

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

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Seasonal Sausages..

Although it was hard to get into the Christmas Spirit during a very mild November we have now put up our Christmas decorations in the shop, but will resist playing those Christmas songs for a few weeks yet!

As usual we are closing over the feastive period; our last shop trading day will be the 20th December and we will re-open on the 7th January. However we will be open as usual for chicken boarding and our pens are now nearly full so if you are thinking of going away and hoping to bring your birds to us for their Chirsmas holidays (they of course all get an extra treat of mealworms and greens on Christmas Day!) then please hurry to book.



November & December are usually quiet months, where customers are not so interested in having a chicken run built in their garden or thinking about increasing their flock, so its a chance to catchup on some of the work needed around the farm. We always seem to have an endless list of repairs and improvements to do, and after a rainy morning spent indoors planning with a cup of tea we seem to have added even more to the list! So if we manage to get through the list then we aim to carry out some improvements over winter including some new chicken and duck pens by the house and along the track. Lets just hope the rain stops for long enough to make it possible!

It was finally time to say goodbye to our 3 little pigs – who were not so little any more! Our pigs arrived later than usual this year and so we have kept them longer into the winter, the problem we now have is that their pen is so wet it is unlikely to recover enough to use it again for pigs in the early spring. All we can do is hope we dont get too much rain this winter and if it hasnt dried out enough then its a re-think for where to keep the pigs next year.

Product Feature: Veterinary Worm Counts

Going into winter it is important to make sure your hens are in tip-top condition. Unfortunately as with all animals; hens can be harbouring problems for some time before it becomes apparent. A common problem is worms which can lead to less than perfect health and a reduction in egg production.

It is helpful to check the worm status in your hens, and we offer two methods for you to do this. In our shop we sell a DIY worm count kit for £19.00. This kit provides all you need to collect faecal egg count samples from your hens to send to the lab for analysis. It also contains a 250g tube of herbal pellets for daily natural parasite control.

We also offer a health check as part of our boarding service, for just £10.00 we will check the main health issues, including a worm count and examination for fleas, lice and mites. We also check the overall condition of the birds including their claws, feathers, wings and beak, carrying out any clipping required.

Our local weather forecast



After an unusually benign October – a bit of rain but virtually no wind where we normally get gales the trees are putting on a beautiful autumn display. As we move toward Halloween the nights are drawing in and it's getting quite chilly when the cloud cover clears.

November could go either way but based on the long range forecast suggests that the South East is going to get the best of the weather until the middle of the November. After a week of unsettled weather over the next few days we are likely to have some drier, brighter weather until mid month. This will of course lower the night time temperatures bringing the possibility of frost.

Its a good time to clear out the chicken shed and tidy up the chicken run. The bees have been treated with Apiguard and they look as if they have enough food to get the colony through the winter – although on nice days they are still flying harvesting the last of the Ivy pollen. We're looking forward to some excellent cod fishing along the coast here with shoals of decent fish already showing in the boats.

www.sussexanglingmedia.co.uk

Special Offers, New Products and Services



£10 Health check with Chicken Trippers

VermX Healthy Poultry Pack – your DIY chicken health kit:
An effective control of internal parasites and worm count kit in one box

Our price: £19.00 (rrp £21.99)



Sausages available

Our tasty sausages will be available again from Thursday 10th December – so you can stock up just in time for Christmas!. Still just £3.60/lb, we will have;

**Romany,
Plain Pork
Pork and Leek
Pork and Garlic
Pork and Black Pepper**



Half Price knock in perches – few remaining

Help your hens to stay out of the mud by knocking in these perches, only a few left at a bargain price of just £6.00

With best wishes from all at Mantel Farm

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