



All of the other reindeer used to laugh and call him names.

**WE'VE GOT CHRISTMAS COVERED THIS SEASON**

Purchase a 5L of Turbo® or BOSS Pour On and receive a ham and gift box from Barkers.

Purchase a 2.5L of Turbo® or BOSS Pour On, 20L of Corporal + Tape or 20L BOSS Triple and receive a ham.

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**DECEMBER 2021**

I really don't want to talk about Covid but I'm going to have to I'm afraid. For the first time in my memory (which, to be fair is getting a bit sketchy) we won't be hosting our Xmas barbeque at the clinic this year. This is because we have no practical way to enforce social distancing, know who has been vaccinated & who hasn't and (if the country moves into the new traffic light system) check vaccine certificates. Having everyone crammed in under the storeroom cover, with masks off, eating & drinking while talking loudly to be heard is a terrific way to transmit the virus. And by Xmas, you can be pretty certain it will be here with bells on. We don't want to be responsible for holding a super-spreader event, so sadly we will have to break with tradition and cancel it this year. Don't despair, one of our Xmas traditions will still continue though and that's our annual Xmas ham & turkey promotions. If you're double vaccinated you will be most welcome to call into the clinic between now & Xmas to be greeted by our fully vaccinated reception staff as you pick up your delicious Xmas turkey or ham. If you're not, you might have to stand outside while we lob yours out the sliding doors.

Things aren't likely to improve over the next 12 months. Once Auckland is set free and we have unvaccinated people circulating the virus & allowing it to mutate, we'll all eventually have some sort of encounter with Covid. Hopefully, if you're jabbed, that will be a relatively minor inconvenience. If you're not, then best of luck to you & don't even think about coming in here to buy Ivermectin. It also means that at various stages throughout the next 12 months we could find ourselves short-staffed if someone gets sick & others have to isolate for a while. I'm hoping that at some stage next year we may get access to rapid antigen test kits (already available in pharmacies in Australia) enabling us to test staff in-clinic & know very quickly if we need to take action. I have looked into the saliva testing regime available to businesses now, but it still involves sending samples away, is unwieldy, costly, and pointless in its current format so it's not much more useful than the swab up the nose. So, you may have to get used to calls being cancelled or re-scheduled as we juggle staff & resources. While we can operate some bubbles, we're really too small to be able to split the team in half without those left at work becoming overwhelmed with the workload. So, we hope you will understand if delays happen.

Lastly, while we don't have any particular desire to become the vaccine police, one thing we will continue to mandate is mask wearing. As the virus circulates more widely that will become more important than ever. So, our only mandate for people entering the clinic will be **"no mask, no service"**. Please respect that for your own safety and for the safety of our staff. Right, that's Covid covered. Now for some staff news.



Sadly, this month we say goodbye to Lily who has returned to the deep south for family reasons. We're really sorry to see her go. She is a fantastic vet and a terrific person, who quickly became a vital and very popular part of this practice. We let her go with a heavy heart, lots of love, and best wishes for whatever happens next down south.

On a positive note, we've already found a replacement. In fact, we've snagged two. **Ryan Carr** will be joining us fulltime on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March next year. Ryan has been in large animal dairy practice in the Manawatu for the last 10 years or so and will bring a wealth of experience & new ideas with him when he joins the team. He'll be bringing his wife Cath and 3 daughters with him. And, if the surname sounds familiar that's because when Teresa joined us as a new graduate many years ago, her surname was also Carr. Yes Ryan is her little brother and we've been working on him for a while to join us up here. Finally, he's seen the light. I'm certain he'll make a huge contribution to the on-going success of this practice in the years to come.

