



HOPE'S
AUCTIONEERS & LAND AGENTS

December 2023

WINTER

NEWSLETTER

AUCTION REVIEW

Another successful 12 months at Hopes Auction Company finds trade for all classes of livestock buoyant and well ahead of last years returns. Numbers of stock a critical gauge are also increasing with store cattle, and prime lambs achieving strong market leading prices with increased number of buyers and vendors.

This year opened with our annual opening sale of continental cattle and feeding bulls. From the outset, trade was very brisk as confidence in the stable beef price filtered through to the feeding cattle sections. This proved to be the trend throughout the year as all classes of stock met with favourable returns and on occasions remarkable results beyond vendors expectations.

Fattening sheep found comparable yearly rates through the first quarter, but extreme late season returns boosted spring lamb trade and indeed a buoyant prime sheep market has produced the goods all year allowing sheep producers to invest in quality breeding sheep from our sales commencing in July through to our Wigton Whites and at our rejuvenated Mule Gimmer lamb sales.

Throughout the year we have welcomed new clients on both sides of the auction environment. Having experienced Wigton for the first time they have followed that initial step and continue to use our facilities as a business base. All clients, old and new, provide an invaluable service and our hope is that continued success together will benefit all of us and help attract more neighbours and farming colleagues to our Syke Road facility.

Joanne Ridley

Through the Autumn of 2023 Joanne Ridley has undertaken two sets of professional exams, we are delighted to report that she passed both her RICS (Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors) and CAAV (Central Association of Agricultural Valuers) making her Joanne Ridley MRICS FAAV.

We are extremely proud of Joanne in achieving both these qualifications, she has put in a vast amount of time and effort in preparation for these this year.

Joanne would be delighted to assist you in all Land Agency matters, please do not hesitate to give her a call on 016973 44901.



UPCOMING SALES

JANUARY 2024

- Thursday 4th** Sale of Store Cattle & OTM Cattle
- Thursday 11th** Sale of Calves & Stirks followed by Dairy Cattle
- Thursday 18th** Show and Sale of Store Cattle & Sale of OTM Cattle
- Thursday 25th** Sale of Calves & Stirks followed by Dairy Cattle - In Calf Beef Cow Dispersal on behalf of Messrs Lister, Oughterside Mill - 100 Lim X, Sim X, Saler X Spring Calving Beef Cows - Due March April Followed by In-Lamb Sheep Dispersal from Mr Stanley Hayton, Grange Farm

FEBRUARY 2024

- Thursday 1st** Sale of Store Cattle & OTM Cattle
- Thursday 8th** Sales of Calves & Stirks followed by Dairy Cattle
- Thursday 15th** Sale of Store Cattle & OTM Cattle
- Thursday 22nd** Sale of Calves & Stirks followed by Dairy Cattle
- Thursday 29th** Sale of Store Cattle & OTM Cattle

MARCH 2024

- Thursday 7th** Anniversary Sale of Calves & Stirks followed by Dairy Cattle
- Tuesday 12th** Anniversary Sale of Primestock
- Thursday 14th** Anniversary Sale of Store Cattle
- Wednesday 20th** Stint and Grass Letting Night 2023
- Thursday 21st** Sale of Calves & Stirks followed by Dairy Cattle
- Thursday 28th** Sale of Store Cattle and OTM Cattle

CONTACT



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Autumn Sales Prize Winners



Wigton Whites – Champion Shearlings from A E Story, Hobbies Burn reaching £380 per life.



Mule Ewe Lambs – Champion pen from K Pears, Fellside House Farm reaching £230 per life.



August Show & Sale of Store Cattle Champion TB Stamper & Sons, Harrot Hill Farm Which went on to reach £2700



Lads Night Out Champion T C Whiteford, Tercrosset who went on to sell for £2200

RABI Carol Service

RABI held one of their Christmas Carol Concerts here at Hopes Auction on Wednesday 7th December followed by a meal in The Stockman. The night was a sell out with everyone enjoying the Christmas spirit. Money raised was a fantastic total of £3267.00. Well done to all concerned in organising a great night.



Sale of Land at Lowca

New to the market are two excellent and useful enclosures of grazing and mowing land extending to approximately 5.27 acres, offered for sale in two lots or as a whole. Both fields benefit from direct road access. The land is in exceptionally good heart having recently been re-fenced and re-seeded and are therefore presented in excellent order. The land is for sale by Private Treaty.

For further information contact the Land Agency Department.



STINT AND GRASS LETTING NIGHT

WEDNESDAY 20TH MARCH, 2024

WITHIN THE AUCTION MART

We are now taking instructions for the Annual Lettings of Stints and Grassland. If you wish for your land to be included in the Public Lettings through the auction mart, or to be let privately please contact Tanya Brown on 016973 42202

THURSDAY 25TH JANUARY 2024

IN CALF BEEF COW DISPERSAL

on behalf of Messrs Lister, Oughterside Mill

100 Lim X, Sim X, Saler X Spring Calving Beef Cows - Due March April

IN LAMB SHEEP DISPERSAL

on behalf of Mr Stanley Hayton, Grange Farm

- 100 Swaledale Ewes Due 15.3.24 to the Leicester
- 25 Texel Hoggs Due 1.4.24 to the Texel
- 15 Mule Hoggs Due 1.4.24 to the Texel



