

DAVIES

The Veterinary Specialists



Sustainability NEWS

January - March 2022

WELCOME TO OUR SUSTAINABILITY NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the latest of our Sustainability Newsletters. At Davies, our intent is more than to improve just our own sustainability; we want to help other practices navigate the steps to take to improve both environmental and social sustainability in their own veterinary practice. Our green group have put together this newsletter which includes a feature on carbon literacy, details of sustainability CPD events for vets, plus an update on recent green initiatives at Davies. We hope you enjoy reading and that this newsletter helps you on your journey.

AWARD SUCCESS

For the third year running we have secured our Green Level accreditation with Investors in the Environment.

Green is the highest available accreditation from iiE and represents our collective commitment to sustainability. In addition to retaining our Green accreditation in 2021 we also won our nomination for Natural Environment Champion at the iiE awards in October. This is a testament to contributions and volunteers from across the practice.



*Wildflower meadow creation
championed by Aly Skelton.*

We are thrilled to have won this award. Biodiversity is a vital aspect of our sustainability journey, and we are already working on new projects to make an even greater impact on supporting our world in sustainable ways. This important award has inspired us all to try even harder to help our natural environment.

Rachel Evans
Sustainability Coordinator

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Members of Davies Green Group left to right; Rachel Evans – Sustainability Coordinator, Ben Orton – Hospital Director, Nat Whitley – Internal Medic, Emma-Louise Hiddle – Student RVN, Daisy-May Molyneaux – Client Care, Zoe Halfacree – Soft Tissue Surgeon

AWARD SUCCESS CONTINUED...

Natural champion is awarded to businesses making exceptional contributions to biodiversity and our highlights include:

- Creation of wildflower meadow and wildlife area
- Litter Pick
- Barn owl box and camera trap installed
- Forest Creation with Forest carbon
- Bereavement tree planting scheme
- Onsite wildflower and bird surveys
- Local wildlife photography
- Jam Jar flowers
- Client Care PC's search engines switched to Ecosia.

Davies and Linnaeus Sustainability Lead Ellie West continued our award success into the new year with a double award win at the first Veterinary Green Awards, hosted by The Webinar Vet. As a practice, we are honoured and excited to share the 'Most Green Practice' award with Old Hall Veterinary Centre in Cumbria while Ellie won 'Most Green Individual' beside Vet Sustain Founder; Laura Higham. We'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate Ellie on her individual success and acknowledge the incredible commitments to sustainability shown by inspiring colleagues across the practice which have helped us to secure this award for our practice. Practice prize money will go towards additional carbon offsetting with Forest Carbon.



Natural
Environment
Champion 2021

CARBON LITERACY

- Ellie West (Sustainability Lead)



Continuing our newest feature, Ellie West (Anaesthetist and Linnaeus Sustainability Lead) shares Carbon Literacy Facts for Veterinary Professionals.

Background:

Carbon dioxide is one of many greenhouse gases, and the global warming potentials of other gases can be compared using the carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e), measured in kilograms or tonnes of CO₂e, where the global warming potential of CO₂ is 1.

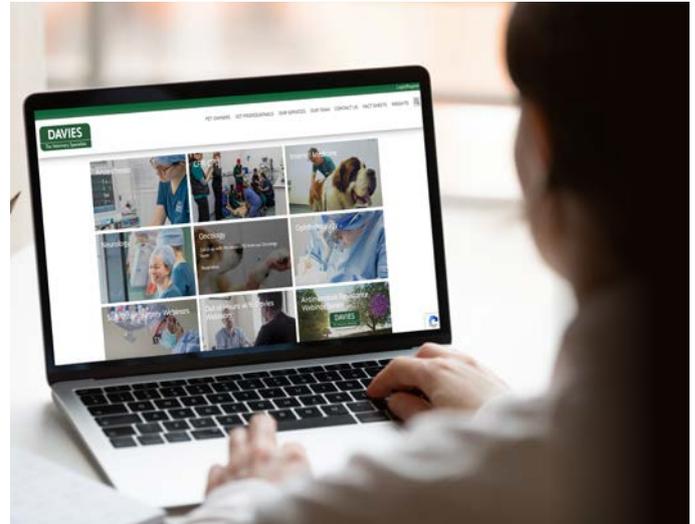
This issue, we're discussing:

The average UK citizen's carbon emissions per year

The average UK emissions in 2018 were around 7 tonnes of CO₂e per person (BEIS, 2021). Based on UN data to limit global heating to 1.5°C, each citizen's annual carbon emission need to reduce to 2.5 tonnes of CO₂e by 2030 (Giki Zero). Free tools such as Giki Zero (zero.giki.earth/) allow individuals to calculate their current footprint and can guide emission reductions.

Originally published to accompany the lecture

"What is happening in veterinary sector - high level perspective" in the Sustainability stream | Friday 26th March | BSAVA Virtual 2021. References on request.



CPD AND RESOURCES

Building a sustainable future veterinary profession through curriculum change:
vetsustain.org/work/building-a-sustainable-future-veterinary-profession-through-curriculum-change

"Becoming Carbon Neutral - a guide to Why, How and When."

- **The Webinar Vet and Vet Sustain:**
Wednesday 16th March 2022 8:00pm GMT.

Click here to sign up for free to watch the live CPD session on becoming carbon neutral.

NATURE NEWS

Marine Reviews

The Wildlife Trusts' 2021 Marine Review reports fantastic news for humpback whales with 75 sightings in UK waters since 2019, which suggests populations are recovering as a result of whaling bans. 2021 was also good year for Orcas and white-beaked dolphins, with the first recorded sightings in UK waters for more than 10 and 20 years respectively. Meanwhile, a potential breeding pair of puffins were spotted on the Isle of Man for the first time in over 3 decades. However, 2021 also brought an 'astonishing' number of stranded seals and cetaceans, often linked to discarded fishing equipment while severe storms and temperature fluctuations as a result of climate change have been linked to altered distributions of walrus, pufferfish and furrowed crab, impacting native species.

Referencing the North Sea Wildlife Trusts' carbon capture report, the Wildlife Trusts' Marine review highlights the importance of seabed sediments and seagrass as carbon stores with North Sea carbon stores equating to nearly 20% of carbon stored in UK forests and woodlands. Seagrass captures carbon 35 times faster than rainforests and the Wildlife Trusts are working to restore these and other vital marine habitats; calling for at least 30% of our oceans to be protected by 2030 with increased monitoring and protected marine areas.

To find out more, visit; wildlifetrusts.org/news/30by30-to-kickstart-natures-recovery
Read the review at: wildlifetrusts.org/news/marine-review-2021



HOW BIG IS YOUR ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT?

Find out with our environmental footprint calculator

GET INVOLVED

Reducing your carbon footprint

We can all do more to reduce the impact we have on the environment. The WWF have put together a useful carbon footprint calculator, you can use this to measure your carbon footprint and see tips to reduce this through their website. [Click here](#)

You can also access it by downloading the WWF My Footprint App [here](#).

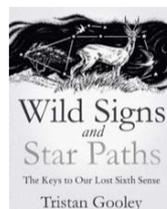
RESOURCE LIBRARY

What we're listening to



The Knepp Wildland Podcast with Penny Green; As one of the largest-scale, most ambitious and most successful rewilding projects in England, the Knepp Estate has welcomed numerous rare and endangered species such as nightingales and turtle doves to newly created and restored habitats. In this podcast Knepp Ecologist Penny Green welcomes diverse guests to discuss the various species, techniques and roles which define this incredible project – Spotify.

What we're reading



Wild Signs and Star Paths; The Keys to Our Lost Sixth Sense - Tristan Gooley; Regain your lost sense of outdoor awareness and learn to experience the outdoors with new understanding.