

HEBRIDEAN SHEEP SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 1158095

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2014-08-04

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Knox Mill
Knox Mill Lane
Killinghall
Harrogate
HG3 2AE

Phone 07717803037

Email info@hebrideansheep.org.uk

Website www.hebrideansheep.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 3. THE FOLLOWING OBJECTS ARE FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT:-3.1 THE PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURE BY THE ENCOURAGEMENT, PROMOTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE BREEDING OF HEBRIDEAN BREED AND THE MAINTENANCE OF THE PURITY OF THE BREED; AND3,2 TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC INTO THE ATTRIBUTES OF HEBRIDEAN SHEEP, INCLUDING THEIR USE IN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT AND IN SUSTAINABLE LOW INTENSITY FARMING SYSTEMS.

Activities: Informing the farming industry, conservationists, managers of sensitive environments and the general public of the attributes of Hebridean sheep through the website, shows, demonstrations and information leaflets. Maintaining and improving the registration of Hebridean sheep, including online services, to ensure the maintenance and purity of the breed for future generations.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£19,915	£21,080	-	-
2024-03-31	£22,831	£21,247	-	-
2023-03-31	£23,044	£23,196	-	-
2022-03-31	£21,452	£18,513	-	-
2021-03-31	£20,822	£13,855	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
JONATHAN RALPH JAMES	Chair	2015-08-01
DARREN ALEXANDER CASSIE		2013-10-29
ERIC ROY MEDWAY		2013-10-29
Emily Charlotte Smith		2024-10-20
HELEN ROSALIE ARTHAN		2013-10-29
HELEN VICTORIA BREWIS		2013-10-29
Jack Clement Cuthbert		2018-10-05
Katherine Tunstall		2023-10-15
MARGRITA JANTINE GEZINE PEACE		2013-10-29
Nicola Mason		2024-10-20
VICTORIA CLARE KATHLEEN MASON		2013-10-29

HEBRIDEAN SHEEP SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1158095

Accounts



hebridean sheep society

Trustees' Report 2025

Governance, Management and Finance

Each year at least 4 trustees retire from the board after a term of 2 years in office. At the AGM in October 2024, Jack Cuthbert and Jonathan James were nominated by members for a further term of office together with Emily Smith and Nicky Mason, both of whom were previously co-opted; no election was required. At the following meeting of the board, 2 members were co-opted: Dale Huddleston to raise the profile of Hebridean meat and lead on the Authentic Hebridean Hogget Scheme; Padruig Morrison to promote the breed in the Hebridean Islands. We are pleased to report that at the AGM we were again easily quorate.

We would like to thank former trustees Pen Rashbass and Roger Burns and co-optees David Braithwaite and Ealísaid Dick, who all stood down from the board in October, for the work they have done for the Society; far too much to enumerate here.

The board met 4 times during the year plus an additional meeting to consider co-opting members to the board. All the meetings took place via video conferencing as did the AGM. At the November meeting, Eric Medway was appointed as vice chair. A policy was approved on the use of flock prefixes, particularly the transfer of a prefix; the Registration rules were amended to fit with current practice. All the rules of the Society are published on the website together with the policies and the constitution. These rules and policies are reviewed annually, and whenever necessary, by the board.

The trustees agreed that paper-based registrations should be phased out to future-proof the registration process. The webinar on the HSS website shows how to use the on-line Grassroots registration system; and Grassroots itself has on-line guides. Consideration will, of course, be given to those who cannot access Grassroots or need more help to use it.

The finances of the Society are such that we can maintain our reserve fund despite more expenditure this year on educational and informative materials. The honoraria given to the Registration Secretary, the Membership Secretary and the Treasurer were increased by 5.2%, reflecting UK wage inflation over the past year. The amount of time they give to the Society is phenomenal.

The board has registered the Society with HMRC to claim Gift Aid on donations.

Promotion and Education, Research

Trustees Jonathan James and Darren Cassie, the logistics team, have made sure that the HSS banners and educational displays have been seen up and down the country at shows both large and small. Three new display boards have been added to our material. They are impressively large but lightweight and easy to carry. One is for Wales and England, one for Scotland and one for the Islands. They have been in use at the Royal Welsh Spring Festival, NSA Highland Sheep and the Great Yorkshire

www.hebrideansheep.org.uk
Charity No. 1158095





hebridean sheep society

Show with the Island one on display at the Summer Symposium. New banners were produced as well for the Summer Symposium - in Gaelic as well as English. An impressive, badged, yellow gazebo has been acquired for use in Scotland. It made its inaugural appearance at the Border Union for our National Show. At an outdoor venue, having somewhere under cover is most useful in sunshine and in rain.

The trustees have revised the Ram Assessment Criteria which are used at sales and, more generally, to provide guidelines to members, judges, inspectors and the public on what to look for in a ram. This should be especially useful for new breeders and those wanting to start flocks.

The year 2024/2025 has been challenging for livestock keepers with the weather veering from very wet to drought conditions in many parts of the country. On top of that were the restrictions made on animal movements to control the spread of BTV-3. Trustee Emily Smith, a vet by profession, gave a very timely and informative webinar on BTV-3, the new variant of the blue tongue virus which can lead to severe illness and death in sheep.

The Moredun Institute has been awarded a grant to investigate genetic resistance to Maedi Visna in sheep. They are working with the University of Nottingham plus support from SRUC and AHDB to investigate the TMEM154 gene, a protein which seemingly confers resistance to Maedi Visna. Trustee Emily Smith has been liaising with AHDB and Nottingham as a result of which a sample of Hebrideans have been included in this genomic testing. The genomic data collected will also give us the opportunity to further research the Split Upper Eyelid Defect in some multi-horned sheep.

Monitoring the Breed

Registrations for 2024 were down in numbers. Apparently, this has been the case in other breed societies too. Trustees discussed ways of ensuring that more eligible lambs are registered in 2025.

Flock returns were up on last year. Thank you to the membership for taking on board the importance of the data that the returns provide in monitoring the national flock.

Informing Breeders

Besides meeting up at shows and events, members have kept in touch through the Hebridean Facebook pages and Instagram. Two issues of the *Blackboard* have been circulated with current news. *The Black Sheep*, our yearbook, is full of interesting articles. It includes the stories of the Mullach Flock and the Whitestitch Flock, both of which have been registering lambs for 26 years. It also has: examples of flocks cross breeding their Hebrideans and producing fat lambs from Hebridean Mules.

An enjoyable and informative Winter Event was hosted by Nick and Anne Fecitt in Cumbria. The theme of the day was Hebridean meat. A well known chef and Dale Huddleston led the discussions. Dale has subsequently updated the Authentic Hebridean Hogget documentation and is looking into ways of developing the scheme.

www.hebrideansheep.org.uk
Charity No. 1158095





hebridean sheep society

The Summer Symposium was held on the Isle of North Uist and, despite the lengthy travel involved, had a record attendance. The important place of Hebridean sheep in crofting was demonstrated and breeders from across the Western Isles brought sheep to an impressive show, which attracted much interest from many passers by, who stopped for a considerable time and were able to find out all about the breed.

