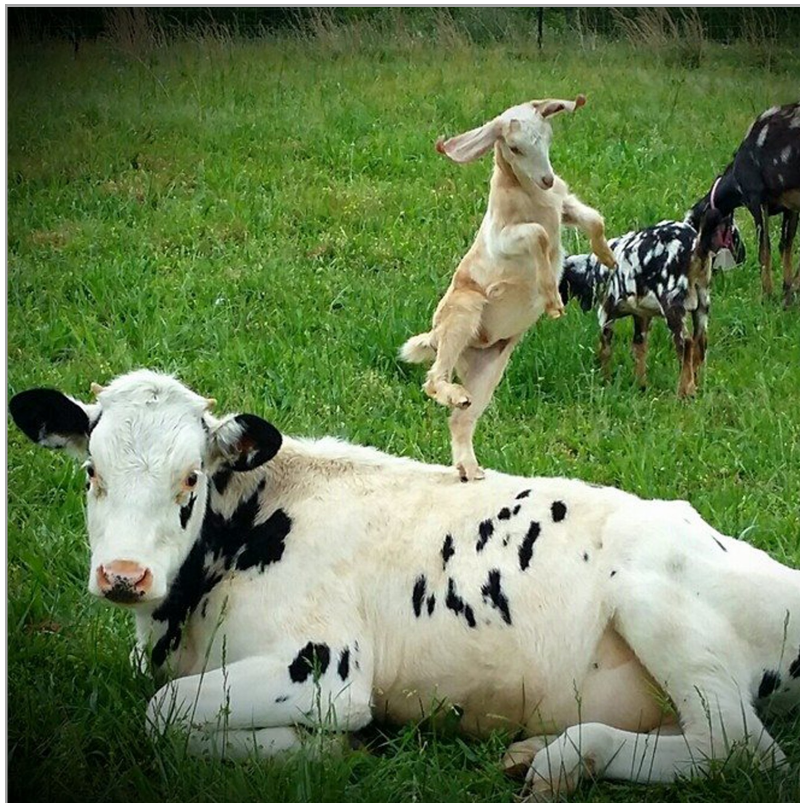
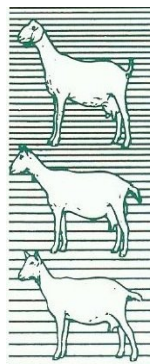


BRITISH GOAT SOCIETY



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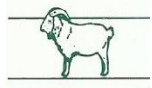
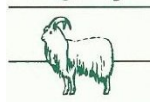
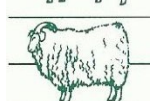
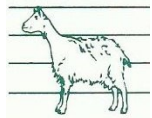
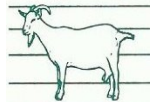
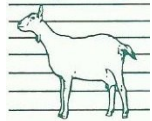
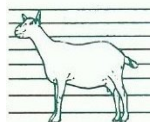
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Copy date is the first day of the month preceding publication

All copy and advertisements to reach the editor in good time

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Front Cover Picture

Picture of "goat jig" submitted by Christine Ball belongs to Melanie Green in Alabama, USA of www.sixchicksandajbirdfarms.com

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

The shows are well under way with mixed entry numbers, some are good and some not so good. The first show results that are available to be published are enclosed with this journal

I would like to remind members who do show that kid registration numbers must be submitted to show organisers before that animal competes if it is entered as r.a.f.

I would like to ask what our non showing members would like out of the society e.g articles in the journal or speakers at the affiliated society conferences. It is your society and I would welcome the memberships opinions.

Hoping for some drier weather.

