



NEWSLETTER

Winter 2010/2011

*"Caring for your pets
as we do our own"*

In this issue...

- Pet of the Year 2010
- Senior Health Checks
- Martin's Three Peaks Challenge

Happy New Year from us all at the practice. Here we take a fond look back at 2010, featuring the winner of our prestigious 'Pet of the Year' award, and detail the latest news from the team. We hope you and your pets have a fantastic 2011.

Shepton Vets Small Animal Team xx

Lucky Dennis wins Pet of the Year

Every year in December the staff look back fondly at our twelve "Case of the Month" stars and have the difficult task of casting a single vote. They are all exceptional pets who have endured injury or illness with admirable courage. This year we congratulate Mr and Mrs Kearle's gorgeous tabby cat Dennis.



Dennis and his owner receive their award from Student Nurse Jess

Dennis and Dotty are young brother and sister cats, who live in Shepton Mallet with their family and two dogs.

Back in the spring, Dennis went out at tea time for an early evening stroll, whilst waiting for his owner to return home from work. Mr Kearle was not unduly worried that he wasn't there to greet him, as he often ventured into neighbours' gardens in search of adventure. However by the following morning the Kearles were very concerned.

Unfortunately that evening, Dennis was hit by a car a short distance from home. As is often the case, he ran off and hid himself over night. Despite the efforts of local residents he could not be found.

The following morning we received a call at the surgery, informing us that an injured cat had been spotted up a tree surrounded by holly bushes. Student nurse Jess rushed straight out, armed with blankets, cat catcher and basket. Undeterred by the thorny bushes, she climbed up and rescued Dennis. They both returned to the surgery covered in cuts and bruises!

Poor Dennis was exhausted and dehydrated. He had received a blow to the face and his hard palate was split in two, with swelling, cuts and bruising to his eyes, tongue and nose. We started immediate pain relief and treatment for shock.



Dennis undergoing treatment

It was a joy to scan him and find that he had a microchip. Within 10 minutes we were

talking to his worried owners, putting their minds at rest and discussing a treatment plan. What a relief for all concerned!

He underwent surgery to repair his palate and had a feeding tube inserted into his oesophagus through his neck, bypassing his battered face. He tolerated the treatment very well and was such a wonderful patient to nurse. After a few days in hospital, he was able to return home to recuperate, as his owners syringe fed him via the tube.

Progress was made over the next couple of weeks, until the fantastic day when Dennis began to lap food again by himself. As you can see from the photo, his ordeal has not spoilt his good looks and Dennis now weighs almost as much as his sister again!

Call us: 01749 343955

Email: vet@sheptonvet.com

Surf: www.sheptonvet.com

Or simply pop in: SVG,
Allyn Saxon Drive, Shepton
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***FREE* SENIOR HEALTH CHECKS**

Throughout January and February 2011 we are focusing on our older patients and invite you to make an appointment to come along to our Senior Health Clinic.

Does your dog cough?

Is he a bit creaky in the mornings?

Does he lack energy or get breathless on walks?

Does his breath smell unpleasant?



Does your cat drink a lot?

Is she constantly hungry but still losing weight?

Is she hesitant or reluctant to jump up or down?

Is she restless or does she hide away from you?

We can give you valuable advice on how to help keep older pets happy, healthy and mobile. In addition, a thorough check-up offers reassurance about your pet's health and allows us to spot any problems at an earlier stage, giving us a better opportunity to effectively manage them.

We will ask you to fill in a brief questionnaire about your pet at home and bring it with you. You will have time to discuss any concerns you may have with one of our Veterinary Nurses before having a full Health Check by the Vet. Any further tests, recommendations or follow up treatment will be fully explained.

Please telephone the surgery on 01749 343955 to book your appointment.

We cannot stop our pets from getting older, but together we can help you to enjoy many more happy years with them.

PEAK ACHIEVEMENT

Thanks to all our clients who supported vet Martin Law on his attempt at the Three Peaks Challenge this August. Martin and his friends successfully completed the challenge and managed to raise over £400 for Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research. Congratulations to Mrs Madden who won our raffle and receives a free bag of food for her dog Greta, courtesy of Royal Canin.



For further information or advice on any of the subjects covered in this newsletter please contact the practice