

March 2026

Cotswold Sheep Society Newsletter



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



◆ **SECRETARY**

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◆ **HELP & ADVICE**

help@cotswoldsheepsociety.co.uk

Editorial

Happy New Year!

I hope those that have been lambing earlier in the year have had a successful season and wish those that are lambing now or later in the spring also have a pleasant season. No matter your flock size or number of years lambing, it is an exciting yet somewhat apprehensive time for us all.

We have many events to look forward to this year. Starting with a Spring Social in April, Berkeley Show seeing a return of Cotswold Breed Classes and our annual Society Show and Sale in August at Worcester Livestock Market.

Make sure to enter our Photo Competition! More details can be found at the back of this newsletter.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate member, Roger Deeks, who is this year's Royal Three Counties Show President.



Lizzy



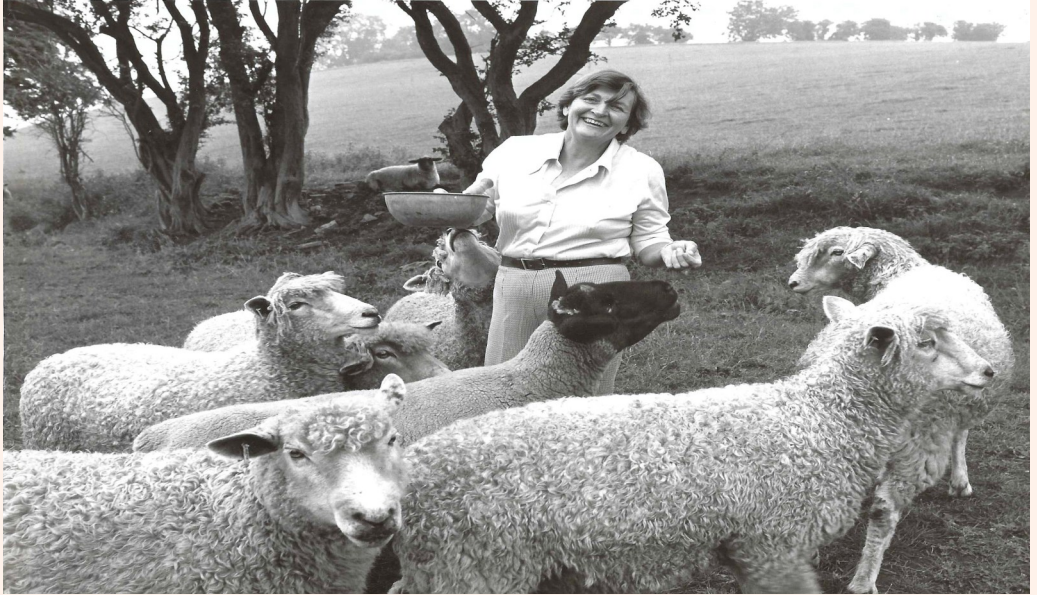
Cotswold Sheep Society



@cotswoldsheepsociety

Pat Quinn, The Harford Flock

23.04.1927 - 11.10.2025



In 1974, Pat bought Lower Harford from Stanley Clifford, taking on the farmhouse, buildings, and initial 68 acres of land. What started as a lifestyle shift soon grew into a dream of farming, shaped by Pat's fond memories of her parents' farm at Wappenbury.

In 1976, with the kind support of the late Joe Henson, seven pedigree Longhorn cows were brought from the Essex herd, marking the beginning of a pedigree Suckler herd of Longhorns. From these humble beginnings, the herd went on to become truly award-winning.

Shortly afterward, six pedigree Cotswold ewes were added to the farm, again thanks to Joe Henson, who knew someone unable to keep their flock. And so began an exciting – if steep – learning curve! Along the way, many generous people offered guidance, including Tony Lester, Robert Boodle, Gerald Ivens, and, of course, Joe Henson.

Through years of dedication, learning from trial and error, and a lot of hands-on experience, she became an active member of the Breed Societies and began showing both her cattle and sheep. With each success came growing confidence, and before long, she was producing excellent, prize-winning stock, earning championships at major shows for both cattle and sheep. Her passion and achievements were recognized when she was elected President of both the Cotswold Sheep and Longhorn Societies – a testament to her skill, perseverance, and love for the animals.

