
6 months up to 12 months	Individual valuation	6 months up to 12 months	Individual valuation
Over 12 months up to 24 months	3430	Over 12 months up to 24 months	1471
Bull 24 months and over	2472	24 months and over (not calved)	1832
		Calved under 36 months	1208
		Calved 36 months and over	1272

NEW BULL STUD TO OPEN IN SCOTLAND

It is very encouraging to hear the positive steps taken by UK Sire Services and Mr Keith Redpath, to open a new bull stud at Spylaw, Kelso, Scotland, and thus fill a much-needed hole in the market.

The stud will be much closer to home for many breeders, not just in Scotland, but also in the north of England, and will give an opportunity to capture valuable genetics which might not otherwise become widely available.

It is surely a good thing for the whole pedigree sector, and brings more potential business to the UK and export markets.

The stud is scheduled to open early in the New Year, so bull breeders can begin planning immediately.

SOUTH DEVON CATTLE BREEDERS CLUB

The Club's Christmas Party is being held at Endsleigh Leisure Centre, Ivybridge, at 7.30 pm on Saturday 8th December.

Tickets costing £15 per person (£6 per child) are available from Margaret Northey, The Smithy, Ivybridge Road, Ermington, Devon, tel 01548 830612, *by 30th November.*

The Family evening includes a Quiz, a live band (The Texans), and a hot & cold buffet. There will be a raffle – any donations gratefully received!

SOUTH DEVON CATTLE BREEDERS CLUB **Herd Competition 2007**

Judges: Mr F R J Horsman, Mr P Hambly, Mr P Tully

Sponsored by NatWest and NFU Mutual

(full results in next year's Journal)

Class 1: Best herd (over 20 cows)

		Bulls	Cows	Youngstock	Total
1 st	J Andrew	72	400	315	787
2 nd	A & E Bartley	74	375	330	779
3 rd	G & J Hocking	88	385	305	778

Class 2: Best herd (20 cows or under)

		Bulls	Cows	Youngstock	Total
1 st	D & M Northey & Son	75	370	285	730
2 nd	A Daniels	62	345	300	707
3 rd	K A Luscombe	84	340	280	704

Class 3: Heifers born in 2005 (over 20 cows)

1 st	R R B & S J Harvey	45 points
2 nd	A & L Johns	42 points
3 rd	J Andrew	38 points

Class 4: Heifers born in 2006 (over 20 cows)

1 st	R R B & S J Harvey	46 points
2 nd	A & E Bartley	44 points
3 rd	R & A Smaridge	40 points

Class 5: Pair of steers

1 st	J Andrew	44 points
2 nd	R & A Smaridge	38 points
3 rd	A Daniels	36 points

Class 6: Best herd of cows

1 st	J Andrew	400 points
2 nd	G & J Hocking	385 points
3 rd	A & E Bartley	375 points

Class 7: Best group of 3 cows in milk or in calf

1 st	R R B & S J Harvey	43 points
2 nd	J Andrew	42 points
3 rd	D & M Northey & Son	38 points

Class 8: Best group of 3 cows and their calves

1 st	A & E Bartley	42 points
2 nd	R R B & S J Harvey	41 points
3 rd	G & J Hocking	40 points

Class 9: Best family group

1 st	A & L Johns	43 points
2 nd	A & E Bartley	42 points
3 rd	J Andrew	39 points

Class 10: Best pedigree stock bull

1 st	R R B & S J Harvey	Sexton Conqueror 83	94 points
2 nd	R R B & S J Harvey	Godworthy Excalibur	92 points
3 rd	G & J Hocking	Stretchford Pilot	88 points
4 th	K A Luscombe	George Teign Jude	84 points
5 th	D & M Northey & Son	Ivy Prince 2	82 points
6 th	R & B Masters	Edmeston Dougal	80 points

Class 11: Best pedigree yearling bull born after 1 January 2006

1 st	R R B & S J Harvey	Sexton General	45 points
2 nd	R R B & S J Harvey	Sexton King Lear	44 points
3 rd	J Andrew	Linscott Centurion 3	42 points
4 th	J Andrew	Linscott Centurion 4	40 points

Class 12: 2 heifers born in 2005 (20 cows and under)

1 st	A Daniels	45 points
2 nd	D & M Northey & Son	42 points
3 rd	R & B Masters	39 points

Class 13: 2 heifers born in 2006 (20 cows and under)

1 st	K A Luscombe	40 points
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Class 14: Best cow

1 st	R R B & S J Harvey	Sexton Bringgood 180	44 points
2 nd	R & A Smaridge	Allington Sally	41 points
3 rd	J Andrew	Waddeton Pansy 144	40 points
4 th	D & M Northey & Son	Sexton Snowdrop 336	39 points

**SOUTH DEVON “OVER THE COUNTER” BEEF TRIAL
WITH ST MERRYN & TESCO**

The 12-week trial with St Merryn to supply authenticated South Devon beef finished at the end of October.

