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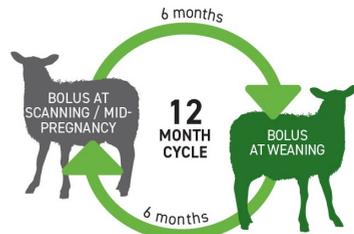
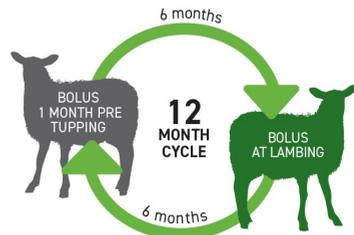
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THE TEESWATER
SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION
LIMITED.



FLOCK BOOK
Volume I

*Containing details of Sheep
passed by inspection for the
year ended 31st December,
1949.*



Published by
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PREFACE.

IT gives me great pleasure to write the foreword for Volume I of the Teeswater Sheep Flock Book.

This breed was at one time in some danger of becoming extinct. Fortunately a few farmers in the Tees Valley kept the breed alive and distinct for the purpose of breeding rams for crossing with hill ewes. During the past twenty years the value of these rams for crossing purposes has become better known and it is now appreciated that for breeding half bred lambs they have no equal.

I am satisfied that for crossing with Swaledale, Scotch, Black-faced Dales Bred, Lonks and Herdwicks, they are pre-eminent. This is borne out by the high prices realised for Half-Bred Gimmers at Auction Marts in Yorkshire, Durham, Westmorland, Cumberland and Lancashire. They are a hardy breed and prolific, good mothers. Black lambs have been practically eliminated.

The number of registrations for Vol. I has exceeded expectations and gives proof of the popularity of the Teeswater breed.

I appeal to all members to strive to improve their flocks by breeding from the best and eliminating the worst.

We have neither official financial help nor advice but with careful breeding and individual initiative no one knows what may be achieved. I believe that the formation of The Teeswater Sheep Breeders' Association will materially assist in this direction.

"HAYBERRIES,"
MICKLETON,
BARNARD CASTLE.

Thomas Addison,
Chairman.



Foreword

I will repeat the words of Thomas Addison as he wrote the foreword to the first Flock Book, that it is indeed a great pleasure and honour to write the foreword to our 'Teeswater Sheep Journal'.

From the earliest days of Teeswater Sheep every breed was developed with three things in mind - wool, meat and the ability to survive and thrive in sometimes harsh environments i.e. clothing, food and the metabolism to utilise the forage available.

It is with that in mind I would take this opportunity to pay tribute to the many breeders who over the years have maintained the attributes of the Teeswater Sheep by their dedication and commitment to the breed. We still have a breed with a superior carcase and a valuable fleece, particularly as at this present day the returns for wool are so poor. This is recognised in the Masham half-bred which is also noted for its

prolificacy, milkiness and longevity. In completing the cycle, the Masham put to any good conformation terminal sire will produce top quality butchers lambs.

In more recent years the value of the Teeswater lustre wool fleece has come to the fore, being highly prized in the home craft and spinning industry worldwide; notably first with semen export to the U.S.A., then embryos to New Zealand and then latterly to the U.S.A. All this in addition to Teeswaters exported to Europe.

To complete the picture of Teeswaters I cannot but mention, as you will see in reading this journal that in the right hands Teeswater compete on the agricultural show circuit and acquit themselves admirably at the highest level.

It just remains to be said that from small beginnings, with our foundation sheep coming from Alec Lambert and Jack Ripley, for over thirty years we have been blessed and privileged to be part of such a friendly and dedicated group of breeders.

**Charles W. Marwood, President
Foulrice, Whenby, York**

Teeswaters through the Years

2000 years ago, the Romans brought sheep with them to Britain and it is thought that most of today's longwooled breeds are descended from these.

John Loudon's an encyclopaedia of agriculture of 1825 gives the following

"the Teeswater sheep differ from the Lincolnshire in their wool not being so long and heavy. In standing upon higher, though finer boned legs, supporting a thicker, firmer and heavier carcass much wider upon their backs and sides. Affording a fatter grained carcass of mutton."

Around this time records indicate that sheep were exported to Tasmania, Australia and both New Jersey and Philadelphia in the USA.

In the 2nd quarter of the 1800's Teeswater ewes were crossed with Dishley Leicester rams with the offspring becoming the Wensleydale breed. The famous ram Blue Cap being born in 1839. Over time the Wensleydale became the dominant breed with the Teeswater declining to the

point of near extinction by the 1920's.

