

WINTER 2023

NEWSLETTER



Wayne Hutchinson
2023

MILLTOWN GOOD GIRL

Champion at the December Carlisle Pedigree in Lamb Sheep Fair. Bred by Tommy Jackson she was knocked down to O Watson at 3500gns

Message from our Chairman

This is my first message to everyone as Chairman and I hope the Christmas period delivers what you wish from it. Well, what a year Spotties have had! The Society is growing at a phenomenal rate with the number of members heading towards the 1000 mark. This has increased the workload substantially for Jenni and Penny who are working hard to keep everything up to date. Daryl Brown has recently been taken on by the society on a freelance basis to assist with our promotional work and has already been making a considerable contribution.

From the first Royal Show at Balmoral held in May in Northern Ireland and throughout all the summer shows, large and small, where there were Dutch Spotted classes, the numbers have excelled so my thanks go to all who participated in helping to make Spotty classes the spectacle they were. The largest classes had almost 40 animals in them, and successes included Interbreed champions, so Spotties are making a great impression! It was also encouraging to see Dutch Spotted entries at the RUAS Winter Fatstock Championships culminating in a Butchers Championship win for the second time going to Tommy Jackson of the Milltown Flock for a pair of Dutch Spotted sired lambs which sold for top price of the day at 400gns.

The Society now realise the task ahead to best serve the membership is quite daunting and are looking at ways to increase the market share of Dutch Spotted sheep in the commercial sheep sector. UK sheep numbers are quite static so to sell an increasing number of Spotties we must encourage more sheep producers to give the breed a try and to do this we need to shout about the breeds commercial traits and successes. This means ensuring if you do well at your local market with your Dutch Spotted commercial lambs that you let Daryl know so we can promote and publish your prices and share your photos. Most importantly, make sure markets know your lambs are Dutch Spotted so that they don't attribute them to some other breed!

DSSS wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year and a successful lambing which will be upon us before we know it!

Edward Adamson

193

New Members in
2023

887

Total Flocks

8310

Sheep Registered
in 2023



*Carlisle Champion - Milltown Good Girl
Sold to 3500gns*



*Carlisle Reserve Champion - Merryboro Fleur
Sold to 3000gns*

‘DUTCH SPOTTED TRADE ON FIRE DESPITE BITTER COLD AT CARLISLE’

Despite the bitter chill in the air at Carlisle for the 2023 pedigree in lamb sheep fair last Friday (1st December) trade for Dutch Spotted sheep was hot and surpassed the other breeds selling there on the day proving once again Dutch Spotted can outcompete other breeds.

With judge Chris Johnston, of Johnstown Flock, County Tyrone, at the helm it was his overall champion, Milltown Good Girl which topped the trade at 3500gns. Knocked down to O Watson of Pennington, Cumbria; Good Girl was bred Tommy Jackson and is sired by the renowned Carlaustan Extrovert out of the 9000gns Glenclay Cherry.

The same buyer bought her full ET sister, Milltown Gabby, a late January 2022 born ewe lamb at 2400gns.

Reserve champion went to 1st prize in lamb shearling ewe Merryboro Fleur, from Tom & Lousie Nash of Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire. Fleur, out of Merryboro Cracker sired Merryboro Diamond and sired by Dutch Dominator is carrying twin lambs to McDermotts Fireman and sold to 3000gns to Messrs Williams and Co, Abergele, Clwyd.

Hailing also from Haverfordwest, this time from Brian Davies, were two imported shearling ewes. ‘Flymetothemoon’ and ‘Fingerlickinggood’, both bred by Joost Louter and served by Dutch Magic Man, realised 2200gns and 2000gn, selling to Messrs Ridley of Richmond, North Yorkshire, and Messrs Skinner of Huntly Aberdeenshire, respectively.

Father and daughter team, Andy Beattie and Lauren Kennedy of Carlaustan Flock, Kippen, Stirling, sold their shearling Ewe Carlaustan Filly, in lamb with twins by Mount Pleasant George, to 1800gns to I Scott, Kirkwall, Orkney.

This authors favourite was 1st prize aged ewe, Navac Erin, from I Jones of Spot On Flock, Llanelli, Carmarthen. Erin, bred by C Macquire, is in lamb to Cnwch Emrys due the end of January and was knocked down at 1600gns to Messrs Croft of Skipton, North Yorkshire.

Other leading prices included 2nd prize shearling ewe Back Tor Ferrari from J Simpson & S Shirt of Derbyshire which sold to Messrs Lawrence of Pembrokeshire at 1700gns and shearling ewe Mount Pleasant Florence from G Jackson of Bentham which sold to Messrs Ridley of Richmond, North Yorkshire at 1600gns.

