

RECORD PRICES AND HUGE CROWDS AT BEESTON RARE AND TRADITIONAL BREEDS SALE

Excellent entries of stock in the Cattle, Sheep and Poultry sections for the annual sale of Rare and Traditional Breeds, with the added bonus of the Autumn Show and Sale of Welsh Cobs and Ponies, drew a huge crowd to Beeston last Saturday.

A sale ring packed to the rafters heralded the start of the **CATTLE** sale, for many the highlight of the day, and they weren't to be disappointed. Tremendous pre-sale interest and very much the 'de rigueur' of the cattle world, the **Lowline Angus**, had the phone lines booked and countless interested parties in this up and coming breed.

The first lot in the ring, Cammall Isolde, a pedigree Lowline cow with her registered heifer calf at foot consigned by Messrs Jones & Pilkington received a phenomenal enquiry, bids came in thick and fast and rose quickly with auctioneer Jonathan Farrall's gavel eventually falling to renowned Angus breeder & local Vet Mr Owen Tunney & daughter Sophie with a winning bid and UK record price of **12,700 guineas (£13,335)**.



Pictured-**Isolde and heifer calf** with her admirers-Owen and Sophie Tunney, Ruth and Richard Pilkington, Andrew and Janet Morrison, Steve Jones

Undeterred, the under-bidder, Andrew Morrison wasn't going to be beaten with the next lot, Cammall Blanche, a January 2016 cow with her bull calf at foot, which he took home to Alderley Edge at **5,600 guineas**. Making it three in a row, the same buyer purchased the next two lots, both part-bred Lowline cows with steer calves at foot, for 1200gns and 980gns respectively.

The instantly recognisable white faced traditional **Hereford** cattle also enjoyed considerable demand. Leading the trade was Albany Linnet, a May 2015 born cow sold with her heifer calf at foot who realised **1280 guineas**

and made her way home with Nicky Shiers, Llanwrthur. Cover girl, Albany Oyster Girl, sold heavy in-calf to Chater Valley Chai sold for 780 guineas, followed by her December born bull calf at 380 guineas, both to Didy Morgan, Carden, Cheshire.

Joint top price in the Longhorn section went to The Bollin Valley Project with a brace of pedigree cows both with heifer calves at foot. Bollin Misty and Bollin Nina, both by the renowned Blackbrook Strongbow and scanned in calf to Fishwick Poseidon, realised **920 guineas** to Caddis Ltd, Marton and Mr J Hodgkins, Gnosall respectively.

Show Champion and first prize any other breed was a superb **Red Poll bull** from Mark Paddock, Cheadle. Our thanks to Judge Mr John Ball, Betchton who had no hesitation in picking out this very correct, stylish bull. Selling for **1150 guineas**, he travelled to nearby Whitchurch with DM & DL Mountford.

The **SHEEP** section drew a massive crowd of enthusiasts and breeders, and peaked at **3000 gns** for the best of a small selection of **Valais Blacknose**. Alpine Chrissy, a May 2015 born ewe from the Alpine flock of Steve Jones and Richard Pilkington, Wrexham, elicited fierce bidding completion from breeders at the ringside and on the telephone, and was eventually purchased by Belinda Appleton of Weerite, Australia. She also beat off several other enthusiastic potential purchasers to secure the October 2009 born Alpine Ursla, a Swiss imported ewe, for **1900 gns**.

The sale was once again supported excellently by **Greyface Dartmoor** breeders for their Society Show and Sale. The trade was led by a four year old, 2014 born Bullhornstone ram put forward by S and J Bullock, Rushton Spencer, Leek. This ram had sired Show Champions and sold for **370gns** to B Chadwick, Hilton, Derby. The leading shearling ram came from the Muddle flock of Mrs Liz Dawson, Criggion, Shrewsbury, who at **350gns** went home with H E Garner, Coton Clanford, Stafford. The Show Championship was awarded to a shearling ewe from the same home, which unfortunately failed to make its reserve, but other runs of shearling ewes sold to a lively trade, peaking at **210gns** for a pen of five, all from the Coppiceside flock of E J Dale, Leek, Staffordshire and heading home with Mrs L Newton, Northwich.

Amongst other breeds, top prices were as follows:

Rams-Herdwick to 190gns, 150gns; Jacob to 80gns

Shearling Rams-Border Leicester to 160gns, 140gns; Hebridean to 63gns

Ram Lambs-Kerryhill to 120gns Valais Blacknose Cross to 210gns

Shearling Ewes – Jacobs to 75gns; Hebridean to 38gns; Herdwick to 88gns; Badger faced to 70gns

Ewes – Zwartble to 87gns, Southdown to 58gns, Cotswold to 63gns, Derbyshire Gritstone to 55gns, Jacob to 79gns, Herdwick to 72gns, Kerryhill to 58gns

Ewe Lambs – Zwartble to 57gns, Southdown to 53gns, Jacob to 70gns, Welsh Mountain to 52gns, Kerryhill Cross NC Mule to 102gns, 90gns; Valais Cross to 62gns

The demand throughout was clearly illustrated by the virtually complete clearance of all sheep on offer, with an excellent crowd staying throughout the sale.

Several **Pygmy Goats** also sold, with Billies to 43gns, 40gns etc., Nanny Kids to 39gns

Auctioneers:

Wright Marshall,
Beeston Castle Auction
Beeston, Cheshire

01829 262100

www.wrightmarshall.co.uk