



# Summer Newsletter



SUMMER  
2009

## Hello and welcome to Earls Hall Summer newsletter 2009

### Summer Sun

Just like us, our pets can suffer in the sun/heat as well. Heat stroke and sunburn are common dangers for your pet during the summer months. Dogs are especially at risk from heat stroke as their bodies conserve heat, although they may have adequate shading and a supply of water, heat stroke can still be a problem. Try not to allow your dog outside in the heat for long periods of time especially when exercising. Signs of heat stroke include:-

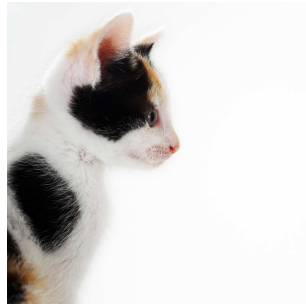
- Heavy panting
- Rapid heat beat
- Excessive thirst
- Dizziness
- Salivation
- Vomiting

If symptoms persist you should seek immediate

veterinary advice.

Cats are great at sunning themselves and those with white tip ears and noses as at risk from sunburn. Skin cancer is much at risk in animals as it is in us humans. To keep risk down to a minimum, try to keep them out of the sun or apply sun block to these areas during the summer months.

During the hot weather DON'T LEAVE your pet in the car, it can be fatal. Even if it seems cool outside, the



inside of the car can become very, very hot.

### Fly Strike

Sadly, this is a really common problem with rabbits in the summer. Flies like to lay their eggs in warm and damp places and unfortunately wet fur on rabbits can look very appealing.

The fly will lay their eggs, which in turn, develop into flesh eating maggots.

Fly Strike is very painful summer month rabbits should be regularly inspected for fly eggs or maggots.



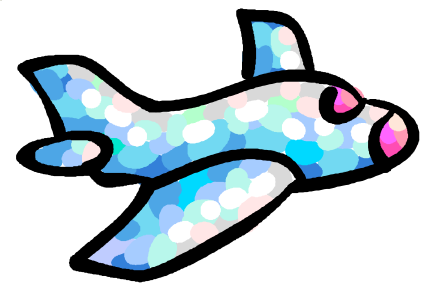
## Holiday Time

I am sure that any one who is planning to go abroad with their pet has already contacted Defra and know the regulations for travelling with your pet, but please remember that it can take up to 8 months to fulfil the requirements.

Your pet will need to be micro chipped, vaccinated against Rabies and have a blood test to prove that the immunity has developed (this is mainly for pets returning to the UK). Your pet will NOT be able to re-enter the country until 6

months from the date the blood sample was taken.

For more information you can call the PETS Helpline on 0870 241 1710.



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## Allergies in Dogs and Cats

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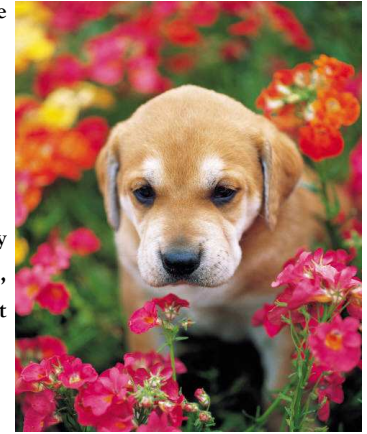
Eastwood Surgery:  
01702 421617

Just like us our pets can also be infected by allergies. Allergies are immune reactions in which an animal responds abnormally to common, usually harmless substances; these substances are called allergens.

Our pets can become in contact with these allergens in three main ways:-

- Inhalation-e.g. pollens and house dust
- Contact:-e.g. flea bites
- Ingestion:-e.g. foods

The main symptom of contact and inhalation allergies is itchy skin. Signs include face rubbing, paw chewing, ear problems, persistent licking and over grooming. Food allergies present both symptoms of diarrhoea and or dermatitis (itchy skin).



Sadly, allergies cannot be cured, instead humans and pets

either have to avoid contact with allergen or they need medication to alleviate the symptoms. The best approach is to find out what your patient is allergic to and with diagnostic tests this can be very helpful in determining a suitable treatment.

## Dental Check

If you notice that your pet had been drooling, losing teeth, has bad breath or eats on one side of his/her mouth only chances are they need a dental.



As in our own teeth, our pets can suffer from Plaque which

can cause various problems, so it's always a good idea to have your pets teeth regularly checked—especially in elderly pets.

If left, plaque can harden to form a scale, turning the teeth yellow, subsequently the gums surrounding the teeth can become inflamed. This condition is called Gingivitis and this, if left untreated, can cause a more serious disease which can lead to your pet losing their teeth.

To prevent plaque, regular brushing is the best preventative care. Toothbrushes and paste are available to purchase here at Earls Hall. If the plaque has hardened and

brushing will not remove it or you would like your pets teeth checked just in case, please don't hesitate to contact us.