Helen Arthan
Chair

Approved at AGM 19 October 2025



REGISTRATION ACCOUNTS 2024-25

2024-2025

<u>Trading Account</u>	itemised	sub-totals	2023-24	
<u>Expenses</u>				
Postage	587.24		821.19	
Stationery	417.74		348.55	
Computer costs	297.86		722.42	
Internet fees	300.00		300.00	
Ketchum/Shearwell Eartags	0.00		0.00	
Flockbook Printing	740.00		824.00	
Rosettes	304.99		196.46	
Registration Sec. Honorarium	3481.50		3371.77	
Grassroots Fees	1206.00		600.60	
Mileage	71.60		20.40	
Bank Charges	60.00		60.75	
Melton Sale Contribution	0.00		60.00	
mobilephone (logging in to Bank A/c	96.00		96.00	
sundry	<u>39.99</u>		<u>25.00</u>	
	7602.92	-7602.92	7447.14	-7447.14
<u>Receipts</u>				
Registration, transfers etc	8073.15		9968.22	
Flockbook	7.00			
sundry	22.30		8.75	
donations	16.00		15.00	
Interest	<u>0.75</u>		<u>4.07</u>	
	8119.20	8119.20	9996.04	9996.04
		516.28		2548.90
Gold account interest	<u>555.89</u>	<u>555.89</u>	<u>529.60</u>	<u>529.60</u>
	8675.09		10525.64	
Excess Income		1072.17		3078.50
C/Bal		335.72	219.44	
Transferred from Gold Account		<u>-5600.00</u>	<u>-5100.00</u>	
		-5264.28	-4880.56	
Transferred to Gold Account		<u>6000.00</u>	<u>8000.00</u>	
		735.72	3119.44	
less O/Bal		<u>-219.44</u>	<u>-570.54</u>	
		516.28	2548.90	
Gold acc Interest		<u>555.89</u>	<u>529.60</u>	
difference		1072.17	3078.50	
Rosettes and Melton fee really belong to General Account but have historically been paid by registration account as I do the ordering				

Registration and Gold Accounts Consolidation

Closing Bal - Reg Acc	335.72		219.44	
Closing Bal - Gold Acc	<u>21556.03</u>		<u>23150.14</u>	
	21891.75	21891.75	23369.58	23369.58
	-			
Opening Bal Gold Acc	23150.14		-21120.54	
Opening Bal Reg Acc	<u>-219.44</u>	<u>-23369.58</u>	<u>-570.54</u>	<u>-21691.08</u>
difference	-1477.83	-1477.83	1678.50	1678.50
paid from Gold acc to General acc	8550.00		8900.00	

REGISTRATION ACCOUNTS 2024-25

	paid to Gold acc from General				
	acc	<u>-6000.00</u>	<u>2550.00</u>	<u>-7500.00</u>	<u>1400.00</u>
Difference	equals surplus of income	1072.17	1072.17	3078.50	3078.50

All Accounts Consolidation

Closing Bal - Reg Acc	335.72		219.44	
Closing Bal Gold Acc	21556.03		23150.14	
Closing Bal Gen Acc	537.21		223.74	
	22428.96	22428.96	23593.32	23593.32
Opening Bal Reg Acc	219.44		570.54	
Opening Bal Gold Acc	23150.14		21120.54	
Opening Bal Gen Acc	223.74		317.67	
	23593.32	-23593.32	22008.75	-22008.75
Difference		-1164.36		1584.57
Gold acc Interest	555.89		529.60	
Excess Expenditure Gen Acc	-2236.53		-1493.93	
Excess Income Reg Acc	516.28		2548.90	
Equals difference	-1164.36		1584.57	

General Account 2024-2025

Income

Subscriptions	10688.83	
Merchandise	297.84	
Books	98.00	
Calendars	154.44	
Interest	<u>2.04</u>	
	11241.15	11241.2

Expenditure

Postage	1054.54	
Stationery	130.19	
Handbook	402.00	
Yearbook	1433.00	
meetings	108.08	
meeting travel	228.00	
Breed Promotion	3468.32	
Catering	683.48	
Adverts	743.00	
Merchandise	29.24	
Calendars	117.60	
Internet	700.38	
sundries	214.24	
Honorarium- Secretary	1527.38	
Honorarium- Treasurer	1527.38	
Other travel	711.85	
Judges	185.00	
Subscriptions	205.00	
BankCharges	60.00	
in wrong account	<u>-51.00</u>	
	13477.68	<u>-13478</u>
Excess expenditure		-2236.5

21 September 2025

Mrs V C K Mason

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Mrs Mason

Validation of Hebridean Sheep Society 2025 Accounts

Thank you for forwarding the bank statements, trading sheets, and supporting income and expenditure documentation for the year ending 31 March 2025.

I am happy to validate your record keeping.

I have considered the following points:

- The Society uses three bank accounts (General account CAF 00027345, Registration account CAF 00027346, Gold account CAF 00098422). All documents relating to these accounts are presented. Transactions between the accounts are clearly documented.
- The balances shown at the close of the period on external statements reconcile to the balances in your records. This is a fundamental validation of your figures, and implies that income has been accounted for on a cash received basis; that is, there is no income shown in your accounts which has not been received from membership, registrations, book sales, etc.
- All receipts and expenses, both in total and by category, reconcile to your detailed listings.
- All expenses are documented, with external evidence where possible. As a sensible sample, I made five checks between your records and primary external documents, chosen at random but concentrating on higher value transactions. All external documents were present:
 - TRA Rosettes £304.99 Reg Acc voucher 12
 - Johnsons Printers £740.00 Reg Acc voucher 33
 - Triographic Printer £1,835.00 Gen Acc voucher 13
 - YAS Enterprises £543.02 Gen Acc voucher 75
 - First Choice Events £1,0890.60 Gen Acc voucher 87.
- The -£51 expense shown on the general account, could perhaps be more clearly documented by being grouped in with the total registration receipts; the amount being the difference between the total of registration fees incorrectly paid into the general account and the total amount transferred from the general account to the registration account. This is a low value and of little significance.

As in previous years, they look like a very well-kept set of accounts.

If I can help in future years, let me know. Thank you.

Best Regards



Graham Robbins

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

HEBRIDEAN SHEEP SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1158095

Accounts



hebridean sheep society

Trustees' Report 2024

Governance, Management and Finance

The Board of Trustees of the Hebridean Sheep Society CIO held four meetings over the year to oversee the running of the organisation. Three meetings were held by video conferencing and one was a hybrid meeting (face-to-face with video conferencing access for those unable to attend). With trustees and co-optees spread widely from North Uist and Inverness in the north to Swanage in the south, face-to-face meetings are expensive in terms of time and money, although more business can be dealt with in these all day sessions. The extra zoom meeting fills this gap, while minimising travel expenses allows more funds to be used for the charity's objects.

Following the AGM and the election and co-option of members to the Board of Trustees, board members, old and new, were recommended to work through the Charity Commission's on-line five minute guides which set out the role of trustees in a charity. They were also asked to complete a Declarations of Interest statement or to confirm no change.

The finances of the Society remain on a sound footing and the Society continues to use the services of an independent verifier for good financial governance. Recognising the effects of inflation, Trustees agreed to increase the mileage allowance to £0.40, from £0.30 which had been the rate for the last nine years.

Promotion and Education

A sub-committee of Trustees has been set up to manage the list of approved HSS judges, to maintain the list of shows with Hebridean classes together with details of the HSS approved sales, and also to schedule judges and inspectors. This ensures that the Society is better able to fulfil its objective of educating the wider public. The presence of Hebridean sheep and knowledgeable breeders and judges (who are often asked to say something about the breed) at many agricultural shows brings the breed to public attention and gives opportunity to inform the public of the many roles the breed can play in the future of agriculture and environmental management. The 2024 show season has been busy with record numbers of entries at some: over 100 animals entered at the Border Union Show; over 70 at Staffordshire County Show. Hebridean sheep were in front of the public at 17 shows where there are specific classes for the breed and at many more where there are mixed classes for primitive sheep or rare breeds.

