

DATES FOR THE DIARY – 2012

23 rd May	Dingwall Spring Sale – Dingwall Mart
21-24 th June	Royal Highland Show - Ingliston
27 th July	Open Day – Ben Challum herd, Crieff
31 st August	Applications close for inspection of bulls for Premier and Dingwall Sales 2012
8 th September	Stock walk around College Luings, Wooler
13 th September	Westmorland County Show, Cumbria
21 st September	Entries close for Stirling Autumn Sale Closing date for Journal advertisements
27 th October	Stirling Autumn Sale – UA Agricultural Centre
2 nd November	BorderWay Agri-Expo – Carlisle Mart
14 th December	Entries close for Castle Douglas Premier Sale

2013

31 st January	2012 born calves to be registered by this date
7-8 th February	AGM, Annual Dinner and Premier Sale, Castle Douglas

STOCK FOR SALE

At the time of writing, the following stock featured on the Society's dedicated Stock for Sale web-pages at www.luingcattlesociety.co.uk:

Bulls

Ardwell Mansen, 2yo Red by Luing Knave (01750-62206)
Floors Moidart, 2yo Red by Wooplaw Glen Rannoch (01361-890253)
Milkieston King, 3yo Red by Benhar Zemin (01292-531186)
Galawater Kilwillie, 3yo Red by Wooplaw Endeavour (01896-756308)

Females

Cornfield Luings - 20 cows with spring-born calves (01524-251066)
Whinnrey Luings - 2 x 2nd calvers & 2 x i/c heifers (01542-276307)

The Silent 'U'

*Luing Cattle
Society
Newsletter
Spring 2012*

Luings

RALPH CADZOW

Ralph Cadzow, one of the three brothers who created the Luing breed - that was officially recognised by an act of parliament in 1965 - has died at the age of 89. Ralph, with Denis and Shane, began cross-breeding work to produce the Luing in 1947. In 1972, their efforts were recognised by the Massey Ferguson World award and in 2000 by the Sir William Young award from the Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland. He went on to Chair the Society twice from 1970-1972 and again from 1979-1981; latterly he was Honorary President. Interviewed in the 2006 Journal to mark the 40th anniversary of the breed, Ralph identified "a period when the Luing breed held its own gently and nicely without any great 'oomph'" but had recently found "the liveliness with the breed very heartening" – especially from the number of young people involved and the new breeders coming from strong commercial backgrounds. Ralph farmed Inland Pastures, at Scremerston, Berwick-upon-Tweed, from 1952 until his son, Simon took over a few years ago. A keen rugby player in his youth, one of the highlights of that was playing for North-east Counties against the All Blacks in 1954. He was also a founder member of Berwick rugby club. He is survived by his wife, Margaret – who curled for Scotland – two sons and five grandchildren.

(courtesy of The Scottish Farmer and Luing Journal no.39)

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DINGWALL SALE – 23RD MAY

The fourth official Luings Society Sale at Dingwall will take place on Wednesday 23rd May at Dingwall Auction Mart. Sales catalogues are enclosed and with a record entry of 98-head – all registered Luings and Sim-Luings stock – this is a great opportunity to invest in good breeding stock for this season. Once again we have been generously supported by W.A. Geddes and Harbro Ltd. from Caithness for the best pairs of heifers competition to be judged by Neil McCorkindale from Scammadale, by Oban. The Lady Ann memorial cup will also be awarded to the best pair of Luings heifers from that competition courtesy of Welbeck Scottish Farm. We look forward to seeing plenty of members on the day.

ROYAL HIGHLAND SHOW 21-24TH JUNE

Once again our stand at the Highland Show will be in the usual spot just outside the Highland Hall on the main thoroughfare running between the north car park and the main show ring. We hope that all of you visiting the show will take time to pay us a visit on the Luings stand. Cattle will again be on display, promotional material available, and plenty of room to have a seat, a coffee and a chat. As well as promoting the breed, this has become very much established as **the** place for members to meet and base themselves during show time. Interested visitors – maybe prospective members – calling at the stand find it much more meaningful if there are breeders on hand to discuss the merits of the Luings or Sim-Luings with them, so we look forward to seeing you there. We also hope to exhibit some of our new merchandise.

2012 OPEN DAY – WOODBURN, CRIEFF, FRIDAY 27TH JULY

This year's Open Day will take place at Woodburn, Crieff by kind permission of the Stewart family and farm manager Matthew Mauchlen. The event itself, to be opened by former NFUS President and Luings breeder John Ross of Auchenree, Stranraer, will run from 1.00pm and will include a farm tour of the various units run by this business which will show off the impressive Sim-Luings based herd in some spectacular surroundings. As well as a look around the new steading at Woodburn, visitors will have the opportunity to do some stock-judging as well as enjoying some of the local fayre at the end of the event.

