

MIDDLE MAGIC! WHITEFORD'S DO IT AGAIN! TWO LEAD BIDS OF 5700 AND 5200 GNS AND JUST A TREMENDOUS TRADE

Despite the atrocious weather conditions across the Pennines and the North of England which definitely prevented many from being in attendance at Beeston Castle Auction, a large crowd did make it there, which resulted in another outstanding sale being achieved for the Whiteford brothers, Willie and John, when they held the fourth major reduction sale from their famous Middle Ayrshire and Blended Red and White Herds.

Nobody expected to reach the record breaking averages of the third reduction sale which was held earlier this year, where a record breaking average of £2483 was achieved, but on the other hand nobody expected to come as close as we did to that average and perhaps also, nobody expected to break the 5000 gns barrier once, never mind twice. But having said that, this sale was billed as being "the best ever" from Middle, as there was a very high proportion of great individuals catalogued. The cows at this sale were indeed a great show, of that there is no doubt, but one also has to remember that this herd although pedigree, has not been officially milk recorded since 2000 and is only classified intermittently.

The previous highest price for an animal from the Whiteford's is 5000 gns when Middle Georgette MM (VG88) was sold to David & Christine Sanderson of Wigton for their Sanderson Herd at the July 2007 sale. However that record was broken twice at this event; firstly when the July calved second calver Middle Mitzy MHS (VG89-3yr) by Middle Highland Supreme was knocked down at 5700 gns the Woodburn family who run the well known Killoch Herd at Galston, Ayrshire and secondly when the September calved third calver Middle Emerald MR (VG88) by Middle Mitzy Ranger was sold to the Sanderson's for 5200 gns where she will run alongside the Georgette cow at their Cumbria farm.

Two animals made 4100 gns each and both sold to Duncan Hunter for his well known Haresfoot Herd at Berkhamstead, Hertfordshire. His first purchase was Middle Miss Red Emerald (VG87-3yr), a September calved second calver sired by Middle Red Emerald and the second was Middle Nicholas BC (VG85) who also calved in September and is a daughter of the well known Brieryside Centurion.

A further six sold for 3000 gns or more. Selling at 3400 gns was the fresh Mitzy Ranger daughter Middle Lovely MR (Ex91-4yr) who calved in October and was giving 42 kg. She makes the trip to west Wales to join the Santamaria herd of LG & G Vasami. Steve Bailey of Audlem, Nr. Crewe secured the second calf Middle Miss Jessie HS (VG87-3yr) by Middle Highland Supreme. At the same price the Sanderson's were in the market again securing Middle Margie MMR (Ex90-4yr), another daughter of Mitzy Ranger, and also making this price was the leading fresh heifer Middle Miss Margot BC 3rd (VG85) who sold to Geraint Thomas of Llanelli. Another heifer, Middle Molli MS (H2-81), a daughter of the pure Holstein sire, Morwick Solano sold for 3100 gns to J Aubrey Patterson for his Ballycrochan Herd in Northern Ireland and at the level 3000 gns Middle Margie MR (VG88-3yr) sold to Scotland to the herd of J & J Kinloch at Cardross, Dumbarton.

Calves at foot were an outstanding group of cattle and met a wonderful trade selling to a top of 1450 gns for the September born Middle Lady Emerald 4th, a daughter of Brieryside Cream Centre out of a (VG86) member of the Molli family. The August born Middle Emerald 3rd by Morwick Solano and a sister to the 5200 gns Middle Emerald MR (VG88) made 1350 gns to Le Marchant Farms of Colston Bassett, Nottinghamshire. A total of nine calves sold for in excess of 1000 gns. Volume buyers of the day were Le Marchant Farms who purchased 22 head made up of cows and calves, Messrs. Elkin and Hitchcox of Hilderstone, Staffordshire who purchased 18 milkers and Griffiths Farming of Malpas, Cheshire who secured 16 milkers.

TOP PRICES:

			GNS
Lot 11	Middle Mitzy MHS (VG89-3yr)	A Woodburn & Sons, Ayrshire	5700
Lot 78	Middle Emerald MR (VG88)	D & C Sanderson, Wigton	5200
Lot 9	Middle Miss Red Emerald (VG87-3yr)	JC & D Hunter, Hertfordshire	4100
Lot 52	Middle Nicolas BC (VG85)	JC & D Hunter, Hertfordshire	4100
Lot 80	Middle Lovely MR (EX91-4yr)	LG & G Vasami, Cardigan	3400
Lot 4	Middle Miss Jessie HS (VG87-3yr)	SN Bailey & Partners, Crewe	3300

Lot 73	Middle Margie MMR (EX90-4yr)	D & C Sanderson, Wigton	3300
Lot 122	Middle Miss Margot 3 rd BC (VG85-3yr)	G R Thomas, Carmarthenshire	3300
Lot 164	Middle Molly MS (H2)(81)	J A Patterson, N Ireland	3100
Lot 16	Middle Margie MR (VG88-3yr)	J & J Kinloch, Dumbarton	3000
Lot 37	Middle Buttercup JJS (VG85-3yr)	B Elkin & SA Hitchcox, Staffordshire	2800
Lot 140	Middle Jean Emerald Punch (H1)(85)	B Elkin & SA Hitchcox, Staffordshire	2800
Lot 10	Middle Miss Lady Centurian (GP84)	B Elkin & SA Hitchcox, Staffordshire	2700
Lot 45	Middle Lady Jess (VG85-3yr)	B Elkin & SA Hitchcox, Staffordshire	2700
Lot 54	Middle Lauras ME (VG87)	Thomas Plas Ltd, Carmarthen	2700
Lot 136	Middle Brown Girl MRE (H1)(85)	A Norbury, Knutsford	2700
Lot 152	Middle Lovely JJS	J A Martin, Carlisle	2700

AVERAGES:

137 Cows and Milking Heifers £2129.34 (including 37 heifer calves at £832.62);

4 In-calf Heifers £1601.25. 141 HEAD £2114.37

WRIGHT MANLEY of Beeston Castle Auction, Cheshire were the Auctioneers.