The Society had stands in 2024 at both NSA Sheep and NSA Scotsheep. These are specialised biennial events for everyone involved in the sheep industry. For NSA Sheep in Malvern, we displayed ewes with both pure bred and cross bred lamb. For NSA Scotsheep, showed Heb Mules. The Society is keen to demonstrate the versatility of the breed by showing the cross-breeds and the Heb Mules with their offspring alongside pure bred Hebrideans.





hebridean sheep society

A stand was also on display at the Scottish Smallholders Festival, the Royal Highland Show in the NSA marquee, the Great Yorkshire Show, the Black Isle Show and the Royal Welsh Smallholders Festival. After putting funds aside for our agreed Reserve, there was sufficient money available this year for the purchase of enhanced display material and display stands to promote the breed at public events.

A number of flocks have appeared on TV and on film, notably the Ardoch flock in the Andor series 1 shown on the Disney+ channel. The Scottish Farmer had a feature on the Hebrideans at the Royal Highland Show and the Farmers' Guardian sponsored the show classes at one of our approved sales in Lanark, followed by a report and photos in the paper. All important in bringing the breed to wider attention.

The Society is in the process of developing a new website on a more versatile platform which does not rely on proprietary content management software and is more compatible with mobile phone displays. The Society's Facebook pages and Instagram presence remain vibrant.

Monitoring the Breed

Registrations were slightly down on 2023 but still much better than earlier years. Membership numbers remain stable.

In 2023, the percentage of members sending in their flock returns was low despite the fact that returns can now be completed on-line or on paper. An article was written for the Black Sheep explaining how important it is for the Society to collect these statistics in order to monitor the state of the national flock.

Informing Breeders

The Society continues to produce three print publications: the Black Sheep, the Black Book (the flock book) and the Handbook for members in addition to the biannual Blackboard which is emailed. Breeders can also ask questions using the HSS Facebook Forum and can contact Trustees using HSS email.

Helen Arthan
Chair

Approved at AGM 20 October 2024



2023-2024 REGISTRATION ACCOUNT

<u>Trading Account</u>	itemised	sub-totals	2022-2023	
<u>Expenses</u>				
Postage	821.19		598.05	
Stationery	348.55		468.90	
Computer costs	722.42		171.08	
Internet fees	300.00		356.00	
Ketchum/Shearwell Eartags	0.00		0.00	
Flockbook Printing	824.00		836.00	
Rosettes	196.46		119.51	
Registration Sec. Honorarium	3371.77		3397.80	
Grassroots Fees	600.60		889.20	
Mileage	20.40		0.00	
Bank Charges	60.75		77.00	
Melton Sale Contribution	60.00		50.00	
mobilephone (logging in to Bank A/c	96.00		28.00	
sundry	25.00		62.70	
	7447.14	-7447.14	-7054.24	-7054.24
<u>Receipts</u>				
Registration, transfers etc	9968.22		10297.00	
sundry	8.75			
donations	15.00			
Interest	4.07		0.84	
	9996.04	9996.04	10297.84	10297.84
		2548.90		3243.60
Gold account interest	529.60	529.60	162.98	162.98
	10525.64		10460.82	
Excess Income		3078.50		3406.58

C/Bal	219.44	570.54
Transferred from Gold Account	-5100.00	-5500.00
	-4880.56	-4929.46
Transferred to Gold Account	8000.00	8500.00
	3119.44	3570.54
less O/Bal	-570.54	-326.94
	2548.90	3243.60
Gold acc Interest	529.60	162.98
difference	3078.50	3406.58

Rosettes and Melton fee really belong to General Account but have historically been paid by registration account as I do the ordering

Registration and Gold Accounts

<u>Consolidation</u>				
Closing Bal - Reg Acc	219.44		570.64	
Closing Bal - Gold Acc	23150.14		21120.54	
	23369.58	23369.58	21691.18	21691.08
	-			
Opening Bal Gold Acc	21120.54		-21407.56	
		-		
Opening Bal Reg Acc	-570.54	21691.08	-326.94	-21734.5
difference	1678.50	1678.50		-43.42
paid from Gold acc to General acc	8900.00			
paid to Gold acc from General acc	-7500.00	1400.00		
Difference equals surplus of income	3078.50	3078.50		

**2023-2024 GENERAL
ACCOUNT****2022-2023****Trading Account****Income**

Subscriptions	10448.83		1125.00	
Books	73.50		234.46	
Calendars	171.70		251.00	
Other Merchandise	773.47		570.50	
Summer Event	400.00		0.00	
Winter Event	330.00		0.00	
Interest	2.37		2.11	
Adverts	0.00		100.00	
Donations	178.17		151.00	
Sundry	84.00			
regs pd to general account	-11.00		628.00	
regs repaid to registration account	0.00		-624.00	
error from last year rep	-145.00		145.00	
	<u>12306.04</u>	12306.04	<u>2583.07</u>	12583.07

Expenditure

Postage	930.08		1009.04	
Stationery	190.72		277.49	
Members' Handbook	433.00		449.00	
Breed leaflets etc	101.00		0.00	
Black Sheep Yearbook	1154.00		762.00	
Trustees Meetings	106.77		103.17	
Meetings Travel	425.70		87.60	
Honorarium - Secretary	1526.88		1593.37	<i>Inc new stand and banners</i>
Honorarium - Treasurer	1526.88		1593.37	
Breed Promotion	2788.63		6543.41	
Catering	454.63		230.09	
Subscriptions	205.00		360.00	
Adverts	760.00		684.00	
Merchandise	77.50		611.79	
Calendar Printing	114.00		216.00	
Summer Event Costs	332.45		0.00	
Winter Event Costs	396.00		81.80	
Website 1SP	381.18		360.66	
Judges Expenses	243.48		134.40	
Event Insurance	134.24		134.24	
Other Travel	536.40		787.80	
Presentations	0.00		50.00	
Monthly Bank Charges	60.00		73.25	
New Computer	681.72		0.00	
Card Reader	139.71		0.00	
Lecture	100.00		0.00	
	13799.97	-13799.97	16142.48	-16142.48
Excess Expenditure		-1493.93		-3559.41

Bank Reconciliation

Opening Balance	317.67	427.08
Expenses	<u>-21299.97</u>	<u>-22766.48</u>
	-20982.30	-22339.40

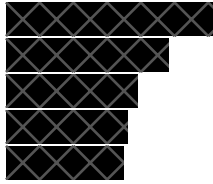
Receipts	21206.04	22657.07
Closing Balance	223.74	317.67
 Bank at 31/03/24	 223.74	 317.67
 O/bal	 317.67	 427.08
trans in	<u>8900.00</u>	<u>9450.00</u>
	9217.07	9877.08
trans out	<u>-7500.00</u>	<u>-6000.00</u>
	1717.67	3877.08
less o/bal	-223.74	-317.67
difference	1493.93	3559.41

All Accounts Consolidation

Closing Bal - Reg Acc	219.44		570.54	
Closing Bal Gold Acc	23150.14		21120.54	
Closing Bal Gen Acc	<u>223.74</u>		<u>317.67</u>	
	<u>23593.32</u>	23593.32	22008.75	22008.75
Opening Bal Reg Acc	570.54		326.94	
Opening Bal Gold Acc	21120.54		21407.56	
Opening Bal Gen Acc	<u>317.67</u>		<u>427.08</u>	
	<u>22008.75</u>	<u>-22008.75</u>	22161.58	-22161.6
Difference		1584.57		-152.83
Gold acc Interest	529.60		162.98	
Excess Expenditure Gen Acc	-1493.93		-3559.41	
Excess Income Reg Acc	<u>2548.90</u>		<u>3243.60</u>	
Equals difference	1584.57		-152.83	

27 June 2024

Mrs V C K Mason
Hebridean Sheep Society



Dear Mrs Mason

Validation of Hebridean Sheep Society 2024 Accounts

Thank you for forwarding the bank statements, trading sheets, and supporting income and expenditure documentation for the year ending 31 March 2024.