Best Wishes

Colin Newton

SHOW UPDATES

Show	Date	Judge	Entries	Secretary	Tel No:
Brecon County	2nd Aug	Mr N Parr	11th July	Mr Elphick	01269870060
Aberdeen & Angus m&f	17th Aug	Mrs M Franklin	26th July	Mrs Aitken	01569766755

BGS Judges

Okehampton	14th August	Judge: Mrs S Prior.
Royal Berkshire	20th September	Judge Mrs H Matthews;
Newbury	21st September	Judge: Mr T baker

Change of Date

Cornwall Male & Youngstock now 31st August

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to extend a warm welcome to new members who are:

Mrs Stretton, Derbyshire;
Mrs Fielding, Shropshire;
Mr Webb, Alderney;
Mr Clark, London;
Mr & Mrs Myatt, South Yorkshire;
Mr Lusby, Co. Londonderry;
Mrs Pink, Kent;
Miss Cowe, Hampshire;
Ms Whiteside, USA;
Me Denny, Powys;

Mrs Ridgeway, Isle of Man;
Mr Cunningham, Co. Down;
Ms Marley & Mr Smith, Suffolk;
Miss Pulleyblank, Yorkshire;
Miss Henderson, Oxfordshire;
Miss Bosworth, Derbyshire;
Mr Kirkpatrick, West Sussex;
Ms Mayes, Cumbria;
Mr & Mrs Heathcote, Caerphilly;
Mr Hayes, Guernsey;

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Dear Members,

Can I ask Affiliated Society secretaries to check kid registration applications that are signed on behalf of one of their members. Two applications to register kids recently have been for male kids into either the Supplementary Register (SR) or Foundation Book (FB) and have therefore had to be refused. As the owners are not BGS members they may not be aware of the regulations governing registrations in the Identification Register (IR), Supplementary Register (SR) and the Foundation Book (FB).

For male kids to be registered in the Herd Book (HB) they must be by a HB sire and a HB dam. A male kid cannot be registered out of a Foundation Book (FB) dam even if it is by a HB sire Please help to avoid disappointment. Thank you.

Please note that the correct mobile phone number for Vicky Hardy is 07932 643 795 And not as it appears in the April and May editions of the Monthly Journal.

I cannot be at the Breed Shows at Newark this year due to visitors from Australia. I am sure that you will have an excellent day or two if you are staying for the Nottinghamshire Goat Club show on the second day.

Best Wishes
Jane

Mar 15, 2014: Kidding time! Beautiful warm day today, sunny and blue skies – and it's my favourite season, time to welcome the new arrivals to Chuckling Goat (herd prefix – Hoffnant).

We've been awaiting the first kid – number one on the list is Lola, my very first goat. We keep pedigree Saanens, Anglo Nubians and Toggenburg's and we keep them pure. Generally we don't cross them – but Lola is a bit of an exception. I fell in love with her as a long-legged, silky kid and have kept her ever since. She's grown up stropy, scrappy, grumpy and has half Nubie ears that fly, but I love her anyway. And she throws gorgeous kids, big glossy "do-ers" that we keep to introduce that "hybrid vigour" back into the herd.

Anyhow, she had a bit of show last night, and we kept checking her today at intervals. From the size of her, we figured there were at least three in there, and maybe more! Last year she had three gorgeous brown triplet girls, who hit the ground running and haven't stopped since.

Around noon Rich got concerned that nothing was happening, and washed up to find out what was going on. He pulled the first kid – not particularly distressed or turned wrong, but Lola just wasn't doing much about pushing him out! Maybe she's gotten a bit lazy. The second one needed a bit of help as well. The third one popped out by itself, while I was inside making a batch of skin cream, and number four followed

around 5 pm. All beautiful, all jet black. All boys. Damn it.

We milk our goats here on our family smallholding in southwest Wales, and use the milk to make health products including kefir probiotic drink, soap and skin cream. Although we keep two males on site here, (one British Saanen, one AN) we don't have any use for the boy kids. I can't stand to eat them (although I'm sure the meat is very nice!) but I just don't fancy it, any more than I fancy eating horse. And having to get rid of the boys is the one part of goat farming that I hate. And *four* boys – what are the odds!

Not a great way to start the kidding season. But we've got two more Nubies due this week, so hopefully we'll have better news as we go on!

