

AIM HIGH

with St David's Game Bird Services

ST DAVID'S GAME BIRD



SERVICES

VETERINARY SURGEONS

New
Branches
Opening in
2020

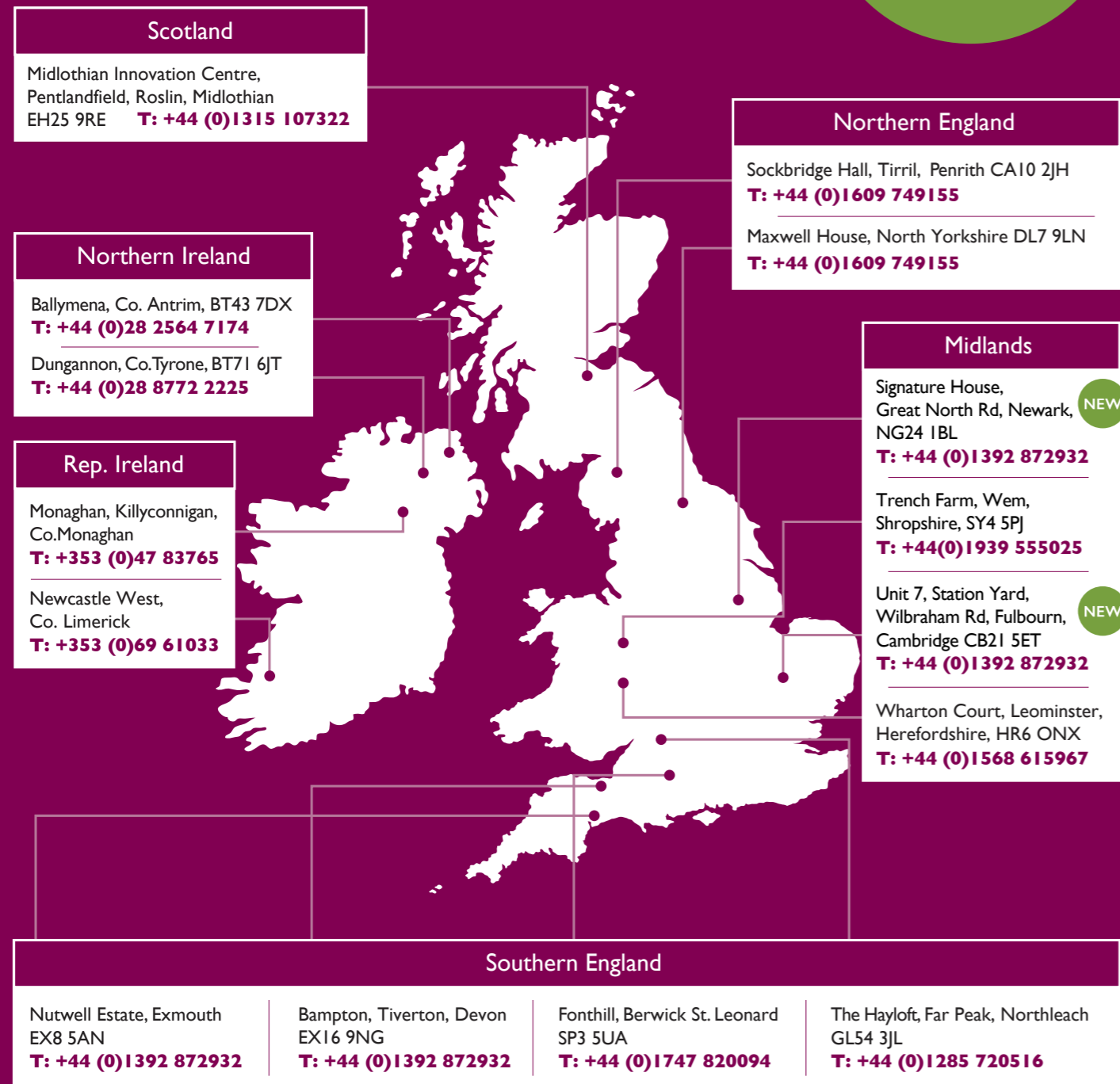
Independence | Integrity | Innovation

www.stdavids-gamebirds.co.uk

Locations

“The national practice working locally on a shoot near you”

Over 25
vets working
across 15
practice bases



Head Office Telephone: +44 (0)1392 872932 Email: info@stdavids-gamebirds.co.uk



St David's Game Bird Services provides a bespoke, experienced service to all of our clients. The combined game bird knowledge and experience of our vets and field services team will be able to assist you in every aspect of the game bird industry.