During the trial, in which four Tesco stores sold just South Devon beef “over the counter”, 384 animals went through the scheme, with a premium paid over and above the suckler price to participants.

Reports back from St Merryn suggest that the stores noted a significant increase in numbers of “discerning” buyers selecting for quality, and a decrease in the number of “discount” buyers looking for a bargain. Disappointingly Tesco did not make use of the promotional material provided by the Society.

Tesco are now analysing the results before deciding how they wish to proceed, subject to agreement with the Society.

WORLD CONGRESS 2008

The booking deadline for next year’s Congress has now been extended to **1st January 2008**, and payment dates have also been extended.

FOR TRAVEL TO AND FROM CANADA: Carolyne Cree,
carolyne@barfieldtravel.co.uk, tel 0870 442 3290

FOR TOUR BOOKINGS: Rebecca Penner, rpenner@tpi.ca, tel 001 306 646 4484; Teresa Walker, teresa.walker@sasktel.net, tel 001 306 646 4460; or Richard Buck, rbuck@agritourscanada.com, tel 001 519 826 4077

AUTUMN SHOW & SALE

13th November, Bristol Sales Centre

THE SHOW

Judge: Mr Mark Thomas, Treguddick, Launceston, Cornwall

Bulls

1 st	R J & C J Edwards	Z COLCHARTON DEMETRIUS 9
2 nd	Highgate Farm Partnership	HIGHGATE EPOCH 3
3 rd	R R B & S J Harvey	SEXTON GENERAL 1
4 th	Sir Simon Day	KEATON LANCELOT 8
5 th	J Andrew	LINSCOTT CENTURION 3
6 th	Highgate Farm Partnership	HIGHGATE EPOCH 2
Roskymer Cup (Male Champion)		Z COLCHARTON DEMETRIUS 9
Rowe Cup (Res Male Champion)		HIGHGATE EPOCH 3
Thornton Cup (Performance)		HIGHGATE EPOCH 3
Macfarlane Cup (Male Pair)		HIGHGATE FARM PARTNERSHIP
Polled South Devon Cup		Z COLCHARTON DEMETRIUS 9

Females

Class 3a – in-calf heifers

1 st	R R B & S J Harvey	SEXTON BRINGGOOD 44
2 nd	Mrs D R Rusher	BURROW PRIMROSE 22
3 rd	R R B & S J Harvey	SEXTON SNOWDROP 489

Class 3b – in-calf heifers

1 st	R K Rundle	KESTLE TULIP 66
2 nd	R R B & S J Harvey	SEXTON SNOWDROP 509 (T)
3 rd	Mrs D R Rusher	BURROW ISABEL 21

Class 4 – yearling heifers

1 st	R K Rundle	KESTLE BUTTERMAID 68
2 nd	R J & C J Edwards	Z COLCHARTON DARLING 193
3 rd	Mr & Mrs R C Burrough	GODWORTHY LAURA 11
Sexton Cup (Female Champion)		SEXTON BRINGGOOD 44
Alger Cup (Res Female Champion)		KESTLE TULIP 66
Greenslade Cup (Female Pair)		R K RUNDLE
Colcharton Cup (Female Polled)		Z COLCHARTON DARLING 193
Bristol Sales Trophy (Performance)		KESTLE TULIP 66

Ciba-Geigy Trophy – most points Spring & Autumn Shows combined

Awarded to R R B & S J Harvey

THE SALE

Bulls

Vendor	Name	Purchaser	Gns
Sir Simon Day	<i>Keaton Lancelot 8</i>	EG&CE James, Glynarthen, Llandysul, Ceredigion, Wales	1800
Highgate	<i>Highgate Epoch 3</i>	RJ&GE Farrow, Treflyn, Nantmel, Powys, Wales	1900
RJ&CJ Edwards	<i>Z Colcharton Demetrius 9</i>	PW Coaker, Bittleford, Widecombe in the Moor, Devon	3600
RRB&SJHarvey	<i>Sexton General 1</i>	Mr&MrsA Watkins, Castlefield Fm, Kentchurch, Herefords	2000