Mar 16: Eloise, our French helper, came bursting into the house, her round face almost as bright as her coppery hair. "Bebees, bebes!" she shouted. I followed her out to the barn, hopping along on one foot putting my wellies on as I went.

Sure enough, Lola's daughter from two seasons ago, Hermione, was placidly licking a little coal-black kid!

We knew Hermione was due to kid, but thought it wasn't for another 21 days – she had repeated, but apparently had caught from the earlier mating after all. Funny how the goats don't read the same books we do, sometimes!

In any case, Hermione gave birth to another two kids without much fuss, even

though she's a first kidder. Three girls this time, we were thrilled to see. One of them had a bad neck, bent back on itself, and didn't live through the first night. But the other two are sharp and healthy, and absolutely pitch black as night, both of them – so, the score is four boys to two girls, and counting!

Our lovely neighbour Debbie has agreed to take Lola's four black boys. She says she's going to raise them for meat, and put them in the freezer at about six months. Hmmm... dunno, I think she's as much of a softie as I am! But I don't mind them going to someone we know, as long as we know that they will have a good life – however long that may be. What we don't like to do is give them to someone who thinks they want to keep them as "pets" – and then become disenchanted as they get big and smelly and hard to handle. Then the boys get passed from pillar to post, no one wants them, they get tethered and don't have a nice life.

We can't prevent death, but we can prevent suffering! So we would rather put them down ourselves than pass them into a system where they will be unloved. At least we know that they were well looked after, for as long as they lived. But they will have a nice time at Debbie's – and if she actually does put them in the freezer, at least they won't have gone to waste. Maybe I'll even gear myself up to try a goat burrito. Then again, maybe not.

Mar 17: Next to pop – Ayls, one of our beautiful Daycroft Nubie goatlings. Ayls, a first kidder, did a great job popping out

two beautiful, healthy, strong – boys. Sheesh. Luckily their bloodlines are so good that we have someone who wants at least one of them for stud. I'm relieved – always looking for a good solution to the *boy* problem.

When I go in to check Ayls the next day, her udder is tight and she's kicking the little boys away. Although it's not time for her to go onto the milking machine yet, I decide that we need to milk her out – her udder is tight enough to worry me, and the kids aren't able to get anything out of her.

We worm directly after kidding, to catch that hormonal post-pregnancy worm surge, then leave the kids on the dam for four days. At four days we generally take the kids for de-horning. It's a vet job at Chuckling Goat – I like them to be knocked out for the procedure! And knock wood, our vets have never lost one, and we've never had a problem yet!

When they come back, they smell funny and they're hungry – a great time to pop them into the kid crèche and start bottle feeding them. Mum goes in with the other milkers, and after she's finished serving out her wormer withdrawal period being milked by hand (happy barn cats!) goes onto the milking machine along with everyone else.

So Ayls isn't ready to be milked on the machine yet, but I figure we're going to need the help of the machine to get the milk out of her. So we process the good milk first, leaving the jar empty for

Ayls' withdrawn milk.

Then the goat rodeo begins! Eloise and I wrestle Ayls onto the milking stand. Ignoring the food in front of her, she kicks over the food bin and sits down in the classic Nubie style. I've never seen anything like the way Nubies collapse on the stand when they're not happy – they would definitely give any civil disobedience protester lessons in passive non-resistance!

I'm holding up Ayls' front end, Eloise is holding up her back end, we get the clusters onto her, and struggle to keep her from lying down until we get enough milked out of her to make her comfortable. Ayls gives us a reproachful look as she sags all of her weight onto us. That's gratitude for you!

Anyhow, we seem to have caught the problem in time to prevent a mastitis tragedy, thank goodness! We finally get her milked down and softened, and return her to her babies. It's 9.30 at night by this time. Ready to watch some junky telly!

Mar 18: Next to kid is Gothic Gilda, who gives birth to three girls with great aplomb. One brown, one jet black and one black with snow storm ears. She licks them dry and fluffy, eats up the afterbirth, nurses the kids and nudges them into the kid box to take a nap, raising a goaty eyebrow at Ayls as if to say, "This is how you do it!" Maybe Ayls will do better next time...

