

**NORTHERN LONGHORN BREEDERS' CLUB**  
**Herd Competition 2020**  
Judge: Clive Davies

With travelling completed, it was reflection time. Given all the circumstances of 2020, it was a fine achievement to get the event to this stage. It is to be believed that all participants remained in good health, other than the judge, it was reported, that suffered the headache of decision-making!!

Apart from meeting with Longhorn breed advocates and inspecting inspiring cattle, a number of discussion points surfaced. Phenotype would be one. Whatever anyone involved in the beef industry might wish for, it is the marketplace that dictates. These requirements continually change and the pedigree breeder has to with or more precisely ahead of the changes. This is a challenge but when got right, is very rewarding. For the leaders in any breed, it is those that are generally ahead of the game that can best achieve. In fact, through history, of the most noted stock breeders, it is those that can work with a suitable eye some ten years ahead that most succeed.

Other considerations were in connection with the future course of the British beef industry. It much looks as though it will revolve around docile animals, because the number of people charged with the husbandry are more likely to reduce than increase and the stock that can develop best with foraged based diets will become the most popular. It is probable therefore that breeds will converge towards a more ideal type. This can already be identified by the work done by the Creech family of Quantock in Canada. They produce breeding bulls of Black Angus, Red Angus, Herefords and Charolais, as well as a number of hybrids. Mac and the team offer around 400 bulls for sale by auction on the last Saturday of January each year. Every section may carry its own breed characteristics but in general the 'type' is very similar across them. Check them out at [Canadasbulls.com](http://Canadasbulls.com)

Another topic to watch is that of the Stabiliser Cattle. Personally, I'm not a fan of composite type genetics. I would prefer breeding with pure-breds and using a breed of male on a female, the cross of two breeds. This, I believe, leads to more consistent results and is much helped by hybrid vigour. However, the Stabilisers do have a great blueprint for beef production and this is well worth studying.

Finally, one other debating point that often arose during the tour was, what to do with the Longhorns' horns? The relatively recent decision of the Breed Council to give dehorned Longhorns the same platform as fully horned stock has its supporters and opponents. Well, breeders should always do that which is within the rules that best suits their ambitions. Our horned genetic Hereford herd is 100% disbudded at calving time. This best suits our stock management and customer base. However, we have never opted for breeding polled cattle because this would change our genetic make up. A step too far!! But, as oft the case, these choices may be taken from us by the zealous opinion of those that think that they know best. Whether with horns or without them, I much like the options that today's Longhorns offer. Please nurture them. All breed programmes are only as good as the breeders conducting them.

A comment of thanks for the kind invitation to attend your properties and adjudicate the wonderful competition. Often, forming orders of merit is a difficult task. This was but very enjoyable in every respect. At a showground comparison can clearly be made but there is something extra about seeing animals in their natural settings. I like both types of events. Regarding presentation, it is generally best to arrange the various sections and age groups of the herd into their respective lots so as to give them all the best stage. All of this considered it is now time to relieve that headache! The results.....

### **COMPETITION A**

#### ***Class A 1: Senior Bull***

1 <sup>st</sup> Fishwick Philanderer	J Close & Son Ltd
2 <sup>nd</sup> Wellhead Pratchett	Miss A Dixon
3 <sup>rd</sup> Bieldside Quartz	Mrs B Welo
4 <sup>th</sup> Tetford Vaders Vortex	Mrs V Hopkinson
5 <sup>th</sup> Southfield Panther	Mr & Mrs D& A Blockley
6 <sup>th</sup> Dunstall Neptune	Mr D Metcalf

#### ***Class A 2: Junior Bull***

1 <sup>st</sup> Southfield Topgun	Mr & Mrs D&A Blockley
2 <sup>nd</sup> Fishwick Talisman	J Close & Son Ltd
3 <sup>rd</sup> Riverlands Tombliboo	Mrs V Hopkinson
4 <sup>th</sup> Newton Drunk N Disorderly	Miss A Dixon

#### ***Class A 3: Senior Cow***

1 <sup>st</sup> Raby Nour	Lord Barnard
2 <sup>nd</sup> Gorse Valentine Rose	Mrs V Hopkinson
3 <sup>rd</sup> Southfield Lace	Mrs A Blockley
4 <sup>th</sup> Wellhead Kir Royale	Mr S Horrocks
5 <sup>th</sup> Wellhead Oxeye	Miss A Dixon
6 <sup>th</sup> Settrington Rhapsody	Mrs R Russell

**Class A 4: Junior Cow**

1 <sup>st</sup> Paragon Riviera	Mr S Mullan
2 <sup>nd</sup> Bielside Primula	Mrs B Welo
3 <sup>rd</sup> Fishwick Queen Of The Ring	J Close & Son Ltd
4 <sup>th</sup> Raby Petra	Lord Barnard
5 <sup>th</sup> Gale Farm Rona	Mr S Horrocks
6 <sup>th</sup> Gorse Xpected	Mrs V Hopkinson

