

Newsletter

August 2018

Leading on from our recent drought like spell it is nice to finally see some rain, unless of course you are trying to get the combine going! This month we introduce our newest staff member who some of you may not have met yet. Andy talks about a group of visitors to the practice and Neil introduces an interesting book that has recently been published.

Farm Animal Practice clients and vets help enhance vet education in South Asia

In June the Farm Animal Practice welcomed some visitors from vet schools in South Asia who had come to the R(D)SVS to share knowledge in clinical teaching. Professor Nayana from the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka; and Professor Syam and Dr Anoop both from Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, India spent two days of their ten day visit with the Farm Animal Practice team.



Mike Evans performing a successful sheep caesar

Mike Evans joined the practice in May as our new resident in Small Ruminant Health Management. Mike grew up in Kendal, Cumbria and graduated from the Dick Vet in 2014 before spending 4 years in mixed practice, split between Armagh and Renfrewshire. He has previously spent time studying the impact of parasites in wild sheep on St Kilda and is now investigating sheep parasite populations in a commercial flock, whilst working towards a Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine and the Diploma of the European College of Small Ruminant Health Management. He is keen to be involved with all aspects of sheep and goat farming but is particularly interested in parasitology, infectious diseases, and using new technology and data to improve sheep production efficiency and sustainability. When he is not working Mike enjoys hill walking and playing the cello.



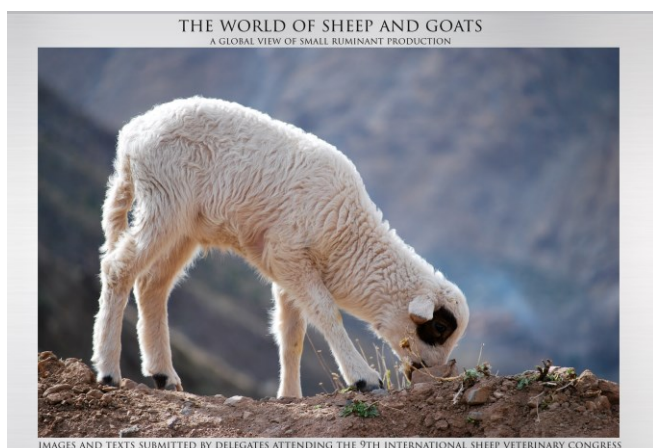
During this time they attended a foot trimming class at Langhill with Mike and Steven Burton; saw the students examine and x-ray sheep from Wester Middleton in the hospital with Rob; did a dairy fertility visit to The Murrays; an operation at Wolfstar, and plasma transfused a cria (baby alpaca) at Bobcat Alpacas, all with Andy and his students. Our guests were very impressed both by the standard of clinical teaching on offer and the quality of the farms we serve. They were particularly complimentary about the level of technical and clinical knowledge of our clients, and they headed home with lots of new ideas for teaching their students and also for making improvements on their university farms.



We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our clients for their assistance and patience in the training of new vets. Your help makes our work possible, and has a big impact on efficient food production and rural prosperity both nationally and internationally.



The World of Sheep and Goats



The highly successful 9th International Sheep Veterinary Congress was held in Harrogate just over a year ago, attended by over 700 delegates from around the world. Our R(D)SVS colleagues played a substantial role in the organisation of this event with the theme of 'improved small ruminant production efficiency through global solutions to local challenges and local solutions to global challenges'. Delegates were invited to submit images and texts depicting

aspects of sheep or goat production that appealed to them, which were then displayed around the

conference venue to encourage discussion. The images and accompanying texts have now been collated into a 160 page book that was launched earlier this month at the Royal Highland Show.

The images in themselves are fantastic, but the texts gives an insightful commentary on what matters most in the world of sheep and goats. The book contains about 430 of the submitted images and texts from more than 50 countries and 5 continents.

All proceeds from the sale of the book are going to the 'Karl Linklater Fund', a charitable fund administered by the Moredun Foundation, and will be used to help delegates from lower and middle income countries to attend the 10th International Sheep Veterinary Congress in Seville, Spain, in 2021. The Fund was named in respect for Karl's role in organising the 1st International Sheep Veterinary Congress in Edinburgh in 1985 and his involvement with small ruminants ever since.

At a cost of £20 for the UK (including postage), the book represents exceptional value and you will not be disappointed. At these prices, about £9.50 per book for UK orders will benefit the Karl Linklater Fund.

The book can be ordered through the Moredun bookshop using the following link. Alternatively you can buy a copy directly through Ali or one of the FAP vets.

<https://portal.moredun.org.uk/shop/books-dvds/world-sheep-and-goats-uk-delivery>

Client Help Required!

The school is looking for volunteers among our clients to help train second year veterinary students in client communication. You would be working with small groups of students. These classes take place from September onwards and we are looking for a commitment of two mornings, refreshments will be provided. For more information or to register your interest please get in touch with Farm Animal reception or ask one of the vets.