At this time a few dedicated shepherds in its Teesdale heartland continued to improve their stock and gradually the quality of its cross bred lambs saw an increased demand for rams.

By 1949 enthusiasts felt that a breed society should be formed to help protect the Teeswater breed in view of the provisions of the hill farming act of 1946.

A public meeting was held on 24th August 1949 at Trinity Methodist chapel Barnard Castle, 38 interested breeders attended. Follow up meetings were held at Leyburn auction mart and Kendal. By the end of the year 184 members had joined, this increased to 250 in year 2. By 1956 the association had over 400 members

Area inspectors were appointed and for the next 3 years sheep were admitted upon inspection. In the first year 870 ewes and 644 lambs were registered.

The following year the Great Yorkshire Show put on 3 classes for rams, ewes and ram lambs. In the following years many shows were encouraged to put on Teeswater and half-bred classes.

In the early years a regular discussion at meetings seemed to be problems caused by tagging lambs in summer with some members proposing an alternative of tattooing instead.

A publicity committee was formed in 1959 and in the following years great efforts were made to highlight the qualities of the Teeswater and Masham sheep. Until this time the name Masham had been used loosely but it was now given more prominence, donations were sought from Masham breeders to help publicise their sales. Some members were frustrated that Teeswater sired lambs were described as Wensleydale sired, representations being made to auction marts and the press to put this right. Rams were sent on approval to all parts of the UK, with 2 being sent to Ireland in 1959 to cross with local sheep. The farmer and stockbreeder magazine ran a lambing competition, Masham ewes producing the heaviest crops of lambs for many years.

In the 60's and 70's a few large breeders held periodic on farm production sales, the longest running was the ones held by J.B. Liddle.

Throughout the 1970's the demand for Teeswater rams to use on Swaledale ewes decreased sharply. This was most marked in its traditional heartlands and the final annual sales at Middleton in Teesdale was held in 1980. Sales continued at Kendal and Leyburn.

From its formation the Teeswater Sheep breeders' Association had promoted the Masham halfbred lamb and ewe, but in 1986 a separate breed organisation was formed. Both associations have many common members and to this day work closely together.

The 60s, 70s and 80s in general were good for the sheep industry, and Teeswaters prospered, but the 90s were not so kind. Over supply and changing trends hit the breed hard; wool once a virtue, now became a problem. Numbers plummeted to such an extent that the Rare Breed Survival trust placed the breed on the Priority List and, by 1997, onto the Vulnerable List as numbers fell further.

Numbers are now in a much healthier state with a stable commercial base and a growing number of conservation grazers, rare breed enthusiasts and fibre producers.

2000 saw the first semen exports to North America, further exports have been made periodically when animal health regulations allow. In the last few years embryo's have been available for export offering the first full blood lambs to be born in New Zealand and North America.

The RBST provided some early scrapie testing with very encouraging results so when the national plan was launched in 2002 many Teeswater flocks showed 100% resistance with 72% testing arr/arr and only a handful needing culling.

Throughout this time many NSA events have been attended, promoting the breed with live sheep always an attraction although with various disease outbreaks this has not always been easy. Going back to 2008 the Chairman noted problems with midges and politicians re: blue tongue and movement restrictions so there are some constants in life.

In 2014 the Association started using Grassroots software to manage its registrations allowing members to search pedigrees in real time and not having to wait for the flock book to come out.

Around this time Teeswaters joined the world of social media, today Facebook is the best way to keep up to date with all things Teeswater with almost instant show pictures and results.

Today the modern Teeswater still has a strong presence in the commercial world with the hard wearing and productive Masham in strong demand with market prices in line with comparable crossbred sheep.

In the showing there are very few sheep that command the judge's eye like a Teeswater. Many shows in the north have dedicated classes but in areas where they are less numerous and are shown in mixed classes they do particularly well.