Apr 6: I'm on the train today, on my

way to London for the Fortnum & Mason launch. Our new Pro-Biotic Skin Care Range, made from raw goatsmilk and our own probiotic kefir, as well as my book, *Confessions from Chuckling Goat: How Kefir and Natural Remedies Saved My Husband's Life*, is being launched there tomorrow. No idea how it's going to go – it may be just me, sitting forlornly all by myself with a stack of books and a table full of soap and skin cream! Worse than a birthday party where no one shows up... Well, in any case, Janey Lee Grace, of imperfectly-natural.com and Radio Two fame is coming, bless her organic cotton socks, and it will be lovely to meet her in person. We've worked together so closely for the past couple of years, and she's been such an invaluable help to our business, being the guru for natural products that she is. And yet I've never met her in the flesh! Odd, how the new virtual world works. I have loads of facebook friends that I've never met in person.

Yesterday was our helper Emma's day off, but when our other new helper Jeanette (our barn helpers come from all over the world, usually stay for a month each. Emma came twice and then just gave in and stayed for a whole year!) came through the door announcing that there were new kids, I called for Emma – everyone in the house always turns out for new births! We went out to find that Seren, another one of our beautiful pedigreed Anglo Nubians from the Daycroft herd, had given birth to two beautiful – black – boys! Our Nubie stud, Tyegronon Lltdedition (Ted for short) is

sure throwing good-looking kids this year. Seren was looking completely uninterested in either of the two new arrivals. Wasn't eating the afterbirth, wasn't licking them, and definitely wasn't letting them anywhere near her temptingly plump udder. She just looked at them with vague curiosity, and kicked them away when they got too close. We left her alone for a while, just watching, hoping that the hormones would kick in and she would start to act more motherly. When it was clear that it wasn't going to happen, I grabbed a clean towel, heaved a deep sigh and got to work. We rubbed the new kids all over gently with the towel. Then we dipped the umbilical cords in iodine to prevent infection travelling up the cord, and they each got a blast of Kick Start – a great lambing potion that squirts into their mouth like black treacle. Don't know what's in it, but it surely seems to wake them up!

Then we had to hold Seren down to milk out some of her colostrum. I like to do this for all the new kids – it assures me that the teats are unblocked, that the dam has milk, and that the colostrum has gotten down the new kids within the first six hours.

I used to leave the kids and the mothers strictly alone, assuming that nature would take its course, but I've learned to make sure of this first feeding before I leave them. Nature has a way of weeding out weaklings by allowing them to die off, as well – we've found that there are times when nature needs a bit of a

helping hand!

The first blast of colostrum is incalculably valuable to the baby. It teflon-coats the inside of the baby's new gastrointestinal tract, filling it with the good probiotics that he or she will need to survive. Babies that don't get the colostrum within the first six hours frequently die – and even if they survive, never seem to thrive as well.

Anyway, Seren wasn't having any of it. She lashed out with her hind hooves when I tried to milk her out into a jug, and then sat down like a dog, and then collapsed her front legs as well. More Anglo Nubian civil protester tactics. Ah, the joys of a first kidder!

It took three of us in the end – Emma holding up her front end, Jeannette holding up her back end and me furiously milking away – before we could get a bottle full of colostrum to give the hungry new boys. But we got there in the end. Fed them and they ate well. Heart breaking to see how sharp and lovely they are. Now hopefully someone will want them.

In the meantime, they will have to be bottle-fed four times a day, adding to the five that we're already feeding.

We have a live streaming goat cam in the main milkers pen, and when the weather is dry, the milkers go outside.

We have a live streaming goat cam in the main milkers pen and when the weather is dry, the milkers go outside. We've started moving the babies into the big pen for crèche, and how they



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Photo Brian Perry*

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love it! They gambol around as only goat kids can do – leaping straight up into the air, sideways and diagonally. If you go into the pen they swarm you, jumping up with tiny soft hooves on your legs if you're standing up – or onto your chest and back if you're sappy enough to sit down. Which we always are.

