



WHITEFACE DARTMOOR SHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter December 2020

Dear Member

Well what a year to reflect on! The Corona Virus is still disrupting many aspects of people's lives, but farming goes on, with crops to till and animals to tend to. The Whiteface Dartmoor Sheep Breeders Association was one of the few Show and Sales to take place this year, so a 'thank you' to Russell Steer and Kivells for allowing/helping this to happen. Disappointing that the Flock Competition and Annual Dinner for 2020 had to be cancelled, but we look forward to extra celebrations next year, when hopefully we can all meet together again.

Please find enclosed with this Newsletter:

- a copy of the latest Flock Book
- the agenda for the next Annual General Meeting that at the moment is planned to be held at Manaton Parish Hall on Wednesday 20th January 2021 at 7.30pm, and the minutes of the last General Meeting
- Draft Accounts, and
- an invoice for your Annual Subscription for 2021

Just a few explanations regarding the above:

The Flock Book has been revamped and some extra photos included. Thanks to Clive Wilton for all his hard work in putting this together and getting it printed.

We hope to hold our AGM at Manaton Parish Hall this year on Wednesday 20th January 2021 (Covid restrictions permitting!). A couple of reasons for the change of venue this year: by meeting at Manaton Parish Hall (post code TQ13 9UJ), we will be the only people using the facility, reducing the risk of coming into contact with lots of other people, and the cost drops from £70 to £8 for the hire of the room. The Hall, under normal circumstances, would be able to accommodate all our members for the AGM, but with the current 2-meter distancing restrictions in place, the Hall can only hold 32 people. We are therefore asking that if the current social distancing rules are still in place on 20th January, which seems likely, that only one member per farming household attend the AGM on this occasion.

Officer roles and three Council positions will be open for election at the AGM. Whilst the current individuals are willing to stand for re-election at least one position on Council remains vacant.

Nominations for any of the positions should be sent to the secretary (Roy Endacott) by **Monday 11th January 2021 at the latest**: email. endacottsinoz@hotmail.com Tel. 07816636435 or by post to East Nymph Farm, Spreyton, Crediton Devon EX17 5EA. No nominations will be accepted on the night, so please get your nominations in by the 11th January 2021.

You will see your Annual Subscription invoice has a 31st March 2021 deadline for payment. Most people pay their annual subscription payment on time e.g. by the end of January at the latest each year, but the few who do not create a lot of work for those overseeing the administration of the Association. Council has now agreed a 31st March cut-off date for subscription payments.

A Happy and Peaceful New Year to you all

Roy Endacott, Secretary

Registration Officers Report

I hope you all enjoy the new style Flock Book. I've managed to increase the size of the font slightly, which has added to the number of pages, added extra colour photos, and reduce the printing cost by over £100. I trust that meets with everyone's approval.

The challenge will come when we look to produce the Flock Book next year. Ideally, we would like to produce the 2021 Flock Book in time for our Annual Show and Sale at the end of August. However, with no Flock Competition taking place this year, and hence no pictures from that event to include in next year's Flock Book, I would ask you all to take some pictures of your wonderful sheep, some Whiteface sheep up on the Moor would be great if possible, and let me have them to sort through.

We are still waiting for some people to complete their 2020 Flock Surveys. However, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those people that have taken the time to complete theirs; next year should be so much easier once we've all got a better record of what animals we actually have. Without wishing to repeat what has been said before, it does state in our rule book that everyone must complete an annual Flock Survey. We will be enforcing this more stringently next year by not accepting any ewe lamb or ram registrations from anyone who has not completed their Flock Survey.

We are now fully signed up to the Grassroots recording system, however, the problems associated with the corona virus and socially distancing has delayed us from rolling the programme out to all our members. We had hoped to be running training workshops through this year to allow everyone the opportunity to see how the system works and hopefully, for those who wish to, allow members to update their own livestock details. Clearly this could not happen, but we are hopeful that 2021 will allow us to do this.

Clive Wilton

New Website

One of the topics raised at last year's AGM was the cost and usability of the Whiteface Dartmoor Website. If you now visit the website (www.whitefacedartmoorssheep.org.uk) you will see that it has been revamped. We can now add registered Whiteface Dartmoor sheep for sale by sending details to the secretary. With few events and limited information to put on the website this year, because of the corona virus, it has not been as active as we would have liked, but please do use the website to see if any of the information you may be looking for is on there.

The cost of hosting and maintaining the new website has been reduced from £600 per year to around £100 per year. Any suggestions for items you would like to see added to the website or changes to the revamped site should be forwarded to the secretary.



Proposed WFDSBA Dates for 2021

AGM	20 Jan
Council Meeting	11 Feb
Council Meeting	6 May
General Meeting	16 Jun
Council meeting	19 Aug
WFDSBA S & S	27 Aug
General Meeting	15 Sept
Flock competition W/C	4 Oct
Annual Dinner	20 Oct
Council meeting	18 Nov

With Christmas just around the corner and the annual problem of finding that sheep mad person a special gift, why not buy them some WFDSBA merchandise?

Here are some of the items we have left in stock for a stocking filler



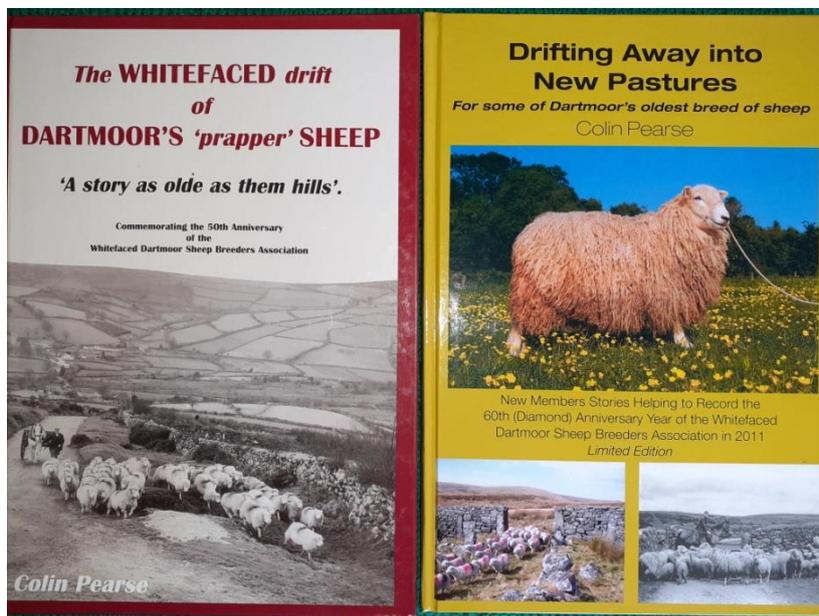
Polo shirts £15
(only Large size left in stock)



Ties £10
Lapel Badges £2.50

More clothing can be obtained from Ravenspring Ltd, in Totnes www.Ravenspring.co.uk Tel: 01803 867092 Ravenspring Ltd has the WFD logo and can add it to various items from caps to coats to body warmers, etc; they also donate 5% of the cost of the items bought to the Whiteface Dartmoor Sheep Breeders' Association funds.

Or what about buying one of these books as a Christmas present?



The WHITEFACED drift £25

Drifting Away into New Pastures £33

These two wonderful books by Colin Pearse are also available. All + P&P as appropriate.

For more information contact Chris Caunter Tel. 01803 732621 or Email. ccaunter@btinternet.com