



# Spring 2018 Newsletter

## New Members

A & J Sloan, Springfield Farm, Wester Balgedie, Kinross  
William Howden Contracting, 26 Auchinbaird, Sauchie  
Tilhill Forestry Ltd, Kings Park House, Laurelhill, Stirling  
David Baxter, Balmerino Cott, 5 Needle Street, Kettlebridge  
H W Energy Ltd, Lochaver Rural Complex, Torlundy,  
John Gilvear & Sons, Graystale Farm, Polmaise, Stirling  
Rodger J Taylor, 4 Grange Farm Cott, Grange Of Lindores  
Andrew Cameron, Home Cottage, Wester Balgedie, Kinross  
Treeline Woodlands Ltd, Baddingsill, West Lothian,  
G & Y White, Scotshall Farm, Ovenstone, Anstruther  
Lucky Ewe Dairy, 15 Ceres Road, Cupar, Fife  
Highfield Forestry, Moncrieff Bus Centre, Friarton Rd, Perth  
George Bousie Agri Services, Templelands Farm, Falkland  
Matthew Mcouat, Flat 8, Maurice Wynd, Dunblane  
Alasdair Orr, Greenburn Farm, Doune,  
A M Sibbald & Sons, Greenrig Farm, Falkirk  
Arnbathie Farms, Arnbathie Farm Office, Balbeggie, Perth  
Alan R Leckie, 2 Park Avenue, Leven, Fife  
R & R A Orr, The Heights Farm, Buchlyvie, Stirling  
K & A Haulage, East Banknock Farm, Denny, Stirlingshire  
Stewart Hope, 8 Sunnybraes Terrace, Steelend, Dunfermline  
R A Dalton Limited, Burtree Ford, Cowshill, Bishop Auckland  
R K F Poultry Ltd, Airdrie Farm, Anstruther, Fife  
Wester Logie Farm, C/O Lucklaw House, Logie, Fife  
David Wallace, Kincaple Farm, St Andrews, Fife  
W & M Redpath, 5 East Pitcorthie, Anstruther, Fife  
J W M Contracting, 20 The Square, Ashfield, Dunblane  
W Small, 14A Cluny Terrace, Perth,  
Robert Wilson & Son, Burnhouse, Lochlibo Road, Burnhouse  
Johnny Matthew, 4 Park Cottage, Drummond Castle, Crieff  
Mikko Ramstedt-Sinclair, Glentarkie Farmhouse, Strathmiglo  
J & I Wilson, Carskerdo, Cupar, Fife  
Remote Services Scotland, 49 Cupar Road, Guardbridge  
Joseph Thurrott Architects, Fincraigs House, Kilmany, Cupar  
Harbro Limited, Markethill, Turriff, Aberdeenshire  
Megginch Estate Partnership, Megginch Castle, Errol, Perth  
Recruitment Direct, The Maltings, Camelon Road  
Kingdom Stables, Murrayknowe Farm, Cardenden  
Gleadell Agriculture, Hemswekk Cliff, Gainsboroughghf  
Tradstocks Ltd, Dunaverig, Thornhill, Stirling  
C R Campbell Firewood Supplies, Lathalmond, Dunfermline  
Finlay Macbeath, 64 Main Street, Dairsie, Fife  
E W & J Davies, New Flockhouse Farm, Blairadam, Kelty  
Alan Turner, Waterside, Lower Tarr, Port Of Menteith  
W T & C H Scott, Meiklewood, Gargunnoch, Stirling  
Karro Food Limited, Norton Grove Ind Estate, Norton  
J W Crowther & Son, 11 Bradford Road, Gildersome, Leeds  
J & A Laird Ltd, Old Brechin Road, Lunhead, Forfar  
R A Laird, East Dowally Farm, Ballinluig, Pitlochry  
R Stevenson Haulage Ltd, East Banknock Farm, Denny  
Eden Structures Limited, 6 Eden Valley Bus Park, Cupar  
Stairhill Developments, Stairhill, Mauchline, Ayrshire  
Whispering Horses, 16 Wardside, Muthill, Perthshire  
Pre-Formed Solutions Ltd, Eckford Quarry, Kelso, Borders

## Managers Report - Bruce Hamilton

The recent weather pattern of a dry Spring and a wet Summer/Autumn is making harvest much more challenging. This has reinforced the benefit of being able to ask for extra help to get the job done quicker during those brief weather windows.



During 2017 another 64 Members joined bringing the Membership to over 1,000 and Ring turnover rose to £12.3m. These together put us in a very strong position to help your business during 2018. Our negotiating power grows every year allowing us to source most farm inputs at unbeatable prices.

This Winter has seen more snow clearing than ever before providing a very useful income at a time when not much else can be

done on farm.

Woodland Management has continued to expand and we are supplying a vast amount of timber, chip and pellets into our members biomass

boilers that range from 30kW to 6MW. If you are not buying through the Ring you are likely paying too much!

Tayforth supports the next generation of farmers and following on from sponsoring buses for RHET to bring children onto farms we are now engaging with groups of young Members to see how we can meet their needs.

Training has had a record year with 605 delegates trained in 25 different skills in 2017.

