

CAMO'S TIDING'S

A BIG START FOR THE CAMERON VETERINARY SERVICES!

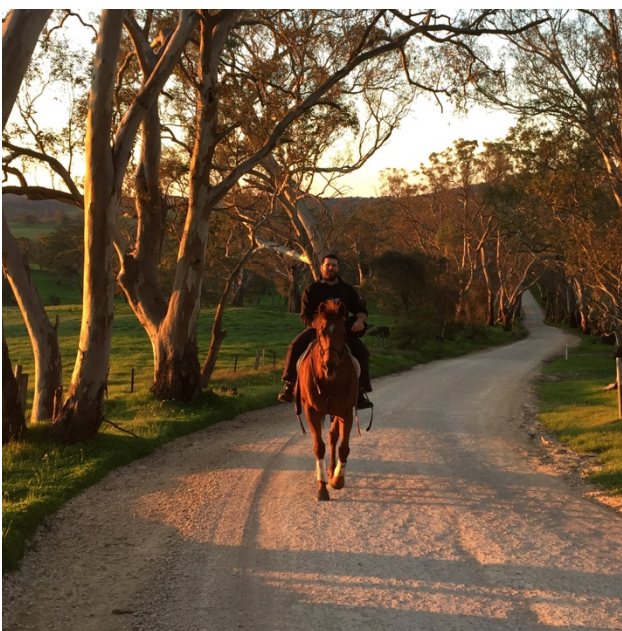


2020 a year to remember...maybe?

Covid-19, isolation, the beginning of a new veterinary era to the hills!

Welcome to the first edition of the Cameron Veterinary Services, *Camo's Tidings*! The idea of this publication is to offer some insight to many aspects of not only the CVS business, but veterinary life in general. Especially across the Adelaide Hills and the greater Adelaide Region. With that, this paper will be published periodically and may have articles, stories or interesting cases within, there will also be the odd bit of information on various husbandry and routine veterinary procedures along with upcoming events to keep everyone informed.

The CVS has been started and is owned/operated by Dr. Lachlan Cameron. He is partnered by his fiancée Jordan Bush, who assists where possible. Dr Lachie has a strong interest in Equine Dentistry and Bovine / Equine Reproduction, but also in providing a high level of personalised veterinary care to you beloved pet, performance athlete or paddock ornament.



Dr Lachie's riding his OTT Lumsden.



A little shorthorn calf taking his first breath's after a breech delivery.

And we are off with a bang!

DR. LACHLAN CAMERON, DVM B. SC (VET BIOSCIENCE)

What a big few months it has been! The start of the Cameron Veterinary Services has been a little rocky at times with the introduction of a new veterinary services across the Adelaide Hills and greater Adelaide region, coinciding with a global pandemic! Nevertheless things have gotten off the ground and are starting to roll along, despite the social distancing restrictions and the shut down of many equine events across the state.

The first few months of operation were largely dominated by the start of the Autumn calving season. Early rains in January led to an increase in feed across the Adelaide hills and a flush growth. This led to a small spate of calving difficulties associated with increased weights, especially in first time calvers. Compounding the season was obviously some pasture related deficiencies, primarily Magnesium and Calcium, associated with the flush but also possibly made more prevalent by the fire.

With time some regular trips for routine equine work have started to flourish. Primarily the basis for these has been in equine dentistry,

a particular passion and interest for myself. A regular Gawler / Northern Suburbs run is getting underway, with many clients requiring routine dental and health check ups out that way. In time further runs will be added including to the Murray Bridge, South East and further regions.

For now it is a waiting game, waiting for restrictions to be lifted and the world to correct itself. I will be looking at establishing regular runs across the region, and will be keen to have people's input for these as time goes by.

We are also very excited for the beginning / re-opening of the 2020 endurance (and all general horse sports) seasons across the state. I myself am enjoying some regular riding time, despite some of the miserable conditions that the Adelaide Hills like to throw at us. I am looking forward to continuing to ride in the upcoming endurance season (a little passion of mine), but am keen to see everyone back out there competing.

The last few months have been trying, with fires, Covid-19 and the associated shutdowns. However, confidence is building and we have a positive outlook here at the CVS. The remainder of 2020 is going to be strong!
Cheers Lachie

IN THIS ISSUE

OUR FIRST EDITION

RADIOGRAPHY

EQUINE DENTISTRY

THE DENTAL CORNER

What is so important about horses teeth?
Everything!

Ok so not everything is related to the horses mouth. However, numerous issues can be attributed to the mouth, and a lot of painful conditions can be missed, or forgotten about, for several months or even years. Good dentition can increase the longevity of your horse, whilst also helping to maintain top level riding performance or optimise your feed conversion. In editions to come we will highlight particular equine dental conditions, however for today we shall simply start the ball rolling on some of the key reasons to have regular dental check up's, and how we at the CVS perform our dental's.

