



MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

PREMIER SALE

9th FEBRUARY 2024

Wallets Marts, Castle Douglas

Collective Sale

Comprising:

- 21 Luing In-Calf Heifers
- 57 Luing Bulling Heifers
- 26 Luing Bulls

Online catalogue available at
www.luingcattlesociety.co.uk/sales



Luings

TIMETABLE

Wednesday 7th February

Arrival of stock

Thursday 8th February

11 am	Inspection of bulls
PM	Inspection of females
5 pm	AGM
7 pm	Annual Dinner

Friday 9th February

9 am	Show of females
10.30 am	Parade of bulls
12 pm	Sale of females followed by bulls

ANNUAL DINNER

Thursday 8th February
2024 - 7pm

Ernespie Hotel, Castle Douglas

Pre-booking is essential
(no tickets at the door)

Tickets (and meal choices)
can be booked at

 [www.luingcattlesociety.co.uk
/diary-dates](http://www.luingcattlesociety.co.uk/diary-dates)

using either the online form
or the
downloadable booking form

Two Courses
£30 per head incl VAT

Advertising Stock For Sale?

Adverts are welcome for our "FOR SALE" page on www.luingcattlesociety.co.uk and Facebook. Adverts are FOC if using the Society's brokerage service, and £100 if not.

Please contact
Natalie Cormack /
Charles Symons
with a good quality
photo and details.

DNA SAMPLES

for bulls intended for sale or own use

Breeders are strongly encouraged to submit hair samples
at the **earliest opportunity** - by end August would be ideal.

Any older stock bulls not already DNA profiled - please send samples ASAP

Young bulls intended for sale at Castle Douglas or Dingwall should also send samples at the earliest opportunity, if not already done so

Please be aware that from 1st January 2022 forward, male calves used for breeding must be sire verified. Council have considered 2 exceptions recently, which have been accepted.
No further exceptions will be permitted.

Chairman's Report

As ever a new year comes with new challenges and one of these would be to maintain the momentum the breed has had over the last 12 months with strong demand and increased averages. In general, store cattle have been a strong trade this backend and this will help breeding sales. The spring sale season will soon be on us, and a new sale at United Auctions is included in the schedule - 19th February. The sale at Castle Douglas is just six weeks away and I am sure we will have a strong show again, with all types to suit all tastes. It is a time where breeders and members come together for a couple of days and have time to socialize. The AGM will be at the mart and the Annual Dinner in the evening at the Ernespie Hotel, and I look forward to seeing you all there.

The most recent Council meeting (November 2023) reviewed a number of technical projects and made plans for 2024 promotional schedule. The Society has provided an opportunity to get involved with performance recording, funded by LCS, is running a trial on an age-graduated scrotal circumference scale for young bull inspections, and is continuing to monitor DNA genotypes. The breed is benefiting from structured environmental schemes in England, and in view of this, Council is developing strategies to highlight the Luings to farmers considering their qualification for such schemes. Council also discussed the situation where two 2022 born males, which are intended for breeding use, but cannot be sire verified. Council have accepted the use of these two bulls, but breeders are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure that appropriate DNA sampling has been completed.

Once again, we have an election onto our council with five candidates standing for three places and I urge you to use your vote. As 2023 ends may I take the opportunity wish all or our members compliments of the season, and we look ahead to the New Year with some confidence.

Fieldsman's Roundup

A consequence of all this rain has been an abundance of grass and cows seem to be in great form going into winter. Bull inspections are completed, and I think we have the best selection of bulls for a number of years. The best of these will be available, at the forthcoming society sales at Castle Douglas, Stirling and Dingwall.

New and potential new members continue to occupy my time, a number of whom have already set up new herds. We have seen a large increase in interest from English farmers, in particular from people who have joined environmental schemes. which undoubtedly impacted trade at Oban.

The trade for Luings and Sim Luings cattle this autumn has been very encouraging with large increases on the year. Cattle were shown in great bloom at both Stirling and Oban and vendors were very well rewarded.

As always thanks to all who extend me hospitality, it makes my job so much easier and certainly adds to the pleasure. Please feel free to ring anytime with any queries you may have, I will do my very best to help.

C.J.Symons 01573440207 / 07971231885

LUINGS

Important Dates For Your Diary

Deadline for Census Update on Grassroots

31st Dec 2023

Premier Sale

Friday 9th February 2024
Wallets Marts, Castle Douglas

AGM

8th February 2024
Wallets Marts, Castle Douglas (5pm)

Annual Dinner

8th February 2024
Ernespie Hotel, Castle Douglas (7pm)

Stirling Bull Sales (Society Sale)

19th February, 2024

Registration Deadline

29th February 2024

Spring Breeding Sale

15th May 2024
Dingwall and Northern Marts
entries close 13th April

COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

The Luings Council has 3 retiring members at the next AGM for which nominations have been sought for these three places. Five nominations have been received and an election will be held by postal vote. A voting form has been included with this mailing, and the Council encourages you to vote - please return the voting form by **26th January 2024**. Completed voting papers should be returned to the ballot officer, the contact details are on the voting form. Please only vote for up to 3 candidates. Any papers with more than 3 votes will be deemed invalid.