



# Student Guidelines

## Welcome to Lambert, Leonard & May!

As the gap between student vet and vet in practice becomes increasingly difficult to bridge we are keen that you make the most of your time with us. We hope to expose you to as much 'hands on' work as possible and give you a full insight into the demands of farm animal practice, thus making that transition into practice that bit easier. We feel this is particularly important due to the declining number of new graduates entering farm animal practice, which, if it continues, will have large implications for both our practice and farm animal practices nationwide.

By following these guidelines we hope that you will be able to use your time with us to its full potential and get the best from your visit.

**Meeting up with vets** - Most vets have morning routine fertility visits that we attend straight from home. At the end of the day check the whiteboard of jobs for the following day and choose a vet you would like to go out with the next day. Then arrange with that vet where you are going to meet. If it suggested that you go out with another vet, don't take it personally, there are some farms that are more student friendly than others and we would prefer it if you went to those so you gain the most practical experience.

**Always ask questions** - Make the most of your one-to-one time with the vets and ask as many questions as you like. We won't mind and expect to learn something new from our students. It is a great opportunity to ask how to approach different clinical scenarios and will also highlight your weaker areas so that you can improve on them.



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**Your aims and goals** - If you have a particular area that you would like to improve on or you want more practical experience of a few specific procedures, then let us know at the beginning of your time with us so that we can try and expose you to these where possible.

**Out of hours** - Most emergency work e.g. calvings, prolapses etc occur out of hours. Therefore if you want to get involved, then let the vet on call know. The on-call list for the week is on the small white board to the left of the main calls board.

**Feedback and Assessment form** - We will be happy to provide you feedback if you would like it. At the end of your time with us, find the vet you spent the majority of your time with and ask them to spare a few minutes with you filling out your assessment form (although this will obviously depend on how busy we are), that way you get more of a direct appraisal.

As you will appreciate, the practice is a very busy place and there are certain things that you could do to help out both the vets and the office staff in order to help things runs more smoothly:

**Operating Kits** – Once used, these are placed in the cleaning room at the back of the practice. They need to be washed and reassembled before being checked by one of the staff. A list of what goes into each operating kit is on the wall. This will help you to learn what we use in a basic operating kit.

**Vets' Cars** – When you come back to the practice after calls, ask the vet if they would like you to restock their car with anything that's been used during the day's calls. This will help you to gain an understanding of how much of a



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particular medicine is used, and what for as well as giving you an idea of how to (or not to) organise your car when in practice!

**Brew Making!!** – We all love our brews and making teas and coffees will certainly endear you to everyone! There is a list of how everyone takes his or her tea/coffee above the sink in the kitchen.

### **THINGS TO GET INVOLVED WITH**

#### **NMR Herd Companion Cell Count Reports**

Every month many of our farmers have a report based on their last cell count recordings, which picks out areas that they need to tackle in order to reduce their cell count or prevent it rising. At the beginning of your time with us, ask James which farms you can write a report for and they will take you through what is involved and then discuss it afterwards.

#### **Foot Trimming**

This is an area that many farmers struggle to keep on top of and would always love a helping hand. There are a few farms close to the practice who would be happy to pick out few cows for you to practice on. However, we will need to make sure that you are confident doing this before we unleash you so if it is something you would like to do, let us know and we will try and put aside some time.

#### **Newsletter**

Every month we produce a practice newsletter that keeps farmers informed about seasonal problems they should be looking out for and offers/promotions



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we are offering at the practice. If you would like to write a short piece to be included then please feel free. Contributions always welcome.

### **On-farm Investigations**

You may wish to get involved in some on-farm investigations that we are carrying out such as lameness scoring and mastitis sampling. We hope that this will provide you with some good hands-on experience - the next time you do it you may be on your own in practice! If you ask the vets we may be able to give you details of any work we would like you to get involved in at the start of your time with us.

### **A FEW MORE HELPFUL TIPS**

- There is an alphabetical list of all our clients next to the big wall map, along with the farm name and grid reference
- You can access the internet and practice network from any computer with the details below:

USERNAME:       **college**

PASSWORD:       **student**



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## **STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE**

At the end of your time with us please fill out the following and give it to the office staff so that we can gauge how much you got from seeing practice with us and how we can improve on things in the future, should you come again. A photo would be very useful too – it's not always easy to recall every student!!

**Name:**

**College:**

**Year:**

**Type of practice you want to enter on graduation:**

**Dates of EMS:**

**Main vet(s) you spent time with:**

**Aims and goals at the start:**

**Areas in which main experience gained:**

**Areas you would still like to improve on:**

**Best bits about your time with us:**

**Worst bits about your time with us - how we could improve this in the future:**

**Contact telephone number(s):**

**Contact e-mail address:**