

Equine News: December 2021

Autumn Client Evening



We'd like to say a huge thank you to our clients who came to our evening meeting last month. It was really nice to see you all again in person. Our vets, Steph, Euan, Charlotte and Colin thoroughly enjoyed the evening as they gave short, case-based talks on pre-purchase examinations, teeth, colic and sarcoids.

Time to think about small redworm

In the winter months the development of small redworm larvae is temporarily arrested (rather like hibernation) and they "encyst" in the large intestinal gut wall. It's very important to note that in this state they are not laying any eggs and therefore will not be detected in any faecal worm egg count test.

When the environmental temperature warms up, they can emerge all at once from the gut wall and cause severe diarrhoea, especially in young horses.

Current advice is that every horse should receive a treatment for encysted stages of small red worm (cyathostomes) once a year, even if they have had negative faecal worm egg counts throughout the grazing season.

It is important to treat in the winter months before the expected time of emergence. In most years, treatment in December or January would be appropriate.

Moxidectin (Equest) is the treatment of choice for these encysted stages of cyathostomes, however, we recommend against using moxidectin at any other time of year to help in the prevention of resistance.

If your horse needs treating for tapeworm too you can use the combined moxidectin/praziquantel product (Equest Pramox).

If you are on our worming program, you will receive a reminder to collect your dose from the surgery in the next week. If you are an Old Friends or Pre-season member this wormer is not included in your plan but you will still receive a reminder.

Pre-Season Health Plan Offer

For £145 (inc VAT), the Pre-Season Health Plan includes:

- Full examination incorporating lameness and medical review
- Dental examination, including sedation, and routine treatment
- Full blood profile including liver/kidney function
- 3 free worm egg counts + reminders
- 10% off vaccinations
- 1 free zone visit



That's less than half price in comparison with the full cost!

Offer open to horses and ponies of all ages. Enrolment onto this scheme is open throughout January and February; treatment under the terms of the scheme, i.e. full examination, dental examination and treatment, and full blood profile, must take place in January and February, with the exception of vaccinations. Annual membership fee or renewal must be paid in full prior to the visit.

Christmas opening times

Christmas Eve— 8.30am-4pm

Christmas Day—emergencies only

Sunday 26th—emergencies only

Monday 27th—emergencies only

Tuesday 28th— emergencies only

Wed 29th & Thurs 30th –normal surgery hours

New Years Eve—8.30am-4pm

New Years Day—emergencies only

Sunday 2nd Jan—emergencies only

Monday 3rd Jan—emergencies only

Please note we continue to run our full 24 hour emergency service at all times over the Christmas period.

Like everyone, we like to spend some time with our families, so it may not be possible to see your chosen vet at all times during this period. Thank you.



Meet Martha!

We were delighted to see Martha a couple of weeks ago for her routine 6 month post-operative check. Martha had a sizeable cyst which had developed very close to her left eye.



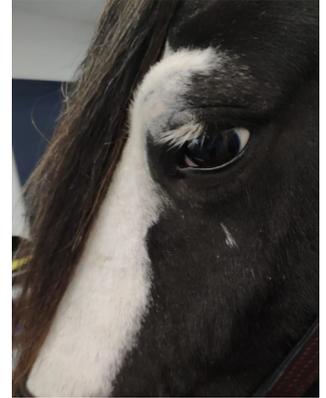
Martha's cyst prior to surgery

We removed it using a plastic surgery technique called an advancement flap. In Martha's case this was a sliding H-plasty advancement flap, advancing the skin from both sides of the 'H' to cover the site where the cyst was removed.



Martha post surgery showing the H-shaped wound

This avoided the need for a skin graft or, the longer healing time involved if the wound was left open. Martha stood quietly whilst this was done, under standing sedation and local anaesthesia, despite lots of sharp pointy things being used close to her eye (which must have been a bit of a strange sensation for her).



Martha following stitch removal (left) and at her 6 month check up (right)

We were delighted with her recovery and the laboratory confirmed that the cyst was not cancerous.

Martha is most definitely beautiful on the inside but we are so pleased she is now beautiful on the outside too.

Zone Visits December and January

Zone 1 (NE44, NE46-47, NE49 & DH8) - Mon 6th Dec, Mon 10th Jan

Zone 2 (NE19, NE45 & NE48) - Wed 8th Dec, Mon 17th Jan

Zone 3 (NE1-7, NE12-15, NE18, NE20, NE22-30 & NE61) - Sally -Thurs 2nd Dec , Thurs 6th Jan
Liz/Steph Mon 13th Dec, Mon 24th Jan

Zone 4 (NE8-11, NE16-17, NE21, NE31-43) - Wed 15th Dec, Mon 31st Jan

Zone 5 (DH2-7, DH9 & DL13-16) - Tues 14th Dec, Tues 25th Jan

Zone visits offer a reduced price visit of £20 for one owner and £10 for more than one owner at same yard for planned routine veterinary work.

We are able to offer this service by mapping the most efficient route around the calls – therefore it is not possible to specify a time or vet for a zone visit.