

The Market Report

2023 SHOWS AT BLETSOES MARKETS

Stratford Christmas Prime Stock Show Tuesday 5th December

On Tuesday we were delighted to welcome to Stratford Market Fat Stock Show exhibitors and buyers, spectators, sponsors and other market goers. We recognise the huge amount of work that goes into preparing livestock for the Fat Stock Shows and the commitment that this involves. We are grateful to the Judges who give up their time on the day and the Stewards who ensure the smooth running of the event. It would not be possible to run the Fat Stock Shows without the generous sponsorship and support from the Sponsors. For 2023 the Principal Sponsor for Stratford Christmas Prime Stock Show was Oliver Landpower and our thanks go to all those who also generously agreed to donate money and prizes to the Show.

The Champion Pen of Sheep this year went to SJ Hubbard with his Beltex lambs selling to £154.80. Miss DM Harris took Reserve Champion Pen of Sheep with her Bleu D'Maine lambs which sold to £148.50, both pens being bought by the judge Robert Leach for selling in his Carpenters Farm Shop, near Banbury.



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Thrapston & District 113th Christmas Fat Stock Show
Saturday 2nd December 2023

The sub zero temperatures did not diminish the enthusiasm of the those who came to Thrapston Livestock Market on Saturday. For 2023 the Principal Sponsor of the Thrapston & District Fat Stock Show Society incorporating Northampton Christmas Prime Stock Club, was Lycetts Insurance Brokers and our thanks go to the many businesses and individuals who support this event. Special thanks also to photographer Adrian Legge and reporter Angela Calvert from the Farmers Guardian, both travelling some distance to attend.

In the Cattle section, the Champion and Reserve Champion animals were shown by Will and Tash Burden of W R B Farming, topping at £2,159.40. The Champion sold to W H Thomas Farm Shop of Ecton. In our new Calf class, sixteen calves were entered seeing WJ Robinson taking 1st place with one of his British Blue heifers. In the Sheep section, Ann Wilson won both the Champion and Reserve Champion Pen of Sheep with her Rouge lambs which sold to £250. In the Pig section, the Champion pig from Mr P Wilderspin sold for £200 to Joseph Morris Butchers.

We look forward to the Fat Stock Show Dinner on Friday 8th December at Stanwick to celebrate the achievements of the many prize winners at the Show.

Bedford Livestock Show Society - Michaelmas Show
Saturday 23rd September 2023

The Bedford Society took a decision to host a new event at Thrapston Market in 2023 with a change from a Winter Show to a Michaelmas Show. The event was hugely successful in warm sunshine and included store stock classes. The Champion Cattle was won by K Ludgate. The Champion Sheep won by GR Fountaine. The Champion Pig was won by Padray Farms.

Again, our sincere thanks go to the exhibitors, the committee who organise the event, the Judges, Stewards and the Sponsors. For 2023 the main sponsor of the Michaelmas Show was Gallagher Developments and there were a large number of other sponsors and those who generously gave prizes. A very successful dinner was held at the Bedford Blues Rugby Club on Friday 24th November and it was great to see over 100 Young Farmers attend this event.

As well as being events which are enjoyable for those who participate and spectate, the Fat Stock Shows have raised thousands of pounds for charity over the years and the Bedford Show chose Sue Ryder St John's Hospice,

Moggerhanger, as their charity for 2023. The charity chosen by the Thrapston and District Fat Stock Show Society was Marie Curie, with over £1100 being raised on Saturday alone and further fundraising continuing at the Dinner on Friday. The chosen charity for Stratford Christmas Prime Stock was RABl. It is wonderful that market goers so generously support these excellent causes.

The dates have been set for 2024 and we can confirm that the Bedford Michaelmas Show is on Saturday 21st September 2024. The Thrapston District Fatstock Show will take place on Saturday 30th November 2024 and Stratford Christmas Prime Stock Show will be on Tuesday 3rd December 2024. We look forward to seeing you at these events!

Nicola Clayton-Bailey
Partner

Stratford Forthcoming Events

Tuesday 12th December

Prime, Cull & Store Sheep - 10.30am

Fur, Produce & Misc - 10.00am

Tuesday 19th December

Christmas Dressed Poultry Sale - 12 noon

Tuesday 26th December

No Market

Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Prime, Cull & Store Sheep - 10.30am

Fur, Produce & Misc - 10.00am

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

REPORT FOR TUESDAY 5TH DECEMBER

Stratford Fat Stock Show

Champion Lambs - SJ Hubbard - 43kg Beltex 360p/kg - £154.80

Reserve Champion Lambs - Miss DM Harris - 55kg Bleu D'Maine 270p/kg - £148.50

Continental Lambs

1st - SJ Hubbard

2nd - Miss DM Harris

3rd - DM & A Andrews

Native Lambs

1st - GF Heath & Son

2nd - S Collett

3rd - TR Tame & Son

Best Single Ewe

1st - Lambs End Ltd / J Keller

2nd - Miss EM Gibbs

3rd - S Leedham

495 Prime Lambs

Lighter lambs saw a lift with 40kgs and above now in demand and as ever meat is finding clear premiums. SQQ 246.97p/kg. SJ Hubbard topped the day overall with 43kg Beltex prize winning lambs selling to 360p/kg and £154.80; DM Harris saw comparable highs as Reserve Champion with Bleu D'Maine lambs at 55kgs selling to 270p/kg.

