

# SWALEDALE SHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



## A word or two from the Chairman...

**2020 Saw 100 years of the SSBA and was to have been a year of celebrations, however as we are all very well aware Covid-19 put a stop to all that, and normal life in general, no shows and lockdowns and many restrictions were the norm.**

One celebration we did have was at The Castle Green Hotel in January when our then secretary John Stephenson had a surprise party! Farmers and other industry figures from all over the country attended and a great night was had by all. May I take this opportunity to thank John for his many years of service and dedication to the Association, and whilst we still expect to see plenty of him, on behalf of the Association may I wish him and Pamela all the very best in the future.

Thankfully the autumn sheep sales went well with good demand for all classes of

breeding sheep and prices higher than for a while. The ram sales also went pretty well with good clearance and higher prices for many. I was very worried for a while that the ram sales would not go ahead but thankfully, we got them all over with just in time before the second lockdown.

A more worrying aspect of Brexit has just surfaced in that sheep going to Northern Ireland after the end of December could face a glitch, now we effectively have the Irish sea as a border, we are hearing that technically once we have left the EU all sheep should come from Scrapie monitored flocks or be

geno-tested as an A. It takes seven years to become fully Scrapie monitored! All the farming unions of the four nations are pushing for a derogation but at the time of writing we have no further information. Members will be kept informed.

May I take this opportunity to thank Council, Rachel and everyone who has helped the Association in any way and also thank the Auction companies for their hard work getting the sales to run as smooth as possible under the circumstances.

*Will Cockbain.*



# News from the Office...



**Well the year seems to be flying by at a rate of knots, albeit differently to any year that any of us have experienced before. The sheep sales have been buoyant everywhere, and the Swaledale breed has kept its position within the hill sheep market place as being a hardwearing, milky and fertile mother.**

With the cancellation of the Centenary celebrations and shows, I have been working to keep members connected through the Facebook page, and thanks must go to the various shows who have organised virtual shows to keep enthusiasm for the breed going. From this, the Association Facebook page has reached over 5,000 with more adding daily, again, keep your eyes on this for news on sales and events.

Information on the website is gradually being updated, so keep checking this for sales catalogues and District information.

There have been requests for merchandise using the Swaledale logo, so in the New Year, a new page will appear with a link to order items of clothing from. In the meantime, we have Swaledale facemasks available costing £6 each, please phone or email to order these for your Christmas stocking fillers.

As the New Year approaches, can I remind members to use full EID tag numbers on blood samples when scrapie genotyping, this is in the bye-laws of the Association.

All things being equal, we have female sales of inlamb ewes, gimmer shearlings

and empty ewe hogs in January and February, entries start to close from the end of December, so please watch out for those deadlines. All entries are to go directly to the relevant auction marts.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your support since taking over from John, it's been a funny old year to start a new job, but fingers crossed that 2021 brings us back to some sort of normality.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Rachel Buckle*

**Head Secretary**



## Swaledale M&S Scotbeef Lamb Scheme

**2020 was a bumper year for the M&S Lamb scheme with almost 12,500 lambs being sent to the abattoir. Unfortunately, as with most things this year, due to Covid-19, the Producer Group which usually meets to discuss the scheme has not been able to and it's at this meeting that the Producer of the Year is announced.**

All producers who supplied to the scheme received their individual results earlier in the year, and now I would like to congratulate J Allison & Sons from Seal Houses on achieving a very commendable 97.8% of their lambs within the 16-21kgs

weight, grading O and R with fat class 2 and 3L – fingers crossed, there will be a presentation made in 2021.

The 2021 scheme is due to commence on 4<sup>th</sup> January with approximately 500 lambs

to be sent every week through to the end of May. If anyone is interested in supplying to the scheme please contact Rachel on 07958 540749. All suppliers need to have completed the M&S audit prior to lambs being sent to the abattoir.





# Vets Corner



I am Karen Swindlehurst, one of the 7 farm vets at Dalehead Veterinary Group. The practice covers a large area from its Settle base extending into Lancashire and Cumbria. I have worked at Dalehead for 17 years on and off since 1994 spending a further 13 years working in mixed practices in Lancashire. In the last 4 years I have thoroughly enjoyed setting up our Flockclub, a sheep health advisory group with 60 members to date. This takes up a large proportion of my working life.

I live in Slaidburn, Lancashire and am married to Gary who is the farm manager of a pedigree Limousin herd. I try to be as involved as possible with the cattle and have been extremely lucky in being able to tag along on visits to herds, shows and sales all over the UK and France. Hobbies- well after work, cows, running a holiday let and exercising my border terriers I enjoy eating out and getting some sleep!

## THINGS to THINK about in THIN sheep

**It is a great honour to be asked to contribute to your first newsletter. Thank you so much!**

Thin sheep and the Iceberg Diseases that cause them are a hot topic at the moment with research being done in several projects, awareness is certainly increasing. They are considered to be Iceberg Diseases as the symptoms we see are only the tip of the problem with many health problems and production losses hidden below the surface. I think of these diseases as “head in the sand disease” as most of us treat them that way. I believe however that we have to change our attitudes. I am sure I’m not the only one that has heard mule gimmer buyers complaining about MV or Tup and Draft Ewe purchasers griping about Johnes. Think about which piece of auction chat you want to hear about your stock, and which will spread faster and travel wider “those bonnie gimmers romped on” or “those draft ewes went to nowt and t’ veterinary found Johnes”.

