



@CattleBreeders



#BCBC18

#### Main Sponsors



The 2018 British Cattle Breeders Conference will celebrate 70 years of BCBC and will be held at the Telford Hotel & Golf Resort in Shropshire from 22-24 January.

The conference will focus on **'Farming & Genetics – let's inspire the next generation'** and promises to be an informative, inspiring and celebratory occasion for beef and dairy cattle breeding.

#### Message from the BCBC Chairman, Andy Dodd

It is a huge honour and privilege to lead The British Cattle Breeders Club into this, its 70th anniversary year. Having been involved with the club since 2010, I have always found it to be a friendly and welcoming environment in which to meet new people and learn from some of the best in the industry, many of whom have now become good friends. Coming from a non-farming background, I am acutely aware of the challenges young people face in getting into the industry due to financial constraints and the perception of farm work and farming. I hope the speakers this year will challenge that perception and encourage both young and old to work together to drive the industry forward.

This programme has been put together to showcase the leading edge technologies our industry is developing to compete on a world stage, including genomics, gene editing and new breeding traits, several of which will be launched this year as the UK strives for the highest health and welfare standards in the beef and dairy industry. As in previous years, farmers will be key to the programme, outlining how



they are utilising this new found information to tailor their breeding decisions to fit farming system and contract requirements.

As always, we are indebted to all of our sponsors for their continued support of the club, I would also like to thank the club committee and especially Heidi, our club secretary for all the help and support given in putting this year's programme together. I look forward to welcoming you to Telford in January for our 70th anniversary celebrations.



## The Speakers & Conference Preview

### The British Cattle Breeders Conference 2018 – 70 years of BCBC

The British Cattle Breeders Conference is an annual event organised by the British Cattle Breeders Club every January. The programme aims to provide an informative and stimulating 2½ days of papers presented on both beef and dairy cattle breeding whilst giving delegates the unique opportunity to meet breeders, scientists and industry specialists in a warm and friendly environment.

The evening events give delegates the chance to

relax and network. Monday evening will begin with the Wine Reception kindly sponsored by Neogen Europe, followed by dinner in the restaurant and a Pub style quiz to finish the evening with quiz master Mark Roberts and a bottle of Champagne for the winners kindly donated by Shepherd Publishing.

Tuesday will be the Club's Annual dinner, and a celebration of 70 years of BCBC, starting with the Champagne Reception, followed by dinner.

Grateful thanks goes to all of our conference sponsors, the 2018 major sponsors are:



Day delegate prices start from £155. Membership of the club is not a requirement to attend, but a 20% discount on Conference registration fees is offered to members. The full programme and online booking is now available at [www.cattlebreeders.org.uk](http://www.cattlebreeders.org.uk)

Why not stay overnight at the hotel and enjoy the evening events provided and take advantage of the swimming pool and spa? Accommodation is limited and must be paid to the hotel on departure. All bookings can be made through the BCBC secretary, Heidi Bradbury at [heidi.bradbury@cattlebreeders.org.uk](mailto:heidi.bradbury@cattlebreeders.org.uk)

#### Chris Howarth of Afimilk:

"The year 2018 will be our third year of sponsorship of the British Cattle Breeders Club Conference," says Mr Howarth. "We chose to support the event because it attracts a high calibre of delegates and many key industry professionals. We are at the forefront of technological development and innovation and our presence at the British Cattle Conference allows us to reach our target audience."

Sponsorship opportunities are still available for the 2018 conference, please see the website or contact Heidi for further details.

#### Dairy Pro Members

The British Cattle Breeders Conference 2018 is registered with Dairy Pro, the industry's training and development scheme; Dairy Pro points can be gained through attending the conference, don't forget to collect your points from the BCBC reception desk or the Dairy Pro representative.



Heidi Bradbury

#### Secretary:

Heidi Bradbury:  
British Cattle Breeders Club  
Underhill Farm  
Glutton Bridge  
Earl Sterndale  
Buxton  
Derbyshire SK17 0RN  
Tel: 07966 032079  
email: [heidi.bradbury@cattlebreeders.org.uk](mailto:heidi.bradbury@cattlebreeders.org.uk)  
[www.cattlebreeders.org.uk](http://www.cattlebreeders.org.uk)

#### Public Relations

Wendy Short  
07803 372279  
[info@shortsassociates.co.uk](mailto:info@shortsassociates.co.uk)  
[www.wendy-short.co.uk](http://www.wendy-short.co.uk)

#### Published by:

Shepherd Publishing  
Burnt House Garden,  
North Common,  
North Chailey,  
East Sussex BN8 4DJ  
Tel: 01684 565533.  
Publisher: Howard Venters  
and Liz Venters  
Editors: Heidi Bradbury  
and Wendy Short



# Speakers and Conference Preview

The programme for the 70th Anniversary conference has been announced, here is a snapshot preview of just a few of our keynote speakers.



