

## Pet Hints

### A Little Note from Max about Poisons

My name is Max and my carer is a Vet in Milton under Wychwood.

“Ummmm that looks tasty, but is it safe?”

This is a question I ask myself on a regular basis when I'm out on my walks with my carer, sniffing anything and everything I find. Now, I am an intelligent dog, but unfortunately some of my friends aren't or they are just too hungry.

#### My friend Barney

One day Barney and I were playing with a bouncy ball, which our carers had carelessly thrown away (they keep doing that). Barney said that he found some interesting blue pellets once and how he wished he had not eaten them. It turned out that he had eaten some rat poison which made him rather unwell. Rat poison stops the blood from clotting. His carer had to rush him to the vet surgery where he was given some medication to make him vomit and placed on intravenous fluids and Vitamin K injections to help his blood clot. He had to stay in hospital for a few days, but I am pleased to say that he recovered. He says he will leave the blue food for the rats next time.

Not all poisons are found outside, some poisons are fed to us. Chocolate can be poisonous. A small Labrador may only need to consume 20g (yes grams!) of plain chocolate to become sick. Paracetamol and Ibuprofen can both make us very unwell. Also, did you know that grapes can be poisonous to dogs, whilst lilies can be poisonous to cats. The pollen in lilies is the main problem as cats can brush past them and ingest the pollen whilst grooming. You should also make

sure you have none on your hands before you stroke your cat.

There are many things that can make us sick if we eat them (and don't forget cats and small furrries). So my tip would be that if you have eaten something you should not have it would be best to contact my carer or one of his colleagues. Take the packaging of whatever you ate with you if you are going to make a trip to the vet.

#### Max (The Vet's Shih-Cairn), with help from Nurse Jodie

*P.S. If you would like to know more about poisons or you are concerned about something in your house and garden please feel free to contact my friends at Stow Veterinary Surgeons.*

*Tel: 01451 830620*

#### Common Poisons

Rat Bait, Slug Bait, Anti-freeze  
Human painkillers inc. Paracetamol  
Chocolate (remember Easter!)  
Incorrect flea medication  
Laburnum, Foxglove  
Lilies (the pollen especially)  
Yew trees, Daffodils  
Horse chestnut/ conkers

### Pet Dog Show

Bank Holiday Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May  
12:00 at

Save the Children May Day Fair  
Carterton Recreation Ground

Entries from 11am

Judging starts 12 noon  
Enquiries 01993 831909