

SURPRISINGLY GREAT TRADE FOR NEW YEAR OPENING SALE AT BEESTON CASTLE

The Western Holstein Club's opening Show & Sale for 2009 attracted an entry of 121 cows and Milking Heifers of which 26 were not forward on the day. The judge was Steve Phillips who is Herd Manager for the Cottonabbot's Herd at Waverton, Nr. Chester. For his Champion and Reserve he selected animals from the Bidlea Herd of Ray Brown & Partners at Twemlow, Holmes Chapel. The Champion was Bidlea TG Peach, a daughter of Tregibby Gibson with two VG dams giving 36.8 kg daily and the Reserve Champion was Bidlea Permitter Saladin 2nd (VG85-2yr), a fresh second calver by a homebred son of Silky Gibson who gave 9612 kg as a heifer; she has an EX dam and a VG g.dam.

With the recent fall in milk price issued by some processors, it was expected that the trade for dairy cattle may have been easier than had been experienced prior to Christmas, but this was far from the case. A great number of buyers turned up and the cattle were distributed all over the UK from Angus and Dumfriesshire in Scotland to Bedfordshire in South Midlands of England and to Carmarthenshire in South Wales as well as Cumbria, North Yorkshire and Mid Wales. It also has to be said that quality, although very tidy, was not just as good as the very high standard set in previous months. However the lack of sales up and down the country and the general meagre supply of numbers available anywhere resulted in a very fast trade which quite frankly was a surprise to all concerned.

Top price was only 2700 gns which was achieved on two occasions; the first to achieve this figure Robert Clare of Adderley, Market Drayton with his lovely Hawksmoor Amelia 15th, a fresh heifer by Roylane Jordan which sold to Robbie Bell of Knutsford. At the same figure Ray Brown's Champion heifer sold to Hywel Evans of Llansilin, Oswestry. Two animals sold for 2600 gns each; the first was the very well bred Ingham R Gibson Lana, a daughter of Silky Gibson and bred from the Laurie Sheik family; con signed by Jonathan Deane of Norwich she sold to join Graham Pierce's Milwr Herd at Chester. The other at this figure was another from Rob Clare who sold Hawksmoor Topee 61st, a daughter of his stock bull Hawksmoor Roman which sold to Richard Thomas of Croesyceiliog, Carmarthen

Richard Thomas purchased another heifer at 2550 gns from the Taylor brothers of Shrewsbury; for their money they acquired the Goldwyn daughter, Stokehall Chance 49th. The Taylor's also sold the top priced cow, Burnbrae Breakout Liesa, a second calver giving 43 kg to F & N Brunt & Sons of Stone.

TOP PRICES:

				GNS
Lot 64	RJ Clare & Partners	Hawksmoor Amelia 15 th	J C Bell, Knutsford	2700
Lot 111	Ray Brown & Partners	Bidlea TG Peach	H W Evans, Oswestry	2700
Lot 55	P J Deane & Sons	Ingham R Gibson Lana PI	Messrs Pierce, Chester	2600
Lot 63	RJ Clare & Partners	Hawksmoor Topee 61 st	R H Thomas, Carmarthen	2600
Lot 108	DJD & JB Taylor	Stokehall Chance 49 th	R H Thomas, Carmarthen	2550
Lot 26	DJD & JB Taylor	Burnbrae Breakout Liesa (GP83-2yr)	F & N Brunt & Sons, Stone	2400
Lot 77	H & VE Jolly	Fieldside Sylvia 52 nd	Shutt & Mansell, Newport	2300
Lot 92	JJ & JD Hughes	Clayford Zenith Emiris 88 th	Shutt & Mansell, Newport	2300
Lot 101	AL Moore & Partners	Danevalley Outside Holly	J C Bell, Knutsford	2300
Lot 75	H & VE Jolly	Fieldside Electric Baby 504 th	Shutt & Mansell, Newport	2250
Lot 80	GE Hollingworth & Son	Sandhole Best Roxanne ET PI	Drinkall Bros., Lancaster	2250
Lot 91	JJ & JD Hughes	Clayford Zenith Emiris 87 th	R H Thomas, Carmarthen	2250
Lot 112	SFR Farming Ltd	Townhouse Jangle Snowflake 67 th	Mrs Berrisford, Crewe	2250
Lot 103	J Bowden	Hully Dante Roxy 25 th PI	Shutt & Mansell, Newport	2200

AVERAGES:

23 Cows £1908.72; 69 Milking Heifers £2029.39; 3 In-Calf Heifers £1312.50; 95 HEAD £1977.54

WRIGHT MANLEY of Beeston Castle Auction, Cheshire were the Auctioneers