

FARM NEWSLETTER- FEBRUARY 2024

- **New faces at the practice**

You may notice a few new faces in the team this lambing time. Both Izzie Wattam and Declan McIntyre have joined us on the veterinary team and have been settling in well. We also welcomed Evie Wilson who is a student nurse and is completing her training with the practice.

- **'Responsible use of medicines' Certificate. Via Zoom**

Due to continued demand we have organised another medicines meeting, which will cover all aspects of safe medicine use and is now a requirement of the red tractor scheme for beef and sheep farmers as well as dairy. A certificate is provided after the training is complete, so to book your place, please contact the Egremont surgery on **01946 820312** with your email address and number of trainees. This will be the 5th medicine meeting organised through the practice, and most farmers have now done this training. Please consider taking this opportunity to train while it is available.

Date: TUES 27th FEB 2024 - 1:30-3:30 pm via Zoom.

- **Animal Health and Welfare Review (AHWR)** have got going and are now in full swing.

They are grant funded health planning and testing on your farm and include the provision of a Veterinary Attestation Number (VAN). Please contact the surgery prior to applying to Defra as the timing of your application is important to fit your testing into the claim window. Our website link is : <https://www.westlakelandvets.co.uk/farm> and click on the Grant funding section

- **Veterinary Attestation Certificates**

Veterinary attestation certificates are now required for sale of fat stock inc. geld ewes/cows to comply with export requirements and verify the absence of notifiable disease and provide general advice on farm biosecurity. A vet visit is required annually to confirm the farm has regular vet visits and is under veterinary supervision, from this a VAN number can be generated. Please contact the surgery if you require a visit or remind a vet to fill in a certificate whilst we are out on farm. Those who are farm assured are not required to get a VAN.

Disease Update

Recent changeable weather conditions has exacerbated the pneumonia risk on many farms, please get in touch if you think you have more pneumonia cases than you should have. We can have look over the calves and their environment and work with you to make improvements.

Fluke positives have been coming back on cattle and sheep faecal tests, as well as some high worm counts. Please get in touch to discuss sample of a group of animals if you think they aren't performing as they should.

We are working with the Edinburgh Dairy and sheep nutritional assessment department on some farms. This involves blood testing a group animals such as sheep 3 weeks off lambing or several groups of dairy cows to ask them what they think of their ration – please get in touch if you would like to know more.