



# CHAROLLAIS MATTERS

**Dalby sets new  
female record**

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**Foxhill heads up  
Premier Sale**

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**Charollais key at  
Stanford Court**

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**Behind the scenes  
at Wernfawr**

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**Charollais leads RamCompare  
carcass rankings**

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# Foxhill LIVESTOCK

WHERE THE BEST OF BREEDING SHOWS

*Foxhill Vermin*



Breed and interbreed champion Devon County Show and Great Yorkshire Show 2021

*Foxhil Vogue*



Breed and interbreed champion Honiton Show 2021

*Foxhill Walkabout*



Top price 17,000gns, Worcester Premier Sale 2021

*Foxhill William*



Sold for 3100gns, Worcester Premier Sale 2021

*Foxhill Venom*



Foxhill Venom, top priced female at 2700gns, Worcester Premier Sale 2021

*Foxhill Wild Rose*



Top priced ewe lamb at 3500gns, Saucy Sale 2021



# Welcome from the secretary

Welcome to the first edition of Charollais Matters, a new look magazine which is replacing the Charollais Times newsletter and the Year Book.

Lambing has hopefully gone well for all breeders and excitement is more than likely building as to what 2022 will have in store. It's certainly begun with much to talk about in terms of the Society's marketing and publicity strategy.

While this March edition covers some past events that have already been reported in previous formats, it's good to look back on what has been yet another successful year for the breed.

Charollais continue to perform well in the Signet RamCompare project with the breed leading all other breeds in terms of carcass conformation. Breeders have witnessed a strong year in 2021, with ram averages up at all the major sales.

Demand for Charollais females has grown year on year with 2021 seeing fantastic trade across all female sales and records broken at the Dalby Coral Sale, High Flyers Sale at Hereford and in Northern Ireland at both the Dungannon Premier Sale and the Tullyear Production Sale.

Despite Covid-19 restrictions still being in place for many shows in 2021, there was a little normality for a few key events with Charollais interbreed wins at Devon County, the Royal Highland Showcase and the Great Yorkshire Show – huge congratulations to all those exhibitors who flew the flag for the breed last year. Providing 2022 returns to normality, the Society's show season will start with Balmoral Show with live coverage planned for all the main shows, as well as the major Society sales through the year.

Alongside event coverage, this magazine also includes commercial interest stories showcasing the importance of the breed in both outdoor and indoor lambing systems, as well as the start of our foreign coverage with this edition looking at the success of the breed in Ireland.

As with all new products, the Charollais Matters magazine is of course a work in progress and the Society is already busy planning the October issue. We welcome constructive feedback from breeders and advertisers, as well as possible leads for commercial, pedigree and technical features.

We'd like to wish you all the very best for the spring and summer ahead and look forward to seeing everyone at events throughout the year.

Best wishes,

*Carroll Barber*  
and the Charollais Sheep Society



**CHAROLLAIS  
SHEEP  
SOCIETY**

**Charollais Matters is produced by the Charollais Sheep Society and is published in the spring and autumn.**

*"Every care is taken when compiling editorial and advertisements. The British Charollais Sheep Society cannot accept responsibility for errors or omission arising from publication. Information and photographs contained within the advertisements may not necessarily be the views of the British Charollais Sheep Society which, therefore, cannot be held responsible for any reason arising there from."*

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[www.charollaisheep.com](http://www.charollaisheep.com)

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# Chairman's focus

We have all faced many challenges over the last two years that have changed the way we lead our lives. The impact upon farming has been less than in other sectors of society, but we will no doubt feel the effects for years to come.

Our Society has always been at the forefront of change, adapting to the needs of both our members and customers for our sheep. We have massively changed the sheep since their first importation. However, they remain easily born, vigorous, grow rapidly and flesh easily, all while showing great longevity.

Due to astute management over a long time, the Society has a sound financial base which provides the resources to implement new and exciting developments. Having carried out a thorough review of our marketing and promotional work we have decided to launch "Charollais Matters" (this being the first edition) to replace our other publications. Hopefully this will be more relevant, timely and avoid duplication.

We intend to increase our use of social media and live streaming of events and work more closely with members within their regions. We intend to have a presence at all the major shows and sheep events, but I would also encourage as many of you as possible to exhibit your sheep at the numerous shows up and down the country. As a breed we have achieved great success and these shows provide a great shop window for our breed.

We intend to formalize the structure of our Young Breeders initiative which we hope will harness the enthusiasm of these next generation Charollais breeders.

Another new initiative for this year will be the introduction of DNA parentage testing. Initially, we plan to test all rams used to sire this year's lambs free of charge and any potential stock rams used this year at a reduced rate. After much discussion in the regions and support from the wider membership it gives council the confidence that now is the right time to introduce this measure.

At this stage I would like to thank all my fellow trustees for their guidance and support over the last 12 months. I would also like to thank all active members who support their regions and wider Society for their contributions. Finally, I would like to thank Carroll and all the other office staff for the dedicated and efficient way they conduct the business of the Society.

In the sale rings 2021 was a successful year for the Charollais breed. Commercially, rams were in great demand with both new and repeat customers buying rams. On the pedigree front we had strong sales at both Worcester and Dungannon with high clearance rates and strong prices. Congratulations to the Alford family for the top price of 17,000gns for Foxhill Walkabout at the Worcester Premier and William McAllister with the 4400gns Artnagullion Viceroy at Dungannon.

On the female side there was a fantastic demand all year with new breed and centre records set and fantastic averages across the sales season.

Looking forward to 2022, let's hope we're through the worst of the pandemic and we can meet more face to face, attend the events we choose and socialise as a Society. I'm certain the Charollais breed has a great future and is more than capable of providing solutions to the challenges of modern-day sheep farming.

Best wishes,

*Charles Gercombe*  
*Charollais Sheep Society chairman*



# Charollais and DNA parentage testing

As members may be aware, the Charollais Sheep Society's Council has regularly discussed the subject of DNA testing for parentage within the breed. Having discussed this matter in depth at the most recent Council meeting and, due to the fact the cost of this process has dropped considerably over the past few years, Council feels the time is right to start a testing regime.

## Why test for parentage?

Parentage DNA testing allows breeders to accurately track breeding decisions by verifying the relationship between sires, dams and offspring. It also gives confidence to vendors and buyers of stock that the pedigree information on each animal is correct.

## How is the test done?

NEOGEN's lab uses Single Nucleotide Polymorphism (SNP) technology to genetically "fingerprint" each animal at more than 100 chromosomal locations. The animal's unique genetic fingerprint can be evaluated with the fingerprint of its expected parents by utilising the knowledge that half of the animal's genetic information was inherited from the sire and the other half from the dam.

Discrepancies in the inheritance pattern would suggest that an animal's reputed parent would likely be incorrect. This SNP technology enables a higher level of accuracy in parentage testing for cattle, dogs, sheep, and pigs. A DNA sample from each animal is provided to the lab using either a blood card or nasal swab.

## Which animals should be tested first?

In order to build up a bank of Charollais data, Council has decided to financially support an initial block of testing. Members will require information on the sire and/or dam of any animal to establish whether their declared parentage is indeed correct. To this end the Society will offer every member the chance to DNA parentage the sire/s of their 2022 birth notified lambs.

## How is this going to work?

All members who have birth notified 2022 lambs will be sent a list of the sires of these lambs and asked if they wish to DNA parentage test them. Once a request for test kits has been submitted, the Society office will send you the required number in the form of blood cards.

The nose of the animal is then pricked with a spot of blood going on the included blotting card. Cards will be returned to the Society for processing with Neogen laboratory in Ayrshire. There will be no charge for these tests.

## What if a ram has died?

If a ram has died there are two possibilities to gain a result for them. If semen from the ram in question is in store, a test can be done using a dose of thawed semen. Alternatively, if a sample has been taken for Scrapie Genotyping, the stored sample can also be used.

## Is this obligatory?

No – you do not have to test your rams, but we would encourage everyone to do so.

## What is the next step?

The next step for the Society will be that for all 2023 born lambs you will NOT BE ABLE TO REGISTER them unless you have submitted a DNA parentage result for their sires. This will be at the breeder's expense.

## What will this cost?

We have agreed special prices with Neogen. All sample kits and returns will be processed by the Society office.

	Cost
SNP Parentage and Scrapie genotype	£23.50
SNP parentage only	£18.00
Scrapie only	£14.00
Nose pricker and blood cards	£1.50
Nasal Swabs	£4.00
(prices + VAT)	

Neogen can carry out Scrapie Genotype testing from the same sample, so members will only need to take one blood sample for both tests. If breeders wish to use nasal swabs they may.

## Will rams for Worcester Premier Sale need to be tested?

While it isn't mandatory to have rams DNA tested prior to a sale, rams do have to be scrapie genotyped for the Worcester Premier Sale, so doing the DNA test at the same time will save money. Another advantage of doing this prior to sale is the addition of buyer confidence in the breeding of the rams being sold.



### To encourage breeders to do both tests for the sale, we are offering you a special package of fees:

- \* FULL PEDIGREE REGISTRATION
- \* SCRAPIE GENOTYPE TEST
- \* DNA PARENTAGE TEST (blood card)

**ALL FOR £40 / ANIMAL (+vat)**

This offer will be available for all rams that are upgraded in 2022.

### What happens if results are not as expected?

We are now drawing up a set of rules to cover the connotations raised by DNA parentage testing. These are most likely to allow breeders to correct genuine mistakes. The Society will not accept any responsibility for errors and information is guaranteed to be correct by the person whose name appears as the vendor in sale catalogues.

A letter regarding testing kits will follow in due course.

## Society launches new website

Members will have hopefully noticed the Society's new look website. The intention behind the new build was to bring users a more accessible service with easy to navigate key areas such as Grassroots access, sale catalogues, news, show reports and more regional content.

Social media is a great way of connecting with like-minded breeders when looking for stock for

sale, as well as keeping up with news from other flocks and included on the website is a new area for members to list their social media platforms.

Elizabeth Barber is managing this, so if you are new to Facebook, Instagram or Twitter and wish to list your social media platform on the Society's contact page on the website then send your details via email to [elizabeth@charollaisheep.com](mailto:elizabeth@charollaisheep.com).



**NOTICE is hereby given that the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held at the Lion Quays Hotel, Weston Rhyn, Oswestry, Shropshire on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May at 4.30pm.**

- 1.0 To read the Notice convening the meeting.
- 2.0 To receive apologies for absence.
- 3.0 To approve the Minutes of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual General meeting.
- 4.0 To receive the report of the Chairman.
- 5.0 To receive and, if approved, to adopt the Report and Financial Statement to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.
- 6.0 To confirm the appointment of new Directors and Trustees of the Company.
- 7.0 To re-appoint Messrs Argents as independent examiners for the ensuing year and to authorise the Council of Management to fix their remuneration.
- 8.0 To transact any other ordinary business of the Society.
- 9.0 Date of next meeting.

**By order of the Council of Management, CARROLL BARBER, Company Secretary.**



## Judges training day

Judges training day to be held at Robert and Jeanette Gregory's Edstaston flock on Tuesday 7th June. More details to be announced via the Society's website.



## Charollais branded clothing and accessories

The Society continues to offer a number of branded clothing and accessory options for members, including gilets, jackets, bodywarmers, hoodies, hats and ties.

Head over to the shop section on the new website or enquire with the office by calling **01953 603335** or emailing **elaine@charollaisheep.com**

## Charollais Sheep Society welcomes new members

The Society would like to offer a warm welcome to the following new breeders and associate members.

<b>Mr J Beare</b>	Priestacott
<b>Mr Johnathan Wilson</b>	Whitehouse
<b>S and R Stamp</b>	Bowbridge
<b>Miss Emma L Jenkins</b>	Bachie
<b>Mr Oliver Spencer</b>	Wolfe
<b>Mr M C Garrett</b>	Sommerville
<b>Mr J Megarity and Miss S McNally</b>	Edenappa
<b>Mr and Mrs B A Crane</b>	Cranes

### Associate members

Mr Chris Beck  
Miss Jane Skinner  
Mr Jonathan Norman

## Charollais AGM

This year's AGM takes place on the 29th May and has been condensed into one day with the option of staying over in a nearby hotel.

The visit to the Edstaston flock of Robert and Jeanette Gregory will start with coffee at 11am (The Meadows, Harmer Hill, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY4 3DZ). Lunch will be provided by the Gregory family, but members wishing to attend will need to complete a booking form which can be downloaded on the Society's website.

The visit will also play host to a judging and inspection workshop and a special activity for the Charollais Young Breeders group.

The flock visit will be followed by the National Annual General meeting at the Lion Quays Hotel (Weston Rhyn, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY11 3EN) with tea being served at 4pm ahead of a start time of 4.30pm for the AGM.

A three-course meal will follow later that evening at a price of £30/head. There are a number of rooms reserved at the hotel by the Society if members would prefer to relax at the hotel and enjoy breakfast before returning home.



## Scrapie genotyping

The Society will be offering members scrapie genotyping services again this year with the German company, Agrobiogen. The company is confident it can overcome any of the previous issues of postal delays and returned packages following Brexit.

The company will, however, extend the overall time testing takes, so the Society will allow more time for results to be available. With that in mind, the Society has put together a timetable for breeders in line with important sales throughout the year. This can be downloaded from the Society's website by following these steps :

**Home – Resources – Downloads – Testing Procedure 2022.**



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# Genetic improvement in the Charollais breed

By Samuel Boon

AHDB Breeding Specialist with Signet Breeding Services

## Decision time for levy payers

In Spring 2022 beef and lamb levy payers will be asked how they want to see the levy that they pay to AHDB invested. AHDB currently collects 80p per head from every lamb slaughtered in English abattoirs; 60p from the producer and 20p from the abattoir.

This levy is invested in a range of services including marketing, export development, the collation of market data and traceability work; with 17p split between those services aimed at enhancing animal health, reducing environmental impact and increasing genetic gain.

## What do sheep farmers want and what do they need?

When asked how they would like to see their levy spent, many commercial sheep producers answer “more on marketing”, understandably

attracted to areas of spend expected to enhance the immediate value of their livestock.

However, an investment of levy dominated by marketing tends to overlook the longer-term gains obtained through genetic improvement. The cumulative and lasting impact of genetic selection means investment in this area is also highly cost effective, with genetic improvement programmes already responsible for major productivity gains in every major sheep producing country across the world, including the UK.

One of the initial remits behind the collection of a beef and lamb levy in 1967 was to promote the performance recording of livestock, to provide ram and bull buyers with accurate information to assess an animal’s genetic merit – rather than relying on visual assessment. Since then, many milestones have been reached, each having an impact on rates of genetic gain.

## LAMB

## What do I get for my levy?



### 1 Market and trade data

We provide easy-to-access, independent market prices and analysis to help inform your business decisions.

Did you know the market prices in Farmers Weekly and Farmers Guardian are produced by AHDB?

### 2 Marketing to the UK consumer

The We Eat Balanced campaign reached 18.5m consumers promoting the true story of British lamb. This resulted in 11% or 800,000 more people intending to buy red meat!

1 Source Kantar

### 3 Export development

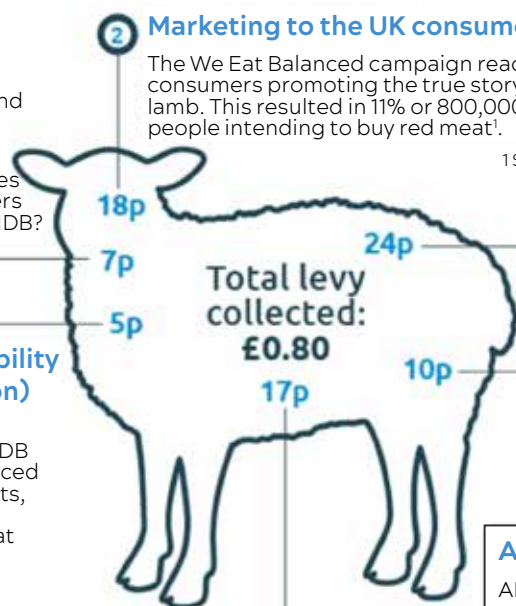
AHDB has worked with government and industry to open new markets for lamb in Japan and New Zealand. We export one third of our total lamb crop with a value of £446m in 2020.

### 6 Farm-to-fork traceability (Livestock information)

The Livestock Information Programme, funded by AHDB and DEFRA, enables advanced tracing of sheep movements, helping to enhance the reputation of British lamb at home and overseas.

### Animal health, genetics and the environment

Helping drive improvements and deliver solutions across almost all areas of production, our targeted research aims to support you and aid on-farm decisions.



### 4 Working with you

Our Strategic and Monitor Farms, events and publications ensure you are connected with the latest research and innovation to support your business.

### AHDB income 2021/22

AHDB collects £0.80 per head of lamb. This is made up of a producer (£0.60) and slaughter (£0.20) levy.

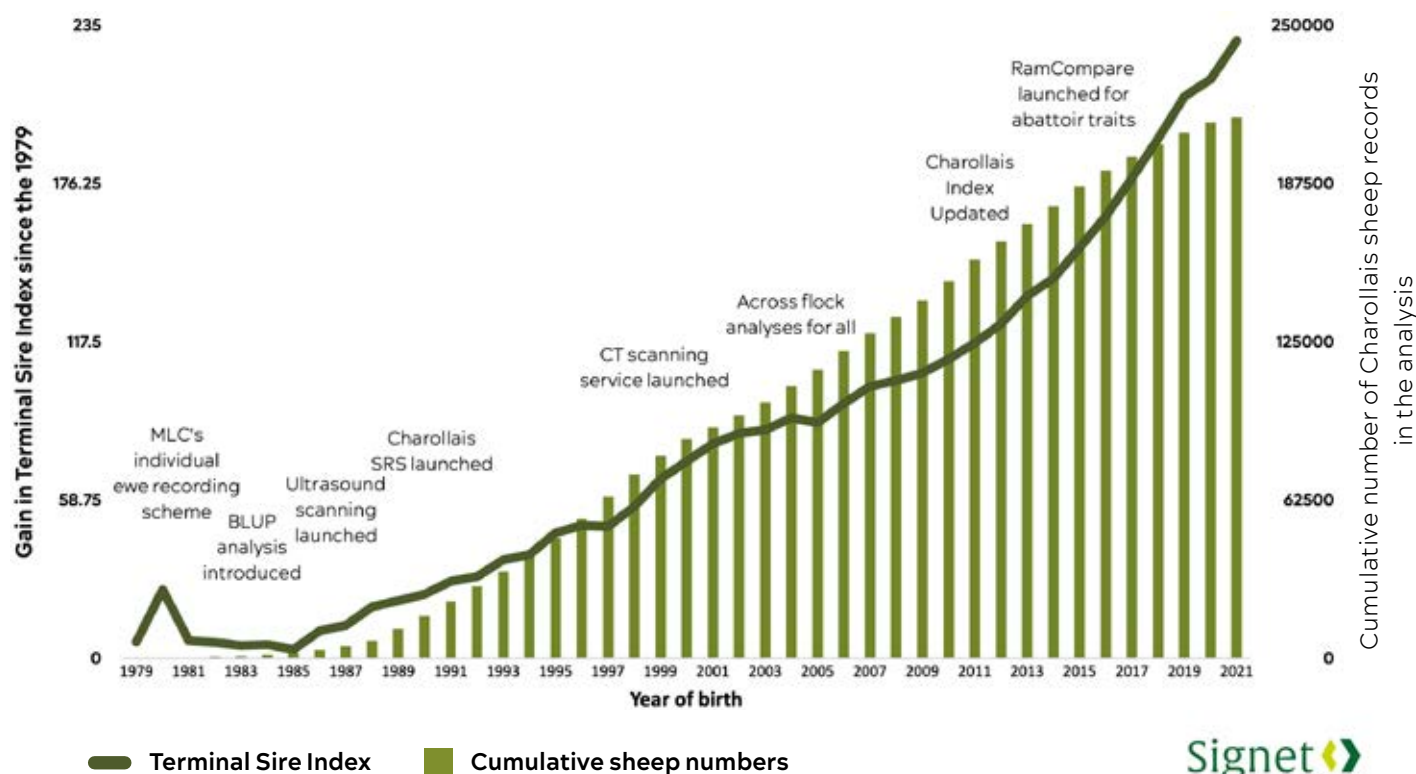
Non-levy income, e.g. grants and funding, offers extra value for you in addition to your investment.