I was actually foolish enough to go online and buy them a little trampoline and some beach balls to play with – I'm such a softie. But can't resist the antics! It will make for good viewing...so tempting to sit and watch them on Goat Cam, when I could actually go out into the barn itself. What an addictive time waster it is! But I love watching what they do when there are no humans around to dictate their behaviour.

Apr 15, 2014: Heart-sore today and very, very tired...

On Saturday Ian Grant phoned and told us that his lovely wife Margaret had passed away, after almost two years valiantly fighting cancer.

We had our first ever pedigreed Saanen goat – named Kattern Gwenlan - from Ian and Margaret – seems like ages ago now. I'll never forget our first trip to their house. Ian took us out to see his prized goats, ranging pure white against the rich blue green of the grass, on a bright sunny day – like something out of a fairy tale.

It was Ian and Margaret who got us involved in the South West Wales goat club, answered our questions, taught us about keeping pedigree records, and

schooled us in how to care for highly bred goats. They came and visited us, looked over our growing barn set-up, and gave us suggestions, helped us solve the (numerous and varied!) problems we ran into.

And they invited us back to their home, fed us cake and coffee, told us tales of their legendary milker Georgie, the only goat to ever win breed champion at the Royal Welsh three years in a row. Their prize ribbons were ranged in rows out in a shed, covering entire walls.

Margaret – white-haired, level-eyed, kind, firm as a rock– taught me how to make cheese, and gave me her handwritten recipe, which I treasured. We knew that Ian and Margaret were always there – always together, always a solid, unshakeable team, always on the end of the phone when a goat went down or a batch of cheese went wrong. With forty years of goat keeping behind them, what they didn't know about goats milk, goats cheese or goat keeping wasn't worth knowing.

And now, abruptly, Margaret is gone. What a lovely lady. What a loss, to Ian, and to all of us. Stoic, forthright, brave, uncomplaining Margaret Grant - a hero, and a lady to the last.

Ian asked us to come and pick up his goats. We were honoured to be asked, and glad to be able to do something practical to help. We made two trips, and ended up taking his two Saanen milkers Glee and Genista, a meat goat, three kids and Georgie herself, ponder-

ous and regal as a ship under sail, still milking heavily at eight years old.

We drove over to Ian's place, had a chat, loaded his goats into the trailer, hugged him goodbye and took his goats back home with us. We strawed a fresh pen and put in a rack of hay, gave them water. The kid we turned into the kid's pen along with our nine kids. She looked strange and out of place at first, the only white kid among a sea of black and brown – but soon was leaping onto the trampoline and playing with the beach balls along with all the other kids.

The older goats we settled into two adjoining pens of their own, so they could still be together, and separate from our rowdy crew. They would need time to adjust. We all would.

