

Suffolk Sheep Society's - National Flock Competition Winner's Open Day 6th November 2014

It may have been a miserable day outside but this wasn't a problem when fellow Suffolk Breeders and friends joined Patrick Donnelly and his wife Rhonda, from Co Antrim, to celebrate the Donrho Flock winning the Suffolk Sheep Society's prestigious National Flock Competition.

Visitors and Competition Winners travelled from across the United Kingdom and Ireland to see the winning flock and prize presentation by Alex Gray, Langside Flock, Lanarkshire, who judged the 2014 competition.

The results were as follows:

W Borthwick (Ballochmyle) - Ayrshire won The John Long Cup - Best Small Flock Winner 0-30 Ewes and The Sainsbury Cup - Best Ewe lambs.

Patrick Donnelly (Donrho) – Co Antrim won The Bristol Gold Cup for Best Overall Flock, The W E Lloyd Cup for Best Flock 31 -60 Ewes, The Bonnington Salver for Best Flock of Ewes, The Chebsey Cup for Best Progeny Group (with Baileys Paddy's Power) & Reserve in Best Ewe Lambs.

S J Buckley (Sitlow) – Derbyshire won The Keeble Cup for Best Flock 61 – 100 ewes & The Howard Peel Cup for Best Stud Rams as well as Reserve in Best overall Flock.

JW Hallam & SM Eggleston (Seagrave) – Leicestershire – won The Brooks Cup for Best Flock 100 + Ewes.

Other flocks which the Judge highlighted were:

The **Horton Flock of Jack Pryce** and his late wife from Powys, received Reserve in the 0-30 Ewes category and Reserve for their Stud Rams.

Tom Fitzsimon – Sunnyhills Flock – Dumfries, was Reserve with his ram Rhaeadr Topman in the Progeny Group.

County Turf Ltd – Hazeltree Flock – North Lincolnshire, received Reserve in both the 31 – 60 Ewes and the Best Flock of Ewes categories.

William Montgomery – Smiddiehill Flock – Co Down was Reserve in the 61 -100 Ewes class

Irene Fowlie – Essie Flock - Aberdeenshire was Reserve in the 100+ Ewe category.

Also presented on the day was the Sire of the Year Trophy to PDW Taylor for Ballynacanon Commander. This trophy is awarded to the

breeder of a ram that has sired the top average price of three ram lambs. Ballynacanon Commander's sons sold to 20,000gns, 5,500gns and 5,000gns to average £10,675.

Chief Executive for the Society, Dr Lewis McClinton, thanked Patrick and Rhonda for their hospitality and for such a warm welcome to their farm to view the Donrho Flock. He also thanked all visitors and competition participants for attending the view day.



Back L – R

William Montgomery, Steve Buckley, Alex Grey (Judge), William Borthwick, Sandy Frazer (County Turf) and Tom Fitzsimon.

Front L- R

Sheila Eggleston, Patrick Donnelly and Dennis Taylor



Back L-R

Lewis McClinton (Chief Executive), Alex Gray (Judge) & Sheila Eggleston (President)

Front L – R

Rhonda and Patrick Donnelly with the Bristol Gold Cup