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 MIDDLE WHITE

 PIG BREEDERS CLUB



(PATRON: ANTONY WORRALL THOMPSON)



NEWSLETTER

 AUTUMN 2004





  

OVER 150 YEARS OF THE MIDDLEWHITE

**Youngster’s Corner**

Hello, my name is Cataldo Ferrari, known as Taldo. I am 11 years old and have just started keeping my own Middle Whites. I have been helping my mum show her G.O.S. for a year but want to do my own breed.

I now have 3 gilts, 1 sow, 1 boar and 6 piglets, which will be my first July’s for next year. I did Okehampton and Newbury Shows this year, but was the only M.W. breeder showing. I won the Novice Cup at Okehampton. My mum says to collect rosettes to save painting the walls. I also play in the school football team, which I enjoy very much.



This is Taldo with his rosettes. It looks like he’s made a good start towards his Mum’s paint saving plans!



Taldo again, at Newbury Show. It’s good to see more of our younger enthusiasts having a go. This is exactly what we want to keep the breed going.

Look out for Taldo next year and wish him luck.

Miranda

*Photo courtesy of Carol Knights*



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It’s a fine thing when you have to get your own drink. I suppose they’re all in the bar having something a bit stronger!

One of Geoff Parker’s sows wearing Martin Snell’s hat at the Royal Show.

*Photo courtesy of Carol Knights*

Cover Photo: A study of showmanship and stockmanship, courtesy of Brian Merry aided by Tracey Bretherton at the 2003 Royal Show , January Boar Class.

We regret there is no Chairman’s message this time, due to circumstances beyond our control.

Hello Everybody,

Well, once again it’s time for me to write a few words, it seems to get harder and harder to find something different to say. The Show Season is virtually finished now, with just the Autumn Exhibition at Peterborough to come. The Northern Shows were fairly well supported but the ones in the West Country and Malvern need more support, or we will lose the separate Middle White classes or be lumped in with “any other breed”.

Geoff Parker will be having his angioplasty, a balloon in the arteries he says, next Tuesday and I am sure that you will all join me in wishing him all the best for the operation and for a speedy return to good health.

John Herbert has asked me to let you know that at the Royal Show next year there will be separate classes for September to December born gilts, in line with other breeds.

Mervyn Forster is planning to hold a few workshops for novices/beginners on tattooing, tagging, injecting to name just a few of the subjects. These will be held on his farm near Stratford on Avon. The first will be on 6th November from 9.30 am to 4.30 pm, and will include a lunch and refreshments. If you are interested please get in touch with me on 01753 654166 for more details.

It was good to hear that our younger enthusiasts were helping out on the Merchandise Stall at the Royal. I understand from Mervyn Forster that Taldo, Izzy, Will and Freddie did a good job. Well done to the four of you, keep up the good work next year! Taldo has been nominated for salesman of the year 2004!

I would like to thank all those members who have contributed to the Geoffrey Cloke Memorial Fund, the fund is still open and donations are still coming in.

So far it has been decided to provide a trophy for the Champion Finalist for Pig of the Year competition and a cup for the Supreme Champion at the Royal Show. The reproduction of the herd books has also been agreed with other possible projects still to be decided.

**MIddle Whites on TV**

There are Middles on two forthcoming programmes sometime this autumn. Towards the end of November, beginning of December on ITV1 Miss Marple in “A murder is announced” starring Geraldine McEwan and Zoe Wanamaker, Elaine Paige, Cherie Lunghi and Keeley Hawes, should feature pigs from Laverstoke Park.

The new series with Paul O’Grady, aka Lily Savage, has him with two Tamworths trying to beat Geoff parker on a One Man and His Pig type course.

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE**

It has been brought to my notice by someone who has purchased one, that some unregistered/birth notified Middle Whites have been up for sale. The purchaser agreed a price for an in pig registered gilt, but on delivery was told that the papers had not come through from the B.P.A. Upon investigation it was found that the vendor was not a B.P.A. member, although is supposed to have applied. To the B.P.A.’s knowledge the vendor only has two registered Middle Whites and we are not sure whether the parents are registered.

