

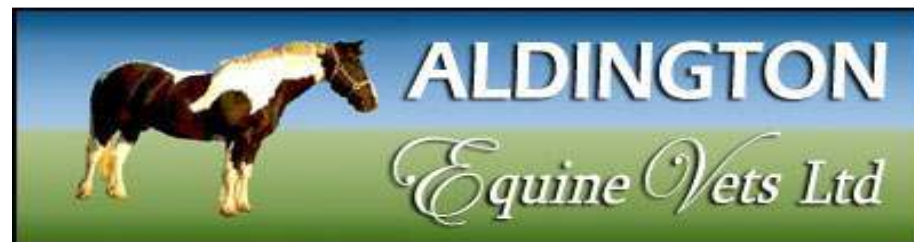
Calling All Competitors.....

There have been recent reports in the equestrian press regarding the introduction of medication control programmes (colloquially known as dope testing) in affiliated competition. This is a method of identifying banned substances in horses competing at an event in order to ensure fair play and to maximise equine safety and welfare.

Event organisers may ask you to present your horse for testing on a random basis in which urine or blood samples may be taken for analysis. Banned substances are often performance-affecting drugs such as bute, Ventipulmin, steroids and sedatives.

Given the successes of so many of our clients in qualifying events this season it is important to become familiar with any medication rules associated with your equestrian discipline, as well as ensuring that your horses' flu vaccinations are up to date.

If you have any queries, or your horse requires treatment leading up to an event, please call our office on 01254 888600 to speak to one of our vets.



Summer Newsletter

Changes to Vetting Procedures

As you may have already seen in the recent equine press, changes will be made to pre-purchase examinations (Vettings) from 8th September 2011. The British Equine Veterinary Association has introduced a new format to make the results of the examinations more transparent and to make the procedure more standardized.

The 5 key changes:

- It must be declared if the vet or any other member of the practice has previous knowledge of the horse.
- The vet must state if the vendor is a client of the practice.
- Any procedure which for any reason is omitted from the examination must be documented by the vet as to why it was not carried out. E.g. Blood sample, Flexion test, Ridden Exercise.
- Potential purchasers should be explicitly advised to obtain insurance before purchase.
- Purchasers should be urged to obtain a warranty from the seller.

At Aldington Vets these changes have always been part of our 5-stage examination protocol so the only difference you will see from September is a new type of certificate detailing the findings of the examination.

We strongly recommend a pre-purchase examination before buying any horse and insurance companies are increasingly requesting an examination before they will consider providing cover.

For more information on pre-purchase examinations, please visit our website www.equine-vet.co.uk and download our information sheet.



Half Price Visit Dates Aug to Oct

On the dates below, visits are £15 + VAT. To qualify as half price, visits must be booked at least two days in advance and take place between 9am and 4pm. It is not always possible to specify a particular vet for your half price visit. Days book up well in advance and are allocated on a first come first served basis. Please see our website for further details.

Aug 2011	Sept 2011	Oct 2011	Area	Postcode of Stables
9 th	13 th	11 th	Darwen, Tockholes, Hoddlesden	BB3,
1 st & 15 th	5 th & 19 th	3 rd & 17 th	Accrington, Oswaldtwistle, Church, Huncoat	BB5
17 th	21 st	19 th	Ribble Valley West(Mellor, Clayton le Dale)	BB2
11 th	8 th	13 th	Ribble Valley East (Clitheroe, and Gisburn)	BB7
8 th & 30 th	12 th & 27 th	10 th & 25 th	Burnley, Brierfield, Barrowford, Briercliffe,	BB9, BB10, BB11, BB12
16 th	20 th	18 th	Rawtenstall, Haslingden, Waterfoot, Rossendale	BB4
3 rd	7 th	5 th	Great Harwood, Rishton, Clayton-le-Moors, Blackburn	BB6, BB1
23 rd	22 nd	31 st	East Preston	PR3
22 nd	26 th	24 th	Ramsbottom, Edenfield, Bury and Rochdale	BL0, BL9 / 8 OL11/13

Please note during busy months fewer half price visit appointments are available. Please be sure to book or confirm your appointments early to avoid disappointment.

