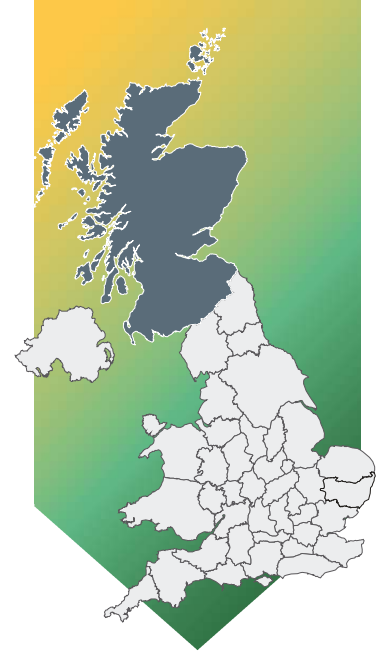


Scottish

LIMOUSIN CATTLE CLUB

Chairman **Thomas Illingworth** reports...



The year began with the October Stirling Bull Sales, held the following day, where many of our members enjoyed considerable success in both the show ring and the sale ring. The sale was topped at 12,000gns by the Allanfauld team, with 38 bulls selling to an average of £6,303.

Attention then turned to the autumn calf show circuit, beginning with Stars of the Future, which was very well supported by members. The senior section was won by our former Chairman, Andrew Gammie, of the Westpit herd, while the junior championship was awarded to the Illingworth family of the Glenrock herd. Next on the calendar was LiveScot, where the Grahams team, brought out by Stewart and Lynsey Bett, secured the Limousin championship before going on to claim the pedigree interbreed beef championship.

December saw the club's annual winter/Christmas competition take place, with a Christmas hamper made up of over £650 worth of Show Winners' supplies. The hamper was won by Ian Miller, a great supporter of the club. Congratulations and thanks to Ian for his continued support.

The New Year began with the appointment of the Society's new CEO, Mr Paul Rainey, whom we have the pleasure of welcoming to our AGM. We hope you have settled well into your new role and wish you every success as you steer the breed forward to where it deserves to be. February then brought the bull sales, where the upturn in beef prices had a positive knock-on effect on demand and confidence within the sector. The sale was topped at 14,500gns from the Goldies family, with an overall clearance rate of 78%.

March brought the sad news of the passing of Wendy Callion, one of the club's most loyal supporters, after a brave battle with cancer. Our sincere condolences go to Ian and the family. Further sadness followed in April with the passing of Kathryn Lawson, another tremendous supporter of the club who will be greatly missed. I would also like to extend our condolences to the family and friends of Natalie Cormack, who sadly passed away in July. Many will remember Natalie from

bringing out top-quality cattle with her late husband George, and for her significant involvement in the Limousin Young Breeders' Club.

May got off to a flying start, with the buoyant mood in the beef sector continuing and prices rising across the industry. This was reflected in the bull sales, where 39 bulls sold to average £8,901—over £2,200 up on the previous year—with a clearance rate of 93%. The sale was topped at 22,000gns for Anside Urban from the Irvine family, with nine bulls achieving five-figure prices.

The month ended in style with what can only be described as the wedding of the year—if not the decade—as our Secretary, Aileen, and Ross tied the knot. I cannot recall many weddings where dancing on chairs began before the starters were served, and by the time dessert arrived things were somewhat hazy! Massive congratulations to you both, and we wish you every happiness for the future.





HERD COMPETITION 2025

Extra Small Herd

- 1st Oddies
- 2nd Kair
- 3rd Upperclifton

Small Herd

- 1st Lodge
- 2nd Shaws
- 3rd Springsett

Medium Herd

- 1st Grahams
- 2nd Glenrock
- 3rd Alagils

Large Herd

- 1st Anside
- 2nd Strawfrank
- 3rd Clury

Extra large Herd

- 1st Maraiscote
- 2nd Ronick

Best cow family

- 1st Glenrock spangle
- 2nd Grahams Precious
- 3rd Maraiscote Genie

Best stock bull and progeny

- 1st Goldies Torpedo
- 2nd Morhan Peter
- 3rd Anside Superted

Best Young bull 2024 Born

- 1st Anside Victor
- 2nd Grahams Vibrent
- 3rd Glenrock Volcano

Best young Female 2024 Born

- 1st Grahams Violet
- 2nd Glenrock Vouge
- 3rd Maraiscote Voxanne

2025 Born Calves Male

- 1st Oddies Alfie
- 2nd Grahams Aussie
- 3rd Creanan Angus

2025 Born Calves Female

- 1st Lodge Amber
- 2nd Glenrock Angelofthenorth
- 3rd Maraiscote Ashley

Best Homebred cow and calf outfit

- 1st Grahams Ruth & Volcano
- 2nd Maraiscote Roxanne & Voxanne
- 3rd Ronick Nelola & Velola