Sustainable Farming Incentive

Summary of main recommended actions:

| Code | SFI Action | Annual Payment |
|--|--|--|
| Actions for Soils | | |
| SAM1 | Assess soil, test soil organic matter and produce a soil management plan | £5.80 per hectare (ha) and an additional payment of £95 per agreement. |
| SAM2 | Multi-species winter cover crops | £129 per ha |
| SAM3 | Herbal leys | £382 per ha |
| Actions for hedgerows | | |
| HRW1 | Assess and record hedgerow condition | £3 per 100m – one side |
| HRW2 | Manage hedgerows | £10 per 100m – one side |
| HRW3 | Maintain or establish hedgerow trees | £10 per 100m – both sides |
| Actions for integrated pest management | | |
| IPM1 | Assess integrated pest management and produce a plan | £989 per year |
| IPM2 | Flower-rich grass margins, blocks, or in-field strips | £673 per ha |
| IPM3 | Companion Crop on arable land | £55 per ha |
| IPM4 | No use of insecticide on arable crops and permanent crops | £45 per ha |
| Actions for nutrient management | | |
| NUM1 | Access nutrient management and produce a review report | £589 a year |
| NUM2 | Legumes on improved grassland | £102 per ha |
| Actions for farmland wildlife on arable and horticultural land | | |
| AHL3 | Grassy field corners and blocks | £590 per ha |
| Actions for farmland wildlife on improved grassland | | |
| AHL4 | 4 to 12m grass buffer strip on arable and horticultural land | £451 per ha |
| IGL3 | 4m to 12m grass buffer strip on improved grassland | £235 per ha |
| Actions for low input grassland | | |
| LIG1 | Manage grassland with very low nutrient inputs (outside SDAs) | £151 per ha |
| LIG2 | Manage grassland with very low nutrient inputs (SDAs) | £151 per ha |
| Additional Payments | | |
| SFI Management Payment: £20 / ha for the first 50 ha entered into the scheme (Max £1000) | | |

Our top recommendations:

It is recommended all businesses look to take advantage of the SAM1 option. This involves having each parcel of land entered into the agreement tested for Organic Matter. If you have undertaken soil tests (with organic matter) within the last 5 years, these can be used in the agreement. Working closely with your agronomist, you will be able to produce a soil management plan and a Nutrient Management Plan (NUM1) which goes hand in hand with SAM1. Nutrient Management Plans are required as part of your farm assurance, so you may as well get paid to produce one! Integrated Pest Management Plans (IPM1) are also funded under the grant.

Another popular option is the establishment of Herbal Leys (SAM3) which pays a healthy £382 / ha. A similar option is NUM2: Legumes on Improved Grassland, which requires only one legume (e.g., red or white clover) to be established on improved grassland, this pays £102 per ha. Many landowners will already have clover in their grassland which you could be earning on!

If you are already utilising companion cropping or cover crops there are options to take advantage of too.

FAQ:

How long does my SFI agreement last?

- It is a three year agreement. The scheme can be added to annually.

When & how do I apply?

- Applications are open throughout the year
- Applications are made via the RPA

When will I get paid?

- Payments are made in quarterly instalments with the first payment made 4 months after your agreement starts

Total payments will depend on the individual farm and the total area of eligible ground. For further guidance please contact our Land Agency department for more information.

SFI Annual Health and Welfare Review of Livestock

Funding available for an Animal Health and Welfare review in conjunction with your vet. This review will fund testing for BVD in beef and dairy cattle and the effectiveness of worming treatments in sheep and include advise on the health and welfare of the stock including lameness.

For any more information or help applying for this scheme please see Craig or Joanne in the Land Agency department.



SUNDAY 3RD DECEMBER 2023

Annual Christmas Show and Sale of 'Butchers Lambs and Prime Cattle'

CHRISTMAS PRIME LAMBS – 150

An outstanding entry of stock forward for this year's show with quality throughout the mart pens. Thankyou to all our sponsors who contributed massively to the day's activities.

A fantastic show of lambs was presented to Judge Mr Gavin Little, Penrith whose skills were tested throughout before eventually settling on a pair of 48.5kg Beltex for Messrs R Hall & Son, Inglewood Edge and his Reserve Champion were also a pair of Beltex weighing 46.5kg from April Skelton, Inglewood Edge.

The Champions were purchased by Mr R M Helliwell, Rochdale for £222 and the Reserve Champions at £208 by Mr R Skelton.

All Sheep presented for the show a real credit to all exhibitors and a superb reflection of the stockmanship in the county.

Our young handlers section competing for the Inglewood Edge Trophy growing from strength to strength with fantastic competition between our future shepherds and with the Champion Rosette awarded to Miss Ava Miller, Crookdake Mill.



Tractor Run

Christmas Tractor & Truck Run 2023

What a fabulous display of over 140 tractors and trucks lit up with Christmas lights coming together to raise money for WellChild, Jigsaw Cumbria's Children's Hospice and RABI. The run started from Hope's Auction with the run completing at Carrs Agriculture, Cockermouth running through Wigton, Aspatria, Maryport and villages on route. A big thank you must go to the tractor owners for there time in decorating their vehicles they were outstanding!! A Just Giving page has been set up for donations and will keep open for a little while longer.