**Class A 5: Senior Heifer**

1 <sup>st</sup> Settrington X-otic	Mrs R Russell
2 <sup>nd</sup> Fishwick Salvia	Mr P Close
3 <sup>rd</sup> Southfield Sapphire	Miss Z Monks
4 <sup>th</sup> Kirklan Shauna	Mr S Mullan
5 <sup>th</sup> Raby Suzi	Lord Barnard
6 <sup>th</sup> Southfield Swift	Mr & Mrs D&A Blockley

**Class A 6: Junior Heifer**

1 <sup>st</sup> Southfield Taboo	Mr & Mrs D&A Blockley
2 <sup>nd</sup> Gale Farm Tonga	Mr S Horrocks
3 <sup>rd</sup> Fishwick Twilight	J Close & Son Ltd
4 <sup>th</sup> Bielside Tess	Mrs B Welo
5 <sup>th</sup> Paragon Tina	Mr S Mullan
6 <sup>th</sup> Settrington Yo-Yo	Mrs R Russell

**Class A 7: Homebred Cow**

1 <sup>st</sup> Raby Nour	Lord Barnard
2 <sup>nd</sup> Paragon Riviera	Mr S Mullan
3 <sup>rd</sup> Southfield Myth	Mr & Mrs D&A Blockley
4 <sup>th</sup> Bielside Primula	Mrs B Welo
5 <sup>th</sup> Briar Mead Precious Valentine	Mrs V Hopkinson
6 <sup>th</sup> Settrington Rhapsody	Mrs R Russell

**Class A 8 : Dam & Daughter**

1 <sup>st</sup> Raby Nour & Raby Petula	Lord Barnard
2 <sup>nd</sup> Kirklan Heisker & Gale Farm Raasay	Mr S Horrocks
3 <sup>rd</sup> Blackbrook Xaviera & Paragon Riviera	Mr S Mullan
4 <sup>th</sup> Aberdeen Primula 5 <sup>th</sup> & Bielside Primula	Mrs B Welo
5 <sup>th</sup> Newton Vanity & Briar Mead Ornate	Mrs V Hopkinson
6 <sup>th</sup> Linnhead Damsel fly & Garford Quince	Mr D Metcalf

**Class A 9: 2020 Heifer Calf**

1 <sup>st</sup> Southfield Ulana	Mr & Mrs D&A Blockley
2 <sup>nd</sup> Fishwick Ulrika	J Close & Son Ltd
3 <sup>rd</sup> Gale Farm Uist	Mr S Horrocks
4 <sup>th</sup> Bielside Ursula	Mrs B Welo
5 <sup>th</sup> Briar Mead Ultimate	Mrs V Hopkinson
6 <sup>th</sup> Mandathorn Ursula	Miss A Dixon

**Class A 10: 2020 Bull Calf**

1 <sup>st</sup> Fishwick (XB79223)	J Close & Son Ltd
2 <sup>nd</sup> Paragon Yusci	Mr S Mullan
3 <sup>rd</sup> Gale Farm Unst	Mr S Horrocks
4 <sup>th</sup> Mandathorn Urial	Miss A Dixon
5 <sup>th</sup> Garford (BN24363)	Mr D Metcalf
6 <sup>th</sup> Briar Mead Umper Lumpen	Mrs V Hopkinson

**Class A 11: Pure Bred Unregistered Under 30 Months**

1 <sup>st</sup> Mandathorn Teeswater steer	Miss A Dixon
2 <sup>nd</sup> Settrington finished steer	Mrs R Russell
3 <sup>rd</sup> Paragon Tait steer	Mr S Mullan
4 <sup>th</sup> Fullwood Stella Star heifer	Mr S Horrocks

**Class A 12: Crossbred**

1 <sup>st</sup> Garford LH X AA steer	Mr D Metcalf
2 <sup>nd</sup> Paragon Two Nil AA X LH steer	Mr S Mullan
3 <sup>rd</sup> Milton Bank Parthenese X LH heifer	Mr S Rigby
4 <sup>th</sup> Scarlet LH X Lim heifer	Mr & Mrs D&A Blockley
5 <sup>th</sup> Mandathorn LH X BB bull calf	Miss A Dixon
6 <sup>th</sup> Fishwick Polled Tinkerbell ¼ LH X AA heifer	J Close & Son Ltd

**Class A 13: Champion Large Herd**

1 <sup>st</sup> Fishwick Herd	J Close & Son Ltd	76 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> Settrington Herd	Mrs R Russell	72 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> Raby Herd	Lord Barnard	67 points

