

An introduction to Dunsford and Jackson for those interested in joining the practice.

Dunsford and Jackson is a modern independent Equine veterinary practice based in Midhurst West Sussex. We are a distinctive contemporary practice which puts each patient centre-stage and forms relationships with our clients to provide healthcare and welfare for their horses.

We find that the most successful and rewarding partnerships between horses and owners are when the horse is healthy and comfortable and when the owner is fully engaged with the horse's health and wellbeing. We deliver this by providing our patients with appropriate preventative medicine, by anticipating and monitoring them for developing problems and through owner advice and support. This approach is more successful than playing catch-up and dealing with crises.

Our practice treats each patient with respect and as an individual. We watch our patient's physical health, their comfort, their welfare and their mental health. We are a well-equipped and forward-looking practice with an aspiration to constantly be better at what we do and to grow by being excellent. We are also a practice with a voice and believe that we have a responsibility to inform and educate. We always seek to be friendly open and accessible. We believe that involving owners in their horse's investigations and treatments is interesting and reassuring but also gives the best outcome for the patient. We strongly believe in continuity in the care of patients which is possible within our practice structure. We also aim to be focused and effective when patients have health issues and not let problems drag on.

We see it as it as important to effectively treat any causes of discomfort, pain and anxiety in our patients. As well as being a patient welfare issue this also has a bearing on rider safety, and allows the most successful and rewarding partnerships between horses and riders.

We aim to be aware of discomforts which athletes inevitably feel as they progress through their careers. And we are skilled in keeping patients comfortable and in work beyond the average age through vigilance and by skilled and timely treatment.

Our practice is conscious of the distress and performance limitations caused by Equine asthma and is committed to engage with the condition effectively throughout an individual patient's life.

Dunsford & Jackson is very conscious of our patient's digestive health and microbiome and the overall impact of these on Patient's health and wellbeing. The practice actively promotes digestive health. We are aware of the impact antibiotics have on Equine microbiomes and we use a strategy of responsible antibiotic use.

We strongly believe in the value of preventative medicine to deliver the best outcomes for our patients and their owners. This is commonly delivered within vaccine visits, ideally including the opportunity to trot-up and lunge patients. We also favour doing our own regular dental examinations so that we can be proactive about identifying and addressing chronic dental problems and pain. We aim to investigate and resolve dental problems promptly and effectively and our practice performs advanced dental work based at our clinic. Horses if able to visit our clinic for their routine dental examination and rasp also receive comprehensive dental imaging using our high-definition video equipment.

Dunsford & Jackson believes in and promotes vaccination for the wellbeing of our own patients and for the national horse population.

We also strongly believe that eyes are important for horses as they are for Humans, and that there is a safety aspect to eyes as well. We have the full range of ophthalmic instruments and experience in the practice to examine and treat horse's eyes.

Our practice also takes oncology seriously. We work closely with a specialist Equine oncologist to tailor the most effective modern therapy for our patients, and do not recommend a watching brief for Equine cancers as has been the common approach in the past.

Dunsford & Jackson offers well designed annual health reviews at our clinic. These typically can include a soundness examination, a thorough eye examination, foot balance x-rays and weighing the patient. There is additionally the option of a yearly gastroscopic examination of the stomach for ulcers, and the option of thorough video dental examination. We also have practice laboratory facilities and encourage annual bloods for Lyme disease infections, liver health and inflammatory markers. Our preventative health examinations are always tailored to clients wishes and means and we totally understand that clients may not be in a position to have all on offer.

As well as the home visits we are an established clinic-based practice and favour doing some of our investigations and treatments at our clinic. Our experienced clinic staff and the facilities and equipment we have allows more detailed and accurate work to be done and for problems to be resolved sooner and more economically. It is also safer for patients, staff and owners and allows clients to watch and follow the investigations and understand problems and treatments. We recognise that it is very hard to provide joined up and efficient treatment and rehabilitation for patients in the typical practice structure. We use our clinic facilities to not only to investigate and treat but we also do perform physiotherapy as appropriate during treatments, and are experienced in acupuncture, laser, shock-wave, H-wave and rehabilitation. We strive always to be accountable, to produce accurately diagnosed and properly treated patients and we are skilled in identifying multiple subtle problems in poorly performing horses.

The practice is well equipped with modern equipment and skills. Where patients require major surgery or hospitalisation we can arrange a prompt referral to a centre of your choice. Emergency referrals can always be arranged immediately and most often to Liphook Equine Hospital who we trust and with whom we have an excellent working relationship. Dunsford & Jackson also offer the usual range of Equine veterinary services including Pre-purchase examinations, exports, and A.I. which we conduct at our clinic with mares staying over for the days covering ovulation and insemination.

For reasons associated with the freedom to prescribe the appropriate drugs for the comfort and health of our patients Dunsford & Jackson have a practice policy that all patients must be declared in their passports as 'Not for slaughter for human consumption'.

We are a small practice which strives hard to produce rewarding experiences for clients and positive outcomes for our patients. As such cash-flow is critical to us so that we can stay solvent and maintain our level of service. We therefore have terms of business which require invoices to be paid within 14 days of their issue.

We do ask that clients similarly pay us for insured patients within the same 14-day terms. However we also aim to assist our clients with the submission of their insurance claims as we understand that cash flow is important to our clients as well.