

English Winter Fair 2021

20th & 21st November

“Superb Pedigree Limousin Heifer Woos The Crowd To a Top of £7,000 for this years’ English Winter Fair at Stafford”



After a break last year due to the pandemic, the English Winter Fair was back on the calendar for 2021. There was a great buzz around the buildings and also a strong trade in all sections including the Carcass section and Live Pigs.

Bagshaws were pleased to run the auction sales which brings the show to an end with some impressive results throughout.

Cattle Section – Auctioneer – Mark Elliott

In the live Cattle Section the Champion animal a superb Full Pedigree Registered Limousin Heifer from Di Thomas and his team of Llanwnnen, Lampeter topped the sale at £7,000 (£11.20/kg). This wonderfully presented animal was on its second visit to the Stafford showground for 2021 as she had taken Championship rosettes at the mid-season Staffordshire County Show. The successful purchasers and strong supporters of the Show were the Kitson family of Crathorne, North Yorkshire where Anthony Kitson and his sons Oliver and Henry run a thriving family business at their Five Houses Farm Shop along with a number of other outlets around Thirsk.

The Reserve Champion was another Limousin Heifer, “Smartie” consigned by Edwards Bros from Corwen, Denbighshire who have been wonderful supporters of the show for decades. She was purchased by the Sale Family of JS Quality Meats Ltd from Uttoxeter, Staffordshire for £3,200 (£5.04/kg).

Top call away from the Champion and Reserve was £4.78/kg (£2,844) for “Charlie” a crossbred Charolais Heifer weighting 595kg consigned by Jack Blackshaw and R Foster from Bakewell in Derbyshire and purchased by B & J Hodgson from Egremont in Cumbria. Overall, 28 cattle were offered for sale and the average for the Baby Beef was £4.50/kg (£1,691/head) The average for the non Baby Beef was £3.10/kg (£1,933/head).

Sheep Section – Auctioneer – Malcom Gale

50 forward for sale with spirited bidding and a full complement of buyers.

The Champion pair of lambs were consigned by R H Armstrong from Monkhide, Ledbury and this was their first time at the show. The Beltex Wether lambs average 48kg and sold at £600/per head each to the Judge, Matthew Prince from Highfield House at Stone Edge, Ashover, Derbyshire. The Reserve Champions consigned by R West from Stamford, Lincolnshire also Beltex Wether Lambs Which averaged 53kg were knocked down at £340 each £6.42/kg) to Peter Amor from Tamworth in Arden.

With all breeds included, the live lambs returned an average of £3.54/kg (154/head with Ewe Lambs well sought after.

Pig Section – Auctioneer – Oliver Hiles

40 live pigs forward this year met a strong trade with the Champion pair consigned from D Lightfoot of Nortpory Gloucestershire averaged 100kg each and realised £400 each (3.99/kg selling to Mr Lee Machin and Family of Manifold Valley Meats Ltd, Grindon, Staffordshire. The Reserve Champion was also from Lightfoot averaging 69kg and also selling to the Machin Family of Manifold Valley Meats Ltd for £230 each (£3.32/kg). Overall, the live pigs retained a very respectable £1.53/kg (£108/head).

Carcass Hall – Auctioneer – Peter Oven

In the Carcass Hall only four Beef Carcasses were available and they topped at £5.70/kg (£1,825) for the Champion R4L Steer from H Heath at Muggington, Derbyshire and selling to P Parkin Butchers Howden, East Yorkshire. The Reserve Champion was from E & V Tompkins of Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire being an O+4L Steer selling at £.05/kg (£1,544) to Perrys, of Eccleshall, Stafford. Overall, the Beef Carcasses averaged £5.13/kg (£1,668/head). 49 Lamb Carcasses were forward selling to a top of £12/kg (£371) for the Champion Lamb consigned from DS & LE Wadland of Aston le Walls Daventry and purchased by the Machin Family of Manifold Valley Meats Ltd. The Reserve Champion from the same home realised £11.50/kg (267) selling to Matthew Prince from Highfield House, Stone Edge.

Overall the Lamb Carcasses averaged £5.52/kg (£136/head).

13 Pig Carcasses topped at £4.40 (£388) for an 88kg carcass from RAO Johnson & E Hewitt from Breadsall, Derby and purchased by Manifold Valley Meats Ltd. The same buyer also purchased the Reserve Champion at £2.60/kg (£176) which had been consigned by W Berry from Bentley, Doncaster. Overall, the Pig Carcass averaged £2.37/kg (£145.50/head).

A good show of Turkeys in a difficult time for the poultry industry saw the Champion bird, a Hen from Long time supporters Messrs Beaman of Earlington weighing 10kg and selling at £200 to the Judge, P Maycock from Belper, Derbyshire. The overall average for those birds retained at £11.18/kg (£97/head).