

**ROYAL CORNWALL SHOW  
&  
KERNOW SHOW**

**JUNE 4th — 6th  
CONTACT  
Mrs S Smith  
01326 563299**

XX

**THE BEST ONE DAY SHOW IN CORNWALL  
STITHIANS SHOW**

**13th JULY  
Contact  
Mrs L DODD  
07939826585**

XX

**CAMBORNE SHOW**

**18th July  
Contact  
Mrs S Smith  
01326 563299**

**CLOVEN HOOF  
SPRING 2015**



**CORNWALL GOATKEEPERS ASSOCIATION**



# Cornwall Goatkeepers Association

(Affiliated to the British Goat Society and member of Pygmy Goat Club)

**Hon. President Mrs S Furneaux** 07474679938

## Association officers

**Hon. Chairman Mrs Sue Savage**  
Calvadnack Farm, Cammenellis, Redruth, TR166PW 01209860637  
e-mail [sg.barrow@btinternet.com](mailto:sg.barrow@btinternet.com)

**Hon. Secretary Mrs J. Markham**  
Broom Farm, Packet Lane, Rosudgeon, Penzance, TR20 9QD 01736 763738  
e-mail [jmarkham\\_uk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jmarkham_uk@yahoo.co.uk)

**Hon. Treasurer Mr G. R. Munson**  
Carbis Cottages, Carbis, Roche, St Austell, PL26 8LA 01726 890409  
e-mail [a.munson@tinyworld.co.uk](mailto:a.munson@tinyworld.co.uk)

**Hon. Pro / Editor Mrs H. Badger**  
11 Penventon Terrace, Four Lanes, Redruth, TR16 6QX 01209 211742  
e-mail [cga.mag@live.co.uk](mailto:cga.mag@live.co.uk)

## Committee members

**Mrs J. Clarke**  
2 Boscawen Cottages, Fore Street, St Dennis, PL26 8AD 01726 823800  
e-mail [juliaclarke21@live.com](mailto:juliaclarke21@live.com)

**Mr N Julian** Gweal-an-Deebles, Medlyn Moor, Porkellis, Helston TR13 OLF  
01326340543

**Mrs S. Smith**  
Boscadjack Green, Coverake Bridges, Helston, TR13 0MH. 01326 563229

**Mr N. Munson**  
Carbis Cottages, Carbis, Roche, St Austell, PL26 8LA, 01726 890409

**Mrs Odette Eddy,**  
Hendra Farm, Hendra Road, Stithians, Cornwall TR3 7AN 01209 861338

**Mrs Tina Murphy,**  
66 Tregrea Est Beacon Camborne TR14 3ST

**Mr N. Savage**  
Calvadnack Farm, Cammenellis, Redruth, TR166PW 01209860637

**Goats for sale or wanted** Contact Hazel Badger or Julia Clark

[www.cornwallgoatkeepersassociation.co.uk](http://www.cornwallgoatkeepersassociation.co.uk)

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Views expressed in this magazine are those of the various articles and not necessarily the views of the editors, officers or committee of the Cornwall Goatkeepers Association

## REMINDER FOR YOUR DIARY

NEW VENUE  
FOR SPRING SHOW  
SATURDAY 9th MAY

**MAY'S COUNTRY STORE**  
**BARTON MILL, HEWASWATER,**  
**ST. AUSTELL, PL26 7JE**  
**OFF THE A390 BETWEEN**  
**ST, AUSTELL and PROBUS.**

Schedule and entry form included with this issue

## **EDITOR**

### **Supplies for Prevention and Treatment:**

- Udder Wash (21H)
- Wipe-Out Dairy Wipes (21J)
- Fight Bac (21A)
- Mastitis Test Cards (20H)
- CMT Kit (20J)
- Strip Cup (11A)
- Injectable Antibiotic (18M-1)
- Teat Infusions (18X)
- Goat Serum (3K)
- Bovi Sera (3K-1)
- Mastoblast (25A-8)
- Mastocream (25A-7)

Several conditions warrant the use of medications infused directly into the teat. This procedure, called intramammary infusion involves implanting a antibiotic medication such as “Tomorrow” when drying off a lactating doe and “Today” for treating mastitis. Goat Serum or Bovi Sera can also be infused for treating mastitis as an alternative to antibiotics. We emphasize the importance of cleanliness in this procedure to avoid the introduction of dirt and bacteria into the teat. Neosporin antibacterial ointment is excellent for lubricating the cannula for easy insertion. Please pay attention to the proper positioning of the cannula inside the teat. Partial insertion, just beyond the sphincter muscle is correct. Full insertion can disrupt the keratin plug encouraging further bacterial infection.

(Taken from the internet)

Welcome all to 2015, It is going to be a great year for the Shows, your committee always makes sure that a duty of care is not only given to the livestock but the public as well. Thank goodness for the long standing and new members to the committee. We are always looking for goat minded people to join the club and give their support in setting up and taking down at any of our shows.

