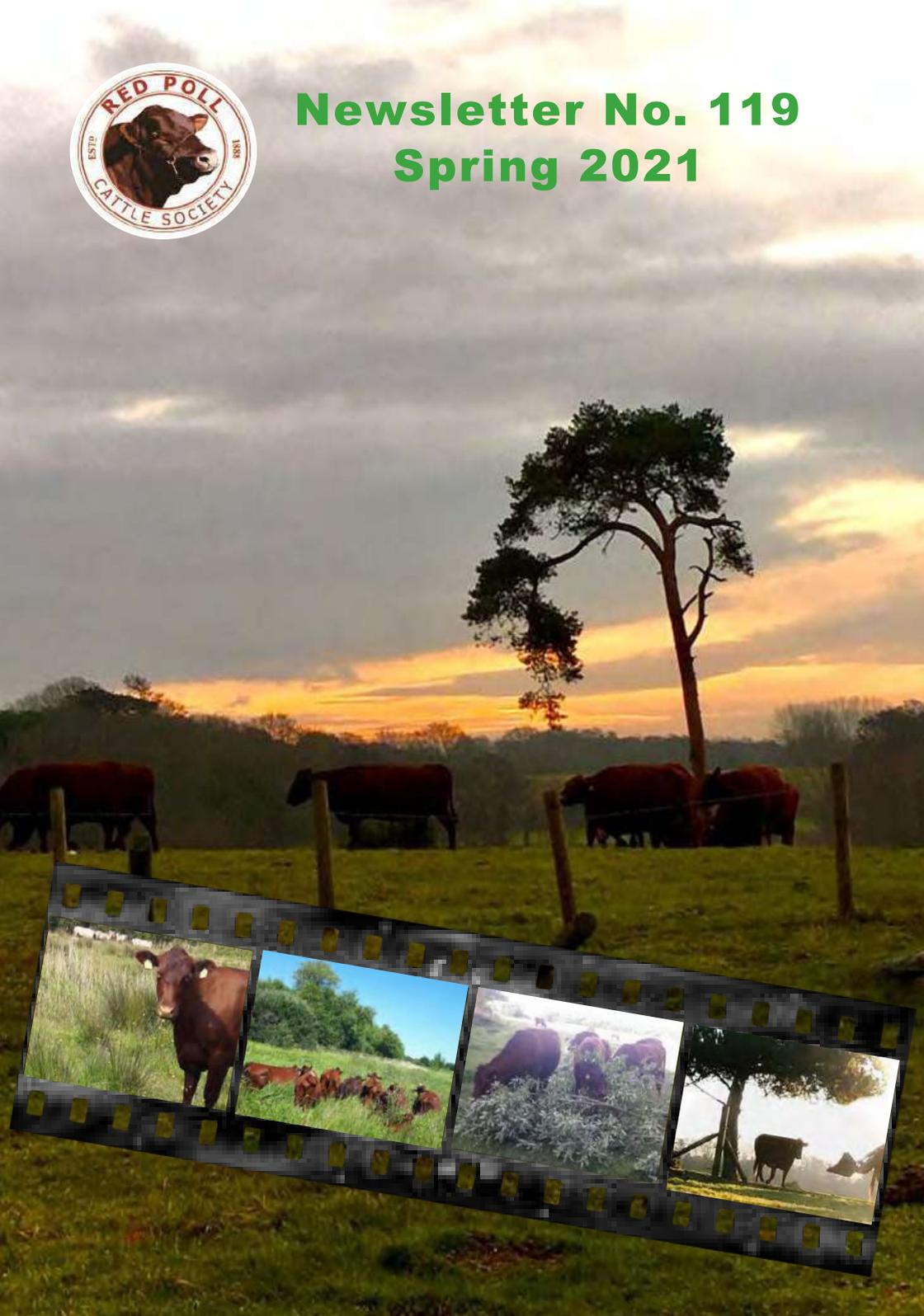




Newsletter No. 119

Spring 2021



WOLDSMAN RED POLLS

S.G. PRESCOTT & SONS

WOLD HOUSE LUND DRIFFIELD E YORKS YO25 9TW

Founded 1953

All females are home bred and registered with the Society

Health status: Tuberculosis, Brucellosis tested.

No animal we have bred has ever had BSE.

'Would you like contented animals like these? Contact us!'



Herd size: 100 suckler cows, easy calving, all male calves left entire, sold as beef @ 15-18 months of age @ 550-600kgs or for breeding.

All young bulls weighed regularly & we are achieving gains of 1.7kg per day up to 365 days of age (own records).

Young cows, in calf and maiden heifers usually for sale.

