

Small Animal Newsletter

# Ikin & Oxenham Sidmouth Veterinary Centre

## From 6th April 2016 your dog must be microchipped by law.

The microchipping of Dogs (England) Regulations 2015 will introduce compulsory microchipping of dogs in England on April 6th next year.

Veterinary Nurses are able to microchip your dogs, so if you wish for your dog to microchipped before the deadline then contact the surgery and book an appointment to see the registered veterinary nurse for a £10 microchip.





### **Rabbit Awareness Week**

<u>9<sup>th</sup> May to 17<sup>th</sup> May 2015.</u> We are participating in RAW. Our nurses are going to be doing **FREE** health checks on your pet rabbits for this week.

Our nurses are happy to discuss your rabbit's general care considerations including vaccinations, neutering,

grooming, and housing needs and dietary advice.

If you want to book in to see one of our nurses then contact the surgery. Appointments are necessary.

#### www.rabbitawarenessweek.co.uk



#### Weight Loss with Hills Pet Nutrition

Hill's Pet Nutrition produce many diets and one is called Metabolic Diet. This diet is used to help reduce your pet's body fat. Metabolic diet works with your pet's unique energy expenditure, activating the body's natural ability to burn excess body fat and affect calorie utilisation. It is clinically proven to safely provide 28% body fat loss in two months, that's a rate of up to 1-2% body weight loss weekly! It has also been shown to avoid weight regain following a weight loss programme.

Recognising that your pet is overweight is the first step in helping to achieve weight loss. The RSPCA estimates HALF of all UK cats & dogs are overweight. Here are 6 simple steps to help your pet lose weight:

- 1- Know the signs of an overweight pet
- 2- Visit your vet
- 3- Monitor the changes of diet
- 4- Cut out all treats from your pets diet
- 5- Plan a regular exercise program
- 6- Monitor your dog's weight.

Weight gain often goes unnoticed by owners as it can occur gradually over a long period of time. Signs that your pet is overweight include.

- Difficulty feeling their ribs/spine
- Difficulty seeing their waist
- Their abdomen is sagging
- You have had to loosen their collar several times over the year
- They often appear tired and lazy
- They lag behind on walks
- They have difficulty grooming properly

Our veterinary nurses are able to discuss weight control for your pet's needs. Please contact the surgery to book an appointment with our nurses to see how we can help you and your pet.

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**Contact Us** Chandlers Lane Sidmouth Devon, EX10 9BX Our website is optimized for every device. www.ikinoxenhamsidmouth.co.uk

Telephone **01395 512611** Website **ikinoxenhamsidmouth.co.uk** Facebook **facebook.com/ikinoxenhamsidmouth**