Caring for a major part of the game bird industry across the UK and Ireland; our aim is to provide proactive, innovative and practical advice, focusing on preventative measures and health planning, helping our clients to achieve the best quality birds for flying.

Supporting every stage of game bird production, from the game farms with breeding stock management, egg production and layer management to the rearing operations and release on shoots, as a practice we are dedicated to sustaining and improving the sector – which is demonstrated through our innovative solutions and research projects.

The Team

Our network of veterinary surgeons are led by Directors Alan Beynon and Kenny Nutting. With over thirty years' combined experience working with game birds, both Alan and Kenny are passionate in supporting and protecting the game bird industry, which is demonstrated through their efforts to create working groups, lead research and find new innovative solutions to improve the life of the bird.

In addition to this, Alan also sits on the board of Directors for the British Game Alliance (BGA) which works to secure the future of the industry through advocating the game farm audit, ensuring better animal welfare and paving a way for game meat to the mainstream market.

Whilst our head office is near Exeter, Devon, St David's Game Bird Services has national coverage across the UK and Ireland. This national coverage allows us to provide a local and responsive service, meaning we have more vets on hand for our clients, when they need us.

St David's is a vet owned company and our independence means we have the freedom to invest into areas of the business to respond to client needs and offer a range of treatment methods without restrictions.



St David's Game Bird Services are dedicated to improving health and welfare industry-wide. We are dedicated to working closely in collaboration with organisations such as the BGA and other research institutions, and as a practice we strive to lead the way in creating innovative solutions and diagnostic tests to secure the future of the game bird sector."

**Kenny Nutting BVetMed MRCVS,
Director, St David's Game Bird Services**



Services

On-Site Visits

Our on-site service allows us to provide a hands-on approach so we can assess the health of the birds alongside their management and environment that they are reared in.

With 15 practice bases across the UK and Ireland, we are able to come to you at a time that suits, saving travelling time for you as a Gamekeeper or Game Rearer at busy times of the year.

The St David's vets and field services team are able to carry out a number of services whilst on site, including post-mortems, with the aim of providing an efficient diagnosis.

Field Services

- Brooding problem investigations
- Cleaning advice
- Blood sampling
- Hatchery biological control
- Vaccination and administration training
- Water hygiene (sampling and investigation)
- Parasite control methods

Post-Mortems

Each of our practice bases are fully equipped for post-mortem examinations, and clients are able to drop birds to us, or liaise with our office team for courier collection to your nearest branch.

When conducting post-mortems 6 birds are usually required which enables us to carry out sufficient screening and testing. Our vets are also able to conduct on-site post-mortems where required for diagnostic and routine monitoring purposes.

Laboratory

Our laboratory facilities are fully equipped for diagnostics and routine testing purposes.

We are able to offer our clients bacteriology and other tests in our in-house laboratories across our practices based in Devon, Herefordshire, Shropshire and Northallerton, providing rapid results and a faster diagnosis to aid disease prevention and control.

Please see below for details of other routine tests that are available:

- **Blood testing**
Blood samples can be taken by a vet, or our field services team on farm. Available blood tests include routine monitoring or disease diagnostic such as those for Mycoplasma.
- **Feed sampling**
Feed sampling often involves looking for a number of different components, including mineral/vitamin content and levels of chemical content.
- **PCR sampling (Polymerase Chain Reaction sampling)**
These tests are often carried out at the request of a vet as a more indepth form of investigation. When we request PCR tests, often we are looking for disease such as MG or MS Mycoplasma or Blackhead.
- **WECs (Worm Egg Counts)**
WEC testing is carried out in our in-house laboratories. Clients are able to order the testing kits through our dispensary team so a visit is not required.

Client System

We have built and developed a bespoke laboratory system for our clients which allows them to login and view their test results and reports at their own convenience. All clients are given the option to join our lab system at the point of registering with the practice, and email notifications are sent when new information or test results are submitted to your client profile.



Grouse

We are able to provide a range of services for Grouse clients. Commonly, clients will submit birds for post-mortem examination and disease monitoring.

We are able to perform total worm counts, worm egg and coccidial oocyst counts, assess tapeworm burdens and also look for *Cryptosporidium baileyi* which is the organism that causes Bulgy Eye in grouse.

We can also offer advice on Louping Ill and other disease control programmes.

St David's also provide prescriptions for medicated grit on the basis of results from worm egg counts in the closed season and can give advice on the efficacy of worming procedures.

We strive to give you clear and practical guidance on methods and protocols that will help to prevent disease and welfare issues developing, rather than providing reactive treatment.