7 bulls forward, 4 sold, average 2325 gns = £2441

Haltered in-calf heifers

Vendor	Name	Purchaser	Gns
RRB&SJHarvey	<i>Sexton Bringgood 44</i>	Mr&MrsJA Hopkins, Dolhurst Fm, Lympsham, Somerset	2000
RRB&SJHarvey	<i>Sexton Snowdrop 489</i>	D&B Bowley&Sons, Westfield Fm, Earl Shilton, Leics	1900
J&S Collings	<i>Wenfork Crocus 3</i>	Hill&Johnstone, Priors Park Fm, Culmhead, Somerset	850
Mrs DR Rusher	<i>Burrow Primrose 22</i>	BE Gnyla, Bank Fm, Aston, Market Drayton, Salop	1200
J&S Collings	<i>Wenfork Wendy 3</i>	D&L Farr, Bodkin Fm, Shepshed, Leics	1050
Mrs DR Rusher	<i>Burrow Isabel 21</i>	BE Gnyla, Bank Fm, Aston, Market Drayton, Salop	900
RRB&SJHarvey	<i>Sexton Snowdrop 509 (T)</i>	D&B Bowley & Sons, Westfield Fm, Earl Shilton, Leics	1800
RK Rundle	<i>Kestle Tulip 66</i>	TRF Smyth, Sunderlandwick, Driffield, E Yorks	1900

11 haltered in-calf heifers forward, 8 sold, average 1450 gns = £1523

Haltered yearling heifers

Vendor	Name	Purchaser	Gns
R K Rundle	<i>Kestle Buttermaid 68</i>	TRF Smyth, Sunderlandwick, Driffield, E Yorks	1800
Mr&MrsRCBurrough	<i>Godworthy Laura 11</i>	Hill&Johnstone, Priors Park Fm, Culmhead, Somerset	700
RJ&CJEdwards	<i>Z Colcharton Darling 193</i>	Mr&MrsWPHarper, Way Fm, North Tamerton, Devon	1100
J&S Collings	<i>Wenfork Jane 7</i>	D&L Farr, Bodkin Fm, Shepshed, Leics	600

4 haltered in-calf heifers forward, 4 sold, average 1050 gns = £1103

Non-haltered cows with calves

Vendor	Name	Purchaser	Gns
Miss A Monro	<i>Smithill Iris & heifer calf</i>	S Dagworthy, Browns Fm, Woodbury Salterton, Devon	880
Miss A Monro	<i>Smithill Magnolia 5 (B) & bull calf</i>	S Dagworthy, Browns Fm, Woodbury Salterton, Devon	920
Miss A Monro	<i>Smithill Rose 6 & bull calf</i>	S Dagworthy, Browns Fm, Woodbury Salterton, Devon	800
Miss A Monro	<i>Smithill Rose 9 & heifer calf</i>	S Dagworthy, Browns Fm, Woodbury Salterton, Devon	980
T G Davies	<i>Monkton Buttercup 3 & heifer calf</i>	Mr Shepard, Marston Trussell, Market Harborough, Leics	1150

5 non-haltered cows with calves forward, 5 sold, average 946 gns = £993

Non-haltered in-calf heifers

Vendor	Name	Purchaser	Gns
PR Marjason	<i>Al Z Fourways Daisey 4 & bull calf</i>	BE&SM Wareham, Fernleigh, Hermitage, Dorset	680
PR Marjason	<i>Al Z Fourways Jasmin</i>	J Lawton, Aqueduct Fm, Shenton, Nuneaton, Warwicks	680
PR Marjason	<i>Al Fourways Bluebell</i>	MA&C Sandbach&Son, Perlees Fm, St Breock, Cornwall	1000
PW Coaker	<i>Bittleford Yellowmaid 61</i>	J White, 1 Debdale La, Stoke Albany, Leics	1150
PW Coaker	<i>Bittleford Dorothy 20</i>	PF Pratt, Woodgreen Fm, Stourport on Severn, Worcs	1400
PW Coaker	<i>Bittleford Yellowmaid 62</i>	MS&C Gray, Ashfield Fm, Bishop Burton, East Yorks	1900
PW Coaker	<i>Bittleford Cherry 111</i>	S&P Wright, Elm Fm, Suffield, Norwich, Norfolk	1600
Miss A Monro	<i>Smithill Iris 15</i>	D&L Farr, Bodkin Fm, Shepshed, Leics	750
RK Rundle	<i>Kestle Buttermaid 65</i>	J Lawton, Aqueduct Fm, Shenton, Nuneaton, Warwicks	850
RK Rundle	<i>Kestle Dahlia 52</i>	CWCooper&Prtnrs, Manor Fm, Chaddleworth, Berks	880
PW Coaker	<i>Bittleford Bianca 7</i>	D&L Farr, Bodkin Fm, Shepshed, Leics	700