**Andrew Ward MBE**  
Working together for a secure future for UK agriculture

## Andrew Ward MBE

**Working together for a secure future for UK agriculture**

Andrew Ward farms 650ha of arable land near Leadenham, Lincolnshire and has close links with the industry, chairing the AHDB Recommended List oilseeds committee, as well as being a governor of Bishop Burton Agricultural College. He holds numerous other influential positions in agriculture and his farm has been selected as an Agrii ifarm trial site. Andrew's presentation will tell the story of how he became the founder of Forage Aid, a charity which supplies farmers with feed and bedding for their livestock, in times of crisis.

The wide variety of contacts which Andrew has made along the way meant that he was in an ideal position to spring into action, after witnessing the terrible conditions that livestock producers were facing, during the bad weather of 2013.

Andrew says: "I saw that sheep were dying in some areas and thought I could do something about it. I had my own straw, as well some hay and haylage that I had made for horses and other farmers also rallied to help out, with some also contributing concentrate feed. Within a very short time, we had pledges for many tonnes of donated forage and had persuaded hauliers to help us with transport; the response was tremendous.

"Forage Aid now has eight trustees, five of which are farmers. No money changes hands and we rely entirely on the goodwill of our volunteers. Farmers can be reticent, when it comes to asking for assistance, so our members also put us in touch with people who are in genuine need in situations which are beyond their control."



**Professor John Dupré**  
Ethical issues in genome editing for livestock

## Professor John Dupré

**Ethical issues in genome editing for livestock**

Professor John Dupré is based at the Centre for the Study of Life Sciences at the University of Exeter. His wide-ranging topic will dispel the myth that gene editing will allow scientists to produce any type of animal they wish.

"That is simply not the case," he stresses. "Although there is every expectation that gene editing technology will have the potential to offer the extremely precise control of genomes in the not-too-distant future, most important traits are far too complex to control with a few tweaks of the genome. Gene editing will never be used to produce the 'perfect' animal which will suit everyone; it will always have to be combined with good breeding strategies."

"However some traits can be changed with a single genetic alteration. A good example is the hornless gene, which also has clear practical benefits. It would be advantageous for producers and the public would easily be able to perceive the advantage in eliminating the risk of cattle goring each other."

"From an ethical point of view, we also need to look at such a technology in the broader context of a growing world population facing possible food shortages. What is the general role of efficient and intensive, but perhaps decreasingly diverse, livestock production in offering a sustainable solution to this very important problem?"

The ethical response to gene editing may come down to whether the technology is classified as genetic engineering or not and there seems little doubt that if it is, the application of the technique will be hampered by the "baggage" that has been linked to the GM debate, he adds.



# Speakers and Conference Preview

## Matthew Jackson

### My story – from City to Cows

The theme of the 2018 British Cattle Breeders Conference is all about inspiring the next generation and Matthew Jackson is a shining example of just what can be achieved with hard work and a positive attitude. He grew up in Manchester, but his family had spent many holidays camping on the Llyn peninsula in Wales, which is where he made his first connection with farming.

Having left school at 15, Matthew returned to Wales and worked on a number of holdings, which included a dairy farm belonging to David Wynne-Finch. Moving on from this humble start, Matthew gained more farming experience and eventually acquired a couple of dozen dairy heifers, with numbers rapidly increasing to 220-head.

Fast forward to the present day and Matthew, now 29 years old, operates a 400-cow dairy herd on a site which is owned by Mr Wynne-Finch and with whom he has a 50:50 share-farming agreement. The most important factor in realising his ambitions was the assistance he received from the farming community, he says.

“There is a huge amount of community spirit in the region where I live,” he says. “Local farmers were extremely supportive of my venture, whether that was lending me a tractor, or giving me advice. That gave me the determination to strive to reach my goals and helped to build my confidence.”

