



Swagger of Glenrath



## 2025 Spring Newsletter

Barlaes Katie 110th



### WELCOME TO OUR 2025 SPRING NEWSLETTER

#### Dear Member

What an incredible spell of weather—sunny and dry, making it perfect for lambing and calving! It's a stark contrast to last year's relentless cold and wet conditions. Let's hope this fine weather continues for the hill lambings and calvings ahead. The year began on a high note for Galloways, marked by two remarkable record-breaking achievements. Swagger of Glenrath set a new world record price of 27,000gns, while Barlaes Katie 110th established a new centre record at Carlisle, selling for 4,500gns.

#### Castle Douglas Show and Sale

A new world record price was set at this year's Galloway Cattle Society's Spring Show and Sale, with newcomers to the breed making their mark in spectacular fashion. Swagger of Glenrath, from Glenrath Farms Ltd, achieved the record breaking 27,000gns in a Valentine's Day bidding war at Wallets Mart, Castle Douglas. The August 2023-born son of Olympian of Troloss was purchased in a two-way split between John, Ann, and Iain Finlay of Blackcraig and Robbie Galloway of Cardona, Doune, Stirling. Swagger of Glenrath, expertly presented by stockman Joe Cockburn, was much fancied, securing the Overall Male Champion title at the pre-sale show.

In a remarkable twist, Glenrath Farms Ltd, who set the new record, were the purchasers of the previous record-holder, Blackcraig Dyker, demonstrating their commitment to investing in top genetics. That previous record sale at 26,000gns made headlines in 2023 when it smashed a long-standing world record price for a Galloway that had held for 34 years.

While Glenrath are relatively new to the Galloway breed, their success continued with Reserve Overall Male Champion Stealth of Glenrath selling for 4,000gns. This 21-month-old son of Troloss Nimrod, who finished second to the champion in the previous day's classes, is headed to JW Hall of Darnbrook Farm, Malham Moor, Settle. Overall Glenrath Farms achieved an impressive average of £11,287.50 for their four bulls. Ian Campbell of Glenrath Farms Ltd reflected on their success: "The ability of Galloways to convert rough grazing into a great quality, profitable product makes the breed a smart choice for anyone working on high hill ground. The Galloway excels at this and is perfectly suited to our farm and our journey to net zero. To have set a new record price is very satisfying and reflects our commitment to the breed and its future."

The sale drew strong interest from across the UK, with buyers joining both in person and online. Buyer motivation reflected the breed's versatility, with purchasers commenting on the Galloway's proven performance in low input upland systems and conservation grazing schemes, while consistently producing high-quality beef.

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Skelhill Fortnum 24000gns



Blackcraig Fencer 14000gns



Haaland of Fingland 10000gns



Blackcraig Libby E1474 9000gns



# SPRING SHOW AND SALE CONTINUED

First-time exhibitors Ali and Leisa Warden of Skelfhill, Hawick, celebrated an exceptional debut, achieving 24,000gns for their bull Skelfhill Fortnum, who had been placed third the previous day. This Barlaes Rivellino son, out of Blackcraig Bertha B1057, was purchased by Society Vice Chairman Robert McTurk who said: "He's a bull with a touch of class that was hard to find a fault with. Exceptional in his mobility and balance." Skelfhill Fortnum will head to the Barlaes herd, Dalry, the oldest recorded herd of any breed of cattle in the world, traceable back to Lady of Barlae in 1866.

The Wardens, who farm 3,200 acres carrying 2,000 breeding ewes and 110 cows, started their Galloway journey in 2021, and now carry 20 Galloways bulled pure. Commenting on the sale, Leisa Warden said: "It's a dream come true. It has been a lifetime ambition to have Galloways, and to achieve so much in our first year is absolutely amazing. What really stands out about the Galloway is their ability to convert challenging hill ground into profit. We've really enjoyed watching them thrive on our middling hill ground with minimal inputs; they're working out really well for us."