The figures are based on the 2021/22 Business Plan with overheads allocated on a pro-rata or estimated resource basis. Prior year financial statements are published in our Annual Report and Accounts available at: [AHDB.org.uk](https://www.ahdb.org.uk)

# Impact of **AHDB** levy investment in genetics on Charollais Sheep

## National Terminal Sire Evaluation

- \* Monthly runs
- \* Mixed breed model
- \* 20 Breeding Values



The Charollais sheep bred today are somewhat different to those of the past. Charollais sired lambs grow faster, have better conformation and are less likely to become overfat at light carcass weights. This improvement isn't limited to rams purchased from Signet recorded flocks; through the movement of genetics within the pedigree world the whole breed benefits when influential flocks record their stock.

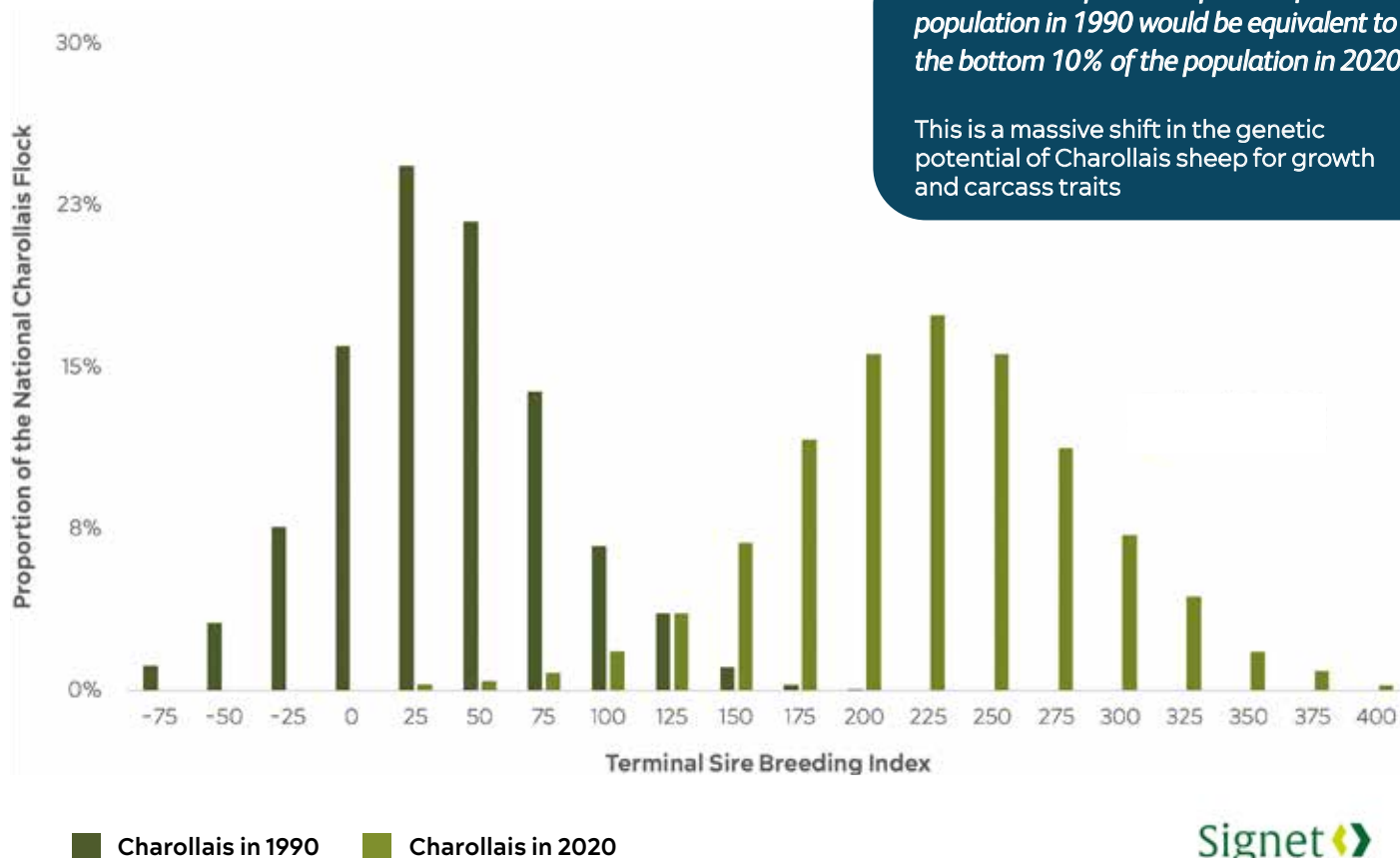
This genetic change has clearly influenced the productivity of the national flock, but it should not be forgotten that by reducing days to slaughter, enhancing carcass meat yield and increasing maternal output, genetic improvement programmes also provide one of the best ways to reduce the carbon footprint of lamb; as they have quietly done for the last four decades without us realising it.





# The impact of **AHDB** levy investment in genetics

**The distribution of breeding indexes for Charollais sheep born in 1990 and 2020 after across flock evaluations were introduced**



## Levy funded genetic research and service development has seen many breakthroughs over the years, which include:

- \* Statistical analysis of sheep records (1980's).
- \* Launch of the ultrasound scanning service (late 1980's).
- \* Across flock evaluations and support for Sire Reference Schemes (1990 onwards).
- \* Launch of the CT scanning service and the development of breeding values for CT traits, including the ability to assess lean meat yield, spinal length, gigot shape and intramuscular fat (1998 onwards).
- \* Development of breeding values from abattoir data (via RamCompare) (2015/16).

- \* Mixed breed evaluations, with the inclusion of crossbred data (2018).
- \* Full online reporting and free inbreeding software (2019).

## In our maternal programmes we have developed the following:

- \* Breeding values for ewe longevity and lamb survival (2014).
- \* Novel traits for assessing worm resistance, like FEC (2000) and Serum IgA (2021).
- \* Breeding values for ewe mature weight and body condition score (2022).

## A look to the future

The next steps for Signet Breeding Services and AHDB's levy investment in genetics are less clear, as much will depend on the resources available after producers have had their say in the spring vote.

- \* Clearly a major goal would be the move to incorporate genomic information into our evaluations, a potential game changer in the provision of breeding evaluations which could provide more accurate breeding values to both recorded and unrecorded flocks.
- \* New phenotypes that have the potential to reduce environmental impact require consideration, as we see the impact that portable atmosphere chambers are having in New Zealand for example. Existing phenotypes could also be used more effectively to counter the environmental concerns aimed at sheep and beef production.
- \* RamCompare, though widely deemed a great success, is in many ways simply a pilot to show the potential for progeny testing and the analysis of abattoir data. Further resources could provide a significant catalyst to increase the industry level impact of this work as well as strengthening the genetic comparisons we make between different rams, flocks and breeds.

In the short term, we shouldn't forget the impact levy has had for many years supporting

the recording costs incurred by ram breeders. Levy typically covers half the cost of CT scanning and about 30-40% of the true cost of ultrasound scanning, with similar support provided to subsidise basic flock recording costs and the development of Signet's industry facing website: [www.signetdata.com](http://www.signetdata.com)

Keeping Signet's recording costs low is really important if we wish to enhance the impact of our work on the national flock; genetic improvement currently worth over £20 million per annum to the UK sheep and beef industry (AbacusBio 2015), making it a fantastic return on your levy investment.

## What can breeders do?

In April 2022 AHDB will be asking all eligible levy payers to have their say and shape our work and areas of priority. Your views will help guide what is delivered over the next five years. In order to make sure you are able to vote, you must first register and provide enough information for us to verify you as a levy payer.

Members are eligible to vote if you have kept sheep in England in the last 12 months, but see AHDB website for more details.

Registration is now open so please visit: <https://ahdb.org.uk/shape-the-future>





**DUNGANNON PREMIER EXPORT SALE - Monday 25th July - Sale 1.00pm**  
**BALLYMENA SALE - Monday 19th September (Evening Sale)**  
**DUNGANNON FEMALE EXPORT SALE - Monday 31st October - Sale 1.00pm**



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mcallisterlivestock@yahoo.co.uk

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**Mobile: 07834 543061**

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**Signet Recorded flock.**

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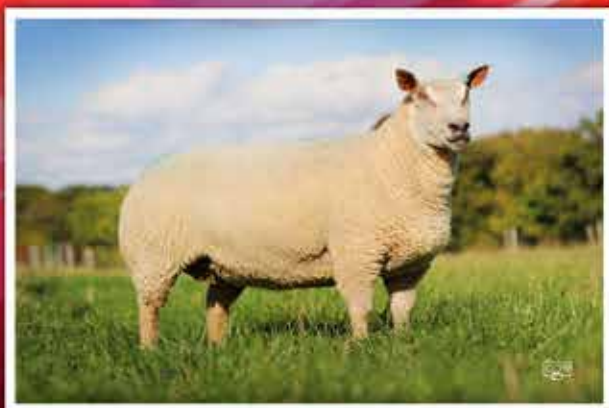
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# Edstaston 'TG'

Robert & Jeanette Gregory

Recorded Rams for the Pedigree Registry - Shetland - Signet Recorded - Scrapie Free

*Ffrwd Wingman*

21YET02460

INDEX 228



A son of Dalby Veainu, grandson of Edstaston Tulloch purchased privately in partnership with Knockin Charollais. His first lambs are showing style, length and shape.

*Edstaston Vanity*

20TG00969

INDEX 226



A Shockin daughter sold at Worcester Saucy Sale 2021 to Drew & Stephen Cowan for £2,730.00.

*Edstaston Voice of Reason*

20TG00982

INDEX 226

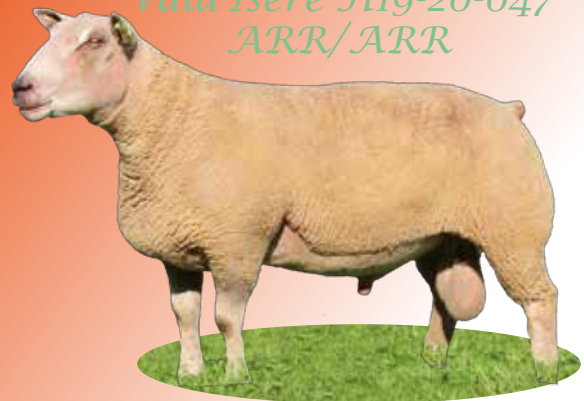


A son of Rainbow Santana who is a proven sire of progeny with muscle, length and style with good figures.

*Knockcrogherry*

Vald Isere H19-20-047

ARR/ARR



Purchased at the South Wales Premier 2020 for 4000.00 by Declan & Joe Milevsky. A sire of style and exceptional figures is passing on his genes.



Saturday 15  
October 2022

## Visitors always Welcome

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[www.edstaston-charollais.com](http://www.edstaston-charollais.com)

IRISH CHAROLLAIS SHEEP SOCIETY

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# PREMIER SALE

30TH JULY 2022



IRISH CHAROLLAIS SHEEP SOCIETY

CONTACT

085 - 261 7952

087 - 656 3007

icss.sec@gmail.com







\* Andrew Potter with his wife Flora, son Hector and daughter Cecily.



\* Part of the 400-head commercial outdoor lambing flock, all of which are put to Charollais tups.



# Charollais fit the bill for outdoor and indoor lambing unit in Herefordshire

Running a mixed breeds indoor and outdoor lambing system means **Andrew Potter** is looking for a terminal sire that fits the bill across both systems and produces a lamb of the desired specification for the deadweight market.

**A**ndrew, who farms at Stanford Bishop, Herefordshire, alongside his father Martin and uncle Richard, says Charollais tups have suited his lamb production needs for a number of years, due to their excellent lamb vigour and growth rates.

“We run an indoor lambing flock of 300 ewes which are mainly a mix of Texel and Suffolk crosses, while the outdoor lambing flock consists largely of 400 Aber Lleyn, Aber Romney and Aber Highlander ewes,” explains Andrew.

“We’ve predominantly run an indoor lambing flock for some years, but that comes with issues of being more of a labour intensive system. So when the opportunity arose to take on additional ground we decided to move to an outdoor flock as well and compare the two systems in more detail.”

Now having chosen a low input, smaller, hardy ewe, the focus is clearly on cost of production and efficiency. “Once this first crop of outdoor lambed progeny has been sold, we may look at reducing the indoor lambing flock and push harder on the outdoor lambers,” adds Andrew.

**“The focus is clearly on cost of production and efficiency.”**

“We buy Charollais tups to use across both flocks and tend to purchase the darker headed rams for the indoor flock and the lighter headed tups for the outdoor lambers as they tend to have a little more bone and frame to them to better compliment the lighter ewes and, therefore, improve the lamb quality.”





“We’ve also purchased two Signet recorded rams this year which we plan to raddle so we can compare ram efficiency and lamb growth rates and carcass quality,” adds Andrew. “I’m always impressed with the Charollais tups as they stay good on their legs, they don’t carry too much bone and they produce sharp lambs which always hit the required spec.”

Andrew and his family are looking to produce a lamb for Dunbia hitting 20.5–21kg deadweight, while grading R and U grades. “Running both the flocks means we have a steady supply of lambs with the singles away by May and all lambs off the farm by November, with some of the grass finished lambs sold as boxed lambs.”

Lambs from the indoor flock are creep fed a mixture of oats, barley, protein and molasses, while the outdoor produced lambs graze a herbal ley consisting of chicory, plantain, clover and grass from weaning until finishing.

“That in itself has been a learning curve as lambs started by grazing everything except the chicory, so we topped it which encouraged fresh growth which resulted in better intakes.”

“Now with both systems in place we plan to benchmark the two flocks and do a full cost analysis to compare the efficiency of both systems,” explains Andrew.

“Already we can see there is a lot to be gained from outdoor lambing, we haven’t touched feet on the ewes, over the 400 ewes we pulled less than 20 lambs and we haven’t wormed the outside flock either, focussing more on faecal

egg counting. Ewes in both flocks are given a bolus pre lambing, are vaccinated for Enzo and given Heptavac and the outside lambers are outwintered on stubble turnips.

**We’ve purchased two Signet recorded tups which we will do a full comparison in terms of lamb growth rates.**

“Tup maintenance is relatively hassle free as we just tick them over with a little concentrate to get the right condition on them ahead of tugging. We also make sure feet and legs are sound. We find the Charollais to be incredibly fertile running 60–70 ewes to each tup with a 75% success rate in the first cycle after using a teaser.”

Andrew returned back to the family farm almost two years ago having worked in Australia and New Zealand and now lives on the farm with his wife Flora and two children Hector who is two years of age and Cecily who is just a year old.

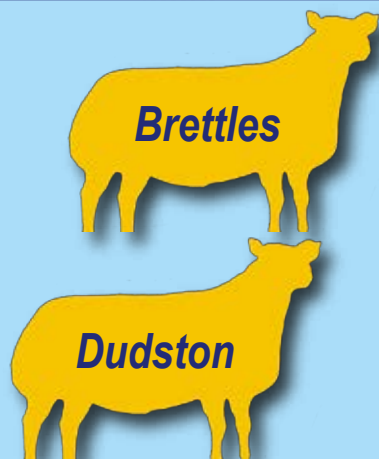
Alongside the sheep business, the family buy store cattle to supply beef to butchers in Bromyard and have this year started a pick-your-own sunflower business. “The majority of farming businesses are seeing a need to diversify so it was important for us to look at different ways to best utilise the farm to add value,” explains Andrew.



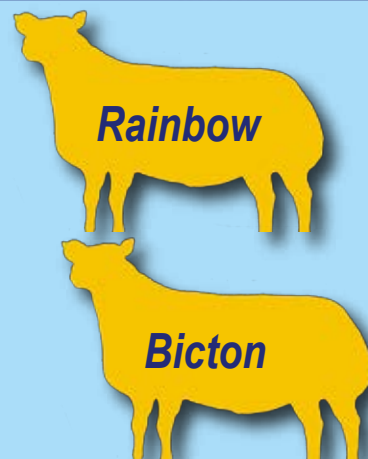
**Charollais  
rams work well  
across both  
indoor and  
outdoor flocks**







# (Females) with (Figures)



## 9th Annual Sale *Saturday 11th June 2022*

 12:00 - Worcester Market 

Contact: Mark Rushbrooke - 01299 861200  
Andrew Walton - 07710 522387

\* Add to  
your flock before  
sponging

\* Choose and use  
your own tup

\* Lamb when it suits  
you



\* All will have  
Performance  
Recorded EBVs

\* Use them to select  
the traits you need

\* Figures give a  
dimension your eyes  
cannot see



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Edstaston Vancouver - Index 304



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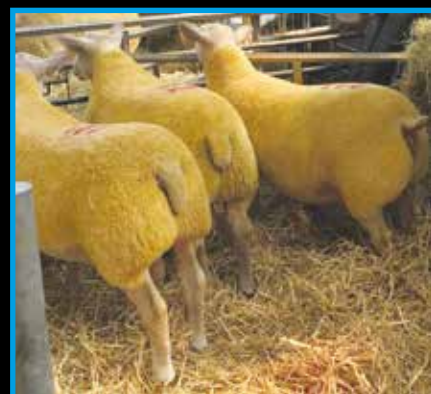
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# KNOCKIN CHAROLLAIS

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**T**he majority of this years lambs are all by new blood... I purchased 2 new ram lambs **Bronwydd Wild thing** (21WAJ00815 ) & **Ffrwd Wingman** (21YET02460) and also semen from **Mortimer Sultan** (17HH04439) who in my opinion sired the best pen of Rams at Builth II 2021 with 20 sons averaging 930gns and selling to a top of 2600gns. I could see he produces long rams with backend and skins!!

Limited amount of semen available from Oakchurch Ruben (domestic and export standard)



**Knockin Wagamama**  
sold at Worcester for 6000gns



**Ffrwd Wingman**



**Bronwydd Wild Thing**  
purchased at Worcester for 2400gns



Saturday 15th  
October 2022

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embryos and  
semen available  
for sale all year  
round

*Ewe lamb sold  
at Saucy sale  
for 1500gns*



**Knockin Wisteria** sold  
at Saucy sale  
for 1300gns



**Miss Abbie Moseley**

**Tel: 07983 550 992**



Knockin Hall Farm, Oswestry, SY10 8HQ,

Email: [Abbie2790@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Abbie2790@hotmail.co.uk)

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# Trace element management is key for the Springfield flock

Getting used to a new farm holding often has its challenges, but for **Gail and Gwyn Jones**, trace element management became a key part of wider flock health management.

**A** move from sea level to a Welsh upland farm certainly presented challenges to the Springfield flock of Gail and Gwyn Jones, who farm between Usk and Chepstow.

