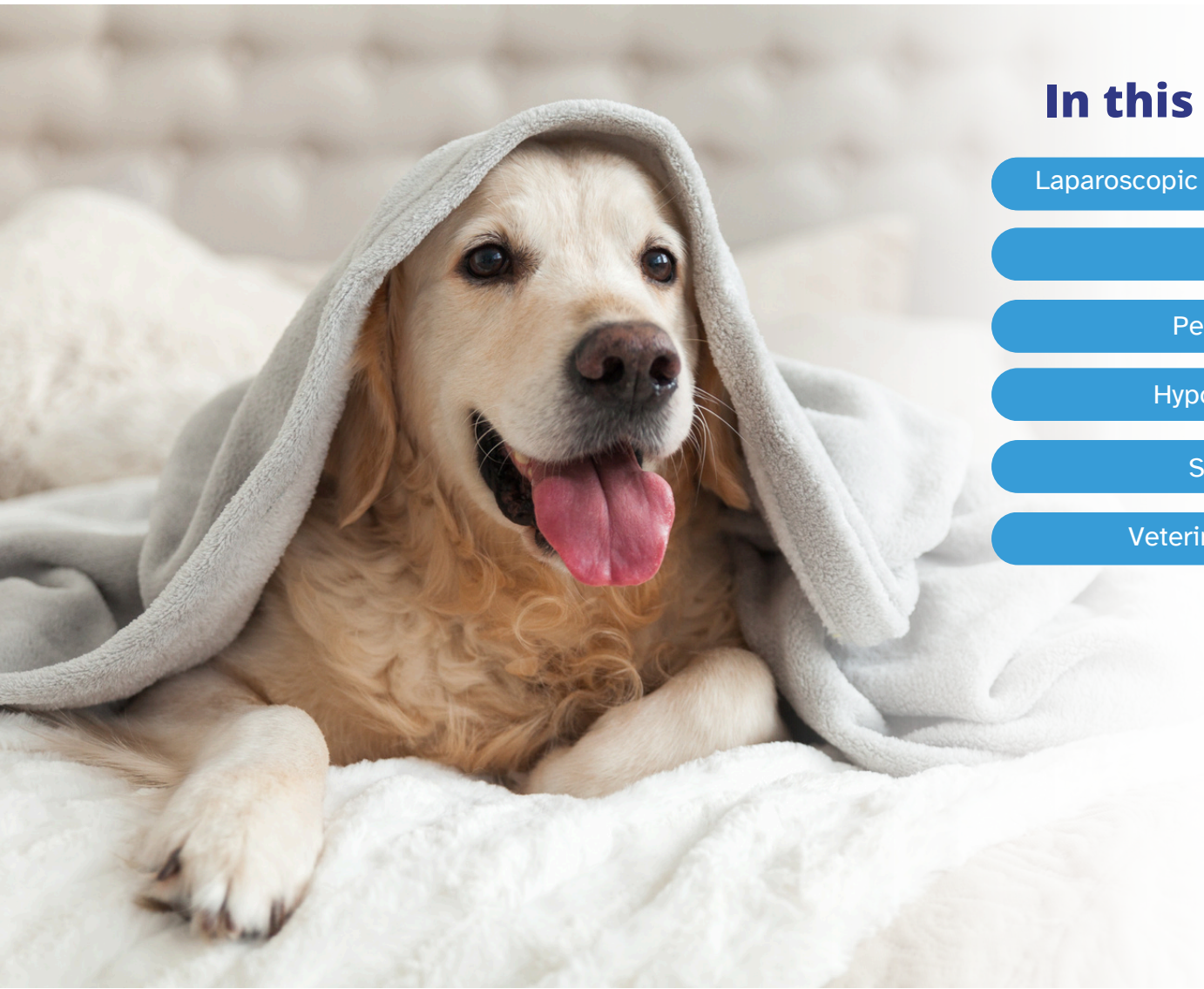


NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2024



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Welcome

Welcome to the autumn edition of the Rutland Veterinary Centre Newsletter.

We hope you enjoy reading more about what the team have been up to in the last few months across our branches. As always we welcome any feedback and suggestions for future issues.

