



Newsletter

June 2015



OPENING HOURS

MON - FRIDAY

8.30AM - 5.00PM

SATURDAY

9.00AM - 12.00PM

24 HR

EMERGENCY COVER

PLEASE USE THE USUAL NUMBER

01559 363318

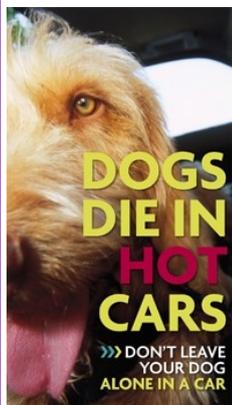
Summer is coming

As the summer months kick in there are a range of things we need to consider as pet owners.

Older pets will often seek out the sunny spot to warm their achy bones but remember they can also overheat very quickly too. Always have water and shade available for your pets.

Creepy crawlies love this time of year too.

Flies and maggots are not just seen on sheep but many of our pets too. Any animal with wounds or fur that has become soiled with faeces or urine, are a target. Keep hair short and clean.



Fleas can be a real irritation to pets, causing excessive grooming and scratching, leading to hair loss and raw infected skin wounds. Fleas that lay dormant for a year or more will hatch out in warm & wet weather; June is often both of these.

As I mentioned last month, ticks can carry some nasty diseases, which is why we are taking part in the Big Tick Project to help University of Bristol research how these diseases are spreading through the UK. Some pets will have dozens of ticks without any sign of discomfort. This is due to a chemical that the tick injects into the skin whilst it feeds, so that it goes unnoticed. Ticks can be feeding for days before they are big enough to feel or see, so it is best to regularly use a good treatment to kill or prevent ticks. There are several treatment types available, please ask a vet for advice on the best for your pet.

Itchy skins aren't always caused by insects, it can also be caused by allergies. If your pet is still itching when it has been treated for fleas (the most common reason for itching) then it may be worth having your pet allergy tested. This is not a cheap thing to detect or treat but can give enormous relief to an allergic pet.

One of our receptionists had a very itchy little dog. The allergy test showed a huge range of food, mites and pollen allergens. She was able to change the diet but that didn't cure all of the problems. An individual vaccine was produced based on her pet's allergens. Her little dog now comes in regularly to keep him topped up and he is a much calmer happier dog.



Did You Know?

A number of people were detained in connection with stealing dogs, in Carmarthenshire, at the end of May. It is believed that the intention was to use them as bait for dog fighting. Make sure your pet is safe, teach your children the importance of keeping gates secure and always keep safely on a lead when out for a walk.

The highway code states "When in a vehicle make sure dogs or other animals are suitably restrained" to avoid a distraction or causing an injury to the passengers, if there is an accident. Some insurance companies are even threatening not to pay out if you have an unrestrained pet in the car. Some also speculate that the police could fine you, under the same Act as hand held phone usage, due to distraction.

We think a car harness or cage is a great way to keep your pet safe too.

Pyometra - Veterinary term for a womb full of pus

Yes, I know, it's not a pleasant thought. It's even less pleasant for the pet concerned. It is most commonly seen in middle aged to elderly bitches but we had one in a cat last month and sometimes occurs in other species too.

This is the most common reason for an un-neutered bitch coming to the practice unwell.

Some people notice that their bitch's last season seemed to go on a bit longer than usual or she just seemed "not right" since the last season. Sometimes nothing is noticed but then she suddenly goes off her food, seems listless. Sometimes they collapse, occasionally vomiting too.

You may see a discharge coming from the vulva, that looks and smells different to a normal season. Your bitch may be constantly licking at her back end, in an effort to keep herself clean. There may be no discharge but the abdomen looks a bit fuller/fatter than normal. This is the more dangerous scenario, the pus is not coming out so just extends the womb like a huge balloon. Without prompt surgery, the womb can burst, leading to peritonitis and death.

Avoiding this disease is simple, neuter your bitch. We recommend 3 months after the first season, as this is the safest time for your pet. They are young and healthy, fully grown and the uterus is safe to remove.

An older bitch, with blood borne toxins from an infected womb, will obviously carry a far greater anaesthetic risk; the surgery is likely to be longer; costs greater, due to the supportive treatments of IV fluids and other treatments that will be needed.

The NCDL offer vouchers towards neutering for those people on benefits and offer a full cost voucher as part of their Farm Dog Neutering Scheme. If you bring in evidence of your current benefit or your CPH number, we can issue the voucher here. Average bitch spay price range £140 - £215 dependent on weight of your bitch, Pyometra treatment £350 - £600.



New Website

www.tysulvets.co.uk

Our new website is up and running now. Details of our staff, the things we do, opening hours and copies of our newsletters are online, with more to follow in time.

The website will also have Facebook links shortly. Initially this will be more of an information board telling you of current offers, disease outbreaks or up-coming meetings.

Important discussions regarding your pet should always be with the vet directly either at the practice or over the phone.

Vaccination and Boosters

Vaccinations are given to protect your pet against life threatening diseases. Pets died in their hundreds, even thousands just 30 years ago. Diseases such as parvo, leptospirosis and distemper do still occur, luckily deaths are much fewer. Those that do die are inevitably unvaccinated or the boosters have lapsed.

Rats spread Leptospirosis in their urine, making all areas potentially infectious to dogs.



Photo Reg McKenna

Boosters to a vaccine are critical, particularly in the first year. The primary course that was given as a puppy offers immunity but will not last long, as their immune system is immature. The booster at a year old reminds the pet's body that it still needs to fight these diseases. The more boosters a pet has in its lifetime, the stronger its immunity. If there is a disease outbreak you will be secure in the knowledge that your pet will be able to fight off the diseases that others will die from.

Get your Rabbits ready for Summer

Vaccinate against Myxomatosis and RHD as soon as possible; the outbreak of Myxomatosis each year is linked to the flies and fleas that help spread the disease. Main outbreaks of disease tend to be June until the first frosts. Flies also bring maggots, so check your rabbits bottoms and legs at least once daily, keep them in a clean hutch and treat them with a preventative flea treatment.



Photo - MSD

Dog(s) Wins Britain's Got Talent

Despite the controversy, it was great to see a dog act getting all the votes, proving our love of animals. Don't try this at home though, Jules has been training her dogs for years, including Dogs for the Blind.

Stunts like this could result in serious injury. Please leave these sort of stunts to the Army, Police and other professionals.



Chase, Matisse & Jules BGT

Annwen did the *Race for Life* in Aberystwyth on 17th May in memory of her Anti Ellen. She ran it in just 31 minutes and raised £336 for this great cause as part of Tim Ellen.

Well done Annwen! Thank you to all that sponsored!

