

Hollybank now a Veterinary Hospital



We are proud to announce that Hollybank Veterinary Centre has recently become a Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons' Accredited Veterinary Hospital,

the highest possible practice standard. We are now one of only 143 in the UK to achieve this standard; that's less than 3% of practices - and all within a year of opening!



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Accreditation means the practice has been rigorously inspected by the RCVS and found to meet all the requirements to be a veterinary hospital including:

Veterinary staff present on the premises round the clock to deal with emergencies and care for in-patients.

Maintenance of the highest clinical standards by monitoring performance and outcome of treatments.

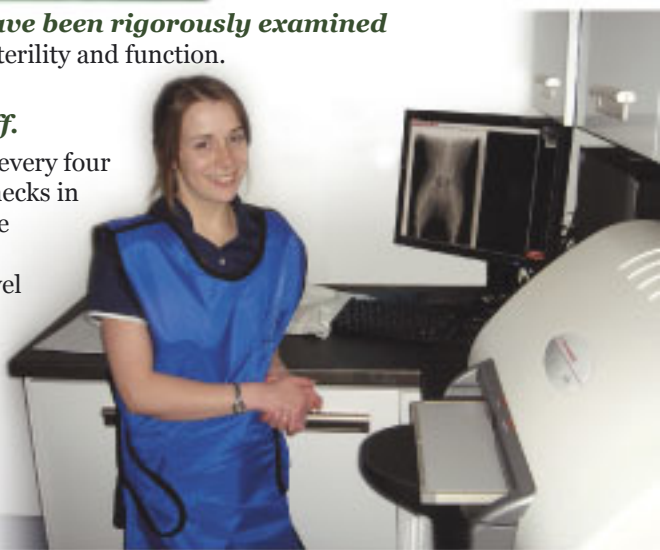
A high quality and broad range of surgical and diagnostic equipment including
In-house laboratory Digital x-ray Ultrasound Video endoscopy
Fully equipped sterile surgical suite Dental theatre

Premises and facilities that have been rigorously examined with the emphasis on cleanliness, sterility and function.

An ongoing commitment to education and training of staff.

The practice will be fully inspected every four years and may be subject to spot-checks in between; as a client, you can be sure that Hollybank Veterinary Centre continues to provide the highest level of care for your pet.

We are extremely proud of both our facilities and our achievement. Please call in anytime and our helpful, friendly staff will be delighted to meet you and tell you more about Hollybank Vets.



Surgery Hours

Our friendly support staff are available all day for pet healthcare and advice.
Monday, Wednesday & Friday
8.30am - 6.30pm
Tuesday & Thursday
9.30am - 7.30pm
Saturday **9am - 12 noon**
Consultations with the vets & nurses are by appointment only. Please call to arrange a suitable time.

To ensure continuity of first class veterinary care for your pets we are proud to offer **24hr Emergency Service** here at the surgery and with your usual vets.

Call day or night
01606 880 890



Nurse Clinics

Veterinary Nurses are trained to provide skilled supportive care for sick animals as well as undertaking minor surgery, monitoring during anaesthesia, medical treatments and diagnostic tests under veterinary supervision. Nurses also play an important role in the education of owners on good standards of animal care.

Here at Hollybank Veterinary Centre we offer a wide variety of nurse clinic services. Our fully Qualified and Registered Veterinary Nurses can provide assistance in the following areas -

- New Pets** Health checks and advice on caring for your new pet.
- Puppy Parties** A free socialisation class for your new puppy following first vaccine. Informative presentations by Hollybank staff and a chance to meet new friends.
- Senior Pets and Mobility clinics** Regular health checks and pain management for our older patients.
- Preventative Healthcare** Help in administering medications, flea/worm treatments, or grooming problems such as ear cleaning and claw clipping.

Oral Hygiene Practical help with caring for your pet's teeth & gums.
Nutrition and Weight Management Dietary advice and individual weight loss programmes tailored specifically for your pet.

For more information or to make an appointment, please contact our nursing team.

Be Careful!

