



PATON & LEE

EQUINE VETERINARY SURGERY

Sherry Brierley



Our Christmas Newsletter is tinged with sadness this year, because on the morning of 3rd December 2015 we learnt that Sherry Brierley had passed away peacefully in the early hours. From the 1980's until her retirement in 2014, Sherry was not only the face and voice of Paton and Lee, but also its heart and soul. She was loved by all and had the wonderful characteristic of having the time for and interest in everybody she met.

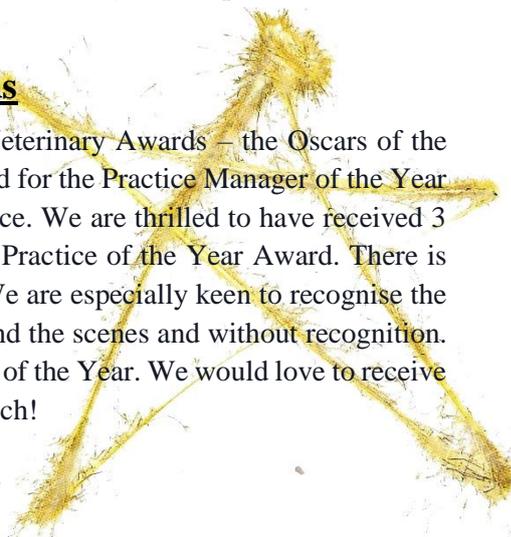
She fought her illness with such determination and fortitude that when spending time with her you became completely unaware of the severity of her health and just enjoyed her company; an inspiration to us all.

She will be missed tremendously, but our sorrow is tempered by the wonderful memories she leaves behind. Our thoughts and sincerest sympathies are with her son James, his wife Shelley and their young children and the rest of her family. For those of you wishing to pay your respects, Sherry's funeral will be held on Wednesday 16th December 2015 at 3pm at Three Counties Crematorium, Halstead Road, High Garrett, CM7 5PB. In true selfless Sherry-style the funeral is to be a celebration of her life: no black to be worn, no fuss made, no flowers but donations towards Cancer Research UK hugely appreciated.

We would like to thank you – our wonderful clients – for the huge support and sympathy you have shown us over the past days and weeks. The comments we have received during consultations, over the telephone, and via our Facebook page have been truly moving and are a testament to the huge affection in which Sherry was held. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. As always, we will continue to work as hard as possible to make sure Paton and Lee continues on as the practice Sherry was so proud to work for.

Petplan Veterinary Awards

In 2015 we were delighted to receive 5 nominations for the Petplan Veterinary Awards – the Oscars of the veterinary world! It was especially rewarding that Sherry was nominated for the Practice Manager of the Year Award after so many years of dedication, care and service to the practice. We are thrilled to have received 3 nominations for 2016 already, including a nomination for the coveted Practice of the Year Award. There is still time to nominate online at www.petplanequine.co.uk/vetawards. We are especially keen to recognise the vital work that our support staff and nursing team carry out, often behind the scenes and without recognition. The categories include Vet Nurse of the Year and Practice Support Staff of the Year. We would love to receive your nominations. Entries close on January 31st 2016. Thank you so much!



Evening Talk – Tuesday 15th March 2016

“Competing at your best.”



Have you ever felt nervous whilst riding or competing? This talk is for you!

Following the huge success of our evening talk in October, we are planning to continue our evening talks at the new location of The New Rickstones Academy in Witham. We are thrilled to announce that our guest speaker at 7.30pm on Tuesday 15th March 2016 will be Charlie Unwin, Performance Psychologist to many stars of the equestrian world including Sharon Hunt, Lucinda Green and the Great Britain Young-Rider and Junior Teams. Charlie is not only a fantastic psychologist who will be able to improve both your competition performance and general riding, he is also a great communicator and engaging speaker. This promises to be our best evening talk yet, so make sure you book your place by contacting the office on 01376 513369. As always, places are FREE and refreshments will be provided, but due to the increase in demand for these talks we will have to keep a strict guest list, so if you'd like to come along please make sure your name is on it! The venue will open at 6.30pm for the usual food, drinks, goodies and chat. Full details are available on our website and Facebook page, as always.

Updated Passport Regulations for 2016

From the 1st January 2016 there will be new regulations for horse passports in the UK. All new passports will have to have the horse's identity drawing completed in addition to a microchip (at the moment the identity drawing is not obligatory). This has implications for all horse owners because it will increase the minimum cost of issuing a passport to new horses. From 24th December 2015, the cost of issuing a passport, filling in the identity certificate and supplying and implanting a new microchip will be £85 including VAT but excluding any visit fee. All passport applications must be returned to the passport issuing organisation within 14 days of completion. As is currently the case, passports must still be applied for before any foals are 6 months old, or by the end of the year of birth, whichever comes first. Any passports applied for outside of these date-ranges will be issued as replacement passports, and will therefore automatically have Section IX stamped to ensure those animals cannot enter the food chain.

Update to Terms and Conditions

Our terms and conditions have been updated for 2016. Full details are available on our website, or on request from the office. The greatest change is to our increasingly popular half-price visit fee 'zone-days', which will need to be booked at least 48 hours in advance and for which payment must be made at the time. Zone day posters and the timetables for our 2016 zone days are now available from our website and Facebook page, or laminated copies of the zone day posters can be sent out by the office on request.

Thank you once again for choosing to use Paton and Lee to treat your horse, pony or donkey.

We wish you all a very merry Christmas and a successful and vet-free 2016

(apart from routine work of course!)

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