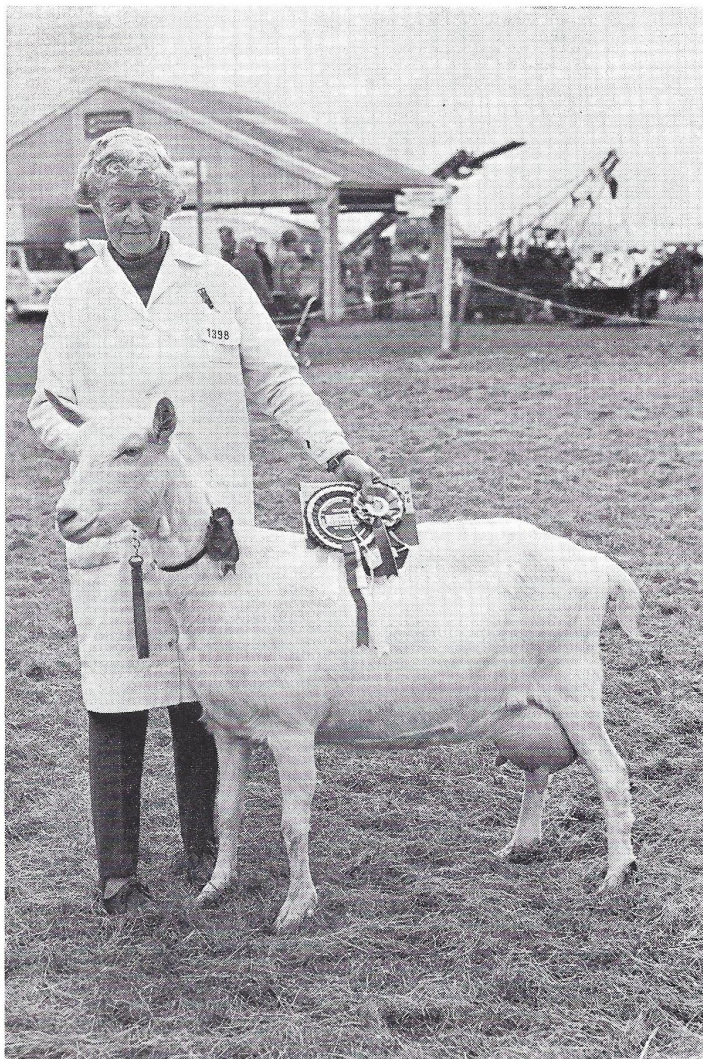
I couldn't settle to anything, and nothing made me feel better. I finally pulled on my wellies and went out into the field, where our goats were grazing placidly, scattered over the long, sunny slope down to the woodland.

I walked down towards them and the goats came to greet me, jostling to be

close, expecting treats. I sat down on the ground and let them swarm me, pushing their noses into my ear, nibbling the ends of my hair and blowing their sweet breath into my face. I sat there for a long time, until they lost interest and began to drift off back up the hill again. I turned my face up to the sun. Margaret Grant would have thought I was a right old girl's blouse, sitting out here on the ground, crying, with the goats around me. Margaret was practical, and full of common sense. She would have told me that a woman and a wife, a mother and a goat keeper with a family to look after, a business to run and a herd of goats to milk, has more important things to do than sitting around feeling sorry for herself because she has lost a dear friend and a mentor who can never be replaced. Margaret would have told me to get up, wipe my face, pull myself together, and get on with it.

And so I did.

To read more about Chuckling Goat, or check the Goat Cam, see www.chucklinggoat.co.uk.



MOSTYN MARYMINE *2 Br. Ch. B.S.13383H. b. 30/3/71. s. CH. §44/36† Mostyn Minimayson Br. Ch. S.3062H. d. CH. RM46 Mostyn Maypoppin Q*1 Br. Ch. B.S.11767P. Winner of C.C., I.P.C.C., B.C.C., 1st milking trials at Newark, Royal Highland, Royal, Great Yorkshire, Royal Lancashire, Manchester and Rutland Shows. Recorded yield 3,436 lb. in 230 days. First lactation, still milking.

Owner and breeder : Miss J. Mostyn Owen, Yorkshire.

From the 1974 Year Book

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Hosted by the Scottish Goatkeepers' Federation

The Edinburgh Conference Centre, Heriot-Watt University, Riccarton, Edinburgh
EH14 4AS, Saturday 12th April 2014

The Chair, Mrs A Aitken, welcomed those present and thanked the Scottish Goatkeepers Federation and Lisa Sinclair for organising the day. Mrs Aitken also thanked Mrs Maureen Ross who reached the end of her term as a past President to the Society.

Present:

Mr A Baisden, Mrs L Sinclair, Ms B Fairley, Mrs A Dick, Mrs R Campbell, Miss R Campbell, Dr. A Sieker, Mr B Perry, Mrs J Smith, Mrs C Woodward, Mrs D Ferguson, Mrs M Ross, Mr R Wilson, Mr P Mounter, Mr R Wood, Mrs R Earthy, Mrs M Hardman, Mrs A Aitken, Mr C Newton, Mrs J Wilson.