Shortly after the upheaval of a farm move, the couple discovered Springfield had all the trace element deficiencies associated with red sandstone soil; namely copper, cobalt and selenium with a pH of 4.5, all of which when combined meant a complete change in the management of the flock.

Previously farming Welsh x Suffolk ewes on the moors, lambs were finished entirely from grass and while copper was a concern, this was remedied by injection. However, following the move to Springfield, all was fine until it came to finishing the first crop of lambs as they just weren't doing.

The mystery of pot-bellied lambs with runny eyes was solved on approaching the couple's local vet who diagnosed Pine, a common condition on sandstone soil, mainly relating to a lack of cobalt.

Cobalt manufactures vitamin B12 and due to the shortage, the lambs were just not improving. "The vet suggested injecting a control group with B12 plus copper and leaving the other group without the injection. This comparison showed a remarkable change between the two groups with the untreated bunch taking until December to finish having been born in March," explains Gail.

"The acidity of the soil directly affected the availability of trace elements so to tackle this ADAS recommended that lime be spread on the soil alongside tests for potash and phosphorus on the old leys of wild grasses.



\* Gail and Gwyn Jones of the Springfield flock with their trusted staff, Fern and Midge.



Gail admits it is in fast growing lambs that you see the effects, but elements such as selenium do affect the fertility of the ewe and in order to further explore the topic, she attended the Rosemaund Research Centre which was carrying out work on trace elements at the time.

It was following this visit that Gail and Gwyn began to apply a dressing of cobalt sulphate to their pasture, through grazing or haylage this would provide a constant source.

Ultimately, flock health is at the forefront of producing the quality of sheep seen at Springfield and for several years careful steps have been taken to protect this along with their vet Hilary Jones from Farm First Vets, based near Abergavenny. "The practice is very proactive in promoting and educating its clients along with Farming Connect through regularly setting up meetings and webinars on the benefits of maintaining a healthy flock," says Gail.

A beneficial new venture on the farm is metabolic profiling which is funded by the HCC Stock Plus scheme. "Our vet takes blood from six ewes all carrying twins or triplets at around two-three weeks prior to lambing and the results will tell you if you are under or over feeding, the latter of course can lead to fatty liver," explains Gail. To combat low energy within the forage, high energy blocks are introduced after the in-lamb ewes are scanned.

"Soil samples are taken every four years for us to keep a close eye on our trace element levels and we use slow-release trace element boluses to keep the balance," adds Gail. Forage is also analysed with haylage sampled and a copy of the results being sent to Hilary for her interpretation and beneficial feeding advice. Coupled with that, the P, K and lime levels are also checked.

Faecal egg counts are also undertaken, particularly post-lambing to identify when worming is required. Experience has shown in the young flock that scouring lambs do not

always mean they have a high worm burden. In addition, nematodirus and fluke forecasts at NADIS and SCOPS are followed.

Gail and Gwyn came to the Charollais breed in the 1980's when they borrowed a ram having lost a Suffolk. Having been impressed by growth and finish weights, the decision was made to buy some Charollais ewes and breed their own rams.

The first foundation females came in 1987 with three ewe lambs from Roger Jukes. Shortly after further purchases were made from Ashton Selway, John Machie, Jonathan and Carroll Barber and Ranald Fowler, all of which were R1 females.

Since this time few females have been purchased, with the 90-strong flock remaining as closed as possible with the exception of a few bought at the Bould dispersal in 2017 and a handful of new bloodlines purchased last autumn to broaden the flock's genetic base.

The flock is run on a commercial basis, all on permanent pasture with lambs turned out after birth as soon as the upland weather allows. Finished lambs are sold by July at Ross Market.

When sourcing stock rams, Gwyn and Gail describe what they are looking for as being an "exceptional commercial ram" and in 2021 purchased two shearlings from Worcester. The first came from Foxhill and is a full brother to Foxhill Va Va Voom, who of course needs no introduction having sold for 16,000gns.

The second being the overall Worcester sale champion Loanhead Vantastic. "He really is a tremendous ram with exceptional fleshing, length and breed character along with being very correct on his legs and feet, all of which are vital for us," says Gwyn.

Springfield Prince was also bought back in as a three year old, having previously been sold to the Gibbin family and he is still throwing his strong back end within the flock now at seven years of age.





\* One of the stock tups used in the Springfield flock is Loanhead Vantastic, a tup purchased at the Premier Sale in 2021 after he stood champion.

With flock health always being at the forefront, in 2008 it was decided to keep only pure Charollais and to go all MV accredited to aid the sale of rams and ewes as shearlings. “We aim to produce good quality, well fleshed, fit for purpose commercial shearling rams, which are born in March-April with the highest possible health status and not having been overdone, which all adds to the longevity of the sheep we produce,” says Gwyn. In fact, one purchaser of three rams from the flock recently reported that they are all still working within the flock four years later.

Rams are sold both through sales and privately with buyers in 2021 coming from as far as Cornwall to secure a Springfield ram, while the pen average at Builth was just shy of £900 with sales to both new and repeat buyers.

The Jones’ regularly have a draft of rams for Builth and have previously won the champion pen of ram lambs and the secured top price ram lamb. “Along the way we have produced rams which have done well for pedigree breeders. Springfield Gaul (a son of Ash Charollais Filibuster, whose sire we bred) was male champion and half of the interbreed champion pair at the Royal Welsh Show in 2007,” says Gail.

Another success was Springfield Inxs, the terminal sire interbreed champion at the Great Yorkshire Show and Springfield Ken Ken, a principal sire within Huw Roberts champion pen at Builth.

“Experience has taught us that nothing can be taken for granted when it comes to the health of our flock and we now take all the necessary steps to safeguard our future breeding animals and those which we offer for sale as one wrong decision can prove detrimental to generations,” Gail concludes.

## Vet Viewpoint – Hilary Jones MRCVS, Farm First Vets

In recent years, with the increased concern about anthelmintic and flukicide resistance we have done a lot of Faecal Egg Counting on different groups within the Springfield flock. This is particularly useful when grazing only sheep on a farm, as we cannot use other species or crops to reduce parasite burdens.

We have been careful to rotate anthelmintic classes and not rely too heavily on any one product. We just use Zolvix or Startect once a year, as a knockout treatment, during the late grazing season when lamb worm burdens become high.

We also use these newer drenches in combination with Ivermectin as quarantine treatments for purchased sheep, so that multi-drug resistant worms are not introduced into the flock.

On the veterinary side, there have been several financial grants to investigate specific issues on our farms and at Springfield we have carried out Metabolic Profiles in heavily in-lamb ewes to ensure their nutrition is adequate and most recently blood testing lambs for antibodies to liver fluke to gauge whether the ewes need treatment. The Jones family have also enrolled in the Stoc + Project funded by the Welsh levy body HCC (Hybu Cig Cymru) which encourages increased farmer-vet engagement.



# CROGHAM CHAROLLAIS

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## Stock Rams – ARR/ARR

**Knockin Ultimate Package 19XXJ00666**

A true breeder, easy fleshing and correct

**Dalby Super Trooper 17PE05884**

RamCompare top Charollais

**Hyde Wisden 21SU00971**

New exciting tup, progeny showing style and fleshing

**Carnew Vagabond 20ZXJ28789**

Tremendous growth and presence in his progeny



## Champion Prizes

Eastern Region Flock Competition 2021

Champion Flock, Champion Ewes, Champion Ewe Lambs

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Crogham Vincentius, Reserve Champion Shearling Ram  
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Email : [carroll@ceressolutions.co.uk](mailto:carroll@ceressolutions.co.uk) Facebook : CroghamCharollais



# Charollais leads RamCompare project in terms of carcass conformation rankings

Foulrice Tempest, a Charollais ram bred by Charles and Stephen Marwood, has topped the carcass conformation rankings for the 2020 project year in AHDB's RamCompare project.

Meanwhile, a second Foulrice sire, Foulrice Osprey ranked second for carcass conformation across all sires used in the 2020 season of the project, demonstrating the breed's ability to transmit carcass traits to its progeny.

In other traits, the highest placed Charollais in the trial for scan weight EBV in the 2020 project year was Dalby Super Trooper from

Charles Sercombe, with the same ram being the highest placed Charollais for Scan Weight EBV across the project's six years (2015-2020). Super Trooper was also the highest ranked Charollais ram for Muscle Depth EBV in the 2020 project year. Taking top spot for this trait among Charollais rams across the project's lifespan was Lowerye Stallone from Neil Oughton.

Another Lowerye ram, Lowerye Troubadour led the Charollais rams across all years of the project for Carcass Weight EBV and overall Carcass Merit EBV, ranking seventh out of 280 rams of all breeds used in the project flocks.

## May 2021 Charollais results

Ranking out of the 280 rams from various breeds that have been analysed to date and the 89 rams analysed in 2020.

	Leading ram to date (2015-2020)	Leading ram in 2020
<b>On-farm data*</b>		
<b>Scan Weight EBV</b>	<b>Dalby Super Trooper</b> (Rank 16/280)	<b>Same ram</b> (Rank 8/89)
<b>Muscle Depth EBV</b>	<b>Lowerye Stallone</b> (Rank 16/280)	<b>Dalby Super Trooper</b> (Rank 11/89)
<b>Abattoir data**</b>		
<b>Carcass Weight EBV</b>	<b>Lowerye Troubadour</b> (Rank 8/280)	<b>Same ram</b> (Rank 4/89)
<b>Carcass Conformation EBV</b>	<b>Foulrice Tempest</b> (Rank 6/280)	<b>Same ram</b> (Rank 1/89)
<b>Days to Slaughter EBV</b>	<b>Hardy 16WZW00054</b> (Rank 1/280)	<b>Brettles Ricardo</b> (Rank 3/89)
<b>Overall Carcass Merit</b>	<b>Lowerye Troubadour</b> (Rank 7/280)	<b>Same ram</b> (Rank 3/89)

\*National Terminal Sire Evaluation BLUP run 18/02/2021

\*\* RamCompare Evaluation BLUP run 01/03/2021

# RamCompare's Future

Four new commercial farms were recruited last summer to join RamCompare. A team of 80 new rams were purchased as AI natural service rams and distributed amongst the nine farms for use in the 2021 mating season.

Over the next five years, phase III will continue to build on the knowledge already gained of the genetic impact of ram selection on commercial lamb production. Research will be initiated to facilitate routine evaluation of carcass traits within the National Terminal Sire Evaluation and by encouraging wider participation from pedigree breeders, commercial farmers and processors AHDB intends to extend the reach of the initial project.

## Summary

The commercial value of traits varies from farm to farm, but by selecting recorded sires with the right combination of EBVs, producers can identify the most profitable rams for their business.

- \* High Scan Weight EBV = Increased growth rates and reduced days to slaughter.
- \* High Scan Weight/Muscle Depth EBVs = Increased carcass weights.
- \* Superior Muscle Depth/Gigot Muscularity EBVs = Enhanced carcass conformation.
- \* Fat Depth EBV = Reliable indicator of the fat classification achieved by sire progeny.
- \* High genetic merit sires demonstrate increased progeny values worth around £5/lamb which equates to £1200-£1500/ram during their working lifetime.

Sheep farmers have an opportunity to enhance flock profitability through careful ram selection, but need to be aware few rams can do it all - some will excel for carcass conformation, others



for speed of finish. Producers should evaluate their system and determine which sires have the potential to make the biggest financial impact.

## Are you collecting abattoir data?

Please contact AHDB if you are currently collecting abattoir data from single sire matings from either a pedigree or commercial flock or have commercial clients that are using your rams who may be interested in working with AHDB. This data may be really useful in enhancing future genetic evaluations of your stock and some breeders are already starting to submit this information directly to Signet.

**Ram nominations open** – all performance recorded members will be notified by email when ram nominations open in February for the 2022 mating season, closing date Wednesday 20th April 2022, links for online nomination forms will be available through the website.

This work is led by Samuel Boon and Bridget Lloyd.

For further information contact:  
**[bridget.lloyd@ahdb.org.uk](mailto:bridget.lloyd@ahdb.org.uk)**



# Rainbow Flock of Charollais Sheep XPU

*"Females with Figures"*

Saturday 11th June 2022 @ Worcester Market



*"It's all  
in the  
DNA"*

Rainbow Vetriciano  
(20XPU04026)  
ranked 3 from 9 on  
the **"ChazCompare  
Trial"** with an  
average carcass  
value of £125 at 101  
days to slaughter!



The 2022 crop of high index lambs are sired by:  
**Foulrice Wellhard (21DG10855)** (Picture) - Jointly  
purchased from the Premier Sale with Redhill and  
Gawsworth flocks this stylish ram has a Muscle EBV  
within the Top 1% for the breed  
His first crop of lambs, look awesome and will have  
the figures to match!

**Hundalee Volcano (20XMP04415)** - Purchased for  
2500gns jointly with Redhill and Lowerye flocks,  
breeding length and skins. With over 300 recorded  
progeny both pedigree and commercial, he is still  
within the Top 5%

**Rainbow Wasabi (20XPU04444)** - A Top 1% son of  
Volcano, Jan's favourite lamb from 2021 we are  
eagerly anticipating lambs from him in March.

**Semen for sale** - Foulrice Tempest (18DG08105)  
top performing Charollais ram for carcass  
conformation EBV on RamCompare - frozen to EU  
export standards.

*Prize winning Duroc Pigs from Deva Herd also for sale!*

**Andrew & Jan Walton**, Church Farm, Backford, Chester CH2 4BE - Tel: 07710 522387  
Social Media: Twitter@MeatyAndrew ~ Facebook: RainbowCharollais

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## The October issue will include the following:

- \* Commercial and pedigree features
- \* Health related topics
- \* Premier Sale report
- \* Full show season round up
- \* North of England Focus features



Call the office to request a booking form or email [elaine@charollais-sheep.com](mailto:elaine@charollais-sheep.com) | 01953 603335 | [WWW.CHAROLLAISSHEEP.COM](http://WWW.CHAROLLAISSHEEP.COM)

## DG - FOULRICE CHAROLLAIS - DG

Established 1982 - MV Accredited

**Foulrice Wellhard (21DG10855)**  
sold at Worcester for 3200gns to  
Andrew Walton, Jamie Wild &  
Geoff Biddulph



**20DG10294** - Overall Champion  
Builth I, Foulrice Osprey  
son, sold for  
1600gns



**20DG09854** - Overall Champion  
Skipton Female sale - Foulrice Prelude  
daughter sold for 1400gns to  
Oliver Chapman



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**Visitors Welcome - Stock for sale off farm and at Society sales**



# Market Trends

Cementing the breed's position in the marketplace, Charollais sired lambs were tipping the scales at strong money across the UK last year. Here's a few of the top highlights.



## MARCH

### Welshpool - Easter Spring Lamb Show

Class 1 - Highest priced pair of lambs  
Silver went to A Moseley at 405ppk  
Class 2 - Highest priced pen of five lambs  
1st prize A Moseley at 411ppk  
Class 3 - Highest priced pen of five or more  
1st prize £183 to A Moseley  
Class 6 - Highest price pen of five or more Charollais sired lambs sponsored by BCSS  
1st prize - 411ppk - A Moseley

### Ashford

Top price per head £167 - K Tucker  
Top price per kilo 428ppk - K Tucker

### Ballymena

Charollais top price per head £148.50 at 26kg

### Bentham

£185 at 36kg and over - top price spring lambs - Logie Durno

### Skipton - Easter Spring Lamb Show

Class 1 - Pair of Continental cross lambs  
1st - R J Towers 41kg at £178  
2nd - C W Marwood 39kg at £168  
Class 3 - Single Continental cross lamb  
1st - R J Towers 46kg at £188  
2nd - C W Marwood 49kg at £178  
Champion R J Towers pair Continental cross  
Reserve champion C W Marwood pair Continental cross

### Shrewsbury Easter Show

Champion pen - Pen of seven lambs sold at £175 (42kg)  
G Pink - Bicton Charollais

### Rugby

Champion Spring Lamb Show  
PM Jarrom 39kg at 428ppk

## FEBRUARY

### Charollais cross lambs selling at Exeter Livestock Centre

James Westcott sold 90 Charollais cross lambs out of Dorset and Dorset mule ewes, all sired by Gogwell Charollais tups.

Average - £127  
Top £131 at 42kg  
£128 at 41kg  
£126 at 40kg

The Society requests market reports from across the UK, but if you would like to submit your own report regarding commercial lamb trade, please email Elizabeth Barber:

[elizabeth@charollais sheep.com](mailto:elizabeth@charollais sheep.com)

## APRIL

### Kendall

Charollais took top spot selling 42kg at £164 averaging – Bailey Cheshire

### Monmouthshire

Spring lambs 40.5kg at £135.50  
Charollais topped cull ewe section at £181 – Sant Andras Charollais

### Ballymena

Charollais top price 20.5kg £128

### Skipton

Spring lambs  
45kg at £192 – R J Towers  
44kg at £187 C W Marwood

### Thirsk

Charollais topped market at £193 C W Marwood

### Welshpool

36kg at £167 439ppl A Moseley  
40kg at £171 427ppk A Moseley

### Colchester

Charollais cross hoggs selling at £158

### Crymych

Cull ewes top at £209 – Gwyndy Charollais

### J36 Rural Auction Centre

Spring lambs at £170 Messrs Wales

### Melton Mowbray

£150 – Manor House Charollais

### Ashford

Lambs topping at £155  
Culls at £159 Tuckers Charollais

### Hawes

New season lamb topping at £172 average  
£164.59 K Foster

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### Rugby

Spring lambs under 45.5 kg CharX 26kg at 427ppk – Leam Farm Partnership  
Spring lambs over 45.5kg CharX 24.5kg at 343ppk – Crockwell Farms

### Thainstone

Charollais lambs at £148 – 336.4ppk – Braemuir Charollais

### Brockholes Arms

#### Show and sale of spring lambs

Championship went to Charollais from J D Loftus selling at £178 topping the market

### Skipton

Spring lambs  
£202 428.6ppk K J Marston  
£180 – T A Robinson  
£175 – C W Marwood  
£165 – K J Marston

### Hoggs

£179 – R J Bailes

### Culls

Ewes £141.5  
Rams £164.5

### Blakes Abbatoir

R3L NSL 22.9kg at £164.88 G Maxwell, Fordham Charollais  
U3L NSL 21.3kg at £155.06 G Maxwell  
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### Mitchells Auction

Spring lambs – £188.5 Kirkhouse  
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## December

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#### Christmas Fatstock Show

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Reserve champion pen



# Charollais proves top choice terminal sire for year round lamb trade

Producing prime lambs to top specifications all year round is something few terminal breeds are capable of doing, but for **Geoff and Bridget Probert**, the Charollais breed is delivering time and time again.

**G**eoff and Bridget farm in partnership at Northington Farm on the outskirts of Worcester. Geoff has been involved with the Charollais breed since he was 11 years of age, either with a commercial or pedigree focus and he says the breed suits both requirements equally well.

Maintaining a flock of 180 pure ewes for producing shearling rams for the Builth NSA main sale, the couple's other sheep focus is 1100 commercial ewes for producing new season lambs, as well as late season lambs and hogs.

The commercial ewes consist of 800 Texel crosses and 300 North Country Mules. The Texels and a further 300 head of ewe lambs are put to homebred Charollais rams, while the North Country Mules are put to homebred Texel rams, retaining the twin and triplet ewe lambs from that cross. These are then put to a Charollais for easy lambing, explains Geoff, who runs 600 acres at Northington, plus a large acreage of winter grazing to give the ground a rest.