Andrew & Office:

Tel: 01377 217232

Ben:

Tel: 07855 041632

Stephen:

Tel: 01964 550229

Fax: 01377 271813

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Email: prescott.andrew@btconnect.com

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Patron: Her Majesty The Queen

The Red Poll Cattle Society

Established 1888



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Newsletter No. 119

Spring 2021

President:

J.S. Butler

President Elect:

Q.G. Edwards

Chairman:

J.R. Williams

Secretary:

R.J. Bowler

Treasurer:

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A.L. Fletcher, Miss H.R. Philipson-Stow,
S.G. Prescott, R.H. Smith.

Council Members:

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A.L. Barratt, Ms J. Bellamy, R.S.J. Brookes,
Miss J. Broughton, Mrs A. Daw,
P. Grainger, Ms S-A. Grimwood,
Miss E. Grint, P. Grint,
Miss A-M. Hamilton, D.P. Hunt, A.J. Kirk,
M.J. Martin



Dual purpose Red Polls

Charity Registration No. 213132
Company Registration No. 27159

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Year Letter

The year letter for 2021 registrations is L

Registration Fees

Heifer in the Herd Book of year of birth £13.50

Heifer outside the Herd Book of year of birth £25

Bull £80

Transfer of ownership £10

Birth Notification £10

Please note that the Herd Book closes at the end of January for entries from the preceding year. When you sell a Red Poll, please return the pedigree certificate to the office. The certificate will be sent to the new owner on payment, by the buyer or seller, of the transfer fee.

Advertising in Red Poll News

As a member, you can take a full page advertisement for £25. The rate for non members is £50. Half pages are priced pro rata.

Copy dates; February 19th, June 19th, October 16th

For livestock sales, please contact the Secretary, Ray Bowler, at the office.

Steers are always wanted.

Membership Subscriptions as from

1st January 2021

Registering: £50

Associate: £25

Overseas Registering: £75 in sterling

Overseas Associate: £30 in sterling

Life Registering Member: £750

Life Associate Member: £300

Life Overseas Member: £500

If you have anything published in a newspaper or magazine about you, your herd or what you do PLEASE let me know—as well as continuing to send me:

- ◆ articles
- ◆ points of interest
- ◆ news items
- ◆ amusing/interesting pictures
- ◆ regional tales
- ◆ handy tips or advice

My email address for your contributions for The Red Poll Newsletter is sally.g53@live.com

or you can phone 07780964978

Many thanks,
Sally

Society plans for 2021

Dear Members

It is the end of January when I am writing this and we are still very much in lockdown. I hope by the time you read this things may have eased somewhat but that doesn't look likely. I think we will be under restrictions for a long time to come, maybe all of 2021!

The everyday running of the Society isn't affected much at all apart from Ray not being able to visit as many members as he usually would. The office is open as usual for enquiries, registrations and sales. Bull inspections can still take place as long as social distancing protocols are undertaken.

Council and committee meetings are still taking place via Zoom. Although this is somewhat restrictive it's better than not meeting at all.

The main affect to the Society with regards to the restrictions will be events. The annual Field Day is still planned to take place as is the Herd Competition and Annual Dinner but time will tell if these can happen—you will be kept informed.

Agricultural Shows and other events will be affected with many shows already having been cancelled or postponed until later in the year. Some Show Societies are planning one day livestock events in place of full shows but as yet details are very sparse. As soon as we hear anything you will be informed. Cheshire Agricultural Society have said they are planning to go ahead as usual with their County Show in June. Our National Show is planned for there this year, however I'm not confident this will take place, again we will keep you informed.

So with limited attendance at shows, and other events, it makes it difficult to promote the breed, engage with existing and to encourage potential new members.

So until things get back to some form of normality please stay safe, look after yourselves and keep in touch with one another.

Best wishes
John Williams
Society Chairman

The Secretary's Autumn Travels – 2020

Despite the Corvid-19 restrictions with sensible and responsible organisation and social distancing protocols in place I was able to get around and visit quite a few members up and down the country.

Monday 5th October

Today I visited Jonathan Stapleton in North Norfolk to look around his Carleton Herd. The herd consists of approximately 50 breeding cows plus some youngstock. Over the years the majority of the youngstock have been sold as stores to a local finisher which has meant that the age structure of the herd is rather unbalanced with a large percentage of the herd in their 10th lactation or above. This has resulted in some issues with large udders, mastitis and barrenness which has resulted in general increased vet costs.



Carleton cattle



Appleton Gandolf

Appleton bulls have been used extensively with the current bull, three year old Appleton Gandolf looking particularly impressive and leaving a first class batch of 2020 born calves. I suggested that some of the older cows needed culling with these heifer calves being retained as herd replacements. The herd is in excellent condition grazing extensively on marsh meadows with winter housing in an excellent purpose built building incorporating all required equipment and handling facilities. This is a first class herd

which with a few minor tweaks can be an excellent herd with a real future within the breed.