We must not forget about other common syndromes that cause thin ewes before discussing Iceberg Diseases; fluke, lameness, nutrition being three of the big problems. Here are at least 3 other newsletter topics ! I would like to mention teeth as another important issue. A broken mouthed sheep will obviously be thin, many people do not realise that the molars (back teeth) are equally if not more important. If the molars do not line up correctly the sheep cannot cud. You may see green fluid around the jaw, cud spilling or irregular bumps along the jawline where the tooth roots are abnormal.

The Iceberg diseases that cause thin sheep in our hill flocks are Johnes, MV and OPA. These diseases are individually quite different in many ways but share the similarities that they are not treatable, are challenging to test for in the laboratory and have not been heavily researched. There are 2 other diseases that are considered in this Iceberg category. CLA results in wasting through abscesses throughout the body. It is, in my opinion, much less common than the others in fell flocks and Border Disease causes fertility problems rather than thin ewes.

Here is a quick summary of fascinating facts;

### Johnes Disease

Caused by a bacteria *Mycobacterium paratuberculosis* (MAP) which is the same group as TB. MAP invades the gut causing malabsorption whereas the TB bacteria invades the lungs.

The cattle industry especially beef herds have been screening for decades and have made immense inroads into control. There has been little research and testing in our flocks.

Sheep get infected by 2 strains of Johnes, S (sheep) and C (cattle) types. Cattle only suffer from C type. We think sheep in the UK have mainly C type, but S type is notoriously difficult to identify in the lab, so we under diagnose it. Cattle and sheep co grazing probably spreads the disease.

It is spread from ewe- lamb across the placenta or through colostrum and by ingesting infected faeces, for example on ewes’ teats or pastures.

In the majority of cases lambs are infected by 4 months of age.

There is a long incubation period with disease not being seen until at least 3 years of age. Affected sheep are infectious during the early years though, silently spreading disease.

The main sign is wasting. Sheep do not scour as cattle do with Johnes.

Studies show infected lowland flocks have only 17% of ewes retained past 3 years of age, compared to 40% in comparable uninfected flocks. What is Johnes doing to your Draft Ewe numbers?

The MAP bacteria can be found in faecal samples, it is not shed at high levels early in the disease and can be intermittent. S type can take months to grow in the lab.

Antibodies can be found in blood samples later in the disease.

Post mortem is useful in most cases with the S type showing a distinctive yellow coloured thickened bowel.

Finding early disease is both challenging and cost prohibitive in the commercial flock so eradication is challenging. A vaccine, Gudair, is available which is very useful in dampening down and controlling Johnes, especially when used with a robust culling strategy.



### MV -Maedi Visna

The name comes from the Icelandic words for pneumonia and wasting, the two main symptoms of the disease.

It is caused by an incredibly infectious retrovirus; the same group of viruses causes OPA.

It is spread in the colostrum and through lung discharges.

MV also has a long incubation period, we don't see disease in sheep until they are over 3 years. The sheep is a carrier, spreading disease from the moment they are infected .

The number of infected flocks has more than doubled in recent years, with numerous breakdowns in accredited flocks

Up to 85% of the flock are often infected. The production losses becomes obvious when infection levels reach 50%. Early detection will have a huge impact on losses.

A 1500 Masham flock lost 40% of productivity on becoming infected through poor milk production, small birthweight lambs and increased culling rates. Ouch ! Expensive!

Recent research indicates that there is a genetic susceptibility to MV. Does this sound familiar?– Scrapie genetic susceptibility has had quite an impact in many breeding programmes.

A blood sample can detect antibodies to MV, making it the easiest Iceberg disease to identify. The only complication is that it can take longer than many diseases before the antibodies are detectable. That is why we sample months apart in the accreditation scheme.

Blood sampling and culling is the most effective control method.

### OPA – Ovine Pulmonary Adenocarcinoma- Jaagsiekte

Another very infectious Retrovirus which is spread through colostrum and oral/ nasal discharges just like MV. This one causes tumours the lungs of sheep.

Jaagsiekte is an Afrikkans word for “chasing disease”. This disease causes respiratory signs through progressive pneumonia. When infected sheep are moved they will have laboured breathing, hence the name.

Heavily infected flocks will see deaths at a rate of 20%. Cull rates of 5% are common.

There are no blood or faecal samples that detect disease. The only screening test is Ultrasound Scanning which allows relatively small tumours to be identified.

OPA is detected mostly at Post mortem, there are distinctive hard grey masses in the lungs.

There is no cure or vaccine. Culling cases of respiratory disease or thin animals and early detection through scanning are the only tools available to us.

Yes, it is all incredibly complicated, testing is expensive, and control or eradication is extremely challenging. Hopefully, you now realise that Iceberg diseases can have a Titanic effect on your pedigree trade, at the very least they will cause a leak in your hull! Do you still want to stick your head in the sand or are thinking what can I do? This is what I would do if I had a breeding flock of fell sheep.



