



# Newsletter

Endell Veterinary Group, 49 Endless Street, Salisbury, SP1 3UH • 01722 333291

Spring 2014

## Dog Deaths in the New Forest: 'Alabama Rot'

The technical name for 'Alabama Rot' is Idiopathic Cutaneous and Renal Glomerular Vasculopathy (CRGV). This disease has been seen in the USA since the 1980's and was initially thought to only affect greyhounds.

However, since December 2012 there have been 19 reported cases in the UK (12 from the New Forest and 7 from other counties), in a variety of dog breeds.

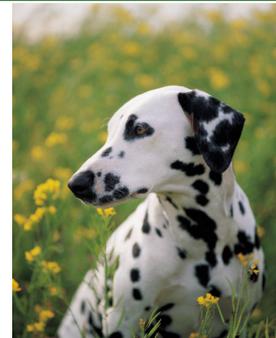
No cases were seen after April 2013, until December 2013 and since then there have been 5 confirmed cases which had been walked in the New Forest (Brockenhurst, Wilverley Inclosure, Tiptoe, Holmesley campsite and Gordleton). There are a further 5 suspected cases from across the UK. Unfortunately despite intensive treatment only one dog has survived from those affected since December 2013.

The disease causes skin lesions which have typically been below the elbow or knee and have presented as an area of redness or swelling or as a raw area like an ulcer. Within a week these dogs have gone on to show signs of kidney failure such as vomiting, reduced appetite and reduced energy.

The cause of this disease is still unknown despite extensive testing but it is important to remember that it is only a very small number of dogs who have been affected, especially considering how many are walked in the New Forest on a daily basis. It also does not appear to pass between dogs.

Until the underlying cause is found it is difficult to give specific advice on how to reduce your dog's risk. If you are at all concerned that your dog is showing any of the signs associated with the disease then do contact the practice as soon as possible as prompt aggressive treatment gives the best chance of a good outcome. However please remember that most skin lesions seen will not be caused by this disease and that there are many other much more common causes of kidney failure.

Anderson Moores Veterinary Specialists near Winchester in Hampshire have taken most of the referrals for these cases and are collating information on cases from across the UK. Please check our Facebook page for updates on the situation.



## Pet Nutrition at Endell's



A good quality diet means a healthier body (for us and our pets too!). That's why at Endell's we are proud to offer top of the range foods at competitive prices:

- **Dry Food:**  
For the dry kibble feeders, we advise **Royal Canin**, an excellent complete food which can be tailored to any size, age or breed of cat or dog.
- **Raw Food:**  
Many of you are choosing raw food for your pet. It is vital to ensure a raw diet is well balanced, that's why we stock **Natural Instinct** - a carefully formulated raw food for cats and dogs, made from good quality ethically sourced meat in the UK.
- **Wet Food:**  
The latest addition to our food range is **Nature's Menu**. Gently steamed, cooked pouches and tins, grain free, real meat and free from all colours, preservatives and additives.

If you would like to discuss diet and the best food for your pet call our dedicated nutrition nurse, Jen, for a free chat or send her a message via our Facebook page.

## ★ Offers ★

Following on from our recent discount on dental treatment we are now offering 20% off **Royal Canin Dental** food\*, which is specifically designed to increase abrasion of the tooth through the kibble and reduce plaque formation. In addition, if a vet has recommended that you should start preventative dental care, we are offering a free dental health consult with one of our nurses (worth £17.95).



\*not available in conjunction with any other offers.

# Spring Wildlife

Just a reminder, as (hopefully!) the warmer weather approaches, to remember to follow the RSPCA's advice with regard to young wildlife.

Fledgling birds leave the nest just before they can fly and are fed by their parents on the ground so just because they don't fly off it does not necessarily mean they are unwell. The parents of a baby bird will often be close by, waiting for you to leave before they reappear. You won't do any harm by moving a baby bird from an exposed area to some nearby cover if you think they are at risk but don't take them any distance or the parents will be unable to find them. The same applies to fox cubs who are often out in the open at an early age with parents close by.

Although local wildlife charities do a great job, the best chance of survival for most of these young animals is staying in their natural environment and being raised by their parents

If you believe the animal is sick or injured then do bring them to the surgery but take care not to be scratched or bitten. Make sure they are in a secure carrier or cardboard box that is warm, dark and well ventilated and please give us a call first so we know you are coming.



## New Staff Members



We would like to welcome Ashleigh to our nursing team. Ashleigh comes to us as a fully qualified, registered veterinary (RVN) from a large practice in Cheshire. She has come south to be with her new husband who is based in Wiltshire. We are also pleased to welcome back student nurse Abbey for her final placement with us before qualifying next year.



Those of you who have been into the practice recently may have already met Karen who will be on reception most afternoons as well as helping in the office upstairs. Having an extra person on the reception desk is freeing up our nurses to spend more time with your pets both in clinics and behind the scenes caring for inpatients.

## Are You A Member of Our Pet Health Plan (ViP Extra) Club Yet?

The Endell Veterinary Group Pet Health Plan offers an easy, cost effective way to meet your pet's essential healthcare needs. We believe that preventative health care is an important part of pet ownership; things like vaccines and parasite control are important factors in helping your pet have a long and healthy life. As well as vaccines, wormers and flea control, the plan provides a six-monthly check up to catch any problems early, something that becomes increasingly important as your pet ages. This is not the same as pet insurance but allows you to save money and spread the cost of preventative health care for your pet and works well in conjunction with a good insurance policy.

### What's included?

#### For a regular monthly fee your pet receives:

- Twice yearly health assessments
- Full routine annual vaccination
- Full worming program for cats and dogs for effective year round protection against round and tape worm (includes lungworm)
- All year round flea control for cats and dogs
- Parasite program for rabbits for *E. cuniculi*
- Annual health screen blood test
- Insurance claim forms completed free of charge

#### In addition, you get discounts on the following:

- Routine consultations
- Neutering
- Microchips
- Dental treatments
- Additional vaccinations
- Royal Canin and Hill's food



### ViP Club - if you don't want all the "extras":

We also have another Pet Health Club Plan (ViP) that offers full routine annual vaccination, worming and flea control.

## Ordering Food and Medications

We have changed the way we order your pets' medications and food. We have found that holding a lot of stock means that many products go out of date on the shelf. To try and combat this we are ordering most medicines and foods from our wholesaler only as required. In order to save yourself a wasted journey in to the practice, we ask that you please telephone us in advance to give us 48 hours' notice to order your food or medication.



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Endell Veterinary Group Small Animal

