



COTSWOLD SHEEP SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Registered Charity No. 1013326

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Council Officers

Chairman – Mr. Bob Palmer Vice Chairman – Mr. Richard Mumford
Secretary Mrs. Lucinda Foster Treasurer- Mrs. Lynne Parkes

Council Members

Mrs. M. Pursch, Mrs. C. Cunningham, The Hon. Mrs. A. Reid, Mr. R Leach, Mr. D.
Cross, Mr. S. Parkes, Ms. D. Stanhope
Editors –John Flanders, Angela Reid

PHOTO COMPETITION 2009



Have you sent in your photos yet?

Closing date now extended to 21st November 09

Frog Race Night

The idea is to hold a social and fund raising event on Friday 12th February 2010, which will take the form of a frog race evening at Westwoods Centre, Northleach.

For those of you who have never been to a frog race before, and those who have are in for a treat. It is the first time we are trying this and I do urge you to come along and give us your support.

There will be 7 races and if anyone wishes to sponsor a race please contact Lucinda from whom tickets can be bought at the very reasonable price of £7.50 including supper. Her phone number is 01285 851197 or 15barnsley@dsl.pipex.com. Tickets will hopefully be available at the Winter Social.

The Cotswold Frog Racing Team has been inspected twice by the RSPCA, who were happy that no undue stress or cruelty is placed on the highly trained athletes.

Steve Parkes

EID Ear Tags

The new ear tagging regulations come into force on 31st December 2009 and it is intended to advise members of the changes nearer the time.

As far as the tags themselves are concerned, electronic tags must be yellow, while the original non-electronic tag in double tagged sheep can be any colour other than yellow, black (unless using a bolus for EID), or red. Red will be retained for replacement tags for sheep not born on your holding, while black tags will be used as the secondary identifier where an electronic bolus has been used.

The new tags will contain your existing UK flock number, preceded by a '0', followed by a five digit individual number, for example, UK 0 123456 00001. Eblex, NFU, National Sheep Association and the Livestock Auctioneers Association will be issuing guidance in the next few weeks

For further information visit www.eblex.org.uk

Hendra Vean Cotswolds

John and Jan Flanders

The Hendra Vean flock, which is now based near New Quay on the Ceredigion coast in West Wales, was originally established in 1996 when we had the opportunity to buy a paddock at the rear of the property where we were living in Surrey. We were keen to have a rare breed and the choice came down to Wensleydale or Cotswold and Lyn Gibbings suggested that we visited Guiting Power Farm Park to compare the two breeds; I am afraid that there was no contest and the Cotswolds won.



Having bought the first four lambs from Bob Palmer we had to find a ram, and fortunately Crawley Borough Council decided that they no longer wanted to keep their trio of Cotswold sheep and we bought the lot, including an Oxford Down, for £100. The ram was Cookbury Egor for which they paid £525 at the rare breed sale in 1992 and I have to say that he was superb. He was large and gentle and many of our ewes can be traced back to him.

In early 2000 we decided that we wanted to move to Wales and we spent the next four years trying to find a suitable farm; but in the meantime we deliberately grew our the flock size and for a couple of years Nick Cordery kindly looked after a number of our ewes. Finally in 2004 we moved to Wales and followed a different way of life.

Since moving here the flock has changed and whilst we now have about 45 to 50 breeding ewes, we have also been able to improve the quality. This is due to the helpful advice we have received from Steve Parkes and Davina Stanhope, such that this year we have had difficulty deciding how few replacement ewe lambs to retain. In terms of flock policy those ewes that do not produce good lambs or that show undesirable characteristics, are culled.

With the size of the flock, which is the largest in Wales, we have been able to diversify and last year we had the wool spun and made into throws, scarves, cushions and other knitwear. This year the fleeces have been made into Aran and Double Knit knitting wool. The mill we use to process the fleeces is only 10 miles from us, thus the carbon footprint is minimal. If anyone is contemplating having their fleeces made into knitwear such as we have produced, our experience is that there is a considerable financial outlay and you need a large number of fleeces for however good your flock is there will always be fleeces that cannot be used.

At the moment we are concentrating on the woollen goods, but we are pondering whether to introduce a box meat scheme. Consequently, at present, those lambs, which are not retained for replacements are sold at the local mart and that is only 12 miles away.

