



COTSWOLD SHEEP SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Registered Charity No. 1013326

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Council Officers

Chairman – Mr. Richard Mumford, Vice Chairman – Mr. Thomas Jackson
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



Rob Harvey Long's prize winning photo 'Hello Boys'

EDITORIAL

As I sit here writing this editorial at the end of the first week of January, I am acutely aware of the difficulties that those members who lamb early will be undergoing and my thoughts go out to them.

With the exception of the weather, 2010 brings a number of new challenges, particularly the introduction of EID, but despite the concerns raised by the various farming organisations, the Regulations, whether we like it or not, have to be implemented and accompanying this Newsletter is a leaflet from EBLEX that explains the Regulations. A brief note is also included in the main body of the Newsletter.

It seems that, following 3 wet summers' liver fluke is raising its ugly head again and there is an article on this subject which members may find useful.

The Society is becoming, geographically, more spread out and in order to address this, articles from members in different parts of the country would be interesting. For example, the U.K. could be divided into 4 or more areas such as Wales, Cotswolds, the South, and the North. If anyone is willing to contribute on a regular basis please contact me. An example of what I have in mind is in the article "The View From Here."

In the series on "Our Flocks" Steve Parkes has kindly shared his experiences in setting up the Kespar flock. He has also included in "Topical Tips" a few pointers about lambing and equipment.

Finally, I would like to thank our President, Pat Quinn, for her New Year Message; and from me, for those who show, good luck and may you sweep the board with honours, but for others may you have 200% lambing, no deaths, and all lambs perfect specimens. Apart from that – enjoy your sheep.

John Flanders

JACQUIE CORDERY

Through this Newsletter Nick Cordery wishes to thank everyone for the many cards, telephone calls and letters on condolence he received following the death of Jacquie. In due course he hopes to be more active in the Society.

NEW YEAR MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

NEW YEAR MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I wish you all a very happy and successful 2010.

As always I want to thank those dedicated and tireless members who do so much to keep our Society going. It tends to be the same people and they know who they are. I want them to know that it is appreciated by the rest of us.

Rather sadly sheep are unable to promote themselves without the help of us humans. Today the best PR who shouts the loudest will get the upper hand to the detriment of much that is valuable and too good to lose. So it means time and hard work to safeguard the wisdom of past generations.

There are those who say we have too many breeds of sheep but personally I think they tend to overlook the many hidden advantages different animals have evolved over the centuries. Certainly we must keep up the fight to ensure the future of our unique Cotswolds and as breeders you will know what they have to offer even if it is not always obvious to a commercial market.

The Show ring is certainly a good way to put our sheep in front of the public. However it does seem to have some disadvantages. There have been Flock Masters concerned that the character of the sheep can alter with Judges tending to emphasise a particular aspect. However I do not think this applies to us as the quality of our flocks has improved dramatically over the last 30 years. Unfortunately the comradeship among some members has not improved as much; it is after all, only a show and should help to improve friendship. It is a thankless task being a Judge and the final line up is meant to be helpful. Obviously the result will often not be agreed by all but they are sheep in the ring, not the owner or human members of the family being criticised, and the object is to try to minimise faults for the good of the Breed. We must concentrate on getting the best out of Showing and not let it damage the friendliness, and consequently the reputation of our Society. I make no apology for this sounding like a Nanny lecture because I believe that without a thriving Breed Society our sheep could fade into oblivion.

On a more positive note it was good to see more volunteers for Council and I am sure those elected are planning an interesting year for members. I hope everyone will take advantage of their efforts. I know Council are anxious not to seem remote from members and contacts are published in the newsletter. So make use of them; if you have a question, an idea or complaint let it be known and dealt with by the appropriate member.

There is always something new to be learnt however experienced you maybe. Outside the Society keep an eye open for Seminars run by Defra. For example there is a lot going on about grass and soil management which is really interesting and important. Go if you possibly can.
GOOD LUCK LAMBING, SELLING, AND MAY YOUR PROBLEMS BE FEW.

