

Our Katie and TJ at Badminton- Here's their experience!

Brilliant fun, amazing memories and huge disappointment- that's horses and unfortunately sums up my first Badminton! But we will be back.

To actually get to my first Badminton was such a massive privilege and I was so excited and thrilled to be there with my very special horse. Just arriving and walking through the archways to the historic and beautiful stables is a feeling I will never forget.

First step - trot up and this has become a serious fashion parade!! I was kindly made a beautiful outfit (plus given boots and hat) and managed to match up to TJ, who my grooms had looking divine! The trot up is always a bit nerve wracking but a very excited TJ was accepted by the ground jury and we were officially starters at Badminton Horse Trials - wow!

Dressage next and a personal best is all you can ever wish for - we did just this in a big atmosphere and I couldn't have been prouder of him. No we weren't troubling the leaders but we both did our best and looked forward to our favourite part to come.

Next amazing experience was drinks reception in Badminton House, a huge privilege that didn't disappoint - it is absolutely beautiful. Great chance to relax with friends and family, plenty of champagne in celebration and we were glad of a day off the next day!

So XC day arrived and I still remained more excited than nervous, having walked the course 4 times I had my plan and was confident TJ and I could do it - yes it was huge and tricky but he is the most amazing XC horse and I have total faith in him. After a perfect warm up there was a delay to our start and TJ got over excited and managed to pull a shoe off....talk about bad timing, mass panic and the farrier having to nail it back on in a hurry to a very excited horse minus a big chunk of hoof. Anyway mission accomplished we set off and TJ was awesome, simply foot perfect over everything until suddenly he stopped! Taken by surprise I presented him to the jump twice more but he wasn't interested and we were eliminated, such mixed emotions of disappointment, confusion and most of all worry that he was injured as it was just so unlike him.

We quite quickly discovered that the shoe he lost had been nailed back on a bit tight and after 6 minutes of galloping and jumping he must have been feeling sore and very sensibly opted to go no further. Absolutely gutted but so relieved that this was obviously the problem.

I am pleased to say that after a week off, a new shoe from my brilliant farrier and he was right back to form and plans started for the next event. Easier said than done with on call to swap and days off needed but thanks to my amazing colleagues at Milbourn for making it work - next stop Bramham!



by Katie Preston BVSc, MRCVS

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Strangles - Why Test?

A survey commissioned by the Redwings Horse Sanctuary found that only 13% of yards test for Strangles on arrival of a new horse, but also that 78% of owners would welcome screening of new arrivals.

Strangles is a highly contagious bacterial respiratory infection that is commonly seen in the equine world. It is spread by direct contact with an infected horse or by sharing equipment e.g. buckets. The signs of infection are a thick nasal discharge, swollen glands and high temperature. The disease can, although rare, be fatal. Affected yards are recommended to cease movement on and off until the infection has cleared which can take several weeks. A small percentage of horses that contract Strangles can become carriers whereby they show no external symptoms but still harbour the bacteria.



A blood test is available to detect antibodies against Strangles which are made when the body encounters the Strangles bacteria. The main use of this blood test is to screen new arrivals to a yard for Strangles before they come onto the yard. The results will either come back as negative, borderline or positive.

A negative result means the horse is safe to move but should still be kept in isolation for 2 weeks as the blood test does not detect horses who have been exposed to Strangles within the previous 14 days.

A borderline result would want re-testing in approximately 14 days to see if the result becomes either positive or negative.

A positive result means that the horse has been exposed to Strangles within the past 6 months although it may not be showing clinical symptoms. A horse with a borderline or positive result should not be accepted on to a yard without further investigation. If a horse has a positive result, then this horse should ideally receive an endoscopy to perform a guttural pouch wash. This samples the back of the throat to check for the Strangles bacteria and is usually found in carrier horses. Carrier horses would require further specialised treatment over several weeks. We would encourage all yard owners to consider instigating a policy to test new arrivals for strangles on the above basis.

New site opening for Milbourn Equine - Canterbury



We are very excited to announce we have a new office opening in Canterbury in June.

We will be open 10am until 3pm initially and you can book your visits and pop in to collect any medication or orders. It will also be a base for our vets in Canterbury.

This new office complements our existing offices at Hawkhurst, Rye and our Clinic at Sevington, Ashford. We look forward to seeing you!

Our address is Milbourn Equine - Canterbury, Unit 1B Denne Hill Business Centre, Womenswold, Canterbury CT4 6HD
Tel: 01227 200992
Email: canterbury@milbournequine.co.uk

Weighing In!



Having an accurate weight for your horse is essential so you can worm and feed accurately. Milbourn Equine Vets have a mobile weighbridge that can be brought to your yard if a group wish to have a weigh in! Call us to arrange.

Upcoming Offers!

August
We will be offering a discount on any Strangles blood tests performed during this month

September
Our great dental promotion offer is back offering you a £10 discount on routine dental treatment. Great value when used with a Zone Visit!

October
Will be Gastric Ulcer Awareness Month where we will be offering our great value clinic prices as well as discounted treatment if medication needed

Worth Remembering...

Introduce a Friend

and be rewarded!

It's easy, just complete the details found in our reception (card or leaflet), and both you and the friend you introduce to Milbourn Equine Vets will receive a...

Discount of £10 each*

*For terms & conditions & how it works please see our website: www.milbournequine.co.uk

Welcome to Sophie!

We would like to welcome Sophie Grant BVSc MRCVS to our Hawkhurst branch. Sophie starts with us in July after initially working in a mixed practice and then completing an internship at Bell Equine. Sophie completed a work placement with us as a student while studying at Bristol University so we look forward to welcoming her back.

Healthy Horses!

At Milbourn Equine we want to help you give your horse or pony the best care possible. We know that prevention is better than cure and want to make this approach as simple and convenient for you as we can.

Health Plans are not insurance, instead they provide regular checks along with preventative medication to keep your horse's day to day health in the best possible condition.

As part of our commitment to your horse's wellbeing we offer more convenient monthly payments and as a reward for your commitment to preventative care, we also give you discounts on selected treatments and products. Our plan is available for horses, ponies or donkeys from any age.

You can pop in to your local branch, speak to your vet or give us a call and a member of our team will be happy to discuss the details of the plan further. When you are ready to sign up you can either complete our application form from your vet or the office or alternatively call Simply Health on 0800 1699958 to set up your direct debit.

Our Milbourn Equine Healthcare Plans provide your horse with:

	Essentials	Extended
Annual flu vaccination	✓	✓
Tetanus vaccination (every 2 years)	✓	✓
Annual health check including weight check & trot up assessment	✓	✓
Annual Zone Visit	✓	✓
Dental check & routine rasp including sedation (one per year)	✓	✓
Free insurance form completion	✓	✓
25% off worm egg counts	✓	
4 worm egg counts per year & tailored worming advice		✓
EGUSAL tapeworm test (saliva) & 10% discount on any wormers required		✓
One ACTH monitoring test and blood sample per year		✓
10% off Milbourn supplements & fly repellents		✓
10% off ivermectin core medication		✓
Monthly Payment	£13.50	£19.00