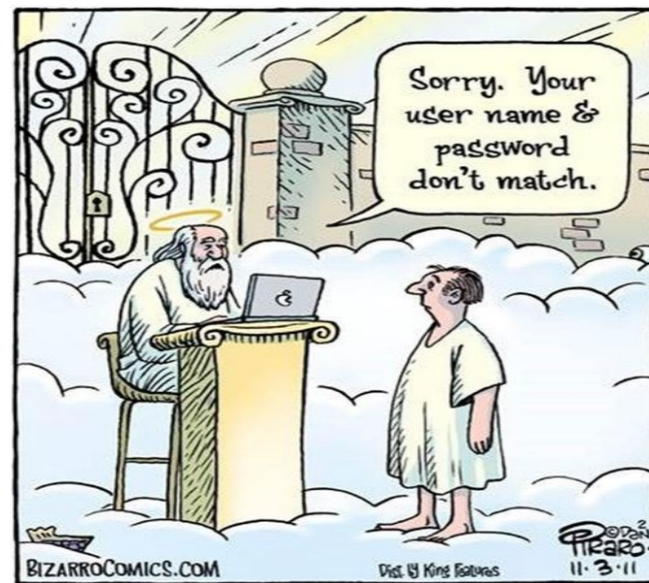
We also welcome an experienced mix-practice vet re-entering the profession after a few years off raising a family. **Holly Hofmans** will join the team 3 days a week from late January. She's married to a local cockie, Tony, and has been farming & raising her family on Stuart Road. So, she's literally just around the corner. We're thrilled to welcome her to the team and look forward to helping her re-enter the profession seamlessly.

Finally, when thinking about this newsletter and the year we've had I decided it was time for everyone to relax, take a deep breath & have a laugh or two. So, in honour of our great friend Noel Boddie (*don't worry nothing has happened to him, he's fine. Last time we did this he made a special trip to the clinic just to tell me it was the best newsletter we had ever done*) this newsletter will mostly dedicate itself to things that make you smile. Forget about farming for a bit and vets nagging you on what you need to do now and in the next few months. Make yourself a coffee, tea or something stronger, sit back and have a giggle. We could all do with one.

Thanks to you all for your support and huge thanks to everyone here at Eltham Vets for their dedicated efforts in what has been a very difficult year. **Merry Christmas everyone & all the best for 2022.**

**ROSES ARE RED, NUTS ARE BROWN**  
 SKIRTS GO UP, PANTS GO DOWN. BODY TO BODY, SKIN TO SKIN. WHEN IT'S STIFF, STICK IT IN. IT GOES IN DRY AND COMES OUT WET AND THE LONGER IT'S IN, THE STRONGER IT GETS, IT'S COMES OUT DRIPPING AND IT STARTS TO SAG. ITS NOT WHAT YOU THINK ITS A LIPTON TEA BAG. **GET YOUR MIND OUT OF THE GUTTER...**

**MB MINI BRO**



**Christmas ham FREE with qualifying Boehringer cattle & sheep drench & pouron products purchased before 21st Dec**

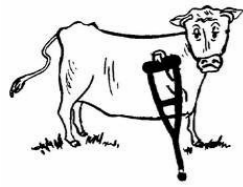


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 Jill Watson CVN/RAT  
 Michelle Mcleod  
 Alex Rowlands

Seeking expressions of interest for a

### LAMENESS SEMINAR



We are looking to run a lameness seminar in December but need enough expression of interest to make it worthwhile to run.

Please give the clinic a call to register your interest. These seminars usually run from 9:30-2:30 with lunch provided. Cost \$200 + GST

There will be both theory and practical components. We have penciled it for the 16th or 17th December.

Because of the confined nature of the theory component, we will be requiring participants to be double vaccinated.

### A SHORT LOVE STORY

*A man and a woman who had never met before, but who were both married to other people, found themselves assigned to the same sleeping compartment on a trans-continental train.*

*Though initially embarrassed and uneasy over sharing the same sleeping space, they were both very tired and soon fell asleep, he in the upper berth and she in the lower.*

*At about 1:00am, the man leaned down and gently woke the woman saying, "Ma'am, I'm sorry to bother you, but I'm awfully cold and would you mind reaching into the closet to get me a second blanket?"*

*"I have a better idea," she replied. "Just for tonight, let's pretend that we're married."*

*"Wow!" he said, "That's a great idea!"*

*"Good", she replied. "Get your own f.... blanket."*

*After a moment's silence, he farted.*

### After-hours box

#### We're making a list and checking it twice

The afterhours box is there for us to leave products for clients who maybe couldn't get to the clinic before we closed or for urgent drugs left out on weekends and evenings.

If you ring our after-hours lady for drugs to be put out, we assume it's urgent and you need them reasonably quickly. In other words, you're going to come in and pick them up. In some cases, a vet living out of town makes a special trip into the clinic, which costs time and fuel, to put them out for you.

Therefore, it is hugely irritating when we check the afterhours box the next day to find those drugs that we made a special effort to put out for you are still in there. We are not running a personal shopping "click and collect" service so please don't treat it as such.

If you want stuff put out but it isn't urgent please ring during office hours.

