

**VAT****A REMINDER!!**

Please would all members note that the Society was required to register for VAT and therefore VAT is now payable on ALL registrations

Fees are as follows:

FEMALES - if registered within 3 months

PAPER registrations £20.56 inc VAT

ON-LINE registrations £17.62 inc VAT

LATE Registrations 3—12 months are £35.25 inc VAT

All late registrations will be charged, so please do try & get your registrations in on time!!

There remains no cost to birth notifying males, and full registration, on the appropriate form, costs £117.50 inc VAT.

**Who's Who at the Society****Breed Secretary:**

Sarah Slade  
Southcott Farm  
Chawleigh  
Chulmleigh  
Devon  
EX18 7HP  
Tel/Fax: 01769 581212  
E: secretary@longhorncattlesociety.com

**Registrations and Accounts:**

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

All society matters **except** registrations, transfers, subscriptions and accounts

For all registrations, transfers, subscriptions and accounts

**Newsletter**

Issue 50

April 2007

**Moving Forward***Dates for Your Diary*

*Spring Show & Sale,  
Worcester  
28th April 2007*

*Showing workshop,  
Yorkshire  
5th May 2007*

*Production Sale,  
Yorkshire  
11th August 2007*

*National Show and  
Sale,  
Melton Mowbray,  
7th—8th September*

*Autumn Sale,  
Worcester  
22nd September  
2007*

*Scottish Weekend  
29-30th Sept 2007*

*2nd Mid West Group  
Sale, Taunton  
13th October 2007*

*AGM  
17-18th November  
2007*

As many of you will know I also work part time for the Country Land and Business Association (CLA). For many years I have been their South West Regional Surveyor, latterly adding a role as their National Dairy and Bovine TB Adviser.

I have now been offered a promotion to be the CLA's National Access Adviser. However, as this post will be full time, this regrettably means that I will no longer have the time to continue as Secretary of the Society.

It is three years now since I joined the Society and in that time I have had the pleasure of meeting many of you, and also of seeing some really superb cattle. I shall miss the

friendliness of Longhorn breeders, the camaraderie of many Longhorn visits and events and I hope that I shall still see you all at shows and sales throughout the year. Council will therefore be looking for new Breed Secretary and you will shortly see advertisements in

the farming press. (We would ask that you encourage anyone you think may be suitable to apply!) In the interim, I am keen to ensure that the transition period is as smooth as possible. I am not going quite yet and hope that, even after I have left, that many of you will stay in touch!

Meanwhile we have an exciting time coming up—the sale at Worcester will have almost 200 head of cattle, whilst we are nearly full on the showing workshop (one or two places left if you are quick!). Also don't forget the new showing grant which is being trialed this year to encourage more of you to take cattle to shows—full details were in the last newsletter or are on the website.

Finally thanks are due to three people: Joshua, who has sadly stepped down from Council; John Hedges, who has replaced him as Chairman, and John Stanley who is temporarily filling the "gap" on Council.

*Sarah Slade*

### Chairman's Page

It is with great sadness that, only part way through the year, Joshua Brigg has stepped down from Council. Joshua has shown tremendous commitment to the Society, great dedication to the breed and the utmost concern to ensure that the Society should act in the best interests of all Longhorn Breeders. He spent many long hours dealing with Council business and strove to ensure that the Society moved forward to meet new challenges. His whole hearted concern to ensure the best for the breed will be much missed. We are deeply grateful to him for the work he carried out both whilst on Council for many years, and also in his role as Chairman.

We are pleased to announce that Council has elected John Hedges, who has been vice Chair for the past 15 months, to the position of Chairman. Council also felt that Joshua's role on Council should be filled and have co-opted John Stanley who will serve on Council for the remainder of the year.

*Message from Joshua Brigg:*

When I was elected Chairman of Council fifteen months ago it was an exciting time for the breed. Increasing numbers of both cattle and members soon led to the breed coming off the RBST list and also the heightened activity took the Society into the scope of VAT and required registration. Some time ago the decision was taken to split the administration between two part timers, Libby and Sarah. It seemed only right, as the body entrusted by the Membership to look after their Society, that, three years on, Council should stand back and review how the new arrangement was working in the light of the increased workload. Also to look at how things should move in anticipation of future growth. This has now become even more imperative since Sarah's other part time job has become full time leading to her having to give up the Longhorn work.

In my time on Council I always tried to put the long term good of the breed and the Society first. Unfortunately during these discussions it became apparent that some on Council and in close proximity were working from a different agenda. Without the support of all those involved I am afraid that I find my position as Chairman of Council untenable and have therefore, reluctantly, decided to resign from the Chair and from Council.

