

The George Veterinary Group Equine Clinic

STAFF NEWS....

GOODBYE..

We had to say goodbye and good luck to Bethan Cook who left us at the end of last month. Bethan was always intending to leave this autumn but unfortunately suffered a knee injury which has seen her off work since early September. No one's horse was responsible for the injury I hasten to add—incurred whilst dog walking!

Bethan has been at The George Equine Clinic for almost five years and many of you have got to know her well in this time and appreciated her care and compassion as well as her excellent veterinary skills. Beth is return-

ing to live in Wales and we wish her well both in the long term and that she comes sound soon!

HELLO...

Joining us in December is Andy Richardson. Andy is an experienced equine vet who is moving from Three Counties Equine Hospital in Tewkesbury to become part of The George Equine Clinic.



WWW.ZLCARTOONDRAWINGS.COM

We are looking forward to his arrival and I know he will be a great addition to our team.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Staff News
- New Premises
- 2010 Calendar
- New Products
- Winter Care
- Client Evening

NEW PREMISES...

As of this month, Belmont Equine Clinic in Pewsey has become allied with The George Equine Clinic.

Our premises just outside Pewsey itself will be available for clients in that area who need to collect medicines or drop off passports and paperwork for us.

Belmont House Vets is a long established practice in the area and the addition of a dedicated purely equine team will

be a great asset.

Both The George and Belmont Equine Clinics are well equipped veterinary practices staffed by skilled caring and compassionate vets.

Extending our work from our Malmesbury base through to our Pewsey base will give us the opportunity to care for more horses in the Wiltshire area.

GRASS SICKNESS CALENDAR

The Equine Grass Sickness Fund 2010 calendar has been printed using paintings by Mr Tom La Fontaine.

Mr La Fontaine was a well known artist who lived in Malmesbury and this calendar displays some beautiful paintings many of which are local.

The Equine Grass Sickness fund is a worthwhile charity so if you're looking for a 2010 calendar do consider a look at their website for further details.

www.grasssickness.org.uk



A severe case of grass-sickness

MUD FEVER

This perennial problem will no doubt be with us again this winter. If your horse has access to turnout, then there is no one sure fire way of avoiding mud fever.

Some horses such as hunters in particular can suffer from mud fever just through their working environment even if they are not turned out. Mud fever is fundamentally an environmental problem. If your horse does develop mud fever, you do need to consider changing the environmental conditions surrounding your horse to both aid treatment and help avoid recurrence.

The obvious change is to keep your horse out of the mud and wet. Consider exercising on the roads and turnout only on hard-standing.

When stabled, have part of the stable free of bedding to improve air circulation around your horse's lower limbs.

If you wash off your horse's legs after exercise or post turnout, then ensure you pat dry the legs gently and use disposable towels ideally. It may not be very environmentally friendly but it is a lot better for your horse's skin than a well used towel!

Our mud fever lotion is very effective at helping treat affected horses in conjunction with the necessary management changes.



CLIENT EVENING

To celebrate our extension to Pewsey and opening of Belmont House Equine Clinic, we are holding a welcome evening at the surgery in Pewsey on **Wednesday 25th November 2009 at 7.30pm**.

Please do let anyone you think may be interested know. All are welcome to attend. As well as a hopefully informative talk we will have some practical demonstrations and equipment on display.

To reserve a place, please call 01666 826456.

Belmont House Equine Clinic
Salisbury Road Business Park
Salisbury Road
Pewsey
Wiltshire
SN9 5PZ

TYING-UP

With the reduced daylight hours it can be increasingly difficult to maintain your horse's normal work load especially for working riders.

Do beware of the increased risk of Azoturia (tying-up) especially if your horse is receiving significant amounts of cereal based feeds.

Be honest with yourself about how much work your horse is doing and the

old adage of "feed behind the work" remains as true as ever.

Using fibre and oil as energy sources can be very beneficial for some horses both in terms of their fitness and behaviour.

We don't yet know quite what weather conditions this winter will bring!

BODY BUILDING!

You may have seen advertised in the press recently a relatively new supplement called Equitop Myoplast.

This product has been available abroad and widely used for some time.



It is a simple but effective aid to building lean muscle tissue and is particularly appropriate for horses coming back into work after a lay-off, for older horses starting to lose muscle mass and for performance horses requiring optimal muscle function.

As with any supplement, for best results its use needs to be coupled with the correct work.

Myoplast is not intended for long term use but just for a couple of months to help build up the muscle.

After this, correct exercise and training will maintain this level of muscle.

For more information, do give one of us a call or have a look at www.equitop-myoplast.co.uk. There is currently a £15.00 off voucher available too. Full details are on the website.