I then called in to see Tony Buttle, Farm Manager at Easton College, to look at the Bowland cattle that they had purchased after Simon Temple had sadly passed away last year. There are 16 cows which are now in-calf for spring calving. They were synchronised and double inseminated with Knepp Rambler, with Pettistree Lord George, borrowed from Ed Turner, being used as a sweeper. The cows have been Pd'd and according to the vet 12 of them

have held to the AI which if this proves to be the case is excellent news. I also arranged to go back in a few weeks' time to collect tail hair samples from the cattle so that we can have the Igenity Beef Profile carried out on them as it will be interesting to see how this compares and relates to the Signet EBV data that we have for the Bowland cattle.

Whilst in the area I called in to see Sarah and Gerald Barnes and their Hopeham Herd. This excellent herd has been reported on before so I'll say no more now apart from that their butchers shop in Hethersett is going from strength to strength and they are looking for more steers which is excellent for the breed and for breeders in East Anglia in particular.

Thursday 8th

I went to local breeder Trevor Robb, Hanningfield, to help him move some animals around as unfortunately he had had an accident and broken some bones in his hand. Trevor's New Barn Herd comprises of 15 cows and associated youngstock with the finished animals sold as beef at Farmers Markets in the locality.

In the afternoon I went to see Jonathan Clarke's Canfield Bury Herd as it had been over a year since I had been. This small herd continues to impress, the winter housing having been improved with the laying down of lots of concrete to make access and feeding far easier.

From there I called in to see James Rea and view the Ladlers at Hatfield Forest—I have reported on this herd many times before.

Sunday 18th

Today I travelled to Shropshire for a few days visiting with Chairman, John Williams. I stayed for three nights in the Travelodge a couple of miles down the road from John's home. Arriving mid-afternoon I went around John's Pinguis Herd looking at the cattle but in particular the young bull, Pinguis Jacob, from whom we have had semen taken. Jacob has been reported on in the last newsletter. John's cattle always look fit and well, it is a real pleasure to view them. New winter accommodation is in the process of being erected which will make looking after the cattle far easier during the winter months.

Monday 19th

First port of call was Daniel Powell who farms just outside Welshpool. The Rowton Herd was established a couple of years ago and now comprises of 165 registered females. I reported on the herd last year. The quality of the forage the farm produces is excellent and is really too good for Red Polls which is causing a few issues with the cows putting on too much condition, however



Rowton Cattle

I'm sure this will be resolved once Daniel fully understands the cattle and their requirements. I look forward to this herd being a major player within the breed in the future.

Just down the road is new member Andrew Griffiths. His Pentrehen Herd being established a couple of months previously with 10 cattle being purchased from Tony Barratt's Appleton Herd. What a delightful farm this is, a true Welsh borders livestock farm. The cattle looked fantastic in their new environment, a far cry from Norfolk.



Pentrehen Farm



Pinguis Hector with D&M's cattle

After a McDonald's lunch, yes I know naughty naughty, don't tell Susanne and Helen, we went to visit Martyn Davis' D and M's Herd at Llandegia, Wrexham. This is a true Welsh hill farm. The small herd was established a couple of years ago with bulling heifers purchased from Helen Arthan and Mick Paddock. John had sold Martyn a bull, Pinguis Hector, so John was really interested to see him again.

Unfortunately the 10 heifers had calved down nine bulls and only one heifer but were all back in-calf again so hopefully next year will see some more heifers being born. The cattle looked really well, it was a pleasure to see them in such a fantastic location, although I wouldn't want to be there in the winter as apparently being cut off for days at a time is a regular occurrence.



Chorlton Lane Crystal with twins



Chorlton Lane King Valentine

On our way back to John's we called in to see Helen Arthan and her Chorlton Lane Herd in Malpas.

Again I have reported on the herd on several occasions, the quality of the cattle never cease to impress me, it is a real pleasure to look around them. This year Helen has splashed out on a new cattle building which will really make life easier during the winter, very impressive it is as well.

Tuesday 20th

Today we made our way cross country to Stow-on-the-Wold to visit a potential new member David Wilson. David was the Estate Manager for Prince Charles' Home Farm, but on being made redundant was taking up a new position. He had previously known Alan Hewson and the plan was to establish an artisan cheese and milk vending machine enterprise with the plan being to use Red Poll cows. This is a really exciting project for the Society as it means the establishment of a proper dairy herd again. David has purchased all Alan's cheese making equipment and has agreed to purchase 24 in-calf heifers from him to hopefully start production in the spring. The farm had been a dairy unit so there was a milking parlour on site which needed to be re-commissioned. I look forward to seeing how this enterprise develops.

On returning to John's we prepared Jacob for a photo session so that we could produce some promotional material for his semen which will be available in the new year once it has been cleared for use by UK Sires.