OFFICE BEARERS AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD 2012

Chairman

Steven Murray, West Preston, Kirkbean, Dumfries 01387-880630

Vice Chairman

Andrew McNee, Woodend Farm, Armadale, West Lothian
01501-731980

Immediate Past Chairman

Matthew Mauchlen, Woodburn, Crieff, Perthshire 01764-654364

Directors - To retire 2013

Ted Fox, Elsdonburn, Kirknewton, Wooler 01668-216341
Bill Miller, Ousdale Farm, Berriedale, Caithness 01431-821243
Alec Smith, High House Farm, Winster, Windermere
01539-440060

To retire 2014

Malcolm McCall, Inverbrora, Brora, Sutherland 01408-621208
Bob Moffat, Wooplaw Farm, Galashiels 01896-860262
Dave Stanners, Nursery Cottage, Knowsley Park, Prescot, Merseyside
01515-460436

To retire 2015

Kirsty Dunlop, Commonsides, Hawick 01450-850210
Stephen Little, Upper Chatto, Morebattle, Kelso 01573-440235
Neil McCorkindale, Scammadale, Kilninver, Oban 01852-316282

Breed Secretary

Johnny Mackey, Wester Drumloch, Lorn, Blairgowrie PH10 6TD
Tel: 01250-873882 e-mail: secretary@luingscattlesociety.co.uk

Breed Development Officers

Neil McGowan, Shealwalls, Alyth, Blairgowrie 01828-633652
Robert McNee, Over Finlary, Tealing, by Dundee 07900-221641

Fieldsman

Finlay McGowan, Incheoch, Alyth, Blairgowrie 01575-560236

AGM

A good turnout of 70 members attended the 46th Annual General Meeting of the Society. The usual turnover of three directors took place with Kirsty Dunlop (Commonside, Hawick), Steven Little (Upper Chatto, Kelso) and Neil McCorkindale (Scammadale, by Oban) replacing James Colston, Giles Henry and Leslie Robson. The three Directors stepping down were warmly thanked by the Chairman for their tremendous efforts over the past three years on behalf of the breed. Jamie Blackett of Arbigland, Dumfries gave an excellent briefing to the gathering on the work of the RSABI charity that he chairs in D&G which was the chosen charity for this year's annual dinner raffle ticket sales. RSABI are a unique Scottish charity dedicated to the relief of hardship and poverty amongst people who have depended for their livelihoods on the land.

ANNUAL DINNER AND RAFFLE

A good night was had by a near full house of 100 Luings breeders, members and friends.....although the shine was taken off the event to a certain extent by a poor meal from the hotel. Dougie Fleming a contract farmer from Biggar was this year's after dinner speaker and entertained all present with many humorous stories targeting some of those present! Newly appointed directors Kirsty Dunlop and Steven Little carried out the traditional initiation ceremony for new directors of selling the raffle tickets at the annual dinner. The impressive total of £900 was raised for RSABI which will be used to support the work of RSABI in Dumfries & Galloway.

CARRS BILLINGTON INAUGURAL PHOTO COMPETITION AT ANNUAL DINNER

Entries were somewhat limited for this year's competition which was disappointing given our new sponsorship package with Carrs Billington meaning some great prizes on offer in terms of their vouchers. Regardless of this, standards were still very high with the judges (Wayne Hutchinson – a professional livestock photographer – and John Naylor Carrs Billington) awarding prizes to Kirsty Dunlop, Sarah Little, Stephen Little and Alec Smith. Members will have the chance to view the winning pictures in the next journal.

PREMIER SALE 2012

Average prices up in every section and two record-breaking tops summed up a momentous day for the breed at our 47th Premier Sale in Wallets Marts, Castle Douglas on Friday 10th February. The sale saw the highest entry in almost 40 years with 218 females forward and all selling. The highlight of the day came when the bull Harehead Mourie strode into the ring to prompt some fervent bidding and was eventually knocked down for a new Society record of 20,000gns to new Luings breeders Paddy & Sheila Crerar of Newmains, Stenton, East Lothian. The top of 20,000gns contributed to an almost unprecedented average of £6,874 for bulls – up £2,764 on the year for two fewer sold; in-calf Luings heifers were also bid to a record top of 3,600gns (with an average of £1,936 – up £143 for 3 more sold) with bulling heifers bid to 2,200gns (£1,324 – up £148 for 33 more sold).

Mourie was part of a very strong pen of bulls from Harehead and had topped the scales at 890kg, measuring 57” at the shoulder with a scrotal circumference of 43.5cm. By a previous record priced bull, Nunnerie Harvey, and out of a Luings Exciseman-sired homebred dam, he is very much being seen as a foundation bull for the Crerar's Luings herd at Stenton, East Lothian. Three more five figure prices were hit in the bull section with debut bull consignors D&A Barr of Milkieston, Peebles selling Milkieston Master for 14,000gns to C&M Symons of Attonburn, Kelso. The same buyer went to 11,000gns to get Craigdarroch Minstrel from W.Graham & Son and Dave Stanners purchased Benhar Murray from Robert McNee Ltd. for 10,000gns.

