



# *Cotswold Sheep Society Newsletter*

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19 Elm Grove, Ebrington, Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire GL55 6PE  
Tel.: 01386 593663

[info@cotswoldsheepsociety.co.uk](mailto:info@cotswoldsheepsociety.co.uk) [www.cotswoldsheepsociety.co.uk](http://www.cotswoldsheepsociety.co.uk)

## **Council Officers**

Chairman – The Hon. Mrs A. Reid    Vice-Chairman – Miss D. Stanhope  
Secretary - Ms. S. Furlong    Treasurer- Mrs. L. Parkes

## **Council Members**

Mr. D. Cross, Mrs. C. Cunningham, Mr. N Hatch, Mr. R. Mumford,  
Mr. S. Parkes, Mrs. M. Pursch, and Mr. J. Webb

## **Editor**

Mr. J. Flanders

This Newsletter is independently edited and readers should be aware that the views expressed within its pages do not necessarily reflect the views held by Council.



*Thomas Jackson judging at the Three Counties Show*

## **EDITORIAL**

**John Flanders**

This edition of the Newsletter contains a number of articles, which hopefully you will find interesting. From my point of view the article by Davina is particularly helpful in that for the past two years I have entered the sheep at the Pembrokeshire County Agricultural Show and this year we did fairly well. However, I have never bothered entering the fleece competition mainly because it seemed a “black art” as I never knew what the judges looked for; but having spoken to the Pembrokeshire fleece judge in August and read Davina’s article it is now likely that the only lustre class entry for the past two years at the Pembrokeshire Show will have some competition. Not only will we be entering a Cotswold fleece, but also a Teeswater.

As mentioned in the last Newsletter I asked for articles from members on their experiences crossing Cotswold sheep and I was delighted to receive offerings from three of Society’s longstanding sheepkeepers namely Mrs Pat Quinn, Thomas Jackson, and Steve Parkes. Steve raises an interesting point as to whether we should remain as a small rare breed or should we expand by promoting the meat with the possibility, if successful, of not being a rare breed. If any members have thoughts in this respect it could be debated via the Newsletter.

Finally, in Council Corner, the question has been raised concerning the number of ram lambs and shearling rams that are forwarded for the annual Breed Sale. My own view is that only exceptional ram lambs should be retained as breeding stock; as far as I can recall only five of the Hendra Veau flock have been sold in nearly twenty years of keeping Cotswold sheep. This is not because they are of poor quality, on the contrary many have been of high quality but I do not believe it is appropriate to flood the market with a particular bloodline. As a consequence by buying in two different bloodlines and retaining two of the Holy Brook A.I. rams we have effectively four different blood lines that can be used as appropriate. As with the crossing comments above, if anyone has particular views in this regard, please put pen to paper and let me have your thoughts.

## **INFECTIOUS CAUSES OF LAMENESS**

**John Flanders**

Lameness in sheep is a common and persistent problem and this article, by Agnes

Winter and Clare Pythian of the Moredun Foundation, which has been reproduced from The Sheep Farmer (September/October 2013), concerns the common infectious causes of lameness.

“There are many types of lameness, with causes involving infectious agents, environmental and mechanical factors, variations in horn quality and other unknown factors. However it is possible to significantly reduce the most common types – interdigital dermatitis, footrot and CODD (contagious ovine digital dermatitis) – and to keep other types under control by implementing the following:

- Make sure **diagnosis** is accurate and involve your veterinary surgeon.
- **Inspect** daily if possible, certainly at not more than three day intervals, to reduce spread. The key early indicator of lameness is a head nod.
- Treat every individual lame sheep as soon as possible to gather. Treat cases even when lameness appears mild – do not wait until it has become severe as lesion severity and lameness do not always correlate. Ewes which became lame during pregnancy should be treated when seen rather than being left until lambing. Gentle handling should ensure no extra stress involved; if necessary the affected foot can be lifted and examined with the sheep standing restrained against a wall to save turning the animal over.
- Do not carry out foot trimming on footrot affected feet, as this significantly delays healing
- Separate infected animals until they are cured
- **Monitor** the situation by assessing the level of lameness in groups of sheep during routine stock inspections and record the number of animals treated for lameness.
- **Record** which animals become lame
- **Cull** repeat offenders and chronic cases
- **Select** animals with sound well shaped feet
- **Buy** only sound replacements and select those from your own flock, which have never been lame.
- **Isolate** new stock and examine feet
- **Identify** key control times to prevent spread infectious causes of lameness – e.g. housing and turn out after lambing.
- **Consult** your veterinary surgeon and make lameness part of your flock health plan, devising flock-specific treatment and control plans and discuss whether other strategies such as vaccination may be appropriate and cost-effective for your flock.
- Provide **clean grazing** by allowing two weeks break (as long as possible if aiming for eradication).

