

Annual General Meeting

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AGM—

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Inside this newsletter is all the information you need for our AGM in November, being held at Houghton Hall, King's Lynn, Norfolk, by kind permission of the Marquess of Cholmondeley.

We have a very full series of events planned, so we look forward to your support.

In particular note our photographic competition—come and vote for your favourite!

We hope to hold an auction of promises—your pledges and items will be very welcome, in all price ranges!

In addition, contained within this newsletter is a nomination form for Council members—nominations must be received at the Society office no later than 1st October.

Should there be an election we would remind all nominees and members of the rules agreed by Council in respect to elections: both the proposer and the seconder will be invited to provide no more than 250 words explaining why they feel their nominee should be elected to Council. No other lobbying should take place.

Finally, don't forget that adverts for the next Journal need to be in as soon as possible—the book has been extremely well received and is a great opportunity to promote your herd and the breed.

Sarah Slade

Dates for Your Diary

AGM *12th November*

Worcester Spring Sale
22nd April 2006

Production Sale, Taunton
14th October 2006

Who's Who at the Society

Breed Secretary:

Sarah Slade
Southcott Farm
Chawleigh
Chulmleigh
Devon
EX18 7HP
Tel/Fax: 01769 581212
Email: longhorncs@tiscali.co.uk

All society matters except registrations, transfers subscriptions, and accounts

Administrator:

Libby Henson
PO Box 251
Exeter
EX2 8WX
Tel/Fax: 01392 270421

For all registrations, transfers, subscriptions and accounts

Society AGM Weekend 12—13th November 2005

Hotel – Knight's Hill, King's Lynn -
Telephone - 01553 675566 and ask for the Longhorn Cattle Society's special rates.

FRIDAY 11th NOVEMBER

Informal Dinner at the Hotel and judging by members of the **Photographic Competition** (this will be laid out in an adjoining room).

Categories:

1. Posed animal (haltered or free)
2. Herd with landscape
3. Longhorns in commercial setting e.g. pedigree bull with commercial cows, crossbred suckler cows, crossbred stores/prime stock
4. Longhorns in conservation grazing
5. Bunch of 5 or more heifers/steers/bulls

Humorous: Members and/or cattle

Note: - Council needs good photographs for publicity purposes to take the breed forward. The entries in each class will be displayed at the AGM and the winners decided by the Members votes. The overall winning photographer will receive one free female registration. It will be a condition of entry that the photographs may be used by the Society for any purpose without fee. PLEASE ENTER!

SATURDAY 12th NOVEMBER

10.00am for 10.30am – Meet at Houghton Hall, by kind permission of The Marquess of Cholmondeley.



Coffee and Welcome by the Marquess of Cholmondeley (or his Agent, Robert Miller).

Tour of the estate by tractor and trailer (organic and non-organic arable, Longhorn herd, Southdown and Norfolk Horn flocks and deer herds, including the famous White Fallow Deer).

12.00pm for 12.30pm - Lunch at the Houghton Restaurant (menu enclosed).

2.15pm - AGM followed with a talk by Lord Melchett.

7.30pm for 8.00pm – Dinner in the Restaurant (menu enclosed).

Auction of Promises – proceeds to Society funds. We would like quality items in all price ranges, and donations will be gratefully received!

Society AGM Weekend 12—13th November 2005

SUNDAY 13th NOVEMBER

Between 9.00am – 10.00am - Informal visit to the Glaven herd at Hillington.

10.15am – Assemble at Houghton Hall for tour of the Hall and Walled Garden, which are being opened especially for us at no charge. This will take approximately 2 hours.

