



Tel: 0161 747 9002

www.traffordvet.co.uk

Opening times

Monday – Friday 8.30am – 6.45pm

Saturday

9.00am -12.00 pm

Consulting times

Monday-Friday 9.00-10.30am

2.00- 3.00pm

4.00- 6.30pm

9.30-11.30am

Saturday

Consultations by appointment



Winter 2012

Practice News

We would like to welcome Emily back to us as a permanent vet at the practice. Emily has already covered as a locum over summer and we are very happy for her to be joining us part time.

We would also like to welcome Carol to the practice. Carol is a qualified nurse and is already having a very positive impact on the practice.

As some clients may already be aware we are currently in the process of changing the veterinary diet we sell in practice. The new food is by a company called Virbac well known in the veterinary industry and the range is called Vet Complex. We are changing the food to make the range much more simple which will allow us to keep more in stock and we feel will be easier for both staff and clients to choose a food suited to their pet. The manufacturing process of the food itself is much better than previous diets we have stocked so the food will keep it's nutritional content better as some nutrients are added in cold at the end to avoid becoming ineffective. Overall the range is also a lot better value and we are delighted to be able to offer clients a buy one get one free offer throughout November. Both Kate and Dot have trialed the food on their pets successfully and staff will be happy to help with any further questions.

Firework Fear

Whilst many of us look forward to bonfire night and the New Year celebrations, it is worth sparing a thought for our pets – since this can be a very stressful time for many of them.

Here are some tips to help during this challenging time:



- Make sure that dogs and cats are kept indoors and any pets (e.g. rabbits) that live outdoors are covered

- Give your dog a quiet place to hide. Keep the windows and curtains closed, and provide a comfy bed with lots of blankets to hide under. Music/TV can be helpful in masking the sounds of fireworks.

- The use of calming pheromone (Adaptil and Feliway) can help pets feel calmer and safe. These should be plugged in at least 48hours before fireworks are due to start.

We also sell a number of tablets or pastes which contain natural ingredients to help calm both dogs and cats during the firework season (Kalm Aid, Calmex, Dorwest Tablets)

Your reaction to your pet's fearful behavior is very important, since reassurance encourages pets to continue to display a particular behavior. So you can reward your pets calm behavior with cuddles and treats. However if your pet is fearful, stay relaxed and act as a good role model and carry on as if nothing is happening.



Arthritis



Now is the time when we all start to feel our aches and pains, and your pets are no exception. Look out for limps and difficulty in rising after rest – these are signs that your pet may have joint stiffness and pain which can be made much worse in the cold weather.

Novel forms of medication together with weight control can make a huge difference to affected pets. If your pet is showing signs of stiffness, come and see us for a check up.



Rabbits and Small Animals Over Winter



Pet rabbits and guinea pigs also find this time of year very challenging, particularly for animals that live outside. It is important to ensure that hutches are warm, dry and clean and have plenty of bedding. Water bottles should be checked regularly to ensure that they have not become frozen. Bottle and hutch covers can be bought to help with these problems. Ideally small animals should be moved indoors into a conservatory or garage away from drafts.

Festive Hazards Around The Home

The festive season brings with it a huge range of hazards for our pets! Below are a few things to consider over the Christmas Holidays.



Ribbon and tinsel off Christmas trees or garlands are very attractive to mischievous pets and, if swallowed, may lead to intestinal blockage.

Many pets also love chewing house plants, however most of these are toxic to pets. Remember to make sure you keep mistletoe away from pets as both leaves and berries, if eaten, are extremely toxic to pets.

Poinsettias should also be kept out of the reach of animals as they can also cause sickness and vomiting in cats and dogs if eaten.



Most dogs love chocolate but as well as being very fattening it contains a naturally occurring substance called theobromine which is poisonous to dogs. The theobromine content, and in turn the toxicity of chocolate, varies according to type, with plain chocolate being the most dangerous.



Objects around the house such as toys left lying around and baubles on the tree can be a choking hazard for pets. Keep an eye on them around the house this winter or limit your pet to where they can go.