The sale was particularly special for Ali Warden, who had the honour of judging the heifers at the show and backed his judgment by purchasing the Reserve Female Champion, Brownie 11th of Fingland from Jimmy Wallace, Fingland, Dalry. This Oryan of Balgray daughter and out of Barlaes Brownie 211th - a Barack Obama of Fingland daughter - was purchased for 4,200gns.

Mr Warden commented: "It was an outstanding show of heifers, and while I was disappointed not to purchase my champion, I'm absolutely delighted to take home the reserve champion."

The Female Champion, Blackcraig Libby E1474, bred by John, Ann, and Iain Finlay of Blackcraig, Corsock, achieved the top female price of 9,000gns. A favourite of the Blackcraig team, this exceptional animal is sired by Nucamp of Balgray and out of Blackcraig Libby Z809. She was purchased by returning customer Catherine MacGregor, the renowned photographer from Stirling.

Show judge George Irving praised the overall standard: "The quality was exceptional throughout, with outstanding character, top lines, and good locomotion on display."



Receiving the McIntosh Trophy for young handler was Ramsay McKinnel.

**Other leading prices** - Blackcraig Fencer achieved 14,000gns. Bred and exhibited by the Blackcraig team, this October 2023-born bull is sired by Dava Donald and out of Blackcraig Joan X651, a daughter of Blackcraig Vagabond. He was sold to the Maxwell Family of Jaw, Fintry, Glasgow.

Also reaching a five-figure sum was Haaland of Fingland, consigned by Jimmy Wallace and Family, Fingland, Dalry, Castle Douglas. This 20-month-old bull is by Warhorse of Fingland and out of Urma 12th of Fingland, herself a daughter of Ulysses of Over Barskeoch. He was purchased for 10,000gns by IHG Warden, Skelfhill, Hawick.



## Averages

24 bulls sold to average £6822.81 (+ £1314.68) 66% clearance

10 Bulling heifers sold to average £3339.00 (+£1573.09)

8 heifers ran with bull sold to average £2310.00 (-£1145.45)

18 heifers sold – 88% clearance.

## CARLISLE SHOW AND SALE - JUDGE:- MR ROSS BELL, THE BLOCH, LANGHOLM

One of the strongest shows in recent history delivered a 100% clearance rate, increased averages across all sections, and a new female centre record.

A remarkable achievement for Robert McTurk, Barlaes, Dalry, Castle Douglas, as he claims his fourth consecutive championship at Harrison and Hetherington's Spring Show and Sale. His exceptional in-calf heifer, Barlaes Katie 110th, has not only secured the Female & Overall Championship award but also set a new top price, marking another centre record and a personal best for the Barlaes team. The sole entry from the Society's Vice Chairman, Mr. McTurk, this 26-month-old Buccleuch Buster daughter is out of Barlaes Katie 98th, a daughter of Troloss Magnum. A firm favourite, she sold in calf to Kypehill Dutton to Messrs J. Robertson & Son, The Becks, Langholm, for 4,500gns.

The Overall Reserve Champion was Umpire of Balgray from D & R Cornthwaite, Balgray, Lockerbie. This September 2023-born son of Blackcraig Kodiak achieved a final bid of 2,500gns, selling to Brian Ross, Mid Gruinards, Sutherland. Mr. Ross also purchased the Reserve Male – Borgue Espresso Martini from Mr. & Mrs. W. McCarthy, Cosy Cottage, Borgue, Kirkcudbrightshire. A Blackcraig Drambuie son out of Barquhill Moss Rose 1096, a Troloss Ring Pull daughter, this September 2023-born sold for 2,400gns.

The Reserve Female Champion, Cardona Georgie 483, was from Perthshire-based Robbie Galloway, Cardona, Doune. This 22-month-old daughter of Kirkstead Commodore, out of Klondyke Mary, a Kirkstead Taurus daughter, achieved a final price of 1,800gns, selling to Mr. H.L. Whitfield & Son, Batey Shield, Kellah, Haltwhistle, Northumberland.



