

# Feline Friends

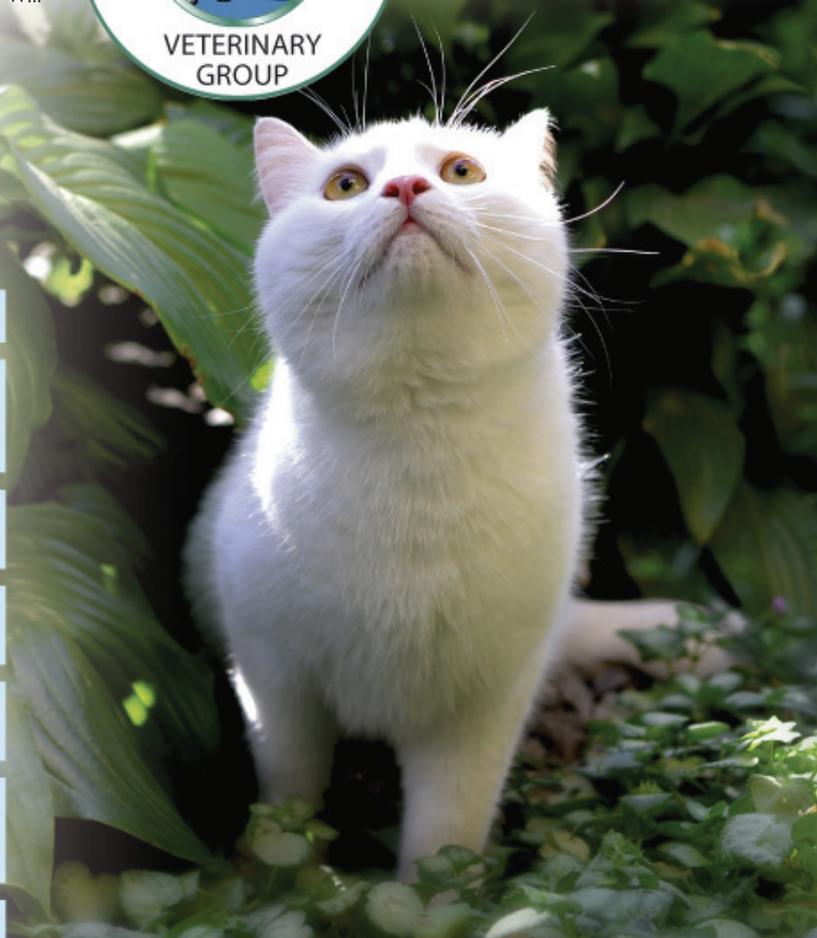
Cats are lovely pets, very affectionate, and during summer our feline friends take great enjoyment basking in the warm sunshine. Some cats like to be around their home and garden all the time, while others are much more independent and will explore the great outdoors. Most cats have their own daily routine to follow, and as pet owners we get used to this routine, but with our busy lifestyles, we may not notice slight changes in our cat's habits, behaviour or general health. Take a look at the chart below, and if you notice any of the signs in your cat, then don't delay in bringing your feline friend in for a check-up, so we can identify the problem and administer any necessary treatment.



Summer  2022

# News

Condition	Signs
<b>Abscesses</b>	Excessive licking of an area Swelling - Redness An open wet wound
<b>Arthritis</b>	Reluctance to jump/exercise Limping/stiffness when walking
<b>Dental</b>	Bad breath - Difficulty eating Drooling - Weight loss
<b>Diabetes</b>	Drinking and urinating more Weight loss - Increased appetite
<b>FLUTD</b> <i>(feline lower urinary tract disease)</i>	Difficulty/pain urinating Urinating in odd places Blood in urine - Behavioural changes
<b>Hyperthyroidism</b>	Increase in appetite and drinking Weight loss - Vomiting
<b>Obesity</b>	Weight gain Reluctance to exercise/jump Less or no self grooming



These are just a few of the conditions we come across. However there are others that may show similar signs, so please do call us for an appointment so we can diagnose exactly what the problem is so as to help your cat regain their health to happily enjoy their daily routine again!