Apologies for Absence:

Mrs M Cain, Mrs J Martin, Mrs F Fairley, Mr R Parkin, Ponefrat Goat Club, Mrs R Goodwin, Mr A Morrey, Mrs M & Miss G Franklin, Mrs J Allen, Miss A Freeman, Miss P Dunford, Mercian Mlk Recording Group, Miss F Ogden, Mrs H & Mr J Matthews, Mr D Brown, Mr D Knowles, Mr R Pemble, Mrs V Wood & Mr T Maddison, Miss J Bellamy, Mr Downey, Mr M & Mrs M Thomasson, Mr G Godfrey, Miss D Oliver, Miss R Candy, Mr I Johnson, Mrs W Webster, Mrs V Hardy, Mr G Smith, Mr G Webster, Dr R Torrance, Miss J Taylor & Mrs B Blacklock.

To confirm the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 13th April 2013

(Published in the Monthly Journal for July 2013). There being no amendments, the Minutes were confirmed. Proposed by Mrs M Ross and seconded by Mrs L Sinclair. All in favour.

3. To receive the Report of the Committee for the year ending 11th April 2014

Mrs Aitken thanked the Committee for their work and support through the past year. Mrs Aitken reported that the website redevelopment was going ahead and the six top headings for the home page had been agreed. Mr C Peck had resigned as a BGS judge. Mr P Mounter and Mrs A Thyne had been approved as licenced judges. Following the resignations from the Committee of Mr G Godfrey and Mr S Jones, they had been replaced by Mrs V Hardy and Miss R Norman in line with the votes cast in 2013. Mrs Hardy and Miss Norman were currently without portfolio. At the next committee meeting on 3rd May all officers are elected for the coming year. Development of the Grassroots programme to include the ability to view milking competition results for individual goats had been approved and would be available this year. The advice of the Financial Adviser had produced good results from the investments. The money from the closure of the Norfolk and Suffolk Goat Club had arrived this year.

4. To receive the Statement of Accounts for the twelve month period ending 31st October 2013

The accounts had been published and circulated. Mrs Aitken highlighted several points in the accounts. Advertising and registration revenue is up; milk recording fees are lower; committee expenses are down, which was considered good; postage expenses had gone up and was a reflection of the increase in postal charges in April 2013; investments had performed well following the receipt of the legacy from Mr Hill. The accountant's fees were up slightly this year. It was agreed that Mr Pennicott's fee as Financial Advisor should appear in the accounts next year. Mrs Aitken said that the BGS had deregistered for VAT and Mr Newton said this had been reflected in reduced registration fees from 1st January 2014. Mr Perry made note that sale of goods income had improved and recorded thanks to Mrs R Eathly and Mr S Jones for their hard work. Mr Perry proposed the accounts be accepted. Seconded by Mrs J Smith. All present were in favour.

5. To elect a President

Two nominations had been received; Mr G Godfrey and Mr J Matthews. Mrs Aitken thanked Mr Wood for his term as president and Mrs Ross for her four years on the Committee as President and then immediate past president. Mr Wood would serve two years on the committee as the immediate past president. Mr Wood thanked the members for the honour of being president, something he would remember for the rest of his days.

Mr Wood spoke in support of Mr Godfrey's nomination. He had first met Mr Godfrey in 1979 at the BGS Centenary celebrations. He was a very popular judge and had bred the first champion goat in Wales. Mr Godfrey had served on the BGS Committee and run many shows for many years. He is a great supporter of the BGS. Mrs Aitken read the election address for Mr Matthews. A vote was taken by a show of hands. For Mr Godfrey, eleven votes (11 votes). For Mr Matthews, nine votes (9 votes). Mr Godfrey was dually elected President for the next two years.

Mr Newton and others present said that the two nominees were both very good candidates for different reasons and the decision had been a difficult one to make.

A short discussion took place regarding postal voting for the position of President but there was little enthusiasm for this.