**Class A 14: Champion Small Herd**

1 <sup>st</sup> Southfield Herd	Mr & Mrs D&A Blockley	73 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> Gale Farm Herd	Mr S Horrocks	71 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> Paragon Herd	Mr S Mullan	68 points

**Competition B****Class B 1: Senior Bull**

1 <sup>st</sup> Aberdeen Roy	Mr G Lennox
2 <sup>nd</sup> Aberdeen Runrig	Mrs S Aglionby
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tetford Uproar	Mr G Willey
4 <sup>th</sup> Tanfield Quantum	Messrs D & G Walker
5 <sup>th</sup> Stoke Mudlark	HMP Kirkham
6 <sup>th</sup> Harold Sir Lion	Mr H Hodgson

**Class B 2: Junior Bull**

No Entries

**Class B 3: Senior Cow**

1 <sup>st</sup> Fishwick Oleander	Mr H Hodgson
2 <sup>nd</sup> Newton Xsara	Messrs D & G Walker
3 <sup>rd</sup> Aberdeen Krystal 36 <sup>th</sup>	Mr G Lennox
4 <sup>th</sup> Wellhead Original	Mrs S Aglionby
5 <sup>th</sup> Logie Poplar	Mrs P Laing
6 <sup>th</sup> Clonyard Chickadee	Mrs R Adam

**Class B 4: Junior Cow**

1 <sup>st</sup> Aberdeen Sedum 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Mr G Lennox
2 <sup>nd</sup> Harold Qmin	Mr H Hodgson
3 <sup>rd</sup> Southfield Quaver	Mr C Blockley
4 <sup>th</sup> Houghton Pauline	Mrs S Aglionby
5 <sup>th</sup> Wellhead Ruby Rose	Mr G Willey
6 <sup>th</sup> Newton Absinthe	Messrs D & G Walker

**Class B 5: Senior Heifer**

1 <sup>st</sup> Harold Sallah	Mr H Hodgson
2 <sup>nd</sup> Broomfield Sarah	Mr G Willey
3 <sup>rd</sup> Newton Creme de La Creme	Messrs D & G Walker
4 <sup>th</sup> Aberdeen Joan 32 <sup>nd</sup>	Mr G Lennox
5 <sup>th</sup> Logie Strawberry	Mrs P Laing
6 <sup>th</sup> Beaufront Sparkle	Mr J Pennie

**Class B 6: Junior Heifer**

1 <sup>st</sup> Beaufront Traviata	Mr J Pennie
2 <sup>nd</sup> Aberdeen Krystal 55 <sup>th</sup>	Mr G Lennox
3 <sup>rd</sup> Harold Tilda	Mr H Hodgson
4 <sup>th</sup> Newton Dippy Doodar	Messrs D & G Walker
5 <sup>th</sup> Southlane Tiptop	Mr C Blockley
6 <sup>th</sup> Broomfield Topspec	Mr G Willey

**Class B 7: Home Bred Cow**

1 <sup>st</sup> Harold Qmin	Mr H Hodgson
2 <sup>nd</sup> Aberdeen Krystal 19 <sup>th</sup>	Mr G Lennox
3 <sup>rd</sup> Newton Whoopee Do	Messrs D & G Walker
4 <sup>th</sup> Houghton Pauline	Mrs S Aglionby
5 <sup>th</sup> Kirklan Octavia	HMP Kirkham
6 <sup>th</sup> Marindin Rosie	Mrs R Adam

**Class B 8: Dam & Daughter**

1 <sup>st</sup> Fishwick Lisetta & Kirklan Octavia	HMP Kirkham
2 <sup>nd</sup> Aberdeen Sedum 8 <sup>th</sup> & Aberdeen Sedum 17 <sup>th</sup>	Mr G Lennox
3 <sup>rd</sup> Logie Maple & Logie Quercus	Mrs P Laing
4 <sup>th</sup> Wellhead Lettie & Houghton Miranda	Mrs S Aglionby
5 <sup>th</sup> Newton Topsy Tart & Newton Xtra Tart	Messrs D & G Walker
6 <sup>th</sup> Broomfield Narnia & Broomfield Rose	Mr G Willey

**Class B 9: 2020 Heifer Calf**

1 <sup>st</sup> Newton Especially For You	Messrs D & G Walker
2 <sup>nd</sup> Harold Umpa	Mr H Hodgson
3 <sup>rd</sup> Aberdeen Sedum 35 <sup>th</sup>	Mr G Lennox
4 <sup>th</sup> Southfield Uberry	Mr H Blockley
5 <sup>th</sup> Logie Ursula	Mrs P Laing
6 <sup>th</sup> Ellwood Umba	Revd C & Mrs J Blackshaw

