



# Lowesmoor News

The newsletter for Lowesmoor House Vets



Issue 5

## Staff Update:

It's a big welcome to Steph who is the new member of our reception team.



It was a sad day for us all when receptionist Debbie retired in December after being at Lowesmoor for 17 years. We're all at a loss as to what we will do without her but I'm sure you'll join us in wishing her a fantastic retirement.

Many thanks to everyone who donated to our Christmas Appeal for Maggs Day Centre - all the goodies were greatly appreciated.



### **Opening times:**

Mon - Fri 8:30am - 7pm  
Sat 9am - 12pm  
Consultations by appointment only.

**18 Rainbow Hill,  
Worcester, WR3 8LX  
01905 723361**

For regular updates and info visit our website at [www.lowesmoorvets.co.uk](http://www.lowesmoorvets.co.uk)

## New Year's Resolutions

With 2018 now here many of us will have made New Year's resolutions such as getting fit, going on a diet or giving up smoking. But what about your pet - if they could talk then what would resolutions would they be making? Here are some ideas to ensure your pet has a great 2018.

### Keeping your pet at a good weight

Has the weight been gradually been creeping up on your pet? Did you know that being overweight predisposes your pet to health problems such as heart disease, arthritis and diabetes? Therefore dealing with weight gain it as soon as it starts to become a problem is essential.

Why not book in for one of our FREE weight clinics where we can help get the weight off your pet in a steady and safe way.

### Vaccination

Has your pet lapsed with its vaccination? We recommend yearly boosters for your dog & cat to ensure that your pet's immune system is kept up-to-date. If they have lapsed then why not pop them in to get their vaccination restarted.

Vaccination also means that your pet is given a health check at the same time to ensure they are in tip-top health.

### Parasite control

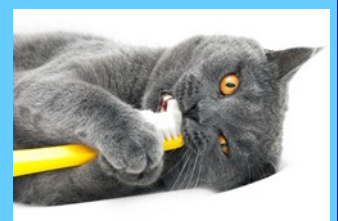
Aside from the fact that it is not a pleasant thought to think of your pet harbouring little 'friends', parasites (fleas, worms and ticks) can also pose various health risks to you and your family as well as your pet. Why not sign up to our Pet Health Club and spread the cost of all your pet's preventative treatment such as vaccines and parasite control as well as making significant savings over the year.

### Update your pet's ID contact details

Your pet might be microchipped but have you moved or changed contact details? If so then ensure that you update addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses. It's the best way to ensure a lost pet makes their way safely home.

### Brush your pet's teeth

Daily tooth brushing is the best way to keep tartar and plaque at bay – just be sure to use toothpaste meant for dogs and cats. Water additives, dental diets and treats designed to reduce tartar can also be a helpful tool in keeping teeth clean. If you are unsure where to start then why not book in for one of our FREE nurse dental consults so we can go through tips and tricks to improve your pet's oral hygiene.



## Pet Hero - Indy Boddy

This is Indy and she was diagnosed with vestibular disease. When she first arrived at Lowesmoor she found it difficult to stand, and when she did she would circle to the left before falling over. She also had a head tilt and nystagmus (which meant that she had uncontrolled movement of her eyes from side to side).

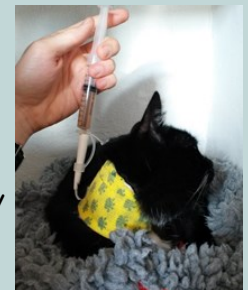
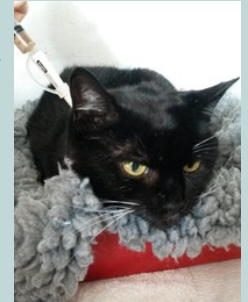
### ***What is vestibular disease?***

The vestibular apparatus is located in the inner-ear and is responsible for maintaining balance and co-ordination. Whenever the vestibular apparatus is diseased or damaged, balance and coordination are adversely affected.

The cause of feline vestibular disease is not fully understood, however middle and inner-ear infections are thought to be responsible for the disease. Exposure to certain toxins or drugs can also cause symptoms that mimic vestibular disease; therefore we took a blood sample to rule this out.

Because Indy's balance was affected, this made her feel nauseous and despite giving her medication to help with motion sickness she did not want to eat. It was important for her to get all the vital nutrition that she needed so whilst under anaesthetic a tube was placed which went from her neck into the oesophagus so that food can be delivered into her stomach. This allowed us to feed Indy with minimal bother or discomfort for her.

The placement of the tube also allowed Indy to eat normally so we could tempt her with some of her favourite foods. The benefit of this type of feeding tube meant that Indy could also go home in the evenings and her owner could continue to feed her overnight. With antibiotics to help the infection and lots of intensive nursing (and fuss) to get Indy eating she made good progress and we are happy to tell you she is doing really well now, with only a slight head tilt to tell you anything was wrong.



## Puppy & Kitten Vaccination Starter Packs - ONLY £45!!!!

A comprehensive package which has all the information and support that you need for your pet's first 6 months.

What's included in the price?

- Full health check with the vet
- Full vaccination course
- First flea & worm treatment
- A nurse clinic every month until they are 6 months to check weight and wellbeing and for advice on feeding, behaviour and healthcare
- Welcome pack with a free bag of premium pet food
- 4 weeks free pet insurance with Pet Plan



Please phone us at the surgery on 01905 723361 to book, or to find out more.

## Repeat Prescriptions

We have recently had a few queries on repeat prescriptions so we thought it would be useful to clarify our policy on repeat medication.

### ***Why do I need to give you 24 hours' notice for a repeat prescription?***

Your pet's medication and its administration is controlled by legal requirements that mean any request has to be checked by a veterinary surgeon, approved, dispensed and the medication checked again before being given to you. Your pet's clinical records also have to be written and maintained. To be done efficiently and correctly we must allow enough time for the vet to read the notes and review the treatment before re-prescribing the medication.

### ***Why does my pet need to be seen regularly?***

Certain medications, including many flea and worm treatments are regulated and by law, the veterinary surgeon is required to have your pet "under their care". This means that your pet needs to be seen every 3 to 6 months (12 monthly for legally regulated flea and worm treatments) to ensure that any medication prescribed is right and correct for them. This is a legal requirement and when prescribing any medicines, the veterinary surgeon is taking responsibility for that treatment; a regular check-up ensures that your pet receives the best and correct treatments.