Staff update

We are thrilled to have introduced several new team members over the past few months, and we hope you will join us in extending a warm welcome to them!

Among the newcomers, we are excited to introduce some new veterinary surgeons. Monika Cebula has joined us at Market Harborough, while Josh Davies, a new graduate, has joined our Uppingham team.

Additionally, last month marked the return of Ellie May, who will be working across our Uppingham and Market Harborough practices.



Monika



Josh



Ellie



Laparoscopic procedures

We are pleased to announce that we are now able to offer keyhole spaying at our Uppingham practice. Keyhole (laparoscopic) surgery is minimally invasive surgery which involves passing a camera and specialised instruments through small (0.3-1cm) incisions in the body wall, to perform surgical procedures.

You may be aware of the many advantages of keyhole surgery for humans, and the same is true for our pets:

- Less pain after the operation
- Smaller incisions
- Faster healing time
- Fewer post-operative complications
- Rest is usually only required for 2-3 days after the procedure
- Clearer and safer view for the surgeon



There are many surgical and diagnostic procedures we can perform using the specialised equipment and training we have. The most common is keyhole spaying (laparoscopic ovariectomy).

Fireworks

How to calm dogs during fireworks

Before the firework season begins

- Ensure your dog's microchip details are up-to-date in case they escape.
- Check the dates of any nearby firework displays.
- Before the fireworks season starts, provide your dog with a doggy safe haven. This should be a quiet area where your dog likes to go.
- Start getting them used to the noise of fireworks by following a plan like this one from the blue cross:



<https://www.bluecross.org.uk/advice/dog/behaviour-and-training/how-to-prepare-your-dog-for-fireworks>

Calm your pet during firework nights

- Walk your dog during daylight hours to avoid times when fireworks are likely to be set off.
- Make sure they have access to their safe haven. Provide toys and other things that may help distract them.
- Close windows and curtains to muffle the sound and sight of fireworks.
- Put on some music or TV to mask the firework sounds.
- Ignore the firework noises yourself.

How to help cats who are afraid of fireworks

- Provide hiding places in your home .e.g. under furniture or a quiet corner.
- Don't stress your cat by trying to tempt them out if they are not ready.
- Keeping them in to avoid them becoming stressed.
- Microchip your cats in case they're startled and escape outside.

How to help small animals during fireworks

- Partly cover outside cages and pens with blankets so it's soundproofed and hidden, leaving an area for animals to look out.
- Provide bedding for small animals to burrow in.
- Consider bringing them indoors - plan ahead as this will need to be done slowly.



If you feel your pet still needs help, please speak to us. We can advise you on over the counter therapies as well as the vet being able to prescribe medication in some cases.

Pet Insurance

Looking to take out an insurance policy?

Whilst we cannot give you specific advice regarding finances or who you should choose, we can provide advice on what to look for when searching for an insurance policy.

Key things to look out for when getting pet insurance:

- **Lifetime policy** - Ensure your pet's illnesses are covered for life
- **Check the T&Cs** - Make sure you know what is and isn't covered
- **As much cover as possible** - Vet bills can reach into the thousands especially when a referral is required or you pet develops a long-term condition
- **Check reviews** - See what other owners experiences have been with different companies

- While you are looking for a policy, if your pet is under 18 months of age we can offer you 5 weeks free with Agria Pet Insurance! Please speak with a member of the team for more information.



Protect your puppy or kitten with 5 weeks free insurance

Ask in practice for further details

Agria
Pet Insurance

Take a look at our website for more information on insurance claims

[Read More](#)



Hyperthyroidism in cats

Hyperthyroidism is caused by excess of the thyroid hormones. It is often seen in older cats.

Signs of hyperthyroidism reflect an increased metabolic rate. The most common signs owners may notice include:

- **Weight loss**
- **Increased activity**
- **Excessive appetite, thirst and urination**
- **Vomiting and diarrhoea**

Diagnosis comes from a combination of the clinical history and a physical examination. It can then be confirmed by a blood test to measure the thyroid hormone level.

