
FEBRUARY 2025



WELCOME TO CLAWS & PAWS

Lanes Vets Newsletter

Here you'll find great advice, offers for you and your pet, news, hints & tips, seasonal advice and much, much more!

PRACTICE NEWS

Meet Emma Hodgkiss, small animal vet surgeon!



Emma joined the practice in August after qualifying in July 2024. Within work, her interest lies in developing her surgical skills and interacting with all of our clients.

Outside of work, Emma enjoys cooking, baking, walking and spending time with her two cats. 🐱 🐱

Meet the rest of our team on our website 🔗

<https://www.lanesvets.com/pets-our-team/>

Encouraging natural behaviours



Encouraging natural behaviours is one of the most important parts of keeping your pet mentally stimulated, which in turn helps to avoid unwanted behaviours such as excessive chewing, reactive behaviour, anxiety, digging and resource guarding, just to name a few...

It is very important that you research the breed of your pet as each breed has different natural behaviours they will want to fulfil. For example cockerpoos are a mix of poodle, a dog bred for hunting ducks in water and cocker spaniels which were bred for hunting and retrieving birds meaning cockerpoos will likely have a high prey drive, lots of energy and a love for water. 💧

Encouraging natural behaviours doesn't have to mean taking your dog hunting or herding sheep. There are lots of ways to do this, even from the comfort of your own home.

A few examples of encouraging natural behaviours would be:

- 🐾 Snuffle mats: hiding treats in a snuffle mat or, better yet, hiding toys or treats around the house for your pet to find is great for getting their noses working and keeping them mentally stimulated.

- 🐾 Cat scratching posts are a great way to save your headboards and carpets from being destroyed. Cats have a strong innate need to scratch and require a suitable object to scratch on; cat scratching posts are perfect for this.

- 🐾 Flirt Poles are a great toy for dogs that can help give them mental exercise, physical exercise, and even help train impulse control.

- 🐾 Herding balls are an amazing way to get herding dogs to use their natural instincts and stretch their legs around the garden.

- 🐾 Playing fetch is a simple yet effective way of getting retrieving dogs to express their natural tendencies.

When it comes to your pet, mental exercise 🧠 is just as important as physical exercise 🏃 if you notice your pet displaying unwanted behaviour, try these tips and watch them flourish (with consistent training, of course). 😊

Leave us a review!



Thank you, Alison, for the lovely review. 😊

If you've visited one of our branches recently and would like to leave us a review, please follow this link 🔗

<https://bit.ly/3DXwjw9>



**Did you know that
ticks can spread
Lyme disease?**

Lyme disease is caused by bacteria transmitted through tick bites and can affect both pets and humans. Although most pets with the bacteria will never develop any symptoms, some can develop severe illness.

Symptoms of Lyme disease in pets include:

- ✓ Low energy: Your pet may seem unusually tired or unwilling to play or walk.
- ✓ Swollen joints or limping: Joint inflammation caused by Lyme disease can lead to stiffness or difficulty moving.
- ✓ Loss of appetite: A pet with Lyme disease might refuse food or show less interest in eating.
- ✓ Fever: A raised body temperature is a common sign of infection.

If you notice these signs on your dog, get in touch with us straight away! Early diagnosis and treatment can make a big difference.

Support spring wildlife in your area



As the days grow warmer, you may notice more wildlife appearing in gardens and local green spaces.

Birds, hedgehogs, foxes, and even frogs may even show up at your back door!

Here's how you can help:

- ✓ Leave out shallow dishes of fresh water
- ✓ Provide safe hiding spots like log piles or bushes
- ✓ Avoid disturbing nests

Remember, wildlife thrives best when left undisturbed. If you spot an animal that seems healthy and active, it's best to let nature take its course.

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Garstang **01995 603 349**

Lancaster(Dimples) **01524 67777**

Poulton-le-fylde(Tracewell) **01253 891 088**

Cottam **01772 970292**

Brock Auction(Farm) **01995 602468 /**

01995 641000

garstang@lanesvets.com

lancaster@lanesvets.com

poulton@lanesvets.com

cottam@lanesvets.com

farmteam@lanesfarmvets.com

www.lanesvets.com

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