RAM LAMBS

Lot No.	Reg. No.	Sire	Dam	Dam of Dam	Sire of Dam	
60	22	167/Z28	43/S4	167/W47	167/U24	167/Q17
Hande 60	23	167/Z29	296/T3	167/X41	167/T33	167/Q12
140	24	167/Z30	296/T3	167/V29	167/R49	43/S4
60	25					4/L1
70	26					7/K15
110	27					S4
70	28					S4
—	29					S4
220	30					7/Q17
140	31					S4
120	32					S4
220	33					0/N7
Bant 280	34					0/N7
110	35					4/L1
190	36					4/L1
220	37					7/Q12
—	38					7/Q12
90	39					7/Q12
200	40					7/K15
260	41					7/Q12
160	42					7/Q12
350	43					7/Q12
260	44					S4
170	45					7/K15
46	46					7/Q12



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J B Liddle with page from Production Sale Catalogue



Stanley Bainbridge Thomas Addison Ralf Liddle at Bowes Show



New Zealand born Teeswater with recipient ewe

History of the Newstead Flock

After moving from Tranmire, a 50 acre moorland farm, to High Newstead, a farm with 200 acres of pasture and 180 acres of moorlands in 1947, my Grandfather, Thomas Croft, along with my father, Bill Croft, and Uncle Ted had a goal to increase stock numbers both with the dairy cattle and sheep. They moved to where we farm now on 25th March 1947 just as the snow was melting after the long cold winter that took out many of their sheep.

During this year they bought our first Teeswaters from my Fathers Uncle John Hodgson from East Witton. They purchased 2 good sized ewes and joined the Teeswater Sheep Breeders Association when it was formed in 1949. Gt Uncle John Hodgson was a clever man, so Uncle Ted writes in his book, and produced some wonderfully presented Mashams and Teeswaters. He played his cards close to his chest but through Uncle Ted watching and listening to him much knowledge was gained and passed down the generations. This is where the enthusiasm first started to produce lambs that

could command a good price in the market and where Uncle Teds goal to win the Masham fair sales championship for 50 store lambs and his ambition to win with ten gimmer lambs started. This must have been passed through the blood as its always my goal each year to produce the best pen of Mashams sired by a Teeswater.

In the early years my Grandfather borrowed a Teeswater tup from my Gt Uncle John Hodgson until he finally let us have an old one which had sired prize winning lambs before the war and was still in fine fettle and working. He bred some fabulous lambs and my Grandfather and Uncle Ted even had the audacity to compete against Gt Uncle John with the progeny. They showed at Bowes in a class of 3 Masham gimmers, there were 18 competitors in the class and they came second. It was the first step onto the ladder of recognition which was cemented at the Masham show where the Croft Teeswaters and Mashams won many of the classes.

Looking back through our records and Uncle Teds book you can clearly see that from my Grandfather, through to my Father and Uncle Ted to myself, Louise

and Anna, we have stood by the words of previous chairmans of the society.

JAS Thompson, 1952: *'Let us, by careful selective breeding and vigorous culling, concentrate on improving the commercial and crossing qualities of our sheep, that they may take their place amongst our premier national breeds.'*

J Sunter, 1955: *'We now have classes at all the premier shows in the area, and while it is very gratifying to receive the prizes, let us not be blinded by success in the show-ring to the main objective of our breed: that of breeding rams to produce the best half-bred sheep in the country. If we follow that ideal the future of the Teeswater Breed is assured.'*

This is something that is always in our minds at tugging time, at lambing time and when registering our lambs. We strive to produce and register the best Teeswaters that we can to still breed a good Masham lamb.

The Association was originally divided into 4 districts, Barnard Castle, Kendall, Leyburn and Reeth and Swaledale. Each district had nominated inspectors to ensure the

quality of the sheep was retained with all lambs being inspected prior to registration. My Grandfather was an inspector of the Leyburn District along with my Gt Uncle John Hodgson from very early on until 1970 when my Father, Bill Croft, took over this duty with Johns son, Alan Hodgson.

Each District had a District Secretary of which the Crofts took the role for 30 continuous years, my Father Bill 1956-1966, Uncle Basil 1966-1980 and myself 1980-1988, when I then became a council member alongside my Father. One of the secretaries tasks was punching out by hand all the tag numbers onto metal ear tags for each registered lamb.

The AGM back then was an all day affair, starting with all the districts meeting up in the morning, lunch and then the AGM in the afternoon. My Father became chairman in 1976 with myself following some years later in 1997 and 1998. I am very proud knowing there has always been a Croft holding some position within the Teeswater Association and Teeswater sheep roaming our fields over the last 75 plus years and hope this will continue into the future.

One of my first real memories of Teeswaters was registering 3 very good T Reg ewes in 1974, 45/T6,7 & 8. They were sired by a Liddle tup 167/R11 bought at one of their sales, which were held every 2 to 3 years, onto our home bred ewes. In 1977 I had the day off school to attend the Paddock Hall production sale, a great occasion attended by all the leading Masham lamb breeders, and came away with 2 rams and a collie pup!

