

Not All Horse Play. The equine team see a range of larger animals' not just horses. See below for one of our stories.

VACCINATION Data: Looking at changes and different options for vaccinations.

The Great British Vet Trek. One of our own vets/directors embarked on an epic challenge.



SEADOWN
VETERINARY SERVICES

NEWSLETTER

Delivering first-class veterinary care to the New Forest since 1923

SEPTEMBER 2022

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!!

WEDNESDAY 2ND NOVEMBER

CLIENT EVENING

LOCATION

Lyndhurst Community Centre

7.30pm start – please arrive between 7pm-7.20pm.

Catering provided by Hell's Kitchen.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Management of the older equine.

With Francesca Nossell
MRCVS/ BVSc

Regenerative therapies in the treatment of lameness – what are they and are they worth it?

With Karolina Kalka
MRCVS/ DVM

Fee - £3pp

To book your place email –
equine@seadownvets.co.uk

Or

Call – 02380 842237



IT'S NOT ALL HORSE PLAY

THE GREAT BRITISH VET TREK.

May – July 2022
Seadown director and small animal ophthalmologist vet Kate McMorris embarked on an epic journey from John O'Groats to Lands' end, a journey of about 1300 miles with most of it off road on bridle paths and tracks. Her companion for this trip was her quarter horse Marylyn. The trip was in support of 2 amazing charities
1- Vet life
2- Pets as therapy and to fulfill an ambitious urge to explore the beauty of our countryside. To find out more about Kate, Marylyn and the charities being supported follow the links below:

Facebook:
[@gbvettrek](#)

Website:
www.vettrek.uk

Our large animal team are based at our animal hospital in Hythe, the practice offers a range of small holder services and we treat all small holder livestock from alpacas and pigs, to poultry and game birds, reindeer and lamas just to name a few!

The story of Carter Richards the Alpaca

On 30th June 2021 we received an out of hours call from Mrs. Richardson to say Carter, one of her pet Alpaca was non weight bearing on his right foreleg and he was in distress.

Our duty large animal vet went out to see Carter and diagnosed a Closed metacarpal fracture in the right fore leg.

Carter was made comfortable for the night and we returned the next morning to get some images of the leg. The initial prognosis was not great. The vet had to advise Mrs. Richardson that it was a severe fracture and if the blood flow was compromised then prognosis was poor.

Obviously this was devastating news and discussions were had. It was decided to go ahead and treat the broken leg and see what Carter could manage, this meant close monitoring for pain and discomfort at each stage. A Fiberglass cast was applied to the right foreleg to support the beak and allow Carter to stand with the foot left out of cast to increase blood flow and give best circulation. Over the next 2 months and many cast changes the leg started to slowly heal. It was exciting and nerve wrecking at the same time as these large/heavy animals rarely cope with broken bones due to the weight bearing load they have to carry. Carter however was stoic and strong willed, he was amazing through the whole thing. Finally on 14th October 2021 Carter has the cast off. The final x-rays looked great and the bone had healed well. Three weeks later we called Mrs. Richardson for an update and it was the best news. Carter had no noticeable limp and was moving well, although still in a restricted area this could slowly be increased to give him more room to move about. Carter continues to recover well and is now back to a normal lifestyle.

1st Xray shows broken leg, 2nd shows partial repair half way through recovery period. The 3rd image shows Carter at the final stages of recovery, fully weight bearing. (Images with owners' approval).



VACCINATION INFORMATION

IN JANUARY 2022 THE REGULATIONS FROM SEVERAL EQUESTRIAN BODIES CHANGED THE VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR RACING/COMPETING HORSES. THE INFORMATION BELOW FOLLOWS THE CURRENT CHANGES.

IT IS ALWAYS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE OWNER TO MAKE SURE THEIR HORSE IS VACCINATED WITHIN THE GUIDELINES TO WHICH THEY ARE COMPETING.

