

Dear Client,

Welcome to the Summer edition of our companion animal newsletter. The summer is here and we've had some glorious summer days already, long may it continue so we can make the most of the glorious coast and countryside that surrounds us.

Be aware that we have already seen quite a number of adder bite cases, more so than in previous years. We have included a bit of information about adder bites within this newsletter.

At the beginning of June we said a sad goodbye to our Student Veterinary Nurse, Yazmin Tunbridge. Yaz has moved to pastures new to gain more experiences within a Veterinary Hospital. In July, we will also be saying goodbye to one of our reception team, Becky Harvey. Becky leaves us to help her husband with his ever expanding business. I'm sure you will all join me in wishing Yaz and Becky the best of luck with their future ventures. They will both be missed.

Behind the scenes, we continue to prepare for the big build and renovations that we have planned at our Bovey Tracey practice. We will also be getting ready to greet those of you going to Chagford Show on Thursday 16th August. It will be great to see lots of you there. It is always a lovely show to take part in and is a great day for all the family (dogs welcome too – river to cool down in if it gets too hot).

As always, if there are any topics you would like to see in the newsletters please let us know.

*Lottie Bowden
Practice Manager*

Travel Sickness

Most dogs and cats suffer from motion sickness as puppies or kittens, because their brains can't distinguish between the motion they feel, and the movement they see out of the window. However, most grow out of it. In fact, most adult pets who are prone to nausea and vomiting when travelling aren't actually suffering from motion sickness – instead, they're stressed by the car ride.

Some dogs and cats genuinely do suffer motion sickness – but remember, that is stressful and the two conditions will reinforce each other. Nausea makes them feel stressed, which then makes them more nauseous.

Here are some helpful steps you can take to help prevent motion sickness:

- 🐾 Withhold food before travelling, always keep access to water!

- 🐾 Get them used to travelling (behavioural desensitization) ideally from a young age
- 🐾 Manage stress, there are many products available to help reduce your pet's stress levels such as Feliway for cats or Adaptil for dogs.
- 🐾 Make travelling fun – don't let the end location always be the scary vets! Introduce new toys or bring along their favorite toy whilst travelling.
- 🐾 Turn off air con and let some fresh air enter the car
- 🐾 For cats and dogs who really do feel sick manage the nausea. Encourage pets to face forward, position cat carriers so the cat can see out the front window. For acute cases there are medications available to help suppress nausea and vomiting, have a chat with one of our vets.

If your pet suffer from motion sickness there are solutions and products available, speak to us and let's try and make journeys more enjoyable for your pet.

Date for the diary...

Chagford Show Thursday 16th August 2018



We will be the duty vets again this year for Chagford Show with Ulli Arnold 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.

**WE ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT THIS YEARS
BOVEY TRACEY CARNIVAL
CARNIVAL WEEK KICKS OFF ON 28TH JULY
WITH PICNIC IN THE PARK
FINISHING WITH SUNDAY FUNDAY IN MILL MARSH PARK ON
5TH AUGUST**

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 can be but 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.

There are only a few vets in the area that stock anti-venom. We are one of these.

SUMMER HAZARDS

Things to remember as the heat increases...



Parasites: During the summer months, many different types of parasites are at their peak as the warm weather aids their growth. Ensure adequate flea, tick and worm prevention and consider vaccination to protect your dog against Lyme's disease.

Heat Stroke: Walk your dog in the early morning or evening if you can rather than in the heat of the day, particularly if your dog is old, overweight or has a heart problem. Never leave your dog in a car on a hot day even for a short time or with the windows open, as the temperature inside can rise very quickly. Ensure that all your pets have fresh water available and that guinea pigs, rabbits and chickens have adequate shade. Remember heat can kill.

Sunburn: This can be a problem for pets especially with cats who love to lie in the sun. Those with pale skin, white ears or noses are vulnerable to sun burn and can risk developing skin cancer. If you can't keep them out of the sun, pet safe high factor sunblock can be applied.

Fly Strike: Rabbits can suffer from fly strike and should be checked on a daily basis through the summer. Flies are attracted to rabbits with a soiled bottom and will lay their eggs which then hatch into maggots very quickly. Pay particular attention to the hygiene and health of your rabbit and if you are concerned at all call us immediately.

DOG-FRIENDLY POPSICLES

Why not treat your dog to a homemade ice lolly, here are some sweet and savory filling ideas to suit all taste buds:

- 🐾 Blended veg (remember asparagus, avocado, mushrooms and onions are some of the most toxic vegetables stay clear of these)
- 🐾 Blended apples, bananas and blueberries (remember some fruits are toxic to dogs)
- 🐾 Meat broth
- 🐾 Frozen low-fat yogurt



PET CARE PLANS

Our Pet Care Plans allow you to spread the cost of your pet's preventative health care needs (parasite control, vaccinations and more) 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.

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

TELEPHONE : 01647
440441

www.moorgatevets.co.uk

