



# October Newsletter 2016

Abbey Equine Centre  
Happy Halloween!  
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## Surgery News

- “All good things must come to an end” and it is with great sadness we announce the retirement of our very own Rod Fisher from the end of this month. Rod has been part of Abbey Vets for over 30 years, and has now decided that the time is right to hang up his stethoscope and enjoy some well earned free time to enjoy his hobbies and personal pursuits. Rod will still pop into the clinic and we will still be using his brilliant soft tissue surgery skill whenever needed. I am sure everyone will be wishing Rod a well earned ‘Happy Retirement’, we are certainly going to miss his presence at the equine unit.
- Congratulations to Debbie Evans and Spotlights Rosebud who qualified for Horse of the Year Show at the BMHS Breed Show, good luck at HOYS!
- Congratulations to Rod and all of the Paralympic dressage team, they netted Team Gold plus 6 individual golds and 4 individual silvers at the 2016 Rio Paralympics!

## Dates for your Diary – October

30<sup>th</sup> Sept-2<sup>nd</sup> Red Dragon Endurance Ride, Bulth Wells  
5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> HOYS, NEC Birmingham  
9<sup>th</sup> Curre & Llangibby Hunt Fun Ride, Howick Farm

## Laminitis Alert

Laminitis is a disease of the foot that can vary in severity from the merest hint of lameness to a situation described as sinking, which can be fatal. As laminitis develops the attachment of the pedal bone to the hoof wall starts to fail, leaving the pedal bone to rotate and point towards the sole and in the worse cases to sink through the sole.

Recognised Risk Factors:

- excessive intake of sugar and starch i.e. eating rich grass/too much cereal
- hormonal e.g. Cushings or E.M.S
- obesity
- stress
- traumatic i.e. repeated physical trauma
- toxins – released during certain illnesses i.e. retained placenta.

By avoiding or preventing the above recognised factors and making simple lifestyle changes can help prevent a laminitis attack.

Here at the clinic we are offering FREE (for horses that have never been tested or that came back inconclusive previously) ACTH blood tests in conjunction with Boehringer Ingleheim and Liphook Labs to test your horse for Cushings (PPID). This offer will only run until 31<sup>st</sup> October, give us a call at the surgery to book your appointment or discuss any concerns 01873 840069.

## Clipping and Fireworks

Yes, it's getting close to that time of year again – clipping and fireworks! We receive a lot of requests for paste sedatives for horses and legally we can only supply these as a prescription medicine. To do this we must have examined your horse within the last 6 months. The sedative in the paste can have serious side effects in horses with heart trouble, stallions, pregnant mares and the aged. It is therefore in the best interest of our horses that they are examined before administering any sedative. However the sedative paste has a limited effect and as an alternative we can offer more effective sedation by intravenous injection, which would need to be carried out by the vet. Feel free to ring or pop in to organise an appointment/visit to get one of our vets to give your horse a check over and pick up your sedative then.

## Pet Plan Veterinary Awards 2017

This year, again, sees this very popular awards ceremony sponsored by Pet Plan Insurance. So, if you think our practice or an individual member of our team deserves recognition for their exceptional work, then why not pick up a form and nominate, or nominate online at [www.petplan.co.uk/vetawards](http://www.petplan.co.uk/vetawards)

The award categories:

- Practice of the Year
- Vet of the Year
- Vet Nurse of the Year
- Practice Manager of the Year
- Support Staff of the Year

## Wormer of the Month – Equitape/Equest Pramox

Its Anoplocephala perfoliata time! That's tapeworm time to you and me! At this time of year we should consider changing our worming regime to include a preparation that covers this threat. Here at the surgery we can offer helpful advice with regular discounted offers, so please give us a call to discuss any requirements. The new Equest Pramox syringes now treat horses up to 700kg. 'Zoetis', the company that makes the wormer, have developed the new size syringe in response to owners' calls to cover the larger horse. New price £21.00.

## Calendar Competition:

We are again running this successful competition and asking clients to send in some new photographs of everything equine. The thirteen best photos will be included in the Abbey Equine Clinic Calendar 2017 which will be on sale from December, with a donation from each one purchased going to SWHP. Please send high quality images to [equine@abbeyvets.co.uk](mailto:equine@abbeyvets.co.uk).