



*As the Network enters its 8th year since our inception in 2014, we **THANKYOU** for all your support. Events and training courses will be limited over the busy period and will resume from late April. Wishing you a successful lambing and calving season.*

Hot off the press today

DEFRA release details of the consultation on the Lump Sum Exit Scheme today.



The Lump Sum Exit Scheme is due to open in April and the application period will run until the end of September. The payment will be based on the average direct payments made to the farmer for the 2019 to 2021 Basic Payment Scheme years. This reference figure will be capped at £42,500 and multiplied by 2.35 to calculate the lump sum, meaning that farmers could receive up to around £100,000. The sum lump will therefore be calculated as follows: a) Lump sum reference amount in pounds sterling, subject to a cap of £42,500, multiplied by 2.35 equals the lump sum payment. b) For example, if the farmer's reference amount is £40,000 then their lump sum payment would be £40,000 multiplied by 2.35 equals £94,000.

View details here: [Summary of responses and government response on the Lump Sum Exit Scheme and delinked payments in England consultation \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

Latest News

Farming Network invests in the skills of its Next Generation

The Exmoor Hill Farming Network (EHFN) is delighted to be working with the Exmoor Society to provide a Next Generation Training Grant programme. This is supporting 21 young people on Exmoor with vocational and technical training this winter, covering Health and Safety, Safe use of Pesticides and Cross Cut and Maintenance Chainsaw courses. We recognize the importance of engaging with people under 40 (the Next Generation Group) to further their farming businesses or careers in the agricultural sector within the Greater Exmoor area. The Network does this through many knowledge exchange and transfer events incorporating technology, changes in farming policies and visiting each other's farms,

sharing own experiences are some of the most productive meetings. Katherine Williams from Exmoor Hill Farming Network said "We understand the financial implications of these compulsory courses and how vital they are to see the development of people furthering their skill sets across the moor".

One of the recipients, Jack Buckingham (28), pictured, farming with his parents on a beef and sheep farm near Brompton Regis and also working part time as a farm business consultant specialising in grass based livestock production systems said "Completing the course and receiving the grant has benefitted me as I am now qualified and confident in taking on all the pesticide application work on our family farm. It has helped with the understanding of how the machinery we use is best operated to get the best results"

Rachel Thomas, Chairman, Exmoor Society said "The Exmoor Society, a conservation charity, is pleased to support the work of the Exmoor Hill Farming Network and its Next Generation Training Grant. This grant ranges from helping young people gain expertise in pesticide use, understanding how machinery is best operated on Exmoor's upland farms to assisting grass based livestock production systems that will benefit the farm business, local community and environment. The Exmoor Society has for over a decade supported younger people through its annual Pinnacle Award that aims to show the connection between making a livelihood in a national park and contributing to finding solutions to biodiversity loss and adapting to climate change and other values.

Pictured: Jack Buckingham

The Network has recently awarded The Dunster Show Society with a £2,000 donation towards their Bursary Programme for 2022. Dave Knight EHFN Chairman said 'We acknowledge the generous donations from the Society over the past few years towards our activities, and fully appreciate the financial strain that the pandemic has had on show activities'.

Road Safety Roadshow - 31st January 2022

Over 130 people attended our Roadshow event in conjunction with Devon and Somerset Fire, Somerset Road Safety Partnership and the Farming Community Network. Rev. David Weir initiated this event working closely with a small sub group to provide information and education for rural people on Exmoor to plan our social activities and think about ways to enjoy our rural life safely. A huge thanks to Exmoor Farmers for hosting this event, Shearwell Data for kindly providing two cash prizes (the lucky winners were D Blackmore and J Gammon) and everyone else involved. A big thank you to the Coates and Gill families

for working closely with us to bring this event together. If you take one thing away from the evening '**Please look after each other, within our Exmoor community**'.





Farm Data Project - Reminder

As part of the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme Exmoor National Park Authority are pleased to be able to offer Exmoor farmers and landowners free access to map information for their farm holding. There are four 'sets' of data that were assembled as part of the Test and Trial project under the headings of:

'Natural Capital Assets' showing habitats and landcover.

