



Tel: 0161 747 9002

www.traffordvet.co.uk

Opening times

Monday – Friday 8.30am – 6.45pm

Saturday

9.00am -12.00 pm

Consulting times

Monday-Friday 9.00-10.30am

2.00- 3.00pm

4.00- 6.30pm

9.30-11.30am

Consultations by appointment

Bank Holiday Opening Times

Monday 7th May – CLOSED

Monday 4th June – CLOSED

Tuesday 5th June – CLOSED

**Please contact Cheadle Hulme A+E Vets for
any problems over this period on
0161 486 2355**

Practice News

Myriam will be leaving us in late April to start her maternity leave. We all wish her the best at this exciting time.

We have got locum cover arranged for this period. Emily is covering most of the maternity leave, she has worked at the practice last summer so some of you will have met her and we have had lots of positive feedback about her. The remaining time is being covered by Martina, a lady who is new to us but has lots of good reports from other vets.

We have good news from a client who shows border terriers. Saffi of Chatmoss border terriers won best puppy in breed at Crufts so many congratulations to all at Chatmoss!

Congratulations also to little Kate –she has a place at Bristol University to study veterinary medicine so will be leaving us this autumn.

We are also pleased to welcome Nicola back to the practice on a full time basis. Nicola is a Qualified Veterinary Nurse that has worked for us before and will be joining us from May.

Spring Garden Perils for Pets

It's lovely to be out and about in the garden in spring, but beware of unwittingly introducing hazards for your pets as some of the plants and products we commonly use in our garden can be very toxic to animals.

Slug Pellets – commonly contain the chemical metaldehyde and are generally blue or grey in colour. Metaldehyde is very toxic to pets and since many dogs will eat almost anything, slug pellets should be used with great care, keeping pets away from areas where they are used and stored.



Cocoa Shell Mulch – also to be avoided if you have a dog. Many gardeners apply a thick layer of mulch to their flower beds in the Spring and Summer months. A little known, but potentially lethal hazard is the use of cocoa shell mulch. Dogs are attracted to these shells by their smell, but they contain theobromine which is very poisonous to dogs. As a result, it is much safer to use an alternative such as tree bark.



Spring Bulbs – another seasonal hazard that can be fatal if dug up and eaten by your pets. Tulips and daffodils are toxic to cats and dogs ; although all parts of the plant are toxic, it is the bulbs that actually contain the most toxins. Lillies are also very toxic to cats and pose a hazard in the garden and also as cut flowers.

Fit Not Fat – Fighting the Flab!



The winter months are often a time of inactivity for many pets, when it is all too easy to put on a few extra pounds. Whilst it may be too late to make New Year resolutions, perhaps now is the time to have a critical look at your pet! Is he/she carrying a bit extra weight? Does he/she have a saggy tummy? Can you feel the ribs? All these are signs that your pet may be overweight.

Excess weight puts extra demands on virtually all the organs of the body. It can lead to or worsen medical conditions such as:

- Joint and ligament problems
- Heart disease
- Raised blood pressure
- Diabetes
- Breathing difficulties
- Decreased stamina and heat intolerance –to name just a few!

To achieve weight loss, pets need a combination of a specially formulated calorie controlled diet and more exercise. The good news is that as your pet loses weight, benefits of increased healthiness and vitality are usually seen quite quickly. Please contact us for advice about your pet's ideal weight, diet and exercise regime – we are here to help!

How healthy are your pet's teeth and gums?

Did you know that tooth and gum problems in dogs and cats are very common, with around 85% of pets over three years of age suffering from some degree of dental disease, causing ill health and pain?

A healthy mouth typically has bright white teeth and pink gums. However food can accumulate on the tooth surface to form plaque and eventually lead to inflammation and infection of the gums called gingivitis. Plaque which isn't removed from the teeth hardens & becomes tarter (also known as calculus). Tartar is yellow in colour & is seen along the gum, where it meets the teeth.



Before



After

If gingivitis is allowed to continue unchecked, it will in time progress to periodontitis; here the problem spreads below the gum line, leading to infections deep in the tooth socket, eventually resulting in tooth mobility and finally tooth loss.

However if gum problems are identified at an earlier stage, a combination of a scale and polish and ongoing Home Care can make a real difference to your pet's oral health (and also their breath!).