Pat Quinn

THE VIEW FROM HERE

John Flanders - Hendra Veau Flock West Wales

Looking out of the window the scene is quite glorious with everywhere looking pristine and white, and whilst the cold weather will, I am sure do a lot of good, I shall be glad when the snow has gone.

We scanned the ewes at the beginning of January and it revealed a lower percentage than last year and a couple of days later they were housed much to their, and my, relief. Having said that the cold weather has meant carrying 30 to 40 gallons of water a day from the house to the barn, which is 75 yards away; I am told that the exercise will burn off the additional calories I gained over the holiday period.

Last year, the weather here was, generally, not conducive to making good hay and the only time there was a period of fine weather we had a long standing engagement, consequently the last field was not cut for haylage until mid September. However, the quality is better than I expected and the sheep seem happy eating it.

The first two ewes are due to lamb on 28th January with the remainder starting 21st February for 2 weeks – hope the weather improves by then. Must remember to order the ear tags!

LOOKING AFTER SHEEP IN SNOW

Looking after sheep during the snow of the past few weeks may have been new to a number of members, particularly as recent winters have been mild with only the occasional cold spell. However the fundamental rule is that all animals need feeding and watering irrespective of the weather conditions; whilst it can be argued that, on the hills, animals have to forage for themselves a responsible shepherd will do his utmost to protect/help his sheep.

Ideally some protection in the form of a field shelter would be beneficial, but that is really only practical if the flock is small; alternatively move the animals closer to a shed/barn so that they can gain access easily. In my case the ewes were housed ready for lambing, but the gimmers and tups remained outside.

The inside animals were fed with haylage and concentrates and watered in the usual way, even though it required carrying about 50 gallons of water daily from the house to the barn as the pipes were frozen. When they thawed a great cheer of jubilation went up. It is important not to subject pregnant ewes to a sudden change in diet or activity because of the cold weather

otherwise there is a greater propensity for twin lamb disease to occur.



As far as the outside animals were concerned, they were fed their usual concentrate rations, but as the grass was obscured, haylage was also made available, often this involved taking it down 2 or 3 times per day to ensure that, being grazing animals, they had sufficient food. Water is always a problem because it freezes and, to ensure the animals had adequate fresh water, each time they were fed the ice was removed and the drinkers were replenished with clean water.

The only real problem with looking after non pregnant sheep in snow is if it drifts and whilst we had 4ft high ones here, the gimmers and the tups huddled together (separately I might add) and the snow, thankfully, skirted around them. With pregnant ewes there is a danger of pregnancy toxemia and this will be the subject of a later article.

One difficulty we had was a gimmer holding back one day from feeding and she was brought into the barn, put in a pen by herself, given a tonic; and quality hay, water and her usual feed were constantly available. Within 3 days she had returned to normal, but she will not be taken back to the others until the weather improves.

John Flanders

SOIL WORKSHOP

Following Pat Quinn's comments in her "President's Message" members may be interested to know that Kingshay Farming Trust are running workshop entitled "Managing Your Soil" on Thursday 4th March at Marlborough, Wiltshire. The workshop is free and is offered with support from Duchy Rural Business School and the RDA.

The morning session covers: managing soil as a living system; improve soil structure; and increase cow productivity, health, fertility, and disease resistance. The afternoon session, which is on farm, covers evaluate soil activity; dealing with difficult soils; and discussing the benefits of soil aeration.

If anyone is interested call 01458 851555 for further information. A light lunch and materials are provided.

