

Rushwood

Luxury Boarding Kennels & Cattery

People Who Know How To Care



Winter
2008

Issue 15

WELCOME to the Winter 2008 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

It's time for a visit from Santa Paws!

With Christmas fast approaching, it is time to look out for those ideal presents for you furry friend.

There are some great gifts out there for all your pets and here at Rushwood we have come up with a selection of the items that are top of our pets Christmas wish list.

Soft toys are always great presents for dogs. There are a great range of colourful and fun comforters that are perfect for snuggles and also for playing with! However if your pet prefers shredding soft toys as to playing with them then tough durable toys are ideal. Nylabones are perfect for dogs



that love to sit down and have chew, whilst tug toys are great fun for both owner and dog.

There are a wide range of interactive toys for cats and dogs that can provide hours of entertainment but remember those that run on batteries or mains power should always be supervised. If your pet is fascinated with food (as most of ours are) then toys

that encourage them to forge such as Kongs can be rewarding as well as fun.

For fashion conscience pets there are a great range of sparkly collars and cosy coats out there. You can even get a harness and lead for the more streetwise of rabbits!

For our small companions such as hamsters and guinea pigs, wooden shaped chews and colourful tunnels add perfect enrichment. Exercise balls are lots of fun for active critters but should always be supervised and used appropriately.

The Importance of Vaccinations

Every year many cats and dogs of all ages become seriously ill or die from contracting infectious diseases that could have been prevented through regular vaccination.

Not only is it so important to have your pet vaccinated for it's own health but also to protect yours as some diseases are able to transmit to humans.

The primary course is given to start which consists of two vaccinations usually given 2 or 3 weeks apart. Then all that

is needed is an annual booster. If your pet misses a regular vaccine then contact your vet as soon as possible, as it may need a new primary course.

All good kennels, catteries and shows will require your pet to be vaccinated and for you to be able to provide proof of vaccination in the form of a vaccination certificate. This record of your pets vaccinations will also contain the recommended date for the next booster so remember to keep your certificate safe and to make sure your vet updates it when appropriate.



Vaccinating your pet significantly reduces the risk of falling ill to particular diseases. If your pet is not vaccinated and becomes infected, the road to recovery can be long, expensive and not always successful. Always consult your vet if your dog appears unwell even if it has been vaccinated. Remember prevention is better than cure!

Dog Rules

(According to the Dog)

1. The dog is not allowed in the house.
2. Okay, the dog is allowed in the house, but only in certain rooms.
3. The dog is allowed in all rooms, but has to stay off the furniture.
4. The dog can get on the old furniture only.
5. Fine, the dog is allowed on all the furniture, but is not allowed to sleep with the humans on the bed.
6. Okay, the dog is allowed on the bed, but only by invitation.
7. The dog can sleep on the bed whenever he wants, but not under the covers.
8. The dog can sleep under the covers by invitation only.
9. The dog can sleep under the covers every night.
10. Humans must ask permission to sleep under the covers with the dog.

RUSHWOOD NEWS

Opening times for Christmas/New Year are as follows Christmas and News Years Eve's open 9-11am. Christmas, Boxing and New Years Day closed.

Julia, David and all the Rushwood staff would like to wish you and your pets a very Merry Christmas. We look forward to seeing you again in 2009.



As the festive season gets in to full swing it is important to make sure our pets stay safe and healthy.

Around this time of year there are a number of issues that owners should be aware of so that they and their pets can all have a very merry Christmas. All that food, decorating and (hopefully) snow that makes this time of year great for us, can cause problems with our pets.

Firstly make sure that dogs cannot get hold of any chocolate or candy that may

Winter Worries!

be laying around as this can be extremely dangerous for them. Edible decorations on trees should be high up and bowls of Christmas treats should be well out of reach. If you want to treat your faithful friend to a yummy Christmas snack then pet chocolate is the safest option.

Other rich festive foods such as turkey, sprouts and pudding are not good for your pets and can lead to upset tumms! Keeping your pets dinner as normal as possible which means that you can spoil them with a few more pet specific treats without causing any toilet problems on that Boxing Day walk!

It is great fun to decorate the house but be aware that most cats and dogs will also love to play with the decorations. Small baubles and tinsel are a couple of the items removed for pets during the Christmas

period. Such an incident occurred when a seven month old cat with a short strand of tinsel protruding from it's bottom was taken to the vets, whom then proceeded to remove over two foot of material from the cats gut! Other more natural decorations can also be harmful to our pets. Holly and mistletoe are very poisonous to animals so keep out of your pets reach.

As the weather gets colder and we start to look out for that picturesque snow, remember any pets that live outside. Rabbits and guinea pigs will need more bedding and possibly taking in to a warmer area such as shed or garage. Check water daily in case it freezes over and make sure there no drafts or dampness getting into the hutch.

Enjoy the festive season and make sure it is enjoyable for your pets too!

Shared Personalities

Could the phrase 'like owner, like pet' really be true? A survey in the UK seems to suggest our pets share characteristics similar to that of their owners!

Have you ever said that your pet has similar traits to yourself? Well now there could be some truth behind it. American researchers have found that dogs and cats seem to display a huge range of personalities. They have even suggested that animal shelters should carry out compatibility tests in order to match potential owners to rescued pets.

In the UK, a survey found that 1 in 5 British pet owners believe they share per-

sonality traits with their pets. Out of the 2,500 owners who have had a pet for more than 7 years, 40% described close comparisons to their pets. So is this similar behaviour that pet owners are seeing instinctive or just learned behaviour?

Many animal behaviourist say this behaviour is displayed in dogs as a just a result of pack instinct and owners must remember not to humanise their pets too much. Another suggestion is that certain types of people are prone to choosing certain species or breeds. Whatever the explanation for this bond, it is clear that our lives are all the better for sharing them with our faithful friends.

Fascinating Fact!!

Siamese cats are said to have descended from sacred temple cats owned by the royal family of Thailand.

