



Forest Lodge Veterinary Practice



RCVS
ACCREDITED
PRACTICE
SMALL ANIMAL PRACTICE

Volume 3 Issue 4

Autumn 2014 Newsletter



FIREWORKS, FEARS AND PHOBIAS!



As Autumn approaches our thoughts turn to November 5th and Firework fun, unfortunately for our pets this can be a nightmare! Fortunately there are ways to make this less traumatic for everyone.

*As the evening draws in make sure curtains are pulled to block the flashes, keep pets indoors and if necessary play some music to block out the sound of the bangs, as long as there are no firework sounds in it!

* Don't forget small furries, cover them up or move them to a safer place.

* If possible feed dogs a carbohydrate rich meal to make them feel sleepy and relaxed.

* Create a den under a table or a crate with a blanket over it for your dog to hide

in, many dogs feel more secure when they can hide away.

* If your pet is likely to bolt with fright, avoid opening doors and make sure identification details (tag and microchip) are up to date. Always walk during daylight hours for safety.

* Try not to react to the fireworks or your pets reaction. If anxiety is only mild, try engaging them in play.

There are various calming remedies and medications available to help during this time. Some are immediate and others need to be given in advance of anticipated displays. These include:

- Pheromone products such as **Adaptil** collars, diffusers

and sprays for dogs, **Feliway** diffusers and sprays for cats.

- Herbal products such as **Pet remedy** diffusers and sprays (natural herbal combinations) to help calm.

Herbal tablets and drops such as skullcap and valerian.

- Food supplements such as **Zylkene**, or **Calmex** which contain L-Tryptophan, to help relaxation.

To discuss which treatment is best for your pet please contact us.

If anxiety is severe then your pet may need stronger anti-anxiolytic medication prescribed by a vet, **make sure you book your appointment well in advance.**



Our Surgeries

New Milton

14 Barton Court Road

BH25 6NP

Tel: 01425 614482

Lymington

66 Milford Road

SO41 8DU

Tel: 01590 673687

Emergencies

Out of normal hours:

Tel: 01425 614482

Surgery Hours

9:00-6:30pm Mon-Fri

9:00-5 pm Sat (NM)

9:00-1pm (Lym)

Visit us at:

www.forestlodgevets.com

and Facebook & Twitter!



AUTUMN PERILS — FLEAS!

So far Autumn has been mild and damp, ideal conditions for breeding fleas! Unfortunately we are seeing a lot of pets with flea infestations and FAD (Flea Allergic Dermatitis). It is really important to keep all pets in the household up to date with a good quality flea product. If you find fleas or flea dirt (black spots that turn red on wet paper) on your pet then you will need to treat the house with a good quality insecticidal spray. You may wish to change to a different product if the previous one isn't working, there are many types available - spot-ons, collars, and tablets; some also treat ticks, roundworms or mites. If you wish to discuss changing flea products our nurses are happy to help, however we do need an up to date record of your pet's weight in order to give the correct dose.



PHOTO OF THE MONTH COMPETITION

Don't forget to keep sending your photos to: Lymsurg@forestlodgevets.com for a chance to appear on our website and Facebook page.



Update on CRGV (New Forest Disease)

As Autumn is upon us I thought I should update you on our advice on Cutaneous and renal glomerular vasculopathy (CRGV or Alabama Rot). We think that it is likely that we will start seeing cases of the disease again soon as the water table on the New Forest is now so high that we are already getting areas of standing water, which seems to be associated with the onset of the disease.

The Experts say that 'CRGV' is basically a severe vasculitis (inflammation of blood vessels, damaging the blood supply to the organ they go to). Affected dogs initially develop raised, sore, itchy lesions on the legs which, if left untreated, slough off leaving holes in the skin. The kidneys can then become affected with the dog going into Acute Renal Failure, stopping eating and sometimes drinking more, often vomiting, becoming very depressed and without treatment

usually dying quite rapidly. A lot will die in spite of the best treatment available. For more information see: <http://www.andersonmoores.com/vet/news>

As a practice we were involved in treating a number of suspected cases. Combined with the information provided by 'Anderson Moore's Veterinary Specialists' we have the following recommendations:

After walking in the forest:

- Try and avoid the dog licking itself clean
- Wash dogs down as soon as possible (can use shampoo/antibacterial agent)

Book an appointment with a vet as soon as possible if your dog:

- Develops itchy, raised lesions or ulcers on the legs/lower body (not traumatic wounds)
- Becomes dull and depressed
- Goes off its food/drinks a lot

- Develops vomiting

If possible bring a urine sample from your dog with you to the appointment.

A key factor in survival appears to be early recognition so if unsure the best advice we can give is get it checked. A majority of the clinical signs listed above will be completely unrelated and no further action may be required, alternatively the vet may recommend some tests and treatments.

Roger Wilson MA VetMB



LASER THERAPY

We now have the facilities to perform laser therapy at both surgeries as an adjunct to conventional medical treatment. Quick and painless, the laser has proved to help promote wound healing and can help with pain management alongside traditional pain medication, making it a useful

treatment for chronic conditions such as arthritis. If you would like to try laser therapy for your pet please make an appointment with your veterinary surgeon to discuss your options.



CONGRATULATIONS to Jo Garlike our Head Nurse who has successfully completed her

Diploma in Veterinary Nursing for Rabbits with Distinction. Jo is happy to help with any of your rabbit husbandry questions!



AUTUMN OFFERS

15% off ADAPTIL and FELIWAY products until end January 2015.

Perfect for Firework phobias Adaptil for Dogs and Feliway for cats are pheromone products designed to calm your pet.

- ◆ Feliway comes in a diffuser and spray bottle
- ◆ Adaptil comes as a diffuser, spray or collar.



FOCUS ON STAFF

AIDAN BORILL MA Vet MB MRCVS

Aidan qualified from Cambridge Veterinary School in 2009 and having worked in Sheffield and Essex recently moved to Dorset this year with his wife and three kids Bumble, Truffle and Victor (two cats and a dog). Aidan has a particular interest in diagnostic imaging but enjoys being an all-round general practitioner.

