

ISLE VALLEY VETERINARY GROUP SMALL ANIMAL CLINICS

OPEN DAY AT CREECH ST MICHAEL SURGERY

Following major building work and refurbishment, we are now settled back into the surgery at Creech St Michael. We would like to invite our clients & potential new clients to take a look behind the scenes. You will have the opportunity to see the new operating theatre, explore the laboratory and kennels and meet the staff and some of their own pets! The open day will be on **Saturday 24 July from 10am to 12 noon** and all are welcome! On this occasion you do not need to bring your pets!

TAKING YOUR PET ABROAD

Under the Government's Pet Travel Scheme (PETS), dogs and cats can enter the UK from certain countries without having to be placed in quarantine. This means you can now take your pet to certain qualifying countries on holiday with you provided they meet certain conditions. These conditions are different depending on which country you are travelling to but the general rules for cats and dogs are as follows:

- must be microchipped
- vaccinated against rabies (this cannot be done until your pet is 3 months old)
- a blood test must be taken 30 days after the rabies vaccination, to prove a satisfactory level of protection.
- have not been outside any of the qualifying countries in the last 6 months before re-entering the UK
- has a PETS passport signed by a Veterinary Surgeon confirming that ALL requirements have been met
- is treated for ticks and tapeworm by a Veterinary Surgeon 24-48 hours before you return to the UK
- travels with an approved transport company on an approved route

For more details check with DEFRA, website:
www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/quarantine/ or phone
the PETS helpline: 0870 241 1710.



It is your responsibility to make sure your pet's rabies vaccination does not expire or the entire process has to be started again. Please allow up to 9 months for the PETS Passport Scheme to be completed!

IMPORTANCE OF NEUTERING

If you are not planning to breed from your pet, then Isle Valley Vets strongly recommend having them neutered! This can prevent problems later in life such as:

Females

- Seasons – coming on heat
- Unwanted litters (Cats can potentially have 3 litters of kittens per year!)
- False pregnancies
- Reduce the risk of mammary tumours
- Pyometra (a serious womb infection which can potentially be classed as an emergency and can be fatal!) An emergency hysterectomy is required in these cases!

Males

- Prevent testicular cancer/tumours
 - Prevent roaming and straying
 - Prevent spraying in the cat
 - Prevent possible prostate problems
 - Decreased libido to prevent unwanted mounting
- Your pet is admitted to the surgery the morning of the operation and will return home the same afternoon with post operative care instructions from the nurse!

For more information contact us at Isle Valley Vets!

FLY STRIKE IN RABBITS - SUMMER IS COMING!

Fly-strike is a very common condition that can affect most animals but more commonly seen in rabbits. It usually occurs during the hotter months when the flies are looking for ideal places to lay their eggs.



Your rabbit and its cage are usually an ideal environment for the fly! The fly eggs hatch into maggots which then burrow into the rabbit,

feeding on flesh. The rabbit is literally eaten alive! The condition rapidly worsens often ending in death. However it CAN be prevented:

- examine your rabbit daily making sure it is always clean (a rabbit with a dirty rear is far more at risk!);
- keep the hutch clean and disinfected;
- Spot clean daily as this is less likely to attract flies;
- use good absorbent bedding to avoid excess moisture collecting;
- you can protect for rabbit using a topical fly repellent (available from Isle Valley Vets).

PET SMILE MONTH

It's not just us that have to look after our teeth; our pets need their teeth looking after too! During September bring your pet to the surgery for a **FREE** dental check with



the nurse and receive a **FREE** goodie bag! The nurse will check your pet's teeth and give any necessary advice and answer any questions that you may have. This is your opportunity to learn how to clean your pet's teeth properly!

STAFF NEWS

In September last year, Veterinary Nurse **Kim Little** took two weeks holiday to the Greek island of Samos. Not that unusual you may think but Kim didn't spend her time sitting on the beach. She joined forces with the Worldwide Veterinary Service and spent her time treating sick or injured dogs and cats. Over the two weeks Kim and the rest of the voluntary veterinary team did a total of 58 operations including one leg amputation, two wound repairs and an eye operation.

Congratulations to **Jenny Penn**, our nursing assistant who got married in November last year in Cuba!

Emma Bryan and **Kim Little**, two of our Qualified Veterinary Nurses have recently returned from a neutering trip in

Morocco! From the 15 to 22 May the nurses joined forces with HSAM (Help the Street Animals of Morocco) helping to treat the



cats and kittens that live on the streets. The nurses and the rest of the voluntary veterinary team performed over 50 operations including neutering, lump removals and eye operations in the make shift surgery (a garage attaching onto the Villa). Kittens were also treated on the streets for fleas, worms and eye treatments (many of the kittens had bad or weepy eyes) and also oral fluids if necessary.

Erica Cooke, one of our Trainee Nurses is gathering courage in preparation of her Tandem Sky Dive on 21 August. She will be doing it in aid of **Guide Dogs for the Blind**. Any clients wishing to sponsor her can do so by visiting either of the Small Animal Surgeries at Hinton St George or Creech St Michael. You can also donate on line at www.justgiving.com/Erica-Cooke

Allison Sherlock, our Head Nurse is still continuing her heel work to music routines with her two-year old Shih Tzu, Benji. She will be taking part in some local dog shows this year demonstrating their skills together!

Please phone your local surgery for more information or look at our website
www.islevallvets.co.uk

Tetts Farm, West Street, **Hinton St George**, TA17 8SB **Tel: 01460 73398**
St Michael Road, **Creech St Michael**, TA3 5DP **Tel: 01823 444234**
Equine Clinic: Eleighwater, Chard, TA20 3AF **Tel: 01460 66099**