Please be careful when answering adverts – if in doubt please check with the B.P.A.

Miranda Squire

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**OBITURY**

**Geoffrey Cloke**

On the 4th August 2004 Pedigree Pig breeding in the United Kingdom lot one of its most dedicated supporters with the death of Geoffrey Cloke.

Geoffrey will always be remembered as a leading breeder and judge of all breeds of pig. Most of all he will be remembered as Chairman of the N.P.B.A. for seven years. During those seven years Geoffrey, in a firm but friendly way, protected the interest of Pedigree pig breeders who were facing strong competition from the breeding companies.

The Rare Breed Survival Trust was another of Geoffrey’s interests and he played an active role in the Trust’s affairs from the time of it’s foundation up to the time of his death.

He was one of the early importers of pigs, semen and embryos from both the U.S.A, and Australia.

He will be missed by all Pig Breeders and on behalf of the Middle White Pig Breeders Club may I offer Anne and Family our sincere condolences.

Jack Howlett

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Jack Howlett continues with more tales of his exploits in:-

**EXPORTING LIVESTOCK TO THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA** (Part 1)

Our first contract with China came in 1970 when the Chinese Government ordered 200 head of Pedigree large Whites and British Landrace pigs.

There followed several more similar exports, most of them for 200 head and a few of 100 head. In order to give breeders throughout the country an opportunity to export we split the country into regions and loads were selected in areas as far apart as Scotland and Devon and Cornwall. It seemed that everybody wanted to be “in on the act”. And breeders all worked with us to make these exports a success.

I enjoyed the work very much as, in the early days, I was responsible for the selection and this gave me the chance to visit herds that had only been “just names” to me in the past.

The amazing thing was, for the first few shipments the only veterinary condition was that the pigs originated from a healthy herd with no history of pneumonia.

The only ‘snag’ was that at the port of loading on board ship, the pigs had to be passed “fit to travel” by a member of the ship’s crew. Sometimes this was the second engineer, but more often it was a ship’s officer of a lower rank.

The voyage took up to 9 weeks, including 4 weeks on the South China sea and on arrival again an inspection, this time by a panel of inspectors, the same inspectors that approved imports of everything else, including nuts, bolts, cars, seeds etc.

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This inspection did lead to some peculiar claims, the majority of which were for “black spots”. Black spots in Large White and Landrace were more common then than they are today and sometimes just appeared overnight in pigs that had been kept in direct sunlight.

The pigs travelled on deck in purpose built boxes, each box containing 2 pairs of gilts or 2 individually penned boars. The boats used were either German or Chinese and with each shipment we sent one attendant per 100 head.

It was imperative that I was present at the loading of each consignment in order to coax and cajole the “inspectors” that the pigs were fit to travel.

The first shipment was from Birkenhead and on boarding the boat we were presented with Chairman Mao’s “Little Red Book” and a lecture from the ship’s political commissar on how the world, in time, would benefit from Communism. Every 15 minutes or so there was a political message on the ship’s loudspeakers, in both Chinese and English.

We were then taken to lunch with the ship’s captain and I remember being offered 100 year old pickled eggs. After the meal we were taken to a room and offered the “very famous” ‘Maotai’, a spirit made from fermented sorghum. For those of you that have never tasted it, my advice is “DON’T”. It has the most foul taste imaginable. A group of Chinese sailors stood in the doorway to watch our reaction to this “evil brew”, it was poured from a tin can and I told people later that it was so strong that it rotted through glass, therefore it had to be stored in a tin can! This of course was a slight exaggeration!

As I had to be in Liverpool the next day to attend to a shipment of cattle being exported to New Zealand, I had a free afternoon and so I visited Mr R.F.Wood’s Zephyr herd of Middle Whites, that was kept at Harrock Hall, Wigan. Mr Wood had won the breed Championship at the Royal Show for the 5 previous years.

I had first met Mr Wood when he judged Middle Whites at the Smithfield Show in London in 1954 and again when he judged the Royal Show in 1958. I had also sold Mr Wood the very first “Rajah” boar in 1961 and most of his Royal Show winners could be traced back to this boar.

