



Newsletter

The Arundel Equine Hospital

Autumn 2012



Olympic Games Makers

Rob and Ed were lucky enough to be selected as part of the veterinary team for the 2012 London Olympics. Rob was on the 'Wind in the Willows' fence, which was the first water complex for the cross country phase of the three day event and Ed was based in the Olympic veterinary hospital.

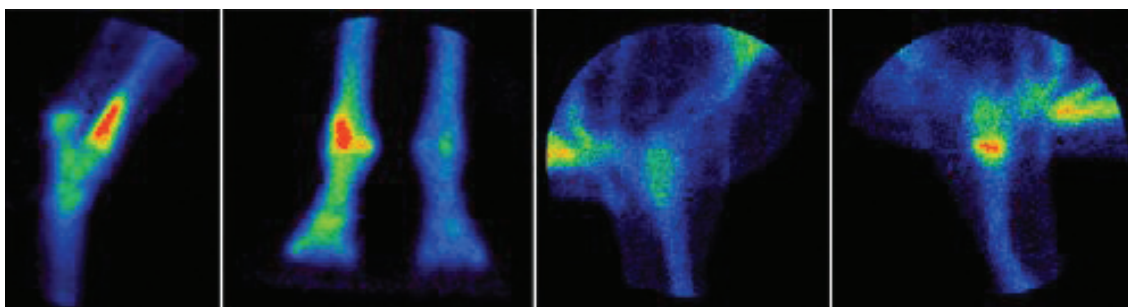
Prior to the competition both Rob and Ed had to attend 5 training days where they were prepared for all eventualities. Thankfully this wasn't needed as the event went off without incident.

The Arundel Equine Hospital would like to congratulate the most successful ever GB Equestrian team. We are particularly fond and proud of the silver medal Tina Cook and Miners Frolic (Henry) achieved.



New Scintigraphy Camera Installed

Nuclear scintigraphy, otherwise known as bone scanning, is an extremely useful diagnostic modality, particularly in lameness and poor performance cases. The theory behind bone scanning is that when bone is damaged, the body repairs this area by increasing bone turnover; this is known as bone 'remodelling'. We can assess bone 'remodelling' by injecting the horse with a radioactive marker and then measuring its activity in the bone using a special gamma camera. Areas of increased radioactivity, known as 'hot spots' are found at sites of bone injury. Installation of this new camera will allow us to continue to obtain the highest quality images of your horse.



Directors

Ed Lyall
Rob van Pelt
Matt Waterhouse

North Assistants

Paula Broadhurst
Simon Staempfli
Stuart Wallis
Charlie Pinkham
Sarah Allen
Helen Webster

South Assistants

Pauline Williams
Suzanne Duncan
Andrew Auld
Andy Crawford
Camilla Strang

Intern

Gemma Kirk

Administrative Staff

Lisa Marter (Practice Manager)
Sally Malone
Amy Froggatt
Emma Gadd
Sarah Rogers
Nicola Jones

Reception Staff

Carol Hill
Louise Massie
Theresa Clarke
Tanya Bricker

Clinic Staff

Rachel Short
Daisy Tipping
John Cole
Chloe Norgate

Veterinary Nurses

Jill Barrieff (Head Nurse)
Alanna Harper
Ellie Stopforth
Elaine Nihill
Tilly Gower

Mobile Diagnostic Assistants

Tammy Simpson
Becky Timlick

Laboratory Staff

Carolynn Martin (Manager)
Alison Sandiford
Jean Pittcock
Mary Garland
Mary Goldsack
Elaine Hilder



Caring for and about horses



Hospitalisation – From Admittance to Discharge

There are numerous reasons why your horse may need to visit the hospital; be it a planned stay or for emergency treatment. This article aims to explain the process, so as to make it a familiar and less daunting experience.



What to bring:

- ✓ **Passport.**
- ✓ **Insurance form - Completed and signed if it has not already been given into the practice.**
- ✓ **Tack - If your horse has a lameness that is only seen when ridden.**
- ✗ **There is no need to bring your horse's feed as we stock a wide variety of quality feed and hay. The nurse will ask about your horse's requirements at admission.**
- ✗ **We also provide head collars and rugs.**

Admittance:

On arrival, please report to reception to book in, after which a nurse will admit your horse into the stable block. A vet will then speak to you, taking a history and advising you of an action plan for diagnostics and treatment. There will be plenty of time for you to ask questions and an estimate of cost and length of stay can be provided if requested.

