

Nurse Clinics



Our qualified Nurses have their own rooms dedicated to the running of Pet Health Clinics and clubs that provide advice and various services that complement and support our other Veterinary services and offer information on all aspects of health care for your pet.

With few exceptions the services provided are: **FREE !**

Nurse appointments are available most afternoons, some evenings and occasionally at weekends. Please call and speak to our reception staff for more information.

General Clinics

Nurses have qualifications and experience in their own right and may often be better versed than the Veterinary Surgeons in some areas of healthcare.

Your pet will often be made an appointment specifically to see a Veterinary Nurse rather than the Veterinary Surgeon, for example for:

- Post operative examinations
- Suture removal
- Dressing Changes
- Clipping nails
- Emptying anal glands
- Discussing prescription diets
- Weight checks
- Dental Checks
- General Husbandry advice
- Behavioural advice



In an emergency you may be rushed in to see the Nurse who can assess the situation and offer first aid until one of the Veterinary Surgeons is available.

Nurse Clubs

Please feel free to call in or telephone to make an appointment at one of the several clubs the Nursing Staff run.

Once you have joined a Club with your pet you receive a 6 month membership card and discounts off our range of life stage diets and all preventive health products (with the exception of Vaccines).



The Clubs, as well as being informative, may be particularly helpful for those with children who could benefit from educating on the best way to look after their pets.

At most of the Clubs you will receive a booklet (similar to this one) detailing the various points that have been discussed as well as other 'freebies' that the Nurse may have available.

Puppy and Kitten Club



There is so much to learn when a new puppy or kitten becomes a member of your family. Our experienced Nurses will help you understand and plan the many aspects of your new pet's well being including :

- Dietary Requirements
- Vaccinations
- Worming and Flea control
- Pet Insurance
- Identity Chips
- Neutering (Spaying and Castration)
- Basic Dental Hygiene
- Socialisation, Toilet Training and basic Environmental conditioning
- Early training to prevent later behaviour problems
- Shampooing, bathing and grooming

Dental Club

One of the commonest causes of death of animals in the wild is dental disease. Dental care is as important for your pet as it is for you.

Periodontal disease affects 85% of all dogs and cats over the age of 4 and can lead to pain, bad breath and tooth loss. Chronic oral infection can spread bacteria to other parts of the body including the lungs, heart, liver and kidneys.



Fortunately most periodontal disease is preventable through a program of oral hygiene and regular professional care. Routine dental care should be a part of every pet's preventative medicine program.

Plaque can start to build up on young kitten or puppies teeth immediately so the Nurses will explain how you can start to prevent dental disease progressing. Brushing your pets teeth using Veterinary Dental paste can stop tartar forming on teeth—it is easier to train puppies and kittens to accept this from an early age. Some pets won't let you brush their teeth in which case dental hygiene gels are available containing enzymes that prevent plaque forming and remove plaque from the teeth.

With more severe cases the Nurse may refer you for a FREE initial consultation with the Vet to decide if Dental Scaling and polishing under general is necessary.

Once this has been carried out the DENTAL CLUB staff will show you how to help prevent dental disease recurring.



Junior Club

When your pet is about 6 months old we will send you a reminder to come for a **free health examination** with the Vet.

At this age many things are changing in a similar way to humans going through puberty. We would like to check that no developmental disorders have arisen, examine the teeth and coat which are often changing at this time, ensure that both testicles have descended in males etc. This is an ideal time to visit the Junior Club.

Now your pet is going outside it is important to keep up to date with worm and flea prevention programs. Dietary requirements are changing and the nurses will discuss changing from puppy or kitten diets to junior diets and eventually weaning on to adult cat or dog food.

This is also a time when most people are considering whether or not to have their pets neutered. The Pet Health Counsellors can discuss castration and spaying with you in greater depth and advise you on the benefits and risks involved.

Any training or behavioural problems can also be addressed.

Weight Club

Obesity can be a contributing factor in many clinical problems in pets, not least joint and other problems that may hinder exercise that then makes the weight problem worse. Other problems can also be caused or aggravated by weight problems including diabetes mellitus, hormonal abnormalities, heart disease etc.



