



Jacob Sheep Society
Central Region Open Day
Sunday 1st November 2026 – 11.00am
Please reply by Sunday 18th October 2026

To be held at the Murcott Flock
Murcott Farm, Minsterworth, Gloucestershire,
GL2 8JG what3words mount.land.silk (Farm)
by kind invitation of Paul & Cathy King

Meet at Minsterworth Village Hall, GL2 8JH what3words small.text.entertainer

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you to Murcott Farm for the Central Region Open Day at the start of November and look forward to showing you all our flock of around 80 Jacob ewes with a few variations on a theme!

About Us

I have lived in the same wonderful part of Gloucestershire all of my life and after moving to Murcott Farm 28 years ago, Cathy and I have spent many years bringing the property back to its former glory. Having grown up on a commercial dairy and sheep farm I initially chose to keep a flock of pedigree Texel sheep. With busy full-time jobs, after 10 years of stressful lambing we decided to make a change in breed to find something that suited a more relaxed pace and a breed that would “just get on with it”, to which the Jacob sheep suits us well.

This year I have taken a little break from employment and we expanded the acreage we farm to around 70 acres. This is managed on a low intensity system, with a desire to produce both pedigree breeding stock and high carcass grade finished lambs for the fat stock markets.

We also have a successful holiday cottage attached to the farmhouse which is booked year-round as we are ideally located for exploring the Cotswolds and Forest of Dean.

The Murcott Flock

We established the Murcott flock of Jacob sheep in 2022, starting the foundations of the flock from predominantly the central region with purchases from the Central and Wales region Society sales, whilst also building the foundations from notable flocks that surround us and some choice trips further afield to select prime breeding lines.

This is a young flock, we are still finding our feet and learning a lot from experience, attending shows, sales, Society open days and chatting to other Jacob breeders.

I am a firm believer that the sheep need to earn us an income so the flock is split in two. Around 2/3rds of the flock is dedicated to pedigree breeding with the aim of improving the quality of the flock. As you know, this isn't easy and takes time but this year there are a number of lambs, out in the field, that have potential so I think we are heading in the right direction. The remaining 1/3rd is treated as a commercial flock. We have retained a Texel tup and successfully produce high quality JacobX lambs, born in March/April, for the fat stock market and sale to the local community, through a lamb box scheme that we run.

We have retained some of the JacobX females as they have grown into shearlings of fantastic quality, this year we intend to cross these cross bred sheep to a Dutch spotted tup, to see if this adds anything to the business, whilst retaining the easy care nature and great maternal traits of the Jacob sheep.

We plan to start showing the pedigree jacob in the near future, so pure pedigree breeding still forms the main thrust of our passion for the breed. I am competitive and hope to see some rosettes but the social side is fun and constructive feedback is invaluable.

Sadly we had a run in with Tay Sachs, after unknowingly breeding with untested tups (that later tested as carriers) but with the cross breeding programme, ewes that test as carriers can be kept therefore retaining breeding lines and options for the future. Once you know the status of the ewes it is easy to manage.

We look forward to seeing you on the day and thank you for all being such a welcoming society and making our time with Jacobs so enjoyable.

Programme for the Day:

11.00 - Arrival at Minsterworth Village Hall, Gloucestershire, - Coffee & Biscuits

11.30 - Introduction to the flock, followed by farm walk and Tup/ewe selection (Short buddy up drive to the farm).

12.30 - Comparison of pen of Jacob and JacobX ewe lambs, plus ram lambs selection kindly hosted by a Jacob Sheep Society panel judge.

13.30 - Return to Village hall for Roast lamb/pork passionately grown locally!

14:30 - Conversation and information about heat stress in breeding sheep.

15:00 - Conversation from JSS board member on Tay Sachs and management options.

15:30 - Tea & Biscuits

15:30 - 16:30 - Central region AGM

If you would like further information, please contact James Cartwright– 07939 696852– Email central@jacobsheepsociety.co.uk or speak to any member of the Central Region Committee.



I/We wish to attend the Open Day on Sunday 1st November 2026

Name			Flock and Member No.	
Adults and children @ £15.00 inc lunch	No.			
Total paid:				
Please state any vegetarians or other special dietary requirements:				

Please email or post this slip to;

James Cartwright, Chequers, Goldstone Road, Hinstock, Shropshire, TF9 2ND or make an online banking payment with the reference **COD member no. & flock prefix** (e.g. COD05133 Goldstone) to Lloyds sort code 30 99 80 account number 01034824 or enclose a cheque made payable to the Jacob Sheep Society Ltd. to arrive by 18th October 2026.