- Where used, **foot bathing** facilities must be in good order and the product used at the correct concentration and according to manufacturers' directions regarding stand –in times and standing on hard (clean) ground after bathing.”

With the limited gene pool of a rare breed it may not be possible to implement the culling policy as rigorously as recommended, but the principles suggested above should be adhered to as closely as possible.

## **FLEECE PRESENTATION**

**Davina Stanhope**

Showing your fleece is not as daunting as you may think, all that is needed is a clean fleece, patience and practice. If you do not want to show your sheep then it is a good way to show off your flock – and it does not need a trailer or a very early start, re-cleaning and loading sheep for the show!

### **STAGE 1**

**Check the schedule.** Some shows stipulate the age of the sheep and the sex. It is not unusual for ram fleeces to be shown; however, some shows give no mention of age or sex of sheep so it is up to you.

**Choose your fleece.** It needs to be pleasing to the eye and typical of the Cotswold with plenty of lustre and as clean as possible. You may notice when looking at other peoples sheep that they vary in colour. The ground that your sheep live on will dictate this (apart from any dirt or grease that is). I live in Shropshire, which produces quite white fleeces, those on the Cotswolds are slightly creamier, Herefordshire produces pink fleeces and so on. Artificial colouring is not permitted i.e. bloom dips.

The fleece must be as even as possible in that it should have the same crimp (curl) from the front to the back and it should be a good length for the age of the sheep. Shearling fleeces are longer and are, in general, the best fleeces to show as the sheep will not have had a lamb, therefore reducing the problem of stress marks. This is a weakness in the fleece caused by lambing, or, if the sheep has been ill, then a weakness will occur. Those of you who have horses will already know that if a horse has been ill it will show in the hoof, with sheep it shows in the wool. If you look at an older sheep then the wool is not quite such good quality as a shearling fleece.

The fleece must be as clean as you can get it, make sure that you remove all the bits

of hay, cotty wool (usually around the neck and chest where it has become wet and felted together), just pull this away and discard it, also any bits of hedge or foreign objects.

## **STAGE 2**

**Roll the fleece.** You may like to practice this, (on any old fleece rather than your lovely clean fleece as they never roll up well after the first time) until you are happy to that you are ready to roll your show fleece.

Lay the fleece out flat on a table. The side that was attached to the sheep's skin should be on the bottom and the outside of the fleece on top looking at you. There are two options:

**Fleece intact along the backbone.** If this is the case then you can roll it as follows

- 1 Make sure that the fleece is not stretched out.
- 2 Fold the sides to meet the middle so that there are no straggly ends sticking out
- 3 Start from the tail and proceed to roll the fleece towards the neck, keeping it as tight in the roll as you can
- 4 Once you have almost reached the end you need to twist the neck end to form a loose rope
- 5 Whilst keeping the "rope roll" tight it should be tucked into the "fleece roll". This should be central and not to the side as it will make the roll go lop sided.

**Fleece is open or parting along the backbone.** Do not worry if the fleece is parting; you have to adopt a slightly different method, but the final outcome is the same.

- 1 Presuming the fleece has parted or almost parted; pull it apart so that you have two "sides"
- 2 Put one "side" on the table with the part that was next to the sheep's skin bottom
- 3 The next "side" place on top of the first "side" with both neck ends facing the same way, again with the part that was next to the skin facing down.
- 4 The next bit is the same as before, just turn in the edges of the fleece, although not so far as with the first method, just enough to prevent the wispy bits falling out.

As before you need to start rolling the fleece from the tail end keeping the roll as tight as you can, again just before you get to the end, twist a length and tuck it in the

fleece in a nice tight roll.

### **STAGE 3**

You may like to use an old sheet to wrap your fleece in once it is finished to prevent any damage and stop any dirt getting onto the fleece. Do not keep fleeces in a plastic bag as they will sweat, however some people do put the fleece in a bin bag to enable easy transport to the show, and to ensure that you get to the fleece there in one piece.

If anyone would like to ask me about showing fleeces, please feel free to contact me on 07968 218470, please leave a message if I am unable to answer and I will call you back when I am free.



