

# the single thread

The latest news from Eastern Alpaca Group



Best EAG Member Fleece - Hilly Ridge Harmony

## Dear EAG Member

Welcome! The September newsletter is created for EAG members & anyone with a love of alpacas.

Thank you to everyone who entered the East of England fleece show judged by Mrs Julia Corrigan-Stuart and congratulations to rosette and championship winners. I would also like to thank all the volunteer stewards and helpers who gave up their weekend to make sure the show ran smoothly. Special thanks to Harley Laver, show organiser, for collecting the fleeces before, co-ordinating everything and ensuring the fleeces went to where they should be afterwards - oh and also arranged for the feeding of all throughout the weekend. That is a truly epic contribution!

Plans are well underway for the sell out East of England Alpaca Show at Beechwood in October. If you have managed to book your animals in then we all look forward to seeing you after what seems an eternity being shut away. If you couldn't get your animals in then I am sorry but we are very limited by space and the desire to show was overwhelming. There are still sponsorship opportunities to promote your farms, animals and what you do, so if you would like to support the show in this way then please let me know.

Your Committee are also keen to hear from fellow alpaca owners with any ideas for improving our group, workshop topics for the winter ahead, or indeed if you would like to volunteer for helping at events, join the committee or anything else!

EAG is for you, run by volunteers for the benefit of all members with a focus on support, education & welfare, coupled with the annual fleece & halter shows. With your support, input & suggestions EAG is an innovative, dynamic, fun & growing group. Get in touch.

Thank you for your continued support

Best wishes

Simon Ilett (Chair)



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Supreme Champion Huacaya - Hilly Ridge Harmony  
Supreme Champion Suri - Faraway Blonde Bombshell

Champion White H - Hilly Ridge Harmony  
Champion Light H - Snowhill Mustang  
Champion Fawn H - Snowhill Neptune  
Champion Brown H - Snowhill Handel  
Champion Grey H - Amberly High Palladium  
Champion Black H - Hilly Ridge Hamilton

Champion White S - Park Side Fondant  
Champion Light S - Faraway Blonde Bombshell  
Champion Fawn S - Winsaula Hot Gossip  
Champion Brown S - Snowhill Harmony  
Champion Grey S - Winsaula Malahide

## East of England Fleece Show 2021

Another highly successful show saw judge Mrs Julia Corrigan-Stuart take on the task of appraising a fantastic total of 126 fleeces over the weekend of 13th, 14th and 15th August.

Champion and Reserve sashes were awarded for each colour class along with a number of special awards (see below). New this year, and sponsored by Park Side Suri Alpacas, the Silver Senior Award was given to the oldest alpaca with a high scoring fleece. The Spirit of the Industry trophy and rosette, kindly donated by Alpaca Evolution, were also presented for the first time and recognise the qualities most sought after in the processing of fibre.

A huge thank you must go to our show sponsors, as well as the show volunteers that ensure that the weekend runs smoothly.

A special thanks also to Show Organiser, Harley Laver.

For a full list of results head over to the EAG website at [easternalpacagroupuk.org](http://easternalpacagroupuk.org)



Spirit of the Industry Award - Snowhill Persephone

## Special award winners

Spirit of the Industry Award - Snowhill Persephone  
Silver Senior - Hillend Grace  
Best Skirted Fleece - Cold Comfort Mary  
Best Newcomer - Gorefield Argento Vivo  
Best EAG Member Fleece - Hilly Ridge Harmony

Best British Bred Huacaya - Hilly Ridge Harmony  
Best British Bred Suri - Winsaula Veronica's Pillow Talk  
Judges Choice Huacaya - Churchfield Dream Girl  
Judges Choice Suri - Park Side Gainsford End



## A huge thank you to Viv!

EAG Committee Secretary, Viv Hamilton, has decided to step back and concentrate on other projects after several years of dedication to the group.

We are incredibly grateful for all her hard work and will miss her on the team. Luckily Viv will continue to provide support as a show steward - we would be lost without her!

## New EAG Committee members

We are delighted to welcome two new members to the Committee. Both have been co-opted onto the team and bring valued new experience and skills.