Although Pat sadly dispersed her herd and flock in 2021 at the age of 94, her passion for her farm never faded. Her love of nature and commitment to sustainable farming led her to embark on a new chapter for Lower Harford. Permanent grasslands are being carefully restored through sensitive management and re-seeding, floodplain meadows are returning with centuries-old techniques, wetlands are being recreated to welcome wildlife, and hay meadows have been reintroduced. The hay meadows hold a special place at Lower Harford, not only for their incredible biodiversity and the abundance of insects they support, but also for Jane, Pat's daughter, and her remarkable work on the Good Hay Guide. This initiative highlights the importance of species-rich hay for equine health, and Lower Harford is proud to play a part in this wonderful project, adding yet another layer to the farm's rich tapestry of conservation and sustainable farming.



This incredible journey has been greatly supported by Adrian, who has been a part of Lower Harford for 25 years. His deep knowledge of the area and unwavering passion for the farm are truly unmatched. Having stood by Pat's side through so many of her endeavours, he continues to play a key role in guiding this exciting new era for Lower Harford.

Pat was always passionate about education, hoping her farm could become a place where people could witness conservation in action and see the effects of climate change firsthand. She was quick to emphasize that this isn't a rewilding project—it's a careful balance of conservation, farming, productivity, and education, working together to create a thriving, collaborative, living landscape for generations to come.

Anyone who ever met Mrs. Pat Quinn knows the remarkable mark she left on everyone she encountered. Her grit and determination were truly admirable, and her knowledge and passion endlessly inspiring. Lower Harford will never be the same without her, but her legacy endures.

Over the years, she touched countless lives and lived a life full of extraordinary roles—rally driver, mother, farmer, trailblazer, educator, and conservationist. Pat has become an inseparable part of Lower Harford's rich history, and her spirit will never be forgotten.

Pat leaves behind her wonderful family: her children Jane and Michael, her daughter-in-law Jena; her grandchildren Gretel, Hannah, and Georgia; and her step-children, especially Sally and Carol. Her family, like so many whose lives she touched, continue to carry forward her legacy and her deep love for Lower Harford.

Marie Saunders



Pat Quinn's Memorial

Lower Harford Farm, Naunton

Patricia Carroll Quinn (née Lyons)
1927-2025

Pat made her life and work in this remarkable valley, farming the land with deep respect for Animals and Nature.
She believed that Farming is about stewardship, not ownership and her decisions meant that the farm has been preserved as it was.
May we honour her work, and let this place remain as she loved it.



Pat's daughter, Jane Woods & Adrian Loker at the unveiling of Pat's Memorial Plaque

Meeting Mrs Quinn



I first met Mrs Quinn at her dispersal sale at Worcester Market. I had the pleasure to strike up conversation with her and listened to her brief story about Cotswold sheep. She asked where I was farming, I replied, in Warwickshire. She answered, 'oh I wouldn't sell my sheep to that area they don't suit the land at all!'. I replied, 'well I have a grandson who wants Cotswold sheep and a Nanny who said his wishes will be fulfilled'.

Clive Roads started the sale; bidding was fast as the stock was highly sought after. Lucky for me I had secured two sheep for the grandson. This did not go unnoticed by Mrs Quinn; she wished us well and asked us to look after them well but there was no luck money.

The years rolled on, while we were showing I had spoken to Adrian (Loker) and Steve (Parkes), expressing that I would like my grandson to meet the lady who his first ewes came from. Within weeks we received the phone call to invite us to Lower Harford Farm.

She met us with a big smile, remembering us from the sale. She was very pleased we had joined the showing side and encouraged Miran to continue. Mrs Quinn showed us trophies from her career and took great joy looking at Miran's trophies too. She pointed out that her name was on these twenty years prior.

Mrs Quinn sat and talked about the sheep, breeding and showing. Her strong views were always put at the forefront. And still making the point that Cotswold sheep will not suit the ground in Warwickshire.

After a lovely tea, cakes and biscuits and a wonderful welcome from a real Cotswold Lady, we were invited to have a short tour of the farm. We left Lower Harford Farm with special memories and a couple of photos. But most importantly of all, the approval of Mrs Quinn to continue with Cotswold Sheep.

