

In the news: Who can do what in your horse's mouth?

The British Equine Veterinary Association has issued guidance to horse owners regarding who can do what when it comes to equine dentistry. Did you know that any diagnostic and treatment work **must** be carried out by a veterinary surgeon? Rasping sharp enamel points and dental overgrowths is not classed as either diagnostic or treatment and can therefore be carried out by anyone. However, there are some situations where acts of 'veterinary surgery' can be delegated to a suitably qualified equine dental technician (EDT). This includes removal of loose or fractured teeth with negligible gum attachments. Did you know a veterinary surgeon must provide direct and constant supervision whilst an EDT is removing a Wolf Tooth? Suitably qualified EDTs are those who have a "DEFRA approved" qualification – having either passed the rigorous BEVA/BVDA examination or the Worldwide Association of Equine Dentistry (WWAED) examination. No other qualifications are currently recognised by the UK authorities.



**The Barn Veterinary Practice
Equine Newsletter**

**Finished your Christmas shopping?
Forgotten the dog/cat?**

Both our surgeries now have a wonderful selection of Christmas gift ideas for your pets at very competitive prices. From doggy mince pies to advent calendars there's a little something for everyone. If your pets have really been good this year, why not treat them to something from our new 'Beco' Eco-Friendly, colourful food bowl and toy range. Pop into either surgery and have a look. If you can't find what you're looking for, ask at reception and we'll see what Santa can come up with!



@ The Barn

After a very soggy start to the Autumn/Winter season we have been busy out and about attending some very interesting cases. Winter time always seems busy, as many owners have their horses vaccinated outside of the main showing season and warm weather. A number of our vets and veterinary nurses attended The London Vet Show in late November, which is a showcase for many veterinary businesses to demonstrate their gadgetry as well as providing many hours of training on up to date treatments and procedures. Our new website has finally gone live, providing up to date information on the practice, contact details, news articles, registration forms and much more. Take a look at www.barnvets.com. Although a new email address of info@barnvets.com is listed, our equine clients are still able to use the address listed below.



Christmas Opening Times

Both surgeries will be open as normal apart from on the following days
 18th December: Close at 6pm
 24th December: Close at lunchtime
 25th December: Closed
 26th December: Closed
 29th-31st December: Close at 6pm
 1st January 2015: Closed

As always, in case of an emergency, please phone the normal practice number and you will be directed to contact our emergency service.

Please make sure you have enough medication for your horse as dispenses take 24hrs to process.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
to all our clients**



from all of us at

The Barn Veterinary Practice

**barnequine.copdock@zen.co.uk
01473 730213**

BE VIGILANT



Equine Atypical Myopathy - Sycamore Poisoning - Seasonal Pasture Myopathy

Although a previous issue has contained an article on atypical myopathy (AM), it's worth another mention as there has been a dramatic increase in the number of cases seen throughout the UK. There are reports of five times as many cases presenting at referral centres after high winds in early November. AM is reportedly caused by ingestion of sycamore seeds containing the toxin Hypoglycin-A. Not every tree contains the toxin and not every seed on an affected tree contains the toxin. Autumn/Winter time is typically the time of year when seeds are falling on pastures and normal grazing is at its poorest. Therefore, the likelihood of horses ingesting the seeds becomes higher. Symptoms to monitor for are sudden weakness, muscle tremors, symptoms of colic, dark urine and difficulty breathing. If you notice any of these signs, please call us as soon as possible. If we do suspect AM in a patient, our treatment options are limited as there is no known cure other than supportive nursing, providing pain relief and intravenous fluids (this would usually be at an equine hospital). Prognosis is better if treatment is initiated quickly, otherwise a diagnosis of AM carries a very poor prognosis. Tips to help reduce the likelihood of occurrence are:

- Supplementary feeding in the field to minimise the risk of horses being tempted to ingest seeds
- Avoid leaving wet hay on the ground where it will rot
- Fencing off affected areas
- Remove seeds where possible
- Limiting grass turnout
- Being aware that a field without sycamore trees can still contain seeds spread by high winds or flood water

COMPANION PONY FOR LOAN: MANORWOOD PENELOPE

Penny is a very pretty Welsh Section A palomino show pony, 21 years old.
 DOB: 28th April 1993.
 Sire: Friars Golden Boy 18733 / Dam: 72854 Revel Gretal
 Height: 11'2"

Penny has competed at BSPS level, had 4 foals, and has since been an excellent companion to our 14' gelding. She has also been ridden as a lead rein pony by a friend's young daughter and we have tack available for her. She is barefoot at the moment but good to shoe/box. She is occasionally prone to laminitis, but otherwise is a fit and happy pony. Penny has been much loved and therefore finding the right home for her is paramount. Penny is available on a 'permanent loan' basis.



For more information please call
 Julia Woolley
 on 07950 918864.

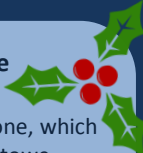
25% OFF
ANY WORMER



Until the 31st December you can still drop in a fresh faecal sample to either surgery and if your horse requires a wormer we will deduct 25% from the purchase price

Offer ends 31st December 2014. Worm egg counts are charged as normal (£9.60). One wormer per horse.

Zone Day Change



For any clients in our East zone, which includes areas such as Felixstowe, Trimley, Kirton and Bucklesham, please be aware that there will be no routine visits on Wednesday 24th December. If you would like to book in on the next East zone day we are combining the East and South zones on 7th January 2014. If this causes anybody any issues please contact reception. All other zone days will be as normal.