## David Corrie-Close

### Cattle grazing in the uplands and rough grasslands of the lowlands

David is a first generation farmer, who chose his career partly because he enjoys working with livestock and working outside, but mainly because he wants to encourage positive change in farming practices which will benefit future generations. The Horned Beef Company, which is run with his wife, Rebecca, is based at Lindale in Cumbria.

“There is a great opportunity for young farmers to win the support of the public, who will see them as modern custodians of the countryside who are achieving domestic food security, building soil quality and adapting to climate change,” he says.

“To meet these goals, we will have to re-learn a forgotten way of farming; one that naturally rears native breeds of cattle, to produce world class beef. I describe this as ‘farming with nature.’”

David will tell the story of how his business developed and outline his aspirations for the future of farming in the UK.

## Professor David Kenny

### Managing suckler cow herds for optimal fertility

Professor Kenny is the principal research scientist in ruminant nutritional physiology at the Animal and Grassland Research and Innovation Centre in County Meath, Ireland. He will give details of the performance of Irish suckler herds, which are suffering from what he describes as “significant reproductive inefficiency.” His presentation will focus on the key elements of the fertility and health management of spring-calving suckler herds.

One example he will cite will refer to figures which show that on average, only eight are born to every ten cows in a typical 12-month cycle. Meanwhile, the interval between two successive calvings has averaged approximately 400 days, in recent years.

“This indicates that a high proportion of Irish cows fail to achieve the target of producing a calf every 365 days,” he says. “While the onset of puberty in a heifer has a major influence on the start of her productive life in the herd, the single most important factor affecting the reproductive efficiency of a suckler cow herd in the wider sense is the date at which females start cycling after calving.

“A dairy cow will typically start cycling one month after calving, but a suckler cow can take anything from 40 to 100 days to resume her heat cycle. The bond between the cow and the calf will prevent the onset of heat cycles, so any strategy to advance the opportunity to breed the cow again after calving must consider this issue. The short-term restriction of suckling activity once the calf is four weeks old has the potential to improve cow fertility, with a knock-on effect on whole-herd profitability,” says Professor Kenny.



Matthew Jackson  
My story – from City to Cows



David Corrie-Close  
Cattle grazing in the uplands and rough grasslands of the lowlands



Professor David Kenny  
Managing suckler cow herds for optimal fertility

# Speakers and Conference Preview



**Dan Burling**  
EBVs and indexes for commercial success

## Dan Burling

### EBVs and indexes for commercial success

Beef and arable producer, Dan Burling, says he is surprised that more farmers do not use EBVs when they are selecting beef breeding animals for their suckler herds. He returned to the family farm after a period working as an agricultural college lecturer and set about reviewing the 70-cow herd breeding policy and its management system.

He quickly realised that there were potential opportunities to improve profitability and switched from Continental crosses to the Stabiliser composite breed; he now has 220 females at Chain Farm in Over, Cambridgeshire. The farm has been a Stabiliser multiplier unit for a number of years and Dan is now selling breeding bulls.

“The use of EBVs and indexes is directly contributing to our herd profitability,” says Dan.

“Choosing replacement cattle by eye is not accurate enough to make breeding progress and it is especially difficult to judge youngstock at an early age. The best-looking animals are not always the best performers.

“My policy is to pick out a group of yearling cattle based on performance figures alone, and then discard any which do not fit in with my visual perception of a good animal further down the line. The herd is showing steady improvement, which gives me the assurance that the system is working.”

Dan, who says he has little interest in cattle showing, is only interested in sires which will perform well in a commercial environment. He ensures that all of his young bulls are assessed in a situation where they are given the same treatment, to maximise the accuracy of the data that is collected. He believes that the UK needs to develop an eating quality standard for beef and with this at the forefront of his mind, his cattle are scanned for marbling quality.

### Chain Farm Stabiliser herd performance versus previous Continental crosses

- Decrease in barren rates from 7% to between 3-5%.
- Calving assistance cases have fallen dramatically to about 2%, with no vet interventions.
- Dry cow feed cost has been reduced by 30% over the last five years.
- Feed conversion rates have improved to approximately 4.9:1 for finishing bulls.



**Alison Glasgow**  
Genomics in beef – adding value in the supply chain

## Alison Glasgow

### Genomics in beef – adding value in the supply chain

As the technical manager of the British Limousin Cattle Society, Alison Glasgow has been involved with the organisation’s 10-year plan for breed improvement, which includes a range of research and development initiatives. These include the production of genomic breeding values for carcass traits, feed intake and traits for female fertility, as well as for calf survival.