6. To elect Vice Presidents

Mrs Aitken read the list of existing Vice-Presidents as published in the 2014 Year Book. Mr Godfrey was now President. Proposed by Mrs Hardman that the remaining Vice President be elected en-bloc. Seconded by Mrs Eathly. All in favour. Mr Perry proposed Mrs M Hardman in recognition of her support and work through the years. Seconded by Mrs Ross. All in favour.

7. To elect the External Examiners

Mrs Aitken recommended Mr I Pennicott be re-elected as the BGS Financial Advisor. All in favour.

Mrs Aitken reported she had been giving the accountants some thought and felt that someone nearer to the office should be considered together with prices and value for money. Mrs Aitken said this was not a criticism of the current accountants. Mr Wilson stated that it is the work that is done that needs to be considered also. Mr Wood said it is prudent to consider this every few years. Mrs Wilson said that a change of accountants might mean a change in accounting package, something to be considered together with costs and expertise.

8. To present the Window Harrison Challenge Cup: Awarded to AR226 Moonlin Dianina HB073214D. Owned & Bred by Mrs L Beaney

9. To present the Ashdene Metaphor Award: Awarded to CH R182 Kindur Maria Q*, HB071633D. Owned & Bred by Mr & Mrs J Rudkin

10. To present the Monteith Challenge Bowl: Awarded to Cheswell Kiora *5 BrCh BT028216D. Owned & Bred by Mrs N Ackroyd.

11. To present the Wright Challenge Bowl: awarded to § 149/200 Earls Boris BrCh AN033173D Owned by Mr A Edwards. Bred by Mrs R Earl.

12. To present the Breeders Challenge Cup: Awarded to Mr P Mounter's Montrue Herd with a total of 42 points

13. To present the Stud Goat Challenge Cup: None qualified

14. To present the Moonlin Diana Award: awarded RM241 Moonlin Dialara HB075133D. Owned & Bred by Mrs L Beaney

The meeting closed at 12.25pm.

MINUTES 2014 AFFILIATED SOCIETIES CONFERENCE

The Chair, Mrs A Aitken, welcomed everyone to the Affiliated Societies Conference and introduced the panel of Mrs M Hardman, Mr Newton, Mr Wood and Mrs Earthy.

The following resolutions were passed for further consideration by the BGS Committee.

1) The Gloucestershire and Wiltshire Goat Society would like to put forward the following resolution: "Would The BGS instigate a series of open discussions on 'The relevance of preserving the individual dairy goat breeds for the future and how this can best be done. Relevant societies, associations and publications, the GVS, RBST, RABDF and Smallholder magazine for example would be invited to participate. Any conclusions would be made available to all associated with the breeding and keeping of goats."

2) The Northumbrian Dairy Goat Society proposes that, "subject to a satisfactory cost benefit analysis, the BGS furthers its aims of circulating knowledge and general information upon goats and also of fulfilling its role as the focal point for all goatkeeping activities in the United Kingdom by:

- a) digitising the paper-based British Goat Society Archive dating back to its foundation in 1879
- b) storing the original paper-based archive with an appropriate and approved professional publicly accessible archive
- c) promoting/selling/making available to all the digitised archive".

3) The Kent Goat Club would like to propose "that judges are asked to refrain from interacting with exhibitors and exhibits until judging has been completed. With the increase of back-to-back shows and rosettes being displayed this is to ensure an unbiased result"

The following resolutions were not carried:

4) The Devon Goat Society proposes "Would judges inform the show secretary who invites them to judge a show if they are judging another show with a 100 mile radius of that show"

5) The Anglo Nubian Breed Society suggest that "due to the demise of many of the affiliated societies, the BGS should consider accepting registrations from non members at an appropriate rate"

The ANBS believe this would encourage the many people who at the moment feel their goats are somewhat inferior and that their animals are unfit to be registered. They tend to perceive the BGS as an exclusive and elitist society to which they cannot aspire.

Were this proposal to be adopted we feel it would help in future to fuel a resurgence in BGS membership.

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