- Sample bought in Tups for MV, Johnes and BD. Inspect the head area for abscess type lumps.
- Routinely sample 6-10 thin ewes; blood sample for MV, faecal samples for Johnes and Fluke.
- Post mortem all deaths in ewes and tups. Don't waste a dead sheep!
- Sacrifice those thin ewes and tups which will struggle to fatten for Post mortem .



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# HAWES

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Tel: 01969 667207

**Saturday  
23<sup>rd</sup> January 2021**

Sale of Registered Bluefaced Leicester Females  
for the Bluefaced Leicester Sheep Breeders' Association.

Also Sale of individual Crowned  
Swaledale Ewes & Gimmer Shearlings & Gimmer Lambs  
for the Swaledale Sheep Breeders' Association.


Also Sale of Herdwick Ewes, Gimmer  
Shearlings & Gimmer Lambs.

**Entries Close – 31st December, 2020  
Sale at 12.00 noon**

For further information contact Auctioneers  
Raymond Lund 015396 20895 or 07974 126397

Jimmy Fawcett 07501 553621

www.hawesmart.co.uk Email: office@hawesmart.co.uk



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and Flock Books on behalf of the  
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**WEDNESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2021**  
(entries close Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January)

**harrisonandhetherington.co.uk**

T: 01768 371385 Kirkby Stephen Mart, Faraday Road  
E: kirkby@borderway.com Kirkby Stephen, Cumbria CA17 4QL

## NORTH WEST AUCTIONS

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**SATURDAY 30<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021**

**'SWALEDALE STARS'**  
*Annual Sale of*  
**INDIVIDUAL SWALEDALE FEMALES**  
*Including*  
**Individual In-Lamb Ewes, Gimmer Shearlings  
& Empty Hogs**

*On behalf of the  
Swaledale Sheep  
Breeders Association*



**Entries for the Catalogue close Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January  
Auctioneer ~ Ian Atkinson Tel: 07766 521 472**

## BENTHAM AUCTION MART



015242 61444 - Sale Days 61246

Stephen 07713 075 661

Greg 07713 075 664

Will 07590 876 849

www.benthamauction.co.uk

**2021 PROVISIONAL SALES CALENDAR**  
(All sale dates to be confirmed)

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> February**  
**SWALEDALE SOCIETY SALE OF  
INDIVIDUAL IN LAMB EWES & SHEARLINGS**  
Also Gimmer Lambs  
(Note: New format of Saturday day time sale)  
Also Multi Breed Sale of Other Hillbred Individual Sheep

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February**  
Annual Show & Sale of Swaledale Prime Hogs

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May**  
Annual Special Sale of Swaledale Ewes with Lambs at Foot

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September**  
Great Annual Show & Sale of  
5000 Swaledale Draft ewes, Gimmer Shearlings & Gimmer  
Lambs

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October**  
Annual Show & Sale of Swaledale Aged Rams & Shearling  
Rams

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> October**  
2nd Sale of Swaledale Draft Ewes, Gimmer Shearlings &  
Gimmer Lambs

# Sales Reports 2020

## E District Ruswarp, 9<sup>th</sup> October

E District annual ram sale held on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at Ruswarp achieved a very good trade with all types of tups available giving something for everyone.

An aged ram from RL Garbutt, bred by Paul Harker, Punchard, topped this section selling for £450. Jack Hallam led the way with shearling rams, selling to £500. There was a 100% clearance of tups forward.



Top priced aged ram from RL Garbutt sold for £450

There were also shearling rams for sale with performance recording data so that the buyer could see the rams growth rates in more detail and use this information as a tool to improve a flocks capabilities. Take a look at Performance Recorded Swaledales on Facebook and give the page a follow.



*Michelle Lofthouse*

*E District Secretary*

### Leading Prices (£)

Aged Rams		Shearling Rams	
RA Thompson	420	L Barraclough	350
R Peirson	350	R Peirson	480
RL Garbutt	450	JS Wood	450, 420
		J Hallam	500
		S Snaith	380, 300

## D District Barnard Castle, 13<sup>th</sup> October

The 2020 Swaledale Sheep Breeders 'D' District Ram Sale was held at Barnard Castle Auction Mart to comply with Covid 19 regulations. Many thanks to all the vendors and purchasers both regular and new for supporting the sale and adhering to the restrictions.

The powerful tups were especially in demand, as St Johns Chapel vendors' have a reputation for producing both conformation and quality and this was in abundance at this year's sale. Sale averaged £863 for 240 sold (up £202 on the year). Although less shearlings were entered this year we have seen an increase in sale clearance going from 86% in 2019 to 94%.

The top price of the day was £8500 for an outstanding Shearling Ram from Dan Humble, Burtreeford, which was purchased by Messrs Allan, Greenhow, Dufton.

20 Shearlings sold in excess of £2000 with 65 shearlings selling in excess of £1000, 10 of these shearling's came from Michael Lee, Harwood Shield.



