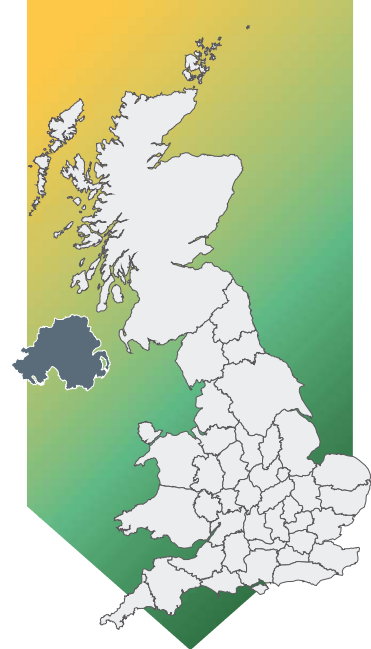


Northern Ireland

LIMOUSIN CATTLE CLUB

Chairman **Kieran McCrory** reports...



The Club's Annual Dinner and Prizegiving provided an opportunity to reflect on another successful year for the Northern Ireland Limousin Club and to recognise the achievements of members, exhibitors, breeders, judges and sponsors who contributed throughout the season.

A warm welcome was extended to all members and guests, with thanks given to Mick Gould and his wife Catherine of the renowned Woodmarsh herd, who kindly judged the Pedigree Herd Competition during the summer.

The continued success of the Club relies heavily on the dedication of volunteers who give freely of their time across a wide range of events. Sincere thanks were expressed to everyone who assisted throughout the year, and especially to the judges at the Club's events:

- **February Sale** - John Kingham
- **April Sale** - Trevor Shields
- **October Sale** - Declan McKenna
- **Ladies in Red** - Paul Tippetts
- **Rising Stars Show** - Sophie Harvey
- **NI Limousin Championship at Antrim Show** - Ian Nimmo
- **Pedigree Herd Competition** - Mick Gould
- **Commercial Herd Competition** - Robert Simpson

Sponsors

Gratitude was also extended to the many sponsors whose support enables the Club to deliver its full programme of events.

Rising Stars

Danske Bank, Whinfell Park Limousins, Rowland Miller, Firmount Vets, Claragh Limousins, CVS Farm Vets NI, Moore Concrete, Ampertaine Limousins, Ballybrick Limousins, PMP Transport, Bernish Limousins, Ivan Lynn and Sons, Ballyaulkin Limousins, MCV Competitions, Galcross Limousins, Firmount Veterinary Clinic and Chestnutt Animal Feeds.

Balmoral - Thompsons Animal feeds

Antrim Show - Beatty Fuel and Farm supplies, Firmount Vets, Glenmarshall Sires, Jenkins Butchers

Ladies in Red - Thompon Animal Feeds

Bull and Female Sales - Countryside Services and Fane Valley

Pedigree Herd Competition - Bank of Ireland

Show Team of Year - Danske

Commercial Herd Competition - Jalex

Rising Stars Calf Spectacular

The first event of the year was the Rising Stars Calf Spectacular held in March, which attracted a strong entry. Thanks were extended to all exhibitors, with congratulations to the day's winners.

The Supreme Champion was Bernish Valentine, exhibited by Kieran McCrory, with Jalex Virile, exhibited by James Alexander, taking Reserve Supreme.



Champion Pair from the Carrickaldreen herd of Peter and Serena Murphy



Members of the NI YLBC pictured with judge Sophie Harvey, the prize winning young handlers Caitlin Kernan, Serena Murphy, Lewis Dodd



Supreme Overall Champion Lot 25 Bernish Valentine with owners

Balmoral Show

Once again, the Balmoral Show saw an excellent turnout of Limousin cattle. The Female and Overall Supreme Championship was awarded to Deerpark Shakira, bred and exhibited by brothers Connor and Ryan Mulholland. Shown with her bull calf Deerpark Viking at foot, she also went on to claim Reserve Interbreed Beef Champion at the show.

