

# Nell Flock

The largest Llanwenog flock in the UK



**Glos. Wilts. Border - Flock no. 363**  
**Stock usually available for sale**  
**07831 489694**



## The Llanwenog Sheep Breeders Support Group

New Year 2012 Newsletter

With the festive period over and the lambing season once again creeping up on us, I hope you all had chance to relax and refresh for the busy shepherd's year ahead.

2011 sheep prices were exceptional and it is difficult to see how they may be improved upon in 2012, but we must work hard to maintain the success that we enjoyed last year.



*Courtesy Mrs L. Zorab*

After such a dry summer and shortage of grass, our ewes have come through looking extremely well. I am not sure whether or not this is a national trend, but I trust this is the case with you all.

Sheep in good condition now should give a trouble free lambing and milk well.

You will all be aware by now that the project initiated by the LSSG is well underway at Bridgwater College, Somerset, an update of which is included in this newsletter.

I wish you all a prosperous New Year with plenty of enjoyment from your Llanwenog sheep.

Best wishes

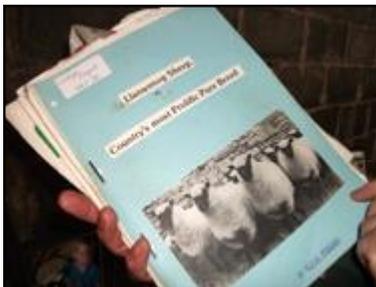
Philip (Pip) Hodges  
Chairman LSSG

## News

### The Society AGM and Flock Visit, 5<sup>th</sup> November 2011

This was held at a new venue, Ty Glyn near Aberaeron. John Green was re-elected President, Les Jenkins as Vice President and Lynwen Jenkins and Emily Addis re-appointed as Treasurer and Secretary respectively. On the Working Committee, Lawrence Jones was elected Chairman and Philip Thornley as Vice Chairman. Elfyn Morgans and May Clegg retired. John Green and Ernie Lewis were re-elected and Huw Jenkins and Marie Annette Williams were elected. Following the Meeting, an excellent dinner was served and an enjoyable evening was had by all.

The first flock visit was to **Glwydwern (152)**, home of the **Morgans** family, a farm which is partly SSI with the remaining 240 acres and 100 rented acres dedicated to the pedigree flocks of 340 Speckled faced ewes, a hobby flock of Blue faced Leicester and 33 Llanwenogs, as well as Continental X cattle. Elfyn started with Llanwenogs when he was 10 years old and has bred and shown the breed ever since. Back in 1988/89 in a special College project, he identified the Llanwenog as the '7 stars ewe', virtues which are still true today. Also on display were 2 stock rams and a pen of ewe lambs, kept back from the better ewes as replacements.



*Courtesy Sue Money-Kyrle*



*Courtesy May Clegg*

The second visit was to **Cwm March (248)**, the immaculate 40 acre organic farm of **Alun & Rebecca Evans**. Formerly running 80 ewes, the two flocks now consist of 20 Llanwenog ewes & 7 lambs and 23 Suffolk ewes & 6 lambs who were all much admired, as well as some Welsh cobs, a Kelpie X sheepdog and a variety of vintage agricultural machinery, which forms part of the Cardigan & District Agricultural & Maritime Museum collection.

Our many thanks to both families for their excellent hospitality and welcome refreshments.

**More details of the Visits can be found on the website.**

## More news...

### Llanwenog Sheep Society in Partnership with Bridgwater College

Llanwenog ewes have settled in well at Rodway Farm, Cannington and with the abundance of quality grass have gained in condition. They are running with a group of Texel X ewe lambs and after being with teaser rams for two weeks were put to Charollais rams on October 14th.



Students are already involved with their management and after inserting EID tags in all ewes, have inputted individual ewe data onto the computer system. The College has purchased a tag reader, handheld computer and laptop software to handle performance data, the first of which will be scanning results in early 2012. Steve Jones (Farm Manager) hopes to involve students in a project comparing Dry Matter intakes of Llanwenogs versus other ewes during the prelambling housing period.