Joshua Brigg

*Chairman's Message:*

Having spent fifteen very enjoyable months as Deputy Chairman, I now find myself elected to the position of Chairman, following Joshua's resignation. Council were very sorry that Joshua decided to step down, following a stimulating period where he put a lot of energy and enthusiasm into taking the breed forward and we all wish him well.

At the same time, our Breed Secretary, Sarah, is moving on to a full time position with the Country Land and Business Association and so can no longer find the time to carry on in her role with the Society. Sarah has contributed greatly to the recent success of the Longhorn breed and her commitment to the cause and the excellence of her work are greatly appreciated.

I/we would like to attend the Show Training Day on Saturday 5th May 2007

Name(s) of ALL those attending:

.....  
.....  
.....

Membership (Herd) Number .....

Address

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Contact telephone number .....

Contact Email address .....

**Please return to the secretary:**

Sarah Slade, Southcott Farm , Chawleigh, Chulmleigh, Devon EX18 7HP

Tel/Fax: 01769 581212

Email: [secretary@longhorncattlesociety.com](mailto:secretary@longhorncattlesociety.com)

**By: 21st April 2007**

**PLEASE NOTE: PLACES MUST BE PRE-BOOKED**

# SHOW TRAINING DAY

**At Southfield Farm, Drighlington, Bradford West Yorks  
(near M62 Junction 27)  
on Saturday 5th May at 10.45 for 11 am  
by kind invitation of David and Angela Blockley**

Following the success of the Show Training day last year, a second Show Training Day has been arranged to encourage new exhibitors to start showing their cattle.

Once again this is intended as a basic “starter” day although there will no doubt be something of interest to the more experienced exhibitor. The whole showing process will be covered from early planning through training, washing and grooming to ringcraft and etiquette.

**Pre-booking is essential** to help with planning and it may be necessary to restrict numbers so please book early.

We have invited Mr Jim Courts to lead the day. He is a very experienced cattle exhibitor and who will bring his knowledge and expertise of the professional showing world to the day.

Angela and David Blockley will also be available to assist with the demonstrations and answer questions.

Angela and David have very kindly offered to provide refreshments

**Biosecurity** As the day will be a practical one using the Blockley’s cattle it is essential that visitors wear clean clothes and bring clean Wellingtons

(i. e. **not** what you were wearing to feed your cattle that morning!)

Council are now actively recruiting an enthusiastic replacement to effectively manage the Society and to promote and market the breed. Advertisements will be appearing in the farming press in the very near future.

The Spring Sale and summer showing period will soon be upon us now and we can look forward to a buoyant year with good prospects for both breeding and finished stock. There will be 180 – 200 head of Longhorn cattle at the Spring Sale at Worcester on 28<sup>th</sup> April and, with interest in the breed continuing to grow, a good demand for them is expected. It is also an encouraging time for finished stock and as the desire for traceable traditional beef of the highest quality rises, there is great scope for achieving premium prices through retailers and direct marketing.

There is another Showing Workshop this summer and if last year’s success is repeated, this should result in an increase in the numbers of members taking to our main shop window, the show ring.

A special event this year is the Scottish Longhorn Weekend on the 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> September which will give members a rare opportunity to visit some of the more northerly herds. More details on this can be found via the Society’s very informative website, which I urge members and others to visit on a regular basis for up to date news and information.

I would like to take the opportunity to welcome new members to the Society and hope to meet you at some of the many events this summer.

John Hedges

## Sales results

Council agreed at their last meeting that where a sale of Longhorn cattle is held “under the auspices of the Society” that a marked sales catalogue should be provided to the Society office so that the sales results are available to the Society.

Members are asked to note this requirement.

## Show Attendance

The Society will once again have a stand at Beef Expo this year, and will also have stands at the major shows. We will be repeating our stand at the Royal Show in the centre of the cattle building. Do come and join us!

If members would like to use a set of boards for smaller, local shows, then please let the secretary know well in advance so that she can arrange to get these to you, together with relevant publicity information.

## Blue Tongue Update

Bluetongue is an insect-borne viral disease to which all species of ruminants are susceptible, although sheep are most severely affected. However, cattle are the main mammalian reservoir of the virus and are very important in the epidemiology of the disease. It is characterised by changes to the mucous linings of the mouth and nose and the coronary band of the foot. Bluetongue is present when it is confirmed by laboratory tests that the Bluetongue virus (BTV) is circulating in an area.

