

The Vale Veterinary Group January Newsletter.

Firstly: Happy New Year to all of our clients

What can our Nurses do for you and your pet??

Here at the Vale we have a great team of nurses who can help you and your pet with a variety of routine health checks including, senior health checks, weight clinics, post operative checks, small mammal weight/health checks and dental checks. All of these services are offered free of charge.

Nurses can also offer a number of services at a reduced fee, including nail clipping, blood sampling, conscious coat de-matting and puppy parties.



Also..... having trouble giving that 3 monthly worming tablet?? Why not bring your pet in, and one of our nurses can administer this for you for just the cost of the tablet.

For more information on any of the above take a look at our nurses leaflet on the front desk or ring up and ask to speak to one of the nurses.

Diabetes

Diabetes occurs either when the insulin producing cells within the pancreas stop working or if the body develops a resistance its own insulin. This results in the animals blood sugar levels rising dangerously high which can be fatal.

Diabetes can occur at any age but usually affects older more obese animals. Symptoms of diabetes include; Excessive drinking, excessive urination, excessive eating and in the later stages, vomiting, 'pear drop' smell from the mouth and lethargy.

Once diagnosed, Diabetes can usually be effectively managed using a combination of diet modification and twice daily injections of insulin.

Preventing your pet from becoming obese could help to prevent diabetes, especially in cats.

If you are worried that your pet is displaying any of the above symptoms, drop in a urine sample to the practice, which, if your pet is over 7(dogs) or 10 (cats) will be run free of charge.



Don't forget...Flea treatment!

Many people are unaware that fleas are not just a summer problem! Fleas can lie dormant in carpets and beds over the autumn period and then when central heating gets turned on, they can re emerge and start affecting your pet.

Advocate OR Frontline should be administered every month. If you have small puppies and kittens then Frontline Spray can be used from 2 days old.

If you are unsure about flea treatments, or would like advice on an affected pet then don't hesitate to call the surgery and speak to one of our nurses.



Staff News

A big welcome to our new staff. We have 2 new vets, Victoria who joins us part time on a Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday and Annelise who is at our Cullompton practice for a few months then she will move over to our new practice in Honiton along with our new nurse Marianne.

We will be very sad to lose Marie, one of our part time Vets who is leaving to have her second baby at the beginning of February.

Is your animal insured???

According to a recent survey 1 in 3 pets in Britain requires urgent veterinary treatment every year. This treatment can be very expensive, especially if your pet needs to be referred to a specialist. To give you some idea here are some common conditions/accidents and their costs:

Fractured Limb-Approx £1200.
Severe vomiting/diarrhoea bug-£300
Arthritis-Approx £6304 per lifetime
Diabetes-Approx £8471 per lifetime
Heart Problems-Approx £1180 per lifetime
Ingestion of foreign object-Approx £600



Having pet insurance means you can budget monthly which, if your pet needs long term treatment often works out a lot cheaper in the long run!

Different insurance companies provide different levels of cover. Some impose a time limit on a condition, others will only pay up to a certain amount per year or per condition, so it is important to thoroughly check what they will cover and for how long.

Here at the Vale we can offer you 4 weeks **FREE** insurance if your pet is over 6 weeks old and is deemed healthy upon examination. (must also be under 1 year). If you are interested, or would like any more information about insurance please give the practice a call and we will be able to advise you on any queries you may have.

A big thank you to all our clients for being patient during the recent snowy weather.

Although most of our staff made it in we were a little short staffed and conditions made it difficult to get around, necessitating closure of our Whimple and Uffculme branches.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused.



East Devon Branch



2 year old male. Very friendly, **hunter**. Will need rural home. Please contact Jenny Rowcraft on 01395233494. For more information on other cats visit www.eastdevoncats.com.

[PDSA \(Peoples dispensary for sick animals\)](#)

The PDSA is a UK charity that treats the sick and injured animals of people who, if their pet was to become ill, would be unable to afford the cost of treatment. It does this in return for a small donation to the charity. Here at the Vale Veterinary Centre we are a registered PDSA Pet Aid practice. This means that we offer **ESSENTIAL** treatment to animals registered under the PDSA scheme. Some treatments are not covered including vaccination, neutering, blood tests, out of hours call out fees, house visits, dentals or flea and worm treatment.

To qualify for the PDSA you need to:

- Be in receipt of council tax OR housing Benefit
- Own a Healthy animal at the time of registration
- Live in EX15 or EX16 postcode.

Only one pet per household can be registered. To register you need to obtain a PDSA form from us and fill it in. Your pet will then receive a **FREE** health check to assess its suitability for the scheme. You then need to return the form along with a donation of £5 as a postal order, and a copy of proof of benefit. We will then send this off and you will receive your certificate.

The Vale Veterinary Centre.
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