



# Frame Swift and Partners Small Animal **NEWSLETTER**

## Microchipping



We have implanted microchips in a variety of other species including a pet raven on one occasion!

Microchips are tiny rice grain sized implants that are injected under the skin by a process similar to giving a vaccination.

This helps to ensure that if you are ever unlucky enough to lose your companion they should be safely returned to you.

If your pet already has a microchip that was not implanted by us please let us know the number so we can add it to our database.

## Is your pet microchipped?

It has recently been announced that from April 2016 it will be a legal requirement to microchip all dogs and microchipping of horses has been a legal requirement for new passport applications for some years now.

## Lost friends. Reunited.

...making sure that if your pet goes missing you have the best chance of finding them again quickly.



## National Pet Month 2013 - April 1st to May 6th

National Pet Month is an annual event designed to celebrate the unique benefits of pet ownership.

National Pet Month's aims are to:

- promote responsible pet ownership
- make people aware of the benefits of pets for people and people for pets
- increase public awareness of services available from professionals who work with animals
- raise awareness of the role, value and contribution to society of working companion animals.

**½ price microchipping offer for  
National Pet Month**



## Dental X-ray machine

We have recently invested in a dental x ray machine similar to the machines used by human dentists, but calibrated specifically for animal dentistry.

We use the machine to allow us to assess what is going on beneath the gum in cases of missing or damaged teeth

Most dog and cat teeth have as much root below the gum as crown above it so a significant part of the dental anatomy cannot be fully assessed without using x rays.

The machine is very useful in allowing us to see if teeth need to be removed or not and to plan the best method of treatment.



## Obesity affects our pets too!

Most people are aware of the obesity epidemic in the human population and the potential very serious long-term consequences for the nation's health. Did you know that almost 50% of the pet population is overweight? In our pets, extra weight can reduce play time, impact on mobility and can lead to serious health problems. Obese animals are at increased risk of a range of diseases including degenerative joint disease, diabetes and pancreatitis.

Factors contributing to weight gain include age, lack of exercise and overfeeding. Many pet foods have high levels of salt and fat, which improve palatability but also can have dramatic effects on weight and overall health. We often give our pets a range of tasty treats in addition to their normal food and these can have a significant effect on their calorie intake. Along with physical activity, choosing the right food plays a very important role in helping animals reach their proper weight. If you are concerned about your pet's weight please talk to one of the practice vets or nurses to get some expert advice about the most appropriate way to feed your pet and manage its weight appropriately.

## Ferret owners beware!

Female ferrets can remain in season for the whole of the spring and summer if they are not mated. Persistent high oestrogen levels can cause damage to the bone marrow and potentially life threatening anaemia. Problems can be prevented by giving a hormone injection at the start of the breeding season.