Any ideas for the club magazine, captions, stories, articles, photos, any thing at all? It takes many man hours to put each magazine together, input from you can reduce these hours. Your experiences and photos are what the members and anybody else that reads the mag are fascinated by what they read. Please make that effort.

We don't have our estate car any more, only a salon car and small trailer, I am going to have to improve my packing skills.

I wish you all great successes with any kidding you have ahead. I have lots of garden pots, trays etc for small charge if any one is interested.

Please notice the change of ADDRESS AND DATE for the SPRING SHOW, THIS IS IN THE MAGAZINE IN SEVERAL PLACES.

**Regards to you all Hazel and Dennis.**

## Chairman's Update

Welcome to the first CGA magazine of 2015. Hopefully, you all celebrated a good Christmas and New Year.

Neil and I had a particularly special Christmas morning when we received a plaintive phone call from Nigel Julian asking if we had any spare milk. One of his girls had given birth to twins who weren't feeding from her and could we help. So, putting the Christmas roast down low we did a dash up the road with a jar of our Heidi's milk and spent a delightful Christmas morning cuddling Nigel's new brood of pygmy kids (cover picture) what a wonderful start to Christmas!

By now many of you will have kidding well underway and be surrounded by bouncing, bleating kids out in the Spring sunshine. We will be latecomers to all the fun as our Golden Guernsey is due at the end of April. Many thanks to Helen Jervis who allowed us to take Ambrosia for a "driveway" mating with her young male, Tom. He's a lovely boy and was such a sweet gentleman with Ambrosia. It will be very interesting to see how well all the Cornish-bred Golden Guernseys turn out this year.

The first CGA show is the Spring Show, 9<sup>th</sup> May at May's Country Store, St Austell. Julia Clarke is the show secretary and has done extremely well to find such a good venue, with hard-standing and easy access for all the trailers. As a friendly, CGA show this is an ideal opportunity to bring along first-time show goats and practice your ring-craft. Recalcitrant goats charging around the rings will be met with total understanding and empathy, so do come along and persuade anyone else who has never shown before to enter, everyone will be made very welcome.

I look forward to seeing you all at the show and wish you every success with your own goats this year.

**Sue Savage**

## Mastitis Prevention and Treatment

Mastitis is a serious health problem. If not diagnosed early and treated aggressively it can result in costly medical bills, permanent damage to the udder, decreased milk production and in severe cases, even death. Inflammation occurs when bacteria, viruses and the like invade the udder and/or mammary glands.

The best prevention is cleanliness. Keep the barn and barnyard clean at all times. Practice CLEAN milking habits. Keep the udder well trimmed, wash teats and udder thoroughly with Udder Wash and always milk with clean, dry hands. Use a strip cup for the first few steams of milk and examine closely for flakes or strings. Always milk gently and do not over milk. Wipe the teats clean after milking and apply Fight Bac to teats. It's inexpensive, highly effective and easy to use. Test the milk once a week with mastitis test cards. Early diagnosis is your best chance for successful treatment.

Symptoms of mastitis include a decrease in milk production, flakes or strings on the strip cup screen and a hot, swollen, red udder. Blood in the milk may also be a symptom. The CMT kit can also be used if a problem shows up on the strip cup screen.

Mastitis treatment may include antibiotic injections as well as antibiotic teat infusions. Apply hot packs twice a day for 10 minutes and gentle massaging with peppermint oil to increase circulation. More frequent milking may also be helpful.

Goat Serum Concentrate or Bovi Sera is very effective in treating mastitis. Give a 10cc Sub Q two days in a row and during those two days do a 15cc teat infusion of the Concentrate after each milking.

The Cons:

- Trying to attach to two teats and juggling the battery pump at the same time is almost impossible for one person. Solved by doing one teat at a time with a stopper in the other cup.
- Stripping out the last of the milk is tricky and easiest done by hand (although I now don't bother as there is now some dispute about whether it really does reduce milk output on the scale I'm at)
- The battery pump is not long lasting, we've had it replaced once for free but have now bought a manual hand vacuum. In the US these battery units are cheaply bought at Walmart (ASDA's owners) but importing is expensive. We're now going to get a mains powered pump
- There is no UK based supplier, so although it's easy to buy via Ebay, the cost increases with delivery and import tax

This machine has made milking a joy rather than a major headache and we'll carry on using it for Heidi, but I'll certainly try hand-milking Ambrosia our Golden Guernsey when she has had her first kids in April.

If you'd like more information on the Dansha Farm system look them up on Ebay, or on their website : [www.danshafarms.com](http://www.danshafarms.com). There are also some YouTube videos of other people demonstrating and giving their opinions.