Wednesday 21st

This morning I visited Huw Rowlands for a look around his Plemondestowe Herd in Mickle Trafford. Huw has reduced his numbers of late with the herd now consisting of 12 cows and youngstock. They graze the River Gowey meadows with the environmental aspects of management to the fore. The cattle look excellent, a real credit to Huw.



Plemondestowe Frodo

I then visited, and tended to, my parents graves, in Lower Peover. I usually do this whilst at the Cheshire Show but as this had been cancelled I hadn't been up to Cheshire for well over a year.

Following this I went to visit the team at Tatton Park to look at the Tatton Herd. Once more this small herd continues to impress, the quality of the cattle there really is exceptional. From there I drove home.

Thursday 22nd

Lady Getty's Lavenham Brook Herd was my first port of call today. I met the new Farm Manager, James Porter, who showed me around the herd and explained about his future plans. Not that much difference really except that all bull calves will be kept entire and finished as bull beef. This will be an excellent resource for East Anglia as there will be plenty of quality young bulls available which will fill the gap left by Tony Barratt's move to Dorset. The cattle are very well managed and look the part.

The afternoon saw me visit Julian Wilson, Wickenbrook, Newmarket. Julian wanted to have a chat about the future as he was losing a significant amount of his summer grazing and was considering reducing the herd accordingly. I suggested that he waits until the spring before selling anything as they should sell better then. Subsequently he has found some more grazing to rent so the selling plans won't be required.

Tuesday 27th

I assisted Paul Grainger, from Capel Manor College, collecting and moving the cattle from the various Hertfordshire Wildlife Trust grazing sites back to Enfield. I have to say I don't think the quality of the grazing was as good as expected as the cattle had in general lost condition, something to think about for next year.



Capel Manor Cows

Wednesday 28th

A few weeks previously I had had a phone call from Andrew Brenchley, the new Farm Manager for Robert Paul, to arrange a visit to discuss the Kirton Herd of Red Polls. Over the last few years no animals have been registered which has been a shame. However Andrew is very keen to register everything and get the herd back onto a strong footing which is excellent news. I therefore went over to Sutton, Suffolk, to meet him and to view the herd. The herd consist of 30 - 40 quality cows, the older ones all being registered. We went through all the breeding records and managed to sort out the breeding of all the cattle which has resulted in registering over 20 cows and heifers. They have purchased a new Red Poll bull, Canute Kerr, whose calves will be born this coming spring.

I called into Loudham Estate, Pettistree, for a catch up as I hadn't visited for over 12 months. All seems to be going well there, they have a new stockman who is very much on the ball and is keeping things in order. Just down the road from there is where Dick Smith resides so I called in for a catch up. Dick is very knowledgeable about the breed and always has something to talk about that I hadn't known about before.

Thursday 29th

Another morning assisting Trevor Robb which consisted of taking some four pigs and a steer to Humphries abattoir and generally moving stock about into breeding groups.

Wednesday 4th November

An early start, 5.00am, saw me on my way to Somerset to visit the Mendip Herd of Susan Tanner and John Davies. For various reasons they have decided to dissolve their partnership and wanted some advice as to the values of their stock and the best method to sell them. I gave my ideas of values and thought that they would sell well at Melton Mowbray as they had sold there before with good prices being made. Various groups of cattle had been sold there recently with perhaps not the best prices received but fair ones for the quality of stock. Their cattle in general were of a good quality, they subsequently sold reasonably.

Not far away is a new member, Mark Cleaver. Mark used to work for Adrian Darby at Kemerton, but with the new management system there he was made redundant. He took the opportunity, along with his brother-in-law, to invest in a farm in Somerset and having worked with Red Polls at Kemerton decided to establish his own herd. At present the Somervally Herd consists of 10 bulling heifers purchased from the Pochin Herd, a young bull will probably be purchased in the spring, however AI may be used.

Following on from there I called in to see John Reading at East Knoyle for a quick catch up before going just further on so see Quentin and Maggie Edwards. Once more their cattle continue to impress, the Cools Herd is certainly one of the best around.

Thursday 5th

After staying the night in the Wincanton Travelodge, the morning saw me call in to see Ron Clarke, Lagan Farms, Gillingham. Ron has a mixed breed herd of about 100 suckler cows on which I have commented on several occasions. He has about 50 Red Poll cows but hasn't bred pure for a couple of years now, instead using Aberdeen Angus bulls. The reason for this is that the Angus cross stores sell far better down there. When he wants any replacements he will buy in rather than breed his own, or he may hire a bull for a season every four to five years to breed replacements.



Tony and Anne Barrett's new home

I then went down to Dorchester to visit Tony and Ann Barratt in their new home. What a beautiful house. It is located in a really nice village. We then went to see his cattle which are at his daughter and son-in-laws smallholding about 20 minutes drive away. This is also an

Continued overleaf/-

idyllic place set in the undulating countryside just outside Charminster. I'm sure Tony and Ann will settle into their new surroundings in time but I know it is difficult for them and as Tony says it's the first time in about 50 years that he hasn't got to get up and look after cattle! I then drove home, it was actually a pleasure to drive as I've never seen the M3 and M25 so quiet!

