



WHITEFACE DARTMOOR SHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter May 2020

Dear Member

I hope everyone is staying safe and well in these challenging times. The first thing to let everyone know is that our next Whiteface Dartmoor Sheep Breeders Association General Meeting that was planned for 17th June 2020 has now been cancelled. With the current lockdown situation and social venues closed for the foreseeable future, Council has decided to cancel this meeting well in advance to let everyone know.

With most local agricultural Shows having already been cancelled until next year, it remains to be seen if our own Show and Sale, planned for **28th August 2020**, will be able to go ahead. With this in mind, Council has decided to update our current website and move the site to a new provider. This will allow us to upload pictures more easily and therefore increase the opportunities to advertise and sell members only animals via our site. The additional benefit of moving our Website to a new provider is that it will also save us about £500 per year!

The next important change that you should all take note of is that Miranda Wallace has resigned as our Registrations Officer. Clive Wilton, current vice-chair, has very kindly agreed to take on this role until the next Annual General Meeting on **20th January 2021**. You will find the ewe and ram registration forms enclosed with this Newsletter and all returns should now be sent to Clive (address on the forms).

Please find enclosed an individual Flock List of all your animals listed on our database. Clive has worked very hard to produce this Flock Survey for each individual flock and now needs your help. Please can you go through this list and check which sheep are still in your flock and which sheep have been sold/died. Once completed, please return to Clive (address on the survey), so he can update our records.

We have no idea at this point if our annual Dinner in October will be able to go ahead. We would ask you to please keep the date (**Wednesday 21st October**) in your diaries for the moment, and will let you know when a decision has been made.

Roy Endacott

Secretary

The passing of John Nancekivell

John sadly passed away on 21st February this year. John was a well-known face at Okehampton Show stewarding the Whiteface Dartmoor sheep for many years.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Whiteface Dartmoor Events

(as they stand, but may well change)

Council meeting	20 Aug
WFDSBA Show & Sale	28 Aug 2020
General Meeting	16 Sept 2020
Flock competition	W/C 5 Oct
Annual Dinner	21 Oct
Council meeting	19 Nov
AGM	20th Jan 2021

Registrations Officers Report

Can I please ask you all to complete the Flock Survey included with this Newsletter. It is so important to complete the return in order for us to inform the Rare Breeds Survival Trust and the Department of Animal Health on Whiteface Dartmoor numbers as this will affect how the status of the breed is categorised e.g. Vulnerable, At Risk, or Minority, on the list. The latest figures provided by the Rare Breeds Survival Trust for 2020/2021 suggest our numbers have dropped by more than 5% (see right).

Our categorised status could be very relevant in the future as farm payments become detached from land area and linked to other qualifying options that could attract higher payments. So please complete the Flock Survey.

The Flock Survey shows the rams listed on our database belonging to each member. Anyone who does not have a certificate for a registered ram they own, or have a certificate for a registered ram they purchased from another breeder, but the certificate they now hold does not show their name as the owner, please indicate this on the return and I will issue the correct certificate to you.

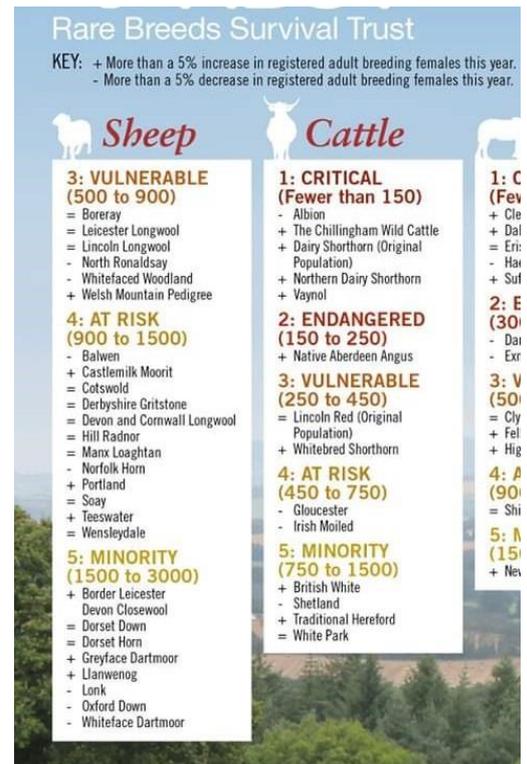
The Flock Survey also lists all the ewes currently on our database held by each individual member. If you have purchased ewes from another breeder and they don't appear on your list, please write them on the form and give as many details as possible for the ewes which have been purchased, in order that they can be transferred to your flock.

