



## OUR FIRST CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER...



### Dear Customer

I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your support during the changes that have taken place with veterinary practices. I trust you are happy with our service so far.

Winter has arrived with an early very cold spell. The cold weather has made farm visits uncomfortable, the only consolation being my left arm being up the warm back side of a cow more often than not! The dry cold weather has had its benefits with decreasing pneumonia, but beware of warmer, moist, and foggy weather causing an increase in pneumonia outbreaks.

Suckler cow fertility has been good considering the very dry weather we had in May and June. Some autumn calving cows have had difficult calving probably due to the increased grass growth in August and September. But overall cattle body condition has been good and forage quality good but little of it.

### Christmas Schedule

Christmas Day and Boxing Day will be considered 'out of hours' with 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> normal working days.

Please note from 31<sup>st</sup> of December TB work will be booked in as I leave for San Francisco for two weeks...however, I have arranged professional cover – see later in this newsletter.



**I wish you and your family a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!**

### Reminder of our Services:

- Local, Personal and Friendly
- Advice and Support Available 24/7
- Value for Money

### Providing

- Productivity and Health Planning
- for your Livestock
- Dairy Productivity Reports
- Bull Semen Testing

### Game:

- Health Management programmes & Hatchery Advice

### Plus

- Competitive Medicine Pricing
- Free Medicine Delivery Service (via H&C Pearce by arrangement)

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### Opening Hours

Mon – Fri 08.30 – 5.00pm

Sat 09.00 – 12.00 noon

**Telephone: 01844 212034**

**Mobile: 07725 039093**

dedicated to the health of your business

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### NorCal Veterinary Services Fees

The fees are aimed to be fair for all - regardless of the distance you are from the Practice:

Visit Fees			
Routine Fertility Visits			£15.00
Visits	Called	Between	£20.00
6:30am and 10:00am			
Visits	Called	Between	£30.00
10:00am and 6:00pm			
Out of Hours Surcharge			£30.00
On	Farm	Consultation	£100/hour
(Examine cow = 20 mins)			

## January 1<sup>st</sup>- 14<sup>th</sup> 2011

The family and I will be in San Francisco to attend my brother's wedding. In my absence, Adam Martin and John McDonnell will be covering for me. You will be able to contact Adam via my mobile number.



Adam qualified as a Veterinary Surgeon from the University of Liverpool in 2001. He immediately entered large animal practice on the North Wales/Cheshire border. After five very happy years in practice Adam moved to Norway to undertake a residency in ruminant reproduction and herd health which he completed in 2008. He is now acting professor of veterinary obstetrics at the Norwegian School of Veterinary Science in Oslo.

Adam has a number of postgraduate qualifications including the RCVS Certificate in Cattle Health and Production, a Master's degree in Livestock Health and Production, the Diploma in Bovine Reproduction and the Diploma of the European College of Animal Reproduction.

He has published around 60 articles in scientific, veterinary, and farming journals has lectured extensively to vets and

farmers, and is recognised as a European Veterinary Specialist in Animal Reproduction, however his passion remains cattle herd health.

Adam is looking forward to swapping the Norwegian winter (minus 20 °C) to a positively tropical NorCal climate!

Please give Adam a warm welcome on your farm.

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## TB and Ministry Work



To reserve resources, DEFRA has moved all TB enquiries to a regional Animal Health Office in Reigate. For advice telephone 01737 242242 and ask for the TB section.

If you would like NorCal Vets to undertake your TB work then please call DEFRA and notify them of your transfer from your previous vets to NorCal so that we are informed when your test is due.

You all should have received a letter from DEFRA informing you of your Parish Testing Interval (PTI). Those in South Bucks, East Berks and South Oxfordshire will remain in a 48 month PTI. Those in West Berks, West Oxfordshire and Mid and North Bucks will have seen your PTI change to 24 months.

If you have any queries in this regard, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

**FACT SHEET 1**  
**CALF PNEUMONIA**

**Calf Pneumonia**

With variable weather upon us and full sheds, pneumonia has been a real problem.

Key trigger causes of pneumonia are:

- Mixed age groups
- Mixed sources
- Weaning
- Cold stress for young calves
- Poor ventilation
- Dramatic change in diets
- Concurrent disease (Coccidiosis, worms, BVD)

Important facts for treating pneumonia are:

- Vaccinate mixed sourced animals or if you have had a problem in previous years
- Treat early (as soon as clinical signs are visible)
- Give an anti-inflammatory if the animal has a temperature over 103.3 F or 39.0 C
- If more than 5% are coughing treat the whole group

Below is a guide to help you decide which antibiotic to use although if in any doubt please do not hesitate to contact us:

**Antibiotic Choices for Pneumonia**

<b>Drug</b>	<b>Dose (based on 50kg calf)</b>	<b>Cost/ Treatment 50kg</b>	<b>Claimed Duration of Action</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Zactran	2ml (1ml/25kg sc)	£2.68	Up to 15 days	Has the longest duration of action. Only has to be given once which decrease labour, handling and calf stress
Draxxin	1.3ml (1ml/40kg sc)	£3.34	Between 9 and 15 days	Good syringability. Like Zactran only needs to be given once
Tetroxy LA	5ml (1ml/10kg im)	£0.58	2 days	Good to give in contact calves as prevention.
Resflor 250ml	6.7ml (2ml/15kg sc)	£3.54	5 days	Contains anti-inflammatory which has pain relief and anti-pyrexia
Hexasol LA	5ml (1ml/10kg im)	£1.75	5-6 days	Contains anti-inflammatory
Advocin 180	1.51ml (1ml/30kg sc or im)	£2.04	2 days	Good to use on heavier animals close to being fit because only has 8 day meat with-hold

“Our goal is to provide our farming clients with the highest level of service possible. We will never compromise on that commitment. We aim to strike the right balance of a professional service which is delivered in a friendly and personal way.”

Evan David MRCVS BSc BA

