

STELLAR TRADE AT THE STARDALE SALE
20,000 GUINEAS TOP AND 300 ANIMALS AVG OVER £3,200 PER HEAD

There was universal admiration from the large crowd present at Tunsteads Farm, Barton, Preston for the sale of virtually the entire milking portion together with heifer calves from Messrs Burrow's highly acclaimed Stardale herd. This was hardly surprising given that the herd had finished runner up in the Holstein UK Premier Pedigree Herd Competition last year, and the quality of the animals on offer provoked fast and furious bidding from the very beginning to the end of the sale from breeders throughout the UK from Scotland to West Wales, Cornwall, Bedfordshire, Leicestershire, Yorkshire, both Northern and Southern Ireland and all points in between, together with a very strong contingent of Lancastrian and Cumbrian buyers.

61 animals made 4,000 guineas plus with 23 of them at 5,000gs or more. Top price of the day was 20,000gs or the outstanding fifth calver Stardale Altaiota Vaakje (Ex-95-3), who was the 14th generation of Excellent cows in a row from the amazing Vaakje family, that has to date produced over 600 Excellent cows with the Stardale prefix. The purchaser was James McNeil of Cairnpat Holsteins, Stranraer, who is no stranger to bidding for quality cattle at the highest level, but had to overcome some severe Northern Irish opposition before securing this outstanding individual. Her Excellent Crackshot daughter made 5,600gs to Messrs Gordon of the Annalong herd in Co.Down.

Mr McNeil was in again at 12,000gs for the much admired Stardale Atwood Roxy (VG-87), a second calf granddaughter of the great Willsbro Shottle Roxy 3 (Ex-96), still grazing the pastures at Tunsteads Farm, having given over 150 tonnes of milk and bred numerous Ex & VG daughters, Her own dam Stardale Leader Roxy was purchased by Wills Bros in the last Stardale sale in 2006 and also became a phenomenal brood cow. He topped off his day's trading with another Excellent Vaakje by Applejax at 6,000gs.

Millar Farms, were among the day's most determined bidders, buying 19 head for their Glenleary herd in Coleraine, Co Londonderry and had to go to 11,500gs to buy a super heifer in Stardale Altalawson Vaakje (VG-87 2yr), who is putting up a very useful first calf yield and is due again in September to Stantons Adorable. They also bought a number of the higher priced milkers including the fourth calver Stardale Dreamer Elegance (Ex-90) at 6,200gs.

A super red cow Stardale Kimball Jodie (Ex-91) drew many admirers and was bought by W.S.Richards to join the Larks herd in Mid Glamorgan. Messrs Rees & Son of the Anvil herd, Aberystwyth, are always admirers of the best young cows and heifers in these best sales and bought four quality animals to a top of 8,200gs for Stardale Allclass Meg (VG-85 2yr).

Biggest volume buyers were Wills Bros Ltd of the famous Willsbro herd in Cornwall who were prolific buyers in the 2006 sale. This time they purchased 50 milkers, to a top of 7,200gs for a Darlingo heifer from the Adeen family. The Adeens were highly popular and 12 milkers avgd £4,865.

The 90 calves were a sparkling trade with all but one at four figures and averaging just short of £2,000 per head, to a top of 4,200gs from E, Taylor, Co Londonderry for an Excalibur daughter of the 12,000 guinea Roxy. Geoff Lewis bidding on Marteye, purchased 3 super calves, 2 Vaakjes for 3,400 and 3,100 and an Adeen for 2,700gs to join his St Brides herd at Pearson Farm, Haverfordwest.

All in all, a tremendous display of Holsteins from one of the country's very best herds, with a catalogue full of pedigrees hard to match anywhere. Wendy Young and her Clippaholics team once again made sure everything ran like clockwork and James and Krisha Burrow are to be congratulated on the condition and quality of both cows and calves. We wish them and their family every success in rebuilding the herd, which they will soon do with many heifers to calve over the next eighteen months.

