

# 2018 YEAR BOOK



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## *From the Chairman*

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the Southdown Sheep Society 2018 Year Book.

Southdowns can be found throughout the UK. They are hardy, adaptable, thrifty and easy to manage, well proven forage converters, capable of producing high quality tasty lamb from many different farming systems. They are well suited to both the commercial flock master, especially for use on ewe lambs or shearlings, as well as the smallholder and part time farmer, who enjoy their docile temperament and traditional looks.

We are not yet sure of what the outcome of the Brexit trade negotiations will be, and farming may well become very different. Defra's Health and Harmony consultation paper makes clear that UK agriculture will have to adapt to the new conditions as it always has. A change in emphasis in farm support, with even more focus on environmental schemes and competition from imports will undoubtedly put pressure on the viability of many farm businesses, making the cost of production a key factor.

The Southdown with its ability to produce high quality meat from grass, low input costs and easily finished lambs may well play an important part in maintaining the commercial viability and survival of the lowland sheep sector.

The breed continues to grow and thrive. Our regional groups and experienced breeders offer both help and advice to new members or anyone thinking of starting their own Southdown flock, while our website is easily accessible as a source of up to date information. We are also very lucky in having Gail Sprake as our breed secretary, as she is always ready to offer help and advice from the Society office.

This Year Book is testament to the diversity and usefulness of our breed, showcasing three farmers from across the UK who talk candidly about the benefits of using Southdowns on their very different farms. The Year Book also includes some of the highlights of the Southdown year.

We live in challenging and changing times with uncertain future, but at least with the Southdown we can say that we have a breed that is adaptable, fit for purpose and ready for the future.



*Adam Brown*

*Chairman of Council*



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## Important Dates for 2018

### 2018 Southdown Sheep Society

### Annual General Meeting and Field Day

**Saturday August 18<sup>th</sup> 2018**

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## The joys of using Southdown tups on ewe lambs

A young farmer who is restocking his family's Scottish upland farm with Lleyn breeding ewes is following his father's lead by tugging ewe lambs with a Southdown.

Cocklaw Farm, a 670-acre holding at Cockburnspath, Berwickshire, at one time carried 1500 ewes but the flock was dispersed when the McCreath family chose to concentrate their farming enterprise on growing malting barley.

Sheep didn't disappear from the farm because some of the land was let out for grazing and this arrangement continued until Scott McCreath decided the time was right for the family to re-establish a flock of their own.

The goal was to create a top-quality flock so the first breeding ewes he bought in 2013 were two first prize pens at sales in Stirling and Carlisle.

"Sheep are expensive to buy but we wanted the best sheep for the foundation flock," explains Scott, who farms with his father, Douglas, brother, James, and wife, Keisha.

He chose Lleyns because of their ability to produce lambs quickly off grass in an upland situation.

Ewes are tugged to a pure Lleyn or a Texel but Scott wanted to use another breed on the ewe lambs.

At Kelso two years ago, he was buying tups for the ewes when his eye was drawn to a Southdown ram entered in the sale by Scarborough breeder Anthony Glaves. "At that point I remembered seeing Southdowns on our farm because dad used to use them on all his Mule hogs. I thought I would buy one to try it out."

That ram has since tugged 50 ewe lambs a season. "It is no bother for him, he could easily tug more than 50," says Scott.

### Delighted with the performance

He is delighted with its performance. "As long as he has got teeth and can walk he isn't going anywhere, if he is fit he will be staying."

Scott breeds from ewe lambs because he believes every animal on the farm must earn its keep. "The ewe lambs are big enough and we don't want massive ewes in the flock so we are happy to breed from them. If we didn't tug them at this point they would be on the farm for a year, eating grass, with no purpose."



*Lambs are hardy and fast growing and hold their condition, says Scott McCreath*

The Southdown is turned in with the ewe lambs on November 5<sup>th</sup> – last year the group numbered 80 – and he remains with the group for 30 days. "We only tug the first 50, the rest run on as yearlings so they will never know the joy of a Southdown!" Scott laughs.

Ewe lambs are tugged at body condition score 2.5 – 3 and they carry that condition right through to weaning. Scott says they don't lose condition, even when they have lambs at foot. "That goes for the hogs too."

This year the ewe lambs tugged to the Southdown scanned at 127% and started lambing in mid-April. The Lleyn ewes, which scanned at 198%, lambed during the same period.

The farm is exposed to north easterly winds that blow in from the North Sea so later lambing allows the McCreaths to maximise production from grass.

Lambing takes place indoors but ewes and lambs are turned out to grass quickly. "They are not in the shed for long," says Scott. "If a ewe lambs in the morning and the weather is good she will be turned out that afternoon or the following morning. Ideally we would prefer to lamb outside but housing gives us more control."

At housing, singles are fed haylage only while the twins and the triplet-carrying ewes, which are run

as one group, are supplemented with 0.5kg of an 18% protein ewe roll a month before they give birth.

### **Grass is cheap...the lambs never get any feed**

“Grass is cheap, much cheaper than feed, so once the ewes are turned out they don’t get any supplementary feed and the lambs never get any feed at all unless they are kept as stores,” Scott explains.

As stores, they receive 0.5kg from February 1<sup>st</sup> for three weeks, until they finish.

### **The lambs shoot out**

One of the joys of tugging with a Southdown is lambing ease, Scott reports. “The Southdown doesn’t look like a traditional easy lambing terminal sire but that is definitely not the case, the lambs are wedge-shaped and just shoot out.

“They are very easily born. The mother’s just spit the lambs out and they are quick on their feet.”

And the Southdown keeps on giving because growth is phenomenal, he adds. “The Southdowns are the first lambs away even though they have been born to hogs.

“We store a few to sell in January and February and we find that they don’t shoot away and get leggy like other breeds.”

Scott had spent time working and travelling in New Zealand and was aware that Southdowns were commonplace among flocks. “The New Zealanders like the Southdowns because they are not soft, they are not slow and their back ends stay clean.”

His ewe lambs are first to wean, when their offspring are 9-10 weeks old; the ewes follow from there, after their lambs have been dosed for nematodirus.

Weaning is co-ordinated with hay and silage harvesting to allow lambs to finish on the aftermaths.

The Southdown lambs finish at 30-40kg in September and October or at 45-55kg in January and February.

Lambs are hardy and fast growing and hold their condition, says Scott. “They don’t go back, they hold their condition even until February. They don’t shoot away to become a 80kg carcass.”

He sells all the lambs live through Harrison and Hetherington at St Boswells, Melrose.



*Scott McCreath’s Southdown lambs are always his first sold, even though they have been born to ewe lambs*

### **Strong demand for Southdown sired lambs**

There is strong demand for lambs produced by the Southdown, he says. “They are really sought after right now. Compared to a Lley lamb they have much better body conformation, you get a much better product from the Southdown, a better commercial lamb.

“Because we don’t sell direct to an abattoir we don’t know their grades but we have hung a few up and they have made Rs and Us.”

The purpose of the Lley is to breed replacements, Scott explains. “They are the ultimate mother ewe.”

He also produces pedigree tups, to sell and use on his own flock.

Ewe numbers are increasing year on year – in the first year there were 100 and now there are 180. Scott’s target is to build numbers back up to 1500 but admits it won’t be a quick process because he has a rigorous culling policy. “I would have more sheep if I wasn’t so hard on them,” he accepts.

Any animal that prolapses is culled as are those with recurring foot problems. The first case of



*Scott McCreath says one of the joys of tugging with a Southdown is lambing ease*

lameness is treated but if it recurs the animal is not used to breed replacements. On the third occasion, the ewe is culled.

### **Rigorous health policy pays dividends**

It is tough being an underperforming sheep at Cocklaw. “We cull for teeth and anything that has had a difficult lambing is removed from the flock. You don’t want to be a sheep here unless you are a good sheep!” Scott admits.

