



**BAS Weekly Newsletter**  
**Timely Advice & Current News**



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## CEO NOTES

### **Change of BAS Chair**

The BAS Chair is now Sue Loach. Ron Macintosh has stood down as Chair whilst still on the Board (for a few more months) to facilitate a smooth transfer of responsibilities. At the recent Board meeting Sue led the thanks directed to Ron for his 6 years of diligent service to the Society. Ron will be addressing the AGM as outgoing Chair and we look forward to hearing what he is going to say!

### **AGM 2021 November 3rd - by Zoom - Call for Nominations and Resolutions**

As previously notified the BAS AGM has been fixed for November 3rd 2021 at 7pm by Zoom.

Nominations for the two available Board seats must be lodged with me by 5pm on 5th October 2021. Please email using [ceo@bas-uk.com](mailto:ceo@bas-uk.com). If anyone would like further information or a confidential chat about what is involved then please feel free to call.

Any member led resolutions must be submitted by 5pm on 5th October. If any members have resolutions they feel the board should present to the membership, then please let me know asap so consideration can be given to the issue.

We will use the electronic voting system again for Board Elections and Resolutions which will be open from 18th October to 1st November 2021.

You can email about this or anything else using [ceo@bas-uk.com](mailto:ceo@bas-uk.com)

*Duncan Pullar*

BAS CEO



## Husbandry tasks for August/ September

### August

- Continue to cut hay if you have hay fields, ensuring there is no ragwort in the grass.
- Start a new dung heap leaving the old one to break down into manure to sell.
- Body score, check jaws, teeth and look for evidence of mites, check toenails
- Weigh new born cria, record the birth, weight and other details.
- Cria need to be vaccinated against clostridial disease.
- Wean and insert microchips in cria who are now 6 months old and get them logged onto the registry via 'Manage your Herd' in the on line herd book or by asking the registry office to send you a paper application form  
• [registry@bas-uk.com](mailto:registry@bas-uk.com)
- Look out for fly strike.

### September

- Select future breeding animals
- Scan pregnant females.
- Use selective weed killer or manual methods on buttercups, thistles, burdocks, nettles etc.
- Feed pregnant and feeding dams extra protein.
- Vaccinate against liver fluke/lungworm if appropriate.
- Give supplements of vitamin ADE females due to give birth in 6-8 weeks and young alpacas.

# Geronimo

Many of you will be aware of the events relating to Geronimo owned by Helen MacDonald. Below are some of articles relating to recent developments. Click on the picture to read more



<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2021/08/05/alpaca-broke-nations-heart-could-geronimos-last-day-alive/>



<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/owner-of-geronimo-the-death-row-alpaca-pleads-for-the-pm-to-save-its-life-gtfqbbdxc>



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-gloucestershire-58076678>



News > Politics

## **GERONIMO NO!** Alpaca Geronimo condemned to death after pleas for last-minute reprieve ignored

Natasha Clark | Helena Horton

22:31, 3 Aug 2021 | Updated: 22:31, 3 Aug 2021

<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/15772286/alpaca-geronimo-condemned-to-death/>

## **Stars' plea for Geronimo: Celebrities including Joanna Lumley and Chris Packham call on ministers to save alpaca facing the death sentence**

- Joanna Lumley and Chris Packham are among those demanding ministers' help
- Alpaca tested positive for bovine tuberculosis on arrival from New Zealand 2017
- Owner claims tests produced false positives after an injection of drug tuberculin

By ALEX WARD and HELENA HORTON FOR THE DAILY MAIL

PUBLISHED: 22:17, 4 August 2021 | UPDATED: 08:27, 5 August 2021

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9862297/Celebrities-including-Joanna-Lumley-Chris-Packham-call-ministers-save-Geronimo-alpaca.html>

**BAS Position on future of bTB control**

Work on a bTB vaccine for cattle is underway and BAS firmly believe that alpacas should be included in this line of development work. Alpaca owners in the UK understand vaccination much more than the current bTB surveillance and control systems. Building confidence in a bTB control system for UK alpacas would move alpaca owners into a position where they could truly engage with bTB control measures for the alpacas they own. The wider benefits for control in neighbouring cattle and wildlife would be clear.

BAS would happily work with a group representing the alpaca world and government to develop a vaccination plan. This is surely the way forward to get effective control of this insidious disease. This approach needs to be developed quickly because confidence in bTB testing is low which does not help control measures.

BAS has sympathy for Helen MacDonald and the exceedingly difficult circumstances that have developed surrounding her alpaca Geronimo. The loss of any alpaca, for a dedicated owner, is always an upsetting experience.

BAS has tried hard to maintain an effective working relationship with Defra and APHA for the benefit of all BAS members with regular meetings to discuss bTB policy and implementation.

BAS has written to Mr George Eustice on a number of occasions to encourage actions that might use the Geronimo case as a learning experience. Unfortunately, these letters have not been answered despite several requests by BAS for a response from Mr Eustice.

