



SPRING PADDOCKS EQUINE  
VETERINARY SURGEONS

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# NEWSLETTER • SPRING 2021

## CLINIC & STAFF NEWS



We are delighted to welcome **Daniëlle Bowles MRCVS**, who joined the team in April. She graduated from Nottingham in 2019 and has been working as an intern for a large referral hospital in Gloucestershire (B&W Equine) ever since. Here she has gained valuable experience especially in the field of medicine.

**Mark Stroyd MRCVS** will also be joining us at the beginning of May.

Born on the North Yorkshire Moors, he has ridden all his life and following a degree in zoology, decided to retrain as a Veterinary Surgeon at the RVC London, from where he qualified in 2020. Since qualifying he has been working for a large equine practice in Buckinghamshire.



Katrina is sadly leaving us to pursue her interests in orthopaedic surgery, so these additions will bring the Veterinary Team back up to 4 equine vets (including John), all with excellent equine backgrounds and expertise.

The Support Staff remain pretty well unchanged – Suzie, after over 20 years at Spring Paddocks, is still running the yard, hospital and lab, assisted by Sam Austin. Sarah oversees the front office and is the voice at the end of the phone, ably assisted by Clare Blackwall and Kim Rowley who, although work part time, bring an invaluable depth of knowledge to the office

### Acupuncture

We are seeing amazing results with the use of Acupuncture in horses.

**Carys Morgan MRCVS**, who joined Spring Paddocks last May and whom most of you will have met by now, is also a trained Acupuncturist and will be able to take over any ongoing cases that Katrina has been treating. She has been working alongside Katrina for the past few months so will be fully 'up to speed' to continue this worthwhile treatment for your horse.

If you think that your horse may benefit from a course of Acupuncture, please get in touch to discuss or book an appointment.

### SPRING IS ON THE WAY

Which can only mean one thing . . . the Foaling season is upon us.

If you have a mare that is in foal, we advise that you **boost their tetanus vaccine within the last month prior to foaling** to ensure adequate transfer of antibodies to the foal, and to protect your mare should she suffer any foaling induced trauma. If your mare did not receive a booster or is unvaccinated, the newly born foal can be given an antitoxin in the first 24 hours of life.



## Equine Asthma

Now that Spring is on the way we are expecting to see a re-emergence of **Seasonal Pasture Asthma**. Whilst the equine asthma that is seen during the winter months is usually caused by dust, due to increased stabling and hay, seasonal pasture asthma is caused by an allergic response to pollens and spores.

As with all causes of equine asthma, the most important management factor is allergen avoidance! This varies from case to case, but general advice for horses who suffer with this condition is to keep them off the pasture when pollen counts are high or when there is an excess of dust in the air e.g., when crops are being harvested nearby. 'Masks' can also help to reduce inhalation of these allergens. Horses suffering from an acute attack will normally need prompt veterinary intervention to ease the symptoms.

### VACCINATIONS

With the lockdown restrictions being relaxed and Competitions starting again, we urge you to check your horses' vaccination status. Most organisations and venues are still requesting a 6 monthly flu booster vaccination. This must not be given within 7 days of the competition so it is best to be prepared with vaccinations up to date! We advise you to CHECK the current requirements with your governing body as these are changing all the time.

As a practice we will continue to remind you when vaccinations become due but we must stress that it is still your responsibility to make sure that your horse fulfils all the current requirements.

### OPEN DAY – 19<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Unfortunately, we have made the decision to cancel our **OPEN DAY** in June for the moment, but hopefully will be able to reorganise it as lockdown eases and time allows.



## Equine Herpesvirus

The news of an Equine Herpesvirus 1 outbreak in Spain is concerning for all, it should be noted that so far there have been no cases related to this outbreak in the UK, although it is prevalent over most of Europe due to the free passage of horses.

EHV1,4 can cause flu like symptoms, neurological symptoms and abortion in horses. It is spread by direct contact with nasal discharge from infected horses or indirect contact with shared buckets/equipment.

Vaccination is available for EHV1,4 **and we now have some in stock again after a nationwide shortage.**

Although this vaccination cannot eliminate the risk from EHV1,4, it reduces viral shedding, nasal discharge and the respiratory signs from the virus. At this moment in time, we are recommending that pregnant mares, youngstock and horses competing abroad are vaccinated against EHV1,4, but it is important that everyone has biosecurity measures in place to protect their horses when travelling and competing.

If you wish to know more, contact the clinic for an EHV factsheet, or look on the FEI or British Equestrian websites for their information sheets.

### Weigh in May!

**During May we are offering free weighing at all yards eligible for a free zone visit.**

How it works;

We will bring our Veterinary Weighbridge to you, on your designated Zone Day for free during the month of May.

There is no limit on the number of horses that can be weighed.

Donations are always welcome and will be given to The Air Ambulance.

Be sure to let everyone at your Yard know, so they can take advantage of this great offer.