All of the above represent a series of ‘firsts’ for the UK beef industry and the potential value they can add to the supply chain is real and demonstrable, according to Alison. In her slot in the programme, she will give details of the progress that has been made to date, some of the findings along the way and the beef industry’s opportunity to add significant value by exploiting genetic resources at a heightened level.





# Speakers and Conference Preview

## Dr Oded Nir

### Real time milk analysis – shaping the future of your dairy herd

Organisers of the British Cattle Breeders Club's annual conference pride themselves on putting together a programme which gives delegates the opportunity to catch up on all the latest technology and the presentation by Dr Oded Nir of Afimilk in Israel will not disappoint. His colleague, Chris Howarth, offers a preview of one element of the presentation, which will focus on a two-year study which tested the company's real-time milk analysis system, AfiLab.

Daily in-line milk analysis with the company's AfiLab Milk Analyzer may be more useful in predicting a cow's future lactation than monthly DHIA tests, according to the recently published study of almost 38,000 Israeli Holstein cows over a two-year period.

Unprecedented in scope, the study, which was entitled 'Genetic and phenotypic analysis of daily Israeli Holstein milk, fat, and protein production as determined by a real-time milk analyser,' validated the hypothesis that the more frequent analysis of milk components provides a more representative measure of a cow's total lactation, compared with monthly DHIA tests.

"The technology collected real-time data on yield, lactose, butterfat and protein, as well as blood-detection from every cow at every milking to compare phenotypes across the herd," says Mr Howarth. "The study clearly showed that AfiLab offers much more accurate results, compared with a standard monthly milk analysis. It will fit in neatly with the use of genomics, by helping to identify the animals which are most likely to produce a profit for the farm business and singling out those which are not."

## Heather Wildman

### Grass Roots Succession, how to get the next generation involved

Heather Wildman is the managing director of Dumfries-based Saviour Associates and her talk will both inspire and inform. She sums up her advice on succession in a few words: "Be proactive, think win-win and seek to understand and be understood."

A common mistake, Heather will explain, is for farming families to take no action at all, when it comes to succession planning. This can occur for a number of reasons.

"Sometimes, the older and the younger generation will say nothing, as they may feel they will elicit a negative reaction. Older people may worry that their children will not be interested in taking over, while the young ones feel they may be perceived as being greedy.

"However, planning for succession is simply good business governance and it can give a new lease of life to all of the parties involved. The potential retiree should think about the age at which they would like to stop working and how much money they will need, in order to manage comfortably. Meanwhile, the younger generation will be able to farm with a clear picture of when they are going to take the reins."

Sometimes, families find that the two generations do not work well together, adds Heather.

"If this is the case, then it might be advisable for the younger party to leave home and undertake some training, which could be linked to agriculture; foot trimming and agronomy would be two examples. They could also pledge to buy a house, which may one day be used as an asset for the farm business. Another option might be to set up a diversification enterprise, to generate additional income. Every farming family is different, but formalising this type of discussion will be beneficial to everyone and will help to secure the business for the generations to come."

## Roger Hildreth

### Are you breeding the best heifers for your farm?

North Yorkshire-based Roger Hildreth is a fourth generation dairy farmer who won the Promar Milk Manager of the Year title in 2015 and is also a past winner of the Asda/Arla Dairy Farmer of the Year, an award which came with a tour of dairy farms in America. The trip prompted a number of changes at Curlew Fields near York, which Roger runs with his son, Tom, and the family now has a highly positive attitude towards the management of its herd of just over 100 pedigree 'Hessay' Holsteins.

One of the most significant changes was applied to the calf rearing system and the feeding regime has since been based on the number of kilogrammes of milk powder which the calves consume, rather than the figure for the liquid litres that are offered. This has resulted in a slightly increased usage of high quality skimmed milk power, which went up from an average of 0.6kgs/head to just over 0.87kgs/head. Roger will explain how this, as well as other tweaks to the business, have benefited the farm business as a whole.



