



BAS Weekly Newsletter
Timely Advice & Current News



CEO Notes

Plasma Drive - West Midlands

YAG Birthing Course

NIAG Birthing and Cria Development

UK National Alpaca Farm Day

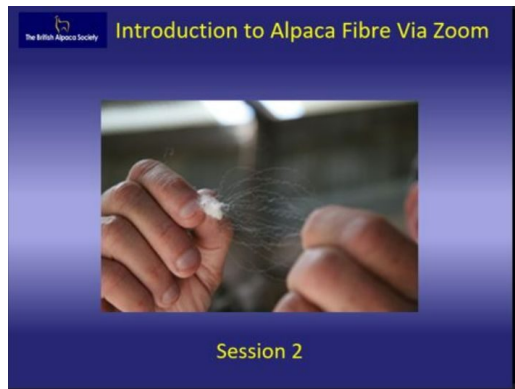
HoEAG Skirting and Noodling Workshop

AoF weekend fibre testing

Introduction to Alpaca Assessment

2023 Event Diary

2023 Show Diary



CEO Notes

Next Week's Newsletter

I will be on leave next week so there won't be a newsletter on 12th May.

Booking your shearer

A couple of new shearers have been added to the list and a retirement has been confirmed. So a net gain of one!

Introduction to Alpaca assessment by Zoom

One course has been filled and will start this week. I have 6 on the waiting list for the next online session. If two or three more would like to do the course this way then I can run it again (which would please the current 6!!). Let me know if you are interested. 4 x 2 hour over 2 weeks from 7pm to 9 pm on a weekday evening.

Duncan Pullar

BAS CEO 07496 578781



Plasma Drive- West Midlands

Field Equine Vets have arranged for an alpaca blood collection day ahead of the breeding season to allow breeders the chance to collect and freeze plasma for later emergency use.

As alpaca breeders you have a responsibility to prepare for cria that do not get sufficient colostrum from their dam in the early hours after birth. Plasma transfusion is a very effective way of providing antibodies, but needs to be prepared for in advance

There are biosecurity issues associated with using other herd's plasma or raw colostrum

The ideal donor is an adult male of 60 kg or more that is in good health and well halter trained.

Plasma can be stored in a suitable freezer for up to five years

The collections will be made on Saturday 20th May at the Field Equine Vets, Blakedown premises (DY10 3JH - Halfway between Kidderminster and Stourbridge) .

If you want more information or to book a place please call 01562 701334

Sunday
14th May
2023

YORKSHIRE ALPACA GROUP

Karin Mueller's 1 DAY BIRTHING COURSE



BOTH THEORY AND PRACTICAL



This is an amazing one day course by Karin Mueller. An experienced international speaker from Liverpool Vet School and is a renowned alpaca & llama vet.

Held at Peak District Alpacas near Bakewell DE45 1NJ
10.00am to 17.00pm
£79 members £89 non members - lunch included

To Book email Deborah on YorkshireAlpacaGroup@gmail.com



NIAG COURSE - BIRTHING AND CRIA DEVELOPMENT

In time for the 2023 birthing season the NIAG are delighted to offer an in person training event on birthing and cria development given by camelid vet Sarah Caldwell.

Suitable for new and experienced breeders as well as vets.

- Cost: NIAG Members £80, Non-members £95
- Date: Saturday 27th May 2023
- Time: 10am - 4.30pm
- Location: Carntall Primary School, Clogher, Co Tyrone BT76 0UY

To book please email Lesley on chair@alpacani.org

If you would like to join the NIAG it is free for the first year for new members



UK National Alpaca Farm Day – Sept 2nd/3rd 2023

The third BAS UK National Alpaca Farm day will be on over the first weekend of September. The idea is to encourage anyone and everyone to come and meet an alpaca.

In a change from previous years established alpaca farms already open to the public are encouraged to join the initiative because entry fees will be allowed for farms participating in the promotional weekend. When registering your farm with Duncan you will need to make clear if an entry fee is being charged or not. Free entry or charging will be flagged on the interactive map.

Farms that are routinely open to the public are encouraged to add a little extra something to their normal offering to mark the weekend.

The aim will be to have dozens of alpaca herds open to the public over the same weekend supported by a central promotional campaign in the weeks that lead up to the event. The chosen dates 2nd/ 3rd of September 2023. Events on either day over that weekend would qualify for support.

For BAS members that already open to the public it is a chance to get a boost in awareness and for others it could be a first venture it promoting the animals that BAS members are so passionate about.

The aim is for all interested BAS members to register their event with BAS and have it listed on the BAS website so members of the public can find an event near them.

BAS members are free to decide on the size and type of event they wish to organize. It can be simple or “all singing and dancing”. It depends on what you can manage.

How big or small?

How big an event you can run will be entirely down to you but there are some important things to think about.

- Small – you could run a private event for neighbours, friend or local interest groups with limited numbers and open for a couple of hours.
- Medium – covering your village or local area and using local schools to invite the children and their families. You might have tours at set times and open for 4 or 5 hours.
- Large - have a number of separate attractions to interest visitors and open for the whole day.

Have a plan for.....

Safety - for all events you need to think about carparking, public liability insurance, a health and safety risk assessment, health and safety instructions, adequate toilets and handwashing facilities. Is there disabled access, do you allow dogs, is smoking allowed?

Where people can go – have a “Welcome area” where you can brief visitors on the correct procedures. Make a choice about what is “in” and what is “out”. Obviously keep visitors away from any areas of danger. Think about the flow of people around your event make it easy for visitors to follow the right route.

Signage – put signs out around your local road to bring people into your event. If you have narrow lanes it might be worth having a one-way system that avoids congestion. Free standing signs on a post are fine but don't attach your signs to the councils “street furniture”.

Helpers – make sure you have enough trusted helpers to run the day. Depending on the size you might need carpark attendants, welcomers, handwashing supervisors as well as people to talk about the animals you have or the products you make from alpaca fibre.

If it rains – do you go ahead? If so, how will your plan change.

Marketing

BAS will work on national and regional promotion in TV and radio. BAS will provide electronic templates for flyers, facts sheets and invitations. All participating members can add their own materials to the standard mix. Support material from BAS will be free to participating herds.

BAS will have a dedicated page on the website to the events which can carry all the information (including links to a participant's website) for each event that the organisers want to share.

Register your interest

This event is free to all BAS members. If you would like to be part of the BAS UK National Alpaca Farm Day then send an email to Duncan using ceo@bas-uk.com.



HoEG SKIRTING/NOODLING WORKSHOP 11TH JUNE 2023

Run by BAS Judges, Shirley Bettinson & Julia Corrigan-Stuart at CS Alpacas, Yeat Wood Farm, Wotton Underwood, Bucks HP18 ORL.

UPDATE

We have had a lot of people at the recent shows verbally confirming that they would like to attend this workshop. If you are one of these people, or would like to join us on 11th June, please could you confirm via email to: julia@csalpacas.co.uk at your earliest convenience. Cost is £10 HoEAG members and £15 non-members.

NEW ANNOUNCEMENT

We are also pleased to announce that we will be facilitating Art of Fibre as a venue for testing fleece samples on Saturday and Sunday 10th and 11th June.

Paul and Tara will be on site at CS Alpacas both days and will be able to give those who “drop in” over the weekend, personal feedback and information on their tested samples. Another option is to post your samples to Tara and they will also be tested over the weekend. Refreshments will be provided for those who choose the option of “dropping in” with their samples, but please could you let Tara know if this is your intention. **However**, why not join us on the Noodling Workshop, drop your samples off in the morning and get your results and feedback at the end of the day.

Julia Corrigan-Stuart