The couple start by sponging 300 head of four and five-year old ewes which are split in to two groups of 150 with up to 15 rams across both groups ready for lambing on the 20th January. "These are housed and out of the shed ready for a further batch of Texel crosses and the Mules to start on the 20th February," explains Geoff.

Then 300 yearlings follow in March with 250 hogs lambing in April to finish by 1st May. "We're often in the situation of drawing lambs for market while lambing hogs," adds Bridget.

While it may seem a drawn-out period of lambing to some, Geoff feels this system has three main advantages. "We can utilise the shed space better, we can manage the labour availability across our other farming enterprises more efficiently and, more importantly, it spreads the cash flow across the year better."

**We start by sponging 300 head of four and five year-old ewes which run with up to 15 rams between two groups of 150.**

All lambs are sold liveweight through McCartneys auctioneers with most going through Worcester. "With the aim of 1250 spring lambs being away by 1st July, the first batch were sold last year on the 31st March at 35kg and hit 390p/kg and on the same day the ewes were hitting £138 in the cull section," he highlights.

"We can dry out here on this farm, so we aim to get as many lambs off farm as quickly as





\* Geoff and Bridget Probert feel the Charollais is an integral part of the couple's ability to maximise yearly lamb sales

possible. Coupled with that, cull ewes are gone before shearing. All ewes have a different colour tag for each year so we can draft off those as we sell the lambs," Geoff explains.

Geoff believes keeping a younger flock maximises lamb quality and helps reduce management issues, particularly when sheep go away on winter grazing.

Prior to the couple's choice of Texel and Mule sheep, Geoff began with 1000 draft Scotch Mule ewes and they have dabbled with other Mules before, but Bridget's own preference is for North Country Mule ewes having had experience of them within her own family farming enterprise.

Lambs are creep fed early on with Geoff estimating the early season lamb intake would be up to £14 a head. "We're not shy when it comes to using creep feeders as our aim is to finish the lambs as soon as we can get them sold off the farm at prime weights and higher prices," he adds.

Ewe management is simple with them being fed rolls, hay and fodder beet with the latter fed on an adlib basis through a clean muck spreader. "We're big believers in the fodder beet as it keeps feed in front of the ewes at all times giving them something to nibble on and energy in poor weather conditions," adds Bridget.

Health treatments for the lambs are also high on the agenda. Lambs are given a coccidiosis treatment as there is a heavy reliance on poultry manure from the family's turkey enterprise. Lambs are also given a multi-vit drench and broad-spectrum wormer at approximately six weeks of age. "The season determines whether the lambs are given another drench, as nematodirus can be an issue in the spring," adds Geoff.

"We try hard to break the worm cycle on the home farm by not having ewes on the place from early December onwards. Not only does that help with worm burden, it also helps with foot rot and rests the ground."

**We're big believers in fodder beet as it provides a good energy source for the ewes at all times.**

Once the couple hit the magic 1250 mark of selling lambs, the rest are stored ready to go on to dairy farms grazing with a view to hitting that Christmas market. "When there's a lift in trade we're ready to start selling again," adds Geoff. Last year winter lambs were hitting the 45-47kg mark and averaging 298p/kg off grass alone.





## Shearling ram producers

Geoff and Bridget are also familiar faces at the Builth NSA main sale for selling Charollais rams from their Mortimer flock, but over the years have seen more and more of their repeat custom happening on farm prior to the September selling period.

Up to 180 Charollais ewes lamb in March and April on Geoff's brother's farm Covenhope, in Herefordshire, alongside a similar sized flock of pure Texel ewes, again for producing shearling rams.

**We prefer red headed, tighter skinned rams as they tend to produce the best commercially suited rams for our customers.**

"Ram lambs then come to our place in the autumn and are fed fodder beet or turnips through the winter before being ticked over on new seeds and prepped for selling the following summer," comments Geoff.

The couple have sold well at Builth hitting a top of 4200gns with Mortimer Jumbo and are regularly in the top pen averages for the breed with their best averages hitting £983 for 30 sold.

While homebred rams are worked across the commercial flock, stock rams have been bought in for the pedigree flock, with the most recent being a quarter share in the 15,000gns Cavick What A Boy. Alongside him the family run tups carrying Bachymbyd, Thackwood, Knockin and Tawelfa bloodlines, as well as a few homebred rams. "We prefer the red headed, tighter skinned rams as they always seem to produce the best commercially suited rams for our customers," adds Geoff.

Integral to the flock's success have been some of the earlier ram purchases such as a tup purchased from the Inglis flock of Geraint Lloyd. "We sold up to 150 yearlings by him in the late 90's averaging around the £700 mark," he highlights.

Harmby Moor Capelo and Galtres Favour, both bought in partnership with the Geldard family, have also had great success for stamping the flock and producing the goods for the sale ring.

There's no doubt in Geoff and Bridget's mind that the Charollais is a breed well suited to their sheep farming needs. "We have a breed here capable of hitting an early market, a later market and consistently producing quality shearling rams that go on and do just as well for other farmers as they do for us," summarises Geoff.

Alongside the pedigree and commercial sheep flocks, the couple sell up to 60,000 turkeys a year on contract for Avara Foods, as well as finishing up to 300 head of dairy bred bulls a year and 250 acres of arable.





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# SPRINGHILL



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# SPRINGHILL



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\* The team behind Wernfawr, David Curran, Ally Davis and David's son Paul Curran.

# Behind the scenes at Wernfawr

With a strong focus on correct locomotion and carcass characteristics, **David and Paul Curran** have established a reputation for their Wernfawr flock for selling top end ram lambs at Society sales.

**F**arming 80 acres at Talgarth on the outskirts of Brecon in Powys, David, wife Maureen, son Paul and Paul's partner Ally Davis, have run up to 60 pedigree Charollais females in the past. But, with a change in farming direction they are now down to 15 pedigree ewes with a critical eye on quality. Offspring numbers fluctuate year on year with the use of embryo transfer work to breed from proven family lines.

"We've been rather ruthless in the past when cutting down numbers, so we feel only the best females have been retained with us opting for quality over quantity," explains Paul, who also works full time for Avara Foods as their Agricultural Technical Manager.

Having established the Wernfawr flock in 1998, the family's previous passion laid with the Suffolk breed running a pedigree flock to produce commercial shearling rams. "Dad went to a sale one day with his good friend Brian Davies and came home with two Charollais females and while I was more than surprised that he made a flash decision on a new breed, we've never looked back since," explains Paul.

**After seeing the merits of the breed we soon turned our focus to producing ram lambs.**

Early purchases came from David Morris' Penywern flock, but Dilwyn Davies has also given great support to the family and his Highway flock has had a great influence on early breeding decisions, adds Paul. "Initially our aim was to produce commercial Charollais shearlings alongside the Suffolks, but after seeing the merits of the breed we gradually built up our numbers and turned our focus to producing ram lambs."

Paul admits while it's great to win prizes at shows, the family get far more pleasure in going through sale catalogues and seeing Wernfawr progeny doing well. "We do enjoy showing, albeit on a limited scale at the Royal Welsh and Brecon Shows, it is sales which define flock success and when our stock go on and do well for others that is the most pleasing thing for us," he explains.

One of the most influential sires used in the flock was Wernfawr Nijinsky having sired their two highest prices rams. "Wernfawr Red Bull sold at 7000gns to Logie Durno but subsequently has been exported to Germany, while Wernfawr Spartacus sold at 7000gns to Tim Prichard and Emyr Hughes. Spartacus was the male champion at the Royal Welsh in 2018 and went on to be one half of the interbreed pairs champions. Nijinsky also sired Wernfawr Stormer who went on to sire progeny up to 7000gns.

Another notable success came with the sale of Wernfawr Neo to Myfyr Evans' Rhaeadr flock, with Neo then siring both a champion and reserve champion at the Premier Sale, including the noted Rhaeadr Orlando which sold to Logie Durno.

**We get great pleasure in going through sale catalogues seeing Wernfawr progeny doing well.**

With the flock recently reducing in numbers the family now use embryo transfer to maximise the progeny, not only from the best females, but from the most consistent families, flushing up to eight ewes a year. "We aim to only flush those who we know will produce the goods. The investment required in ET means it is only worthwhile if the right ewes are flushed. Structural correctness is critical for us.

Correct mouths, udders, legs, feet and topline are crucial, without them everything else is immaterial," adds Paul.

"We've been critical when selecting replacement females and have been equally harsh when purchasing stock rams," adds Paul.







The 8500gns Logie Durno Wall Street, which was purchased in partnership with Adrian Davies at the Premier Sale last year, has produced great offspring this year. Robleston Warrior, a ram purchased privately from Gareth Jones and again in partnership with the Glyn Coch flock, has also been used across the flock this year with pleasing results.

There are a number of key females in the flock which have bred well and continue to do so, but Paul admits they may not be every breeder's first choice of pedigree female. "We're not always looking for the showy, flashy females, what we're targeting is powerful, deep bodied, muscular ewes that are likely to breed quality rams.

"Loins and back ends are crucial for the commercial market and that makes them essential for pedigree breeders too. We cannot ignore what the commercial market is looking for or indeed what other breeds are doing. If we don't aim to offer something they want, then we won't gain ground or increase market share," believes Paul.

"There's no doubt the breed has made great strides in terms of quality over recent years, but there is always more we can do."

On a practical note, the family are now aiming to make better use of grass and forage crops, reducing reliance on bought in feed wherever

possible. "The commercial market is in a state of evolution and forage-based systems are vital as farmers look to reduce both costs and workload.

"We have started using rotational grazing as part of our grazing system to make better use of the grass we grow and have recently sown a ley including chicory and plantain to increase diversity in the sward and hopefully boost productivity," says Paul.

"On top of that we're outwintering our ram hogs on stubble turnips, fodder rape and kale, using this as a break crop before we put a new ley back in. There's no doubting they've thrived on it and are stronger and healthier for being out all winter.

Paul explains that due to the farm's location and topography the grass growing season isn't as long as many other parts of the UK, so it is essential to make the most of it. "We lamb the Charollais in December, with the Suffolk, Texel and crossbred flocks lambing in March and by the time they lamb we have started to pull out the bottom end of the Charollais lambs for a local butcher.

"Lambs are generally split into three groups, with the ewe lambs in one mob and the ram lambs split into two groups, one of which is lambs for the early sales and the other for the later sales," says Paul.

**Loins and back ends are crucial for the commercial market and that makes them essential for pedigree breeders too. We cannot ignore what the commercial market is looking for or indeed what other breeds are doing.**

May sees the family picking out entries for the Premier Sale at Worcester, with these given some extra attention, while the remaining ram lambs are run commercially ahead of being sold at Builth in August and September and at Welshpool too.



\* Wernfawr Stormer.



The family also offer females at the Hereford High Flyers sale each year and have celebrated great success with their recent top price hitting 3400gns for a ewe lamb. “While we’re not predominantly focussed on breeding females, this is a great way to maximise income from the flock and offer new and existing breeders the chance to tap into our most proven lines.”

But when it comes to flock management Paul says there are no magic ingredients to success. “Ultimately, when you make the investment in genetics you need to follow it up with the best management possible, so that means putting the hours in and going that extra mile with regards attention to detail. Ensuring lambs have the best chance to grow into the most saleable sheep they can be,” he adds.

With Paul working full time off the farm and Ally being responsible for a lot of the

day-to-day management and lambing, the couple greatly rely on full time employee Niall Preece, as well as the expert eye and trimming shears of Geraint Davies who has a big part to play in the flock when presenting the stock to a high standard.

Running alongside the Charollais are a further 125 head of ewes including Suffolks, a small flock of pedigree Texels, a commercial flock put to the Beltex and Texel tups for producing crossbred tups, as well as commercial recipient females for embryo work. However, Paul admits it’s by far the Charollais that’s more manageable with ease of lambing, vigour and natural mothering ability.

**Ultimately, when you make the investment in genetics, you need to follow it up with the best management possible and that means putting the extra hours in and going that extra mile.**



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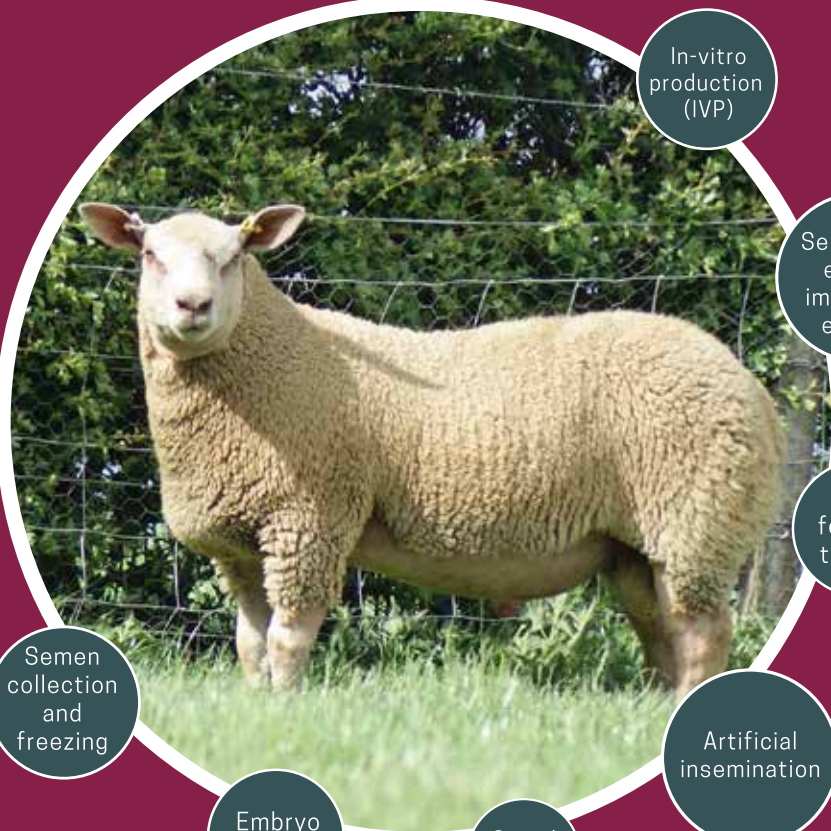
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INTERBREED CHAMPION AT THE ROYAL HIGHLAND SHOWCASE 2021



# Charollais female records smashed at the Dalby Coral Sale

Having set a new female breed record at their last major celebration sale 10 years ago, Charles and Helen Sercombe smashed all expectations in June with their **Dalby Coral Celebration Sale** by setting a new female breed record at 12,500gns.

The Melton Mowbray, Leics-based flock's sale leader was Dalby Tutti Frutti, a 2017-born Foulrice Regis daughter out of one of the flock's most successful females, Dalby Rhapsody. Having won the Great Yorkshire Show as a ewe lamb in 2018, this one carries an index of 369 putting her in the top 1% of the breed and has a scan weight EBV of 12.92, the highest of any Charollais female. After a spirited bidding war between ringside goers and internet bidders, the final bid of 12,500gns was knocked down to William and Carole Ingram for their Logie Durno flock, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire.

Next up at 3400gns was the highest priced shearling ewe on the day, Dalby Vera. By Edstaston Tulloch, this one is out of Dalby Matilda, a Foulrice Regis daughter. This top 5% index female caught the eye of Messrs Madders and Johnson, Hopton, Stafford.

The second highest shearling ewe at 2800gns was a maternal sister to the sale leader in the form of Dalby Venita, an ET-bred Knockin Shockin daughter out of Dalby Rhapsody. Again, selling with a top 5% performance index, this one went home with Arwyn Thomas, Whitland, Carmarthenshire, for his Arbryn flock.



Just shy of that price at 2500gns was another strong aged ewe, the 2018-born Dalby Uzabelle. This Dalby Ranieri daughter is out of Loanhead Maggie, a Bawnard Bolt daughter. She was knocked down to Tim Prichard, Llantrisant, Glamorgan, for his Castellau flock.

Then selling for 2350gns was another 2018-born female, an ET-bred female out of Dalby Rhapsody by one of the flock's most influential sires, Rockvilla Golden Promise. This one sold on the internet to David Argue, Co Cavan, Ireland.

At 2000gns was Dalby Ula-laa, another by Edstaston Tulloch. This one previously stood first at the Norfolk Show in 2019 and she carries a top 1% index of 347. Buying this one for their Crogham flock were Jonathan and Carroll Barber, Wymondham, Norfolk.

A charity auction at the end of the sale saw semen straws being offered from Rockvilla Golden Promise which sold to a top of 290gns/straw with proceeds going to the farming charity RABl.

## Averages:

**30 breeding ewes £1250.90**

**41 shearling ewes £850.24**

(McCartneys)



\* Sale leader at the Dalby Coral Celebration sale was Dalby Tutti Frutti, selling for a new breed female record of 12,500gns, to the Logie Durno flock.



\* Top priced shearling ewe at 3400gns was Dalby Vera, selling to Messrs Madders and Johnson, Staffordshire.



\* At 2800gns was Dalby Venita, selling to Arwyn Thomas for his Arbryn flock.



# Foxhill hits a high of 17,000gns at Premier Sale

Charollais breeders set the bar high for the 2021 tup sales season when the breed's **Worcester Premier Sale** at the end of June saw a 17,000gns top call, a trio of five figure sales and a new record ram lamb average of £1900.30.

Setting the sale alight at 17,000gns was Cullompton, Devon-based Michael and Melanie Alford's Foxhill Walkabout. A son of last year's 4600gns purchase, Thackwood U Corker, this one is out of a dam by Carthorpe Grand Duke which has previously bred lambs to 2500gns.

A mid-December-born twin lamb, this one was subject to a frenzied bidding war, eventually falling to the Ingram family, Aberdeenshire, for their Logie Durno and Loanhead flocks.

Second top call at 15,000gns came from a quartet of breeders when buying Cavick What A Boy from Mitchel Britten and Elizabeth Barber, Wymondham, Norfolk. Sired by a Loanhead tup and out of a homebred dam by Loanhead Midas Touch, he sold with an index of 235 and was the pick of Messrs Probert, Worcestershire, Jeremy Price, in Herefordshire, T H Roberts, Ruthin and Esmor Evans, Mold.

The Ingram family then recouped some of their outlay when they secured 10,000gns for Loanhead Washington from Gregor and

Bruce's flock. This one is by the 2020 Premier Sale leader, the 16,000gns Foxhill Charollais Va Va Voom and out of a dam by Rhaeadr Orlando. He sold to Arwyn Thomas, Whitland, Pembrokeshire and RG and RA Jones, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire.

Close behind at 8500gns was another from the Ingram's this time from the Logie Durno pen of William and Carole. This was Logie Durno Wall St, another by the 16,000gns Va Va Voom and this time out of a Loanhead Talisman daughter. Buying this one in a two-way split were Paul Curran, Talgarth, Brecon, for the Wernfawr flock and Adrian Davies, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, for his Glyn Coch flock.

Next up at 6200gns was Dalby Woki Poki from Charles Sercombe, Frisby on the Wreake, Leicestershire. Sired, by the homebred Dalby Veainu he is out of Dalby Tutti Frutti, a Foulrice Regis daughter which sold for 12,500gns at the Dalby Coral Anniversary Sale. With an index of 390, he was knocked down to Carwyn Lewis, Haverford West, Pembrokeshire, for the Riverside flock.





\* Judge Robert Towers in action at the Premier Sale.

## Averages:

**112 ram lambs £1900.30**

**22 shearling rams £1380.75**

**14 shearling ewes £1327.50**

(McCartneys)







## Shearling rams

Topping shearling ram trade at 5000gns was Carlisle, Cumbria-based, Jonathan Wales' Thackwood Victor, a Tilton Dan son out of a dam by Loanhead Nailer. This third prize winner from the pre-sale show went home with the judge, Robert Towers, Carnforth, Lancashire.