11 non-haltered in-calf heifers forward, 11 sold, average 1054 gns = £1106

Non-haltered yearling heifers

Vendor	Name	Purchaser	Gns
PW Coaker	<i>Bittleford Princess 69</i>	J White, 1 Debdale La, Stoke Albany, Leics	750
PW Coaker	<i>Bittleford Cherry 115</i>	J White, 1 Debdale La, Stoke Albany, Leics	980
PW Coaker	<i>Bittleford Meg 11</i>	J White, 1 Debdale La, Stoke Albany, Leics	850
PW Coaker	<i>Bittleford Yellowmaid 64</i>	D&B Bowley & Sons, Westfield Fm, Earl Shilton, Leics	1020
J Virgin	<i>Glebe Cowslip 1</i>	A Sell, Gardners Cottage, Marsh Fm, Basildon, Essex	600
J Virgin	<i>Z Glebe Dolly 4</i>	S Bennett, Yeo Fm, Woodleigh, Kingsbridge, Devon	600
J Virgin	<i>Glebe Snowdrop 11</i>	J Musgrave, Fursdon Fm, Dunstone, Yealmpton, Devon	650
J Virgin	<i>Glebe Snowdrop 12</i>	Mr Shepard, Marston Trussell, Market Harborough, Leics	580
J Virgin	<i>Glebe Cherry 8</i>	J Musgrave, Fursdon Fm, Dunstone, Yealmpton, Devon	650
Miss A Monro	<i>Smithill Iris 17</i>	DJThomas&Son, Treguddick, Launceston, Cornwall	420
Miss A Monro	<i>Smithill Iris 18</i>	DJThomas&Son, Treguddick, Launceston, Cornwall	380

GK&MAGarrett&Son <i>Billington Saffron Yora</i>	Mr Shepard, Marston Trussell, Market Harborough, Leics	600
GK&MAGarrett&Son <i>Billington Elizabeth Yucca</i>	Mr Shepard, Marston Trussell, Market Harborough, Leics	600
GK&MAGarrett&Son <i>Z Billington Yerba Darling</i>	J Lawton, Aqueduct Fm, Shenton, Nuneaton, Warwicks	620
GK&MAGarrett&Son <i>Billington Gemma's Yavie</i>	Mr Shepard, Marston Trussell, Market Harborough, Leics	600
GK&MAGarrett&Son <i>Billington Spring's Yavanna</i>	Mr Shepard, Marston Trussell, Market Harborough, Leics	600
GK&MAGarrett&Son <i>Billington Fanny's Yowl</i>	Mr Shepard, Marston Trussell, Market Harborough, Leics	620
S Butcher <i>Moorland Sally 3</i>	Dr Mugford, Ruxbury Fm, Chertsey, Surrey	420

19 non-haltered yearling heifers forward, 18 sold, average 641 gns = £673

Dispersal of Strapwood herd

Name	Purchaser	Gns
Sexton Snowdrop 435 & heifer calf	Dr Mugford, Ruxbury Farm, Chertsey, Surrey	900
Foxhole Barbarba	Dr Mugford, Ruxbury Farm, Chertsey, Surrey	780
Penbugle Cowslip 10 & bull calf	MA&C Sandbach&Son, Perlees Fm, St Breock, Cornwall	1600
Foxhole Doris 2 & heifer calf	Dr Mugford, Ruxbury Farm, Chertsey, Surrey	1100
Chalk Regis Misty & bull calf	I M Rowse, Higher Lampetho, Fowey, Cornwall	1600
Penbugle Violet 18	MA&C Sandbach&Son, Perlees Fm, St Breock, Cornwall	1350
Sexton Snowdrop 456 & heifer calf	J Lawton, Aqueduct Farm, Shenton, Nuneaton, Warwicks	1250
Foxhole Apricot 4	ME&TE Broome, Manor Farm, Thorpe Langton, Leics	1650
Sexton Kay 145 & bull calf	D&L Farr, Bodkin Farm, Shepshed, Leics	1000
Sexton Snowdrop 484 & bull calf	J Musgrave, Dunstone, Yealmpton, Devon	1220
Sexton Snowdrop 485 & heifer calf	J Lawton, Aqueduct Farm, Shenton, Nuneaton, Warwicks	1080
Waddeton Ann 88	I M Rowse, Higher Lampetho, Fowey, Cornwall	480
Penrose Stonehedging Mayflower 4	Mr&Mrs A Watkins, Castlefield Farm, Kentchurch, Herefords	1350
Strapwood Rose	Mr&Mrs A Watkins, Castlefield Farm, Kentchurch, Herefords	1600
Strapwood Agatha	J Musgrave, Dunstone, Yealmpton, Devon	1020
Strapwood Flora	CW Cooper&Prtnrs, Manor Fm, Chaddleworth, Newbury, Berks	720
Penbugle Cowslip 14	MA&C Sandbach&Son, Perlees Fm, St Breock, Cornwall	910
Strapwood Grace	E Evans, Fron Farm, Alltwalis, Carmarthen, Wales	880
Strapwood Eve	I M Rowse, Higher Lampetho, Fowey, Cornwall	550
Strapwood Beatrice	I M Rowse, Higher Lampetho, Fowey, Cornwall	580
Strapwood Poppy	DJ Thomas&Son, Treguddick, Launceston, Cornwall	550
Strapwood May	MA&C Sandbach&Son, Perlees Fm, St Breock, Cornwall	950
Strapwood Fern	DJ Thomas&Son, Treguddick, Launceston, Cornwall	570
Sexton Buster	A Davies, Gro, Dolanog, Trallwng, Powys, Wales	750

