

THE ROYAL SMITHFIELD CLUB



Chairman's Briefing Winter 2023

INTRODUCTION



Welcome to my first Chairman's Briefing having taken on the role from Chris Riddle at the beginning of the year.

I hope as many Members as possible will join us by Zoom at 5pm on Weds 13th December for our Annual Meeting of Club Members – you will find details on the email accompanying this Briefing.

2024 is the 225th Anniversary of the Club's first show which was staged in December 1799 at Wootton's Livery Stables (Dolphin Yard), Smithfield. Plans are underway to mark this occasion and we will communicate these to you in due course.

Next year sees the Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth (RASC) conference back 'live' following the pandemic. Being held 20-27 June in Edinburgh, you would be most welcome to attend. Full details on www.therasc.com.

Please read on for reports of the Club's recent activities.

Yours,
Simon

Simon Orpwood
Chairman, Royal Smithfield Club

STARS OF THE FUTURE



The Royal Smithfield Club again supported the Young Handlers competition at this year's Stars of the Future which took place on the evening of Fri 10th November followed on the Saturday by the Stars of the Future Calf Show at United Auctions, Stirling.

Judged by Teresa Wilson, this year's Overall Winner was Lily Smith who was presented with the Club trophy by Rachael Wyllie, RSC VP.

ROYAL ULSTER BEEF & LAMB CHAMPIONSHIPS



Champion Calf at the sixth Royal Ulster Premier Beef & Lamb Championships held on 21st November in Belfast was a Limousin heifer exhibited and shown by Alistair Crawford.

RUAS President, Christine Adams, presented Alistair with the prestigious Duke of Bedford Perpetual Cup provided by the Royal Smithfield Club along – pictured here with sponsor Graham Cooke from The Auld Forge Gortin.

GREAT RIBS & SADDLES DISPLAY AT LIVESCOT

- *Matthew Currie - Champion Rib*
- *Robert Laird - Lamb Champion*

LiveScot, held at Lanark on Saturday 25 November, included the Royal Smithfield Club Beef Ribs & Saddle of Lamb competitions.

Judge for the day was Dan Gilmour from Gilmour Butchers with the event supported by Quality Meat Scotland & John Scott Meats.



From strong classes of Native & Continental Ribs, the Champion was an

Results

Continental Beef Rib

1. Brian Capper
2. Willie Purdon
3. John Brown

Angus from Matthew Currie, Skewbridge, Mouswald, Dumfries. The Reserve championship was another Angus from Tom King.



Taking home the Club trophy for best Saddle of Lamb from another strong entry of light and heavy lambs was Robert Laird, Cambwell, Biggar.

Reserve Champion was R&M Struthers, Carluke.

Native Beef Rib

1. Matthew Currie (Champion)
2. Tom King (Reserve Champion)
3. McMillan

Lamb Saddle (Light)

1. D. McFadzean
2. R&M Struthers
3. R&B Dickie

Lamb Saddle (Heavy)

1. Robert Laird (Champion)
2. R&M Struthers (Reserve Champion)
3. George Whyte

SMITHFIELD HIGHLIGHTS AT ENGLISH WINTER FAIR

- *British Blue Team wins Duke of Norfolk Trophy*
- *Herefords Reserve*
- *Perrys of Eccleshall secure Beef Ribs Champion & Reserve*
- *Greenfields take Saddle of Lamb Championship*
- *Reserve Saddle goes to Stanedge Grange*
- *RABI Single Lamb trophy to Madders & Johnson*

The English Winter Fair, held on the weekend of 18-19 November 2023 at the Staffordshire County Showground, drew a large and enthusiastic crowd with a number of highlights involving competitions supported by the Royal Smithfield Club.



In the much-anticipated competition for the Duke of Norfolk Trophy, for the best group of three purebred animals, a packed ring on the Sunday saw seven breeds go head-to-head with the British Blues winning and the Herefords reserve.

Judge John Hall, Inglewood Edge, Penrith, Cumbria praised the winning trio as 'an even, well-balanced group, very nicely matched.'

The winners comprised the junior heifer Brookley Blue Thumbelina from J Taylor together with two heifers from K Watret - Solway View Tesha and Solway View Sunlight.

Standing reserve was the Hereford team of three steers: Pow from TG & EM Hart & Son, and Normanton 1 Woodonga & Normanton 1 Ant from TD & WT Livesey.

Making the presentation was Geoff Burgess, Club President.



The Club's Beef Ribs & Saddle of Lamb competitions, with a record 28 entries across the two sections, was judged by Paul Sargeant of TG Sargeant & Sons, Bramshall, Uttoxeter.

The Champion Beef Rib came from Perrys of Eccleshall with a Limousin-sired heifer from producer Steve

Cartmail and presented by butcher Stephen Hill.

The judge praised the winner for its 'thickness of eye muscle and nice fat cover.' Reserve Rib again went to Perrys with a Lim-cross steer from Simon Hamplett.



The Perpetual Lamb Saddle Trophy was awarded to Greenfields Farmers & Butchers with their 23kg Texel-cross

described as having 'great thickness of eye muscle and length' by the judge.

The reserve title went to Stanedge Grange Butchery with another Texel-sired lamb.



Earlier on the Sunday, the Royal Smithfield RAB Single Butchers Lamb trophy judged by Antony Glaves was presented to Mary Madders of Madders & Johnson.

ROYAL SMITHFIELD AT AGRIFEST

Agrifest South-West organised by the Devon County Agricultural Association and held at Westpoint, Exeter, on Wednesday 8 November 2023 saw the Royal Smithfield Club's trophies awarded to both sheep and cattle winners.



Winning the supreme primestock championship for a second consecutive year was Michael Kirby from Milton Damerel, Holsworthy with his British Blue cross, Handsfree, to claim the honours once again.

Placing this striking April 2022-born black heifer at the top of the line was judge Katrina Donaldson, Carlisle.

The Supreme Champion Pair of Lambs was a duo of pure Beltex from Robert Garth & Sarah Priestley of Bentham, North Yorkshire.



RSC Trustee Chris Riddle is pictured presenting the Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association & Royal Smithfield Club trophies.

ANNUAL MEETING OF CLUB MEMBERS – WEDS 13TH DECEMBER

The Annual Meeting of Club Members (AMCM) will be held by Zoom 5.00pm to 5.30pm on Weds 13th December 2023 to approve the latest Annual Accounts and appointment of office holders for 2024.

Joining details are available from Club Secretary Richard Saunders E: richard@royalsmithfieldclub.co.uk. If you would like to raise any points, please let Richard know by Friday 8th December.

WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

Please visit the Royal Smithfield website www.royalsmithfieldclub.co.uk for up-to-date news, reports and events. Please also 'like' the Royal Smithfield Club Facebook page and follow us on Instagram.

CLUB CONTACT DETAILS

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