Many owners may have tried to diet their pet without success. Our trained Pet Health Counsellors have a professional and clinical approach to weight loss management giving quick results to the benefit of all concerned.

Club 8 Plus

All being well, your pet should live a long and happy life. But as age creeps on various health problems can arise. Some problems may be very obvious but others may be less apparent because they develop slowly enough to allow your pet to adapt to them and can eventually be quite serious. Most of these problems are treatable if we identify them early enough.



The **Club 8 Plus** offers a free examination and advice on caring for your pet in their later years. It also includes blood pressure checks and ECG examination where appropriate. We also offer a discounted, routine blood test (health screen) if all does not seem well. The results of these tests are interpreted by the Veterinary Surgeon so that appropriate advice can be given.

Over the past decade the life expectancy of cats and dogs has been increasing because we have greater understanding of their nutritional needs. Medicine and medical care have advanced and preventive health care programs allow us to detect problems at an early stage and so start treatment sooner.

A session will last approximately one hour. We ask you bring a sample of your pet's urine with you – we only need a few drops—ask for a pot at reception.

The Nurses will supply documents explaining everything they have discussed with you as well as a free goody bag and some special offer vouchers!

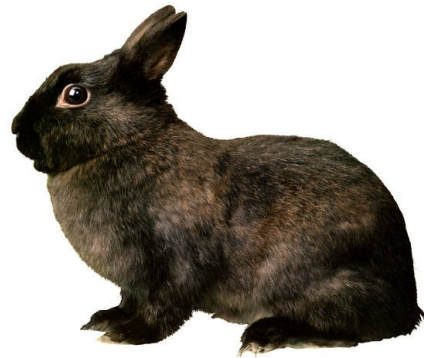
If they identify any problems that are not obvious at the onset of our clinic they will arrange for you to have a consultation with the vet **free of charge** to discuss the problems identified, who can then arrange appropriate treatment (the latter you will have to pay for).

If you know that your pet already has a problem we urge you to book an appointment to see the Vet as soon as possible rather than the Nurse because the Nurses are not allowed to offer diagnoses and prescribe treatment.

Small Furry Club

Rabbits, Guinea Pigs, Hamsters, Mice, Rats, Chinchillas and many other small furries make ideal first pets for children and give them responsibility for caring for these cute pets.

The Nurses run a free club especially for such pets. Most problems in these creatures arise as a consequence of inappropriate nutrition and environment.



Children particularly will enjoy the time with the Nurses at these clubs and will learn about appropriate diet, handling, housing, bedding, parasite control, vaccination, breeding, neutering, nail and teeth clipping etc.

The Nurses will provide you with a comprehensive set of notes regarding the care of your particular pet and will advise you on what signs of impending problems to look out for—Small mammals can succumb to illness and deteriorate very rapidly without Veterinary Intervention.



Behavioural advice

Some of our Nurses offer free advice to animals with behavioural problems including inappropriate urination and defecation, aggression, fear problems, destructive problems etc. Often these will be arranged by referral from one of our Veterinary Surgeons who will first ascertain that no medical reason exists for the problem.



More complicated behavioural cases may be referred to a behavioural specialist who may do a house visit to carry out a consultation.



Pregnancy Club

The Nurses also offer a Pregnancy Club giving support to owners considering breeding.

The Club covers all aspects from successful and safe conception, pregnancy, the birth, bringing up the young and encourages appropriate preventative health measures, feeding and other aspects of husbandry.



Identity Chips



Micro-chipping is now acknowledged to be the most acceptable form of permanent identification available for companion animals. It is permanent, tamperproof, reliable and painless. The UK Government chose micro chipping as the means of permanent identification under the PET TRAVEL SCHEME.

Each pet requires a single BackHome microchip. The process is completely safe and causes no more discomfort than other injections. Pets of all sizes from small birds, exotics and fish to large dogs and horses can be chipped. In the case of dogs and cats the preferred location is the scruff of the neck.

BackHome is inexpensive and the one-off payment includes lifetime registration on the national database as well as all documentation.

It is a security measure which literally lasts for life.

BackHome micro chipping represents excellent value for money and peace of mind.

The Nurses will give you further information and can carry out this simple procedure at one of their Puppy or Kitten Clubs at a discounted rate.