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Neges gan y Cadeirydd / Chairman's Message

Dear Members,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well and enjoying a successful lambing season. We've been fortunate with the weather recently, which has certainly made things easier on the ground.

You should by now have received the agenda for our upcoming AGM, taking place on Sunday, 27th April at The Jubilee Hall, Llanelwedd, LD2 3TF. If you haven't received the agenda, do get in touch and we'll send a replacement.

A quick reminder that membership subscriptions should now be paid. If you haven't already done so, please consider setting up a standing order — it's the easiest way to stay up to date. Please note that membership fees will increase from 1st May, so it's worth checking that your payment is in before then.

We are currently seeking new Committee Members, and would love to hear from anyone interested in joining. If you'd like more information, feel free to contact me directly. Nominations should include a brief resume, and we are also inviting nominations for show judges, as outlined in the AGM agenda.

We're delighted to announce that Brian and Elizabeth Eagles have generously provided a new award for a competition open to Members showing livestock in England and Scotland. Further details will be shared shortly — stay tuned!

The Glyn Hawker Award is a competition for our Junior Members. Please see details within the newsletter, we look forward to lots of entries later in the year.

Finally, please keep an eye on our Facebook page and website, which are updated regularly with the latest news and announcements.

Warm Regards

Lucy Levinge
Cadeirydd / Chairman

Membership

Please can you ensure that all your details - address, email address and telephone number are correct. Any unpaid members subscriptions will receive an email reminder and if the membership remains unpaid by the end of June, the member will no longer receive any further correspondence from the Society. It is your responsibility as a member to ensure that your details with the Society are correct. We've had numerous situations over the past year where a member hadn't received various items through the post, but it now appears that the member had moved and hadn't told the Society whilst a handful of members weren't paid up members.

New Members

We wish to welcome all new members to the Society. You will find previous newsletters on the website along with a helpful information sheet regarding tagging of lambs and various other information. If you have any queries regarding breed points and registering your lambs, please contact our Field Officer, Mr Timothy Evans on 07837 714854. He is more than happy to have a chat with anyone and willing to speak to you on the phone, visit you and your sheep or accept videos and photographs in order to assist all members.

Registrations

The registration letter this year is N.
Postage costs are at an all time high and any wrong addresses incur costs to the Society. Please remember that a £2 surcharge is now added to every pack of registration tags requested by members. Tags will not be issued until this is paid. Blank registration forms are issued with new tags or they are available to print from the Society website.

Publicity Stand

The Society will have a stand at three events this year:

- Spring Festival, Builth Wells on 17 & 18 May
 - NSA Welsh Sheep on 21 May
- Royal Welsh Show, Builth Wells on 21-24 July.

If you are able to spend an hour manning the stand at any of these events please contact Jill Evans, Publicity Officer.

Royal Welsh Show 2025

Please note that the livestock schedules are now online. Livestock entries will open on Wednesday 23 April and close on Wednesday 28 May. The judging times will be the same as last year - the Torwen sheep will be judged at 3pm Monday and Torddu at 8.30am Tuesday.

Glyn Hawker Award

We welcome entries for this award from our Junior Members. Tell us about your Badger Face sheep, how you look after them and any shows you attend. Please include pictures – we look forward to lots of entries, with a closing date of 20th October.

Society Trip

We are in the planning stages of a society trip in the autumn following sheep sale season. We will be putting forward some ideas at the AGM, an idea so far includes a flock visit to the Crew Family, and we would appreciate any expressions of interest and ideas at the meeting. More details to come soon!

Society Merchandise

We have some exciting new hoodies becoming available to coincide with our 50th anniversary next year. Jill has been working really hard on the design which can be seen at The Smallholders event in May.

Polite Reminder

All Society officers work full time and/or farm as well as some having young children.

It is not always possible for them to answer the phone or answer Messenger messages immediately. When phoning and if you require a call back please leave a voicemail message. Our officers will get back to you as soon as they can but we ask for your cooperation. Diolch.

Torwen Sheep

Some concern has been raised this Spring over the standard of Torwens and the growing number of poorly marked lambs. The Society would like to host a discussion focused on the Torwen Breed. If you'd like to take part, please contact Timothy Evans on 07837 714 854 so we can agree on a time and date and prepare a list of topics, tips, and concerns to cover. The meeting can be held face to face or virtually to accommodate as many members as possible.

Provisional Judges

If you are currently a Provisional Judge, now qualified to move up after completing judging duties for 5 shows, please send us details by 20th April. We also welcome nominations for new judges.

Social Media

Just a quick reminder that the Society has a public Facebook page and all members are welcome to tag the Society in your photos. The Society also has a closed facebook page 'Badger Face Welsh Mountain Sheep Society (Members only group)'. It's been wonderful to see an increase of many members engaging in discussion on this group. The Society also has an Instagram account – please tag us in your posts and stories. Please note that if your account is private we are unable to share your posts/stories.

Contact details for officers:

Lucy Levinge, Chairman – lucylevinge@btinternet.com

Kate Williams, Treasurer – treasurer@badgerfacesheep.co.uk

Enfys Williams, Secretary – secretary@badgerfacesheep.co.uk

Aeron Edwards, Registrations – registrations@badgerfacesheep.co.uk

Jill Evans, Publicity – publicity@badgerfacesheep.co.uk

Donna Evans, e-Communications – webadmin@badgerfacesheep.co.uk

Eglwys Flock

It is with great sadness that the Society heard that Alun Davies, Eglwys Flock, passed away on Monday 7 April. Alun was known to many of us for his friendly smile and quality stock. Alun was always on hand to help in any way he could and was always more than willing to provide sheep for the Society stand. His greatest Society achievements include winning the Royal 3 Counties, Smallholders and the Society Show & Sale.

Bu Alun yn aelod ffyddlon i'r Gymdeithas a byddwn ar ein colled heb ei wên heintus a'i barodrwydd i helpu bob amser. Estynnwn ein cydymdeimlad dwysaf tuag at y teulu cyfan.

