

### Upgrade to Facilities at The Barn Begins...

As many of you will know we have been granted planning permission to extend our facilities at The Barn. The project will include a new operating theatre and recovery room, new examination rooms, a new scintigraphy (bone scanning) suite and dedicated area for standing surgery and dentistry. Also in the plans was a new outdoor ménage which has now been completed, with a traditional sand and rubber fibre surface built by Charles Britton. This is to be used for lameness assessments, ridden performance assessments, vettings and wind examinations.

We have also built 2 new stables which were required straight away to keep up with demand, with a further 4 stables due for building next year. Development on the main building is also likely to begin next year.

We intend to continue to develop our site towards our goal of providing the best single centre equine hospital in the West Hampshire /East Dorset area, backed up by the best diagnostic equipment for working out and about..



### New Diagnostic Equipment Purchases

In addition to the above development plans, we have also been investing in our equipment for use out on the road. This has involved 2 new items of equipment—a 'TruDR' Portable Digital X-Ray system, and a 'PICO' advanced compact ultrasound scanner.

The 'TruDR' Digital X-Ray system is a high quality fully portable x-ray system, which allows us to take literally hundreds of x-rays at a time (if required!) and to see the results immediately on screen in the stable or yard. This has already proved invaluable for a number of cases including suspected fractures and laminitis studies, and we have all been impressed by the quality of the images and the speed of processing—about 1 second!

The 'PICO' is a compact ultrasound scanner that is also highly portable. We have a clinic based ultrasound which we have always considered as very high quality and we are pleased that the new portable unit is easily a match for image quality. This means that we can obtain high quality tendon scans, abdominal ultrasound images e.g. for colic assessment all in the stable or yard.

In addition we will be purchasing a new small diagnostic support vehicle (a van!) to transport the new equipment, meaning that when required, we can telephone either in advance or at the time of a visit to 'call up' the diagnostic support when needed.



### New Veterinary Surgeons

We are delighted to welcome Nicky Brooks MRCVS to the surgery as our newest veterinary associate. Nicky qualified from the University of Cambridge and has been known to the practice firstly as a client since the age of eight, and also as a veterinary student gaining experience with us at various time through her training. Being a local member of the riding community will undoubtedly help Nicky—at least she knows where she will be going!

We are also currently interviewing for an additional (eighth) veterinary surgeon to start in April 2010 to keep up with the increasing case loads and clients of the Barn.

### **Website Improvement**

**We will soon be adding many new facilities to our website including the ability to view your account, and pay your invoices on-line 24 hours a day 7 days a week!**

**We continue to add client information pages which can all be downloaded as pdf files for easy saving and printing.**

**If you have any other suggestions about how else we may improve our web-site please contact us at:**

***[enquiries@barnequine.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@barnequine.co.uk)***

### Synequin now at improved price

Many of you will know that there are a whole host of 'joint supplements' available for use in horses, many of which are heavily advertised in the pages of the equine magazines.

At The Barn, we feel it is important to supply products we feel offer the most effective treatment at the best price. We are confident that Synequin powder contains the purest pharmaceutical grade ingredients (glucosamine, N-acetyl glucosamine hydrochloride and chondroitin sulphate) in easy to administer sachets.

The price of Synequin from us has now reduced to make it cheaper than it is available from the internet. Ask at the surgery for more details about this class leading anti-arthritis supplement.

## New Passport Regulations in Detail

The new regulations that came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2009, apply to all EU states, and include, but are not limited to mandatory microchipping, passport availability at all times, checking the passport before medical treatment, and recording all vaccinations.

**Microchipping:** Foals must now be microchipped when first being identified, within six months of birth or by 31<sup>st</sup> December in the year of their birth, whichever is later.

**Sales:** If a foal is being sold within 6 months of birth or by the 31<sup>st</sup> December in the year of its birth, a passport is not required for the purposes of the sale. The new owner will have 30 days in which to register the foal.

