



# Wensum Valley Veterinary Surgeons EQUINE AND FARM

Newsletter      March 2024

## 20 year anniversary !

Unbelievably, it is 20 years since we moved to our purpose-built clinic at the Racecourse. Opened on 1st March 2004, this was a move away from our previously ambulatory only practice. For the first time, we now had equine and farm consulting rooms, operating theatre, lameness work up area and stables.



There have been a host of changes since then of course. Not least continual investment in equipment to keep us up to date. When we first moved in we still had a dark room for developing X-Rays. There was an automatic processor but we were using film taking around 2 1/2 minutes per image. The digital system we have now is wireless and images appear on screen in 2 seconds !! Similarly, our ultrasound machines were bulky and heavy. The farm reproduction scanner was just about portable. Now our scanners are the size of laptops and the images are incredibly detailed. The repro scanner is sending the images to goggles (like a head-up display) or our phones ! It is a different world. Our endoscopes are now video scopes and we have added Shockwave and Laser therapy.



Scanning cows



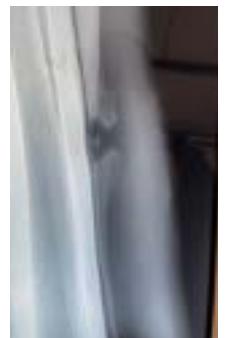
This is what we see around 33 days in calf



After a successful caesarian at the clinic



K-Laser therapy - a recent addition



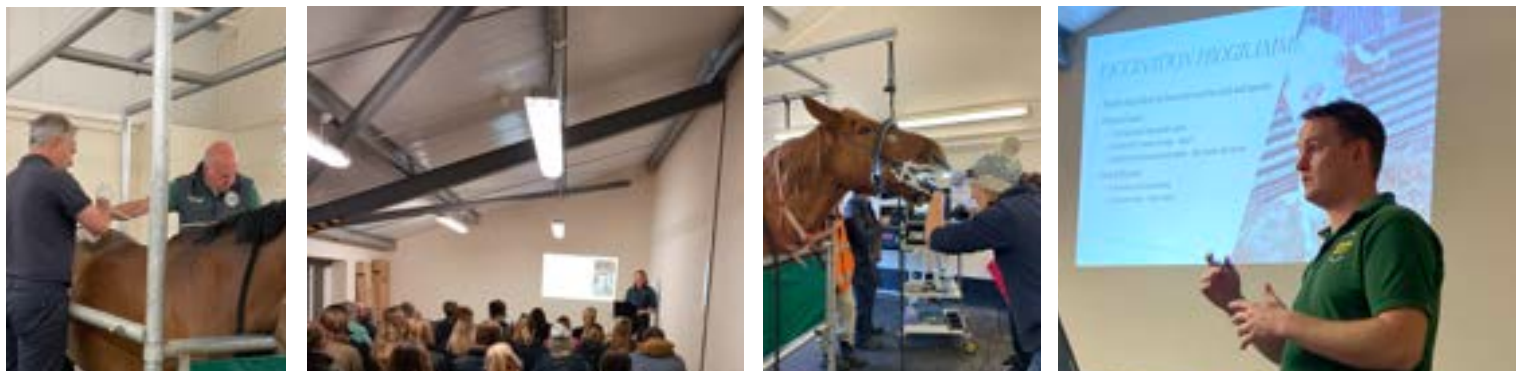
X-Ray of fractured splint



Some days we just need to utilise vast amounts of kit - here you can see X-Ray, Dental gear, Video Endoscopy and Ultrasound

Without doubt the investment in the building has brought about significant improvements to the service we can now offer. Having been vets in both "worlds" it is fair to say that Dave and Toby (having started that way over 30 years ago) would not go back to purely ambulatory practice. We still travel to our patients, but the more involved surgeries and diagnostic investigations are generally carried out in the clinic. This is safer for the handlers, the vets and indeed the animal. We now perform a reasonable amount of surgery standing under sedation rather than fully anaesthetised. Our stocks aid with this tremendously, just giving that enhanced control when we are performing technical procedures.

The farm room is used, amongst other things, for ruminant surgeries. It just gives us a thoroughly clean environment and we usually have a team on hand to assist us.



**OUR TEAM .....** The clinic and the equipment are nothing if we do not have the right team of people in the building. We believe that we have spent the last 20 years, not only expanding the range of procedures we can perform, but also ensuring we have a dedicated, friendly and professional team. That starts on the phone or face to face in reception and the admin and tech staff are exceptional. Jay, Becky, Liz and Sarah look after our clients, our patients and, of course, the vets (who are fairly needy!). We have Dave, Toby, Tim and Lauren on the vet team and are currently interviewing for vet number 5. All of us love what we do and have diverse and varied interests but are united in our efforts to look after our clients as much as we can.

Above all we all really appreciate the client support we have had over so many years. It is genuinely humbling.

contact the practice on 01328 864444

check out our website : [wensumvalleyvets.co.uk](http://wensumvalleyvets.co.uk)

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