Thank you all for sharing the journey...

Brian Dixon, Washford Flock





Spring Social

Sunday 26th April 2026

10.30am Start

Aston Knoll, Cold Aston, Cheltenham, Glos, GL54 3BW

What3words: ///rams. placidly.masking

Join us at Aston Knoll for a farm walk and flock visit as well as practical sessions on selecting sheep for breeding/showing and preparing both sheep and fleeces for showing

Light lunch and refreshments

Please RSVP to the Secretary by Monday 13th April

info@cotswoldsheepsociety.co.uk / 07464 754399

£10/ person - Please make payment to Cotswold Sheep Society

Sort Code: 30 / 95 / 75

Account Number: 01746777

Please add the reference 'Surname Spring Social'

By kind permission of Martin and Yvonne Nicholas

The Kasani Flock

Bi-Annual Flock Competition - 2025 Small Flock Winner

My love of the Cotswold Sheep started when my brother and I started breeding them as children in the early 1980s. After a long break, I started breeding them again at the age of 50. I purchased 5 ewes from Steve Parkes which I later found out to my delight were descended from those ewes we bred as children. I now have 20 breeding ewes, 4 senior rams, 3 shearling rams and 9 replacement shearling ewes.



Since starting to breed Cotswolds again, I have thrown myself into showing which I enjoy immensely. I have always been quite competitive as I have played sport all my life, but the body is beginning to wane now so through the sheep I can satisfy my competitive streak. I have also made many new friends through showing and getting involved with the Society's events. I would like to encourage more people to either show or come to Society events. Showing is a great way to showcase the breed. We also have a lot of fun while showing, everyone is so helpful and friendly so please have a go,

you may be surprised how fun it is.

I am delighted to win the Small Flock Competition for 2025 and look forward to seeing new faces in the showing arena and social functions in 2026.

David Haynes



Native Farm Breeds of Britain and Ireland

Amanda Lockhart Photography



Six years ago, towards the end of 2019, just before Covid came along and turned the world on it's head, I was thinking of embarking on a new photographic project, after taking a few years break from work to raise a small family.

Although my photographic career was largely based in London, I am a farmer's daughter from Shropshire, and my particular interest has always been the countryside and farming-related activities. My very first project, after leaving the London College of Printing some 30 years ago, was to find farmers who were working with unusual breeds like ostriches, buffalo, alpacas and wild boar.

This time, driven by desire to unpick some of the issues that had been concerning me with regard to our national food production and consumption (too much processed food, too many food miles, too much packaging, too much waste), I wanted to do something that would encompass native farm animals and heritage artisan trades. I was not really sure how or where to start, but some friends introduced me to the work of the Rare Breeds Survival Trust, so I did an article with the Ark Magazine, contacted all the breed societies and got myself on Radio 4's Open Country and, before long, lots of lovely people came forward and started offering me help and ideas.

When I first sketched out my plan, my intention was to limit myself to the four-legged breeds listed as 'priority' or 'at risk' on the Rare Breeds Survival Trust watchlist - about 60 breeds in all, around half of the total number of natives - which seemed reasonably manageable. I planned to photograph them, ideally in the locations of their origins, and to find out a bit more about them - where they had come from, why they had become minority breeds and how and why farmers were still keeping them.

Whenever lockdown restrictions allowed, I dashed out to photograph whatever I could. Ideally, I wanted to find breeders who not only had good quality livestock, but who had also successfully managed to come up with a product related to their breed, which they were managing to market and sell themselves. I found one local farmer for instance, who had Lincoln Longwool sheep and was making sheep-skin rugs and beautiful wool products.



However, as the project progressed, I started to realise that limiting myself to just half of our native breeds was too restrictive. Why include British White cattle for instance, but not the Belted Galloway or English Longhorn or Dorset Down sheep but not the Exmoor Horn or the Herdwick? Or, for that matter, why include someone making Lincoln Longwool sheepskins but not someone making Southdown duvets?

So, I extended my list to include **all** the four-legged British native farm breeds (sheep, cattle, pigs, goats, horses and ponies), doubling my list to just over 120. I should add that, because my book is solely concerned with farm animals, I have only included horses and ponies where they exist in herds or when they are specifically involved in farm-work or landscape management.

