

MIDLAND DEXTER GROUP

Secretary: Ann Williams
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NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2009

February Meeting: A turnout of 20 or so members enjoyed a lively and informative meeting. The speaker, David Hendy gave an indepth understanding of cattle nutrition and economical use of available fodder. Several members made valuable contributions based on their own experiences. It was interesting to hear about regimes which related to cattle wintered indoors and those left out all year round.

Thank you to Ann and Roger for organising the event.

The Calf Competition 2009: This is scheduled to take place on 16 August at Stratford Market.

The proposed classes are

- (i) Under 9 months
- (ii) 9-15 months
- (iii) Store steer
- (iv) Finished steer

There will also be a handler's competition for Best Turnout.

The closing date for entries will be end of July. Final details and entry forms will be sent out later.

Evesham Show Sunday 13 September: The Evesham show including the Midland Dexter Group Class is set to go ahead as usual. If you haven't attended before, Pete Lancaster recommends it as a very friendly, enjoyable show for seasoned exhibitors and an ideal first outing for anyone new to showing. Those interested should contact Pete for details.

Autumn Events: We have nothing planned yet for the Autumn so please come along to the AGM with ideas and hopefully suggestions for venues or offers to host visits or workshops.

Silver Jubilee River Cruise: The committee have looked into the suggestions offered at the February meeting and think that "The Countess of Evesham" offers the best option. See enclosed leaflet for details or visit their website www.countessofevesham.mistral.co.uk and look at option C.

As the meal does not include entertainment we are looking for ideas e.g. for a light-hearted after-dinner speaker.

Midland Dexter Group Subscriptions: Due 5 APRIL. It is important that they are paid by 30 APRIL at the latest to ensure that you are included on the list of members for mailing of MDG information.

The committee recommends that membership rates remain unchanged for this year.

£10 Family / £7.50 Individual / £5 Junior member

If you are unable to be at the AGM, please send your payment to :

**Pete Lancaster, Church Farm, Church Lane, South Littleton, Worcs.
WR11 8TJ**

Next Meeting Group AGM 10.30am, Sunday 5 April

Hosted by Rob & Alison Kirk at the Village Hall, Barton on the Heath, near Moreton in Marsh GL56 0PJ

After the meeting there will be an opportunity to see the Boram Herd and hear an update from Rob and Alison on the progress of their store cattle which are being fed on big bale silage made from a red clover/ryegrass based four year ley with the aim of increasing beef sold per animal by at least 5%. The figures for animals sold since January this year will be available and are very encouraging.

Lunch arrangements: Please bring a contribution for the buffet

DIRECTIONS: From Moreton in Marsh – Take the A44 towards Chipping Norton/Oxford. Continue for approx four miles & take the 2nd turning on the left towards Barton/Long Compton. Continue into the village where Dexter signs will direct members to parking / village hall (which is the far side of the small village green).

From Warwick/Stratford - At Tredington roundabout on the A429 take the A3400 to Shipston/Chipping Norton. Continue through Shipston & at Long Compton take the right turn to Barton on the Heath & after approx ½ mile turn left & continue into Barton on the Heath village.

Best Wishes,

Ann