**Heather Wildman**  
Grass Roots Succession, how to get the next generation involved



**Roger Hildreth**  
Are you breeding the best heifers for your farm?

# 70 Years of BCBC



**Sir John Hammond CBE**  
Founded BCBC in 1947  
with Mr George Odum and  
were Joint Presidents of  
the Club from 1956-1965



**Professor Alan Robertson**  
OBE, FRS,  
President 1965-1987



**Sir Richard Trehane,**  
President 1990-1997

## Celebrating 70 years of BCBC History

The committee are looking forward to celebrating 70 years of the British Cattle Breeders Conference in January and to the next 70 years ahead of us! Here we have taken a step back in time with a brief insight into BCBC over the years, by looking back through past Digests and the Personal Review of the British Cattle Breeders Club 1948 – 2005 publication by John E Moffitt CBE on his retirement as President in 2005.

The club was founded by Sir John Hammond and George Odum in 1947. The first meeting took place in January 1948, the 'Cambridge Week' on Bull Breeding. In the beginning the meetings were called courses and were a mixture of papers and practical visits. These courses were recorded in the Digests which included detailed discussions too. The conference has grown from these early beginnings, to become an important part of the livestock calendar. The organisation is a unique mixture of farmers, scientists and industry personnel, all dedicated to the advancement of cattle breeding in both the dairy and beef sectors, with the main objective as reported 70 years ago in the first Digest as '**Promoting Knowledge of Breeding Better Cattle**'.

During the first conferences, lectures were

presented on progeny testing; inbreeding and cross-breeding; factors affecting milk yields and butterfats; genetics in relation to cattle breeding; progress of reproduction; methods used in dairy and beef cattle breeding; Subjects which will have been re-visited and developed during the history of BCBC.

Below is an Extract from Digest No 3, which was the report of the 'Cambridge Week' on Bull Breeding January 5th – 9th, 1948

2. Problems of Dairy Cattle Improvement –  
Dr J Hammond

### Effects of Artificial Insemination

A.I. will help in giving a demand for good bulls and, as time goes on, better and better bulls will be required to continue and maintain improvement. Fewer bulls will be needed, inferior bulls will be in less demand, and good bulls more demand. There will be less of rearing a young calf as a bull because he looks good.

The present average requirement is one bull for 33 cows, and thus one in 33 bull calves is kept. With A.I. at the moment the average is one bull for 750 cows, but this may well rise in the near future to one for 1,000 cows.



## BCBC 2017 and onwards

### Henry Lewis reminisces

Certainly the years have seen changes in the nature of the British Cattle Breeders' Club and its annual conference but a common thread throughout has been the unique blend of representation and cross-fertilisation across the sector, featuring breeders (beef, dual-purpose and dairy), scientists, breed society administrators, AI companies, industry organisations, key journalists, overseas visitors, students, *et al.*

For many years, and for my early visits, the Conference was held at the University Arms Hotel in Cambridge. It was quite a leisurely event, spanning several days, and for some it was perhaps a bit of a busman's holiday. In those days the privately owned hotel had great character; the delegates and the Club as organiser received wonderful service and catering. There was plenty of time between sessions for interchange and included the practice of the Club's Chairman inviting speakers and others to pre-lunch cocktails!

It was at Cambridge that cattle (AI) was developed as was early work on embryo transfer (ET). The club's joint founder, Sir John Hammond, a lecturer at the University was one of the pioneers. (It's very notable that he was knighted for his services to the industry.)

However, this pleasant environment was often quite a battle ground with fierce and heated arguments in and between sessions on such topics as the introduction of North American Holstein genetics or European beef breeds into the UK gene pool, the use of AI in pedigree breeding, the abolition of bull licencing, etc. It's amazing that the whole of our cattle breeding sector hasn't fallen apart now that a Ministry official no longer goes along to visually inspect a bull at about 10 months of age and say whether or not it was approved to be used or had to be castrated or slaughtered! And the irony is look where we are today with a strong and progressive sector; AI and ET are widely used through the industry, both at the commercial level but also in the breeding sector. Let it

Henry Lewis,  
Honorary Life  
Member,  
President  
2005-2011,  
Chairman 2000



be so with other innovations.

But things changed – the hotel was sold and the service declined, its geographical position and road access wasn't too good, parking was limited and the focus of the cattle sector was on the grass-growing western side of the country. It was decided (with the writer being one of the instigators) to move the Conference base to a venue that didn't have these drawbacks. Since then hotels in Staffordshire and Shropshire have positioned themselves as ideal locations and the Conference hasn't looked back. Also, recent revivals of meetings or activities between Conferences have fitted the Club's objectives.



