

## NEWSLETTER June 2011

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](http://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

## JUNE 2011 is DENTAL CARE MONTH!

June 2011 sees the return of **Dental Care Month** which gives you the chance to have a **FREE** dental check-up for your dog at the surgery. **Dental Care Month** is sponsored by **Pedigree** and also includes a **FREE** pack of **Pedigree Dentastix** for every dog to take home after their check-up. When used as part of a dog's daily oral care routine, **Pedigree Dentastix** are scientifically proven to reduce tartar build-up by up to 80%. Further details on **Dental Care Month** are available online at [www.uk.pedigree.com/dentalcaremonth](http://www.uk.pedigree.com/dentalcaremonth).



Two Rivers Vets are also offering **15% OFF** any dental work booked after the **FREE** check-up. This includes descaling, polishing and any extractions required. We also have **15% OFF** dog toothbrushes and toothpastes during **Dental Care Month**.

**Dental disease** is the most common disease in adult dogs. It begins when food and bacteria stick to the surface of the teeth. Bacteria begin to form an off-white, sticky layer called **plaque**. If the plaque isn't removed it hardens to form **tartar** within days. Bacteria within the plaque and tartar attack the gums and cause inflammation (called gingivitis). **4 out of 5 dogs over 3 years old have gum disease**. Inflammation and damage to the gum tissue and eventually other structures that support the teeth, can lead to loosening and eventual loss of teeth. Dogs with gum disease, tartar or loose teeth often also have **bad breath**, a common reason for a check-up with the vet!



So whether you suspect your dog has dental disease, or just want advice on maintaining healthy teeth and gums, please contact us to book a **FREE** check-up at either surgery during **Dental Care Month**. Don't forget to claim your **FREE** pack of **Pedigree Dentastix** when you visit!



## IT'S FOALING SEASON!

At Two Rivers Vets we are currently busy with mares foaling and then trying to get pregnant again for next year. While horses rarely have problems while giving birth, any complications during labour are genuine emergencies that we must attend immediately if mare and foal are to survive. More often we are called to check over the foal shortly after it is born, to make sure that the mare is ok and that the cleansing is all present, and to administer drugs like tetanus antitoxin or an enema to the foal. It is vitally important that the foal gets its first milk (colostrum) within a couple of hours of birth.

For a mare to have a foal every year, she needs to get pregnant again within a few weeks of giving birth. Mares are usually scanned using a rectal ultrasound scanner by Trevor or David to check their ovaries and the condition of the uterus, and to determine the best time to have them mated. This is particularly important if the owner wishes to use chilled or frozen semen by artificial insemination as timing is crucial if a pregnancy is to result.



Mares are then scanned again about 2 weeks later to check that they are in foal, and at this time a foetal heartbeat can usually be seen. The presence of twins must be identified as twin pregnancies rarely go to full term in horses.

If you would like us to be involved in the management of your mare around foaling time, have a new foal you would like checked over, or are just considering breeding from your horse, please give Trevor a ring at either surgery.

## HEAT STROKE IN DOGS

As summer is fast approaching its important to remember the effect hot weather can have on our pets. Hyperthermia (body temperature higher than 103°F) can result in heat stroke, the most common cause of which is leaving a pet in a car in the sun. The temperature inside the car can rocket to dangerous levels in a few minutes, even with the windows open slightly. Dogs primarily regulate their temperature by panting, and only have a small number of sweat glands so they cannot perspire to cool off.

Heat stroke can also result from leaving a pet in a kennel or garden on a hot day without access to shade or water, and excessive or vigorous exercise when it is hot.



Heat stroke in a dog is an emergency that requires safe, controlled reduction of body temperature. Get your pet into the shade and contact us immediately. Place cool, wet towels over the dog to start to reduce body temperature while you transport him to the surgery.

## Are you certain she's taken her worming tablet?

Fed up with trying to give your cat a worming tablet every few months? According to a recent survey, 66% of cat owners said they find it difficult to give worming tablets to their cats. The cat may refuse to take the tablet, become aggressive or even run away. Spitting out the tablet when the owner isn't looking seems to be a common problem!



Now you can avoid the struggle with a spot-on treatment that kills all types of cat worms including roundworms and tapeworms. As advertised on TV, spot-on wormers active against all types of cat worms are only available on prescription from your vet.

Please contact us if you would like to try spot-on worming for your cat and save yourself the stress of trying to give her a tablet!