Getting away at 2600gns was Loanhead Vantastic from Gregor and Bruce Ingram. This Logie Durno Untouchable son is out of a Rhaeadr Orlando daughter and, having stood champion in the pre-sale show under judge Robert Towers, Carnforth, was snapped up by G Jones, Chepstow, Monmouthshire.

Following him at 2400gns was Foxhill Viagra from the Alford family. A full ET brother to last year's sale topper, Va Va Voom, he was another to head back to Chepstow with Mr Jones.

A 2250gns call came for another from Jonathan Wales in the form of Thackwood Viking. This Knockin The Nail In son is out of a Loanhead Nailer daughter and sold to Sheena Coghill, Orkney.

Just shy of that money at 6000gns was Knockin Wagamama, a first prize winner from the pre-sale show from Abbie Moseley, Oswestry, Shropshire. This Knockin Vunipola son is out of a dam by Loanhead Titan and sold carrying an index of 369. This one sold across the water to Liam Woods, Mullingar, Co West Meath.

Selling at 4500gns for Gerald Burrough, Honiton, Devon, was Sheldon Windsor, a Loosebeare Tornado son out of a dam by Sheldon Rambo. This one found a new home with Richard Bamforth, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, Lower Denby flock.

Then making 3800gns was the lamb and overall reserve champion from the pre-sale show, Logie Durno War Horse from the Ingrams. This Arbryn Viper son is out of a Rhaeadr Orlando daughter and sold to H E G Davies, Whitecairns, Aberdeenshire.





Jonathan Aiken, Wigton, Cumbria, also took 3800gns for his best sale of the day for Carnew Warrior. This one is a Ffrwd Top Notch son out of a Wernfawr Prospect daughter and buying this one was F A and C J Elsworthy, Tiverton, Devon.

Ben and Amelia Watts, Ashburton, Devon, took a 3600gns bid for their pen leader, Willow Whiskey, a son of a Ffrwd tup and out of a dam by Oakchurch Smuggler. He headed away with Messrs Gray, Lanark and C D Timm, Pickering.

And wrapping up the leading lamb trade at 3500gns was another from Society chairman Charles Sercombe in the form of Dalby Wun Tun. This one is a full ET brother to the 6200gns Woki Poki and sold to Jonathan Wales, Raughton Head, Carlisle.



## Shearling ewes

Completing a strong day's trade for the Alford family, they also dominated proceedings with their female offering when they led at 2700gns. Foxhill Venom is a full ET sister to last year's 16,000gns Va Va Voom and she caught the eye of Neil Oughton, Montgomery, Powys, for his Lowerye flock.

Second best here was 2600gns for a Logie Durno shearling ewe, 20ZNN32015, a Logie Durno Untouchable daughter out of a dam by Riverdale Noble. This one joins Richard Powell, Armagh, Northern Ireland.

The same buyer and vendor combination were then responsible for a 2500gns sale for 20ZNN31989, a Crogham Umpire daughter out of a dam by Rhaeadr Orlando with an index of 303.





\* Sale leader at the Premier Sale, selling for 17,000gns, was Foxhill Walkabout from Michael and Melanie Alford.



\* Selling for 15,000gns was Cavick What A Boy from Mitchel Britten and Elizabeth Barber.



\* At 10,000gns was Loanhead Washington from Gregor and Bruce Ingram.



\* Selling for 8500gns for the Ingram family was Logie Durno Wall St.



\* Selling for 6200gns was Dalby Woki Poki from Charles Sercombe.



\* Abbie Moseley's Knockin Wagamama sold for 6000gns.









\* Leading shearling ram trade at 5000gns was Thackwood Victor from Jonathan Wales.



\* Sheldon Windsor from Gerald Burrough sold for 4500gns.



\* Carnew Warrior from Jonathan Aiken sold for 3800gns.



\* Logie Durno War Horse from the Ingram family then sold for 3500gns.



\* Willow Whiskey from Ben and Amelia Watts sold for 3600gns.



\* Leading female trade at 2700gns was Foxhill Venom from Michael and Melanie Alford.





\* The shearling ram and overall champion from Logie Durno (right) and the lamb and reserve overall champion, also from the Ingram family (left).



\* Lamb champion (right) from the Ingram family with the reserve overall lamb champion from Jonathan Aiken (left).



\* Shearling ram champion from the Ingram family (right) and the reserve shearling ram champion from Jonathan and Carroll Barber (left).



\* Winners of the progeny group were the Ingram family.





# WORCESTER SAUCY SALE



Saturday 15th October 2022

**Export Buyers Welcome**

Edstaston, Logie Durno, Glyn Coch, Knockin,  
Loanhead, Wolston, Dalby, Ffrwd, Crogham,  
Micklehills, Moelfryn, Rigghead, Lodgehill,  
Foxhill & Willow

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## ROWANSTON CHAROLLAIS

SIGNET  
RECORDED

*As well as our Worcester pen of tup lambs, we have quality shearing tups available ex. farm*

Ewes like this ...



Continental and  
Interbreed Champion at  
our only show in 2021



Champion Prime Lamb  
Supplier (1000+ lambs) to  
Farmstock ACL 2021

*Produce lambs like this*



Rowanston Whizzbang -  
sold Worcester 2021 to  
Fordham flock

*Gives results like this*

### ★ NEW FOR 2022 ★

Our two new junior stock rams  
**FOXHILL WUHAN** - January born lamb  
from Foxhill pen Worcester 2021. Same dam  
as Va Va Voom. His first lambs are  
tremendous with outstanding carcasses - just  
the type we like to breed.  
**CARNEW WARLORD** - Bought privately.  
A Tup with a great pedigree from same flush  
as Carnew's 3 lambs sold Worcester 2021.  
Just a few lambs by him this year, but likely  
to be used heavily this coming season.

**R & J Andrew** - Rowanston,  
Maybole, Ayrshire KA19 7PY  
Tel: 01655 740205

Email: [john.andrew@rowanston.co.uk](mailto:john.andrew@rowanston.co.uk)

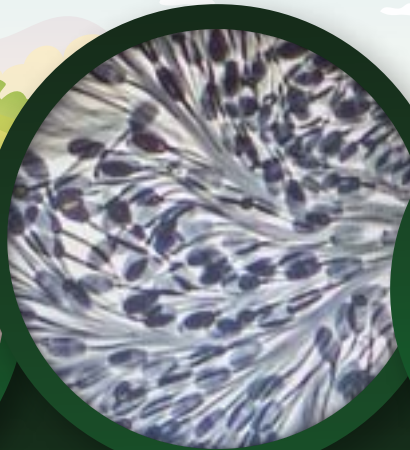
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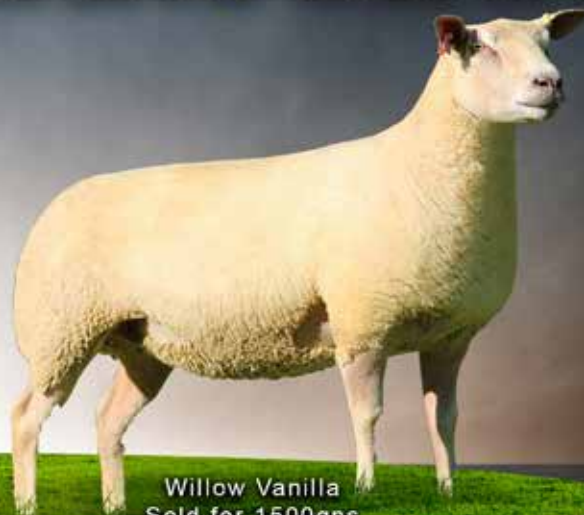
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# WILLOW CHAROLLAIS



Willow Whiskey,  
sold for 3600gns  
at the Premier Sale 2021



Willow Vanilla  
Sold for 1500gns  
at the Premier Sale 2021

**BEN AND AMELIA WATTS**

Tel: 07796 260016 / 07854 610846

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# Artnagullion sets new Dungannon Premier Sale record at 4400gns

The 2021 **Dungannon Premier Sale** proved a great success for Northern Irish breeders with averages up in both ram sections and the centre record broken by a shearling ram from the Artnagullion flock of William McAllister which sold to 4400gns.

The pre-sale show was judged by Emyr Hughes of the Bronwydd flock, Pembrokeshire. He chose his champion from the Iskeymeadow pen of Richard and Harry Powell, an Arbryn Viper son out of a Loanhead dam.

Taking the reserve championship was Graham Foster, in the form of a Springhill Viper son and out of a Rhaeadr dam. The female championship went the way of the McConnell Brothers with a Hollylodge Voldemort daughter, while the Group of Three was won by Graham Foster.

Kicking off trade to an impressive start was Artnagullion Viceroy, from the pen of William McAllister. This Knockin Shop son is out of a Riverdale Preacher dam and went on to top the sale with a centre record price of 4400gns, sold to a County Down commercial breeder.

Shearling rams from Graham Foster's Springhill pen were in demand with his fourth prize winner which sold to Glenmore Estate, County Donegal, for 2200gns. The same buyer also purchased the second prize winner from the Springhill pen, sired by Logie Durno Untouchable and out of a Rhaeadr dam, at 1500gns.

It was certainly a day to remember for the Iskeymeadow flock of Richard Powell and son Harry. On their first time showing at the Premier Sale they came away with champion and two of the top prices in the ram lamb offering. The champion lamb was an Arbryn Viper son out of a Loanhead dam and sold to the Artnagullion and Ballynoe House flocks of William McAllister and Ian Craig for 3400gns.

His pen mate, another strong Arbryn Viper son and this time out of a Logie Durno dam, sold to David Argue, County Cavan, for 3400gns, while another Viper son sold to County Wicklow Breeder John O Toole, for 2100gns. The Iskeymeadow flock averaged 1825gns for six.

Graham Foster's Springhill pen featured in the ram lamb prizes and prices and his top price was achieved by a Springhill Viper son out of a Robleston Superman sired dam. County Mayo-based breeder Aiden Loftus went to 2750gns.

Meanwhile, another smart Springhill Viper son, who stood first in the late December-born class and went on to be placed reserve champion, then sold for 2300gns to Paul Brophy, County Carlow.

Graham's third placed January-born ram was the first to be offered for sale out of Tullyear Uptown Lady and sired by Logie Durno Van the Man. This one sold to County Donegal breeder, Daniel McLaughlin, for 2100gns.

Finbar O'Connor from County Roscommon went to 1350gns for his pick of the Springhill rams, a fourth prize winner in the late December-born class. This one is by Springhill Vodka and out of a Boyo dam. The Springhill pen averaged 1440gns for eight.

The Tullyear pen of Drew and Stephen Cowan saw their first ram in, a Tullyear Untouchable son out of an Oakchurch Royal Ryan sired dam sell for 3000gns to Albert Ferguson, County Cork. Their next, was an eye-catching ram who stood second in the late December-born class.





A Logie Durno Van the Man son and out of a dam purchased at the Parkgate dispersal sale, this one sold for 2700gns to Ian Macbeth, County Donegal. Meanwhile, a Topgun son out of Oakchurch Royal Ryan dam sold for 1050gns to Alan Crockett, County Tyrone. The Tullyear pen averaged 1173gns for eight.

The Artnagullion pen of ram lambs saw William McAllister top at 1800gns for a Loanhead Upperclass son out of a Knockin Shop sired dam. This one caught the eye of James Walsh, County Cork.

Scottish breeder Ben Radley went to 1500gns for a Rockdale Vespasian son who stood first in the January-born class, while another Loanhead Upper Class son sold for 1000gns to F Muldoon, Co Donegal. The Artnagullion pen averaged 1300gns for four.

Sale leader from Alistair Moore's Hillside pen was a Padrig Upperclass son out of a Kirkhouse Remo sired dam. This one sold for 1620gns to County Donegal breeder, Stephen Devlin. Meanwhile, another Padrig Upper Class son, this time out of a Tullyear dam sold for 1500gns to Stephen Mulvey, County Meath.

Rams from the Ballynoe pen of Ian Craig were also in demand with his two first lots in selling for 1400gns apiece. His third place in the early December-born class was a Loanhead Upper Class son out of a Knockin Shop sired dam. Taking this one home was local breeder Sam Watson, Ballymena. Meanwhile, another Upper Class son this time out of a Wedderburn dam, sold to County Antrim Breeder, David Anderson.

Jonathan Wales, Cumbria, purchased a Loanhead Ur The Boy son out of a Logie Durno Officer sired dam from the Lornbrook pen of Jim Bell and Diane Christie for his Thackwood flock in Cumbria. This one carried an 1800gns price tag.

The McConnell Brothers sold their best at 1100gns to Tommy Fenton, County Antrim. Their second place from the January-born class and is by Loanhead Ur The Boy out of an Edstaston San Miguel sired dam. Meanwhile, their Hollylodge Voldermort son out of a Ballynoe House Felix sired dam sold for 1050gns to Sam Wasson, County Donegal.

Topping the trade in the females was the section champion from the McConnell Brothers. Sired by Hollylodge Voldemort and out of Rhaeadr

Prospect sired dam, this one sold for 1200gns to Paul Barnes, Ballymote.

Standing first in the shearling ewe class was Glenn Baird's Artnagullion Tornado daughter from his Aghavilly flock. This one is out of a Tullyear dam and sold for 680gns to Albert Ferguson, County Cork. The Aghavilly pen sold seven shearling ewes to average 485gns.

Alistair Moore sold his four ewe lambs to average 600gns, of which three of them sold to Tom Newth, Somerset. Meanwhile, the Iskeymeadow pen of Richard and Harry Powell sold seven ewe lambs to average 557gns.





\* The supreme champion shown by Richard and Harry Powell with Eion Kelly and Mary Harknes representing sponsors Provita Animal health.



\* Sale leader at 4400gns came from the Artnagullion pen of William McAllister.



\* This Arbryn Viper son from Richard and Harry Powell sold for 3400gns.



\* Another from the Iskeymeadow flock sold for 2100gns.

## Averages:

**10 shearling rams £1270**

**81 ram lambs £833.05**

**7 shearling ewes £509.25**

**31 ewe lambs £511.35**

(Dungannon Farmers Market)





\* Graham Foster's best from his Springhill flock sold for 2750gns.



\* The reserved champion lamb from the Springhill flock sold for 2300gns.



\* The third place January-born lamb from the Springhill flock sold for 2100gns.



\* Top price in the Tullyear pen was a Tullyear Untouchable son selling for 3000gns.



\* The next best from the Tullyear pen sold for 2700gns.



\* The female champion came from the McConnell Brothers and topped female trade at 1200gns.





\* Winning the Group of Three class was Graham Foster, Springhill.





# Foulrice tops early Builth sale at 1600gns

Demand for Charollais rams was flying at the NSA Early Ram Sale at the beginning of August, as it returned to the Royal Welsh Showground.

Having taken the championship spot under judge James Amphlett, top price on the day went to Charles and Stephen Marwood's Foulrice flock. This son of Foulrice Osprey was knocked down at 1600gns to J G and E V Roberts from Denbigh, North Wales.

Next best was another from the Foulrice pen, this time a high index son of Cavick Up and Away. This one attracted a 1200gns bid from Neil Oughton, Montgomery, Powys. The 21 Foulrice shearling rams all sold to average £711.50.

A strong pen of shearling rams from Gwyn and Gail Jones' Chepstow-based Springfield flock were in demand to average just short of £900 for seven sold. Their pen leader was a son of Artnagullion Thunderbolt which sold for 1020gns to D G and S A Rees, Ceredigion.

Yorkshire-based Deborah Whitcher's Galtres flock topped at 1100gns selling to Messrs Jones, Brecon, Powys and averaged £726 for 15 sold.

The best of the ram lambs also hit the four-figure mark with most trading around the £400-500 figure. Leading this trade was an Arbryn

Tonto son from R G and R A Jones' Robleston flock. Going to 1000gns was E W Quick and Sons with a half share going to R J and B E Kimber.

G J and J E Williams from the Padest flock had the leading pen of ram lambs. Their 10 performance recorded lambs sold to a top of 780gns to average £638.40.



\* Topping the entire Builth NSA Early Sale at 1600gns was a shearling ram from the Marwood family's Foulrice flock.

## Averages:

**70 shearling rams £678.90**

**41 ram lambs £504.77**

(Hereford Market Auctioneers)

# Bachymbyd flock leads Welshpool

Welshpool ram sale at the end of September saw an excellent clearance rate of 93% for shearling rams and 97% for ram lambs.

## Averages:

**28 shearling rams £551.25**

**28 ram lambs £478.80**

(Welshpool Livestock Sales)

Huw Roberts from the Bachymbyd flock took top price at 900gns for his Mortimer Sultan sired shearling ram, 20YMH02837. This one is out of a Bachymbyd dam and was knocked down to P Hayward, Westbury. The same vendor also took second price at 880gns for another same sired shearling ram, 20YMH02828, selling to C Gethin, Powys.

Taking top price in the ram lamb offering was Geoff Biddulph from the Gawsworth flock at 650gns for a Gawsworth Thomas the Tank Engine sired ram lamb, 21PF03221. This one sold to T Evans, Oswestry.

# The Future's Bright!



## Lodgehill Vanessa

20WWJ 00163

Sire: Rainbow Lindisfarne

Dam: 16WWJ 00048

Her show successes in 2021

Great Yorkshire Show 2021

1st Prize Shearling Ewe

Reserve Female Champion

Highest placed member in Region 3 North of England

Interbreed & Breed Champion, Masham Sheep Fair 2021

Farmers Guardian Online Summer show Sheep winner 2021

Supreme Individual in National Charollais Young Breeders

Online Flock Competition 2021



Ringclare Wildcard 21YBX 00816  
(ARR/ARR)

Purchased Privately from the  
Malcomson family, Northern Ireland

Sire: Loanhead Trademark;  
Worcester Premier Sale Champion  
2018 sold for 9,000gns

His Grand dam is the Famous  
Ballyhibben Lulu



## LODGEHILL CHAROLLAIS

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# Maerdy's champion hits 3500gns at NSA Builth Main Sale

A solid trade for the Charollais breed at the **NSA Builth Main Sale** this year saw averages and clearance well up on 2020 trade, with buyer's looking to reinvest in quality rams following the buoyant prime lamb trade of the season.

The shearling ram offering saw a 91% clearance with the pre-sale champion Maerdy 20WLS02551 topping the sale at 3500gns from Esmor Evans, Mold, Flintshire. Sired by Boyo Uncle Tom, he was bought by the pre-sale show judge Michael Alford for the Alford family's Foxhill flock, Cullompton, Devon.

A strong run of shearling rams forward from Ruthin-based Huw Roberts' Bachymbyd flock saw 20 shearling rams average £979.13 with the leader Bachymbyd 20YMH02833 selling to Charles Marwood for his York-based Foulrice flock. A son of Mortimer Sultan, this one sold at 2600gns.



Close behind him was Bachymbyd 20YMH02851, another son of Mortimer Sultan, who took second prize in the show and sold for 2500gns to Deborah Whitcher, York for her Galtres flock.

Next in at 1700gns was Jedburgh, Roxburghshire-based Robert Whittaker's Hundalee 20XMP04503, who had taken first and reserve champion in the show and with an index EBV of 283.64, he sold to Sarah Ralston, Kelso.

Topping ram lamb trade at 2000gns was Bronwydd 21WAJ00848 from Emyr Hughes, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire. This one is maternal brother to Bronwydd Wild Thing who sold for 2400gns at the 2021 Premier Sale. He caught the eye of Gethin Davies, Ceredigion, for his Moelfryn flock.