Mr Wood made me very welcome and he told me that he was about to retire due to ill health. He had been confined to a wheelchair for several years and his wife and daughters looked after the pigs and prepared them for show.

I saw “Zephyr Rajah 13th” that had won the Royal Show male Championship in 1970. Mr Wood offered him to me providing I exhibited him at the 1971 Royal Show. This I agreed to do and not only did “Rajah 13th” win the Royal, but he sired two outstanding litters in the Sladepark Herd of Joan and Duncan Staig, some of which were exported to China in 1973 and others that founded several winning bloodlines. While being prepared for the 1972 Royal Show “Rajah 13th” was involved in a fight with a Landrace boar and regrettably died and so his further breeding potential was lost.

Between 1970 and 1973 regular shipments were made to China and in 1973 after much correspondence the Chinese requested Middle Whites and Berkshires as part of a shipment. I had been trying for a long time to achieve this and had stressed the point that the Middle White and Berkshire type of pig had, in all probability, originated in China, or neighbouring countries.

All went well until the inspection at the port of arrival in China. The same “all commodity” panel decided that these pigs were different because of the shape of their heads and jaws in particular and therefore must be suffering from Atrophic Rhinitis.

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The British M.A.F.F. was informed and the leading authority on Atrophic Rhinitis was sent, at our expense, to inspect the pigs that were still in quarantine. The Ministry’s expert was Dr. Jack Done and having inspected the pigs said that he did not know one way or another if the pigs had Atrophic Rhinitis. However to be on the safe side he suggested that the whole consignment, including Large White and Landrace be slaughtered. This is the kind of “help” that exporters had to put up with from time to time!

After careful inspection in this country, not one of the herds that had supplied pigs for this shipment showed any signs or symptoms of the disease!

We heard of a load of cattle from New Zealand that were treated in a similar way. We never did find out if our pigs and the New Zealand cattle were in fact slaughtered – I have my doubts!

This obviously was a setback and exports to mainland China stopped for two or three years.

In about 1975 trade with Taiwan started and good business it was too!! I will write about it in a later chapter. I was in Taipei visiting our agent there when a telex arrived telling me to visit Hong Kong on the way home and to visit an office there to discuss future exports to mainland China.

I allowed myself 8 hours in Hong Kong and on arrival took a cab to the address I had been given. On arrival I met a lady who was in the jade business, and I have never seen so much jade as in this office/show room. The Chinese lady knew all about pig exports and had a copy of the protocol now required by mainland China. Compared with the health certificates we had used in the early 1970’s this was very difficult and expensive. The lady told me that she had all the right contacts in mainland China and that business would be quite impossible without the help of a Hong Kong agent. I made a note of her comments.

On my return to the UK I applied through the Foreign Office for a second passport in order to minimise problems in visiting mainland China and Taiwan. Diplomatic and political problems then existed between the two countries, they still do. However travel between the two countries now takes place regularly.

Soon after, we were informed of a new body that had been set up in China. It was to be “China National Animal Breeding Stock Import and Export Corporation (CABS). This Corporation was to be responsible for all livestock imports and exports.

The Group first visited the UK in 1976, led by Mr Li Juxing, the manager of its business department. The Group wanted to buy various breeds of sheep.

Negations took place at the office of the British Agricultural Export Council in Belgrave Square, London. BAEC Chief Executive John Thornelow was present for most of the time and being a very excitable man would not stop talking and I had to ask him to leave the room in order that a contract could be agreed.

I remember that the Group wanted to select more Lincoln Longwool sheep than we had in this country. I had to explain that wool production was of little importance in the UK and that meat was the main reason for sheep production. The Chinese were very surprised and one of the Group asked what we used for making vests.

The selection was again a very interesting experience. The Chinese as always had a first class interpreter and a very friendly atmosphere was maintained throughout the selection despite the long distances that we had to travel in Scotland.

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During a period of quarantine the sheep had to be dipped twice. The sheep were in full wool at the dipping time and many had difficulty in walking for the first few minutes after having been dipped due to the weight of the wool. The Chinese insisted on being present while this procedure took place.