There are other Longhorn herds in the area that would welcome visitors by arrangement:-

Welborne – Col and Mrs Mike Hodges Telephone: (01362) 850365 near Dereham
Pensthorpe – Mr and Mrs Bill Jordan (01328) 851465 near Fakenham

You are also close to the North Norfolk Coast - an area of 'outstanding natural beauty' with Sandringham, Holkham and other great houses of interest, though at this time of year it may only be possible to view the gardens and/or Park

Further enquiries about the AGM weekend programme please contact Kerry Long (01485) 600824 email: kanga@which.net

Dinner Friday Night - Knights Hill Hotel

(from regular menu)

Lunch Saturday - Houghton Hall Restaurant

Chicken Chasseur
A selection of freshly prepared Seasonal Vegetables and Rice

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Home made Apple Pie and cream

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Tea or Coffee

£14 per person

Dinner Saturday Night - Houghton Hall Restaurant

Local Brown Shrimp and Home Smoked Trout Terrine
With Watercress and Herb Salad

Or
Endive, Pear, Pecorino and Walnut Salad with Red Wine
And Walsingham Honey Vinaigrette

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Roast Houghton Longhorn with Traditional Trimmings  
A Selection of Seasonal Vegetables and Potatoes

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Warm Chocolate Brownies with Vanilla Ice Cream
Or
Warm Baked Peaches Stuffed with Amoretti and Almond
and served with Houghton Honey Cream

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Coffee

**£29.80 per person**

Formal notice is hereby given that

**The Longhorn Cattle Society AGM**  
**will be held at**  
**Houghton Hall, King's Lynn, Norfolk**  
**by kind permission of The Marquess of Cholmondeley**  
**at 2.15pm on Saturday 12th November 2005.**

Agenda

- 1. Apologies for absence**
- 2. Approval of Minutes of 2004 AGM (enclosed)**
- 3 Chairman's Report**
- 4. Treasurer's report and approval of accounts**
- 5. Election of officers**
- 6. Any Other Business**

**Minutes of the Longhorn Cattle Society Annual General Meeting,**  
**held at the Old Coaching Inn, Raglan, Monmouth**  
**at 2.30pm on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2004**

**Present were:**

F.Sutton (Chairman)  
 Mrs S Slade (Secretary)

Mrs P. Quinn (President)  
 E.L.Henson (Treasurer)

80 members and friends including:

D Bevan, P Boylett, L Brehemr, Mr & Mrs J & S Bricker, J S & J W Brigg, Mr & Mrs D & A Blockley, Mr & Mrs N & T Brownbridge, Mr & Mrs R & J Carter, Dr P & Mrs L Cleland, Mr P. Clifton, P. Close, Mrs S. Coke, Mrs S Coleman, Miss C. Coleman, A Gibb, P. Guest, Mr & Mrs J & P Hedges, Mr S Hollier, Mr & Mrs I & L Kett, Mr & Mrs B & M Llewellyn, Mrs K. Long, Mr D Overton, P Pitchford, Mr & Mrs M & S Pope, Mr & Mrs R & R Poulson, Mr P Robinson, Mr & Mrs D. & L Sheppy, Mr & Mrs J & P Stanley, Mr C Sutcliffe, B. Sutton, Mr & Mrs M. Thomas, Mr & Mrs R. Vaughan, Mr B Wragg, Mr & Mrs D & N Young, Mr & Mrs J & S Zentis.

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from: J Backhouse, J Barker, A B & F M Bomford, Mrs C M Carter, Mr & Mrs B & M Clark, Mrs R Close, R Close, Mr & Mrs M Day, A Doidge, Mr & Mrs P & J Evans, Mr & Mrs W Ford, Mr & Mrs J & S Harrison, G Harrold, J Henson, Lt-Col & Mrs M G Hodges, A & M Jones, M Jones, F de Lisle, A Loze, Mr & Mrs F & N McClung, A Nelson, Mr & Mrs Norrish, C Roads, Mr & Mrs R & F Williams, R Saxby, W J Spalton, Mr & Mrs J & S Spashett, Mrs D Sutcliffe, J Sutcliffe, J Warne, D Watson, Mr & Mrs G Wild

**2. Minutes of last AGM**

Minutes of the last AGM had been circulated with the October News Letter. There was one amendment at item 6

where it was agreed that it should be recorded that Libby Henson was given a standing ovation. There being no further amendments the minutes were signed as a correct record.