John Flanders

WINTER SOCIAL

This year the Winter Social had a change of venue and was held in the Village Hall at Northleach; and once again it was a resounding success. Since about 1998 it has been held at Chedworth, Aldsworth and now Northleach. The venue was inspired in that the wealth of the village in the Middle Ages, as reflected through its fine buildings, was built upon the sale of wool from Cotswold sheep to Flemish weavers. The building is spacious and for the 60 or so members attending there was plenty of room to circulate and talk. The popularity of the Winter Social is reflected by some members travelling over 300 miles for the event. The meal followed its now well established pattern with a large array of food provided by members, in fact the quantity was overwhelming. Following the dinner the prizes were awarded and Davina Stanhope yet again swept the board winning the following

Frank Houlton Trophy

Society Show Slate

Best Home Bred Sheep Crook



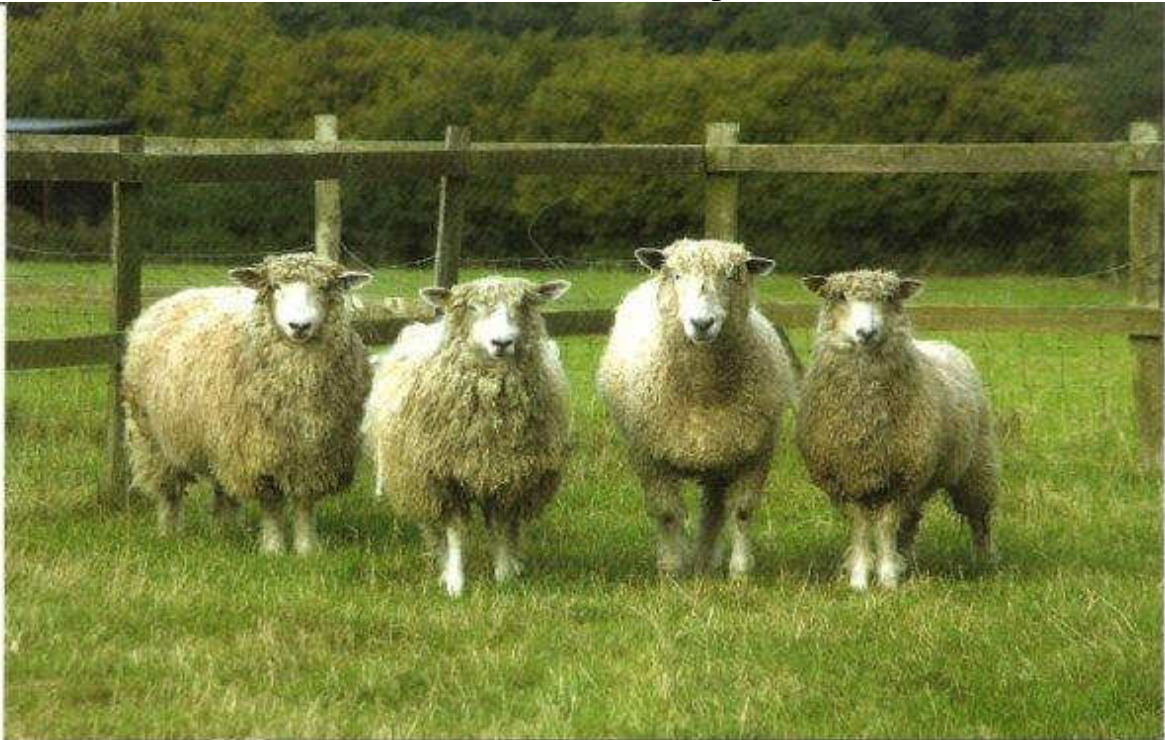
For the first time the Frank Williams Trophy was awarded to a member from outside the Society, namely David Jones, who has just retired from the British Wool Marketing Board where he was manager of the Newtown Depot.

On display were all the photographs entered in the Photographic Competition. The high standard meant that judges had difficulty in deciding on the best, but finally they chose a picture of two ewes taken by Rob Harvey Long and the prize of £50, donated by the Society Chairman, Bob Palmer, was awarded to him.

