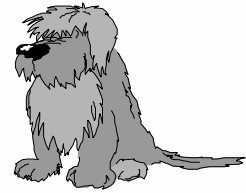


# Midsummer Veterinary Group



26<sup>th</sup> Edition



Summer 2009

## June is National Microchipping Month

Have your pet chipped with the technology that identifies and takes temperature.

Take advantage of this special offer for identichip with Bio-Thermo for £22.00

### Practice News

**S**arah and Amy will be taking their final nursing exams in June and July. They have both worked very hard over the past 2 years and they have the capabilities and determination to pass. So let's hope that exam nerves don't get the better of them.

**A**ngela will also be in an exam room as she will be taking her first year exam. Angela is in the good position of having gained a lot of practical nursing knowledge before going to college so that should stand her in good stead.

**T**am has done a brilliant job of being their assessor plus still having to carry out her duties as Head Veterinary Nurse. So, all in all, everybody has had a very busy time over the last 2 years.

**Like most Veterinary Practices we do have an appointments system for consults.** Although we are open from 8am to 7pm, at Stantonbury Fields, we do have set times for vet consults. We can usually offer our clients an appointment at a time to suit. However, it is a good idea to plan ahead as to when you will need to make an appointment say for a repeat prescription check, depending on the type of medication this has to be at 6 monthly or yearly intervals. Know when boosters are due, we do send out reminders, but by leaving it to the last minute to book an appointment you may not be able to have an appointment that's convenient. Be aware of your pet's behaviour, if you think your pet is feeling unwell don't leave it too long before you have veterinary advice. Particularly if they have breathing difficulties or have vomiting and diarrhoea. Far better that your pet is treated quickly rather than in an emergency situation. So get that calendar out and highlight dates to remind you to make those all important appointments in good time.



**Stantonbury Fields 01908 321115**  
**Eaglestone 01908 696555**

## National Vaccination Month

June is also National Vaccination Month and if your pet is over 18 months old and has not been vaccinated in the last 18 months you can take advantage of having a full primary course for the price of a booster! This includes Cats, Dogs and Rabbits (over 9 months of age and not

[Click here to get your free novaPDF Lite registration key](#)

vaccinated for the last 9 months).

Last year over 32,000 cats, dogs and rabbits benefited from this special offer.

If your pet is not vaccinated they will be susceptible to various diseases that will either make them very poorly or prove fatal. Vaccination has dramatically reduced the frequency of these diseases, but, as yet none have been eradicated altogether.

To take advantage of this offer go to [www.vaccinationmonth.co.uk](http://www.vaccinationmonth.co.uk) and click on the vouchers screen. If you don't have access to a computer we can download one for you.



Dog Primary Course £68.86

Dog Booster £40.31

**SAVE £28.55**



Cat Primary Course\* £52.43

Cat Booster £31.30

**SAVE £21.13**



Rabbit Myxo x 2\*\* £45.50

**SAVE £22.80**

\*The Primary Course shown is for Flu & Enteritis, there are other combinations of Cat Primary Courses which are all covered by the offer.

\*\*For rabbits it is advised, in some areas, to have two Myxomatosis vaccinations six months apart. The offer means you have the second vaccination six months later free of charge

Why not take advantage of our **identichip** offer at the same time and have the reassurance that your pet will be protected from disease, can be identified if lost and have their temperature taken at the same time with the chip scanner.



### Elderly dogs may need a little more care

and attention and will certainly benefit from more regular check ups. Ageing occurs gradually and you may be unaware of the changes to your pet. You may begin to see a little greying around the muzzle, a change in their sleeping pattern and perhaps a reluctance to exercise. There are many factors to consider once your dog becomes an OAP!

**DIET** There are notable differences between a young/mature diet and a diet





for an older dog.

The appetite will change and it may be beneficial to switch to a senior food, which takes in to account the change of lifestyle. Obesity will put more strain on the heart and it makes sense to check that your elderly pet is not overweight.

**CHANGE OF ROUTINE** Old dogs will require extra attention as well as more consideration. Shorter and more frequent walks will help, especially as they may not have the bladder control they previously had. They may want to sleep more and may object to being woken for exercise and generally be a little more grumpy at times.

**SENSORY FUNCTIONS** With age, sensory functions reduce, so blindness and hearing loss may occur. Your dog will not want to feel isolated, increase contact by touching, stroking and handling your dog more often. A lot of TLC works wonders with elderly pets.

### SIGNS OF OLD AGE

- Stiffness
- Reluctance to exercise
- Breathlessness
- Drinking more
- Altered Weight
- Impaired sight and hearing
- Barking and howling

**Some of these signs may also be symptoms of illness and it is always best to have your elderly pet checked regularly.**

We offer FREE Nurse Clinics to help you to understand the needs of your pet. There is no 'hard sell' just helpful advice regarding your pet and their lifestyle. It is your decision whether you act upon the advice given.

**Weight Clinic - Keep a regular check on your pet's weight and diet**  
**Dental Clinic - Make sure you give your a pet a good dental routine**  
**Adolescent Clinic - Help and advice at this important time**  
**Senior Wellness - Our Special Clinic for elderly pets**

**Our experienced Nursing Staff are here to help you keep your pet in tip top condition - make an appointment today**

**The average life expectancy of cats is 12-14 years.** The natural ageing process leads to gradual failure of cell repair and maintenance. This results in your cat finding it more difficult to cope with the stress and strain of daily life. Many cats may keep a youthful appearance so the signs of ageing are easily overlooked.

**DIET** Older cats tend to eat more than younger cats because they have reduced ability to digest protein and fats. These are a source of energy so therefore the older cat will eat more to sustain energy levels. Senior foods may help your cat to have the correct



balance. Middle-aged cats may have a tendency to gain weight and fall foul of the middle age spread syndrome. It is worthwhile having your cat weighed on a regular basis, starting at an early age, so that any changes in weight are monitored.

**CHANGE OF ROUTINE** Cats normally tend to sleep a lot even when young. The older cat will sleep more frequently but more lightly. They may also start to choose different sleeping areas. These may be places away from the hustle and bustle of people or other pets. As a result of stiffness, grooming becomes difficult and as cats are naturally clean animals this can cause them distress. Elderly cats will appreciate a gentle brushing or combing as not only does it keep their fur clean it also gives comfort.



### SYMPTOMS OF OLD AGE

- Weight loss or gain
- Change of sleeping routine
- Drinking more
- Change in condition of coat
- Difficulty eating
- Eating less or more

**Some of these signs may also be symptoms of illness and it is always best to have your elderly pet checked regularly.**

**Opening Hours**  
**Stortbury Fields**  
 Mon - Fri 8am to 7pm  
 Saturday 9am to 1pm  
**Eaglestone** Mon Tues Fri 10am to 11am  
 4pm to 5pm  
 Thurs 10am to 11am  
**Consultations by appointment only**

Visit our website [www.midsummervet.co.uk](http://www.midsummervet.co.uk)