Adrian Davies, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, then sold his ET-bred Glyn Coch Warrior at 1500gns. Maternal brother to Glyn Coch Vino who sold at the Premier Sale for 1250gns and a shearling ewe sold to David Roberts for 1350gns, Warrior was bought by N Sheldon, Swansea for his Wrenvale flock.

Meanwhile, Padrig 21WZT05096 from Mr D H and Mrs Mari Williams, Cemaes Bay, Anglesey, sold for 1150gns. This one is a son of Padrig Sergeant Major and sold to O Morgan, Hereford, for commercial use.

## Averages:

**Adult Rams £661.50**

**Shearling Rams £775.16**

**Ram Lambs £500.00**

(Hereford Market Auctioneers)





\* Pre-sale judge Michael Alford of the Foxhill flock with his champion from Esmor Evans' Maerdy flock (right) and reserve from Robert Whittaker's Hundalee flock (left).



\* Topping trade at 3500gns was the champion from the Maerdy flock selling to Michael Alford.



\* Ruthin based - Huw Roberts then sold this Mortimer Sultan son at 2600gns.



\* At 1700gns was the reserve champion from Robert Whittaker.



\* Leading the ram lamb offering at 2000gns was Emyr Hughes.



\* At 1500gns was the best from Adrian Davies' Glyn Coch flock.







## SHOW RESULTS

### Shearling rams:

**1st** G and B Ingram - 20XWY00604 -  
Foxhill Va Va Voom

**2nd** Rigghead Farm - 20HR02956 -  
Rigghead Va Va Voom

**3rd** Mrs N Henderson -  
20VFU06913

### Ram lamb:

**1st** Rigghead Farm - 21HR03844 -  
Rigghead Watch This Space

**2nd** W and C Ingram -  
21ZNN37394

**3rd** James Neil - 21VDU00281

### Ewe:

**1st** G and B Ingram - 19WNC27416

**2nd** W and C Ingram -  
18ZNN22800

**3rd** Mrs N Henderson -  
19ZNN27347

### Shearling ewe:

**1st** G and B Ingram - 20WNC32113

**2nd** W and C Ingram -  
20ZNN32028

**3rd** Rigghead Farm - 20YXR01687

### Ewe lamb:

**1st** Rigghead Farm – 21HR03841

**2nd** Rigghead Farm – 21HR03842

**3rd** G and B Ingram – 21WNC37502

**CHAMPION AND FEMALE CHAMPION** - G and B Ingram's  
ewe – 19WNC27416

**RESERVE CHAMPION AND MALE CHAMPION**

- G and B Ingram's shearling ram  
20XWY00604 – Foxhill Va Va Voom

## Interbreed honours for Logie Durno at The Royal Highland Showcase

A duo of terrific Charollais sheep from the Ingram family, Aberdeenshire, took both the individual and pairs interbreed titles at the Royal Highland Showcase event in June.

The breed and individual champion was a homebred, one-crop ewe sired by Logie Durno Talisman out of a ewe purchased at the Wedderburn dispersal. The male champion who teamed up with the breed champion to take the interbreed pairs winner was their purchase from the Worcester Premier Sale in 2020 in the form of the 16,000gns ram Foxhill Va Va Voom who is by Loanhead Triathlon.

Interbreed judge Blair Cockburn was full of praise for the Charollais entries. "The champion ewe was faultless and had oodles of class with a tremendous carcass. As a pair they were also impressive, with style and all the conformation we are looking for."



\* Taking the breed and interbreed championship honours at the Royal Highland Showcase event was a ewe from Gregor and Bruce Ingram.

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## SHOW RESULTS

### RAM

**1st** Mr G Burrough - 19XXK02052  
- Rhaeadr Ugene

**2nd** Mr R Hopper - 18NF04770 -  
Gogwell Top Gun

**3rd** Mr T Nancekivell -  
17WGN03157 - Robleston Styler

### SHEARLING RAM

**1st** M and M Alford -  
20WXY00606 - **OVERALL**

### CHAMPION AND MALE CHAMP

**2nd** Mr E J Simmons and Miss K  
Esler - 20WNC32142 - Loanhead  
Valegro

**3rd** Mr G Burrough - 20XNR01098

### RAM LAMB

**1st** Mr G Burrough - 21XNR01133

**2nd** Mr R Hopper - 21NF07134

**3rd** Mr R Hopper - 21NF07101

### EWE

**1st** Mr R Hopper - 18NF04724

**2nd** Mr G Burrough -  
18XNR00961

**3rd** Mr T Nancekivell -  
19WWZ03172

### SHEARLING EWE

**1st** Mr G Burrough - 20XNR01086

**2nd** Mr T Nancekivell -  
20WWZ039941

**3rd** Mr J Harding

### EWE LAMB

**1st** Mr G Burrough - 21XNR01153

### - RESERVE CHAMPION AND FEMALE CHAMP

**2nd** Mr E J Simmons and Miss K  
Esler - 21VBR01074

**3rd** Mr E J Simmons and Miss K  
Esler - 21VBR01076

# Interbreed win for Foxhill at Devon County Show

Despite a disrupted show season due to Covid-19 restrictions, South West breeders were fortunate to host their Feature Show, which for 2021 took place at the Devon County Show.

A strong show of Charollais sheep were brought out in front of judge John Andrew of the Rowanston flock based at Maybole, Ayrshire. He found his champion in Cullompton-based Michael and Melanie Alford's shearling ram, Foxhill Vermin 20WXY00606.

This Loanhead Triathlon son is out of a homebred Logie Durno Olympian daughter and was described by the breed judge as having fantastic carcass attributes. He went one step further that day by taking the interbreed championship under Henry Derryman.

Also celebrating a fantastic show having picked up four class wins was Gerald Burrough of the Sheldon flock based at Honiton, Devon. Having won the ewe lamb class with 21XNR01153, a daughter of Foulrice

Uzziah out of a homebred ewe by Foulrice Roderick. She then went on to be female and reserve breed champion.

Adding to the Sheldon flock rosette collection was the first prize aged ram, Rhaeadr Ugene. This 2019-born ram is by Ballyhibben Soft Touch and is out of a Rhaeadr bred ewe by Wernfawr Neo. Loosebeare Tornado was behind the breeding of the winning ram lamb and winner of the shearling ewe class. A half share in Tornado was bought privately from the Quick family and has bred successfully for the Sheldon flock.

Winning the ewe class was Gogwell 18NF04724 from Robert and Pauline Hopper. This one is by Knockin Post Knocker and out of a ewe by a Knighton-bred tup.



\* Taking breed and interbreed championship honours at Devon County Show for the South West Feature Show was Foxhill Vermin, a shearling ram from Michael and Melanie Alford.



\* Clinching the female and reserve breed championship was a ewe lamb from Gerald Burrough's Sheldon flock.



\* Winning the aged ram class was Rhaeadr Ugene from Gerald Burrough.



\* The ram class was won by a son of Loosebeare Tornado from Gerald Burrough.



\* The shearling ewe class was won by Gerald Burrough with a daughter of Loosebeare Tornado.



# oy Tullyear Charollais oy

Breeding for Quality, Breeding for You

**\*OVERALL WINNER OF N.I FLOCK COMPETITION 2021\***

## STOCK SIRES

**DUISKE V MAN:** Purchased at the 2021 Irish Premier Sale in Tullow from the Duiske Flock of Dympna and Gerry Grogan for the record price of 9000 Euros.

Extremely well pleased with his offspring.

**LOGIE DURNO VAN THE MAN:** Continues to produce very smart stylish lambs.

His top three lambs last year selling to 2700gns, 2300gns and 2100gns.

**TULLYEAR UNTOUCHABLE:** A Top Gun son who was placed Champion in the 2021 Northern Ireland Flock Competition. His son sold for 3000gns at Dungannon Premier Sale to the Powerview Flock of Albert Ferguson.

**BOLINASPECT VOLTAGE:** A grandson of the 5200gns Foulrice Nuria.

Voltage offspring have tremendous body and depth of Gigot.

**LOANHEAD WATERBOY:** A son of Arbryn Viper.

Waterboy is a powerful great bodied ram producing lambs of a similar character.

**LOANHEAD TOPGUN:** Progeny selling to a top of 7,500gns.

Lot 81 sired by Tullyear Untouchable sold to the Powerview Flock of Albert Ferguson for 3000gns



Lot 82 sired by Logie Durno Van the Man selling to the Rossgier Flock of Jack Macbeth for 2700gns



**\*DATE FOR DIARY\* TULLYEAR PRODUCTION SALE**  
***Saturday 12th November 2022, Beattie's Livestock Yard.***

**DREW and STEPHEN COWAN**

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# WERNFAWR CHAROLLAIS



*Wernfawrn Warrior, sold at the Premier Sale 2021,  
for 3100gns to Boyo flock*



*2022 lambs sired by Logie Durno Wall St, purchased at  
the 2021 Premier Sale in partnership with Glyn-Coch,  
for 8500gns*

## HIGH FLYERS 2021



*Sold for 3400gns to Arbryn*

*Sold for 2200gns to Cinders*

*Sold for 2200gns to Tullyear*

*Sold for 2200gns to  
Glyn-Coch and St Andras*

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A SELECTION OF FEMALES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE  
AT THE HEREFORD HIGH FLYERS SALE THIS YEAR ON THE 22<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER



# Foxhill clinch interbreed win at Great Yorkshire Show

Following their interbreed win at Devon County Show, the Foxhill flock from Michael and Melanie Alford were yet again out in force at **The Great Yorkshire Show** and took top honours under judge Geoff Biddulph of the Gawsorth flock, Macclesfield, Cheshire.

Leading the way for the Alford family was their shearling ram Foxhill 20XWY00606, better known as Foxhill Vermin. This son of Loanhead Triathlon is out of a home bred ewe by Logie Durno Olympian.

Not only was he the pick on the day for Mr Biddulph, but he also caught the eye of interbreed judge Paul Tippetts who tapped Vermin out to take the overall interbreed championship on the MV day of judging. Mr Tippetts praised the tup for his tremendous fleshing, balance and ease of locomotion.

**The champion has tremendous fleshing and locomotion**

Taking reserve breed honours, having come through as winner of the aged ewe class and female championship, was a Logie Durno-bred ewe 19ZNN27347 from Messrs N, R and S Henderson. This one is by Cannahars Super Star and out of a Riverdale Noble daughter.

Securing the reserve female honours was the winner of the shearling ewe class, Lodgehill 20WWJ00163 from James Danforth. By Rainbow Lindisfarne, she is out of a home bred daughter of Linton Springs One and Only.

Meanwhile, reserve male honours went to the aged ram class winner, Castellau Uncle Tim, from Oliver Chapman.

Bred by Tim Prichard, Uncle Tim is by Sheldon Top Notch and out of a Loanhead Osprey daughter.

Of the other class winners, Charles Sercombe won the ram lamb class with Dalby Whappy Chappy, a son of Dalby Super Trooper, while standing at the top of the class in the ewe lamb class were Gregor and Bruce Ingram from their Loanhead flock.

The Foxhill team were again triumphant taking the red rosette in the Group of Three class with Vermin being joined by their shearling ewe and ewe lamb.





\* Judge Geoff Biddulph deep in thought throughout the classes at the Great Yorkshire Show.







\* Interbreed and breed champion was a shearling ram from Michael and Melanie Alford's Foxhill flock.



\* Michael and Melanie Alford's Foxhill team won the Group of Three class.



\* The reserve male champion came from the Soloby flock of Oliver Chapman.



\* Group of Three judging in full swing at the Great Yorkshire Show.





\* The female and reserve breed championship honours went to Mrs Henderson.



\* The winner of the ram lamb class came from Charles Sercombe.



\* Winning the shearling ewe class was James Danforth.



\* The winner of the ewe lamb class came from Gregor and Bruce Ingram.

## SHOW RESULTS

### Interbreed and breed champion:

M and M Alford's shearling ram

### Reserve breed champion:

Mrs Henderson's ewe

### Reserve male champion:

Oliver Chapman's aged ram

### Reserve female champion:

James Danforth's shearling ewe

### Senior ram

1st Oliver Chapman - 19TZ02670

2nd David Norman - 19VBK00378

### Shearling ram

1st M and M Alford - 20XWY00606

2nd Charles Sercombe - 20PE08770

3rd James Danforth - 20TG00934

### Ram lamb

1st Charles Sercombe - 21PE09567

2nd David Norman - 21XNK02859

3rd Richard Bamforth - 21XXW00322

### Senior ewe

1st Mrs Henderson - 19ZNN27347

2nd G and B Ingram

3rd James Danforth - 17WWJ00085

### Shearling ewe

1st James Danforth - 20WWJ00163

2nd G and B Ingram

3rd M and M Alford - 20XWY00599

### Ewe lamb

1st G and B Ingram

2nd M and M Alford - 21XWY00619

3rd H Sloan

### Group of Three

1st M and M Alford

2nd James Danforth

3rd Charles Sercombe





\* First prize winners from the Great Yorkshire Show.









# SALES AND SHOWS JUDGES 2022

Here's a look at who's judging the key sales and shows this year.

## Worcester Premier Sale - Edward Buckley

Having attended the Worcester Premier Sale since 2010, it's a huge honour to have been invited to judge it. As the longest serving chairman of the Irish Charollais Sheep Society, I have judged the French Premier Sale, Mexico, Northern Ireland Premier Sale, Builth Wells, Skipton Female Sale and the Northern Ireland Flock Competition.

Sheep with presence and muscle catch my eye. I like masculine males and feminine females. I prefer a medium size sheep, easy fleshed with a big back end and a clean head. When it comes to faults, I'm a stickler for short pasterns.

## Dungannon Premier Sale - Charles Sercombe

I've been fortunate and proud to have judged Charollais sheep at all four Royal Shows; The Royal, The Royal Ulster, The Royal Highland and The Royal Welsh.

First and foremost, I'm looking for correct sheep. They also have to be balanced with clean flesh throughout. Once structural correctness has been ticked, I'm then looking for that added bit of show ring presence, style and overall quality, all adding up to the ultimate x-factor! I'm not a particular fan of over fed sheep, they have to be fit for purpose.

## NSA Builth Main Sale - Jim Neil

Presence, shape and skins are what I look for in a Charollais. I pay particular attention to the correctness of legs and feet with a good level top line. A tendency for a weak shoulder can creep in now and again and we must be wary of this.

Within previous judging experiences, it was an honour to judge the Interbreed Pairs class at the last Royal Show and I also really enjoyed judging the Charollais at the Royal Highland, where there were outstanding classes.

## Balmoral and The Three Counties Show - Russell Gray

I like a sheep that will show itself well off a halter and look at you, but at the same time one that is all front and no body is no use either. I like a wide, level sheep that is solid and full of flesh. They have to be naturally showy with a bit of size and power.

I have judged the Charollais Society Premier Sale at Worcester, as well as Turriff, Black Isle, Castlewellan, Ayr and some smaller shows.

## Royal Bath and West Show - Amy Bridle-Pedrick

I have judged sheep at numerous one day shows in the south west as well as judging at county level including Kent in scorching 35c temperatures. I have also had the privilege to judge at the National Charollais Show in Charolles, France.

In a show sheep I am looking for something with style, presence, conformation and characteristics of the breed.

## Royal Highland Show - Alan Kennedy

Presence, width, a tight skin and a good top line are what first take my eye in the show ring. I won't necessarily choose the biggest sheep, but overall good conformation is vital. My attention is always drawn to the correctness of feet, legs and mouth as all three of these need to be right. I also dislike slack shoulders.

During our time with the Parkgate flock, which was dispersed in 2017, we celebrated many successes in the show ring, including winning both the Royal Highland and Great Yorkshire Shows along with clinching the interbreed championship title at Dumfries Show some 10 times.

## Great Yorkshire Show - Tim Prichard

I am most grateful to have the opportunity to judge the Great Yorkshire Show for the first time, having had to withdraw a week before in 2021 due to a shoulder injury.

Having been fortunate to have won all four Royals, winning the final RASE in 2009 has to be a highlight for us, alongside winning the RWAS champion of champions two years running.

When a sheep first enters the show ring it is their overall appearance that first takes my eye. It has to be a sound, smart, fleshy sheep that is correct and square with plenty of style.

## Royal Welsh Show - Jim Jeffrey

Having bred Charollais for 22 years at Bawnard, there is a definite type I look for in a sheep. I like a sharp, showy commercial type which handles well. Tight skins are a must for me along with good feet.

Highlights of my judging experiences include Balmoral Show, The Dungannon Premier Sale and the Northern Ireland flock competition, as well as Builth Wells in 2017. I am yet to judge at the Royal Welsh, so am really looking forward to it this summer.



# Mortimer



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BUILTH MAIN SALE**

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EMAIL: GEOFF.PROBERT1@BTINTERNET.COM**

**JOHN PROBERT  
COVENHOPE FARM  
TEL: 01568 708484  
MOB: 07970 434409**





# Saucy Sale sees 3600gns top for Glyn Coch shearling ewe

Charollais females met a strong demand at the yearly **Saucy Sale** of in-lamb females and ewe lambs at Worcester Livestock Market with McCartneys auctioneer James Amphlett recording clearance rates of 97% for ewe lambs and 96% for shearling ewes.

Topping the shearling ewe offering and sale overall at 3600gns was Adrian Davies, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire.

Glyn Coch 20XCA01541 is by Wernfawr Stormer out of a Brydan ewe that has already produced the 4600gns Glyn Coch Up and Under. She was sold having been AI'd to the 8500gns Logie Durno Wall Street, to David Roberts for his Boyo flock, Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

The second highest priced shearling ewe on the day came from the Edstaston flock of Robert and Jeanette Gregory, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, in the form of the 2600gns Edstaston 20TG00969. This ET-bred Knockin Shockin daughter is out of Edstaston Petunia, an Arbryn Olazabal daughter. Having been scanned with twins to Knockcroghery Vald'isere, she heads across the water to D and S Cowan, Banbridge, Co Down. Next up at 1900gns was Rigghead 20HR02940 from Helen and Hannah Sloan, Collin, Dumfriesshire. By Edstaston Urban Warrior, this

one is out of a homebred female by Banwy Pick of the Crop and was shown successfully at the Royal Highland standing fourth. She was sold having been scanned for twins to Carnew Wisecrack to Steve Stamp, Highbridge, Somerset.

At 1800gns was the pick of the pen from Victoria Sercombe, Frisby-on-the-Wreake, Leicestershire. Micklehills Violet is by Edstaston Tulloch out of one of the flock's most consistent breeders, Micklehills Orla. Ranked in the top 1% for scan weight and top 5% for overall index, she sold having been scanned for twins to Dalby Whappy Chappy to Messrs Jones, Chepstow, Monmouthshire.

Next up at 1500gns was another from the Rigghead pen in the form of Rigghead 20HR02964. By Loanhead Rembrandt, this one was scanned carrying a single to Carnew Wisecrack and caught the eye of Justin Evans, Dinas Powys, Vale of Glamorgan for his Sant Andras flock.

## Ewe lambs

Leading ewe lamb trade at 3500gns was the best from Cullompton, Devon-based Michael and Melanie Alford's Foxhill pen. Foxhill Wild Rose is by Rockvilla Ferrari out of a homebred Logie Durno Olympian daughter. This one joined the top priced shearling ewe selling to David Roberts for his Boyo flock.