“You don’t get to be an old sheep here unless you are producing the goods. I am in the business of breeding so I might as well be breeding good ones. I don’t want to carry passengers that are not performing.”

But a ewe lamb that only produces a single lamb is spared. “It doesn’t seem fair to cull them for having one lamb,” concedes Scott, showing his softer side.

Lameness is treated with long acting antibiotics on a case by case basis. “We don’t get foot rot or CODD, just some cases of scald, so we don’t footbath or trim,” says Scott.

The number of sheep with scald has been higher than normal this year because of abnormally wet conditions. “The ground has been wet and muddy but luckily we are a dry farm. The land is mostly on the hill, it is the farms that are below us that get the worst of the rain.”

Scott uses faecal egg counts (FEC) to establish which lambs need worming. “The lambs get wormed for nematodirus and are then wormed

on a case by case basis. We have the same policy for fluke.”

Thin ewes are tested and if they test positive they are wormed. The fate of those that test negative is sealed, Scott says. “If they don’t have worms they are culled for being thin.”

Lambs are vaccinated for pasteurellosis pneumonia and clostridial diseases and the dose is repeated four weeks later, at the same time as ewes get their booster. At the same time, the sheep get a trace element bolus containing copper, selenium, iodine and cobalt. “Our land is deficient in copper so we bolus the ewes in February and the lambs when they are weaned,” says Scott.

### **Brexit uncertainty**

The farm has re-entered sheep production at a time when Brexit has created an unknown future for the sector. The uncertainty is a worry for Scott but he is resolutely confident that there will be a good future, but only for those businesses that take efficiency seriously.

“As an industry we are going to have to be more efficient with treatments, lameness, everything.”

A lot of farmers keep sheep with very bad feet just for the sake of having that sheep but that isn’t doing them or anyone else any favours.”

And, Scott adds, it is vital to deliver on specification. “We have to produce lambs that meet specifications, there is no excuse for not delivering on that.”

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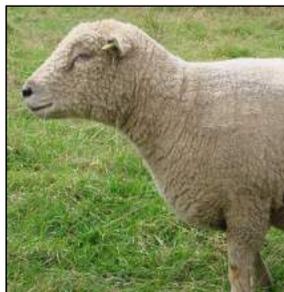
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## Farmer, butcher and breeder believes the Southdown delivers on all fronts

From breeding through to butchery, Andrew Hudson's focus is on producing the best quality products possible.

Breed is the starting point - using the finest breeds creates a unique depth of flavour that gives his butchery business an important point of difference from other retailers and is a reason why he has such a loyal customer base.

Andrew had been finishing rare breed pigs for a local butcher when he added four in-lamb Southdown ewes to his livestock enterprise in the village of Smallburgh, near Norwich.

"I wanted some sheep to keep the grass down in an orchard and bought four ewes from Hugh Clark's Moulton flock at a sale in Newmarket.

"I didn't know much about Southdowns at that time but they were on the Rare Breeds Survival Trust's list – and they looked quite cute!"

When those ewes lambed, Andrew kept the progeny and expanded the flock.

Fast forward 20 years and the pedigree Gragunn flock of Southdowns now numbers 95 in addition to 30 Southdown x Charollais ewes.

Andrew started growing numbers in the early 2000s, at a point when he became a partner in Tavern Tasty Meats, a butcher's shop in Swafeld, North Walsham, which specialises in traditional and rare breeds.

"My partner primarily ran the shop but as time went on I became more involved and I bought my partner out in 2015," explains Andrew, whose wife, Claire, is a joint director. They have since opened a second butcher's shop, at Horning.

### Dual role of farmer and butcher

Andrew's dual roles of farmer and butcher are a good combination. "Being a butcher helps you to fine tune what you are doing as a farmer, you don't always get it right but you know what you are aiming for.

"Some farmers don't understand their market fully and when they don't hit the grades needed they are penalised for it. We know what we need to achieve."

He runs the farm at The Grange in partnership with his mother, Mary. The 220-acre farm with its



Andrew Hudson sees a good future for the Southdown breed

Grade 1 loam soil is mostly down to arable with grazing fields rented in for the sheep, 60 acres of mostly Broadland marsh ground.

"The grazing is not the best quality land but the Southdowns do well on it," says Andrew.

Tupping takes place in the second or third week of October. Southdown tups have been sourced from Michael and Gail Sprake's All Saints flock, and last September two were acquired from a sale in Melton Mowbray.

### Aiming for a good carcass

"We don't show so what we aim for is something that is going to throw a good carcass," explains Andrew, who keeps the tups with the ewes and shearlings for 35 days.

The flock scans at an average of 145% but it has achieved a scanning percentage as high as 170%

Ewe nuts and home-produced haylage is fed to the sheep pre-lambing. There is no supplementation at other times but Andrew admits he has come close to it during particularly dry summers.

"We have some wet marshes but we have had



*A family affair - Andrew and Claire's children get involved in running the flock*

some summers when we haven't had rain for two months and grazing does get tight. When that happens, we struggle to keep confirmation on the lamb but over the years we have picked up enough grass to keep the stock rotating to fresh pasture."

The flock returns to the farm to lamb indoors, with lambing getting underway on March 17<sup>th</sup>.

Some of Andrew's grazing agreements preclude him from turning sheep onto the land until April 1<sup>st</sup> so the earlier-lambing ewes and lambs remain indoors with access to sheltered open yards.

Lambs are weaned at the end of July and he aims for a carcass grade of R3L or better. "As long as I get R3L I am happy," says Andrew, who has the lambs slaughtered at an abattoir in Norwich

"I have been in the game for a while now and it initially took me a while to get the carcass finish right but I am now more experienced at doing that."

### **Good stockmanship is the key**

A lot of that is down to stockmanship. "It is about making sure you are worming at the right time and making sure the lambs have good fodder in

front of them. It is important not to push them, they will naturally get to finishing. On the regime we have we don't get many through to finishing before December."

All the lamb – apart from a few hoggets which go to a dealer - is sold through the shop and his customers look forward to the arrival of those first carcasses. "Our customers like to know where the meat has come from and what they are eating, whether that is the lamb, pork or beef so we advertise that we have our own lambs going through the shop. We can provide a level of food provenance that others can't."

Andrew targets a deadweight of 20kg. "The Southdowns are not a big sheep and suit this job well. With a bigger carcass, the lamb gets expensive because the joints of meat are bigger.

"We can occasionally get the Southdown x Charollais lambs finished earlier but they need supplementary feed to achieve that."

Andrew admits he once had a sentimental approach to culling the poorer performers out of the flock but economics swayed that attitude.

"I used to be too sentimental. I might have a good ewe but she would have a difficult lambing. I would think to myself that I should give her a chance at

another lambing so I would keep her but at the next lambing she would get mastitis or something else would go wrong.

“I would then question why I had allowed that to happen so now I have a policy of allowing sheep five lambings and after that they leave the flock. If they have a problem lambing I don’t put them to the ram because problems at lambing cost a lot in terms of time.”

Lambs are wormed every 21 days and there is good reason for this says Andrew. “We have some land that I would call ‘sheep sick’ land so if we didn’t keep on top of the worming we would get problems.”

Foot problems are few and far between so treatment is on a case by case basis. “Every now and then we footbath because we get the odd case of foot rot but we don’t do it as routine,” says Andrew.

He sees a good future for the Southdown thanks to a movement back to more traditional carcasses but he acknowledges that is against a backdrop of good demand for very lean meat produced by Continental breeds.



*The Southdown produces the ideal carcass for butchers like Jack Martin, who works for Andrew and Claire at Tavern Tasty Meats*

“The Southdown Sheep Society has done a lot to promote the breed as a way forward and there is definitely a place for it,” he says.

“Customers come to us because they know the quality of the meat is good and the animals have a bit of fat on them. The Southdown delivers on all fronts.”



