



January Practice Update

Happy New Year!



We would like to wish all our clients and patients a Happy New Year!

Staff Update

At the beginning of January we welcomed three new nurses to our fabulous team; Kelly and Leigh are both registered veterinary nurses, and Sara will join us as a trainee veterinary nurse. We also look forward to welcoming vet Cody to our wonderful veterinary team at the end of January.

Chinese New Year



The 22nd of January is Chinese New Year, and this year is the year of the rabbit! In parts of Asia the Year of the Rabbit is believed to signify hope, with rabbits believed to bring peace, prosperity and longevity. Please stay safe during your Chinese New Year celebrations and take care to provide a safe space for your pets during any fireworks, and keep any human treats out of the reach of paws and claws!

Bailey the Bearded Dragon

In November we had a visit from Bailey, an eight-year-old bearded dragon who came to see Sarah, our exotics vet, as his owners were concerned about his tail. Bailey had a old injury which eventually caused tail rot; this can happen even when injuries happen years before. Luckily, Bailey's owners noticed changes very early on, and his tail was monitored before the decision was made to surgically remove a portion of his tail to stop any progression. Sarah amputated the end of Bailey's tail under general anaesthetic, and he recovered very slowly, which is expected in reptiles so stayed in overnight with us for monitoring. The next day he was really bright and went home to his family. Bailey has since been in for several post operative checks and is doing well!



January is Walk Your Dog Month



Did you know that January is 'walk your dog' month? Walking your dog benefits them in so many ways and will benefit you too! Walks give your dog exercise, which helps to combat obesity, diabetes and heart disease, as well as keeping joints mobile. During walks, dogs are provided with mental and sensory stimulation, through sniffing, socialising with other dogs and interacting with people. It uses excess energy to allow better rest and can help limit destructive or unwanted behaviours.

For us humans, we can gain the same benefits, plus reducing stress levels and improving our mental health. Dependent on breed, age and health status, walks should vary from 30 minutes a day up to more than two hours each day. For example, healthy greyhounds and shih tzus require up to an hour of exercise daily, whereas Labradors and huskies require over two hours a day! Ensure your safety on walks, by dressing in visible colours, and choosing reflective collars or coats for your dog. You should always carry a mobile phone and let others know where you are walking. During cold weather be wary of anti-freeze and salt from gritting and

wash your dog's paws after walks. Enjoy the scenery and fresh air with your four-legged friend(s) and vary your walks and you can even add in some training during walks, or join local dog walking groups if you prefer to walk in company.

Investors in the Environment



Acorn House is proud to be working towards our bronze award with Investors in the Environment. This means that our aim is to run a more sustainable business, set targets and review them annually. We have an appointed environmental champion, Gaynor Dudley, who will be overseeing our progress. In order to achieve the bronze certification businesses are expected to have an environmental policy, action plan and collect data on utility and resource usage. This means that Acorn House can become a more sustainable, environmentally conscious practice that not only aims to protect against environmental harm but also to involve and inspire our staff.

Repeat Medication

Repeat medication, including preventative medications such as flea and worming treatment can be ordered through our [website](#), **which then offers you a collection slot**, or by e-mail or by telephone if necessary. For all repeat medication we must ask 48 hours for this to be

processed, authorised by a vet, and dispensed.

To order a repeat prescription for your pet 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.