Times have changed but I believe that many of the old values still hold true. Teeswaters are an amazing sheep with lots of personality and produce fantastic half-bred lambs. We have more Teeswaters on the farm now than

before, some ewes we breed pure, others we put to a Texel cross to produce high quality, fast growing fat lambs. We also have a range of rams that we put to the Dalesbred to breed high quality Masham lambs. Our goal each year is to breed that top quality Ram to sire great quality Masham lambs, although we do get a thrill from a top class show sheep too. Our passion for the breed has never wavered. The breed has changed somewhat in looks from a more paler sheep to having more colourful faces, their conformation too improving over the years but the wool is still top quality and they are fabulous sheep and a breed we should all be very proud of.



Ted Croft in 1950 Show line-up



Bill Croft



Ted Croft



Martin Croft



Anna and Martin Croft - Photo by M.J. Peakman



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The Highfield Flock

I started keeping sheep when I was around 7 years old getting pet lambs from my uncle's to bottle feed and fatten. After a couple of years I started to keep back one or two a year to breed from. I'd always liked the look of Teeswaters so when it came round to my 18th birthday and my parents asked what I would like, I replied "two Teeswater gimmer lambs, " thinking they'd never be able to find any, but from there it started.

My uncle Richard managed to use his farming connections and went to Leyburn sale and brought back my first two Teeswaters. Now 8 years down the line the flock has nicely grown in numbers

I originally just wanted to keep Teeswaters to help the breed numbers with them being a rare breed and I never intended to show them This was until I met a fellow Teeswater couple, Pam and Adrian who were very kind in lending me a tup to breed from for my first year of pedigree lambs. They took me to a few shows with them and their sheep and I got the 'show bug ' so started to take a lamb or two myself. The first few years showing were relatively unsuccessful just getting an odd

placing here or there if I was lucky, however with changing some breeding, giving good nutrition, learning what to look for and taking all the advice I could get they slowly started doing better.

Since then, I've had some really successful years showing including this year at the GYS winning Champion Teeswater and Reserve non mv interbreed champion for the second year in a row. I also managed to win the non -mv interbreed group of three Champion and reserve non-mv interbreed pairs champion. This is something that when I look back to where I started from that I could only have dreamed of!

The Teeswater breed is a lovely breed to own; they may be a large sheep but they are easily bucket trained and friendly making them easy to deal with. Their wool is something special, especially the first clip which is very sought after for crafting. Being sent as far afield as China and America.

Amy Pattison



It all started with a 4th Prize
at Egton show 2019



Wool on the Hoof
Interbreed Champion 2022



Teeswater Champion and Interbreed
Non-MV Reserve Champion 2025

Our Teeswater Journey

By Dr Giles Horner

Our journey with Teeswater sheep began 25 years ago.

Having found a rural GP partnership and our dream small holding, set within the beautiful North Yorkshire Moors National Park, I was set the challenge of keeping our 12 acres of grass short so that my wife's horse would not suffer laminitis. A farming friend recognised the problem and offered us some sheep that needed rehoming from an animal sanctuary in Sheffield. He explained that if we could keep these sheep alive and healthy, we would be set to have a flock of our own. A good way to learn about sheep, he said.

We certainly did learn.

They enjoyed rude health but had a habit of playing dead so convincingly that at one point the knacker was called to collect one, only for my wife to have to call them back five minutes later to explain that I had "resurrected" it. But eventually it was time to consider what sort of sheep we would actually like for ourselves. I wanted something with horns. Manly sheep. But my wife had

been chatting to local farmers and after a quick google search had discovered Teeswaters. Our local rare breed. Beautiful sheep. "And just think what the locals would say if you entered the village show with some sheep!". I was sold.

So, on with some proper sheep research, we thought. And off we trailed to Reeth show to meet some esteemed Teeswater breeders.

It turned out that this was indeed a very good place to see Teeswater sheep and we were able to chat to some very kind breeders who gave us lots of advice, and one breeder in particular who was more than happy to sell us some sheep. A trip to Nidderdale followed, and I returned a few hours later as the proud owner of our first Teeswater ewes and gimmer lambs. We then went to the annual sale of Teeswater sheep held on the first Thursday in October in Leyburn. There we intended to get a ram. "Don't forget that the ram is half of your flock", I was advised. "Get the best that you can afford". We soon had a shortlist of good looking ram lambs and having failed to purchase the first few on the list, we were left with our favourite. The lamb that had gone on to be

crowned champion in the pre-sale show. With little choice now but to go for it, we bid and bought our first Teeswater ram, "Dougal".

