



# Newsletter

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

Spring 2015

## Wildlife

Each spring we see a number of young birds brought in by well meaning members of the public. Unfortunately 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.

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.

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.

The RSPCA also have some good advice with regard to wildlife on their website.



## Acupuncture



***Have you ever considered Acupuncture as a treatment for yourself or your pet?***

Acupuncture is well known as an ancient Chinese healing technique but has been shown in more recent years to stimulate the release of endorphins from the brain and to have an effect on the levels of pain perception.

Vet Heidi Wyatt has been using acupuncture to treat dogs, cats and rabbits in conjunction with conventional medicine since 1998. The acupuncture needles used are very fine, the majority of acupuncture points used are located quite superficially and most pets tolerate them very well, barely seeming to notice.

The initial session lasts approximately 45 minutes and allows time to gradually introduce the pet to the needles and assess the response. No sedation is required; Heidi is keen for owners to stay with their pet throughout the session and the needles usually remain in place for 10-20 minutes. In most cases three to four once weekly sessions are recommended to evaluate the effect of the acupuncture and to then decide how to progress with top up treatments.

Conditions such as muscular pain, neck pain, back pain, osteoarthritis, poor mobility, slowing up, difficulty jumping or poor grooming habits can all benefit from acupuncture.

Acupuncture in trained hands is a safe therapy without some of the side effects that can be a problem with some conventional treatments for arthritis and pain relief.

***If you would like to know more about acupuncture or would like to try the treatment for your pet please contact Heidi Wyatt MRCVS at the practice.***

## First Aid Course

Veterinary Surgeon Carrie Sherfield and RVN Michelle Dyke organised the first of our pet first aid courses in January. It ran at full capacity and participants went home armed with practical and safe advice as well as a portable first aid kit. A variety of topics were covered including vomiting and diarrhoea, wounds and practical bandaging. Check out our Facebook page for photos of some of the bandaging and big thanks go out to the obliging PAT dogs (pets as therapy: [www.petsastherapy.org](http://www.petsastherapy.org)) for patiently allowing themselves to be repeatedly bandaged!

The next course is being planned to run in March, do let us know if you would like to be added to the list of participants or would like more information.



# Staff News

Huge congratulations to student veterinary nurse Jo Woolley on passing her nursing exams. She is now registered with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and will no longer be in her green and white striped student uniform but joins our other qualified RVNs (registered veterinary nurses) in bottle green and you may start to see her running some of our nurse clinics.

We would also like to welcome new student nurses Hannah Vickery, Lucy Hales and Ed Field. Hannah and Lucy will be completing all their training with us while attending college one day a week. Ed is currently studying at Middlesex University and is with us on placement. Though you won't meet them in clinics they will be helping out on the front desk as well as learning the ropes behind the scenes.



## Puppy Parties

These are run each Thursday evening by Jen Blake, one of our qualified veterinary nurses, with assistance from student nurse Hannah. They are a great opportunity for young puppies to learn socialisation skills in a safe environment and for their owners to ask any questions they may have in a relaxed environment. Puppies can attend once they have had their first vaccination and may come to more than one session.



**More details are available at reception.**

## 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

**All from as little as £15.80 per month.\***



### 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.

\*Prices vary depending on breed/weight

## 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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