



Thrums Equine News - Summer 2026

Welcome to the first edition of the new quarterly Thrums Equine Newsletter! We're hoping to use this to keep you up to date with what's going on in the practice and in our general area. If there are any topics you'd like to see covered then please just let us know.

We've had a couple of positive Equine Flu cases within our practice area and neighbouring counties, so ongoing diligence is needed for this. Some of our clients are choosing to give their flu boosters a little early now we're into the competition season, and in case the governing bodies change the regulations to requiring 6-monthly boosters. Please get in touch if you'd like to bring your horses vaccines forward.

New vet Caitlin Nicholson joined the team at the end of June so you may see her out and about over the coming weeks. Caitlin spent a good length of time with us as a student, so some of you may recognise her. She spent her first year in practice in Paisley before coming back to join the team here and is looking forward to getting stuck in to all aspects of the practice.

Spring Client Meeting Success

For our spring client meeting in April at The Red House Hotel we trialled a slightly different format centring around case-based discussion titled "Trimming Feet and Laminitis". This was in partnership with local Farriers Jim Ferrie and Neil Chalmers, along with Equine Internal Medicine Specialist Anna Hammond from Perth Equine. There was a great turnout so thank you to all those who came along, we'd love to know if you thought this format worked well... (or not!). Any suggestions for future topics gladly received.

Keep an eye on your inbox for the details of our next meeting which will be later in the Autumn. The best practice approach to worming will be on the agenda along with a couple of other subjects.



Summer Worm Egg Count Reminder

We're now heading into the middle of summer, so it's time to check our horse's Worm Egg Counts (WEC) once again. This is so we can identify the individuals who are the higher shedders, and target our treatments towards them only and not the horses that don't need treating. This not only reduces the exposure of our horses to medications they don't need, but also reduces the risk of wormer resistance forming in the future. On average 20% of horses will shed 80% of the total egg burden onto the pasture, so we really need to ID those individuals specifically.

Worm Egg Count kits are available from either the Kirriemuir or Blairgowrie practices, so pop in and collect one when you can. (WEC kits can be sent to Scone or Forfar on request, but we will need some notice to get them sent there first). These tests are recommended throughout the year are all included for those signed up to the practice health plans, or are £24.53 each for those not currently a member. We can advise on which wormers are best given when off the back of any results you have.

New Dental Scope

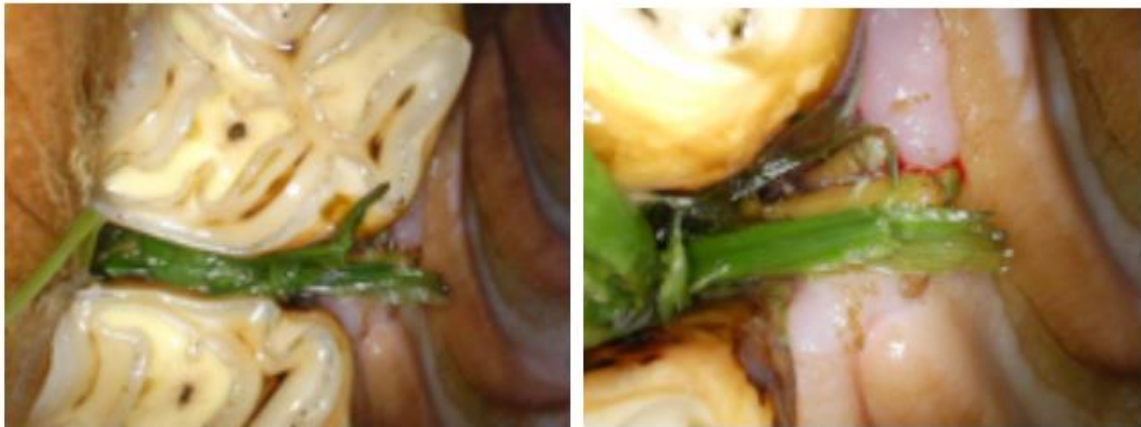
Alice, Maya, Emily R and Emily F all attended a training day on equine dental treatments and head x-rays held at The Dick Vet earlier this year. Off the back of that additional training Thrums have invested in an equine dental scope or camera which some of you may have seen in action already over the last few weeks.

This allows us to clearly visualise your horse's teeth, gums and tongue to identify, treat and monitor any concerns found. Photos and videos can be taken of any problems and can then be referred back to at future check-ups to monitor whether conditions are improving or worsening.

Here's a selection of photos taken recently using the new scope:



Images 1 & 2: Sharp points along the edge of teeth, with the image on the right showing an ulcer forming in the adjacent soft tissues.



Images 3 & 4: A diastema, or gap between teeth full of grass prior to flushing and picking the grass out. Note the bleeding of the gum in the right image.



Image 5: A previously treated diastema, the gap has been filled in to prevent food from packing into the space which can lead to inflammation and infection.



Image 6 & 7: Showing an area of plaque pre and post removal with underlying periodontal disease (gum inflammation).

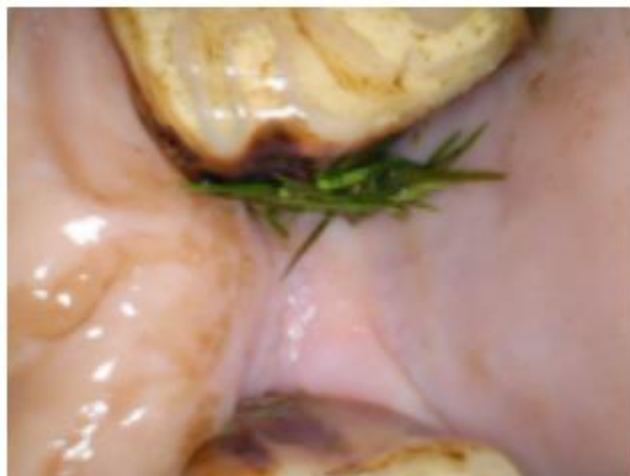


Image 8: Checking the site of a previously extracted tooth which has healed up well.

Area Days – July, August, September

We offer routine equine area visits across Angus and East Perthshire on set days throughout the year. These zoned visits or area days are designed to reduce travel time which helps keep visit costs lower and allows our vets to spend more time with your horses. Visit fees vary depending on the area and whether the visit is to an individual client or a shared yard.

Area Day visits must be booked at least 24hrs in advance. Exact visit times are allocated the day before, but preferences for morning vs afternoon will be taken into account where possible

Notes: All visits start at 9:30am.

- 1 Area 1: Kirriemuir
- 2 Area 2: Blairgowrie – Blair and up
- 3 Area 3: Brechin & Laurencekirk
- 4 Area 4: Montrose & Dundee
- 5 Area 2: Blairgowrie – Blair and down

July

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 4	2 5	3 2	4
5	6 3	7 1	8	9 5	10	11
12	13	14	15 4	16 5	17 2	18
19	20 3	21 1	22	23 5	24	25
26	27	28	29 4	30 5	31 2	

August

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3 3	4 1	5	6 5	7	8
9	10	11	12 4	13 5	14 2	15
16	17 3	18 1	19	20 5	21	22
23	24	25	26 4	27 5	28 2	29
30	31 3					

September

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 1	2	3 5	4	5
6	7	8	9 4	10 5	11 2	12
13	14 3	15 1	16	17 5	18	19
20	21	22	23 4	24 5	25 2	26
27	28 3	29 1	30			

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