



Welcome to the latest issue of our newsletter designed to keep you up to date with whats happening in the practice.

www.tworiversvets.co.uk

BIGGAR SURGERY

157 High Street
Biggar
ML12 6DL
01899 220073

Office hours

Mon/Wed/Fri 8.30 - 6.30
Tues/Thurs 8.30 - 5.30
Saturday 9.00 - 12.00

Open consulting times

Mon - Saturday 9 - 9.30
Mon/Wed/Fri 5.30 - 6.30
& other times welcome
by appointment

PEEBLES SURGERY

15 Old Town
Peebles
EH45 8JF
01721 722879

Office hours

Mon/Wed/Fri 8.45 - 5.30
Tues/Thurs 8.45 - 6.30
Saturday 10.00 - 12.30

Consulting times

Mon - Fri 9.30 - 10.30
Mon/Wed/Fri 4.00 - 5.00
Tues/Thurs 4.00 - 6.00
Sat 11.00 - 12.00
all by appointment only

**24 HOUR
EMERGENCY SERVICE
on either phone number**

The Trouble with Ticks!

We are coming to that time of year again when ticks rear their ugly heads and end up grabbing on to our cats and dogs. Ticks are uncomfortable and annoying for your pet which leads to them trying to rub or scratch the tick off.



Ticks often cause skin reactions because of the way they attach to your pet. If a live tick is removed there is a risk of leaving its mouthparts in place – the embedded mouthparts act as a foreign body and can cause a granuloma (benign lump) or an abscess.



Ticks have the ability to transmit diseases to animals (and humans) such as Lyme disease. In dogs it may cause fever, lethargy, arthritis and occasionally skin disease. Other tick-borne diseases include babesiosis and ehrlichiosis which attack blood cells.

Many more potentially very serious tick-borne diseases are found in other parts of the world, so its particularly important to check your pet regularly for ticks if they are travelling abroad, or have recently come back into the UK.

Examine your pet regularly and particularly after they've been in areas that are likely to be tick infested, such as parkland, moorland and woodland. Check every part of your pet and pay special attention to the areas around the head, ears, legs and paws. Your pet could have a tick attached without you noticing, especially if it's long-haired.

To prevent your pet from getting ticks, a spot-on treatment such as Frontline Combo or Advantix should be applied monthly. Scalibor collars are also effective for up to 6 months. Please contact the practice for more advice on ticks and their prevention, treatment or removal of attached ticks.



TWO RIVERS VETS MOBILITY CLINCS FOR PETS

The nurses will now be running FREE Mobility Clinics. These clinics are designed to help support owners by giving good quality advice regarding pets mobility. This may be directed mainly at older dogs and cats, but can also benefit young dogs doing lots of exercise where there is a concern about the effects this may have on their joints later in life.

Dogs and cats are commonly diagnosed with osteoarthritis and may be prescribed painkillers and anti-inflammatories. Vets can then refer the pet to the Mobility Clinic where further advice and support can be given on lifestyle changes such as exercise, weight loss if necessary, hydrotherapy, physiotherapy, joint supplements and diet support.



Dietary changes are an easy way of helping to support joints. Royal Canin Mobility Diet contains omega 3 fatty acids, the New Zealand green-lipped mussel, glucosamine and chondroitin and also antioxidants such as vitamin C and E. We can give you more information about nutritional support for arthritis in the Mobility Clinic.

Joint problems cause pain that each animal has its own way of showing. A wide variety of signs such as stiffness after exercise, difficulty getting up after resting, limping, trouble jumping up or negotiating stairs, or cats who meow, growl or spit when stroked may indicate joint pain.

One in four dogs and one in five cats are thought to suffer from degenerative disorders of the joints - if your pet is showing any of these signs please contact the surgery to make an appointment for an arthritis check.

This month we say goodbye to our Veterinary Nurse at the Biggar Surgery Nicola Cochrane. Nicola has been with us for 5 years and we will miss her very much but would like to wish her all the best as she moves on to pastures new. Our new nurse Stephanie Smith starts with us in the middle of April.

BUY THREE DRONTAL PLUS & GET THE FOURTH FREE!



BE SURE

Drontal

with Britain's No.1 wormer¹

Worm Control For Your Horse Or Pony

Worm control in horses is a complex subject. In recent years the approach to worming has changed, with a targeted approach to an individual's worming needs considered more appropriate than regular (and possibly unnecessary) worming which can lead to a build-up of resistant worms. If you are not already submitting faeces samples on a regular basis to detect the presence of worm eggs then now is a good time to start.

We offer a simple test to determine whether worming is needed called a faecal worm egg count (FWEC). All you need to do is drop a fresh faeces sample from your horse or pony into the practice and we will let you know the likely worm burden of the horse and whether worming is required. A negative result means worming is not required at this time, however regular FWECs should be carried out as some horses can shed eggs intermittently.

Tapeworms cannot be detected with a FWEC so twice yearly worming in April and October with a product effective against tapeworms is recommended to prevent these becoming a problem, or alternatively a blood test is available to detect tapeworm infection. Worming may be appropriate at other times or for certain groups of horses depending on circumstances - please ask us.

