

## Larkmead Farm Vets Open a New Branch at Fleet Marston, Aylesbury

*Article by: Larkmead Vets*

After 50 years serving the farming community of Oxfordshire and surrounding counties, we're branching out into Buckinghamshire! In July we will be opening our first Buckinghamshire office in Fleet Marston, just outside Aylesbury.

So, what can we offer to Bucks farmers? We are an independently owned practice and are passionate about making a difference within the farming community. Our team of 13 dedicated farm vets take a proactive and collaborative approach and we operate our own 24-hour emergency out of hours service. Some of you may already know Jon Goodson who is local to the area and will be our primary vet in the new office (with support from the rest of the team of course!).



As we grow we will look to recruit new vets to ensure all our clients, new and old, receive an excellent service.

Our new branch will have facilities for performing faecal worm egg counts, allowing us to assess the need for worming or not. We stock a full range of wormers (classes 1-5), flukicides (of varying administration methods – drenches, pour-on's, injectibles, etc) and can offer advice on what treatment would suit your farming system.

Alongside this, we offer a range of products to treat and prevent ectoparasites such as flies, mites and lice. We understand that it can be necessary to get on top of things like fly strike or mange quickly, and can offer the diagnostics necessary to differentiate for different mites and lice to make sure the correct product is always used.

Give us a call if you would like to pop-in to discuss your requirements over a cup of coffee or if you'd simply like to call in and collect the items you know suit you best! A full range of all the services that Larkmead can offer is available on our website ([www.larkmead.co.uk](http://www.larkmead.co.uk)), including our training courses and health clubs.

Lastly - we're going to be at the Bucks County Show in August, so come along and say hello and try our Larkmead beer! We look forward to meeting you all soon!

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## Quick Updates

### Fuel ordering reminder

With harvest rapidly approaching, please remember to give as much lead time as possible for your fuel orders to avoid costly interruptions. *Please call Kate on 01865 393 134.*

*Fuel Hedge: running from 1<sup>st</sup> July to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018. For those that have opted in please specify HEDGE on your order.*



## New suppliers to Orion

Recently joining the list of Orion Group suppliers are:

### Enduramaxx

**Manufacturers of a wide range of rotationally moulded storage and transport tanks.** All tanks manufactured in the UK using modern efficient machinery. A wide range of outlets and fittings can be fitted to the tanks to meet customer requirements.

For further details please contact:

**Mark Gilbert on 01778 562 810** (email: [mark.gilbert@enduramaxx.co.uk](mailto:mark.gilbert@enduramaxx.co.uk))

**For tank sales call 01778 562 810** (option 1, then option 1)

## Screwfix (Trade UK card)

Members can benefit not only from the vast array of products and collection/delivery options available from Screwfix, but also from discounted Group terms.

In order to book goods via the Group account you need to apply for a **Trade UK card** which can also be used in B&Q stores. This is a very simple process and only requires you to call one of the Accounts team at the Orion office and request a card (or cards) – no other information or form-filling is required.

Please remember though: **Trade UK Cards** need to be used at least once every 6 months or they become inoperational.

Call the Orion Office Accounts team: 01865 390 011.

## Orion Members win prizes across the board!

This year's NMR Oxfordshire Dairy Herd Competition was a great event that saw Orion Members winning prizes in all categories but one for the 2016-2017 classes!

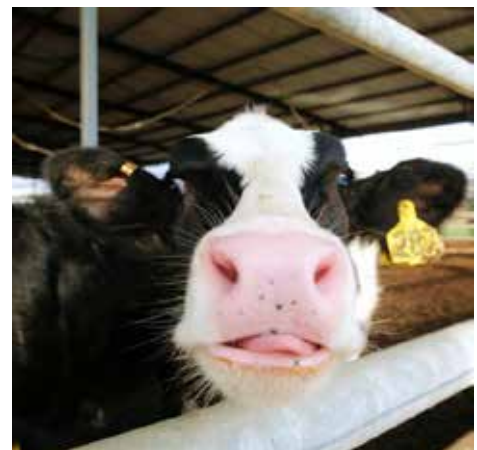
A huge well done to all Orion Members for their fantastic achievements in categories that covered: Large & Small Herds, Cross Bred, Channel Island, Novice, Youngstock, Inspection, Ind Cow, Progeny, Most Improved, Ind Heifer, Family, Prod & Sec.

The Orion sponsored category (Cross Bred) saw prizes awarded to: 1st place AJ Matthews & Son, 2nd place KB Berry & Sons & 3rd place Merrimoles Farms.

Joe Cobb, Orion's Feed & Livestock Manager, went along to the evening event held at Buston Farm, Kings Sutton, and was pleased to see our Members being rewarded for the time and effort employed in producing the best high quality dairy cattle in Oxfordshire.