The good news is cats with hyperthyroidism can be treated. Curative treatments involve radioactive iodine treatment or surgical removal of the thyroid gland.

Alternatively the condition can be managed through long-term administration of an antithyroid drug, or lifelong nutritional therapy (with a prescription diet that restricts iodine).

Curative treatments are usually recommended in younger, otherwise healthy cats. However, management is still an effective treatment option where curative treatments may not be appropriate, such as in older cats.

Radioactive iodine: This medication is injected and selectively destroys the abnormal cells. It has to be carried out at a referral centre and due to the radiation, patients must be hospitalised for a couple of weeks.

Surgery: The affected glands can be removed under an anaesthetic. The surgery is not without potential complications but it is usually very successful.

Medication: Oral liquid or tablet medication can be given in the short or long-term to suppress excess hormone production. Blood tests are required frequently on this medication to monitor thyroid levels

Diet: Dietary therapy is effective in a limited number of mild cases. However, the cat must exclusively eat this food for the therapy to be effective. This includes keeping them indoors to ensure nothing is consumed outside.



Lifetime Care Club



Membership provides your pet with:

- Annual vaccinations and health check
- Year round flea and worming*
- Monthly nurse checks
- Discounts on consultations, selected procedures, long term medications, food and pet shop products
- Rabbits benefit from Reargard treatment and a monthly bag of hay or pellets

*Dogs and cats only

To find out more, sign up and start saving money

[CLICK HERE](#) 

See how much you could save:

	Rabbit	Cat	Dog 0-10kg	Dog 10-25kg	Dog 25-40kg	Dog 40-60kg	Dog 60+ kg
LCC Monthly Cost	£13.50	£14.50	£14.50	£16.50	£18.50	£20.00	£22.00
LCC Annual Cost	£162.00	£174.00	£174.00	£198.00	£222.00	£240.00	£264.00
Annual cost PAYG*	£470.40	£471.92	£526.75	£559.44	£610.43	£657.30	£877.31
% Savings	66%	63%	67%	65%	64%	63%	70%

*Based on annual vaccination, kennel cough for dogs, monthly nurse checks, 12 months of parasite treatment for cats and dogs, flystrike control for rabbits and monthly bag of Excel feeding hay for rabbits. Additional savings can be made through discounts on vet consultations, in-house blood tests, neutering, routine dentistry, long term medication and much more!

Correct at time of printing

Veterinary myths debunked...

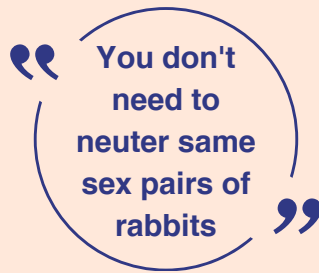
“You don't need to neuter same sex pairs of rabbits”...

This is a common misconception

It's important to neuter your rabbits regardless of whether they are living in a same sex pair. Neutering can help your rabbits live a happy and healthy life by:

- Reducing the risks of certain cancers and illnesses
- Helping your rabbits sustain a healthy bond
- Helping them to become easier to handle

Speak to the team for more information or to book your rabbit in!

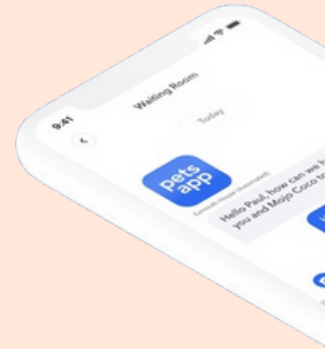
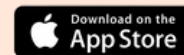


Book Online!

Need an appointment?
... why not book on our website or by downloading our app - PetsApp

With PetsApp you can:

- Send and receive pictures and videos
- Book appointments
- Order medication
- Ask for advice
- Request invoices
- Make secure payments
- Give us feedback



This newsletter is provided as an informal information service to our clients who are interested in what goes on at the practice. The information contained should not be treated as a substitute for veterinary advice. Please contact the practice if you have an issue with your pet.

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Need us in an emergency?

Please call the practice.

We operate our own out of hours service for our registered clients at our Uppingham branch