Averages

6 Aged Ewes **£1137.50**

34 Shearling Gimmers **£1190.51**

32 Ewe Lambs **£696.60**

For full show results and photographs from the Show & Sale visit our Facebook Page & Website

MEMBERS' SURVEY - The Results

Just over a month ago, you, the members were invited to take part in our first ever members' survey to provide insight into how you view the breed, what your aims are for your own flocks and how you think the breed should be promoted. The response was brilliant with just over 15% of the membership taking part which is a high response rate for surveys in general and we received responses from a truly representative cross section of our membership in terms of length of membership and flock size. Whilst there is a lot of information contained within your responses, a few clear trends stood out. One of



the clearest messages coming out of the responses was that as members you value the breeds maternal traits as much as its carcass and that we need to promote these traits alongside the breeds carcass value. You told us that ease of lambing, mothering ability, milkiness, temperament and lamb vigour were some of the most important traits of the breed and that you feel the Dutch Spotted is a dual purpose breed. You also told us that you want to see greater coverage of commercial successes for the breed, increased coverage in print media and on socials and sponsorship of events to raise the breeds profile.

2024 will be a crucial year for the breed as we strive to push ahead of our competitors who are all vying for a share of the commercial market. To help us target our attention we will be using your responses from the survey and working with a firm of agricultural marketing specialists to help us shape our future marketing strategy for the breed and to supercharge the Dutch Spotted brand. We look forward to sharing more of this with you in 2024.

If anyone would like a summary of the survey results please email: promotions@dutchspottedsheep.co.uk

Do you sell Dutch Spotted crosses commercially?

We need to shout about the commercial value of the breed so if you sell Dutch Spotted cross lambs, breeding ewes or cull animals commercially at you local market we want to hear from you!

Please send us your market prices and photos so we can share your commercial achievements in print and across our social media!

Please email your prices and photos to:
promotions@dutchspottedsheep.co.uk

Also please try to make sure your local market correctly attributes your lambs as Dutch Spotted crosses and not as another breed!





Welshpool Champion - Merryboro Gold Duster sold for 3700g to Sebastian Ghiorghita



Welshpool Top Price - Whatmore Eclair sold for 4400gns to J&J Budgen & Sons

MERRYBORO COVERS WELSHPOOL IN GOLD DUST WHILST WHATMORE ECLAIR PROVES A SWEET TREAT AT MERRY BELLES SALE

Once again Dutch Spotted Sheep came out on top at a multi breed sale, this time the Merry Belles Pedigree In Lamb Show & Sale at Welshpool last Thursday (14th December 2023), where the Spotty top price was four times higher than the top price achieved by the other breeds there on the day.

Under the expert eye of Judge Will Workman, of Celtic Flock, Brecon, it was his first prize aged ewe, Whatmore Éclair that caught the buyers' attention to top the sale at 4400gns selling to J & J Budgen & Sons of Cadham, Southampton. Whatmore Éclair, which is in lamb with triplets to the infamous Whatmore Forty Winx, was bred by Sara Gibbons and is sired by Glencloy Chance out of Imported Candy Floss.

Will's Champion was the 1st prize Ewe lamb Merryboro Gold Duster, from Tom & Lousie Nash of Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire. Gold Duster, out of Imported Clover sired by McDermotts Fireman, sold for 3700gns to Sebastian Ghiorghita of Wellingborough, Northants.

Reserve Champion went to the 1st prize shearling ewe, Whatmore Fly, from Sara Gibbons of Brecon and sold for 2800gns to C Simpson of Cilycwm, Llandovery. Fly, which is one of a triplet, is sired by Whatmore Earshot out of an imported ewe and is also in lamb, this time with a single, to Whatmore Forty Winx.

From the same flock as the Champion also came the 2nd top price of the sale in shearling ewe, Merryboro French Fancy, which is the first ewe to be sold by the Merryboro flock in lamb to their new stock ram Dutch Magic Man. Scanned in lamb with twins, French Fancy sold to the same buyer as the Champion, Sebastian Ghiorghita for 4100gns.

Also from Tom & Louise Nash was an imported shearling ewe, Firestorm, which was bred by Joost Louter and in lamb with twins to McDermotts Fireman. Firestorm went on to sell for 2800gns to W W Bowen of Llanwern, Brecon.

