



Whitefaced Woodland Sheep Society

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Newsletter 101 – November 2016

From the Chairman...

Hello again

They say time flies when you're having fun, well I must never stop laughing because it doesn't seem like two minutes since we were turning tups out last year. Now it's here again, in fact they're all out apart from moor sheep which go out on about 26th ish of this month - apart from the herdwick tup lamb we gathered out of Deanhead yesterday. (That made me stop laughing for quite a bit!)

The Breed sale went well with a good line up of tups, though not such a good a trade for the best as last year I thought. Females however where a real trade, which is good to see, with buyers and sellers coming from far and wide with more new faces again.

Well I'm going to send this to Ann for spell and punctuation check, so I'll take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Take care, Paul

Secretary's notes

It was agreed at our recent Committee Meeting that TWO inspectors should be present at all stock inspections, including ewes. Please contact me in the first instance to arrange an inspection.

We are also giving advance notice that all animals for registration should be inspected BEFORE the Annual show and sale. Inspections on Sale Day will be limited, and by prior appointment only.

The Committee also asked that any intended purchases be approved by the committee before a financial commitment was made.

The new web site is under construction, and we are seeking high resolution photos, if anyone can

oblige. We are reasonably well supplied with photos of show sheep, but particularly need Woodlands on the hill or in the landscape.

And finally, a gentle reminder that annual subscriptions were due on 1 September. Please send me yours if you haven't already done so.

Annual Sale Report

At the Annual Show and Sale held on 25 September at Holmfirth Mart, 56 Woodland tups were forward and 160 females.

The Champion ram, a shearling from Sally Windsor in West Wales, sold for £750 to Chris Wray of Grassington. The Reserve Champion, a 3-shear ram from Robert & Angela Crampton, Grassington sold for £500 to Harold Smith of Dunford Bridge. The highest priced ram, the 3rd prize shearling from Simon Burford sold to Chareen Kaye for £1840. The second highest price bid was £1250 for a shearling tup from Neville Belfield, sold to Edward Lees. Eight other tups made between £400 and £850 and a ram lamb from James Gill reached £150.

Neville Belfield's Champion Pen of seven shearling gimmers sold to S & L Walley for £150. Robert & Angela Crampton sold a single shearling ewe to James Gill for £190.

The top price for draft ewes was £152 from Can Hodgson, sold to John Jones, and Simon Burford's prize pen of ewe lambs sold to Harold Smith for £75 per head.

Pens of shearling ewes from Messrs Belfield, Thorp and Jones made £155, £165 and £172 respectively and a further single shearling from Robert & Angela Crampton sold for £185. Draft ewes from Paul Thorp, Angela Hardman, Can Hodgson and Faith Johnson sold for between £80 and £110.

Paul Dixon

Show Results

At **Halifax Show**, Robert and Angela Crampton received a new plaque from Ros Warburton for the Best Home Bred Shearling Tup, presented in memory of her son Hayden Thorp.



Mottram Show 21 August

Judge: Sam Hodgson

Aged tup: 1. Casey Campbell, 2. Richard Smith, 3. Robert & Angela Crampton,

Shearling tup: 1. Robert & Angela Crampton, 2. Karen Dowey 3. John Jones

Tup lamb: 1. John Jones, 2. Richard Smith, 3. Casey Campbell

Aged ewe: 1. Karen Dowey, 2. Casey Campbell, 3. Richard Smith

Shearling ewe: 1. Richard Smith, 2. and 3. Karen Dowey

Ewe lamb: 1. Karen Dowey, 2. Robert & Angela Crampton, 3. John Jones

Group of 3: 1. Richard Smith, 2. Casey Campbell, 3. Robert & Angela Crampton

Reserve Champion was Casey's aged ram. Karen was awarded Champion and the Paul Dixon Cup.

Hope Show 29 August

Judge: James Gill

Aged tup: 1. Robert & Angela Crampton, 2. Richard Smith, 3. John Jones

Shearling tup: 1. & 2. Neville Belfield, 3. Robert & Angela Crampton

Tup lamb: 1. & 2. Karen Dowey, 3. Paul Thorp

Aged ewe: 1. Paul Thorp, 2. Casey Campbell, 3. Chareen Kaye

Shearling ewe: 1. Jeff Dowey, 2. Paul Thorp, 3. Karen Dowey

Ewe lamb: 1. & 2. Robert & Angela Crampton, 3. Karen Dowey.

Champion was Robert and Angela's aged ram, and Karen's shearling ewe took Reserve.

Congratulations to Helen Dowey who won the Champion Fleece class.

Champion of Champions

Judged at Hope by Craig Bradbury

Won by Karen Dowey with her shearling ewe. Robert and Angela Crampton's aged ram was Reserve Champion.

Penistone Show 10 September

Judge: Richard Cottrill

Aged tup: 1. Karen Dowey, 2. Robert & Angela Crampton, 3. Casey Campbell

Shearling tup: 1. Robert & Angela Crampton, 2. Richard Smith, 3. Karen Dowey

Tup lamb: 1. Casey Campbell, 2. Karen Dowey, 3. Laura Brown

Aged ewe: 1. Robert & Angela Crampton, 2. Karen Dowey, 3. Richard Smith

Shearling ewe: 1. Karen Dowey, 2. Robert & Angela Crampton, 3. Karen Dowey

Ewe lamb: 1. Karen Dowey, 2. Richard Smith, 3. Robert & Angela Crampton

The Champion was Karen's shearling ewe and Reserve was her aged tup.

