

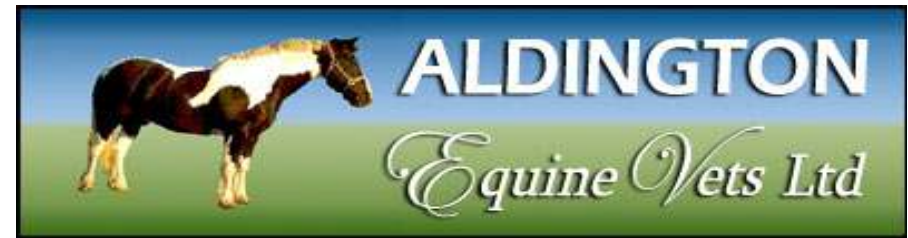
Half Price Offer on Microchipping



We have a special offer during July, August and September of microchipping at half our normal price. The cost will be £14.69 inc VAT and lifetime registration to the Identichip database.

With an apparent increase in the number of horse thefts recently, now is a good time to consider getting your horse chipped.

If you have a foal which requires registration for a passport to be issued, it is an ideal time to have them microchipped. From July 2009, legislation will require all foals to be microchipped at the time of registration.



Half Price Visit Dates Oct - Dec

Oct 2008	Nov 2008	Dec 2008	Area	Postcode of Stables
14th	11 th	19 th	Darwen, Tockholes, Hoddlesden	BB3,
1 st & 17 th	5 th & 21 st	3 rd & 19 th	Accrington, Oswaldtwistle, Church, Huncoat	BB5
22 nd	19 th	15 th	Ribble Valley West (Mellor, Clayton le Dale)	BB2
8 th	12 th	10 th	Ribble Valley East (Clitheroe, and Gisburn)	BB7
13 th & 27 th	10 th & 24 th	8 th & 22 nd	Burnley, Brierfield, Barrowford, Briercliffe,	BB9, BB10, BB11, BB12
16 th	20 th	18 th	Rawtenstall, Haslingden, Waterfoot, Rossendale	BB4
7 th	4 th	2 nd	Great Harwood, Rishton, Clayton-le-Moors, Blackburn	BB6, BB1
9th	13th	11 th	East Preston	PR3
28 th	25 th	30 th	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.

Practice News

Sarah Heathcote Returns

Sarah has now returned from maternity leave to work Mon, Wed & Fri. Sarah has a particular interest in lameness investigation and we regularly have horses attending our surgery on these days for lameness work-ups.

Training Courses

Juliette has just attended a 3 day course on "Essentials In Equine Practice" which included a wide variety of subjects such as colic and ophthalmology.

Adam recently attended a convention in Edinburgh on Strangles. We are still seeing cases of this worrying disease in our practice area so it is vital that we keep fully up to date with the latest research and advances in management and control of the infection.

New Team Member

With the immanent arrival of Emily and Dan's first baby, Emily will be leaving us for her maternity leave at the end of June. We wish them both good luck with their new arrival, and look forward to Emily's return in the New Year.

To cover for Emily whilst she is away we have been lucky enough to employ Ruth Tomlinson. Ruth will work on reception, as well as assisting our vets as our horse handler at the clinic. Ruth has many years of equine experience, and owns three horses herself. I am sure many of you will recognise Ruth from her time working at Longsight Stables near Langho.

Importation of Medicines

Over recent months we have become aware of a number of websites based outside the UK selling veterinary medicines (including wormers). In most cases, these websites appear quite legitimate, and although they may not be breaking the law in their own country by supplying medicines, it may well be illegal for the buyer to "import" them to the UK and anyone found in possession of illegally imported medicines is liable for a hefty fine or even imprisonment.

If you have any queries about the supply of medicines and the veterinary medicines regulations, see www.vmd.gov.uk or call the practice for advice.

Is Your Horse Quidding?



One common dental problem, particularly in older horses is when gaps start to develop between the molar teeth. When this happens, food gets jammed in to the gaps and the rotting food material causes gum disease and recession of the gum line around the gap. This allows more food to get jammed in and the area soon becomes painful. Eventually, the teeth become damaged and loosened and need to be extracted.

As horses are living longer and many are still being ridden to a ripe old age, we are seeing more and more of these cases. Younger horses can also be affected if they have any displaced or abnormal teeth.

Until recently, it was thought that there was no effective treatment other than removal of teeth when they became loose, but regular removal of the impacted food material has been shown to improve the problem in the long term. We have recently purchased special picks and a high pressure flushing device to treat affected horses and we have seen significant benefits in horses treated so far. General oral health is much improved with no smelly breath and the gums can start to heal. In some cases, small gaps can even close completely and the horse's weight and condition can improve considerably.

Picking and flushing of gaps needs to be carried out under sedation, initially every 2-3 months and then as required.

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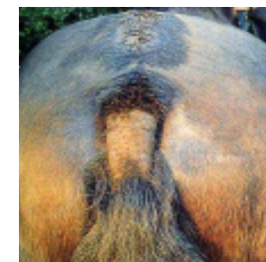
Sun Cream Specifically Designed for Horses



In late summer we see many cases of photosensitization when unpigmented (pink) skin with minimal hair cover (such as on the muzzle, lips and above the heels) becomes sunburned. In severe cases, horses become reluctant to eat because their muzzle is so sore. The best means of prevention is to use sunblock, and the ones specifically designed for horses are best because they are better absorbed in to horse's skin and therefore not rubbed off during grazing. We currently have a special offer of £4.41 on a 100g tub of Gold Label Sun Guard cream.

Control of Sweet Itch

With the sweet itch season now in full swing and the sweet itch vaccine unavailable this year, we are getting plenty of owners asking what else can be done to help their horse. David has written magazine articles on the subject, copies of which are available from our surgery. Because the environments in which horses are kept vary so much, different measures to control sweet itch will apply on different yards.



We are currently offering a visit and assessment of your horse and the environment in which he is kept so we can offer specifically tailored advice and make sure you are doing everything possible to ensure your horse's summer does not become a misery because of midges and irritation. The visit and assessment costs £70 including a written list of guidelines tailored to your horse. As well as helping your horse, you may well save money overall by not wasting money on inappropriate products