

January 2015



WeaverHouse Equine

What's New....

WeaverHouse Equine are pleased to welcome **Equiplates practitioner, Kirsty Edwards** to the team.

Kirsty will be running either 1:1 or small group sessions, looking at improving core and body alignment as well as postural assessments for riders.

Prices start from just £40.00 per person or small groups classes at £79.99 for a course of 5 sessions.

Free Taster Sessions available—call us for the dates



WeaverHouse Equine Practitioner, Pearl Cazabon has been busy lately. Recently she attended the Newmarket hoof care conference on long toe and low heels in the competition horse. Haydn Price the team GB farrier for both dressage and show jumping horses reinforced the importance of regular back care and it was great to see para-professionals coming to-

gether in the management of performance horses.

Also, Pearl attended the Saddle Research Trust's 2nd International conference to hear about the latest scientific research related to issues surrounding saddles and their effects on both horse and rider.

Special Offer

Horse & Rider Treatment together

Usually £123.00 now just £99 for both*

Pearl also offers **Free Horse and Rider consultations*** Please contact Nicola for availability and details.

What we treat

- Injuries resulting from falls, training, or other activities
- Reduced level of performance
- Problems with gait or reduced stride
- Reluctance to trot or canter on certain reins
- Back disorder lameness
- Swishing the tail, holding the tail to one side
- Difficulty maintaining mobility in competition
- Cold Back
- Head tossing and general problems with head carriage
- Sacroiliac joint conditions
- Tendon injury, or ligament overstrain

Equine Osteopathy can also help when you witness changes in behaviour such as bucking, bolting, rearing, refusing to jump and kicking as well as diagnosed medical conditions, including degenerative arthritis and lameness.**

Keep in touch

Want to hear the latest news and offers as they happen? To keep up to date, let us have your details as they appear on your Facebook page and Equine Receptionist Nicola will make sure that you don't miss out! Like what we do? Then use Facebook to let us know. You can even use it to arrange your next appointment!

Or if tweeting is more your thing, why not follow us on Twitter
@whouse_equine.



01270 629933 info@weaverhouse-equine.com

www.weaverhouse-equine.com

**Please note that treatment efficacy depends on the severity and the length of time that the underlying condition has been present. Our Equine Osteopaths will endeavour to provide transparent and honest treatment plans for optimal improvement.

*Terms and Conditions Apply. Subject to Availability

Here are some useful tips and advice to help keep your horse or pony happy and healthy during the cold season...

Most horses can cope very well in cold temperatures – it's wind and rain that they can struggle with.

You should provide your horses with a windbreak, like a field shelter or even a line of trees, to block some of the wind or rain.

There are lots of rugs on the market to suit all types, from a thin rain sheet to a thick rug for fine-coated or clipped horses. But don't be tempted to over rug your horse!

Most of the hardier breeds won't need a rug over the winter, their coats will naturally provide them with all the warmth and waterproofing they need.

Diet and weight

Horses naturally lose a bit of weight in the winter in preparation for the spring grass, so don't worry.

Do keep an eye on your horse's weight though and if you find they are losing a lot then you may need to increase their hay. Eating roughage will also help to keep your horse warm as the fibre is digested slowly.

Don't forget that overweight horses are still susceptible to laminitis though, even in winter. It's worth discussing your horse's weight and diet with your Horse Welfare Coordinator if you are unsure.

And remember, it is so important that horses should not come out of winter overweight – however sorry you feel for them!

Check your horse's water every day or twice a day in bad weather to break and remove ice.

Floating a football in the trough can help to slow down the freezing process and keep a hammer or something similar handy so you can break the ice that does build up.

In winter, when the grazing isn't as good, horses are more likely to forage in ditches and hedgerows for food which, in the wet and muddy conditions, can be really dangerous.

Check your boundary fencing and hedging thoroughly every week, especially near ditches and roads. Hedges lose their foliage in the winter so might need reinforcing if gaps start to appear.

If you're moving your horse to new grazing, do it first thing in the morning so they become familiar with the new space while it's light.

Riding/exercising

Chilly winds can make horses spooky and unpredictable so be extra alert when handling and riding.

Horses can easily get chilled after a workout. Walk your horse after exercise so they can cool down slowly and, if necessary, use a cooler blanket to stop their body temperature from losing heat too quickly.

If they are in regular work, or prone to getting hot while exercised consider having them clipped.

As for any time of year, always wear reflective clothing when you're out riding and take a mobile phone with you for emergencies.

If it's foggy or icy, don't go riding – it's not worth the risk to you or your horse.

Plan for extreme weather – would you be able to get to your horse in heavy snow? Who would be able to help you out? Would they have all the information they need to look after your horse? Make sure you have a system in place.