

# THE PRIORY POST

The official newsletter of Priory Lodge Vets

JUNE 2022



Priory Lodge Vets  
*Caring for pets*

## Our Queen's Platinum Jubilee

The Jubilee in June prompted us to ask for Patriotic Pet photos from our clients, resulting in a wall of gorgeous photos to enjoy in reception.



## COVID UPDATE

We no longer require you to wear a face mask when visiting the practice, but respect that you may still want to. The decision is yours.

June's BRAVERY  
AWARD goes to ...

EDDIE!!

Eddie has been a regular visitor following major surgery on his strained ligaments. He deserves our bravery award because, despite an obvious needle phobia, he continues to be happy to visit us. And the feeling is mutual.



## STRANGER THINGS ....

Lottie decided to "snack" on 15 rubberbands. She felt much better after her visit to us and here they are ...



## Fly strike in rabbits

Rabbits can really struggle in the heat. Always make sure their hutch is IN THE SHADE and they have access to shade in their runs. Consider using ice packs in their hutch and run to cool them down when it gets really hot. Please check your rabbits all over at least twice a day—fly strike is a distressing condition when flies lay rice-grain like eggs in damp areas, particularly around your bunny's bottom. Call us immediately if you are concerned.

## WARM WEATHER ISSUES

**BBQs** As the weather hots up and we move away from the numerous Easter chocolate toxicity events, we start to see more cases of indiscriminate ingestion arising in our furry friends as they linger around the BBQ on those long lazy evenings. They are generally not hanging around for the banter! Fatty meats, bones and meat sticks can all be problematic, resulting in visits to see us with complaints ranging from the more standard vomiting and diarrhoea, right through to broken teeth, bone impaction and foreign objects needing surgical intervention. Happily, most of our patients enjoyed last summer!

**A word on heat** Heat stroke can creep up in unexpected circumstances and can be fatal, so please be careful with your pets as it now becomes warmer. Encourage them into the shade if they are sun seekers, do not take them out on walks during the heat of the day, and never leave them unattended in a car or glass conservatory.



Older individuals with respiratory compromise (panty dogs), cardiac patients and brachycephalic breeds are at a higher risk. We are happy to report that we only treated one case last summer – poor old boy got himself rather hot under the collar in his mission to reach his young female companion who was in season, safely behind a closed door. We are happy to report that he slunk home from our hospital at the end of the day (companion having been temporarily re-located), recovered but rather sheepish and tired from his foolish antics of the morning.

## Opening Times

Monday	08:30-18:30
Tuesday	08:30-18:30
Wednesday	08:30-18:30
Thursday	08:30-18:30
Friday	08:30-18:30
Saturday	08:30-12:00
Sunday	CLOSED

Visit our brand new website at  
[www.plvet.co.uk](http://www.plvet.co.uk)

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## STAFF NEWS

Meet our new vet!

Hermione



And our new nurses!

Chloe



Heidi



Lucy



Jen



### If it feels hot .... then it's too hot!



Please don't forget to feel the temperature of pavements with your own hand on hot days. We have treated sore paws due to contact

burns on hot days.

## ADDERS

With the temperatures rising there are always things to consider .....

This May has seen our first case of the year of adder bite in a dog that Dirk treated successfully with anti-venom - so do be aware that this snake is active in Kent! Now the weather is warmer, adders have emerged from hibernation to enjoy basking in the sun; whilst they are not aggressive, they will bite in self-defence which roughly translates in doggy talk as "Oooh! Look at this exciting thing over here that my people are crowding round! Let me have a closer look too. Ouch!" You may witness this, or you may see your dog suddenly become nervous, or crying in pain and find two small punctures at the site which starts to swell rapidly. Head and limbs are common target areas, so your dog may go suddenly lame or show facial swelling.

Most of the snakes you will encounter out on walks will be the harmless grey-green grass snake with black bars down their sides. The adder has a red eye and a very distinctive zigzagging black line along the back and a nasty venomous bite.

Should your pet be unfortunate enough to be bitten by an adder you should treat it as an emergency, carrying your pet if you are able to minimise circulation of the venom from the site around your dog's body. Keep your pet calm, warm and as still as possible and bathe the area with cool water if you are able whilst you seek veterinary treatment. Whilst these bites are rarely fatal, they can become very serious if left untreated - more so in smaller individuals. We can treat both painful reactions at the site of the bite and any more serious allergic-type more generalised reactions such as shock and respiratory compromise. Definitely one we prefer to treat sooner rather than later.



## CAT MICROCHIPPING

Government to introduce compulsory cat microchipping to help reunite lost and stray pets

Lost or stray pet cats are more likely to be reunited with their owners and returned home safely under new pet microchipping rules announced by the Government. Under the new plans, all keepers must ensure their pet is microchipped before they reach the age of 20 weeks and their contact details stored and kept up to date in a pet microchipping database.

Owners found not to have microchipped their cat will have 21 days to have one implanted, or may face a fine of up to £500.



## HAPPY PET\$ CLUB

Our new and improved monthly subscription service for dogs and cats

The Happy Pets Club covers their annual vaccination and preventative treatments against a broad range of parasites. The best thing about this service is that your pets' parasite treatments are delivered straight to your door every month! No journeys to the vets to collect and no forgetting when its due, fabulous! As well as the main benefits stated, you also benefit from:

20% off all consultations and kennel cough vaccination (for dogs), 10% off pet food & accessories bought at the practice, dental treatments, and long term medications, and to top it off -free nail clips with a nurse!