Students line up at the 2009 Conference, organised by Phil Halhead



BCBC Farm visit in July 2007 to Robert & Jac Neill's Upper Nisbet Farm, Scottish Borders; *Farmers Weekly* Farmer of the year and Mixed Farmer, 2017



John E Moffitt CBE,  
President 1997-2005



Dr Maurice Bichard  
President 2011-2017



Professor Mike Coffey  
President 2017



# Speakers and Conference Preview

'Inspirational talks from leading farmers and industry professionals'  
'Given me great ideas for my final year dissertation'

'Made to feel very welcome by other conference delegates and really enjoyed the evening functions where I got to chat to farmers leading in their field'

'Fantastic mix of talks from very practical to scientific felt something appealing for all of us'



## Conference Workshops

### Breeding Strategies Post 2000

Kick start the conference by joining us on the Monday afternoon for the workshop 'Breeding Strategies Post 2020'. AHDB's Adam Quinney and Gwyn Jones along with SRUC's Professor Mike Coffey will discuss the UK's breeding strategy post 2020, following on with a discussion on how breeding can help address some of the long term issues. The second part of the workshop will look at the latest genetic developments to be launched in 2018 which will include both beef and dairy including the phased role out of carcass trait breeding values and feed efficiency evaluations.

### Breeding Indexes Focus on Health

Dairy delegates will have the opportunity to attend the Tuesday afternoon workshop with AHDB's Marco Winters and Fern Pearston to discuss the latest developments in dairy breeding evaluations including launching the UK's first lameness breeding index and the introduction of calf survivability breeding values.

### Student Attendance

Part of the 2018 programme will look at inspiring the next generation of cattle breeders and every year we welcome student delegates to attend the conference, attending through various colleges and universities or on their own. Students are made to feel welcome with previous comments received expressing what a great opportunity the conference gives for them to network and mix with industry professionals and leading farmers in industry, including the useful contacts that can be made for future potential employment and work experience. The papers have been known to motivate students with assignments and exam revision and even given them the inspiration and drive to want to travel and learn more about the international breeding industry. The conference is unique with a fantastic mix of talks from very practical to scientific and assists to put theory lectures from college and university into industry context.



Orla Kelly – Student Speaker

### Orla Kelly, Beef Shorthorn Society's Beef Student of the Year

The Beef Shorthorn Society's Beef Student of the Year, Orla Kelly, has been invited to speak during the programme on beef day. Orla is from a suckler beef and sheep farm in Downpatrick, Northern Ireland. She is studying BSc (Hons) Agricultural Technology with Professional Studies at Queen's University Belfast and CAFRE, and is currently on placement working in procurement at Linden Foods, Dungannon. Orla will present her award-winning paper on managing a profitable suckler beef enterprise post Brexit, with the use of native breeds to reduce costs and gain a premium price.

The conference will also welcome two PhD students into the programme, supported by AHDB.

# Speakers and Conference Preview

## British Cattle Breeders Club Committee

The Club is run by an elected committee, with each member appointed for a period of four years. The committee chairman is an annual appointment and he/she guides the development of the conference, so that each year a different theme evolves. The Club, which is both a charity and a company limited by guarantee, is administered by a secretary.

If you would like to get involved, please contact our secretary, Heidi Bradbury on 07966 032079 or email her at [heidi.bradbury@cattlebreeders.org.uk](mailto:heidi.bradbury@cattlebreeders.org.uk) or feel free to speak with one of our committee members. Our AGM will be held on Tuesday 23rd January at the Telford Hotel and Golf Resort during the conference, everyone is welcome.

**President:** Professor Mike Coffey - Professor in livestock informatics at Scotlands Rural College

**Chairman:** Andy Dodd - AHDB Dairy Technical Manager - Breeding & Fertility

**Vice-Chairman:** Anya Westland - Lecturer, Myerscough College

**Treasurer:** Henry Richardson - Senior Data Analyst with NBDC

### Talking Slides 2017

Since 2015 the majority of the British Cattle Breeders Conference presentations have been available to view online courtesy of Mole Valley Farmers. If you wish to view and listen to a presentation again, or missed this year's conference and would like to learn more about what the conference can offer, they are available via the presentations link at [www.cattlebreeders.org.uk](http://www.cattlebreeders.org.uk) where you can then register to access the 'talking slides' site.

