



CASTLE VETERINARY GROUP LTD

Pennygillam Way, Launceston, Cornwall, PL15 7ED

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www.castleveterinarygroup.co.uk

Monday – Friday 8.30am – 6.30pm; Saturday 8.30am – 3.00pm; Sunday closed.
24hr emergency in-house veterinary cover. Consultations by appointment only.

DECEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

Some tips to help you and your pets enjoy winter

Watch out for spiky Christmas tree needles—Clear away any fallen pine needles from the floor as they could pierce your pet's pads.

Some Christmas plants can be poisonous. Amaryllis, poinsettias and holly berries are just a few.

With all the lovely Christmas food smells coming from the kitchen, pet's can be tempted to eat your food. Remember some foods for people are bad for pets and could even kill them. Keep pets out of the kitchen while you are cooking so they can't burn themselves on hot ovens and pans.

Keep pets safe from dangerous things. Remove wrappings, wires, batteries and toys from the floor after opening presents as they could easily choke on or swallow these.

Try to keep your dog away from salty road grit. Road grit can make paws sore so stick to walking in grassy places and wash their paws in cool water when you get home. It also helps to keep nails and paw fur trimmed as if they get too long, rock salt can get trapped in paws and make them sore.

Make cat toilet trips more paw-friendly. Cats can get cold really quickly if they have to venture out into the a snowy garden to go to the toilet. It could be helpful to put a litter tray near the back door or put a low crate in the back garden filled with earth or sand so they don't have to walk far.

If your dog has short fur, they may need a coat in winter and make sure they're not outside for too long.

For outdoor pets, give extra hay to rabbits and guinea pigs to help them keep warm and move them away from drafts. Check their water bottles every day to make sure they're not frozen. Ideally move hutches indoors—a garage or shed is ideal.



Christmas toys and dog training toys

We now have on display, Christmas toys that are available to purchase for your pet. We have a range of toys for dogs, cats and also rabbits and guinea pigs. Just a selection are shown below.

We are also now stocking Chuckit balls, Busy Buddy boredom breakers and fleecy tug dog toys which are highly recommended by our veterinary behaviourist Emma Brown. These toys are great to help avoid boredom, are virtually indestructible and great for use in training your dogs. Please ask if you would like to know more about them.



IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR RABBIT OWNERS

We are aware of an increasing number of cases of the new variant of VHD (Viral Haemorrhagic Disease) in rabbits in our area. This can cause sudden death with very few signs of illness.

It is an airborne virus but can also be transmitted by biting insects or carried on shoes, clothing or other animals' fur. It can survive in the environment for a long time in both hot and cold temperatures.

There is a new vaccine called Filavac to help prevent the new strain of VHD. This must be given independently to the Myxomatosis and RHD vaccine previously available. The cost of the Filavac vaccine is £20.97 per rabbit and if you have more than one rabbit vaccinated at the same time you will receive a 5% discount.

If you would like to vaccinate your rabbit please ring us on 01566 772211 to book an appointment.

New Saturday opening hours!



We recently ran a survey here at the surgery asking clients about our appointment times and availability. We thank those who took time to complete this. From the results we concluded that our clients would like to be able to come in later on a Saturday. We are now pleased to be able to offer you this service and will be staying open until 3.00pm on a Saturday. This is for small animal appointments and shop items only as our farm reception will continue to close at 12.30pm.

Christmas and New Year opening hours

Please note our opening times over Christmas and New Year:

Saturday 24th December: 8.30am — 12.30pm

Sunday 25th, Monday 26th & Tuesday 27th December: Closed

Wednesday 28th, Thursday 29th & Friday 30th December: 8.30am — 6.30pm

Saturday 31st December: 8.30am — 3.00pm

Sunday 1st January & Monday 2nd January: Closed

Tuesday 3rd January: Usual hours resume

Please don't worry if you should need a vet over the Christmas or New Year closure period. Just call us on the usual number 01566 772211 as we always have vets on duty 24/7. Thank you. (please note extra charges do apply)

Fun Corner

Below are some Christmas greetings from other countries, all you need to do now is practice saying them!

French – Joyeux Noël
Polish – Wesolych Świat
German – Frohe Weihnachten
Czech – Vesele Vanoce
Greek – Kala Christouyenna
Dutch – Zalig Kerstfeest
Italian – Buon Natale
Portugese – Feliz Natal
Maori – Meri Kirihimete
Turkish – Mutlu Noeller
Welsh – Nadolig Llawen
Japanese – Meri Kurisumasu



We would like to wish all our clients and patients a very happy Christmas and New Year!