This year we were particularly pleased with the lamb crop with only 3 deaths (two of which were due to toxoplasmosis) out of 67; this equates to 4% and according to the NSA the national average is 15%. Having written this next year will probably be a disaster – but that is sheep for you!!

Cotswolds in Wales

Cotswolds, like all sheep, do not enjoy wet weather (a bit like people) and although we get our fair share of rain in this area, the sheep do not seem to suffer unduly. Having said that we have to be aware of the dangers of liver fluke and take appropriate action, particularly as a couple of the fields are poorly drained, but we intend to rectify that in the next two years.

Also associated with the wetter climate is the problem associated with cutting hay. For the past three years we have not made hay, but generally it is possible to make big bale haylage and with our size of flock there is no difficulty of it going off except immediately prior to lambing when the ewes do not want to eat much.

Final Comment

When our vet prepared the Animal Health Plan as part of the Welsh Lamb and Beef Producers Farm Assured Scheme he commented “Hendra Vean Cotswolds are doing a tremendous job of promoting and improving an important rare breed”. I might be biased, but I agree with him.

John Flanders

The Eastern States Show at Springfield, Massachusetts, USA

I accepted Kim Caulfield’s kind invitation to be a guest speaker at the Show, to talk about my research into the origins of the Golden Fleece and also the Medieval wool trade in England and the Italian connections.

I had a most enjoyable trip, met many enthusiastic Cotswold sheep breeders and made some good friends in the course of my trip, which was very much a learning experience for me, especially as it was my first trip to America.

The Cotswold Show was on Saturday Sept 27th, and my talk was the following day, so as I had arrived earlier in the week, Kim had arranged for me to be taken around New England to see some places of interest.

My first trip was with Anne McIntyre-Lahner, who keeps Romneys, and we went to visit Old Surbridge Village which is a Museum and learning resource of New England rural life during America’s early years, 1790-1840, showing how the settlers built their new nation. It was fascinating and most enjoyable. Next day was spent with Dr Max Crossman, we went to Plymouth on the Atlantic coast to the place where the early settlers had landed at Plymouth

Rock. Also there was a replica of the famous Mayflower ship which we went on board to inspect and it was really quite small to have crossed the Atlantic with all those people, they must have been very brave!. This replica ship had sailed to America from England originally in 1957 and one of the crew had been a descendant of the original Mayflower's crew. We had a great day out, and I know Max is well known to Norman and Kate Kay.

The next three days I spent at the Show ground, there was so much to see and do.

I was very impressed by all the events and how the many young people who participated are encouraged. They are all so very enthusiastic and this must auger well for the future. I feel sure there are some things we can learn from the Americans with this and also with their fund raising ideas.

The Cotswold sheep I saw were in many ways different to ours here in the UK. It must also be remembered that I can only make comments on the sheep I saw and unfortunately Kim Caulfield was not able to take her sheep to the Show, as she had imported semen from English rams in 1997 and it would have been interesting to see what effect this may have had on her sheep.



The sheep I saw at the Show had some marked differences to our British sheep and I believe this may well have been a natural response of the sheep to the extremes of climate to be found in America. The intense heat found in many of the Southern states means they have to be shorn twice a year to survive it, and the fleeces on many of the sheep I saw has changed from being long and crimped, to being short to medium ringlets, which hang loose and open, which I think would help to allow air to circulate around the skin. I was delighted to see Max Crossman's fleece had won a first prize in the fleece competition, and later I handled this fleece, and although I did not know its exact weight, it must have been about 3lbs, it may have also have been only 6 months growth or less.

One of the two American Cotswold sheep Associations also allow Black Cotswold's to be registered and shown, and they have their own classes. The black fleeces seem to be in demand from spinners.

I learned from one breeder that he had bought a small flock of Coloured (black) Cotswold Ewes and a Coloured Ram hoping for a good crop of Coloured lambs, to his surprise, every lamb born was pure white!

There was a very large entry for the show and whilst the White Cotswold's were in the majority, there was also a substantial entry of the Coloured (black) Cotswold's being shown in their separate classes.

Many of the sheep have their fleeces trimmed right back just prior to showing, to accentuate their profile and conformation, this does then leave very little wool to be seen, but I was told the wool only makes up a small proportion of the judges' marks. The outline and conformation appear to be paramount.