Next best at 3400gns was the third lamb in from Inverurie, Aberdeenshire-based William and Carole Ingram in the form of Logie Durno 21ZNN37396. By the 16,000gns Foxhill Va Va Voom, this one is out of a Loanhead Talisman daughter making her full sister to the 8500gns Logie Durno Wall Street and the 10,000gns Logie Durno Washington. Securing this one was Glenn Baird, Arghavilly Charollais, Co Armagh, Northern Ireland.

The Ingram's second lamb, Logie Durno 21ZNN37385, another by Va Va Voom, this time out of a Logie Durno Jackpot daughter, then caught the eye of Declan Miley, Knockcroghery, Co Roscommon, for 3000gns.

Then at 2300gns was another from the Alford family's pen in the form of Foxhill Whitney, a Thackwood U Corker daughter out of a Carthorpe Grand Duke daughter. This one

is the natural sister to the 17,000gns Foxhill Walkabout. This one sold to Sheila Malcomson, Donaghmore, Co Tyrone, Northern Ireland.

Next up at 1500gns was Oswestry, Shropshire-based Abbie Moseley selling Knockin 21XXJ01067. By Knockin Undercover Brother, this one is out of an Oakchurch Ruben daughter and sold to Turret Charollais, Co Cork, Eire.



\* Sale leader at 3600gns was a shearling ewe from Adrian Davies which sold to David Roberts.



\* Topping ewe lamb trade at 3500gns was Foxhill Wild Rose from Michael and Melanie Alford.



\* Selling at 3400gns was Logie Durno 21ZNN37396 from William and Carole Ingram.



\* Taking 2600gns in the shearling ewe offering was Edstaston 20TG00969 from Robert and Jeanette Gregory.



# Charollais High Flyers female sale sets a new record of 7000gns

Charollais females were yet again met with competitive interest across the board at Hereford in October for the **High Flyers Sale**.

Dominating proceedings in the shearling ewe section was Whitland, Carmarthenshire-based Arwyn Thomas whose strong run of 22 females topped the day at 7000gns, setting a new centre record for the breed.

Sale leader was Arbryn 20WRF00701, an Artnagullion Turbo daughter out of a homebred daughter of Shamrock Northern Star. This one was shown successfully as a shearling ewe. She was sold to J Neil and Son, Kelso, Scottish Borders, having been AI'd to the 10,000gns Loanhead Washington.

Next up from the same home at 3400gns was Arbryn 20WRF00704, full sister to the sale leader. This one was AI'd to Arbryn Tonto, a former first prize winner at the Royal Welsh Show in 2019 and caught the eye of Emyr Hughes, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire.

Then at 3100gns was Arbryn 20WRF00723, a Tonto daughter out of Arbryn Rihanna, again by Shamrock Northern Star. Having been AI'd to Loanhead Washington, this one was knocked down to D Lewis, Narbeth, Pembrokeshire.

Next up from the same pen and selling for 2650gns was Arbryn 20WRF00690, a Tonto daughter out of a Dalby bred ewe by Dalby Ranieri. Again AI'd to Washington, this one heads to Tiverton, Devon, with FA and CJ Elsworthy.

Leading the way in the ewe lamb offering at 3400gns was the best from father and son team, David and Paul Curran, Brecon, Powys. Their leader was Wernfawr 21XEV01765, a Glyn Coch Volcano daughter out of a Wernfawr Powerhouse dam. Re-investing some of his previous earn was Arwyn Thomas for his Arbryn flock.

Three ewe lambs from the Curran family's pen then sold for 2200gns, the first being Wernfawr 21XEV01760, another by Volcano and this time out of a homebred daughter of Glyn Coch Night To Remember who has already produced tups to 3100gns and daughters to 1900gns. She heads across the water to D and S Cowan, Co Down, Northern Ireland, for the Tullyear flock.

Also selling at 2200gns was Wernfawr 21XEV01742, a Wernfawr Uptown Funk daughter out of a Wernfawr Nijinsky daughter which heads to Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, with AM and RW Davies, for the Glyn Coch flock.

The final one at this money was another Uptown Funk daughter, Wernfawr 21XEV01770. Out of a daughter by Shamrock Northern Star, this one sold to Ben James, Tenbury Wells, Worcestershire.

Then at 2000gns was the best from Colin and Ros Bowen, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, in the form of Gwyndy 21XPR08196. By Boyo Vancouver, this one is out of a home bred daughter of Wernfawr Rokocoko and sold across the water to Trevor Bell, Comber, Co Down, Northern Ireland.

## Averages:

**54 breeding females £1297.14**

**20 ewe lambs £1125.60**

(Hereford Market Auctioneers)



\* Sale leader was a shearling ewe from Arwyn Thomas selling for a new centre record of 7000gns.



\* At 3400gns was another shearling ewe from Arwyn Thomas' Arbryn pen.



\* Leading ewe lamb trade at 3400gns was David and Paul Curran's Wernfawr flock.



\* Next up selling for 3100gns was another shearling ewe from Arwyn Thomas.



\* Selling for 2000gns was this ewe lamb from Colin Bowen.



# Springhill sets new female record of 5000gns at Dungannon

Charollais females met a strong demand at the **Dungannon Female Sale**, with enthusiastic buyers from both Southern Ireland and the UK.

The first couple of lots in from the Springhill flock of Graham Foster took the two top prices of the day. The first lot in the ring was an in-lamb shearling ewe by Logie Durno Untouchable and out of a Rhaeadr dam. She sold for the top price of 5000gns to David Roberts, Shropshire, setting a female Charollais breed record for Dungannon.

Next in was another Untouchable daughter this time out of a Lisfuncheon dam, which sold for 3500gns to David Anderson, Bushmills, making an average of 4250gns for the two on offer.

William McAllister put forward a strong pen of ewes from his Artnagullion flock which were in high demand. Top price in this pen was a powerful Loanhead Upper Class daughter out of a homebred dam, which sold for 2500gns to Tom Newth, Somerset.

Meanwhile another Upper Class daughter out of a home bred ewe sold to County Armagh breeder Glenn Baird for 1650gns, while County Tyrone-based Benjamin Bingham went to 1260gns for his pick of the Artnagullion pen, in the form of a Knockin Shop daughter. The Artnagullion pen averaged 1062gns for 10 sold.

Ian Craig's Ballynoe House flock had a good day's trading with another Loanhead Upper Class daughter out of a home bred ewe selling for 1250gns to Richard Powell for his Iskeymeadow flock.

Jerrettspass-based breeder John Waddell also took his pick from the Ballynoe House pen purchasing another Upper Class daughter for 1100gns. Meanwhile, another by Upper Class and out of a home bred ewe went to Roscommon-

based breeder Michael Regan for 1000gns. The Ballynoe House flock averaged 984gns for five sold.

County Down breeder Sarah Riley sold her best at 1040gns. This one is by Castellau One In A Million, out of a home bred ewe and caught the eye of Drew and Stephen Cowan for their Tullyear flock.

David and Liz Mawhinney sold their best from their Rockvilla pen to Richard Powell, County Armagh. This one was an Artnagullion Trojan daughter which was knocked down at 820gns.

Of the ewe lambs on offer, Graham Foster's Springhill flock once again made the headlines with a Springhill Vodka daughter setting the top price for ewe lambs selling to T Henderson, Londonderry for 2100gns.

Meanwhile, a full ET sister sold to Southern breeder Michael Power for 1900gns, while another from the same pen heads across the water to Ben Radley, Dumfries for 950gns.

This one is a Rhaeadr Undercover daughter and out of a Springhill dam. The last in the Springhill pen was a full ET sister which sold for 900gns to James Reid, Ballymoney. Springhill averaged 1011gns for eight sold.

The Hollylodge pen of the McConnell Brothers sold their top ewe lamb at 1100gns. This Loanhead Ur The Boy daughter sold to Kenneth Kennedy, County Wexford.

County Cork breeder James Walsh made his choice from the Hillside pen of Alistair Moore in the form of a Gorteen Unique daughter out of a home bred ewe selling for 1020gns.

Wesley Cousins purchased two Rockdale Tornado daughters from Norman McMordie for his Botera flock, the first sold for 1300gns, while the other was knocked down at 1200gns.

Topping the Riverdale pen was an Edstaston Ultravox daughter which sold for 1050gns to Rebecca McBratney. The Riverdale pen averaged 1183gns for three sold.

## Averages:

**46 in-lamb ewes 860gns**

**67 ewe lambs 543gns**



\* Setting a new female centre record at 5000gns was an in-lamb shearling ewe from Graham Foster.



\* Another Untouchable daughter from the Springhill flock of Graham Foster sold for 3500gns.



\* A Loanhead Upper Class daughter from William McAllister's Artnagullion flock sold for 2500gns.

**UA**

## WOLSTON CHAROLLAIS

*MV Accredited ~ Signet Recorded  
~ Scrapie Monitored*



**Saturday 15  
October 2022**



### Sires Used:

**18UA01022 - Wolston Toby**

(Sire: 16DG06349 Foulrice Regis)

**21ZNN37387 - Logie Durno Warrior**

(Sire: 20XWY00604 - Foxhill Va Va Voom)

**STOCK FOR SALE**

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**NSA BUILTH I - Monday 1st August**  
FIRST SOCIETY SALE OF PEDIGREE  
CHAROLLAIS RAMS

~

**NSA BUILTH II - Monday 19th September**  
SECOND SOCIETY SALE OF PEDIGREE  
CHAROLLAIS RAMS

~

**"HIGH FLYERS" SALE**  
**Saturday 22nd October**  
SALE OF PEDIGREE CHAROLLAIS FEMALES

~

**WEEKLY TUESDAY STORE SHEEP SALES**  
BREEDING EWES  
STORE LAMBS  
BREEDING RAMS  
EWES & LAMBS



# Strong demand at Tullyear Production Sale

Northern Irish Charollais breeders witnessed a fantastic end to female sales for this year with another record broken, this time at the Tullyear Production Sale with the guest consignment of ewe lambs from the Springhill flock of Graham Foster achieving a top of 8100gns.

Sale leader was Springhill What A Beauty, an ET daughter of Springhill Vodka selling to the Boyo flock of David Roberts, Shropshire, setting a new breed record for a ewe Lamb.

An ET sister sold to the Shanaghon flock of James Walsh, Cork, for 3600gns, while another followed at 1800gns to Raymond Douglas, Monaghan. Some 14 ewe lambs from Springhill averaged 1687gns.

The current trend of on-line bidding proved very successful with 46 sheep being exported to UK and Southern Ireland.

The Dalby Tarquin daughters in the Tullyear pens caught the eye of several breeders with Tullyear Viola being the favourite selling at 3800gns to the Martin Family, Enniskillen.

Top Price of the Loanhead Topgun daughters was a big powerful ewe selling to Richard and Harry Powell for 2000gns. Meanwhile, a smart Dalby Tarquin daughter was knocked down to Jim and Joseph Quail for 1550gns.

Another Topgun daughter was the choice for Cork-based breeder Eddie Buckley who went to 1500gns. Meanwhile, another Topgun daughter sold to J Foster for 1350gns.



\* Leading the Tullyear female sale was a guest consignment from Graham Foster in the form of the 8100gns Springhill What A Beauty.

Thomas McCormack, Strokestown, went to 1340gns to purchase another Loanhead Topgun daughter with great maternal bloodlines and 1080gns for a Dalby Tarquin daughter.

Then Armagh breeder Glenn Baird paid out 1200gns for a big powerful Topgun daughter in-lamb to Logie Durno Van The Man.

A big thank you must then go to Richard Powell of the Iskeymeadow flock who purchased Tullyear Valentine, money from which is going to Children's Heartbeat Trust.

The flock's stock ram Loanhead Topgun generated a lot of interest on the day selling for 2050gns to a consortium of Southern Breeders.



\* The second highest at 3600gns was an ET-bred sister to the top price of the sale.



\* Leading the Tullyear offering at 3800gns was a Dalby Tarquin daughter.



\* This Loanhead Topgun daughter from the Tullyear pen sold for 2000gns.

# Foulrice leads Skipton female sale at 1400gns

As shearling ewe from Charles Marwood and family's Foulrice flock scooped championship honours at the **Skipton Female Sale**, as well as taking the top price on the day of 1400gns.

This Foulrice Prelude daughter was sold carrying twins to the high index Foulrice Vunipola, a Sheldon Supreme grandson, whose own dam is a Dalby Sherman daughter. Taking this one home was pre-sale judge Oliver Chapman, Louth, for his Soloby flock.

Kenton Foster, Leyburn, had a run of shearling ewes which topped at 680gns. By a Thackwood tup, this one had been scanned carrying twins to a Loanhead sire and sold to Cyril Dougherty.

Shropshire-based Chris Crowther sold a Knockin Umptuous daughter in-lamb to Mortimer Ulysses for 580gns, also selling to Cyril Dougherty for the Shamrock flock.

Heading ewe lamb trade at 480gns was Cumbrian-based David Norman with a lamb by a Hillside tup. This one became another acquisition by the judge.

## Inverae flock

### Charollais breeding Sires:

**Edstaston Ultra Gold (19TG00858)** - EBV top 1% - Son of Knockin Shockin.

**Lowerye Wyven (21ZVY07731)** - top 1% - purchased for his great gigots.

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\* Judge Oliver Chapman with his champion and reserve from the pre-sale show.

## Averages:

In-lamb shearling ewes **£540**

Ewe lambs **£396**

Aged ewes **£350**

(CCM Auctions)



# New look Charollais Young Breeders

The Charollais Sheep Society has always welcomed younger breeders to the Society, but as a result of a recent Council meeting, a more defined role for a collective group of young members has been launched.

## AIMS

The aim of Charollais Young Breeders is to encourage young sheep farmers in the breeding of Charollais sheep, while educating and developing their skills in a range of industry related subjects.

Society secretary Carroll Barber explains: "Committee members will be invited to pitch their ideas and suggestions to Council and take on roles at national level. The Society also expects them to motivate young breeders to take part in shows, sales and industry events"

There will be three categories of membership for Charollais Young Breeders, open to anyone between the ages of 10 and 30 (inclusive).

### Category 1 - Free Digital Membership

Take part in all activities and receive all publications in digital format.

### Category 2 - Printed Publications Membership

Take part in all activities and receive all publications in printed format.

*Fee for this category – first year free of charge (if paid by Direct Debit), subsequent years £12 (no VAT).*

### Category 3 - Full Membership

All benefits of Society Membership plus membership of the Young Breeders Group. Ability to register your own flock and register lambs, as well as take part in special classes at shows and sales.

*Fee for this category £50 + VAT*

There will be a special class at Worcester Premier Sale open only for the young members with a registered flock. For 2022 we will offer every young breeder one free entry.

## OPERATION

- \* A committee will be elected from these members to steer the group with a chairperson elected by the committee.
- \* The chairperson will hold office for two years, after which they are not eligible for re-election.
- \* The Society will appoint a co-ordinator to help with organisation of meetings, events and communication with the Society.
- \* The chairperson will be invited to contribute to Council on a regular basis.

The new Society website will have a dedicated area for this group, so keep an eye out for more news on electing a committee and proposed events for 2022 and beyond.





**Elmwick Up Front  
(19DQ02131)  
Reserve Champion Built II**



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# Regional Roundup

Ahead of the Society's spotlight focus on individual regions in the October issue, this edition of Charollais Matters introduces the seven regions of the UK to those members who may have recently joined the Society.

Below you'll find a breakdown of key contacts, an introduction to the chairman of each region, as well as key dates for activities within that region throughout the year.

## Scotland

**Chairman:** Russell Gray – Leelaw flock  
Email: [langside15@gmail.com](mailto:langside15@gmail.com)  
Tel: 01555 662613

**Vice Chair:** Vacant

**Secretary:** Margaret Gray – Leelaw flock

**Total membership:** 58

**Region covers:** Aberdeenshire / Angus / Argyllshire / Ayrshire / Banffshire / Berwickshire / Caithness / Dumfries & Galloway / Dumfriesshire / Lanarkshire / Moray / Orkney / Perthshire / Roxburghshire / Scottish Borders / Stirlingshire / Wigtownshire

### Key events

**Shows:** Royal Highland Show – 23–26 June 2022

**Sales:** Carlisle ram sale – 26 August 2022  
Logie Durno production sale – 29th October 2022

**Other events:** A flock competition will be held this year with more details to follow.

### Meet the chairman

“We grow mainly grass for silage and grazing, with spring barley and/or stubble turnips used as a break crop, some 30 years ago potatoes were the preferred break crop. We run 170 pedigree ewes with a view to breeding shearlings to sell at Kelso Ram Sales. Included in that number are 35 Charollais, 55 Suffolks and 80 Texels, with the Charollais flock established in 1995. Alongside the sheep we run 140 Ayrshire/Red and White Holstein dairy cows plus 250 followers. Our son Matthew also has an ever-expanding flock of Wellsummer hens.”

 @ Scottish Charollais Sheep

## North of England

**Chairman:** David Norman – Kirkhouse flock  
Email: [davidkirkhouse@gmail.com](mailto:davidkirkhouse@gmail.com)  
Tel: 01900 821312

**Vice Chair:** Deborah Whitcher – Galtres flock

**Secretary:** Anna McTear

**Total membership:** 75

**Region covers:** Blackpool / Bury / Cumbria / Durham / E. Yorkshire / N. Yorkshire / S. Yorkshire / W. Yorkshire / Isle of Man / Lancashire / Northumberland

### Key events

**Shows:** Great Yorkshire Show – 12–15 July 2022


**Sales:** Skipton Female sale – 8 October 2022

**Other events:**

- \* A flock competition will be going ahead with details to follow
- \* Region meeting in April TBC
- \* Social get together in June TBC

### Meet the chairman

“I run the Kirkhouse flock with my wife Lana and son Johnathan, farming 330 acres of National Trust land under the higher level Stewardship scheme. We used to farm higher in the Lake District (about 3000 feet above sea level), but we have recently moved lower down to about 1000 feet. The farm enterprise consists of a Herdwick and Herdwick/Charollais commercial flock totalling 300 head and a pure Charollais flock of about 20 ewes. The commercial flock was established in the 1980, followed by the Charollais in 2001. The Charollais are lambed in December and January, followed by the commercial flock in April and May.”

 @ Charollais sheep, Region 3, North of England



## Central

**Chairman:** Cecil Thomas – Wolston flock  
Email: thomas.wolston42@outlook.com  
Tel: 07442 533899

**Vice Chair:** David Roberts – Boyo flock

**Secretary:** Will Price

**Total membership:** 78

**Region covers:** Cheshire / Gloucestershire / Herefordshire / Leicestershire / Oxfordshire / Shropshire / Staffordshire / Warwickshire / Worcestershire

## Key events

**Shows:** Three Counties Show 17 – 19 June 2022

**Sales:** Worcester Premier Sale – 2 July 2022  
Shrewsbury ram sale – 28 July 2022

**Private sales:** Females with Figures – 11 June 2022  
Saucy Sale – 15 October 2022  
Hereford High Flyers – 22 October 2022

**Other events:** April (date TBC) will see a trimming day at the Elmwick flock of Jennifer Curtis. Members can bring their own sheep.

## Meet the chairman

“Later this year I will be coming to the end of my term as regional chairman, so a comparison with my first term as chairman from 1994-96 might be interesting. Our flock started in 1986 to replace the commercial sheep on the farm at that time. The farm is 290 acres and at that time we had a herd of 100 pedigree dairy cows plus followers. The Charollais flock was built up to 50 lambing ewes and has been maintained at that number. The dairy cows were sold in 2014 and now arable and beef finishing enterprises are run alongside the Charollais. We started Signet recording in 1992 with experience of breeding cows and milk recording showing that weighing and scanning can work.