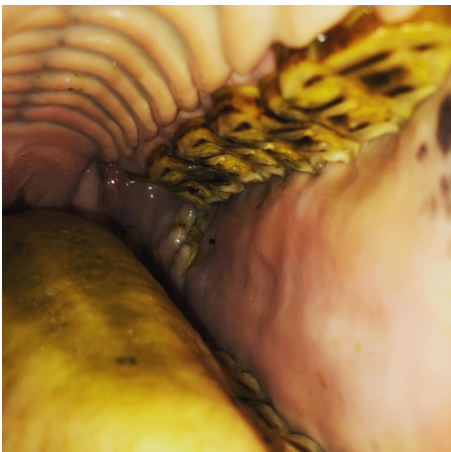
So to start off with, how is equine dentistry performed? The old adage was (and still is regularly quoted), that the so called *equine dentist* comes out and puts a gag on your horses mouth and throws a rasp down their throat and chases them around the paddock for a bit. No looking, no oral light, no sedation, and all natural !! Apparently. Well if I went to the human *dentist* I would want to know a few things before I went. One that this dentist was in fact a dentist, and had further training on the subject at hand; that a thorough and complete physical exam of the whole mouth (teeth included) was performed each time, and that a record of any findings was kept for future reference.

Well I think we should expect the same for our equine companions. Shouldn't we? There is a wide variety of *equine dentists* out there, many of whom do not follow some simple standards for maintaining good equine dentistry. Don't get me wrong there are many that know what they are doing! To that end, here at the CVS all horses oral health exams are completed under **sedation**, this is the only way to allow safe, consistent and professional examination of the entire oral cavity. All dentals are performed in a **portable crush** in order to have adequate restraint, good lighting, and a proper working environment. We regularly use a **dental mirror and a strong intra-oral light** to fully examine all aspects of the teeth, the oral cavity and its associated structures.

Furthermore, we are always learning here at the CVS! Training and continuing education are critical to being able to continue to provide the highest level of dental care to you and your horse. Dr Lachie has already completed the Level I Essentials of Equine Dentistry course provided for continuing education for veterinarians, and he will be attending Level II in August this year. These courses allow us to continue to further our knowledge, and provide the highest quality dental care to our patients.



Portable horse crush set up, all our routine dentals are performed in this set up.



Large intra-oral ulcers caused by sharp points on the upper molars.

So training and procedural formalities aside. Why bother about getting your horses teeth done at all? Well here are a few reasons:

1. Regular dentistry will increase the longevity of your horse. If you can't eat you can't live. Maintaining healthy teeth maintains weight gains etc. etc.
2. Performance – minor dental issues can cause major dental pain especially with some of the things we ask our horses to do. Bit wear can cause dental pain on sharp points, that can predispose horses to head tossing, behavioural related performance issues, and decreased willingness to work.
3. It hurts! – imagine having a tooth ache, not being able to talk and not being able to tell anyone your mouth hurts! It is important for animal welfare that we remove pain from those animals under our care.
4. Feed efficiency – maintaining good dentistry allows the horses teeth to do what they are designed to do and do it well.

WHATS UP-COMING FOR JULY?

Exciting News !

CONTINUING EDUCATION

- Equine Veterinary Dental Course Level II – Grafton, 18th of August – 21st of August
- Dr. Lachie will be away for entire week from the 16th of August. All routine work can be booked for the weeks around this.

PORTABLE RADIOGRAPHY SERVICES

- A new portable xray unit is on its way, and will be in action from July onwards!
- This will give us a greater range of diagnostics available to our clients including:
 - Complete lameness work ups
 - Dental radiography
 - Much much more ...
- Keep an eye out for this in the coming months

CLINIC BASED SERVICES

- Soon to be available are clinic based services, for the CVS.
- Don't want to pay travel? Then why not bring your horse to us?
- Cush facilities will be available, in addition to more intensive medical care as required.
- Keep an eye out for the release of further information.

What else?

We offer a significant range of services to our clients here at the CVS.

Reproduction – equine and bovine reproduction services. Fixed time AI in cattle, chilled and frozen semen in mares.

Routine castrations and surgical procedures.

General check ups for horses and cattle.

Lameness examinations

Equine Dentistry. Routine pregnancy testing, on farm herd health and more for cattle.

CVS Equivac 2 in 1
Tetanus & Strangles
Due for a booster, why not get one at your next dental visit!

Equivac 2 in 1
Also ask us for your geldings free sheath clean.