FRAME SCORES & VETERINARY INSPECTION

SCROTAL CIRCUMFERENCE (cm)

Age (mths)	No	Range	Avg	Pass size
15-20	2	35-36	35.5	33
21-30	5	35-38	36	35

HEIGHT AT WITHERS (cm)

Age (mths)	No	Range	Avg
15-20	2	130-140	135
21-30	5	133-141	137

HEIGHT AT RUMP (cm)

Age (mths)	No	Range	Avg
15-20	2	140-146	143
21-30	5	137-147	143

LENGTH (cm)

Age (mths)	No	Withers to pins		Hooks to pins	
		Range	Avg	Range	Avg
15-20	2	133-157	145	59-65	62
21-30	5	141-148	146	58-69	64

RUMP WIDTH (cm)

Age (mths)	No	Range	Avg
15-20	2	61-64	62.5
21-30	5	63-68	66

WEIGHT (kg)

Age (mths)	No	Range	Avg
15-20	2	690-855	772.
21-30	5	747-887	819

General veterinary comments

A good group of bulls, but some variation in the females from good sized, well-framed, breeding types to some finer-boned, weaker-legged heifers.

Bulls

All 7 bulls passed at inspection, with teeth “on the pad”.

Females

Two females were rejected at inspection: one for warts on the face; the other for teeth not meeting the pad.

EMBRYO TRANSFER PROGRAMMES

As a result of some recent interest in the UK and export markets for flushed embryos, I would like to know if any breeders would be interested in providing recipients for embryos, in the longer-term, or who might wish to flush particular cows.

The Breed Improvement Committee will be looking at costs and logistics in the New Year, so it would be helpful to know the potential level of interest before then. Thank you.

FARMERS WEEKLY AWARDS

Our congratulations go to Jilly Greed (Fortescue, Thorverton, Devon), who has been awarded “Farming Champion of the Year” in 2007; and to Barry Brooks (Reedham, Norfolk) who has been awarded “Beef Farmer of the Year”.

Jilly is a passionate advocate for agriculture in the South West, and is not afraid to voice her opinion – with some charm! Barry’s wife, Sadie, is a member of the Society, and a recent purchaser of South Devon heifers from Charles Hood. Barry runs an Angus herd – but no doubt she will continue to work her persuasive powers on him!

BRITISH CATTLE BREEDERS CONFERENCE

21ST – 23RD JANUARY 2008

HAWKSTONE PARK HOTEL, WESTON-UNDER-REDCASTLE,
SHREWSBURY

“Back to British, Back to Breeding, Back to Making Money”

Monday 21st

Meeting of the Pedigree Beef Societies Group
A workshop on the future of UK indices – “Robust Cows”
Livestock and Genetics Export Workshop – BLG

Tuesday 22nd – BEEF DAY

“Reinventing Dairy Beef” – *Mr K Bevan, SAC*
“Beef Production in Brazil – Threat or Opportunity” – *Profesor J F P Lobato, Associate Professor of Beef Production Systems, University of Rio Grande do Sul*
“Native Breeds – is it time for a revival?” – *Mr D Sinclair, John Lewis Partnership*
“Making Money from AI Beef” – *Mr S Marsh, Harpers Adams University*
“Lessons for beef breeders – the economics of genetic improvement in poultry” – *Dr S Avendano, Aviagen, Newbridge, Midlothian*
“Debate – ‘ This Club believes we should breed beef composites’” – *Mr R Fuller, Mr R McHattie, Mr M Powley, Mr R Oates*
“Making Money using genetic markers” – *Mr C Warkup, Genesis Faraday*
“EBVs may come and EBVs may go but DNA is forever” – *Dr D Pullar, MLC*
“Farmers Weekly Beef Farmer of the Year” – *Mr B Brooks*

There are some very interesting and relevant presentations to be given, and the Conference is also an excellent opportunity to “network”!

