

Clevedale Newsletter

August 2010

New Clevedale premises opening in Stokesley

We are pleased to announce that we are opening a new surgery in Stokesley in October of this year....so long as we can paint quickly enough! Found at the Station Road end of the Ellerbeck Way Industrial estate, just below Farmway, the new premises will offer small animal services as well as having facilities to treat smaller farm animals and horses.

TB now affecting our area.....a headline we hope you don't ever need to read for real! However, in a way this is already the case, as pre-movement testing is a requirement for movements of certain classes of stock into as well as out of our area and it seems more and more of you find yourselves the subject of T.B. restrictions at some point. There are real concerns about the insidious spread of this disease across the country but along with it there are a lot of myths and misunderstandings about the disease itself, as well as the control measures. To offer you up-to-date information and to correct some of these myths so that you may make more informed decisions about stock movements we will be hosting an evening on T.B. – “Understanding the Realities and Dispelling the Myths” - on Tuesday 19th November at Danby Village Hall at 8pm. We are pleased to welcome Gareth Hateley from Thirsk Veterinary Investigation Centre to speak to us. Originally a large animal vet in Oxfordshire before joining the Veterinary Laboratories Agency in Thirsk, Gareth is also a council member of the British Cattle Veterinary Association and is involved in the discussions and decisions which decide national policy on major issues such as T.B. We would thoroughly recommend this meeting to help you understand this internationally important disease, know how you can help control its spread and be up to speed with control measures should (if not when!) TB really does affect our area.

Vasectomising Bulls - every year we vasectomise a number of tups for shepherds wishing to tighten up their lambing time but did you know the same technique can be used to vasectomise bulls? The advantage is in improving oestrus detection in herds, beef as well as dairy, wishing to A.I. but not wanting to install pedometers or "Heat-time" or have access to a willing OAP wishing to stand in the corner and watch the cows for you. The disadvantages include the obvious need to have and look after a bull, as well as being cautious regarding venereal disease. If you are interested in this vasectomy service, please contact one of us at the surgery.

ADAS Flock Health Planning Meeting – the third and last of this series of seminars will be held at Hall Farm, Kildale, courtesy of Messrs Proudley, on Thursday, October 21st from 11am to 2pm. The last two seminars have discussed a wide range of issues including lameness, coccidiosis, fluke, gut parasites and the problems of resistance, sheep scab and mineral supplementation, amongst others raised by those attending the meeting. This final meeting will review performance after improvements instigated at Hall Farm this year, as well as discussing flock management pre-tupping (including synchronisation methods and using vasectomised tups); as ever, ideas for further discussion are welcomed by those wishing to attend and it is hoped the open discussion format that worked so well last time will be repeated. Open to all farmers, and not just clients of Clevedale, if you or anyone you know wishes to attend, please let the office know on 01287 623802.

And finally, introducing "Sarah" – in the last newsletter we announced the imminent departure of Kirsty Snowball as she became Kirsty Nelson. Well, for those of you who have not yet met her, we are pleased to introduce Sarah McDonald to our team. Originally from California, Sarah qualified from Glasgow Vet School (accounting for the unusual accent!) and is already settling in well.