

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2009



Dear Client,

Veterinary Fees

The method of charging for the services vets provide has become a topical subject of late – in particular charging an hourly rate rather than a fixed fee for each individual piece of work.

The hourly rate of £110 per hour quoted in the Cumberland News recently does not in our opinion provide you, the clients, with value for money.

At Belle Vue Vets our aim has always been to provide our clients with a reliable service at a high standard for a reasonable cost. We feel the best way for us to continue doing this is to keep our current system of charging a set fee for each individual piece of work we do. However, we are open minded so if you favour a change in the pricing system please discuss it with one of the Partners.

The drugs we stock are already sold at discounted prices. This has been re-examined in 2009, with the profit margin tightened to give lower prices despite the cost to us increasing.

In order to keep our cash flow positive we have to be strict on payment. Other veterinary practices and the Internet require payment in advance. Our system allows a full discount so long as the account is settled each month.

Lameness

It is our intention to hold training workshops on cattle lameness and basic foot trimming during the summer months. If anyone would be interested in attending these please register your interest at the practice.

AI Refresher Course

It has been shown in various studies that reviewing your AI skills can improve herd conception rates by an average of 10% - maybe more.

A one day AI refresher training course is being organised which will focus mainly on semen handling and correct semen placement. Dye techniques and ultrasound will be used to assess your semen placement.

Date to be confirmed (probably early May).

Anyone interested should contact Alistair at the practice.