If you ring afterhours it is considered urgent.

We have a few recidivist offenders when it comes to abusing this service. We're making a list & checking it twice. And we will find out if you're naughty or nice.

If it turns out you're being consistently naughty we reserve the right to leave you a lump of coal or simply withdraw this service for you altogether. So please use this service as it is intended.

Thanks for your co-operation.



Historic note: Until his life's destiny was further clarified Robin Hood spent several years robbing from the rich and giving to the porcupines.

*One day a florist went to a barber for a haircut. After the cut, he asked about his bill, and the barber replied, 'I cannot accept money from you, I'm doing community service this week.' The florist was pleased and left the shop. When the barber went to open his shop the next morning, there was a 'thank you' card and a dozen roses waiting for him at his door.*

*Later, a cop comes in for a haircut, and when he tries to pay his bill, the barber again replied, 'I cannot accept money from you, I'm doing community service this week.' The cop was happy and left the shop.*

*The next morning when the barber went to open up, there was a 'thank you' card and a dozen donuts waiting for him at his door.*

*Then a MP came in for a haircut, and when he went to pay his bill, the barber again replied, 'I cannot accept money from you. I'm doing community service this week.' The MP was very happy and left the shop.*

*The next morning, when the barber went to open up, there were a dozen MPs lined up waiting for a free haircut. And that, my friends, illustrates the fundamental difference between the citizens of our country and the politicians who run it.*

*"Both politicians and nappies need to be changed often and for the same reason!"*

### The Crafty Farmer and the Pond Crashing Skinny-Dippers

A well seasoned farmer owned a large farm in the Florida Panhandle. After years of dedicated hard work on his land, he decided to rent out most of the farm and enjoy his retirement years. Around his home he developed a huge garden that included a really nice fish pond that also provided his grand kids with a wonderful swimming hole. He planted blueberries, satsumas, grapes, blackberries and a large vegetable garden. The pond was fixed up nice too, with a dock, a slide, picnic tables, and some shade trees.

One summer evening the old farmer decided to go down to the pond, as he hadn't been there for a few days to look it over. On his way out the door he grabbed a five-gallon bucket so he could pick some blackberries while he was out.

As he neared the pond, the farmer heard voices shouting and laughing with glee. As he came closer, he saw it was a bunch of young women skinny-dipping in his pond. He shouted "hello" to make the women aware of his presence and they immediately headed to the deep end.

One of the women shouted to him, "we're not coming out until you leave!"

Without missing a beat, the crafty farmer shouted "I didn't come down here to watch you ladies swim or make you get out of the pond naked."

Holding the bucket up he said, "I'm just here to feed the alligator."



**DON'T STRESS ABOUT YOUR EYESIGHT FAILING AS YOU GET OLDER. IT'S NATURE'S WAY OF PROTECTING YOU FROM SHOCK AS YOU WALK PAST THE MIRROR**



### IDENTIFICATION

The Prime Minister walks into a Bank to cash a cheque. As she approaches the cashier she says, "Good morning, could you please cash this cheque for me?"

**Cashier:** "It would be my pleasure. Could you please show me your ID?"

**PM:** "To be honest, I didn't bring my ID with me as I didn't think there was any need to. I am Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister of New Zealand

**Cashier:** "Yes, I know who you are, but with all the regulations and monitoring of the banks because of impostors and forgers and requirements of the legislation, etc., I must insist on seeing ID."

**PM:** "Just ask anyone here at the bank who I am, and they will tell you. Everybody knows who I am."

**Cashier:** "I am sorry, Ms Ardern, but these are the bank rules, and I must follow them."

**PM:** "Come on please, I am urging you, please cash this cheque."

**Cashier:** "Look maam, here is an example of what we can do. One day, Tiger Woods came into the bank without ID. To prove he was Tiger Woods he pulled out his putter and made a beautiful shot across the bank into a cup. With that shot we knew him to be Tiger Woods and cashed his cheque."

"Another time, Andre Agassi came in without ID. He pulled out his tennis racket and made a fabulous shot where the tennis ball landed in my cup. With that shot we cashed his cheque. So, maam, what can you do to prove that it is you and only you?"

Jacinda stands there thinking and thinking and finally says, "Honestly, my mind is a total blank ... there is nothing that comes to my mind. I can't think of a single thing. I have absolutely no idea what to do. I don't have a clue."

**Cashier:** "Will that be large or small notes, Prime Minister?"