We lost two or three Border Leicester rams in the days that followed the dip and I am sure that a better system could have been used. Selecting younger sheep or the sheep being shorn before the dip would have prevented any form of pneumonia.

The transport was organised by the Chinese who sent a large freight plane to take the whole shipment in one load. We were in fact “left in the dark” almost up to the departure time. British MAFF wanted to know the full dimensions of the plane in order that they could approve, or otherwise, all the welfare aspects.

More about China next time, including a consignment of “Billy Goats”.

**Jack Howlett**

**FOR SALE**

Purity Gilt } Born May 2004

Sovereign Boar }

Contact: Steve Richardson Tel. 0161 7038395 Tyldesley, Manchester

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Fair Lady x Rajah January Gilts

Rajah Boar Born May 2003 Good Worker and has thrown some good litters

Contact: Andrew Wright. Tel. 01205 769344 HMP Colony Frieston, Boston

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Yootha x Revival Gilts Born 24 August 2004 Birth notified.

Contact: Helen Jarman Tel. 01280 812127 Buckingham

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**Show Results**

**Royal Show 4 -7 July Judge – Mrs Rachel Wyllie**

Boar born in or before 2003. 5 Forward

1st John Herbert Dappleheath Captain 15th

2nd Geoff Parker Cestrian Mischief 16th

3rd Geoff Parker Cestrian Revival 4th

4th Mervyn Forster Elgany Revival 90th

Sow born before 1st July 2003 4 Forward

1st Geoff Parker Cestrian Woodlands Lady 6th

2nd Geoff Parker Cestrian Woodlands Lady 11th

3rd Chris Pedley Shortheath Fair Lady 16th

Gilt born on or after 1st July 2003 4 Forward

1St John Herbert Dappleheath Dorothy 51st

2nd Geoff Parker Cestrian Woodlands Lady 15th

3rd Geoff Parker Cestrian Almarose 5th

4th Chris Pedley Shortheath Fair Lady 19th

Boar born on or after 1st January 2004 4 Forward

1st Geoff Parker Cestrian Revival 16th

2nd Geoff Parker Cestrian Revival 14th

3rd John Herbert Dappleheath Captain 18th

4th Chris Pedley Shortheath Mischief 6th

Gilt born on or after 1st January 2004 4 Forward

1st Geoff Parker Cestrian Woodlands Lady 29th

2nd Geoff Parker Cestrian Yootha 33rd

3rd John Herbert Dappleheath Woodlands Lady 2nd

4th Chris Pedley Shortheath Fair Lady 20th

**Male Champion**

**Geoff Parker Cestrian Revival 16th**

**Reserve Male Champion**

**John Herbert Dappleheath Captain 15th**

**Female Champion**

**John Herbert Dappleheath Dorothy 51st**

**Reserve Female Champion**

**Geoff Parker Cestrian Woodlands Lady 6th**

**Champion Middle White**

**Geoff Parker Cestrian Revival 16th**

**Reserve Champion Middle White**

**John Herbert Dappleheath Dorothy 51st**

**Best Group of Three – The property of The Exhibitor**

**Geoff Parker**

**The Best Group of Three Pigs by the Same Sire**

**Geoff Parker**

Judge’s comment.

It gave me great pleasure judging the Middle Whites at this year’s ROYAL SHOW. The quality of the pigs was of a high standard, the ones in the lower places were sound and correct.

**Royal Yorkshire Show 12 – 15 July Judge – Mrs Viki Mills**

Boar born in or before 2003 5 forward

1st John Herbert Dappleheath Captain 15th

2nd Tricia Horsley Cestrian Mischief 14th

3rd Geoff Parker Cestrian Revival 8th

4th Guy Kiddy Withersfield Captain 2nd

5th Tricia Horsley Acaster Mischief

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Boar born on or after 1st January 2004 2 Forward

1st Geoff Parker Cestrian Revival 16th

2nd John Herbert Dappleheath Captain 18th

Sow born before 1st July 2003 5 Forward

1st Geoff Parker Cestrian Woodlands Lady 11th

2nd Geoff Parker Cestrian Woodlands Lady 13th

3rd Geoff Parker Cestrian Woodlands Lady 6th

4th Tricia Horsley Acaster Carnation 41st

5th Tricia Horsley Acaster Carnation ?