Highlights - NK Butcher topped with a smart run of Texels to 263p/kg for 42kgs; DM & A Andrews followed close behind with Texels to 260p/kg for 41.5kgs; LA Gibbs saw a high for the Suffolks with 44.5kg lambs to 258p/kg; TJ Hyatt penned a well fed, shorn run of Continental and Charollais lambs seeing a premium with 44kgs to 254p/kg; J Underhill saw the same standard with shorn Cheviots to 255p/kg for 46.5kg well meated lambs; Newfield Horses Ltd topped the heavier lambs of the day with a sterling show of Texel ewe lambs topping to 255p/kg for 52kgs, 252.5p/kg for 48.5kgs and 252p/kg for 47.5kgs.



Click the link to view our Stratford Facebook page for further up to date information about our sales pre and post sale.

<https://www.facebook.com/StratfordLivestockMarket/>

To		From		Average	
Standards (32.1-39kg)					
244p	£95.16	238p	£87.24	239.9p	£90.92
Mediums (39.1 - 45.5kg)					
360p	£154.80	237p	£93.62	248.4p	£104.89
Heavies (45.6 - 52kg)					
267p	£132.60	230p	£113.04	246p	£118.97
Over 52kg					
270p	£148.50	208p	£116.60	235.5p	£129.80

40 Store Lambs

A smaller show with trade just as sharp, all in average £76.30. M Digweed topped the day with Suffolks to £90; DT Rand saw comparable highs for mid frame Suffolks selling to £85; WW Steele saw mid frame Charollais and Easycare cross lambs to £72.

To	From	Average
£90.00	£11.00	£76.30

139 Cull Ewes & Rams

Another weekly top end show of ewes with a trade to match, all in average £80.90. Lambs End Ltd topped the day with a first prize Texel ewe to £170 with two similar shape smaller framed ewes to £138; LA Gibbs saw a smart trade for best shape Texel and Charollais ewes at £121 and £120; RM Elgin & Son saw the trade of the day with Chamoise two tooth rams selling to £110; Dancer Brothers topped with Charollais cross two tooth's at £103 for a pen of twenty-four; P Smith topped the Mules for the day with best meat at £89. All meat ewes seen at £80 plus with smart lean but frame ewes £70 plus. Feeders were sub £50.

To	From	Average
£170.00	£27.00	£80.09

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

SHEEP VENDORS

New Veterinary Attestation rule for farmers to be introduced on 13th December 2023.

Action Needed Now.....

What's changing?

Changes in legislation, as from 13th December 2023, will require all producers selling livestock for slaughter to have had an annual farm veterinary visit to allow their animals, and/or part of any animal, to be exported out of the UK. The purpose of the new rule is to comply with EU export requirements to verify the absence of notifiable disease and provide general advice on farm biosecurity.

Why is this changing?

The Statutory Health Attestation is required from the 13 December 2023 to certify exports of POAO (Products of Animal Origin) to the EU. The EHCs (Export Health Certificates) require that the animals' farm of origin has undergone regular visits by a veterinary surgeon.

What do producers need to do?

Producers will be required to obtain a signed declaration from their vet that the visit has taken place. The veterinary attestation template can be found here: [veterinary attestation template](#). This should be signed and completed by the farm vet.

Obtaining a signed veterinary attestation must be done at least once over a 12-month period and can be combined with any other routine veterinary visit, including government supported initiatives such as the Animal Health and Welfare Pathway in England.

Farmers and vets must keep a copy of their completed declarations and the "unique reference number" created, for their records and to provide to their livestock auction market or meat processor.

Farms that are part of qualifying assurance schemes do not need to complete the veterinary declaration. Membership of these farm assurance schemes is accepted as evidence that a premises of origin meets the requirement for regular health visits from a vet.

The qualifying schemes are:

- Annual health and welfare review (England only)
- Quality Meat Scotland (QMS)
- Farm Assured Welsh Livestock Beef and Lamb Scheme (FAWL) (Welsh Lamb and Beef Producers Ltd (WLBP))
- Red Tractor

Please contact Jake Wagstaff 07487 526803 for further information.

Christmas Dressed Poultry Sale

*Tuesday 19th 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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