For more information, please contact Lesley Lewin, British Cattle Breeders Club, Lake Villa, Bradworthy, Holsworthy, Devon, EX22 7SQ, tel: 01409 241579, e-mail: lesley.lewin@cattlebreeders.org.uk.

WELFARE OF ANIMALS (TRANSPORT) ORDER 2006

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT YOU MIGHT NEED TO TAKE URGENT STEPS TO ACQUIRE A “CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCE” IF YOU ARE TRANSPORTING ANIMALS IN CONNECTION WITH AN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY!

New rules came into force at the beginning of this year (January 2007) covering the transport of animals as part of “an economic activity”. From that time transporters, including livestock owners, require a Transporter Authorisation

Certificate (TAC) for journeys over 65 km in length, (available from SVS Worcester, tel: 0845 603 8395).

There are two types of TACs:

- For journeys over 65 km and up to and including 8 hours duration
- For journeys over 65 km and over 8 hours duration, for which Vehicle Approval Certificates will need to be obtained, and all new vehicles used for livestock transportation will need a satellite navigation system. (As from 2009 all vehicles, both new and old, will require satellite navigation for these longer journeys.

In addition to the TAC, from 5th January 2008, individuals who transport livestock for journeys over 65 km will also require a **Certificate of Competence (CC)**. These should not be confused with TACs.

Assessment for the CC, for journeys over 65 km and up to and including 8 hours duration, involves a theory test (those who have sat it say it is very easy!) covering:

- The general conditions required for the transport of animals
- The requisite documentation
- Fitness for transportation
- Journey planning
- Animal physiology and feed needs, animal behaviour and the concept of stress
- Practical aspects of animal handling
- Impact of driving behaviour on welfare of animals and on the quality of meat
- Emergency care for animals
- Safety of personnel handling animals

CCs for journeys over 65 km and over 8 hours duration must also include practical assessment of competence including driving and animal handling skills (again reportedly easy).

One good thing – once you have a CC, you have it for life!

It is advisable to go through the motions with this requirement, or face possible withdrawal of TACs, fines of up to £5,000, and even 6 months' imprisonment! Enforcement lies with Local Authorities, the State Veterinary Service, and Trading Standards.

Public funding might be available for this type of training in your area, particularly if there is a group application. Your local Business Link office should be able to offer advice and further information.

JOURNAL 2007/8

Journal time is with us once again. Much of the compilation work will be done in January, so please let us have your material in good time.

Advertising We shall be sending out invitations to advertisers who might wish to book space again – if you have not advertised before but would like to do so, please let us know.

Reports Again, letters will be sent to those who usually report on behalf of their Club, Office or Region.

Articles/Photographs We are always pleased to receive contributions for the Journal, which are of general interest to readers, which we endeavour to include.

REPORT ON INDAGRA, ROMANIA

Indagra was the last Show in 2007 identified as a potential target audience in the long-term promotional export campaign, and was also fully funded under a TAP grant. TAP grants are currently available to any breeder, subject to fulfilling minimum criteria, and entitles the breed to 4 sq m of stand space at an approved exhibition – so, the more applications the greater the breed's representation.

This year's British presence at Indagra, in Bucharest, took up an entire Pavilion, overseen by the MLC, and included most of the major cattle breeds, as well as sheep, pigs and goats.

As in most export markets, the South Devon breed is virtually unknown (although we are trying hard to change that), so we are starting from scratch in promoting it as a suitable beef breed. In its favour for this market are its temperament, grass conversion, milk and colour. There is great potential, but some big hurdles to overcome first.

Romania joined the EU in January 2007, just 18 years after the collapse of the communist regime, and corruption is widely reported. There about 1.2 million subsistence farms, with less than 3 hectares, each with one or two dairy cows, a pig or two, etc, and not much of a beef industry at the moment. Most meat consumed is either pork or chicken. There are only about 400 farms that are more than "backyard".

With its entry into the EU Romania has some big targets to meet, and the agricultural picture must undoubtedly change. A growing trend towards beef production is widely predicted, and with an abundance of pastureland, it is breeds

like the South Devon which are most naturally suited. Hence the need to raise the awareness!