I am happy to validate your record keeping.

I have considered the following points:

- The Society uses three bank accounts (General account CAF 00027345, Registration account CAF 00027346, Gold account CAF 00098422). All documents relating to these accounts are presented. Transactions between the accounts are clearly documented.
- The balances shown at the close of the period on external statements reconcile to the balances in your records. This is a fundamental validation of your figures, and implies that income has been accounted for on a cash received basis; that is, there is no income shown in your accounts which has not been received from membership, registrations, book sales, etc.
- All receipts and expenses, both in total and by category, reconcile to your detailed listings.
- All expenses are documented, with external evidence where possible. As a sensible sample, I made five checks between your records and primary external documents, chosen at random but concentrating on higher value transactions. All external documents were present:
 - V Mason Expenses £227.50 Reg Acc voucher 30
 - Johnsons Printers Flockbook £824.00 Reg Acc voucher 49
 - M Peace Post £600.00 Gen Acc voucher 11
 - Myreton Belle Isle Show £600.00 Gen Acc voucher 23
 - H Brewis Computer £681.72 Gen Acc voucher 62.
- Expenditure such as the computer mentioned above, would be considered capital expenditure, rather than an expense belonging to a single trading year, by some bodies. But, as you do not prepare a balance sheet, the only option available to you is to recognise the full cost in this trading year (as you have done).

As in previous years, they look like a very well-kept set of accounts.

If I can help in future years, let me know. Thank you.

Best Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graham Robbins', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Graham Robbins



HEBRIDEAN SHEEP SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1158095

Accounts



hebridean sheep society

Trustees' Report 2023

Governance, Management and Finance

The Board of Trustees of the Hebridean Sheep Society CIO held three meetings over the year to oversee the running of the organisation. Two meetings were held by video conferencing and one was a hybrid meeting (face-to-face with video conferencing access for those unable to attend). With trustees spread over a wide geographical area, video conferencing saves on travelling time, minimises our carbon footprint and ensures that more of our funds can be directed towards our charitable objects.

In terms of governance, the Board introduced two new policies. (All our policies are available to view by members and the public on our website). The Conflicts of Interest Policy aims to ensure that Trustees' interests are declared and minuted before the start of each meeting so that they do not influence decision making. The Awards Policy formalises the new awards presented in recognition of the huge contribution to the preservation and maintenance of the breed made by those members who have been registering Hebrideans for more than 25 years or who have otherwise made an outstanding contribution to the Society and the breed over an extended period.

To keep track of the trophies that the Society owns and which are presented at various shows and sales, the Trustees agreed that winners should sign a receipt form when they receive a trophy. Many agricultural show societies no longer hand out their trophies because of the cost of insuring them against damage or loss. This is a great shame and the Trustees would like to ensure that our trophies continue to be in circulation.

The Board also updated the Data Protection Policy to restrict the use of membership data by Trustees to situations which have been approved and minuted by the Board. Such access is generally for sending out emails to all members.

The Reserve Funds Policy was updated to increase the sum held in reserve given the rate of inflation since the last figure was agreed. The finances of the Society are in a sufficiently strong position to make this possible. Sales of merchandise provide a source of income on top of the fees received from registrations, transfers and membership subscriptions. Our annual accounts have been independently examined by Graham Robbins, to whom we are again indebted for carrying out this task *pro bono*.

The Trustees plan to look at registration data by region to monitor the success of promotional activities and make sure monies and effort are well spent.

Promotion and Education

www.hebrideansheep.org.uk
Charity No. 1158095





A number of well-attended and successful social/educational events for members and others wanting to find out more about the breed were held:

- The Winter Gathering for members and interested guests took place in the Scottish Borders, courtesy of Jonathan James with his Slipperfield Flock with Darren Cassie leading a session on stock selection for breeding and showing.
- A Pre Christmas Gathering took place in Warwickshire, courtesy of Katy Tunstall and Michael Mansell with the Munro Flock and Dale Huddleston with his Revel Flock.
- The Summer Event arranged by David Braithwaite and Eric Medway was held at the Escrick and Harewood Estates, both of which have had Hebridean sheep for many years. The emphasis was on demonstrating the benefits of Hebrideans for conservation grazing.

The Trustees organised a webinar with Professor Andrew Fleming on the origins of Hebridean Sheep following his article 'Hiding in plain sight: St. Kilda's other race of ancient sheep' published in the *Agricultural History Review*, **20(2)**, 2022. This event was open to members of the public as well as Society members.

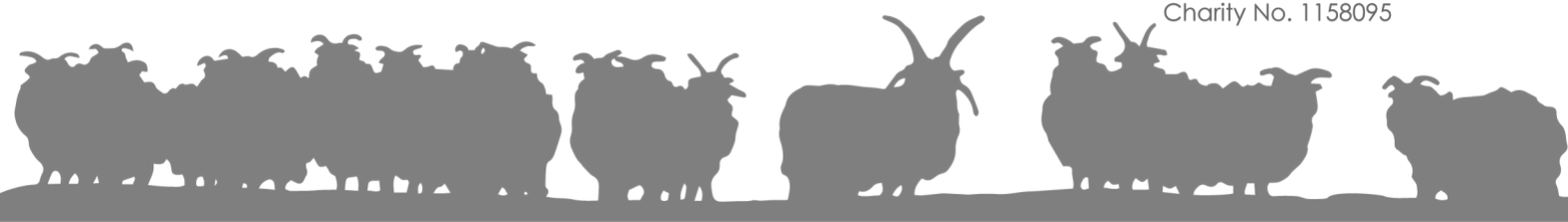
The Trustees have started using an on-line event management service to promote and manage attendance at events such as this webinar. The service is free for events that are themselves free, as are most Society events. Together with the on-line flock return, video-conferencing, a regularly updated website and an increasing use of social media to reach out to members and the general public, the Society is keeping its interactions up-to-date.

The shows this year were well supported with particularly large classes at the Staffordshire Show, Great Yorkshire Show, Royal Highland and the National Show. The HSS National Show was held this year at the Royal Lancashire Show and, despite the atrocious weather, the Trustees plan to have this as our regular third venue for our National Show; the Border Union and Royal Three Counties being the other two venues. This gives a good geographical spread allowing as many members as possible to attend our National Show.

The shows are an important shop window for our breed and provide the Society with lots of opportunity to explain the virtues and capabilities of Hebridean sheep to the wider public. It is encouraging to see classes for Hebrideans staged at more local shows, such as Malton and Dalkeith. This is due to the efforts of our exhibitors who have entered Rare and Minority breed classes in sufficient numbers to encourage the show organisers to hold separate Hebridean classes.

A special mention must be made here of our Trustee in charge of events south of the border, Darren Cassie, who once again has attended many, many shows this year (even more than last year), flying the HSS banner and sharing the experience with us on social media. North of the Border thanks go to Jonathan James who has had the new stand on display at the Royal Highland Show, the Black Isle Show, the Border Union, the Scottish Smallholder and Grower Festival (with help from Elizabeth Jack)

www.hebrideansheep.org.uk
Charity No. 1158095





hebridean sheep society

and together with Jeff Moore and Jack Cuthbert arranged for new bloodlines of registered sheep to be forward at the Dingwall sale. In Wales, the stand, with sheep provided by Nicky Mason, was at the Royal Welsh Spring Festival where the Hebridean classes had a good entry.