### **3. Chairman's Report**

The Chairman then read his report which appears in full in the 2004 Year Book.

### **4. Treasurer's Report**

The treasurer read her report for the year:

*At the beginning of this financial year the Council agreed the proposal to split the administrative and membership breed promotional duties of the secretary and invest some of our strategic reserve in a new breed promotional initiative. This included the creation of a deficit budget which could have been sustained for several years, but which it was hoped would come back into balance as the activities of the new breed secretary generated more interest, more members, transfers and registrations, and looked at possible sponsorship for breed promotional activities.*

*As you will all be aware, this transition was not quite as smooth as we had hoped, but we are delighted that we now have a new secretary in place and many of the promotional plans are now beginning to take shape.*

*In terms of the accounts income from subscriptions has increased thanks to the increase in fees, only the second such increase in twenty years. We have also seen an increase in registration, transfer and semen sales. The large increase in late fees reflects the increased value of the breed making the payment of late fees worth while. All calves should be notified within three months of birth to avoid double registration fees. Animals registered after a year of age are charged from £50 to £50 per year, late fine.*

*Thanks to the continued support of those members who advertised in the Herd Book, its publication continues to cost the Society almost nothing. Plans are in hand to link this to an annual Year Book and it hoped that with some creative printing we can fund this from advertising without it costing our advertising members much more.*

*A healthy profit on a sale of merchandise continues to come in large part from the commission on sale of the limited edition Naturecraft models of a Longhorn bull and cow and calf. We still have a small number of these models available to us and are offered to members at £225 for the bull and £250 for the cow and calf, price which are significantly lower than normal retail. We are happy to take orders for Christmas.*

*Members who have signed a gift Aid declaration enable us to reclaim the tax they have already paid on their subscriptions. Any member who pays tax and is willing to sign this form should please ask for one.*

*Member meetings are run at cost and any surplus running from one year into another is because events are run close to the financial year end. Our thanks to all those members who regularly attend these meetings, workshops, herd visits and outings.*

*In terms of expenditure, costs have once again been kept to a minimum. The two line items which did exceed budget are those for staff recruitment and office expenses which were increased by changes to phone lines, notification of changes of address and extra mailings associated with a double staff change. It is hoped that these will not be repeated for many years to come.*

*The final balance shows an overall profit of some £8500 which contributes to the £65,769 we now have in the bank.*

*As a charity, the trustees are entrusted with the role of ensuring the monies we hold are well managed and that we have a prudent reserve. Beyond this they are expected to ensure that funds are used to carry out the principal objectives of the Charity. Council policy is to ensure the routine running costs of the Society are self funding, and that the Society has a financial cushion roughly equivalent to a year's annual expenditure. Thanks to many years of prudent management our existing reserves currently exceed this requirement by some £25,000.*

*The council agreed last year to budget an incursion into this capital reserve for two years, and use the fund for breed promotion. This is deemed to be an appropriate way to use the charity funds. The society administrator, Libby Henson will continue to be responsible for managing the society database, accounts, registry and herd book. The society secretary Sarah Slade will continue to be responsible for servicing Council, new letters, breed publicity and marketing.*

*John Brigg asked why the circulated accounts did not contain all the notes to the accounts. The treasurer replied that because of the length of the accounts only the substance was circulated at the meeting, The accounts were, of course, fully available to all members who wished to inspect them.*

*There were no further questions on the accounts. It was proposed by Peter Guest and seconded by Pat Stanley that they be adopted. All were in favour.*

### **5. Election of Officers**

Three members had retired by rotation and five members had been nominated for possible election: Frank Sutton, Freddie de Lisle, Andrew Nelson, Peter Boylett and Joshua Brigg. They were all thanked for offering themselves for possible election. A paper ballot had been distributed and the results counted. Mr Sutton, Mr Nelson and Mr Brigg were duly elected for a three year term.