*Ring the Ring for Anything*

## Extra member of Staff Needed

**Tayforth is expanding and needs a fourth person in the Contract team to arrange work between Members.**

**We are looking for a confident, outgoing person who can work on their own initiative and also as part of a team.**

**If you can name three makes of One Pass and also see a computer as a useful tool this position could be for you.**

**The position on offer is for a Senior Contract Organiser, mainly office based, arranging and negotiating contracts between Members.**

**It is a full time position with salary 24k+ depending on skill & experience.**

**If you are interested please e-mail your c.v. to [bruce@tayforth.co.uk](mailto:bruce@tayforth.co.uk)**

*Tayforth Machinery Ring, Newhill Farm, Glenfarg, Perth, PH2 9QN. Tel 01577 830616 E-mail: [admin@tayforth.co.uk](mailto:admin@tayforth.co.uk)*

*As most contracts are made orally calls may be recorded in order to protect your interests*

*All Members have a credit limit ranging from £0 to £50,000. These are set by the Management and are not negotiable.*

## Farm Plastic Disposal

The SEPA burning plastic on farm exemption is planned to be withdrawn in September 2018.

This will inevitably mean that certification bodies such as SQC & QMS will be asking how you dispose of your plastic 'legally'.

Realistically you have 2 options - put it in a skip or join the Solway Recycling Scheme.



Cost wise they are very similar with an 8 yard skip coming in at £175 through the Ring (Four Member companies available - not just the one in the picture.) The downside of a skip is that they can be messy and in a gale your farm can be covered in plastic. The disposal route is also potentially less green as China no longer wants our plastic.

The Solway system requires a bin at £150 and each liner costs £30 including delivery and uplift. The Ring is the sole supplier in our area and hold stock of bins and liners. The big benefit of the Solway bin is that it is very tidy with no possibility of the plastic blowing away. It is also all recycled into bollards, picnic tables and of course Solway recycling bins!

## Training 2018– by Lynne

I would like to thank all our members for their continued support with training. We've had another good year, training up 605 delegates in 25 different skills in 2017. As usually we have had a high demand for courses such as Telescopic/Industrial, First Aid, ATV, Welding, Chainsaw & Pesticide courses. We have access to a wide range of courses, so please contact me if the course you are looking for is not listed. We are looking into offering courses on Bookkeeping & Social Media. If you are interested in either course please let me know.

If you are wishing to brush up on woodland and hedgerow management skills – Coppice Conference in the Spring & Hedge Laying course coming up in March.

You are now able to take Pesticides Refresher courses. Ideal for people employed in the agriculture or horticulture industries responsible for the storage, handling and application of pesticides. They cover Health & Safety and legislation enabling operatives to work safely and effectively out in the field. These courses are for existing holders of certificates of competence, provides evidence of operatives CPD, and attracts BASIS CPD points.

Farmers are now required to provide their Award number to renew their Transport Authorization with Animal Health. If you need to take this award, please get in touch. Tests can be organized at the Tayforth office.

Toyota Discounts Exclusive  
to Ring Members



24%  
DISCOUNT

TOYOTA

2018 RAV 4



18%  
DISCOUNT

2018 Hilux

These are available from Western Toyota, Newbridge and Struan Motors, Perth & Dundee – just show them this advert

## Concrete Water Troughs



Pre-formed Solutions based in The Borders just off the A68 have recently expanded their range of Concrete Water Troughs and Concrete Feed Troughs both for Cattle and Sheep.

The range now includes a 300 Gallon Trough, three different sized 100 Gallon Troughs a 50 Gallon Trough and a 20 Gallon Trough. Pre-formed Solutions have also introduced two shallow troughs into the range to allow both Sheep and Cattle to safely get access to water. Additionally the new designs allow the service box to be positioned at the end producing one long trough or in the middle creating two troughs ideal for splitting field or pens. With raised input valve the troughs conform to the water regulations.

Troughs are made from C50 strength concrete with Structural Fibres and come with bungs and longneck ball valves with brass washers.

The Concrete Feed troughs come in standard 3040mm (10ft) or 2285mm (7ft 6in) lengths. Each 10ft sections weight 2.4t so these units are robust with 125mm (5in) walls and a 150mm (6in) base. These units can be formed with a recesses in the base to allow them to fit between Steelwork.

Preformed Solutions are offering a 10% for orders of the water troughs or Feed troughs placed through the Machinery Ring this spring.



## Septic Treatment Plant / Pump Servicing

Just like your Tractor or Car, a little preventative maintenance and servicing will help you avoid expensive bills.



RA Dalton are a thriving family run business offering service and maintenance packages for the whole of the UK. They have been in the industry for over 20 years and have a wealth of experience,. All engineers are accredited by Kingspan Klargestar and Premier Tech Aqua (Conder).

No job is too big or too small they can service small domestic treatment plant to large commercial systems.

During February & March 2018 all Tayforth Members will get discounted rates on plant to cater for up to 12 residents.

## Slat slurry treatment

This is a picture of a treatment that is essentially like a toilet cistern block and contains billions of task specific bacteria.