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## Young Farmer inspired by the qualities of the Southdown



*Max Welton favours the quality of his New Zealand bloodlines*

Farmland rent prices occupy Max Welton's thoughts as he seeks to expand his pedigree flock of Southdowns.

Competition for land in rural Carmarthenshire is intense so, with even the poorer grassland commanding £100 an acre, his expansion plans are on hold for now.

What sets Max apart from every other farmer in this position is his age; this is a young man who acquired his first Southdown ram at the tender age of seven years and now, aged just 15, runs 22 pedigree breeding ewes at his parents' farm near Llangadog.

Max admits his interest in sheep sets him apart from his peer group.

He has no interest in social media, taking selfies and all the other technology stuff that occupies the lives of teenagers, preferring to use spare time away from the classroom managing and improving the Gilfach flock.

Max's interest in sheep began long before he bought his first ram. His parents, Steve and Penny, have a large commercial flock and young Max used pester power to persuade them to buy him three Zwartble ewes when he was seven.

He then raided his piggy bank and bought a Southdown ram to grow his flock.

Max bred from these for a few years but, with little demand for the offspring for breeding, coupled with the need to feed the Zwartbles throughout the year, he sold the sheep and replaced them with four Southdown ewes.

"I knew quite a bit about Southdowns because we had family friends who had these so I thought I would have a go at breeding rams from Southdowns," he recalls.

"They suited what I was looking for in a sheep because they thrive off hardly anything and are easy to handle and care for."

### **Artificial Insemination provides a leap forward**

Max made slow progress at growing numbers because he had few ewe lamb replacements but in 2016 he took a leap forward by using artificial insemination.

"I got approached to swap my ram for semen that a breeder had imported from New Zealand," he says. "She had bought the semen to use on her Suffolks but decided that she wanted a ram instead."

That semen was from a Clifton Downs ram which had sold for \$16,000.

Ten ewes were inseminated but Max's plans were scuppered by one of his father's Texel rams. "The ram broke in with my ewes and when the lambs were born only half of them were Southdowns!"

But those that did produce lambs from the Southdown semen did not disappoint. "They were longer than the ones that we had and that was the direction I want to move in."

He lambed the first of these in February 2017, selling ram lambs for an average of £150 a piece and shearlings for £300.

### **South are good mothers**

Max says the Southdown is a good mother and protective of her lambs. "The ewe is milky and although she won't go for you in the pen she is very cautious about having anyone near her lambs."

Lambing is also straightforward. "We never have to assist with lambing," says Max.

In the spring of 2017, his family relocated from Hereford, where they had been renting a farm, to Llanddeusant near Llangadog, where they bought 280-acre Gilfach Farm.

Max admits the move was a stressful period. "We were lambing at the time because the move had been pushed back and we had ewes at lots of different locations."

But both sheep and their owners have adjusted well to the move. "The Southdowns are thriving.

I tugged them in a woody area on the farm, they are the sort of breed that can be run in quite challenging environments," says Max.

He tups from September 30<sup>th</sup>, keeping the rams with the ewes for four weeks.

Because Max buys in ewes, he tries to use his own rams as much as possible, however, he bought a Chaileybrook ram which he has used and is very happy with.

The flock mostly scans at over 180%.

The ewes lamb indoors from February 10<sup>th</sup>. Because they require so little input, Max manages the lambing before and after school with his parents keeping an eye on the animals for him during the day.

One ewe produced a surprise in 2016 – quads. "All four survived for a couple of days but after that we sadly lost two." One of the quad rams was used for tugging in 2017.

Ewes and lambs are turned out soon after lambing and left alone until weaning. Well grown lambs are sold off their mothers and go straight to the abattoir; later in the season lambs are sold through a market.

Lambs are sheared at four months to encourage growth and the wool sold to Devon-based Southdown duvet supplier Jessica Cross.

### **Max advocates a tough cull policy**

Any ram lambs with bad feet are culled. "You have got to be harsh with feet," says Max. He also culls animals that don't have the length he targets.



*Max Welton's Gilfach flock*



*Max is keen to accelerate improvements within his flock*

Max's plan for 2018 is to register with the Southdown Signet Group to scan for muscle and fat. "Customers don't want to buy sheep based on what they look like, these days they want figures."

Apart from the lambing period, the flock doesn't take up too much of his time. "I check on the sheep but never really have to touch them and I hardly ever feed them.

"When I do give them a bit of feed, before lambing, I do this in the morning then get all the other jobs done when I get home from school."

School is Bro Dinefwr at nearby Llandeilo. He plans to further his education at agricultural college and to then venture overseas for a while to shear.

### **Making a name for himself**

Max has already made a name for himself among Southdown breeders. In 2017, he won the Southdown Sheep Society's newcomer flock competition; also the Paynter Wool Trophy for the flock with the best wool.

In 2018 he is aiming to AI the entire flock to accelerate improvement. "I still have a few short ewes and want to increase the length overall. I

also want to increase numbers."

But to increase numbers he will need to find more land - Steve and Penny have a flock of 1200 Lleyn, Poll Dorset and Cheviot ewes. They don't charge Max rent for his ewes - he provides labour in return - but are drawing the line at further expansion.

"I'm hoping to take on some land but it isn't easy to come by and the figures have to stack up," says Max.

He admits he first went into breeding Southdowns as a hobby but quickly came to realise the potential of the breed.

"Southdowns were the original terminal breed. Their popularity dwindled but now people are rediscovering their potential for finishing on forage-based systems.

"They are fast growing and can be sold off their mothers without the need for supplementary feed.

"Dad has used my rams on over 300 ewes this year and a few of my rams have been sold to family friends to be used over different breeds. I'm very excited to see the results!"

# Southdown Signet Group

Top Southdown breeders, who invest in the commercial future of the breed through performance recording, are members of the Southdown Signet Group.

Performance recording gives breeders and ram buyers scientific and genetic information about growth rates and carcase quality helping select the best performing stock.



## Buckland

Miriam Parker & Tim Green  
Shropshire, SY5 9BW  
01743 884483  
info@livestockwise.co.uk

## Lawton

Rob and Anna Paton  
Bedfordshire MK44 2QS  
01234 870914  
annapaton4@hotmail.co.uk

## Andersey

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## Soma

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## Huntspill

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## Webb Ellis

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patrick@goldsworthy-uk.com

## All Saints

Michael and Gail Sprake  
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01986 782416  
gail@meensfarm.fsnet.co.uk

## Sutherland

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01728 830646  
amy.readhead@gmail.com

## Ridings

Wakeham-Dawson and Harmer  
East Sussex BN7 3QH  
01273 475473  
harmer@farming.co.uk

## East Dean

Stephen and Paul Humphrey  
West Sussex PO18 0NJ  
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newhousefarm@fsmail.net

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## Southdowns Sign Up to RamCompare

RamCompare<sup>1</sup> is a major industry-led sheep breeding initiative. It is the first commercial progeny test in the UK for terminal sire breeds, with an investment of over £500,000 planned over the next three years. In the first phase of the project, 70 rams (Texel, Suffolk, Charollais, Meatlinc and Hampshire Down) produced nearly 8,000 lambs through artificial insemination (AI) and natural service on six commercial farms over two breeding seasons. Data collected throughout the supply chain is being used to develop new approaches to assess the performance of pedigree animals. Data from the project is also being used to support the Combined Breed Analysis research project.

A key output from the project is the development of new estimated breeding values (EBVs). These will help commercial producers select rams with the best genetic potential to produce progeny to meet market specification.

### Three New EBVs and Carcase Merit Score

Initial results were released to industry at the Sheep Breeders' Round Table in November 2017 and the leading sires were ranked within the project for a range of breeding traits, including eight-week weight, scan weight, muscle and fat depth based on data collected from their progeny.