Hailing also from Wales, this time from Brian Davies, was another leading price in the shealing ewe section in the form of, Ty-Gwyn Florence. Florence was 5th prize in the show and went on to sell for 2000gns to Gemma Stanford of Lutterworth. Florence, like French Fancy, is also in lamb to Dutch Magic Man and carrying twins.

Other leading prices included 2nd prize shearling ewe, Dernog Florence, from Gareth Rowlands of Llanddeusant which sold for 1700gns to the judge and 2nd prize aged ewe, Turbo Bont Darling 16, from Jan Rodenburg of Llandysul which sold for 1400gns.

Averages

6 Aged Ewes **£1644.99**
22 Shearling Gimmers **£1061.92**
11 Ewe Lambs **£987.94**

Regional Clubs - Update



Following an appeal from the Society in the 2022 Yearbook to establish regional clubs some progress has been made and there are at the time of writing 6 regional clubs in various stages of formation. These regional clubs will be vital in feeding back views and opinions from the members to the trustees, helping to shape the direction the breed progresses in and organising regional events and building up a social network for breeders. Contact details to get involved with the established groups are below and if there isn't a group in your area but you would like to get involved with setting one up then please contact secretary@dutchspottedsheep.co.uk

REGION	CONTACT	EMAIL	MOBILE
North of Scotland	James Budge	jpbudge27@hotmail.co.uk	07852 983656
South & Central Scotland	Shirley Clarke	info@williamwoodfarm.com	07833 627849
Northern Ireland	Edward Adamson	edward.adamson1@gmail.com	07711 071290
North of England & Borders	Eilidh Hortin	neandbordersds@gmail.com	07500 742231
South Wales & Borders	Lisa James	southwalesdutchspotted@gmail.com	07703 656162
South West England	Imogen Crump	imogenjane1994@gmail.com	07576 548426

MAKING PAYMENTS BY BACS?

If you are making payments to the Society by BACS please remember to use your customer code as payment reference to help us identify payments coming into the bank account.

Your customer code is unique to your flock and is made up of your flock number and the first four characters of your flock name. e.g.

Flock No: 003 **Customer Code**
Flock Name: Highclose **003HIGH**

Payment by BACS is quick and simple to set up and only needs to be done once.
The Society bank details are:

Dutch Spotted Sheep Society A/C: 84054162 S/C: 87 -70-41

If you need help making payment to the Society or want help with your payment reference please email: treasurer@dutchspottedsheep.co.uk



Tommy Jackson & Family with their Champion Best Butchers Pair of Dutch Spotted sired heavy lambs which topped the sale at 400gns at Royal Ulster Beef & Lamb Championships - 21st November 2023

Kirkby Stephen Prime Sheep Sale
12th December 2023



Leading Prices		
Ewes		
Dutch Spotted	£290.00	H Jewitt, Barnard Castle
Texel	£245.00	E Astley, Morpeth
Beltex	£151.00	CW Foster, York
Badgerface	£140.00	H Jewitt, Barnard Castle
Suffolk	£134.00	RJ Balmer, Appley in Westmorland
Blue Texel	£120.00	H Jewitt, Barnard Castle
Mule	£104.00	JJ Hall, Maulds Meaburn
Zwartble	£100.00	GW Longrigg & Sons, Appley in Westmorland
Bluefaced Leicester	£96.00	WM Heron & Sons, Warcop
Cheviot	£92.00	L Skelton & Son, Maryport
Swaledale	£81.00	N&P Rutherford, Bishop Auckland
Masham	£81.00	Hetherick Grange Farming, Barnard Castle
Scotch Blackface	£80.00	L Skelton & Son, Maryport
Herdwick	£72.00	L Skelton & Son, Maryport
Goat	£72.00	J Nicholson, Bishop Auckland

Dutch Spotted sired lamb carcasses from Shaun Duggan of Cornhill Dutch Spotted.



Students of Myerscough College with their first prize pen of any other breed lambs which then won overall reserve champion at Garstang Christmas Prime Lamb Show - 5th December 2023

Bentham Auction Mart
23 m

Elite Breeding Sale

Raymond Heigh led the way at the Elite Breeding Sale with his Dutch Spotted Shearling at £580, Charollais to £450 for a Shearling carrying twins from Robert Towers. Best of the Gimmer Lambs from Anthony Thompson, Foulridge at £250 for Dassenkops

