

Newsletter

Kingsteignton Veterinary Group

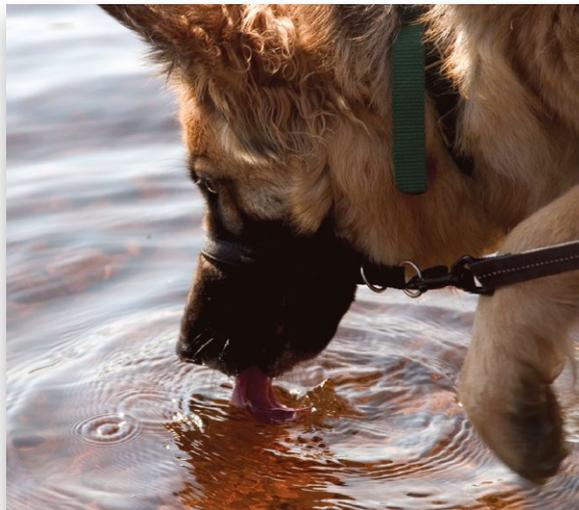
APOLOGY

It has only recently come to our attention that BT has inadvertently cut off our phone line at our Chudleigh branch. We apologise to any of our clients who have been trying to get through to this branch. BT are working on the problem, and in the meantime we have diverted calls from this number (01626 853 280) to our main branch at Kingsteignton.

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Did you know that not all pet vaccines are the same?

A recent outbreak of Leptospirosis near Bristol, and now a confirmed case in Tiverton, has highlighted the fact that even vaccinated dogs were susceptible, and some were unable to be saved after contracting the disease. Last year we upgraded the Lepto part of our dog vaccine, including 2 more strains to provide greater protection. All our canine patients were given a free second dose and now they have all completed the programme. Investigations have shown that this new vaccine will protect our patients against the strain that caused the outbreak, should they become infected. This disease is contracted from contaminated water sources.



Also, last winter we saw several cases of Kennel Cough. After taking some swabs for culture, we determined that the main culprit was the Parainfluenza virus. Some vets do not include this virus in their yearly booster programmes, in an attempt to provide cheaper vaccines. We believe that it is worth paying a bit more for the best vaccine protection available.

Website updated

We have recently updated our website (still a “work in progress”). As well as looking much better than the old one, and being more user friendly, it will enable us to keep you better informed, as to news, special offers and expand on stories not able to be covered fully in our newsletters or via our facebook page.

We would love for you to take a look, and if possible please submit a review online of our practice. Your opinion does matter to us, so we would love to hear from you.



We are organising two dog shows this year.

- Chudleigh Knighton Village Fête - 12th July
 - Kingsteignton Garden, Craft and Hobby Fair - 22nd August
- See you there!

You are what you eat!

Pet food research has come a long way in recent years, and although it is true to say that there are many different ways to feed a dog or a cat (I was going to say, "Skin a cat," but that didn't sound appropriate!), it is definitely a case of the good, the bad and the ugly out there when it comes to pet foods.

Our qualified nurses offer free advice to clients on which pet foods may be the best for their own pets. This may vary depending on life stage, body score and any particular medical problems that they may have.

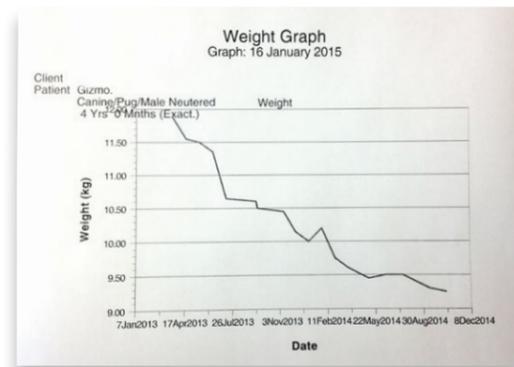


We also sell a Vet-specific brand of Hills food, called Vet Essentials, which we recommend. This diet aims to try and prevent the common ailments that can be food-related, i.e. Digestive problems, skin problems, dental plaque and tartar, arthritis and problems with the immune system. Please check our website, or pick up a leaflet next time you are in the surgery, or speak to one of our staff for more information

Nurse led weight clinics...a success story!

Gizmo is a 4 year-old Pug, with typical middle-age spread. Initially he weighed 11.9kg, but after several months of concerted effort by our nurses and the owner, they have together managed to transform him. He now weighs a fairly constant 9.2kg. Well done! We are convinced this will prolong Gizmo's life, slowing down any arthritis that may occur, plus improving circulation, blood pressure and already noticed by owners, less noisy breathing.

Please feel free to make use of the Weight-loss Clinics that our nursing team offers. Apart from discussing diets, they measure each patient and keep a weight record of their progress. This is probably our most popular Nurse Clinic. See our website for other services they can offer your pets, plus other "before and after" success stories.



