**CURRICULUM VITAE**

**Barbara Hetherington**

**CONTACT DETAILS**

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**Background**

My qualification as a BAS Fleece and Halter Judge in 2017 came about on the back of my constant quest for knowledge.From the arrival of our first four females in 2008, I have been totally focused on knowing as much as I can about breeding and genetics in order to continually improve our herd.

I believe in order to judge well it is important to see and breed high quality alpacas and this has been our intention from the start. We decided to concentrate on top quality Huacaya genetics, and have bought top lines from the UK, Australia and New Zealand. We now own around 220 alpacas including many highly performing stud males. I am constantly assessing all traits in order to keep improving our herd, ensuring that we only bred from females who are sound in their conformation as well as having superior fleece qualities. This dedication resulted in our herd being awarded Huacaya National Supreme Championships in both Halter and Fleece in 2022 as well as numerous colour championships.

The welfare of our herd is of upmost importance. My background as a Critical Care Nursing Sister has proven to be very useful in this area. I am also currently Chair of the North West Alpaca Group and regularly organise welfare related webinars

Our first Suri females arrived in July 2016. By February 2017 we had 9 females, a young potential stud, and had purchased the Brown Champion Suri Male from the Australian National Show (2016). The Suri still make up only 10% of our herd, however, the 2019 show season saw two of our home bred Suri males take Supreme Championships. We have continued this success with two National Colour Champions in 2022 .

We have a highly performing herd, both in fleece and at halter shows. I am passionate about showing, and the promotion of alpaca in general. Whilst a BAS board member in 2014, I was instrumental in organising the BAS National Show at Telford (for the first time at the new venue). I remained as Chairman of the show for three years and I am still a committee member. I also have an organiser’s role in the NWAG Alpaca Championships, Westmorland Show and the Northern Fleece & Halter Shows.

I have had extensive experience of judging in halter and fleece both within the UK and across mainland Europe. In 2023 I had the pleasure to co-judge (with Amanda VandenBosch) the male entries at the British Alpaca Society National Halter Show.

During the pandemic I started teaching Zoom facilitated courses on herd selection and assessment of fibre and conformational traits. In 2021 I started tutoring on the BAS training courses and in 2022 I was invited to become a judge tutor.

I have been fortunate to have had many opportunities for continuing development, including attending calibration clinics with the following International judges:

Jude Anderson

Natasha Clark

Cheryl Ghley

Amanda VandenBosch

Molly Gardner

**Judging Experience**

**2023**

**March** – British Alpaca Society National Show (halter co-judge of males with Amanda VandenBosch)

**2022**

**April** – Heart of England Fiesta (halter 240 entries)

**April** - Scottish Alpaca Championships (halter 220 entries)

**Aug** - Cornish Fleece Show (60 entries)

**Sept** – Alpaca Association of Ireland (fleece 104 entries)

**Sept** - South West Alpaca Group (halter)

**Sept** - Heart of England Fleece (co judge with 240 entries)

**Oct** – Norway (halter & Fleece judge plus workshop)

**Oct** - Germany (2 day halter plus presentation)

**Oct**- Italy (halter and fleece plus workshop)

**Nov** – North East & Borders (halter)

**2021**

**Sept** – Fleece Show Germany (plus workshop and presentations)

**Oct**- Yorkshire Alpaca Group (halter 2-day show)

**2020**

* all appointments postponed

**2019**

**Jan** – Re-certification halter and fleece pass

**April** – Heart of England Fiesta (halter 240 entries)

**May** – Cornwall Camelid Show (halter)

**July** – Poland (fleece show)

**Aug** – Sweden (fleece show)

**Aug -** Norway (fleece plus workshop)

**Oct**- International Alpaca Festival Italy (halter and fleece)

**2018**

**April** - Alpaca Association Benelux – Halter

**April** – Southern Ireland National Show – Halter

**June** – Three Counties Fleece Show

**Oct** – Halter & Fleece Show Switzerland

**Nov** – Northern Fleece Show

**2017**

**May** – Northern Ireland Halter Show

**Sept** – Westmorland County Show – Halter

**Sept** - Heart of England – Fleece

**2017**

**Feb** – certified as BAS judge