## Say 'Hi' to our new team members.....

**Erin Tracy** joined us in January 2022 as an Animal Nursing Assistant. She has studied Animal Management at college and aspires to become a Registered Veterinary Nurse. For relaxation, Erin loves reading, listening to music and caring for her guinea pig Rizzo.

**Jessica Robert** began in March 2022 as an Animal Nursing Assistant and enjoys looking after her pets, Fraser the German shorthaired pointer and Bowie her cat. In her spare time, she likes to look after her neighbour's pets when they are away, and go on dog walks with her Nan.



**Hartley Wintney**  
**01252 844044**  
 Mon to Fri 8.00 - 19.00  
 Sat & Sun 8.30 - 16.00

**Crookham Park**  
**01252 913990**  
 Mon to Fri 8.30 - 19.00  
 Sat 8.30 - 16.00  
 Sun at Hartley Wintney

**Firgrove**  
**01252 877799**  
 Mon to Fri 8.00 - 19.00  
 Sat 8.30 - 12.00  
 Sun 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

[www.stkittsvet.co.uk](http://www.stkittsvet.co.uk)

# Summer Stingers!



If your pet's paw suddenly becomes swollen, you might find that your dog or cat has been stung! During the warmer weather, wasp and bee stings can happen more often as there are plenty of our buzzing friends occupying the air space and busying around gardens. For our curious pets, the buzzing and quick movement is just too much to resist a good old snap, paw and chase at these insects, resulting sometimes in a nasty sting! Should you suddenly hear your pet yelp, yowl or start whining, licking or nibbling at their leg or paw and holding it up, or shaking their head excessively, these could be signs of a sting!

Please be watchful of any swellings, but particularly around the face and mouth, as this **could restrict breathing**. Some animals, just like people, are allergic to stings, so contact us immediately if your pet....

- has any kind of mouth/face swelling ● is drooling
- has difficulty breathing ● collapses

Insect stings can be very unpleasant, painful and may cause difficulties, but please remember these insects are part of our ecosystem, and play an important role in pollination. As with all living creatures, treat them with respect even though they might sting!

Hopping along to another problem during the warmer months -

## Flystrike

When a rabbit's hindquarters become wet, dirty and sore, flies are attracted to this area, where they can lay eggs. The hatching maggots will then literally feed on the rabbit's skin and underlying tissue. **Flystrike is a very serious and painful condition**, which requires immediate veterinary treatment, as sadly it can often be fatal.



**Flystrike is a real emergency, so please do contact us quickly!**

### Help to protect your rabbit

- At least once a day fully inspect their hindquarters to ensure they are clean, dry, egg and maggot free.
- Clean hutches frequently.
- Remove soiled bedding and waste material daily.

If your rabbit appears to have a regular rear end soiling problem, bring bunny along for a check-up. Overgrown teeth and claws or obesity may be preventing your rabbit from grooming properly. We can also advise on the protective sprays, which are available.



## Don't Get Caught Out!

With the lifting of restrictions, it's been great to book holidays for a very welcome break! If your cat or dog are going to a cattery or boarding kennels while you are away, please do remember to check that your pet's **vaccinations are up to date**, and what the requirements are for your cat

or dog prior to admission. If you would like advice about vaccinations in general that help protect your pet against infectious diseases, or to book a vaccination appointment, please call our friendly team.



### Hartley Wintney

High Street RG27 8NS  
info@stkittsvet.co.uk

**01252 844044**

### Crookham Park

Queensacre Retail Centre  
Sandy Lane GU52 8LH  
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**01252 913990**

### Basingstoke

4 Brighton Hill Parade RG22 4EH  
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### Firgrove

1-3 Aylesham Way  
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