*Davina Stanhope demonstrating how to present a fleece at the AGM*

## **CROSSING COTSWOLD SHEEP**

A number of members actively cross their sheep for either commercial reasons or just interest. This year, for the first time, we have put three Cotswolds to a Teeswater tup and the outcome will be interesting in terms particularly of the wool produced.

The following comments by Mrs Pat Quinn, Thomas Jackson, and Steve Parkes reflect their views on using Cotswolds for crossing.

### **Mrs Pat Quinn**

In the mid 1980s when I had quite a large flock of North Country (NC) Mules there

was one year of drought which meant that at the end of the year I was left with a serious lack of keep. I noticed that the Mules were much more badly affected than my Cotswolds who seemed to be as matronly as ever. They happily munched what they could find while the Mules protested they were ravenous. Consequently I decided to sell most of my NC Mules and increase my Longhorn Herd. The few Mules I did not sell I put to the Cotswold ram the following year.

The resulting ewe lambs looked very promising so they were kept; but the males proved to be difficult to finish. As my late father had a very good flock of pedigree Suffolks at that time I commandeered a good ram to put on the Mule cross Cotswold ewes. I was just starting a computer program so these ewes were called CMs and their lambs entered as XBs. I have continued with this plan now for twenty eight years. The North Country Mules are “topped up” from time to time, and put to a Cotswold ram. I now have to buy in good Suffolk tups. We keep our fingers crossed for female offspring and frown at the males.

We now keep the flock at approx 100 ewes to lamb each year divided as 50 CMs and 50 Pedigree Cotswolds, perhaps with a few Cotswolds put with the Suffolk Ram and called CCs. This is based on what we consider is easy to manage along with the Longhorn Herd.

Over the years we have found the XBs grade just as well as the lambs from pure Mules and fit the commercial market. The advantages of this system is that breeding our own butcher lambs saves buying in stores. The CMs seem to possess the best of both breeds. It works well at Lower Harford.

### **Thomas Jackson**

I have crossed Cotswolds with both Texels and Suffolks, although the Suffolks were some time ago before they were so heavily boned.

Texel crosses produced a large white faced lamb with a rather nice fleece and a better meat conformation, the cross grew faster than the pure breeds (hybrid vigor) and if marketed before they got too old or were not too long in the wool and they met a ready market in the commercial trade. I kept some of the ewe lambs, and in fact I still have some of their offspring in the flock and they made excellent ewes lasting well and having an excellent cull value at the end of their lives.

Suffolk crosses, very much a traditional cross as hundreds of Cotswolds were sent to Suffolk and Norfolk to cross on the forerunner of the Suffolk in the 19th and early 20th century. The crosses produced a speckled face lamb with an improved

conformation, the cross grew slightly faster than the Texel cross and again was very acceptable for the commercial market. Again I kept some of the ewe lambs which produced very large ewes which were as tall as Cotswolds and broader making them very heavy to handle but they were really good doers carrying lots of flesh and lasted really well and of course were valuable when sold as culls.

Both these crosses I did both ways using Texel rams on Cotswold ewes and Cotswold rams on Texel ewes and ditto with the Suffolks and was equally successful each way, which is not always the case with crossing.

I also have used Vendeen rams on Cotswold ewes and it produced a very average non descript sheep which looked something of nothing and as a result I did not retain any as breeding sheep. The Vendeen on the above Texel and Suffolk crosses worked nicely however so as usual nothing is guaranteed in breeding animals.

### **Steve Parkes**

I have for sometime wondered about the future of the Cotswold as a breed and felt that if we do not find a purpose for the breed it always remain a small minority, novelty, rare breed. This has stood us well for the last 30- 40 years and may be where the breed should be.

With this in mind, two years ago I purchased six North Country Cheviot ewes, as previous articles in this newsletter had suggested this may be a good cross. I have found that it is a good cross and any person attending Sheep 2012 at Malvern would have seen one of my Cheviot ewes and her Cotswold Cross lambs at foot. Those who manned the stand will tell you that they produced a lot of interest from commercial shepherds, but to date none have come forward to purchase rams to try for themselves.

Any breeder who has eaten Cotswold lamb knows what a wonderful product we have. I have customers who in the past have said they do not eat lamb, but on trying Cotswold they love the taste and flavour. Perhaps this is more the direction we should going rather than crossing. The main obstacles in this direction are quality and quantity of supply. We are a small rare breed and numbers broadly remain static, to move into more promotion we need to treble the number of breeding ewes and slaughter half the ewe lambs each year just to produce the numbers of lambs required to do this.

