

Buster Collars

If your pet has stitches, a wound, skin problem, bandage or even a plaster cast, we may recommend that your cat or dog wears a buster collar. Without one, they could reach the area (especially when you are not looking), which **needs to be protected against scratching feet, licking tongues and nibbling teeth**. It has been known for stitches to be removed, plaster casts demolished, skin licked raw and bacteria spread to cause infection. **It is important to keep the area dry and as germ free as possible to aid speedy recovery**, and that is where the buster collar helps!

Some cats and dogs cope reasonably well with the plastic cone, while for others it can be a stressful, disorientating time and for the owner too! Recently though, friendlier options have become available, from recovery suits to inflatable collars.

Lucy was admitted for two small lump removals, which involved stitches to her elbow and back areas, both easily reachable to lick and nibble! She is a little nervous at times, so it was decided that an inflatable neck collar might be more beneficial to her temperament and it certainly was! Lucy was happy to wear the collar all day and actually used it as a pillow at night!

Please speak with a member of our friendly team who can discuss suitable protection for your pet.

Two are Always Better than One!

Imagine sitting all on your own in a hutch at the bottom of a garden. Sounds a very lonely and sad life to have to live..... doesn't it?

Well this is actually how some rabbits spend all their lives - alone.

Sadly he or she was bought as a single pet, but rabbits are naturally very social creatures, as in the wild they always live with other rabbits.

*If you are considering having rabbits as pets, **two or more is best!***

A neutered male and female pair should live well together.

Inquisitive~Active~Intelligent

Rabbits need to express their natural behaviour and love to dig, run, jump and play every day, so you must provide an interesting and fun life for your rabbits.

- ❖ An earth pit for digging.
- ❖ Tree stumps, twigs and suitable toys for playtime.
- ❖ Encourage foraging for food by scattering pellets in the hay, and by filling boxes or cardboard tubes.

We all like our homes to be comfortable and rabbits are no different!

You will need to provide indoor and outdoor accommodation that allows them to ~

- ❖ Easily stand up tall on their hind legs
- ❖ Lie fully outstretched
- ❖ Make at least 3 consecutive hops
- ❖ Turn around unhindered

Visit www.rabbitwelfare.co.uk for full information on housing and outside run sizing. We also have plenty of advice here on feeding and healthcare for your rabbits, so please do not hesitate to call us. The main aim as with all pets, is to provide a loving and caring home so their lives can be happy and healthy.



Lucy



OLD AGE and you may find a few changes in sleep patterns and behaviour that will require some extra TLC as your pet enters their senior years of life. A reluctance to exercise or even slight incontinence may also occur. Let our vets and nurses advise you on the best ways to help your pet through the ageing process.

PYOMETRA is a serious infection of the uterus (womb) and which requires urgent veterinary treatment. If your female dog has not yet been spayed and you notice any of these signs - lethargy, vaginal discharge, appetite loss, excessive drinking, vomiting, abdominal swelling, contact us immediately.

Hours

The Veterinary Hospital
Hungerford
01488 683999
Mon to Fri 8am - 6pm
Sat 8.30am - 12.30pm
Belmont Veterinary Clinic
Pewsey
01672 563413
Mon to Fri 8.30am - 6pm
24/7 Emergency
01488 683999

Autumn

The season will change and the leaves begin falling, so check out our autumnal tips and warnings to keep your pets safe during these golden months.

Beware of sleepy wasps in rotting fruit on the ground....ouch sting!

Firework fright! We have help and advice for your nervous pets.

Conkers and acorns contain aesculin/tannic acid; toxic to dogs.

Ensure your dog can be clearly seen on dusky autumnal walksreflective vest/collar.

Orange/red flecks on your cat's skin could be irritating harvest mitestreatment is required, so please call us.

Ticks & fleas are still around.....maintain those treatments.

Halloween chocolate and sweets - Keep out of reach....they are toxic to pets.

Before lighting bonfires check no hedgehogs are inside.

Repair rabbit and guinea pig hutches to.....keep them warm and dry in winter

Mushrooms and toadstools; difficult to know good from bad and some are highly toxic. So steer clear!

Damp and rotting leaves contain mould spores and bacteria, which can be harmful to pets if ingested.



Five Top Tips for Firework Fright

1. Create a safe haven for your dog or cat in one room of your house.
2. Keep your pets indoors.
3. Comforting your pet can reinforce their worry. Playing a game during the whizzes and bangs can encourage confidence.
4. **NEVER** punish or scold a fearful pet.
5. Use a pheromone diffuser or spray.

Preparing in advance to combat Firework Fright is best. We are here with plenty of help for nervous pets and advice for owners, so please call us now to discuss the appropriate therapy for your pet.

Poor Paw

Those four paws have a lot of work to do for our pets! With endless walking, running, jumping, digging, scratching, balancing and catching prey, it is not surprising injuries occur and fairly often!

Damage to pads, toes and claws can be very painful and cause great discomfort, so it is very important to frequently check your pets' paws for any problems, especially after exercise.

Paw not so Perfect
limping ~ holding up ~ redness
swelling ~ chewing/licking
lumps/bumps

Causes can be anything from a foreign object stuck in the paw to a puncture wound from a cat fight, so if you notice any of the above signs, call our friendly team for advice or bring your pet in for a check-up.

Just a reminder about Sunday Opening

Our Elm Park branch is open from 10 - 6.30 every Sunday.

We are happy to see Harold Hill clients there too.



The Veterinary Hospital
4 Bath Road
Hungerford RG17 0HE
01488 683999 24/7 Emergency

Belmont Veterinary Clinic
Salisbury Rd Business Park
Pewsey SN9 5PZ
01672 563413

