

Newsletter No.4 November,2010.

Firstly, did you spot my 'deliberate' mistake? Newsletter no.3 did of course refer to the Council meeting of October 9th. Sorry.

Council Elections. 2011-2012.

President; Mrs.Ann Rickson Devon 01404 43489
Chairperson; Mrs.Jennie Hampstead Lincolnshire 01205 870270
Vice Chairman; Mr.John Roe Denbighshire 01978 790418

The Members of Council are;

John Gattrill	Somerset	01761 241282
Read Dawe	Devon	01822 614368
William Dawe	Devon	01822 612202
Colin Gale	Hampshire	01425 615048
Angela Greenhough	Cornwall	01752 851173
Graham Hampstead	Lincolnshire	01205 870270
Sadie James	Dorset	01308 488445
Mary Kirkham	Devon	01647 432235
Annette Martin	Devon	01626 852254
David Martin	Devon	01626 852254
Fiona Miles	Devon	01884 251181
Courtney Mortimore	Devon	01647 432442
Derek Mortimore	Devon	01837 840708
Christine Nugent	Wiltshire	01980 620165
John Osborne	Cornwall	01824 230354
Valerie Pratt	Somerset	01963 371112
Janet Rogers	Devon	01822 870258
Malcolm Thompson	Cornwall	01822 834474
Ann Willcocks	Devon	01752 892312

Finance.

Alongside the increases to the membership fees, Council have decided to reintroduce the joining fee. This has been set at £25 to take effect from 1st January, 2011 and will apply to all new members joining after this date.

A new member will receive a membership pack including a certificate of membership, two previous newsletters, the welfare code, the D.S.B.A. constitution and a flock book.

The subscription for junior membership will be increased to £15, also from 1st January, 2011 and the joining fee of £25 will also apply.

A reminder to notify your bank of the 2011 increase in subscriptions (with effect from 1/1/2011); £25 for individual members and £35 for joint membership.

A bankers order form is enclosed with this letter.

Flock Data.

2010 Flock Survey. Of the 250 forms sent out only 79 or 32% have been returned.

Thus far, we have a total flock of 2466 head at the survey date.

2010 Annual Return. Again a disappointingly low return rate of 51% or 128 of the 250 sent out.

Could members who have not yet returned either the Survey or the Annual Return do so as soon as possible or at any rate by 31st December, 2010 to enable the Association to establish accurate data. The Annual Return is particularly important as it is the basis for the new Flock Book.

Membership stands at 243 with 9 new members joining since 1st September.

Inspections and Registrations.

The purpose of inspection is to maintain the traditional Breed Standard as closely as possible. Those sheep which are accepted

as having achieved the Breed Standard qualify for detailed entry into the Association Flock Book.

Patrick has been putting considerable effort into trying to update our records for 2008 and 2009. However, in view of the major problems he inherited when he joined us in August we must ask all members who still have not yet received certificates for 2008 and/or 2009 to contact Patrick with the necessary details as soon as possible.

He will require; your flock number, each animals tag number and the sire and dam registration numbers.

Patrick will do his best to generate these certificates as quickly as possible.

We are very sorry that these delays have occurred but unfortunately much of our data is missing.

For 2010. The metal Ketchum registration tags have now been ordered and we expect to receive them within the next two weeks or so.

As soon as we are able, those ram lambs which still require inspection and for members who have joined the Association during 2010, arrangements will be made for inspectors to visit.

The purpose of visiting new members flocks is to be able to offer any advice regarding the successful breeding of the Dartmoor sheep. Would any new member who feels that they would not gain from such a visit contact Patrick.

All other members will receive their Ketchum metal ewe tags for self insertion.

For 2011. Council have decided that self registration of ewe lambs will continue for 2011 only in those flocks where inspectors do not visit to register ram lambs.

For flocks where inspectors visit to register ram lambs, they will also inspect those ewe lambs which the member has put forward for registration.

New members flocks will be visited as in 2010.

There will be one major change to our inspection procedure in 2011. That is that members will be able to decide for themselves the timing of their inspections whether they wish them to be inspected as lambs (as now) or as shearlings up to 31st July the year after birth.

The registration form will be amended to incorporate these changes.

D.S.B.A. Welfare Policy.

To stress the importance of our Welfare Policy, it has been printed onto it's own separate page and all members are urged to read through it and to implement all of it's provisions.

Mentors.

Members of the Council have agreed to act as mentors, Should any member require advice or assistance regarding their Dartmoor flock would they please contact their nearest Council member.

The Forum.

Following a review of the usage of the current Forum, Council have decided not to proceed with the development of a new Dartmoor Forum.

Just seven members out of a total of 240+ have been responsible for 90% of the postings between April and October this year and Council felt that the majority of issues raised could have been addressed by e-mails or by contributions to the web site or newsletters.

In view of the low usage, Council decided that the costs in both time and money could not be justified particularly when we have so many more pressing issues to deal with.

If members have contributions to make, they can contact either the web site via Fiona Miles on miles@groubear-farm.co.uk or Patrick on secretary@greyface-dartmoor.org.uk or myself John Roe for the newsletters on teglamypostoffice.co.uk

Please note that Fiona will usually be able to update the web site within three days and that the newsletters are published four times per year following each Council meeting.

Any of these three outlets will of course ensure a much wider circulation than the Forum ever did.

The Shop.

The following items are available which would make ideal Christmas presents;

White melamine Place Mats at £3 each or 4 for £11. A navy blue presentation box to take 4 of the above is available at £1.

White melamine Coasters to match the place mats at £1.50 each or 4 for £5.50. Presentation box for 4 at 60p.

The mats and coasters are of the same design as the teatowels.

Key Rings at £1.25.

There are also a few Polo and Sweatshirts still available at August, 2010 prices. 2011 prices will see a considerable increase due to the rising price of cotton.

For further details please contact Jennie Hampstead; Tel; 01205 870270 or e-mail; jen.hampstead @ btinternet .com

This is your last newsletter for 2010 and has been the fourth one for which I have been responsible. I very much hope that they have been useful and informative and would welcome any criticisms and/or contributions for future editions.

My contact details are elsewhere in this letter.

May I, on behalf of Council, wish you all the Compliments of the Season and good lambing in 2011.

John Roe