### **6. Any Other Business**

#### **Melton Mowbray Autumn Sale**

John Brigg noted the success of the sale this year, particularly with regard to Longhorns. He requested that anyone who had any comments as to how the sale could be improved should let him know so that he could bring it to the next steering committee meeting.

#### **Council Election and Terms**

John Stanley reported that he had thoroughly enjoyed working on Council. He believed that it was healthy to have elections every year although he was concerned at lobbying of the membership. He thought it would be helpful to have a fixed maximum term to serve on Council so as to encourage new people onto Council. The Chairman advised that Council would consider this at their next meeting.

Bernard Llewellyn replied on the lobbying point that he had sent letters to all members listed in the herd book and newsletter except nominees and their proposers and seconders. He had not wished to upset anyone by doing so, but felt very strongly that the society would benefit from making full use of the business acumen of one of the candidates. He had principally urged people to use their vote, and noted that lobbying has been undertaken in the past.

This view was supported by Peter Close who advised that the beef industry was at a watershed as a result of support changes, and that a pro-active approach was essential to take the breed forward and benefit from the huge opportunities that would result.

The Chairman advised that Council would consider the question of lobbying protocol.

#### **Inspections at Sales**

Peter Boylett was concerned that enforcement of inspections at sales was insufficiently rigorous with rejected animals being presented in the ring. The Chairman confirmed that Council had already considered this matter and was concerned to ensure that it did not happen again. Consultation was taking place with the auctioneers. Council would continue to pursue this at their next meeting.

#### **Judging Competition**

Several boxes of chocolates were presented as prizes. These were distributed to the winning teams.

#### **Maydencroft Perpetual Trophy.**

The secretary reported that there had been 37 bulls shown during the year winning a total of 275 points. In joint third place with 21 points were Charles Sutcliffe's Tetford Jedi, Nicky Lockett's Wellhead Diamond and Bollin Valley Partnership's Heyworth Elgar. In second place with 22 points was Nicky Lockett's Wellhead Dante. In first place with 35 points was Bernard and Margaret Llewellyn's Carreg Cennen. The Maydencroft Perpetual Trophy, a beautiful tapestry made by Past President Bob Williams was therefore awarded to Bernard and Margaret Llewellyn for them to keep for a year.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.



Southcott Farm, Chawleigh, Chulmleigh, Devon EX18 7HP

NOMINATION FORM: (to be completed before returning to the Secretary).

**FORMS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE SOCIETY OFFICE BEFORE SATURDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2005**

We, the undersigned, hereby nominate .....

of .....

to stand for election to the Council of the LONGHORN CATTLE SOCIETY prior to the 2005 Annual General Meeting.

Proposed by: .....

Signed: .....

Seconded by: .....

Signed: .....

**DECLARATION OF NOMINEE**

I ..... declare that I am prepared to stand for election to the Council of the above Society.

**AGM Weekend Booking Form**

**I/We ..... Herd No: .....**

- Plan to come to the AGM weekend**
- Send our apologies**

**We wish to book:**

**.....(No.) Lunches on Saturday 13th @ £14.00 each**

**.....(No.) Dinners on Saturday evening @ £29.80 each**

**Please specify choice of starter and dessert:**

**Starter:**

Local Brown Shrimp and Home Smoked Trout Terrine Number.....

Or

Endive, Pear, Pecorino and Walnut Salad Number.....

**Dessert:**

Warm Chocolate Brownies with Vanilla Ice Cream Number.....

Or

Warm Baked Peaches Stuffed with Amoretti and Almond Number.....

**I/We hope to tour Houghton Hall on Sunday**

**Total Number of lunches** £.....

**Total Number of dinners** £.....

**I/We Enclose a cheque for** **Total** **£ .....**

**Please Return to:**

**The Secretary**  
**Sarah Slade, Southcott Farm, Chawleigh, Chulmleigh, Devon EX18 7HP**