*Fay Johnson*

*D District Secretary*

**Top price at Barnard Castle, from Dan Humble, sold for £8,500 to M Allan, Dufton**

### Leading Prices (£)

JW Dent & Sons	700	D Collingwood	2800, 1000, 700	PE Staley	1000, 900, 700, 600	W Parker	1500 x 2, 1250, 1100 x 2, 600
L Smith & Co	2200, 1800, 600	RJ Wigham	1400, 600 x 2	WD&B Thompson	1800	Messrs Huddleston	900, 700
G&A Carrick	4000, 2200, 1600, 1500, 900, 700	A Lee	1200, 1000, 900, 700	I Collinson	1100	JC White	1700
Messrs Green	800	J Lee	3500, 700 x 2	T Collingwood	800	A Anderson	700, 600
K&SM Johnson	2000, 900, 650	K&HA Ridley	2600, 900, 600 x 3	N Dalton	1400	W&J Raine	1500, 900
F&P Johnson	1100	JL Archer	2800, 2000, 1000 x 2	A Peart & Son	1400	Renwick Bros	800, 700
JT Golightly	750 x 2, 600	E&S Gowland	1000, 800, 750, 700	GA Thompson	1500, 1400	W Watson	850
TA Wigham	1000	MW Emerson	1400, 650	PH McVittie	3500, 2000 x 2	S&K Emmott	1200, 600
T Hall & Son	2600, 1600 x 2, 1500, 1400, 1300, 1100, 900 x 2, 800 x 3	D Humble	8500, 4200, 1500	JR Dalton	1800	MJ Lee	6000, 3500, 3000, 2600, 2000, 1600, 1500, 1300, 800, 700
JA&CM Dalton	1100	J Pritchard	1600, 1100, 1000, 900, 850, 600 x 2	J Reed	5000, 1000 x 2	GA&JM Maw	800



# A District Middleton in Teesdale, 14<sup>th</sup> October

The 103<sup>rd</sup> A District Tup sale went extremely well, given the current Covid restrictions and due to these restrictions, there was no show this year.

The shearing average was up by £176 on last year, with a top price of £17,000 for 'Roachburn Prince' from Messrs L Smith & Co, Roachburn, selling to TW Cowperthwaite, Tennant Gill.

Some other leading prices were 'West Briscoe Rockafella' from F & MP Allinson sold for £14,000 to MR & LE Rukin, JR Rukin, Park Lodge and J Allison & Sons, Seal Houses.

'Priorsdale Eric Prydz' from Weardale Estates sold for £10,000 to R Hutchinson & Sons, Valley Farm & AD & P Coates, Aygill, with Weardale Estates retaining a 3rd share.

'Lummas Sizzler' from D & M Brown sold for £9500 to AM Walton, Bowlees & MW Dent, Wythes Hill.

Tup lamb averages were up by £199, with a top price of £1600 from R Marwood & Sons, followed by another at £1400. These were sold to F & MP Allinson, West Briscoe and JL Archer, White Hill Farm, respectively.

Burncroft Farm sold their first lamb into the ring for £1200 to R Tiplady, Red House Farm.

Aged ram top price was £450.

The Chairman and I would like to thank all vendors and purchasers for their support, and look forward to an even better more 'normal' sale next year!



*Caroline Colling*  
A District Secretary



**Top price at Middleton in Teesdale from L Smith, Roachburn, sold for £17,000 to TW Cowperthwaite, Tennant Gill**

## Leading Prices (£)

Shearing Rams							
RA Thompson	420	M Watson	4500, 1100, 650	F&MP Allinson	14000, 6500, 3800, 3600, 3500, 2200, 1900, 1600 x 2	D&M Brown	9500, 1000
E&K Bland	1000	N&N Foster	750	JW Dent & Sons	2600, 1400, 900	ME&CM Bell	1300, 600
DC&KL Hutchinson	7000	Mrs JH Bainbridge-Wood	1600	LC&D Wearmouth	600	L Smith	17000, 900
JC White	2500, 1800	MF&KC Stobart	1200, 1000	T Eccles	1200	PJ Smith	5000
RJ White	2000, 1800, 1000	R Hutchinson & Sons	2500, 2000, 1000	R Walton	600	A&J Harrison	600
Dousgill Farm	1000, 600	TW&K Hutchinson	2000, 1400	JR&SL Pratt	900	Tup Lambs	
Weardale Estates	10000, 1500, 800, 650	MW Dent	3200	AE Icton & Sons	5800, 1000, 800	Burncroft Farm	1200, 400, 350
LJ&BM Fletcher	2200	JR Walton & Son	2700	S Icton	1800	R Marwood & Sons	1600, 1400, 1200, 600, 500 x 3
Tarn Bros	700, 650 x 2	M Wallace	1300, 600	RM Dixon	2200	LA Sunter	350
		JA Alderson	2100	J Handley	5800		

# C District Kirkby Stephen Aged Rams & Ram Lambs, 21<sup>st</sup> October

Harrison & Hetherington, Kirkby Stephen, held the opening day of the 3-day 'C' District ram sales on Wednesday, when 219 aged and ram Lambs were on offer.

Topping the sale at £8,000 was a 5 shear ram, Bull & Cave Governor bred by M. Nelson and consigned by I Collinson, Billing Shield, Eastgate with the successful purchaser being R. M. Dixon, Garthwaite, Barningham.

Ram lambs topped at £6000 with a Briscoe sired lamb from R Marwood & Sons, Hill Top

Farm, Newsham which was bought in a half share between TW Cowperthwaite, Tennant Gill, Malham Moor and Messrs Lightfoot, Gillside Farm, Glenridding.

