

Equine News: December 2023



Postponed Equine Open Evening

NEW DATE

10th January 2024 7pm Hexham Auction Mart

Talks on infectious respiratory disease, the management of equine asthma and respiratory disease as a cause of poor performance.

Refreshments provided.

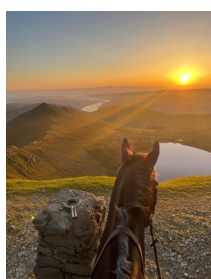
Raffle in aid of the Great North Air Ambulance

Free to attend and all welcome but please reserve your place: equine@smvc.co.uk or 01434 608999

Supported by MSD Animal Health

Thomas is on top form!

We were delighted to receive these wonderful photographs of client Becky riding Thomas to the summit of Helvellyn in time for sunrise (luckily achieved before all the snow, ice and rain!)



The pictures are stunning and what an amazing experience for them both. What's even more impressive is that Thomas is a 25-year-old ex-racehorse. Thomas has been on our preventative health plans for many years and his owner, Becky, works hard with the team at SMVC to keep Thomas fit, healthy and happy. Well done to them both!

Equine Health plans– your questions answered

How could a health plan benefit my horse?

A health plan gives a comprehensive picture of the health of your horse. This can provide an early warning of any issues so that action can be taken to keep them sound, fit and healthy.

Will I save money by taking part in the scheme?

Yes, our health plan is excellent value with savings of over £130 compared to the price of all the component services.

Why do you offer health plans only at certain times of year?

The health plans are offered in the winter months when we have more vet time available and to best suit riding horses prior to Spring/Summer.

My yard has a worming plan and I need to stick to it, can I still join?

Yes worm counts can be taken any time to fit in with your yard.

Pre-Season Health Plan Offer

January & February

For £160 (inc VAT), the Pre-Season Health Plan includes:

- Full examination incorporating lameness and medical review
- Gold standard dental examination and treatment including sedation
- Full blood profile including liver/kidney function
- 3 free worm egg counts and worming reminders
- 10% off vaccinations
- 1 free zone visit



That's a saving of over £130!

Offer open to horses and ponies of all ages. Enrolment onto this scheme is open throughout January and February; treatment under the terms of the scheme, i.e. full examination, dental examination and treatment, and full blood profile, must take place in January and February, with the exception of vaccinations. Annual membership fee or renewal must be paid in full prior to the visit.

A bit of Christmas Fun (sing to the tune of Jingle Bells)

Jingle 'Not Well'

Riding through the snow
Been stuck inside for days
O'er the fields we go
Bucking all the way
Couldn't see that hole
Everything looked white
It isn't fun to ride and cry
"I think he's lame front right"



O Scott Mitchell, Scott Mitchell
Vet is on the way
Oh how good it is to know
We're just a call away, Yeh!
Scott Mitchell, Scott Mitchell
Vet is on the way
We're always there to help you
Even on Christmas Day!

Look out for the equine team performance of this on social media!

Zone Visits December and January

Zone 1 (NE44, NE46-47, NE49 & DH8) - Mon 4th Dec, Mon 8th Jan

Zone 2 (NE19, NE45 & NE48) - Wed 6th Dec, Mon 15th Jan

Zone 3 (NE1-7, NE12-15, NE18, NE20, NE22-30 & NE61) - usually Sally - Thurs 7th Dec, Thurs 4th Jan
usually Liz/Euan Mon 11th Dec, Mon 22nd Jan

Zone 4 (NE8-11, NE16-17, NE21, NE31-43)- Wed 13th Dec, Mon 29th Jan

Zone 5 (DH2-7, DH9 & DL13-16) - Tues 11th Dec, Tues 30th Jan

Zone visits offer a reduced price visit of £20 for one owner and £10 for more than one owner at same yard for planned routine veterinary work.

Winter worming

Which worms are a problem in winter?

In the winter months, the development of small redworm larvae is temporarily halted—they "encyst" in the large intestinal gut wall. They can emerge all at once from the gut wall and cause severe diarrhoea, especially in young horses.

We advise that all horses (except those classed as very low risk) should receive a treatment of Moxidectin (Equest®) for encysted stages of small red worm (cyathostomes) once a year in December.

We would also recommend either testing or treating for tapeworm, in the winter months. If your horse needs treating for tapeworm too you can use the combined moxidectin/praziquantel product (Equest Pramox®).

If you are on our worming program, you will receive a reminder to collect your dose from the surgery in the next week. If you are an Old Friends or Pre-season member, this wormer is not included in your plan but you will still receive a reminder.

Comprehensive Worming Program 2024 £61

- Three worm egg counts
- "Equisal" tapeworm test
- All redworm, tapeworm and larval redworm treatment required, on the basis of risk and test results.

Christmas opening times

Saturday 23rd Dec— 9am-12pm

Sunday 24th Dec—emergencies only
Monday 25th Dec—emergencies only

Tuesday 26th Dec—emergencies only
December 27th-29th – normal surgery hours

Saturday 30th Dec —9am-12pm

Sunday 31st—emergencies only

Monday 1st Jan—emergencies only

Please note we continue to run our full 24 hour emergency service at all times over the Christmas period.

Please ensure you have sufficient medication to last over the holiday periods.

Like everyone, we like to spend some time with our families, so it may not be possible to see your chosen vet at all times during this period.

We would like to wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year.