Monitoring the Breed

There has been an increase in registrations after a few years of steady numbers. This is a very welcome change. More of these registrations are now made on-line via Grassroots.

Trustees are constantly seeking new opportunities and markets for the breed by demonstrating its increasing relevance to the commercial sector at a time when financial margins are tight.

Informing Breeders

Print publications remain the popular format for our yearbook, *The Black Sheep*, the Handbook, which has details of the national and individual member's flocks, and *The Black Book*, which is the flock book. The bi-annual newsletter, *The Blackboard*, is emailed. Breeders can also ask questions using the HSS Facebook Forum and can contact Trustees using HSS email.

Helen Arthan
Chair

Approved at AGM 15 October 2023



HEBRIDEAN SHEEP SOCIETY ACCOUNTS 2022-2023

General Account 2022-2023

Trading Account

Income

Subscriptions	11125.00	
Books	234.46	
Calendars	251.00	
Other Merchandise	570.50	
summer event	0.00	
Interest	2.11	
adverts	100.00	
donations	151.00	
payment error	145.00	corrected next year
regs paid to general acc	628.00	
regs repaid to regist acc	-624.00	
	<u>12583.07</u>	12583.07

Expenditure

Postage	1009.04	
Stationery	277.49	
Members' Handbook	449.00	
Black Sheep yearbook	762.00	
Trustees Meetings	103.17	
Meetings Travel	87.60	
Honorarium -Secretary	1593.37	
Honorarium -Treasurer	1593.37	
Breed promotion	6543.41	
Catering	230.09	
subscriptions	360.00	
Adverts	684.00	
Merchandise	611.79	
Calendar Printing	216.00	
Summer event costs	0.00	
Winter Event costs	81.80	
Website/ISP	360.66	
Judges Expenses	134.40	
Event insurance	134.24	
Other travel	787.80	
Presentations	50.00	
Monthly Bank Charges	73.25	
	16142.48	-16142.48
Excess Expenditure		-3559.41

Bank Reconciliation

Opening Balance	427.08
	-
Expenses	<u>22766.48</u>
	-
	22339.40
Receipts	<u>22657.07</u>
Closing Balance	317.67

HEBRIDEAN SHEEP SOCIETY ACCOUNTS 2022-2023

Bank at 31/03/22	317.67
o/bal	427.08
trans in	<u>9450.00</u>
	9877.08
trans out	<u>-6000.00</u>
	3877.08
less c/bal	<u>-317.67</u>
difference	3559.41

Registration Account 2022-2023

Trading Account

<u>Expenses</u>	itemised	sub-totals
Postage	598.05	
Stationery	468.90	
Computer costs	171.08	
Internet fees	356.00	
Ketchum/Shearwell Eartags	0.00	
Flockbook Printing	836.00	
Rosettes	119.51	
Registration Sec. Honorarium	3397.80	
Grassroots Fees	889.20	
Mileage	0.00	
Bank Charges	77.00	
Melton Sale Contribution	50.00	
mobilephone (logging in to Bank A/c	28.00	
sundry	<u>62.70</u>	
	7054.24	-7054.24
<u>Receipts</u>		
Registration, transfers etc	10297.00	
Interest	<u>0.84</u>	
	10297.84	<u>10297.84</u>
		3243.60
Gold account interest	<u>162.98</u>	<u>162.98</u>
	10460.82	
Excess Income		<u>3406.58</u>

C/Bal	570.54
Transferred from Gold Account	<u>-5500.00</u>
	-4929.46
Transferred to Gold Account	<u>8500.00</u>
	3570.54
less O/Bal	<u>-326.94</u>
	3243.60
Gold acc Interest	<u>162.98</u>
difference	3406.58

HEBRIDEAN SHEEP SOCIETY ACCOUNTS 2022-2023

Rosettes and Melton fee really belong to General Account but have historically been paid by registration account as I do the ordering

Registration and Gold Accounts Consolidation

Closing Bal - Reg Acc	570.54	
Closing Bal - Gold Acc	<u>21120.54</u>	
	21691.08	21691.08
	-	
Opening Bal Gold Acc	21407.56	
Opening Bal Reg Acc	<u>-326.94</u>	<u>-21734.50</u>
difference		-43.42
paid from Gold acc to General acc	9450.00	
paid to Gold acc from General acc	<u>-6000.00</u>	<u>3450.00</u>
Difference equals surplus of income		3406.58

All Accounts Consolidation

Closing Bal - Reg Acc	570.54	
Closing Bal Gold Acc	21120.54	
Closing Bal Gen Acc	<u>317.67</u>	
	<u>22008.75</u>	22008.75
Opening Bal Reg Acc	326.94	
Opening Bal Gold Acc	21407.56	
Opening Bal Gen Acc	<u>427.08</u>	
	<u>22161.58</u>	<u>-22161.58</u>
Difference		-152.83
Gold acc Interest	162.98	
Excess Expenditure Gen Acc	-3559.41	
Excess Income Reg Acc	<u>3243.60</u>	
Equals difference	-152.83	

Kirkby House

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

08 August 2023

Mrs V C K Mason
Hebridean Sheep Society

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Mrs Mason

Validation of Hebridean Sheep Society 2023 Accounts

Thank you for forwarding the bank statements, trading sheets, and supporting income and expenditure documentation for the year ending 31 March 2023.

I am happy to validate your record keeping.

I have considered the following points:

- The Society uses three bank accounts (General account CAF 00027345, Registration account CAF 00027346, Gold account CAF 00098422). All documents relating to these accounts are presented. Transactions between the accounts are clearly documented.
- The balances shown at the close of the period on external statements reconcile to the balances in your records. This is a fundamental validation of your figures, and implies that income has been accounted for on a cash received basis; that is, there is no income shown in your accounts which has not been received from membership, registrations, book sales, etc.
- All receipts and expenses, both in total and by category, reconcile to your detailed listings.
- All expenses are documented, with external documents where possible. In addition to the usual checks, I made five checks between your records and primary external documents, chosen at random but concentrating on higher value transactions: First Choice Event Hire £960.00 invoice HEBRIDEANSHEEP/12072022 14 Apr 2022, Triographics Printers £1,211.00 invoice SI-1595 1 Jun 2022, YAS Enterprises 2023 £504.58 invoice HEBRID01 2022 19 Dec 2022, Grassroots annual support £396.00 invoice INV-1064 5 Dec 2022, and Johnsons Printers £836.00 invoice 104675 7 Feb 2023. All external documents were present.

As in previous years, they look like a very well-kept set of accounts.

If I can help in future years, let me know. Thank you.

Best Regards



Graham Robbins

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

HEBRIDEAN SHEEP SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1158095

Accounts



hebridean sheep society

Trustees' Report 2022

Governance, Management and Finance

The Board of Trustees held three meetings over the year to manage the running of the Society. Meetings are now held either by video conferencing or in person but with on-line facilities so that trustees unable to attend in person can still contribute to the discussion. All meetings were well attended, thanks to a committed and enthusiastic Board of Trustees.

The November meeting focused on the roles and responsibilities of trustees and co-opted trustees, following the elections held at the AGM and the retirement of the Chairman after two very successful consecutive terms of office. This meeting also reviewed the number of sheep registrations over the year. The February meeting focused on the governance of the Society and on membership matters. The May meeting focused on the finances of the Society and confirming the details of the AGM – another Zoom event to enable as many as possible to participate. At these meetings, arrangements were made for the shows and sales (judges and inspectors and publicity), plans made for the Summer Symposium and Winter Gathering and ongoing projects reviewed.

