



Consultation room refurbishment

This July we are delighted to announce that our consultation rooms are being refurbished. We have worked with an architect team to design new rooms with fresh, medical grade flooring and wall coverings and new wall units, client seating and computer stations. We are also rearranging the client toilets and nurse consulting room areas to create a new disabled bathroom for clients and a much larger nurse consult room with its own separate access to the practice garden. Work will be staged so that we always have 3 of the 5 rooms in operation at any one time, and the work is due to be completed by early August.



Help with research project

Acorn House is currently assisting with a research study involving the recovery of cats following routine castration. Owners of cats booked in for castration will be asked if they wish to participate in the study, which involves filling in a questionnaire about the cat's behaviour in the three days following surgery, and submitting photographs of the surgical site. As a thank you, those clients completing the study will receive a goody bag containing food, treats and grooming equipment. Please ask at Reception if you would like to participate in this study.



Dog shows

Thank you to all of the lovely clients and dogs that braved the uncertain weather conditions to support the charity dog shows at Happy Dogs (Canine Partners) and Bletsoe Show last month. Amanda did a superb job of judging some very large classes at Happy Dogs and Kat and Kim joined in with some good-natured teasing from Alan Dedicoat who was helping at Bletsoe. Here we have the lovely Frank, with Kat and Kim at Bletsoe. Frank is not yet 2 years old, but he came second in the musical sits competition!



Flystrike protection



At this time of year, we remind all rabbit owners that rabbits are at risk from flies laying eggs around the bottom and tail area of outdoor rabbits. These can hatch out into maggots which can burrow under the skin. The risk is higher if rabbits do not keep themselves clean (often the result of obesity or dental disease). Clients are advised to apply preventative products to their rabbits - these repel flies and prevent maggots from hatching out. Covering runs with fine mesh and hanging up fly papers can also help but all rabbits should have their bottoms checked at least once a day, just in case.



Pet passports

It is not yet clear on what date the UK will leave the EU, and we do not yet know whether this will lead to changes to the Pet Passport scheme. However, until the end of October (and possibly for longer!) we are continuing to issue passports under the old system and these are valid for travel 21 days after rabies vaccination. Please ask at reception if you require further information, particularly if you plan to travel with your pet after October.



Peter the peacock

Peter is a juvenile peacock who was found with a huge abscess on his face. The abscess was so large that Peter could hardly open his eye! Vet Sarah anaesthetised Peter and drained the abscess in his infraorbital sinus, and Peter stayed at the hospital for a few more days of convalescence. He has made a good recovery and has found a lovely new home.