Three new EBVs for carcase weight, conformation, and fat class have been developed and are being used to give an overall carcase merit figure. The results will be updated in May 2018 with a further 1,500 carcase records for lambs born in late spring 2017. More information, including preliminary results and the project report, can be found at [www.ramcompare.com](http://www.ramcompare.com)

### Recorded Southdowns included in RamCompare

In 2017, RamCompare announced that in addition to the five breeds of rams used in the first phase of the project, it would be extending the number of breeds on test. As members of the Southdown Signet Group (performance recorded flocks) were keen to have the breed represented two rams were entered into an AI centre in winter 2017 to ensure semen was available for use in the 2018 breeding season.

Ridings Daniel 13/01444 (M55424) and East Dean Dean 09/2132 (M54063) will both be used on AI groups during 2018.

Samuel Boon, Signet Manager says, "The great thing about RamCompare is that we see the relative strengths of different breeds, including attributes not normally assessed in pedigree recording schemes - such as days to slaughter - a



*East Dean 'Dean' 09/2132.*

trait where native breeds are expected to perform well."

"When selecting rams, the project is looking to see how animals of different genetic merit perform under a commercial environment. It isn't always about finding the best animals to put on test, though obviously it is great when elite candidates are put forward."

"The initial Southdown ram selection has focussed on breeding lines that have long established performance records - so we know exactly how they perform for traits like scan weight and muscle depth - and we can then see how these influence financial performance in a commercial environment. The added benefit from this year's ram choice is they are well linked to many other flocks - so these records will also increase genetic linkage and strengthen the overall Southdown evaluation."

In addition to these two AI rams at least two more recorded Southdowns will be used as live sires or AI. Other breeds included in 2018 are Blue Texel, Bleu du Maine, Shropshire, Beltex, Poll Dorset and Dorset Down. Preliminary results from these breeds and Southdowns will be available in 2019 as at least two years of data is needed to provide robust analysis.



*Ridings 'Daniel' 13/01444.*

For more information about RamCompare visit [www.RamCompare.com](http://www.RamCompare.com)

<sup>1</sup> RamCompare is funded by AHDB, Hybu Cig Cymru - Meat Promotion Wales (HCC), Quality Meat Scotland (QMS) and AgriSearch, with support from Sainsbury's

# D.S.&P Humphreys Southdowns from the Heart of the South Downs Flock No. 165

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**Renowned, long established  
Signet recorded flock.  
Quality stock usually  
available for sale.**

## **Some of our show successes in 2017:**



**Left: Supreme  
Champion  
Southdown –  
Royal Cornwall  
Show.**



**Right: Supreme  
Champion  
Southdown –  
Devon County  
Show.**

**Winners of the 2017 AHDB Beef & Lamb BRP Progressive  
Flock Award.**

**Enquiries and visitors welcome  
Please feel free to contact Stephen or Paul  
Tel: 01243 811685 / 07834 883735  
Email: [newhousefarm001@btconnect.com](mailto:newhousefarm001@btconnect.com)**

# National Flock and its Conservation Status

A detailed genetic analysis of historic pedigree registrations was conducted for the Society by Grassroots Systems Ltd. The analysis has provided a better understanding of the recent origins of the breed, the risk of inbreeding, its genetic diversity and overall conservation status.

## A numerically successful breed

8,917<sup>1</sup> animals were considered to be the total live population, belonging to 377 members. With c. 5,500 breeding females the Southdown is a numerically a successful breed as the threshold for a sheep breed to be considered “rare” is 3000 breeding females.

An analysis of flock size shows that there are relatively few flocks over 100 animals, with the average flock size being 25 (21 females). There is a good geographical spread of Southdowns around the UK. Both of these factors make the breed resilient to the challenges such as disease outbreaks and genetic erosion.

The ratio of male and female registrations relative to the number of new sires and dams joining the population each year is an indicator of the genetic diversity being maintained within the breed 40-50% of registered females and 30-40% of registered males become dams and sires to registered offspring.

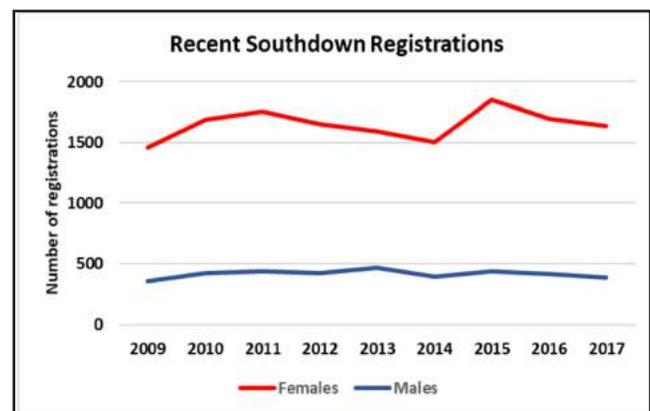
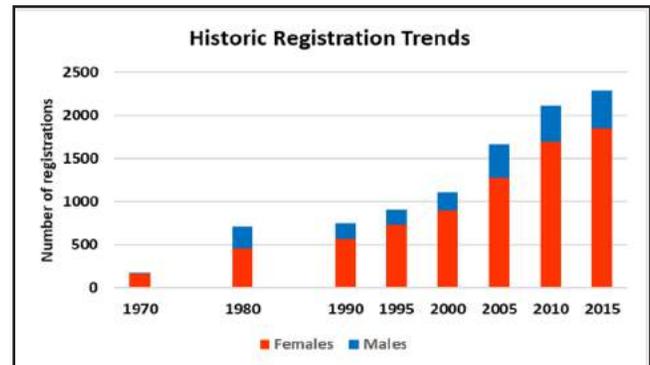
The two charts (not included with the original Pedeweb report) show how the breed has recovered from its nadir in the early seventies - just 9 rams registered in 1970 to a very healthy level. More recent registrations show that ram registrations have plateaued while there is slight trend to more ewe registrations (The surge in ewe registrations in 2015 related to a large number of late/historic registrations from one flock).

## Little signs of inbreeding

The inbreeding coefficient is a measure of how many common ancestors appear in animal’s extended pedigree back to the start of the records. The average inbreeding coefficient of the living population was 2.86%. Over time the level of inbreeding will increase – this is inevitable

within a breed – it is the rate of increase that determines the risk of inbreeding. However due to the imported animals, the rate of inbreeding in Southdowns appears to be falling – although this is a function of the data as the imported animals which have no pedigree data and therefore have a nominal inbreeding coefficient of zero.

## Impact of imports on the current population



Historic imports from New Zealand and France (pre-2000) have an influence on almost every single pedigree; while more recent French imports (post 2000) are in the pedigree of 47% of the national flock.

This article is a shortened summary of article “Pedigree analysis of UK registered Southdowns” that appeared in the autumn 2017 newsletter.

*The data set for 2017 was extracted on 20th September so very few 2017 registrations were included in the analysis. In addition, any animals that were recorded as dead or had no registered progeny for three years were also excluded from the analysis.*

# GUNTON SOUTHDOWNS

Est. 1965

Flock No. 64



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**Telephone: 01398 361245**

**Mobile: 07879056338**

**[adamandcaroline@googlemail.com](mailto:adamandcaroline@googlemail.com)**

## New female record set at the 2017 Worcester Show and Sale

The Southdown Sheep Society held their Premier Sale at Worcester Market on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> August with females proving to be the order of the day with buyers witnessing a new female record set with a shearling ewe from the Goodwood Estate Co Ltd flock selling for 1500gns.

Goodwood Duke's Delight, by a Ridings sire and out of a home bred Southern Cross daughter already had a coveted show career as a lamb in 2016 notching up the reserve female championship at the breed's National Show and ewe lamb champion East of England Smithfield Festival. Buyers were Steve and Helen Smith of Welshpool, Powys.

Goodwood stock carried on their hot demand for shearling females with the next selling for 800gns: Goodwood Angel Delight, by a Ridings tup, and out of a Wyndham ewe, was knocked down to Edward Morgan, Carmarthen, while at 720gns Megan Chilcott, Highbridge, Somerset, bought Goodwood Daffodil. This one was by the 2014 Paris Show champion Rene and out of a home bred ewe carrying East Dean bloodlines.