## AVERAGES

4 BULLS £2756.25 (+ £1338.75) FOR 2 MORE SOLD.

12 HEIFERS IN MILK/IN CALF £2173.30 (+£924.55) FOR 2 LESS SOLD.

22 BULLING HEIFERS £1823.17 (+ £381.45) FOR 9 MORE SOLD.

100% CLEARANCE.





# 2025 ON FARM HERD OF THE YEAR COMPETITION.

## 2025 ON FARM HERD OF THE YEAR COMPETITION

CELEBRATE YOUR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION TO THE  
GALLOWAY BREED BY COMPETING FOR THESE TOP HONOURS.  
MORE DETAILS ON OUR SOCIALS AND WEB SITE.



### REGIONS:

- IRELAND • SCOTLAND, NORTH EAST & CUMBRIA • REST OF ENGLAND & WALES



### HERD CATEGORIES:

- SMALL HERDS: • MEDIUM HERDS: • LARGE HERDS:



### SPECIAL PRIZES:

- BEST STOCK BULL • BEST COW WITH CALF
- BEST GROUP OF BULLING HEIFERS • BEST BULL CALF (12-18 MONTHS)
- BEST HEIFER CALF (12-18 MONTHS)



ARE YOU PROUD OF YOUR GALLOWAY HERD? IT'S TIME TO SHINE! THE  
2025 GALLOWAY

HERD COMPETITION IS OPEN TO BREEDERS ACROSS IRELAND,  
SCOTLAND, NORTH EAST &  
CUMBRIA, AND THE REST OF ENGLAND & WALES. THIS IS YOUR CHANCE  
TO SHOWCASE  
THE STRENGTH, QUALITY, AND DIVERSITY OF YOUR HERD WHILE  
COMPETING FOR  
PRESTIGIOUS PRIZES IN AN EXCITING REGIONAL CONTEST.

THIS COMPETITION WILL LAUNCH AT THE ROYAL HIGHLAND SHOW,  
WITH MORE DETAILS AVAILABLE ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE  
AFTER JUNE, WITH JUDGING AT THE END OF SUMMER.





## AGM

Notice is hereby given that the Hybrid Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held in the Board Room, Harrison and Hetherington Ltd, Carlisle on Friday 30th May, 2025 commencing at 1.30pm. Full details are on our Web Site or please contact the office to request a paper copy.

### AGM Business

- 1 To receive apologies.
- 2 To approve Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024.
- 3 To receive and adopt the Report of the Trustees
- 4 To receive and adopt the Report of the Auditors and the Financial Statement for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024
- 5 Appointment of office bearers - Honorary President and Honorary Patrons are fixed for a period of five years - 2023 to 2027
- 6 To re-appoint the Auditors and authorise the Trustees to fix their remuneration.
- 7 Any other competent business.

The Society's Annual Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2024 are now available for download from our website. If you would prefer to receive a paper copy, please contact the office and we'll be happy to send one to you.

Please note, this will be a hybrid meeting, allowing you to attend either in person or via Zoom.

If you plan to join the meeting online, kindly register with the office in advance so that we can email your Zoom invitation.



## Show Grants



With a busy calendar of local and national shows ahead, the Finance Committee remains committed to supporting our exhibitors. We're pleased to announce that show grants have been approved for two of the UK's flagship events — the Royal Highland Show and the Great Yorkshire Show. Exhibitors will now receive £100 per animal, for up to three animals per exhibitor, effectively doubling the previous grant amount.

In addition, the Trustees are delighted to extend support to an Irish show through the show grant programme. The chosen Irish show for 2025 is Plumbridge Show — more details to follow.

The Society is pleased to offer show grants to members exhibiting at the following events:

**Plumbridge Show, Livescot, and English Winter Fair:**

£50 per animal, up to a maximum of £150 per exhibitor.

**Royal Highland Show and Great Yorkshire Show:**

£100 per animal, up to a maximum of £300 per exhibitor.

A £250 prize will be awarded if a Galloway wins the Overall Native Championship at either Livescot or the English Winter Fair.

