

CASTLE VETS PETS



Newsletter – December 2024

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Christmas Opening Hours

Please see our Christmas and New Year opening hours below. As always, there will be a vet on-call if you should need them in an emergency, just call 01566 772211.

Launceston Premises

Christmas Eve	8:30am – 5:30pm
Christmas Day	Closed
Boxing Day	Closed
Fri 27 th December	8:30am – 6:30pm
Sat 28 th December	8:30am – 3:00pm
Sun 29 th December	Closed
Mon 30 th December	8:30am – 6:30pm
New Year's Eve	8:30am – 5:30pm
New Year's Day	Closed
Thurs 2 nd January 2025	Normal Hours Resume

Liskeard Premises

Christmas Eve	8:45am – 5:30pm
Christmas Day	Closed
Boxing Day	Closed
Fri 27 th December	8:45am – 6:00pm
Sat 28 th December	Closed
Sun 29 th December	Closed
Mon 30 th December	8:45am – 6:00pm
New Year's Eve	8:45am – 5:30pm
New Year's Day	Closed
Thurs 2 nd January 2025	Normal Hours Resume

Merry
Christmas



Price Increases

We wish to advise our clients that due to our recent overhead costs having been increased along with the changes in the recent Autumn budget, we have had to make a small increase to our prices. We always try to be transparent with our clients of our charges and therefore we have listed below the prices for the most popular services:

Consultation	£53.48
Dog booster	£56.66
Cat booster	£64.31
Prescription fee	£25.00*

**For one pet and one medication only. There is an additional fee per pet and per medication of £6.95 each.*

Please do not hesitate to ring us should you require any other prices.

Christmas Treats – Naughty or Nice

We all know that the treats that make an appearance at Christmas are hard to resist, and this is no different for our furry friends. It is important to be aware of the seasonal items that can be dangerous when consumed by your pet, so please have a read of the list below so you can be prepared!

- Holly, mistletoe and poinsettia are all toxic to dogs so keep them out of reach.
- Make sure all bones and carcasses are disposed of in a dog/cat proof way as cooked bones become brittle and can shatter when ingested.
- Christmas Cake, Pudding and Mince Pies are filled with currants, raisins and sultanas which are toxic to animals, as well as large amounts of fat which can cause severe stomach troubles and alcohol which results in symptoms similar to intoxication in humans.
- Chocolate contains a stimulant, Theobromine, that is poisonous to dogs and is present in higher quantities in dark chocolate.
- Grapes and raisins are poisonous to dogs although the exact cause is unknown, so it is best to avoid them as it is difficult to predict an exact volume needed to cause symptoms.
- Christmas decorations such as tinsel can cause serious problems if ingested.



There are many precautions you can take to help avoid these situations occurring and we've included some helpful tips for you to consider:

- Don't leave pets unattended.
- Use extension cords that shut off automatically if damaged.
- Don't leave presents containing chocolate under your Christmas tree.
- Opt for shatter proof baubles made of animal friendly material.
- If you're using a real tree, Hoover regularly to remove pine needles or opt for an artificial tree.
- Keep rubbish/wasted food in a shed or garage to avoid bin bags being ripped open.
- Lilies are extremely toxic to cats, avoid having them in the house near your feline friends.

If you know or are concerned that your pet has eaten something they should not have, please call the practice on 01566 772211.

Antifreeze Poisoning

Antifreeze poses a real danger to our pets if ingested. Drinking only a small amount can cause kidney failure and death, especially in cats. Antifreeze (ethylene glycol) is found in products such as car screen wash, brake and radiator fluid. Unfortunately, ethylene glycol is naturally sweet which is why our pets are often tempted to drink it.

If you think that your cat or dog has come into contact with antifreeze it is vital that you get them to a vet immediately.

Listed below are symptoms of antifreeze poisoning but please do not wait for symptoms to occur. If you suspect your pet has consumed antifreeze, even if it is only a small amount, contact us straight away! If your pet receives prompt veterinary treatment their chances of survival are increased. Lack of treatment can cause pain, suffering and ultimately death.

Symptoms to be aware of are:



- Vomiting
- Appearing drunk or uncoordinated
- Lethargy
- Twitchy eyes
- Twitchy muscles
- Seizures (fits)
- Difficulty breathing
- Drinking more than usual
- Collapse

How to protect your pet from antifreeze:

- Buy antifreeze that contains a bittering agent to discourage pets from drinking it.
- Check your car for water coolant leaks regularly.
- Store antifreeze away from pets, make sure it is clearly labelled and kept in a robust container with a tight seal.
- Clean up any spills immediately, no matter how small. Keep pets away from the area of the spillage until you are sure it is safe and clean.
- Exercise your dog away from areas where there could potentially be spills and avoid letting them roam around parked cars.

New Year Fireworks

Many of you will already have dealt with fireworks after Bonfire Night last month, however, it is worth being prepared for more, such as firework displays to celebrate the New Year. Please remember that cats and dogs react differently when scared, so a different approach is often necessary in order to keep your pets calm. Please contact the surgery if you need advice. In some cases, a prescription medication is appropriate, however please be aware that a vet will need to assess your pet, so it is better to get them booked in in plenty of time.

Medication Orders

Please note that the last date for ordering medication in time for Christmas is **Monday 16th December**. Any requests after this date may not be processed until after Christmas/New Year.

WE WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL
OF OUR CLIENTS AND THEIR
PETS A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY AND HEALTHY
NEW YEAR

