

RUN BY VETS, OWNED BY VETS



EQUUS VETS NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026

This months cover picture is of Sandys Bertie after he had won the Best Local Hunter and Heavyweight hunter at Devon County Show last year with rider Olivia Elson & joint owner Robert Reddaway

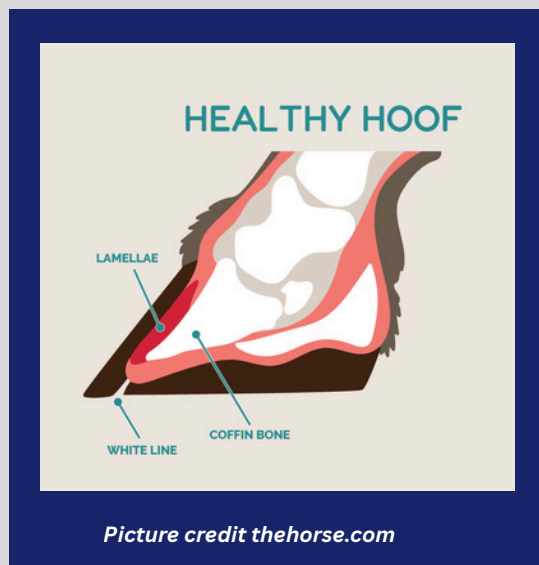
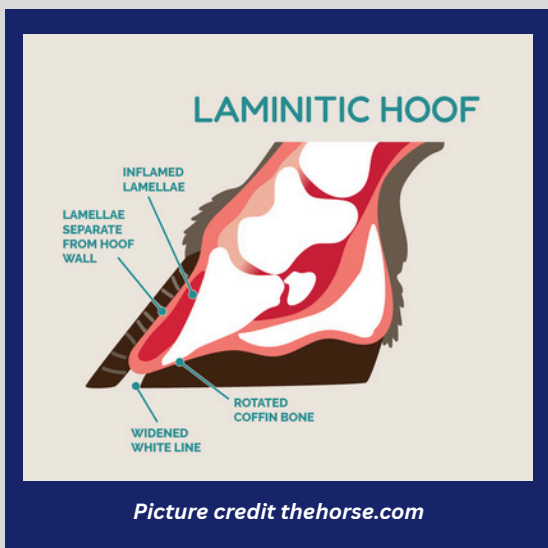


With the point to point season now finished, Hayden's weekends have not got any quieter! He was the treating vet at a Southwest Endurance GB ride which ran over two days with various length rides going up to 120km at the beautiful Boconnoc Estate at Lostwithiel.

LAMINITIS

WHAT IS LAMINITIS

The hoof wall wraps around the pedal (coffin) bone. They are connected by interlocking laminae that bonds them together.



When laminitis occurs, the laminae stretches and thus weakens often leading to the hoof capsule and bone moving away from each other causing the pedal bone to rotate and or sink – in extreme cases the pedal bone can penetrate the sole.

CAUSES

1. Diet – consuming excessive amounts of sugars & starch that would be found in lush spring grass

2. Supporting Limb Laminitis – (SLL) – if a horse has a fracture in one limb, the other leg will be bearing a considerably increased amount of weight causing extreme stress leading to laminitis

3. Inflammatory laminitis – examples of causes would be retaining the placenta, certain types of colic and severe pneumonia

4. Endocrine (Hormone) Imbalance – conditions such as PPID (Equine Cushings) and Equine Metabolic Syndrome (EMS) are associated with laminitis

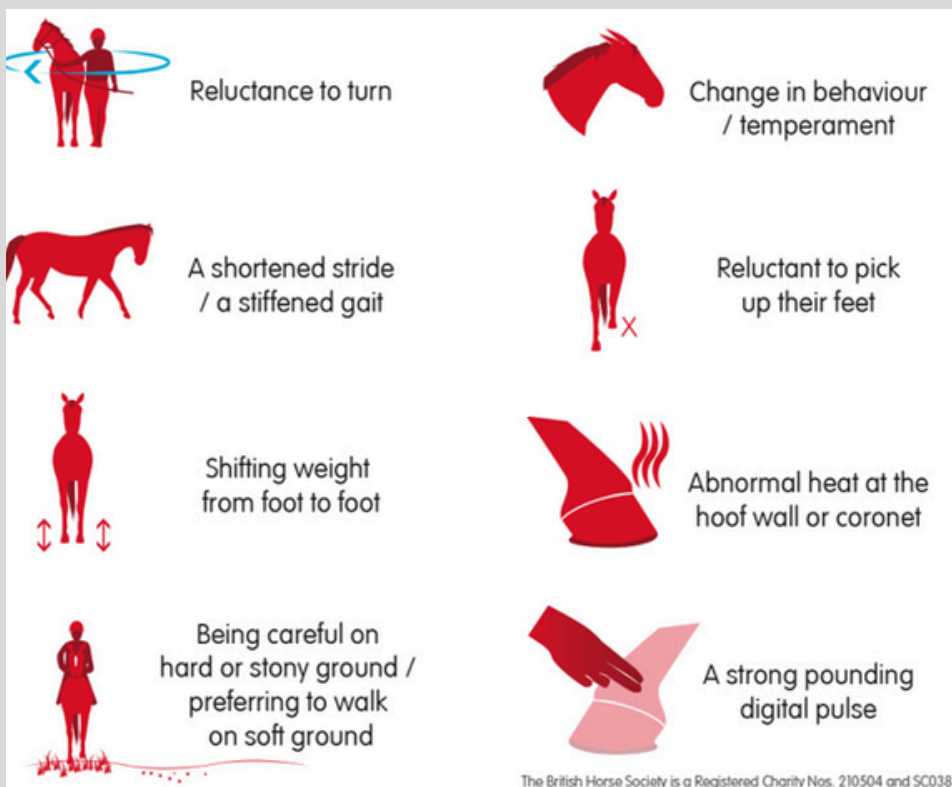
Did you know.....

Laminitis is a frequently recurrent, extremely painful condition that can occur all year round. Laminitis affects 1 in 10 horses/ponies every year and up to 90% of cases are linked to underlying hormonal disorders

**EAST CORNWALL
AREA DAYS**
w/c 6th July 2026
w/c 20th July 2026

SIGNS OF LAMINITIS

picture credit to The British Horse Society



HOW IS LAMINITIS DIAGNOSED

- If you suspect laminitis, call your vet, put your horse onto a deep bed that goes the whole way to the door, ensure your horse has plenty of water and soaked hay to remove as much of the carbohydrates as possible
- Your vet will make a diagnosis based on the clinical signs showing.
- If your vet is concerned about rotation of the pedal bone, x rays may be taken to assess the full extent of what is going on in the hoof capsule
- Blood tests are likely to be taken to establish whether there is an underlying cause.

HOW IS LAMINITIS TREATED

- Pain management will be the primary focus alongside reducing inflammation and supporting the structures of the hoof – your vet will work closely with your farrier on this.
- If there is an underlying cause proven to be the cause of the laminitis, the condition will also be treated by your vet.

PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

With the high percentage of cases of laminitis being so closely linked to hormonal disorders such as EMS and PPID, if you notice signs such as development of abnormal fat deposits or the opposite with weight loss, puffiness above the eyes, lethargy, slow to shed their winter coat, do call us to speak with one of our vets or to make an appointment for a blood sample so that any underlying changes can be caught early in the hope to reduce secondary conditions such as laminitis.