IF YOUR HORSE IS RIDDEN FOR LEISURE AND NOT COMPETITIVELY THEN THE BOOSTER IS STILL ANNUALLY NOT 6 MONTHLY.

Tetanus: All horses and donkeys should be vaccinated against tetanus. Tetanus is usually a fatal condition in the horse. Tetanus is caused by production of endotoxins by the bacteria, *Clostridium tetani*. The spores of these bacteria are commonly found in the soil and may be present in horses' faeces and may enter the tissues via wounds. Deep puncture wounds are particularly dangerous as they provide an ideal site for infection as the bacteria thrive in anaerobic (low oxygen) environments. Effective immunity against tetanus requires a primary course of two vaccinations given 4-6 weeks apart, followed by a booster 12 months later. Thereafter subsequent vaccinations can be given at 2 yearly intervals. Foals will receive antibodies from their mother's colostrum and milk that will protect them for the first few weeks of life. Many foals are given tetanus anti-toxin shortly after birth as extra protection. Primary vaccinations are usually started in a horse over the age of 5 months but tetanus vaccination may be recommended in younger animals in some cases. Tetanus vaccination is often given as a combination vaccine with equine flu.

VACCINATION SCHEDULE

Your horse's vaccination schedule will look something like this...

First Vaccination: Day 0 (Flu/Tet)

Second Vaccination: 21 – 60 days after 1st vaccination (Flu/Tet)

First Booster: 120-180 days after second vaccination of the primary course. (Flu/Tet)

Subsequent boosters: Minimum within one year of previous booster vaccination

Subsequent boosters if competing: Within six months + 21 days (and not within seven clear days) of before arrival at a competition.

Influenza: Influenza is a viral infection which most commonly affects young horses. The virus affects the respiratory system resulting in a high fever, runny nose and coughing. Though rarely fatal, it can be a very debilitating disease. A number of disease outbreaks have occurred amongst unvaccinated animals in UK over the last few years.

To provide effective immunity against influenza your horse should be given an initial primary course of 3 vaccinations. Following the first vaccination the second needs to be given 21 to 60 days later. The third vaccination needs to be given 120 to 180 days after the second and then booster vaccinations given annually, within 365 days. The primary course may be started any time after your horse is 5 months old.

Equine Herpes Virus (EHV). There are 5 types of Equine Herpes virus but EHV 1 and EHV 4 are the most clinically important and they are the only types which can be vaccinated against. EHV 1 and 4 can cause a flu-like respiratory infection in horses but may also cause abortion in pregnant mares and severe neurological disease. To provide effective immunity against respiratory and neurological disease caused by EHV 1 and EHV- 4 a primary course of 2 vaccinations should be given followed by a booster vaccination every 6 months. 1st vaccination: Can be given to any horse over the age of 5 months. 2nd vaccination: To be given 4-6 weeks after the 1st vaccination. 6 month booster: To be given within 6 calendar months of the 2nd vaccination. To provide effective immunity against abortion caused by EHV 1 and EHV-4 a course of three vaccinations should be given to a mare during her 5th, 7th and 9th months of pregnancy.

Staff spotlight

We have seen a few staff changes since the last newsletter

Hannah Blackburn and Hannah Buteux have both become mums again and have decided not to return to us after their maternity leave. We wish them well.

Sarah Chalke one of our equine nurses has moved further away and can no longer make the commute, she has moved closer to home. Good Luck Sarah.

Breda McDonagh – Equine vet, has been working here at Seadown on a fixed term basis, she has now become a permanent vet of our equine team.

▪ Francesca Nossell – (Chessie) has joined us from New Zealand. She has an interest dentistry and equine medicine.

Alex Tooley – Alex joined our team in August 2022, he is newly qualified from Surrey University and is currently working alongside the team. I am sure you will meet him soon.



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Find us on 

We hope you enjoy our newsletter and find the information helpful; however it should not be used as an alternative to professional veterinary care. If you have any concerns regarding your pets' health please contact your surgery.