



Hunters Lodge

Veterinary Practice

Merry Christmas from Hunters Lodge



We hope you have a fantastic Christmas and if you follow the tips below your pet will too.

Everyone loves a bit of Christmas pudding including your dog. Make sure you keep it out of reach though as raisins can be highly toxic to a dog's kidneys. Just a small piece



can be enough to cause a real problem. We had a wire-haired pointer a few years ago that helped itself to a 2lb homemade Christmas pudding. Fortunately the owners were on the ball and brought him straight to the practice. He was looking especially pleased with himself until we made him bring the lot back up before it had the chance to be digested. He didn't look quite so happy on the way back out but at least he was fine in the long run. The same goes for chocolate. There will be plenty of it around and it is quite usual to see the Labrador that

has eaten the entire contents of that tin of Roses that Granny brought for after the Queen's speech.



When decorating your tree give a thought to tinsel. It looks great on the tree and your cat will love playing with it. It's so sparkly and fun to play withand so easy to swallow. It goes all the way into the stomach and bunches up the intestines like a concertina. Probably best to avoid it on the lower branches just in case.



Crackers and fireworks can go down like a lead balloon with some pets and can cause a lot of distress. They have very sensitive hearing and can't understand what is going on. Dogs tend to get much more stressed than cats. Provide a safe area for them where they will hopefully be out of earshot when pulling the crackers. Also, don't give them lots of attention if they are stressed as you will be rewarding this behaviour and encouraging it. This is hard to do, especially as they will be looking to you for reassurance. Just act as though there is nothing to worry about.



At Christmas there are lots of visitors and unfamiliar people around which can also be stressful for your pets. There are also lots of products at the practice that can make your pet feel more calm. **Feliway** diffusers can be useful for cats. They plug into the wall and release natural pheromones that make your cat feel more secure. There is a similar product available for dogs called **Adaptil**. This also comes in a collar so that your pet can feel happy when out and about visiting relatives.



Remember, we are on call throughout the Christmas period in case of any little mishaps.

If you follow all this advice you will be sure to have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year xxx

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About Us

Hunters Lodge is a well-established, independent mixed practice offering a high quality service for all small animals, farm animals and horses.

We understand that clients appreciate continuity of care and always endeavour to arrange an appointment with the vet you request. Our team consists of three veterinary surgeons and five veterinary nurses who aim to provide a caring and individual service to achieve the needs of you and your pet.

We have two fully equipped practices in Guildford and Ewhurst where we can perform all routine and more involved surgical operations.

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