



# February Newsletter 2019



Abbey Equine Centre  
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## Surgery news

**Make Use of the Cold Months** - Now is the time to get any of those little surgeries performed that have been put off for six months. There are no flies around at the moment and the horses are inside in a clean environment which will help to reduce any infections. For example, castrations and sarcoid removals are ideal at this time of year.

**Thank you to everyone** who came to our information evening about Strangles last month. Due to the recent local outbreaks we wanted to make sure that the correct information was given out to people. If you'd like any further information please contact the surgery.

## 'Love is in the Air' (AI)

Artificial insemination (AI) in mares has gone from strength to strength in recent years with excellent results being achieved. Early organisation is essential as one must choose a stallion early in the season. Now is the time to start planning! We are again offering AI packages for chilled and frozen semen that are excellent value for money. Packages include endometrial swabs, insemination, pregnancy evaluations and three nights livery.

Please call the clinic for more information about how Abbey vets can help you. We also offer frozen semen storage here at the clinic for a monthly charge.

**Please Note: semen imported from outside the UK must be accompanied by an ORIGINAL, valid health certificate issued in the country of origin. If this paperwork is incorrect or does not accompany the semen then we cannot inseminate a mare with it. This requirement is not optional by European law.**

**It is also your responsibility to inform DEFRA that you are importing semen from outside the UK and that it will be delivered to us.**

## Dates For Your Diary:

3<sup>rd</sup> – Offas Dyke Maryland Fun Ride

24<sup>th</sup> – Sinai Dressage, Usk College

17<sup>th</sup> – Curre & Llangibby Point to Point, Howick

17<sup>th</sup> – Y Fenni & District RC Dressage, Usk College

## What's in a name? SQP's

Most animal owners don't understand what an AMTRA SQP is or what part they play at the surgery.

A Suitably Qualified Person (SQP) is an animal medicines advisor, a legal category of professionally qualified persons who are entitled to prescribe and/or supply certain veterinary medicines under the veterinary Medicines Regulations. We are proud to have no less than three E-SQP's (equine and small animal) at the equine practice to help and assist with information on products such as wormers.

## Car Sticker Competition

This year again sees us continuing with our popular car sticker competition! So if you haven't already please feel free to collect a bumper sticker to display on your car/horsebox/trailer and if one of our members of staff spot it you could be one of our lucky monthly winners!

## Foal Milk + Colostrum

Early we know, but we're prepared – are you? We always have in stock a supply of mares' milk replacement and colostrum sachets which in times of need we're sure you'll appreciate.

## Wormer of the Month

This month's wormer is a single dose treatment containing Moxidectin to control red worms, roundworms, encysted cyathostome larvae and bots! With its long dosing interval of 13 weeks it's excellent value for money and treats up to 700kg bodyweight. Discounts on orders of 10 or more!

## Does my bum look big? We can help....

"Overweight horses are the new normal as horse owners' perceptions of a healthy weight becomes distorted." A worrying statement made this year by the British Equine Veterinary Association. We are now urging all our owners to act now to prevent horses suffering weight related health and welfare issues in the spring.

BEVA says horses and ponies can quickly gain excessive weight in today's domesticated environment with greater access to forage, hard feed, stabling and rugs.

Here at the clinic we have our own weigh bridge which is free of charge to registered clients to come here and use.

We can also arrange yard visits for 5 or more horses.

If you need any help or advice please contact at the surgery.... together we can help!

## Emergency care

Did you know we provide our own 24hr emergency care, for registered clients? If you call us out after standard working hours, you will get a vet you know and trust. This will incur an additional flat fee (emergency surcharge) on the bill, but we're sure you'll appreciate the peace of mind this service brings.

## Respiratory Infections

It is the time of year for coughing and sneezing! Keep an eye out for nasal discharge, coughing, extra effort breathing, wheezing and poor performance. Here at Abbey Equine Vets we have an endoscope to look down your horse's wind pipe and take samples to get a definitive diagnosis if you are having ongoing problems. This will help to identify what is causing that nasty cough.