



Martholme Farm, Great Harwood, Lancashire BB6 7UJ.

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Spring Newsletter

Practice News

New Vet

We are pleased to announce that another experienced equine vet will be joining the practice on 13th March. Melissa Murphy qualified from Liverpool Vet School in 2002 where she completed her elective in equine orthopaedics. Since then she has worked almost entirely with horses in the Greater Manchester and Lancashire area, developing keen interests in orthopaedics, cardiology and wound management. After 21 years in the saddle, Melissa swapped tack for trainers to run the London Marathon twice. She is also a keen hill walker with her dog "Elli".

Melissa will be talking on dentistry at our 2006 horse owner's meeting along with Sarah (See over for details).



New Receptionist

Our current receptionist Katy has been offered the position of receptionist at Myerscough Veterinary Group's new branch at Haslingden. She will continue with us on Saturday mornings but her weekday role will be taken over by Emily Gosman. Emily has owned horses and ridden for most of her life and is due to be married to Dan, a small animal vet, in July.

Half Price Microchipping offer extended

Our current offer on microchipping for £15 inc VAT has been extended until the end of March.

Sweet Itch Vaccine Now Available

A vaccine for sweet itch has been under trial for a few years now with promising results. For 2006, the vaccine is still under trial but more widely available. A vaccine kit is available which consists of three injections given at two week intervals followed by seven sweetened capsules given at monthly intervals. The kit costs £235. The injections must be given BEFORE the sweet itch season starts so please act immediately. Please contact us for more information or see www.sweet-itch.com

Treatment of Arthritis

A medicine which has been widely used for treatment of arthritis in dogs has now started to be used in horses with promising results. The manufacturers claim that over 80% of horses show a significant improvement within 3-4 weeks which lasts for 9-12 months. If you think your horse could benefit, please contact us for more information.

If you would prefer to receive future newsletters by e-mail, please let us know via our website www.equine-vet.co.uk

2006 Breeding Season at Holden Fold Stud



Aldington Equine Vets is now listed as an approved practice for A.I using chilled and frozen semen. David has a special interest in equine stud medicine and we are looking forward to a busy stud season at Holden Fold Stud near Tockholes. Mares can be taken for A.I with semen from stallions anywhere in the UK and Europe and we have full facilities for semen storage, handling and evaluation in the laboratory at Holden Fold.

The stud is also standing three stallions in 2006:

"Mooiman HFD" a 16.2hh chestnut graded Dutch Warmblood
 "Santana HFD", a 16.2hh black graded Oldenberg
 "Maxwells Nescafe", a 16.1hh coloured graded sporthorse

Further details of our A.I. facilities can be found at www.equine-vet.co.uk and stallion details at www.holdenfolddressage.com

Dental Reminders

Every time we examine your horse's teeth or carry out any dental work, the vet decides how long it will be before the teeth need checking again. This is entered onto our computer system so you receive a reminder when a dental check is due. Unfortunately, there are still some horse owners who take the attitude that if the horse is eating OK his teeth do not need any attention. We believe that prevention is better than cure and regular treatment can prevent problems from occurring in later life such as gum disease and loose teeth. In sending out reminders we are acting with your horse's best interests at heart.

Unlike many other vets, we do not charge for routine dental checks and we will only rasp teeth if we feel it is necessary. Most visits are booked on our half price visit days and at £12.50 + VAT for a visit and dental check we feel it makes no financial sense to neglect your horse's dental health. So if you receive a dental reminder from us, please remember that the vet has recommended a check up at that time for a reason.

2006 Horse Owners' Meeting

This year, we have teamed up with Whalley Corn Mills to arrange our biggest and best meeting yet. We are seeing an ever increasing number of horses with laminitis so our main topic this year is prevention of laminitis. Our vets Sarah Heathcote and Melissa Murphy will also be talking on modern equine dentistry and we think you may be surprised at how much dentistry has changed in the past few years.

This year's meeting will be held at the Clarion Foxfields Hotel between Langho and Billington on 23rd March. A free hot pot supper will be provided and everyone is welcome – so tell all your friends. [Invite Enclosed](#).

Half Price Visits Dates in April, May & June

April Dates	May Dates	June Dates	Area	Postcode of Stables
3 rd	8 th	5 th	Darwen, Tockholes, Hoddlesden	BB3
5 th & 21 st	3 rd & 19 th	7 th & 16 th	Accrington, Oswaldtwistle, Church, Huncoat	BB5
19 th	15 th	19 th	Ribble Valley West (Mellor, Clayton-le-Dale)	BB2
28 th	26 th	21 st	Ribble Valley East (Clitheroe and Gisburn areas)	BB7
10 th & 24 th	10 th & 22 nd	14 th & 23 rd	Burnley, Brierfield, Barrowford, Briercliffe, Cliviger, Nelson	BB9, BB10, BB11, BB12
11 th	9 th	12 th	Rawtenstall, Haslingden, Waterfoot, Rossendale, Bacup	BB4
7 th	5 th	2 nd	Great Harwood, Rishton, Clayton-le-Moors, Blackburn	BB6, BB1
12 th	12 th	9 th	East Preston	PR3

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.