During my first period as chairman meetings were held at regular intervals with 30-40 people in attendance and a range of guest speakers. The recent impact of Covid-19 restrictions has meant meetings have now taken place at home via screens. As restrictions reduce, I urge the newer and younger members to get involved in meeting fellow breeders, as Janette and I have had a lifetime of interest and friendships through the breed.”

 @ Central Region Charollais Sheep





## East of England

**Chairman:** Stuart Dunkley – Hyde flock  
Email: stuartdunkley@btinternet.com  
Tel: 01604 862338

**Vice Chair:** Mitchel Britten – Cavick flock

**Secretary:** Oliver Chapman – Soloby flock

**Total membership:** 75

**Region covers:** Bedfordshire / Buckinghamshire / Cambridgeshire / Derbyshire / Essex / Hampshire / Kent / Leicestershire / Lincolnshire / Norfolk / Nottinghamshire / Rutland / Suffolk / Surrey / Sussex / Wellingborough

### Key events

**Shows:** Royal Norfolk Show – 29 – 30 June 2022  
Suffolk Show – 31 May – 1 June 2022

**Other events:**

- \* Regional AGM in the Spring, likely to be late April at Wychems flock of Kenny Titmus. There will be a tour of the farm and an interactive session with Elizabeth Barber and George Hoggard on how to improve your flock presence on Social Media.
- \* Flock competition will be going ahead, details to follow.



### Meet the chairman

“Hyde Farm has recently undergone significant change and now only extends to 70 acres, with an additional 60 acres taken for seasonal grazing. Due to change, we now only have eight ewes! Alongside our small flock we breed and finish a herd of rare and native breed cattle, mainly Dexters and a recently established herd of pedigree Speckle Park cows.”

 @Charollais Eastern Region Breeders

## Wales

**Chairman:** Adrian Davies – Glyn Coch flock  
Email: Adrian.davies@apha.gsi.gov.uk  
Tel: 07796 352304

**Vice Chair:** Emyr Hughes – Bronwydd flock

**Secretary:** Carys Davies

**Total membership:** 106

**Region covers:** Anglesey / Carmarthenshire / Ceredigion / Denbighshire / Dyfed / Flintshire / Glamorgan / Gwynedd / Monmouthshire / Pembrokeshire / Powys / Swansea

### Key events

**Shows:** Royal Welsh Show – 18–21 July 2022

**Sales:** Builth I – 1 August 2022  
Builth II – 19 September 2022  
Welshpool Ram sale – 29 September 2022  
Welshpool Female sale – 7 November 2022

**Other events:**

- \* Flock visit in the spring – TBC
- \* Flock competition will be going ahead, details to follow.

### Meet the chairman

“We are a mixed beef and sheep farming enterprise, running 130 head of beef cattle whereby we buy beef bulling heifers in at approximately 18 months old and sell them after they calf. Alongside the cattle we run some 120 breeding ewes with the aim of selling 50 rams a year mainly as ram lambs. The flock was established in 1996 with the purchase of a Crogham ewe bought in Banbury and then the purchase of four ewe lambs from Emrys Bowen. Some breeders may not know this, but I only went into sheep farming when my rugby career finished due to having several knee operations, I’d have loved to be a livestock auctioneer, but my memory for names is not great!”

 @Welsh Region Charollais Sheep

## South West England

**Chairman:** Amy Pedrick – Churchill flock  
Email: amypedrick@btinternet.com  
Tel: 07854 611090

**Vice Chair:** Tom Newth – Prestleigh flock

**Secretary:** Mrs Amelia Watts – Willow flock

**Total membership:** 75

**Region covers:** Bristol / Cornwall / Devon / Dorset / Exeter / Isle of Wight / Somerset / Wiltshire

### Key events

**Shows:** Royal Bath and West Show (Regional focus show) 2-4 June 2022  
Royal Cornwall Show – 9-11 June 2022  
Devon County Show – 30 June – 2 July 2022

**Sales:** Exeter NSA ram sale – 17 August 2022  
Exeter female sale – 7 October 2022

#### Other events:

- \* We are holding an event on 7th May near Bristol and it will include discussions on breed characteristics, what's being looked at in an inspection, a trimming demo, nutrition for your sheep pre flushing and AI work by Harbro.
- \* Flock competition will be going ahead, details to follow.
- \* The multitude of one day shows will be taking place throughout the summer, so it will be great to see as many members as possible out showing.



### Meet the chairman

"Churchill Farm is 100 acres of permanent pastureland within a national park; a special site of scientific interest and an area of outstanding natural beauty. It has far reaching views of Dartmoor and has an award winning caravan and campsite. The Churchill flock consists of 40 breeding pedigree ewes and was established in 1999. Other enterprises include beef cattle and a flock of pedigree Beltex and then commercial sheep for producing Christmas primestock lambs. Outside of my farming roll, I teach full time and I'm a school governor to a group of primary schools."

 @ South West Charollais Sheep

## Northern Ireland

**Chairman:** Sheila Malcomson – Ringclare flock  
Email: sheilam29@hotmail.com  
Tel: 028 406 51676

**Vice Chair:** Norman McMordie – Riverdale flock

**Secretary:** Rebecca McBratney – Ashtonelle flock

**Total membership:** 93

**Region covers:** Co. Antrim / Co. Armagh / Co. Derry / Co. Down / Co. Fermanagh / Co. Londonderry / Co. Tyrone

### Key events


**Shows:** Balmoral Show – 11-14 May 2022

**Sales:** Dungannon Premier Sale – 25 July 2022  
Ballymena ram sale – 19 September 2022  
Dungannon Export female sale – 31 October 2022  
Tullyear Production Sale – 12th November 2022

**Other events:** The flock competition will be going ahead with details to follow.

### Meet the chairman

"Our farm is a family-owned business, with Kenny, Geoffrey (our son) and myself. We have a herd of 140 pedigree Holstein Friesian cows plus followers running alongside 50 pedigree Charollais ewes and we grow some cereals as the land rotation allows. We farm 100 hectares in total which are part owned and rented. We began to breed Charollais in 1993 with two ewes purchased from the late Pat McAllister, Glenarm – the rest is history!"

 @NI Charollais Sheep



ZEG

# Riverdale

ZEG

## Breeding high index sheep with a touch of class

*After a bumper crop of ewe lambs in 2021 we have a selection of shearlings for sale.*



**Edstaston Ultravox** - Index 297 - purchased for 4,000gns, ram lambs sold to 1300gns and ewe lambs to 1050gns.

**Micklehills Wheatley** - Index 375  
**Ballyhibben Wingman** - 5 star LambPlus.

All lambs are from Ultravox daughters to  
**Loanhead Ur the Boy** - Index 321

**Ewe lamb sold to W Cousins for 1300gns**

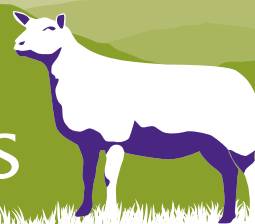
McMordie Family, 3 Riverdale Lane, Saintfield, Co. Down, N. Ireland BT24 7JG  
 Tel: Norman 028 97511181 ~ Mobile: 07836 362029

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# LEELAW

CHAROLLAIS



# YUX

2019 GYS CHAMPION



2017 GYS CHAMPION



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 Lanark, Lanarkshire ML1 1 9TZ  
 Telephone: 07973 404 962

Dalby Rhapsody, brood  
ewe supreme and her  
daughter, Dalby Tutti  
Frutti who sold at the  
Dalby Coral Sale in 2021  
for 12,500gns

Six Rhapsody daughters  
averaged £3400 at the  
Dalby Coral Sale

# DALBY CHAROLLAIS

Dalby Woki Poki, son of Dalby  
Veainu out of Dalby Tutti Frutti

GYS 2021 ram lamb winner,  
Dalby Whappy Chappy out of  
Dalby Rhapsody

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Tel: 01664 434760 Mob: 07836 385139 E: [charles.sercombe@btopenworld.com](mailto:charles.sercombe@btopenworld.com)

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150



# A record breaking year for Irish Charollais breeders

In the first of our Charollais World Focus features, Charollais Matters takes a look at the breed's success across the water in Ireland with the recently appointed secretary of the Irish Charollais Sheep Society, **Paula O'Leary**



\* Setting a new breed record in 2021 was Gerry and Dymphna Grogan selling a shearling ram for €9000.



\* The supreme champion at the Premier Sale from Liam Conway.



\* Frank Jordan's reserve supreme champion at the Premier Sale.



**How does the Society operate in Ireland?**



The Irish Charollais Sheep Society has been established for more than 30 years and works as one Society without any regional clubs.

The committee works on a three-year term basis with Stewart Thompson as Chairman and Douglas Shekleton as Society Treasurer with six other elected committee members on board.



**Are the numbers of Charollais breeders growing?**



Currently we have in excess of 300 members which is increasing rapidly, noticeably with youngsters joining who are seeing Charollais top the trade in the marts as well as the prices fetched at our pedigree sales.

## Q How has trade been over the last year?

**A** The Premier Sale is held annually at the end of July. This is the first sale of the season with sections for ewe lambs, shearling ewes, ram lambs and shearling rams.

Last year saw Society records smashed with a call of €9000 for a shearling ram from Gerry and Dympna Grogan and he crossed the border into Northern Ireland. Sinead and Eoin Brophy sold their ram lamb at €5000, with my partner Ger and I coming in at €4700 for a ram lamb.

Females were fiercely sought also with the reserve supreme champion of the sale being a ewe lamb from Frank Jordan fetching €2100.

There are various other regional sales in different localities, all of which are open to all of our members. These conclude with a female sale the last Saturday in October of in-lamb ewes and ewe lambs.

## Q Which would be your most supported shows?

**A** The All Ireland Championship at Clillin Hill is held in May in conjunction with the NSBA championships and sees a full day of Charollais classes being judged including commercial sheep and young handler's classes.

Tullamore is held in mid-August which is equally well supported. Then we move to the National Ploughing Championship in September which is set up similarly to the National Sheep Association events, with Society's invited to host a stand with a couple of pens of sheep.

We generally take a pen of purebred rams and a pen of ewes with crossbred lambs at foot to showcase the full characteristics of the breed.

## Q How is the breed positioned within the Irish sheep industry?

**A** Charollais are close to the top and would be static in this position for some time with our main competition being Suffolks and Texels.

Our crossbreeding market is rapidly expanding with the popularity of the Charollais x Suffolk or Suffolk crossbred ewe being a main player now within the industry, mainly due to the speed at which the lambs finish versus the current rising costs of fertiliser and feed. The butcher here also looks for the Charollais carcass due to their quality and little waste.

The gene pool within the breed is pretty healthy with a good number of different bloodlines to use. There are a good number of sheep being imported from France and a lot of sheep are being sold into Northern Ireland.





## What is the Society focus going forward?



The number of young members within the Society is growing at a considerable pace and we hope to run some young breeder's events to encourage their interest and keep engaged with the next generation of breeders. We are lucky to have such a lot of interest in the breed and will look to inspire this as best we can.

The records kept by Sheep Ireland are an excellent guide to the direction in which the national flock is heading with weights recorded at birth, 40 days, 100 days as well as at weaning, all giving terminal and replacement values which feed in to genotyping also.

The CPT progeny testing program also determines carcass weights from semen used within commercial flocks with crossbred ewes. The outcomes of both of these are a really good guide for the direction in which we are going.


We are yet to have a Society flock competition and this is definitely something we will consider in the future, allowing whole flocks to compete against each other and to encourage those who are unable perhaps to attend shows to have judges come to them instead.

On the whole, we will look to continue increasing sales and production and promoting the many good points of the breed.

### For more information on the Irish Charollais Sheep Society

Visit their website at <http://irishcharollais-sheep.net>

Follow on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/IrishCharollaisSheepSociety/>






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### 2022 CHAROLLAIS SOCIETY SHEEP SALES

Thursday 29th September  
Society Ram Sale

Monday 7th November  
Society In Lamb Ewes & Ewe Lambs



**Welshpool Livestock Sales**  
Buttington Cross, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 8SR.  
[www.welshpoolsmithfield.co.uk](http://www.welshpoolsmithfield.co.uk)  
[info@welshpoolsmithfield.co.uk](mailto:info@welshpoolsmithfield.co.uk)  
Tel: 01938 553 438



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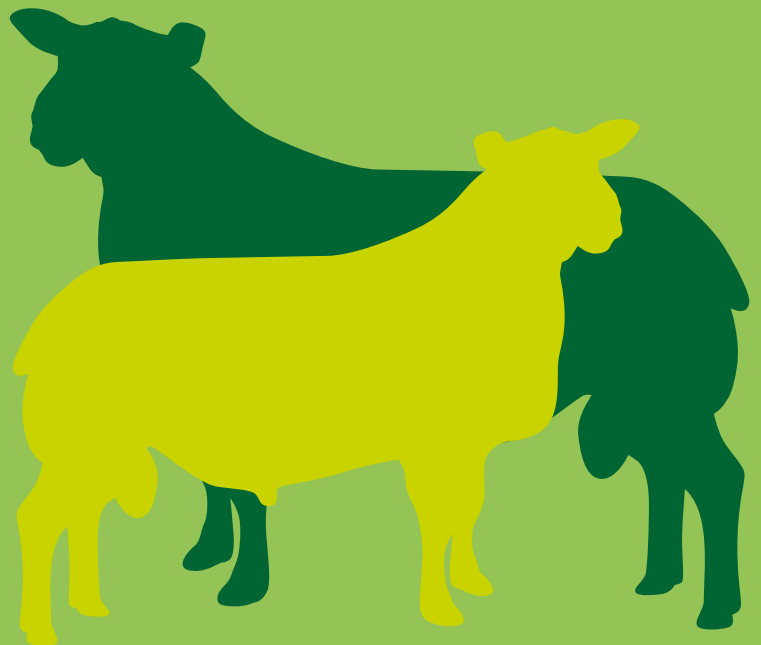


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# GWYNDY

Colin & Ros Bowen - Tel: 07773 797411

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*xpr*



*xpr*

*Robbleston Vrondi (20WGN04887)*

Vrondi is our exciting new prospect for this year with his January lambs looking very promising.



Ram lamb by **Boyo Vancouver** sold privately to Graham Foster



Ewe lamb by **Boyo Vancouver** sold at the High Flyers Sale in Hereford to Trevor Bell

## *Semen for Sale*

*Gwyndy, Llandeloy, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire SA62 6LP*  
*Email: [cbgwyndy@outlook.com](mailto:cbgwyndy@outlook.com)*



# CAVICK

## *Charollais Sheep*

We will have a number of females for sale on farm and at Society sales, including the **Females With Figures** sale at Worcester on the 11<sup>th</sup> June.



### CAVICK WHAT A BOY

Sold at the 2021 Premier Sale for 15,000gns to Bachymbyd, Maerdy, Mortimer and Oakchurch

### *Other Premier Sale successes:*

Cavick What About That - 2800gns  
Cavick Watermelon Sugar - 2400gns

### STOCK RAMS

#### LOANHEAD VANQUISH

Lambs by Vanquish will be forward at the 2022 Premier Sale at Worcester

#### OAKCHURCH VOLDEMORT

An exciting new sire purchased from Jeremy Price

### CONTACT

Mitch - 07769 803642  
Elizabeth - 07557 024291  
Cavick House Farm,  
Wymondham, Norfolk NR18 9PJ



CavickCharollais





# *Wrenvale Charollais - XGY*

MV Accredited



## ***Service Sires 2022:***

**Wrenvale Mad for Lizzie - 12XGY00130**

**Glyn Coch Vagabond - 20XCA01542**

**Glyn Coch Warrior - 21XCA01767 (pictured above)**

**Nigel Sheldon**

**2 Bryn Brain Road, Cwmllynfell, Swansea SA9 2WF**

**Tel: 01269 826700 ~ Mobile : 07974 108545**

**Email: [wrenvale@aol.com](mailto:wrenvale@aol.com)**

# ARWYN & JANE THOMAS

Fferm Bryngwyn, Whitland, Carmarthenshire SA34 0EB

Tel: 01994 240261 - 07974 433295

Email: arwyn.1@btinternet.com

## SERVICE SIRES



Arbryn Tonto, first prize shearling ram RWAS 2019. Daughter sold for 3100gns at High Flyers 2021 and he was the service sire of many of the top priced lots on the day. Also the sire of Arbryn Viper.

Loanhead Washington purchased in partnership with Robleston for 10,000gns at the 2021 Premier Sale.

## HEREFORD HIGH FLYERS



Sale leader on the day at 7000gns, sold to Runningburn



Sold for 3400gns to Bronwydd

Sold for 3100gns to Pembroke





**XCR**  
*Ashtonelle flock*  
*Rebecca McBratney*

110 Green Road, Bangor, Co. Down BT19 7QA  
Tel: 07801 894434 ~ Email: [rsa.mcb@icloud.com](mailto:rsa.mcb@icloud.com)



**Ewe Lamb**  
(21XCR00694)

*Pedigree*  
*Charollais*  
*& Ryeland*

**VKK**  
*Ashtongreen flock*  
*Harold McBratney*

110 Green Road, Bangor, Co. Down BT19 7QA  
Tel: 07710 692837 ~ Email: [harold.mcbratney@gmail.com](mailto:harold.mcbratney@gmail.com)

**Artnagullion Trojan**  
(18ZGQ03561) - Champion  
stock ram N. Ireland Region  
flock competition 2019



*Stock &*  
*Semen for sale*



# Oakchurch



**Cavick What A Boy, purchased in partnership for 15,000gns  
at the Premier Sale, 2021**



**Lambs by "What A Boy" are showing great promise for 2022 sales ...**

## *All roads lead to Oakchurch*

Jeremy Price  
Oakchurch Farm, Staunton-on-woye,  
Hereford, HR4 7NE  
T: 01981500038  
M: 07788454454  
E: [jeremy@oakchurchfarm.co.uk](mailto:jeremy@oakchurchfarm.co.uk)



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## SALE DATES

### **Worcester Premier Sale and Females**

2nd July

### **Dungannon Export Sale**

25th July

### **Shrewsbury Sale**

28th July

### **Builth Wells NSA Early Sale**

1st August

### **Exeter NSA Sale**

17th August

### **Carlisle Sale and Females**

26th August

### **Builth Wells NSA Main Sale**

19th September

*(Show on the 18th September)*

### **Ballymena Sale**

19th September

### **Welshpool Sale**

29th September

## IN-LAMB EWE AND EWE LAMB SALES

### **Exeter Sale**

7th October

### **Skipton Sale**

8th October

### **Dungannon Export Sale**

31st October

### **Welshpool Sale**

7th November

## PRIVATE SALES

### **Females with Figures**

11th June

### **Worcester Saucy Sale**

15th October

### **Hereford High Flyers**

22nd October

### **Logie Durno and Loanhead Production Sale**

29th October

### **Tullyear Production Sale**

12th November

## SHOW DATES

### **Balmoral Show**

11th - 14th May

### **Royal Bath and West**

*(South West Regional Show)*

2nd - 4th June

### **Royal Three Counties Show**

17th – 19th June

### **Royal Highland Show**

23rd – 26th June

### **Great Yorkshire Show**

12th – 15th July

### **Royal Welsh Show**

18th – 21st July

## NSA SHEEP EVENTS

### **NSA Scot Sheep**

1st June

### **NSA Sheep**

27th July

## CONTACT

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**Email:** [carroll@charollais sheep.com](mailto:carroll@charollais sheep.com)

**Office:** Charollais Sheep Society, Youngmans  
Road, Wymondam, NR18 ORR

**Web:** [www.charollais sheep.com](http://www.charollais sheep.com)