



WHITEFACE DARTMOOR SHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION



Newsletter December 2023

Dear Member

This Newsletter provides an opportunity to reflect on the year just passed. This is the first year we have to submit an Annual Return to the Charity Commission as a newly registered charity. Our current Treasurer, Chris Caunter, is currently working on this and we thank Chris for stepping into the role following Theo Wilding-White having to resign due to ill health earlier in the year.

Our application to register as a breed with the Zoological Department at DEFRA is still on-going. They raised some questions regarding our original application, including needing a paragraph in our Constitution and Rules about equality and diversity. All their questions have now been addressed and our application has been resubmitted. We await their decision.

As the Flock Books have already been distributed this year, this Newsletter will only be sent out via email this time (except for the five people who don't have an email address). This will save printing and folding hundreds of bits of paper and hundreds of pounds in postage costs.

The agendas for the next AGM and General Meeting, plus the minutes of the last AGM and General Meeting are also attached with this Newsletter



*Picture of James Caunter prize winning ewes
(copyright Murray Garrett)*

Our Annual General Meeting will be held at **St Andrews Church Hall, Ashburton, TQ13 7DT** on **Thursday 18th January 2024 at 7.30pm**. All the Office holders are happy to stand again, but if anyone would like to put their name forward to stand for one of these roles do let our Secretary know. Sarah Watts has to stand down in January 2024 having served on Council for six years. We are happy to take nominations for anyone wishing to fill this position. Where more than one person stands for any position there will be a vote by the members on the night, however, please be aware we do not take nominations on the night. If you or someone you know would be interested in filling any of the positions, please send in your nominations to the secretary, Roy Endacott, by **Monday 8th January 2024 at the latest**: email. endacottsinoz@hotmail.com Tel. 07816636435 or by post to East Nymph Farm, Spreyton, Crediton Devon EX17 5EA.

Please also find attached with this Newsletter your Annual Subscription Invoice. This is due for payment on 1st January 2024. You can fill in the form and email it back to Clive Wilton (chwilton@yahoo.com) and pay by BACS or post it back to Clive with a cheque. For those of you who pay by standing order, please ensure the payment amount is correct. It's been £30 for three now.

A Happy Christmas to you all and let's hope for a positive New Year.



Roy Endacott
Secretary

Registrations Officer and Membership Secretary's Report

New members continue to join the Whiteface Dartmoor Sheep Breeders Association. Since the last update in September the following new members have joined the Association:

No. 299 Nelhan Flock

Peter Brain

Nell Farm Cottages, Hannington, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN6 7RU

Tel. 07733 335376

Email. peterbrain60@gmail.com

No. 300 Town End Flock

Anne and Robert Adams

Town End Farm, Lode Lane, Alstonfield, Ashbourne, Derbyshire DE6 2FY

Tel. 07968 074547

Email. annemountain@hotmail.com

No. 301 Braehead Flock

Kim & Lily O'Brien

Braehead, Ulbster, Lybster, Caithness, Scotland KW2 6AA

Tel. 01955 651315

Email. obrienrecycling@btinternet.com

A warm welcome to you all, and we look forward to working with you going forward. I enjoyed meeting many new people at the Melton Show and Sale this year and you can see how the Whiteface Dartmoor breed continues to expand its presents throughout the UK by the new members that are joining.

Onto some housekeeping businesses, some people have still not registered their 2023 ewe lambs, including some of last years new members. I would like to deal with these registrations before I start lambing please, as life gets very busy. If you need any help, do get in touch. One member has this year registered three years worth of lambs, which is perfectly ok, a heavy work load meant they didn't get chance to it before. I have another who is in the process of doing the same. There are still a number who have not completed their Flock Survey as well. Please remember you can't register your ewe lambs until we have your completed and returned your Flock Survey.

If you hired a ram to use on your flock this year, be sure to keep his details for when you need to register next years lambs. His tag number and owner details will make filling in your registration forms much easier.

If any of your details have changed, please do let me know, phone number, email address, or postal address.

There have been a lot of upgrades to the grassroots system over the last twelve months. It is now easier to use, but some of you may have lost your password, if so, there is an option for applying for a new one, which you choose yourself and it is then confirmed as yours. You can pick something which is easy for you to remember.

The Training Day we held at Ruth & Roys farm earlier this year for preparing animals for showing was so popular, we have decided to hold a follow-up day in either March or April, details to follow. If you are interested in attending do please let me know (chwilton@yahoo.com).

With Christmas fast approaching, don't forget we have books available which make a wonderful gift for anyone interested in the breed, or farming and sheep in general. For you husbands who don't know what to buy for your wife, there is Sally Vincents wonderful book documenting their experiences on the farm

and in the garden, and her wonderful recipes. It's a win win, a lovely present for your wife/partner and beautiful meals for you to make, what could be better?

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Clive Wilton

Annual Dinner and Cup Presentations

The Annual Whiteface Dartmoor Dinner and Cup Presentations evening was held at The Dartmoor Lodge Ashburton on Wednesday 25th October 2023. We were limited to 80 people this year, but that didn't stop us having a wonderful time. The evening started with a wonderful three course meal, with the delicious Whiteface Dartmoor lamb on offer supplied by Arthur and Rosemary Wrayford. The Chairman then gave us all an entertaining speech and this was followed by the Cup Presentations. This is always an exciting time for all those who entered the various Shows throughout the year and for those people who entered the Flock Competition. The results of all the awards are listed below.

A big 'thank you' must go to Danni Boustead for organising the Annual Dinner this year. Danni had big shoes to fill after Margaret Phipps had done the job so well for many years.

