

Staff News

Congratulations to Poultons head nurse Carlie, and her husband Gareth, on the birth of their baby boy.

We have recently said goodbye to vet Jen Morgan who has gone travelling around New Zealand.



Heart Awareness Month

Free blood pressure readings:

This month we are offering free blood pressure readings with one of our nurses. Please ask a member of staff, or alternatively call the surgery to book an appointment.

Cottam Open Day

Keep an eye out for Cottams open day, happening in early Spring.



Date to be confirmed in next months newsletter

GARSTANG

Lanes Vets Garstang
Leachfield Industrial
Green Lane West
Garstang PR3 1PR
01995 603 349

LANCASTER

Lanes Vets Lancaster
Estate 4 – 5 Lake Enterprise Court
Ladies Walk, Caton Road
Lancaster LA1 3NX
01524 677 77

POULTON-LE-FYLDE

Lanes Vets Poulton
235 Garstang Road East
Poulton-le-Fylde
Lancashire FY6 8JH
01253 891 088

COTTAM

Lanes Vets Cottam
Tabley Lane
Higher Bartle
Preston PR4 0LH
01772 970 292



Chosen Charities

This year the Directors have chosen Rosemere Cancer Foundation and Money for Madagascar to be our main charities. We will be supporting these charities throughout the year.



Money for Madagascar:

Madagascar, famous for its astonishing flora and fauna, is a country in crisis. Income, healthcare and education are amongst the lowest in the world. A Lancaster based charity 'Money for Madagascar (MfM)' is appealing for help to respond to this crisis. Your donations will help subsistence farmers in Madagascar to learn sustainable ways to support their families.

Rosemere:  **rosemere**
CANCER FOUNDATION
Supporting world class cancer treatment locally
Registered Charity No. 1131583

The Rosemere Cancer Foundation supports world class cancer treatment throughout Lancashire and South Cumbria. Their aim is to work in partnership with local clinical staff to achieve the best possible care for cancer patients in Lancashire and South Cumbria wherever they are treated. Your donations will be used to help fund cutting edge equipment to help clinicians remain at the forefront of the fight against cancer.

Heartworm

We don't have heartworm in the UK, do we?

As more dogs are imported from abroad, they can bring diseases with them that are new to this country. Heartworm, or "*Dirofilaria Immitis*", was once only seen in Mediterranean Europe and the USA. Recently, there have been cases seen in dogs all over the UK with a travel history in Cyprus, Greece, Romania and others. The worm is seen in these imported dogs because they pick it up when they are bitten by a mosquito. The worm is very common in these countries, and that is why dogs imported from there are at a high risk of carrying it. Indeed, we have seen cases of it in our practice.

What does it do to dogs?

Heartworms are spread by mosquitos as microscopic creatures, but they grow in the blood vessels, including the heart, of adult dogs. It can take a long time for this to happen; on average about 6 months! It can cause coughing, tiredness, weight loss and swelling of the tummy. In a lot of cases it can be very serious by the time it is picked up and many dogs die from it and its complications.



Heartworm

What if my dog has heartworm?

It depends on the state of disease. Your vet will need to do a scan to find out if it is heartworm and to what extent it is causing a problem. They will advise you from there.

I've just imported my dog from abroad, what should I do?

If your dog was born abroad and you've rescued it or has recently travelled, the vets here advise an Imported Dog Screen (IDS), which will screen for heartworm, and a range of other diseases dogs can pick up abroad. Please let your vet know about your dog's travel history, and they will be happy to discuss this with you.

What can I do?

All imported dogs can be tested to check for heartworm, and it is recommended by our vets in all dogs brought from abroad, even if they are well. It is essential, even if they have not been tested to give worming treatment to these dogs every month, especially when they have just arrived to the UK.

