



Hunters Lodge

Veterinary Practice

Kennel Cough

Kennel cough is a bit of a misnomer as your dog can catch this disease without ever going into kennels. The proper name for this is Canine Infectious Tracheobronchitis.



Your dog will be at an increased risk in kennels due to the high density of dogs. This is a common disease seen in dogs that can cause quite severe coughing and writhing. It can look like your dog has something stuck in their throat. In some cases the infection can spread from the throat onto the chest and cause pneumonia. If your dog does develop this it should resolve with a course of antibiotics. Sometimes the signs may be so mild the dog



may not need any treatment at all. If your dog does develop a cough it is always a good idea to get it checked out as coughing can be a sign for all sorts of diseases such as heart disease, lung worm, foreign

bodies or tumours. To reduce the risk of getting kennel cough your dog can be vaccinated against it. The vaccine lasts a year and is part of the Pet Care Plan scheme.

New Tick Treatment

As last summer was sooo wet we saw an explosion of ticks. Every day we saw lots of dogs with ticks all over their heads and bodies. Cats didn't get away with it either. Ticks can



be removed using a tick hook which ensures the head of the tick has been removed. But who wants to do that?! We discovered a new flea and tick collar called Seresto and it worked brilliantly to kill and repel fleas and ticks.



So you really shouldn't have any ticks to remove which is always good as they are revolting little blighters. The Seresto collar is available for cats and dogs. It is safe for cats to use as it will break if the collar becomes caught. The other good news is it lasts for 7-8 months and can be used alongside Advocate so your pet will have protection for fleas, lungworm and ticks.

My pet is drinking more

Clients often worry that they do not see their cat or dog drink very much. If your pet is otherwise fit and well this is usually nothing to worry about. As vets we are much more concerned if your pet starts to drink more than usual. This is often a sign that something is not right.



Conditions such as kidney, liver disease, diabetes, hormonal problems and some cancers can all cause an increase in drinking. If you notice this get your pet checked straight away. It is always a good idea to bring in a urine sample, ideally the first one of the day. This is easy with dogs, especially the males, but no mean feat with cats. For bitches we can provide a funnel which will help collect the urine and for cats special litter.



If you have no success we can get a sample at the practice. Don't delay, the sooner we know about it the more we can do.

Warming Up?

As the warmer weather is, hopefully, just around the corner here are a few little reminders to keep your pets safe.



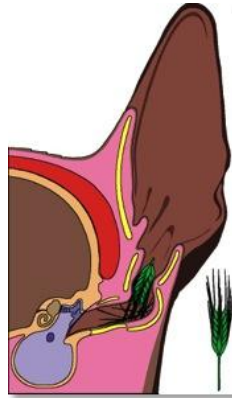
Rabbits – the biggest risk to bunnies in the hot weather is fly strike. This happens when flies lay their eggs around the bunny's bottom. The maggots hatch within a few hours and start to feed. Within hours the rabbit can be badly injured from the maggots eating away at the skin. This can be prevented with the use of Rearguard.



This is a liquid which is applied to the back half of the rabbit and will prevent fly eggs hatching for up to 10 weeks. It is part of the Bunny Pet Care Plan. It is still very important to check your bunny's bottom daily and clean them out more often in the warmer weather.

Sun block – White cats are prone to sun burn of the ear tips and nose which will eventually lead to cancer. Protect them with children's sun block.

Grass seeds – these can cause all sorts of problems for dogs. The most common problem is swellings between the toes where the grass seed has penetrated the skin. The first sign you will notice is your dog licking the area as it will be very sore. We can investigate the area and often remove the offending seed if treated early. Unfortunately they have a habit of migrating anywhere so the sooner they are dealt with the better. If your dog has feathery feet, clip them short for the summer. This will hopefully avoid the seeds getting caught and burrowing into the skin.



Another common problem is a grass seed in the ear. Your dog

will become suddenly agitated with the affected ear. If treated quickly the problem can be easily dealt with. If left, the seed can penetrate the middle ear causing major problems.



they do not have enough

Heat stroke - this usually affects dogs more but can affect any animal if

shade. Dogs are more affected as they will often still exercise in the heat. Signs to watch out for are excessive panting, weak hind legs and then collapse. If this happens cool your pet down with cold water and get to the vets ASAP. Avoid walking your dog in the hottest part of the day and never leave your dog in a hot car.

Practice News



Congratulations to Charlie who has successfully passed her first year veterinary nursing exams with flying colours.



We have two lovely new receptionists, Judith and Sarah who have joined our Ewhurst team.

Au revoir to our nurse Melissa who has left our Ewhurst practice for a position nearer to home.

Our receptionist Louise has gone on maternity leave. Good luck on the birth of number 2.

Grant will be doing a talk in Ewhurst in 3rd June 8pm on his Fiji experience. It will be held at the EYSC building, Broomers Lane, Ewhurst.

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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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