Breaking into an emerging overseas market would put us more into the limelight as a serious commercial beef breed, and the press are keen to focus on success stories such as this. Apart from the long-term advantages of a second market, it will strengthen the profile of the breed in the domestic market – so there are implications for all breeders, not just those successful in acquiring orders for export.

The Breed Promotion Committee will recommend to Council which markets should be targeted hardest, with follow-ups from individuals and from the office.

DIARY

December	5th	Annual meeting, Region 2
	13th	Council meeting
January	15th	Executive meeting, Westpoint
	21st	BCBC Conference starts
February	7th	Council meeting
	21st	Breed Improvement meeting
March	25th	AGM, Exeter
	26th	Spring Show & Sale
April	15th	Annual meeting, Region 1
	22nd	Council meeting
May	21st	Beef Expo, Perth
July	2nd	Start of World Congress, Canada
September	8th	Judges Seminar, Wells Folly, Moreton in Marsh
	9th	Council meeting
	17th	Beef & Growing Cattle South West, Hatherleigh

A few “universal truths”:

“Triangular sandwiches taste better than square ones.”

“Sharpening a pencil with a knife makes you feel really manly.”

“Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.”

DAVID PHILLIPS MEMORIAL COMPETITION

If you would like the chance to win £200, this is a reminder of the Competition in memory of David Phillips, past President of the Society:

A Designated Fund within the Society's accounts was set up with proceeds from a collection taken at David's memorial service, and has the purpose of encouraging young people in the South Devon breed (breeders or close family of breeders) to think strategically and to articulate their thoughts for the benefit of the Breed.

A cash award of £200 is given each year for a period of 5 years, after which time the award will be reviewed. The panel of judges may choose not to make an award in any one year.

Entries are now invited from those aged between 16 and 25 on 31st December 2007. The entry consists of a paper on the theme of the South Devon breed, its improvement and/or promotion in the UK, or its export to countries where it is not yet represented. It should be of between 2,500 and 5,000 words in length and may be illustrated by diagrams, graphs, photographs or the like. **Entries close on 31st December.**

CATTLE FOR SALE LIST **DIVIDED INTO "BLUETONGUE RESTRICTED ZONES", AND "BLUETONGUE FREE ZONE"**

BlueTongue Restricted Zones

BULLS

Northwick Centurion 6

UK321645 700164

Born 13/02/2003

D A Ashcroft
Hampshire – Region 4

Tel: 07966 511868

Chavid Matrix

UK281439 500635

Born 30/09/2005

D A Ashcroft
Hampshire – Region 4

Tel: 07966 511868

Hopton

UK303529 700437

Born 07/06/2006

J G Williams & Sons
Shropshire – Region 6

Tel: 01547 530319

18 month old bull

P F Pratt
Worcestershire – Region 6

Tel: 01299 822025

Catalogued for Autumn Show & Sale, but restricted by BT zones:

Bulls from:	M E & T E Broome Leicestershire – Region 7	Tel: 01858 545243
	K V & M A Plain Gloucestershire – Region 3	Tel: 01684 772096
	C G & J F Phillips Gloucestershire – Region 3	Tel: 01367 850237
	Portman Burtley Est Co Buckinghamshire – Region 5	Tel: 01753 669109
Females from:	D A Ashcroft Hampshire – Region 4	Tel: 01420 511011
	T R P D Baker Leicestershire – Region 7	Tel: 01455 552392
	M E & T E Broome Leicestershire – Region 7	Tel: 01858 545243
	Heath Farms Ltd Norfolk – Region 5	Tel: 01603 712366
	C J Page Oxfordshire – Region 5	Tel: 01295 750237
	K V & M A Plain Gloucestershire – Region 3	Tel: 01684 772096
	W H D Scott Gloucestershire – Region 3	Tel: 01608 651464

BlueTongue Free Zone

BULLS

Z Billington Pastiche 24 UKHW0449-00130 Born 02/04/1996	G K & M A Garrett & Son Devon – Region 2	Tel: 01837 54348
Highgate Rocket 3 UK383244 600259 Born 06/04/2004	J C & E M Ridout Cornwall – Region 1	Tel: 07970 880831
Beals Zodiac 2 UK380465 400215 Born 19/12/2005	M H Coumbe & Son Cornwall – Region 1	Tel: 01579 370374
Brafferton Starbuster 6 UK122117 200124 Born 04/01/2006	J P Harrison Yorkshire – Region 7	Tel: 01347 838725
Z Billington Crusader 22 UK371751 600051 Born 10/04/2006	G K & M A Garrett & Son Devon – Region 2	Tel: 01837 54348
Brafferton Starbuster 15 UK122117 500148 Born 29/05/2006	J P Harrison Yorkshire – Region 7	Tel: 01347 838725