Burncroft Farm, Eggleston sold their consignment of ram lambs to top of £4500 which sold to F&MP Allinson & Son, West Briscoe, Baldersdale



*Wilf Buckle*  
C District Secretary



**Left: Top priced aged ram from I Collinson, Billing Shield -£8,000**

**Right: Top priced Ram lamb from Geoff & Carol Marwood - £6,000**

R Marwood & Sons sold another two ram lambs for £3800 and £3500 being purchased by LC&D Wearmouth, Parkside, Barnard Castle, and M & MA Ridley, Haltcliffe, Hesket Newmarket, in all, their consignment of 20 lambs sold to average £1590.

The sale for both aged and ram lambs was flying, with aged rams selling to average £1049, (up a massive £434 on the year) for a 95% clearance and ram lambs averaging £892 (up £279 on the year) for a 90% clearance.

Leading Prices (£)						
<b>Aged Rams</b>	KG Sowerby	800	C Nelson & Sons	600	<b>Tup Lambs</b>	
G Cartmel	JRD Short	2800	G&DA Allison	3000	L&L Staley	400
JW&M Buckle	G Taylor	650	E&K Bland &		A&R Birbeck	500
RN Beaty	P&S Hallam	1000	JR Addison & Sons	1600	RA Lancaster	500
M/s Cockbain	N&O Frith	900	JR Addison & Sons	900	C Nelson & Sons	1100
L Smith & Co	KM&KJ Curwen	800	TLB&J Knowles	1000	R&H Scott	1200
JH Emerson	Bank House Farm	900, 700, 550 x 2	P Edmondson &		M&C&G Bland	1800
JW Dent & Sons	JC White	1500, 550	J Hoggarth	2000	JH&J Bland	1000, 800 x 2, 500, 400
TW Cowperthwaite	R Hutchinson & Sons	1800	S&D Robinson	800	R Marwood & Sons	6000, 3800, 3500, 2500 x 2, 1600, 1400 1300, 1200, 1000, 900 x 2, 700 x 2, 500, 400
W&AW Watson	JA Alderson	600	JA Swift	1200	D Birbeck	1000, 450
J&JE Bradley & JC Wade	I Collinson	8000, 800	JG Thirlwall	1400, 1000, 500	Burncroft Farms	4500, 1900, 1100, 1000, 900 x 3, 600, 450, 400
WA&A Booth	JR Dalton	1200, 900	J Natrass	2000		
WA&A Booth & JC Nelson	K&SM Johnson	2600, 800				

## C District Kirkby Stephen Day 2 Shearling Rams, 22<sup>nd</sup> October

Day 2 of the C District Ram sales saw 464 shearling rams on offer, with a lead call late on the first day from the familiar names of Patrick and Kirsty Sowerby, Oakbank.

His mother was a ewe that Patrick had shown successfully, by a Bull & Cave tup which has proved to be a great sire over the years. He was purchased in a half share between Mark Nelson, Bull & Cave and Paul & Sue Hallam, High Birkwith for £35,000.

Next selling at £26,000 was Grayrigg Hall JD9, a son of a £42,000 Stainton tup, and out of a ewe by a Harkerside tup, which goes back to the Eric Coates. He sold to brothers Stan and James Harker, Murton Hall, Appleby.

Early on the Thursday saw the noted Helbeck flock through the ring. Thomas sold a pair of twins by the homebred Unique, out of a ewe by Napoleon which Thomas has shown several times. It was the bigger of the twins, Brownber Rambo, which took the top price, selling for £25,000 to Stephen Clarkson, Christine Clarkson, Graham Scarr and Thomas Iveson.

There was a wonderful show of strong well bred rams forward which ensured an overall sale average of £2354 for 326 rams sold, an increase of £589 on the year giving an 88% clearance.

15 rams sold between £10,000-£35,000 | 50 Rams sold between £5,000-£35,000



Top Price Day 2 from Patrick & Kirsty Sowerby sold for £35,000

Leading Prices (£)							
BR Lawson & Son	5000	D&M Brown	5500, 3200	JP Hutchinson	1500	M Bainbridge	1800
M&S Sunter	1000	I Brown	14000 x 2	J Nutter	1500, 1200, 1000	W Richardson & Son	6000, 3000, 2200, 1000 x 3
AD Coates	8000, 2500 x 2	GL Hutton	6000, 3000, 2800, 1800, 1200, 1100, 1000	JC White	9000, 8000, 3000, 2500	A&M Skidmore	2000, 1500
DW&AS Noble	1800, 1200	M Graham	1200	RJ White	7000, 3500, 2200	KM&KJ Curwen	4000, 3500
CA Brown	3200	TW&K Hutchinson	1000	JW Porter & Sons	1800, 1200	F&MP Allinson	17000, 10000, 9000, 4000 x 2
M/s Lightfoot	5200, 5000, 4500, 4200, 3500, 2200, 1800, 1200, 1100, 1000	A&J Harrison	9000 x 2, 7000	SW Porter	9000, 1200	M Allinson	2500
J Lee & Sons	1300, 1000	H Harrison	1800	WJ Porter	3200, 2000	GA&DE Slack	4000
GE Harker	5500, 3500, 2800, 1700, 1000	T Brogden	25000, 12000, 2800	TW Cowperthwaite	14000, 5200 x 2, 1600 x 2, 1500, 1200, 1000	CR Raine & Son	18000, 12000, 9000, 7000, 2500 x 2, 1800
E&K Bland	11500, 3000	S&P Brogden	5000, 1800, 1100	AE Ileton & Sons	5200, 3800, 2500	CT Raine	5000
J Archer	1700	J&SJ Bland	16000, 1000	B Ileton	5500	CW&Y Dixon	1600 x 2, 1200
DA&MJ Pedley	1800	S Bell & Sons	3000 x 2, 2000, 1500	WA&A Booth	6000, 4500	Todd & Angus	8000, 1000
RS Harker & Son, Grayrigg	26000, 14000, 6500, 3000, 2800, 2000, 1600	G Cartmel	1000	M&EM Wilson	16000, 5200, 4000, 2000, 1400	A&TA Blades	8500
CO Harker	3000	RJ Wigham	1600	K Huck	2400, 1600	DC&KL Hutchinson	2000
TW Hutchinson	2800, 1000	C Nelson & Son	3000, 1600, 1200	M/s Beckwith	4000, 2500, 2200, 2000, 1100	Hutchinson & Brown	1000
J Allison & Sons	1900, 1600, 1000	JR Dalton	3000 x 2, 1400	M Wallace	5000	PE&KA Sowerby	35000, 5000, 3000
		RG Dalton	1000	P Walton	2000		
		JF Dalton	1400				



