



Website News

We have recently redesigned our website and added some new features. Please visit kerrvetgroup.co.uk or kerrvetgroup.com and have a look. You can now request a repeat prescription via the website to save you a phone call. We still need 24 hours notice to check the request and process it.



Garden Birds

Garden birds are extremely vulnerable during the winter months and providing food and fresh water is one of the most helpful things you can do for them. During cold winter nights birds can sometimes lose 10% of their body weight just keeping warm, which means they quickly need to find food the following day, just to replenish their reserves for the cold night ahead. Prolonged cold spells can lead to a very high mortality rate in birds. In addition to traditional bird tables, hanging feeders suspended from trees (or a free standing pole) are a popular way of feeding birds. Seed feeders are tubular transparent containers with holes through which birds are able to access a high calorie seed mix, whilst nut feeders are made of steel mesh and are ideal for unsalted peanuts. Further information on caring for garden birds can be found online at www.rspb.org.uk



Cat Tooth Ache

Appearances can be deceptive! It's a fact that many cats (and dogs for that matter) live with the pain of long term dental problems, without showing any obvious outward signs of toothache. In fact recent surveys have shown that as many as 70% of cats and 80% of dogs over the age of three may have some form of dental disease! Gum disease is a common problem in cats, dogs and humans, and is caused by the accumulation of plaque bacteria on the surface of the teeth. This leads to reddened gums and, if untreated, often results in tooth loss. Tooth resorptive lesions are fairly common in cats (but not dogs) and are usually found around the gum line. Here the tooth is progressively destroyed leading to exposure of the nerve. These are generally extremely painful, although cats may show no obvious outwards sign of pain. Regular dental examinations can be of great help in identifying dental disease before it becomes a serious and painful problem. Please ask for further information on dental care for your pets!

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5 Windsor Place, Bridge of Weir, Renfrewshire, PA11 3AF
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Branch Surgery

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Winter Worries

Brrrr – it's hard to believe that Autumn is over and we have the long cold winter months ahead of us. With this in mind, we've put together some seasonal tips to keep your pets fit and healthy.

Arthritis

Look out for any limps and difficulties in rising after rest; these are signs that your pet may have some joint stiffness, often made worse by wintry weather. If your pet is showing any signs of stiffness or limping, please get in touch.

Can you pinch an inch?

With many pets spending more time indoors during the winter months – they are getting less exercise and need correspondingly less food. Keep an eye out for any weight gain since excess weight can cause a range of health problems including heart disease, diabetes, and can also significantly worsen arthritis.

Winter flea alert!

With modern central heating, fleas are no longer a seasonal summer problem. Spot-on treatments are ideal for treating your pets, whilst larvicidal house sprays can be used to prevent fleas developing in your home.

Christmas Decorations

Ribbon and tinsel are very attractive to pets and, if swallowed, may lead to an intestinal blockage. Similarly make sure that turkey carcasses are safely disposed of.

Chocolate

Often found in abundance at this time of year and poses a significant hazard to dogs. In general the higher the cocoa content the more toxic the chocolate.

Grapes, raisins and sultanas are also now known to be toxic to dogs, so beware of your dog wolfing down the leftover Christmas pudding or Christmas cake. Remember also that lilies pose a risk to cats, with all parts of the plant being toxic.

Outdoor pets

The winter months can be very tough for rabbits and guinea pigs. It is important to ensure that their hutches are warm, dry and clean and have plenty of bedding. Water bottles should be checked regularly to ensure they are not frozen.

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BEST WISHES
FROM ALL STAFF AT
BOTH SURGERIES

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