Show & Sale of Traditional & Native Breeds at Melton Mowbray

The David Goodchap cup was won by Tom Davis with his shearling tup. Pip and Sally Hodges took Reserve with their shearling ewe and reclaimed the Goodchap needlework picture.

Hayfield Show 18 September

Judge: John Jones

Aged tup: 1. Tony Redfern, 2. Karen Dowey, 3. Robert & Angela Crampton,

Shearling tup: 1. Casey Campbell, 2. Karen Dowey, 3. Casey Campbell

Tup lamb: 1. Casey Campbell, 2. Karen Dowey

Aged ewe: 1. Casey Campbell, 2. Karen Dowey

Shearling ewe: 1. Karen Dowey, 2. Richard Smith, 3. Karen Dowey

Ewe lamb: 1. Karen Dowey, 2. Tony Redfern, 3. Robert & Angela Crampton,

Karen again took the Championship with her shearling ewe and Tony Redfern's Aged tup was Reserve Champion.

Annual Show & Sale at Holmfirth 25 Sept

Judge: Neville Belfield

Aged tup: 1. Robert & Angela Crampton, 2. James Gill, 3. Karen Dowey

Shearling tup: 1. Sally Windsor, 2. Robert & Angela Crampton, 3. Tony Redfern.

The Ken Wild Trophy was won by the Windsors' shearling tup, born and bred in West Wales.

Pen of ewes: 1. Neville Belfield, 2. John Jones

Pen of ewe lambs: 1. Tony Redfern, 2. R Herbert.

Points Trophy

Unlike the Champion of Champions and the Ken Wild Trophy which are won by a single outstanding sheep, the Points Trophy is designed to reward an exhibitor who has shown at many venues with consistently good results.

At all shows with specific Woodland classes, points are awarded to the owner of the winning sheep in each class:

3 points for a 1st, 2 points for a 2nd, 1 point for a 3rd, with an additional 2 points for the Champion and 1 point for Reserve Champion.

The trophy, presented for the first time this year, was won by Robert and Angela Crampton and presented at the Annual Show and Sale. Karen Dowey was the runner up.

Karen generously offered a trophy for the Under 25 Exhibitor who had gained the most points and this was presented to Casey Campbell.



Well done to everyone who attends the shows over the showing season. It's always great to get out and see other people's stock and to see the numbers increasing in each of the classes each year. We always welcome those who are new to the breed.

See you all in 2017 😊. Karen

Judith Hawkhead, from the RBST York Support Group writes:

The York Group has been busy producing Christmas cards, 2017 calendars, greeting cards and note pads. These all have photos of rare breed animals belonging to fellow RBST members. All are advertised on the RBST website and proceeds will go to support RBST. Contact Judith: judith.hawkhead@york.ac.uk

Welcome to new members



Thomas Thackeray won the Best suckled ewe trophy at Harden Moss

Adam Short from Tiverton in Devon joined in August. He wrote:

“We got into woodlands by accident really. When we started renting our first bit of land (eight acres in Leicestershire) we tracked down some texel couples from a chap near Wisbech in Norfolk. This chap was selling up and had a few woodlands, and woodland x southdowns for sale. We ended up taking the lot, and carried on with the woodlands using a texel tup. The meat was tremendous and we found them a much more interesting sheep than the texels.

We gave up our sheep and rented land in 2008 and moved around the country trying to earn and save for our own smallholding. We finally achieved this on July 12th this year when we completed on our 26 acre smallholding in Devon.

Given that one of the worries with rare breeds is geo-diversity, or geographic spread, I felt we might be doing the breed a small service by keeping a registered flock down here in Devon. We've got pretty good ground here and no doubt it's warmer than their homeland, but we are 236m above sea level, so it's certainly not the most mild area of the southwest.

Without giving the game away too much for sale day, we're hoping we can get a number of two-ish year old registered or registerable breeding ewes, and an unrelated tup, ready for use in October or November this year.”

We are pleased to report that Adam came to buy at the Annual Sale in Holmfirth. He reports that he reached home late that night with 26 ewes, including John Jones's 2nd place pen of shearling ewes and a shearling tup from Neville Belfield.

And positively our youngest member:

Lucy Lucas

Lucy is the latest in a long line of renowned woodland breeders, which includes her mother Karen, her grandparents, Jeff and Helen Dowey and her great grandfather, Rider Howard.



The complementary role of sheep in upland and hill areas

The National Sheep Association has produced a comprehensive report to promote understanding of this complex jigsaw and to respond to criticisms from some conservationists. The appearance of our uplands, cherished by visitors from home and abroad, is the result of hundreds of years of sheep farming. The report stresses the importance of a viable sheep industry for economic, environmental and social reasons. Sheep farming in the uplands and hills provides a wide range of public goods and services, from food production and environmental stewardship to landscape management, cultural heritage and the support of rural communities.. Download the report at www.nationalsheep.org.uk/policy-work/6704/ or request a copy from laura@nationalsheep.org.uk.

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