

## Free Tetanus Vaccinations

Our special offer on tetanus vaccination runs until the end of December. We strongly believe that all horses should be protected against tetanus so any unvaccinated horses will be given a second tetanus vaccination free of charge when you pay for the first vaccination at the normal price of £14.10. This gives two years of protection. Please call us for further details

## Strangles Vaccine Unavailable

There have been manufacturing problems with the Equilis Strep-E strangles vaccine which means that it is likely to be unavailable for a few months. If your horse is due for a booster injection soon, please contact us for advice. It is important to be vigilant at the moment because there are currently active strangles cases within the practice area.

## Half Price Visit Dates January to March

Jan 2007	Feb 2007	March 2007	Area	Postcode of Stables
8th	5th	5 <sup>th</sup>	Darwen, Tockholes, Hoddlesden	BB3,
3 <sup>rd</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup>	Accrington, Oswaldtwistle, Church, Huncoat	BB5
15 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	Ribble Valley West( Mellor, Clayton le Dale)	BB2
26 <sup>th</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	30 <sup>th</sup>	Ribble Valley East (Clitheroe, and Gisburn )	BB7
10 <sup>th</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup>	Burnley, Brierfield, Barrowford, Briercliffe,	BB9, BB10, BB11, BB12
9 <sup>th</sup>	13 <sup>th</sup>	13 <sup>th</sup>	Rawtenstall, Haslingden, Waterfoot, Rossendale	BB4
5 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Great Harwood, Rishton, Clayton-le-Moors, Blackburn	BB6, BB1
12 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	East Preston	PR3
3 <sup>rd</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	Ramsbottom, Edenfield, Bury and Rochdale	BL0, BL9 / 8 OL11/13

Please note: The reduced charge applies to visits between 9am and 4pm which have been booked at least 2 days in advance. Visits will be arranged on a first come first served basis and some dates may be booked up well in advance.



*The Only Veterinary Practice in Lancashire  
Dedicated Entirely to Horses*

## Winter Newsletter



Wishing all our clients a Happy  
Christmas and New Year

**Tel 01254 888600**

**[www.equine-vet.co.uk](http://www.equine-vet.co.uk)**

## Practice News

### New Receptionist

We are pleased to welcome Rose Bullock as our new receptionist for Saturday and Monday mornings. Rose lives in the Darwen area with her family, and has previously worked alongside her husband running their businesses office. Rose owns 3 horses: "Blue" a warmblood gelding, "Berty" a cob and "Bestman" a warmblood colt.

### Laminitis Course

David recently attended an update course on the laminitis. The course involved presentations of the findings from the latest research and discussions on the latest treatment techniques

### New Scanner

We have just purchased a second ultrasound scanner to help us cope with the ever increasing amount of fertility work along with tendon scanning. As veterinary knowledge increases, ultrasound machines are being used more and more for scanning everything from joints and bone fractures to eyes and hearts.



## New Choice of Visits Introduced

For a 3 month trial period from January when you book a visit you will be offered a choice of a premium or economy visit:

Premium visits (£29 + VAT) – Done at a pre-arranged appointment time to suit you. If we are likely to be more than 15 minutes late we will endeavor to let you know.

Economy visits (£24 + VAT) – No time is specified but we will ring you at least 30 minutes before we attend. You need to be available to attend your horse between 8.30am and 5.30pm and we must be able to contact you to let you know when we are on our way.

Premium and economy visits will also apply to half price visit days (Premium visits at £14.50 and economy visits at £12 + VAT)

## New Requirement for Mares to be Blood Tested before Breeding

New requirements for the 2007 breeding season mean all mares attending stud should be blood tested for Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA) at least 28 days before breeding. This applies in the case of both natural mating and A.I. Mares must also be swabbed for CEM venereal infection

## New Worming Programme

We have modified our worming program for 2007 to include the new wormer, Equest Pramox and to involve "strategic worming". This means that horses are only given wormers if they actually need them. This avoids giving medicines unnecessarily and it is better for the environment. Microscopic examination of your horse's droppings can be carried out to check if worm eggs are present. If none are present, you do not need to worm. Faecal egg counts do not detect tapeworms, so we still advise twice yearly dosing for tapeworms and dosing to kill bots in early winter.

Our recommended worming programme for 2007 is enclosed with this newsletter. Additional copies can be obtained from our website or from our shop at Martholme.

### Worming packs for 2007

To make things as simple as possible for you, we have prepared everything you should need to keep your horse free from worm problems during 2007 in one pack. It costs £65 inc VAT and includes wormers, two worm egg count kits and calendar stickers to remind you when to worm. The kits are available from our shop or can be posted out to you for a small postage fee.

### Health plans

Our gold health plan will include wormers and worm egg counts according to our new recommended worming programme. In the event that your horse has a positive worm egg count and additional wormers are required, these need to be purchased separately. Prices for our health plans remain unchanged for 2007 and all visits included are "Premium" visits.

## Blood Test for Laminitis Prone Ponies

We have seen more new cases of laminitis in the last three months than in the rest of the year. These cases have obviously not been caused by rich grass and recent research has highlighted other factors which can predispose to laminitis such as high cellular glucose levels and resistance to insulin.

Studies in Virginia, USA have led to the development of a quantified "Laminitis Risk Assessment" using a single blood sample and body condition scoring. We can offer the blood test for £50 inc VAT and we will provide advice on diet and management for any horses with results showing that they are at high risk of developing laminitis.