The Society remains in a stable condition financially with sufficient monies in hand to comply with the Reserve Funds Policy. Sales of the annual calendar, using members' photographs of Hebridean sheep, and sales of other HSS merchandise have provided a useful source of income for the Society. Thanks are due to the Treasurer, for managing merchandise sales and for keeping the General Account in good order and to the Registration Secretary for managing the Registrations Account and consolidating all accounts for submission to the examiner and members. The Society is most grateful to Graham Robbins for independently examining our accounts.

Promotion and Education

During the previous two years when the Covid pandemic reduced our activities, expenditure on breed promotion at shows and sales was restricted. This year, the Trustees agreed to update and expand all the display equipment and promotional material. Now we were able, once again, we have been determined to take every opportunity to educate and inform both the farming community and the general public of the advantages and importance of Hebridean Sheep, especially in changing economic and climatic times. We have mounted large displays at more than ten events from the north of Scotland, through Wales and much of England.





hebridean sheep society

The Society has had a good media presence this year. The website remains up-to-date and eye-catching, the HSS facebook page is well used and provides a quick way of getting information out to members and we also have an Instagram account, with more than 500 followers, allowing photographs and results of shows and sales to be published in almost real time, as well as much else of interest. The Hebridean Sheep Forum facebook page is used by members to seek and give advice and generally promote what members are doing. Recent analysis of hits on various HSS facebook posts shows the benefit of using social media to promote events and, of course, the breed.

This year, some trustees and their sheep have also been showcased on television and radio: Helen Arthan on Farmers Country Showdown; Jack Cuthbert on radio at the Royal Highland Show and on TV in a Field to Fork programme for the Farm Advisory Service Scotland; David Braithwaite in an ITV News program, Border Life.

We entered the RBST Scotland Food & Farming Sustainability Awards in the Native Breed Society of the Year category, held at the Royal Highland Show. Our proposal worked well but we were just pipped at the post by the Eriskay Pony Society. The Society's second place was not the only award featuring Hebridean sheep. Trustee Jonathan James is to be congratulated for his own success winning the Sustainable Market Stall Holder of the Year award. His regular market stall features Slipperfield Croft Hebridean meat. Sustainable Chef of the Year was jointly won by a restaurant, L'Escargot Bleu, that features Hebridean hogget and mutton from trustee Jack Cuthbert's Ardoch flock.

On the whole, numbers of animals forward at shows have been very good. No doubt, members are making up for lost time over the past two years. There were over 80 entrants at Staffordshire County Show, well over 80 at the Great Yorkshire Show and over 120 at the National Show, held at the Border Union Show this year. These shows are another important opportunity to promote the breed to the wider public. At the National Show this year, new classes were held for Young Handlers with three different age groups and a new trophy, the Jet Trophy, for the overall champion. We hope that this will help to encourage the next generation of Hebridean members.

Through our members and trustees, the Society continues to demonstrate the full capability range of Hebridean sheep and their versatility is increasingly recognised and understood by all sectors of farming and countryside management. Most members value their pure bred pedigree Hebrideans for their wool and their meat; many are involved in important conservation grazing projects; some members are cross-breeding their ewes with a terminal sire to produce early, more commercial lamb for the market; others are producing the Hebridean Mule (a Blue Faced Leicester cross) to put to a

www.hebrideansheep.org.uk
Charity No. 1158095





hebridean sheep society

terminal sire. The Hebridean mule gives a low cost entry point into the sheep industry while her hardiness, milkiness and smaller size give her an advantage over other half-breds.

The Authentic Hebridean Hogget Scheme is now well established and the reputation of Hebridean meat as a gourmet product is gaining ground. The Wool project is ongoing with British Wool to promote Hebridean wool and to educate members in how to present it. It is noticeable that BW is now altering its marketing strategy to give more support to niche buyers and sellers. Let us hope that the looming energy crisis pushes the insulation qualities of wool to the forefront.

Monitoring the Breed

Membership numbers remain stable at around 400 with new members replacing the gaps left by others who lapse for one reason or another. New members are joining from Cornwall in the south to the Highlands of Scotland in the north. Geographical isolation will not be an issue for Hebridean Sheep.

Members now have the option of submitting their flock returns on-line instead of on paper. The on-line version has proved very easy to use and, hopefully, will be still more widely used in 2022. The data drawn from the flock returns is valuable to the Society in monitoring the national flock.

Registration numbers have been maintained at around 2000 for the past few years. The small but necessary rise in registration fees has not, thankfully, deterred our committed breeders from registering their sheep. Many thanks are due to the Registration Secretary, for ensuring that all the registration data is correct and for producing the Society's flock book, *The Black Book*.

Members received a copy of the lambing record again this year. This spreadsheet aims to help members assess the performance of their flock. Data accrued from these records may also prove valuable in monitoring the national flock and contribute to the Hebridean Hardiness Evaluation Project (HEB-HEP).

Informing Breeders

To keep members informed and amused, the Membership Secretary has edited and produced another very interesting edition of the Society's year book, the *The Black Sheep*. We also continue to send the bi-annual newsletter, *The Blackboard*, which keeps members updated.

The two annual events for members have been arranged for this year. The Summer Symposium took place in August on the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, visiting three flocks, with a focus on conservation grazing. The Winter Gathering will be held at Slipperfield Croft in Peebleshire.

www.hebrideansheep.org.uk
Charity No. 1158095





hebridean sheep society

This will be a more practical, hands-on event to include evaluating rams for breeding. The Society tries to move these events around the country so that as many members as possible have the opportunity to attend. The same rationale applies to the location of the National Show. The Society also tries to vary the focus of these events to meet the different interests of members. Trustees value well informed members as a valuable resource for explaining the merits of Hebridean sheep to the wider public.

Trustees are confident that the Hebridean sheep breed will continue to grow and find new markets, particularly with increasing emphasis being placed on low input, regenerative agriculture.

An Old Breed for New Times.

Helen Arthan
Chair

Approved at AGM 16 October 2022



HEBRIDEAN SHEEP SOCIETY CIO ACCOUNTS 2021-2022

General Account 2021-22

Trading Account

Income

Subscriptions	11099.50	
Books	326.86	
Calendars	218.50	
Other Merchandise	1832.92	
summer event	423.20	
	<u>13900.98</u>	13900.98

Expenditure

Postage	1477.26	
Stationery	582.18	
Publications	1075.00	
Trustees Meetings	0.00	all by Zoom
Meetings Travel	46.80	
Honorarium -Secretary	1482.98	
Honorarium -Treasurer	1482.98	
Breed promotion	1257.26	
subscriptions	190.00	
Adverts	720.00	
Merchandise	1047.85	
Calendar Printing	182.40	
Summer event costs	663.26	
Winter Event costs	0.00	
Website/ISP	535.01	
Judges Expenses	69.60	
Event insurance	168.24	
Other travel	274.20	
Presentations	248.50	
Monthly Bank Charges	<u>106.50</u>	
	11610.02	-11610.02
Excess Income		2290.96

Bank Reconciliation

Opening Balance	336.12
chq never presented	<u>0.00</u>
corrected o/balance	336.12
Expenses	<u>-16610.02</u>
	-16273.90
Receipts	<u>6700.98</u>
Closing Balance	-9572.92
Bank at 31/03/22	427.08
unpresented	<u>0.00</u>
	427.08
o/bal	336.12
trans in	<u>2800.00</u>
	3136.12
trans out	<u>-5000.00</u>
	-1863.88
less c/bal	<u>-427.08</u>
difference	-2290.96

