



## **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 the guidelines below we hope that you will use your time with us to its full potential.

**Your aims and goals** - If you have a particular area that you would like to improve on or 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.

We would encourage you to think about your objectives for your time with us and to tell us what they are early on.

**Meeting up with vets** - Most vets have morning routines that we tend to go to straight from home. At the end of the day check 'the board' and choose a vet you would like to go out with the next day and arrange where you are going to meet. If we suggest 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.



*First in the field*

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**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 we may even learn something new! It is a great opportunity to ask how we approach different clinical scenarios and will also highlight your weaker areas so that you can improve on them.

**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 right 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.

We always pass round an assessment for every student in any case so we will keep a record of your input and enthusiasm for future reference.

Nowadays we also use the vetems website where you can assess your time with us and we can provide feedback on students who see practice with us.

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:



*First in the field*

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

**Vets' Cars** – When you come back to the practice after calls, you might 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 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 their tea/coffee above the sink in the kitchen. You may find that this will influence the scores we give you after your time with us!

## **THINGS TO GET INVOLVED WITH**

### **Clover Cell Check 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 us which farms you can write a report for and one of the team will take you through what is involved and then discuss it afterwards.



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### **Foot Trimming**

This is an area that many farmers struggle to keep on top of and usually 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 we are offering at the practice. If you would like to write a short piece to be included then please feel free. Any input you can offer will always be highly valued.

### **On-farm Investigations**

We may wish you 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! We will give you details of any work we would like you to get involved in at the start of your time with us.



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### **Feedback**

At the end of your time with us please use the vetems website to provide feedback on our Practice and how helpful (or not) we have been. Please be open and honest – we want to improve!

It is also worth adding a photo to the ems website so we can recall you more easily for future enquiries.