



Dalehead Equine Newsletter

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January 2005

Practice News

As some of you may be aware, David Aldington left Dalehead Veterinary Group on 31st December 2004 to develop his own Practice in Great Harwood, Blackburn. David has been part of our Equine team for over 2 years and whilst focusing the majority of his work around the Blackburn area he will have attended many horses throughout the Practice. We will miss his dedication and expertise and wish him well in his new venture.

David developed the Lancashire side of our Equine practice from offices at End House Stud and these premises will remain open and be expanded to accommodate the rapid increase in horse work within the area. Michael Bradley and Florus Oskam are the equine vets routinely covering the North Lancashire area and will be very happy to discuss any ideas or requirements you may have.

The facility to collect prescriptions from End House Stud will also remain as normal.

Practice Developments

The premise at Rathmell where the majority of operations and examinations occur has recently been refurbished - this is following an increase in the number of operations and inpatients attending. This has also demanded an investment in equipment and two new ultrasound scanners and an arthroscope have been purchased. The scanners are for use in both stud work and the investigation of soft tissue injuries. The arthroscope is used for keyhole joint and tendon sheath surgery and has been particularly useful in cleaning out infected joints.

Another area of expansion has been the development of equine dentistry within the Practice. Matt Downey has attended a B.C.V.A. equine dentistry course and is equipped with all that is 'state of the art' in the dentistry world and is now very keen to advance his expertise. Mike Davis has acquired the Le Clair motorised dental equipment which takes a lot of the strain out of multiple dentals but most importantly allows a more comprehensive job on horses with poor mouth conformation. As a Practice we are doing a lot more dental work and would like feedback on how we should expand this via possible postal reminders or vaccination / dental packages.

Mike Bradley is developing quite a reputation for his A.I. work at End House Stud. This is especially so with his work with imported frozen semen. This side of the Practice continues to expand and as the quality of breeding becomes ever more important the demand for imported semen is likely to rise. The use of A.I. procedures can have limitations depending on the age and previous breeding history of the mare. If you are contemplating A.I. it would be worth discussing your mare's particulars with one of the stud vets.

Florus Oskam (our link man with Utrecht University) has developed the lameness investigation and treatment side of our work at Rathmell enormously in the last year. He is attending work experience with one of the U.K.'s top equine orthopaedic surgeons to develop this expertise further, so expect more advances in 2005. Florus is also sharing the responsibilities of equine anaesthesia with Guy Bolger to give us greater flexibility when performing operations.

I hope this gives some insight into how the Dalehead Equine side is expanding and we would like to take this opportunity to wish all our clients a happy and prosperous New Year.

P.S. We are hoping to organise a meeting about equine strangles shortly, concentrating on prevention using the recently launched Intervet vaccine.

IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

- **Electronic Banking** – why pay by cheque, when you can pay by phone with a Credit Card or directly by Internet Banking?

Many of our clients are now using Internet Banking to pay their accounts and if you would like to pay by this method our account details are:-

HSBC Settle A/c 51066188 Sort Code: 40 40 31

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU QUOTE YOUR ACCOUNT NUMBER ON THE REFERENCE

- **E-mail** communication is allowing us to keep our Clients informed on the following:

Availability of medicines

Special Offers and Promotions

Topical matters

Newsletters

If you wish to be included, please forward your e-mail address to the surgery (address is on the top of your bill) so that we can add you to our rapidly growing mailing list.