HEBRIDEAN SHEEP SOCIETY CIO ACCOUNTS 2021-2022

Registration Account 2021-22

Trading Account

<u>Expenses</u>	<u>itemised</u>	<u>sub-totals</u>
Postage	811.17	
Stationery	397.37	
Computer costs	30.00	
Internet fees	394.99	
Ketchum/Shearwell Eartags	0.00	
Flockbook Printing	827.00	
Rosettes	159.01	
Registration Sec. Honorarium	3251.75	
Grassroots Fees	853.20	
Mileage	12.20	
Bank Charges	111.00	
Melton Sale Contribution	0.00	
mobilephone (logging in to Bank A/c	25.00	
sundry	<u>29.88</u>	
	6902.57	-6902.57
<u>Receipts</u>		
Registration, transfers etc	7472.00	
Donations	70.00	
sundry	<u>5.00</u>	
	7547.00	
Gold account interest	<u>3.77</u>	
	7550.77	<u>7550.77</u>
Excess Income		648.20

C/Bal	326.94
Transferred from Gold Account	<u>-5100.00</u>
	-4773.06
Transferred to Gold Account	<u>5500.00</u>
	726.94
less O/Bal (adjusted)	<u>-82.51</u>
	644.43
Interest	<u>3.77</u>
difference	648.20

Rosettes and Melton fee really belong to General Account but have historically been paid by registration account as I do the ordering

Registration and Gold Accounts Consolidation

Closing Bal - Reg Acc	326.94	
Closing Bal - Gold Acc	<u>21407.56</u>	
	21734.50	21734.50
Opening Bal Gold Acc	-18803.79	
Opening Bal Reg Acc	<u>-82.51</u>	<u>-18886.30</u>
difference		2848.20
paid to Gold acc from General		
net acc		<u>-2200.00</u>
Difference equals excess of expenditure		648.20

HEBRIDEAN SHEEP SOCIETY CIO ACCOUNTS 2021-2022

All Accounts Consolidation

Closing Bal - Reg Acc	326.94	
Closing Bal Gold Acc	21407.56	
Closing Bal Gen Acc	<u>427.08</u>	
	<u>22161.58</u>	22161.58
Opening Bal Reg Acc	82.51	
Opening Bal Gold Acc	18803.79	
Opening Bal Gen Acc	<u>336.12</u>	
	<u>19222.42</u>	<u>-19222.42</u>
Difference		2939.16
Excess Income Gen Acc	2290.96	
Excess Income Reg Acc	<u>648.20</u>	
Equals difference	<u>2939.16</u>	



29 July 2022

Mrs V C K Mason
Hebridean Sheep Society



Dear Mrs Mason

Validation of Hebridean Sheep Society 2022 Accounts

Thank you for forwarding the bank statements, trading sheets, and supporting income and expenditure documentation for the year ending 31 March 2022.

I am happy to validate your record keeping.

I have considered the following points:

- The Society uses three bank accounts (General account CAF 00027345, Registration account CAF 00027346, Gold account CAF 00098422). All documents relating to these accounts are presented. Transactions between the accounts are clearly documented.
- The balances shown at the close of the period on external statements reconcile to the balances in your records. The only discrepancy being two transactions dated 1 April 2022 on the general account taken into your figures for year ending 31 March 2022. This is a fundamental validation of your figures, and implies that income has been accounted for on a cash received basis; that is, there is no income shown in your accounts which has not been received from membership, registrations, book sales, etc.
- All receipts and expenses, both in total and by category, reconcile to your detailed listings.
- All expenses are documented, with external documents where possible. In addition to the usual checks, I made five checks between your records and primary external documents, chosen at random but concentrating on higher value transactions. Three expenses were checked on the registration account: ref 31 V Mason expenses £629.67 Dec 2021, ref 33 Grassroots £378.00 Dec 2021, and ref 43 Mar 2022 Johnsons Printers £827.00. Two expenses were checked on the general account: ref 21 (16) Triographics Printers £1,075.00 Jun 2021, and ref 47 (36) R Peace expenses £141.43 Sep 2021. All external documents were present.

As in previous years, they look like a very well-kept set of accounts.

If I can help in future years, let me know. Thank you.

Best Regards

Graham Robbins



HEBRIDEAN SHEEP SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1158095

Accounts



hebridean sheep society

Trustees' Report 2021

The challenges of the coronavirus restrictions are not yet behind us, but it has been good to see some cautious return to shows and more normality at our sales.

Our newsletters and yearbook have again been an important way of remaining in touch. The Black Sheep was a special edition, there being no show reports from 2020 the pages were filled with even more interesting articles from across our membership, providing information and advice to breeders across the UK. We thank the contributors and editor, Helen Brewis, for making this possible.

It was a most notable occasion for our Chairman to be able to travel to the Ford and Etal Estate to award James Mole [Jimmy] a long service to Hebridean sheep award, and to view the Etal flock with lambs at foot. This was the 50th crop of Etal lambs making it the oldest flock to have continually registered Hebrideans; Jimmy having been in charge of every lambing!

We were particularly pleased that the Great Yorkshire Show took place this year. It was excellent to see the Hebridean Sheep Society able to meet with the public and interested smallholders and farmers to talk about Hebrideans, albeit under the sensible safeguarding regulations that were in place. We were one of a very few breed societies that had taken the trouble to have a marquee display at the show this year, which enabled us to re-engage with the public and promote the many benefits of Hebridean sheep in sustainable and low intensity systems.

After its postponement in 2020, it was a joy for our Chairman to co-host, along with Martin and Jean Andrews, the summer symposium this year. Despite having to work through Covid restrictions, many old friends were able to come along, and it was particularly pleasing to see so many relatively new members also able to join us.

The challenges of the year have led to some good innovations. Board meetings for example, have been held very successfully through an internet platform. Even more exciting is the fact that this year's AGM used the same format, making it the most accessible AGM we have ever held since our formation as an independent breed society in 1994.

It has also been excellent to see the use of both our Facebook group and our website to post photographs of the sheep entered for each of our three official HSS sales. This has been a powerful initiative that has undoubtedly fostered additional interest in acquiring Hebridean sheep.





hebridean sheep society

There was some uncertainty about how leaving the European Union would impact upon sheep sales, but any fears were unfounded as the sheep industry has generally strengthened in the UK since the end of the transition period. This has had a positive impact on the value of pedigree sheep, including Hebrideans.

One aspect of Brexit did affect the Hebridean Sheep Society directly. Whilst Britain was a member state, the Hebridean Sheep Society was the recognised authority for the management of the breed EU-wide. This changed upon leaving the EU and we no longer have jurisdiction beyond the UK (indeed Northern Ireland, being directly linked to the EU common trade area, remains problematic from the point of view of exporting breeding sheep from the mainland). This lack of our control over the breeding of Hebrideans outside the UK conflicts with our charitable object to maintain the genetic purity of the breed. Trustees had little choice therefore but to no longer provide direct pedigree breeding support beyond these shores.

Six years ago, Trustees agreed to set on a course of greater promotion of Hebridean sheep and of the Hebridean Sheep Society; and much progress has been made. We created a new website that has proven to be adaptable; we successfully rebranded; we worked with the British Wool Marketing Board (now British Wool) and established three bespoke Hebridean wool grades, and although wool is trading badly around the world just now, this initiative will yet prove positive in the marketing of Hebridean fleece. We have focussed on the unique flavour of Hebridean meat and established our own Authentic Hebridean Hogget brand that guarantees excellent welfare standards, absolute traceability, and superb flavour. Through the work of Trustees, specialist meat initiatives have found their way onto national television and radio as well as Swedish and Israeli TV channels. We have had detailed articles about Hebrideans published in The Scots Magazine, Countryside Smallholder, Farmers Guardian, The Scotsman, and others. All of this further promotes the wide and growing interest in Hebridean sheep and secures their future as a breed.