Wednesday 2nd December

Easton College, Norwich. What a day. I had agreed to give a presentation to their Agricultural students about Red Polls and the Igenity Beef Profiling Scheme as that was the reason for going to collect the hair samples. What I hadn't expected was to be placed in front of a camera crew and having to talk to it explaining the points of a Red Poll, albeit with one on a halter in front of me, and demonstrate taking the hair samples and then discussing the Beef Profile Scheme. This was being relayed live to all the lecture rooms with all the students watching from there. This was due to social distancing and all lectures being delivered electronically. As you know I'm used to lecturing and standing up talking in front of crowds but this was something different, a real experience, not the same as face to face teaching but I suppose in the current circumstances better than nothing.

*Ray Bowler
Secretary*

Registrations

Registrations for 2020 are:

Males = 27

Full Pedigree Females = 757

Grading Females = 33

Total Females = 790

Male registrations are up from 19 in 2019 with females down slightly from 840.

Red Poll Cattle

The perfect suckler cow

Our customers are raving about the Red Poll beef, it can't be beaten on taste or tenderness and they keep coming back for more. Once they have tasted it nothing else will do.

*Farmer Barnes' Butchery,
Hethersett,
Norwich*



- Native Breed**
- High meat to bone ratio**
- Dual purpose**
- Naturally polled**
- Easy calving**
- Ideal house cow**
- Will cross suckle**
- Hardy**
- Docile**
- Long lived**



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Why Red Polls at Lower Failand?

Looking back on life it's amazing how things come together in order to influence the future and it is only by looking back at decisions and passing them on that we learn. At the turn of the century we decided that we would make the farm organic. I had many years of lecturing to students on conventional farming but my PhD had been in how trace elements were released, or not, from the soil into the plant and if not why not. I therefore felt that I should put much of that research into practice. All of this coincided with me having a substantial amount of money at the College from Europe to support Farming in the South West. I thus went to New Zealand on a research visit, helped start Farmers Markets in the Area, and started the Rural Business Advisory Service in the area and several more initiatives. What came out of the New Zealand trip was a request from one of their Universities to peer review some research studies on grass fed beef. From this came my move from using an Aberdeen Angus as a terminal sire on my South Devon heifers to buying my first Red Poll bull.

I was recommended by another South Devon Breeder to contact a Red Poll breeder by the name of Adrian Darby who put me in touch with his farm manager Peter Doble and the relationship has gone on from that time and I now have my fourth bull from Kemerton. I liked the fact that these animals were fed naturally and the conformation was exactly as you saw it and maintained throughout its working life. Turning organic meant that I did not have the luxury of feeding grain to my finishing animals and this was proving difficult with the Aberdeen Angus cross on the South Devon. In reviewing research from New Zealand it showed that on their grass trials and the odd occasion there was a Red Poll in the trial it always out-performed the Aberdeen Angus and all three out-performed the continental breeds in grass trials. The Aberdeen Angus was also getting bigger and that was not what I needed from my heifers or from the carcass.

With setting up the Farmers Markets I also used grant money and put in a cutting room and started producing meat for the Farmers Markets and having a stall. Quality now became even more important as did finishing the animals on grass or grass haylage.

In only the second of the peer reviews a new concept was introduced that of CLA or to give it its full title conjugated linoleic acid. I suddenly realised why red meat was being accused of being harmful and further recognised how much of the beef used in our catering outlets and supermarkets imported from the feed lots of South America was detrimental to our health. Although I should not totally castigate them as a number of our own producers feed concentrates and maize silage.

Grass-based diets can significantly improve the fatty acid (FA) composition and antioxidant content of beef, albeit with variable impacts on overall palatability. Grass-based diets have been shown to enhance total conjugated

Red Poll Cattle at Shiwa N

The herd of Red Poll cattle was established in 2010 when the very enthusiastic Mark Taylor of Woragus Stud allowed us to have bull 08115 a pedigree bull from the famous Homelime Red Poll stud in Kenya (<https://www.homalime.com>). This bull's offspring crossed with Borans (East Africa Zebu) and the Jersey dairy herd impressed us so much that we offered 20 plus female stock, these animals become the basis for the Shiwa N'gandu Red Poll herd.



Homelime 08115 bred by Jimmy Brookes of Kenya and below first Red Poll cross calf born at Shiwa



The farm is in northern Zambia at Shiwa N'gandu (shiwangandu.com) with season rain fall (approx. 1,200 mm) all falling from November to March, and a long dry season with no grass growth. The soils are very infertile and highly acid from pH 3.8 to 4.2, so really need to be looked after to grow good grass and forage crops.

