

How Does Your Dog Smell?

Olfaction n. the act or capacity of smelling; the sense of smell.

Your dog's nose is an amazing piece of equipment! A human's primary sense is sight, but for canines it is the sense of smell. This highly developed sense helps your pet understand the world they live in.

As a dog's nose hits the air, it can detect, taste and even remember minute odours, giving past and up to the minute neighbourhood news! A dog has the ability to breathe and smell at the same time. A fold of tissue inside the nose, helps split the airflow as it enters the nostrils, so that all the wonderful odours are diverted down one path for identification in the brain.

Nose Facts

Odour particles stick and accumulate inside the nose making the scent intense.

The area of a dog's brain that identifies all the smells, is about 40 times larger than a human's.

Scent (olfactory) receptors range from 125-300 million depending on the breed, compared to humans who have only 5-6 million.

Nostrils move independently, so informing the dog which direction the news is coming from!

A puppy has heat sensors in their nose, so Mum can be found in those early days of life when eyes and ears are closed.

Noses are generally cool and moist, which is caused by the mucus lining; a warm dry nose does not necessarily indicate illness, but any concerns always contact your vet.

Dark in colour, but a nose can be pale, pinkish even spotted. If it fades to brown in winter and returns to normal colour in summer, it is known as a 'snow nose'.

With this remarkable sense, dogs are now being trained to detect illness in humans, such as cancer and diabetes.

Nose Problems Sneezing is natural, however if it becomes too regular or excessive, it is a good idea for us to check your pet.

They may be suffering from an allergy to food, pollen, dust etc. a possible tumour/polyp.

an infection because of a dental or fungal problem.

a foreign body e.g. a grass seed. We have even heard of paper clips, dead insects, tinsel, string and a 12cm stick removed from noses!

Any signs of a crusty nose, blood, or discharge, then contact us immediately for advice.

If you would like further information, do not hesitate to ask..... oh and if you thought you had a good hiding place for your dog's treats..... guess what? Your pet already knows where they are!

Helen



Training Success!

We are very proud to report that since Weardale became an Affiliated Training Practice, our first official trainee **Helen Stanton**, has passed her exams. Qualifying in November 2015, Helen is now known as a Registered Veterinary Nurse. Well done Helen and congratulations from us all.

Our next nurse trainee **Emmie Luke**, began her course in September 2015 and is working very hard towards her exams. Good luck Emmie, we are with you all the way!



WEARDALE
VETERINARY CLINIC

All we wanted was to be loved and cared for!

No two days are ever the same in veterinary care. Some are happy, some sad. Just before Christmas, our hearts were very heavy when we rescued a dumped litter of kittens.

It is always very sad to see any pet just dumped, but even more so when they are young and helpless. In this particular case, we were shocked to see that some were dry and some soaking wet! Obviously someone had a change of heart as to their demise!



Although the start to these little ones lives was not the best, several have now happily been found homes thanks to a client's great kindness and patience. There are now just three remaining kittens, Fluffy, Emerald and Abnorman, who are currently finding it very difficult to leave the Moloney household!



Fluffy

 **Surgery Hours**

Crook
01388 763743
Monday to Friday
8.30am - 6pm
Saturday 8.30am - 1pm

Consultations
by Appointment

EMERGENCY HOURS SERVICE




Don't weight until it's too late!

Dare we even think about how much comfort food we have eaten over the cold winter months! Dogs and cats never appear to experience guilt feelings about what type or how much food they devour! Owners give it and pets eat it.....it's as simple as that, but just like us, their waistlines do expand!

Do you think you could be overfeeding your pet?

Tubby and chubby are just 'cute' names pets can be called when they are looking a little rotund. **Obesity is not cute, as for pets to be overweight is a serious problem.**

Overfeeding, incorrect diet, titbits, table scraps and lack of daily exercise, all contribute to pets being fat. That slice of buttered toast you have just given your cat or dog, is equivalent to your pet eating a whole burger! Combine this with their normal daily intake of food, plus lack of exercise, and there you have it, the perfect recipe for weight gain!

Obesity Health Problems Heart disease Diabetes Arthritis High blood pressure Breathing difficulties

Take Action! If your pet's weight is heavy on your mind, then now is the time to contact us. We offer free nurse clinics, where our friendly team can help your pet lose those unhealthy kilos and maintain a perfect weight. Sometimes there can be an underlying condition that is causing your pet to be overweight. So before embarking on any new diet or exercise plan, it is always best to seek advice from us. **Remember we are here to help you keep your pet healthy and happy!**

Reminder!

If your dog is not yet microchipped, then call us now to book an appointment. **From 6 April 2016 your dog must be microchipped by law.** Also ensure that any existing microchip contact details are correct. Contact us for more information.

To help you comply, we are offering **microchipping at just £10.99** until the end of April 2016.

Just mention you saw the offer in this newsletter!



Updates!

Have you recently moved house, got a new mobile number or email address? Then you need to call us, so we can update your details and patient records on our database. Having the correct information is vital, in case of an emergency involving your pet.



WEARDALE
VETERINARY CLINIC

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No Fleas Please!

Hey....you humans out there....Frank Flea here just to remind you how irritating us fleas are for your pets....great fun!

Come on now people....you've had itchy, creepy & irritating midge bites, but can your pets dab on a spot of soothing cream? Ah no....they must rely on you for treatment. We can visit your pets at any time, and on those that have no protection....we make their skin sore and cause lots of scratching & nibbling. If we really get stuck in....weight loss & anaemia, especially in young animals.



We drive them crazyeee, and not just in the summer, we live and breed all year round! Flora Flea lays thousands of eggs on pets, their bedding, your carpets and even in the gaps in wood floors, where they hide in your snug central heating waiting to hatch....could be in a few days or several months later....but it's not

as easy as it used to be, flea treatments for pets & homes deal with us pretty quickly. Only break we get is that some people don't use them as often as they should, and I'm the living proof! But hey I see a vet....so I'm off....to the party on that tabby cat at number 14!

Advice on a suitable flea treatment for your pet is available at our surgery.



Weardale Vets Won!

When you enter a competition, you never think it will be you that wins, but how wrong we were! Christmas 2015 saw Weardale Veterinary Clinic take part in the Rotary Christmas Window Display Competition and..... **we won 'Light up Crook for Christmas!' We donated the £50 prize to the Rotary Club 'End Polio Now' appeal,** and the winners shield is proudly displayed in our clinic.

At the prize presentation, Billy gave a wonderful talk about 'life as a vet in Crook' and one subject amongst many, was the bizarre items that his dog patients have eaten; cement, terracotta, dolomite, light bulbs and staples.....to name but a few....but several of them eaten by his own dog Harry, a chocolate Labrador!

From us all at Weardale, a very big 'thank you' to the Rotary Club of Crook for choosing us as 2015 winners, and also for encouraging businesses to 'Light up Crook'. We had great fun dressing our window and now have our thinking caps on for 2016!