



CULLODEN VETERINARY CLINIC, KEPPOCH ROAD, CULLODEN, INVERNESS, IV2 7LL

CULLODEN VET CLINIC NEWSLETTER

Winter 2018

Welcome to the winter 2018/19 edition of our quarterly practice newsletters. We are a local community 100% small animal practice based in the centre of Culloden in the beautiful, and occasionally sunny, City of Inverness.

We wish all of our wonderful clients a very happy Christmas and Hogmanay. Remember, we are always a phone call away if your pet needs our help over the festive season.



Christmas Pet Hazards

There are hazards to look out for over the holiday season to ensure your pet enjoys it too. You may have extra guests visiting you over the season and it is important to know what foods and other items may cause your pet to become ill. The most obvious are batteries and toys

which pets may chew or swallow. Others include different food types and festive plants which can be poisonous to pets. These include macadamia nuts, onions, raisins, cooked bones, chocolate, xylitol (in chewing gum and yoghurt), some human medications (including paracetamol), fatty foods, alcohol, anti-freeze and lilies. Cats, especially kittens find Christmas tinsel and baubles very enticing and you would be surprised how many eat some of it which can cause a blockage in their intestine. You should also take care when walking your dog on grit and salted roads, it can cause considerable sore feet and further problems if they lick and swallow some of it. Always try to ensure you rinse off any as they return home. Some of these can cause very serious injury or poisoning in pets and veterinary advice should be sought as soon as possible.

Satellite Clinics

As well as our Culloden clinic we are about to launch regular traveling vet clinics in other areas to help provide small animal veterinary services to the wider community. These may be ideal if have



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Consultations by Appointment

Opening Hours: - Mon – Fri 8am – 7pm

Sat 9am-1pm

(24 hour emergency service)

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any difficulties traveling to Culloden or simply prefer seeing a vet closer to your home. Please contact our clinic and see our website about the launch.



Community Nursing

Our team of qualified and experienced nurses are now offering a home nursing service for your pets. We are the first clinic in the Highlands (and as far as we know Scotland!) to begin this venture. Services include nail clipping, post-surgical checks and bandage changes to name but a few. We will also drop off any pet food and prescriptions you have ordered with us. Please see our clinic website or telephone us for prices or further information.



Winter Has Arrived

Please do remember to keep up with all flea and worming treatments over the winter as fleas and their eggs are a year-round problem within our centrally heated homes.

Hogmanay Fireworks

They are fun for the family to watch but can be very scary for pets that have no idea why all that noise and flashing of lights is going on. If your pet is a little nervous around them you can take some simple steps to help them relax. Try drawing the curtains, closing the blinds, putting on some music or the television so the lights cannot be seen and some of the noise is blocked out. Get an area ready for your pet to feel safe such as their own bed/den. This can be easily made of blankets or sheets over a couple

chairs with their bed inside. It is natural to want to go and comfort them but be careful not to overdo it as you may be reinforcing their fear that there is something to worry about. Try to keep your cats indoors. Cats often prefer an area up off the floor so providing elevated hiding places can help them feel safe and secure. You can also purchase fireworks CD's to gradually introduce these noises to your pet to help them get used to it.

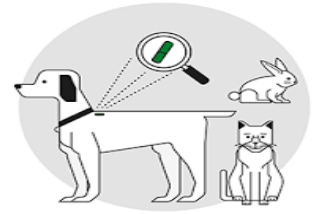


There are a couple of products that can be very helpful in making your pets feel more relaxed without using any form of sedative. You might also want to have a look at Adaptil for dogs and Feliway for cats. These come in different forms including spray and plug in versions. They work by releasing a pheromone making them feel at home. We use these in our clinic including the hospital ward to ensure our patients are not worried in the clinic environment. Another product worth looking at is Vetpro Stress and Anxiety capsules which can be added to food and are available without a prescription.



Microchipping

Ensure your pet is microchipped so if they do run off in the commotion, they can easily be reunited with you. This is a simple procedure carried out at an appointment where the chip is injected just under the skin around the back of the neck/shoulder area. Your details are then registered with a national database together with the microchip number.



Evening Talk

We are holding an evening talk on senior pet health care on 30th January 2019 at the Kings Cafe in Smithton at 7.30pm. It will be a really interesting talk about different aspects of caring for older pets from a variety of speakers. There will be teas/coffee and snacks too! We expect it will be quite popular so please contact us to reserve your place. Tickets are just £5 with all proceeds going to charity and a voucher will be provided to gain discounts off senior pet products and services within our clinic.

Rabbit and Cat Friendly Clinic



During 2018 Culloden Vets received their Silver award gaining rabbit and cat friendly status. This shows we are very aware of specific needs which differ from other pets and during any consultation or hospital stay with us we go the extra mile to make their trip to us as stress free as possible. Rather than just having them sit in a cage/kennel we make every effort to create a more natural environment allowing them to feel at home and display normal behaviours. Have a look at the Rabbit Welfare Association and Fund (RWAFF) & International Cat Care websites for some further information.