I thought that the senior rams had excellent length, quite similar to ours, but the ewes were perhaps a little smaller, and the faces on the ewes were much shorter on the sheep I saw than ours.

I did take with me some photographs of my sheep and the American members were amazed at the greenness and depth of our grass, which of course plays a most important part in the growth of our sheep and the type of wool we produce, and this will help to explain the size variations in British and American flocks. I think that we maybe sometimes forget how lucky we are to have such a temperate climate here!

Members spoke to me of their fond memories of Joe Henson's visit some years ago.

I am greatly indebted to Kim Caulfield for all her hard work to ensure my stay was so enjoyable, her mother Jane, Max and Chris Caulfield, and Anne McIntyre- Lahner. I had the pleasure of meeting a fellow speaker, Dr Elizabeth Wayland-Barber, a writer of many best selling books in America who gave a fascinating speech about the Ancient History of Textiles.

I found everyone, without exception, most helpful and they lived up to, and exceeded their reputation for hospitality and made my visit so enjoyable.

Rob Harvey Long



COTSWOLD SHEEP MUGS

The PERFECT Christmas present!

£9.95 each or £18 for 2!

Hand painted and dishwasher safe

Available at the Winter Social

Or contact Angela Reid on 07768 354613

(£6 from each mug goes to the Cotswold Sheep Society.)

**** REMINDER ****

Winter Social – Saturday 28th November at The Westwood Centre, Northleach

Please can you return the yellow Winter Social forms with your payment to Lucinda Foster as soon as possible. Please do encourage friends and members to come as it's a great occasion and certainly the more the merrier!

Jacquie Cordery

It is with great sadness that we learned of the death of Jacquie Cordery.

Nick and Jacquie joined the Society in 1991 and at one time they had the largest flock in Britain. Jacquie preferred to remain in the background, but always supported Nick in his many ventures, both as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Society. On a personal note, Jan and I will always be grateful to them for looking after our sheep for the two years prior to our move to Wales. Following tradition a lock of Cotswold wool was placed in her coffin. A Memorial Service is to be held on Saturday 5th December from 10.00am in Crudwell Village Hall at which lunch will be served. The idea is that people can have lunch and a glass or two before hand so that they are in good voice for the actual Service of Thanksgiving at 2.00pm in Crudwell Church; afterwards there will be light refreshments. As the Service is to celebrate Jacquie's life, Nick has specifically requested that no one wears black. All our thoughts, and prayers, are with Nick at this sad and difficult time.

John Flanders

Moreton Show 2009

It was with great joy that on the first Saturday in September 2009 we actually managed to hold the first Society National Show at Moreton in Marsh Agricultural Show. In recent years we have had all sorts of problems, such as Foot and Mouth, Blue Tongue and last year, a flood that cancelled the show.

Due to the flood damage last year the Show Ground was moved around although the livestock field remained the same. A wonderful entry of 85 Cotswolds greeted the judge, Robert Boodle, who was presented with a most challenging job of placing the best line up of sheep seen in many a year.

Congratulations to every exhibitor for putting on a wonderful display of the breed and thanks to the committee for the breed promotion stand and hospitality tent that provided refreshments for all.

The results are published in this newsletter, but special congratulations to Davina Stanhope as her Champion Ram went on to be Interbreed Rare Breed Champion as well.

A great day for the Society all round, sheep were shown, bought and sold, new members were signed up; the second National Show will have a hard act to follow.

Steve Parkes

COUNCIL CORNER

The Council and all members are most grateful to John Flanders for taking over the editing of the newsletter for us.

**** FLOCK BOOK ADVERTISEMENTS ****

In order to keep the costs down of producing the flock book it is vital that we increase the number of advertisers in the flock book this year. We would therefore be very grateful if members could **contribute an advertisement** at a cost of £15 for a quarter page, £25 for a half page and £40 for a full page, plus £20 if you would like to include a photograph with your half or full page advert. Please note our printers will not crop or change the photographs in any way as this costs too much time and money. Please email or send your advertisement to Lucinda as soon as possible.

Please do also **encourage local businesses to advertise** in the flock book too. The costs for these advertisements will be £30 for a half page and £60 for a full page with an additional £20 for any photograph included. Davina has kindly agreed to help with “other businesses” advertisements so please do contact her if you have any queries or you would like her to follow up any interested contacts you may have.