Bluetongue was first described in South Africa but has since been recognised in most countries in the tropics and sub-tropics. Since 1999 there have been widespread outbreaks of Bluetongue in Greece, Italy, Corsica (France) and the Balearic Islands (Spain). Cases also occurred in Europe in Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Kosova and Yugoslavia. Serotypes 2, 4, 9 and 16 have been involved. These cases have been well north and west of its normal distribution. It appears that the virus has spread from both Turkey and North Africa.

In July 2001 it appeared that the virus might have overwintered in Corfu and Italy. One possible reason for the changing pattern of Bluetongue disease in the Mediterranean region is climate changes. Further changes could lead to the disease spreading northward.

Bluetongue has never been recorded in Great Britain.

Bluetongue is caused by a virus within the Orbivirus genus of the family Reoviridae. At present 24 distinct serotypes have been identified as a result of serum neutralisation tests. The virus is transmitted by a small number of species of biting midges of the genus Culicoides. These vectors - insects that carry the disease- prefer to feed on large animals. The main transmission cycle is between the Culicoides midge and cattle, with sheep being infected when cattle are not present or the midge population is high. Thus, cattle can be used to detect the presence of BTV virus. Peak populations of vector Culicoides occur in the late summer and autumn and therefore this is the time when Bluetongue is most commonly seen.

The clinical signs can vary from inapparent to mild or severe, depending on the virus strain and the breed of sheep involved. Deaths of sheep in a flock may reach as high as 70 per cent. Animals that survive the disease will lose condition with a reduction in meat and wool production.

In sheep, the disease is characterised by fever that may last for several days. Increased respiration and hyperaemia of the lips, mucous linings of the mouth and nose and eyelids, accompanied by excess salivation and frothing follow this. Nasal discharges are common. There is sometimes oedema (abnormal swelling) of the head and neck. The hyperaemia and oedema may result in lameness and recumbency. Animals can lose condition rapidly, including muscle degeneration. Infection during pregnancy may result in abortions and congenital abnormalities.

In cattle, the disease cannot be diagnosed on clinical grounds and requires laboratory testing for confirmation.

Under internationally agreed guidelines (OIE) Bluetongue is unusual in that the disease is only confirmed when there is evidence that the virus is circulating between animals and vectors in an area.

### REGIONAL GROUP NEWS

The regional groups operate independently of the Society and organise herd visits, social events and herd competitions. Enthusiastic group members are always welcome. Do get in touch with your local breeders group co-ordinator and get involved in group activities.

#### Mid West Longhorn Breeders Group

Due to the Dispersal of the Logan herd the visit arranged for 4th August has been cancelled. However, we have a NEW herd visit to the Longlands Herd, by kind invitation of Mr and Mrs Barker.

Date: Saturday 8th July at 2pm.

Please let Peter Guest know numbers by 2nd July.

The Herd Competition will take place in August this year (not the usual September/October).

The Group Lunch will take place on 25th November.

For full details:

**Contact: Peter Guest, Colaba Lodge, Hamish, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6 0QN  
Tel: 01568 760251**

#### South East Longhorn Breeders Group

New Chairman and Secretary elected. Herd competition later this year.

Chairman: John Hedges 01494 485163

**Contact: Secretary: Charlotte Coleman,  
Chalkney Mill, Earls Colne, Colchester, Essex  
CO6 2PR  
Tel: 01787 222253**

#### North Western Longhorn Breeders Group

For details of group activities,

**Contact: Phil Robinson, Blackden Cottage,  
Blackden Heath, Goostrey, Crewe, Cheshire  
CW4 8DG Tel: 01477 571406**

#### Midland Longhorn Breeders Club

23rd May at Springbarrow Lodge—Mr Chris Parker BVM, BVMS, DBR, MRCVS will speak on “Bio Awareness: Bio Security”

Summer visit—John and Joshua Brigg’s Gorse Herd and Charlecote Park

Ashby Show—a trophy will be presented to the new entrant with the most points. We will also have a refreshment stand.

For full details:

**Contact: Rita Poulson, New House Grange,  
Orton Lane, Sheepy Magna, Atherstone,  
Warwickshire CV9 3NJ  
Tel: 01827 880203**

#### Welsh Longhorn Breeders Club

For details of group activities:

**Contact: Bernard Llewellyn, Carreg  
Cennan Castle, Trapp, Llandeilo, Dyfed  
Tel: 01558 822291**

#### Northern Longhorn Breeders Club

Spring Outing—ORGANIC LONGHORNS  
For the DINING TABLE

Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2007 10.30 am – 4.00 pm  
By kind invitation of Susan Aglionby, The Croft, Houghton, Carlisle CA3 0LD. Susan owns and manages the Houghton herd of Longhorns and runs two small linked organic units producing beef cattle, sheep and geese. Please confirm exact numbers by numbers by Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> April.

