

# Shires Veterinary Practice News

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## Cough Free Summer

Pre-planning for your dog's vaccination requirements will save time if you are arranging to board your pet over the summer holidays. To ensure they remain happy and healthy during their stay in kennels, we advise that you include protection against a debilitating disease called Canine Infectious Tracheobronchitis (Kennel Cough).

Kennel cough can spread like wildfire when dogs are in a close environment and be very unpleasant for your pet if it is not protected! It is highly contagious, affects the respiratory tract and is easily passed from dog-to-dog by airborne droplets (coughing or sneezing) and direct nose-to-nose contact. In fact, a single infected animal is enough to cause a whole outbreak within kennels!

No dog is safe, whatever its age, unless protected. Signs include a harsh, dry, whooping-type cough which can last for several weeks. In some cases, more serious complications can arise, such as pneumonia, which could prove fatal in old, weak or very young dogs.



However, protection is at hand. Our practice uses a vaccine which will safeguard your pet and offer immunity for a full 12 months – so you can protect your pet for both the summer holidays and Christmas in one visit! The vaccine

is easy to administer - just a few drops gently trickled into one nostril – and gives immunity in just 72 hours! Ideally your dog should be vaccinated at least two weeks before arrival at the kennel, leaving you free to prepare for your summer break.

Simply phone us on **01785 813955** to book a pre-summer pet health check for your dog.

[Sign up for our newsletter online](#)

[www.shiresvets.com](http://www.shiresvets.com)



Shires Veterinary Practice provides your pet with a complete healthcare service.

Services we offer include:

- Pet Passports
- Preventative healthcare including vaccinations, flea and worm treatments
- Daily nurses clinics
- 24 hour 'out of hours' cover.
- In house laboratory
- Full anaesthesia and surgery service
- ECG
- X-ray and ultrasound
- Endoscopy
- Dentistry

### Staff Changes

Unfortunately Rachel Lockhart who works at our Hanley Surgery is leaving us in July.

However Ellen Binks joins us at the same time. Ellen graduates from Cambridge University this year.

**Daily surgeries at:**

**Stone:**

The Veterinary Surgery, Eccleshall Road,  
Walton, Stone, Staffs ST15 0HJ  
01785 813955

**Eccleshall:**

The Veterinary Centre, Stone Road,  
Eccleshall, Staffs. ST21  
01785 850218

**Hanley:**

Shires Vets Ltd, 92 Bucknall New Road,  
Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent. ST1 2BE  
01782 214683

**Gnosall:**

2A Newport Road, Gnosall, Staffs. ST20  
01785 823713

**Loggerheads:**

Eccleshall Road, Loggerheads, Shropshire. TF9  
01630 673568

**Please telephone for an appointment**

**Nurses Clinics**

We hold nurses clinics on weekdays 3-4pm at both Stone and Hanley. The nurses are available during these times to discuss any aspects of your pets' care. They also provide:

- Removal of sutures and staples
- Post op checks
- Bandage changes \*
- Nail clipping \*
- Anal gland emptying \*
- Burring of rabbits' front teeth \*
- Diet advice
- Weight watchers
- Microchipping\*
- Dental check ups

\* - A charge applies to these services.

Please telephone either surgery for more information on our nurses clinics.

**Worms: Know your limits!**



Most owners know that their pets need protecting from parasitic worms, but do not always know how to treat them or how often they should be wormed. Worms are a hidden danger to your pet and pose a real health risk, not just to them but to family members as well. Did you know that parasites can be transmitted to humans from public parks, play areas and even directly from your pet?

From **16th June to 16th August 2008**, we are running a worming awareness initiative where you can pop in and talk to our 'Worm Patrol' – trained practice staff. The initiative specifically aims to remind you about worming and give you guidance on how to treat, when and with what. We will also weigh and assess your pet and give you some useful, practical advice on how to follow a comprehensive healthcare regime.

So, ask our Worm Patrol about worming when you are next in practice or feel free to drop in and someone will be more than happy to help.

Alternatively, phone the practice on **01785 813955**

**New Gadgets....**

We've got more new equipment, and thought you'd like to hear about it.

Firstly, we've had a new video endoscope. This allows to see right into the stomach, intestines and airways of everything from large dogs, down to small cats, and then see the whole thing in glorious technicolour video!

We're also having a specialized dental x-ray unit installed at our Stone Surgery. This is identical to the x-ray unit that you've probably seen at your own dentist. This will make taking dental x-ray quick and easy, and will allow us to thoroughly investigate any suspicious or problem teeth and provide the most appropriate treatment

Our website has been updated. Why not visit us soon at:

**[www.shiresvets.com](http://www.shiresvets.com)**