

JANUARY 2026 Newsletter

www.penbodevets.co.uk/farm



Penbode Farm Vets

Since 1840

To all our clients,

Thank you all for placing your trust in us, to provide the veterinary care for your livestock. It has been another busy year as demonstrated by the following pages. Our events and courses could not take place without the willingness of farms to host them, so thank you to all those that have.

We have a large team of 16 vets at Penbode, with a combined total of 175 years of veterinary experience! This places us in a great position to nurture and support the development of our newly graduated vets who join the team. And thank you to our clients who understand that supporting our excellent new graduates is essential to provide a strong and evolving service, and for remembering that we were all young/less experienced once!

We continue to provide placements to Bristol University Veterinary School final year students. The feedback they have given us is awesome...

"Very good variety of cases seen and all clients very nice."

"The whole practice has such a great set up, organisation and overall feel to it. Everyone seems so supportive and kind. This would be somewhere I would feel very happy starting as a new grad"

"I had a really great time, probably my favourite rotation so far, above all because the entire team are all so friendly and welcoming."

This is only possible with the collaboration of our clients who accommodate our students so patiently and remember the bigger picture of helping to train the livestock vets of the future!

It has been an unprecedented year in the veterinary medicine supply chain, with several weak links. Usually factory failures resulting in an inability to source a vital constituent, or large batches failing quality control standards. Through no fault of our own, we have struggled to get hold of certain products and had to wait for replacements to be sourced. Thank you for your patience and for working with the alternatives.

Just as most of you have a Red Tractor Audit, we have our own Practice Standards Audit in January. Thank you all for playing your part in ensuring we meet the requirements, such as, always speaking to a vet prior to any medicines being prescribed, and having at least a 6 monthly visit to your farm.

We welcome feedback and are eager to hear any thoughts on how we can continue to improve our services to you. If you have any suggestions, ideas, or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to any of us either via the practice, or on our contact details below.

On behalf of the entire team, we wish you and your loved ones a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year,

Best wishes from,

Sally, Tamsin, Andy and Lesley

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WELCOME TO THE VET TEAM

This year, we welcomed our two new graduates, Jemma and Emily, to the farm vet team.

Jemma

Jemma graduated from the University of Nottingham in 2024

Having grown up in Devon, Jemma is excited to be back home and start working.

Jemma enjoys all aspects of farm practice but is particularly looking forward to getting stuck into sheep work.

Jemma can be found in the gym or swimming, either in the pool or in the cold somewhere on the moors.



Emily

Emily graduated from the University of Surrey in July 2025. She is eager to engage in all aspects of farm veterinary work and particularly enjoys surgery.

Outside of her professional life, she spends her time playing hockey and going for long runs in the countryside.

Exciting news

We are thrilled to announce that Kate Forgan, an experienced farm vet, will be rejoining the Penbode team in 2026! Many of you may remember Kate from her years at our Stratton branch, and we are delighted to welcome her back.



2025 IN REVIEW: HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR STANDOUT COURSES

PRE-LAMBING MEETING 2025: A NIGHT OF LEARNING AND COMMUNITY

February saw our annual pre-lambing meeting bring together a fantastic crowd of local farmers and friends. The evening was filled with lively discussion and practical advice, setting everyone up for a successful lambing season ahead.

We were privileged to hear from two outstanding guest speakers: Becky from Nimrod Veterinary Products Ltd. and Su from NoBacz. Both shared their expertise and insights, sparking engaging conversations among attendees. Their generosity also extended to covering the catering costs—a heartfelt thank you to both Becky and Su!

No event is complete without great food, and this year was no exception. Attendees enjoyed hearty, locally-sourced pasties from Hoof to Block Butchery and delicious desserts from Ganache, making the evening as tasty as it was informative.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and contributed to another memorable pre-lambing meeting. Here's to a healthy and successful season for all!



Penbode Farm Vets

2026 Lambing Courses

Monday 2nd February 10am – 3pm, at Holsworthy practice. £85pp ex VAT includes lunch

Our popular lambing course is back again for the 2026 lambing season.

