



### Staff Changes

As many of you will already be aware, Brian & Racheal Cook are no longer working for us. They are moving back North to be nearer to their families. We have arranged for an experienced mixed practice vet to come and work for us to assist with the commercial farm work. He is currently working in the King Country and will start once he has finished his locum there. The Practice still has a contractual obligation to provide services to the members of the Kaipara Vet Club and fully intends to meet these. We are not walking away from the farming sector.

I have no intention of stopping work any time soon so I can provide the continuity and experience needed to provide the level of service that you are used to. Elissa provides the enthusiasm of a new graduate and is always backed up by one of the senior vets if she needs it.

I am quite happy to discuss with you any concerns that you may have regarding our future service and any opportunities that you may see to improve it.

We wish Brian and Rachael all the best for the future.

*Mark Anderson*

### Forward Planning

I know some of you have only just dried off the cows but forward planning for the Spring now can save a whole lot of heart ache later. Set up the calf shed well in advance, organise how you are going to get magnesium into the cows (Mag Ox or Rumetrace bullets?), mob up the early & late calvers, sort out the empties, check metabolic supplies for the inevitable down cows and get the RVM meeting done before calving starts.

Finally have some sort of break away from the farm yourself before Spring starts.

### Building Upgrade

We are in the process of upgrading the building in Helensville to enable us to meet the changing requirements of the Practice. We have just completed a total rewire of the computer and telephone systems. If it all went well you won't have noticed it, and now the computers, internet & phones will all be better integrated between the Helensville & Kumeu sites.

The old accounts office at the front of the building has been gutted and is being turned into a mixed use space for nurse consults, patient admission & discharges and client (farmer or pet) meeting room. To achieve these multiple functions we are being quite clever with the layout and furniture. In the future your RVM meetings etc will be in this new room.

As a result of the changes some of the Vets and the Practice Manager have moved into the upstairs office.

We have also finished the transformation of the old x ray dark room into a lab area. This came about as we now have digital x ray, so no longer need the developing room and we are doing more in house lab work to provide a better and quicker service.

### RVM Meetings

It is the time of year again, with the start of the new season to redo your restricted drug access. This process is annual and is required so you can legally pick up antibiotics and anti



inflammatory drugs from the front desk, without having to see a vet every time.

We will be contacting you shortly to arrange a meeting time with me. It is best if all the farm staff who may be handling the drugs can attend. It may prevent a very expensive milk grade. The process takes about half an hour, unless you are redoing your Leptosure Accreditation at the same time.

*Mark Anderson*



### Farm Focus:

#### Parasitology Evening 16th June

We have organised for Dr Abi Chase to talk to you about Targeted Selective Treatment (drenching) of stock. In a nut shell, not drenching all the stock every time. Done properly this can save you money and preserve your drenches for longer.

If you don't believe that Drench resistance is real, I will give you an update on some situations in this area of single, double and triple drench resistance in sheep and cattle. The time to take action is before you have no other solutions as all the good cheap options have gone by then, you are just left with the expensive (Zolvix) or bad ones, like growing pine trees.

The talk is at the **Helensville Bowling Club from 7pm on Thursday 16th June.** Drinks & nibbles will be provided.

Please RSVP to Vets North Helensville 09 420 8325 or email Chelsea at [ChelseaR@vetsnorth.co.nz](mailto:ChelseaR@vetsnorth.co.nz).



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**0800 VTS NTH**

**After Hours: 0274 957 986**

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