'Land Designations' showing protected sites and areas of nature conservation interest.

'Landscape Character and Public Access' showing the different landscape character areas of the National Park along with rights of way.

'The Historic Environment' showing the location of historic features

This is available via a user friendly internet site, or 'portal' using your own unique login. It will be available for at least two years and could help farmers to identify opportunities to include in future ELM schemes. We would also be interested in feedback on the portal to help us develop it to be as useful as possible. If you would like to free access to the portal, please contact katherine@ehfn.org.uk or call 07970 795808 in the first instance and log in details will be issued by ENPA.

Open Event

Pre-Lambing Virtual Quiz Night





EXMOOR
HILL FARMING
NETWORK

PRE LAMBING VIRTUAL QUIZ NIGHT

THURSDAY 24TH FEBRUARY 2022 | VIA ZOOM FROM HOME | 7.30PM PROMPT

Join us for a fun quiz with farming related questions before the busy season ahead

THIS FUN QUIZ WILL INCLUDE FARMING RELATED QUESTIONS.

1ST PRIZE — £25 MOLE VALLEY FARMERS VOUCHER
WITH 2ND AND 3RD PRIZES

Everyone is welcome

£5 PER LOGIN
(ALL PROCEEDS TO EHFN FUNDS)

BOOKING ESSENTIAL SO THE LOG IN DETAILS CAN BE CIRCULATED PRIOR.
BOOK YOUR PLACE WITH KIRSTY AT ADMIN@EHFN.ORG.UK
OR CALL **01643 841455**

Peer Support Groups

Next Generation Group (Under 40's)

Topic: Pre-Lambing Visit and Discussion

Date: Monday 28th February 2022 **Time:** 7pm prompt start – 9pm **Venue:** Higher North Radworthy Farm, Healsey Mill EX36 3LF by kind permission of the Jones Family.

Join us for an insight into the running of sheep enterprise and preparation for lambing time. The evening will cover housing for lambing, nutrition and body condition scoring, disease control and prevention through vaccination and the necessary equipment in preparation for lambing time. Hot rolls and cake will be provided. The meeting will take place outside in the lambing shed, so please dress up warm. We do encourage a lateral flow test before arriving. Please let us know if you are intending to join the meeting for catering purposes. Please ensure clean clothes and footwear, a foot dip will be in place for bio security measures.

Exmoor Women in Farming Group – *final reminder*

Pre-Lambing Dinner and Quiz Evening

Date: Tuesday 15th February 2022 **Venue:** Moorland Hall, Wheddon Cross **Time:** 7pm for 7.30pm Roast Pork Supper **Cost:** £20. We will be holding a Raffle for EHFN funds. An opportunity to join likeminded women for a catch up before the lambing and calving season starts. We encourage a lateral flow test before attending. Booking required by **Friday 11th February 2022.**

We encourage lateral flows before attending.

Other Interest



Cattle Sale Wednesday 9th February 2022, 120 cattle, steers and heifers.

View the catalogues here [Catalogues \(exmoorfarmers.co.uk\)](http://Catalogues(exmoorfarmers.co.uk))

Grass Keep available at Brompton Regis (122.5 acres) and Wheddon Cross (200 acres), view here [Grass Keep \(exmoorfarmers.co.uk\)](http://GrassKeep(exmoorfarmers.co.uk))

Commercial Adverts

NEW* Labourer required

Part time Labouring person required for busy Sawmills. Duties to include peeling and pointing of fencing stakes and posts. Full training will be given. A full-time job may be available for the right person. For an informal chat please contact Clifford or Rosie on 01643 704381.

Lambing Help Brendon Hills, Somerset Lambing help required for 2-3 weeks, starting 15th March. Experience is not essential. Please call Kate to discuss on 07870 314416 or ruellsimon@gmail.com.

To book on any of the above events please contact Kirsty admin@ehfn.org.uk or **01643841455.**

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