

SECRETARY'S REPORT for the period ended January 31st 2009.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership for the year ended January 31st 2009 was 1136 paid up members, down from 1171 (a decrease of 3.0%), 471 large breeders and 665 small.

REGISTRATIONS

District	A	B	C	D	E	Other	Total	2008
Shearling Rams	432	883	761	352	58	9	2495	2777
Ram Lambs	701	1736	1780	713	86	18	5034	5408
Gimmer Lambs	7680	23714	23773	10635	2391	50	68243	72306
New Stock							20	1
							75792	80492

RAM SALES

Report of Ram Sales held in October 2008.

226 Aged Rams	averaged £245-71	2007 £239-25 for 173
1479 Shearling Rams	averaged £947-10	2007 £767-47 for 1507
44 Ram Lambs	averaged £299-32	2007 £339-08 for 68

GENERAL

Blue Tongue Virus restrictions caused problems at the Ram Sales especially with the movement of rams to Scotland. Many thanks go to those members and Auction Companies who looked after rams allowing some to go to Scotland and Ireland. The improved prices for slaughter stock, over this past winter, has led to a small amount of optimism within the sheep industry, though we wait to see what will be the effect of E.I.D. in 2010.

FINANCE

The financial statements for the year ended January 31st 2009 are attached to this report and show a deficit of income over expenditure of £2076 with assets of £82581. The continued decline in membership and therefore registrations is the main reason for the above deficit.

John Stephenson (Secretary).