TOP PRICES			
COWS & CALVED HEIFERS			
21	S. Altaiota Vaakje (Ex-95-3)	R.McNeil Ltd (Cairnpat)	20,000
60	S. Atwood Roxy (VG-87)	R.McNeil Ltd (Cairnpat)	12,000
182	S. Altalawson Vaakje (VG-87 2yr)	Millar Farms (Glenleary)	11,500
123	S. Kimball Jodie (Ex-91)	W.S.Richards (Larks)	9,000
227	S. Allclass Meg (VG-85 2yr)	L.E & P.M.Rees & Son (Anvil)	8,200
94	S. Darlingo Adeen (VG-85 2yr)	Wills Bros Ltd (Willsbro)	7,200
121	S. Lawson Vaakje 4 (VG-85 2yr)	C.J.Watt (Mountainview)	6,600
187	S. Rager Vaakje Red 2 (GP-84 2yr)	B & G.Donald (Linglane)	6,400
101	Wiltor Modesty Cosmopolitan 2 ET (Ex-90)	Wills Bros Ltd (Willsbro)	6,200
103	S. Dreamer Elegance (Ex-90)	Millar Farms (Glenleary)	6,200
114	S. Applejax Vaakje (Ex-90)	A.L.Moore & Partners (Danevalley)	6,000
154	S. Rambo Roxy (VG-85 2yr)	A.L.Moore & Partners (Danevalley)	6,000
93	S. Impression Adeen (VG-85 2yr)	T.M.Townley (Knowsley)	5,800
22	S. Crackshot Vaakje 2 (Ex-90)	C.Gordon & Son (Annalong)	5,600
82	S. Quantum Vaakje 2 (VG-88)	Millar Farms (Glenleary)	5,600
89	S. Unix Adeen 3 (VG-88)	E & C.Thomas (Gatrog)	5,600
100	S. Challenger Adeen (GP-84 2yr)	C. Creith	5,500
105	S. Pepper Elegance (VG-86 2yr)	A.L.Moore & Partners (Danevalley)	5,500
90	S. Allclass Adeen (VG-87 2yr)	Millar Farms (Glenleary)	5,200
102	S. Doppler Elegance (VG-87 2yr)	Wills Bros Ltd (Willsbro)	5,200
24	S. Casper Vaakje (VG-85)	R & R.A.Jones (Garthmyl)	5,000
83	S. Jedi Vaakje ET (VG-87)	L.E & P.M.Rees & Son (Anvil)	5,000
96	S. Altahotjob Adeen (VG-86 2yr)	K.R.Lowry (Halen)	5,000
2	S. Alta1stclass Stella (Ex-91-2)	J.F.Corfield (Parkdale)	4,800
132	S. Rager Honeybee Red (VG-85 2yr)	R.M.Lucas (Meinspride)	4,800
142	S. Pharo Vaakje 3 (VG-85)	A. Lawrie (Grangehall)	4,800
161	S. Alltime Roxy (GP-83 2yr)	J.F.Corfield (Parkdale)	4,800
175	S. Gras Stella 3 (Ex-93-2)	P.J.Waring & Son (Winton)	4,800
207	S. Dynamo Vaakje 3 (VG-86 2yr)	E. Taylor (Letterloan)	4,800
29	S. Altaspring Vaakje 3 (Ex-90)	Millar Farms (Glenleary)	4,700
71	S. Crackshot Millie 2 (Ex-92)	Millar Farms (Glenleary)	4,600
81	S. Unix Vaakje 7 (VG-87)	J.Allen	4,600
97	S. Unicorn Adeen (VG-88)	Messrs Hastwell (Belahvalley)	4,600
153	S. Unix Roxy (VG-87)	Wills Bros Ltd (Willsbro)	4,600
158	S. Darlingo Roxy (VG-85 2yr)	J.Allen	4,600
184	S. Skywalker Vaakje 3 (VG-86 2yr)	A.P.Porter (Drumport)	4,600
192	S. Rogue Stella 2 (VG-86 2yr)	A.P.Porter (Drumport)	4,600
221	S. Hotjob Vaakje 4	Wills Bros Ltd (Willsbro)	4,600
1	S. Applejax Stella (Ex-91)	J.Allen	4,500
203	S. Delta Caye (VG-86 2yr)	J.F.Corfield (Parkdale)	4,500

HEIFER CALVES			
60A	S. Excalibur Roxy 4	E. Taylor (Letterloan)	4,200
142A	S. Atrium Vaakje 2	Lewis Pearson Ltd (St Brides)	3,400
82A	S. Lighthouse Vaakje 4	Lewis Pearson Ltd (St Brides)	3,100
121A	S. Eifle Vaakje 7	R.D.Fleming (Hillhead)	3,000
143A	S. Rubicon Vaakje 3	N.J & P.Morton (Ballyhoy)	2,900
31A	S. Rubicon Vaakje 7	Lee Bros (Carneyhill)	2,800
1A	S. Lighthouse Stella	S. Forshaw & Sons (Longshaw)	2,700
99A	S. Applejax Adeen	Lewis Pearson Ltd (St Brides)	2,700
97A	S. Einstein Adeen	J.Pirie & Sons (Killearn)	2,600
103A	S. Rashan Elegance	J.Morton (Maghery)	2,600
41A	S. Lighthouse Roxy	T.F & G.L.Pollock	2,500
53A	S. Rubels Meg Red	B.W.Robinson (Hillrobin)	2,500
106A	S. Remedy Elegance	N. Willis (Conncorr)	2,500
156A	S. Rubicon Roxy 5	A.Neill (Brackagh)	2,500
165A	S. Einstein Madrigal	Lee Bros (Carneyhill)	2,500

There were 117 individual buyers and once again Marteye proved its worth with 20% sold on line, and 55% of the animals bid for through this medium. Over 11,000 people tuned into the live stream during the course of the sale.

AVERAGES

218 cows & calved heifers £ 3,737-61

125 calves £ 1,967-00

308 head £ 3,220-23

Auctioneers: Norton & Brooksbank