



Martholme Farm, Great Harwood, Lancashire BB6 7UJ.

Tel. 01254 888600

Spring Newsletter

Update on the New Practice



The building work on the new premises is almost completed and all our facilities will be fully operational very soon. If you have not visited the new premises yet, please call in when you are passing. Our shop stocks a wide range of wormers, supplements and first aid items at competitive prices.

We have now employed another member of staff to manage the shop and office on Saturday mornings. Katy Hayward has her own horse, Melba, and is training for a foundation degree in equine studies. Katy will be covering for Jo when she starts maternity leave (David and Jo's second baby is expected in June).

Special Offer on ID chipping

During April and May, we have a special offer on microchipping of £14 inc VAT which is less than half the normal price.

Free Dental Checks



Until the end of June, we will carry out a free dental check on your horse. The check can be carried out at the time of vaccination or any other treatment. Please book your horse's check in advance as we

are unlikely to be able to carry out free checks while "on the yard" without prior notice

Passport Regulations Now In Force

As of 1st March, you are liable to prosecution if you do not have a suitable passport for your horse. It is unlikely that anyone will be prosecuted if they have already applied for a passport but not yet received it. You are committing an offence if you buy a horse without a passport so make sure you check it before handing over the money.

Foals must have a passport by six months old or by the end of the year in which they are born.

You must have your passport available for checking at every veterinary visit

New Regulations Affecting Horse Insurance

Horse insurance came under new Financial Services Authority (FSA) regulations on 1st January. The regulations are designed to safeguard the consumer against misadvice. The new rules mean that we are not allowed to advise you on which company to use or which policy to take out and we cannot negotiate with insurance companies or fill out any of your section of a claim form on your behalf. Come along to our meeting on 30th March to find out more (Invitation enclosed)

News from the Vets

David attended a course at Glasgow University in late February on the latest techniques and developments in equine stud medicine. David is looking forward to a busy 2005 stud season and the practice will be carrying out stud work and artificial inseminations at Holden Fold Dressage and Stud in Tockholes. The stud is standing Mooiman, the only KWPN approved warmblood stallion in the UK.

Sarah has been working on advice sheets which are available free from our shop. Subjects include prevention of laminitis, treatment of mud fever, and dealing with itchy legs. Free worming programs are also available to all clients in our shop.

Sarah has recently attended a course on ultrasound scanning which will help the practice get the most from our new lightweight portable scanning unit.

Breeding from your Mare

If you are considering getting your mare in foal this year now is the time to get everything organised. After choosing a suitable stallion, you must decide between natural covering and artificial insemination. Selecting A.I means you will save on transporting costs and livery fees but there are costs associated with collecting and transporting the semen and greater veterinary involvement plus a slightly reduced conception rate compared with natural covering.

Your mare needs to be swabbed before going to stud and if she is over ten years old, has had any fertility problems in the past or you have not yet seen her in season we would advise a scan to check everything is OK before breeding.

We are fully equipped to carry out A.I and scanning for pregnancy. Please call us or call in for our free fact sheet if you would like further information.

Half Price Visit Days

Most areas with a BB postcode benefit from visits charged at £13.50 inc VAT on certain days each month. To qualify, visits must be booked at least two days in advance and be carried out during office hours.

If you are ringing to arrange a visit, ask Alison when the next half price visit is for your area.

Aldington Equine Vets Shop



Our new shop at Martholme Farm is now fully open. We stock a wide range of products including all the recommended wormers at competitive prices. Free advice sheets and 2005 worming plans are available.

This season's topical items include:

Vetguard Antibacterial & Antifungal Shampoo £6.53
Ideal for washing legs to prevent mud rash and for dealing with scabs

Keratex Mud Shield Powder £7.58

An effective barrier against mud and water without the mess of cream or ointment

Itch-Free Feed Supplement £14.58

Many horses become a bit itchy when shedding their winter coat. April is the best time to start using anti-itch supplements in horses with sweet itch (Before the midge season for maximum effect).

Louse Powder £5.03

Late winter and early spring are the prime times for louse infestation. This powder is a good preventative. If you have seen lice or eggs on your horse, ring us for advice on the best treatment.

Meeting at Mytton Fold – 30th March

We are holding our annual horse owners' evening at Mytton Fold Hotel near Langho on Wednesday 30th March at 7pm. Everyone is welcome (feel free to bring a friend) and a buffet supper is included. There are three interesting speakers who will give short talks on Strangles, Horse Insurance and Worming. An invitation is enclosed. Children are welcome. Please call Alison on 01254 888600 to let us know if you are coming so we can organise the catering.