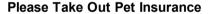
## A Little Note from Max asks How Much Does Your Pet Matter to You?

There will be no talk about poo this time!

I hope this finds
everyone well and
in high spirits.
Something I can't
always say about
my carer who
seems to pick up
all the 'bugs' the
children get. The
children have
'bogey' noses and
sleep, whilst my carer
just moans about how ill he
is. Mrs Carer on the other hand
seems more robust



Another thing that seems to dampen my carer's high spirits is 'the economic situation' and the effect it seems to be having on the ability of people to care for their animals. I have overheard him talking about it to Mrs Carer recently. My carer's job is very much one of firstly advising people of the options they have regarding investigations and treatment and secondly of then performing those investigations and providing the treatment. The decision on what to do lies with the owner of the pet and cost is often a consideration.

As people's disposable income may be decreasing, the options of care may well be reduced. My carer's high spirits are dented quite significantly when he sees people struggling to make decisions as to what to do and when he sees animals going without treatment, especially if he has a 'bogey' nose as well!

My carer feels quite strongly that pet insurance is very useful when it comes to taking away 'cost' from the decision making process. In these financially troubling times it may well be worthwhile for people with pets to consider what they would do if their pet became ill To consider insurance when a pet is already ill is a bit like bolting

the stable door after the pony has trotted off, as any condition that the pet has had prior to taking out the insurance will be excluded

## Max is On-line!

I am very happy and proud to be able to inform you all that I have joined the IT age and have my very own email address. Feel free to mail me with comments and suggestions. I cannot promise to reply to all the mail as I have a very busy life. I sleep a lot and the time I don't spend asleep I tend to fill by sitting under the kitchen table waiting for food. It is a strange thing that I find a lot of vegetable matter and meat. Biscuits and chocolate never seem to come my way.

My email is **max@stowvets.co.uk**. My carer and his colleagues can be contacted on: 01451 830620 if you would like to talk about my ramblings.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Max. The vet's Shih-Cairn