On arriving home, Dougal promptly ignored the field full of lovely ladies awaiting him, preferring to smash straight through a wooden post and rail fence to spend a night of passion with one of the gimmer lambs. Another learning curve. By the end of his time, Dougal had managed to go through several fences and had even left a Dougal-shaped hole in the middle of a five-bar wooden gate. All as part of his mission to repopulate the moors with Masham-like lambs. On a positive note, I can reassure the readers that Teeswater sheep in my humble experience are rarely known to jump out of fields in bid to escape. But then a 160kg sheep perhaps doesn't need to jump if wooden fences or gates are not built to withstand a Dougal. He did breed some outstanding Masham lambs.

The following summer hailed the arrival of show season. We were entered at Egton and Danby shows. It is fair to say that we had absolutely no idea what we were doing. The sheep however looked amazing. Immaculately clean.

They looked like they had done a full wash cycle with a good cup full of Persil Automatic. Dazzling white in the sunshine, we were proud as punch and loving the kind-hearted comments over how clean and bright our sheep were. "Now if you could just go and stand at the far end of the line please!" said the judge. Where were we going wrong? Fortunately, the local Teeswater breeders were very happy to give advice if asked. So, we learned about Pearl dip. How to trim sheep. How to wash sheep, and what water to use. You must not use tap water. It needs to be river or rainwater so as not to ruin the wool. It also turns out that water in the stream to the side of the farm is different to the water in the main river, and if used with Pearl dip it turns a peculiar colour. Not a blue rinse that Nora Batty might be proud of. Oh no! Bright pink. Apparently bright pink sheep are no better than dazzling white when it comes to show standards.

A quarter of a century later, and we are still learning. Teeswater sheep are big but generally calm and easy to handle. They make great show sheep as they are in many respects the "perfect all-rounders". They are amongst the biggest sheep and never fail to

impress with their size and power, with large and solid carcasses and wool that is recognised as about the finest quality available in this country. We now also have 2 young handlers who also have their own sheep and want to compete in the Teeswater classes. Teeswaters are perfect for this job too.

We have had much success in the shows. This has come about with a lot of hard work and an ethos of trying to breed the best of the best. Each show still requires the best part of a whole day of preparation. Then getting up before the crack of dawn on show day to find that the best show sheep has wandered down into that corner of the field with the blocked land drain that I have been meaning to fix before spending the night lying in some sort of primordial sludge that just doesn't want to wash off. Or backed themselves into a hedge and got covered in twigs and leaves. Or laid under that stone wall with all the moss on. Or the heavens have opened at 2am and they look half-drowned, whilst simultaneously covered in sludge, moss and twigs. And so you start again with the cleaning and

preparation and try to think happy thoughts. Of course, you could keep them inside the night before the show, but then they are covered in straw and despite good hay, can sometimes look a little lean and "empty".

We really enjoy showing. Don't get me wrong, we are very competitive. But we are still very happy to pass on any of the advice that we have gleaned over the years. And we have found some really wonderful friends that we meet at the shows. I would like to think that they may even be as happy to see us turning up at a show as we are to see them! In the last couple of years, we have had some notable successes. We have won breed championships at quite a few shows and in some cases have even managed to go on to beat the big commercial sheep to win the interbreed competitions. Our fleeces have also won awards including the best fleece at the Great Yorkshire Show. The culmination of all of this was to have a number of our own home bred champion sheep stood in the line-up for the Champion of Champions competition. Held at Masham Sheep Fair to mark the 75th anniversary of the Teeswater Sheep

Breeders Association, going on to win this award with our Teeswater shearing ram was an unforgettable experience.

We feel that it is important to have the best sheep at shows for the public and future Teeswater breeders to see. And we firmly believe, that despite its rare breed status, the Teeswater is a truly remarkable sheep with many qualities that make it the ideal breed to keep. The Teeswater tup is the sire of the Masham sheep, a versatile and hardy breeding sheep. Teeswaters are generally

calm and easy to handle. They are prolific and good mothers. They have a fleece that is highly sought after. And if they are naughty, they will fill a freezer.



2024 Champion of Champions here winning the qualifier at Danby Show



Champion Fleece, Great Yorkshire Show 2024



Great Yorkshire Show, Champion and Reserve

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From the Rostrum

As auctioneer and manager of Leyburn mart for almost 30 years it has been my pleasure to conduct the annual show and sale on behalf of the Teeswater sheep breeders' association. The mart is also proud to hold the only official sale in the UK for the breed.

