

Covid -19

Hello to all our clients and their pets in these unusual times. Despite the current situation, we are still here for you both during Covid-19, but with a few changes! **Our Basingstoke and Hartley Wintney Clinics are open normal hours and Firgrove Monday to Friday. We are providing an urgent and emergency cases only service** for your pets following the guidance from our governing body. **Crookham Park Clinic remains closed**, but clients can be seen at any of our other clinics. Our vets are offering **video consultations** for those of you who wish to avoid travelling to the practice. If your pet requires repeat medications and/or flea and worming products, please call us with your order and we can post this out to you. If you would like our full up to date information then visit our website at www.stkittsvet.co.uk or social media for details. Alternatively you can call us on the following numbers to see how we can help you and your pets during these difficult times.

Basingstoke 01256 844944

Hartley Wintney 01252 844044

Firgrove 01252 877799

If it is necessary for your pet to come to our clinics, **please wait in your car in the car park prior to appointments.** Call the clinic to inform us of your arrival, and when your appointment is ready, we will call and invite you into the clinic. **Clients are to enter the clinic on their own with their pet** wherever possible. Only in exceptional circumstances will two people be allowed. Please use the hand sanitiser provided on the reception desk upon arrival and departure, and we kindly ask that you **keep your distance of 2 metres** (6 foot) between yourself, other clients and staff. Please also avoid leaning over the reception counters.

If you or anyone in your household are suffering from either of the two symptoms associated with Covid-19, high temperature 37.9 degrees or above and/or a new continuous cough, are classed as high risk by the NHS and are self-isolating, **we ask that you do not visit the clinic.** Please call us, and we will do our utmost to assist you.

Here at St Kitts, our staff are working tirelessly to keep up with hygiene standards at regular intervals, and we pride ourselves on looking after our clients, their pets and our staff members. We look forward to returning to some normality in the not too distant future, but for now the most important thing is to stay safe, well and maintain that social distancing!



Summer  2020

News



Ever found yourself in one of those irritating circles? You try to sort the problem, but it just gets worse and you can't seem to break free! Put yourself in your pet's paws for a while.....imagine...there you are settling down for a little nap, but your leg starts itching again. Earlier in the day it was itching too, so you gave it a nice long nibble and lick when nobody was around. In fact you made quite a sore patch, which you are managing to hide from Mum by lying your head over it. Gosh, it's really irritating now and you just cannot resist having another go.....and after, **the result is a very raw, moist area of skin**, which is still painfully itchy! Worse of all it's making you feel really agitated.....so more licking and nibbling is needed and..... we'll stop there. Get the picture?

With all that 'attention', bacteria has now been spread to create a **hotspot**, which if not treated will rapidly increase in size with the continuous lick, lick, licking and nibbling.

Causes Well it could be fleas, a sting, possibly a mite infestation, an allergy or even a minor skin wound. Some cats and dogs will constantly lick and nibble their skin just out of boredom or stress.

If you notice any....

loss of hair
excessive licking
nibbling/scratching
agitated behaviour
red/sore areas of skin

do not delay in calling us for advice. With some prompt treatment and identification of the underlying cause, we can help your pet break free of that irritating circle!

www.stkittsvet.co.uk



Hartley Wintney

01252 844044

Mon to Fri 8.00 - 19.00

Sat & Sun 8.30 - 16.00

Crookham Park

01252 913990

Temporarily Closed

Clients can be seen at any of our other clinics

Firgrove

01252 877799

Mon to Fri 8.00 - 19.00

Saturday and Sunday

at Hartley Wintney

Basingstoke

01256 844944

Mon to Fri 8.00 - 19.00

Sat 8.30 - 16.00

Sun at Hartley Wintney

24 Hour Emergency Cover

Be Honest...are YOU a cleaner upper or a leaver?

Summer time, where walks can be enjoyed in the warmer air and lighter evenings, but hopefully all dog owners know that when out with your dog, you should always have plenty of poo bags to hand! It is the owners responsibility to ensure the scooping and safe disposal of your dog's poo. If you are caught failing to clean up in a public place, you could face an on the spot fine, or in court end up paying a very high price indeed! Thankfully, the majority of dog owners are seen being responsible and disposing full poo bags in the many special bins that are now provided.

Risky Business Dogs do get various worms and one, the **Roundworm Toxocara Canis**, poses a health risk to humans and may cause liver inflammation and abdominal pain; in more severe cases impaired vision. So it is very important to clean up after your dog has defecated, not only on the daily walks, but also in your own gardens.

Worm Facts

- A female **Toxocara Canis** can lay up to 700 eggs a day.
- These eggs are passed out when a dog poos.
- Eggs can survive in the soil for up to 3 years.
- 2-3 weeks of warm weather, eggs develop to embryo stage containing larvae, and can be infectious to humans.

Let us **ALL be cleaner uppers** and follow these **5 golden rules**

Poop scoop every time your dog poos in a public place or in your garden.

Dispose of the bag and contents responsibly.

NEVER take your dog into a children's play area.

Worm your pets every 3-6 months.

Use an effective prescription wormer.

If you are unsure of how and what wormer to use, just call us and we will advise you.



Achoo! Achoo!

Once a wish twice a kiss so they say, but if you are one of those people who suffers from hay fever or allergies during the summer months, sneezing can be many times in a row and causes great discomfort.

Sneezing: 'to make a sudden involuntary expulsion of air from the nose and mouth due to irritation of the nostrils'.

The odd sneeze here and there from your cat or dog is quite natural, but excessive sneezing can be a sign something is up!

An allergy to food, pollen dust etc.

Infection possibly due to a dental or fungal problem

Insects or stings ~ A tumour or polyp

A foreign body such as a grass seed - common during summer

We've even heard of paper clips, tinsel, string and a 12cm stick removed from noses!

For our dogs, smell is their primary sense. This highly developed sense helps your pet understand the world they live in, so any nose problems, especially signs of a crusty nose, discharge or blood, do need to be checked out. Please do not delay in giving the surgery a call.

How does your dog smell?

As a dog's nose hits the air it can detect, taste and even remember minute odours, giving past and up to the second neighbourhood news! Your dog will certainly be able to smell that summer barbeque being cooked some distance away! Their nostrils even move independently, so informing which direction the news is coming from.

Dogs have the ability to breathe and smell at the same time. A fold of tissue inside the nose, helps split the airflow as it enters the nostrils, so that all the wonderful odours are diverted down one path for identification in the brain. Scent (olfactory) receptors in a dog range from 125 to 300 million depending on the breed, compared to humans who have only 5 to 6 million.

If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to askoh and if you thought you had a good hiding place for your dog's treats.....guess what? Your dog will have already found them!



Hartley Wintney

High Street RG27 8NS

info@stkittsvet.co.uk

01252 844044

Crookham Park

Queensacre Retail Centre

Sandy Lane GU52 8LH

info@crookhamparkvet.co.uk

01252 913990

Basingstoke

4 Brighton Hill Parade RG22 4EH

info@basingstokevet.co.uk

01256 844944

Firgrove

1-3 Aylesham Way

Yateley GU46 6NR

info@firgrovevet.co.uk

01252 877799

