



HEREFORDSHIRE POULTRY SOCIETY



**Meeting on Friday 24th March 2006
At the Yarkhill Village Hall**

Present:	Bill Wiggin MP Lorna Hart Jill McAree Malcolm & Jean Reeves Gill & Ian Smith	Graham Ling Edwin Hughes Ian Shellard Trudi Qualter Chrissie Patrick	Carolyn Southern John Wood Chris Dobson Gilla Leigh
Apologies:	Charlotte Gibb Andrew Brown Andrew Froud	Paul & Nicki Stannard Catherine Stockford Frank Simcock & Family	Linda Jones Kate Ryan & Family
New Member:	Welcome to ...	Nicholas Casdagli	
Visitor:	Welcome to ...	Angela Gore	
Thanks to	Our Guest Speaker ...	Mary Probert from Hereford Poultry Market	

1. Introduction

Bill Wiggin opened the meeting. Thanks to Gilla Leigh for arranging the hire of the Village Hall, providing refreshments, including the delicious cherry wine.

**Please note the next meeting will be on Friday 5th May and will be held at Yarkhill Village Hall.
More details of this meeting and other events at the end of these minutes.**

2. Update

Bill Wiggin updated the group on the latest news about bird flu. There are no developments of note, except that there is a rising campaign for vaccination of flocks against the disease.

There was a general discussion amongst members, everyone listing what birds they have at the moment but mainly centred on incubation of eggs. Malcolm and Jean incubated 400 goose eggs and 90% hatched. They use incubators providing regular heat and turning.

Carolyn still has birds to sell so has not incubated any yet.

Ian and Edwin are going to specialise in the breeds they purchased last year.

New member, Nicholas Casdagli, incubated 6 green eggs and 2 hatched.

Bill has had no problems transporting his incubator between London and his Herefordshire home.

Bill then introduced our guest speaker, Mary Probert from Herefordshire Poultry Market (Her husband had been scheduled to speak but had to change his plans.

3. Herefordshire Poultry Market

Mary elected to choose a question and answer session rather than give a talk.

Among the subjects discussed was the following:

- One query was why the equipment was sold in the market first. Some members felt it was better for the sellers if the livestock was sold first as towards the end of the sale buyers tend to drift away.
- What happens to birds not sold and not collected after the sale. Mary said she took them home and looked after them or Stan the Sale Porter sometimes took them too.
- Mary was asked how old the market was. She said it was very old and that there are very few weekly poultry markets.
- The occasional Saturday markets were mentioned. It was a general consensus that the Saturday market was aimed more at the pure breed market and that prices were generally higher.
- Asked about the selling of birds as point of lay, etc., Mary said that the auctioneers tried to make sure descriptions were accurate but if anyone were sold anything they had a problem with the auctioneers would contact the seller for them. Fertility cannot be guaranteed.
- No catalogue can be provided for the Wednesday markets but a catalogue is available online for the Saturday ones.
- Mary said she would be happy to advertise the Poultry Society on her website (work in progress).