



Veterinary Centre

387 Walsall Road, Great Wyrley,
Staffordshire, WS6 6DP

NEWS

New Faces



Many of you will have met **Paige Stanley** who joined us on placement from Halesowen College in April to complete her Level 3 Diploma in Veterinary Nursing. She has now

finished her college training and is at 387 Vets to gain further practical experience for her Nursing Progress Log, to prepare for her final exams and qualify as a Registered Veterinary Nurse!



As the practice becomes busier, we are delighted to welcome veterinary surgeon **Lara Vetten**, who joins us on a fixed term contract for two days a week. Lara graduated in Pre-

toria in South Africa, and registered with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in 1996 before moving to the UK permanently three years later. She has a wealth of experience working in small animal practices in Yorkshire and across the Midlands, and is currently studying for a postgraduate Certificate in Small Animal Medicine. Welcome to 387 Vets!

Contacting you

We are currently updating our systems to be able to send you text and e-mail booster reminders. To make sure all your contact details are up to date, we are introducing contact details slips which you will be asked to complete when you visit the practice. Let us know how you're happy to receive your reminders and your next could be electronic!

Weather warms up but prices frozen!



In spite of growing overheads and our investment in practice expansion, we're proud that all 387 Vets' fees have now remained fixed for over two and a half years. Fair pricing really matters to us, and we also appreciate that with the pressures of the economic recession budgets have been tight.

We're delighted to announce our price freeze will continue until 31st October 2013. That means everything from neutering to nail clipping and vaccination to complex surgery will still be charged at January 2011 rates. Come and make the most of the big freeze!

387 Vets to compete in Vet Charity Challenge

Staff at 387 Vets will be limbering up over the summer and early autumn in preparation for the 2013 Vet Charity Challenge on 28th September.

'387 Va-va-voom' will be competing to raise funds for the event's chosen charities which this year are Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, SPANA and Animals Asia. The one-day event at Pershore College in Worcestershire involves trail running, mountain biking, kayaking and puzzle solving challenges in a bid to reach as many checkpoints as possible within a given time limit, and the fittest teams can cover over 50km!!

Team leader Carole Parsons said, "Although we're not natural athletes, we're really excited to be participating. We've got great team spirit and it's all about working together and strategising to navigate the course. It's a brilliant incentive for getting into shape and for collecting life-enriching and life-saving funds for animal charities too."

'387 Va-va-voom' are aiming to raise at least £400 and would love your support to keep motivation up during training! To make a donation, simply sign the sponsorship sheet at reception, or you can give online at www.virginmoneygiving.com/team/387vets.



Team '387 Va-va-voom' (l to r): Hamish Duncan, Paige Stanley, team captain Carole Parsons and Nicky Smith

National Pet Month success



Many thanks to those of you who voted in support of The Cinnamon Trust or Pets As Therapy as part of our National Pet Month charity initiative. We pledged to donate 50p on your behalf for every vote placed, and gave £338.50 to charity with Pets As Therapy having the edge by 50p! National charity for the elderly, The Cinnamon Trust, contacted us to tell us how our donation was making all the difference to tiny chihuahua Lizzie. She has a trapped nerve in her shoulder, and our contribution has helped pay for acupuncture sessions which leave her pain free for longer and longer. And a huge thanks to 387 client Miss Rudge who made us this incredible chocolate cake to celebrate the success of our charity initiative. Almost too beautiful to eat!

NOT JUST FULLY QUALIFIED...

Continual investment in staff training is really important to us as we keep in touch with best practice to better support you. With this in mind, we asked our veterinary staff about the benefits of particular courses they've recently completed or are currently undertaking. Here's what they had to say!

Nicky Smith DipAVN LCGI E-SQP RVN

Course: Diploma in Advanced Veterinary Nursing



"Keeping our clinical standards as high as possible"

"My Diploma in Advanced Veterinary Nursing took me 2.5 years to complete. I really wanted to do it as it covered a wide

range of nursing tasks and meant I could research most current protocols and then introduce them in practice, keeping our clinical standards as high as possible. I am now much more aware of the importance of evidence based nursing rather than simply continuing with traditional practices."

Amy Duncalf BSc (Hons) AnSci RVN

Course: Nutritional Health Advisor Training



"New Senior Pet clinics"

"After completing training with Lintbells, I am now a Nutritional Health Advisor. I am now qualified to give comprehensive advice on recommended diets for pets according to size, age and

lifestyle. The course had a strong focus on dietary supplements like probiotics and joint support which means I've been able to introduce new Senior Pet clinics and can offer informed advice on supporting arthritic joints."

Sharon Carter RVN

Course: Royal College Anaesthesia Course



"Highest level of care during anaesthesia"

"I've been a veterinary nurse for over 20 years and have a particular interest in veterinary anaesthesia. When I started, it consisted of a Boyle's Bottle, a glass jar filled with inhalation

gases, but now it's much more on a par with human medicine. During surgery I monitor heart and respiratory rate, carbon dioxide levels, body temperature and anaesthetic level. Completing the anaesthesia course means I offer the highest level of care during anaesthesia and recovery."

Carole Parsons BVSc MRCVS

Course: Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice



"Make sure we are using the most up-to-date information"

"Clinical Audit, the current module in my postgraduate certificate, requires me to work with staff to review key areas

of our work alongside best available published scientific evidence. We want to provide the best care for you and your pets. Scientific knowledge is always changing; by looking at it objectively from time to time we can make sure we are using the most up-to-date information to inform our daily work."

Lara Vetten BVSc MRCVS

Course: Certificate in Small Animal Medicine



"More exploratory work and investigations in-house"

"I started my postgraduate study in 2012 to update my knowledge and learn about best current medical treatments. I love the challenge of diagnosing liver, kidney and other medical problems. Focusing on parts of the body in-depth in an advanced medical context means more exploratory work and investigations can be carried out in-house. This improves our level of service and helps to keep client costs down."

Hamish Duncan BVM&S CertSAM MRCVS

Course: Rapid TTA



"This technique is literally cutting edge"

"I undertook my medicine certificate to improve my knowledge and diagnostic skills - the biggest things I learnt from my certificate were how

to assess what was important and how to approach individual cases correctly. Since passing the certificate in 2004 I have focused on developing new skills, such as ultrasonography, and stretching my surgical expertise - my most recent course was to learn a brand new surgical technique for cruciate knee injuries called 'Rapid TTA' (Tibial Tuberosity Advancement). This technique is literally cutting edge."