FOR SALE  
BOOKS

1979 Goat Keeping	By Meta Bonney
1976 The Goat Keeping Guide	By Jill Salmon
1976 Goat Husbandry	By Mackenzie
1983 The Goat Veterinary	By Peter Dunn
1988 Goat keeping for Profit	By Jenny Neal
ALL BOOKS £5 EACH	

Fist Published 1950 Modern Goat Keeping £6.50

Pictures are varied so price will vary.

Mugs £2—£3.

Also a selection of Carpentry Tools and Machinery .  
ALL ENQUIRES TO NINA CRIPPS  
01726817695

Secretary's Notes

I only have to read “oa” and my brain completes the word “goat”. This is usually out of context and not the correct word at all, but it shows how we goat-lovers are conditioned to embrace all things “goaty”.

So, when I found myself in Spitalfields, London, and turned a corner, to be confronted with a goat on a pile of packing cases, I thought I was hallucinating. But no, it was a fact. There before me, was a larger than life size goat sculpture. Six sculptures were entered in a competition. The people of Spitalfields voted the goat sculpture as the winner and it was exhibited for all to see.



The residents of Spitalfields seem to like goats, maybe due to the herd at the Urban Farm nearby. They organise a goat race, Cambridge v Oxford. Even the goats seem to be enjoying it.



Looking forward to seeing you at the Spring Show, at May's Country Store, Which promises to be an excellent venue.

June.



# SHOW DATES FOR DEVON & CORNWALL 2015

May	9th	CGA Spring Show (Saturday, new venue 2015) Mrs J Clarke	01726 823800	Dairy & Pygmy
May	21st - 23rd	Devon County Show	01392 353705	Dairy
June	4th — 6th	Royal Cornwall Show	01326 563229	Dairy & Pygmy
		The Kernow Show Mrs. S. Smith		Dairy
June	21st	Devon & Somerset Male & Youngstock	01395 233985	Dairy
July	11th	Liskeard Show	07894 456099	No Goats
July	13th	Stithians Show Mrs. Linda Dodd Mrs Angela George	07939 826585 01209 717656	Dairy Pygmy
July	18th	Camborne Show	01326 563229	Dairy & Pygmy
July	24th	Mid Devon Show (new venue 2015)	01884 242486	Pygmy
July	29th	Yealmpton Show	07712 681306	Dairy
July	30th	Launceston Show	01566 775483	No Goats
August	8th (Saturday)	Cornwall Male & Youngstock and Pygmy Autumn Show (new venue 2015)	Mrs. S. Furneaux  01726 890409	Dairy & Pygmy
August	13th	Okehampton Show	01363 866161	Dairy & Pygmy
August	27th	Melplash	01308 423337	Dairy
August	27th	Holsworthy Show	01288 355335	Pygmy
September	5th — 6th	Dorset Show	01305 264249	Dairy
October	17th	CGA Annual General Meeting at Truro	01726 890409	

On our first attempt we followed the advice to run the battery pump next to Heidi as it was a new noise and then carried out the standard routine – wash udder, hand squeeze both teats to release first milk, attach plastic teats and run pump until vacuum is achieved and the milk begins to flow into jar. The pump is then only run occasionally to maintain the vacuum.

It was an immediate success !! Heidi was not in least bit bothered and carried on eating her breakfast until we were ready to finish. Taking off the teat cups was the only time she reacted, as it meant touching her udder to break the vacuum.



We have now been using the mini-milker for six months and it has been incredibly useful.

## The Pros:

- As a sealed unit, it means the milk is never at risk of contamination from the surrounding area (or dirty hoof in the bucket)
- No strain on hands, so helpful if arthritis or just weak hands are a problem
- Can be used by others (Neil is brilliant with it and took over when I was unwell)
- Difficult goats don't seem to mind the machine
- Much, much cheaper than a large milking machine
- Easy to buy via Ebay and customer service has been excellent

## Mini-Milking Machine Experience

Sue Savage

The expectation on getting our first goats was that I would be hand-milking. I'd spend my early mornings having a quiet, peaceful time tucked up next to my calm goat with the gently sound of milk going into the bucket. I'd watched Sue Smith and had some practice on her goat, no problem and thoroughly enjoyable.

Before I got her, my Saanen, Heidi had been a maiden milker ably milked by the experienced Emma. After having her own two kids, I started to milk Heidi myself, sharing with the kids who were separated overnight. It was a very unhappy experience for everyone. Heidi hated being milked for more than a couple of minutes (she wasn't that keen on her own kids either!) and made her feelings known by stamping, kicking the bucket and refusing to let down her milk. Not being willing to just give up, I asked advice on one of the UK online forums to get some experiences of the mini milking machines that are commonly used in the USA.