Then a helpful friend suggested that I really should include all of the native Irish farm breeds too, given that our farming and livestock histories are so interconnected, so I added all the breeds listed by the Irish Native Rare Breed Society as well, and took a quick trip over there last summer to visit as many farms as I could. And with that, I have become (I think) the first person ever to have attempted to photograph all of the native four-legged farm breeds of Britain and Ireland combined. I realise it is a niche challenge, but, nonetheless, if this is my greatest achievement, I am happy with it.

For a relatively small island, Britain occupies an extraordinary position when it comes to the number of its native breeds, its sheep in particular. It is often cited as having the highest number of distinct sheep breeds of any country in the world. The reasons for this are fourfold: firstly, a history of multiple waves of incomers to our shores since the Neolithic era who brought livestock with them from different parts of the continent, secondly our impressive range of landscapes and climatic conditions which have given rise, over the millennia, to a huge variation in evolutionary adaptations, thirdly our astonishingly successful wool industry, which reigned supreme during the Middle Ages right



through to the Industrial Revolution, and fourthly, the pioneering selective breeding techniques which took hold in the 18th century, spearheaded by the likes of Robert Bakewell with his new Leicester variety. Sheep account for approximately half the number of our native breeds and consequently take up quite a large proportion of my book .

This summer, I finally managed to photograph the wonderful Cotswold breed at the Cotswold Sheep Society Summer Show in Bourton on the Water. It is hard to believe it has taken me quite so long to get to the Cotswolds, especially as the Cotswold sheep occupies such an important position in the history of the British wool trade. Sometimes things conspire against me, and my last plan (to visit Libby and Adam Henson three years ago) was thwarted by some emergency dental treatment and the opportunity to schedule in another visit took a while to materialise. So, when Martin Nicholas suggested the show, which he described as a 'small but quintessentially English event with perhaps 15-20 exhibitors, some sheep in full wool'. I jumped at the chance. It is the kind of event I love - a proper little show that is just about sheep - and it was exactly as I hoped it would be.

My book, which currently has the working title, 'Native Farm Breeds of Britain and Ireland', is due for publication this summer. Please contact me directly for details.



@amanda_lockhart_photography

pictures@amandalockhart.co.uk

The end of an era for Roelcots

After some very thoughtful consideration, John and Anne Palfrey have made the difficult decision that 2026 will be their last year with sheep. A decision they have not taken lightly, but due to age and deteriorating health, they know the time is right.

John and Anne founded their flock over 30 years ago whilst they were residing at Newtown Farm, Roel, Gloucestershire, hence their prefix, Roelcots. Their foundation stock came from the likes of the Harford, Kespar & Westcote flocks to name a few. In the early days, the Cotswolds were run extensively alongside a commercial flock of 750 Mule ewes on a low input system and whilst farming in conjunction with working full time jobs, showing and selling at society events was not possible. This would turn out to be the beginning of John's love affair with Cotswold sheep.



John Palfrey with a couple of his prize-winning rams

In 2015, John and Anne moved to Windrush House, Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire, sold off their commercial flock and took their Cotswold sheep with them. Under Anne's instructions, this was supposed to be a reduced flock of just 20 ewes but it was about 40 that made the move! Perhaps the less said about that the better! Shortly after the move to Windrush House they were introduced to neighbouring shepherd, Ben Stayt, who was running a successful pedigree sheep enterprise. A partnership was formed with mutual agreement to consolidate the flock to focus on quality rather than quantity with the ambition to show and sell at society events.

Once the ewes had been sorted, the next task was to purchase a stock ram to use on them, a task that was harder than we first thought.

A trip to the breed society show and sale in 2018, then held with Voyce Pullin at Cirencester, would result in the purchase of 'Queenford Pete', a ram which clearly stood out to us from the others, displaying all the traits we were looking for in a stock ram. It was reassuring to know that we were not the only ones with this view as not only did he stand champion in the pre-sale show but we had to go to 620gns to secure him. The following year, in what was our first season showing, he remained unbeaten in his class. Things only got better when his lambs hit the ground, sharing his same qualities and that extra character which is difficult to breed. His lambs achieved great results in the show ring and found new homes in many established flocks as well as new ones. It is probably fair to say that 'Pete' was one of the most influential rams in modern day Cotswold breeding and we feel lucky that we were able to have him. We owe a lot of our success to him. Pete's genetics can be seen throughout our flock and to begin with it was difficult to part with any of his daughters which we kept as breeding ewes in the flock.



