

Dear Client,

Welcome to the Summer edition of our companion animal newsletter. The summer is here at last and our vets have been busy as usual with the lambing and calving season which has just about come to an end. We've had some glorious summer days already and we've shared some tips on keeping your pets cool on our facebook page. As always, if there are any topics you would like to see in the newsletters please let us know.

KEEP YOUR PET TICK FREE

Ticks are a widespread and expanding threat across the UK. In recent years they have begun to start feeding earlier in the year and for a longer duration of time. Ticks are now not only active earlier than ever but are also carrying potentially new and harmful diseases. All this puts your pets at a greater risk.

Recent scientific advances have led to the creation of more innovative solutions for the control of parasites in companion animals like dogs and cats. A broad range of modern products for improved activity, efficacy, convenience and compliance has been introduced. Many of the options available require a prescription from a veterinary surgeon. These options include topicals (typically applied every 4 weeks), sprays, collars and oral chewable formulations. Some of them can give up to 12 weeks of protection.

Speak to your veterinary surgeon for a recommendation about which product is most appropriate for your pet and how to best ensure that you never miss a treatment.

Even though your pet is protected you should always check for ticks after being outside in an area where you know ticks dwell, such as areas with a lot of tall grass. Knowing how and where to check for ticks on your pet is the first step and then you must be able to remove and dispose of them properly as ticks can be very resilient creatures.

It is important to dispose of any ticks you find hygienically and be careful not to release the live tick back into the environment where it could re-attach itself to your pet or your family!

The ideal device for tick removal is a specially designed hook with a narrow slot, which needs to be slid with care under the tick at skin level so as to grip the tick. We stock O'Tom Tick Hooks.



Secure the hook in place around the mouthparts of the tick, ensuring that it is not entangled in the hair. The hook is then rotated around its axis several times until the attachment is freed. The loose tick will then be easily detached and removed without putting either the tick or skin under tension.

Remember ticks carry unpleasant infections so wear gloves when handling them! If your pet has a tick and you need advice or help please do not hesitate to contact us. Our friendly team are here to help.

Date for the diary...

Chagford Show Thursday 17th August 2017



We will be the duty vets again this year for Chagford Show with Ulli Arnold and Ashley Rubens in attendance.

Come and visit our promotional stand near the main ring. Whilst you're there have a go at our "Hook the Duck" game and enter the prize draw.

PET CARE PLANS

Our Pet Care Plans allow you to spread the cost of your pet's preventative health care needs throughout the year with easy monthly direct debit payments, at a date that suits you.

Our Pet Care Plans works perfectly with Pet Insurance – allowing all your pets care to be covered by monthly payments.

An additional 5% discount off your first year's premiums with Vetsure Pet Insurance is available for all pets that are joined on our Pet Care Plans.

Ask at reception for more details

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Ulli celebrated his 60th Birthday in June and decided to commemorate the occasion by travelling around Europe for 4 weeks with his wife Julie - an "Adventure before Dementia" trip! The month went quickly (for them as well as us left behind!) whilst they visited Norway, Sweden, Finland, Croatia, Slovenia, Austria, Germany and The Netherlands before returning with many tales to tell. Here are a few photos from their travels:



ADDER BITES

The adder (*Viperis berus*) is the only native venomous snake present within the UK. Depending on geographical location, adder bites are not uncommon in dogs, especially in the warmer summer weather. Most bites occur on the limbs or muzzle. The incident is rarely witnessed by the owner as adders are very shy. The bites are rarely fatal.

Clinical Signs....

Rapid swelling of bitten area Depression Shock may occur
Fang marks may be present but are often difficult to identify

What do you do?....

If you think your animal has been bitten by an adder contact the surgery as soon as possible. The surgery will give you relevant instructions. In the meantime stay calm as your pet will become more distressed if it senses that you are worried.

We are one of the few vets in the area that stock anti-venom.

SUMMER BARBEQUE SEASON

We are a nation who love to get the Barbeque going whenever the sun is shining. Our pets particularly enjoy BBQ season as they get to feast on scraps. Watch out for these BBQ favorites that can pose a problem for your pet:



Corn on the Cob: Dogs often have difficulty digesting corn cobs and this barbeque staple can be a choking hazard.

Food with bones: Even things like bone-in wings can be very dangerous for your pet, as they may splinter and hurt their GI system, sometimes even piercing their bowels. Help avoid a visit to us by not feeding your pet anything with bones.

Foods with skewers: Skewers can splinter which can pierce or make a hole in the intestines if ingested.

Undercooked Meat: Remember if it's too raw for us to eat, then it's too raw for our pet to eat.

These dangers may sound scary but a little preparation and a watchful eye is all you need to take the heat off your summer.

**WE ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT THIS YEARS PICNIC IN THE PARK
AND BOVEY TRACEY CARNIVAL
CARNIVAL WEEK KICKS OFF ON 29TH JULY
WITH PICNIC IN THE PARK
FINISHING WITH SUNDAY FUNDAY ON 6TH AUGUST**

Practice Facilities

Appointment System
Parking
24 Hour Emergency Service
Modern Surgical Facilities
Nurse Clinics
In-House Laboratory
Digital X Ray Machine
Endoscopy
Pet Care Plans

BOVEY TRACEY SURGERY

Mill House, Station Road,
Bovey Tracey, Newton
Abbot, TQ13 9AL
TELEPHONE ; 01626
833023

MORETONHAMPSTEAD SURGERY

31 Court Street,
Moretonhampstead,
Newton Abbot, TQ13 8LG
TELEPHONE ; 01647
440441

CHRISTOW SURGERY

Old Mines Road, Christow,
Exeter, EX6 7NS
For appointments/repeat
prescriptions etc.
telephone; 01626 833023

FOR OUT OF HOUR EMERGENCIES PLEASE

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