



**CENTRE FOR EVIDENCE-BASED
VETERINARY MEDICINE**
Putting research into practice



The University of
Nottingham

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*CEVM Newsletter
Issue 20, August 2018*

Welcome to the latest newsletter from the Centre for Evidence-based Veterinary Medicine (CEVM) www.nottingham.ac.uk/cevm

Please forward this e-mail on to any colleagues who you think may be interested—they can sign up for future newsletters using our [mailing list](http://lists.nottingham.ac.uk/mailman/listinfo/cevm-mailing-list):
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Coming up in this Newsletter...

- Up to date news from the team
- Latest publications and BestBETs
- Spotlight on our research: the relationship between homeless people and their pets

News

Graduation!



We are delighted to report that two of our research group graduated from their PhDs in July this year: Adelle Bowden (pictured above on the left), whose thesis is titled "Maximising the Impact of Evidence Based Research on Equine health and Welfare", and Michael McDermott (right), whose thesis is titled: "Veterinary Communication Skills and

Training in the United Kingdom and The United States of America". We would like to congratulate them both and wish them the very best for the future.

New collaborations

Marnie Brennan is going to be co-supervisor on a new PhD project along with John Burford and Sarah Freeman. The project, which should begin in October, will be co-funded by CVS and the School of Veterinary Medicine and Science and will be examining quality improvement initiatives in equine veterinary practices.

CEVM presentations

Cx Congress

Louise Corah presented at Cx Congress in June this year. The talk was titled "What makes a good consultation: some feedback from owners" and it was very well received. If you would like to read a little more, you can check out the write up of the talk in the Vet Record "[Good Client Care is not always happening in practice](#)" and further discussion in the [Editorial](#).

The Webinar Vet

Marnie Brennan and Zoe Belshaw presented for the Webinar Vet in May, with a talk entitled "BestBETs for Vets: What is it all about?". This included a brief introduction to BestBETs and discussed two of our published BestBETs, chosen by the webinar audience, in more detail.

European College of Veterinary Surgeons Conference (Athens)

Marnie gave three presentations: "Auditing medicine: The veterinary perspective", "Evidence-based Veterinary Medicine: Putting research into practice" and "Study design and statistics made simple" and all three of these received good feedback from the audience.

New Publications

- Robinson NJ, Belshaw Z, Brennan ML, Dean RS (2018) [Measuring the success of canine and feline preventative healthcare consultations: A systematic review](#) *Preventive Veterinary Medicine* **158**: 18-24
- Belshaw Z, Yeates J (2018) [Assessment of quality of life and chronic pain in dogs](#) *The Veterinary Journal* (available online 25 July 2018)
- Belshaw Z, Robinson NJ, Dean RS, Brennan ML (2018) [Owner and veterinary surgeon perspectives on the roles of veterinary nurses and receptionists in relation to small animal preventative healthcare consultations in the United Kingdom](#) *Veterinary Record* Published Online First: 04 July
- Lahuerta-Marin, A, Brennan, ML, Finney, G, O'Hagan, MJH and Jack, C (2018) [Key actors in driving behavioural change in relation to on-farm biosecurity; a Northern Ireland perspective](#). *Irish Veterinary Journal* **71**:
- White, CN, Jones, G, Baker, S, Dean, RS and Brennan, ML (2018) [Variation in the reported management of canine prolapsed nictitans gland and feline herpetic keratitis](#). *Veterinary Sciences* **5**

BestBETs for Vets

New BETs have been added to our free online database [BestBETs for Vets](#). You can find out more, subscribe to BET updates or submit a question [here](#)

- [Nutraceuticals versus carprofen in dogs with osteoarthritis](#) (this BET has been recently updated with new evidence)
- [Treatment for gastrointestinal stasis in rabbits - is metoclopramide or ranitidine better?](#)
- [Buprenorphine versus butorphanol in cat spays](#) (this BET has been recently updated with new evidence)

Further discussion about our BETs happens on our Facebook page, you are welcome to join in the discussion! Details of our Facebook account can be found at the bottom of this newsletter.

VetSRev

We thought that the following systematic reviews which have recently been added to our database at [VetSRev](#) might be of interest to you:

- Brooks HL, Rushton K, Lovell K, Bee P, Walker L, Grant L, Rogers A (2018) [The power of support from companion animals for people living with mental health problems: a systematic review and narrative synthesis of the evidence](#) *BMC Psychiatry* **18**: 31
- Dutton-Regester KJ, Barnes TS, Wright JD, Alawneh JI, Rabiee AR (2017) [A systematic review of tests for the detection and diagnosis of foot lesions causing lameness in dairy cows](#) *Preventive Veterinary Medicine* **149**: 53-66
- Totton SC, Cullen JN, Sargeant JM, O'Connor AM (2017) [The reporting characteristics of bovine respiratory disease clinical intervention trials published prior to and following publication of the REFLECT statement](#). *Preventive Veterinary Medicine* **150**: 117-125

Upcoming presentations from CEVM

London Vet Show

Zoe Belshaw will speaking on the 16th November at the London Vet Show, on:

- Quality of life: Tips to improve quality of life for chronically ill pets and their owners
- What do owners really want? Evidence-based guidance about owner expectations of preventative care consultations

ISVEE 2018 (Thailand)

Abi Collinson has two posters at ISVEE this year:

- The use of systematic review methodology in evaluating the impact of surgical sterilisation in canine rabies control programs: benefits and challenges
- Identifying research priorities for canine rabies control in dog population management programs: What are the unanswered questions?

Abi also has a poster: on her systematic review research which she is presenting at **"One Health, Many Perspectives: Emerging Research from LMICs"** which is a Post Graduate & Early Career Researcher Symposium at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine in August this year.

Spotlight on our research:



Louise Scanlon completed a degree in Human Sciences at University College London prior to beginning the Veterinary Medicine course at Nottingham. She is interrupting her studies between her fourth and final years to complete a Masters of Research Program working on the issues surrounding homelessness and pet ownership.

MRes Research Project Overview: It is not uncommon to see a homeless person accompanied by a pet, often a dog. Reported benefits of pet ownership for socially isolated individuals include improving health, reducing feelings of loneliness, alleviating symptoms of depression and anxiety, and providing a sense of responsibility and purpose. There are considerable costs of pet ownership that exist for this population. Often access to services such as healthcare and accommodation are compromised, there is an added financial pressure and many experience abuse and criticism for keeping a pet. It is a widely held belief that homeless people make unsuitable pet owners and should not be enabled to keep pets as the effect of homelessness on the animal's welfare is unacceptable.

The primary aims of my current research are to characterise the relationship that exists between homeless people and their pets as well as identifying the impacts on health and welfare for both parties. Previous research and pilot studies have suggested that the health and welfare of dogs belonging to homeless owners is not compromised to the degree that has been suggested and that some elements of welfare may even be better cared for than is seen in pets belonging to the general population. In addition, the positive effects of pet ownership on the psychological wellbeing of homeless owners has been observed to be significant. We hope that the results of this study will help to develop a better understanding of the complex needs of these vulnerable people and their dogs and highlight opportunities to improve the health and welfare of both.

And Finally...

We would love to receive your input on what content you would like to see in our newsletter or on our Facebook page. Let us know by email or on one of our social media pages.

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