Queenford Pete

This meant we had less and less use for him each season. Fellow breeder David Haynes of the renowned Kasani prefix had always asked for first refusal if we ever decided to part with him. Knowing that he would have a super home, we let him go to allow for us to search for new blood. Over the years, we have only added to the female breeding stock with the select purchase of quality ewes that share the same qualities we always look for in stock in order to maintain a consistent type across the flock.



Roelcots Caesar - a son of Queenford Pete

In 2024 with 'Pete' now aged 8, David phoned us to say that the old boy was showing his age and that he thought this could possibly be his last season. David kindly agreed that we could use him on some of our unrelated ewes. According to script, he left us some outstanding progeny. These achieved great success during the 2025 show season culminating at Moreton Show with 1st prize ewe lamb, champion lamb and reserve breed champion with 'Roelcots Halo', as well as 1st prize group of three and 1st prize pair, all with 'Pete' sired lambs.



Roelcots Halo



We feel that the consistency we have achieved in breeding has resulted in consistent success in the show and sale rings. Roelcots feature prominently in show and sale reports throughout the season with success too numerous to list, but perhaps our proudest achievements over the years have been; winning the Small Flock Competition on three consecutive occasions, seeing Roelcots sheep used as the foundation stock to establish new flocks across the UK and exporting Roelcots genetics to America.



Over the past 10 years, Ben has focused on producing a recognisable Roelcots type - a correct, stylish sheep with strong breed characteristics whilst improving wool quality. This has led to a working relationship with Theo of Stroud Blankets who takes all of our fleeces and is highly complimentary of their quality.



Both Ben and John are advocates of the Cotswold Sheep Society Show and Sale and mutually believe it is an important shop window for the breed as a whole. Having supported the event over many years, it has been decided to offer the flock as way of a dispersal sale at the auction. We are proud to have the opportunity to showcase our flock as a whole with McCartneys of Worcester on Saturday 8th August 2026 and we look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible. This is a good opportunity to thank everyone who has supported us in any way over the years, it has been most appreciated. We hope the Roelcots prefix will live on for many years to come.

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page 'Roelcots Cotswolds' for further news and information.

Direct all enquiries to Ben Stayt on 07795 816951 or
btstayt94@hotmail.co.uk



The Aston Flock

Bi-Annual Flock Competition - 2025 Large Flock Winner

We farm the 32 acre remnant of the farm that my grandfather bought in Cold Aston in 1919. Growing up with farming as my day to day life I was bitterly disappointed when my father Edward wouldn't let me consider a future on the land unless I had a degree in something else first. What a wise man! Having qualified as a doctor I spent my first pay cheque on life membership of Moreton Show, thus declaring my continued interest in farming! Edward became President of the show a few years later, and that same year delivered two orphan Suffolk Scotch half-bred lambs to our young daughters to bottle raise. We have kept sheep ever since, having as many as 40 mule ewes on the land until we sold them with a view to do some travelling in 2020. That plan was stymied by Covid, the grass grew ungrazed, store lambs were becoming ridiculously expensive, but an opportunity arose to follow a long held dream of buying some pedigree Cotswold sheep. We bought 20 ewes from Hewletts Farm - 10 Kespar, 4 Todenham and 6 Hewletts to give a range of genetics, ranging in age from 2 to 5 years. We were lucky enough to be able to buy a shearling ram Bemborough Larry, with a kinship report run by the Society giving us a very fortunate clean sheet.



What immediately struck us was how much easier to handle, and healthier our Cotswolds were than the Mules. At the same time we seeded two acres of our poorest land with a wildflower seed mix (it later transpired harvested from Diddly Squat by the Gloucestershire's Glorious Grasslands team!). This has taken well, and the sheep invariably improve in condition after grazing this enlarging restoration area, now covering 10 acres. We graze rotationally, during the growing season dividing the land into 1.5acre micro plots, to allow greater herbage regrowth, deeper rooting grass, benefitting soil microbiology, and supporting a growing population of insects and small rodents. Dung beetle and earthworm counts are rising.

