Hello Everyone

MOLONEY VETERINARY CLINICS

news

Summer 2023

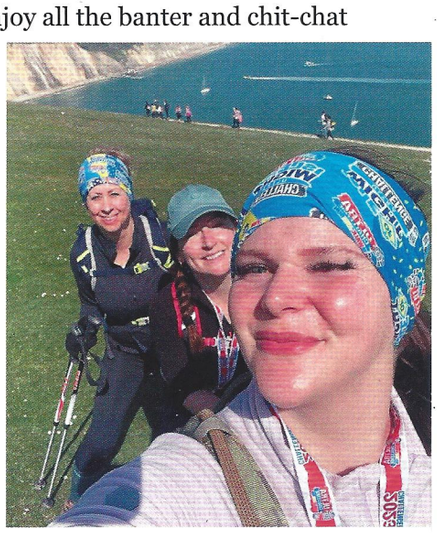
As I turn 70, I have more than a little cause to reflect! I think about the huge changes in our profession over the past 50 years. The change from a male to a mostly female workforce; the move from a heavily large-animal orientated working life to predominately small animal practice, and the change from a day to day caseload of infectious disease and trauma to one where we, in general, prevent disease and manage age-related conditions. We have seen one and two-vet practices who were available night and day become much larger practices, often belonging to national and multi-national corporate structures and the almost universal development of centralized emergency clinics. The level of sophistication in facilities and the education of our modern day students is also unrecognizable from where we were 50 years ago. Most changes are for the better and have helped enormously to improve the standard of care and the quality of life of all animals, both large and small.

This year we continue to expand our areas of expertise, and improve the facilities in our practice with a new dental suite including a specialized x-ray unit. We'll be expanding our waiting room to create a quiet space for our feline friends. A general freshen up of the clinics is planned, plus modernizing where necessary, and at the Dunmow clinic our access road is being upgraded. I am as excited and enthusiastic about all this as I would have been back in 1975 when I became a vet, if not more so.

I am often asked how I maintain my enthusiasm for such demanding work after so long in the job when many much younger colleagues, in all professions, are facing burn-out and disillusionment. Well... I actually started off liking, and being interested in, both people and animals. I have been able to surround myself with colleagues that I both like and admire. I love the daily challenges of the work, the sometimes stressful management of a busy practice, the animals we care for and the clients who entrust their pets care to us. I enjoy all the banter and chit-chat that goes on in the consulting room with me constantly apologizing for running behind with my time-keeping! I just feel unbelievably lucky and blessed that I still love coming to work in the mornings and doing the job that I want to keep doing for as long as possible... I can't guarantee another 48 years ... but let's give it a go!

Well Done Team!

Isle of Wight Ultra Challenge .....Completed!



*Three of our team members, vet **Rebecca** and student nurses **Gemma** and **Zoe**, put on their walking boots for charity when they took on a massive challenge on 29th and 30th April. Pre-challenge training kicked in with lots of dog walks and treadmill walking to gym work outs, plus outdoor walks to build their stamina! With perfect walking weather for the challenge weekend, they set out to walk the perimeter of the island, covering a total of 106km in just two days, and all for three extremely worthwhile causes; Rebecca's for Refugee Action, Gemma - Macmillan Cancer Support and Zoe - Dementia UK.*

Experiencing beautiful scenery and a gorgeous sunrise, Rebecca and Gemma completed the 106km in 28 hours. Unfortunately Zoe damaged her knee ligaments and had to retire from the walk at the halfway point (53km). Reports of sore feet, blisters, very little sleep and a written off knee have definitely not deterred the three walkers taking on future challenges! Their combined total so far has raised approximately £2,700!

Dunmow 01371 872102 **Takeley 01279 874845**

Top Tooth News!

Jerry's column mentioned that we are very excited to be adding a **new dental suite at our Dunmow branch**. Our suite will accommodate a dental x-ray machine along with a comprehensive range of equipment to provide our patients with the highest standard of dental care.

