



CASTLE VETERINARY GROUP LTD

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Monday – Friday 8.30am – 6.30pm; Saturday 8.30am – 12.30pm; Sunday closed.
24hr emergency in-house veterinary cover. Consultations by appointment only.

JUNE 2016 NEWSLETTER



BUDDIES FOR BUNNIES - RABBIT AWARENESS WEEK JUNE 20th - 24th

This year's rabbit awareness week focuses on Buddies for Bunnies. People often don't realise that rabbits are incredibly social animals and need a bunny friend! Otherwise without the company of its own kind, or things to do for a long time, they can suffer. 2016 for RAW is all about finding the right company for rabbits! Be part of the #BuddiesForBunnies pledge and rehome a bunny friend for your rabbit.

Many owners keep a rabbit alone in a hutch, but this leads to a miserable lifestyle for them. As rabbits have complex social needs and are happiest when kept with another friendly rabbit, they should ideally live in friendly pairs or groups. However, keeping the wrong pairings together can lead to unwanted kittens (baby rabbits) and/or fighting. Neutering is recommended to prevent unwanted kittens.

Where do I get my second rabbit? The best place to find your second rabbit is at your local rescue centre. Not only will you be helping a rabbit in need a home, but a rescue one is likely to be neutered and vaccinated already. Many rescue centres have expertise in pairing up rabbits, and will often allow you to bring your own rabbit along to the centre to meet potential partners in a neutral area. Some rescue centres have facilities to board rabbits and they then can supervise the introduction process for you. If you are about to get your first rabbit, then please consider adopting a bonded pair from a rescue centre.

RABBIT VACCINATIONS



Myxomatosis is caused by a virus spread by fleas, mites and biting flies such as mosquitoes. It can also spread by direct contact between infected rabbits. The first signs of infection are usually puffy swellings around the head and face. Within a day or so, these swellings can become so severe that they can cause blindness. 'Sleepy eyes' are another classic sign, along with swelling around the mouth and ears, which then spreads around the anus and genitals. A high fever occurs and eating and drinking becomes progressively more difficult.

Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease (RHD) also known as **Viral Haemorrhagic Disease (VHD)** is a very serious condition which causes a high fever, internal bleeding and liver disease. It is usually rapidly fatal and is spread by direct contact between rabbits (both wild and domesticated) and indirect contact, such as via insect transport or people, clothing, shoes and other objects. Regular flea and fly control measures and avoiding pet rabbits coming into contact with areas that wild rabbits have been, can help to lower the risk of infection.

Both diseases are widespread and endemic in wild rabbits in the UK. Although Myxomatosis is the most widely recognised in pet rabbits, cases of RHD are also reported sporadically in domestic rabbits. The devastating nature of these diseases means that vaccination against both diseases is recommended to protect pet rabbits. Although separate vaccines were needed in the past, dual protection against both diseases is now available from a single convenient annual vaccine. Ask your vet for further details.

15% off rabbit vaccinations and a free health check

for your rabbit throughout June.

Please phone 01566 772211 to book your appointment now!

MEDICAL PET SHIRTS NOW KEPT IN STOCK



The Medical Pet Shirt is a professional alternative to a collar and full body bandage to protect wounds and bandages. The design is based on the animal's shape and anatomy with a snug fit as a result. Manufactured using a breathable stretchy Cotton/Lycra fabric, it gives complete freedom of movement without compromising strength or durability. Thanks to the rear closure it is effortless to fit and makes it simple to allow your dog to go to the toilet without having to fully remove.



The Song of the Rescued Battery Hen

I'm sitting 'ere an' thinkin'
That surely this ain't right
Me nails is long an' manky
An' me feathers are a fright

I'm squashed between two others
All desperate for the sun
It's dark and smelly over 'ere
It really ain't no fun

I'm dreamin' of a meadow
Of grass an' 'ay an' grain
But 'ere I sit, day in, day out
It's doin' in me brain

But wait, 'ere comes a lady
'Ers come ter save the day
She'll stuff me in a poultry crate
An' wish me far away

I'll play out in the sunshine
An' sit on every egg
A basket by the Aga
If I 'urts me leg

She'll tell me I look pretty
An' kiss me on me 'ead
An' pick up all me droppin's
An' tuck me up in bed

So thanks to you, kind lady
An' all you others too
For giving me some TLC
So cheers! An' God bless you.



CHARITY FUNDRAISING

Thanks to everyone who gave and bought books in March and April raising £95.50 for the Launceston Marie Curie fundraising group. The May and June book sale will be for Wingletang Rescue Centre in Tavistock who are part of the Margaret Green Foundation. In June, vet Emma Brown's husband Adrian is taking part in the Cotswold Way Challenge to raise money for Wingletang. The Cotswold Way Challenge is to run from the picturesque town of Chipping Camden in the north to the stunning Georgian city Bath in the south. The route is just over 100 miles and will be completed over 4 consecutive days. If you would like to sponsor Adrian, we have sponsor forms in reception, or you can donate via his just giving page:

www.justgiving.com/adrian-cotswold-challenge



Good luck Adrian! We'll let you know how much he raises.

FUN CORNER

The answer to May's quiz was 'Obby 'Oss day at Padstow. 'Old' and 'Blue Ribbons' are the names of the 'Obby 'Osses.

Can you name the famous Rabbits/Rabbit Stories?

- R.... R....
- T.. E.... B....
- T.....
- W..... D...
- T.. W.... R....
- B... B....
- P.... R....
- T.. M.. M.... H...