

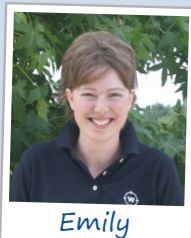


## Staff Changes

It is with some sadness that we will be saying goodbye to both Ben and Ali at the end of this month. Ben has worked for Westpoint Farm Vets in the Eastern region for several years, after a spell in mixed practice after graduating, and is a highly valued member of the team. He has decided now is the time to return to mixed practice and we wish him all the best for the future.

Alison has been the lynchpin in the office for the past year and I will be truly sad to see her go. She will be giving up work whilst Steve, her partner, convalesces from major surgery and we wish them both all the best. Both Alison and Steve have always gone beyond the call of duty for the practice giving up their time on numerous occasions, undertaking jobs from maintenance in the office to setting up the stand at the Norfolk Show ensuring that life always runs as smoothly as possible. As I said she will be sorely missed.

Emily Craven is returning to join us over the winter period and many of you will already have met her as she has helped out on several occasions in the past. A Cambridgeshire girl with her own British White cattle she is known on both the Show circuit and the athletics circuit where she is both a competitor and an official of some standing. Emily has worked in 100% farm practice since graduating several years ago and she has been further expanding her bovine knowledge in Papa New Guinea recently.



Emily

## Recent Cases in Norfolk

Acute Bovine Pulmonary Oedema and Emphysema also known as Fog Fever.

We encountered several cases of unusual fog fever this autumn. Usually the disease develops in autumn, 5-10 days post turning out to a fresh lush pasture, in animals which have been on a poorer paddock for some time. Evidence so far leads us to believe the signs occur because the lush grass has a high concentration of protein and one amino-acid from the protein, tryptophan, is metabolised by the rumen 'bugs' into a substance called 3-methylindole which is toxic to the lung cells. This is absorbed through the rumen wall and is transported via the blood stream in the animal's body. Once it reaches the lungs it causes damage, leading to severe emphysema and oedema (the lungs are often described as 'like bubble wrap'), the animals will cough, have difficulty breathing, will have froth around the mouth and usually will NOT run a fever. In severely affected animals the ability to breathe is impaired resulting in death.

However, lately we have encountered 'fog fever' in animals which have spent all summer on grass and haven't been fed with a dry diet. Although we traditionally think of 'fog fever' caused by lush grass after a poorer diet there are other plants that can cause these same toxic effects on the lungs; hence don't rule it out on grazing pattern alone. Unfortunately there is no treatment and the only thing we can do is manage the symptoms, but even this can be ineffective with deaths of only a small % of animal in an affected group common. Please call the practice if you have coughing animals as this is just one of many diseases which can cause breathing difficulties and all will have significant impact on growth rates even if animals do not look truly sick or die.

## Useful Websites

If you are concerned, as most are, about TB in our region there is a live map produced by APHA of where there are confirmed cases across the country at [www.ibtb.co.uk](http://www.ibtb.co.uk). This is not confidential information so all are welcome to look. If you have any further queries about the type of test you may be due, the animals that need to be presented or anything else, please just call and speak to one of the vets.

Current information on the risk of parasite burden from cattle and sheep from liver fluke to lungworm is available monthly by region at [www.nadis.org.uk/parasite-forcast.aspx](http://www.nadis.org.uk/parasite-forcast.aspx).

Helpful information to improve your knowledge about certain diseases and conditions and farmers meetings that are being held locally can be found at [www.farmIQ.co.uk](http://www.farmIQ.co.uk).

## Upcoming Events

**Dairy Group meeting** – On 27th of January, Andrew Bradley of Nottingham University and Quality Milk Management Services will be hosting a discussion on the latest information of Strep. Uberis mastitis looking at local data - is it contagious or environmental and what do we do about it?

**Back yard poultry group** – First meeting was a success with good feedback received from the clients who attended. First step in achieving a more disease aware poultry group has been made. Next meeting will be on in January 13th, the time and venue to be confirmed. Any suggestions for the topic? Please call the practice for further discussion.