The raffle contributed £131.50 to the Society funds. However, of particular interest was a shawl made from the wool of Cotswold sheep in America and donated by Kim Caulfield. The shawl was auctioned by the Vice Chairman, Richard Mumford, who clearly demonstrated his skill as an auctioneer; the winning bid, of £20 was by Alison Garne. Also for sale were throws, scarves, cushions, knitting wool, and body warmers made from the Cotswold wool of the Hendra Vein flock.



Entries for the Photo competition



Kate and Norman Kay's runner up Photo



A large and varied selection of food ensured everyone enjoyed their evening



Alison Garne with her new shawl

The success of the evening can be attributed to the not inconsiderable efforts of Lynne Parkes, Margaret Pursch, and her sister Francis, and Lucinda Foster, many thanks to them.

John Flanders

E.I.D. EAR TAGS

The new ear tagging regulations came into force on 31st December 2009 and members are advised to read the enclosed leaflet produced by EBLEX

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.

There are a number of exemptions to EID tagging where animals under 12 months of age are going direct to slaughter, but there are restrictions and members are directed to the EBLEX leaflet for further advice.

In the event of lost tags, which have to be replaced within 28 days of the discovery of the loss, the options are:

- 1 replacing with the same numbers (like for like), or
- 2 removing the remaining tag of a double tagged sheep and replacing with a new set of identifiers and cross referencing in the holding register

Importantly, there is no requirement to purchase reading equipment or to keep the records electronically.

If any members are still unsure about the Regulations, please feel free to contact either Davina Stanhope (tel:01952 740731 or 07968 218470) or me (01545 590438) and we will do our best to help you

John Flanders

FOOD CHAIN INFORMATION REGULATIONS

New Regulations, which came into force on 1st January, mean that abattoirs are requesting and checking food chain information. Animals, for slaughter, must be accompanied with details of any diseases, medicine withdrawal periods and movement restrictions on the holding of origin. It is intended that, in Wales and presumably in England, the Sheep Movement Licences will be amended to incorporate this requirement. In the meantime, check with your local livestock mart or slaughterhouse to obtain forms, which they may have produced as an interim measure.

John Flanders

LIVER FLUKE

This article is written to draw to members' attention the problems associated with fluke in sheep; it sets out the background, types of disease, and the preventative treatment that I have adopted. It should be stressed that if members believe they have a fluke problem advice should be sought from their local vet. The treatment mentioned in this article is the one that suits my flock; it is not necessarily the one that would suit other flocks in other parts of the country.

Background

Fluke is caused by a parasite *fasciola hepatica*, which requires a semi-aquatic mud snail as an intermediate host thus the occurrence of fluke is directly related to rainfall, but in addition temperature is important. In recent years the wetter summers have increased the incidence of fluke and, whilst the west of the country has traditionally been the focus of the disease, it has spread to the east thereby affecting areas which had previously been regarded as fluke free. It is not only waterlogged land that is vulnerable, pasture near rivers, streams and ponds are also susceptible.

In addition to rainfall, temperature plays an important part, in that below temperatures of 10 C the fluke eggs shed in the dung do not develop and hatch into infective stages. Snail reproduction and development of the fluke stages within the snail are also curtailed. Thus, within the U.K. the life cycle is only fully completed between May and October.

Types of Disease

Fluke occurs in three forms namely acute, sub-acute, and chronic with the latter being the most common.

Acute : This happens when massive numbers of infective cysts are ingested from herbage over a short period, which can cause severe tissue damage by the migration of the fluke through the liver resulting in sudden death before eggs appear in the dung. This generally occurs in autumn/early winter.

Sub-acute : Cysts are ingested over a longer period and the liver contains immature adult flukes. The disease occurs in late autumn/early winter

Chronic : This is associated with a prolonged intake of moderate numbers of infective cysts resulting in the accumulation of adult fluke in the bile ducts. Chronic disease is mainly found in winter/early spring and is exacerbated by poor nutrition.

