

# Open Wide!

Come along now, pretty please, just a little bit more so I can take a look inside ....that's it.....there that wasn't so bad?

If only all cats could be like the one in our picture! Examining a cat's mouth is not always that easy, as generally our independent feline friends do not like to

be messed with. They will accept all the fussing, pampering and scrumptious treats their owners bestow upon them, but when it comes to giving pills or dental checks, those jaws are firmly shut tight!

Unfortunately when cooperation is not forthcoming, the start of major problems can be overlooked, and it is only when they show signs of discomfort or are reluctant to eat that you realise trouble is brewing.

Some felines are more prone to suffering from inflammatory mouth diseases, which if not treated can cause serious complications. Inflamed swollen gums (gingivitis), ulcers or cuts on the tongue and roof of the mouth, can be an extremely painful experience for your cat.

## Signs to watch out for are

- ❖ Excessive drooling
- ❖ Bleeding gums
- ❖ Irritable or depressed
- ❖ Difficulty or reluctance to eat
- ❖ Bad breath
- ❖ Trouble grooming

If you notice any of the above or suspect something is not quite right, please bring your cat in for a check-up. If we should find a problem, and once the vet has assessed the type of oral disease, we can discuss the different forms of treatment available here at our surgery.

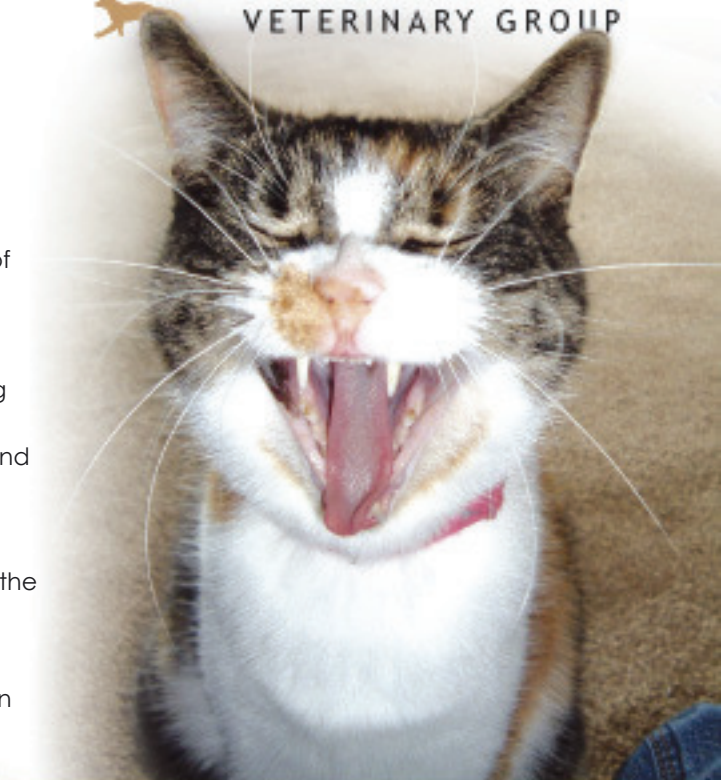
In fact it's not just our feline friends that can suffer from this problem, as dogs may also develop mouth problems too! Dental disease is one of the most common problems we see in practice, and can affect your pet's health and well-being. Everyday plaque builds up on their teeth from food and bacteria, which eventually develops into tartar and starts to cause gum disease, resulting in discomfort and pain. The gum infection can also potentially cause kidney and heart problems. However, trying to persuade your dog or cat to brush their teeth everyday is not easy! Our nurses can give your pet a free dental check and advice on how to manage their oral hygiene. They will even show you how to examine your pet's mouth with confidence!

**Book your free dental health check with our nurse now, and should your pet have a problem, we'll give you 10% discount off their dental treatment.**



**Looking ahead to Winter 2014** Most UK tortoises will hibernate for a few months during the cold season. Prior to this, they should be healthy and the correct weight. So forward plan, and as winter approaches bring them along for a pre-hibernation check, to help your tortoise snuggle down for their long sleep.

**There's still time.....** to book your pet a ticket to accompany you on your holidays abroad this year. It's quite a simple process to obtain a **PETS Passport** for your four-legged friend, which will allow them to travel easily between the qualifying countries. To gain successful re-entry to the UK from EU and listed non-EU countries, the regulations just need to be completed in this exact order.



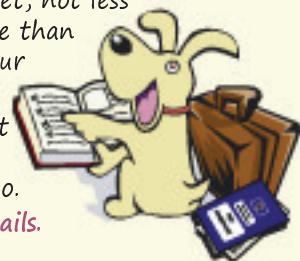
## Time to Wake Up

With the mild winter this year, we have seen a number of tortoises not eating after waking up from their hibernation. As the weather becomes warmer they will start to arise. This is when your pet should be given daily baths for the first week, and slowly encouraged to eat. **If your tortoise is struggling to wake up or has not begun eating within a few weeks of rousing from their winter sleep, they may have an illness, which often needs supportive feeding via a tube placed into their stomach to help them.** If you are concerned about the 'waking up progress' of your tortoise, then please book an appointment for our vet to give them check-up.