# C District Kirkby Stephen Day 3 Shearling Rams, 23<sup>rd</sup> October

Topping the 3-day's trade was Mark Nelson from the noted Bull & Cave flock based in Clapham, on the edge of Ingleborough.

His pen created a lot of interest with his leader, Bull & Cave King Kong, being sold for £60,000 to Graham and Emma Pears, Flash Farms, Sheffield. King Kong is by the £60,000 Helbeck Unique, which has proved himself both in the show ring as well as the progeny stakes since they bought him in partnership with Hallam's and Brogdens in 2018, and out of a ewe by another Helbeck they bought back in 2010 for £26,000. The Bull & Cave pen went on to enjoy an extraordinary trade, with a son of the homebred tup, Defender, fetching £18,000 and the first sons off a Paul Ewbank tup fetching £17,000, £15,000 and £12,000 capping a great day for Mark.

Jim Capstick from near Millom on the West coast of Cumbria had no reason to fear the pre-sale ballot when he was the very last flock drawn out of the hat. Blackcombe Duke, was sired by the Harkerside tup they bought a few years ago, going back to a £46,000 Eric Coates tup and out of a homebred ewe by a Robin Booth. He sold for £32,000, in a three-way split to Richard Hutchinson, Redgate, John Richardson, Ghyll House, and Craig Ridley, Haltcliffe.

Richard Hargreaves, Meadow Bank, sold their pen leader for £26,000. Meadow Bank MN 1st, sired by a £20,000 Bull & Cave tup and out of a ewe by a Lightfoot tup sold in a four-way split to Stephen Bland, Cotegill, Craig Hutchinson, Old Spital, Tom Hutchinson, Bail Hill and John Tully, Burncroft. Another son of the Bull & Cave sold for £18,000 to Catlow and another son for £8000, proving to be quite an investment for the Hargreaves family!

Robert Hutchinson, Valley Farm, peaked at £24,000 for a son of the same Bull & Cave tup that sired Richard Hargreaves leader, and out of a ewe by a homebred tup. He sold to Tom & Phillip Hutton, Setmabanning.



**Top Price Day 3 from Mark Nelson, Bull and Cave sold for £60,000**

The final of the three days trading went with a bang for a sale average of £2,633, an increase of £483 on 2019 for 293 rams sold, giving a 83% clearance.

15 rams sold between £10,000-£60,000

45 rams sold between £5,000-£60,000

These results combined with Thursdays figures resulted in an overall two day shearling average of £2486 (up £530.73 on 2019) for 619 Rams sold, giving a 86% clearance, and believed to be a record.

## Leading Prices (£)

BWH&M Hutchinson	1000	JW Dent & Sons	14000, 7000, 3500, 1000	R Hutchinson & Sons	24000, 12000, 9000, 5000, 3000, 2200	MR&LE Rukin	8000, 7000, 3500, 2000, 1000
W&K Hutchinson	1000	Dent Bros	8000, 5500, 4000	JK Hutchinson	6000, 2500	RJ Tiplady	2000, 1800
M/s Cockbain	3500	Dent & Dixon	8000, 2000	S Bentley	1800	A Makepeace	3200, 1200
J Thompson	2500	C Dent	3000	AM Walton	1200	RS Harker, Overthwaite	5500, 4500
PJ Dixon	3000	R&H Hird	15000, 7000	M Gleave	2200	RM Dixon	4000, 3000, 1200
H Huddleston	1600	D&CE Marston	1500	M/s Lawson	3000, 1500, 1200, 1000	MR Ewbank	9000, 5500
CR&MJ Birbeck	9000, 3800, 2600, 1200, 1000	Haltcliffe	6500, 3500, 1800, 1000 x 2	R&E Cowperthwaite	3000, 2000, 1000	P Ewbank	1500
P Hallam	9000, 4000, 1600	WD&B Thompson	2600, 2200, 1400	SC Cowperthwaite	3500	B Thornborrow	1800
S Hallam	8000	J&JE Bradley	14000, 3000, 1000	R&PE Hargreaves	26000, 18000, 8000, 2000, 1800	T Robinson & Son	15000, 2500
R Hallam	3000	JH Pedley	3000	C&R Calvert	2500, 1800	TW Robinson	2000
J&S Tennant	3500, 1700	GD&JP Nelson	3600	G Calvert & Sons	1800, 1000	JC&E Pedley	2000
S Buckle	8000, 1400	EJ&RJ Wear	6000, 5500, 5000, 4000, 2200, 2000, 1600, 1400	N Richardson	5000, 1100	D Humble	3000
JW&M Buckle	2200 x 2, 1600, 1300	K Fawcett	2500, 2000	J Nelson & Son	60000, 18000, 17000, 15000, 12000, 9000, 4000, 2500, 1200	AT&A Bainbridge	10000, 8000
JR&SL Pratt	3500	P Capstick	1000	JA Alderson	2000, 1200, 1000	RC Bainbridge	6000
M/s Folder	9000, 1800, 1100	JE&AJ Mitchell	2000, 1800			M&R Pattinson	1000
G Harker & Son	1000					J Capstick	32000, 1000