'Gandu, Northern Zambia



The System—The herd of 95 Red Poll/Red Poll cross Boran cows are a proportion of the 600 cow breeding herd. The animals with higher milk potential are drafted into the ranch dairy herd of approximately 30 milking cows. These are milked once a day in the morning and suckle their calves during the day, for a simple milk production system, dependent on the milk to feed ratio. As this ratio is moving in a favourable direction we are expecting to draft in additional 48 heifers coming in behind this year into the dairy herd.

Productivity and market—The milk is marketed directly to consumers, in a naturally soured form so milk composition of butter fat and protein very important. The cross bred herd yields approximately 3,400 litres per annum (approx. 260 day lactation) with approx. 380 inter calving. In addition to a weaner of approx. 200 kg at eight months, which are then prepared for sale at 24 months (a year earlier than their Boran age mates) to aim for the peak Christmas market. These finish with a weight of 380 kg and a dressing out % of 56 %. The cows are supplemented with a cost effective maize bran/protein supplement, and farm grown velvet bean/teff hay.

Breed selection— Animals with short hair and smooth coats are preferred as they have significantly lower tick burden, and the farm also carries 2,500 head of antelope and other wildlife. In the past some South African and Australian genetics has been introduced to provide some infusion.

Very happy to answer any questions any Red Poll enthusiasts may have on this simple ranch dairy system and how the Red Poll has been used to fit into our system.

*C and J Harvey Farms
shiwa@shiwangandu.com*

linoleic acid (CLA) (C18:2) isomers, trans vaccenic acid (TVA) (C18:1 t11), a precursor to CLA, and omega-3 (n-3) FAs on a g/g fat basis. While the overall concentration of total Fatty Acids (FA) is not different between feeding regimes the CLA then has to be looked at as to whether it is alpha or beta CLA the latter being more harmful being an omega-5 fatty acid and a result of grain feeding or maize silage. Grass-finished beef tends toward a higher proportion of cholesterol neutral stearic FA (C18:0), and less cholesterol-elevating FAs such as myristic (C14:0) and palmitic (C16:0) FAs. Several studies have shown that grass-based diets elevate precursors for Vitamin A and E, as well as cancer fighting antioxidants such as glutathione (GT) and superoxide dismutase (SOD) activity as compared to grain-fed contemporaries which do the opposite. Fat conscious consumers will also prefer the overall lower fat content of a grass-fed beef product. However, consumers should be aware that the differences in FA content will also give grass-fed beef a distinct grass flavour and unique cooking qualities that should be considered when making the transition from grain-fed beef. In addition, the fat from grass-finished beef may have a yellowish appearance from the elevated carotenoid content (precursor to Vitamin A). The key to all of this is not the external fat but the intra-muscular fat.

What this means in real terms is that we need to be careful when we look at our breed improvement plans and data which influences decisions. We need to have a counter argument to the non-meat eaters who have a good argument about meat being unhealthy and to be fair the way many breeders finish their beef it is. The Red Poll has a tremendous advantage in that it can finish off of grass and we need to be cautious not to breed that out of the animals as other breeds have done seeking performance over quality. Another interesting concept with this is that for chickens to grow as fast as they do they need the addition of synthetic amino acids lysine and methionine which are a by-product of the petro chemical industry. These will change the health giving properties of the omega-3 fatty acids into omega-5.

The grass fed diet also applies to milk as well and many years ago I was a very small cog in a research project at Papworth Hospital looking at this in relation to heart disease. Of course our calves drink this milk and so we are giving them a healthy diet and those milk producers who can produce Omega 3 rich milk can sell at a premium.

My advantage is that I stand in front of the customers who are going to eat this beef and I can explain this to them and when asked are your animals totally grass fed I have to say no as in the winter I feed some grain if you can call it that. We grow about 100 acres of organic arable and although we pass through with the weed harrow all of the grain has to be cleaned before I can sell it. I am left with the tailings which is not only the small grains but all of the weed seed as well. This is fed as it is to the finishing animals as well as the sheep. It is not milled and the animals seem to cope as none seems to come through the system in the dung. The product would otherwise be a

waste although it could probably go in someones digester. This seems to have no effect on the Alpha CLA on testing the product. I am able to explain the levels of trace elements in these weed seeds and customers believe that this is part of the whole ethos of sustainable futures.

In conclusion a grass finishing system would not suit many of you and I would hate for you all to change so that I lose my market advantage. However I do talk on this to different groups and I always say we are what we eat and what we eat can only be as good as the way it is produced.

