

NORFOLK & COE TORTOISE CLUB - MAY 2009 NEWSLETTER

All meetings will be held at St Francis Church Hall, Rider Haggard Road, Heartsease, Norwich on 3rd Wednesday of the month.

Our February meeting was the very important 'preparing for wake up meeting' & the most important message to everyone is if your tortoise does not eat/drink promptly & you are in anyway concerned about him or her please contact a vet promptly and/or ring the Club for information about a reptile specialist Vet near you or to discuss your concerns. It is essential to raise any concerns promptly as delay can unfortunately prove fatal – you can bring your tortoise along to one of our meetings for advice, but please ensure it is in a box so as not to mix with any others (we provide hand gel & washing facilities) so as not to spread any infections.

At our March meeting we all enjoyed Dermod Malley's amusing & informative anecdotes about his life as a Vet.

Barbara Ashford entertained us at the April meeting & it was good to see examples of the set ups she had & I am sure this gave many of us ideas on how to give our tortoises the best possible environments.

The Club went on to have stands at the Spring Fling & The East Anglia Game & Country Fair – due to holidays I could not attend but understand that as usual they were very well received & it is always satisfying to help people with any problems they may have with their tortoises & inspire some of the younger generation to think about the needs of tortoises if they would like to keep them in the future.

Next Meeting Wednesday 20th May 2009 Louise the Vet from Horsford will be our speaker (as long as she does not have any emergency call outs) it is always good to have a little extra information just in case our tortoises are ill & she will be talking about the latest techniques especially the easier way to tube feed your sick tortoise & there will be time for a questions & answers session.

Meeting on Wednesday 17th June 2009

This will be the opportunity to have your tortoise checked & wormed for a small fee & as above we would ask that they are brought along in a secure box to stop any spread of possible infection & hand gel & washing facilities will be available.

The Royal Norfolk Show 2009 **When:** Wednesday 1st July 2009 and Thursday 2nd July 2009

Where: Norfolk Showground **Ticket Price:** Advance tickets £16; 5-16 yrs £5; seniors £14 (£1 more on the day) **Opening Times:** 8am-8pm - if you would like to help on either day please contact Eleanor

Meeting on Wednesday 15th July 2009

We are still waiting for confirmation of who will speak at this meeting but I will ask for a note to be posted on the website or you can ring me for information on 01603 438050 nearer the date.

Should you wish to receive our newsletter **quarterly by post** the annual cost is £5 to cover postage etc., please contact Daphne on 01603 435723, Lynne 01603 438050 or Marion on 01603 783877.

Should you have any queries or need any advice, please ring the above & if we cannot help we will try & direct you to somebody who can.

Information is always available on the website www.tortoiseclub.org but if you do not have access to a computer & would like a newsletter or care sheets etc., please contact us.

NOTE:

I have the e mail addresses of several club members & am sending this newsletter direct – if you would like to join this list please let me have your details – email me on derek22lynne@btinternet.com