During the Stay:

Whilst in the hospital, your horse will be under the care of the clinic vets (Andy and Gemma) and the nursing team. You will receive regular, at least daily, updates on your horse's condition and if there are any urgent problems you would be contacted immediately.

We understand that you may wish to visit your horse during its stay. Our visiting hours are 2 – 4pm and 5.30 – 7pm. Please phone reception beforehand to let them know you are coming and report in to reception on arrival. During your visit someone will be able to update you on your horse's progress.

Discharge:

When your horse is sufficiently recovered and able to go home, you will be contacted to arrange discharge. You will be given a full set of instructions guiding you through any medications to be given and follow up veterinary treatment needed. There will also be some more general advice on diet, exercise and problems to look out for. If at any point you are concerned about your horse, please don't hesitate to call.





TALK ABOUT Laminitis

'Talk About Laminitis' is a national initiative provided by Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, to improve awareness and understanding of the underlying endocrine causes of laminitis.

Recent studies have suggested that 9 out of 10 horses and ponies with laminitis have an underlying hormone or 'endocrine' disorder of which Equine Cushing's disease (PPID) and Equine Metabolic Syndrome (EMS) are the most common.

Horses which are suffering from Cushing's disease can show a variety of clinical signs including:

1. Development of an abnormal hair coat
2. Abnormal fat distribution – including abnormal fat bulging above the eyes ('supraorbital fat')
3. Excessive sweating
4. Increased appetite
5. Increased drinking and urination
6. Lethargy/poor performance
7. Repeated episodes of laminitis
8. Recurring infections (e.g. sinusitis and skin infections)
9. Loss of muscle condition and/or a pot bellied appearance



These are all the result of abnormally high levels of certain hormones, which are produced by the pituitary gland, circulating around the body.

Equine Metabolic Syndrome is a different hormonal disease that causes horses to be insulin resistant. Insulin helps the body to enhance the uptake of glucose from the bloodstream into cells, so helps to regulate blood sugar levels. Ponies with EMS do not respond to insulin as they should so glucose remains in the bloodstream, making these horses and ponies more prone to laminitis.

Both Cushing's disease and EMS can be diagnosed by blood testing, and effective treatments are available. Boehringer are currently offering free ACTH testing for all new cases of suspected Cushing's disease. This offer is available until 30th November 2012. To take advantage of this deal visit www.talkaboutlaminitis.co.uk to print off a voucher. The website features a great deal of information on laminitis and its causes. If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the practice as we are able to claim vouchers on your behalf. If your horse or pony is one that does have an underlying hormonal disease, then it is essential to reach the correct diagnosis in order to be able to treat the laminitis appropriately and plan to prevent future painful episodes.

PRESCRIPTIONS

Prescriptions



Prescriptions are available from the practice at a charge of £13.12. In order for a prescription to be written, it is necessary that your horse has been examined by the prescribing vet in the previous 6 months and that section A in the passport is signed, declaring that the horse is not intended for human consumption.

Success Story

One of our staff members, Theresa, recently went through a horse owner's worst nightmare. She discovered her much loved 22 year old horse, Hostie, colicking. It was decided by the vets at the practice to bring Hostie into the hospital for surgery. Obviously with Hostie's age the prognosis did not look good. After a lengthy operation to remove some lipomas from Hostie's abdomen he set on the road to recovery. With 24hr nursing, from the team at the hospital and Theresa, Hostie made a great recovery and went home 8 days later. He has been at home for 4 months now and is back being ridden and enjoying life with his stable mate Lordy.



STAFF Announcements

Goodbye Vicki

Unfortunately we have to say a sad farewell to Vicki Bradford. Many of you will remember Vicki from her warm welcomes into the hospital. She has been a caring and enthusiastic member of the nursing team for the last 8 years, working her way through the ranks to become a qualified EVN and joint head nurse. Throughout her time here Vicki has shown a great deal of compassion for our patients and developed a particular passion for foal care. She is leaving the practice as a very valued and capable nurse to pursue a career in small animal veterinary nursing. The whole team at Arundel would like to thank her for all her hard work over the years and wish her lots of luck in her new adventure. The small and furry are very lucky to have her!!

We would also like to welcome the following new members to the team:

- In the office - Nicky and Emma • On the Yard - Chloe • In the Lab - Carolyn
- Vets on the Road - Charlie, Sarah and Helen

