



BWMSBA

WINTER SUPPLEMENT



Above: Reserve Supreme Champion lambs at the 2017 Royal Welsh Winter Fair. Photo: Dot Tyne

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Newsletter Printed by SJH Print

Royal Welsh Winter Fair 2017.

A pair of ewe lambs were awarded the Reserve Supreme Championship at this year's 2017 Royal Welsh Winter Fair.

These two ewe lambs, which tipped the scales at 56kg combined weight, were exhibited by Anest Fleur Roberts, assisted by her father Mr Brian Roberts. For a pair of mountain lambs to take the reserve title ahead of some on the continental breeds is a huge achievement. The lambs were sold through the ring on the second day of the event for £390 per head. They were purchased from the breeders G & E Lloyd, Tyn Twll, Llanwrst, through Welshpool Market,

The main breed class on the first day was well supported underlining the popularity of the Black Welsh Mountain.



Results:

Class: One pair of Black Welsh Mountain Lambs

- 1 - Miss Anest Roberts
- 2 - Miss Eryn Stephens
- 3 - G & E Lloyd
- 4 - M & D Evans
- 5 - Mr J Griffiths
- 6 - G & E Lloyd



Photos: Dot Tyne

Flock Books 2018.

If you have paid for a flock advert for the flock book and/or website. Please email copy, preferably as a pdf or as a word document, to enquiries@blackwelshmountain.org.uk as soon as possible.

If you have photographs from 2017 shows that might be useful for the flock book, please send to the same email address.

Please only send high resolution jpgs, preferably with a file size of 1mb or higher to ensure adequate quality when printed.

From the Secretary

As I write this, it is nearly a month since I began working as BWMSBA Secretary. So I felt it would be a good thing to let you know a little bit about myself.

I am married to Tim, who I met while we were both studying at the Welsh Agricultural College in Aberystwyth. At the end of our studies, we moved to the small offshore island of Bardsey, North West Wales. Our primary role was the shepherding of the island's sheep flock, but we spent a great deal of time working to become as self sufficient as possible. Our location 4 miles offshore, with no regular boat service, and a very low income made this essential. This was a formative period in both our lives and taught us a great many skills which we still draw on today nearly twenty years later.

In 1998 we moved back to the mainland to take on our own smallholding on the Llyn Peninsula. Ty'n-y-Mynydd is a small, traditional, family run hill farm, on the northern coast of the Llyn peninsular. We have increased the acreage we have and currently are farming in the region of 140 acres. The type of land we farm is largely heather covered uplands, with picturesque rocky outcrops, old quarry workings and scree. The rather harsh nature of the terrain makes the Welsh Mountain sheep an obvious choice of breed for us, but not the black variety I'm afraid! We do a very small number of shows with our Welsh Mountains, just for fun, but the real focus of our sheep breeding is based around performance

recording our flock and all that entails. In addition to the sheep flock, which numbers around 120 breeding ewes, we rear pigs for the freezer, have three house cows, together with calves and store cattle, various and sundry poultry and ducks, and three children who are nearly grown up.

If the face looks familiar it may be that you are a reader of "Home Farmer" magazine which I write a diary piece for every month while Tim is a regular contributor to "Country Smallholding". In addition to this, Tim has published "The Sheep Book for Smallholders" and together produced our most recent book "Viable Self-Sufficiency".



Dot, with her daughter's ferret, Jack the Nipper!

Since 2008 I have been providing a secretarial service to the Ryeland Flock Book Society which has enabled me to gather considerable experience of administering a membership organisation and I hope that this will help me to offer a professional, yet friendly service to the BWMSBA. It will take me a little while to find my feet and to learn the ways of the Black Welsh Mountain Sheep Breeder's Association, so please be patient with me in the meantime.

A quick note of thanks to everyone who has been so helpful to date, and I look forward to meeting more of you in the future.

BWMSBA Dates for 2018

Dot Tyne

Thursday 3rd May - Annual General Meeting. Greenlands Insurance Building, RWAS, Llanelwedd.

Saturday 31st August - Annual Sale of Black Welsh Mountain Sheep, Raglan Market