### Joanne Bridge - Welfare

Jo will be taking on the important role of looking after alpaca welfare in our region. If members need help and advice, or have any concerns, do get in touch.

### Katy Gilbert - Media

Katy will be keeping us all up to date with news from the Committee, shows and events. Keep an eye on the EAG Facebook and Instagram pages for the latest information.

[facebook.com/easternalpacagroup](https://facebook.com/easternalpacagroup)

[instagram.com/eastern\\_alpaca\\_group](https://instagram.com/eastern_alpaca_group)



EAG Secretary, Viv Hamilton, making sure all the rosettes and sashes find their way to the winners

## Call for Committee nominations by 12th September

EAG committee members volunteer their time to plan events, organise shows, provide help and advice, manage budgets and have a lot of fun doing it!

If this sounds like something that you would enjoy get in touch at [contact@easternalpacagroupuk.org](mailto:contact@easternalpacagroupuk.org)



### EAG Committee Members

Chair - Simon Ilett

Treasurer/Membership - Shirley Isseyegh

Secretary - Katherine Shearer

Show Organiser - Harley Laver

Fleece - Emma Taylor

Events - Sandra Justice

Welfare - Jo Bridge

Media - Katy Gilbert

## Eastern Alpaca Group AGM 18th September 2021

Join us for the EAG annual general meeting on 18th September 2021 at 7pm .

The meeting will be held via Zoom and a link to pre-register will be sent to all members in advance.

What should the EAG committee be focusing on?

How can EAG best support its members?

We welcome all of your suggestions, so do get in touch.

If you have some time to spare, or feel that you could offer a particular skill to the committee, have you thought about joining the team? There are lots of opportunities for meeting new people, learning new skills and laughing a lot!



Which topics would you like us to cover during this year's series  
of Winter Warmer workshops

Join us at the AGM and let us know!



Beechwood Equestrian Centre  
 Rettendon Common  
 Chelmsford  
 CM3 8DY

Arrival time: 3pm - 5pm Sat 9th

Judging from: 8am Sun 10th

Judge: Mrs Mary-Jo Smith

## East of England Alpaca Show 10th October 2021

The Committee are working hard getting ready for the first halter show in the eastern region since 2019.

This year the show has been renamed the East of England Alpaca Show, a suggestion made by one of our EAG membership. The show is always incredibly popular and this year is no exception with entries now sold out!

Given the continuing uncertainty, and to offer exhibitors as safe an environment as possible, the Committee have made the difficult decision not to open the show to the general public this year.

If you would like to support your local show sponsorship opportunities are available. Packages range from individual colour championship sponsorship to Bronze, Silver and Gold sponsorship packages.

**5% discount on sponsorship packages for EAG members!!**

## Sponsorship Packages

Arena Banner	£40
Catalogue advert half page	£40
Catalogue advert full page	£80
Cafe and Food sponsor	£80
Ring Flowers/Plant sponsor	£120
Colour Championship	£55
Sire and Dam Progeny	£80
Best of British	£100
Judges Choice	£100
Supreme Championship	£120
Bronze sponsor x 6	£180
Silver sponsor x 4	£250
Gold sponsor x 2	£320





## Looking after your fleeces

Don't forget to get your fleeces skirted & sorted. With the variable weather moths & flies are in abundance and may ruin your fleeces.

If you can, get them skirted & packed into sealed bags (vacuum bags are ideal) if you intend to store them - away from direct sunlight so they do not sweat in their bags. Fleeces for shows are best not stored in vacuum bags. Use your usual method of storage, such as clear plastic fleece bags, instead.

If you wish to put your fleeces to use and want to add value then get in touch with a processing mill and get onto the waiting list. Most mills work flat out and rarely have a 'quiet time' so be organised & patient if you contact them for help, advice & suggestions.

Fleece buyers are listed on google if you prefer just to sell your fleeces on.

Or maybe you are a craft person who will be creative and use your fleeces in your own projects.

Whatever route you take don't lose your fleeces to the moths!



## Eastern Alpaca Group

<https://easternalpacagroupuk.org>

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