I have put this in as a talking point and hope to stimulate interest and direction; I am at the end of the phone if anyone wishes further discussion.

*Editorial Comment*

*If any members wish to add to the discussion through the Newsletter could they let me have their articles by 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014.*

## **FLOCK COMPETITION**

**Robert Boodle**

These are Robert Boodle's thoughts on acting as Judge for the 2013 Flock Competition.

*The entries were, in alphabetical order,:*

<i>Miss Amy Evans</i>	<i>COT 454</i>
<i>Mr Alex Evans</i>	<i>COT 455</i>
<i>Miss S Evans</i>	<i>Lady Well</i>
<i>Mr G Fenemore</i>	<i>Apletree</i>
<i>Mr and Mrs J Flanders</i>	<i>Hendra Vean</i>
<i>Miss S Furlong &amp; Mr N Hatch</i>	<i>Oakham</i>
<i>Mr R Harvey Long</i>	<i>Pickwick</i>
<i>Mr S Parkes</i>	<i>Kespar</i>
<i>Mr M Pettitt</i>	<i>COT 464</i>
<i>Mrs P Quinn</i>	<i>Harford</i>
<i>The Hon. Mrs A Reid</i>	<i>Queenford</i>
<i>Mr T Tame</i>	<i>Burmington</i>

There were eleven entries, five in the large flock category of 20 breeding ewes and over, and six in the small flock ranging from two ewes to eighteen breeding females.

My travels took me as far apart as Abingdon and Malmesbury, Kenilworth and Banbury. Way over to the far side of Hereford, and even to the far reaches of the Kingdom, in West Wales. Whilst not ignoring the flocks that were right here in the Cotswolds.

Every flock master was so enthusiastic about their animals, and opened up their farms and paddocks for my inspection.

I was very impressed by some of the entrants who spread the word through their marketing skills, whether it be in the form of meat or wool. If someone is having a

dinner party and the main dish is Cotswold meat then it spreads the word. Likewise if you are wearing a garment spun from Cotswold wool it is again a good talking point.

I encouraged all the entrants to become involved in showing, which is such a good yardstick when comparing ones own sheep with other breeders.

This competition is very far reaching. Quality stock is very dependant upon sound management skills, good grazing is one of the most important ingredients, without it one cannot achieve ones potential. Likewise, being up to date with veterinary requirements is equally important.

In judging this competition I tried to take in all these different aspects when coming to my conclusions. The first and second in the large flock were neck and neck with really high quality management throughout. The small flocks were wider open mainly because they were more reliant on bought in foundation stock and were looking forward to having their own breeding and flock name. First and second were very justified, but I thought it worthy to allocate a Certificate to the Best New Flock.

The results will be announced at the Winter Social in November and I would like to thank all the entrants who showed me around their flocks with such enthusiasm.

## **RBST SUPPORT GROUPS**

**Richard Broad – RBST**

The RBST has a wide regional number of Support Groups. Based in an area or county, they are spread from Caledonia, through Northern Ireland right down to Cornwall. These groups attend a huge number of agricultural shows and events spreading the word on the work of the RBST and promoting rare breeds. It is one of the best parts of my job being involved with the many groups in the south.

The range of events they attend is unbelievable at times, and just recently they include shows such as the East of England Autumn Exhibition where there were four or more breeds of cattle, sheep and equines on display by the local support group. Other events include taking animals to a Harvest Festival in a cathedral, attending a RHS Garden Show at Malvern, and fund raising with a band at a music event.

The RBST attends a small number of events with the HQ taking main control but hundreds of other events are undertaken by the local groups. Groups are always

looking for volunteers, and breeders who can bring their stock to be on the stand. Please look at the RBST website to find your local group and offer some Cotswolds to them for their displays. This can be very rewarding and also will get the Cotswold breed out there for people to see.

Wouldn't be nice to think that every RBST support group (over 25 in total) had a Cotswold breeder who would bring along some sheep to display when asked.