1. Microchip your pet.
2. Vaccinate against rabies and wait 21 days.
3. Obtain from us a documented EU PETS Passport.
4. Before returning to the UK, ensure that your pet is treated for tapeworm by a vet, not less than 24 hours, and not more than 5 days (120 hrs) prior to your scheduled arrival in the UK.

If you are embarking on a short trip, number 4 can actually be completed with us before you go.

**Call our reception for more details.**



## SURGERY hours

### ARTHUR LODGE

Horsham 01403 252964

Monday to Friday 8am - 7pm

Saturday & Sunday

9am - 4.30pm

### WARNHAM MILL

Horsham 01403 588066

Monday to Friday 8am - 6pm

### WHITE HORSE

Roffey 01403 249902

Monday to Friday 11am - 1pm

### DOWNSLINK

Southwater 01403 732219

Monday to Friday 8.30am - 5pm

### ASH BARN

Ockley 01306 713177

Monday to Friday 8.30am - 5pm

Consultations by appointment

**24 hour 7 day Emergency**

Service by our vets

**01403 252964**

# Stay Cool



It has been known for the UK to have long hot summers, but no matter what the season is here, it is notoriously unpredictable! This is why, as pet owners we must be aware that a cool summer day, can suddenly turn into a bit of a scorcher.

**Heatstroke** (hyperthermia) a rise in body temperature, can affect our pets, even when the sun is not shining. Warm, cloudy and humid weather, can cause the heat to rise in cars, conservatories, your home and in the garden. If the sun does show its face, such places become even hotter, and as an animal's cooling system is not as efficient as ours, your pet can very quickly become overheated and dehydrated. If their temperature reaches a high level, damage can occur to organs and the cell system.

## Prevent It

**Never** leave your pet in the car, not even with the windows open. They will cook in minutes!

Provide plenty of **fresh, cool, clean drinking water**.

Take the daily walks in the **cooler early morning or late evening air**, and don't allow **over exertion**.

Ensure **access to shady cooler areas** in and outdoors.

Most pets enjoy a good snooze in the sun, but please **encourage the forty winks in the shade**.

Place rabbit and guinea pigs' housing, outside run and water **in the shade**.

Ensure the hutch has good ventilation.

## Recognise the Signs

Increased panting ☀ Disorientation  
Anxious ☀ Pacing ☀ Distress  
Reluctant or unable to rise  
Dark gums ☀ Excessive or thick saliva  
Collapse ☀ Loss of consciousness

**The Key** Pets can recover from heatstroke, but **early recognition and prompt action is essential**.

**If at any time you think your pet is suffering from this condition, immediately move them to a cool area, and call your vet.**



## Treatment for your pet.... and it won't cost you a penny!

Ah yes..... the great outdoors, where your dog can enjoy exercise, investigate exciting scents and generally have fun, plus it is just one of the many ways you can help them keep fit, healthy and it's free!

Maintaining your pet's weight and providing regular exercise to suit their lifestyle, will help keep those conditions at bay that many overweight pets suffer from, such as heart disease, diabetes and arthritis.

### Our Nurse Clinics are also Free

where you and your pet can come along for friendly and informative advice on suitable exercise, nutrition and have regular weigh-ins to keep a check on their weight. Should your pet be a tad stout, our nurses can help them shed those few extra pounds, and remember it's not just our canine friends that we need to concentrate on.

**Cats** are famously known for their sedate, sleepy lifestyle and have no problem in clearing the plates at meal times, so it's just as important to maintain their weight and encourage playtime too!

## Bunny's Worries

*If you are thinking of getting a bunny  
There is a serious side that is not at all funny  
To be a responsible pet owner you must take heed  
Of the correct and loving care we really do need*

*For us to be happy and live a healthy long life  
You must provide attention and no mean strife  
As for some the novelty of us creeps into decline  
And for any kept pet this is one big danger sign*

*We are living creatures needing good care not bad  
Otherwise our rabbit lives are forever so sad  
We sit ignored in the corner of a cold lonely hutch  
With no means of escape or feeling a friendly touch*

*In the wild we have friends as we live in a big group  
Grazing on delicious grass and looping the loop  
As pets we still need fresh air company the right food  
These things and more will keep us in a happy mood*

*So if you do feel that two of us cute gentle rabbits  
Will fit well and enjoyably into your daily habits  
That you'll always protect and give us attention daily  
And provide a large safe run to play in so gaily*

*Please take us to the vet if we get ill with the sneezes  
Vaccinate us regularly against infectious diseases  
Then 'YES' we shout do give us a happy nice home  
With love and great care we'll never feel sad or alone*



find us on  
facebook  
twitter



**ARTHUR LODGE** 01403 252964  
17 Brighton Road Horsham RH13 5BE

**WARNHAM MILL** 01403 588066  
Warnham Road Horsham RH12 2QU

**DOWNSLINK** 01403 732219  
16 Lintol Square, Fairbank Road  
Southwater RH13 9LA

**ASH BARN** 01306 713177  
Unit 5, Ockley Court Farm, Coles Lane  
Ockley RH5 5LS

**WHITE HORSE** 01403 249902  
226 Crawley Road Roffey RH12 4HE