

SHOWING WORKSHOP

On Sunday 15 May 2022 the Northern and Midland Longhorn Breeders Groups joined forces and held a showing workshop and invited The Cow Wash and Thea Woollatt to the home of the Longbridge herd of Longhorns at Easingwold, York, North Yorkshire by kind invitation of Jane Grant and Trish McDonnell.

The day started with 20 of the two clubs' members arriving at 10am for coffee before handing the days events over to Thea. Thea explained the day's schedule and a brief talk about The Cow Wash business she runs from home in Chepstow. We were then given a de-constructed rope halter each and asked to put it back together and talked about the many different showing products there are out there to be used.

The group moved outside where a Longhorn senior heifer stood awaiting the demonstration of being washed and shampooed and washed again to rinse the shampoo out. Members were put on the spot and got stuck in to washing and shampooing. Once the two year old was finished on the wash Thea moved on to the blow drying and dried her off, again with members getting hands on.

A three year old bull was brought out and Thea used various products to demonstrate how to dress the coat and he was then used for the clipping demonstration.

Lunch of home-made, home reared Longbridge Longhorn burgers cooked to perfection on the BBQ was provided by Jane and Trish with a donation asked for the DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal which raised £280. Thank you for all the donations from members for a worthy cause.

After lunch Thea moved onto the subjects of show and show ring etiquette from arriving at a show to being in the showring and again the senior bull was used to demonstrate the use of the show stick and setting an animals legs and feet for a judge.

With so much information and tips to take on board the workshop was brought to an end and we all boarded a shooter's trailer and went out on a tour of the Longbridge herd, cows and calves and heifers out in the grass field.

A stock judging exercise also took place using three junior bulls and Pat Stanley was appointed as master judge to judge and place them, then gave her reasons for her placings. Jan Blackshaw and two young members Max Tesseyman and Harry Saxby agreed with Pat and won a little prize.

A huge thank you goes to Jane Grant, Trish McDonnell and Alisha Lack plus all the helpers behind the scenes at Longbridge for hosting and providing a great day and lunch.

Thankyou also must go to Thea Woollatt for her educational day and training.

Every member present went away having learnt something new and can only go on to progress presenting their own Longhorns in the show ring this summer.

Graham Walker (Northern Longhorn Breeders)
Claire Saxby (Midland Longhorn Breeders)