# B District Hawes - Day 1 Shearling Rams

## 28<sup>th</sup> October

On the first day of the two day sale, which saw 246 tups throughout the sale, the early pacemaker was from Robert Wear from the Howe Green flock, based in Patterdale in the heart of the Lake District.

This shearling ram, by the £86,000 Stonesdale tup, which has done so well in the flock and out of a ewe by a homebred tup he sold many years ago, sold in a £30,000 deal, to Richard Harker, Grayrigg Hall and Richard Hargreaves, Meadow Bank.

Richard Harker, Grayrigg Hall enjoyed a great trade at Kirkby Stephen the previous week and his great trade continued into the Hawes week, with a pair of tups by a homebred tup retained by the £40,000 Cockbain. The first was out of a gimmer shearling by an £18,000 Hallam and sold in a 3-way split to Mark and Paul Ewbank from Intake and Draymans flocks near Pateley Bridge and Robert Tennant, Hemplands for £28,000. Richard's next by the same sire, sold for £26,000. This time

out of a ewe by the Hargreaves tup which he bought privately in 2011 and sold to F Raine & Sons, Stanhope Gate.

Paul and Sue Hallam from High Birkwith sold a son off the £55,000 Patrick Sowerby and out of a ewe by a homebred tup by Mossdale Gaffer for £28,000 selling to Mark Nelson, Bull & Cave, Robin Booth, Smearsett and Patrick Sowerby, Oakbank.

Taking a personal best was Johnny Cowperthwaite from Howith, Settle, when he sold Howith Barney 4, a son of a Barney Richardson tup for £21,000 to David Harker, Overthwaite and Weardale Estates. And following this, John Tennant sold Bucker House Briscoe 12, to David Allinson, West Briscoe and Geoff and Carol Marwood, Hill Top.



David Alderson  
B District Secretary



Leading Prices (£)			
D&CE Marston	8000	IS Bell	11000
K Huck	1400	Haltcliffe	12000, 2500, 1800
B Thornborrow	1300, 1100	RS Harker	12000
S Reynoldson & Son	4000	SA Harker	6500, 3500
EJ&RJ Wear	30000, 2000	BR Fawcett	4500, 4000, 2000
P Ewbank	4000, 3500, 2200	T Robinson & Son	7000
MR Ewbank	5500, 4000	M/s Lightfoot	4500, 3500
Messrs Buckle	13000	W Baines	1000
J Rukin	2500	W&K Hutchinson	2400
P&S Hallam	28000, 3000	R Hutchinson & Sons	14000, 4500, 2500, 1200
WM Hutchinson & Sons	13000	SJ Clarkson	6000
TM Iveson	1500	MM&CL Whitehead	2800
C Nelson & Sons	2500, 2000, 1000 x 2	J Allison & Sons	2500, 2000
JE Cowperthwaite	21000, 2000	M/s Folder	5000
J Hutchinson	1200	G&E Pears	2200, 2000
S Bentley	1000	I Collinson	4500
C Sowerby	2000	A Calvert	3500
SA Raine	1000	G Calvert & Sons	6000, 4500, 1400, 1000
R&H Hird	3200, 2600, 1050	JA Alderson	1400
ASE Crisp & Sons	1100	S&P Brogden	12000
J&S Tennant	18000, 4500	D&M Brown	12000, 10000
N Richardson	1000	A&JA Iveson	3200
R Metcalfe	1500	DC&KL Hutchinson	1200
J Sunter & Sons	1300	T Metcalfe & Son	3000 x 2, 2800
RS Harker & Son	28000, 26000, 11000, 7000	P&PI Walker & Son	1100
JG Brunton	1800, 1100	J Dixon & Sons	1400
WP Walker & Son	1300		
W Richardson & Son	7000, 6500		
		<b>Average:</b>	<b>£2377 for 230</b>

# B District Hawes - Day 2 Shearling Rams 29<sup>th</sup> October

Topping the trade over the two-day sale was Fawcett's Cowboy from Graham Scarr, Fawcetts Farm. He was sired by the £14,000 Aygill Imperial purchased in 2015 and out of a Helbeck sired ewe which was Champion in Kirkby Stephen in 2013 and sold for £38,000 to a trio of breeders, Trevor Blades, Bobby Blades and John Bradley.

