



## Feature Article

### HANDLING AN INJURED PET:

An injured pet is likely to be scared, confused and in pain. When handling him in this state you need to be careful to avoid being bitten or scratched as he may behave out of character and could easily cause you severe injury.

- \* Don't 'crowd' an injured pet. Keep your face away from its mouth. If necessary place a muzzle to reduce danger when lifting him (don't muzzle a pet which is vomiting or having difficulty breathing through the nose). A dressing gown belt or stocking can be useful if you have no muzzle available. Cats can be wrapped up in a large towel to restrain them.
- \* Examine him with caution and stop if he become agitated. Try to stabilise injuries if possible by bandaging / splinting and stem bleeding by applying direct pressure on a dressing over the site (a clean cotton T- shirt can serve the purpose well).
- \* Phone us at the Vet Hospital for advice and to let us know you are on the way. If it is 'out of hours' there will be contact details for the dedicated after hours 'Pet Emergency Hospital'. A map is available to download on our website.
- \* You can use a sheet to lift dogs 'stretcher-like' into the car. Cats are most safely transported in a box. While transporting him to the Vet Hospital, try to keep him confined to a small area as he may hurt himself if he moves about.

(check out [www.greystonesvet.ie/pdf/sheet5\\_first\\_aid.pdf](http://www.greystonesvet.ie/pdf/sheet5_first_aid.pdf) for more details on Emergency Veterinary First Aid)

Summer 2011

(01) 2872099

## Hospital Newsletter

[www.greystonesvet.ie](http://www.greystonesvet.ie)



### FREE NURSING SERVICES



Over the last few months we have started to roll out our various FREE nursing services. The aim of these services is to help you as pet owners to better understand the needs of your pets in their different life stages and provide lots of opportunity for getting advice on issues of concern. We provide nursing support in the following areas:



- FREE Puppy Socialisation Classes (Wendy V.N.)
- FREE Juvenile Health Checks (Wendy V.N.)
- FREE Senior Health Checks (Lynsey V.N.)
- FREE Weight Control Clinics (Lynsey V.N.)
- FREE Dental Health Checks (Lynsey V.N.)



*Interested? -ask us for details!*

## OPEN DAY!

Our open day was held on the 6th of March and it was great to see so many were able to attend. We had a great time explaining about various aspects of pet healthcare and our work at Greystones Veterinary Hospital. Visitors (people and pets alike) were able to walk through the premises and see where the work goes on. We are delighted with our new premises and this was an ideal opportunity for clients to see just why! There were 14 lucky winners in our quizzes, with prizes ranging from full hampers to premium dog & cat foods, 12 mth supplies of wormers, dog beds and a year's free pet insurance. Thanks to all who took part.



## Slug & snail populations -a real risk

Soggy weather conditions provide a boost for slug and snail populations and this poses a serious risk to dogs that accidentally or habitually eat these slippery pests. The potentially fatal lungworm infection in dogs appears to be spreading and leads to a disease called Angiostrongylosis. It has a wide range of symptoms which can make it difficult to diagnose but vets are on the look out for the condition. You may notice coughing, depression, weight loss, fits, vomiting, diarrhoea, weakness, paralysis, or persistent bleeding from minor cuts. A small proportion of dogs are hidden carriers, showing no symptoms.



The lungworm parasite spends part of its life-cycle in slugs, snails or even frogs. The danger to dogs arises when small slugs or snails are either purposefully or accidentally eaten while rummaging through undergrowth, eating grass, or taken up when drinking from puddles or outdoor water bowls. Our prescription worming tablets (which we recommend using every 3 months) also have activity against this worm. However, in dogs which habitually ingest slugs or snails, we advise monthly treatment with a **highly effective prescription spot-on product** which we stock. This treatment also controls other roundworms, fleas and mites, so you can address lungworm and a number of common parasites in one application. Call us for advice on how to best protect your pet and your family from parasites.