



CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2023

Another exceptional year for the Bleu including these Carlisle highlights:



MAXIMUM Youngblood 4000gns



SKYE BLEU Wynter 3200gns

MESSAGE FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

Another busy year ends and lambing will soon be upon us. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Council for all their efforts throughout the year, particularly Stuart Goldie who has stood down this year after years of dedicated service. His passion for the breed is unrivalled and we thank you.

Wishing you all a healthy and prosperous new year and a successful lambing.

Iwan Davies (CYSGOD)





BLEU DU MAINE SHEEP SOCIETY CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2023

****STOP PRESS** - NATIONAL SALE DATE CONFIRMED**

Contrary to any rumours you may have heard, the National Sale dates have been confirmed by Harrison & Hetherington to remain at the same time, being the Thursday 15th & Friday 16th August 2024.

UPDATE ON MILLENNIUM BLEU REGISTRATIONS

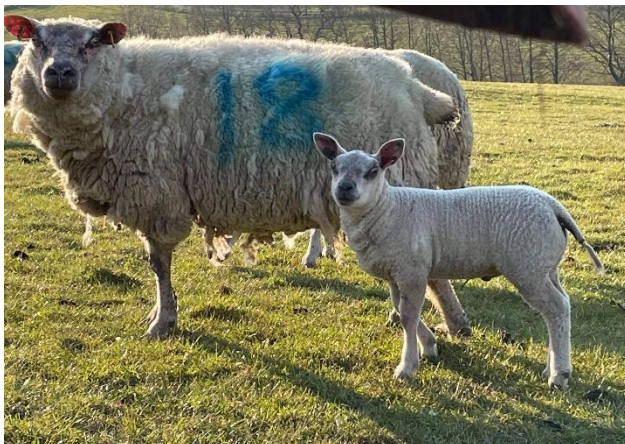
Following discussions regarding the future of the Millennium Bleu registration process at the AGM, the members present decided they wished Millennium x Millennium breeding to be eligible for registration as Millennium Bleus (previously had to be Bleu du Maine x Beltex or vice versa). In line with those members wishes, council ratified this decision.

The original cross of Bleu du Maine x Beltex or vice versa is still permitted but that Millennium x Millennium are also eligible.

If you have registrations to catch up on, please contact Jane Smith.

2023 OPEN DAY

Jamie Taylor, Derbyshire hosted a really wonderful day which was informative throughout and showcased his 350 strong ewe-flock to its very best advantage. The sun shone and we were treated to excellent hospitality and a full day of activities with sheep (and cattle!) to feast your eyes on. Sadly, there was a lack of support from the membership to reflect the hard work which Jamie had put in and those who did not attend, missed out. Thank you to the select number who did make the effort.



MAXIMUM - 2023 SHOW FLOCK WINNERS!

Congratulations to Sally, Fin, Andrew & Max on winning the 2023 Show Flock title after another exceptional year! Their wins included being drawn in to the top four in the Interbreed at the Royal Highland, winning the National Show, topped off with a great run of sheep at Carlisle fetching, 4000gns, 2000gns (twice) and 850gns, having also bred the sire of the top price gimmer as well.



ADVANCE NOTICE – DISPERSAL OF THE HAYDON FLOCK

We are sad to inform members that the dispersal of the highly successful and long-established Haydon flock of Mrs Marjorie Vile is booked for 3rd August at Worcester Market; a sale not to be missed.

Have You Done Your Christmas Shopping?

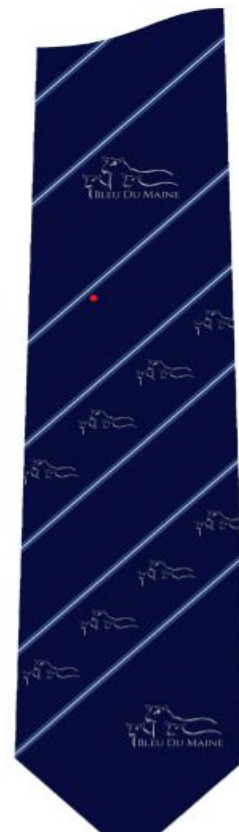
SOCIETY TIE

Update your wardrobe in time for Christmas with the Bleu Du Maine Sheep Society tie (featured below). The ties can be purchased via your Grassroots login (login – manage my animals – other fees) and are priced at £17.95 to include postage and packaging.

Stash Shop have also added fleece gilets, mouse mats and mugs which can all be personalised for your flock.

Visit the website:

<https://stashshop.co.uk/collections/bleu-du-maine-sheep-society>





OFFCUTS...



REGISTRATIONS: 2023 YEAR LETTER – Z

The official start date for lambing is January 1st. All registrations must now be completed by 31st October in the year of birth. However, all sheep not registered by 15th June may not be entered for the National Sale under any circumstances.

Sheep attending shows should also be registered. Please ensure that your ear tags have the Bleu information on the secondary tag: flock letter, year and the last three digits of the EID tag.

UPDATE TO SOCIETY RULES

Please be aware as of 2023, an update to Rule 12 of the Society Show & Sale rules was made (available on the website) as follows: *“The use of hair removing substances and/or razor blades is strictly forbidden”*. This stands for both shows and the National Show & Sale. The procedure is forbidden to take place either before or at an event.

2024 YEARBOOK

Following the success of the 2023 version, booking are now being taken for the 2024 Yearbook. Full page adverts are priced at £100+VAT with half page at £60+VAT. Please contact Becky now to book your space! All suggestions of material or possible features are also very welcome along with photographs; please email Becky (breeddev@bleudumaine.co.uk).

DO WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS?

Please contact either Jane or Becky to clarify your current email address with us to ensure you aren't missing any important updates from the Office.

ARE YOU FOLLOWING US?



@bleudumaineesheepsociety



@bleudumaineesheep

Your Bleu du Maine Council

PRESIDENT	Sam Small	
CHAIRMAN	Iwan Davies	
VICE CHAIR	Sally Shone	
Glenn Baird	Laine Daff	Paul Farmer
Simon Norman	Sue McInnes Skinner	
Richard Pilkington	Ryan Wilson	

OFFICE CONTACT DETAILS

Council Matters, Shows, Events & Promotion:

Becky Hurd 07584 130061

breeddev@bleudumaine.co.uk

Membership & Registrations:

Jane Smith 07813 108144

secretary@bleudumaine.co.uk

We Wish You a Happy, Healthy Christmas and a Successful Lambing