Gizmo before



Gizmo after

Staff News

After 24 years of hard work, David Baldwin, our Senior Veterinary Surgeon, has decided to retire. David was a familiar face in Chudleigh where he lives, and ran the branch surgery. He was also our leading farm animal Veterinarian, and served our Farming Clients for many years. It will be difficult to fill his shoes, but we wish him all the best for the future. He writes:

"As you may know, I am retiring on medical advice. I would like to thank all our clients for allowing me to treat your animals for the past 24 years. I take away so many great memories with me, and I know I will miss the challenge (but not the nights on call!?!), and the great pleasure my career has offered.

I would like to wish you, your animals and Kingsteignton Vets all the very best for the future"

David Baldwin



Jayne Dymond, our Practice Manager of 28 years has also retired, after a long and loyal commitment to the practice. This position has been filled by our Head Nurse, Deana Schneidau, who has been wanting to progress in her career for some time now. She brings with her, a variety of managerial skills, and 18 years' experience of working in veterinary practice. Veterinary Nurses, Emma Wills and Petra Sas will be taking on the Head Veterinary Nurse role on a temporary basis.

We would also like to announce that Nick Lloyd, Veterinary Surgeon, became a father again, for a second time, to a little boy "Theo", born 28th January 2015, weighing 7lb 9oz.

Veterinary Dentistry – value for money?

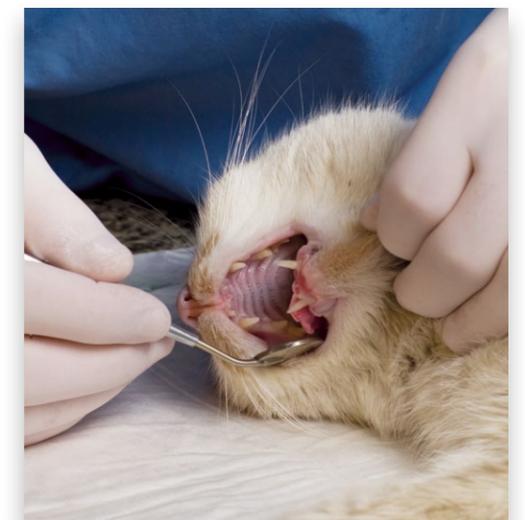
This is a question we are frequently asked, and this is when we wish there was an NHS for pets! The main reason that dental costs are perceived to be expensive is the fact that animals will not sit in a chair, lie back and open their mouth for any treatment, so they require a full general anaesthetic, even for a scale and polish.

The anaesthetic we use is of the very highest safety standard, and is monitored by a qualified nurse, while the Vet does the dental work. This is especially important as most animals that require dentistry are getting older, which increases the risk of having a general anaesthetic, and needs to be as safe as possible.

Fortunately, because of these precautions, we have very few complications, but it does come at a cost. The more teeth that need to be removed, the longer the patient is under anaesthetic, and so the cost increases. Please talk to us about the costs, rather than leaving it too long.

This is why we stress the importance of preventative dental care. Apart from our ongoing free Dental Clinics, where our nurses can check your pet's teeth, plus give advice on dental care, we are offering £1.50 off all dental products, plus £40 off dental work until the end of July.

Please visit our website to view more information about the dental products that we recommend.



Give your pet some of the best nutrition that money can buy!



£3.00 off any bag of Hills Vet Essentials food 1.5kg or greater.



Terms and conditions:

- This voucher is valid till 31/07/2015
- All offers are subject to availability.
- Offer only valid for use with your membership card.
- Not to be used in conjunction with a Hills loyalty voucher.
- This offer is limited to the first 50 clients, so limited stocks available.

£40 Off Dentistry



We want to do what's best for your pet and their teeth, so once again we are offering **£40 off** any dental surgery until the end of July 2015.

We are also offering **£1.50 off** all of our dental products for these months.



Terms and conditions:

- This voucher is valid till 31/07/2015
- All offers are subject to availability.
- Offer only valid for use with your membership card.
- Only for use during appointments prebooked for this purpose.
- Dentistry includes scaling polishing and surgical extractions.

Upto £120 saving on Senior Health Care Checks



We are offering a fixed price of **£40**, which will include upto **£160** of in house testing .



Terms and conditions:

- This voucher is valid till 31/07/2015
- All offers are subject to availability.
- Offer only valid for use with your membership card.
- Only for use during appointments prebooked for this purpose.
- In house testing to be based on veterinary nurse recommendations and can include bloods and/or urine analysis and blood pressure.

Kingsteignton Surgery Opening Times

Monday to Friday

09.00 - 10.30
14.00 - 15.30
(not Wednesday)
17.00 - 18.30

Saturday

09.00 - 10.30

Bovey Tracey Surgery Opening Times

Monday to Friday

08.30 - 09.30
16.30 - 17.30
(not Wednesday afternoon)

Chudleigh Surgery Opening Times

Monday to Friday

08.15 - 09.00 No appointment required
13.30 - 14.00 No appointment required
(not Wednesday)
Please phone ahead to check availability

We provide a 24/7 out of hours emergency service, please phone us on 01626 354260 if you wish to speak to us out-of-hours. We also offer late appointments until 7pm at the Kingsteignton Surgery by special request.