

Newsletter

March 2015



Marvellous March

Our month has begun with S4C cameras filming our busy lives here at Tysul Vets. They plan to follow the vets out onto farms as well as into our theatre and kennels. So some of your pets may become stars this week. We will always check with you before hand, so don't worry if you prefer them not to.

Are you planning your summer holiday ?

If you are thinking of taking your pet with you then you need to be getting organised now.

The rules have changed since 29th Dec 2014.

You no longer need a blood test if travelling in most cases.

If your pet is over 12 weeks old it should be microchipped first, then vaccinated against Rabies.

The vet can then complete the passport. This takes time, as errors can stop your pet from travelling. You may be asked to come back to collect it later when the vet is sure the details are correct. It is important that you ensure that all the details are correct on our system as errors in ownership details will cause problems.

After 21 days you and your pet are free to travel.

You must see a vet, whilst abroad, 1-5days before you return to the UK to be treated with Praziquantel, a worming tablet and have the passport certified.

We also recommend treating for heartworm, ticks and fleas whilst away to avoid contracting unwanted diseases passed on by parasites.



OPENING HOURS

MON - FRIDAY

8.30AM - 5.00PM

SATURDAY

9.00AM - 12.00PM

24 HR

EMERGENCY COVER

PLEASE USE THE USUAL

NUMBER

01559 363318

Did You Know?

Not all vets are allowed to sign Pet Passports, you must make sure that the vet signing the passport is an OV(Official Veterinarian)

Some countries still require a blood test to have been taken, to check vaccine was successful, before you are allowed to travel. Blood tests are done 30 days after vaccination.

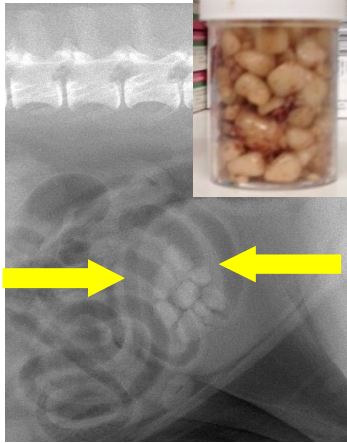
The rules are different for pets that are not holidaying or moving home with their owners. The authorities will check that the owner has joined the pet within 5 days, if travelling separately. Owners will also need to sign a declaration that they do not intend to sell or transfer ownership once abroad. Otherwise trade rules will apply.

Free Micro-chipping - Extended until end of March

The Dogs Trust have supported an excellent campaign for the last year to ensure as many dogs are micro-chipped as possible.

We have supported the campaign at Tysul Vets with hundreds now chipped for free. This will now end on 31st March 15. The expected law for compulsory chipping in Wales has been delayed for a year to come into line with England.





Bladder Stones

Bladder stones are a lot less common these days due to improvements in pet foods but some pets still seem to be susceptible. Occasionally we will have a patient come in with no obvious symptoms but we will find the evidence on x-ray when investigating for something else.

Usually a pet will come in with cystitis symptoms, wanting to pass urine more frequently than normal, perhaps trying to pass urine and very little coming out. The urine may have blood in it.

Cystitis caused by infection will usually settle quickly with antibiotics. If it doesn't clear up, we will normally investigate further with scans or x-rays.

Some stones can be dissolved by changing the pH of the urine with medicine or a special diet. Others, like the stones in the picture above, need to be removed surgically. In this case it is possible to stop them returning by changing the diet too. The diet is more expensive than a supermarket brand but will prevent the cost of further surgery and keep your pet comfortable.

Breeds that are more likely to have Calcium Oxalate crystals that require surgical removal are Miniature Schnauzer, Bichon Frise, Shih Tzu and a few other miniature dog breeds. Cats more prone to this type of stone are British Blue, Ragdolls and Persians.

Research into Schnauzers seems to indicate that it is the way that certain breeds digest their food that causes the problem, which is why a diet changes, recommended once they are diagnosed.

We have plenty of patients from these breeds with no problems at all, so do not worry. It is a very treatable problem so please come and talk to us if your pet has symptoms. Remember that the most common cause of cystitis is still infection that may not involve stones at all.

Could you give a cat or kitten a Foster Home?

Cat Action and RSPCA both use foster carers for their rescued cats.

It is not an easy task, particularly if you already have pets at home. You need a spare room where you can isolate the new arrivals. You often need to provide more than food and water. They are often weak and scared. A gentle approach, treating for fleas and worms and sometimes other veterinary treatments may be required. The work can be very rewarding as you see them develop into healthy pets that can be re-homed. It can equally be heart wrenching, when despite your care they don't survive. You have to be strong enough to know your limits too, it is easy to get all the waifs and strays in the neighbourhood if you don't know how to say no.

The aim is also to rehome, so you mustn't get too attached.

Maybe you can help in other ways, fundraisers, home checkers or just offer a permanent home. They are always needing homes for outdoor feral/farm cats too.

Contact :

C.A.T - 01994 448366 Jane

RSPCA - 01239 810595 Francis



Eye Ulcers

We regularly see cats and dogs with eye ulcers. This is commonly started by an injury to the surface of the eye by a thorn or cat scratch. Just like any wound it goes through stages of swelling, inflammation, irritation and healing. If the wound is not too deep, they will often repair within 2 to 3 days with some eye drops to stop bacteria from making it worse.

Sometimes things can be made worse if your pet rubs the eye, this is why we will also recommend wearing Buster collars.

Certain breeds, such as Cavaliers, Pugs and Pekinese are often slower to heal due to their eye surface often being drier.



Occasionally we may need to admit your pet to treat the eye if there is a risk that the eye may be lost without intensive treatment. However most can be treated with regular eye drops at home.

You will need to bring your pet regularly to check the eye is improving. It is important not to miss a worsening problem or thorns that will only show when the original swelling has gone down.



Buster collars

We will often advise Buster Collars after an operation or whilst undergoing treatment for eye ulcers. It is important they stay on, as pets can be very quick to cause unwanted injury. Guide your pet to the food bowl and they will soon learn.