

# Wright & Morten Equine Newsletter



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August 2016

## Congratulations!

Congratulations and well done to Vicky Willis who has just been named Student of the Year for her cohort year at Myerscough College. Vicky is nearing the end of her Equine Nursing Course and is a valued member of our dedicated nursing team at Somerford Park.



## Equine Tapeworm Testing

Up until recently, the only way to tell if a horse had a large amount of tapeworm was by a blood sample. However, recently there has been a great innovation in developing a saliva based test. This offers a number of good advantages - not least in that it's a really accurate way of diagnosing whether a horse has a current high tapeworm burden or not. The sample is easy to take, you need to just withhold food from your horse for half an hour and then rub the sample swab on his tongue until enough saliva has been collected. If you would like to discuss how saliva tapeworm tests can be incorporated into your worming program, please get in touch.

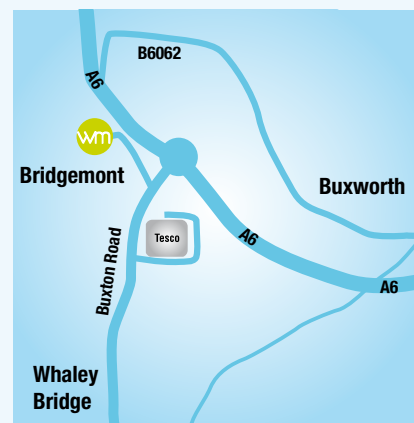
## Contacting Us

We are aware that some of our clients would prefer to call us on a local number rather than the 08458 number. If that is the case the number to call is **01477 571000**.

## Whaley Bridge Office

We have recently opened a new office in Whaley Bridge. This is primarily a farm office but our equine clients will be able to collect drugs from there. Your repeat drug orders should still be made through our main equine office at The Barn and you should allow at least 48 hours as the request will have to be authorised by a vet and the drugs then sent across to Whaley Bridge. We are not holding any equine stock at Whaley Bridge so it is essential that you pre-order.

**The address for the office is:**  
**Block B,**  
**Ringstones Industrial Estate,**  
**Whaley Bridge, High Peak,**  
**Derbyshire, SK23 7PD**  
**Tel: 01663 732564**



## Investigating reduced performance

A large part of what we do at Wright & Morten is helping horses to perform at their best. We understand how frustrating it can be when your horse is not achieving its full potential and have many methods of investigating and treating reduced performance. Such problems are often multifactorial and many of our veterinary surgeons and nurses may be involved in establishing a diagnosis and implementing treatment.

## Why does my horse need to go to Somerford Park for investigations?



Some procedures can certainly be done on farm but for investigating poor performance Somerford Park has several advantages, including:

- The environment is safer for the horse, handler and veterinary surgeon
- Our equine veterinary nurses are experienced in assisting with the procedures that we perform to ensure that they are as safe as possible and reduce the amount of time required for procedures.
- Many vets with different interests can examine your horse. For example a horse which is exhibiting signs of gastric ulcers maybe also be experiencing orthopaedic pain or dental discomfort; diagnosing and managing each underlying problem gives the best chance of a full recovery.
- Somerford Park offers several surfaces upon which lameness may be detected, either in hand, on the lunge or under saddle. Our nurses have had lots of practice and can encourage even the most tricky horses to lunge beautifully!
- Regions of the head, limbs, neck and back can be desensitised using local anaesthetic in clean conditions with expert horse handling to reduce the risk of complications. Some local anaesthetic blocks require time to take effect and our team can investigate several cases at one time in the practice.
- Within the clinic we can control the environment, making it easier to ensure sterility, store temperature - controlled medications and use less portable

equipment. This includes a powerful X-Ray machine to image backs and necks, the gastroscope and clinic ultrasound scanner.

- We have in house laboratory equipment and on site processing of samples, this is particularly useful for regenerative medicine treatments such as IRAP or PRP. One of the labs that we frequently use collects samples directly from the clinic.
- Our stables provide facilities to starve horses overnight when required, prior to general anaesthesia or medical investigations.
- The sturdy stocks provide safe restraint for horses who are difficult to inject or require long procedures under standing sedation.
- Farriers, physiotherapists and sports massage therapists can be arranged to visit the clinic as part of your horses treatment.
- We provide facilities for general anaesthesia and have specialist surgeons visiting the clinic most weeks.



And of course there is a tack shop & café!



### FARM AND EQUINE

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