Tel 01254 888600

24 hour emergencies
Office hours 8.30am – 5.30pm
Saturdays 9am – 12pm

www.equine-vet.co.uk

Practice News

We always endeavour to avoid changes in veterinary staff and we are disappointed to announce that Caterina will be leaving the practice at the end of July. Having previously used her qualifications to broaden her horizons by working with the FEI, RDA and the Olympics Veterinary Team, she has now decided to take a break from general veterinary practice and has taken a position with the Animal Health Trust in Newmarket in their Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology Department. Caterina has been an asset to the practice during her time with us and we will miss her greatly. We wish her the best of luck in her future career. We are currently advertising for another experienced equine vet to replace her and we will update you in future newsletters.



Sarah recently attended a course on Regenerative Orthopaedic Medicine. Sarah has a specific interest in the investigation and treatment of lameness and courses like this ensure we are able to offer the very latest techniques and therapies for lame horses.

Adam has now been with us over 4 years and has developed a wide range of skills and experience in equine practice. He attended a course on Pre-purchase Examinations last year and is now carrying out vettings along with Sarah and David. This should mean the practice is able to offer more vettings, as this lengthy procedure is sometimes difficult to fit in at short notice.

Congratulations to Local Farriers !

We would like to congratulate three local farriers who have just gained their BSc honours degrees in Farriery Science. Well done to Craig D'Arcy, Paul Conroy and Jon Mather. It is fantastic for the region to have such well qualified farriers available who can work as a team with owners and vets to ensure the best possible remedial as well as general farriery care for your horses.

Competitions

We are still accepting photographs via our website for our "Make Your Horse a Star" competition! Thanks to all of you who have already sent us some fabulous pictures. The lucky winner will be chosen at the end of August and featured on our vaccination reminder cards during the autumn and winter.

We are also launching a new competition. We would like you to contribute to our next newsletter and website by sending us a small editorial giving a "Client's / Patient's point of view of Aldington Equine Vets". We always value your input and feedback and would love to hear your case studies or stories.

The article does not need to be very long; ideally around 200 words. It would be great if you could also submit a photo of you and your horse to accompany the feature. Entries can be submitted via our website and the winning entry will be sent a **£20 voucher** to spend either in our shop or to be redeemed against their next vet bill. Good luck!



Strangles Vaccine Special Offer

As we reported in our last Newsletter, strangles vaccination is now available again. The practice is seeing more cases locally, and there is an increase in the disease nationwide. Even the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery was unable to attend this year's Trooping of the Colour parade due to positive cases in their stables. With show and competition season and more young stock around at this time of year, it is now very important to think about the risk to your horse or yard, and to consider vaccination to protect against the disease.



We are currently running a special offer on new vaccination courses. For the initial course of vaccinations, two injections are required one month apart. To continue immunity, boosters are then required at 3 or 6 monthly intervals depending on risk. Our offer is "**Buy one get one free**" on the initial injections (excluding visit). This means those of you who already had your horses vaccinated against strangles before the vaccine was withdrawn will not lose out financially by restarting, as your horse would have required a booster if the vaccine was still available.

For further information on disease risk and the vaccine, please visit www.equine-strangles.co.uk. There will also soon be a new information sheet on the subject which can be downloaded from our website. Alternatively, contact our office for one of our vets to discuss the implications for you and your own horse.

Out of Hours Telephone Service

We would like to politely remind you that any "out of hours" phone calls to the practice are dealt with by our on-call vets and are for urgent advice or emergencies **ONLY**. Our vets take your calls directly so that you can get the advice or treatment you may need in an emergency as quickly as possible. All general inquiries **MUST** wait for our normal office hours of 8.30am to 5.30pm weekdays and 9am to 12noon on Saturday.

Antibacterial and Sunblock Cream

FiltaBac is a recently introduced cream specifically designed to protect hairless pink skin from the damaging rays of the sun. Many of you will have horses whose pink noses become blistered and sore in the summer. The cream leaves a white film on the skin and with its antibacterial and sunblock properties it can both protect and treat sore noses.

FiltaClear is a similar product which provides a thinner, almost invisible film to soften and protect sensitive and damaged skin. This also provides protection from the sun and has anti-bacterial cover. The cream acts as a natural second skin and is useful when attending events. The creams can be bought over the counter from the practice shop and are priced at:

FiltaBac 220g Tube:	£11.98
FiltaBac 500g Tub:	£20.11
FiltaClear: 100g Tube:	£12.42

