

LONGHORN



Cattle Society

LONGHORN CATTLE SOCIETY AGM Weekend 14-16 October 2022 Devon & Somerset

ITINERARY

**PLEASE RESPECT ANY BIOSECURITY ARRANGEMENTS PUT IN PLACE BY OUR HOSTS,
AND ANY COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS REQUESTED BY THE HOTEL**

FRIDAY 15 OCTOBER

Members staying tonight - arrive at the Padbrook Park Hotel, Swallow Way, Cullompton, Devon, EX15 1RU.
Dinner is available at the Hotel or there are pubs and restaurants in and around Cullompton.

SATURDAY 16 OCTOBER

10.00 for a 10.30 start. Fowlescombe Farm, Ugborough, Ivybridge, Devon, PL21 0ZG. Please use this postcode and the entrance signposted to 'Rare and Pasture', not the entrance to Fowlescombe Farm. Or use what3words [///trump.loitering.abacus](#)

"Fowlescombe is a historic rare breeds farm in South Devon. We currently look after around 475 acres of organic pasture and woodland. The farm is home to the Snowcombe herd of pedigree English Longhorn and the recently added Beef Shorthorn cattle, two pedigree flocks of Manx Loaghtan and Hampshire Down sheep and a small collection Tamworth pigs. We grow our own vegetables for the local family run pub, have chickens for eggs and an orchard for apple juice and cider.

We want our farm to not only be biodiverse and sustainable but also continuously improving. We strive to nurture the delicate balance of our ecosystem and are starting our journey in regenerative farming practices. We are proud of the wildlife the farm supports and care for it as much as the livestock – it is a privilege to host barn owls, hedgehogs and brown hares amongst many others.

In January 2019 the Owens family took over the farm, aiming to invest in the future of sustainable native breed agriculture. In 2021 our sister charcuterie business, Rare & Pasture relocated to new premises on the farm, furthering our mission to produce healthy, sustainable meat products.

We are also investing in the buildings, skills and activities on the farm, bringing quality year-around jobs and community back to our valley. We are currently developing the cluster of disused farm buildings as a hub of artisan food and visitor accommodation, creating a unique place to eat and stay"

We will have a tour of the main breeding herd and followers followed by a cold buffet lunch at the farm.

2pm - Longhorn Cattle Society AGM.

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After the AGM will be the presentation of the Bull of the Year, Cow of the Year, Senior Heifer of the Year and Junior Heifer of the Year Awards, the Paul Luckett Novices Award, the Junior Handlers Award and the President's Award.

7.00pm for 7.30pm Evening dinner at the Padbrook Park Hotel. Dress code is smart casual.

SUNDAY 17 OCTOBER

10.00 for a 10.30 start. Westcott Farm, Brompton Ralph, Taunton, Somerset, TA4 2SF or use what3words [///bracing.unlocking.laptops](#)
Unfortunately due to serious family health issues the Hurd family are unable to host the Society on Sunday 16 October, we wish them well and are thinking of them.

Dan Holmes of the Westcott herd of Longhorns has very kindly agreed to host the Society at very short notice. Dan is a first generation farmer and worked in Hertfordshire before moving to Somerset and establishing the Westcott herd in 2015 with foundation cows from the Gupworthy herd. Additional cows have been bought from the Rooksbridge herd, and the bulls Stoke Nobleman, Slough Merlin and now Long Ash Nuggett have been herd sires. Suitable females have been retained and around 40 females will be going to the bull next year.

Dan markets his own Longhorn beef and has recently installed an on-farm butchery unit which has just gained organic accreditation and will be used for butchering his own finished animals as well as processing organic beef for other local farmers in the area. Having recently purchased an adjoining farm the land now extends to 260 acres which has allowed for significant investment and expansion. The farm is carbon negative and is working towards pasture for life status.

We will see the breeding herd at Westcott Farm, and then there is the opportunity to drive a few miles down the road to see the youngstock at the new holding.

We are hugely grateful to Dan, his wife Emma and children Dixie, Mia and Maxwell for stepping in at the last minute.

After the Sunday visit members can head for home, or stop for lunch at Society members David and Louisa Sheppy at Sheppy's Cider, Three Bridges, Bradford-on-Tone, Taunton TA4 1ER. David and Louisa ask that you book a table via their website to avoid disappointment as Sundays are always very busy at lunchtime. Book here <https://www.sheppyscider.com/>