Best in calf heifer

- 1st Anside Udiamond
- 2nd Maraiscote Uprincess
- 3rd Glenrock Ulrica

Best Young exhibitor under 30

- Darren Scott

Overall best herd

- Maraiscote

Reserve Best Herd

- Ronick

Judge Special Award

- Kyle Cruickshank

The highlight of the summer calendar saw us descend on Ingliston for the Royal Highland Show. Bluetongue restrictions resulted in reduced entries; however, the quality of stock on display was exceptionally high, with many commenting that it was the best show of bulls seen for some time. Judged by Andrew Burnett of the Spittalton herd, the overall champion was Anside UFO from the Irvine family, with reserve champion awarded to Goldies Victory from the Goldies family.

The Limousin breed continued to shine throughout the week. Goldies Viscount secured the overall beef breeder interbreed championship, with Goldies Victory taking the reserve title on the Friday morning. Anside UFO claimed reserve junior interbreed

before teaming up with Crajan Unison to win the interbreed pairs. To round off an outstanding week, the Limousin breed won the interbreed team of four, for the third year in succession, comprising Maraiscote Sherlock, Crajan Unison, Grahams Umandy and Petteril Sugarbabe. Well done to all members who exhibited and won prizes.

A BBQ was held on the Thursday evening following the conclusion of judging, cooked by myself. As I have received no reports of food poisoning, I am pleased to say it must have passed the test! The welcome return of the bar on the stand helped create a fantastic atmosphere around the ring during judging, supported by Ryanair with half of Ireland seen to be in attendance.



July saw the return of our Open Day, kindly hosted by the Illingworth family at Glenrock. Thankfully, the weather held and the cows behaved themselves. A tremendous turnout of around 280 people attended, with around 260 taking part in the stock judging. With over £1,000 worth of donated prizes, guess-the-weight competitions, clipping and dressing demonstrations, trailer rides, and catering provided by Steven Wilson, it was a superb day enjoyed by all. Special mention must go to the party bus from Aberdeen—and we even managed to keep Helen’s stress levels to a minimum, which is miracle! A further £1,000 raised on the day will be donated to Cancer Research, a charity that sits very close to a lot of us in the room.

August saw the return of the much-anticipated Scottish Grand Prix at Turriff Show, which was one of the best-supported shows for some time. A BBQ the night before was thoroughly enjoyed, followed by bacon rolls on the morning of judging. Despite horrendous weather conditions, judging went ahead under the watchful eye of Craig Douglas of the Whinfellpark herd.

Overall champion was Grahams Umandy, with reserve going to Anside Udiamond. The overall junior champion was Grahams Violet, with reserve awarded to Glenrock Vogue. The male

championship went to Grahams Vibrant, with reserve to Aultside Ulex. Grahams Umandy went on to take the interbreed championship before being crowned champion of champions of the show. Due to worsening weather, the day was cut short, but thankfully all exhibitors and animals made it home safely. Our thanks go to exhibitors from across Scotland, as well as to sponsors and stewards, for their continued support—although the weather still did not stop my lorry load from being asleep five miles outside Turriff!

The final event of the year was the ever-popular Herd Competition, once again ably judged by Andrew Burnett of the Spittalton herd, accompanied by his grandson Conor. They visited 19 herds over eight days, travelling from the South-West through the Central Belt and Borders before finishing in the North. A huge thank you to Andrew and Conor for giving up their time to judge the competition—we hope you enjoyed

the experience. Thanks also go to Aileen for meticulously planning the route, timed down to the minute.

I would like to thank you all for your support during my first year in the role. A massive thank you must also go to Aileen for keeping me right throughout the year, and to Kathryn for the tremendous amount of work and help she provides behind the scenes.

At the conclusion of the AGM, Kathryn Gammie stepped down as Vice Chair, with Stewart Bett taking on the role and Keely Mitchell joining the committee as Assistant Secretary. We would like to welcome them both and look forward to putting their ideas into action.

Finally, the Scottish Limousin Club donated £1,000 to Breast Cancer Now as part of the funds raised over the course of the year. Well done to everyone involved in supporting this worthy cause.

