

MIDLAND DEXTER GROUP

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Newsletter Autumn 2011

Visit to Sollershope Herd

On Sunday 24 July 2011, members travelled to Herefordshire to visit Jackie Limb and the Sollershope Herd. Following the business side of the day, we all enjoyed the usual hearty lunch and (*I'm sure one day we'll all bring the same food!*) then Jackie talked to members about her successful ready-made 'Moor Meals' using Dexter beef which certainly gave members food for thought, and prompted many questions. We were then taken on a guided tour around the Sollershope cattle in their different groups from cows with calves at foot, through to finished steers and the weather was perfect. Jackie has worked hard to build up her business and we wish her every success for the future. Thank you Jackie for a really lovely day and it was great to see some of your older Sollershope girls (and it's great to have you back as a member).

Young Stock Show (results page 3)

The Midland Dexter Group held their Young Stock Show on Sunday 21 August 2011 at Stratford upon Avon Livestock Centre. The event was previously called the Calf Show, but to encourage more entries it was changed to the Young Stock Show and attracted 24 entries from 7 group members. The event included two classes for non-halter trained Dexters, and also a Dexter themed photographic competition, won by Shelagh Davies with a photograph entitled 'Before the Storm'. Shelagh is our furthest member living in Knighton, Powys and supports virtually every meeting / event and this time was unable to bring her cattle, so it was great to see her win the photographic competition.

It was a very successful day and thanks are due to the Gardner family – Abbie Gardner and Les Digweed who organised the show, sister Amy for her good work with passports. Also Pete and Jane Gardner for supporting their family, distributing breakfast vouchers, ensuring the right cups were awarded, other admin 'stuff' and even providing a basket of fruit and vegetables which, if I remember rightly, Mike and Sue Bancroft were presented with.

Many thanks also to Judy Lewis, 2010/2011 DCS President, who travelled many miles from her home in Newcastle Emlyn, Ceredigion. Judy was an extremely thorough, patient and excellent judge. Abbie presented Judy with a beautiful bouquet of flowers at the end of showing.

Without members entering their cattle this event would not take place, so a big thank you to all who entered and those members who travelled to Stratford to support their friends.

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Autumn Social – Saturday 29 October 2011, 7pm for 7.30pm

- ❖ You are all invited to **The New Inn, Main Street, Willersey, Broadway WR12 7PJ**
- ❖ Skittles evening £7.95 to include bar meal with a choice of chicken, sausage, scampi and vegetarian option, served with chips. Choices to be made on the night.
- ❖ Please let Alison know if you are coming. E-mail: alison.kirk852@btinternet.com Tel: 01608 674099

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***** FOR YOUR DIARY *****

Linear Assessment Day – Sunday 20 November 2011

Stratford Livestock Centre has been booked for this event. For the time being, please bear this date in mind and within the next two weeks Mike Bancroft will get further details to you. Applications for the event are being managed by the DCS Office, so may I ask that you please wait until you have received the paperwork from Mike.

February 2012 Meeting

Sunday 5 February 2012 at Hatton Village Hall, near Warwick. Further details next Newsletter.

***** FOR YOUR DIARY *****

Group Website

We do need to have more input into the website. Ben does need more info and pictures to make the website more attractive. Perhaps a few herd profiles, good news stories, plus pictures if possible, please. *I'm asking you to provide this info and I have yet to submit Boram herd profile and must make more of an effort myself!* We are all very busy people, but let's give Ben a helping hand to improve the website. Many thanks.

Best wishes to the Lancaster family, especially Gill who has been very poorly this year and was in hospital for several weeks.

Best wishes also to Mike and Sue Bancroft. Sue has managed to fracture her ankle and won't be mobile for about twelve weeks.

We look forward to seeing both families at the Skittles Evening on Saturday 29 October.

Best wishes

Alison

Secretary
Midland Dexter Group

Page 2 of 3

RESULTS OF YOUNG STOCK SHOW
Sunday 21st August 2011
Judge: Judy Lewis (President DCS 2010/2011)

Class 1: Calf under 9 months (Kindly sponsored by Vale Garden Centre)		
1 st	Frith Sassafras	Steve & Sally Poole
2 nd	Linford Sparrow Hawk	Mark Bowles
3 rd	Frith Hella	Steve & Sally Poole
4 th	Tooloos Dandy Lion	Abbie Gardner & Les Digweed
5 th	Tooloos Pollyanthus	Abbie Gardner & Les Digweed
6 th	Wolds Bluebell	Andy White

Class 2: Calf 9 to 15 months (Kindly sponsored by Galehill Herd (Chris Nightingale))		
1 st	Linford Holly	Mark Bowles
2 nd	Tooloos Calla Lilly	Abbie Gardner & Les Digweed
3 rd	Gaveston Margaret	David Williams
Class 3: Female over 15 months not having calved (Kindly sponsored by Churchill B&B, Chipping Campden)		
1 st	Frith Serenity * (<i>Champion</i>)	Steve & Sally Poole
2 nd	Boram Red Hopeful	Abbie Gardner & Les Digweed
3 rd	Gaveston Misty	David Williams
Class 4: Steer any age (7 entered) (Kindly sponsored by Gordon Taylor (Delrose Herd))		
1 st	Steer born 15.10.09	Mike & Sue Bancroft
2 nd	Steer born 24.09.10	Robert & Ann Williams
3 rd	Steer born 20.02.10	Mike & Sue Bancroft
4 th	'Gilbert' born 17.11.10	Steve & Sally Poole
Class 5: Non-halter trained under 9 months (Kindly sponsored by Finwood Herd (Robert & Ann Williams))		
1 st	Moonshine Evette	Mike & Sue Bancroft
2 nd	Moonshine Rain	Mike & Sue Bancroft
3 rd	Waterloo Boxy	Wheeler Family
Class 6: Non-halter trained 9 to 15 months (Kindly sponsored by Moonshine Herd (Mike & Sue Bancroft))		
1 st	Moonshine Ceder * (<i>Reserve</i>)	Mike & Sue Bancroft
2 nd	Finwood Citrine	Robert & Ann Williams
3 rd	Waterloo Morris	Wheeler Family
Class 7: Photographic Competition (Dexter related)		
1 st	Shelagh Davies	'Before the Storm'
2 nd	Robert & Ann Williams	'Home Coming'
3 rd	Robert & Ann Williams	'Spring Fever'
CHAMPIONSHIP		
Champion	Frith Serenity (bn: 10.03.09)	Steve & Sally Poole
Reserve	Moonshine Ceder (bn: 06.03.09)	Mike & Sue Bancroft