I have witnessed first-hand the dedication and hard work that members have put into the breeding and development of the breed and because of this we have had many successful sales.

At the mart we draw customers from all parts of the UK for our regular sales and the Teeswater sale is no exception, bringing buyers and sellers from Wales,

sometimes Northern Ireland, from Dorset and Aberdeenshire and all counties in between.

The breed has stood the test of time with the strong following and demand for Masham sheep, also the high value of the fleece, breeders are optimistic for the future and quite rightly so.

The sale day is something special, followers gather early, sometimes the night before, and stay late, reluctant to leave, even after the sale has been over for many hours. There are lots to talk about, firstly the day's trade, quality of the stock and maybe even the judge's skills and decisions will be analysed and debated. Other subjects are then discussed as the friendships developed over many years make this a personal and special gathering with, family, health and relationships all in the mix.

As retirement looms for me, I wish the association all the best for the future, it is in good hands and the breed will surely continue to impress and progress as the years go on.

Stephen Walker
Auctioneer & Manager
Leyburn Livestock Auction Mart



Photo by M.J. Peakman



Teeswater and Masham Breeder

My name is David Verity and I farm at Grange Farm, Bouthwaite in Upper Nidderdale. In partnership with my cousin Keith at Stean.

We run a flock of about 1100 ewes split half Dalesbred and half Swaledale. A hefted flock of Dalesbreds run on Stean Moor and provide replacement draft ewes for Grange Farm. A few Dalesbred gimmer lambs are bought in from Bentham Auction Mart each autumn.

Teeswater tups are put to the Dalesbred to produce Masham lambs. The gimmers are mainly sold through the Masham Association Sale at Bentham where in 2024 we were privileged to be placed 1st and going on to sell for a breed record price. Wethers are sold through Pateley and Skipton

auctions. In 2024, 12 Teeswater tups were loused to the main flock plus 4 Teeswater ewes to breed our own replacements.

Our bloodlines go back to purchases from JB Liddle, Paddock Hall Farm, Stainburn during the 60's and 70's. We only breed Teeswaters for our own use and only breed off tups that have proven themselves producing quality Masham gimmers. Anything that doesn't hit the mark whether male or female is culled.

We have been members of the Teeswater SBA since 1973. I presently serve as a council member following on from my late father Rowland who was a past president.

The hardiness, longevity and conformation of the Teeswater combined with that of the Dalesbred ewe produce the mighty Masham.

Masham gimmers that will go forward to graze anywhere whether it be the green fields of Devon, the windswept heights of Derbyshire or the salt marshes of Morecambe. With that Teeswater/Dalesbred blood in her she will thrive and produce crop after crop of quality lambs.



Masham Flock Owner Perspective

I was honoured when I was asked by a Masham gimmer lamb breeder to give my honest opinion why more people should farm masham sheep

A Masham ewe will have plenty of lambs with excellent mothering ability, put more weight into her lambs naturally as she is a good producer of milk. She will also out wear a lot of other breeds.

As the single farm payment has got a lot less people are going to have to farm sheep and produce lambs off ewes that can look after themselves and live without too much expense on them.

Wool of a Masham is worth far more money if people are willing to find a market for it.

We buy Masham gimmer lambs from Bentham Auction at the society sale and have done so for numerous years, lambing a few as hogs, running the rest dry. A few are sold back at Bentham Auction at the shearing sale to regular buyers with most kept as flock replacements.

Also I have made up to £200 for cull ewes going out of the flock.

At the end of the day they are supposed to keep me not me keep them.

I farm at 1,500ft, lamb outside and have done all my life and farmed Masham ewes most of it.

Robert Rowland (Rolo)
Derbyshire



George Dixon



Great Yorkshire 1969

Harry Hinde with Champion and Reserve
assisted by Stanley Bainbridge



Great Yorkshire 1975

Harry Hinde and Tony Busby

BISHOPTON

VETERINARY GROUP

PROUD TO SUPPORT TEESWATER SHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

Here at Bishopton, we've been looking after sheep for over 80 years. Whilst we're still friendly and independent, we remain at the forefront of veterinary science and offer the following services to tighten your lambing season and give effective returns:



LAPAROSCOPIC AI



USE OF FRESH & FROZEN SEMEN



TUP FERTILITY TESTING & MOT



VASECTOMIES & TUP MANAGEMENT



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Ripon Northallerton York Thirsk Pateley Bridge Easingwold

British Wool Board

As the Teeswater Sheep Breeders Association celebrated its very special milestone, its 75th anniversary, in 2024, this year British Wool also marks its 75th anniversary since being established to support UK farmers and promote the wool industry on a global scale.