Gilt born on or after 1st July 2003 5 Forward

1st John Herbert Dappleheath Dorothy 51st

2nd Geoff Parker Cestrian Almarose 5th

3rd Geoff Parker Cestrian Woodlands Lady 18th

4th Tricia Horsley Acaster Carnation ?

5th Tricia Horsley Acaster Carnation ?

Gilt born on or after 1st January 2004 3 Forward

1st Geoff Parker Cestrian Yootha 33rd

2nd Geoff Parker Cestrian Woodlands Lady 29th

3rd John Herbert Dappleheath Woodlands lady 2nd

**Best Sow**

**John Herbert Dappleheath Dorothy 51st**

**Best Boar**

**John Herbert Dappleheath Captain 15th**

**Champion Middle White**

**John Herbert Dappleheath Captain 15th**

**Reserve Champion Middle White**

**John Herbert Dappleheath Dorothy 51st**

Dappleheath Captain 15th went on to become reserve interbreed Champion to A & P Roses’s Duroc boar.

In the Pairs class Geoff Parkers Middle Whites were second and in the young pig interbreed male class Geoff Parker’s Cestrian Revival 16th was third.

# Middle White – Great Yorkshire Show

It was good to see so many Middle Whites at the Great Yorkshire Show this year. In the Senior Boar class there were 5 boars, with one that particularly stood out – John Herbert’s ***Dappleheath Captain 15****.* This 18 month old boar was well grown with a splendid classic head with large fringed ears. In good condition, not “overdone” and walking freely, this boar went on to be the Middle White Breed champion, and subsequently won the Reserve Interbreed boar championship.

Only 2 forward in the January boars with the honours going to a promising ***Revival***boar from Geoff Parker, who also dominated the Sow class with his ***Woodlands Lady*** sows taking the first three places. The 4th & 5th placed ***Carnation***sows were also useful Middle white sows but not in the best stage of gestation for the show date.

John Herbert’s October born ***Dorothy*,** a most attractive gilt, took first in the July class and went on to be Female and Reserve Breed Champion. Geoff Parker took the January Class with a nice ***Yootha***gilt and went on to win the Group class.

All in all I very much enjoyed judging some very good Middle Whites. My only worry was that one or two heads were very short and without a dish and I personally think that the breed should avoid going any further down this particular road.

**Viki Mills**

**Gillhouse Farm**

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**Royal Welsh Show 19 – 22 July Judge Ann Uglow**

The classes that include the Middle Whites are Traditional breeds.

Boar born in 2003 Sow born before 2003

2nd Ben Lewis Cae Colley Mischief 2nd 2nd Steve Richardson Tyldesley Fair Lady 3rd

 3rd Ben Lewis Cae Colley Carnation

Boar born in 2004

 Gilt born on or after 1st Jan 2004

2nd Ben Lewis Cae Colley Mischief 4th

 4th Ben Lewis Cae Colley Carnation 5th

**Champion Middlewhite**

**Steve Richardson Tyldesley Fair Lady 3rd**

**Mid Devon Show 24 July Judge – Mrs Ann Petch**

Unfortunately there was only Middle White breeder forward so all pigs belong to Jamie Champion and Claire Stevenson.

Sow born before 1st July 2003 1 Forward

1st Bickham Dorothy 6th

Gilt born on or after 1st January 2004 5 Forward

1st Yasmyns Almarose 3rd

2nd Yasmyns Almarose 5th

3rd Yasmyns Almarose 4th

4th Yasmyns Dorothy 3rd

5th Yasmyns Dorothy 2nd

Boar born on or after 1st January 2004 1 Forward

1st Yasmyns Revival 5th

**Champion Middle White**

**Yasmyns Almarose 3rd**

**Reserve Champion Middle White**

**Bickham Dorothy 6th**

**Royal Lancashire Show 28 – 30 July Judge – Tom Alty**

 Boar born before 1st January 2004 4 Forward

1st John Herbert Dappleheath Captain 15th

2nd Geoff Parker Cestrian Revival 8th

3rd Geoff Parker Cestrian Revival 4th

4th Ian and Tracey Bretherton Cestrian Revival 6th

Boar born on or after 1st January 2004 4 Forward

1st Geoff Parker Cestrian Revival 16th

2nd Ian & Tracey Bretherton Cestrian Revival 15th

3rd John Herbert Dappleheath Captain 18th

4th Geoff Parker Cestrian Revival 14th

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Sow born before 1st July 2003 5 Forward