Treatment

The approach I adopt is as follows, but I would stress that members should take advice from their veterinary surgeon to ascertain their particular requirements.

Late April/May	Dose adult sheep with a flukicide
October	Dose all sheep with a flukicide.
January	Dose all sheep with a flukicide

The favoured drug is triclabendazole as it treats young immature fluke.

However, whilst anthelmintic resistance is now widespread on many sheep farms, resistance to flukicides is currently at a low level. Nevertheless, it is important to avoid, if possible, using one chemical family of flukicide year after year and veterinary advice should be sought to establish alternative products. This is something I shall be doing next year.

Comment

Living in West Wales there is a greater possibility of contracting fluke, but by dosing the flock in the manner mentioned, the disease has been controlled.

I would again emphasise that advice is taken from your vet.

John Flanders

<p>Emailed newsletters – Please can anyone wishing to only receive a newsletter by email contact Lucinda by email on 15barnsley@dsl.pipex.com</p>
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THE KESPAR FLOCK

**by
Steve Parkes**

I first became aware of the existence of Cotswold sheep in 1968, when a student at Hartpury College. A fellow student, who lived at Bibury, came back from a weekend at home and said that the last flock of Cotswolds had been sold, dispersed and that the breed had now gone for good. So it came as a shock, when attending sheep dog training classes in 1988 at Stowell Park, to see a very large woolly sheep and be told that it was indeed a Cotswold.

Two years later I was very fortunate to be offered the job as Stockman/ Shepherd at Lower Harford Farm for Mrs Quinn's wonderful flock of Cotswolds where my interest grew and grew.

I became a member of the Society in my own right in the mid 1990's and after leaving Lower Harford in 2000 my interest continued. I established a flock of fifty Cotswolds at my next post, for HRH Princess Royal at Gatcombe Park. Unfortunately the flock was dispersed four years later.

A short time before the Gatcombe Park flock was dispersed, Mrs Edna Powell, who had a small flock, was unable to continue due to family commitments on her time. I had Edna's sheep and also added to the flock during the Gatcombe sale.

My flock has had several different homes as I have no land of my own, but I do graze different paddocks and orchards around Stow on the Wold and Bourton on the Water area. The flock numbers grew to over fifty breeding females but I found that to be too large and demanding on my time, so I have reduced to around twenty ewes, which I find more manageable level.

I keep my best ewe lambs to go back into the flock and sell six/eight as shearlings at the Society Sale. Those that do not come up to the mark go into a boxed meat scheme along with a majority of the ram lambs.

I keep a number of rams for different breeding characteristics i.e. strong bone, some with fine fleece or stronger fleece and select the ewes in accordance of individual needs; some time it works well and some times it does not. I try not to go down the route of only breeding what is "this year's favourite" in the show ring as I feel the breed will suffer in the long run. Most of my rams will only serve two to three ewes in my own flock and then go out on hire to other flocks; this seems to work quite well.

I also try and add value to my lamb meat by getting the skins back from the slaughter house and getting them cured to sell as rugs. This is a time consuming exercise and there is a limit to the number, which can be sold each year.

I hope this is of some interest to the reader, and I would like to finish with a thank you to Mrs Quinn for stimulating my interest in the breed.

PRE LAMBING LIST

This list is intended to serve as a reminder of the equipment that may be needed at lambing time

Prolapse harness – just in case

Powdered Colostrum – if ewe has none of her own

Powdered Ewe Milk – Some lambs may need topping up

Stomach tubing equipment – Use it or lose them

Antibiotic – long acting

Dry cow tubes – for drying off the ewe in the event of the only lamb dying

Calcium boroglucomate – in the event of twin lamb disease

Liquid tonic supplement

New teats and feeding bottles for topping up odd lambs

Castration rings & pliers

Vet strength iodine for dressing navels

Pliers and some form of ear tag so lambs can be identified until electronic tags are applied

Spray markers for numbering ewes and lambs

Latex gloves – useful for cleaning the rear end of lambs

Water buckets for lambing pens

Troughs for lambing/ nursery pen

Spare light bulbs and torch batteries

To discuss any of the above or any other knotty issue, please ring anytime to have a chat.

