

## Arrowfield Updates

We had a great end to 2017 with our annual Christmas party at Luctonian Rugby club! Great fun was had by all.

The January weather didn't dampen our spirits here at Arrowfield. We enjoyed a soggy but fun filled ride at Bryngwyn Riding School and we are very much looking forward to our next one!



## Tips on how to reduce parasite resistance:

1. **Dose accurately:** A weigh tape will help you determine this.
2. **Grazing/pasture management** can also help control worm burden on the pasture. Poo picking, co-grazing and coordination of worming programmes on yards have all been shown to reduce worm burdens.
3. **Faecal worm egg counts** are also useful during the grazing season to identify the horses which require treatment.
4. **Use appropriate wormer.**

## To worm or not to worm?

There is much confusion in the equine world on when and how to correctly worm horses. We have all become very reliant on the use of anthelmintics (wormers). However, we are now at a stage where resistance to these drugs is becoming increasingly common. Careful pasture management and tactical use of wormers through-out the year can help reduce this risk.

We recommend the following:

**Adults:** Faecal egg counts every 4-6 weeks from Spring until Autumn. These can be carried out at the practice and a vet will contact you to discuss the results and appropriate action. During the winter months (November to February) use a wormer that also treats juvenile worms and tapeworms. Neither of these can be detected on faecal egg counts and the emergence of juveniles in the spring can lead to complications such as colic or diarrhoea. Tests for tapeworm are also available (blood and saliva). Please contact the surgery for more information.

**Pregnant mares:** The mare can pass on worm larvae to the foal soon after birth. It is therefore important to maintain a worm free status. Faecal egg counts should be carried out and a moxidectin or ivermectin based wormer should be used within the last month of pregnancy.

**Lactating mares:** Avoid worming until at least 2 weeks after giving birth. Mares should then be wormed at regular intervals (timing dependant on product used).

**Foals <6 months of age:** If the mare is wormed in the last month of pregnancy, foals do not need to be wormed until 6 weeks of age. Fenbendazole or Ivermectin based wormers are preferred. Moxidectin based wormers should not be used under 4 months of age.

If you have any questions about worming, please contact the surgery.

## Case - Lexi

One of our vets attended poor Lexi out of hours. Lexi had received a nasty kick from her friend in the field, and despite being only 11hh and unshod he had caused a substantial wound measuring at least 10cm deep into her shoulder.



Lexi was cleaned up and sutured back together using standing sedation and local anaesthetic. After a short course of antibiotics and anti-inflammatories she is making a very speedy recovery and is looking forward to getting fit and ready for competitions this year. We wish Lexi and her owner the best of luck for the coming season!



Routine dental examinations allow any potential problems to be identified earlier on and appropriate treatment can be started prior to any major problems occurring.

This can be carried out at annual vaccinations for less than £30. Please ask at the surgery for more information.

\*If your horse requires sedating this would be an additional cost.

## Horse Health Week 2018

Horse health week returns in 2018 to put the health of our horses in the spotlight once again! From the 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> of March we will be posting links and videos on our facebook page to encourage proactive preventive healthcare for our equine patients!



## A REMINDER OF THE EQUINE SERVICES THAT WE OFFER

- Examinations and health checks (but not vettings)
- Routine vaccinations
- Passporting and microchipping
- Dentistry
- Blood sampling
- Radiography
- Faecal egg counts
- Colt Castration

## OPENING HOURS

**Kington** Mon-Fri: 8.45am – 6.30pm Sat: 8.45am – 1pm

**Presteigne** Mon – Fri: 9am – 6.00pm Sat: 9am – 10am

We offer 24/7 emergency cover on our usual number:

**01544 230567**

**facebook**  **Instagram**

Arrowfield Veterinary Practice is proud to be an Accredited Practice through the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons' Practice Standards Scheme. Through setting standards and carrying out regular inspections, the Scheme aims to promote and maintain the highest standards of veterinary care.

**Arrowfield Veterinary Practice, Butts Meadow, Hatton Gardens, Kington, Herefordshire. HR5 3DD. 01544230567**

**Unit 7, Presteigne Industrial Estate, Presteigne, Powys. LD8 2UF. 01544 267626**