Anyone who wishes to have the name of a ram or ewe added to their pedigree status, please indicate this on the Flock Survey form e.g. the ram sold by Phil Abel to Mat Cole in 2017 is known as Bog Man, which has now been added to his certificate.

Grassroots

The change of personnel in the Registrations Officer role and the current lockdown due to the Coronavirus has delayed the implementation of the Grassroots system being rolled out to all our members. Paper copies of the ewe and ram registration forms are therefore being used again this year and are included with this Newsletter and I would ask you to return these to myself. We aim to have the Grassroots system fully rolled out next year, with training sessions planned to explain to members how they will be able to input their own information if they wish.

Clive Wilton



Treasurer & Membership Secretary Report (as at 6th May 2020)

There are currently three different accounts:

1. BRDRASAS-HUT (One Hut Full) account, the balance is nil.
2. Account 00777745 (main account), balance is £6963.59

As the new Treasurer, I've so far made 2 payments:

- £291.51 secretary's expenses – postage for Newsletter and Flock Book, stationery and printer cartridges.
 - £382.80 Grassroots (Set up and monthly payment March to May for Online Registry)
3. Account, balance £78.11 (this is a residue of money obtained for promotions in 2004 and is not used)

Two signatures are required for a cheque and when making an online payment an email is sent to another signatory on the Lloyds website list and they must then agree/reply. Roger Hutchings, Roy Endacott, Rob Phipps and I are the current signatories.

Cheques returned from Lloyds Bank

6 cheques were not accepted by the bank because they were not banked within the allotted timeframe. Each member, who these cheques relate to, has been written to explaining the situation.

2020 Subscriptions

14 full members subscriptions remain unpaid, a reminder email was sent to each individual last week. An additional 9 members have only paid £25 (instead of the increase payment of £30 per year subscription) and each of these members has been sent an email requesting the additional £5.

All 8 associate members have renewed

New Members

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new members that have joined since Nov 2019. They are:

- 251 Mr O & Mrs A Mortimore, 28 Embleford Crescent, Moretonhampstead, Devon. TQ13 8LW
- 252 Mr A & Mrs L Macleod, Red Deer Farm, Simonsbath, Exmoor. TA24 7JY
- 253 Mr G & Mrs P Stevens, Courtenay Farm Cottage, Washfield, Tiverton, Devon. EX16 9RE
- 254 Ms A Pengelly, 16 Middlewood, Cockwood, Starcross, Exeter EX6 8RN
- 255 Mr N Thompson, Mew Maybeck Farm, Sneaton, Whitby, N Yorkshire. YO22 5JL
- 256 Mr M Malseed, Frenchbeer farm, Chagford, Newton Abbot, Devon. TQ13 8EX

Chris Caunter

The Whiteface Dartmoor Sheep Breeders Association may become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Council have asked our secretary to investigate the process for the Whiteface Dartmoor Sheep Breeders Association (WFDSBA) to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. As the last physical meeting of Council in May wasn't able to be held because of the virus lockdown, the feedback from these investigations have not yet been debated.

So why are Council looking into this change I hear you ask?

All breed associations should to be registered with the Zoological department of DEFRA, which the WFDSBA currently isn't. In order to register with DEFRA a breed association needs a registered charity number. There are two options to obtain a charity number: either become a registered charity – which can cost up to £5000, or become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), which costs nothing.

What difference will this make to the WFDSBA?

There will need to be a governing document, which will include the charity's purpose, who runs it and how they run it. There will need to be a board of Trustees appointed, but these people could be the same people that currently make up Council.

Once Council has had the opportunity to debate the findings of this investigation further, we will feedback to members at our next physical meeting on how they are recommending we should proceed.



(copyright Tissa Haley)



That time of year again!
(copyright Roy Endacott)

WFDSBA Merchandise

Once lockdown is lifted, members can obtain items of clothing direct from Ravenspring Ltd in Totnes TQ9 5LQ. They have our WFD logo and can add any words to suit your requirements, be it hats, polos, sweatshirts, gilets, coats, umbrellas, etc. They do have a wide range of stock in all sizes and are very helpful. They also give 5% of sales to the Association. Ravenspring can be contacted on 01803 867092 or email sales@ravenspring.co.uk.

We also have both of Colin Pearse' books for sale (Dartmoor's Prapper Sheep and Drifting Away into New Pastures).

Please support WFDSBA funds by buying some merchandise and promote our breed by wearing our merchandise when out and about.

Contact Chris Caunter, 01803732621/07534620312 for more information.