



## Practice Newsletter

April/May 2017

### Who's Who - A bit of an insight

In our last newsletter we looked at the day in a life of a Registered Veterinary Nurse (RVN). In this edition we are going to take a look at a Day in the Life of a Veterinary Surgeon.



Veterinary Surgeons are looked upon as the person that has all the answers and who you trust with your pet's health and well being. They are there to advise you through both the good times and the sad times and try to ensure that being a pet owner is as pleasurable and rewarding experience for you as it can be. Here's what a typical day is like for Stephanie;

#### Start of the Day

A typical day starts at 8am with hospital rounds and a hand over from the night team. We are allocated patients to care for during the day and any investigations that are required are scheduled in.

#### Morning and Admissions

At 8.15am-8.45am the day patients start to arrive and are admitted. This takes place with me in the consult room where I will examine their pet and discuss what procedure will take place that day and answer any questions or concerns that the client may have. Their pet will then be taken through to the hospital.

Between 8.15am and 9am all patients having operations that day are prepared 'prepped' for theatre, which may involve running pre-op blood tests and placing them on an intravenous drip. By 9am it will be decided which one of us will either be in theatre or will be consulting for the morning.

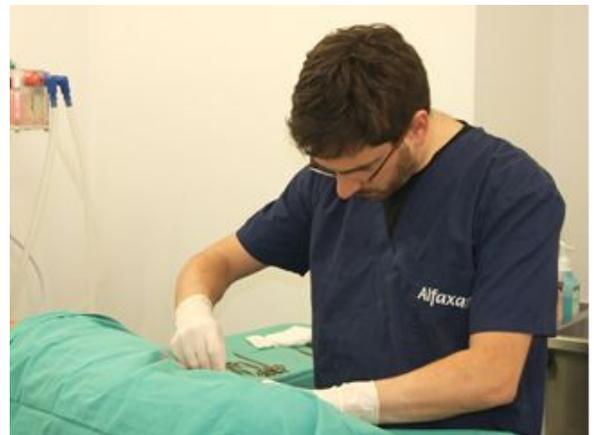
#### Theatre Vet

If I am the 'Theatre Vet' I will work with the theatre nurse in ensuring all patients are prepared for theatre and will plan the order of operations for that morning.

Operations usually consist of neuterings, lump removals and dentals however occasionally emergency surgeries come through the consults including foreign body retrieval, caesareans and pyometra (infected uterus), so no 2 days are the same and you never know what may happen.

#### Consults

If I am the 'Consulting Vet' I will be on morning consults, which are between 9am and 12.30pm where I will look after all those patients that are booked in. Consultations can be varied from routine health checks and vaccinations to intoxications and infections. Once I am finished



consulting I will either help the operating vet with their list or use my time to complete my admin work, this may consist of typing up reports and lab results onto clients files, calling clients with results and dealing with general queries from both clients and staff. It may also be attending to a home visit that has been booked in.

### **Later in the Day**

Normally we get to take a break for lunch and are ready to start again for afternoon consults.



All vets then consult from 2.15pm through to 6.30pm with a short break in between to allow paperwork, reporting test results to clients, or performing any minor procedures that come in.

Between 6.30pm and 7pm I will place an order for medicines required in the following day. I will then once again attend hospital rounds to hand existing or new inpatients over to the night team and the 'On Call Vet'.

Each vet takes it in turn to do one night a week on call. The weekend rota follows the same pattern, which

means that there is a vet and a nurse available 24/7 should your pet require out of hours treatment.

If I am not on call I am able to leave the clinic and go home. I get home, have a long, hot shower and think to myself, "I have THE best job" and it is true. A vet's life is not glamorous but I love what I do. I love the animals, I love the people and I love medicine. It's just that simple.

**WELCOME** - We would like to introduce you to one of our newer members of the Animates team  
**Laura Stone – Student Veterinary Nurse**

Laura is a qualified clinical animal behaviourist and registered dog trainer having graduated with an MSc from Lincoln University in 2013 and the APDT in 2015. Having been a lecturer in Animal Care for the past 4 years she decided to combine her passion for Health and Behaviour and train to become a Veterinary Nurse. Laura runs our puppy parties, and is excited to be able to offer our clients in practice behaviour services. Laura enjoys walking, and participating in scent work with her 3 dogs, and caring for her 6 ex battery chickens.



### **HUGE WELL DONE - Congratulations all round**

Sara Dench one of our Qualified Registered Nurses has been studying towards obtaining her Emergency and Critical Care Certificate - Cert VNECC. She recently sat her exams and has passed with flying colours. Sara is one of the nurses who work our 24/7 night rota, who better than to care for your pet!

Katherine Wynn-Owen and Stephanie Holmes who are both vets have also been studying hard over the last 3 years towards the Post Graduate Emergency and Critical Care Certificate – PGCertSAECC, this is equivalent to the masters level. This comprised of case studies and both written and oral exams which we are pleased to announce they passed with Distinction. They are now in the process of applying to the RCVS to be recognised as Advanced Practitioners

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