

NEWS

(The fire when it was first lit)



A **BIG THANK YOU** to everyone that sponsored me for my firewalk, together we raised a tremendous £520 and I am still able to walk...thank goodness!!! This was in aid of the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. Many thanks again, Louise x



Dawn, who many of you will have met whilst she was doing placement with us for university, graduated last Friday! She is now a Registered Veterinary Nurse and fully qualified.

You will hopefully still see her in the practice now and then if she can fit us in for a wee visit, as she will no doubt be snapped up fast by a practice. She was a great nurse to have for placement. **WELL DONE DAWN- ALL THAT HARD WORK PAID OFF!**

“Canine Infectious Bronchitis”, better known as **KENNEL COUGH**, is a relatively well-known disease. However, some of its causes are still a bit confusing to many, due to its misleading name. More than half of the reported outbreaks are likely to arise from day-to-day contact between dogs- and not from kennels as the name implies.

For example, a recent telephone survey of 50 veterinary practices, carried out by Intervet / Schering Plough, looked into the origins of 270 kennel cough cases. The at risk environments, other than the kennels, included:

- Local neighbourhood.
- Parks.
- Training classes.
- Dog walking.
- Dog shows.
- And unfortunately the Vet too, although we try to keep this risk as minimal as possible by keeping the patient outside until we are ready to see them, they then go through the side door to prevent the spread in reception and the consultation room is thoroughly disinfected before the next patient is seen.

Your dogs annual vaccination does **NOT** protect them against “Kennel Cough.” The kennel cough vaccination is a liquid that is squirted up the nose. The vaccination does not stop the dog getting the disease but will give some protection and the symptoms will not be as severe.

For more information on dog and cat diseases in the UK and the number of outbreaks that we see please visit <http://www.cicadasurvey.co.uk/about.asp>



HEAT STROKE

Once the signs of heat stroke are detected serious damage - or even death - can occur reasonably quickly unless treated immediately.

Dogs do not sweat through their skin like humans - they release heat primarily by panting and they sweat through the footpads and nose. If a dog cannot effectively expel heat, the internal body temperature begins to rise. If a dog's temperature gets too high damage to the body's cellular system and organs may become irreversible.

SIGNS OF HEAT STROKE

- Rapid, frantic panting
- Wide eyes
- Thick saliva
- Bright red tongue
- Vomiting
- Staggering

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE THESE SIGNS:

Hose them off, immerse in cool (not cold) water, sponge the groin and

tummy area, and try to get them to a drink some water. Get your pet to vet as soon as possible. Cooling too fast or too much can cause other problems.

PREVENTION

- Never, ever leave your dog in a parked car! Not even for a few minutes, heat inside a parked car can build in just a few short minutes. Leaving the windows cracked helps very little and that's only if there is a breeze.
- For outside dogs, provide shade, ventilation, wading pool, and cool drinking water. Keep in mind that shade moves as the earth rotates.
- Make sure water containers are large enough to supply water at all times and secure so they cannot be turned over.
- Clip heavy coated dogs to a one-inch length. Leave one inch for insulation, and protection against sunburn.
- Do not exercise your dog on hot days.

White cats and dogs are prone to skin cancers, we advise that if you can't keep them out of the sun that you put sun block on areas that are sparsely covered by hair. Ears and nose are the most important areas to cover.

PET OF THE MONTH

Smudger is a very excited loveable boxer who is 4 years old. His owners bought him in a few weeks ago as they had noticed a lump on his ear. It was a solid lump rather than just a fatty one which is what made the vet slightly

suspicious of it. The following week we removed it and sent it for histopathology to find out exactly what it was. Unfortunately it came back as a cancerous mass, which if removed with wide margins around it would stop it spreading. However the problem was the lump was in his ear, so we couldn't take out the surrounding skin, as there was none! We took advice from a specialist vet at a referral centre who recommended that the ear pinna (the floppy bit of his ear) should be removed. We referred him to the soft tissue specialist and he had his operation last week. He is now recovering with his buster collar (lampshade!) on which has been quite a hazard to others, and is on a course of anti-biotics and pain relief. We saw Smudger just the other day and he is back to his usual bouncy self and doing really well.



NEW ARRIVALS

BEAU Shar Pei



MAGOO - bigger one is one of our patients and the smaller one is his new friend called **CHARLIE**



MOLLY

Cocker Spaniel.

HALLIE

Golden Retriever



ALFIE

Miniature Schnauzer



BAILEY
Cocker Spaniel

MONTY



GARFIELD

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