## Local Producers

Norfolk Rose Veal	Rose veal	07444 914966, norfolkroseveal@yahoo.com
Mrs Temple	Dairy Produce	01328 820224
Pointen Bros	Dairy Produce	01263 860338
John Garner	Game, Lamb, Turkeys	01328 700277
Spotty Pig Farm Shop	www.spottypigfarm.co.uk	01553 630538
Houghton Hall Organic	Lamb, Mutton, Beef, Pork, Venison	01485 528570
Courtyard Farms Ltd	Beef	01328 829317
Mr Day	Pork, Lamb, Veg, Knitting wool	Hindolveston. 01263 860578
Simon Dann	Norfolk Farmhouse Ice-cream	On Farm/Local Shops
Gavin Lane	Salt Marsh Beef	sales@saltmarshbeef.co.uk
Van Beuningen	Ash Farm Organics	01362 683228, www.ashfarmorganics.co.uk
Mrs Willcox	Mohair Socks, Preserves, Eggs	Erpingham House Farm, 01263 761208
Linda Cletheroe	Seasonal Fresh Vegetables	01263 587466, www.lindasfreshveg.co.uk
Lizzie Roberts	Holiday Accommodation and B+B	Heckingham Hall www.heckingham-hall.co.uk
Mr Congreves	Boxed Dexter Beef	07944 495264

## For Sale/Wanted/People/Equipment

If you would like your advert in our newsletter please contact the office, 01485 609031 or email at [norfolkfarmvets@btconnect.com](mailto:norfolkfarmvets@btconnect.com)

	Location	Amount	Contact Name	Contact Number(s)
<b>Cattle:</b> <b>For Sale</b> – Pedigree Limousin bulls 14-16 months old <b>For Sale</b> – Red Poll heifers & breeding bulls <b>For Sale</b> – Pedigree Salers Bulls <b>For Sale</b> – 1x27 month old and 5x18 month old Pedigree, accredited disease free Hereford Polled Bulls	Bawsey Sandringham Erpingham Booton	3   6	Mr Bacon Mr Barratt Peter Willcox Mr. Buxton	01553 630247 07545 394821 07887 745425 07870 490159
<b>Sheep:</b> <b>Grazing wanted for sheep</b> - also looking for sheep work <b>Grazing wanted cattle/sheep</b> <b>For Sale</b> – 250 Texel X maiden shearlings	Nordelph Watton area Sahan Toney		Mr Fletcher Andy Watling Andy Watling	07977 040358 07900 268119 07900 268119
<b>Other Species / Items:</b> <b>AI Technician Service</b> <b>Free Range Pullets</b> – Hybrid pullets, at point of lay, fully vaccinated. <b>Alpaca Shearing Services</b> – For kind handling contact Tammy or John @ Moonshadow Alpacas. Facebook: 'Moonshadow Alpacas'  <b>For Loan</b> – Cow lifting net. £30/time <b>Pest Control</b> – Domestic, Commercial & Agricultural  <b>Norfolk Farm Veal</b> – rose veal, milk/grass fed <b>Round Bales</b> – 4ft round bales silage, £30 per bale <b>Gunton Park</b> – Venison & Hay available <b>HAYLAGE</b> <b>Handling Equipment</b> – Large pen with high hurdles & crush available for handling cattle anywhere. Also calf crush <b>Molecatcher</b> – For hire <b>For Sale</b> – Gloucester Old spot Piglets <b>For Sale</b> – Hay and haylage	Norfolk Erpingham Clenchwarton  Sporle North Norfolk  Norfolk North Norfolk - Little Downham Kettleston  Mattishall Erpingham		Office Mrs Willcox Tammy or John  Tim Palmer Mark & Sue  Ian Henry Catlin James Ellis Ed Runciman Stephen Yarham  Tracy Palmer James Ellis Peter Willcox	01485 609031 01263 761208 07969 632404 or k9flyer@hotmail.com  07867 775143 01553 827246 07771 970626 07535 597497 07769 690307 07775 744743 07904 352725 07790 109015  01485 600717 07899 957751 07887 745425

## Christmas Quiz

Don't forget the annual Christmas Quiz and presentation of Farmer of the Year. All clients welcome to this annual 'knees up' where you will be wined and dined whilst we test your knowledge across a range of subjects both animal and non-animal related.

 **Venue:** Swaffham Assembly rooms (usual place)

**Time & Date:** Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 7pm 

All welcome but please call the office and book in for catering numbers. Can you think of anyone who should be nominated for Farmer of the Year this year? What about you? Just drop us a line and let us know who and why? See you all there.