We will cover all the basics in a theory session in the morning including:

- **How to look after your ewes in the run up to lambing**
- **Possible lambing presentations and how to intervene**
- **Looking after your lambs and general husbandry procedures.**

After a short break for refreshments we will have a practical session on how to lamb ewes and some general husbandry procedures involved in keeping young lambs. Call your branch or email jay.waylen@penbodevets.co.uk to book

(Please be aware this does involve handling dead lambs)



Young Persons Lambing Course 2026

Tuesday 17th February 5:30pm – 7pm, at the Holsworthy practice. £25pp

Our young persons lambing course focuses more on the practical aspects of lambing and lamb care and is open to all those aged 14-18 years.

(Please be aware this does involve handling dead lambs)



Penbode
Farm Vets

Since 1840

'JOURNEY TO AFRICA' EVENING TALK

In September, Holsworthy farm vet Victoria embarked on a journey to Africa, where she contributed her skills to rhino conservation efforts.

We hosted a special '**Journey to Africa**' evening, welcoming clients eager to hear Victoria's first-hand stories and learn about her impactful work abroad. Guests enjoyed an African-inspired feast, adding a delicious touch to the evening. Victoria's presentation was both fascinating and refreshing—a unique departure from our usual meeting topics!

Thank you to everyone who joined us—and a special thanks to Victoria for sharing her inspiring adventure.



Mastering medicines course



Tom, one of our Stratton Farm Vets led a mastering medicines course for Stratton Young Farmers Club in March.

Red Tractor standards state that at least one member of staff has undertaken training on a veterinary run course in the last 5 years.

The course covers the appropriate use of medicines, correct administration of medicines and correct medicine storage and record keeping.

Each attendee received a certificate of competence.

2025 SHOWS RECAP

This year's show season, we headed to Woolsery, Camelford, Okehampton, Ashwater, Holsworthy, and Stratton. Each event gave us the chance to meet familiar faces and make new connections within our wonderful community.

We were delighted to see so many of you at our stand—cream teas and Pimm's proved to be crowd favourites! The lively atmosphere and shared stories made each show a memorable experience.

A huge congratulations to all the organisers for their hard work and dedication in creating such outstanding events. We're already looking forward to next year's show season!



PENBODE VETS SPONSOR THE HOLSWORTHY VINTAGE RALLY IN 2025



It was our pleasure to sponsor The Holsworthy Vintage Rally in 2025.

Both Holsworthy farm vet, Oli and Steve from our maintenance department took their vintage vehicles along. They had a great weekend!



PENBODE FARM VETS SPONSOR PICKME-UP

As many of you will know Holsworthy and the surrounding area is a great place to live, however if you don't have access to your own transport it can feel isolating and lonely.

Pickme-up is a local transport service available to all ages, to help everyone get out and about. <https://www.pickme-up.co.uk/>

We are proud to be supporting this local charity. Have you spotted Penbode Farm Vets on the back of a bus yet?



Bude vs Helston

The bar will be open from 1:00pm, food to be served at 1:30pm and
Kick Off will be 2:30pm

**You are invited to our annual
match day sponsorship at Bude
Rugby Club**

We hope you can join us for what
promises to be a fantastic day of
rugby and a complimentary **free drink**
and hog roast for our clients too.

THIS YEAR WE INTRODUCED THE PENBODE FARM VETS SMALLHOLDERS CLUB



This year we were excited to announce the launch of our brand-new Smallholders Club!

Building on the success of our established flock, beef, and dairy clubs, we have created this new initiative specifically for smallholders—those with a modest number of animals who could benefit from tailored veterinary services and support.

Members of the Smallholders Club will enjoy access to a host of valuable services, including wormer splitting, vaccine splitting days, practical training sessions, informative talks, and much more. Whether you keep chickens, goats, sheep, pigs, or any combination of animals, everyone is welcome to join and benefit from the expertise and community spirit of the club.

If you'd like to find out more or have questions about how the Smallholders Club can support you and your animals, please don't hesitate to call and speak to one of our dedicated smallholder team members. We look forward to welcoming you to the club!

Always here when you need us

Penbode have a team of 16 dedicated farm only vets. There are at least two dedicated farm vets on call every night and all weekend ensuring there will always be a vet on hand whatever your emergency.

Penbode Vets provides a **24/7 'out-of-hours' service**. 'Out-of-hours' is from 6pm to 8am Monday to Friday, from 1pm on Saturday and all day Sunday. Bank holidays are also classified as 'out-of-hours'.