## **FELTED SHEEP PORTRAITS**

**Helen Taylor**

I was sculpting with fleece for several years before I had my first Cotswold fleece experience. What a fleece – the combination of body, curls, lustre and sweet fragrance makes working with this wool an absolute joy. The fleece comes into our workshop in Ruskin Mill (Nailsworth, Gloucestershire) dirty but full of promise. It is washed and dried carefully so as to not lose too much of its oil and not to become brittle. Some of this fleece is then dyed yellow, blue and green by my fellow Textiles Maker, Margaret Docherty. We collect Golden Rod flowers from the Mill gardens to dye the fleece yellow, use onion skins collected in the Mill Café to produce a rich rust coloured fleece and utilise imported natural Indigo to create a wonderful palette of blues. Dipping the yellow shades into a vat of indigo creates the most stunning collection of green fleece. The Cotswold fleece takes up the dyes magnificently without losing the curls or the lustre. It was clear to me from my first experience of this fleece that I wanted to use it in its un-carded form and that there would be no better subject to sculpt than the animal from which it came. One of my earliest portraits was of a very fine Cotswold Ram (see picture).

My sheep portraits are wool pictures (approx. 35cm x 35cm) made using the needle-felting technique. The Ram/Ewe/Lamb is sculpted using a barbed felting needle from un-carded and un-dyed fleece from the appropriate breed of sheep. A beautiful palette of naturally dyed and un-carded Cotswold wool is used to form a background for each sheep.

Pictures of sheep can be commissioned subject to the availability of the appropriate fleece. However, if you have your own flock, a photograph and a small quantity of fleece is all that is required to produce a unique portrait of your prize ram or sheep! Prices vary between £95 and £150 depending on mounting (wooden batons or frame) and breed of sheep.

Alternatively you can make your own Sheep portrait at the Textiles Workshop in Ruskin Mill, Nailsworth, Gloucestershire. Saturday workshops run from 10am – 3:30pm and cost £65 including materials.

For more information please contact Helen on 0752 8857598 or E-mail [hctaylor2002@aol.com](mailto:hctaylor2002@aol.com)



*One of Helen Taylor's portraits*

## **THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**2013**

**Held at Burghfield House, Bourton on the Water**

The day was kindly hosted by Lynne and Steve Parkes and began with a most interesting flock walk around Steve's sheep. While the ewes played 'I'm keeping out of your way', and firmly kept their distance, the rams were all too happy to hang around and show off just how handsome they were – that's boys for you!

Lunch was 'bring and share' and provided a wonderful opportunity for everyone to socialise and catch up on each other's news.

Following lunch Davina Stanhope expertly demonstrated just how a fleece should be prepared for showing, and she has written about this elsewhere in this newsletter.

Wool has for many years been an undervalued by-product of sheep, but that is beginning to change, and for our Cotswolds this can only be good news. We need to promote our wool in every way we can, and entering fleeces at shows is just one way of doing this – and at least you can just pop a fleece in the back of your car – you don't have to halter train it, or load it into a trailer!

So next year when the shearer arrives, do keep an eye out for your best fleece, put it on one side, and consider entering it into a show or two, during the summer.

The AGM was brief, with all essential business completed, all officers of the Society being confirmed, and Neil Hatch elected onto Council. Sadly Emma Turner, who had been going to stand for election onto Council, was unable to do so for family reasons.



*Members enjoying a farm walk prior to the AGM*

## **SHOWS 2013**

**Angela Reid**

This has been an excellent summer for showing Cotswolds. There has been a really good turnout from the Three Counties Show at Malvern, right through to our National Show of Cotswolds at Moreton-in-Marsh. It is extremely encouraging to see that several newer members have taken the plunge and entered sheep for the first

time. Some classes have been particularly spectacular; the Senior Ewe classes at both the Cotswold Show (Cirencester Park), and Moreton Show, were packed with quality sheep.

Two of our 'new' judges have been in action with Jon King coping admirably with a nice turnout of sheep at Berkeley Show, while Tim Ward did an excellent job at Monmouth show.

It has been a real pleasure to see the continuing enthusiasm with which the Young Handlers have entered their classes throughout the season.

## **THE SHOW AND BREED SALE** **at Cirencester Market** **Angela Reid**

The annual Show and Sale of Cotswold Sheep took place in early August at Cirencester Market under the auspices of Voyce Pullin's Rare Breeds Sale. There were a reasonable number of buyers present at the sale on the Saturday morning, but while a few prices paid were good, the rest were adequate. All sheep had been card graded the night before by Robert Boodle and Richard Mumford; red cards being awarded to 'correct Cotswolds', blue cards issued to sheep with a minor fault, and yellow cards being issued to sheep with a more serious fault, but which were still sufficiently correct to breed from. The show took place following the card grading, for any 'red carded' sheep wishing to enter. The judge, Caroline Cunningham awarded Show Champion to shearling ram, Queenford Lawrence.