The results for the cups that were presented were:

Cup for the Best Ram Hogg at our own Show and Sale – Arthur and Rosemary Wrayford

Cup for the Best Older Ram at our own Show and Sale – Kevin Wreyford

Cup for the Best Pair of Ram Hogs at our own Show and Sale – Arthur and Rosemary Wrayford

Cup for the Best Coated Ram at our own Show and Sale – Colin & Hazel Pearce

Cup for the best pen of 5 – 10 Shearling ewes at our own Show and Sale – Phil and Richard Coaker

Cup for the best pen of 2 – 4 Shearling ewes at our own Show and Sale – Ollie and Amanda Mortimore

Cup for the best pen of older ewes at our own Show and Sale – Clyde Coaker

Cup for the most points won at our own Show and Sale - Arthur and Rosemary Wrayford

Cup for the Best Hogg Ram at the Devon County Show – Arthur and Rosemary Wrayford

Prize for the Best Stock Ram at the Royal Cornwall Show – Kevin Wrayford

Crook for Best Wool of the Hoof at Devon County Show – Arthur and Rosemary Wrayford

Cup for the most points accumulated at all the Shows in 2023 – Phil Abel

The Roy Luggier Memorial Cup for the Best Young Handler of the Year – John Weaving



On the left

Arthur and Rosemary Wrayford collected the Cup for the most points won at our own Show and Sale in 2023

On the right

*Phil Abel at Okehampton Show that helped him win the Cup for the most points won at all the Shows in 2023
(Copyright Deborah White)*



The Flock competition results are as follows:

The Sylvia Needham Challenge Cup awarded for the Best Flock of over 50 ewes

1st James Caunter

2nd Mat Cole

3rd Arthur and Rosemary Wrayford



*James Caunter ewes
(copyright Murray Garrett)*

The Woodley Cup awarded for the Best Flock of 20 - 50 ewes

1st Marguerite Ashman

2nd Alison Thomson

3rd Paul and Vicky Pearce



*Marguerite Ashman ewes
(copyright Murray Garrett)*

The Sylvia Needham Memorial Cup awarded to Best Flock of under 20 ewes

1st Sam Hutchings

2nd Belinda Owen

3rd Lucy Hawker



*Sam Hutchings ewes
(copyright Murray Garrett)*

Cup for Best Ewe Lambs from a flock of over 50 ewes

1st Arthur and Rosemary Wrayford

2nd Mat Cole

3rd Penny Shepherd

The Christopher and Clare Butcher Cup for the best Ewe Lambs from a flock of 21 – 50 ewes

1st Alison Thomson

2nd Simon and Fliss Smaridge

3rd Rob and Janey Phipps

Cup for the Best Ewe Lambs from a flock under 20 ewes

1st Sam Hutchings

2nd Belinda Owen

Photographic Competition for those who live over 35 miles from Widecombe in the Moor

1st Paige Childs

The Sylvester Mann Cup awarded for the Best Stock Ram from all flocks

1st James Caunter

2nd Paul & Vicky Pearse

3rd Simon and Fliss Smaridge



James Caunter with his stock ram
(copyright Murray Garrett)

The Rob and Janet Phipps Cup awarded to the Best Overall Flock

Was won by Mat Cole



Picture of Mat Coles ewes being gathered to put with the tups (copyright Mat Cole)

2024 Show and Sale

After the success of using the Grassroots information to produce our Show and Sale catalogue for 2023, we will be continuing to produce more detailed information regarding each animal for sale in our 2024 catalogue where eartag numbers are provided.

One other change at our Show and Sale in 2024 will see the shearling ewe class of 2 – 4 ewes changed to 1 or 2 shearling ewes and these will be shown in the concourse (like the rams) rather than judged in their pens. All other ewe and ewe lamb classes will remain the same and judged in their pens.

Congratulations to Kevin Wreyford

Kevin Wreyford, whilst already being a successful Show winner with his Whiteface Dartmoor flock, has now shadow judged at two Shows and successfully completed the probationary requirements to be a Whiteface Dartmoor Judge. Kevin's name has now been added to the Judges List sent out to Shows for the 2024 season.



Kevin Wreyford at the Royal Cornwall Show with his prize winning ewe and ram
(copyright Kevin Wreyford)

The passing of Paula Wolton

Earlier in the year we received the sad news that Paula Wolton had sadly pass away.

Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends.

Provisional dates for your diary in 2024

AGM	18th January 2024
Trustees Meeting	18 th April 2024
General Meeting	9th May 2024
Trustees meeting	1 st August 2024
WFDSBA Show & Sale	30th August 2024
General Meeting	26th September 2024
Flock competition W/C	30th September 2024
Annual Dinner	23rd October 2024
Trustees meeting	14 th November 2024

For all the latest information, forms and updates don't forget to visit the Whiteface Dartmoor website <https://whitefacedartmoorsheep.org>

Show Dates for 2024

Devon County Show	16 th – 18 th May 2024
Royal Cornwall Show	6 th – 8 th June 2024
Mid Devon Show	27 th July
Totnes Show	28 th July 2024
Yealmpton Show	31 st July 2024
Okehampton Show	8 th August 2024
Chagford Show	15 th August 2024
Whiteface Dartmoor	30th August 2024
Show and Sale Exeter	
Kingsbridge Show	7 th September 2024
Widcombe Fair	10 th September 2024
Melton Mobray	13 th – 14 th September
Show and Sale	
Tavistock Goose Fair	9 th October 2024