

The summer season brings more trips out for us and our pets to the beach, countryside and holidays, which can mean a car journey. Some pets just love the car ride while others hate it and for the latter, this can be a nightmare for both animal and passengers alike! Travel sickness may cause anything from excessive drooling and panting to shivering and vomiting. It is usual for puppies and kittens to suffer 'motion' sickness on their first time in a moving vehicle, while for other

cats and dogs it is just the actual journey experience that can cause stress or excitability, which result in travel troubles.

Cats can be particularly bad travellers with the problems starting before the journey does, as the carrier basket in their eyes is the enemy! Your cat needs to 'make friends' with the carrier.

- **1.** Place it in a happy, friendly, homely environment, with the door open and a cosy blanket inside.
- **2.** Allow your cat free access to become familiar with the carrier and make friends.
- A happy, confident cat in a travel basket, and you are one step closer to a stress free journey!



### Managing the Motion

Early introduction to the car for your pet is advisable.

- **1.** Allow them to sit in the stationary vehicle with you, while giving praise.
- **2.** Begin with short journeys to build their confidence, and always ensure your pet is restrained for their safety, the driver and passengers.
- **3.** For some animals it may help to withhold food, whereas others may benefit from a light meal a while before the journey.
- **4.** Carry an emergency clean up kit in your car for those times when rubber gloves, paper towel, refuse bag, spare bedding and a bottle of water will all come in very handy!
- **5.** If your pet is sick, poos, wees or shows anxiousness do not scold them, remember you are aiming to build their confidence.

In time your cat or dog may gradually get used to the car and young ones can grow out of it. However if the problem persists, please do call us to see how we can help your pet overcome the carsick blues.

## GLAVEN SURGERY HOURS

We are open for pet healthcare and advice during the hours of

Holf 01263 713200

Monday to Friday 8.30am - 6pm Saturday 9am - 12noon

Wells 01328 711022

Monday to Friday 9am - 12noon 3pm - 6pm

Consultations with our Veterinary Surgeons and Nurses are by appointment

24 HOUR 7 DAY EMERGENCY SERVICE 01263 713200

# Summer 2023 GLAVEN Veterinary Practice

# Clare our Cat Advocate

Hi pet owners! I trained at Glaven Vets and have been here for 17 years, gaining my veterinary nurse qualification in 2008. Cats have always been a passion of mine, and before starting my nursing career I spent two months in South Africa working and learning about big cats! Their intelligence and behaviours set them apart from other pets, which intrigues and encourages me to learn more about our feline friends!

In 2018 I achieved my International Society of Feline Medicine (ISFM) certificate in feline nursing followed by an ISFM advanced certificate in feline behaviour in 2020, both with distinction.

As the cat advocate for feline health and well-being, my aim is to create a feline friendly environment within the practice aiding in reducing fear and stress in our patients when they visit us, and also in their home environments. I aim to provide education and support for both the staff and the clients by offering our cat friendly clinics, with first aid behaviour advice for clients. I am currently working towards gaining our cat friendly clinic status for the practice.



# Charlotte's Dog Confident Clincs

I've been with Glaven Vets since 2007 and qualified in 2012. The journey with my own rescue dog was when I became interested in the **level 4 canine behaviour course**.

I now have four dogs, the rescue being one. In the early days he had many problems in being fearful of people and little to no social skills with other dogs. I worked hard to help him with his trust issues and found that I enjoyed the training aspect and trust building. Wanting to increase my own knowledge, I began the behavioural course, which I have now almost completed. It has been really interesting to learn new training tips and to find out the ways in which dogs learn.

I have been offering **Confident Clinics**, where dogs visit the practice and we build trust along with simple commands to help make a vet visit less stressful. This helps to make examinations easier without having to sedate a dog for simple treatments. I also offer **over the phone advice and basic behaviour consults**, where I will work with you and your dog on other problems outside of the practice.



# Summer Sun

Whether you are an experienced pet owner or it's the first summer with your four-legged friend, here are some sizzling summer tips to help keep your pet safe during the hot days and warm evenings.

Heat NEVER leave your pets in the car, not even in the shade with the windows open.....they will cook! NEVER leave your pets in closed conservatories, they reach oven-like temperatures!

Ensure your pets always have access to fresh clean drinking water.

Watch out for **HOT pavements** and roads as dogs' pads can burn!

Take extra care with pets who have long or thick coats, are overweight, elderly, have breathing problems or a heart condition.

SUN Recognise the Signs of Heatstroke

increase in pantinganxious/pacingvomiting

excessive/thick saliva ark gums lethargy

Exercise your dogs in the cooler morning or evening air and **do not overexert**.

Most pets enjoy a good snooze in the sun, but encourage the forty winks in the shade.

Provide access to shady, cooler areas in and outdoors.

Sunblock the tips of white cats' ears and noses.

**Gardens** Store and use all garden products carefully, as pets do sniff and eat strange items.

Stolen B-B-Q bones and corn husks can get lodged in the mouth, throat and stomach. Clear rubbish as soon as possible.

Bee and wasp stings can cause allergic reactions; some serious. Call us for advice if your pet is stung or you see swellings on their paws, face or mouth.

Place rabbit and guinea pigs' housing, outside run and water in the shade. Ensure the hutch has good ventilation.

Check rabbits' bottoms daily for flies and maggots.

Flystrike can sadly be fatal. Any signs of maggots call us immediately!

Seaside Sand swallowed off a ball can collect in the intestines and is very difficult to remove. Rinse sand from between toes and pads as it is an irritant. Do not let your dog drink seawater as it is salty and can make your pet vomit. The sea is powerfull. Tides, undercurrents and waves can take the most confident dog by surprise. Consider a life vest for water loving dogs.



### Veterinary Nursing Awareness Month

The role of a veterinary nursing team can be very demanding and challenging! To acknowledge the hard work and support that they all give, throughout May, we celebrated the role of vet nurses within our surgery and the impact they have on the day-to-day running of the practice. It takes 2-4 years of training to become a Registered Veterinary Nurse with the completion of multiple exams and a portfolio of on-the-job assessments, with a final practical exam of 12 OSCE stations. Nurses have the opportunity to take further qualifications specialising in areas of interest.

At Glaven, we have a nursing support team of 11 and are very grateful for the roles they play in all areas of the practice. During May on our social media platforms, we have been giving an insight to the roles they undertake in the practice; daily nurse clinics, supporting vets during surgical procedures, laboratory work, caring for inpatients, and dispensing of medication to name but a few. Our veterinary nurses are always happy to support clients and their pets with advice when needed. All work so incredibly hard wearing a million 'job hats'! A very big THANK YOU...... for being you.