BAS has asked for controlled experiments to produce evidence that resolves concerns around the effect of multiple priming on test results, and tactical use of testing in field cases that will help develop policy and understanding, we have offered to support such research with financial input and that offer remains in place.

BAS fully recognises the difficulty in making changes to Government policy on matters of bTB control. Nevertheless, BAS is making every effort to encourage Defra/APHA to take every opportunity to develop a position that will make a positive contribution to bTB control in alpacas in the UK.

BAS do endorse the request for a further test of Geronimo to help understand what is happening.

BAS continues to be committed to the best possible practice of bTB control in alpacas for the benefit of the animals themselves, our bovine neighbours, BAS members, and wildlife.



## New membership Category for Juniors

We are very pleased to announce a new membership category to encourage alpaca interest and ownership from 8 years old through to 26.

**Young Members:** Cost £25 per year    **Eligible:** 8 to 26 years

**Two categories:** Junior 8 to 17 and Senior 18 to 26.

**Junior:** Goody Bag on joining, Magazine Subscription, Invitation to all BAS junior events including education events aimed at juniors. No voting rights and cannot register own herd.

**Senior:** Goody Bag on joining, Magazine subscription, half price entry to the BAS education courses: Introduction to Alpaca Evaluation and Intermediate Alpaca

Evaluation. Can register own herd and register/ transfer alpacas at half price. Can vote at AGMs and EGMs. Invitation to all BAS senior events including education events aimed at seniors.

A Young Member can be part of a joint membership with an Adult BAS member. Joint fee only applies but Young Member is signed up to Young Members activities for no additional charge. *Any alpaca registrations/ transfers by a joint membership with a junior member are full price.*

Any existing member who would qualify as young member and who are currently in a joint membership or are a single member, will be part of the programme for no extra fee (*but no refunds on existing membership already paid will be made*).

**YOU WILL HAVE TO LET US KNOW WHO YOU ARE AS WE HAVE NOT GOT AGES FOR MEMBERS**

For clarity:

- Full price fees are required to transfer alpacas TO Senior Young Members
- Transfer of alpacas to a Senior Young Member at the same address as a standard member (single or joint) member are limited to 10 per year unless the original herd is being completely dispersed.
- Senior Young Members can transfer alpacas to other senior young members at half price.
- Senior Young members can transfer alpacas to ordinary single, joint, platinum or non-members members at half price

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## **2021 Event Diary**



If you need information about any of the events listed below then please email

Duncan using [ceo@bas-uk.com](mailto:ceo@bas-uk.com)

Thursday	12-Aug	Affiliate Course - Shropshire
Friday	13-Aug	Affiliate Course- Suffolk
Saturday	14-Aug	Affiliate Course- Suffolk
Thursday	19-Aug	Affiliate Course - Cornwall
Saturday	21-Aug	Affiliate Course - Shropshire
Saturday	21-Aug	Affiliate Course - Cornwall
Sunday	22-Aug	Affiliate Course - Cornwall
Thursday	26-Aug	Affiliate Course- Suffolk
Friday	27-Aug	Affiliate Course- Suffolk
Saturday	28-Aug	Affiliate Course - Devon
Sunday	29-Aug	Affiliate Course - Devon
Saturday	04-Sep	Affiliate Course - Moray, Scotland
Saturday	04-Sep	National Alpaca Farm Day
Sunday	05-Sep	National Alpaca Farm Day
Saturday	11-Sep	Affiliate Course - Moray, Scotland
Thursday	16-Sep	Affiliate Course- Suffolk
Friday	17-Sep	Affiliate Course- Suffolk
Tuesday	21-Sep	Affiliate Course - Moray, Scotland
Thursday	23-Sep	Webinar Emma Taylor
Friday	22-Oct	Intermediate Alpaca Assessment
Saturday	23-Oct	Intermediate Alpaca Assessment
Sunday	24-Oct	Intermediate Alpaca Assessment
Wednesday	03-Nov	BAS AGM
Saturday	04-Dec	Advanced Alpaca Assessment
Sunday	05-Dec	Advanced Alpaca Assessment

If you would like your BAS, Educational or Regional group **event** included in this section (not shows) please send details to Duncan.

## 2021 Show Diary



### Make a note in your diary!

#### (New information in red)

Breeders considering entering more than one fleece show may need the organisers of one show to forward the fleece(s) to the next show the fleeces are entered for. Please could entries to multiple fleece shows advise the organisers of the plan to ensure they know those entries need to be despatched asap to the next show. Please ensure that all the necessary entry forms are included in the box separately to the forms for the first shows.

