

Luing Cattle Society Open Day 2011

This paper gives the outline programme for this summers Luing Open Day taking place on Orkney on **Tuesday 16th August** courtesy of the Ridland and Wood families of Aikerness and Garson farms respectively.

The open day will provide a perhaps rare opportunity for Luing breeders, friends and any beef producers interested in the breed to travel to Orkney at a fantastic time of year. Several events are planned over this period to coincide with the influx of farming folk to Orkney to take in the renowned 'County Show' – the biggest agricultural event on the islands which takes place on Saturday 13th August. Other events around this time include the West Mainland or Dounby show on Thursday 11th August; a vintage rally next to the Kirkwall Mart on Sunday 14th, as well as the riding of the marches the same day and a large sale of top quality Orkney store cattle on Monday 15th at Kirkwall mart.

There will be no shortage of tourist attractions to visit either side of the open day on **Tuesday 16th August**, the outline programme of which is covered below¹:

- 1100 Buses leave Stromness bus station (next to the Ferry Terminal)
- 1130 Arrive Aikerness (KW17 2NH); visitors sign in; lunch available (soup and rolls); stock-judging; look round new slatted shed; browse stands (HI Health Herdcare, SAC etc.)
- 1230 Welcome by Luing Society Chairman, Steven Murray, followed by official opening address by Liam McArthur MSP
- 1245 Farm Tours start; three stops (Brian Ridland on Silwick Luings; Mike Girvan (SAC) on clover pastures and organic farming at Aikerness; John Copland (Orkney Auction Mart) on local farming history
- 1500 Buses leave for Garson
- 1530 Arrive Garson (KW16 3JD); tour of cattle and stock-judging
- 1730 Food served (all Orkney produce); and welcome to Garson from Stewart Wood

The Open Day will be preceded by visits to two commercial units (Scott & William Harcus' Aberdeen Angus herd at Quanterness and Colin Davidson's Aberdeen Angus herd at Skaillhouse) on the afternoon of Monday 15th after the cattle sale at Kirkwall mart. A Bus will leave the mart at 1330hrs and return at 1800hrs.

Johnny C. Mackey
Breed Secretary
25th July 2011

¹ Please note timings given are approximate at this stage – keep an eye on the website nearer the date for the final programme.