

Welcome to the team Natalie

We are excited to welcome Natalie to the Kings Bounty team.

Natalie recently moved to Hampshire from Devon where she was working at a large mixed veterinary practice in the administration department.

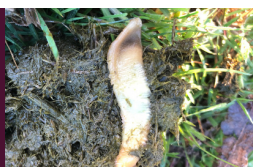
Her two small boys and working spaniels keep Natalie busy away from work. She also has a retired pony and an ex-racehorse who she bought from the track 14 years ago, retrained and successfully competed in ROR classes.

She enjoys walking with her family and their spaniels and newest addition- miniature dachshund Noodle!

Natalie has completed training and exams to earn the Registered Animal Medicines Advisor (RAMA) qualification from the Animal Medicines Training Regulatory Authority (AMTRA), meaning she is qualified to advise on and supply some specific medicines for horses.



An update on worming



Did you know you can now purchase EquiSal Tapeworm test kits directly from the practice? Results from the test will then be emailed directly to our vets who then review the results, taking into consideration faecal worm egg count results, worming history and your horse's specific pasture management. Our vets will then advise you if worming is necessary and if so which product you should use.

The saliva test is non-invasive, easy to perform and tolerated well by the majority of horses. It measures the level of tapeworm specific antibodies in the horse's saliva which is then used to generate a tapeworm saliva score.

We recommend testing all horses at least once yearly for tapeworm.

Please call the office or speak to your vet if you would like to order a test kit or would like further information.

Christmas and New Year's Opening Hours

Friday 22nd December: Normal opening hours
Saturday 23rd December: Emergencies only
Sunday 24th December: Emergencies only
Monday 25th December: Emergencies only
Tuesday 26th December: Emergencies only
Wednesday 27th December- Friday 29th December: Normal opening hours
Saturday 30th December: Emergencies only
Sunday 31st December: Emergencies only
Monday 1st January: Emergencies only
Tuesday 2nd January: Normal opening hours resume

Emergency Out of Hours number:
01209 823 227

Christmas Medication and Repeat Prescriptions:



Please check that you have sufficient medication for your horse to last through the Christmas period. If you require more medication to be posted to you, please contact the practice no later than Friday 15th December.

If you are able to collect the medication from the practice, then please contact the office with your request no later than Tuesday 19th December.

Client Case Story

Ellie, a Connemara x Thoroughbred mare was seen recently for removal of a lump that had grown in her perineal region. The lump had started as a small pea sized nodule however it then progressed quickly, became ulcerated and began to cause irritation and obvious discomfort when Ellie urinated.

It was elected to remove the mass using a surgical laser, at home on the yard.

Excision of surgical masses by laser is often an excellent choice for mass removal. The laser works by providing a clean cut around the mass, sealing off any small blood and lymphatic vessels that are encountered, destroys bacteria and fungi that may be present on the skin surface and helps to kill any tumour cells that may be present just beyond the margin of the mass.

A large number of different masses can be removed using a surgical laser including nodular sarcoids, melanomas and other skin tumours. Following laser removal there is often minimal swelling of the surgical site and good cosmetic outcomes are usually seen.

We now have access to a surgical laser that we can bring to your yard, the procedure is often fairly quick (depending on the size of the mass!) and is well tolerated by horses thanks to sedation and local anaesthetic.

Following laser excision we recommend sending the sample for histopathology so that an exact diagnosis can be made.

Ellie was diagnosed with a Squamous Cell Carcinoma which is a common skin tumour seen in horses. She has made an excellent recovery and we are looking forward to seeing her back in the show ring soon!



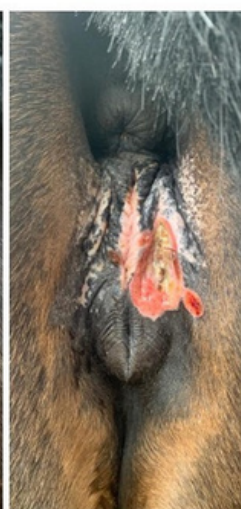
The mass before removal



During laser removal



+12 hours



+6 days



+1 month



How to care for your horse's legs in mud, ice and snow

Caring for your horse's legs in challenging weather conditions like mud, snow and ice is crucial to ensure their wellbeing and prevent injuries and skin issues like mud fever

Here is a guide to help you care for your horse's legs during these conditions:

Regular inspection:

Inspect your horse's legs daily, paying close attention to the hooves, pasterns, and fetlocks. Look for any signs of swelling, cuts or abrasions.

Cleanliness:

Mud, snow and ice can accumulate on the horse's legs, leading to skin issues or discomfort. Wash or let dry and brush off and remove any debris from the hooves.

Hoof care:

Regular hoof maintenance is crucial, especially in snowy and icy conditions. Clean the hooves daily, picking out any packed snow or ice. Ensure that the hooves are properly trimmed and balanced by your registered farrier to provide better traction.

Use of leg protection:

Consider using leg protection, such as waterproof boots or wraps, to shield the lower legs from mud, snow and ice. These can help prevent injuries and keep the legs dry.

Application of barrier products:

Consider applying a protective barrier product on your horse's legs, especially in muddy conditions. Speak to your vet for further advice to make sure the product is safe for your horse's skin and doesn't cause irritation.

Bedding in the stable:

If your horse spends time in a stable, ensure that the bedding is clean and provides a dry environment. Dry bedding helps prevent the development of thrush and other hoof-related issues.

Adjust turnout time:

In extreme weather conditions, consider adjusting your horse's turnout schedule. Limiting the time spent in muddy or icy conditions can reduce the risk of slips, falls and injuries.

Regular exercise:

Regular exercise is essential for maintaining your horse's overall health and preventing stiffness, which can be exacerbated by cold and slippery conditions. Provide a safe and secure area for exercise and be cautious about riding in icy or extremely slippery conditions

Monitor for signs of lameness:

Be vigilant for signs of lameness, such as a change in gait or reluctance to move. If you notice any issues, consult with your vet promptly to address potential problems before they escalate.

Consult with your vet and farrier:

Regular consultations with your vet and farrier are crucial for proactive horse care. They can provide advice on hoof health, trimming, and any specific concerns related to your horse's legs.

By following these guidelines, you can help ensure your horse's legs stay healthy and resilient in challenging weather conditions.

What would happen if my horse was infected with equine influenza?



Equine influenza is a highly contagious respiratory disease that affects horses, and its consequences can range from mild to severe, depending on various factors such as the horse's overall health, and vaccination status.

It is essential to consult with a vet if you suspect your horse has equine influenza. A vet can provide a proper diagnosis, recommend appropriate treatment, and advise on biosecurity measures to prevent further spread.

If your horse is infected with equine influenza, several outcomes and considerations may arise:

Clinical symptoms:

Respiratory issues:

Equine influenza primarily affects the respiratory system. Infected horses may show symptoms such as coughing, nasal discharge, and an increased respiratory rate.

Fever:

Horses with equine influenza often develop a fever, which is one of the early signs of the infection.

Depression and weakness:

Infected horses may exhibit signs of lethargy, depression, and a decrease in appetite and energy levels.

Quarantine and isolation:

Infected horses should be isolated to prevent the spread of the virus to healthy individuals. Quarantine measures are essential to control the outbreak.

Treatment:

There is no specific cure for equine influenza, and treatment is generally supportive. This includes rest, proper nutrition and sometimes anti-inflammatory medications to manage symptoms.

Vaccination:

Vaccination is a crucial aspect of preventing equine influenza. Horses that are regularly vaccinated are less likely to contract the virus, and if they do, the severity of the illness is often reduced.

