

# Welcome to Coxheath Veterinary Surgery

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Welcome from Patrick Tibbitts and all the staff at Coxheath Veterinary Surgery.

Thank you for choosing Coxheath Veterinary Surgery for your pets' veterinary healthcare needs. We take great pride in the level of care and the range of facilities and services that we are able to offer you and your pet.

Patrick Tibbitts established our surgery in November 2000, when he purchased a derelict residential bungalow and had it converted into a fully equipped veterinary surgery. After he had spent four years building up the practice, Patrick was fortunate to have veterinary surgeon Caroline Terburgh join him as a full-time assistant. Knowing that additional facilities would allow us to improve the care we could provide for our patients and the service we give to our clients, Patrick took the decision to invest in a purpose-built extension that more than doubled the size of our surgery. Within the original bungalow, the reception area was enlarged and improved and a second consultation room was created. In the purpose-built extension we added a new radiography room, a separate dark room for developing the X-rays, preparation room, surgical theatre, a new room for inpatient hospitalisation and an office.



Having a dedicated radiography room provided us with the additional space we needed to modernise our equipment. We were able to invest in a powerful new X-ray machine with an attached floating top table, to simplify and speed up the positioning of our patients and the taking of their X-rays.

The operating theatre is used solely for sterile surgical procedures, which greatly reduces the risks of contamination and post-operative infections. All our preliminary pre-operative procedures, such as fur clipping and the surgical skin scrub, are carried out in our preparation room. This is also where we carry out routine procedures, like the collection of blood and other laboratory samples, and perform all non-sterile surgical procedures. The most common of these is dentistry, which is undertaken on a purpose-built dental table using a veterinary dental unit with scaler, polisher and high-speed drill. After sample collection, our in-house laboratory enables us to get routine blood and microscopy results the same day, often allowing us to diagnose and start appropriate treatment without having to send the samples away.

We invested in Computed Radiography in 2010, the latest addition to our range of specialised equipment. It compliments our X-ray machine by allowing us to view radiographic images on a computer monitor, instead of a developed X-ray film on a viewer. Our patients benefit from spending less time under anaesthetic, because the computer produces a diagnostic image more quickly and reliably than a chemically processed film. No longer having to use chemicals also benefits our staff and the environment.

This well-equipped surgery is run by dedicated people who are able to deal with a very wide range of illnesses and injuries. We aim to care for our patients in a professional, compassionate and pleasant environment and the health and welfare of your pet is always our first priority. This means that there will be times when, for certain diagnostic or treatment options, we will recommend a referral to colleagues who specialise in fields of veterinary medicine which are outside our area of expertise.

We may well add to our excellent team in the future but Coxheath Veterinary Surgery's aims will never change.

Finally our new clients may be intrigued by our practice logo, which was introduced in May 2010. Patrick was born and raised in New Zealand, and he graduated from the Veterinary School at Massey University in 1985. He has been working as a Veterinary Surgeon in the UK from 1988, so the Kiwi and Silver Fern are reminders of his roots.