**Class B 10: 2020 Bull Calf**

1 <sup>st</sup> Aberdeen (XB79087)	Mr G Lennox
2 <sup>nd</sup> Harold (XB79198)	Mr H Hodgson
3 <sup>rd</sup> Logie (XB79177)	Mrs P Laing
4 <sup>th</sup> Houghton Sid	Mrs S Aglionby
5 <sup>th</sup> Broomfield Unbeatable	Mr G Willey
6 <sup>th</sup> Newton Ekky Thump	Messrs D & G Walker

**Class B 11: Pure Bred Unregistered Under 30 Months**

1 <sup>st</sup> Harold finished steer	Mr H Hodgson
2 <sup>nd</sup> Newton Definitely Topsy steer	Messrs D & G Walker
3 <sup>rd</sup> Elwood Tirrell steer	Revd Chris & Mrs J Blackshaw
4 <sup>th</sup> Logie steer	Mrs P Laing
5 <sup>th</sup> Beaufront Tex steer	Mr J Pennie
6 <sup>th</sup> Broomfield steer	Mr G Willey

**Class B 12: Crossbred**

1 <sup>st</sup> Harold AA X LH finished bull	Mr H Hodgson
2 <sup>nd</sup> Marindin ¾ LH X Shetland steer	Mrs R Adam
3 <sup>rd</sup> Beaufront Oswald LH X White Park steer	Mr J Pennie
4 <sup>th</sup> Broomfield CH X LH steer	Mr G Willey
5 <sup>th</sup> Newton LH X BB cow & Blonde X calf @ foot	Messrs D & G Walker

**Class B 13: Champion Large Herd**

1 <sup>st</sup> Aberdeen Herd	Mr G Lennox	82 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> Kirklan Herd	HMP Kirkham	75 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> Newton Herd	Messrs D & G Walker	74 points

**Class B 14: Champion Small Herd**

1 <sup>st</sup> Houghton Herd	Mrs S Aglionby	70 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> Ellwood Herd	Revd Chris & Jan Blackshaw	65 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> Beaufront Herd	Mr J Pennie	61 points

**SPECIALS****Champion 2020 Calf (Classes A9, A10, B9 and B10)**

All class winners were strong contenders but the winners gave the impression of being very capable of offering significant contributions to the breed later in their lives.

**Champion: Aberdeen bull calf (XB79087)****Reserve: Fishwick bull calf (XB79223)****Overall Champion Exhibit (Classes A1 to A6 and B1 to B6)**

So many striking animals came to the top of their classes, but some gave that extra buzz.

Three bulls of great merit:

Fishwick Philanderer, Southfield Topgun, Aberdeen Roy

Six females that had such great presence:

Raby Nour, Settrington X-otic, Southfield Taboo, Aberdeen Sedum 23<sup>rd</sup>, Harold Sallah, Beaufront Traviata

**Champion: Raby Nour**

An outstanding breeding female, doing her job and with tremendous and correct construction.

**Reserve: Harold Sallah**

A well-made heifer of superb femininity and character with positive maternal appearance, very close to her first calving at thirty months of age.

**Bulls Hit Trophy**

For the most wonderful contribution. There is a short list but it is quite long!

*Milton Bank*: Walking me up and down what must have been the steepest field in Cheshire.

*Kirklan*: In every respect, including the livestock, a feeling of security.

*Gale Farm*: For hosting what must have been the best attended livestock event of summer 2020.

*Ellwood*: Enthusiastic success.

*Mandathorn*: Honest hard work with results.

*Houghton*: Positively close to the natural way.

*Paragon and Beaufront*: Sheer co-operation!

*Broomfield*: Mind-blowing energy and family commitment.  
*Marindin*: The top contender for the most challenging of farm driveways.  
*Aberdeen*: The 3Cs: Construction, Conformation and Character.  
*Bieldside*: A relatively new enterprise with cattle at its heart.  
*Logie*: Best design in log cabins.  
*Fishwick*: The economic theories of Peter Close.  
*Garford*: Impressive, well-fed beef.  
*Raby*: For long establishment yet great potential.  
*Harold*: So much of interest and to follow-up upon.  
*Settrington*: The tidiest farm yard accolade.  
*Newton*: Spot-on cattle but also Graham Walker's exceptional organisational skills.  
*Southfield and Associates*: The strength is in the family and the cattle families.

Additionally, some top horticultural presentations, in no particular order:

Raby Castle, Logie and Mrs Metcalf's garden.  
However, the winner is.....

With encouraging cattle genetics but mainly because of sheer determination and without stable and secure land availability, this is not easy, and I can testify to this, the year's taker of the Bulls Hit trophy must be.....

**Vicki Hopkinson, Briar Mead Herd**

**CONGRATULATIONS to her!!!!**

Clive Davies  
October 2020