David and Michael Allinson, West Briscoe sold their pen leader, West Briscoe Rocker, for £34,000 to Craig Ridley, Haltcliffe, Richard Harker, Grayrigg Hall and Richard Hargreaves, Meadow Bank. He was sired by a £1500 Mark Ewbank and out of a gimmer shearling by a £14,000 Summers Lodge.

Alan and Steven Coates, Aygill, sold Aygill Noble for £30,000 to Roger Hird, Shepherds Lodge and Richard Hird, Gillfield with Aygill keeping a share in him too. Noble was by a Stonesdale tup which took the male championship at Tan Hill show a couple of years back, while its mother was by a Skidmore tup

John Thorpe, who runs Mossdale near Hawes achieved his best price to date since taking over in 2013. His first tup in, Mossdale Fandango, is by a Haltcliffe sire, which was the son of the £50,000 Grayrigg Hall and out of a ewe by a homebred son of a Kenny Whitehead, and sold to Graham Pears of Flash Farms, Sheffield.

Setting another personal best for a small flock came from the mother and son team, Sheena and James Pratt. Dale View Bullet Proof was sired by an old Mossdale tup that cost £17,000 as a shearling which they bought as an old tup and sold to Mark Nelson, Bull and Cave and Paul Hallam, High Birkwith.





**Top price day 1 from EJ Wear, sold for £30,000 sold to Richard Harker and Richard Hagreaves**



**Top price day 2 from Graham Scarr sold for £38,000 to JR Blades, J&JE Bradley and A&TA Blades**

With 26 tups hitting the 5-figure mark at Hawes and with more than 60 tups over 4 Association sales hitting that magical mark, it shows the length buyers are going to get top quality tups and bloodlines. With averages at Hawes rising nearly £290 to £2322 for the 2-days it rounded off a bumper year for the sheep industry and certainly a landmark season in the Association's 100th year. The founding fathers of the breed may not exactly recognise the breed

that they founded all those years ago, but they would recognise the dedication and skill that the modern breeders bring and be proud of the influence that the Swaledale breed exerts across the sheep industry even still in these modern times. And with that thought.... here's to the next 100 years!

*Reports for Kirkby Stephen and Hawes written by Wayne Hutchinson  
Photos supplied by Wayne Hutchinson, Rachel Watson and Mark Graham*

Leading Prices (£)							
DG Harker & Son	2000, 1400	A&J Harrison	5500	M Wallace	2800	TW Cowperthwaite	1400
CR&MJ Birbeck	6200	H Harrison	2000	GL Hutton	5000 x 2, 3200	S&D Robinson	2200, 1200
JR&SL Pratt	18000	AD Coates	30000	WA Dinsdale & Son	2000	TW Bell & Son	1500
MJ&JD Handley	1300	M&S Sunter	1600	G&DA Allison	6500	A&TA Blades	4000
F&MP Allinson	34000, 7000, 4200	JE Thorpe	20000, 10000, 4000	RJ White	11000, 6000	JW Porter & Sons	9000, 1600
M Allinson	3800	Dent Bros	3000, 1000 x 2	JC White	1200, 1000	Hunter & Whitehead	10000, 2000
MR&LE Rukin	11000, 4500, 3200, 1000	JW Dent & Sons	3200	JS Cloughton, Carpley Green	2400	B Mudd	2000
JR Blades	1400	Dent & Dixon	1800	J&JE Bradley	5000, 4200, 2300	M&EM Wilson	14000, 9000
B&M&O Acton	6500	Miss C Dent	3000	R&E Cowperthwaite	3000, 1200, 1000	JH Pedley	1200
Clarkson & Stoddart	3000, 2400	S&K Emmott	1800	SW Porter	3500, 1200	<b>Average: £2261 for 216</b>	
W Watson	1100	F&R Bainbridge	1000	WJ Porter	2600	<b>2-day overall average: £2322 (+£287 on 2019)</b>	
JT Dixon & Son	1000	A&M Brennand	4000	EW Atkinson	1600		
Walburn Hall Farms	1100	JR Bainbridge	1200	GJ Scarr	38000, 16000, 8000, 2200, 1200		
		GJ&ME Walker	1600				



# M&S is proud to support the Swaledale Sheep Breeders Association

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with the Swaledale Sheep Breeders Association to provide  
quality meat to our customers. We wish all Swaledale  
breeders well in this centenary year.



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## SWALEDALE SHEEP FEMALE SALES



### HAWES FARMERS' AUCTION MART SATURDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY 2021

Entries close Thursday 31<sup>ST</sup> December 2020

### KENDAL J36, NORTH WEST AUCTIONS SATURDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021

Entries close Friday 8<sup>TH</sup> January

### BENTHAM AUCTION MART SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021

Entries close Friday 22<sup>ND</sup> January

### KIRKBY STEPHEN AUCTION MART WEDNESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021

Entries close Monday 25<sup>TH</sup> January

For further details, contact the Auction Marts or  
Head Secretary, Rachel Buckle on 07958 540749

Riddings Farm, Reeth, Richmond, North Yorkshire, DL11 6UR  
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