Members travelling more than 250 miles (one way) to attend a show are also eligible for a £50 travel grant. Please contact the office to submit your claim.

All show grants will be credited to members' accounts, and a credit note will be issued unless an alternative arrangement is requested.

## 2025 Herd of the Year Competition

Don't forget to participate in the 2025 Herd of the Year competition! Please make sure to submit your show results to the office. Even if there isn't a dedicated Galloway section at your show, points will still be awarded for placings in the Any Other Breed category. Points are awarded for 1st to 5th place, along with Champion and Reserve Champion titles.

We'd love to include your successes in the next Journal, so please also send us any photos you may have from the shows!

A special thank you goes to David and Debs Heath for once again sponsoring the £100 New Exhibitors Award. This prize will be awarded to the new exhibitor (i.e., someone who hasn't shown at the past three shows) who earns the most points at both the Royal Highland and Great Yorkshire Shows.



# Summer Events



**Balmoral Show - 14th to 17th May-** exhibition stand - please visit the stand to inquire more about the breed and tea/coffee and cake, stand hosted by the Irish Club

**Ballymoney Show - 7th June -** Stand hosted by the Irish Club

**Royal Highland Show - 19th June to 22nd June,** exhibition stand - An ideal place to watch the Galloway judging, please visit the stand to inquire more about the breed and tea/coffee and cake. Free admission ticket for anyone who would like to help on the stand, please contact the office.

Judge - Mr Stewart McIntosh, Hawick.

**NEW FOR 2025 - HEIFER CLASS SPLIT.**



**Tavistock Sale - Tuesday, 1st July.**

**Great Yorkshire Show - 8th to 11th July - Breed Society "Office",** hosted by David and Debs Heath.

Judge - Mr John Tullie, Hawick.

**Dumfries Show - 2nd August -** exhibition stand - please visit the stand for tea/coffee and cake, hosted by David and Debs Heath.



**Plumbridge Show - Saturday 2nd August -** Stand hosted by the Irish Club

**Ballymena Show and Sale - Friday, 5th September -** Stay tuned to our website and social media for more details closer to the date.

**NEXT Event - Balmoral Show 14th to 17th May**



# 2027 WORLD CONGRESS AND 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS



## 2027 Galloway World Congress August 2027



As the 2025 Galloway World Congress in New Zealand came to a close last month, the baton was officially passed to Great Britain & Ireland to host the 2027 event. Joint Chairmen David Heath and John Smyth, alongside committee members Judith Cowie, Debs Heath, Dessy Hendry, and Adam Lawson, are working diligently to finalize an exciting and engaging program.

The 2027 Congress promises to be a landmark event, celebrating the rich heritage, adaptability, and future potential of Galloway cattle. Attendees can look forward to farm visits, expert industry insights, and valuable networking opportunities with breeders and enthusiasts from around the world.

With planning well underway, the committee is dedicated to delivering an unforgettable experience that highlights the breed's significance in modern agriculture. Further details on dates, venues, and registration will be announced soon. Stay connected via our website and social media channels for the latest updates.



## 2027 - 150 YEARS OF GALLOWAYS



150 Years of Galloway Excellence: A Landmark Celebration

In 2027, the Galloway breed will celebrate its 150th anniversary, marking a legacy of excellence, resilience, and innovation. To honour this historic milestone, breeders, enthusiasts, and industry leaders will come together for a series of special events, reflecting on the breed's rich heritage, celebrating its past and present successes, and looking ahead to an exciting future.

Carolyn Logan has been appointed Chairperson to lead the 150th-anniversary celebrations, working alongside a dedicated committee to bring the event to life. For more information or suggestions, please contact Carolyn or the Secretary. If you have any memorable moments or memorabilia you'd like to share, we would love to hear from you.