In short, we have been busy.

All this, of course, generates interest in our very special sheep and their very special story. But this work is never finished and indeed educating people about the breed remains an important charitable object of our Society. But whilst we may have been busy promoting what we do, we have not taken our eye off the `day job`. We are delighted to report that through excellent management of our finances we are again able to hold the full contingency, as approved by members, that we set aside for unforeseen circumstances. It is also warming to note that membership numbers are as buoyant as they have ever been.





hebridean sheep society

Our Chair writes:

Your Board of Trustees, Officers and Co-optees are dedicated and enthusiastic about their work. A more committed group of volunteers would be difficult to find anywhere. They are clear about their roles and eager to support one another. There is little wonder that the Hebridean Sheep Society is so successful. I thank them all, past and present, for the support they have shown me these past six years.

It has been a privilege to serve and as I leave the Chair, it is with pride that I inform you that your Society and the future of Hebridean sheep, is in good heart and in good hands.

David Braithwaite
Chair

Approved at AGM 17 October 2021



Hebridean Sheep Society CIO accounts 2020-2021

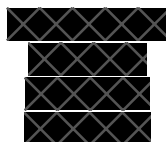
	General Account 2020-21			
	Trading Account			
	Income			
	Subscriptions	11170.73		
	Books	571.27		
	Calendars	223.5		
	Other Merchandise	1779.33		
	registrations in wrong a/c	86		
	donation	25		
		13855.83	13855.83	
	Expenditure			
	Postage	1266.39		
	Stationery	320.11		
	Publications	1545		
	Trustees Meetings	28.78		
	Meetings Travel	35.1		
	Honorarium -Secretary	1429.09		
	Honorarium -Treasurer	1429.09		
	Breed promotion	-219.25	includes refund	
	Event catering	0		
	Adverts	679		
	Merchandise	320.59		
	Calendar Printing	182.4		
	Summer event costs	0		
	Winter Event costs	22.5		
	Subscriptions	190		
	Website/ISP	98.28		
	New Computer	529		
	Judges Expenses	0		
	Event insurance	0		
	Other	0		
	Presentations	25		
	Monthly Bank Charges	69.5		
		7950.58	-7950.58	
	Excess Income		5905.25	
	Bank Reconciliation			
	Opening Balance	418.87		
	chq never presented	12		
	corrected o/balance	430.87		
	Expenses	-15950.58		
		-15519.71		
	Receipts	15855.83		
	Closing Balance	336.12		

Hebridean Sheep Society CIO accounts 2020-2021

	Bank at 31/03/20	336.12		
	unpresented	0		
		336.12		
	o/bal	430.87		
	trans in	2000		
		2430.87		
	trans out	-8000		
		-5569.13		
	less c/bal	-336.12		
	difference	-5905.25		
	Registration Account 2020-21			
	Trading Account			
	Expenses	itemised	sub-totals	
	Postage	898.31		
	Stationery	122.39		
	Computer costs	80.98		
	Internet fees	288.45		
	Ketchum/Shearwell Eartags	0.00		
	Flockbook Printing	703.00		
	Rosettes	0.00		
	Registration Sec. Honorarium	2857.50		
	Grassroots Fees	853.20		
	Mileage	6.20		
	Bank Charges	69.48		
	Melton Sale Contribution	0.00		
	mobilephone (logging in to Bank A/c	25.00		
	sundry	<u>0.00</u>		
		5904.51	-5904.51	
	Receipts			
	Registration, transfers etc	6904.50		
	Donations	56.00		
	travel repaid	<u>0.00</u>		
		6960.50		
	Gold account interest	<u>5.64</u>		
		6966.14	<u>6966.14</u>	
	Excess Income		1061.63	
	C/Bal	75.51		
	Transferred from Gold Account	<u>-4000.00</u>		
		-3924.49		
	Transferred to Gold Account	<u>5500.00</u>		
		1575.51		
	less O/Bal (adjusted)	<u>-519.52</u>		
		1055.99		
	Interest	<u>5.64</u>		
	difference	1061.63		

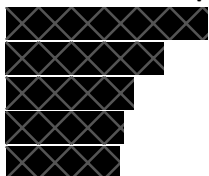
Hebridean Sheep Society CIO accounts 2020-2021

	Rosettes and Melton fee really belong to General Account but have		
	historically been paid by registration account as I do the ordering		
<u>Registration and Gold Accounts Consolidation</u>			
	Closing Bal - Reg Acc	75.51	
	Closing Bal - Gold Acc	<u>18803.79</u>	
		18879.30	18879.30
	Opening Bal Gold Acc	-11298.15	
	Opening Bal Reg Acc	<u>-519.52</u>	<u>-11817.67</u>
	difference		7061.63
extra	paid to Gold acc from General acc		<u>-6000.00</u>
Difference	equals excess of expenditure		1061.63
<u>All Accounts Consolidation</u>			
	Closing Bal - Reg Acc	75.51	
	Closing Bal Gold Acc	18803.79	
	Closing Bal Gen Acc	<u>336.12</u>	
		<u>19215.42</u>	19215.42
	Opening Bal Reg Acc	519.52	
	Opening Bal Gold Acc	11298.15	
	Opening Bal Gen Acc	<u>430.87</u>	
		<u>12248.54</u>	<u>-12248.54</u>
	Difference		6966.88
	Excess Expenditure Gen Acc	5905.25	
	Excess Expenditure Reg Acc	<u>1061.63</u>	
	Equals difference	6966.88	



27 September 2021

Mrs V C K Mason
Hebridean Sheep Society



Dear Mrs Mason

Validation of Hebridean Sheep Society 2021 Accounts

Thank you for forwarding the bank statements, trading sheet and supporting income and expenditure documentation for the year ending 31 March 2021.

I am happy to validate your prepared trading sheet and bank reconciliation.

I have considered the following points:

- The Society uses three bank accounts. All documents relating to these accounts are presented. Transactions between the accounts are clearly documented.
- The balances shown at the close of the period on external statements reconcile to the balances in your records. The only adjustments necessary were three outstanding payments: Johnsons Printers £703.00 for the Flockbook, VCK Mason £310.00 for postage, and unrepresented cheque 62, a refund of subscriptions of £7.00 to K Spencer. This is a fundamental validation of your figures, and implies that income has been accounted for on a cash received basis; that is, there is no income shown in your accounts which has not been received from membership, registrations, book sales, etc.
- All receipts and expenses, both in total and by category, reconcile to your detailed listings.
- All expenses are documented, with external documents where possible. In addition to the usual checks, I made five checks between your records and primary external documents, chosen at random. Three expenses were checked on the general account: ref 17 stamps £260.00 BACS 19/08/2020, ref 54 NSA 2021 £100.00 BACS 01/02/2021, and ref 71 bank charge £8.00 BACS 15/02/2021. All external documents were present, signed and countersigned. Two expenses were checked on the registration account: ref 2 Grassroots £118.80 Apr 2020 and ref 48 VCK Mason Honorarium £2,857.50 Mar 2021. All external documents were present.

As in previous years, they look like a very well-kept set of accounts.

If I can help in future years, let me know. Thank you.

Best Regards

Graham Robbins