The Balmoral awards were as follows:

- **WM Mulligan Memorial Rosebowl (Female Champion):** Connor & Ryan Mulholland – Deerpark Shakira
- **John Gordon MBE Presidents Cup (Champion Junior Bull):** Peter & Serena Murphy – Carrickaldreen Vension

- **Peter Smyth Cup (Male Champion):** Peter & Serena Murphy – Carrickaldreen Vension
- **Norman McBriar Perpetual Challenge Cup (Best Limousin):** Connor & Ryan Mulholland – Deerpark Shakira
- **Broadmeadow Breeders Cup:** Connor & Ryan Mulholland
- **Breeders Perpetual Challenge Cup (Best Limousin bred & owned):** Connor & Ryan Mulholland – Deerpark Shakira
- **Herbert Lusby Memorial Cup (Best Group of Three):** James Alexander – Jalex

NI Limousin Championship held at Antrim Show

The NI Limousin Championship was held at Antrim Show, with the following results:

- **Calf Champion: Drumhilla Alice – Gareth Corrie**
- **Junior Male Champion:** Deerpark Viking – Connor & Ryan Mulholland
- **Junior Female Champion:** Derrriaghy Vogue – David Green & Sons
- **Intermediate Champion:** Jalex Vabulous – Shauna Killen
- **Senior Champion:** Deerpark Shakira – Connor & Ryan Mulholland
- **Overall Male Champion:** Deerpark Viking – Connor & Ryan Mulholland
- **Overall Female Champion:** Deerpark Shakira – Connor & Ryan Mulholland
- **Overall Champion:** Deerpark Shakira – Connor & Ryan Mulholland
- **Commercial Champion:** Knocklayde Girl – Ivan Lynn & Sons



Limousin champion and interbreed beef champion at the N.I. Limousin Championship was Deerpark Shakira, bred and exhibited by Connor & Ryan Mulholland.



Reserve junior champion at the N.I. Limousin Championship was Deerpark Viking bred and exhibited by Connor & Ryan Mulholland.

Sales Highlights and Major Trophies

The Smith Bull Trophy, awarded to the highest-priced bull sold in Northern Ireland, followed a strong year at Ballymena.

February Sale:

Bulls peaked at 8,000gns, with heifers selling to 6,200gns. The top-priced bull was Carmorn Ultra at 8,000gns, bred and exhibited by Francis McAuley, who also secured junior champion, reserve male and reserve supreme champion.

Second highest was Clydevalley Ultimate at 7,200gns, bred by Robert Clyde. May

May Bull Sale:

Top price was 8,200gns for Bernish Uriah, bred by Kieran McCrory.

Second was Rahoney Umpire at 7,500gns, bred by Howard McFarland and awarded senior champion.

October Bull Sale:

A 95% clearance rate was achieved. Top price was Birchwood Volcano at 12,000gns, sold by Marty and Ronan McGurk. Second highest was Larkhill Vavavoom at 10,000gns, bred by Brian and Cahir McAuley.

The Champion on the night was Merrisfield Vinti, exhibited by Gareth Corrie.

The **Smith Bull Trophy** was awarded to Marty and Ronan McGurk in recognition of **Birchwood Volcano** who sold for 12,000gns.

The **Irish Bull Trophy**, awarded for the highest-priced bull sold at a BLCS sale, followed strong Northern Irish performances at Carlisle.

Notable prices included:

- **Bernish Unstoppabull** – 25,000gns
- **Ampertaine Urban** – 18,000gns
- **Ampertaine Ulrich** – 15,000gns

In May, NI-bred bulls led the trade:

- **Ampertaine Upfront** – 45,000gns
- **Ampertaine Ultravox** – 15,000gns
- **Carmorn Uform** – 14,000gns

In October, the leading NI bull was **Ampertaine Volvo** at 17,000gns.

The Irish Bull Trophy was awarded to James McKay in recognition of Ampertaine Upfront, who sold for 45,000gns.

