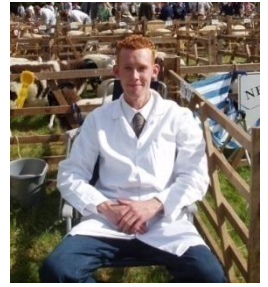




# JACOB SHEEP SOCIETY

## *Northern Region*

### Spring Newsletter



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To 20/01/2012

All Jacob Sheep Society Northern Members

Dear Member

I hope you all had a great Christmas and New Year and are looking forward to the year ahead. By the time you read this I am sure many of you will have new life buzzing around your paddocks, fields and buildings. I hope you all have or are having a good lambing time and that many new champions are being born across our Region.

We have at last had a fairly dry and cold week here in Skipton, with the first real frosts of winter finally allowing the local farmers to access the land and do some much needed muck spreading. We endured an awful December with 30 wet and windy days out of 31, which must be some kind of record and an end of year to forget as far as the weather is concerned.

A thank you to all those who attended our Autumn Regional Meeting back in October, this was my first as the Regional Council Member and it was nice to see a good turnout of members and the feedback I have received has been very positive. Our next Regional Meeting will be our Spring AGM, the date has been set for Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> of February at 11:00am. I am pleased to confirm another guest speaker, Mrs Janet Sheard from Massey Feeds is coming to talk to us all about sheep rations and feeding techniques, Janet is also a Field Officer for CCM Auctions, Skipton and a well respected farmer in her own right. I hope many of you will be able to come along, as I am sure it will be another interesting and informative talk. I am looking at running the same format as the last meeting, with the AGM first, then lunch followed by the guest speaker. If you are intending to stay for lunch, please could you let me know as soon as possible so I can inform Jane at the pub of numbers. I look forward to catching up with you all on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

I have recently been contacted by the chair of our National Breed Promotion Committee, Janet East, who is stepping down from her position at this year's National AGM in Winchester. She has asked me if I knew of anyone from within our Region who would be interested in taking up the position, so I thought the best way of doing this would be to include the question in the newsletter, so if anyone in our Region fancies a go at this varied role as part of an enthusiastic team then please contact myself or Janet for more details. Also on the Breed Promotion subject, we are still looking for some nice pictures for the Northern Area display board, please have a look and if you have some bring them along to the next meeting so the board can be updated for this year's events. Thank you.

We have a number of young members in our Region starting to get involved with showing and shepherding in general, which is great to see. I would like to include more of your pictures and articles of Northern Region young members on our web page of the Society website and in my article in the Journal. It was nice to see the Saxby family children Tom, Hannah and Eleanor in the last Journal doing well at Gargrave Show last year. We also had Reece Fenton proudly showing his gimmer lamb at the Great Yorkshire Show whilst talking to HRH Prince Charles. We have also had success already this year from within the Region with Emma Chester being awarded the Young Farmer of the month for January in the Northern Farmer Newspaper, well done Emma. I know these are just some of the many young people we have in our Region trying to start out in the breed, and it is something I am very keen to showcase during my time as your Regional Council Member. If you have any news or pictures you would like me to feature in my journal article, the newsletter or on the website, of one of our younger members, please let me know.

With the show season again getting closer I was contacted by the Secretary of Emley Show in South Yorkshire, who was keen to tell me that after a number of years of showing Jacobs within the rare breeds, we will now for the first time have our own classes. If you are able to support these new classes the show takes place on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> August and will have a Society judge and rosettes. Another South Yorkshire show looking for exhibitors is Sykehouse, this takes place on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> of August, again if you can support this show please do so and help keep the Jacob classes going. The support you all give to our local shows is vital in the progress of our breed and whenever possible we should all try and support new shows where we can.

In April I hope many of you will make the journey down to the Southern Region for our Annual National AGM based in Winchester, again it looks like it is going to be a good weekend, packed with a variety of things to do. The annual Wool Cup will be a part of the weekend and, as our Region could do well, I would like to encourage you all to have a go and enter this competition, even if you are unable to make the AGM itself I would be happy to arrange collection and transport of anything you may wish to enter, please give me a call if you would like to do this.

An Agenda for our next meeting, which is our AGM, is included with this newsletter. If anyone has any additional items for discussion at the meeting, please let me know as soon as possible so I can bring them up under Any Other Business. Also the minutes for the Autumn 2011 meeting are available to view on the Northern page of the Jacob Sheep Society website. If anybody would like a copy of these minutes but is unable to access the internet please let me know and I will be happy to send you a copy in the post.

I hope to see you all next month and look forward to another well attended meeting.

Please if you have any questions do not hesitate to give me a call or email me at [gavinhaworth@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gavinhaworth@yahoo.co.uk).

Yours sincerely,

*Gavin*

Gavin Haworth  
Regional Council Member  
Northern Region

**P.S.** Please remember JSS annual subscriptions were due for renewal on the 1<sup>st</sup> January, please if you have not renewed your membership, do so as soon as possible. Thank you.