



RVG News

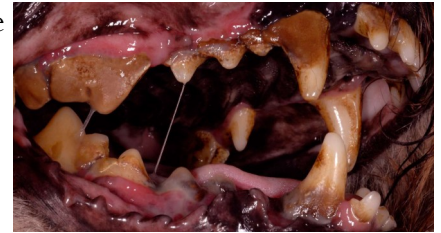
September 2009

RAINSBROOK VETERINARY GROUP LTD AND HYDROTHERAPY CENTRE
SMALL AND LARGE ANIMAL VETERINARY SURGEONS



In conjunction with Pet Smile Month September 2009, we at Rainsbrook Vets are offering £30 off all dental procedures. Make a free appointment to see one of our nurses for a dental check, or ask your vet at your next consultation to see if your pet would benefit from a scale and polish.

The build up of plaque on your pet's teeth encourages the growth of bacteria which not only produces horrible smelly breath, but effects the gums causing gingivitis, and the loosening of teeth. There are products available to the pet owner to help combat dental disease at home: these range from prescription diets, teeth cleaning treats, toothbrushes and specially flavoured tooth. Ask at reception for a free Doggy or Kitty Pack. This dental offer is valid for the month of September, however vouchers can be redeemed up to the end of November. Lets get those mouths clean!



2 examples of teeth needing attention



www.rainsbrookvets.co.uk

OFFICE HOURS:
(except Craven Road)
Monday to Friday
8.30am to 7.00pm
Saturday
9.00am to 12.00 noon

SURGERIES
83, High Street, Hillmorton.
Rugby, Warwickshire.
CV21 4HD
Tel: 01788 542221
Fax: 01788 562242

(and Hydrotherapy)
12, Upper Grove Street.
Leamington Spa, Warwick-
shire.
CV32 5AN
Tel: 01926 422592
Fax: 01926 334084

(closed Tues-Thurs between
11am - 4pm)
1, Craven Road.
Rugby, Warwickshire.
CV21 3JX
Tel: 01788 562844
Fax: 01788 553642

24 hour emergency ser-
vice - call your local sur-
gery direct and
follow the instructions.

RUGBY

Vets at our Rugby surgeries are taking the lead in tackling heart disease in dogs. This follows the

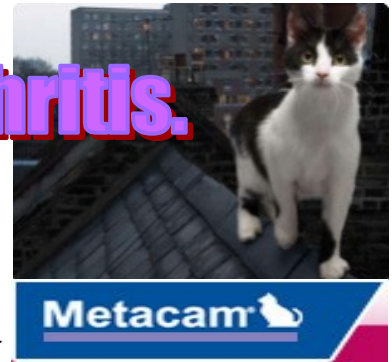
release of important new information (the QUEST study) on how to help prolong the lives of dogs with heart problems. Heart disease is one of the most common problems we see here at the practice. Often it's due to dogs developing leaky heart valves and that's the condition looked at in this study. According to our vet Simon Daniel, "almost 1 in 4 dogs over 7 have a heart problem so it's a common condition we see. Initially there may be no signs of the disease, as the body is still able to cope but over time symptoms may develop, such as coughing and a reluctance to go for the usual walks. At this point we start treatments to help control the symptoms, allowing the dog to enjoy life for as long as possible" Simon, who has worked at the practice since 1992, says that this new information, has led to the establishment of an important new initiative, the "Canine Heart Check". This invites owners of dogs who have been diagnosed with heart disease, whether they are on medicines or not, to come in to the practice to discuss their dog's condition and treatment with one of the vets at a free cardiac check-up. "For us, it's really important that our cardiac patients come into the



practice as soon as possible so we can share this important new information with them, and review the medicines they are on. To help that process, we are offering them free cardiac check-ups until 1st November 2009".

We will soon be contacting those of you whose dogs we know suffer from heart problems, and of course if you own a dog which has been diagnosed with heart disease why not call the practice on 01788 542221 to find out more about this initiative, or visit our practice website at www.rainsbrookvets.co.uk. You can find more information on the QUEST study at www.questtrial.com

Be on the look out for arthritis.



In October, we will be introducing new **Cat Only Clinics** at our **Craven Road surgery in Rugby** in conjunction with **Metacam for Cats**. Further details of these clinics, where cats can be brought to the surgery without the fear of sharing a waiting room with a curious dog, will follow, but in the meantime allow us to talk about cats and arthritis. As you are aware, cats are natural athletes, but over the years this high level of activity can take its toll. It may mean that your cat is suffering from wear and tear of his/her joints as a consequence. According to veterinary experts, many older cats suffer from arthritis - where joints degenerate over time, and mobility is often impaired, causing pain. It may surprise you to know that vets consider cats over the age of eight to be 'getting older'. Cats should have a veterinary check up for signs of arthritis at this time.

Things to keep in mind: because cats are relatively small and very agile they can hide or cover up mobility difficulties caused by arthritis. Unlike dogs, cats with arthritis don't generally limp. Instead, cats are more likely to show subtle changes in their lifestyle or behaviour. Because you know your cat best, you are well placed to keep an eye out for the signs of this potentially painful condition.

Ask yourself these four simple questions:

1. Have you noticed your cat hesitating or being more reluctant to jump up or down eg: onto your lap/the furniture/through a catflap?
Yes No
2. Have you noticed your cat slowing down eg. sleeping more—especially in one place or stiffening up or getting a bit creaky?
Yes No
3. Have you noticed a deterioration in your cat's appearance eg. matted or scruffy coat—especially near the hips and spine?
Yes No
4. Have you noticed any change in your cat's attitude or daily routine eg. less tolerant around people, or more withdrawn?
Yes No

If you answer 'yes' to any of the question above you should consult your vet for advice and consider arranging a check up for your cat. During the **month of October** come in to see one of our vets for a consultation, and if the vets feels your cat could benefit from Metacam, you will receive a **free bottle** valued at £17.11!

If you would like to read more information about Metacam for cats go to www.metacam.co.uk/cats

Hydrotherapy - can it help your dog?

At our Leamington Spa surgery we have some fantastic hydrotherapy facilities consisting of a pool and a water-walker treadmill. Hydrotherapy is beneficial for arthritis management, great for pre-surgical conditioning, highly recommended for managing weight problems, post-operative rehabilitation time could potentially be reduced, can aid neurological rehabilitation AND can help with the quality of life of CDRM sufferers.

Sessions are also available for those dogs who just need a little bit more confidence in the water, who just have oodles of energy to use up or just need to look in tip-top shape for their next show.

If you would like to enquire about hydrotherapy, please contact Alison at our Leamington Surgery on **01926 422592** or download a brochure from our website: www.rainsbrookvets.co.uk.