1st Geoff Parker Cerstrian Woodlands Lady 11th

2nd Ian & Tracey Bretherton Cestrian Woodlands Lady 4th

3rd Geoff Parker Cerstrian Woodlands Lady 13th

4th Ian & Tracey Bretherton Cestrian Yootha 25th

5th Geoff Parker Cestrian Woodlands Lady 6th

Gilt born on or after 1st July 2003 2 Forward

1st John Herbert Dappleheath Dorothy 51st

2nd Ian & Tracey Bretherton Gracebank Yootha 2nd

Gilt born on or after 1st January 2004 7 Forward

1st Geoff Parker Cestrian Woodlands Lady 29th

2nd Ian & Tracey Bretherton Gracebank Yootha 5th

3rd John Herbert Dappleheath Woodlands Lady 2nd

4th Ian & Tracey Bretherton Gracebank Woodlands

 Lady

5th Geoff Parker Cestrian Yootha 33rd

**Champion Middle White**

**John Herbert Dappleheath Captain 15th**

**Reserve Champion Middle White**

**Geoff Parker Cestrian Woodlands Lady 29th**

6th Ian & Tracey Bretherton Gracebank Yootha 4th

These two went on to become the Interbreed Champion and Reserve Champion. In the Mixed Pairs Geoff Parker was 1st and 2nd and John Herbert was 4th with a Landrace pair in between. In the Group of Three pigs Geoff Parker was 1st and 2nd with a Landrace trio in 3rd place. In the Pig Handler of the Year Competition – completing an obstacle course - Ian Bretherton was 1st, John Herbert 2nd and Brian Merry was 3rd.

In the Young Handler Competition it was encouraging to see young Edward Wilson, a very new pig owner and new member of the MWPBC taking first place.

Senior Pig Steward Jeff Lloyd writes:-

The show got off to a bad start before it had been put up, with committee members dropping out of the committee in resignation, and the show only went ahead at the last minute due to efforts from exhibitors to ensure a continued presence for future shows.

This enabled a much dominated Middle White presence in a field of 33 pigs consisting of:

 25 Middle White 3 Gloucester Old Spot 1 Tamworth

 3 Landrace 1 Large Black

It was a very nice atmosphere with a large public turnout and exhibitors helping to control a steady flow through from start to finish.

Thanks go to Mr. Tom Alty for Judging on the first day, with Mr.Chris Penrice commentating to the interest of the public.

Thanks go to Mr. Duncan Staig for the final day’s Judging of the Pairs and Triples, and for his presentations to the young exhibitors.

**OSWESTRY SHOW 7TH AUGUST 2006 Judge Mervyn Forster**

This is a small country show and Mervyn judged all species of entry, cattle sheep and pigs. There was an entry of 9 pigs in total, of which 8 were Middle Whites and 1 Gloucester Old Spot.

Boar any age 3 Forward Sow any age 2 forward

1st Geoff Parker Cestrian Revival 16th 1st Ian & Tracey Bretherton Cestrian Woodlands Lady 4th

2nd Ian & Tracey Bretherton Cestrian Revival 6th 2nd Geoff Parker Cestrian Woodlands Lady 13th

3rd Mick Paddock Eves Mischief

Our reporter, Brian Merry, comments that the sow class must have really taxed Mervyn’s brain as it took him about 15 minutes to place the two entries, and he then told Tracey that he made her sweat for it!