The Teeswater, celebrated widely for its genetic contribution to the Masham ewe, particularly when crossed with various hill breeds but predominantly the Dalesbred, the Teeswater sheep breed is highly regarded for its remarkable longevity and prolific breeding capabilities. One of its most distinctive features is the long, curly fleece, which is not only lustrous but also possesses a delightful soft texture. Each season, we grade approximately 4,000 kilos of Teeswater Wool, characterised by its strikingly white creamy hue, a staple length ranging from 15 to 30 centimetres and a micron count that adds to its desirability for various textile applications.

We would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to the Teeswater Sheep Breed Association on achieving an impressive milestone of now 76 years in dedicated service to this breed.

We wish you continued success and prosperity with all your endeavours and extend our best wishes to all your members and the Association for a bright and successful future.

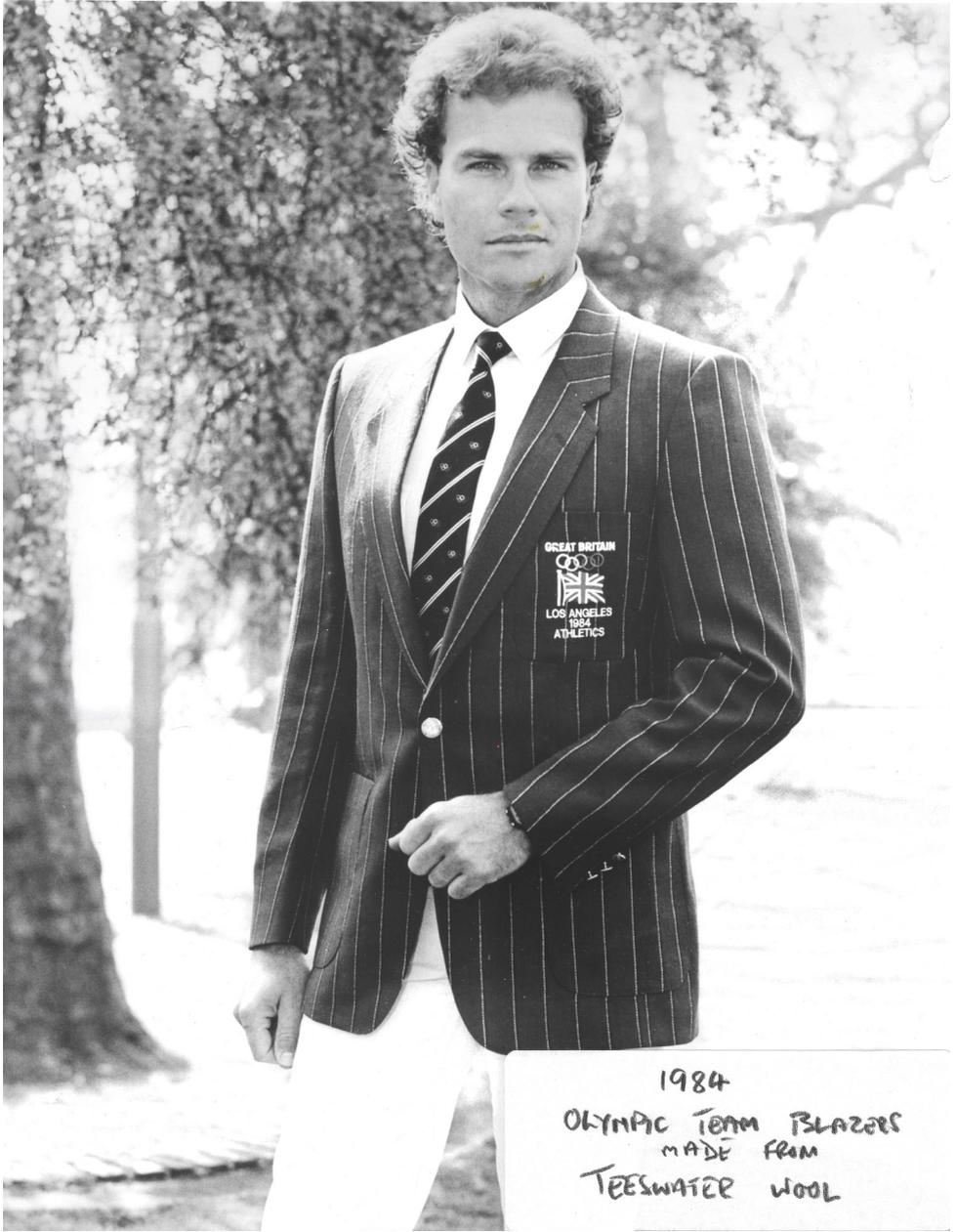
For the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics the men's British team wore blazers made from Teeswater wool cloth woven in Yorkshire.