After the show, members relaxed and chatted over a barbecue; cooked as always by Steve Parkes. It was a very pleasant evening; open to any members who wanted to come along and join us.

In Saturday's sale Queenford Lawrence achieved the top price paid for a Cotswold, of £294. The average price for a shearling ewe was £143, with a top price of £210 being paid for several of Davina Stanhope's shearling ewes. The average price paid for a ewe lamb was a healthy £94.

One problem this year was that a disproportionately large number of shearling rams were entered. With a breed such as ours where there are a very limited number of flocks, and ewes, it is too easy to 'flood the market' with rams of poorer quality, or similar bloodlines. This is not good for the breed in the long run, and there is a need

for all flock keepers to be ruthless when it comes to choosing ram lambs to grow on. In order to try and address the problem, Council have taken the decision to follow the lead of many other smaller breed societies and restrict the number of shearing rams and ram lambs that any one member can take to the breed sale. Full details of the restriction can be found in Council Corner.



*Competitors trying to persuade their sheep to behave at the Breed Show and Sale*

## **COTSWOLD SHEEP SOCIETY SHOW & SALE RESULTS**

### **SHOW RESULTS**

2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2013

Judge: Mrs C Cunningham

**Senior Ram** (1 Entry)

**Shearling Ram** (4 Entries)

1<sup>st</sup> Mr C Stacey

1<sup>st</sup> Mrs A. Reid

2<sup>nd</sup> Mrs A Reid

3<sup>rd</sup> Mr J Follows

**Ram Lamb** (0 Entries)

**Senior Ewe** (0 Entries)

**Shearling Ewe** (8 Entries)

**Ewe Lamb** (4 Entries)

1<sup>st</sup> Miss D Stanhope

1<sup>st</sup> Mr & Mrs V J Webb

2<sup>nd</sup> Miss D Stanhope

2<sup>nd</sup> Ms D Stanhope

3<sup>rd</sup> Mrs P Quinn

3<sup>rd</sup> Ms D Stanhope

**Champion:** Mrs A Reid – Shearling Ewe C12437 Queenford Lawrence  
**Reserve Champion:** Miss D Stanhope – Shearling Ewe C12799 Tingewick Adriana  
**Peter Walwyn Perpetual Trophy (Champion):** Mrs A Reid – Shearling Ewe C12437 Queenford Lawrence

## SALE RESULTS

All entries were card graded.

Only *red card* sheep are eligible to go forward to the show.

*Red Card* - correct sheep.

*Blue Card* - sheep with a minor fault.

*Yellow Card* - sheep with a more serious fault.

*White Card* - an unacceptable sheep.

The card grades and prices of all Cotswolds sold are given below:

<b>Senior Rams</b>	3 Forward: 1 Sold (2 Red Card, 1 Blue Card) Top Price £150.00 : Average Price £150.00
<b>Shearling Rams</b>	12 Forward: 3 Sold (7 Red Cards, 5 Blue Cards) Top Price £280.00 : Average Price £177.00
<b>Ram Lambs</b>	0 Forward: 0 Sold Top Price £0.00 : Average Price £0.00
<b>Senior Ewes</b>	0 Forward: 0 Sold Top Price £0.00 : Average Price £0.00
<b>Shearling Ewes</b>	24 Forward: 14 Sold (18 Red Cards, 5 Blue Cards, 1 Yellow Card) Top Price £200.00 : Average Price £136.00
<b>Ewe Lambs</b>	8 Forward: 7 Sold (6 Red Cards, 2 Blue Cards) Top Price £95.00 : Average Price £90.00

# MORETON IN MARSH SHOW

## Cotswold Sheep Society National Show

### SHEEP CLASSES

Nominated Show for the Frank Houlton Trophy

7<sup>th</sup> September 2013

Judge: Mr R Boodle

#### Senior Ram (6 Entries)

1<sup>st</sup> Mr D Cross  
2<sup>nd</sup> Miss D Stanhope  
3<sup>rd</sup> Mr D Cross

#### Shearling Ram (6 Entries)

1<sup>st</sup> S Furlong & N Hatch  
2<sup>nd</sup> Miss D Stanhope  
3<sup>rd</sup> Mr D Cross

#### Ram Lamb (8 Entries)

1<sup>st</sup> Mr R Harvey Long  
2<sup>nd</sup> Mr R Harvey Long  
3<sup>rd</sup> Mr D Cross

