



March Newsletter



Staff Update

We will be saying a very sad goodbye to Jodie, one of our longest standing client care advisors. Jodie has been with Acorn House since 2014 and will be greatly missed by everyone at the practice.

Client care advisor Amy, who has been on maternity leave, will be re-joining us as part of our administrative team, dealing with our Acorn Health Club.

We are looking forward to welcoming Tulip and Melissa to our client care team!

Rabbit & Small Pet Waiting Area

We now have a specific waiting area for rabbits and small pets in our reception area. It is situated to the left of the main door as you enter the practice. This area is to provide a safe, less stressful environment for visiting small animals, such as rodents, reptiles, and birds.

We would ask that ferret owners continue to use the dog waiting area, as being predatory by nature ferrets could cause distress to other small pets



Tick Bite Preventions Week - 24th - 30th March 2023



During March we will be looking at ticks and how to prevent them in our dogs and cats. As the temperatures start to rise, ticks will become more active, even at temperatures as low as 5 degrees centigrade. Ticks are parasites that feed on blood, and can be found mostly in woodland areas, in long grass and in bushes, including in your garden, especially if it is visited by hedgehogs or deer.

Ticks can transfer diseases, which are transferred between animals through feeding on blood. The most notable disease is Lyme Disease, which can be very serious and can be transmitted to humans. The best way to prevent ticks is to use a prescription preventive treatment, in the form of prescription tablets or spot-on treatments, which last from 4 weeks up to 12 depending on the option chosen. There is also a collar available which can last up to 8 months. Our vets will help you choose the most appropriate anti-parasite (including tick) treatment for your pet at any routine appointment including booster vaccinations.

If you do find a tick on your pet, please ensure to use a specific tick removing tool, or make a nurse appointment to have it removed. It is vital that the whole tick is removed, including the mouth parts, which if left in can result in potentially infected blood being pushed back into your pet. Never smother a tick with creams or try to burn them off.

Pet Poison Prevention Awareness Month
Easter & Spring Hazards

ingestion can result in a drop in blood sugar levels, lethargy, weakness and seizures.

With Spring on the way there are more specific hazards to be aware of, including bulbs, flowers, and garden chemicals. Bulbs, such as daffodils, tulips, crocus, and hyacinths all contain alkaloids, which are chemicals that can be toxic to our pets; this includes dogs, cats and rabbits and guinea pigs. The bulbs themselves contain the most concentrated amounts of alkaloids, however any part of the plant, even the water that cut flowers such as daffodils have been in can be toxic. Symptoms can include, drooling, sickness and diarrhoea and changes in breathing and heart rate. Lilies should also be avoided, specifically for cats, as contact can lead to kidney failure.

As the weather improves, many of us will be spending more time in the garden. We should be very careful when using any fertilisers, weed killers or slug pellets. These can not only be harmful to wildlife, but also to our pets.

Garden chemicals can be ingested through grooming after contact with spillages or treated plants, being absorbed through the skin or even through inhalation. There are many pet friendly alternatives available, which reduces risk to our pets and helps to protect wildlife.

If you believe that your pet has ingested or been in contact with any toxin, please call us immediately, with information on what and when they have been in contact with it.

We will be sharing more information on these different toxins to be aware of on our Facebook page throughout March and April.

Prong Collars

Recently we have noticed that some of our patients have attended the practice wearing prong collars. Acorn House is in agreement with the Association of Pet Behaviour Counsellors (APBC) and the RSPCA - we do not recommend the use of these collars. Further information is available on the RSPCA's website - [click here](#)

Easter Opening Hours

With Easter falling early in April, please note our opening hours:-

Thursday 6th April – 8 am – 8 pm

Friday 7th April – Good Friday - Emergency service only

Saturday 8th April – 8 am – 4:30 pm

Sunday 9th April – Emergency service only

Monday 10th April – Easter Monday – Emergency service only

Tuesday 11th April – 8 am – 8 pm

To ensure that you have enough medication to last over the Easter period, please order any medication by Monday 3rd April to allow enough time for it to be processed, authorised and dispensed.



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.





Copyright © 2023 Acorn House Veterinary Hospital, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you opted in at our website or you are a client of Acorn House Vets.

Our mailing address is:

Acorn House Veterinary Hospital
Linnet Way
Brickhill
Bedford, Bedfordshire MK41 7HN
United Kingdom

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