First time vendor to Worcester, Ben Collings made the journey up from Launceston, Cornwall and sold the best of his shearling ewes from his Wenfork flock for 660gns with this going to previous buyers Steve and Helen Smith. Her pen mate then traded at 520gns selling to D Geary, Onley, Bucks.

Trade for shearling rams was selective and leading the trade was a pair of rams from Jonathan Long's Chaileybrook flock, Bishops Frome, Herefordshire. His sale leader at 780gns was a son of the French bred 'Sarkozy' and out of a Golden Valley ewe. This one has previously stood second at the National Show last year as a lamb and was sold on the day to Richard Windsor, Malpas, Shropshire.

Next best from the Chaileybrook flock was a ram bred by Celeste and Florence McKeague, by a Brant ram and out of a Chaileybrook dam, selling for 750gns to Ken Smith, Pollington, Goole.

Third best price in the shearling rams was another from the Chaileybrook flock, this time home bred on both sides going back to original French lines. This one found a new home at 500gns with H and S Lakin, Wrexham.

The Goodwood team were back in the action in the ram lamb section selling to a top of 480gns for Goodwood Ebor, which found a new home with D and S Humphrey for their East Dean flock at Chichester, Sussex. Nick Page of Goodwood then bid 320gns for the best ram lamb from the Chaileybrook flock.

In the ewe lamb offering, Goodwood Ellie, a Ladywell Sam daughter, topped the trade selling for 400gns to Katherine Wheeler, Hereford. Two



*Setting a new female Southdown record at 1500gns was a shearling ewe, Goodwood Duke's Delight from Goodwood Estate, selling to Steve and Helen Smith, Welshpool*

ewe lambs then followed from the same flock selling for 380gns, the first of which was Goodwood Eclipse, which joined the ewe lamb leader selling to Katherine Wheeler and Goodwood Elegant Girl, selling to J Miller, Marley, Glos.

Averages:  
3 flock ewes £117.25  
44 shearling ewes £319.53  
24 ewe lambs £244.12  
13 shearling rams £361.03  
6 ram lambs £308

# GOODWOOD S

Flock no. 007



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Top price and new  
breed record  
**Goodwood Dukes  
Delight**  
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Premier Show and  
Sale for 1500gns

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The Ritz

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# Sutherland Southdowns

Flock No 896



**Signet Recorded -Winner of the Most Improved Flock Award 2017**

**Reserve Champion Flock Competition 2017 & Hobgen Salver for Best Intake of Shearling Ewes**

**Supreme Champion - Tendring & Essex Young Farmers**

**Breed Champion - Rutland Show,  
Melton Mowbray Show & Sale**

**Female Champion - Royal Norfolk**

**Reserve Breed Champion - Hadleigh**

Amy Readhead-Higgins

House Farm, Leiston, Suffolk,  
IP16 4TW

01728 830646 / 07850 830030

[amy.readhead@gmail.com](mailto:amy.readhead@gmail.com)

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## Large entry at the 2017 Melton Mowbray Show & Sale

The final official Southdown Sheep Society Show & Sale of the year took place at Melton Mowbray Market as part of the Traditional Native Breeds Show & Sale on September 8<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup>.

Support for the sale from the vendors' point of view was encouraging, with in excess of 100 sheep entered for the show and sale. However buyers were selective in their choice of animals, with those animals that had achieved success in the pre-sale show finding ready homes at good prices.

Show champion was a ram lamb from the Sutherland flock of Mrs Amy Readhead-Higgins, of Leiston, Suffolk, Sutherland 17/00299, sired by a Ridings ram and out of a home bred ewe. This lamb was purchased by Ruth Judson of Bingley, Yorkshire, for 460 guineas.

Reserve Champion in the show line-up was a shearling ewe from the East Dean flock of D, S & P Humphrey. East Dean 16/02778 was sired by a homebred ram and out of an East Dean ewe. She sold for 265 guineas to M J Dickens, of Bicester, near Oxon.

Taking the top price of the day was the first placed shearling ram from Miss Jessica Middle-ditch of Sudbury, Suffolk. Wakes Hall Jimmy Choo 16/00428 was sired by Chaileybrook 14/00005, out of a Goodwood ewe. This shearling ram was shown at the National Southdown Show at the Suffolk Show earlier this year and was placed Reserve Champion by judge Mrs Alexandra Long. He sold for the top price of 650 guineas to D A Geary, of Olney, Buckinghamshire.

There was also good interest in the ewe lambs. Placed first in her class, Sutherland Misty 17/00308, from Mrs Amy Readhead-Higgins, sold for 170 guineas to D A Geary. This was the top ewe lamb price.

### Averages:

1 aged ewe	80 guineas
24 shearling ewes	141 guineas
11 ewe lambs	108 guineas
2 aged rams	130 guineas
6 shearling rams	295 guineas
3 ram lambs	236 guineas



Melton Mowbray Show & Sale winners: Champion with Mrs Amy Readhead-Higgins (right) and Reserve Champion with Mr Stephen Humphrey (left) with judge, Southdown Sheep Society Chairman Mr Adam Brown (centre)

# THE RIDINGS FLOCK...

...something to  
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April 2017 born  
Southdown X lambs ready  
for slaughter in August.



**FOR THE PEDIGREE BREEDER AND SHOWMAN,  
OUTSTANDING SHOW-WINNING QUALITY!**

**THE RIDINGS SOUTHDOWN FLOCK** had more supreme interbreed wins at major shows in 2017 than any other breed or breeder in the UK.

*(Ref. Farmers Guardian 2017 Show Results Round-up – including Welsh Spring Festival; Surrey, South of England, Three Counties, Suffolk, Norfolk, Kent and Royal Welsh, among others)*



**INVESTMENT PAYS** – the Goodwood Champion at the Southdown premiere Worcester breeder's sale (new breed record) and the Sutherland champion at Melton Mowbray sale 2017 were both sired by RIDINGS RAMS...

Messrs Wakeham-Dawson & Harmer  
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SOUTHDOWNS | FLOCK NO. 794



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available from  
past and  
current sires\*

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## Southdowns excel at 2017 Winter Fairs

*At Winter Fairs up and down the country the Southdowns left their mark, with breeders achieving success at all events at which the breed was represented.*

The **Royal Welsh Winter Fair** saw Southdowns sweep up the first place rosettes in both live and dead classes: Gareth Jones's Southdown x Welsh carcass was awarded first place in the lamb carcass class (over 32kg up to 45kg liveweight, not containing any continental breeding). In pair of Southdown lambs class first place was awarded to Wakeham-Dawson & Harmer, whose winning pair went on to win the reserve championship in the pure lowlands breed section of the competition. While in the class for the pair of lambs up to 90kg combined weight (any breed or cross not containing any continental breeding), it was breeders D S & P Humphrey whose Southdown x Suffolk lambs took second place. At the **Stafford Winter Fair** it was Goodwood Estate Co. Ltd whose Southdowns achieved



*Smiles at the RWAS Winter Fair for Messrs Wakeham-Dawson & Harmer*

success in both live and dead classes. The Goodwood pair of Southdown lambs was placed first in their class, and it was a Goodwood Southdown x Beltex carcass that was the highest placed Southdown sired carcass in its class.