Have you woken up from winter hibernation yet? Well it may still be a little chilly outside,

but the garden jobs are mounting up and the cobwebs in the corner are reminding us that it's spring-cleaning time too. With all these chores to keep us busy, it's very important to remember the safe use and storage of garden and household products, as some are very **poisonous** to our pets. They are well known for sniffing out and eating the strangest of things - from socks to slug pellets!

Poison is a harmful substance your pet either comes into contact with, or which enters its body. Digesting or just absorbing poisons through the skin, can cause a wide range of symptoms from minor stomach upsets to heart and breathing problems. Sadly in some cases, it can be fatal.

Safety Checklist Carefully read the instructions on the use and storage of home, garden, DIY and car products. ✓

Provide 'animal proof' storage for these products. Remember cats can climb, jump and balance extremely well, and the most determined dog will get that cupboard open! ✓

Try to become aware of products, foods and plants that are poisonous. Your library and the web are a good source of information. ✓

As always we're here to help, so do not hesitate to contact us for advice.



Signs to watch out for are

- Vomiting - Diarrhoea**
- Drooling - Frothing - Panting - Restless - Increased temperature**
- Depressed - Lethargic - Dehydrated - Muscle tremors - Convulsions**

For example: **Cocoa Mulch** used on gardens, smells very appealing to dogs but does contain '**theobromine**' which is poisonous, as is the toxic chemical '**metalddehyde**' found in **slug pellets**. If your pet should get **creosote, oil or lily pollen** on its coat, this can be ingested as it licks to remove the product.

Detergents, antifreeze, weed killers, rat/mice bait all pose a serious danger to our pets. If you think your pet has swallowed or come into contact with a poisonous substance contact your vet **IMMEDIATELY**. **Try to identify What, How much & When. Any information will help.** If possible take the pack and source of poison with you.

A Right Ticking Off!

The thought of something attached to our skin sucking blood is truly what nightmares are made of! However, there really are such creatures alive on our planet - **ticks**. Ticks can be found in long damp grass, by riverbanks and woodlands. These blood-sucking parasites require a host to attach to and feed from while completing each stage in their development. So while your dog is out exercising or your cat is exploring, a tick or two could choose your pet for breakfast, dinner and tea! These bloodsuckers are only tiny when they climb onto and attach their mouths into your pet's skin, but after a few days of heavy feeding they become engorged with blood.

Ticks can cause *irritation *soreness *skin problems *infections

Not only are ticks very unpleasant for your pet, but they can also transmit infectious diseases such as **Lyme Disease**, and as many pets now travel abroad, **Ehrlichiosis** and **Babesiosis**.

Prevention Use a protective treatment against ticks.

Check your pet regularly and thoroughly particularly after walks.

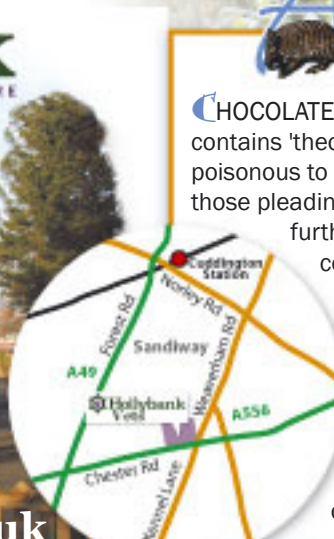
If you find a tick, pulling it out incorrectly could leave body parts behind, which can cause infections, so it is best to call your vet for advice.

There are products available to protect and treat the problem of ticks. Please contact us and we can advise on one suitable for your pet.



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www.hollybankvets.co.uk



CHOCOLATE Scrummy stuff but it contains 'theobromine' which can be poisonous to our pets. So don't give into those pleading eyes! If you would like further information please contact us.

CAT'S TAIL This amazing and important piece of equipment for the cat, is used for communication, and for balancing as it jumps to land perfectly on that very narrow edge of your garden fence!

DIET Overweight pets are at risk from diabetes, heart disease and arthritis. We can advise you on the type of diet, suitable exercise and provide regular weigh-ins for your pet to help them lose those unhealthy 'extra pounds'.

DOG'S TAIL Your dog can tell you many things with their tail. When living in packs they used their tails along with body postures to communicate with each other. Today as pets, they still apply this form of 'conversation' to us.