Steve Parkes 01451 830461

SOME FORTHCOMING EVENTS

As spring approaches, for many members lambing is either well under way, or over. Hopefully we will all soon have a good crop of healthy lambs, and time to look forward to some of the events that lie ahead in 2010.

ANIMAL HEALTH and SHOWING WORKSHOP – Sunday 23rd May

Pat Quinn has very kindly offered to host a day, which you really cannot afford to miss.

Animal Health - Davina Stanhope, will hold an essential session on wormers.

Showing – Showing can be hugely satisfying and rewarding in every way. Using Pat's wonderful sheep, you will learn what to look for when selecting your show sheep, and how to prepare, and show them at their very best.

Wool – We hope to organise a session on selecting a prize-winning fleece and on how to prepare it for a show.

To reserve a place and for further details regarding the day please contact Lucinda.

THE SOCIETY SUMMER SHOW - Cirencester Park - Sunday 4th July.

Taking place against the background of the popular Cotswold Show, this is a fantastic day out for anyone interested in Cotswold sheep. For showing novices there will be restricted Ewe Lamb, and Ram Lamb classes - so it really will be the ideal day to start your showing career.

SOCIETY BREED SALE – Cirencester Saturday 7th August

Further information on the annual Society breed sale will be available in the next Newsletter.

QUIZ NIGHT - Friday 29th October

A Quiz night will be held at Wyck Rissington Village Hall. This will be a great night out, and raise funds for the Society at the same time. Put the date in your diary and look out for more details nearer the time.

THE WINTER SOCIAL – Saturday 27th November

Another date for your diary - after last year's successful evening at The Westwood Centre, in Northleach, we will be returning there again November.

THE FLOCK COMPETITION

The Flock Competition is held every second year, so it will take place again this year. It is a wonderful opportunity to show off your flock, and your knowledge, to the judges, so please do consider entering.

There will be two sections. The **LARGE FLOCK** section will be for flocks with more than 20 ewes of breeding age (shearlings and older). The **SMALL FLOCK** section will be for flocks with 1 – 19 ewes of breeding age.

The judges will arrange to visit your flock sometime in July. They will be looking at, among other things, not only the sheep themselves, but also how you manage your flock, your breeding and marketing strategies, as well as your aims and ambitions for the future.

Further details and the entry form will be in the next Newsletter.

Angela Reid

SHEEP FOR SALE

The following members have indicated they have sheep for sale.

More details are available on the website www.cotswoldsheepsociety.co.uk

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

Jean Fearn has sheep for sale from her Darley Dale flock: Jean can be contacted on Tel : 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 Lydney Glos: Tel 01594 516260 or email at ian.cowan@virgin.net

Carol Bateman Brecon Powys Prefix: Celtic Tel: 01874 636549can or email at cazef@aol.com

Sam Palmer with the Radway flock has several prize winning ewes and rams for sale. Sam can be contacted on Mobile: 07837007308

Alex Field. Tenbury Wells Worcs. Tel: 01685 810424

Rob Harvey Long can be contacted on Tel: 01666 824403 Mobile 07810724677

The Queenford Flock, winner of the Society Flock Competition 2007 contact Mrs Angela Reid amreid343@msn.com Tel: 01865 343133

COUNCIL CORNER

The Society has decided to print in the newsletter a brief outline of what the Council is discussing at its meetings: Currently this includes:

Bob Palmer has resigned as Chairman due to increased work commitments but we would like to take this opportunity of thanking him very much for all his hard work during his term of office. Richard Mumford was then elected by Council to be Chairman and he has kindly accepted. Thomas Jackson has been asked to stand as Vice Chairman and he has agreed.

