

# Equine News: February 2023

**Equine Client Evening  
Wednesday 29th March**

**The Mart, Hexham  
7pm Tea and coffee  
7.30pm Talks start**

## **Back Problems and their treatment**

Equine surgeon Professor Patrick Pollock of Glasgow University will be joining us to share his knowledge on this challenging topic. Patrick now regularly visits the Scott Mitchell Surgery bringing his wealth of experience to assist us with more complex diagnostic and surgical procedures.

## **The value of foot balance in the treatment and prevention of lameness**

Euan Laidlaw will discuss the benefits of foot balance x-rays and working together with your farrier to achieve optimum foot balance and comfort for your horse.

## **Practical strategies in the prevention of laminitis**

Liz Mitchell will discuss the latest research in this area and our new prevention package in conjunction with Kelly Thomas from Horse Weighbridge North East.

**It's back!** After a break of several years we have the return of the famous Scott Mitchell Raffle. This year we are collecting for **here4horses**, an equine welfare charity based in the North East.

**All are welcome but please reserve your place at equine@smvc.co.uk, via our facebook event or by phone 01434 608999.**

## **Pre-Season Health Plan Offer February**



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

- Full examination incorporating lameness and medical review
- Gold standard dental examination and treatment including sedation
- Full blood profile including liver/kidney function
- 3 free worm egg counts and worming 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.

## **Next Dental Clinic: Thursday 23rd February 2023**

**From March onwards dental clinics will move to take place on the last Wednesday of every month.**

The dental clinic allows us to work more efficiently and so we are able to pass on that saving to you with reduced price routine dentistry (a saving of £27.50 on the usual price of a routine dental).

Dental clinics are for routine dental procedures, including examination, power rasping enamel overgrowths, and diastema cleaning and flushing all carried out under sedation.

## **Dental clinic routine dental including sedation £70 inc VAT**

**Terms and conditions:** Payment must be made at the time of treatment. Please arrive at your allocated time and collect your horse promptly after treatment



## Several of the Scott Mitchell equine team enjoyed a great night out at the Yard of the Year Show!

Teams battled it out with questions on veterinary care (provided by our vets), physiotherapy (written by Kirsten), Farriery, saddlery and equine matters.

Congratulations to the winners Tilly's fillies and runners up The Harlow hillbillies and Mrs Baty's moody mares!



## Focus on Feet : Part 3



In this third part of our focus on feet we look at the often frustrating problem of hoof cracks.

**Sand cracks** are vertical cracks located at the front of the hoof wall. Associated with a concave hoof wall with long toe low heel foot conformation.

**Quarter cracks** are vertical cracks at the side of the hoof wall. True quarter and sand cracks start at the coronary band. Associated with latero-medial (side to side) foot imbalance.

**Grass cracks** start at the bottom of the hoof wall and extend up towards the coronet.

**Horizontal cracks** usually occur as a result of trauma or following an abscess that has burst out at the coronary band.

**Cause:** Usually foot imbalance or trauma

**Treatment:** Correcting foot balance and stabilising with a bar shoe. Good hygiene to prevent infection tracking into the deeper structures. Sometimes additional stabilising treatments are required and some cracks benefit from removal of damaged horn and filling with an acrylic.

**Prevention:** Maintaining good foot balance and farriery and healthy horn growth. Supplements containing biotin and methionine can help healthy horn growth, but you can only influence new growth, which takes a year to reach the ground bearing surface.

## Zone Visits February and March

Zone 1 (NE44, NE46-47, NE49 & DH8) - Mon 6th Feb, Mon 6th March

Zone 2 (NE19, NE45 & NE48) - Mon 13th Feb, Mon 13th March

Zone 3 (NE1-7, NE12-15, NE18, NE20, NE22-30 & NE61) - Sally -Thurs 2nd Feb , Thurs 2nd March  
Liz/Steph Mon 20th Feb, Mon 20th March

Zone 4 (NE8-11, NE16-17, NE21, NE31-43) - Mon 27th Feb, Mon 27th March

Zone 5 (DH2-7, DH9 & DL13-16) - Tues 28th Feb, Tues 28th March

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.