The yarn was developed by British wool and spun in Bradford, dyed in Meltham Huddersfield and further processed in Dewsbury.

The unique cloth was designed and woven in Huddersfield.

The blazers were individually tailored for each Olympian in Leeds.

Many of the athletes wearing Teeswater wool 40 years ago are still household names today including the Whitaker brothers, Coe, Ovet, Cram and Thompson.



1984
OLYMPIC TEAM BLAZERS
MADE FROM
TEESWATER WOOL



Maximising the value of **your wool**

- ✓ We are a farmers co-operative **owned by you.**
- ✓ Our mission is to **drive sustainable demand.**
- ✓ Efficiently **collect, grade** and **sell** your wool.
- ✓ **Maximising** your return.

 @britishwoolfarm

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SCAN TO FIND
OUT MORE



Reeth show 1998 All by 912 M 3 bred by Beamish Museum
848 /R/ 3 Doris Chandler 50/ R /8 Ernest Bainbridge 881 /R/4 Alice Bargh



Gosforth Park, Northern Ireland 2011 – Will Carson



Leek Show 2017 – Gilly Storer



Westmorland show 2024 – Sue Tyson's Aged Ram Champion
Teeswater and Lowland non-Terminal Interbreed Champion



Tina Glenn of Faerie Fabrications

I'm Tina Glenn of Faerie Fabrications and I am a fibre artist from Ashville, North Carolina, USA.

I am a hand weaver, hand dyer, art yarn spinner and have tested out many different fibres from all over the planet.

I have been obsessed with my craft and have ridiculously high standards when it comes to working with my textiles. I insist on the best yarns, dyes and of course fibre.



With respect to working with the raw longwools that I have encountered, I have learned a lot through trial and error. In my opinion I only want to work with longwools that are grown and raised in the UK. They are bar none my favourite. You can see that these sheep are thriving in their elements.

I learned about the shepherd I've been buying my Teeswater fleece from through a friend who found them on Facebook and after trying one fleece I became smitten.



I adore the Teeswater I've been purchasing for years and get excited when I get a package. They wash up beautifully and dye gloriously. I used to purchase just for my own use in spinning and weaving, but now I have a strong following for my hand dyed locks and curls. My customers rave about them and just scouring and dyeing longwool locks and curls has developed into a part-time job!



Family Favourites

When it comes to lamb the only choice for us, apart from the obvious one that it is British of course, is Teeswater lamb.

We are fortunate enough to have friends who are sheep farmers and who breed Teeswater sheep. We know their commitment to animal welfare is high but it is more than that, it is a passion. For the past few years, more than I care to remember if I am truthful, we have been able to purchase Teeswater or Teeswater cross lamb that has been looked after and cared for in every way shape and form literally from field to fork. The result of this care and attention has created flavoursome, lean, tender lamb that simply never disappoints in richness and taste.

It would be nigh on impossible to select a cut that we favour most, and in all honesty I don't know all

the proper names, what I do know is we like it all. Finding it so easy to prepare and cook into tasty meals.

Nothing beats a beautiful roast leg or shoulder of lamb and why save it for a Sunday, it's amazing any day of the week. An authentic shepherds pie with lamb mince is a firm favourite in our house hold, the only stipulation being that there is plenty left over for the following day. Diced lamb in stews and casseroles make a welcome change from beef or chicken and there is the wonderful liver with mash, comfort food in every sense of the word.



Burgers now there is a word that conjures up junk food, but made with succulent Teeswater lamb and chopped onions you have a healthy meal you can serve winter or summer. There is simply no end to the delicious ways you can enjoy tasty British Teeswater lamb, just one last thing don't forget the mint sauce.

Ray and Chris Daker, York







If you would like to know more about Teeswater Sheep
a good place to start would be our website
[www: teeswatersheep.co.uk](http://www.teeswatersheep.co.uk)

Or on Facebook.

Or contact the Association on info@teeswatersheep.co.uk

If you see Teeswaters at shows the exhibitors will be
more than willing to share their knowledge

This publication has been made possible by the support of the advertisers.

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