There is much to be gained from this project for Llanwenog breeders. **The Society stand will be at Lambing Sunday at Rodway on March 4th 2012** hopefully to be followed by a flock visit later on. Performance data will appear as the season progresses and we anticipate a feature about the project on the main Society website in the near future . Watch this space! *Lawrence Jones*



*Courtesy Mrs L. Zorab*

## More news continued...

### ‘Falling on Four Legs’

By Helen Brown, Lesser Moorguards 293

Our first Llanwenogs, Nerys and Bronwen, came to us as lamb hogs in January 1999, joining a group of mule shearlings to give us our first lambing experience.

We had moved to our Cumbrian house with six acres five years earlier, visiting at weekends until we both got early retirement. Our farmer neighbour encouraged us to buy some mule gimmer lambs from him, and so began our farming life.



*Courtesy Margaret Warren*

Why Llanwenogs? I took a part-time shepherd's course and heard about Llanwenogs being docile, not wont to stray and easy to handle. Quite independently we had a similar recommendation so, keen to have a rare breed, the Llanwenog Sheep Society put us in touch with John Moore in West Cumbria and we bought two sheep from him.

Our first ever lamb was a Llanwenog, Nerys's tiny ewe lamb called Rhiannon. We finally parted with her more than ten years and fifteen lambs later.

The next year we sold the mules and bought two more Llanwenogs. Soon we had a flock of 8 and bought our first tup, Owain. We've had our share of adventures and dramas, including surviving foot and mouth. Now, ten years on we have just acquired our sixth tup, Bryn, and look forward to another crop of lambs in the spring. The Llanwenogs have lived up to expectations for us. They thrive on our steep "severely disadvantaged" land, are easy to manage, good mothers and have a high lambing percentage. Most importantly they are a great source of pleasure to us and our family.

## Show, Sale & Events Diary

Spring Flock Visit - details to follow soon.

### Shows

May 17th—20th	Devon County
May 19th—20th	Smallholder & Garden Festival
May 30th—June 2nd	Bath & West
June 2nd—3rd	Hertfordshire County Show
June 6th—7th	Stafford Show
June 7th—9th	Royal Cornwall
June 15th—17th	Three Counties
July 23rd—26th	Royal Welsh
July 24th—26th	New Forest Show
July 28th	Mid Devon Show
July 28th	Oxford County & Thame Show
August 2nd	Honiton Show
August 9th	Okehampton Show
August 16th	Chagford Show
<b>August 25th</b>	<b>Llanybydder Show &amp; Sale</b>
August 30th	Monmouth Show
September 8th	Romsey Show
September 15th—16th	Royal Berkshire Show
November 26th & 27th	Royal Welsh Winter Fair

# Show & Sale Results

## 27<sup>th</sup> August 2011: Llanybydder Sale

All 110 ewes and 60 ewe lambs were readily snapped up, prices for yearling ewes averaging 111gns pen of 5 and 148gns for pairs. Per head average was 122gns, comparing favourably with some of the early Autumn commercial sales. Ewe lambs averaged 97gns for 5 and 123gns for pairs. Top prices on the day were a pair of **Ffarm Fach** yearlings – 160gns and **Gwynfaen** ewe lambs – 155gns, both went to new breeders. A total of 54 rams were offered, averaging 283gns for older rams, 270gns for yearling rams and 201gns for ram lambs. Top price was 380gns for an **Alltgoch** yearling ram, 350gns for a **Pentre** 2yo ram and 250gns each for 2 **Pentre** ram lambs.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2011: Worcester Sale

A quiet market this year for pedigree sheep, also for stores and commercial breeding ewes. An average of 118.50gns for pens of 5 yearlings, 113.50gns for yearling pairs and 91gns for ewe lamb pairs.

## 17<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> September 2011: Newbury Show

The **Charndon** flock again did well in the Hill & Heath section, gaining 1st shearling ram, 4th ram lamb, 4th ewe and 5th ewe lamb in the 'Other Native Breeds' class. Sunday – 5th shearling ram, 3rd ram lamb, 4th ewe (class of 23!), 2nd ewe lamb and 5th in the Group section out of 17.

