

Small Talk

SUMMER 2022

Hafren Veterinary Group Small Animal Newsletter



Welcome to the Summer 2022 edition of our newsletter, bringing you seasonal and topical information and updates.



PRACTICE NEWS

Congratulations to Lucy Ellis from our Newtown branch on winning the Petplan Support Staff of the Year Award 2022. Lucy is the familiar face on Small Animal reception in our Newtown branch.

We are so proud of her achievement and hard work! Separately, we also welcome Charlie Puttock to the practice. Charlie is an experienced RVN who has joined us in our Llanidloes branch. We are excited to have you with us Charlie!

2 WEDDINGS & A BIRTH

Congratulations to both Josephine and George and Ali and Craig on their weddings. We hope you enjoy some well deserved downtime on your honeymoons.

Congratulations to Lisa and Colin on the birth of their beautiful baby boy Patrick. Welcome to the world and the Hafren family.

PARASITE PROBLEMS

Unlike infectious diseases which we can vaccinate against, the battle to keep pets worm and parasite free is an ongoing one! Roundworms are most commonly found in young animals but can infect adults as well. Many pups and kittens are born infected with roundworms because they cross the placenta and are also in the milk.

Roundworms look like long strings of spaghetti .



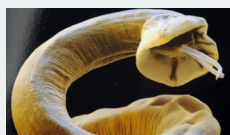
Adult roundworms shed eggs which are passed out in your pet's faeces and infect the environment. The eggs become infective within a few weeks and pets can become re-infected by unwittingly eating the eggs, often whilst grooming. Additionally the eggs can pose a risk to humans. **Tapeworms** are long segmented worms which live inside the small intestines of cats and dogs. Adult



tapeworms shed small mobile segments that pass out in the faeces and are often found around the tail areas of cats. As the segments break down, they release eggs into the environment. These eggs may be eaten by

intermediate hosts – these include fleas and small rodents such as mice and voles. As a result, tapeworms can be acquired via food (cats eating small rodents) or via swallowing an infected flea during grooming. Pets with tapeworms may not show any obvious clinical signs, meaning that they can be carried silently. **Lungworms** (*Angiostrongylus Vasorum*)

causes life threatening disease in dogs. Slugs and snails act as 'intermediate hosts' and are commonly infected with immature lungworm larvae. If infected slugs and snails are eaten by a dog, the larvae migrate to their lungs. Here they develop into adult worms up to 2cm in size. The adults live and lay eggs



inside the vessels of the lungs and the right side of the heart, causing symptoms such as coughing and exercise intolerance. Larvae migrate into lung tissue, causing blood clots, bleeding problems and even sudden death.