

Warning for Owners of Unvaccinated Horses

Recent updates to Animal Welfare legislation mean you have a duty of care to your horse for "Prevention of Disease". This means that anyone choosing not to have their horses protected against tetanus by vaccination could be deemed to be negligent under the Animal Welfare Act. There are already veterinary practices in the region that refuse to register anyone as a client unless their horses are vaccinated. Tetanus vaccination is cheap and very effective.

If your horse is not currently vaccinated or has gone more than two years since his last vaccination we urge you to contact us as soon as possible.

Special Offer on Mud Rash Treatments

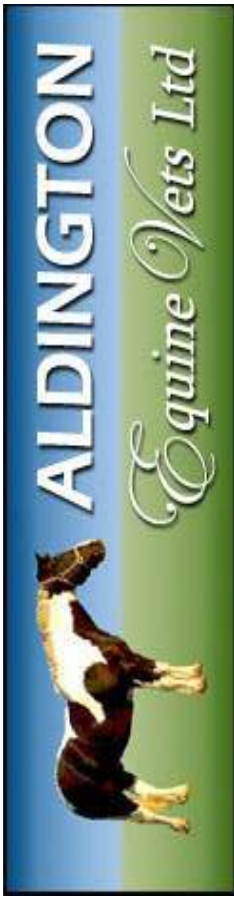
Mud is almost impossible to avoid at the moment so we are seeing an inevitable increase in mud rash cases and secondary problems such as lymphangitis.

To help you protect your horse, we have a special offer on Keratex Mud Shield Powder for a limited time. The powder costs £7 including a free 300ml bottle of Hoof and Leg disinfectant scrub. All our mud rash treatments come with a free booklet on "Prevention and Treatment of Mud Rash" written by the practice vets.

Half Price Visit Dates Jan to Mar

On the dates below, Economy Visits are £12 + VAT and Premium Visits are £14.50 + VAT. Visits must be booked at least two days in advance and take place between 9am and 4pm to qualify. It is not always possible to specify a particular vet for your visit. Please see our website for further details.

Jan 2010	Feb 2010	Mar 2010	Area	Postcode of Stables
12 th	9 th	9 th	Darwen, Tockholes, Hoddlesden	BB3,
4 th & 15 th	1 st & 19 th	1 st & 19 th	Accrington, Oswaldtwistle, Church, Huncoast	BB5
20 th	17 th	17 th	Ribble Valley West (Mellor, Clayton le Dale)	BB2
13 th	10 th	10 th	Ribble Valley East (Clitheroe, and Gisburn)	BB7
11 th & 26 th	8 th & 23 rd	8 th & 30 th	Burnley, Brierfield, Barrowford, Briercliffe,	BB9, BB10, BB11, BB12
19 th	16 th	16 th	Rawtenstall, Haslingden, Waterfoot, Rossendale	BB4
6 th	3 rd	3 rd	Great Harwood, Rishton, Clayton-le-Moors, Blackburn	BB6, BB1
22 nd	26 th	26 th	East Preston	PR3
25 th	22 nd	29 th	Ramsbottom, Edenfield, Bury and Rochdale	BL0, BL9 / 8, OL11/13



Winter Newsletter

We wish all our clients a very

Merry Christmas



Tel 01254 888600

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

You can now arrange a visit at..... www.equine-vet.co.uk

Practice News

More First Aid Courses

Our initial First Aid course was held at our surgery on Saturday 7th November and all those who attended seemed to find the course very useful. The event booked up very quickly so we have more courses planned for over winter, with some to be held at local livery yards. Thank you to all those of you who have signed up for the next available course. We will contact you as soon as dates and times are finalised.

Half Price Dental Clinics Extended

We have extended our half price dental clinics to the end of January. If you make an appointment to bring your horse to our surgery on a Wednesday morning for dental treatment, all dental work will be done at half price.

Job Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a part time receptionist and credit controller to start in January. The position will involve occasional horse handling. If you would like to know more, please contact Alison during office hours on 01254 888600.

Visiting Our Premises

We would like to remind anyone bringing horses to our surgery to report to our reception first and not unload any horses until you have done so. Please remember to bring your horse's passport (See below).

Important Information about Horse Passports

Current Horse Passport legislation states that we must check all horses' passports prior to administering any medication or vaccination.

If the passport is not available, we are forbidden from giving certain medications such as "bute" and ACP (Which are not allowed to be used in horses intended for human consumption). We are also not allowed to give a vaccination unless the passport is present so we can sign it.

Please remember to always have your horse's passport ready for us to check. If your horse is kept at livery, the passport should be left at the yard in case it is required in an emergency. The livery yard owner has a responsibility to be able to provide the passports for all horses stabled on the yard within three hours if requested by a DEFRA official. You should also bring your horse's passport to our surgery when collecting any medicines.

If you have not already signed the declaration to say your horse is "Not intended for human consumption", we strongly recommend you do so as soon as possible (Unless you do intend for your horse to enter the human food chain). If you have not updated ownership details in the passport you should send it back to the issuing authority as soon as possible to be updated. You can be prosecuted if this is not done within 30 days.

For more details of the updated passport legislation see www.direct.gov.uk/horsepassports or call the DEFRA Helpline on 0845 933 5577



More Practice News

New Dental Endoscope

It is difficult to see inside horse's mouths at the best of times and it can be almost impossible for us to show you any problems we find in your horse's mouth. To help with this, we have recently purchased a portable mini endoscope so we can show you on a handheld screen anything abnormal when we carry out dental work.

2010 Worming Programme Now Available

We have advocated "strategic worming" (using worm egg counts to monitor whether your horse needs treatment for worms) for several years now and our recommended worming programme for 2010 continues to make use of this philosophy. The worming plan is available to print off from our website or you can pick one up from our surgery



New Online Booking Service for Appointments

From January you will be able to use our website to arrange a veterinary visit for your horse. If you complete the details on our booking request form we will contact you to confirm an appointment date and time.



First Aid Kits

When was the last time you checked your horse's first aid kit to make sure everything was still in date and nothing was missing? To coincide with our First Aid courses this winter we have a practice first aid kit all contained in a handy bag for £35.

We also stock a variety of dressings, bandages, thermometers etc to top up your existing first aid kit. Please see our website for details of what should be included in any horse's first aid kit.

31st Dec Deadline for Microchipping Foals

As part of the new passport legislation, all foals must now be microchipped before they can be issued with a passport. This must be done before 31st December (or by 6 months old for foals born after 1st July). Microchipping must be done by a vet. It is no longer compulsory to fill out the foal's markings on the passport application form although we still recommend that this is done (and most breed societies still insist on it). Foals must be passported before they are sold.



If you own a foal which has not yet been passported, please contact us as soon as possible for further information.