- **Gift Aid:** Thank you very much to everyone who has completed a Gift Aid form. Please do send Lynne Parkes any outstanding forms as these are of huge benefit to the Society financially.
- **Wool:** Work is in progress to see if any local Art Colleges would be interested in coming up with a design or use for Cotswold Wool. If you would like to be involved with this exciting new project please do contact Margaret Pursch or Lucinda for further information.
- **The Slide Show:** The slide show has now been put onto three CDs. Please do contact Angela Reid if you would like to borrow a CD to do a talk.
- **Mugs:** Angela Reid has very kindly had produced some “Cotswold Sheep” mugs which would make ideal Christmas presents. The mugs cost £9.95 each. They will be on sale at the Winter Social but please do contact Angela if you would like some beforehand.
- **Allium Restaurant, Fairford:** Margaret Pursch had spoken to Allium and they were keen to have Cotswold Hoggetts. Anyone interested should contact the Allium Restaurant on 01285 712200.
- **Emailed newsletters** – Please can anyone wishing to only receive a newsletter by email contact Lucinda by email on 15barnsley@dsl.pipex.com

The updated Council portfolios are as follows. Please do contact the relevant Council member directly if you have any queries or suggestions on any of the different aspects of the Society.

Breed Promotion (promoting within the industry ie shows and the show stand in particular) – Mr Derek Cross (Tel: 01993 831526) and Mrs Caroline Cunningham (Tel: 01380 859968).

Communications (to include the newsletter, website and flock book) – The Hon Mrs Angela Reid. (Tel: 01865 343133, Email: amreid343@msn.com)

Marketing (of the wool, skins and meat) – Mr Richard Mumford (Tel: 01386 860373, Email: richard.mumford@agmfarm.co.uk) and Mrs Margaret Pursch (Tel: 01285 851526 E-l:margaretpursch@btinternet.com)

Membership Services and merchandise (to include training for new and existing members) – Mr Steve Parkes (Tel: 01451 830461, Email: lynne_parkes@msn.com) and Mr Robin Leach (Tel: 01451 820340)

PR and advertising revenues – Miss Davina Stanhope (Tel: 01952 740731, Email: davina@stanhope1.orangehome.co.uk)

Legislation and Regulation (to include trade marks and the charity commissioners) – Mrs Kate Kay (Tel: 01453 833458 Email: K.Berry@cardiff.gov.uk)

New members: A warm welcome is extended to Mr & Mrs Robinson of Charlton Kings and Mr Jason Watts of Mitcheldean who have joined the Society recently.

Fleeces

Rosie Wyatt of the Oxford Spinners, Dyers, and Weavers is putting together a register of people who have good Cotswold fleeces for sale and she would like to hear from any member who would like to be included on the register. Rosie can be contacted on 01869 331432.

SHOW RESULTS

Cotswold Sheep Society National Show Moreton Show 2009

Ram two years or older 1st Nick Cater 2nd Davina Stanhope 3rd Derek Cross	Shearling Ram 1st Davina Stanhope 2nd Norman Kay 3rd Stephen Parkes
Ram Lamb 1st Davina Stanhope 2nd Norman Kay 3rd Nick Cater	Ewe, two years or older 1st Derek Cross 2nd Bob Palmer 3rd Nick Cater
Shearling Ewe 1st Angela Reid 2nd Bob Palmer 3rd Yvonne Brown	Ewe Lamb 1st Rob Harvey-Long 2nd Davina Stanhope 3rd Angela Reid
Group of 3 Animals Drawn From Other Classes 1st Norman Kay 2nd Bob Palmer 3rd Davina Stanhope	The Colburn Cup Awarded to the Best Cotswold Ram Nick Cater
The Oakhill cup Awarded to the Best Shearling Ram Davina Stanhope	The Les Arnold Trophy Awarded to the exhibitor with the best Lamb in classes 228 and 231 Davina Stanhope
The Tony Foster Challenge Trophy Awarded to the Champion Cotswold Sheep Exhibit Davina Stanhope.	

