

## HOLSTEIN UK PRESIDENTS MEDAL WINNER ANNOUNCED



Holstein UK President David Perry with Presidents Medal Winner Helen Eastham and Gordon Miller  
Managing Director Semex UK

Helen Eastham from Lancashire HYB was crowned the Holstein UK President Medal Winner 2017. Helen received the President's Medal and a trip to the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto, kindly funded by HYB's principal sponsor, Semex, later this year. Congratulations also goes to runners up Tom Lomas (Western) and Lucy Taylor (Staffordshire).

Sponsored by Semex, the Holstein UK President's Medal recognises and rewards young talent and highlights individuals who are the dairy farmers of the future. The Award, presented at the Semex Conference on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January in Glasgow, recognises a member who has made a remarkable contribution to the breed, Holstein Young Breeders (HYB) and their own Club.

The entry process started with each HYB Club being asked to nominate one young breeder aged between 23 and 26 years of age. Six young breeders were shortlisted for interview with the panel of judges, including

David Perry (Holstein UK President), John Cousar (Holstein UK Board Member) and Alison Beattie (Semex Marketing Consultant), following submission of an essay titled '*Countdown to a new dawn*'. Following the interviews, the final three were selected and the award was officially announced at the 28<sup>th</sup> Semex Conference held at the 5 Star Radison Blu hotel, Glasgow.

Holstein UK President, David Perry, was one of the judges and commented, "*Helen, a long-term member of Lancashire HYB, has progressed through all competitions over the years and is now one of the Club's coordinators. Her enthusiasm is infectious as she encourages and organises others around her. Helen's knowledge of Holsteins and visions for the "new dawn" gives confidence for the future. She will be an outstanding ambassador for our breed. I would like to congratulate her and wish her every success going forward.*"

Micheal Dennsion, UK Sales Manager "*Congratulations to Helen on winning this prestigious award. She is a very worthy winner who is passionate, enthusiastic and ambitious young breeder who has made an outstanding contribution for and within the HYB organisation and the wider dairy industry.*"

Congratulations also to runners-up include Lucy Taylor and Tom Lomas.

Tom Lomas is a member of Western HYB and has endless energy and enthusiasm for HYB. Having graduated from Reaseheath College, he set up a cattle preparation business, which took him all over the UK & Europe. . Tom has had a number of successes within HYB, including being selected as part of the UK team at the European Championships in Colmar. Tom is at the forefront of Western HYB and uses the skills he has developed to help and encourage younger members of the Club. Tom has recently teamed up with two other young breeders to introduce the Perfection Collection Sale in 2018, which will be an elite pedigree sale with 100 lots.

Lucy (Hill) Taylor is a member of Staffordshire HYB has been involved in showing with her family Hydaways Holsteins since a very young age, alongside her brother, Tom. Lucy has been involved with HYB for as long as she can remember, with success in many of the organisation's major competitions, whilst also being selected to represent the UK at EYBS in Battice, Belgium on two occasions. She is currently a joint Club Coordinator for Staffordshire HYB, a role which she approaches with dedication and enthusiasm at all times.