These bacterial strains breakdown the slurry to keep it liquid and deal with smells from Hydrogen Sulfide gas. As it is a block it is slow release and best option is to place into pit after emptying so bacteria can deal with new additions, alternatively if you have a very full pit you can push the block through the surface crust deep into the slurry to breakdown and deliver bacteria into the slurry.

The key benefit are keeping the slurry liquid and aerobic to prevent smells and build up of poisonous gas pockets. If the slurry is solid when you are trying to empty the slurry pits then it is difficult to clean out the pits quickly and effectively.

Also by keeping the slurry wet and flowable you will also get much better coverage and spread when discharging to the land meaning a more even distribution and not great big thick lumps being distributed unevenly across your field!!

The other major problem is that slurry is high in raw ammonia which is nitrogen but in a highly concentrated form. By reducing the ammonia it allows the slurry to provide a more soil/crop/human friendly version.

## HW Energy

Biomass Specialists HWEnergy have teamed up with the Ring to offer cost effective & high quality biomass boiler servicing and biomass



wood pellets. HWEnergy are a Scottish Headquartered business with more than 20 biomass field service engineers across the UK including in Perthshire. HWEnergy have experience of installing and servicing all makes of non-domestic biomass boilers above 60kW and a technical support desk to provide remote diagnostic and advice.

Established in 2003 and with a team of 45 staff specialising exclusively in biomass heating HWEnergy have the experience, track record and longevity to act as your biomass partner for the lifetime of the boiler system. HWEnergy's commitment to the biomass sector for the long haul is evidenced by their recent acquisition of Perthshire biomass business Reith Woodfuels. This grows the Perthshire customer base of HWEnergy and provides ongoing access to a high quality service and installation company for the previous clients of Reith Woodfuels.

Customer Account Manager, Iain MacFarlane, is happy to have additional business in the Tayforth Area. The whole focus of HWEnergy is on being the service and support partner for our customers for the next 20 years and to help them maximise the benefits of biomass heat. He would be happy to talk through our approach with any new or existing clients

For further information visit [www.hwenergy.co.uk](http://www.hwenergy.co.uk)

## Forth Road Bridge

On 1st February the Queensferry Crossing became a Motorway and Agricultural vehicles have to use the old Forth Road Bridge from then on.



Transport Scotland issued guidance that required Agricultural Vehicles obtain prior consent.

In a rare joint venture Tayforth & NFU have got together and have secured permission for tractors as follows:

**Up to 2.9m** to cross as before without prior notice.

**Over 2.9m** phone 0131 319 3083 in advance and phone again when you arrive to get permission to cross.

**Over 3.5m** phone 0131 319 3083 at least 24hrs in advance and phone again when you arrive to get permission to cross. On all other roads this also requires a wide load dispensation, side markers and an escort. Phone 01592 418859 for Abnormal Loads team.

FRB retain the right to refuse or delay you at peak times, high wind or during roadworks.



# Making biomass heat work for you

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Washed graded silica sand available as a cost effective alternative to traditional bedding for Dairy Cows, delivered by professional fleet into the central belt.

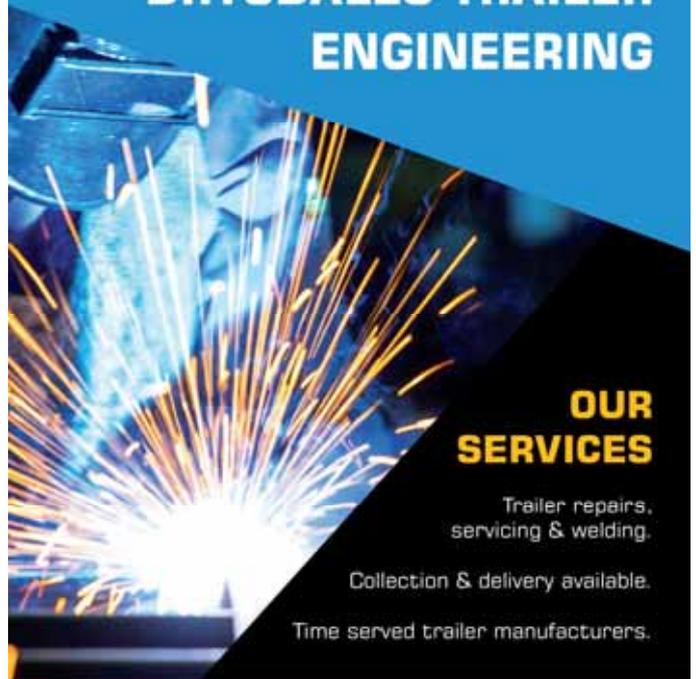
Sand possess many natural qualities that lend it to being an ideal bedding material for cows. It has shown to enhance some of the most important characteristics of cow behaviour and health:

- Provides better "Cow comfort"
- Inorganic, less bacterial growth
- Dry, reduces build-up of moisture
- Cool, does not insulate, reduces heat stress
- Provides traction for cows, reduces slipping

Fife Silica Sand is a washed pure silica sand, white in colour, naturally rounded therefore comfortable and ideally suited to meet the needs of the modern farmer.

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