M J Amos

REGIONAL FIELD OFFICER ARRANGEMENTS

The Society operates a system of Honorary Regional Field Officers, as it has become clear that it is very difficult for one individual to cover the whole country. The system is co-ordinated by our Secretary, Ray Bowler. A list of Regional Field Officers is given below with contact details:

Ray Bowler—01245600032/07906761206 secretary@redpoll.co.uk
Area: South Suffolk, Essex, Greater London, Kent, Berkshire, Surrey, Sussex, Hampshire, Somerset, Dorset, Wiltshire, Devon & Cornwall

Richard Brookes—07940547180 richardsjbrookes@gmail.com
Area: Norfolk, North Suffolk

Joy Broughton—07961428431 zulu623@gmail.com
Area: Northamptonshire, Leicestershire, Warwickshire, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Oxfordshire, Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire

John Williams—07860269044 jrw2@btinternet.com
Area: Staffordshire, Derbyshire, Yorkshire, Cheshire, Lancashire, Northumberland, Westmorland and Cumberland, North Wales

Anthea Daw—07508136409 antheadaw@live.com
Area: Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Worcestershire, Shropshire, South Wales

John Anderson—07833664121 borenichjohn@gmail.com
Area: Scotland

If you wish to buy or sell cattle you should contact Ray Bowler on 01245600032 or 07906761206 or secretary@redpoll.co.uk. Ray will pass the details to the relevant Regional Field Officer and arrange for inclusion on the website if you so desire.

If you have any problems or queries please feel free to contact: John Williams (Chairman) 07860269044 jrw2@btinternet.com

We hope that you will have the opportunity to meet your Regional Field Officer before too long.

Names from the Past Who were they? H Munro Cautley (1876 – 1959)

Reviewing the history of Royal Mavis I was intrigued by this man, who had bid 460 guineas for Mavis at the King's sale of animals from the Royal Herd in July 1923. There must have been serious competition from at least one other bidder to push the price to this level. There were a large number of breeders present but I suspect this may have come from Sir H Hambling, a very wealthy ex-banker, but Munro prevailed and Mavis was taken to join his Butley Herd based at Neutral Farm at Butley near Woodbridge in Suffolk. Although this was a high price for a cow, there were other sales in 1925 where the best cows were sold up to 400 guineas.



Munro Cautley 2

I personally have some memories of Neutral Farm where, in the early 70's, I remember seeing pigs there owned by Sir Peter Greenwell. This was a small farm on low land near to Butley Creek, a bit different from Sandringham. In 1924 – 25 Munro was only recording milk from 12 cows.

To return to Munro's life, he was a successful Ipswich architect who designed various buildings in Ipswich and throughout East Anglia. He was noted for his Ecclesiastical work for the diocese of St. Edmunds. The son of a vicar, his childhood was spent at Westerfield, near Ipswich, where he stayed until he moved into a house that he had designed in Constitution Hill, Ipswich, an up-market district in 1911. It is difficult to know how he became interested in Red Polls, but he did become a Council Member and a Judge. From the old herd books his Butley Herd was recorded from 1919-26. There was a sale in July 1926 and 23 of his animals including Royal Mavis were sold at this sale. He showed animals in these years and in fact took Mavis to the Royal in 1924 winning the Championship.

For some reason, there was a reduction sale in July 1926, Royal Mavis was sold to Sir Herbert Hambling of Yoxford for 300 guineas, quite a loss from her initial purchase price. Putting this money into today's values is difficult, but at four or five times the price paid for an average cow it would put her between £4-5000.

Munro was a man of many other interests. He was the driving force behind the creation of Ipswich Golf Course at Purdis Heath and he designed the Club House. Recalled by the Head Greenkeeper as the man who got things done, he planned for the idea of a new nine hole course and in fact bought 11 acres of land and gifted it to the club for this purpose. Regarded as something of an eccentric he was fond of dividing people into two types, those who agreed with him and damn fools!



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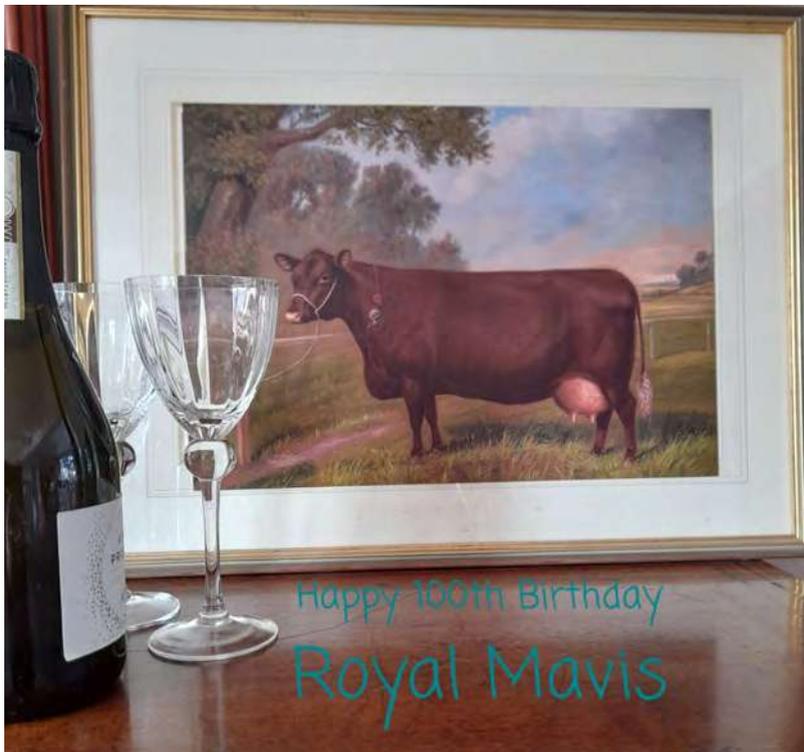
The Story of Royal Mavis (continued)

