

Small Talk

SPRING 2021



Hafren Veterinary Group Small Animal Newsletter

Welcome to the Spring 2021 edition of our newsletter, bringing you seasonal and topical information and updates.

PRACTICE NEWS

Congratulations to Sam

on her recent exam success-she is now a qualified RVN (Registered Veterinary Nurse).

We wish her every success with her new career. Congratulations to Elle our student vet nurse (Newtown) on her recent exam success.

Covid-19 Update

Inline with

government advice we are now welcoming one client per pet back into the building. Face masks must be worn and social distancing rules adhered to. We are very grateful for your patience at this stressful time, and apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

Free Nurse Clinics

From June to August we are holding our Senior (8 years+) pet health check. Please make an appointment with one of our nurses for a free of charge health check to make sure your pet is in tip top condition.



Covid -19 and New Pets

Thinking of adding a new pet to your family this Spring? We've put together a check-list of things to do!

Once you have your new arrival, please arrange to let us check them over and ensure they are fit and well.

Things to consider when getting a new pet is vaccinations, worming, fleas, pet insurance, dental care, diet and feeding.

The early experience a puppy or kitten has of people and their surroundings has a huge impact on their behaviour and personality for the rest of their life. When considering a new pet, its really important to make sure the breeder or rescue centre has fully socialised them. Unfortunately the Covid pandemic has made it much harder to socialise younger pets, but it is important breeders and owners do what they can with the current rules to give young pets the best chance of being well adjusted adults. Please get in touch for further information on socialising your young pet.



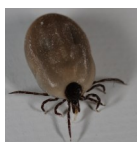
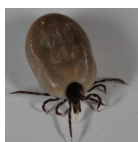
EASTER TREATS



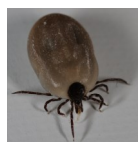
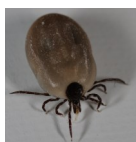
All us humans love a treat , but it is important that we watch what our pets eat especially around Easter time . Chocolate contains a chemical called theobromine which can be poisonous to dogs ,cats, rodents and rabbits. The severity of the poisoning can vary depending on the type, quality and quantity they consume. Hot cross buns can be a danger too - grapes, raisins, currants and sultanas are all toxic to dogs.

Most cat owners don't know it ,but lilies are so poisonous that a cat can suffer fatal kidney failure just from biting a lily leaf or petal, licking lily pollen from its paws, or drinking water from a vase with cut lilies in it.

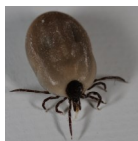
IF YOU THINK YOUR PET HAS CONSUMED ANY OF THE ABOVE
DON'T WAIT FOR SIGNS OF ILLNESS - CONTACT THE SURGERY
IMMEDIATELY



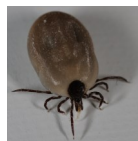
Spring Tick alert



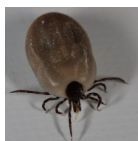
As the weather warms up and we head towards the spring and Summer months, ticks become more active, posing a risk to both pets and their owners.



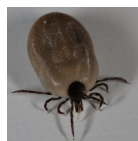
Ticks can be found in long grasses and wooded areas, especially where there is wildlife such as deer and hedgehogs. Here, they wait for a human or animal to brush past them, so they can jump on and feed. They attach using their mouthparts and will feed on blood from their host for several days before dropping off.



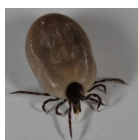
Although pets rarely seem troubled by them, ticks can spread diseases that pose serious health risk:



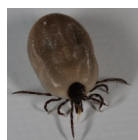
Lyme disease is most well know disease spread by ticks. Affected pet (and also humans) can develop swollen joints and stiffness. They can also develop fever , anorexia and lethargy.



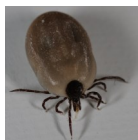
Babesiosis is an emerging tick-borne disease, destroying red blood cells and causing acute signs of anaemia in affected dogs (but not humans). It is mainly found in mainland Europe, but there is a risk of spread into the UK and Ireland.



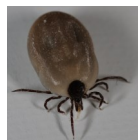
What about prevention? Current evidence suggest that tick-borne disease take many hours after tick attachment to be transmitted.



Veterinary prescription medication for the prevention of ticks often kill these pesky parasites quicker than their non-prescription counterparts, which is very important in the prevention of tick borne disease and they are available as spot-ons, tablets or collars.



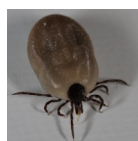
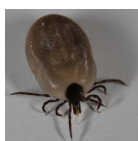
Tick Removal Top Tips!



If you see a tick, you must never just pull it out! The ticks body will just detach, but the head will remain in the skin leading to increase risk of tick-borne disease transmission. Also any stress placed on the tick by burning, freezing, covering with Vaseline and physical squeezing , will lead to regurgitation of the ticks stomach contents resulting in an increase risk of disease transmission.



We recommend using a special tick removing tool. We can provide you with these and how to use them.



A simple twisting action is all that is required to remove the tick while minimising disease risk. Especially designed v-shaped tick removers that remove ticks by rotation are very effective at removing ticks.