Herd Visit August 18<sup>th</sup>—mark this date in your diaries now! - celebrate the Lockett’s 21st Birthday in Longhorns!

Chairman: Nicky Lockett 01697 371487  
email: [nickyluckett@aol.com](mailto:nickyluckett@aol.com)

**Secretary: Pam Pumphrey 01556 630246  
Email: [clonyard@btinternet.com](mailto:clonyard@btinternet.com)  
Fax: 01387 269747**

## Longhorn Cattle For Sale

### FEMALES FOR SALE

**J Harrison, Settrington, Malton, N Yorks**  
YO17 8NR

**Tel: 01944 768441**

Settrington Kinky Born: 9/8/05

Sire: Settrington illustrious

Dam: Settrington Emblem

Settrington Larch Born: 24/3/06

Sire: Southfield Cobalt

Dam: Settrington Halcyon

Settrington Ludo Born: 2/7/06

Sire: Southfield Cobalt

Dam: Wellhead Dabchick

Settrington Lido Born: 26/7/06

Sire: Bejon Dickie

Dam: Settrington Emblem

**John Huntbach, Nantwich, Cheshire**

**Tel: 01270 524216**

Baddiley Daisy Born: 30/8/03

Sire: Bollin Bruno

Dam: Honorwood Crescent

Sold with Limousin calf at foot

**Philip and Lisa Bell, Newark, Notts**

**Tel: 01522 778634**

5 heifers and 2 cows for sale. Good quality.

All in calf or with calves at foot (in calf to

Fishwick Commander)

### BULLS FOR HIRE

**W Mears, Bow, Crediton, Devon, EX17**  
6HT

**Tel: 01363 82259**

Underknoll Vision Born 26/5/05

Sire: Underknoll Quest

Dam: Linton Aurora

Available for HIRE from April to July.

Ideal for small herd. Very quiet.

### BULLS FOR SALE

**Paul Morgan, Cheddar, Somerset**

**Tel: 01934 741771**

**email: [bradleyxfarm@btinternet.com](mailto:bradleyxfarm@btinternet.com)**

Westward King Born: 28/5/95

Sire: Rousham monty

Dam: Westward Foxglove

For Sale or EXCHANGE. Good natured.

His calves are due April. Only for sale/  
exchange as new blood needed to use on  
his daughters.

### WANTED

**C James, Houghton Hall, Norfolk**

**Tel: 07793 208655**

In calf cows or heifers.

Also wanted: cross-bred steers.

The Bluetongue Order 2003 came into force on 19 February 2003. It implements Council Directive 2000/75/EEC in England. The Directive lays down specific measures for the control and eradication of Bluetongue. Similar legislation applies in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Essentially, the measures involve restrictions with large protection and surveillance zones (100 km and 150 km minimum radius respectively) around the infected holding. The legislation provides for movement restrictions on suspicion of the Bluetongue virus circulating in an area and, where possible, confining animals indoors at times when the vectors are active. It also provides for eradication of the disease by control of the vector, and if appropriate slaughter and/or vaccination.

### Latest situation

Over recent months, bluetongue has been found in the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxemburg, in parts of Western Germany and in areas in Northern France.

There is a 150 km restriction zone in place around each of the infected premises meaning that all of Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxemburg; and parts of Western Germany and Northern France are under restrictions. In the restriction zone, rules apply to movement of ruminants, export of animals is prohibited and all animals on premises within this zone have to be identified and checked for bluetongue.

Testing on samples from the Netherlands has shown they carried the serotype 8 form of the virus, not previously seen in Europe.

Animal keepers should remain vigilant for the clinical signs of the disease in sheep and cattle, and as ever practice good biosecurity. Bluetongue is a notifiable disease and must be reported to your Divisional Veterinary Manager.

Defra have real concerns about the spread of Bluetongue. Chief Veterinary officer, Debby Reynolds, has been reported as saying that none of the incursions of bluetongue virus in Europe over the past 10 years has been as risky as the recent outbreak which occurred in Dutch livestock in 2006 when the strain 8 of Bluetongue virus was found.