An application to be an SFI pilot in 2022 was successful, and we submitted our follow on application for the 2025 SFI in the nick of time, and are now well paid to graze our unimproved grassland with our rare breed Cotswolds!

We have breeding with wool in mind, keen to keep sheep of a good confirmation but producing a quality fleece. The sheep meat is a secondary product, but is sold locally through our mailing list of repeat customers, Broomhalls doing a good job of the killing and cutting to our spec, although at quite a hefty cost. Community engagement is part of our plan, with a footpath crossing through we get daily visitors, but also host the village school to the lambing shed and to walk our fields, villagers have been able to book onto a self-guided route around our land with an audio guide, we have had a visually impaired group to check our fleece quality and compare it to a neighbour's Suffolk ram, and organised a winter meeting in the village hall with produce to taste and feel, and have more activities planned for 2026.



Our wool has previously sold to the Farm Park for it's mattress contract, but more recently to Theo Theodorou for his wonderful Stroud blankets, and we are heartened by the growing interest in the fashion wool for woollen garments, reinforcing the value of keeping Cotswold sheep genetics strong. Looking to the future keeping our better fleeced wethers as a grazing flock for shearing and ultimately to be killed for mutton is an interesting idea, as is developing a market for Cotswold sheep mutton. We await developments from the NE Cotswold Farmer Cluster and it's abattoir initiative with interest.

This year (2025) we were fortunate to buy a replacement ram for Larry, Queenford Wilfred from Angela Reid, bringing wool quality to our flock, having used more conformation strong rams on Larry's earlier offspring. 28 ewes were tugged, and we look forward to scanning results eagerly, with lambing due in later March. Turning our ewes and lambs onto growing grass is a natural, and economic decision. This does put us at a disadvantage in terms of showing, with less well matured individuals compared to the early lambing flocks. We made our showing debut at the last summer show, a very enjoyable experience, with the preparation not as difficult as we had feared, we will consider entering other shows in 2026.

Martin Nicholas, Aston Flock



Winter Social 2025



Members and friends enjoyed a lovely afternoon and lunch at our Annual Trophy Presentation and Winter Social at Aldsworth Village Hall on Sunday 23rd November.

Frank Williams Trophy

This is awarded annually to a person, who has given outstanding service to the Society, generally over many years.

This year's winner was John Palfrey (Roelcots Cotswolds)





Frank Houlton Trophy

This is awarded annually to the person gaining the highest number of points at nominated shows.

1st David Haynes - Kasani

2nd Davina Stanhope - Tingewick

3rd Equal K, V & E Wheeler - Waterloo

3rd Equal Palfrey & Stayt - Roelcots

4th Steve Parkes - Kespar

5th Dixon & Sadiq - Washford



The Golden Fleece Trophy

This is awarded annually to the person gaining the most points throughout the year in rolled fleece classes at nominated shows.

1st Steve Parkes - Kespar

2nd Angela Reid - Queenford

3rd Maggie Hobbs - Westcote



Champion Flock at the Society Show

1st Davina Stanhope - Tingewick

2nd David Haynes - Kasani

3rd Steve Parkes - Kespar

4th K, V & E Wheeler - Waterloo

The Crook for the Best Homebred Sheep at the Society Show

Davina Stanhope - Tingewick

Bi - Annual Flock Competition

Judges: Margaret Pursch & Caroline Cunningham

Large Flock

1st Martin Nicholas - Aston

2nd Angela Reid - Queenford

Small Flock

1st David Haynes - Kasani

2nd Palfrey & Stayt - Roelcots

Child/ Junior Handler

This is awarded annually to the junior handler that gains the most points in nominated shows.

