

# The Market Report

## Stratford Forthcoming Events

### **Tuesday 17th December**

Prime, Cull & Store Sheep - 10.30am

Plants, Produce, Poultry & Misc - 10.00am

Christmas Poultry Sale - 12 noon

### **Saturday 21st December**

Christmas Poultry Sale - 12 noon

*Thrapston Livestock Market*

### **Tuesday 24th December**

No Market

### **Tuesday 31st December**

No Market

*For further information regarding any of the sales,  
please contact the Market Team*

Agricultural & Development Consultants, Chartered Surveyors, Auctioneers & Estate Agents

Oakleigh House, Thrapston,  
Northamptonshire NN14 4LJ

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Bletsoes is the trading name of Henry H Bletsoe & Son LLP, a Limited Liability Partnership registered in England & Wales under Partnership Number OC371369. Regulated by RICS. Registered office: Oakleigh House, Thrapston, Northamptonshire NN14 4LJ. We use the term 'partner' to refer to a member of the LLP or an employee or consultant with equivalent standing and qualifications.



## **Press Release**

### **Bletsoes announce withdrawal of full time Auction Services from Stratford-upon-Avon Livestock Market After 15 Years of Service**

It is with a mixture of sadness and gratitude that we announce the withdrawal of our full time Auction Services offering at Stratford-upon-Avon Livestock Market, which has been under our management since January 2010. This decision has not been taken lightly, but after careful consideration and monitoring over the past few months, we must adapt to the significant challenges currently facing the livestock sector. Our final sale will be held on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024 though we hope to continue annually with outdoor breeding sales in late Summer / early Autumn.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all buyers and vendors who have supported us over the years. Your loyalty and dedication have been the cornerstone of the market's operations and successes. We hope that you will continue to support us with our outdoor breeding sales.

We would also like to express our deep appreciation to the Cook family, the owners of the Market, who have been instrumental in supporting the market throughout our tenure. The Cooks opened the market in 2003 after Foot and Mouth and following the closure of the old Market in Stratford town centre; Tony Cook has manned the trailer wash during the past 21-years. The Cooks partnership has been invaluable, and we are profoundly grateful for their collaboration. We wish to make it clear that the Cook family are not at all to blame for our decision to withdraw our full time Auction Services offering at Stratford.

A special note of thanks goes to our incredible staff, whose unwavering efforts and professionalism have been essential to running the market over our 15-year tenure. Their hard work and commitment have ensured the highest standards of service for our clients. The Cook family have asked us to pass on their thanks to the late Craig Thompson who was their first auctioneer and helped to build the market, and also to Ed Cox who was a highly-regarded auctioneer at Stratford.

The withdrawal of our full time Auction Services at Stratford reflects the reality of reducing stock numbers nationally and the increasing financial pressures on the agricultural industry, including the recent announcement by the Government to increase national insurance contributions by Employers. These factors have made the continuation of this market unsustainable.

While this aspect of our offering at Stratford comes to a close, we remain fully committed to providing professional services from Stratford and intend to continue having a physical presence in Stratford, either at the Market or elsewhere close-by.

We are pleased to report that professional services offering continues to grow, so much so that both Chris Templar MRICS and George Pullin MRICS are regularly engaged with 'Stratford based' professional work.

Furthermore, our dedication to Auctions remains unwavering. We are proud to highlight our significant recent investment in the Thrapston Auction Centre, just off Junction 13 of the A14, which stands as a testament to our firm's long-term commitment to the auction industry.

As a business, we continue to grow and evolve, focusing on new opportunities and expanding services to meet the needs of our valued clients and provide advice on agricultural, rural property and planning matters.

We thank you all for your understanding and support as we transition through this change and look forward to continuing our work with you in new and exciting ways.

*The Partners*

**2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024**

Our chaplain Rev. Richard Wilde, Methodist Minister, member of the Agricultural Chaplains Association and the Farming Community Network will be in attendance at the market on Tuesdays for a chat, if you would like to talk.

[richardwilde.FCN@gmail.com](mailto:richardwilde.FCN@gmail.com)

### **WINTER GRAZING AVAILABLE**

Permanent pasture, stock proof fenced for sheep.

Water and daily checks available.