There are a number of these type of small milkers, all based around a glass jar, a vacuum pump, some plastic tubing and some sort of teat cup. My main concern was whether they were safe to use and would not cause any teat damage as they don't have a soft pulsator system. This concern appeared to be unfounded based on the wide range of people who reviewed and posted YouTube videos.

I decided to buy a rechargeable battery system from Dansha Farms, goat farmers in Florida, USA and imported via Ebay. It included a half US gallon Mason Jar with plastic tubes connected into the lid and the two teat cups made from large syringes all driven by a battery vacuum pump.



# **NEW VENUE & DATE**

## **SATURDAY 9th MAY**

**FOR**

# **THE C.G.A. SPRING SHOW**

**MAY'S COUNTRY STORE  
BARTON MILL, HEWASWATER,  
ST, AUSTELL, PL26 7JE**

**OFF THE A390 BETWEEN  
ST. AUSTELL and PROBUS.**

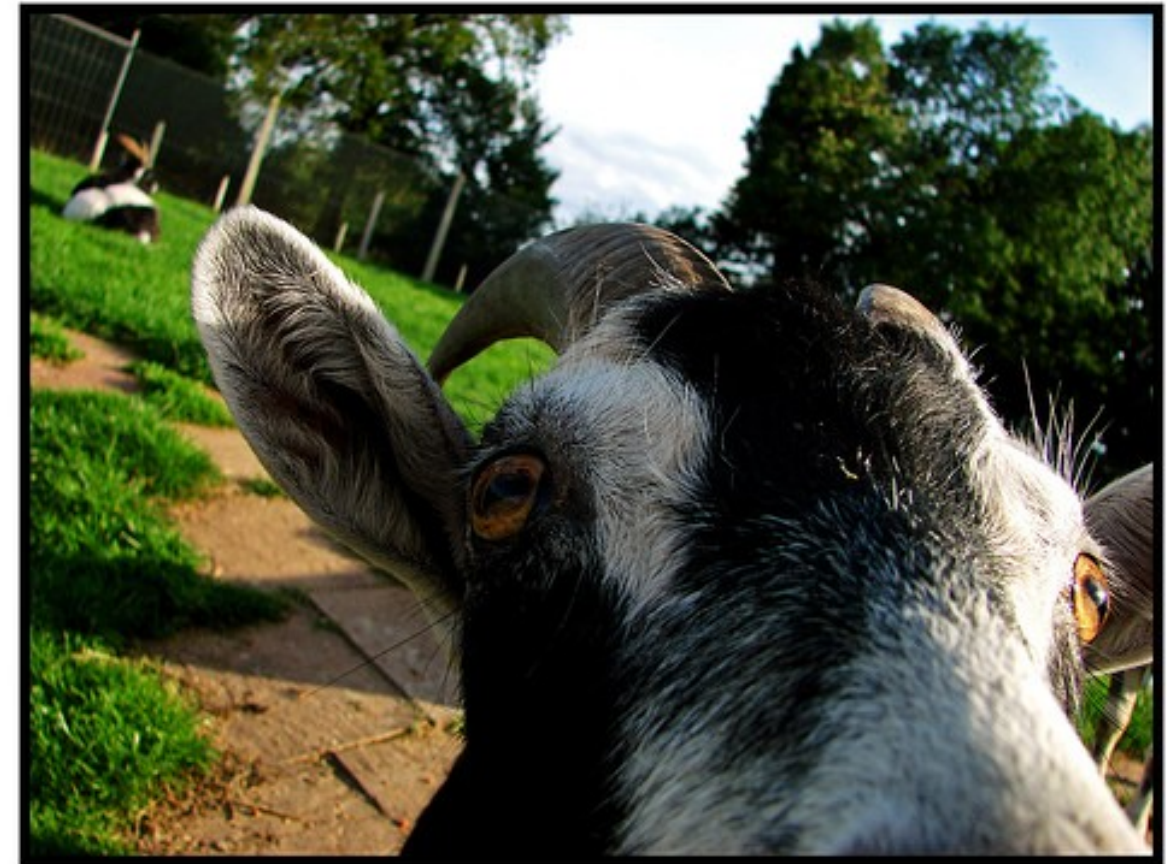
**For more info, Dairy & Pygmy  
please contact  
Mrs J CLARKE  
01726823800**



