

Dear All,

Welcome to the December Newsletter. It's a little early (although there doesn't seem to be any gap between Halloween and Christmas in the shops anymore!) but we would like to take the opportunity to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Hopefully this recent cold snap will see the weather settle back to "normal". The warm wet weather we've had over the last few weeks has meant we have seen a spike in cases of pneumonia in youngstock, especially if housed. It's very important to maintain good ventilation and keep sheds as dry as possible when stock is housed. Stock can cope with very low temperatures if it's dry. Good bedding and use of things like Galebreak and boarding can help. Feel free to quiz us on buildings when we're on farm, we don't claim to be architects but sometimes a fresh perspective can be useful.

We have also had a few incidences of Acorn poisoning, where cattle and sheep have gorged themselves on a big fall of acorns after a windy spell. Watch out if you have animals in fields with oak trees this time of year, as poisoning can be fatal and treatment uneconomic.

A select few have already started lambing, so don't forget we will be running the Lambing Club again in 2016. Members will benefit from no fees on lambings in the daytime and half price at night, amongst other benefits.

It would be nice not to talk about TB for once, but there has been a recent missive from Defra regarding biosecurity and how to reduce the risk of TB entering a herd, the information is summarized on the next page.

## CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR SURGERY OPENING TIMES

	<b>Bovey Tracey</b>	<b>Moretonhampstead</b>
<b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December</b>	8am – 5pm	8:30am – 5pm
<b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>
<b>Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>
<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>
<b>Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> December</b>	8am – 7pm	8:30am – 5pm
<b>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> December</b>	8am – 7pm	8:30am – 6:30pm
<b>Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> December</b>	8am – 5pm	8:30am – 5pm
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>
<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> January</b>	8:30am – 1pm	10am – 12pm

**AS ALWAYS THERE IS A 24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE ON: 01647 440441**

***It will always be a Moorgate vet that attends to your call***

Please remember that it is Christmas and New Year for the Vets as well, so please make use of the surgery opening times whenever possible.

**How do you dispose of your used needles and medicine bottles?  
Did you know we provide a waste disposal service for these items?**



Yellow Sharps Bin for needles

2.5L = £8.00

5L = £10.50



Blue Pharmaceutical Waste Bins for medicine bottles

22L = £35.00

**We supply you with the empty bins, once full bring them back for correct disposal.**

*Prices above include VAT and disposal and will be invoiced at the time of collection of empty bins.*

**PROTECT YOUR HERD FROM BOVINE TB**

Defra have recently launched a bovine TB biosecurity drive. This biosecurity drive aims to highlight things that farmers can do for themselves to reduce the risk of TB entering their herds. With this in mind we would like to recommend that farmers take the following actions to protect their herd from TB...

- RESTRICT contact between badgers and cattle
- MANAGE cattle feed and water
- STOP infected cattle entering the herd
- REDUCE risks from neighbouring herds
- MINIMISE infection from cattle manure

Biosecurity measures differ from farm to farm, it is important that farmers understand what is happening on their own farms. **Find out if badgers visit your farm.** Introduce barriers to restrict badger access to cattle, restrict badgers access to troughs and mineral licks and limit access of cattle to badger latrines and setts. **Check local TB breakdown data online.** Put in place effective barriers between neighbouring herds and avoid sharing cattle grazing with other herds. **Ask for TB history information before you buy new cattle** and isolate all higher-risk cattle before they enter the herd. **Store manure for a long period before spreading on your farm.** Only spread manure on arable land or pasture that is not going to be grazed by cattle for at least two months and don't spread manure from other farms. If you're unsure about any of these points please discuss this matter further with one of our vets.

Please visit [www.tbhub.co.uk](http://www.tbhub.co.uk) which is an informative website about bovine TB, biosecurity to protect your herd and location of bovine TB outbreaks throughout England, including our local area. Speak to our vets about biosecurity measures.

**TEXT COMMUNICATIONS**

We are now set up to send text messages from our computer system

Please let our reception staff know if you DO NOT wish to receive communications via text message

Don't forget to sign up for our **2016 LAMBING CLUB** to take advantage of savings that can be made.

**All lambings seen during opening hours FREE**  
**All lambings seen out of hours are HALF PRICE**  
**All Ewe Caesareans are HALF PRICE**  
**10% Discount on lambing supplies**

If you joined our 2015 Lambing Club – don't forget to join again for 2016 to carry on saving!

For more information speak to Ashley or Lottie

**Practice Facilities**

Appointment System  
Parking  
24 Hour Emergency Service  
Modern Surgical Facilities  
Nurse Clinics  
In-House Laboratory  
Digital X Ray Machine  
Pet Care Plans

**BOVEY TRACEY SURGERY**

Mill House, Station Road,  
Bovey Tracey, Newton  
Abbot, TQ13 9AL  
TELEPHONE ; 01626  
833023

**MORETONHAMPSTEAD SURGERY**

31 Court Street,  
Moretonhampstead,  
Newton Abbot, TQ13 8LG  
TELEPHONE ; 01647  
440441

**CHRISTOW SURGERY**

Old Mines Road, Christow,  
Exeter, EX6 7NS  
For appointments/repeat  
prescriptions etc.  
telephone; 01626 833023

**FOR OUT OF HOUR EMERGENCIES PLEASE**

**TELEPHONE : 01647  
440441**

