

# Equine News: March 2022

## Breeding from your Mare

If you missed our virtual client evening in which James Crabtree speaks on preparing yourself and your mare for breeding. You can watch it on catch up now: <https://youtu.be/Z3OSILLjGyg>

Breeding your own foal from a beloved mare can be immensely rewarding, but remember that it is a long term project requiring a lot of time, energy and money.



- Make sure your mare finishes the winter in lean to good body condition.
- Ensure the mare is fed a balanced diet and is wormed and vaccinated up to date for equine influenza and tetanus.
- Maintain good foot care and trimming and remove hind shoes if she is going to stud.
- Choose a stallion with good temperament and fertility.
- A pre-breeding examination on your mare will assess her suitability for breeding. Pre-breeding health tests can also be taken at this time.

## Next Dental Clinic: Thursday 31st March

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

## Virtual Client evening



Is your horse perfectly behaved?

If not, never fear! It is a common problem. Whether your horse suffers from separation anxiety or aggressive behaviour, or maybe they are scared of needles or the clippers.

There is a lot we can learn to support our horses' to live as stress-free as possible.

Especially from renowned guest speaker Gemma Pearson, who will join us on Wed 16th Mar 2022 at 7.30pm to share her knowledge on 'Our Horse's Behaviour Explained'.

Register Now: <https://bit.ly/OurHorsesBehaviourExplained>

## Preventative healthcare

As a practice we are absolutely committed to preventative healthcare. That means helping you do everything you can to help prevent injury, illness and disease in you horse and pony.

We offer the complete preventative health care package with vaccination and worming programs, dentistry, routine health plans including blood work and yard biosecurity planning.

We are coming to the end of the preseason health plans checking our equine friends are ready for the coming spring and summer season. Shortly we will be contacting all our Old Friends members to book in Spring Watch checks for April and May zone days. It is important to check the older horse after the winter to assess their body condition and medication levels as we move into the warmer months.



## Respiratory health

We have recently seen an increase in respiratory conditions in our patients. Allergic respiratory conditions are frequently worse at this time of year as horses have been progressively sensitised over the winter by stable dust. Housing horses over the winter in barns can also allow the spread of viral respiratory disease.

Try to manage your horse to optimise their respiratory health:

- Turn out to pasture whenever possible
- Improve air circulation in the stable
- Feed from ground level
- Use dust-free bedding and forage
- Employ biosecurity measures to minimise the spread of infectious disease.

## Winter Weight watchers

The old saying “March: in like a lion, out like a lamb” means that March often begins with winter storms and ends with warmer Spring-like weather and that means the start of the season of plentiful grass.

It is therefore a really important time to check your horse's body condition. It is much more challenging to get your horse or pony to loose weight during the Spring and Summer months, so make sure you can very easily feel your horse's ribs and that the rump is flat and crest is soft. If your horse or pony is overweight it is essential to take advantage of the next few weeks to get them to drop weight and lower their insulin levels to help manage laminitis risk through the Spring.



## Whitley Chapel YFC celebrate a win



Congratulations to Ellie and Rebecca for their roles as nursery rhyme characters in the Pantomime that resulted in their victory over the other three teams to take the northern area title. Rebecca and Ellie have been part of the team since they were 14 and now the pressure is on for the next stage of the competition.

## Farewell to Ami

We said goodbye this week to Ami Walby after 13 years. Ami worked first for Scott Mitchell as an equine receptionist then as a farm receptionist in both Scott Mitchell and Fold Farm Vets. We will really miss her and wish her well.



## Zone Visits March and April

Zone 1 (NE44, NE46-47, NE49 & DH8) - Mon 7th March, Mon 4th April

Zone 2 (NE19, NE45 & NE48) - Mon 14th March, Mon 11th April

Zone 3 (NE1-7, NE12-15, NE18, NE20, NE22-30 & NE61) - Sally -Thurs 3rd March, Thurs 7th April  
Liz/Euan Mon 21st March, Wed 20th April

Zone 4 (NE8-11, NE16-17, NE21, NE31-43) - Mon 28th March, Mon 25th April

Zone 5 (DH2-7, DH9 & DL13-16) - Tues 22nd March, Tues 26th April

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.