Working closely with Applied Bacterial Control Ltd (ABC) we have led the way in the research and testing of alternative approaches to antibiotics usage within the industry. We are in a strong position to advise clients on health planning, husbandry advice and products with the aim of improving bird health and only using antibiotics when no other alternatives work.

We are joining forces with leaders in the industry such as the British Game Alliance (BGA) and Sci-Tech Laboratories to further expand our knowledge, and during 2019 Alan Beynon worked alongside the BGA and Sci-Tech to create the first validated blood test for Mycoplasma in pheasants – a disease that is increasingly seen across the game bird industry.

Our research work is ongoing as we strive to find new solutions and methods for tackling diseases such as Hexamita and we welcome the opportunity to further develop our knowledge in order to provide the very latest clinical advice and care to our clients.



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Mycoplasma in my opinion represents the biggest threat to the game bird sector as a



vet and cannot be controlled dealing only on a shoot-by-shoot basis. We have started assembling all the shoots in a number of regions alongside their suppliers and started a process of monitoring birds' infectivity through blood sampling.”

**Alan Beynon BVM&S MRCVS,
Director, St David's Game
Bird Services**

Hexamita Research

Game bird vets from St David's Game Bird Services, along with two other veterinary practices are currently collaborating with The University of Surrey Veterinary School to conduct preliminary research into the causes and interactions of both eukaryote and prokaryotes proliferation in young game birds.

Hexamita is one of the focuses of this research, and gut samples from both pheasants and partridges were collected throughout last season and are being analysed at a genetic level for identification and population status. The goal is to understand more about which microbes are causing clinical disease, why they do and when.

Working Groups

There is a need to work together to reduce and prevent further disruption and problems in the game industry.

Shooting is the major income for many estates that we work with and helps to maintain and improve them.

Without the shoots many of the estates would not be in the condition they are now, and therefore it is imperative that we do everything that we can in order to preserve their existence.

As such, St David's Game Bird Services are now working with clients to create regional working groups with the aim of bringing together all of the estate owners, managers and keepers in a defined area to develop and implement action plans for disease reduction, audit and conservation efforts.

Once a solid working group of shoots is formed, we have seen many other benefits from this level of collaboration such as: focused efforts to help endangered populations of butterflies, wild orchids and birds, as well as working together on forestry efforts and cover crop effects.

These working groups are essential to help maintain the health of our industry and our environment.

If we can be of help, or if this is something that interests you, then please feel free to get in touch to discuss this further.

Regional Updates & Events

Due to our national coverage across the UK and Ireland, we have up-to-date information on disease outbreaks in your region via email and text message. We provide advice on measures to reduce the risk of introduction and spread of disease as well as organising regional events to keep clients up-to-date with disease and management advice and industry news.

St David's Game Bird Services are able to offer bespoke health care plans that start with laying bird management and egg production all the way through to rear and release.

Our health care plans are focused on the specific requirements of you and your site with the aim of improving game bird health and exceeding welfare standards to benefit the industry as a whole.

Each Healthcare Plan is created and worked through in detail during an on-site visit with you and your team with the aim of ensuring that your rear/ breed/ hatch or shoot is fully compliant with the new BGA auditing process.

For more information on Healthcare Plans, email info@stdavids-gamebirds.co.uk or call 01392 872932.

Mycoplasma Prevention Plan

Mycoplasma is both a major disease and welfare issue and can also have a considerable financial impact on effected farms, shoots and estates.

As a result, our clients have asked us to create a detailed guidance and prevention plan that they can implement to protect themselves against this disease.

When adhered to correctly, these preventative measures have shown to be effective in protecting against Mycoplasma.

For more information on our prevention plans, contact the office on 01392 872932 or email info@stdavids-gamebirds.co.uk

Products & Supplements

Our dispensary stocks a wide range of products for all your medication, vaccine and product needs, and we have a dedicated dispensary team that specialise in the efficient despatch and delivery of orders.

We have carefully curated our range to offer you the best quality products. This enables our clients to use a proactive and targeted approach to enhance productivity and minimise on-farm challenges via strategic supplementation and management. All of our products have been tried and tested on-site, and have been selected by our experienced vets for the positive benefits that we have seen.

Our range of products include:

- Acids
- Antibiotics
- Detergents and disinfectants
- Essential oils
- Prebiotics and probiotics
- Premixes
- Vaccines
- Vitamin and electrolyte supplements
- Water sanitisers
- Wormers

RECOMMENDED BY US



**POULTRY
PHARM**

PROVEN BY VETS

Our range of nutraceutical products can be purchased at www.poultrypharm.co.uk

For more information or to order, call the dispensary team on 01392 872930.

Tried and tested by our dedicated game bird vets

Visit our website for more information, disease updates and events.



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