100 years on and still remembered thanks to the painting by W A Clark commissioned by Sir Herbert Hambling in 1929. Further research into her life from the old herd books show her being sold at the King's Sale on July 12th 1923 to Munro Cautley and joining his Butley herd. She was milk recorded as a heifer. Strangely, she calved a heifer, Butley Fragrance on 26th January 1924, her 3rd Birthday. She was milk recorded in the year October 1924 – 25 as a second calver yielding 7,885lbs about an average figure for milking Red Polls at that time.

Mavis was then sold on July 21st 1926 to Sir Herbert Hambling . By this time she'd had two more calves in the Butley Herd, Butley General in 1925 and another bull, Butley Hawk in 1926. Joining the Yoxford Herd she was shown extensively and in 1927 had twin bull calves. Her yields were very much down. In the year 1926 – 27 it was 3,817lbs. and in 1927 – 28 it was 4,436lbs. She was still successful at various shows including the Royal and was very much loved by Sir Herbert.

She died in 1934 at a good age and Sir Herbert had a hoof preserved and mounted for posterity. Undoubtedly a supreme show cow but never achieving the top production figures.

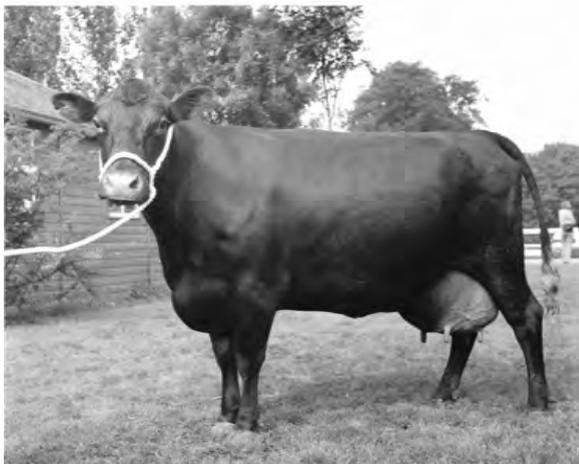
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Calf Photographic Competition – Results – December 2020

The competition was judged by Paul Newman, Herdsman for: E.C. Tutts & Sons, Charndon, Oxfordshire

Pure bred heifer – January / March

1st – Appleton Lavender 7th (Andrew Griffiths)



2nd – Seahawk Kiara (Ed Turner & Sally Grimwood)

3rd – Millhouse Katie (Ron & Taryna Herbert)

Pure bred heifer – April / June

1st – Moreton Lady Kenya (Helen & Terry Mancey)



2nd - Hepworth Gooseberry (Richard Brookes)

3rd – Hollingmarsh Kiya (Martin & Caroline Kellner)

Fedw Stig 26877



Sire: Fedw Thomos

Dam: Fedw Crag

Born: 26:2:2002

Weight: June 2003 606kg January 2009 1150kg

Semen Available for UK & Export

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Cross bred heifer

1st – Wemyss Blonde X (Billy Laird)



2nd – Seahawk Salers X 012 (Ed Turner & Sally Grimwood)

3rd – Hollingmarsh Charolais X Katya (Martin & Caroline Kellner)

Pure bred bull

1st Heathgate King Arthur (Denis Jenkins)



2nd Appleton Kingdom (Paul & Alison Wisden)

3rd Nobodys Nimrod (Joy Broughton)



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Cross bred steer

1st Hollingmarsh Charolais X Ken (Martin & Caroline Kellner)



2nd Wemyss Blonde X (Billy Laird)

3rd Seahawk Salers X 008 (Ed Turner & Sally Grimwood)

Overall Champion - Moreton Lady Kenya (Helen & Terry Mancey),

Reserve Champion - Heathgate King Arthur (Denis Jenkins)



A set of eight notelets with envelopes depicting modern and historic Red Poll £6.00 including postage and packing are available from the website www.redpoll.org or from secretary@redpoll.co.uk



*Happy Birthday
 Mavis!*