### EXCITING NEWS FOR THE 2025 ROYAL HIGHLAND SHOW!

THE GALLOWAY CATTLE SOCIETY IS DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE A KEY UPDATE— THE HIGHLY COMPETITIVE TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFER CLASS HAS NOW BEEN SPLIT INTO TWO SEPARATE CLASSES! THIS ENSURES A FAIRER COMPETITION FOR ALL EXHIBITORS AND ENCOURAGES EVEN MORE TOP-QUALITY GALLOWAYS TO STEP INTO THE RING.

**JUDGING DATE: THURSDAY, 19TH JUNE 2025, AT 2:00 PM**

**JUDGE: MR. STEWART MCINTOSH, ROBERTON, HAWICK**

SOCIETY GRANT: £100 PER ANIMAL FORWARD FOR JUDGING (MAX. 3 PER EXHIBITOR)

CLASSES:

219 - FEMALE, BORN ON OR AFTER 1ST JAN 2024

220 - FEMALE, BORN BETWEEN 1ST SEPT - 31ST DEC 2023

221A - FEMALE, BORN BETWEEN 1ST SEPT - 31ST DEC 2022

221B - FEMALE, BORN BETWEEN 1ST JAN - 31ST AUG 2023

222 - FEMALE, IN MILK, BORN BEFORE 1ST SEPT 2022

223 - BULL, BORN ON OR AFTER 1ST JAN 2023

224 - BULL, BORN ON OR BEFORE 31ST DEC 2022





# Grassroots - Online registering.

**Grassroots**  
PEDIGREE SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS

## REGISTERING CALVES

**Grassroots**  
PEDIGREE SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS

### FOUR WAYS TO LOG YOUR GALLOWAY CALVES:

THERE ARE NOW FOUR WAYS TO REGISTER YOUR CALVES WITH THE BREED SOCIETY, AND WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO DO SO AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE TO AVOID ANY ADDITIONAL CHARGES. ONCE CALVES ARE IN THE SYSTEM OTHER MEMBERS CAN SEE WHAT STOCK YOU HAVE, YOU CAN FLAG THEM AS AVAILABLE FOR SALE, ENTER THEM INTO SOCIETY SALES AND UPDATE THEM TO NOTIFIED OR REGISTERED AS AND WHEN REQUIRED.

### UPLOAD A SPREAD SHEET INTO GRASSROOTS:

IF YOU HAVE AN ON FARM COMPUTER SYSTEM AND CAN PRODUCE A SPREAD SHEET OF YOUR CALVES, OR YOU RECORD YOUR BIRTHS IN A SPREAD SHEET, YOU CAN UPLOAD THAT SPREAD SHEET DIRECTLY INTO GRASSROOTS.

THE SPREAD SHEET MUST :

- HAVE JUST ONE TAB
- THE FIRST ROW MUST BE THE COLUMN HEADINGS
- ONE CALF PER ROW
- EACH CALF SHOULD HAVE A FULL EID TAG NUMBER (E.G. UK123456-123456)
- SIRE AND DAM MUST BE IDENTIFIED WITH EITHER THEIR FULL EID TAG NUMBER OR THE REGISTRATION NUMBER.
- COLOURS: BLACK, DUN, RED OR BLUEGREY (FOR CROSSES)

LOG INTO THE GRASSROOTS ONLINE REGISTRY, CLICK ON THE MENU ICON (TOP RIGHT), SELECT BIRTHS, CLICK ON THE IMPORT BUTTON (TOP RIGHT). THERE ARE DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS ON THE SCREEN.

### LOG THEM INTO THE GRASSROOTS:

LOG INTO THE GRASSROOTS ONLINE REGISTRY, CLICK ON THE MENU ICON (TOP RIGHT)  
SELECT BIRTHS

LOG EACH 'LITTER' WITH THE DETAILS OF THE SIRE AND DAM, DATE OF BIRTH, NUMBER BORN AND NUMBER TO BE LOGGED TODAY, CLICK ON NEXT

ADD THE DETAILS OF THE CALVES. THE SYSTEM WILL ALREADY KNOW, AND WILL OFFER:

- THE FIRST PART OF YOUR EID TAG - JUST TYPE THE LAST 6 DIGITS
- YOUR HERD PREFIX - JUST TYPE THE INDIVIDUAL NAME IF REQUIRED.