#### East of England (Fleece) Show organised by EAG - CLOSED NOW FULL

Dates: 14th/15th August

Judge: Mrs Julia Corrigan-Stuart

Venue: Essex Young Farmers Centre

Fleece Delivery: Harley Laver, Churchfield Alpacas, Elmlea, Cold North Road, Latchingdon, Essex, CM3 6HP by 11 Aug 2021

Organiser: Harley Laver - [harley@churchfieldalpacas.co.uk](mailto:harley@churchfieldalpacas.co.uk) / 07934 468842

**Westmorland Shown - CLOSED NOW FULL**

Date: Wednesday 8th September 2021

Judge: Julia Corrigan-Stuart

Venue: Lane Farm, Crooklands, Kendal, LA7 7NH

**South West Alpaca Group (SWAG) Fleece- CLOSED NOW FULL**

Dates: 16th September 2021

Judge: Mrs Mary Jo Smith

Venue: East Huntspill Village Hall, Church Road, East Huntspill. Highbridge TA9 3PQ

Fleece Delivery: J.Newman, Apple Tree Farm, Westhill Lane, Bason Bridge. Highbridge TA9 4RF

Organiser: Judith Newman [judith-newman@outlook.com](mailto:judith-newman@outlook.com) 01278 795699

**HoEAG Autumn Fleece Show 2021**

Judges: Tim Hey (lights and whites) & Jay Holland (other colours)

Judging days: Thursday 30th September and Friday 1st October

Open Day: Sunday 3rd October

Venue: Yeat Wood Farm, Wotton Underwood, Bucks HP18 0RL

Entries open: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2021

Entries close: Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Entry fee: £17 + vat

Fleece Delivery (deadline: 19<sup>th</sup> September 2021): Julia Corrigan-Stuart, Yeat Wood Farm, Wotton Underwood, Bucks HP18 0RL

Show Organiser: Julia Corrigan-Stuart; [julia@csalpacas.co.uk](mailto:julia@csalpacas.co.uk); 07803726464

**East of England Alpaca Show 2021 organised by EAG - CLOSED NOW FULL**

Dates: 10th October 2021

Judge: Mrs Mary-Jo Smith

Venue: Beechwood Equestrian Centre, Rettendon Common, Chelmsford CM3 8DY,

Arrivals: pm of 9th or early am of 10th. Judging on 10th

Show Organiser: Harley Laver- 07934463342, [harley@churchfieldalpacas.co.uk](mailto:harley@churchfieldalpacas.co.uk)

**Yorkshire Alpaca Group Halter Show**

Dates; 16th and 17th October 2021

Judge: Mrs Barbara Hetherington

Venue: York Auction Mart, Murton, York YO19 5GF

Entries open: 2nd August at 8.30 am

Entries Close: 31st August

Entry fee: £22.50 +VAT

Organiser James Stanger, Email: [jameslstanger11@gmail.com](mailto:jameslstanger11@gmail.com) Tel: 07757687378

### **Northern Fleece Show**

Date: 23rd October 2021

Judge: Roger Clarke

Venue:

Entries open: 1st Sept

Entries Close: 1st Oct

Entry fee: £24 in VAT

Max entries 80

Organiser: Stuart Ramsey Email: [stuart@velvethall-alpacas.co.uk](mailto:stuart@velvethall-alpacas.co.uk) Telephone  
07787508448

Fleeces delivered to **WESTYETT FARM, LANARK, ML11 8NT**

### **Northern Halter Show**

Dates; 30th and 31st October 2021

Judge: Tim Hey

Venue: Penrith Auction Mart

Entries open: 1st Sept

Entries Close: 17th Sept

Entry fee: £22 +VAT

Organiser: Ian Mitchell, [treasurer@bas-uk.com](mailto:treasurer@bas-uk.com), 07813 145013

### **Midlands Championship Halter Show**

Date: 6th November 2021

Judge: Tim Hey

Venue: Three Counties Show Ground

Entries open: 11th Sept

Entries Close: 17th Oct

Entry fee: £32.40 +VAT

Organisers:

**ROGER MOUNT** [roger.mount@btinternet.com](mailto:roger.mount@btinternet.com) 07711044106/01386853841

**IAIN SHARP** [iain.c.sharp@gmail.com](mailto:iain.c.sharp@gmail.com) 07722953635

**JAY HOLLAND** [jay@purealpacas.co.uk](mailto:jay@purealpacas.co.uk) 07789257222

**NWAG Halter Show**

Date: Saturday 2nd April 2022

Judge: Mary-Jo Smith

Venue: Borderway Mart, Carlisle.

**HoEAG Spring Alpaca Fiesta 2022**

Show Dates: Friday 8th, Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th April 2022

Judge: Barbara Hetherington

To be held at Bury Farm Equestrian Centre

**Scottish Alpaca Championship**

Dates; 23rd and 24th April 2022

Judge:

Venue: Lanark Auction Market

Entries open: 18th February 2022

Entries Close: 24th March 2022t

Entry fee: £22 inc VAT

Organiser Stuart Ramsay