This is because:

- the latitude of bluetongue in Europe is further north than previously experienced
  - cattle are clinically affected as well as sheep
  - a different group of midges act as the vector, and these are common to northern Europe including the UK
  - Infection is continuing deep into the winter season
- Whilst UK contingency plans were drawn up in 2002, those plans are being revised to take account of these new development.

In the meantime, it is vital to take this new situation seriously. There is already a big risk that the virus is likely to over-winter and that infected midges could blow in our direction. There is little that can be done to stop that happening, although it can be prevented by other routes—including ensuring that imports are properly tested.

It is also essential that all livestock owners are alert to the possibility of disease—early detection and control of a few isolated incidents may be enough to stop it at an early stage and prevent the cycle of spread in British midges.

## Sales—2007

**28th April 2007**

**Society Spring Show and Sale at Worcester Livestock Centre  
To be followed by the dispersals of the Logan and Sutton herds**

Auctioneers:

McCartneys, The Heath Meadow, Nunnery Way, Worcester WR4 0SQ  
Tel: 01905 769770

**11th August 2007**

**Production Sale—Southfield and Blackbrook herds at Southfield Farm, Yorkshire**

Auctioneers:

McCartneys, The Heath Meadow, Nunnery Way, Worcester WR4 0SQ  
Tel: 01905 769770

**7th & 8th September 2007**

**Society National Show & Sale at Melton Mowbray**

All cattle will be appraised. Stock must be haltered and led.

Auctioneers:

Melton Mowbray Market Auctioneers, Melton Mowbray Market,  
Scalford Road, Melton Mowbray LE13 1JY  
Tel: 01664 562971

**22nd September 2007**

**Society Autumn Sale to include breeding Stock, Store Cattle and Suckled Calves  
At Worcester Livestock Centre**

To include pedigree led or unled stock, stores, weaned calves, steers and cross bred Longhorns

Auctioneers:

McCartneys, The Heath Meadow, Nunnery Way, Worcester WR4 0SQ  
Tel: 01905 769770

**Saturday 13th October 2007**

**2nd Mid West Group Production Sale at Taunton Market**

Auctioneers:

Taunton Market Auctioneers

Mr D Biss, c/o Greenslade Taylor Hunt, Princes Street, Yeovil, Somerset BA20 1EW  
Tel: 01935 423474

**Other Sales of Traditional Cattle include:**

28-29th September—Frome—Traditional, Minority Rare Breeds Sale—Tel: 01228 590490

## Longhorn Cattle Wanted

### WANTED

**Mrs Barker, Longlands Farm, Little  
Bredy, Dorchester, Dorset DT2 9HF  
Tel: 01308 482371**

Weaned Longhorn calves required.

**D C Greaves, The Coppice, Hextall  
Lane, Ranton, Staffs ST18 9JU  
Tel: 01785 282616**

Stores always required for rare and  
traditional breeds finisher

**Richard Vaughan, Huntsham Court,  
Goodrich, Ross-on-Wye, Hereford  
Tel: 01600 890296**

Looking for store cattle, male/female, well  
grown for finishing. Will pay Continental  
prices for suitable cattle.

**Michael Davies, Avey Lane Farm,  
Waltham Abbey, Essex EN9 3QJ  
Tel: 020 8508 2579**

Requires OTMS cattle for conservation  
grazing 30months—10years old. Will  
collect & pay OTMS prices.

  
New Members  
 We should like to welcome the following new members to the society :  
 Mr Keith Smith, Greenacre Lodge, Skerne, Drifffield, East Yorks, YO25 9HR  
 Mr J H D Fanshawe, Oak Farm, Naseby, Northamptonshire NN6 7BX  
 Mr Peter Milburn, Butterknowes Farm, Pauperhaugh, Longframlington, Morpeth  
 NE65 8JF  
 Mr John P Finnegan, Cormaglava, Newtoncashel, Co Longford, Eire  
 Mr R W Mabon, Rashleigh Barton, Wembworthy, Chulmleigh, Devon EX18 7RW  
 Mr J T Fuller, Spinney Abbey Farm, Wicken, Ely, Cambridgeshire CB7 5XQ  
 Mr W J C Stewart, Greenfold, Bridge of Marnoch, Huntley, Aberdeen shire  
 AB54 7UN  
 Mrs Sarah Freeman, Pool House Farm, Earls Common Road, Stock Green,  
 Redditch, Wores B96 6TA  
 Mrs Karen Wood, Oxhouse Farm, The Locks, Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 1QR  
 Mrs Deborah Powell, Pard House, Standford Bridge, Worcester WR6 6RZ