SELECT THE APPLICATION TYPE REQUIRED; NOTIFIED OR FULLY REGISTERED.

SUBMIT THE APPLICATION TO THE BREED SOCIETY. IF THERE ARE FEES TO PAY YOU WILL THEN BE TAKEN TO THE SHOPPING BASKET TO PAY. FAILURE TO PAY WILL NOT CANCEL THE SUBMISSION.

### LOG THEM USING THE GRASSROOTS MOBILE APP:

THE MOBILE APP CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM THE APPLE APPSTORE OR THE GOOGLE PLAYSTORE ONTO YOUR PHONE. SEARCH FOR GRASSROOTS SYSTEMS.

YOU SET UP YOUR OWN USER NAME AND PASSWORD. THE FIRST MONTH IS FREE OF CHARGE, SO PLEASE DO GIVE IT A GO. YOU MUST DECIDE IF YOU WANT TO SUBSEQUENTLY PAY MONTHLY (£1.99) OR ANNUALLY (£14.99). PROVIDED YOU CANCEL BEFORE THE END OF THE FIRST MONTH, NO FEES WILL BE COLLECTED. YOU CAN SYNC THE APP WITH THE GRASSROOTS BREEDS YOU KEEP. IT DOWNLOADS DETAILS OF ALL THE ANIMALS IN YOUR REGISTERED OWNERSHIP, WITH THEIR ANCESTORS, ONTO YOUR PHONE. YOU CAN SEE AND INTERACT WITH ALL THEIR DETAILS ON THE PHONE, EVEN IF YOU HAVE NO INTERNET OR MOBILE SIGNAL.

YOU CAN LOG BIRTHS, DEATHS, TRANSFERS AND FLAG ANIMALS FOR SALE, ALL OF WHICH WILL GO TO THE ONLINE REGISTRY THE NEXT TIME YOU DO HAVE SIGNAL. YOU CAN KEEP 'NOTES' LOCALLY ABOUT INDIVIDUAL ANIMALS OR GROUPS OF ANIMALS.

FINALLY, YOU CAN LINK IMAGES TO ANIMAL RECORDS. THESE MIGHT BE 'PRIVATE' FOR YOUR OWN INFORMATION, OR MADE 'PUBLIC' SO THAT THEY APPEAR IN THE FARMERS ONLINE REGISTRY FOR ANY MEMBER TO SEE. THIS IS PARTICULARLY USEFUL WHEN FLAGGING ANIMALS FOR SALE.

### PAPER APPLICATIONS:

FINALLY IT IS STILL POSSIBLE TO SEND PAPER APPLICATIONS BY POST. HOWEVER, THIS REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT COST TO THE SOCIETY IN SECRETARIAL TIME. WE WOULD ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO HAVE A GO AT ONE OF THE ELECTRONIC OPTIONS AVAILABLE, IF THEY CAN.



## BREED SOCIETY JOURNAL, OVERSEAS MEMBERS

**DUE TO THE RISING COSTS OF MAILING OUR JOURNAL TO OVERSEAS MEMBERS, WE WILL NOW PROVIDE DIGITAL COPIES VIA WETRANSFER. PLEASE ENSURE THE SOCIETY HAS YOUR MOST UP-TO-DATE EMAIL ADDRESS. IF THIS IS NOT SUITABLE, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE.**



**Please do keep in touch, let us know if you have any news to share and keep an eye on the Galloway Cattle Society Facebook or Instagram pages and the Galloway Beef Facebook page. Please like and share the posts, to ensure everyone continues to see our posts. A reminder too that we are happy to post out or e transfer Journals to anyone interested in the breed, if you'd like a copy do let us know. Also please ensure we have your newest email address, please email to the address below.**

**I look forward to hearing from you either by email - [info@gallowaycattlesociety.co.uk](mailto:info@gallowaycattlesociety.co.uk) , landline 01556 502753, mobile 07760623985 or by Facebook messenger.**

