



## Senna Teagle's Adder Encounter!

Whilst out on her morning walk on a sunny June day Senna was sniffing around in the grass only to be bitten on her muzzle! She yelped and her owner jumped to the rescue, only to see a snake near where Senna stood. The owner recognised the snake as an Adder, and immediately rushed Senna to our Lydd branch.



At our Lydd practice our vet examined Senna, whose lip was already sore and swollen from the bite! Luckily her owner had managed to take a photo of the snake, to which we could confirm that it was an Adder, the only native venomous snake to the UK. Pain relief, antibiotics and steroids were given to her to help combat the swelling and help make Senna more comfortable, she was then transferred to our Kingsnorth branch for observation and fluid therapy.

Throughout the day Senna was monitored for further complications from the bite such as fever, vomiting, tremors and even collapse. Luckily, none of these complications occurred and Senna was a very brave girl, never even flinching when we examined her which must have been uncomfortable.

The swelling on her face continued to develop for two more days; we continued to administer pain relief, antibiotics, fluid therapy and introduced laser treatment for her face to help reduce the swelling. On the third day Senna turned a corner and the swelling dramatically decreased overnight, which meant that we could happily discharge her home. Apart from the facial swelling Senna remained perky and bright during her three day stay at Kingsnorth and became a firm favourite with our nurses.

Senna was seen for a follow up appointment at our Lydd branch a few days later with Sharon, where she was signed off from treatment. Senna had a very lucky escape and we hope to see her for more routine appointments in the future!

## Remember, Remember the 5th of November!

Now is a great time to think about preparing your pet for the firework season. There are several steps you can take to help your pets cope with this stressful time. Planning ahead is important especially if you are considering using pheromone therapy.

At Cinque Ports Vets we have several treatments which will help your pet cope. These range from plug in diffusers like Feliway and Adaptil to capsules which you put in your pet's food for example Nutracalm and Zylkene. All have been proven to help in relaxing your pet in the less severe cases of firework fear.

Your reaction to your pet's fearful behaviour is also very important, since reassurance encourages pets to continue displaying a particular behaviour. It is important to remember to reward your pet's calm behaviour with cuddles and treats but if your pet is fearful, make sure you stay relaxed and act as a good 'role model' carrying on as if nothing is happening. Your veterinary nurse is more than happy to discuss all the available options with you as well as provide some top tips for the firework season itself. Please also see our website for more information.



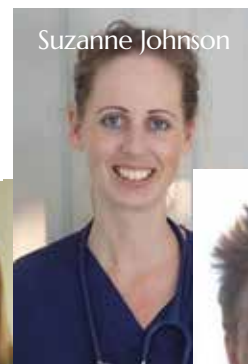
## Welcome!

We welcome some new team members to Cinque Ports Vets. At Kingsnorth, vets Abigail Waddington and Suzanne Johnson have joined us. Abi has a particular interest in gastroenterology (the digestive system) and in her spare time enjoys cooking and playing rugby for Ashford Ladies. Suzanne joined us in August after graduating from the Royal Veterinary College.

Vet James Mursell has joined our Rye branch. He has a love of African wildlife and in his spare time enjoys rugby, riding and cycling. Jenny Woodward RVN also joined Rye back in June after moving back to Hastings from Wales and in her spare time is learning to ride her motorbike!



Jenny Woodward



Suzanne Johnson



Abigail Waddington



James Mursell

## Pet Smile Month - How Healthy is your Pet's Mouth?

Did you know that gum disease is one of the most common conditions seen in dogs and cats? A healthy mouth usually has pale pink gums and bright white teeth. However problems will occur if plaque and tartar are allowed to build up on your pet's teeth. Plaque is naturally sticky and is composed of millions of bacteria which, over time, will lead to inflammation of the gums—a condition called gingivitis.

This is frequently accompanied by the accumulation of calculus (tartar) on the surface of the teeth and very bad breath! Worse still, if left unchecked, this process can result in severe gum disease, dental pain and eventually tooth loss.

Don't let toothache ruin your pet's life—please let us advise you on caring for your pet's teeth and gums and how to prevent dental problems. We offer free dental checks all year round but September will be Pet Smile Month. To celebrate this come along to a free dental check and receive a free goody bag for your pet! We are also offering discounts on dental products and procedures.

Why not take a look at Bella's Dental Diary on our website to see what is involved when your pet requires a dental. Contact your local branch to book a free dental check.



Before the clean



After the clean

## Macmillan Cake Day

Kingsnorth Veterinary Centre will be holding a cake sale in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. Pop in for a slice Friday 29th September.



## Wye Pet Show

Lots of fun was had at the Wye Fun Pet Show at Wye Farmers Market on Saturday 19th August.

Thank you to everyone who came along and congratulations to all the winners!