There will not be any voting papers sent out this year as by rotation no Council member is due to come off Council this year.

**** FLOCK BOOK ADVERTISEMENTS ****

It's not too late to place an advertisement in the Flock Book. Please contact Lucinda or Lynne for further details. It is very important to increase the number of advertisers in the flock book in order to keep our printing costs down. Please do support it.

- **New members:** A warm welcome is extended to Mr J Hore of Easter Compton; Gloucester City Council; Miss Daisy King (junior member) of Mickleton; P Rollins & S Poundford of Rippenden; Mrs Coggins of Swinbrook; and The Cotswold Breeders Association from USA, all of whom have joined the Society recently.

- **The Importance of Email.** Email is becoming an increasingly important part of all our lives. Giving the Cotswold Sheep Society an up to date email address, will enable you to be speedily contacted when necessary, receive vital information, and important reminders - all without the Society incurring additional postage costs. It is also an excellent way for members to keep in touch with each other. We would very much like to publish all the email addresses that we have been given, in this year's (2010) Flock Book, along with your other contact details. Under the Data Protection Act it is necessary for each member to send Lucinda a quick email confirming that they are happy for their email addresses to be printed in the flock book and to be held on the Society's database.
- **EID:** Davina Stanhope is happy for anyone with any EID queries to contact her on 01952 740731 or 07968 218470
- **Old printer cartridges:** Please send Lynne Parkes any old printer cartridges you may have as she can send them off to be recycled in return for valuable funds to the Society.

SHOW DATES 2010

DATES	SHOW	TEL NO	CLOSING DATE	JUDGE	QUALIFYING SHOWS
<i>24th and 25th April</i>	Wonderwool	01982 552224			
<i>8th and 9th May</i>	Newark & Notts Show				
<i>18th - 20th June</i>	The Three Counties Show	01684 584900	13th April	Bob Palmer	Frank Houlton/Fleece
<i>20th June</i>	Rare Breeds & Minority Breeds Day	01684 584900	13th April	Robert Boodle	Frank Houlton/Fleece
<i>3rd and 4th July</i>	Cotswold Show, Cirencester Park	01285 652007		Davina Stanhope (TBC)	Frank Houlton/Fleece
<i>17th July</i>	Stroud Show	01453 883646	2nd July	Alan Lyons	Frank Houlton/Fleece
<i>19th - 22nd July</i>	The Royal Welsh	01982 553683	5th May		
<i>3rd August</i>	NSA Sheep 2010	01938 590535	for stand 31st March		Fleece
<i>7th August</i>	Cirencester Show and Sale			Thomas Jackson	Frank Houlton
<i>26th August</i>	Monmouthshire Show	01291 691160	23rd July		
<i>30th August</i>	Berkeley Show	01453 543335	10th August	Richard Mumford	Frank Houlton
<i>4th September</i>	Moreton-in-Marsh Show	01608 651908		Steve Parkes	Frank Houlton
<i>12th September</i>	Frampton Show	01452 740698			

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

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

Skins

Lamb skins - **Steve Parkes** – 01451 830461
Sheep skins – **Angela Reid** – 01865 343133

Woollen Goods

Knitting wool, body warmers, throws, scarves, cushions - **John Flanders** – 01545 590438;
www.hendraveancotswolds.co.uk
Knitting wool – **Edna Powell** – 01453 883646

Miscellaneous

Sticks, crooks – **John Flanders** – 01545 590438
Sewing machine repairs, knitting wool – **Edna Powell** – 01453 883646
Coloured sheep skins – **Angela Reid** – 01865 343133

E-mail Addresses/Phone Numbers

National Sheep Association – 01684 892661; www.nationalsheep.org.uk
Farming Connect Service Centre – 08456 000 813;
www.wales.gov.uk/environmentandcountryside (Wales only)