Goodwood's success continued at the **East of England Smithfield Winter Fair** with their lambs being the highest placed Southdown sired lambs. The Goodwood lambs had further success at the **South East Prime Stock Winter Fair**, winning first prize in the trimmed pure bred (downland) pairs class. In the



*Nick Page with Goodwood champion pair*

native crossbred pair of lambs class it was Wakeham-Dawson & Harmer's Southdown breeding that took the first prize, going on to win the native pure bred ram championship, with fellow Sussex based breeders D, S & P Humphrey taking the reserve championship title. Southdown sired carcasses also dominated the prize line-up at this event, with Mr & Mrs Charles Bull winning the first prize for the 13-19kg carcass, and Wakeham-Dawson & Harmer doing likewise in the heavier (20-26kg) class. Mr & Mrs Bull went on to win the championship with Wakeham-Dawson & Harmer's carcass standing as reserve. Finally, Southdowns reigned supreme at **Ashford Cattle Show** where Hazel Long won the class for the best pair of live lambs sired by a Southdown ram, with Wakeham-Dawson & Harmer achieving the best lamb carcass sired by a Southdown ram.



*Mr Charles Bull with his winning carcass at the South East Prime stock Winter Fair*

# BUCKLAND SOUTHDOWNS



## **ESTABLISHED**

The Buckland flock was established in 1994 with UK bloodlines and was moved from Buckinghamshire to the Welsh Borders in 2000. We are focused on breeding sheep to optimize size, performance and longevity.

## **PERFORMANCE RECORDED**

The flock has been Signet performance recorded since 2011. This has enabled us to identify and select animals with both maternal and terminal sire traits. In 2015 the flock was the Signet most improved Southdown flock.

## **PRIZEWINNERS**

- Male Champion Southdown Shropshire 2016
- Reserve Rare Breeds Champion Cheshire 2016
- Champion Southdown Anglesey 2016
- Reserve Southdown Champion Shropshire 2017
- Interbreed wool on the hoof Shropshire 2017
- Rare Breed Champion Oswestry 2017
- Reserve Native Breed Champion Llanfyllin 2017

## **FIT FOR PURPOSE**

The flock grazes at 700ft on unimproved pasture and our flock needs to be fit and hardy. Buckland breeding stock has been sold to commercial farms and been the foundation of many pedigree flocks. Inspection always welcome.

## **CONTACT US**

Miriam Parker & Tim Green  
New House, Bausley  
Crew Green, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY5 9BW  
Tel: 01743 884483  
Mobile: 07740 122958  
Email: [miriam@livestockwise.co.uk](mailto:miriam@livestockwise.co.uk)

# 2017 SUMMER SHOWS REPORT

## *Double honours for local Suffolk based breeder at the 2017 National Southdown Show*

The 2017 Southdown Sheep Society National Show took place at the Suffolk Show and attracted amongst one hundred entries from breeders who travelled from East Anglia and further afield.

Judge Mrs Alexandra Long from Bishops Frome, Herefordshire, commented that “the quality and presentation was superb. Such was the quality that placing the top sheep in some classes was demanding, however, my champion stood out for me”.

Taking the overall championship was a shearling ewe, Wakes Hall 16/00425, from Suffolk based breeder Miss Jessica Middleditch of Belchamp St Paul, Sudbury, Suffolk. This ewe is out of a Wealden dam and sired by a Chaileybrook French Connection 12/01476.

Standing reserve overall was Miss Middleditch’s shearling ram, Wakes Hall Jimmy Choo 16/00428. This ram is out of a Goodwood ewe and sired by the same ram as the champion. Commenting on her double win, Miss Middleditch admitted that she was “proud and completely overwhelmed” by the results of the National Show.

The remaining first prizes were shared amongst

a number of well-known breeders: Goodwood Estate Company Ltd, D, S & P Humphrey, Wakeham-Dawson & Harmer, and G & M Sparke.

### **Southdown interbreed success**

The Southdown has featured in interbreed line-ups at many shows around the country in 2017. Messrs Wakeham-Dawson & Harmer enjoyed success in interbreed classes at a number of events including three prestigious shows: Royal Three Counties, Royal Welsh and South of England as well as the Surrey County Show.

Basil Cooper from Weston Turville, Bucks, achieved interbreed success at Bucks County, Newbury and Moreton in Marsh Shows. Amy readhead-Higgins enjoyed interbreed Success at the Essex Young Farmers Show. Amy Readhead-Higgins enjoyed Interbreed success at the Essex Young Farmers Show. At Blaston Show it was the turn of breeders Mr & Mrs Keith Stickels to pick up the interbreed title, while Mrs E Sargent did likewise at Edenbridge & Oxted Show. Hannah Turner enjoyed interbreed success at Cranleigh Show, and Graham Ryves-Webb picked up the interbreed championship at Henley & District Agricultural Show.



*Judge Alexandra Long with Mr & Mrs. Middleditch*

# MONTECRISTO SOUTHDOWNS

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## Champion Flock 2017

Montecristo Southdowns

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# HUNTSPILL

*Southdowns*

FLOCK NO 1119



Megan Chilcott Court Farm Cottage, East Huntspill, Highbridge, Somerset, TA9 3PD  
TEL: 07515 436116 EMAIL: megan-jumbo@hotmail.co.uk

## Montecristo Flock wins 2017 Flock Competition

The Montecristo Flock, owned by Mrs Sophie Arlott from Lenton, Lincolnshire, scooped the top award in the 2017 Flock Competition to be named the Champion Flock.

Reserve Champion Flock was Amy Readhead-Higgins' Sutherland flock from Leiston, Suffolk.

The winner of Class A (Flock of 40 ewes or more) was Goodwood Estate, while first prize in the Novice Section was awarded to Max Welton.

Judge Stephen Humphrey, from East Dean, West Sussex, commented that the standard of sheep in the competition was very high, and added that in every flock he spotted sheep that he would have liked to have had in his own flock.



Mrs. Sophie Arlott and some of the Montecristo Flock

### 30th ANNIVERSARY for the Caesars flock

FLOCK NO 26

EST 1986

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Flock No:  
375

Est.  
1989

## Wealden Southdowns

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Shearing ewes  
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welcome by  
appointment

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early finishing carcass.

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### Show results 2017

Heathfield – Supreme champion

Royal Welsh – Female breed champion, one half of the supreme champion interbreed pairs

Kent – Female breed champion

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# Webb Ellis Southdowns

Est. 2008



**Inaugural Southdown Winner  
Eblex Most Improved Flock Award**

**Runner Up Class A  
Flock Competition 2017**



**2017 Ewe Lambs  
Winner of Miller Hallett Trophy**



**East Dean Charlemagne M55707  
Maternal EBV 1.67 (Top 1%)**



**Ridings Daniel M55424  
Terminal Sire EBV 331 (Top 1%)  
Semen available**



**Webb Ellis Mas M57111  
Highest ranked ram lamb  
Terminal Sire EBV 358 (Top 1%)**

## **Breeding from prize winners for performance**

The Webb Ellis flock has something for everyone. From the commercial farmer after a high EBV terminal sire to the smallholder looking for something tasty, docile and good looking. Established in 2008, stock has been bought in from some of the best flocks in the country and Signet performance recording has helped identify the best progeny.

