



Lanes
farm vets

Newsletter
September 2022

Lots of social dates for your diary...

Flock Health Club Meeting

We are meeting on Wednesday 14th September at the Brock building covering multiple topics including reviewing lamb growth rates and any problems and tugging preparation. 12noon at Brock, lunch and refreshments provided as usual, call us at the surgery to book your place! New members welcome—please speak to the office for information on how to join.

Vet Tech Pub Lunch!

Are you interested in using our vet tech service? Come and find out more over a pub lunch at Nells on Tuesday 27th September at 12noon. We offer a variety of services including disbudding, castrating, mobility scoring, condition scoring, blood sampling and vaccinating! It can be extremely cost effective and is proving very popular. Our lead vet tech, Helen, is particularly well read on supermarket contracts and can help with data input or general compliance advice. Places are limited so please phone the surgery to book.

Ignite Agri Forum Meeting

Olly Harrison (OllyBlogs) is coming to speak to us about his farm diversification and his Agri Contracting business. Olly started to make videos of his daily farming life during lockdown and now has nearly 50,000 subscribers. The meeting is on Wednesday 26th October, 7.30pm for 8pm at Garstang Golf Club and we expect it to be extremely popular.



Lanes Farm Vets, Brock Auction, Claughton-On-Brock, PR3 0PH
Tel: 01995 602468 Tel: 01995 641000

Milk quality throughout the summer

If you've noticed your bulk milk SCC creeping up over the summer months you'll not be the only one. Mastitis and SCC tend to peak in late summer/early autumn for the average farm in the UK, and most will gradually reduce again throughout the housing period.

In most cases this will be due to environmental factors, so focussing on these can help stop the SCC from creeping up too high.

- For grazing herds a good rule of thumb is to stick to the 'graze 2, rest 4 principle.' This means a field should be grazed for no more than 2 weeks in a row before being rested for a minimum of 4 weeks. This rule applies to both lactating AND dry cows and stops bacteria levels from building up, especially in favourite spots such as under trees.
- Another key area to focus on is pre-milking teat disinfection. Whichever product you use, ensure it gets left in contact with the teats for the recommended time before wiping it off (usually at least 30 seconds). Use a fresh wipe for each cow and make sure the dipping cup gets cleaned from time to time... we know this last step often gets overlooked!



- Don't underestimate the impact of heat and flies on mastitis levels. Both of these can lead to poor use of cubicles by cows and of course lots of tail swishing leads to dirty cows. Good fly control and ventilation will make a world of difference.

If you are struggling with excessively high SCC compared to what you would consider normal for your farm, or other milk quality issues such as fluctuating bactoscan, please don't hesitate to get in touch and we will be happy to advise.

Medicine sales—avoiding non compliances.

We have had a lot of discussions recently about our medicine dispensing. Some drugs are categorised as 'first line' medicines, while others are 'second line'. **If we dispense 'second line' drugs without justification, this may be flagged as a non compliance for our farmers on their farm inspection.** There is also good reason in delaying antibiotic resistance as long as possible. We have asked our office staff to check with a vet before dispensing second line drugs, unless we have already recorded a justification in your health plan. Because of this, we advise that you give us a little bit of warning about medicine orders - for example, **please phone orders through before setting off to the surgery, so they can be ready for when you arrive.**

Medicines text line

Of course we do like to see you at the practice, but if you find it more convenient to send a text for medicines, that is now fine too. Send **your request to 07833051714**. Messages can be sent at any time, day or night; the request will be checked during office hours and drugs put up accordingly (or a vet can phone you to discuss if necessary). They may need ordering in so please allow another day for this to happen. Save the number in your phone as '**Lanes Meds Text**' and make sure you also text your surname and farm name.

Plan ahead for calf health

As we bask in glorious sunshine remember that autumn is just around the corner. Now is the time to think calf pneumonia prevention, don't wait until its too late. Treating your first case of pneumonia is your first loss of many—reduced welfare, growth rates, future yield and fertility are inevitable, even if you don't lose calves.

Actions you can take now: improve drainage and ventilation, calculate space requirements, get calf jackets ready, reduce draughts at calf level and clean your buckets and teats. Every little action will have a benefit.

FLOCK HEALTH CLUB DAY OUT!

We are attending a meeting near Penrith called 'Halal–Dispelling the myths, Exploring the market' and can arrange transport for those interested. It is an AHDB meeting, open to vets and farmers, and should be very informative. Wednesday 2nd November leaving Brock at 9am to return at 4:30, call us at the surgery to book your place!

Please be reminded of changes to bank details for online payments:

Account name: **Lanes Farm Vets (t/a Lanes Vets Ltd)**

Account number: **28745353** Sort code: **01-03-33**

Please also be reminded that cheques must now be sent to our new address which is listed below.

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If you wish to take advantage of the convenience of direct debit payments

Contact numbers

Janet Horsfield	07737 938559
Tom Lyons	07850 713914
Lora Fryars	07946 627801
Harry Collas	07563 985756
Emmie Bland	01995 641000
Liv Cartmell	01995 641000
Seth Kennard	07984 589881
Laura Parkinson	01995 602468

Lanes Farm Vets

Brockholes Arms Auction,
Garstang Road, Claughton-On-Brock,
PR3 0PH.

Tel: 01995 602468 Tel: 01995 641000

Email: farmteam@lanesfarmvets.com

www.lanesvets.com

