

Staff in the Spotlight

New team members have joined us over the last few months. If you have not met them yet, they are all very much looking forward to meeting you and your pets!

Nikita Harrison

Animal Nursing Assistant

November 2020 saw Nikita join our nursing team here at St Kitts. She has two rabbits, a Cocker Spaniel and a horse. Outside of work she is quite busy training and competing with her horse, and also enjoys spending time with her partner. In the near future, Nikita hopes to start her training to become a Registered Veterinary Nurse.



Naomi Tubb RVN

Registered Veterinary Nurse

We welcomed RVN Naomi to our team in November 2020 and she has a keen interest in animal nutrition. Naomi began her nursing in 2014 and graduated from Anglia Ruskin University in Cambridge in 2018. Pets at home are a Jack Russell called Indie and Thea, a three-legged cat.



Spring 2021

News



Daniel Capper MRCVS Veterinary Surgeon

Dan qualified from the University of Nottingham. He previously worked in a small animal practice in Hampshire before joining St Kitts Veterinary Group in 2020. He has a particular interest in canine and feline internal medicine, and loves consulting time where he can meet our clients and their pets. He has two pets of his own, Raggles a German Shepherd Cross and Bill a rescued parrotlet. In his free time, Dan likes to cook, run, cycle and follow his hometown football team Stoke City.



How Much Food

Is Your Pet Eating?

Tubby, chubby, plump, stout...maybe even chunky, are just a few names for your pet being overweight! Dogs and cats don't have guilt feelings about what type or how much food they devour. Their owners provide it and pets eat it.... it's as simple as thatbut just like us too much food can make waistlines expand!

Sadly there are pets who are overweight and this can lead to serious health problems. Overfeeding, incorrect diet, treats, table scraps and lack of daily exercise, all contribute to pets being fat. That treat of a slice of buttered toast eaten by your dog, is equivalent to a human eating one whole burger in a bun! Combine this with their normal daily intake of food, plus lack of exercise and your pet could gain weight!

Obesity Health Problems ● Heart disease ● Diabetes ● Arthritis ● High blood pressure ● Breathing difficulties

If your pet's weight is heavy on your mind, then now is the time to contact us. Our friendly team can help your pet lose those unhealthy kilos and maintain a perfect weight. Sometimes there can be an underlying condition that is causing your pet to be overweight. So before embarking on any new diet or exercise plan, it is always best to seek advice from us. **Remember we are here to help you keep your pet healthy and happy!**

Hartley Wintney

01252 844044

Mon to Fri 8.00 - 19.00

Sat & Sun 8.30 - 16.00

Crookham Park

01252 913990

Mon to Fri 8.30 - 19.00

Sat 8.30 - 16.00

Sun at Hartley Wintney

Firgrove

01252 877799

Mon to Fri 8.00 - 19.00

Sat 8.30 - 12.00

Sun at Hartley Wintney

Basingstoke

01256 844944

Mon to Fri 8.00 - 19.00

Sat 8.30 - 16.00

Sun at Hartley Wintney

24 Hour Emergency Cover

www.stkittsvet.co.uk

Welcome to our New Receptionists

Shelagh Wooten Receptionist

Shelagh has worked as a veterinary receptionist for the last three years and joined us in October 2020 bringing her knowledge and experience to our Firgrove team. Some of you may have already met Shelagh and for those that have not, she is very much looking forward to meeting you and your pets. Shelagh has a blind dog called Blaze who she absolutely adores!



Sue Ashton Receptionist joined our team in October 2020 with thirteen years of veterinary receptionist experience behind her, and she is very excited to meet you all. Sue owns two very spoilt Fox Labradors called Due and Honey, along with a further three spoilt pets; cats Bella, Alfie and Bailey who she hand-reared.



A Wee Bit of Trouble!

When a new puppy or kitten arrives in the household, the mop and bucket are always to hand! With training and patience your young one soon gets the hang of toileting outside. For some pets, the puddles may continue longer than expected or reappear later in life, and this can cause a little desperation on your part. Initially, you may scold your pet for soiling in the house, but think before you do, as constant wetting could be a sign of **incontinence**. This basically means that your pet is unable to control when they urinate.



Urine is stored in the bladder until the body tells your pet it needs to wee, but if there is some failure within the waterworks system, then leakage occurs. It can happen at any age, in males and females and for a number of reasons.

Possible Causes of Incontinence

- Some animals can be born with a defective bladder and urinary tract.
- Urinary infections, stones, kidney disease or diabetes.
- For the senior citizen pets, sphincter muscles, which hold urine in the bladder, can weaken and then leakage occurs, especially while they are resting or sleeping.

If you notice one or more of these signs.....

- dribbling of urine
- damp patches or soaking of bedding
- skin irritation
- wet fur/hair between hind legs or on stomach
- constant licking around the genital area.....

then please book an appointment to see the vet.

We will give your pet a thorough examination and possibly perform some tests, which will help us determine the cause. Once diagnosis has been made we can then begin the appropriate treatment.

Congratulations

Sophie Rogers-Mitchell RVN Registered Veterinary Nurse

Sophie passed her OSCEs in December 2020, making her a Qualified Registered Veterinary Nurse. Well done Sophie! She began at St Kitts in 2016 as a Animal Nursing Assistant. Sophie has a keen interest in internal medicine nursing and anaesthesia. Outside of work she enjoys reading andwatching horror films!



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