



February Practice Update

Covid Update

With recent updates to government guidance, we have started to welcome up to two clients, with face coverings, back into our consulting rooms. We have moved our check-in station inside to the former cat waiting area. When you arrive, you can pop inside to check in, then return to your car to await the vet's call to let you know when it is time to bring your pet inside, so please keep your mobile phone line free.

New Introductions



Since our last newsletter we have welcomed several new members of staff, including vets Alina, Harriet, Ola, and Ru, who have all settled in amazingly and have already built up a strong client base! We have also welcomed new nurses, Aimee, Carla, Lucy and Luke!

Farewells



We have also said a few goodbyes since our last newsletter, including to our lovely vet, Ana, nurses Ellie and Frankie and meet and greeter Tracy. Next month we will be sad to see Nurse Lauren leave us and also our dispensary manager Karen, who is going back to Ireland. Karen has been with Acorn House since 1993, our second most long standing member of staff! Karen came to Acorn House from Ireland as a trainee veterinary nurse, qualifying in 1996, and spending many years as a nurse, before going on to run the farm side of the practice and managing the dispensary. Since our focus moved to small animal practice, Karen has been dispensary manager, as well as dealing with insurance claims and being generally indispensable! We wish Karen well on her move back to Ireland, she will be missed hugely by us all.

Dental Health Awareness Month



February is dental health awareness month! We will be featuring information throughout the month on our Facebook page on how to care for your pets teeth. Our recommendation for cats and dogs is to brush their teeth once or twice a day using a pet specific brush and toothpaste. We have a selection of dental care supplies in our shop and we are always happy to advice. It is not just cats and dogs that we need to be mindful of. Rodents have constantly growing teeth; Rabbits, guinea pigs and chinchillas

need a constant supply of fresh hay and rats, gerbils and degus need pet safe items to gnaw on to keep their teeth trim. You can book in a dental check with our vets and nurses at any time. For more information, a section on dental care can be found on our website.

Valentine's Hazards



Looking ahead to Valentine's Day, there are bound to be lots of treats for us humans, but some are potential hazards for our pets. Chocolate contains theobromine and some sweets can contain xylitol, both of which are toxic to cats and dogs. Some flowers, such as lilies are highly toxic to cats, and plants grown from bulbs, such as hyacinths, tulips and daffodils are also toxic to cats and dogs. Alcohol, perfume and aftershave can also be toxic to our pets.

If your pet ingests anything potentially toxic please contact us straight away and keep any packaging to show us.

Repeat Medication

Please remember to order your pet's repeat medication in good time. To do so simply visit our website, www.acornhousevets.co.uk and click on the link [Repeat Medication Request](#) this will open a new web page where you can fill in your details to make your request. The form can be used on a mobile, tablet or computer.