Gilt Class 4 Forward

1st Geoff Parker Cestrian Woodlands Lady 29th

2nd Mr Williams Gloucester Old Spot

3rd Mick Paddock Eves Dorothy

4th Ian & Tracey Bretherton Gracebank Yooth 5th

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**The Champion pig was Geoff Parker’s Cestrian Woodlands Lady 29th, and reserve was Ian & Tracey Bretherton’s Cestrian Woodlands Lady 4th.**

The show interbreed was between a Red Poll with calf at foot, a Wensleydale Sheep and Geoff Parker’s Gilt, the winner was the Wensleydale with the Red Poll reserve.

Some people may remember that Geoff was pipped at the post a few years ago – the b\*\*\*\*\*y duck that won that time must have died!

**Okehampton Show 12th August Judge G Hinks**

Sow born before July 2003 1 Forward Gilt born on or after 1st July 2003 1 Forward

1st Cataldo Ferrari Elgany Fair Lady 11th 1st Maggie Todd Smallicombe Revival

Gilt born on or after 1st July 2003 1 Forward Gilt born on or after 1st July 2003 1 Forward

1st Maggie Todd Smallicombe Fair Lady 1st Cataldo Ferrari Smallicombe Fair Lady 2nd

**Champion Middle White Reserve Champion Middle White**

**Maggie Todd Smallicombe Fair Lady Cataldo Ferrari Smallicombe Fair Lady 2nd**

**Best January Interbreed Gilt**

**Reserve Champion Cataldo Ferrari Smallicombe Fair Lady 2nd**

**Hatfield Show 4th 5th September 2004 Judge John Herbert**

Sow born before 1st July 2003 4 Forward

1st Ian & Tracey Bretherton Cestrian Woodlands Lady 4th

2nd Geoff Parker Cestrian Woodlands Lady 6th

3rd Antony Worrall Thompson Westham Fair Lady 221st

4th Ian & Tracey Bretherton Cestrian Yootha 25th

Gilt born after 1st January 2004 7 Forward

1st Geoff Parker Cestrian Yootha 33rd

2nd Ian & Tracey Bretherton Gracebank Woodlands

 Lady

3rd Geoff Parker Cestrian Woodlands Lady

 26th

4th Miranda Squire Iverlane Silk

5th Miranda Squire Iverlane Silk 2nd

6th Sarah Kiddy Withersfield Woodlands Lady 4th

7th Ian & Tracey Bretherton Gracebank Yootha 5th

Judge’s report,

There was a rather disappointing entry of Middle Whites at Hatfield.

Breed Sow Class, there were four entries, all animals of good quality. The winning sow was of good length and walked well. Good hams. Very close between all four of the entries.

July Gilts no entries forward.

January Gilts seven entries, the first two or three were of good quality but some of the others were bad on their feet. Some long clays and some a bit down on their pasterns.

Boar born after 1st January 2004 1 Forward

1st Geoff Parker Cestrian Revival 16th

**Champion Middle White**

**Geoff Parker Cestrian Revival 16th**

**Reserve Champion Middle White**

**Ian & Tracey Bretherton Cestrian Woodlands Lady**

 **4th**

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January Boars 1 entry, of excellent quality, good length and general conformation.

Breed Champions The January boar an easy winner, close between the 1st prize sow and January gilt for the reserve.

**John Herbert**

**Hatfield**

Once again a very enjoyable show, blessed with one of the few good weekends without any rain or strong winds. Jack Howlett was telling me that he had been talking cricket with Lord Salisbury, who told him that that weekend was the traditional weekend for the Cranborne cricket match and that it hadn’t rained on the match for many years.

Sadly the pig entries were down this year and others had to drop out because of late harvesting following all the atrocious wet weather.

The shoeing of the heavy horses nearby drew quite a crowd and when my brother Andrew walked by he was amused to hear the farrier telling the children that the hoof filings was where the dessicated coconut that they had on cakes came from! Little asides like this always seem to make it for the children and keeps their interest.

I know everyone who attended the drinks reception on the Friday thoroughly enjoyed themselves, with some being very fortunate to be shown around the house by Lord Salisbury.

Our thanks go to Lord Salisbury, his family and staff for another great weekend. Long may they continue.

**Miranda Squire**

**Newbury Show Sept 18-19 Judge P Fowlie**

The only person flying the flag for the Middles was Taldo Ferrari with his January gilt Smallicombe Fair Lady.



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