

# Wright & Morten Equine Newsletter



www.wmvets.co.uk

March 2020



## Client evening – Repro

This will now take place on **Wednesday 18th March** at the clinic at Somerford Park. As a reminder we will be covering the whole repro cycle from selecting a stallion, examinations and scans involved before and during pregnancy, the insemination procedure, through to the birth of the foal and early care.

**This will start at 7pm at the clinic. Please call the clinic on 01260 280800 to book your place**

## Blood and labs process

We thought it would be interesting for you to know the process that has to take place when we take bloods from your horse / pony to send off to the labs, and hopefully help to explain why it can sometimes seem to take a long time.



- Firstly the blood is taken by the vet. This can be done on a zone visit
- Once the blood has been taken, this is then labelled up and sent off to the appropriate lab who then process this. This normally takes between 3 and 5 days, depending on what tests need to be run.
- The lab then e-mails us the results. As soon as the results are received these are put on the horse's account and e-mailed / diarised for the case vet to contact you to discuss the results
- In some cases certain labs only run specific tests 1/2 times weekly so in these cases we may have to wait a little longer to receive the results



## Lou P 25 years

Lou Pailor, Operations Manager at the clinic, celebrated her 25th work anniversary at Wright and Morten in January! Many of you will know Lou from your visits to the clinic. Congratulations Lou, you certainly are part of the furniture here!

Lou joined Wright and Morten as a Trainee in 1995, qualified as a Small Animal Nurse in 97, then Equine Nurse in 2000, and held the role of Head Nurse and is now Operations Manager. Lou is also a Bandaging Angel, and teaches Gold Standard Wound Management. Lou is also an RAMA so can prescribe and advise on worming.

*Congratulations Lou!*

## Our Poor Performance Clinic is Back!

Have you struggled to get your horse ready for the coming season? For the entire month of March we are running our PERFORMANCE CLINIC!

All of these signs of poor performance may be an indicator of an underlying medical problem:

- Reduced stamina
- Delayed recovery time
- Tripping
- Stopping at fences
- Muscle loss and loss of topline
- Excessive sweating
- Poor posture
- Contact problems
- Changes in behaviour

This special offer includes \*full clinical exam including cardiac auscultation pre and post exercise\*, \*full gait analysis\*, \*gastroscopic examination\*, \*dental examination\* and \*weigh in and body condition consultation\*

### ALL THIS FOR JUST £240!

Foot balance plays a huge part in posture and performance and as such we are offering a foot balance supplement you can choose as an add on. For an extra \*\*\*£180\*\*\* you will get a full foot balance series of 8 x-rays including interpretation and discussion with your farrier.

THIS OFFER IS ONLY AVAILABLE IN MARCH, however you may purchase the offer as a voucher (with or without the foot balance supplement) before the end of March 2020 and be able to use it any time between now and the end of October 2020!



**It only takes something minor to lead to something major**

**Call us on 01260 280800 to book on or ask any questions!**

## Join Our Long-Term Medication Scheme...

We know there's a number of our patients who need a little bit of extra help. This might be our veteran horses and ponies with arthritis, making them stiff or lame. Or our patients with Cushing's disease - which can lead to ongoing issues with laminitis or excessive drinking. We are aware that there are a large number of medical conditions which would mean your equine companion requires long-term medication, maybe even for the rest of their lives. We think it's really key that these horses are kept as healthy as possible for as long as possible, and to this end we would like you to sign them up to our **long-term medication scheme**.

Behind the scenes, to fulfil our requirements to the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, we can only prescribe certain medicines to **animals under our care**. This requires that the horse or pony has been seen recently enough so that we have a personal knowledge of the condition and the horse's current health. To keep within these guidelines, we are asking that every patient we prescribe long term medication to has been seen **within the last six months**. We are happy to examine these horses on the zone, and as part of your yearly booster appointment - so we know that we can both keep updated on our patients' condition, and satisfy our legal requirements. We would also plan to take follow up blood samples for Cushing's disease at that appointment, so that we know that your horse is on the correct level of medication.

If you would like to join the scheme please let us know the next time you call reception. Once your horse or pony is a member of the scheme, we will be able to provide you with medication as long as we have seen them within the last six months. If not, we would arrange a visit for one of our vets to check your horse at a suitable time and date.

We're delighted to say that we have managed to renegotiate the price of both Danilon and Prascend for horses who are signed onto our long-term medication scheme. This means there will be a price reduction for clients purchasing these products from us. Next time you call us to re-order your prescription we will happily go through the new pricing with you.

Don't forget there are situations where you can also get a complimentary diagnostic test (lab fees only) if your horse has not previously been diagnosed with Cushings, plus annual monitoring tests.

**To find out more visit [Careaboutcushings.co.uk](http://Careaboutcushings.co.uk) and register.**

## Round Table – Weight Loss

In January, Lucy, our vet, was invited to attend a round table conference of a small number of equine specialists from across the country to discuss weight loss in our patients. This was to cover not only ways to improve weight loss but about veterinary surgeons understanding and approach to weight loss cases. They have written an article to be published in The Vet Times, and produced appendices detailing how long to soak hay, use of grazing muzzles etc

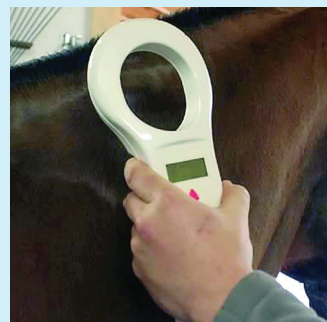
As well as having an up to date approach to weight loss cases and management it has given us the base for a Pre-Spring client evening and Weight Management Clinic in April. Exciting information about all of this will follow soon in the newsletter and on facebook!

**Here is one of our success stories – Cracker started at 575kg, and is down to 270kg now!**



## Microchipping compulsory by October 2020

You may not be aware but, from October 2020, regardless of their age, it will be compulsory for all horse owners to microchip their horses, ponies and donkeys. The new law has been introduced to crack down on abuse and improve animal welfare.



If by October 2020 horse owners have not microchipped their horses, ponies and donkeys, they could face sanctions from their local authority including a compliance notice and a fine of up to £200.

If your horse, pony or donkey is not yet microchipped, we strongly advise you get this done soon. Why not combine it with a routine visit, maybe your vaccinations are due? Don't forget this is something we can do on a zone day. Just call the office on 01260 280800 to book a visit

**The cost of a microchip is £25.**



### EQUINE CLINIC

Somerford Park, Holmes Chapel Road, Somerford, Cheshire, CW12 4SW

Tel: 01260 280800 Email: [somerford@wmvets.co.uk](mailto:somerford@wmvets.co.uk)

 Like us on Facebook for up-to-date news and the latest events! Search 'Wright & Morten Equine Clinic.'