Ladies in Red Show and Sale

The Ladies in Red Show and Sale in August proved to be a tremendous success. Leading prices included:

- **Nugent Allspice** – 25,000gns (Reserve Junior Champion)
- **Ampertaine Villie** – 18,000gns (Reserve Supreme Champion)
- **Draperhill Valarie** – 16,000gns (Junior & Supreme Overall Champion)
- **Cranmoney Vee** – 15,000gns (Reserve Intermediate Champion)

The Smith Cow and Calf Trophy, awarded to the highest price for a female sold in N. Ireland was awarded to Charlie Beverland for Nugent Allspice.

Show Team of the Year Awards:

- **1st Place:** Connor & Ryan Mulholland
- **2nd Place:** S. McCookin & Sons
- **3rd Place:** James Alexander (Jalex)

Additional awards:

- **Mr & Mrs Noel Lusby Shield (Show Team of the Year):** Connor & Ryan Mulholland
- **Gordon Bull Trophy (Top Breeder at Shows):** This is for the breeder winning the most points at shows for championships and reserve championships – C & R Mulholland
- **Limousin Show Champion of the Year:** This is the animal winning the most points for championships and reserve championships at local shows – C + R Mulholland Deerpark Shakira



16,000gns supreme overall champion Draperhill Valarie



18,000gns Intermediate and reserve supreme champion Ampertaine Villie.

N.I YLBC Awards

The Young Limousin Breeders Awards were presented by James Callion, who congratulated those members who represented the Club at the National Stock Judging Finals, held during the Woodmarsh Herd Open Day. The Club commended all competitors for their commitment and the high standard of stockmanship displayed.

Those who competed were **Conor McDonald, Caroline McConnell, Thomas McAreavey, Darryl Geary, Niall Forsythe, Rachel Boyce, Emma Campbell, Peter McAreavey and Serena Murphy.**

The **Victor Wood's Trophy** was jointly awarded to **Rachel Boyce and Emma Campbell**, in recognition of their performance at the finals.

The **Young Limousin David Adams Heaslip Memorial Trophy for Endeavour** was presented to **Rachel Boyce.**

A special presentation was also made to **Paddy** in recognition of his continued support and contribution to the Young Limousin Breeders.

The **Broadhooks Challenge Cup**, awarded for the best heifer calf bred and shown by a young Limousin breeder, was presented to **Eliza Alexander.**

Special Club Awards

The **Fedney House Trophy**, awarded for an outstanding contribution to the Club and the Limousin breed, was presented to **Charlotte Martin**, in recognition of her dedication and commitment.

This concluded the awards for the Pedigree Herd Competition. The Club once again expressed sincere thanks to **Mick Gould** for judging the competition, and on behalf of the NI Limousin Club, a gift was presented to him as a token of appreciation.

Congratulations were extended to all prize winners, and thanks were given to members and guests for attending another highly successful prizegiving evening.

Forward Look

The Club was also pleased to announce that the **NI Limousin Club will travel to the North East Limousin Club in England** for a herd visit in early July next year. The three-day trip will include visits to several leading herds in the region. Further information and full details will be shared in due course through the Club's social media channels.



The Lynn Family won an array of awards in the Limousin Club's commercial herd competition. Picture: Bo Davidson



Shauna Killen presents the award for the best overall commercial herd to Conall, Daniel and Liam Lynn. Picture: Bo Davidson



Best large herd and overall winners, James and Lynn McKay, were congratulated by judge Mick Gould. Picture: Bo Davidson



Emma Campbell was the best new comer in the Limousin herd competition. She received the award from judge Mick Gould. Picture: Bo Davidson



Brian and Margaret Anne McAuley won a number of awards with their Larkhill herd. Picture: Bo Davidson



Overall pedigree herd winners, James McKay, centre, first; with Brian McAuley, left, second; and Francis McAuley, third, Picture: Bo Davidson



Paul Rainey and sons receive the awards for the best cow family and best extra small herd from judge Mick Gould. Picture: Bo Davidson



Gareth Corrie Jr received the award for the best small herd from Mick Gould. Picture: Bo Davidson

REGIONAL CLUBS