Results of Monmouth show 2009

Any Other Longwool

<p>Ram any age 1st 694 Davina Stanhope 2nd 693 Davina Stanhope 3rd 692 Kate Kay</p>	<p>Ram Lamb 1st 696 Davina Stanhope 2nd 697 Davina Stanhope 3rd 695 Kate Kay</p>
<p>Single Ewe, four tooth or more, to have bred and reared a lamb in the current year. 1st 700 Davina Stanhope 2nd 699 Kate Kay 3rd 701 Davina Stanhope</p>	<p>Shearling Ewe 1st 703 Davina Stanhope 2nd 702 Kate Kay 3rd 704 Davina Stanhope</p>
<p>Single Ewe Lamb 1st 706 Kate Kay 2nd 707 Davina Stanhope 3rd 708 Davina Stanhope 4th 705 Mr & Mr Bateman</p>	<p>Group of Three, both sexes must be represented and at least one sheep to be over 12 months old, Owned by the same exhibitor 1st 710 Davina Stanhope 2nd 709 Kate Kay</p>

Class SO1 Champion Male 694 Davina Stanhope

Class SO2 Reserve Champion Male 694 Davina Stanhope

Class SO3 Champion Female 700 Davina Stanhope

Class SO4 Reserve Champion Female 701 Davina Stanhope

Class SO5 Breed Champion 700 Davina Stanhope

Class SO6 Reserve Breed Champion 694 Davina Stanhope

The Cambell Challenge Cup for Open Longwool Champion 700 Davina Stanhope

Sheep for sale

4 shearling ewes and 1 ewe lamb.

Mrs Skye Witney, Hamish Park, Linley Green Road, Whitbourne, Worcs. WR6 5RE Tel: 01886 821315

Jean Fearn has for sale from her Darley Dale flock 01629: 2 shearling rams, a ram lamb, a ewe lamb and 2 shearling ewes. Jean can be contacted on 01629 734667

Lesley Keen of Lower Farm, Lew, Bampton OX18 2BB Tel: 01993 852652 has a large selection of Cotswold Sheep. Their farm is organic and enjoys higher level stewardship status. All enquiries welcome.

Ian Cowan has 2 ewe lambs for sale. They were both born at the end of March and fathered by Caroline Hawkins ram C9309.

The mothers are one of his own ewes, C10812 and one from Jonathan Crump, C9930. Ian can be contacted at ian.cowan@virgin.net

8 Cotswold shearling ewes for sale.

Please contact Robin Leach on 01451 820340

Celtic Lisa - Ewe Lamb - Born 6/2/09

Celtic Twinkle - Ewe - Born 11/04/06

Tingewick Jacinta - Ewe - Born 29/1/06

Please contact Carol Bateman cazef@aol.com

Flock No: 00374 Prefix: Celtic

Sam Palmer with the Radway flock has several prize winning ewes and rams including his Royal Show winning tup for sale. Sam can be contacted on 07837007308

Alex Field has some nice ram lambs by Tingewick Henri and one by Tingewick Kermit. Also the full brother to last year's Three Counties reserve champion. Tel: 01584 810424

[The Queenford Flock](#) winner of the society flock competition 2007 occasionally have stock for sale. Contact Mrs Angela Reid amreid343@msn.com Tel: 01865 343133

Rob Harvey long has for sale:

DARLEY MOOR CORNFLOWER C10054, born 23/02/2007.

Sire C8590 Darley Moor Snowstorm, Dam C7097 Thornhill Daisy. ds: C6149 Oakhill United, dd: Drointon Freda

PICKWICK GIANNA C10754, born 11/02/2008.

Sire C8850 Pickwick Hercules, Dam C9833 Pickwick Flora, ds: C7720 Roel Hill Nelson, dd: Pickwick Drucilla. Both these ewes have very nice wool, are well grown and have good conformation.

Rob can be contacted on 01666 824403 Mobile 07810724677

DIRECTORY

This directory gives a list of members' products derived from pedigree Cotswold sheep. If anyone wants to be added to the list please let me know. Cotswold cross products will be shown only in the Miscellaneous Section.

Meat

Boxed lamb, mutton, and BBQ packs – **Jonathan Brunyee** – 01451 844342;
www.conygreefarm.co.uk

Skins

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

Woollen Goods

Knitting wool, body warmers, throws, scarves, cushions - **John Flanders** – 01545 590438;
www.hendraveancotswolds.co.uk

Miscellaneous

Sticks, crooks – **John Flanders** – 01545 590438

Sheepskins – a limited number of pure Cotswold and coloured Cotswold x Jacob lambskins available. Angela Reid Tel: 01865 343133

E-mail: amreid343@msn.com