Thursday 14th December
ELITE BREEDING SALE
39 Forward

BREED	TOP	FROM	AV
IN LAMB SHEEP			
Beltex Ewes	£250	AL Thompson, Longridge	£225
Blue Texel Shlgs	£250	J Wood, Trawden	£217
Charollais Shlgs	£450	RJ & J Towers, Ingleton	£450
Charollais Ewes	£400	RJ & J Towers, Ingleton	£400
Dutch Spotted Shlgs	£580	RJ Heigh, Bentham	£328
Ryeland Ewes	£180	AL Thompson, Longridge	£180
Suffolk Shlgs	£400	RJ & J Towers, Ingleton	£400
Texel Ewes	£200	MH & AR Robinson, Old Hutton	£200
Zwartbles Ewes	£320	RJ Heigh, Bentham	£320
GELD GIMMER LAMBS			
Dassenkop	£250	AL Thompson, Longridge	£238
Dutch Spotted	£260	AL Thompson, Longridge	£240



Oliver Whitman-Chew of Lode Pit Dutch Spotted with his reserve champion Dutch Spotted X lamb weighing 52kg which sold for £250 at Gisburn Auction Mart - 9th December 2023



Swatragh Champion - Knockmult Gina sold for 6000gns



Swatragh Reserve Champion - Broadwater Fairy sold for 1850gns

KNOCKMULT GINA TOPS PRIZES & PRICES AT SWATRAGH

Russell Millen of the Knockmult flock, Coleraine, Londonderry dominated trade at the Swatragh Christmas Show & Sale last Friday evening (15th December 2023) when his run of ewe lambs achieved three of the top seven leading prices. Leading the way at 6000gns was the 1st prize ewe lamb and judge Matthew Simpsons overall champion, Knockmult Gina. With breeding that goes back to the 20000gns Candy Floss, Gina was sired by Wedderburn Finley out of Ty-Gwyn Crystal and sold to an undisclosed bidder.

Next up for Russell at 2800gns was Knockmult Google who was also sired by Wedderburn Finley but this time out of an imported ewe. Google which was 3rd place in the pre-sale show sold to judge Matthew Simpson of Tradoes Flock, Kilmarnock.

Next top price was 1st prize shearling ewe and overall reserve champion, Broadwater Fairy, from Mr J Johnston of Broadwater Flock, Aghalee, Co Antrim. Fairy, which is carrying twins to Ty-Gwyn Flash, was sired by Ty-Gwyn Extreme out of Drumhirk Dolly and sold for 1850gns to W Hoey.

2nd prize Shearling Ewe, Diamond Fritz, from E Allen & A Shortt of Diamond Flock was the next top price realising 1700g. Sired by the renowned Carlaustan Extrovet which has bred progeny to 28000gns and out of Spaniard sired Glencloy Clementine, Fritz, which is in lamb with a single to Drumhirk Decider was sold to Henry Crawford.

5th top price was back with the ewe lambs and a full ET sister to the Champion in Ballintur Glitter Ball from S Killen of Newry, Co Down. Glitter Ball sold for 1500gns to B Henderson.

Other leading prices include another ewe lamb from Russell Millen and a ewe lamb from J Keye of Bolies Flock of Fivemiletown, Co Tyrone both of which sold for 1250gns to Kevin McDermott and Ben Henderson respectively.

For full show results and photographs from the Show & Sale visit our Facebook Page & Website

Averages

4 Aged Ewes **£840.00**
 12 Shearling Gimmers **£971.25**
 26 Ewe Lambs **£934.09**

There is still time to enter our final sale of Winter 2023/24!



27th January 2024



J36 Rural Auction Centre

Entries close on Friday 5th January 2024

Download an Entry Form from our Website





ALL LAMBS MUST BE FULLY REGISTERED BY 31ST DECEMBER 2023
 REGISTRATIONS AFTER THIS DATE INCUR DOUBLE FEES
 2023 IS ALSO THE FINAL YEAR TO REGISTER GRADE 4 FEMALES



Ear Tags for 2024



For 2024 the Society recommend Orange Flag Tags which must bear the following:

1. UK Flock Number
2. Individual EID Number
3. DSSS Flock Number
4. DSSS Year Letter - H



Festive Office Hours



During the festive period there may be a delay in dealing with any enquiries whilst our staff take well deserved time off. We ask that between Friday 22nd December & Monday 8th January you direct any enquiries by email rather than by telephone where possible and we will try to get back to you as soon as we can.

Any registrations submitted and paid for by the 31st December 2023 will be processed at the standard fee. Any late registrations submitted and paid for from 1st January 2024 onwards will incur double fees.

We thank you for your understanding and wish you a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



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For Registrations enquiries please contact registrations@dutchspottedsheep.co.uk or 07818 131 242

For Promotions enquiries please contact promotions@dutchspottedsheep.co.uk or 07804 583 049

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