3 young bulls	J Andrew Devon – Region 2	Tel: 01271 858213
FEMALES		
10 bulling heifers	M R & R J Rowe Cornwall – Region 1	Tel: 01579 342407
5 yearling heifers	M Stanley-Smith Somerset – Region 3	Tel: 01934 750856

NEW MEMBERS LIST

FULL

- Region 5** Mr A Cooper, Manor Farm, Chaddleworth, Newbury, Berks, RG20 7EG Prefix: CHAD
- Region 6** Mr M A Evans, t/a R A Evans & Son, Ebnal Lodge, Gobowen, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY10 7BL Prefix: EBNAL

INTRODUCTORY

- Region 2** Mr & Mrs E Julian, 16 Fawns Close, Ermington, Ivybridge, Devon PL21 9NB Introduced by Mrs M Northey
- Mr I G Lethbridge, Eastdown Barn, Blackawton, Totnes, Devon TQ9 7AW Introduced by R W Camp Prefix: LETHBRIDGE
- Mr D Minchington, 20 Clifford St, Kingsteignton, Newton Abbot, Devon, TQ12 3HD Introduced by C J Smallwood
- Region 5** Mr C Ward, 3 Memrick Drive, Newbury, Berks, RG14 6SY Introduced by M R Rowe
- L & S Manning, Stoke Hall, Stoke Ash, Eye, Suffolk, IP23 7ET Introduced by C P Hood

RESIGNING

- Region 1** J R Hunt, MRCVS, 2 The Terrace, Trewint, Altarnun, Launceston, Cornwall, PL15 7TG
- Region 2** R & R Gill, Little Leigh Farm, c/o 119 Palace Meadow, Chudleigh, Newton Abbot, Devon, TQ13 0PH Prefix: LITTLE LEIGH
- D R Cole, Higher Beardon, Lydford, Okehampton, Devon, EX20 4AL Prefix: HENSCOTT
- Region 7** Mrs C Roberts, Nithsdale Country Larder Ltd, Knowe Farm, Kirkconnel, Dumfriesshire, DG4 6NN Prefix: LIMEVIEW

AND FINALLY, A LITTLE TALE TO MAKE YOU SHIVER!

I am told that this is a true story, and its source was the Australian Quarantine Inspection Service in Adelaide.

A bloke and his family were on holiday in the United States and went to Mexico for a week. An avid cactus fan, the man bought a one-metre high, rare and expensive

cactus there. On arrival back home, Australian Customs said it must be quarantined for three months.

He finally got his cactus home, planted it in his backyard, and over time it grew to about two metres. One evening while watering his garden after a warm Spring day, he gave the cactus a light spray. He was amazed to see the plant shiver all over; when he gave it another spray it shivered again.

He was puzzled so he rang the Council who put him on to the State Gardens people. After a few transfers he got the State's foremost cactus expert who asked him many questions – how tall is it, has it flowered, and so on.

Finally he asked the most disturbing question – is your family in the house? The bloke answered yes. The cactus expert said – get out of the house NOW, get on to the front nature strip and wait for me, I will be there in twenty minutes.

Fifteen minutes later, two fire trucks, two police cars and an ambulance came screaming around the corner. A fireman got out and asked – are you the bloke with the cactus? I am, he said. A guy jumped out of the fire truck wearing what looked like a space suit, a breathing cylinder and mask attached to what looked like a scuba backpack, with a large hose attached. He headed for the backyard and turned a flame-thrower on the cactus, spraying it up and down.

After a few minutes the flame-thrower man stopped, the cactus stood smoking and spitting, half the fence was burnt and parts of the garden were well and truly scorched. Just then the cactus expert appeared and laid a calming hand on the bloke's shoulder. He went over to the cactus and picked away a crusty bit. The cactus was almost entirely hollow and filled with tiger-striped bird-eating tarantula spiders, each about the size of two hand spans.

The story was that this type of spider lays eggs in this type of cactus, and they hatch and live in it as they grow to full size. When full size, they release themselves. The cactus just explodes and about 150 dinner plate sized hairy spiders are flung from it, dispersing everywhere. They had been ready to pop. The aftermath was that the house and the adjoining houses had to be vacated and fumigated; police tape was put up outside the whole area and no one was allowed in for two weeks.

If you keep cactuses yourselves, I hope you don't also have a flame-thrower!