## **A RANCHER NAMED CLYDE**

A rancher named Clyde had a car accident. In court, the trucking company's fancy lawyer was questioning Clyde. "Didn't you say, at the scene of the accident, 'I'm fine,'" asked the lawyer. Clyde responded, "Well, I'll tell you what happened. I had just loaded my favourite goat, Bessie, into the..." "I didn't ask for any details", the lawyer interrupted. "Just answer the question? Did you not say, at the scene of the accident, 'I'm fine!'" Clyde said, "Well, I had just got Bessie into the trailer and I was driving down the road..." "The lawyer interrupted again and said, "Judge, I am trying to establish the fact that, at the scene of the accident, this man told the Highway Patrolman on the scene that he was just fine. Now several weeks after the accident he is trying to sue my client. I believe he is a fraud. Please tell him to simply answer the question." By this time, the Judge was fairly interested in Clyde's answer and said to the lawyer, "I'd like to hear what he has to say about his favourite goat, Bessie." Clyde thanked the Judge and proceeded, "Well as I was saying, I had just loaded Bessie, my favorite goat, into the trailer and was driving her down the highway when this huge semi-truck and trailer ran the stop sign and smacked my truck right in the side. I was thrown into one ditch and Bessie was thrown into the other. I was hurting, real bad and didn't want to move. However, I could hear ole Bessie moaning and groaning. I knew she was in terrible shape just by her groans. Shortly after the accident a Highway Patrolman came on the scene. He could hear Bessie moaning and groaning so he went over to her. After he looked at her, he took out his gun and shot her between the eyes. Then the Patrolman came across the road, gun in hand, looked at me, and said 'How are you feeling?' "Now what the hell would you say?"

**Rectangular:** Sheep, Goats, Octopuses and Toads have these rectangular shaped pupils. Typically classified as prey, these animals need to have a defense both day and night. But they don't have vertical slits due to their need to survey their surroundings more accurately. The narrower the pupil in relation to the horizon, the greater the accuracy of depth perception is in the peripheral vision of the animal. The perception of depth must be considered with these animals who spend their time evading predators in a rugged terrain.

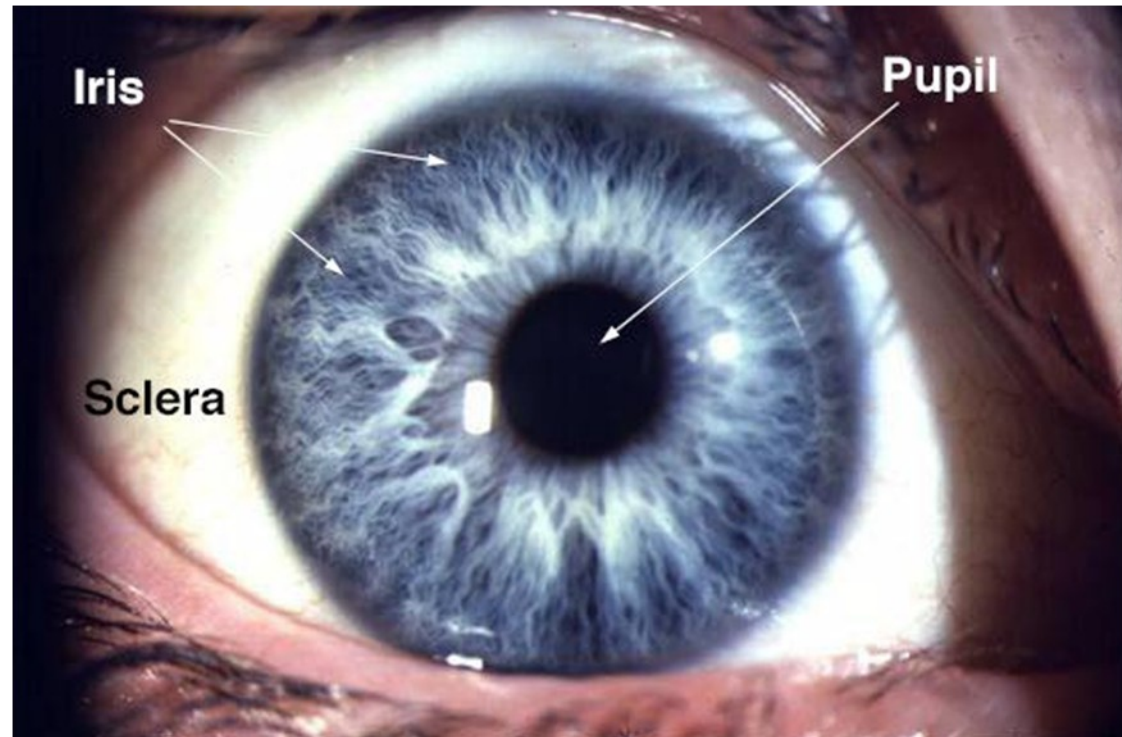


## **THE OLD GOAT**

The young couple invited their elderly pastor for Sunday dinner. While they were in the kitchen preparing the meal, the minister asked their son what they were having. "Goat," the little boy replied. "Goat?" replied the startled man of the cloth, "Are you sure about that?" "Yep," said the youngster. "I heard Dad say to Mom, 'Today is just as good as any to have the old goat for dinner.'



