



CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2025

National Sale Showcases Bleus at Their Best:



BOWBRIDGE Zoe, 2,500gns



AINTREE Zane, 2,000gns

MESSAGE FROM YOUR CHAIR

First and foremost I would like to wish all our members new and old, a very happy Christmas and the best of lambings for 2026.

There are plenty of good news stories coming out of 2025, members have sold sheep to flocks up and down the country and even abroad, with Bleus are being used on Beltex, Dorsets, Texels, Blackies and Cheviots; the list goes on. People report their ease of lambing, their good carcass weights, their suitability for ewe lambs and consistency with the modern Bleu colour across the board. We just need to get this message across.

As usual the Bleu sparkles in the show ring and we were delighted to hear of interbreed successes at The Royal Three Counties Show for the Stayt family, as well as the Jones family winning the reserve interbreed pair at the Royal Welsh out of 53 pairs! So many members have reported interbreed successes this year across the country, which is wonderful to hear.

I think we all ought to offer a massive congratulations to Jovi Wood on winning the Overall Championship in the Young Handlers classes at the Royal Highland with a Bleu du Maine, what a wonderful success this was to add to her many this year. Thank you to all of our members who work hard to promote our breed across the country as showing is a shop window.

Sales were buoyant and we added another new sale to our roster at Welshpool with plans afoot for inlamb sales going forward. We also wish every luck to those taking part in primestock shows this season.

Little things can make big differences in our breed so any success story you have, please let us know to add to the promotional arms of the society; you are helping us to help you.

Look forward to seeing you all in the New Year and I take this opportunity to thank our council and management team who's hard work keeps our breed to the fore.

Sally Shone, Chair



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

DNA UPDATE: *Please be aware that breeders wishing to register lambs in 2026 require the sires to be DNA tested.*

The Society will cover the cost of DNA testing up until 31st December 2025. Thereafter, this cost will be absorbed by the members.

Jane will be able to advise members on cost and alternative methods for DNA testing.

DNA testing will evolve with time as the council considers the expectations of members.

Please contact Jane Smith to receive your DNA kits: secretary@bleudumaine.co.uk

SAVE THE DATE

NATIONAL SHOW & SALE, CARLISLE: Thursday 13th & Friday 14th August 2026 with show classes again in the Exhibition Hall on Thursday afternoon.

2026 NATIONAL SHOW

We have great pleasure in announcing that the 2026 National Show will be hosted by Dumfries Show on Saturday 1st August. There will be overnight accommodation available (for sheep!).

FUTURE SALES

The council have agreed to continue to support our new Welshpool sale in late August and look to expand the sale portfolio with inlamb and ewe lambs sales in the pipeline in person and potentially online.

REGISTRATION FEES: Costs of registering sheep online will remain unchanged. Those being registered on paper will incur a 20% surcharge (not including Millennium Bleus as paper is their online option).





DANYGRAIG - 2025 SHOW FLOCK WINNERS!

Congratulations to Dylan, Charlie & Caio on winning the 2025 Show Flock title after another exceptional year with the DANYGRAIG flock.



Have You Done Your Christmas Shopping?

SOCIETY TIE

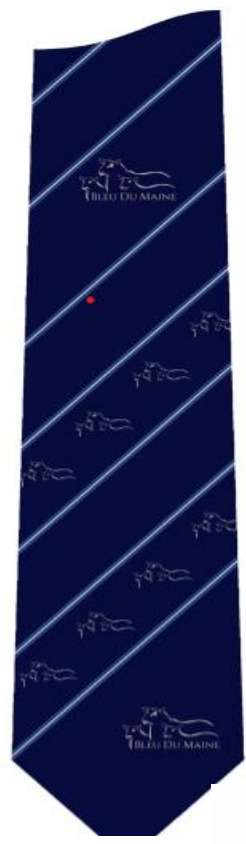
Update your wardrobe in time for Christmas with the Bleu Du Maine Sheep Society tie (featured below). The ties can be purchased via your Grassroots login (login – manage my animals – other fees) and are priced at £17.95 to include postage and packaging.

STASH SHOP

Stash Shop have items which can all be personalised for your flock. From mouse mats to coats, you have time to order before Christmas!

Visit the website:

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





OFFCUTS...



REGISTRATIONS: 2026 YEAR LETTER – B

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.

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?



@bleudumainesheepsociety

Your Bleu du Maine Council

PRESIDENT	Sam Small	
CHAIRMAN	Sally Shone	
VICE CHAIR	Glenn Baird	
Calum Cruden	Dylan Jones	Iwan Davies
Kerrie McDermid	Sue McInnes Skinner	
Simon Norman	Ashley Pickford	
Richard Pilkington	Ryan Wilson	

OFFICE CONTACT DETAILS

Council Matters, Shows, Events & Promotion:

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breeddev@bleudumaine.co.uk

Membership & Registrations:

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