Robert McNee Ltd. from Armadale once again topped the charts in the in-calf heifer section selling nine to average £2,566, including a top, and new breed record, of 3,600gns for a pair of red heifers in-calf to College Kracker and sold to Paddy & Sheila Crerar. The same pair of heifers had earlier won the Carrs Billington prize for best in-calf heifers as judged by Dave Stanners of the Tynedale herd in Merseyside.

The top price for bullers was paid by John Buglass of Glen Lyon for a pair of Wooplaw Hudson-sired roan heifers from the Hon. R.B. Loder's Children's Settlement brought out by Stephen Little. These heifers had been awarded reserve best pair of bulling heifers in the pre-sale show. The Upper Chatto consignment had a hugely impressive sale with eight selling for the top average of £1,968. The full report of the sale can be found on the website.

No. 45 JOURNAL

1,500 copies of the above were received in early January and immediately distributed to the membership. Well over 1,000 have already been circulated far and wide with the remainder saved for the upcoming series of sales and events. Hopefully you are enjoying it and feel free to request additional copies if you have an opportunity to promote the breed such as hosting a farm visit or perhaps a local merchant or auction mart is happy to display them on their counter.

ARTIST HOLDS EXHIBITION OF COW PAINTINGS TO HELP FELLOW MIGRAINE SUFFERERS

Popular Exeter landscape and animal painter, Mike Jory, is to hold an online exhibition of his work to raise funds for Migraine Action, a charity which offers information and support to the one in seven people in the UK affected by debilitating migraines - a condition which the artist has been affected by for over 20 years. One of the main focuses of his work is painting cows and he is particularly inspired by the way they move in groups and the sometimes comical postures and expressions they adopt. Mike decided to organise the online exhibition, which will run from May 1st to June 30th 2012, to raise much needed funds to help Migraine Action continue its services for migraineurs. These include a telephone helpline, access to a specialist headache nurse and over 150 information leaflets. The exhibition is sponsored by Alpha Stim Southwest and is available at www.mikejory.co.uk from 1st May – 30th June 2012. A percentage of all sales will be donated to Migraine Action.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

If you haven't already done so, please send a cheque in for your annual subscription (£36.00 incl. VAT). Note the new system of issuing an annual subscription renewal notice as opposed to an invoice which makes processing in the office much easier. VAT receipts are issued once payments have been processed. Reminders are costly to send out with second class stamps having recently increased hugely to 50p, so I will once again be phoning late payers directly to save time and money.

COLLEGE LUINGS STOCK-WALK – SATURDAY 8TH SEPT.

Another first for the Society this year will be a 'stock walk' around the College herd of Ted & Anne Fox at Elsdonburn, Kirknewton, Wooler. When we say walk, we really mean 'trailer ride' given the extensive nature of the College valley and it promises to be a great day with the opportunity to see a superb herd of Luing cattle (one of the largest in the breed) in their natural surroundings of the beautiful College valley. Visitors will also have the opportunity to participate in a stock-judging competition, view some pedigree sheep and also enjoy some top-notch local refreshments. Keep an eye on the website for full details.

WESTMORLAND COUNTY SHOW – THURSDAY 13TH SEPT.

The Society will make it's debut at one of the largest one day shows in the calendar on 13th September in Cumbria. The show, which is in the heart of livestock country and thus attracts a lot of stock people, has averaged 25,000 visitors over recent years so it's a great opportunity for Luings to be seen. We plan to put up a marquee with two pens of cattle in a similar style to our RHS stand. If you are planning to attend please come and look us up.

NEW MERCHANDISE FEATURING OUR NEW LOGO

The Society is pleased to offer a range of garments branded with the Society's new logo (see front cover). We've come up with a great selection of clothes including body-warmers, flying jackets, fleeces, polo shirts and baseball caps (as well as a couple of new ties designs) which can be put to good use on the farm while also spreading the word at shows and sales. You can have your **herd name** added above the logo for an extra charge of £1.50. Full details, including pictures of the new merchandise being modelled and prices are on the website. All prices listed include VAT and postage will be charged at the current rate depending on the final size of your package.

BULL INSPECTIONS

Applications for bull inspections must be submitted to the office by 31st August. Breeders are reminded that the minimum scrotal circumference measurement for bulls to be stamped as *Society Approved* is 38cms. Dams of bulls to be entered for the Premier Sale at Castle Douglas or the Spring Sale at Dingwall must be forward for classification at the time of inspection if still on the holding. These cows **MUST** be presented on a hard standing for inspection.