#### Other Committee Members:

- Lucy Andrews-Noden – Director, Priestcliffe Consulting
- Charlie Askew – Livestock husbandry lecturer, Easton College
- Clive Brown – Head of knowledge exchange, AHDB Beef and Lamb
- Dr Gary Evans - Business Development Manager for Neogen's GeneSeek Genomics business in Europe
- Iain Kerr – Chief executive of the British Limousin Cattle Society
- Andy King – Dairy farmer, Somerset
- Laurence Loxam – Genetics business manager for NMR
- Dr Kirsty Moore – Geneticist, SRUC
- Richard Park - Dairy farmer, Cumbria
- Dr Duncan Pullar - Breed development manager for the Stabiliser Cattle Company
- Roger Trehwella - Director of Adela Booth Associates and secretary of the World Jersey Cattle Bureau
- Dr Karen Wonnacott – Ruminant nutritionist, ForFarmers

**Membership of the British Cattle Breeders Club also offers unique networking opportunities, with the chance to meet up with like-minded people involved in all aspects of cattle breeding.**

## Why not join BCBC?

Membership is just £35 per year and offers the following benefits:

- Discounted delegate fees at the annual 2.5 day British Cattle Conference
- Access to the last 60 years of conference papers
- The chance to participate in farm walks
- A copy of the quarterly magazine, Cattle Breeder, with topical articles and information
- A copy of the Digest (the proceedings of the BCC)





**BCBC BRITISH CATTLE BREEDERS CONFERENCE**  
**BOOKING FORM 22ND – 24TH JANUARY 2018**

**Name of delegate:**  
 (Please include title)

**Address:**

**Telephone:**

**Email:**

Please Circle                      Farmer                      Industry                      Research                      Breed Society                      Other

Conference Registration	RESIDENT in Conf. Hotel	NON RESIDENT	Fill in below as appropriate
-------------------------	-------------------------	--------------	------------------------------

<b>WHOLE EVENT</b>	<b>£290</b>	<b>£360</b>	£
--------------------	-------------	-------------	---

<b>Or book separate parts of the conference here</b>	Monday Beef Workshop	FOC to all Beef Day delegates. BOOK YOUR PLACE HERE		YES / NO
	Monday Dinner	Included	£30	£
	Tuesday Beef Conference	£155	£155	£
	Tuesday Dairy Workshop	FOC to all Dairy Day delegates. BOOK YOUR PLACE HERE		YES / NO
	Tuesday's Club Dinner	Included	£45	£
	Wednesday Dairy Conference	£155	£155	£

--	--	--	--

<b>SUB TOTAL</b>			£
------------------	--	--	---

Less Members' 20% discount (if applicable)			£
--------------------------------------------	--	--	---

**Membership**

<b>2018 Membership fees</b> – you must join/re-join now to apply the above discount. If you pay by Standing Order please put "SO".	£35	£
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----	---

<b>TOTAL</b>		£
--------------	--	---

**Accommodation Reservation – Payable to the Hotel upon departure**

- Accommodation is limited and allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. If the accommodation is full when you book, alternative accommodation suggestions will be made but you will need to pay for the dinner(s) at the conference hotel if you wish to attend them.
- By filling in the section below you are agreeing to this accommodation being booked on your behalf. You will be liable to pay unless **at least 2 weeks notice of cancellation** is provided.
- Please contact the Secretary if you wish to stay on **Sunday** or **Wednesday** night, special rates available.

Please tick appropriate boxes	Monday night	Tuesday night
-------------------------------	--------------	---------------

Single Room - £102.50 per night		
---------------------------------	--	--

Double or Twin - £82 per person per night Name of person sharing room _____		
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--	--

**All delegates please sign here:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 to agree to the terms specified

**PAYMENT METHODS:**

- Book & pay on-line by visiting our website [www.cattlebreeders.org.uk](http://www.cattlebreeders.org.uk)
- Telephone the secretary and pay over the phone by card. You will still need to return the form.
- Return this form with a cheque (payable to BCBC) or return and pay by BACS using details opposite.
- There are special rates for **students**, see website or contact the secretary for details.
- Farmer group bookings, please contact the secretary for details.