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07711 416312

patrick@goldsworthy-uk.com

# Holly Bar Southdowns



## Flock No. 738

Lesley Mead

Holly Bar Farm, Hollingdon, Beds, LU7 0DN

01525 270135

[lesleyhollybar@btinternet.com](mailto:lesleyhollybar@btinternet.com)



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**ENQUIRIES WELCOME**

# STONERIDGE



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FLOCK No. 664

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Keith & Annette Stickels

40 Wakeford Close, Ridge Lane, Nuneaton, Warwickshire, CV10 0RE

Tel: 01827 715733 Mobile: 07722793842

e-mail: [keith@stoneridgesouthdowns.co.uk](mailto:keith@stoneridgesouthdowns.co.uk)

[www.stoneridgesouthdowns.co.uk](http://www.stoneridgesouthdowns.co.uk)



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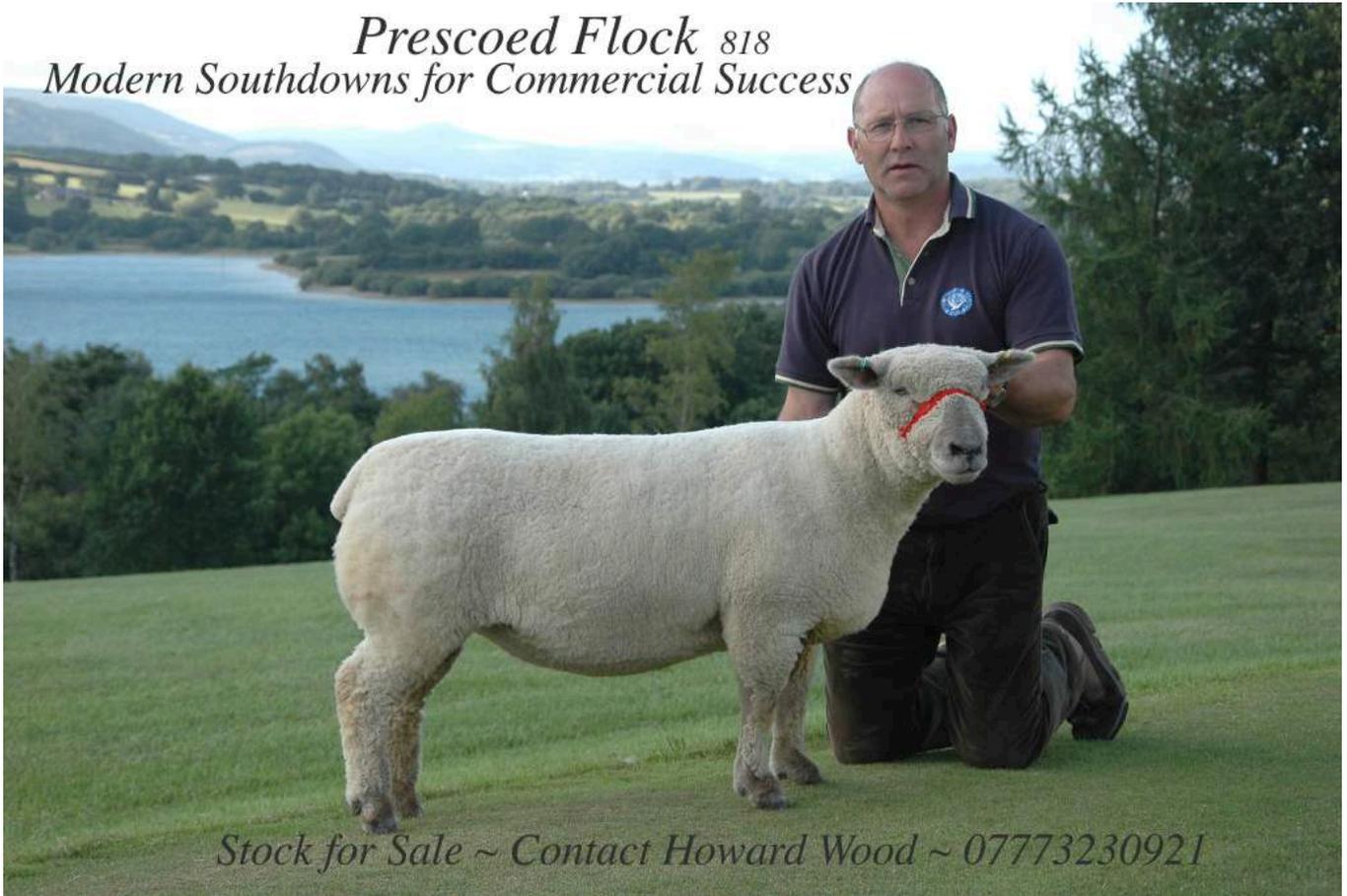
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<https://www.perrycourt.farm/southdownsheep>

contact: [jessicafermor1@gmail.com](mailto:jessicafermor1@gmail.com)

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*Stock for Sale ~ Contact Howard Wood ~ 07773230921*

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SOUTHDOWNS

FLOCK NO. 816



Duncan & Monica Crundwell  
Cobblers Yard Farm  
Leggs Lane  
Langton Green  
Tunbridge Wells  
Kent TN3 0RQ

01892 863448 07921471018  
dgrundwell@btinternet.com

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**Flock Number 883 Est. 2005**

Andersey Farm Ltd, Grove Park Drive, Lockinge, Wantage, OX12 8SG

[anderseyfarm@gmail.com](mailto:anderseyfarm@gmail.com)

07765 231876  
(+44) 1235 771866

# **SOUTH EAST MARTS**

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## **REGIONAL GROUPS**

If you would like more information about the breed, or details of local flocks, then please contact the Southdown Office.

Alternatively, there are regional Southdown Groups around the country. For more information, feel free to make contact with the breeders listed below.

### **South West Group**

Co-ordinators: Nicole Peart  
01209 861356  
ellieandbaileypeart@aol.co.uk  
Adam & Caroline Brown  
01398 361245  
adamandcaroline@googlemail.com

### **West Midlands Group**

Co-ordinator: Miriam Parker  
01743 884483  
miriam@livestockwise.co.uk

### **Wales Group**

Co-ordinators: Gareth Lloyd Hughes  
01970 880804  
garethlloydhughes@btinternet.com  
Dylan Williams  
07771 542578  
Del2880@yahoo.co.uk

### **East Midlands Group**

Co-ordinator: Sophie Arlott  
07899 833157  
sophie.arlott@btinternet.com

### **East Anglia Group**

Co-ordinator: Lindsay Dane  
01353 721216  
lindsay.dane@icloud.com

### **Beds, Bucks, Herts Group**

Co-ordinator: Lesley Mead  
01525 270135  
lesleyhollybar@btinternet.com

### **South of England Group**

Co-ordinator: Paul Humphrey  
01243 811518  
nhfcamping@gmail.com

## Breeder's with stock for sale:

*The following breeders have purchased advertisements in this  
Year Book and on the website*

SOUTH WEST	
<p><b>The Gunton Flock (No. 64)</b> Adam &amp; Caroline Brown North Hele Farm Clayhanger Tiverton Devon EX16 7NZ 01398 361245 07879056338 adamandcaroline@googlemail.com</p>	<p><b>The Huntspill Flock (No. 1119)</b> Percy Clatworthy &amp; Megan Chilcott Court Farm Cottage East Huntspill Highbridge Somerset TA9 3PD 01278 784536 megan-jumbo@hotmail.co.uk</p>
<p><b>The Wenfork Flock (No. 709)</b> Ben Collings Penhale Gate St Clether Launceston Cornwall PL15 8PS 07809703641 benbreed@live.co.uk</p>	<p><b>The Langford Flock (No. 961)</b> Mrs Georgina Helyer Lottmead Farm Hanging Langford Salisbury Wiltshire SP3 4PA 01722 790396 07970153550 Helyerlottmead@aol.com</p>
EAST MIDLANDS	
<p><b>The Montecristo Flock (No. 959)</b> Sophie Arlott Old Manor Farm Lenton Grantham Lincolnshire NG33 4HG 01476 585960 07899833157 sophie@arlott.net www.lavinton.com</p>	<p><b>The Spratton Flock (No. 308)</b> J Mark Hawtin Stowe Heights Farm Stowe IX Churches Weedon Northampton NN7 4SQ 01327 340250 07789646326 markhawtin@btinternet.com</p>
<p><b>The Brant Flock (No. 277)</b> Sidney J Cook Rosdene Brant Broughton Lincoln LN5 0SP 01522 788295 07802695325 susancook26@gmail.com</p>	<p><b>The Sheepcote Flock (No. 1258)</b> Ben Slack &amp; Katy Gibson Old Hall Farm Piccadilly Lane Upper Mayfield Ashbourne Derbyshire DE6 2HP 07765434794 ben.slack@benslack.co.uk</p>

## SOUTH EAST

### **The Caesars Flock (No. 286)**

Robert H Backshall  
1 Porchester Estate Cottage  
Crux Easton  
Highclere  
Newbury  
Berkshire  
RG20 9QE  
01635 253338  
07816162524  
robertcumbria@aol.com

