

Rushwood

Luxury Boarding Kennels & Cattery

People Who Know How To Care



Summer
2010

Issue 21

WELCOME to the Summer 2010 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 Furies
- 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

FLY STRIKE NOT JUST FOR RABBITS.



Many pets that live or spend a lot of time outdoors in the warmer months will have a problem with flies. These pests can affect different animals in different ways.

Domestic rabbits are vulnerable to fly strike, or myiasis, a condition most probably caused by the blowfly *Lucilia sericata*. Rabbits with soiled hair and skin can be particularly attractive to flies and such soiling can therefore predispose to fly strike. A wide range of factors may be responsible for fly strike and the underlying cause should always be investigated. An appropriate intensive care programme will be required to stabilise the rabbit. Involving clipping the area and thoroughly cleaning and treating the wound site to remove any maggots or eggs that remain, thus preventing further infestation.



Fly strike in horses is not unknown and can appear anywhere. All it needs is a little scratch or nick to attract the flies to lay their eggs and eight hours later maggots hatch out. It might be more common in rabbits but all animals are vulnerable. If you own a longhaired dog it is also recommended to check its bottom area regularly especially if they are prone to problems such as anal gland issues.

Prevention of fly strike in all animals is much better than treatment as the prognosis can often be poor for severe cases. Just remember this summer that no animal short coated or long coated is safe from these pests so check your pet over regularly.

Is a rescue dog really for you?

When choosing a dog from a rescue situation bear in mind that its complete history may be difficult to find as a lot of these dogs are found as strays or just dumped at a rescue centre. Only a few of the luckier ones have been handed in by owners who, due to some unfortunate reason, have had to give up their beloved pet. Remember to choose a dog that will fit into your lifestyle—a big dog is unlikely to thrive in a small home and will have considerable demands for exercise and interaction. Whereas, a smaller dog will be better to fit in with limited outside space and exercise, although, it is important to remember that they might be small but they will still require exercise.

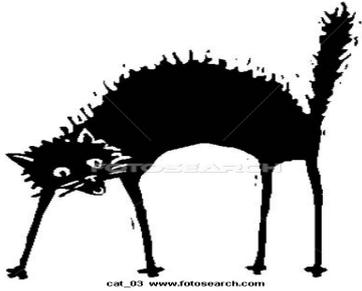


The most important factor of owning a dog is knowing that its temperament is good. With a rescue dog this is not always possible so you must get to know dog well and have the assurance of the kennels that the dog is not dangerous and can be returned if there is a problem. Rescue centres usually put out limits with each dog, expressing what they do and don't like or respond well too which is important information to take home and consider before the dog is taken with you.



Is your pet showing signs of fear?

A dog walking away or yawning or turning its head away are signs that it is not comfortable in a situation. A flicking tail in a cat can mean that it is irritated.



A dog licking its nose or hiding under a table signals that it is not happy. These signs may escalate to the dog stiffening up, growling and possibly snapping.

A frightened rabbit will press its body against the ground and have its ears flattened against its head. Its facial muscles will tighten, making its eyes look as though they might pop out.

A dog may bark when excited, but be aware of the type of bark, especially if it is playing with children.

A dog that stares is a dog that is threatening, so if you stare back you will be challenging.

At ease—a calm, confident posture and attitude commands respect. An animal cannot be expected to stay composed if you are out of control.



Are you up to date with vaccination information?

Each pet responds differently to vaccinations. Legally, the manufacturers authorisation to sell the vaccine and the recommendations for its use are based on the minimum period of protection for any animal vaccinated with the product in question. Major studies have been carried out to determine whether this minimum period can be extended. As a result, some vaccines are now licensed to protect pets for up to 3 years against some diseases.

However, it is vital to realise that for some diseases, protection is much shorter. This applies to leptospirosis in dogs—no vaccine will protect your pet for more than a year, so annual boosters are still necessary.

The vaccination against canine infectious tracheobronchitis, or kennel cough, must be repeated every 12 months to maintain protection. This vaccine which has been administered around 7—14 days after the drug is administered. This is essential for dogs



DID YOU KNOW????

- A crocodile cannot move its tongue or chew but its digestive juices are so strong that it can digest a steel screw.
- A shrimp's heart is in its head
- It is physically impossible for a pig to look up into the sky.
- A pregnant goldfish is called a twit.
- Rats and horses cannot vomit.
- Rats multiply so quickly that in eighteen months two rats could have over one million descendants.
- A duck's quack doesn't echo and no one knows why.
- Ostriches can run faster than horses and roar like a lion.
- Sloths take two weeks to digest their food.
- Guinea pigs and rabbits cannot sweat.
- Sharks and rays are the only animals known to man that don't get cancer, thought to be due to the lack of any bone instead being made up of pure cartilage.
- The porpoise is the second most intelligent animal on the planet.
- Skunks can accurately spray as far as ten feet.
- There are more than 50 different types of kangaroo.
- A group of 12 or more cows is called a flint.
- You can tell the sex of a horse by its teeth. Most males have 40 and females have 36.
- A cockroach can live up to nine days without its head.
- It is against the law to have a pet dog in Iceland.
- The elephant is the only mammal that cannot jump.
- Some worms will eat themselves if food becomes scarce.
- Dolphins sleep with one eye open.
- Slugs have four noses.
- An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
- The longest recorded flight of a chicken is 13 seconds.
- A giraffe can clean its own ears with its 21 inch long tongue.