An older horse may not be sold either privately or at markets or auctions, or indeed moved to the premises of sale, without a passport. After a sale the vendor must give the passport to the purchaser, who then has 30 days to notify the original passport issuing organisation (PIO) of the change of ownership.

**Together at all times:** A horse must now be accompanied by a passport at all times. From 1<sup>st</sup> August it is an offence to move a horse without it. There are exceptions to this rule, e.g. if the horse is in a field, but only if the passport can be made available within three hours. The passport must also be available at the time of any veterinary treatment if the horse is being given any medication. People who keep horses for others (livery yards, horses on loan, etc) must make arrangements with every owner to ensure that each

passport is available immediately, whenever necessary, as it is an offence for a keeper of horses to have responsibility for an animal which does not have a passport.

**See the passport first:** The new regulations require that each vet checks the passport before administration, supply or prescription of veterinary medicine. It is an offence not to ask to see the passport before treating the horse. In an emergency situation in which the vet does not have access to the passport, he or she must only administer substances suitable for food producing animals. It is an offence to treat a horse with a substance unsuitable for use in food producing animals if the Section IX status is unknown. Please therefore make sure that your passport is available for inspection at all times. We would suggest that the passport should be kept at the same location as the horse.

**Record all vaccines:** The new regulations now require vets to record all vaccines given. Regardless of whether the horse is for human consumption or not, the vet will commit an offence if he or she does not record all vaccines administered, supplied or prescribed in Section V and VI of the passport.

*Further details may be obtained from [www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)*

## **Client Evenings for early 2010**

**We have a number of client evenings booked for 2010 at different locations across the practice area.**

**[Beaulieu Village Hall, Beaulieu - January 28, 2010](#)**

**Firstly we will be presenting an evening titled 'Laminitis and other lameness problems' which will focus on the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of the most common types of lameness. This will include how we diagnose and treat laminitis, other foot problems, arthritis and muscle disorders.**

**[St.Leonards Hotel - February 9, 2010](#)**

**Our second evening of the series will be our annual 'Brood Mare and Artificial Insemination' meeting. This year we are delighted to welcome Tessa Clark from the West Kington Stud as a visiting speaker who will be speaking of her experiences on the subject, and will be available for questions and discussion afterwards.**

**[The Hub, Verwood, Dorset - March 10, 2010](#)**

**For the final meeting of the series we are proud to announce that the speaker will be the highly acclaimed Professor Knottenbelt of Liverpool University. Many of you will be aware that Professor Knottenbelt has pioneered research and treatment of sarcoids in horses including the development of the now famous 'Liverpool Sarcoid Cream'. His subject will be 'Equine Sarcoids and Common Skin Diseases'. Derek is a very entertaining speaker and we are sure you will all be in for a very enjoyable and informative evening.**

**All the evenings of the series will start at 7.30pm, with a short break in the middle for refreshments.**

**The evenings are free, but we would welcome small donations on the door for Riding for the Disabled.**

**To book, please call 01202 823512, or e-mail at [enquiries@barnequine.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@barnequine.co.uk)**

## CLIENT CORNER

Success for Local Breeder!

Local breeder Joan Hood has had great success for several years with the progeny of her foundation mare Vickydora. This year she travelled to Lexington, Kentucky to see Vickydora's son Carousel Quest ridden by Ollie Townend start the season by finishing eighth in the Rolex four star. She was also at Burghley to see him win there this autumn.

Vickydora had two daughters Carnival Joy (Vicky), a graded British Sports Horse herself, and Carnival Classic (Cassie) who produced Quo Classic who is currently winning BSJA Foxhunters at county level.

Joan has worked hard to breed quality sports horses. She uses the Barn Artificial Insemination (AI) services to breed her mares to the best stallions available by chilled or frozen semen. She has a variety of foals and yearlings for sale each year (tel. mobile 07702631714). Both daughters of Vickydora (sisters of Carousel Quest) will be bred by AI during the coming season.



Oliver Townend riding 'Carousel Quest' at Burghley this year

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