

Summer is Here!

Long, hot and sunny days create plenty of activity in the great outdoors, where we and our pets head for during the warmer months. Whether it be on the beach, in our own gardens, the park or countryside, just as with other seasons in the year, there are a few factors to take into consideration regarding the safety and welfare of our pets, and summer is no exception.

Flora and Fauna

Grass seeds are quite small, but can cause big problems for your dogs, as they may become embedded in their feet, ears and eyes. Seeds can even be inhaled, and lodge in the nose or sit in an airway to the lungs. Those breeds with longer ears and coats or 'feathery' feet, are magnets for grass seeds!

Regularly inspect your pet's coat and body especially after exercise. Pay careful attention to their feet, eyes and ears.

Trim hair around the ears and under the ear flaps.

Keep hair short between pads and toes.

The most common seeds we see are the small round and arrow shaped seeds, the latter has a very sharp tip, so can burrow and pierce the skin.

Seed Signs to look out for:

- Licking Paws ● Pawing at eyes
- Red swelling between toes
- Excessive ear scratching or shaking of head
- Sneezing ● Coughing

As with any unusual behaviour or signs of illness, always contact us for advice.



Hi there.... As the warmer months are coming our way, please check out the newsletter for some useful information on keeping your pets safe in the heat.

As we continue to be as busy as ever, we are pleased to say **Ioana** is returning to us. **Nick** has sadly left us to set up a new life as a Belfast Vet, he's doing really well, but obviously we're all missing him here! **Laura** is very much enjoying time with her baby girl, and will be back with us towards the end of the year.

In our next newsletter we're going to feature a '**Pet of the Month**', so if you have any good news stories, accompanied with a picture of your fabulous pet, we'd love to hear from you! Maybe you have a cat who's survived to tell the tale of being missing from home for weeks on end? Perhaps a dog who's undergone complicated surgery and is now good as new? Just email your stories to harriet.knowles@hungerfordvets.co.uk

See you all next issue....

Bucket

Hot Dogs!

Even with all the campaigns and media reports, there are still people who think it is okay to leave their dog shut in a car on a hot day! **NEVER leave your pet in the car**, not even for a short while, not even in the shade, not even with the windows open. Vehicles very quickly reach oven-like temperatures, and **your pet will literally cook in minutes!**



Hours

The Veterinary Hospital
Hungerford
01488 683999
Mon to Fri 8am - 6pm
Sat 8.30am - 12.30pm

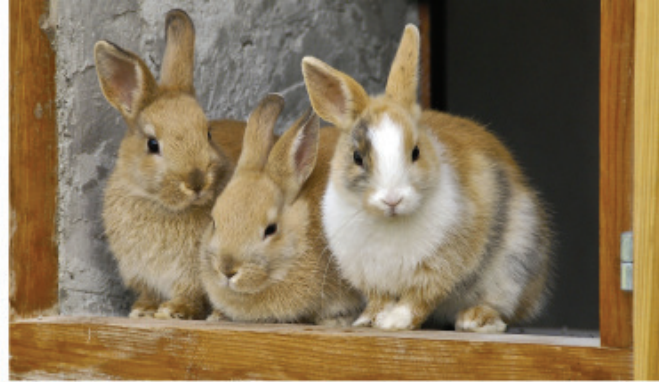
Belmont Veterinary Clinic
Pewsey
01672 563413
Mon to Fri 8.30am - 6pm
Sat 9am - 11.30am

24/7 Emergency
01488 683999



Buzzing Flies!

Hopping along to another problem during the warmer months, is **FLYSTRIKE**. If a rabbit's hindquarters become moist, dirty and sore, flies are attracted to this area, where they can lay eggs. The hatching maggots will then literally feed on the rabbit's skin and underlying tissue. Flystrike is a very serious and painful condition, which requires immediate veterinary treatment, as sadly it can often be fatal.



Flystrike is a real emergency, so please do contact us quickly!



Help to protect your rabbit On a daily basis, fully inspect their hindquarters to ensure they are clean, dry, egg and maggot free, and remove soiled bedding and waste material. Clean hutches frequently.

If your rabbit appears to have a regular rear end soiling problem, bring bunny along for a check-up. Overgrown teeth and claws or obesity may be preventing your rabbit from grooming properly. Also talk with us about the protective sprays, which are available.

Parasite Paradiseis your pet!

With warmer temperatures and humid conditions in the summer, fleas and ticks really do ramp up their activity, so it is very important to ensure your pets have not only preventative, but also effective care.

For those cats and dogs with no protection against **fleas and ticks**, they can choose your pet as the perfect place to live. These blood sucking parasites will certainly make a meal out of your pet, and cause major irritation. **Fleas**, plenty of scratching, sore skin, and if they really get stuck in, even weight loss and anaemia, especially in young animals. **Ticks** may attach to and then feed from your pet, and can transmit **Lyme Disease**, which affects the nerves and muscles.

There are many products available to combat fleas and ticks, so please discuss with our team, which would be suitable for your pet. As fleas are a year round problem, ensure you protect your dog or cat in the cooler months too!

Parasite treatments are included as part of.....

Our Preventative Healthcare Plan

Enjoy that all-important veterinary care for just a small monthly fee

Taking care of your pet's overall health should be as easy as possible, and shouldn't place a strain on your budget. Our simple plan is designed to **spread the cost of your pets' preventative healthcare**, and with savings including **10% off neutering**, and **up to 20% annual saving on preventative healthcare** fees, the Pet Healthcare Plan is an easy and cost-effective way of caring for your pet.

Our fantastic and helpful Preventative Healthcare Plan, provides you with amazing value and offers - **all at an exceptional monthly price.**

- ☐ **Small Dog** (up to 10kg) £12.50
- ☐ **Medium Dog** (10kg to 20kg) £14.00
- ☐ **Large Dog** (20kg to 40kg) £15.50
- ☐ **Extra Large Dog** (40kg to 50kg) £19.00
- ☐ **Cat** £11.50

Interested? Then call our friendly team today at the Hungerford or Pewsey branch, and start to make great savings on your pet's preventative healthcare plus a whole lot more!

Having a B-B-Q?



A warm Saturday evening or sunny Sunday, and out come the barbecues, not only to the delight of humans, but also to our cats and dogs! As eating outside is a far more relaxed affair, this provides our pets with the perfect opportunity for stealing **rib and chicken bones** from your casually placed plate on the grass, and also raiding the black bin bag for **corn on the cob husks!** All of these left-over foods, if devoured by your pet, can get lodged in the mouth, throat and stomach, some of which may require surgical removal.

Any signs of pawing at the mouth, retching, vomiting, lethargy, not eating or drinking, then do not delay in contacting us.



The Veterinary Hospital
4 Bath Road
Hungerford RG17 OHE
01488 683999 24/7 Emergency
Belmont Veterinary Clinic
Salisbury Rd Business Park
Pewsey SN9 5PZ
01672 563413