#### Senior Ewe (10 Entries)

1<sup>st</sup> Miss D Stanhope  
2<sup>nd</sup> Miss D Stanhope  
3<sup>rd</sup> Mr D Cross

#### Shearling Ewe (10 Entries)

1<sup>st</sup> Mr R Jones  
2<sup>nd</sup> Miss D Stanhope  
3<sup>rd</sup> Mr R Harvey Long

#### Ewe Lamb (10 Entries)

1<sup>st</sup> Mr J Follows  
2<sup>nd</sup> Miss A Field  
3<sup>rd</sup> Miss D Stanhope

#### Group Of Three (6 Entries)

1<sup>st</sup> Mr D Cross  
2<sup>nd</sup> Miss D Stanhope  
3<sup>rd</sup> Mr & Mrs V J Webb

**Champion:** Mr D Cross – Senior Ram – C12005 Westcote Izod

**Reserve Champion:** Miss D Stanhope – Senior Ewe – C11499 Tingewick Kalise

**Tony Foster Challenge Trophy (Champion):** Mr D Cross – Senior Ram – C12005 Westcote Izod

**The Colburn Cup (Best Senior Ram):** Mr D Cross – Senior Ram – C12005 Westcote Izod

**The Oakhill Cup (Best Shearling Ram):** Miss S Furlong & Mr N Hatch - Shearling Ram – C12809 Oakham Kestral

**The William Garne Cup: (Best Female):** Miss D Stanhope – Senior Ewe – C11499 Tingewick Kalise

**The Les Arnold Challenge Trophy (Best Lamb):** Mr R Harvey Long– Ram Lamb – C12942 Todenham Ajax

## **FLEECE CLASSES**

Nominated Show for Golden Fleece Trophy  
7<sup>th</sup> September 2013

Judge: Mr S Kitson BWMB

**Fleece** (17 Entries)

1<sup>st</sup> Mr R Harvey - Long

2<sup>nd</sup> Mr S Parkes

3<sup>rd</sup> Mr J Dale

**Interbreed Fleece** – Mr R Harvey Long

**Reserve Interbreed Fleece** – Mr S Parkes

Attendance point awarded to:

Miss A Field, Miss S Furlong, Mr E Hannis, Mr B Hannis, Miss E Haines,  
Mr R Jones, Miss D Stanhope



*Robert Boodle helping the Young Handlers at the Moreton-in-Marsh Show*

## COUNCIL CORNER

**Members of Council** – We would like to thank Emma Turner for the time she has spent assisting with the Society website since she was co-opted onto Council last year. Sadly she has had to resign from Council for family reasons. All enquiries concerning the website, should now be directed to Angela Reid via [web@cotswoldsheepsociety.co.uk](mailto:web@cotswoldsheepsociety.co.uk).

Sadly Sarah Robinson has also had to resign owing to the pressure of other commitments. We would like to thank her very much for her hard work on Council, and for baking some spectacular cakes.

We are extremely pleased to inform you however, that John Webb has kindly agreed to be co-opted onto Council. We thank him in advance for his time, and we very much look forward to working with him.

**Rams at the Breed Show and Sale, Cirencester Market** – Council are concerned at the disproportionately large number of younger rams forward at the sale. Council has discussed at length ways that this could be addressed. We have agreed to follow the lead of other small breed societies and introduce the following restriction: ‘A vendor may enter one shearling ram, or one ram lamb, without restriction. If a vendor wishes to enter more than one, either 2 shearling rams, 2 ram lambs, or a combination of one of each, then a minimum of two females must be entered by the vendor. There is no restriction for senior rams.’

**Registrations – Closing date for Registrations was 30<sup>th</sup> September.** Please would any member who has not yet registered, or birth notified, this year’s lambs - please do so as soon as possible, and by **30<sup>th</sup> November** at the very latest. Best practice is to Birth Notify **all** this year’s lambs, and Register just those that meet breed standards, and that you are certain you like. Remember that unless you do at least Birth Notify notify a lamb this year, which is free, you won’t be able to register it next year.

**Registering Ram Lambs** – It is important that we are all very selective when it comes to choosing ram lambs to register and grow on. With a breed such as ours, with such a relatively small number of ewes, large numbers of rams are just not needed – and it is certainly not worth keeping several ram lambs with very similar bloodlines – just keep the very best!

