

Rushwood

Luxury Boarding Kennels & Cattery

People Who Know How To Care



Autumn
2007

Issue 11

WELCOME to the autumn 2007 issue of our Newsletter - designed to keep you up to date with Kennel news and any other topical issues

Kennel and Cattery Facilities

- Large, Modern, Heated Kennels & Chalets
- Stimulating Caring Environment
- One-to-One Attention
- Boarding for Pets with Special Needs
- Day-time Creche
- Boarding for Small Furries
- Fully Qualified and Experienced Staff
- Collection & Delivery Service
- Open 7 Days a Week
- Rural Location

Office Hours

Monday to Friday

9 am to 5 pm

Sunday

3 pm to 5 pm

Bank Holidays

3 pm to 5 pm

Office Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day

A joint effort for a happier dog

Joint problems can occur when cartilage is worn away faster than it can be replaced. Cartilage acts as a cushion to protect the bones, so when it wears away, joints become swollen and painful causing mobility to be impaired.

Although these changes in the joint are not curable, the good news is that nutrition can help preserve healthy cartilage and ease aching joints. With the right food and advice from your vet, your dog will be able to enjoy an active, healthy life for many years.

Joint problems can be caused by a variety of factors including age, breed, excess weight,

accidents, congenital defects or infection. How to spot if your dog has mobility problems are outlined below:

- Stiffness and difficulties rising
- Reduced playfulness
- Difficulty climbing stairs or jumping into a car
- Lagging behind on walks
- Limping or awkward gait

If you are concerned that your dog has any of the above, do not hesitate in contacting your vets as they are there to help you give your dog the most enjoyable and active life as possible.

Fit Not Fat

Do you have a podgy pet?

Around 25% of dogs classified as obese and more than one third being overweight, this is a common problem in all species.

Unfortunately, weight gain is frequently overlooked, since it usually occurs gradually. Pets gain weight when the energy level in their food

is greater than their daily requirements, and this excess energy

is laid down as body fat. A lack of exercise is also a contributing factor.

Excess weight is known to cause or worsen conditions including heart disease, arthritis and heat intolerance.

If your pet is piling on the pounds get him checked-a new diet and exercise plan may be all he needs to keep him fit and trim!



Doggie Birthday cake recipe

For a birthday treat your dog will never forget, bake them a doggie birthday cake. Recipe as follows:

- Hire a bone shaped tin from your local cake decorating shop or use a rectangular one and cut out a bone shape once cooked
- Use 1 lb of minced lambs liver
- Add 8 oz plain flour
- Add 2 eggs and mix with a little water
- Bake in a moderate oven for approx 30 minutes in a greased tin
- Leave to cool
- Then watch your dog lick the bowl clean and he'll be begging for more!

RUSHWOOD NEWS

Paws in the Park will be taking place on the first weekend



in August. There will be lots of displays and lots to do for all the family including a display for Rapid relief UK, our charity for last year.

Due to popular demand we have created a user friendly website which is designed to introduce you to the kennels and cattery, and outlines some of the services we offer. Please visit us there at www.rushwood.co.uk



Another exciting project that we are currently trialling is the use of web cams in the kennels. This is to allow clients to watch their dogs whilst on holiday. We will keep you informed as to when this service will become available.

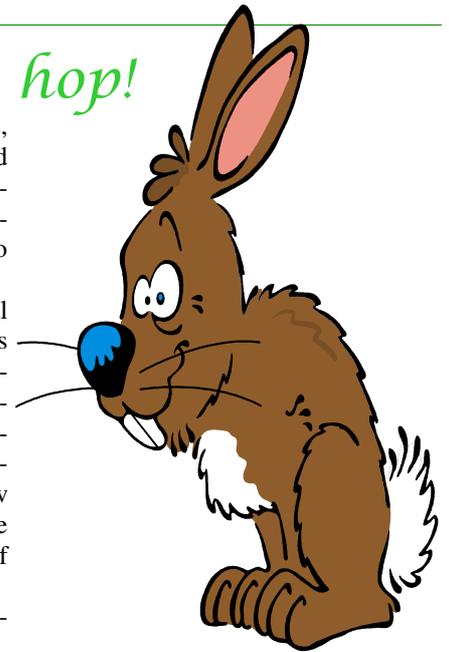
Don't get caught on the hop!

Rabbits are becoming increasingly popular as pets and, like all pets, your rabbit needs to visit the vet for a routine health examination and vaccinations.

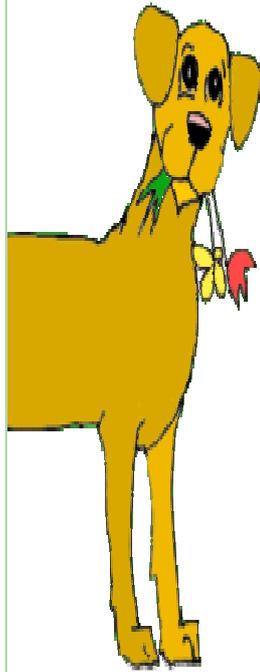
Rabbits should be vaccinated against Myxomatosis and Viral Haemorrhagic Disease (VHD). Myxomatosis a distressing viral dis-

All rabbits need a yearly health check and vaccinations

ease spread by rabbit fleas, mosquitoes and other blood sucking insects. Affected rabbits typically suffer from swollen eyes, leading to blindness and death. VHD another viral infection. It spreads easily between rabbits or via contaminated hutches, bedding or food. Infected rabbits show signs such as nose bleeds and loss of appetite. Ask your vet for further information.



Lost, Stolen or Strayed?



Now you see them, now you don't!

Sadly it's all too easy for pets to go missing and if this happens it could mean days or weeks of worry. However the good news is that microchip implants now offer a far more reliable method of identifying your pet than the traditional collar and tag (which can be easily lost or detached). A range of pets can be microchipped, including, dogs, cats, horses, small pets, birds and even fish. The procedure involves implanting a tiny microchip under the skin, which carries a unique code which together with contact details are held on

a computer database. Veterinary practices, the police and pet rescue centres have special hand held scanners that can detect and read the information on the microchip and therefore identifying your pet and contact details. Don't take the risk of losing your pet, see your veterinary practice for further information.

Did you know?

When a male mouse meets a female he wants to mate with, he sings her a love song. The high frequency sounds - undetected to human ears - sound a lot like bird song!

Thyroid Gland Disease

Did you know that thyroid gland disease is surprisingly common in older cats?

The thyropid gland consists of 2 tiny lobes situated at the base of the neck. These lobes produce thyroid hormone which regulates the rate of

metabolism. Excess production of thyroid hormone is termed **hyperthyroidism** and is a relatively common condition in cats over 8 years of age. Affected cats tend to burn up energy too rapidly and lose weight despite an often ravenous appetite. A

variety of other signs may also be seen including hyperactivity, vomiting and diarrhoea. However, the good news is that in most cases, hypothyroidism in cats can be very successfully treated.