



GLEBE VETERINARY SURGERY



As winter approaches and the weather gets colder we all need to plan ahead to keep our pets healthy during this period. When walking dogs in the cold weather make sure that your pet is adequately protected. Some dogs especially small dogs or older dogs with thin coats may need extra protection, consider waterproof or warm jackets for them to wear. In Canada most dogs routinely wear boots in the snow to protect their paws. Some salt mixtures on paths are harmful so it is important to wash off your dog's paws after a walk.

Anti freeze poisonings increase at this time of year because we use more in our cars. Although it is highly toxic, it tastes very sweet to pets, in particular cats will drink it readily. Make sure your car isn't leaking fluid and keep cans and bottles of it out of reach and cleaned on the outside. Even a few licks can be fatal.

Christmas brings its own hazards. Pieces of string, tinsel and bones from turkeys should be kept well out of reach to avoid an intestinal blockage and the possible need for life saving surgery. Baubles and lights, if broken and eaten, will cause serious damage to your pet. Similarly we see lots of problems at this time of year from pets eating things like chocolate, christmas cake and mince pies.



Meg advises

Order prescriptions in good time for Christmas - make sure you have enough medication for your pet over the Christmas period.

Please give us 24 hours notice as December is our busiest time.

If you require a written prescription don't leave it to the last minute as the on-line pharmacies will be very busy as well.

Team update

There have been some changes to our team in the last few months.

Welcome to Fenella, our new RVN. Fenella is a local lady, living just a stone's throw from the practice. She has previously worked in veterinary practices in Saltash and Bude and brings a wealth of experience with her to our team. When not in uniform she likes nothing better than walking her working Springer Spaniels.

Evie has passed her final exams and is now a fully fledged RVN. Well done Evie all the hard work has been worth it.

Shelby has begun her training as an SVN and is enjoying her course. She is attending a day release course at Bicton College as well as working in practice.



LAB FACILITIES

Up until recently we have almost exclusively used our external laboratory to process our samples. It is a terrific service, the samples are collected by courier during the night and the reports are emailed to us the next day.



During the summer we purchased some new equipment for our in-house laboratory.

With these new machines we are able to test blood samples and perform haematology and biochemistry tests. We can have the results within a few hours and this speeds up diagnosis which is better for our patients. It is especially useful at weekends and out of hours.

Don't forget the **GOLDEN OLDIES CLINIC run by our veterinary nurses on Mondays to Thursdays, 11am - 12pm and 2 - 4:30pm on Thursdays.**



This is a chance for the owners of senior pets to have chat with our VNs about their animal's changing needs as they age.

As our dogs age 7 times faster than we do and our cats 5 times faster, the pet's actual age can come as a bit of a surprise to most clients. Making small changes to diet, exercise and the home environment can make a huge difference to our pets.

We all want our older pets to be as comfortable as they can be in their twilight years. Ask at reception for details or phone up on 01579 371295.

Prescriptions

As instructed by the RCVS, all animals requiring medication will need to be examined by a veterinary surgeon every 3 months to monitor their condition. This is a crucial aspect of our duty of care. Animals on long term medication need to be checked regularly to ensure that their medication is achieving the desired effect and that the dosage required is appropriate. The standard charge for this clinical examination at this practice is £22.50 including VAT.

POM-V medicines can only be supplied if the animal is under our care. Clients may request the price of any medication prescribed. Those who wish to purchase POM-V medication elsewhere e.g. internet pharmacy may request a written prescription from the vet. The charge for this service is £15.00 including VAT. You may be asked to sign a form if your pet needs off-licence or human medication, the RVN on duty will explain the details to you.

Please order your pet's medication at least 24 hours before collection as we may need to order in certain medications from our supplier. Our wholesaler delivers Monday to Friday at about 8.30am, so most items are with us the next day.

Please allow up to 7 days for posted medication, we find that small packages can take longer to get to their destinations than letters. You can email us with your requests if you wish.

Christmas isn't fun for everyone...

Christmas can be unsettling for some of our pets, especially cats as the hustle and bustle of the season can be quite stressful for them. Visitors, parties, festive noise, christmas trees and fireworks can be distressing.

If your pet isn't a party animal there are some steps that you can take to help them. Provide them with a safe space e.g. a quiet dark room with hiding places. A cardboard box turned on its side can provide a safe haven for a cat. There are products available to help decrease anxiety including tablets, sprays and plug-ins. Ask one of our veterinary nurses if any of your pets need any help over the festive period.



Opening hours over the Christmas period



Monday	24th December 8.30am to 1pm
Tuesday	25th December Closed
Wednesday	26th December Closed
Thursday	27th December 8.30am to 5pm
Friday	28th December 8.30am to 12noon
Saturday	29th December 8.30am to 12noon
Sunday	30th December Closed
Monday	31st December 8.30am to 5pm
Tuesday	1st January Closed

Even though the practice is closed on the bank holidays, we are still on call for emergencies. If you need us over the holiday period please phone the usual number 01579 371295. An answering service will take your details and will pass them onto the duty vet who will call you back .

And finally...

The staff of Glebe Vets would like to thank you for your support over the past year, and to wish you and your pet a Happy Christmas and a healthy 2019.