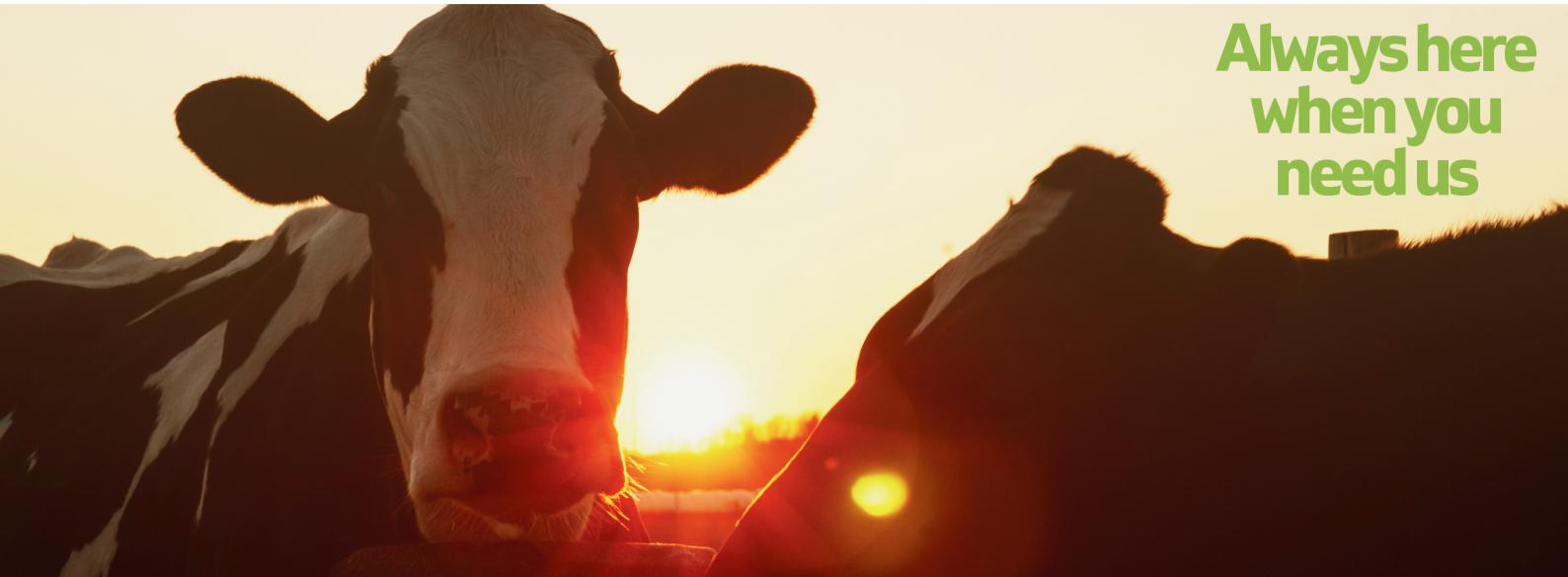
Clients can contact the surgery 'out-of-hours' by calling the normal practice day time telephone numbers :

Farm - **Stratton 01288 353766 / Holsworthy 01409 253418 / Bradworthy 01409 241241 or Camelot 01840 213277**

The telephone will be answered by a member of the Penbode team who will need to take **your name, your address and a contact telephone number**. They will also ask for a brief description of the problem or reason for contacting the practice. We do not use a call answering service.

The member of staff will then organise for the duty Veterinary Surgeon to return your telephone call as soon as possible, or organise an emergency visit. We get to over 90% of emergency calls within 30 minutes.

All four farm branches have a small ruminant examination room where farmers can bring smaller animals for treatment. E.G lambing, sick calves or post mortems. A reduced visit fee will be charged if out of hours.



**Always here
when you
need us**

MilkSure Course

Thursday 29th January 2026
11:30am – 2pm



Is your MilkSure (Part 1) training due?

Why should you take this course?

Farmers will benefit by:

- ✓ having fewer costly milk residue failures
- ✓ using medicines more effectively and therefore more efficiently
- ✓ fulfilling Red Tractor antibiotic regulations
- ✓ demonstrating to customers a clear commitment to producing pure, safe milk.

After this course you and your staff will:

- ✓ feel more in control of safeguarding your milk production
- ✓ know the three main areas which are risky and you will have the necessary tools to avoid residue failures
- ✓ have fewer decisions to make
- ✓ have less doubt and better peace of mind.

Location – London Inn, Kilkhampton

Call your branch or email jay.waylen@penbodevets.co.uk to book your seats (please let us know of any dietary requirements)