Located Oxfordshire. Contact 07702 422724 for further information.

### **PUPPIES FOR SALE**

Border collie pups for sale from working parents - all black and white, litter of five, four available two bitches and two dogs Born 02/11/2024, ready to go 28/12/2024 All puppies will be microchipped, vaccinated, wormed and health checked by vet. Please contact Robert Sheppard on 07972720731 for further details and viewing.

## REPORT FOR TUESDAY 10TH DECEMBER

### 73 Prime Lambs

A good trade for the goods forward with meat selling well. SQQ 275.96p/kg. TO Withers topped the pence per kilo to 290p/kg for Beltex Charollais and Baylis Farming topped the day overall at £135.

**Highlights** - TO Withers topped the light lambs seeing £116 for 40kg Charollais Beltex and £78 for 27kg lambs of the same stamp; NA Dawson saw a comparable trade with Clun lambs to £98 for 35.5kgs; JW Higgins saw Texels to £115 for 42.5kgs; JE Lea & Son saw their usual stamp of Charollais crosses selling to £114 for 41kgs and £126 for 46.5kgs; Baylis Farming topped the day overall with best meat to £135 for 50kgs.

| To                             |         | From |         | Average |         |
|--------------------------------|---------|------|---------|---------|---------|
| <i>Standards (32.1-39kg)</i>   |         |      |         |         |         |
| 276p                           | £98.00  | 276p | £98.00  | 276p    | £98.00  |
| <i>Mediums (39.1 - 45.5kg)</i> |         |      |         |         |         |
| 290p                           | £116.00 | 271p | £114.00 | 275.2p  | £114.67 |
| <i>Heavies (45.6 - 52kg)</i>   |         |      |         |         |         |
| 271p                           | £135.00 | 270p | £126.00 | 270.4p  | £129.06 |

### 324 Store Lambs

Another fantastic trade for all grades with plenty of buyers ringside. All in average saw £95.77. R Hall & Sons topped the day at £120 for hopper frame, short term Texel crosses with followers at £115 and £101; RL Stone saw similar highs for short term Charollais to £112; R Righton topped the Suffolks to £111; TO Withers saw Charollais with smart shape at £105 but small in frame; G Finley saw a flying trade with Southdown lambs to £100.50. All mid term nice bred lambs were in the £90's with long term lambs in the high £80's. Longest very chancy sorts were £52 to £72.

| To      | From   | Average |
|---------|--------|---------|
| £120.00 | £52.00 | £95.77  |

### **HAY, STRAW & FODDER**

240 x Whole Crop Pea Forage Preserved 4' Wrapped Round Bales - Ave 550kg.  
Forage Analysis Report Available  
Assist & Loading Facilities.  
Located Kings Lynn, Norfolk. Contact Charles 07974 427734

## 64 Cull Ewes & Rams

Meat and weight continue to hold the trade with feeding sorts harder placed. Averaging £89.49. WE Budd & Son topped the day with Charollais ewes to £138 for best shape and meat, Continental crosses sold to £110, £96 and £84 from the same home; B Burrows & Sons topped the Suffolks selling to £125 for big ewes; A Summers topped the Texels at £110; R Righton saw the best of the Mules at £99. Meat heavy framed ewes sold in the £90's. Lean meat sorts sold £75 to £85. True feeding ewes were £50 to £65 breed dependent.

| To      | From   | Average |
|---------|--------|---------|
| £138.00 | £50.00 | £89.49  |



# Renew your VAN Number

EU legislation requires a Veterinary Attestation Number (VAN) or Farm Assurance status to sell livestock for slaughter for export outside of the UK.

VAN numbers expire every 12 months  
**Don't forget to renew.**

Speak to your local Veterinary Practise to renew.

Share your new VAN number with your mart.

ONE.LIVE.HUB



# Bletsoes

— EST. 1881 —

## Christmas Dressed Poultry Sale

*Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December  
at 12 noon*

**To be held at Stratford Livestock Market**

Entries are invited to include all types of oven ready birds and meats.

Sections include: Turkeys, Chickens, Guinea Fowl,  
Ducks Partridge & Pheasants.

Long Legged & Other Poultry sections will also be available.

**Entry Forms available online or from the Market Office**



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