



# CASTLE VETERINARY GROUP LTD

Pennygillam Way, Launceston, Cornwall, PL15 7ED

Tel: Pets 01566 772211; Farm 01566 772371

[www.castleveterinarygroup.co.uk](http://www.castleveterinarygroup.co.uk)

Monday – Friday 8.30am – 6.30pm; Saturday 8.30am – 3.00pm; Sunday closed.  
24hr emergency in-house veterinary cover. Consultations by appointment only.

## AUGUST 2017 NEWSLETTER

### Repeat Medication Requests—Important Information



If your pet is on regular medication, please be aware that from now on you will be required to give at least 24 hours notice for a repeat prescription. This is because all prescriptions need to be double checked and signed off by the vet. It means we have time to check dosages are accurate, discuss any changes in your pet's medication with you, order any medication not in stock, etc.. This applies to all medications, regardless of how often you use it or how long you have been using it.

You may order in person at reception or by calling us on 01566 772211. We will aim to have all prescriptions ready for collection 24 hours post ordering but if you are making a special trip please check with us first that your medication is ready. Please note that this does not apply to flea, tick & worm prevention products, but this will save you waiting at reception if you also wish to pre-order these. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

### NEW COURSES OF VACCINATIONS NOW INCLUDED IN OUR PET HEALTH PLAN!

Our pet health plan is becoming an ever-increasingly popular choice for those wishing to provide their dogs or cats with the best available preventative healthcare at the best available prices.

We are pleased that we can now offer new vaccination courses for puppies and kittens, or adult dogs and cats, who need to restart their vaccinations. This means even greater savings and a helpful way to spread the cost over the year. With a monthly fee of just £11.50 for cats for example, a Tricat & Felv booster vaccination plus a year's supply of Bravecto and Profender for an average size cat on a pay as you go basis would cost you £ 195.89 a year, an average of £16.32 a month, meaning you automatically save £4.82 a month without taking into account the other savings you may be able to add to this!



For more information on what our Pet Health Plan includes, prices and how to sign up, please call into reception, give us a ring or go to our website page: [www.castleveterinarygroup.co.uk/small-animal-healthy-pet-club/](http://www.castleveterinarygroup.co.uk/small-animal-healthy-pet-club/)

### Robert Hardy RIP



We were sorry to learn in the news last week of the death of Robert Hardy. Many of us will remember him as the well loved character Siegfried in the brilliant veterinary series All Creatures Great and Small, and maybe for the younger generation as Cornelius Fudge in the Harry Potter films.

Robert attended the opening ceremony of our Pennygillam surgery on 26th April 1997 when we moved from our old premises in Exeter Street. In this photo to Robert's left is David Pearson and to his right Martin Vivian, who were partners of Castle Veterinary Group at the time, but are both now retired.

## A day in the life of a vet student by Leanne Brookman, 4<sup>th</sup> year vet student

I am a vet student about to embark on my fourth year at Bristol University. After only 2 days here at Castle Vets I've witnessed a variety of procedures with both the small animal and farm animal vets.

I arrive at 8:30am and check the list of operations that will be going on throughout the day. I want to make sure I don't miss anything interesting or unusual! The lovely vets and nurses here are great at letting me know if something's happening that I would be interested to see.

During the morning I will stand in theatre and watch the vets at work or occasionally I'll have the chance to "scrub in" and help out during a routine procedure such as a bitch spay. Then, if a call comes in to the farm office, I have the opportunity to go out on farm with the farm vets and gain more hands-on experience with pregnancy tests on cattle or practising giving injections. I've even had the chance to revise my anatomy when helping with a post mortem on a sheep. Placements during my summer holidays are a large part of my course. I always find it nerve wracking starting a new placement every couple of weeks but every day I tend to see something I've never seen before, this helps me stay motivated to keep working towards the end goal of becoming a vet.

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### Launceston Show 2017

We had a great day at this year's Launceston show. We saw lots of you for cakes, drinks and some fun competitions. It was lovely to see all of you and all our canine visitors too!

Well done to the winners of our "Guess the total number of years our vets have been consulting?" The answer was 185 and with two goody bags to give out, our winners were Keira Moore with 183 and Gemma Cann with 179.

We also had a museum of veterinary items where you had to guess the use for each item. This generated a lot of interest and amusement. Thank goodness veterinary medicine has developed over time! The winner of this competition was Nicola Taylor, who got the most correct descriptions.

Here are the items on display and the answers in a clockwise direction:



**Box 1:** Post Mortem Kit particularly for investigating inside the skull; Cryotherapy set for removing warts and skin blemishes, Birthing forceps for piglets, they clamp around the piglet's bottom jaw; Guarded knife enabling vets to cut inside an animal without damaging other organs; Wart remover, clamp the wart and twist to remove it; Syringe for administering anaesthetic for dentals in horses; Dental kit. Outside the box is a uterine infusion pump for cleansing cows after giving birth.

**Box 2:** A complete medical examination kit, for optic, aural, oral and back end examinations!; A pair of syringes; Tattoo pliers and stamps for tattooing pigs ears; a tracheotomy tube, primarily for emergency operations in horses with a collapsed larynx. Thanks to retired Castle Vets director, Johnny Mann, we have learnt that the mystery item (outside the box) is a gag for horses. There should be a wooden bar between the clamps which would be inserted into the horses mouth prior to examining.

For more photos from the show go to our events website page: <http://castleveterinarygroup.co.uk/news/events/>