

Equine News: April 2023

Equine Open Evening

Like Easter, Christmas and Wimbledon, the SMVC Equine Client evening is a much awaited event that only takes place once a year. And this year's was a big one!



Nearly 100 clients came along to the Mart to listen to three talks. We welcomed Nicholas from Glasgow Vet School who talked about back pain in horses. His lecture was full of great photos and real stories of actual cases. Despite the impending drive back to Glasgow, Nicholas was happy to stay for the rest of the evening and share his experiences.

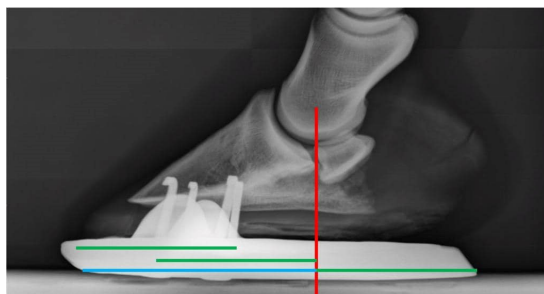
Our own vets, Liz and Euan, gave presentations on Laminitis prevention and Foot balance. Liz shared the results of a recent study on laminitis risk factors and how that had inspired our new laminitis prevention plan. Euan showed some great slow motion videos and images showing the stresses on the horse's limb during movement and how poorly balanced feet can increase these forces and the risk of lameness.

Once again, the raffle and prizes were hugely popular - raising £400 for local equine charity 'Here 4 Horses'.

A huge thank you to all the local businesses for their donations of prizes and to sponsors Bova for their support of the meeting.

April Foot Balance X-rays special offer £200 (8 views with sedation included)

No foot; no horse!



83% of lameness originates in the foot
Even in a sound horse, mild foot imbalances can put extra strain on the internal structures, increasing wear and tear, and ultimately limiting the athletic lifespan of a horse.

Please take advantage of this special offer to help us work with your farrier to make your horse's feet the best they can be, and keep them sound for longer!

Next Dental Clinic: Wednesday 26th April 2023

Dental clinics will take place at the surgery 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.

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

Dental clinic routine dental including sedation £70 inc VAT

Dental clinic dental plus diastema flush and sedation £95 inc VAT

Dental clinic diastema flush only inc sedation £35 in 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.



Sycamore seedling warning!

Nearly everywhere you walk at the moment there seem to be a carpet of sycamore seedlings. It seems to be a bumper year for them, we guess they must like a lot of rain.



Horse owners, however, do not like either all the rain we've had or this attempt at sycamore domination.

Sycamore seedlings, as well as seeds, contain the toxin that cause atypical myopathy (a frequently fatal muscle disease).

Please check your pastures, especially if you have any sycamore trees in the area. If there are carpets of these seedlings, fence the area off as a temporary measure and cut and collect the seedlings to prevent your horse or pony eating them.

Zone Visits April and May

Zone 1 (NE44, NE46-47, NE49 & DH8) - Mon 3rd April, Wed 3rd May

Zone 2 (NE19, NE45 & NE48) - Tues 11th April, Mon 15th May

Zone 3 (NE1-7, NE12-15, NE18, NE20, NE22-30 & NE61) - Sally - Thurs 6th April, Thurs 4th May
Liz/Steph Mon 17th April, Mon 22nd May

Zone 4 (NE8-11, NE16-17, NE21, NE31-43) - Mon 24th April, Tues 30th May

Zone 5 (DH2-7, DH9 & DL13-16) - Tues 25th April, Tues 30th May

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.



Laminitis Prevention Plan

Laminitis is a serious and painful condition of the feet that can cause long term lameness and in severe cases necessitates euthanasia. A laminitis episode might be the first time owners become aware that their horse or pony is at risk. We want to provide horse owners with the tools to identify horses and ponies at risk and work together to manage the risks and so prevent cases of laminitis.

Take Control:

- 1. Measure:** Get to know your horse or pony's risk level through measuring blood insulin and accurate weight and fat score assessment.
- 2. Monitor:** Monitor your horse or pony's weight, fat scores and Insulin levels and their response to changes in management.
- 3. Manage:** Get to know how best to manage the risk and keep your horse or pony healthy through adaptations to their diet and exercise.

Full Annual membership fee £100 inc VAT includes:

- Blood sampling and laboratory fee for initial Insulin testing (normal/zone visit charges apply)
- Three visits per year from Horse Weighbridge North East to weigh and fat score your horse or pony
- Membership of our laminitis prevention club which provides access to fact sheets; newsletters; social media group to provide information, support and up to date research; dedicated client meetings exclusive to members; and a welcome goody bag.
- 10% discount on further insulin testing if required.

Not sure about making a commitment to full membership just yet?

Club only membership fee £20

- If in the first year you decide to upgrade to full membership, the cost of club membership will be discounted from the cost.