**Spherical:** This is the typical pupil seen in the human species as well as in primates, canines, and the just of the animal kingdom. This type of pupil adapts well to the intensity of light during the day, though isn't necessarily proficient during nighttime outings. Useful in broad observations of carnivores and like predators.



**Vertical Slit:** Cats, many species of snakes, alligators and crocodiles possess these eyes. Although these types of pupils are a useful adaptation for nocturnal animals, the animals who usually have them are both active day AND night. Because of their exposure to daytime lights, this pupil allows protection of the retina in daylight glare



## Goat Cheese Varieties

Goat's milk is used to make all sorts of cheeses—Gouda, Cheddar, even Brie. Look for some of these favourites in gourmet markets and cheese stores, or shop online.

**Aged:** Aged goat cheeses are usually French, and they come in various shapes and sizes. Often an aged goat cheese will be covered in an edible ash to prevent it from drying out and to keep its surface clean. It may have a fluffy middle and a gooey exterior. Readily available aged goat cheeses include Chevrot, Valencay, and Selles sur Cher.

**Tomme style:** Means, in French, a wheel of cheese. Humboldt Fog, produced by Cypress Grove Chèvre in northern California, proves that high-quality French-style goat cheese is available domestically. The cheese is covered in edible ash, which keeps a crust from developing.

**Blue:** Blue mold is mixed into the curds. As the cheese ages, the flavor changes, making blue goat cheese sharper, earthier, and more pungent than the fresh variety. Cayuga Blue is one of the best brands available, but it's not easy to find. Bleu de Chèvre is a good alternative.

**Brie:** Goat's milk Brie is more subtle and refreshing than a traditional cow's milk Brie. For a treat, try Peilloute.

**Cheddar:** Goat's milk Cheddar has everything you want from this beloved cheese: It's sharp and fruity but with a distinctive goatly tang. One of the best is Quebec's Le Chèvre Noir.

**Gouda:** Holland produces some lovely fresh and aged goat's milk Goudas. Fresh Gouda is soft and creamy, making it a good table cheese. Aged Gouda is sweet and delicious, with caramel overtones. Balarina is a widely available variety.



# Fancy a pasty kids? Hold on, I'll get my goat...

Two sisters are hoping to tempt customers into their shop with a new, top-secret all-bleating pasty recipe.

Wendy Kitchen and Teresa Bray, from Bray's and K's pasty shop on Nettles Hill, Redruth, have thrown the recipe book out of the window and substituted goat-meat for steak in their take on the traditional Cornish dish.

The self-proclaimed "proper Cornish girls selling proper Cornish pasties" said they wanted to offer customers an alternative to the traditional pasty filling and so far herds of people have been biting their hoofs off to try it.

Mrs Kitchen said: "Goat meat has a distinctive taste and some people say it is a cross between beef and lamb and it's just a bit of a twist really."

"So far they have been

selling really well. We get some people come in and say, 'you can't eat a goat!' but once they try them they love it."

The unusual pasties also contain leek, swede, potato and onion in a hearty gravy sauce.

Yet the precise recipe is so closely guarded that neither sister knows what the other contributes – only Mrs Kitchen knows the blend of spices used and only Mrs Bray knows the pastry technique.

Mrs Kitchen said: "We were taught by our 75-year-old mother Alma how to make pasties and all our techniques are a family secret. She is the absolute queen of crimping and she still tells us off if we are doing it wrong."

The meat comes from Mrs Kitchen's 30-strong herd of goats, a mix of African boar and Saanen breeds.

She said: "They are all bred



At the opening of the new Bray's and K's pasty shop in Redruth are Teresa Bray, Wendy Kitchen with Will Tremayne, Mayor of Redruth

and reared near Portreath so they only travel a mile or so before they end up in the shop and we only use local produce so altogether they make for a really tasty, unusual and locally-sourced pasty."

Goat meat also has less fat and more protein than other red meats.

Mrs Kitchen said: "They are really good meat. A lot of people breed their goats for milk, but the boar goats are

bred in Africa for meat, and it is beautiful. They are just gorgeous animals and goat meat is one of the healthiest meats there is."

But not content with one strange flavour, the sisters

have created a breakfast pasty containing sausage, bacon and tomato. But for less adventurous customers or staunch traditionalists, they also sell classic pasties made with beef skirt.

## How do You?

A student named Jacob was sitting in class one day and the teacher walked by and he asked her "How do you put an elephant in the fridge?" The teacher said "I don't know, how?" Jacob then said "You open the door and put it in there!" Then Jacob asked the teacher another question "How do you put a goat in the fridge?" The teacher then replied "Ohh I know this one, you open the door and put it in there?" Jacob said "No, you open the door, take the elephant out, and then you put it in there." Then he asked another question..."All the animals went to the lions birthday party, except one animal, which one was it?" The teacher a bit confused and said "The lion?" Then the student said "No,the goat because he's still in the fridge." then he asked her just one more question...."If there is a river full of crocodiles and you wanted to get across it,how would you" The teacher then says "You would walk over the bridge." Then Jacob says "No, you would swim across because all the crocodiles are at the lions birthday party!" She laughs and walks away.

