

Follow the Herd Sponsor a Cow Scheme



The Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust's cattle are grazing life back into our nature reserves

Blacksmith's Field Bloody Oaks Quarry Brown's Hill Quarry Charley Woods Charnwood Lodge Cloud Wood Cossington Meadows Cribb's Meadow Croft Pasture Dimminsdale Great Merrible Wood Holwell Mineral Line Kelham Bridge Ketton Quarry Launde Woods Lea Meadows Loughborough Big Meadow Lucas Marsh Lyddington Meadow Merry's Meadows Narborough Bog New Lount North Quarry Prior's Coppice Rocky Plantation Rutland Water The Milk Cut Ulve Wymon Wymon

Careful grazing is a critical part of grassland management creating the right conditions for wildlife to flourish by keeping down coarse vegetation which would overwhelm rarer more delicate plants. The Trust manages a variety of important grassland sites including heathland and wild flower rich meadows.

Leicestershire and Rutland were once renowned for their large areas of wild flower rich meadows. Little of this habitat now remains. 97% was destroyed between 1930 and 1984 and the area remaining has continued to decline in the subsequent 20 years.

Heathland was once widespread in north-east and west Leicestershire and east Rutland, but following land use changes in the 19th century it has become almost entirely confined to Charnwood. Heathland contains a high proportion of Leicestershire Red Data Book species, which is a reflection of the rarity and importance of this habitat locally.

Sponsoring a cow will help the Trust manage these important wildlife habitats.

How Your Sponsorship Helps

The Trust has two herds of rare breed cattle - Shetlands and Longhorn. The Shetland cattle usually graze Lea Meadows and Herbert's Meadow (Ulverscroft) during the Spring and Summer. During the Winter they graze parts of Cossington Meadows or return to the farm at Charnwood Lodge. The grazing plan has to be flexible as some years we cut the meadows for hay rather than graze them.

The Longhorn cattle usually graze the heathland at Ulverscroft and the Warren Hills at Charnwood Lodge during the Spring and Summer. During the winter they return to the farm at Charnwood Lodge.

Your sponsorship helps us care for the cattle, including:

- Stock tending by an experienced farmer/stockman to ensure they are fit and well.
- Medical care and preventative treatments such as worming.
- Transport between nature reserves.
- Feed and winter housing, when required.
- Repairs to fencing and stock handling facilities to keep the cattle safe.

Becoming a Sponsor

Simply choose which breed of cow you would like to sponsor and complete the form on the reverse.

As a sponsor you will receive a welcome pack which includes:

- A mini beanie cow keyring
- A sponsorship certificate for your cow
- Twice yearly update about the grazing project
- An invitation to meet the cattle at one of our nature reserves



Leicestershire
& Rutland
Wildlife Trust

Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust
Brocks Hill Environment Centre, Washbrook Lane, Oadby, LE2 5JJ
Tel: 0116 272 0444 www.lrwt.org.uk Registered Charity No 210531

Follow the Herd Sponsor a Cow Scheme

To sponsor a cow simply choose one from the 6 we have shortlisted below and return this form with your donation. The minimum sponsorship fee is £20 per cow, however if you wish to contribute more your donation would be gratefully received.

Shetlands

Shetland cattle are a critically endangered breed that were introduced to the UK by the Vikings. They are a small breed which makes them ideal for grazing sensitive wetlands and marshes.

Longhorns

Robert Bakewell first bred longhorn cattle in Leicestershire in the 1700's. Despite their fierce appearance they are very docile and ideal for conservation schemes. Their large size is great for trampling bracken on our heathland reserves.



BRAMBLE



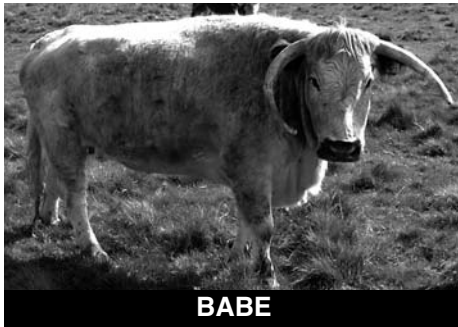
HEATHER



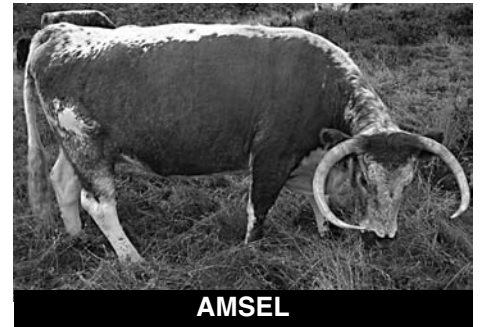
VICKY



TORMENTIL



BABE



AMSEL

Please fill in and return with your cheque for £..... (minimum £20 per cow) made payable to the Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust to Neil Pilcher, L.R.W.T. , Brocks Hill Environment Centre, Washbrook Lane, Oadby, Leics. LE2 5JJ

My Chosen Cow is:..... Your Name:

Your Address:

..... Postcode:

Name of cow sponsor (for the certificate)

Address (if different to above)

..... Postcode:

Daytime telephone No:

E-mail address:

Are you a Wildlife Trust member? Yes / No

Where did you hear about the Sponsor a Cow Scheme?

Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust

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