## 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011: Stoneleigh Show

Llanwenogs from the **Charndon** flock won 1st yearling ewe, 1st yearling ram and 2nd ram lamb in the Hill & Heath section. The yearling ram was then judged Champion Hill & Heath and Reserve Best in Show.

## 7<sup>th</sup> October 2011: York Show & Sale

What a successful venue this is turning out to be for the Llanwenogs. For the 3rd year running they won Interbreed Championship, this time with a ewe from Philip Hodges' **Charndon** flock. His ram was also Section Reserve Champion to the above ewe. To end a happy day for Pip, his Ryeland ewe won her class and went on to achieve top price for the breed. Another gratifying aspect of the day was the great interest shown in the Llanwenogs by the local butchers. *Jill Bennett*

Full details of all show and sale results can be found on the website.

## FOR SALE PREGNANT EWES

**2x yearlings (Gerwyn bred)**  
**2x 3 yr olds (Brown Clee bred)**

Tupped late Nov by Reg. Ram:  
Gwynfaen P107 - due to lamb mid-April

A sudden family illness has forced us to cut back our livestock commitments and therefore we are reluctantly selling these in-lamb ewes. A good home is important to us and reasonable on-farm prices apply.

**Contact:** Peter & Lynne Rixon  
07584 827535, peterjrixon@hotmail.com.  
Flock no. 441. Nr Knighton

## CHARNDON FLOCK

(flock no. 70)

Individual records since 1973.  
Bred for type, conformation & legs

**Visitors welcome**  
01869 278 286



## Subscriptions

Please note that as from **July 2012** the annual subscription will increase to **£10**. This is renewable at the AGM or by completing the enclosed renewal form.

## Your Support Group Committee

<b>Chairman</b>	Philip Hodges (Charndon 70)	01869 278286
<b>Treasurer</b>	Brian Williams (Red Burrow 235)	01530 413050
<b>Secretary</b>	Lynne Zorab (Brendon 221)	01984 640081
<b>Lawrence Jones</b>	(Blackhall 380)	01837 840714
<b>Charles Horton</b>	(Nell 363)	01285 850905
<b>Alison Ayling</b>	(Clover 423)	01648 594013
<b>Barbara McLachlan</b>	(Hillesden 230)	01280 860144
<b>Peter Hicks</b>	(Coton 314)	01604 740215
<b>Jane Roberts-Holmes</b>	(Lillingstone 410)	01280 860131

There is a list on [www.llanwenog-supportgroup.co.uk](http://www.llanwenog-supportgroup.co.uk) of all **Area Representatives** who are available to give advice and guidance to members should they require it.

# Membership Application/Subscription Renewal Form 2012

If you know anyone who would be interested in joining the Group please give them this application form or direct them to our website, [www.llanwenog-supportgroup.co.uk](http://www.llanwenog-supportgroup.co.uk).  
**You must be a member of the main Society to become a member of the Group.**

Alternatively, if you would like to **renew** your membership then please send a cheque for £10 to the address below, completing the form with any new details where appropriate.

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I wish to apply for/renew membership of the Llanwenog Sheep Breeders Support Group.

All membership is **£10 per person** for the year. We regret that dual (husband & wife) membership is not permitted, all memberships are accepted on an individual basis.

**Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms** (delete as appropriate)

**Name:**.....

**Address:**.....

.....

.....

**Postcode:**.....

**Tel:**.....

**Email:**.....

**Signed:**.....

**Date:**.....

**I would like the newsletter  
emailed / posted to me**  
  
(delete as appropriate)

Please make cheques payable to **The Llanwenog Sheep Breeders Support Group**, noting your **flock details** on the reverse of the cheque and send to:

Mr Brian Williams (Treasurer, Llanwenog Sheep Breeders Support Group)  
Red Burrow Farm  
Packington  
Ashby-de-la-Zouch  
Leics LE65 1UD