

CASTLE VETS PETS

Newsletter - February 2024

Tel: 01566 772211/01579 208072 I www.castleveterinarygroup.co.uk





World Spay Day

Held on the last Tuesday in February each year, World Spay Day aims to spread awareness of the long-term health benefits of spaying or neutering your cats, dogs and rabbits.

What is Neutering?

Females are spayed and this means that the ovaries are removed. Males are castrated by removing the testicles. These procedures are done under general anaesthetic and your pet should recover quickly.

Common Misconceptions About Neutering

Neutering shouldn't mean weight gain, however, changes in hormones can result in a slower metabolism in a neutered pet while increasing their appetite at the same time. Our team will be able to advise you on this and if necessary, tailor your pets feeding regime to ensure they don't put on any weight.

It is a common misunderstanding that female dogs should have one litter before being spayed. There are no known health benefits to letting your dog have a litter before they are neutered. Pregnancy and whelping can come with complications and caring for puppies is expensive and time consuming.

Benefits of Neutering

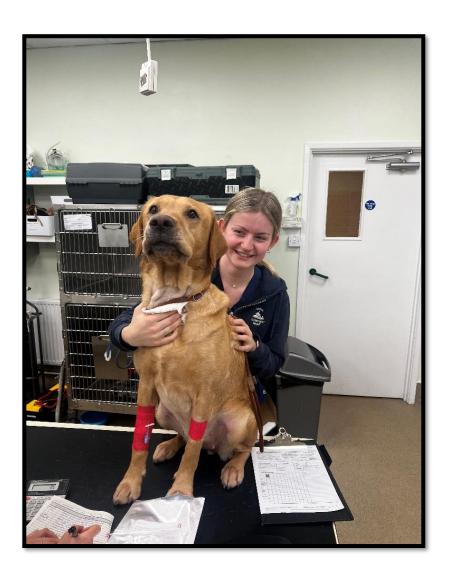
- Reduces urine marking and roaming in male dogs and cats.
- Prevents females from coming into season and therefore reduces mess, as they can bleed for up to three weeks.
- Prevents unwanted pregnancies and reduces the number of unwanted animals.

- Reduces the risk of theft if an animal is neutered this can reduce the risk of them being stolen for the purpose of breeding.
- Prevents the risk of testicular cancer in males and uterus infections and cancers in females.

The recommended age to have your pet neutered has changed over the years so please speak to one of our team who can advise you on the most appropriate time to have your pet neutered. Neutering prices are available as well on request.

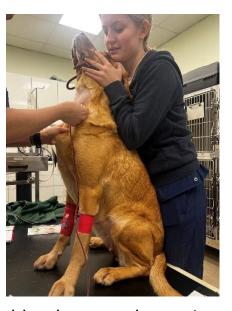
Blood Donation

Pictured below is Meg, a 6yr old Labrador who belongs to our student nurse Erin. She was a blood donor for a poorly patient and with your help we hope to find more dogs just like her.



There are specific criteria that need to be met for a dog to be eligible, but if your pet meets these requirements please get in touch.

- Under 8 years old
- Over 25kg
- In good health with a calm temperament
- No foreign travel
- Live close to the surgery (your dog may be needed at short notice)



Your dog will be booked in with one of our nurses for a blood test to determine whether they are a positive or negative blood type. As a thank you to you and your pet, a £50 credit will be applied to your account each time your pet donates blood.

Petplan Nominees

We are proud to say that two members of the Castle Vets team have been nominated for a prestigious 2024 Petplan Veterinary Award.





Liskeard Opening

What an amazing few weeks we have had at our new Liskeard premises! We have met so many lovely people and their fabulous pets. A huge thank you goes to all of our clients who popped in to say hello.

When we opened on the 15^{th of} January our first client through the door was the gorgeous Blu – now aptly named Castle Blu who came in for her first vaccinations. As you can see in this picture the Castle Vets team made her feel very welcome and she had plenty of cuddles. Welcome to the Castle Vets family Blu, we look forward to watching you progress along the way.

Our Liskeard branch is open Monday to Friday 8.45am–6.00pm. Consultation times on a Mon, Weds and Fri are 9.00am–1.30pm and

Weim CES

2.30pm— 5.00pm. On a Tues and Thurs they are 10.00am—1.30pm and 2.30pm— 6.00pm.





Valentines Competition at Liskeard





With thanks to our friends at Beco Pets we have put together an incredible hamper ready for Valentines day. As you know your furry friends deserve just as much love on this special day as we do.

You will automatically be put into the draw if you come in and visit us or make an appointment before the 13^{th of} February 2024. The winner will be contacted on Valentines Day.

Puppy Parties



Puppy parties provide an excellent opportunity for you to socialise your puppy in a safe, managed environment, and to give you the chance to ask any questions you may have in the company of other new puppy owners. We go through a variety of topics each week covering things such as, neutering, socialisation, diet, training, and lots more. The idea is to give puppies a fun experience at the vets so that when they need to come back, they will happily come straight in waiting for treats!

What are the requirements -

You need to be registered with Castle Vets – Launceston or Liskeard. Your puppy must be no older than 12 weeks at the start of their course and needs to be at least 1 week clear from their first vaccination – if they have had this elsewhere,

please bring a copy of your vaccination record for us to update onto our system **BEFORE** they attend.

Classes are a maximum of 8 puppies at one time – they will get a chance to interact and play with other puppies and lots of chicken too!

They will need a collar or harness and a lead to attach preferably a static lead as extendable leads can sometimes get all tangled up with the other puppies and people!

The parties take place every Tuesday 6.45pm-8.00pm at the Launceston practice and run as a 4 week course. They are included in the Castle Care Club membership if you have subscribed to this or at a cost of £33.65 to non-members. If you would like to book or require any further information please give us a call.