Thank you to the Gardiner family for hosting the competition this year, here at Orion we're looking forward to next year's event!

Good luck to those entering the Wiltshire Dairy Herds Competition being held this month at Gore Lane Farm, Marlborough.





## Feed & Livestock

### Weekly Straights Update

A weekly straights update is sent out giving members information regarding the predicted prices of essential straights as well as the current value of the pound against the Euro and the Dollar and any relevant information about how future prices may be affected by economic and geophysical conditions. If you would like to receive this information, please contact Joe at the Orion office.

### Game Feed

Just to remind you the Group game feed tender has been awarded to Top-Gun Game Feeds. Orders can be placed via the mill directly on 01509 501 801. If you require medicated feeds please allow enough time for prescriptions to be sought from your vets by Top-Gun. Bulk feed prices are also available for large users. Please contact Joe at the office or Geoff Homewood at Top-Gun on: 07974 684 753.

### Calf Milk Powder

Suppliers have been invited to submit prices for the summer milk powder scheme. If you have submitted your tonnage requirements your order will be placed as requested. If you wish to add your tonnage to the scheme please contact Joe as soon as possible at the Orion office.

Last year Members made significant savings on several calf milk products, please get in touch so you don't miss out.

*Joe Cobb, Feed & Livestock Manager  
01865 393 139*

## Marketing your business...

Buckinghamshire Farmer, Ted-Howard-Jones, has launched **Countryside Marketing** with the aim of assisting fellow farmers across the UK in marketing their rural diversification projects.

Ted visited the Orion office recently to let us know how he's supporting the farming community with promoting projects. Ted explained "My background is a mixture of farming and marketing, so I can relate to farmers and translate their needs into cost-effective marketing."

Ben Cannon, Partner at Hyde Hall Partnership in Hertfordshire, was an early customer and Ted helped them build a new website that is easy to update.

Ted is now working with Lacey's Family Farm in Buckinghamshire. Here, Ted's approach is to guide brothers Will and Ed Lacey as they develop their growing farm shop by designing a long term marketing strategy.

Ted will be delivering a series of talks and workshops to a range of rural-based groups and associations over the coming months.

*For more information contact: Ted on 07740 298 474, or visit website: [www.countryside-marketing.co.uk](http://www.countryside-marketing.co.uk)*



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## New Suppliers to the Group (2018)

The companies below have joined the Orion supplier catalogue this year, for further details about products & services please call the Orion office or contact them direct:

**Auto Windscreens** – Glass repair and replacements. For cars & vehicles contact: 0800 999 8000 (& quote account number OFG001). For plant bookings contact: 0800 085 9001 (& quote account number OFG002). [www.autowindscreens.co.uk](http://www.autowindscreens.co.uk)

**Brackley Rewinds Ltd** – Motors, gearboxes, fans & pumps, repairs & replacements (including on site work). Call Mark on 01280 704 488.

**COBRA Concrete Pumps Ltd** – Range of pump sizes from 16 metre to 45 metre Boom. Email Angela Kessler-Wentworth at: [angela@cobraconcretepumps.co.uk](mailto:angela@cobraconcretepumps.co.uk)

**Cotswold Farm Supplies Ltd** – Agricultural retail outlet (previously Norton Air - now changed hands and names). Call Dan Collins on 01608 652 498.

**Devizes Building Supplies** – Building & timber materials. Call Sales on 01380 729 222.

**Ingles Farms Supply** – Agricultural retail outlet. Call Abby or Suzanne on 01608 651 874.

**LM Bateman** – Manufacturers & suppliers of metalwork products. Call Sales on 01538 361 326 or Jason Hodgson: 07713 712 095.

**Ridgeway Sprayers** – Service, repair & sale of crop sprayers. Call Clare Cox on 01672 560 355 or 07557 258 220.

**Silvey Oil Fuel Specialists** – AdBlue supplier. Call Kate Gee (Orion) on 01865 393 134.

**Twynning Ash** – Beef semen for dairy industry. Call Richard Carter on 07711 108 793.

**White Horse Pest Control** – Offering yearly contracts to agricultural businesses. Call Charles Tapping on 07780 434 791.

## Classified Section

### Thames Valley Alert

Receive FREE crime alerts and info about where you live by email, phone or text. Register at:

[www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk](http://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk)

### British Farming Awards 2018

Closing date is soon.

Submit your entries by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

Visit BFA's website for further details:

<https://www.britishfarmingawards.co.uk/>



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\*Information within articles written by specific suppliers should in no way be taken as advice or recommendation from the Orion Farming Group.

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