

SPRING 2024

THE BROOKFIELD TIMES

KEEPING YOU UP TO DATE



BROOKFIELD
veterinary practice

"Big enough to make a difference, small enough to care."

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The Nook

What is the new cat law in 2024? Is microchipping compulsory?

All pet cats in England must be microchipped by 10 June 2024. The new rules means that cats must be microchipped before they reach the age of 20 weeks, except for unowned cats like feral and community cats. Indoor-only cats must be microchipped as well. As part of the new rules, you must keep your contact details up to date on a Defra-approved microchipping database.

If you miss the June deadline, the new law states you'll have 21 days to have your cat microchipped, or you may face a fine of up to £500. The microchipping law is only being introduced in England at the current time, but we will continue to campaign for this same approach to be introduced in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

• *****Photo warning for last page!*****



Veterinary Nursing Awareness Month

Every year throughout the month of May, veterinary professionals celebrate the role of the Veterinary Nurse.

Veterinary nurses play such a huge role within the team here at Brookfield and we simply could not be without them!

They carry out so many roles within the practice daily, and lots of you may have already had the pleasure of meeting them.

Keep an eye out in reception in both Hereford and Ledbury waiting rooms to see a little more information about of wonderful nurses!

HEAT STROKE!

HOT DOGS! Dogs can suffer fatal heatstroke within minutes. Unlike humans, dogs are unable to sweat through their skin and so they rely on panting and releasing heat through their paw pads and nose to regulate their body temperature and keep cool. Signs to look out for are; excessive panting and salivation and in worst cases, collapse. If you suspect your pet is suffering from the condition, move them to a cool place, preferably with a draught, wet their coat with cool (not freezing) water, and contact your vet immediately. Once a dog shows signs of heatstroke the damage is often already done, which is why it's so important to prevent it. How to keep your dog cool and prevent heat stroke: - Ensure that your dog always has access to clean water and make sure that you carry water and a bowl with you on walks. - Take your dog for a walk in the cooler parts of the day (mornings and late evenings) when it is a hot day. - Keep an eye out for signs of over-heating, including energy loss and heavy panting. If these signs occur whilst out on a walk, you should stop and find shade and give your dog water, - NEVER leave your dog (or any pet) alone in a car, even with the windows open. - You can make your dog's favourite foods into cooling tasty treats putting them in ice cubes or stuff a Kong and pop it in the freezer. - Be particularly careful with short nosed dogs such as bull breeds, boxers, pugs, older dogs, and those that are overweight.





**A huge congratulations is in order!
Our wonderful vets Fran & Charles
have welcomed beautiful baby Ted
into the world.**

**He is settling in beautifully at home
and is being doted on by his big
brothers, Arthur & Freddie!**



**We are so pleased to welcome
back Nikki & Nat over in
Hereford after their maternity
leave.**

**We are sure you will be very
pleased to see them back in the
building!**



PET OF THE MONTH!

**Delightful Denzel came
to see us as he wasn't
feeling 100%. Upon
further examination we
discovered that Denzel
had a large abdominal
mass that was
understandably making
him feel a bit rubbish.
He then underwent a
procedure called a
Splenectomy, which
involves the removal of
his spleen... all 4.5kg of
it!**

**As you can see, Denzel
is now much happier,
minus his spleen!**

