

Royal Ulster (Balmoral) Show Northern Ireland

I was delighted and privileged to be invited to judge the Blue Texel classes, sponsored by Parkview Veterinary Clinic, at this year's Balmoral Show in Northern Ireland.

While there were not huge classes it was lovely to see some quality animals and to meet exhibitors and members from Northern Ireland. Janet and Andy Carson had some superb animals forward and rather dominated the major awards, especially with a beautiful shearling ewe and lovely lambs.

As we came into the Championship I was certain that Janet's shearling ewe had the award, but she simply refused to sparkle as she had in her class. However the winner of the ewe class, who lambed in March, from A & J Knox, Ballymoney was far more alert than she had been previously, and became my worthy Champion with the shearling ewe Reserve.

It was great to see so many young handlers out in the ring with their animals and the Knox family, fairly new to the breed, were delighted with the result.

Shearling Ram: 1st A & J Carson
2nd Jonathan Rankin

Senior Ewe: 1st A & J Knox
2nd A & J Carson
3rd A & J Carson

Shearling Ewe: 1st A & J Carson
2nd Andrew Cowan
3rd Jonathan Rankin

Ram Lamb: 1st A & J Carson
2nd A & J Carson
3rd: Jonathan Rankin

Ewe Lamb: 1st A & J Carson
2nd A & J Carson
3rd A & J Knox

Champion: Senior Ewe A & J Knox
Reserve Champion: Shearling Ewe A & J Carson

Sue Andrews