

Chairmans Report – October 2022

Here we are at another AGM, the end of another year. The driest for some for over 40 years and very challenging for farming.

2021-2022 saw us work with the aftermath of the Covid pandemic, continuing to find new ways to operate and run things from virtual shows to online meetings. Well done to everyone for their efforts and support with this.

The price of lamb and cull ewes in general has remained higher than previous periods. In the summer, potential demand and prices for breeding sheep looked very positive. With the media headlines focussing on the 'cost of living' we have moved into a time where more caution is being seen in our markets. We are living with a spike in energy prices which has inflated all our costs from electricity, fuel, fertiliser and feed although not necessarily showing in the price of our end product. Hence tightening margins are making for tough decisions on the farm. The Lleyn is in a strong position to help producers weather the storm being an efficient and productive ewe who is versatile to the many different systems.

As Lleyn sheep breeders we will keep going and try to do things better whilst continuing to breed sheep that meet our customers' demands. Our sales are a valuable place to trade, and we must remember to turn our sheep out in a manner that will encourage other farmers to want to own and farm them.

Thank you to the Council and Sub Committee members for your time and support of the year. Thank you to our clubs for promoting the Lleyn locally and supporting our sales. Thank you to members for your cooperation and participation. Thank you to Gwenda and Heather for your work in keeping the Society wheels moving.