Dental x-rays in animals are similar to those used in humans; a small amount of radiation is used to see inside your animals' teeth that may appear healthy from above, but could have painful problems below the gum line. So x-rays are important in order to assess the inside of the tooth and the root to ensure no diseased teeth are missed.

Unfortunately the patients at our clinics cannot speak, and many animals never show that they are suffering from dental discomfort. Studies suggest that over one third of adult cats have painful dental disease affecting their tooth roots, this makes dental x-rays even more important in our feline patients. Most of us know just how painful toothache can be, so we want to help ensure that our patients are not suffering from any undetected dental discomfort. We look forward to welcoming your pets to our new dental suite, and offering dental x-rays alongside thorough cleaning and other necessary dental treatment.

Happy Birthday Heather!

We see many clients with their pets, and some we are proud to say, have been with us for a very long time! One such client is the lovely and amazing Heather pictured here with her beautiful cat Polyanna. Heather has been coming to us with her pets since 2003. Back then we used to see Misty her staffy dog who she had from a puppy and very cleverly toilet trained in her garden by saying 'bop' meaning 'squat', whereupon Misty would do a wee! So for those of you with young puppies to train, you might just want to try Heather's technique! Her then two cats were Joby a diabetic and Toby who began to lose weight. Tests revealed Toby was hyperthyroid. With treatment put in place, both cats were able to enjoy life again. Her current feline friends are 14-year-old brother and sister Jo and Polyanna.

We love it when Heather visits the clinic. It is a chance for a chat and to hear all about the comings and goings of the Braintree, Stortford and Dunmow areas where she welcomed many babies into the world whilst a midwife for 35 years. Heather really has become a friend and one of our favourite clients, and as she celebrated her 96th birthday during May, we felt that this lady really did deserve a mention. Heather has been part of 'the family' for so long and all of us wish her ***A Very Happy 96th Birthday!***

Very sadly our very dear friend and work colleague **John Waring** passed away in February after a short illness. He was a close member of our veterinary family, and he loved being part of it all. As Jerry's right hand man for over 25 years, they worked closely together to help ensure the business ran smoothly and efficiently. We thank you John for your dedicated support and kind friendship throughout the years. It was an honour to have known you.

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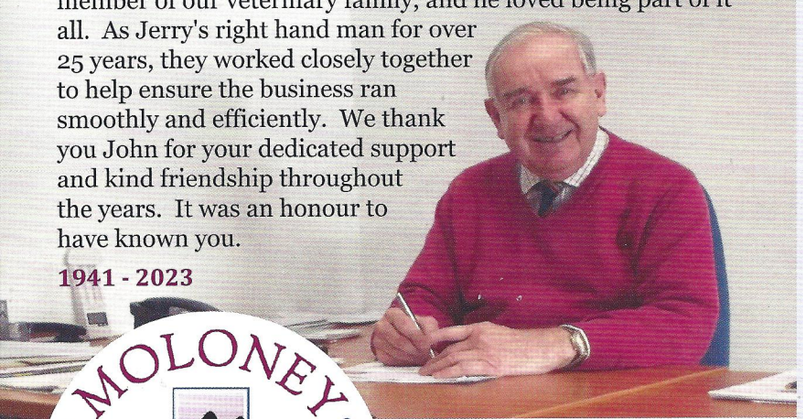

Clinic Snippets

We welcome back to the clinics after maternity leave veterinary nurses **Holly and Laura**.

Fond goodbyes to vet **Daniela** who has moved on. We wish her lots of luck for her future career.

Hello to **Ben** our new handyman who will help keep the clinics in good working order!

On April 25th **Jerry** celebrated his **70th birthday** at Dunmow Clinic with goodies, gifts, balloons and plenty of birthday cake! Thankfully no fireman were required to help extinguish the candles!

If your pet is insured, we are pleased to tell you that **Sophie** is our insurance form administrator. She efficiently works towards processing your claims to help alleviate some stress when your pet is poorly.

Sophie

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