Biologist [Todd Oakley](#) at UC Santa Barbara says that this new development, "show[s] very clearly that specific mutational changes in a particular duplicated gene (opsin) allowed the new genes to interact with different proteins in new ways. Today, these different interactions underlie the genetic machinery of vision, which is different in various animal groups." Hydras have no eyes or light-receptive organs, but they have the genetic pathways to be able to sense light, allowing scientists to more accurately model the evolution of the eye.

### Basic Structure and Function of the Eye

The basic eye is anything but basic. Instead, it is very complex, constantly adjusting to surroundings and to the amount of light it lets in. Though the intricate workings of an eye contain several components, the ones we'll discuss today are the pupil and the iris.

The *pupil* is the point in which light enters the eye and results in the mind conjuring an image. The larger the pupil, the more sunlight shines through. The evolution of the pupil lies in the idea of "survival of the fitter", better known as Darwin's Theory. Differences in circumstances and in surroundings determine not only mundane physical characteristics, but how we use our eyes as well. The pupil is involuntarily controlled by the iris, which constricts and dilates in order to regulate the amount of light that enters the cornea.

The *iris* is the control center for light, controlling how much is let into the eye. When there is an abundance of light the iris adjusts by shrinking, allowing just enough light to be absorbed. Under darker circumstances, however, the iris expands to allow maximum light to be absorbed. The function of the iris is great proof of evolution by clearly defining which animals would survive better. Animals whose eyes could adapt to lighting variations could easily and under any circumstances avoid predators, and thus pass those genes on.

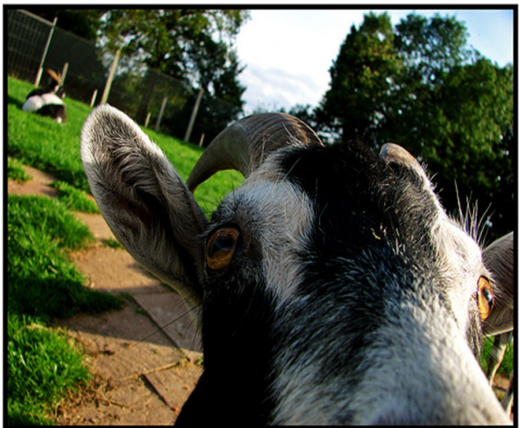
**Variations in the structure of the eye have happened throughout evolutionary history.What causes these Differences? Why, Natural Selection, of course!**

Pupils also come in types, depending on the purpose it may hold for the animal that contains it. For example, a species of animals who spends a majority of time in the sun usually have eyes with spherical pupils. Those who need be active during all times of day and night are better equipped with pupils which can easily vary or adjust, such as rectangular eyes. Common variations include:



# The Evolution Of The Rectangular Eye

Eyes are the interface between the outside world and our brain's perceptions. Being the instrument of sight, and therefore a lot of our information, we rely on the functions of our eyes quite obsessively, and why wouldn't we? They make it possible to observe our beautiful world and really appreciate different species and the unique characteristics they hold - like their eyes.



## Evolution of the Eye

Since eyes do not fossilize very well, we cannot exactly depict the changes in eyes as we can with the evolution of, let's say, legs and what not. What scientists can do, and what they have done, is re-create the most likely plan of the evolution of eyes. This includes the development of light sensitive cells which, over thousands of generations and under the guidelines of natural selection, allowed the development of the eye. Sounds simple? Not quite. There are no 100% accurate models for the eye, though scientists believe they have come close.

One of the best explanations derive from the first animals that have what *resembles* an eye. These creatures lived about 600 million years ago, with not so much an eye as light-sensitive genes called "opsins". The Hydra is a freshwater cnidarian similar to corals and jellyfish. It's body is coated with opsins, which scientists believe gave it an advantage in capturing prey, and keeping its distance from predators likewise. With the discovery of this animal, latest researches are naming it the possible [origin of vision](#).



# Goat Ear Tagging Requirements For Goats

For Wales and Scotland please contact your local department.