**Online Registrations** – It really is very straightforward registering your lambs online - it also helps the Society to cut down on paperwork. All you do is click the ‘Online Flock Book’ button on the website. That will take you through to the ‘Log In’ page. In the ‘Member No’ box just put 00??? (replace the ‘?’s with your flock number) - then enter your password (if you have forgotten your password contact Lynne Parkes for a reminder). Now you will be ‘logged in’ and you can search for a particular animal, check out your entire flock, find a member, and research the pedigree or progeny of any registered sheep – dead or alive. You can also go to ‘Manage Your Flock’ and there you can notify deaths, births, etc. So do ‘Log on’ and explore – you will be amazed at what you can discover, and what you can do!

**Winter Social** – Please do come and join us at on 23<sup>rd</sup> November at the Westwood Centre, Northleach. It’s always a fun and sociable evening and definitely ‘the more the merrier!’ The application form is included with this Newsletter.

**Flock Competition** – Remember that Robert Boodle will reveal the results of the Flock Competition at the Winter Social.

**Mentoring Scheme** – Council are setting up a ‘Mentoring Scheme’ for new members with sheep. If anyone is a ‘New Member’ (you have bought your first Cotswolds in the last year or so) and would like more information about the scheme - please contact the Secretary.

**Newsletter** – We are always trying to reduce our postage and printing costs, so please let the Secretary know if you are happy to have the Newsletter by email and to download any relevant forms off the website.

**Grand Raffle** – The raffle was drawn at Moreton Show. It raised over £800 for the Society – a vital boost to our funds. We would like to thank all of you who sold, or bought, tickets and all those who so kindly donated prizes.

**The Frank Williams Trophy Nomination Form** – This is included in this Newsletter. (However, if it does get mislaid it is ‘Downloadable’ from the website!) Please do consider sending in a nomination, as this trophy is an excellent way of thanking a member, or non-member, for their efforts on behalf of the Society.

## **SHEEP FOR SALE/WANTED**

This is a free service for buyers and sellers.

The list is constantly being updated, so please do contact the Secretary or check the web site if you wish to buy.

### **FOR SALE:**

**Mr S Holmes**, 11 Warneford Place, Moreton In Marsh, Gloucestershire GL56 0LR  
Tel. 07515 625852

HAS FOR SALE two April born, grass reared ewe lambs by Westcote Henry

**Chipping Campden School**, Cider Mill Lane, Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire  
GL55 6HU

TEL. 01386 840216 (Geoff Carr)

E-MAIL GC@chippingcampden.gloucs.sch.uk

HAS FOR SALE a number of ewes of various ages

**Mrs Judy Wilkie**, Weylode, Tetbury Road, Old Sodbury, South Gloucestershire  
BS37 6RJ

TEL. 01454 313305

HAS FOR SALE some ewes and shearling ewes

### **WANTED:**

None

### **RAMS FOR HIRE:**

**Mr Steve Parkes**, 47 King George's Field, Stow On The Wold, Gloucestershire  
Tel. 01451 830461

HIRES OUT RAMS and members should contact him for further details.

# DIRECTORY

This directory gives a list of members' products derived from pedigree Cotswold sheep and useful e-mail addresses/phone numbers. If anyone wants to be added to the list please let me know on 01545 590438. Cotswold cross products will be shown only in the Miscellaneous Section.

## **Meat**

None

## **Skins**

Lamb skins - **Steve Parkes** – 01451 830461

## **Woollen Goods**

Knitting wool, body warmers, throws, scarves, cushions - **John Flanders** – 01545 590438; [www.hendraveancotswolds.co.uk](http://www.hendraveancotswolds.co.uk)

Knitting wool – **Edna Powell** – 01453 883646

## **Miscellaneous**

Sewing machine repairs, knitting wool – **Edna Powell** – 01453 883646

Coloured lamb skins – **Angela Reid** – 01865 343133

Rare breed pork – **Fiona Park** – 01558 669160

Boxed lamb, mutton, and BBQ packs – **Jonathan Brunyee** – 01451 844342;  
[www.conygreefarm.co.uk](http://www.conygreefarm.co.uk)

## **E-mail Addresses/Phone Numbers**

National Sheep Association – 01684 892661; [www.nationalsheep.org.uk](http://www.nationalsheep.org.uk)

Farming Connect Service Centre –0845 6000 813

[www.wales.gov.uk/environmentandcountryside](http://www.wales.gov.uk/environmentandcountryside) (Wales only)