



“WE WISH YOU A  
MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND A HAPPY NEW  
YEAR”

## We're moving in Downton

Please note that we will be moving our practice premises from Long Close to Unit 6 Scotts Close at Downton Business Centre in January. We will be writing to all our Downton clients nearer the time to confirm the exact date of the move and directions to the new site. The new premises are only a 2 minute walk from the current site, with easier access and greater visibility.

## Website

Take a look at our new website. There you can

- register online
- request appointments online
- request repeat prescriptions
- find information on pets
- tell us if you have lost or found an animal
- check out our latest offers
- read about news and events

Visit us at [www.hamptonparkvets.co.uk](http://www.hamptonparkvets.co.uk)

## Facebook

We have joined the world of Facebook. Become a friend and write on our wall. Tell us about your pets and post a picture. We would like your feedback on our service so please do leave us a review.



## Chocolate poisoning



Chocolate poisoning is a common enquiry at this time of the year. The severity of poisoning depends principally on two things, obviously the amount of chocolate ingested but also the type of chocolate (i.e. milk or dark). The amount of theobromine (a methylxanthine similar to caffeine) in milk and dark chocolate differs considerably, which is reflected in the toxic dose for dogs. Chocolate is also toxic to other species (for example cats, rodents, rabbits etc) but there is currently insufficient data available to determine a toxic dose. The common effects seen in chocolate poisoning are vomiting and diarrhea (and coupled with the fact that theobromine is a diuretic, animals may become severely dehydrated). Theobromine also directly stimulates both the heart muscle and the nervous system, and therefore some animals may become hyperactive and develop hyperthermia, high blood pressure and often a dangerously high heart rate. Stiff Muscles, tremors and convulsions may also be observed in some extreme cases.

*At Christmas remember to watch out for food items that contain*

- Grapes, raisins, currants or sultanas
- Chocolate
- Peanuts
- Macadamia nuts
- Onions, garlic, leeks etc
- Xylitol (a sweetener)



## Join our Pet Health Club!

### Spread the cost *and* save money on routine pet healthcare!

At Hampton Park Vets we want to help you look after your pet in the best possible way. Our Pet Health Club is a great way to do that and cut the cost of routine veterinary care for your pet. You can save money on the cost of treatments and services that keep your pet healthy and happy AND Spread the cost by convenient Direct Debit, making it easier to manage.

The pet health club includes:

- Annual Vaccinations – Dogs including distemper, parvovirus, hepatitis, Leptospirosis and Parainfluenza. Cats including feline enteritis, influenza and leukaemia. Rabbits including Myxomatosis and viral haemorrhagic disease.
- Worming medication (as recommended by the BSAVA for the protection of both your pet and your family throughout the year)
- All year-round Flea, Mite and Tick control.

Look how little our Pet Health club costs!

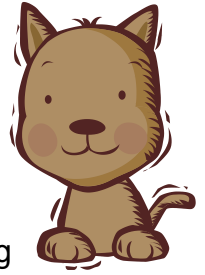
	Dogs				Cats	Rabbit
	Small Under 10kg	Medium 10kg-25kg	Large 25kg-50kg	V.Large Over 50kg		
Booster	£29.50	£29.50	£29.50	£29.50	£34.95	£38.50
Flea	£73.74	£79.72	£87.40	£161.14	£75.16	£33.20
Worm	£10.40	£18.72	£37.44	£56.16	£18.18	£12.66
Total cost	£113.64	£127.94	£154.34	£246.80	£128.99	£84.36
10% discount	£102.27	£115.14	£138.90	£222.12	£116.09	£75.92
Cost per month	<b>£8.52</b>	<b>£9.59</b>	<b>£11.57</b>	<b>£18.51</b>	<b>£9.67</b>	<b>£6.32</b>

Joining our club is easy, please ask at reception, or call one of the team on 01722 416245 / 01725 511492.



## Winter aches and pains

Does your dog, or cat, seem a bit stiff when he first gets up?  
Does he limp at the beginning of his walk?  
Do these symptoms ease off once he gets going?  
Does he spend some time licking his joints?

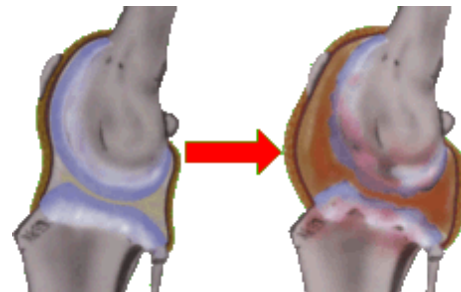


If the answer to any of these questions is yes or if you have noticed that your pet seems lame, it may be that he is suffering from joint pain and stiffness due to arthritis. Arthritis itself is the result of long term stresses and instability of a joint either as a result of old injury or of natural development of the joint in that individual.

While surgery may be able to help in some situations, most of the time the degeneration of the joint cannot be reversed and treatment focuses on preventing progression of damage.

There are various treatments and medications which can make a huge difference to the lives of affected pets by helping to ease any discomfort and slow down the changes in arthritic joints.

If you are concerned that your pet is showing signs of stiffness or joint pain, please come and see us for a health assessment and we can advise you on the appropriate treatment.



Healthy Joint

Arthritic Joint

Neighbourhood Centre, Sycamore Drive, Bishopdown, SP1 3GZ. Tel: 01722 416245  
Unit 1A Long Close, Downton, SP5 3HS. Tel: 01725 511492

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