There has been several call to the BGS office recently regarding the identification of goats after 31st December 2014. Hopefully the table that follows on will be helpful and it is taken from the Defra Publication PB14142. The publication is: Identifying and recording sheep and goats. Guidance and rules for keepers in England. April 2014 (PB14142) available to download at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-keepers-in-england-rules-for-identifying-sheep-and-goats#history>

Also useful <https://www.gov.uk/sheep-and-goats-identification-registration-and-movement>

GOAT EAR TAGGING REQUIREMENTS FOR GOATS		
TWO TAGS OR ONE		
If the animal is for:	SHEEP	GOATS
Slaughter (before 12 months of age)	Single electronic ear tag (compulsory after 31 December 2014)	Single ear tag, EID optional
Breeding (kept past 12 months of age)	Two identifiers (both with the same number, one of which must be electronic. This is called 'full EID')	Two identifiers, EID optional
Combinations for animals over 12 months of age		
Sheep must have full EID. For goats, EID is optional, but must have two identifiers as above.		
1st identifier EID	2nd identifier conventional	Able to export?
EID ear tag	Ear tag	Yes
EID ear tag	Tattoo Can go across both ears. (UK code + flock number on one, individual animal number on the other.)	No
EID ear tag	Pastern (leg band)	Yes
EID bolus	Black ear tag or black pastern	Yes
EID pastern (leg band)	Ear tag	No
Goat-only Combinations		
1st identifier conventional	2nd identifier conventional	Able to Export
Ear Tag	Ear Tag	No Export animals must have full EID
Ear Tag	Tattoo Can go across both ears (UK code + flock number on one, individual animal number on the other.)	
Ear Tag	Pastern (leg band)	No You're not allowed to export animals with an EID pastern or an injectable EID
EID injectable (groin)	Conventional black ear tag	



HOW CAN I LIMIT THE EFFECTS OF WORMS ON MY GOATS?

Worm infection can be limited by grazing management, together with minimal anthelmintic treatment.

Maintain safe grazing, particularly for kids. Safe grazing is pasture that was not grazed by goats or sheep in the second half of the previous year or pasture ungrazed until mid-July when over wintered larvae have died off.

Delay grazing animals until over wintered larvae on the pasture have died off mid-July.

If safe grazing is available in the spring, worm in the spring at kidding time, worm again in June and move onto safe pasture.

If no safe pasture is available, worm in the spring at kidding time, then worm every 3 weeks from spring to autumn

HOW OFTEN SHOULD I WORM MY GOATS

You should use the minimum number of treatments to control the worms on your holding. Overuse of anthelmintics is expensive and also selects for resistant worms. Wherever possible a combination of safe grazing and strategic anthelmintic dosing should be used. Your veterinary surgeon can advise you on correct use of anthelmintics.

HOW OFTEN SHOULD I CHANGE THE WORMER I AM USING?

Wormers [anthelmintics] should be changed annually. Prolonged use of one wormer increases the production of resistant worms to that particular wormer. Too frequent changing of wormers can result in multiple resistance developing.

FAMILY	EXAMPLES
Benzamidazoles and probenzamidazoles [“white” wormers]	Panacur, Valbazan
Levamisole and related drugs [“yellow” wormers]	Silvers
Avermectins	Oramec

Although there are many different anthelmintics available, there are only three different families of anthelmintic available:

When changing anthelmintics it is important to change from one family of wormers to another. It is not sufficient to change between members of the same family. It is also important to correctly estimate the weight of the goat. Goats can be weighed while at shows in cattle markets or weigh bands can be used. Consult you vet over the correct dosing rates for goats which are higher than those for sheep and cattle.

HOW SOON AFTER WORMING THE GOATS CAN I USE THE MILK?

Because most anthelmintics are not specifically licensed for use in milking goats in the UK, there is a minimum milk withholding time, before the milk can be used for human consumption, of 7 days for all the wormers currently on sale. Oramec is licensed for use in goats but has a minimum withholding time of 14 days.

Strategic worming of goats in late pregnancy, shortly after kidding or just before shows will help to reduce the loss of revenue from discarding of milk

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Happy goats tend to point their ears forward, scientists have found

PICTURE: BRIAN SQUIBB

Goats show when they are happy, study claims

A study of happy goats could provide greater understanding of the emotions of other species and improve the way animals are treated, scientists claim.

While fear and stress are relatively easy to spot in animals, and well researched, it is often more difficult to recognise subtle positive emotions.

Scientists recruited residents at Buttercups Sanctuary for Goats in Boughton Monchelsea, Kent, to investigate the way they expressed different mild emotional states.

They found that goats were more

likely to point their ears forward and keep their tail up when they were in a “happy” positive state.

They also uttered more stable calls, that were less varied in frequency.

Dr Alan McElligott, from Queen Mary, University of London, who led the research, said: “It is often relatively easy to identify negative emotions in animals but we know little about how they show that they are experiencing positive states.

“Subtle hints from goats like small changes in their calls, their heart rate

or the position of their ears tell us about what state it is in and could indicate whether their environment is good for their welfare or not.”

The findings, published in the journal Animal Behaviour, could lead to changes in the way animals are looked after, the researchers believe.

Co-author Dr Elodie Briefer, from the Swiss university ETH Zurich, said: “In this study, we were able to identify not only indicators of emotional arousal, but also whether emotions were positive or negative.”