### **The East Dean Flock (No. 165)**

D, S, & P Humphrey  
New House Farm  
East Dean  
Chichester  
West Sussex  
PO18 0NJ  
01243 811685  
newhousefarm001@btconnect.com

### **The Andersey Flock (No. 883)**

R S Beaumont  
Andersey Farm  
Lockinge  
Wantage  
Oxon  
OX12 8SG  
01235 771866  
07765231876  
anderseyfarm@gmail.com  
www.anderseyfarm.co.uk

### **The Offham Flock (No. 1082)**

Mrs Elizabeth Sargent  
Eastlands Farm  
The Stream  
Catsfield  
Battle  
East Sussex  
TN33 9BB  
07976 068094  
lizzy\_sapphire@hotmail.co.uk

### **The Ladywell Flock (No. 816)**

D G & M Y Crundwell  
Cobblers Yard Farm  
Leggs Lane  
Langton Green  
Tunbridge Wells  
Kent  
TN3 0RQ  
01892 863448  
07921471018 / 07729312621  
dgcrundwell@btinternet.com

### **The Wealden Flock (No. 375)**

Hannah Turner & John Worsfold  
Swains Farm  
Leigh  
Reigate  
Surrey  
RH2 8RQ  
01306 611497  
hturner@interpet.co.uk

### **The Stour Valley Flock (No. 1253)**

Miss Jessica Fermor  
Perry Court Farm  
Canterbury Road  
Wye  
Kent  
TN25 4ES  
01233 812408  
07814389458  
jessicafermor@hotmail.com

### **The Ridings Flock (No. 218)**

Wakeham-Dawson & Harmer  
The Farmhouse  
Offham Farm  
Offham  
Lewes  
East Sussex  
BN7 3QH  
01273 475473  
07980624196  
harmerbarns@talktalk.net

### **The Goodwood Flock (No. 783)**

Goodwood Estate Company Ltd.  
Home Farm  
Goodwood  
Chichester  
West Sussex  
PO19 0QF  
Contact shepherd Nick Page 07973488410  
01243 755150  
farm@goodwood.com

## WEST MIDLANDS

### **The Chaileybrook Flock (No. 323)**

Jonathan M A Long  
Lower Walton Farm  
Bishops Frome  
Worcester  
Herefordshire  
WR6 5BX  
01885 490855  
07974303306  
jonathan@mooandbaa.com  
www.chaileybrook.co.uk

## WEST MIDLANDS

### **The Hareley Flock (No. 871)**

Gillian Herbert  
Hareley Farm  
Linley Green  
Herefordshire  
WR6 5RF  
01886 884362  
gillian@hareleyfarm.co.uk  
www.hareleyfarm.co.uk

### **The Buckland Flock (No. 543)**

Miriam Parker  
New House Bausley  
Crew Green  
Shrewsbury  
Shropshire  
SY5 9BW  
01743 884483  
07740122958  
miriam@livestockwise.co.uk

### **The Chelsea Flock (No. 222)**

C. F. Ing  
Yew Tree Farm  
Weston  
Lullingfields  
Shrewsbury  
SY4 2AW  
01939 260100  
cgf.ing121@outlook.com

### **The Stoneridge Flock (No. 664)**

Keith & Annette Stickels  
40 Wakeford Close  
Ridge Lane  
Nuneaton  
Warwickshire  
CV10 0RE  
01827 715733  
07722793842  
stoneridge@tiscali.co.uk  
www.stoneridgesouthdowns.co.uk

## CENTRAL and EASTERN ENGLAND

### **The Spring Flock (No. 609)**

Miss E A Cutts  
GSH Farming Ltd  
Gt. Sir Hughes Farmhouse  
West Hanningfield Road  
Gt Baddow  
Chelmsford  
Essex  
CM2 7SZ  
01245 477696  
07818865203  
paulricher@gshfarming.co.uk

### **The Gragunn Flock (No. 672)**

Andrew Hudson  
The Grange  
Gunns Corner  
Smallburgh  
Norwich  
Norfolk  
NR12 9NR  
01692 535248  
07836519175  
ahudson@btconnect.com

### **The Great Fen Flock (No. 529)**

Mr & Mrs L C Dane  
South Villa  
46 Great Fen Road  
Soham  
Ely  
Cambs  
CB7 5UH  
01353 721216  
07548669529  
lindsay.dane@icloud.com

### **The Holly Bar Flock (No. 738)**

Mrs Lesley Mead  
Holly Bar Farm  
Hollingdon  
Soulbury  
Leighton Buzzard  
Beds  
LU7 0DN  
01525 270135  
lesleyhollybar@btinternet.com

### **The Webb Ellis Flock (No. 968)**

P E Goldsworthy Esq. MBE  
Ambleside  
Church Road  
Grafham  
Huntingdon  
Cambs  
PE28 0BB  
07711416312  
patrick@goldsworthy-uk.com

### **The Sutherland Flock (No. 896)**

Mrs Amy Readhead-Higgins  
House Farm  
Leiston  
Suffolk  
IP16 4TW  
01728 830646  
07850830030  
amy.readhead@gmail.com

## CENTRAL and EASTERN ENGLAND

### **The All Saints Flock (No. 291)**

Mrs Gail Sprake  
Meens Farm  
Capps Lane  
All Saints  
Halesworth  
Suffolk IP19 0PD  
01986 782416  
07885777921  
gail.sprake@outlook.com

### **The Webb Ellis Flock (No. 968)**

P E Goldsworthy Esq. MBE  
Ambleside  
Church Road  
Grafham  
Huntingdon  
Cambs  
PE28 0BB  
07711416312  
patrick@goldsworthy-uk.com

### **The Northumbria Flock (No. 1247)**

Messrs G & M Sparke  
Warren Farm  
Stewkley  
Bucks  
LU7 0LU  
07968182020  
g.sparke@btinternet.com

## YORKSHIRE & HUMBER

### **The Brompton Flock (No. 681)**

Antony Glaves  
37 Cayley Lane  
Brompton by Sawdon  
Scarborough  
North Yorkshire  
YO13 9DL  
01723 859523  
07788133921  
antonyglaves@btconnect.com  
www.glavesbutchers.co.uk

### **The Biscombe Flock (No. 500)**

Neil Stainthorpe  
Biscombe Lodge  
Thorpe Wood  
Selby  
North Yorkshire  
YO8 3RX  
01757 705911  
neil.stainthorpe@btinternet.com

## WALES

### **The Pen-Tranch Flock (No. 943)**

John H Lewis  
Pen-Tranch Farm  
Tranch  
Pontypool  
Gwent  
NP4 6BP  
07816 630705  
JohnHLewis@aol.com

### **The Prescoed Flock (No. 818)**

Howard N Wood  
48 Berthon Road  
Littlemill  
Pontypool  
Gwent  
NP4 0HL  
01495 785502  
07773230921  
howardw48@aol.com

### **The Greenlands Flock (No. 794)**

J Roland Williams  
Anedde  
Capel Seion  
Aberystwyth  
SY23 4ED  
01970 615162  
07979856281  
sales@greenlands.co.uk

### **The Gilfach Flock (No. 1320)**

Max Welton  
Gilfach  
Llanddeusant  
Llangadog  
Carmarthenshire  
SA19 9EY  
01550 740132  
07980597692  
theweltons1@gmail.com

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**For more details or to request a paper catalogue  
please contact the auctioneers or the Southdown Office.  
Catalogues will be available on line.  
[www.southdownsheepsociety.co.uk](http://www.southdownsheepsociety.co.uk)**

**Check out the Southdown Sheep Society website for details  
of sheep for sale throughout the year from Society members**

**Southdown office  
telephone: 01986 782251  
[secretary@southdownsheepsociety.co.uk](mailto:secretary@southdownsheepsociety.co.uk)**