Child Handler (7-11)

1. M Sadiq
2. A Partridge
3. E Furlong Hatch
4. A Sadiq
5. Equal T Parkes & M Parkes

Junior Handler (12-16)

1. K Sadiq
2. A Hanks

Champion Young Handler

Kozhien Sadiq (8 Points)

Reserve Young Handler

Miran Sadiq (7 Points)





Shows 2026

Breed Classes



Show	Date	Show Address	Contact Details
Kenilworth Show	Saturday 06.06.2026	Stoneleigh Park Estate, Stoneleigh Rd, Warwickshire, CV8 3AY	Alex Watton & Hannah Church: 07920 422689
Royal Three Counties Show	Friday 12.06.2026 - Sunday 14.06.2026	Three Counties Showground, Malvern, Worcestershire, WR13 6NW	Samantha Jones: 07467 435866
Berkeley Show	Sunday 28.06.2026	The Castle Meadows, Berkeley, Gloucestershire, GL13 9QN	Hilary Wooldridge: 07725 213866
Hanbury Show	Saturday 04.07.2026	Park Hall Farm, Hanbury, Redditch, Worcestershire, B96 6RD	Jan Hurst: 01299 250757

Please note that all of the information provided is subject to change but is correct at time of publication. For further details please contact the Show directly.

Show	Date	Show Address	Contact Details
Society Summer Show	Sunday 26.07.2026	Burghfield House, Cemetery Lane, Bourton on the Water, Gloucestershire, GL54 2LB	CSS Secretary - Lizzy: 07464 754399
Society Show & Sale	Friday 07.08.2026/ Saturday 08.08.2026	Worcester Livestock Market, Nunnery Way, Worcestershire, WR4 0SQ	McCartneys Worcester: 01905 769770
Moreton Show	Saturday 05.09.2026	Showground, Moreton in Marsh, Batsford Rd, Gloucestershire, GL56 0AB	Lynne Parkes: 01608 651908



Photo Competition!



Entries:

info@cotswoldsheepsociety.co.uk

Judge: Amanda Lockhart

Closing date: 1st July 2026

Send in your favourite Cotswold Sheep related photographs for a chance to be featured in the next Newsletter!

The winning entry will be the next Newsletter Cover with two runners up on the back page.

Submitted photographs may be used for future newsletters/ social media. Content will be credited where applicable but please let us know if you wish for your photographs to only be used in relation to this competition.



Council Corner



- **Co-options** - We would like to welcome Jane Dixon and Martin Nicholas onto Council for the first time. Angela Reid has also been co-opted back onto Council, following a short break. The Society is very grateful to them all for offering us their time and expertise.
- **Trademark** - The Society owns two registered Trademarks: **Pedigree Cotswold Lamb** and **Cotswold Wool**. Both are available for members and approved businesses to use. Both Trademarks add value by clearly identifying products as coming from pedigree Cotswold sheep. Members, butchers, spinners, small manufacturers and retailers are encouraged to apply, helping strengthen their branding while promoting the breed and its reputation. For further information, whether you are a prospective, or current, Trademark holder, please email trademark@cotswoldsheepsociety.co.uk or contact Angela Reid on 07768 354613. Please note that the Trademark year runs from 1st April.
- **Registering/Birth Notifying Lambs** – The 2026 Lamb Registration Form is included with this newsletter if you wish to use a paper version, and if lost, a replacement can be downloaded from the Society website.
 - ⇒ We would however encourage members to upload their information directly to the Grassroots Online Flock Book, which is very straightforward to do. If you want to reset your password, you will just need your membership number (which is your COT number with the addition of 00 - so COT 123 becomes 00123).
 - ⇒ Remember that **Birth Notifying** your lambs in the year they are born is free, and they do **not** need to meet Breed Standards. Once a lamb has been Birth Notified, it can be Registered the following year (although at a higher cost). Adding **all** your lambs to the Grassroots Online Flock Book makes them easier to manage. Once a lamb is recorded, you have instant access to its pedigree and can quickly take further steps — including registering it, discovering its compatibility with a particular ram or ewe for breeding, reporting its death, or including it in the **Pedigree Lamb Trademark Scheme**, and other useful management tasks; all at the click of a button. The closing date for 2026 Registrations is 30th September.
- **The 2026 Census** - The form is included with this newsletter, if lost it can be downloaded from the Society website. It is important that you complete and return it by **30th April** to ensure that we will have sufficient Registration tags for your flock.



Council Members

Ms D Stanhope

Mr S Parkes

Mrs C Cunningham

Mr G Birtwhistle

Mr N Bohemia

Mr J Palfrey

Mr B Stayt

Miss E Wheeler

Mr D Haynes

Co-Opted:

Mrs A Reid

Ms J Dixon

Mr M Nicholas