Return this form to: Heidi Bradbury (Secretary), BCBC, Underhill Farm, Glutton Bridge, Earl Sterndale, Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 0RN Tel: +44 (0)7966 032079

Email: [heidi.bradbury@cattlebreeders.org.uk](mailto:heidi.bradbury@cattlebreeders.org.uk) Website: [www.cattlebreeders.org.uk](http://www.cattlebreeders.org.uk)

Conference and hotel booking full terms and conditions are available to view on the website or from the secretary

If you wish to pay your delegate fees by BACS the Club's bank details are:  
**Bank:** CAF Bank  
**Sort code:** 40 52 40  
**A/c no:** 00023696  
**A/c name:** British Cattle Breeders Club (BCBC)

## British Cattle Conference 22-24 January 2018

This year's conference theme is:

**'Farming and Genetics – Let's inspire the next generation'**

### Monday 22nd January

- 13.00 Workshop – Breeding Strategies Post 2020 : Part 1
- 14.45 Workshop – Breeding Strategies Post 2020 : Part 2
- 18.00 Wine Reception kindly sponsored by Neogen Europe
- 19.00 Dinner in the restaurant, followed by quiz at 21.15, with champagne for the winners kindly sponsored by Shepherd Publishing

### Tuesday 23rd January

- 09.00 Club Chairman Andy Dodd opens the conference
- 09.05 Mark Smith, Genus ABS EMEA Beef Director, Genus Breeding Ltd, Cheshire  
Maximising profits through improved beef genetics
- 09.50 Andrew Ward MBE, Founder of Forage Aid, Roy Ward Farms Ltd, Lincolnshire  
Working together for a secure future for UK Agriculture
- 11.00 Prof. David Kenny, Principal Research Scientist in Ruminant Nutritional Physiology, Grange, Ireland  
Managing Suckler Cow Herds for Optimal Fertility
- 11.45 Orla Kelly, Beef Shorthorn Society's Beef Student of the Year, Queen's University Belfast, N Ireland  
Managing a Profitable Suckler Beef Enterprise post Brexit
- 12.05 Beef PhD Student presentation, selected by AHDB Beef & Lamb
- 13.30 Parallel Session for Dairy Delegates –  
Workshop Breeding indexes focus on health
- 13.30 Alison Glasgow, Technical Manager, British Limousin Cattle Society, Warwickshire  
Genomics in Beef – Adding Value in the Supply Chain
- 14.00 Dan Burling, Burling Brothers Ltd, Chain Farm, Cambs  
EBV's and indexes for commercial success
- 15.00 Heather Wildman, Managing Director, Saviour Associates, Dumfries  
Grass Roots Succession, how to get the next generation involved

- 15.30 David Corrie-Close, Director, The Horned Beef Company, Cumbria  
Cattle grazing in the uplands and rough grasslands of the lowlands
- 16.00 Matthew Jackson, Penllech Bach, Pwllheli  
My Story – from City to Cows
- 16.45 Chairman closes the day
- 17.15 AGM

### Tuesday evening

- 19.00 Champagne Reception followed by the Annual Club dinner. Celebrating 70 years of BCBC

### Wednesday 24th January

- 09.05 Mark Roach, MD of Grosvenor Farms and Cogent Breeding Ltd, Cheshire  
21st Century Dairy Farming
- 09.50 Dr Oded Nir (Marcusfeld), previously Director of Veterinary Services and Animal Health for Israel  
Real Time Milk Analysis – Shaping the future of your dairy herd management
- 11.05 Lars Nielsen, Head of Breeding, VikingGenetics, Denmark  
The successful balance between health and production; the breeding experience of Scandinavia
- 11.50 Roger Hildreth, Curlew Fields Farm, York  
Are you breeding the best heifers for your farm?
- 12.20 Dairy PhD Student presentation, selected by AHDB Dairy
- 13.50 Prof. John Dupré, Centre for the Study of Life Sciences, University of Exeter, Exeter  
Ethical Issues in Genome Editing of Livestock
- 14.20 Chris Proudfoot, The Roslin Institute, University of Edinburgh, Midlothian  
Editing the future of livestock
- 14.50 Daniel J Weigel, PhD, Outcomes Research, Zoetis Genetics, USA  
Use of Gene Editing in Dairy – A Producer's Perspective
- 15.20 Conference Closes

Day Delegate rates to attend the conference start from £155, plus a 20% discount available off the delegate fee when you join BCBC for just £35

The full British Cattle Breeders Conference programme and on-line booking is now available at [www.cattlebreeders.org.uk](http://www.cattlebreeders.org.uk), follow us @CattleBreeders #BCBC18 like on facebook British Cattle Breeders Club