



First Aid Client Meeting

We are holding a 'First Aid for Your Pet' client workshop on Wednesday 7th December 10am—2pm at Knight Stainforth Café and Meeting Rooms, BD24 ODP. The course will give practical insight into how to deal with emergencies such as cuts, breaks or sprains and choking should they occur with your pet.

Our qualified, professional staff will be leading the course on first aid techniques with hands on demonstrations on real life animals!

The course is £25 per person which includes tea/coffee and biscuits on arrival, lunch and your own companion animal first aid kit to take away with you.



Please contact the surgery on 01729 823538 to book - places are limited so don't leave it too late!



Remembrance Sunday 13th November 2016

Reminds us of the sacrifices made in war.

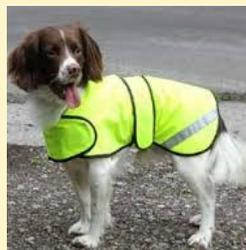
Did you know there is a charity that provides assistance dogs to injured and disabled service men and women and civilian emergency services personnel?

For more information visit:
houndsforheroes.com



BE SAFE BE SEEN !

The nights are drawing in and it won't be long until we are walking in the dark both at night and in the morning! It is crucial to make sure that both you and your dog are visible to drivers at this time of year. We carry a range of high vis jackets for both you and your dog and LED collar lights to help you keep track of your pet. Our B'SEEN night lights are available from the surgery and cost just £3.99. Pop in anytime to get yours!



Firework Fear—it's that time of year again where those of us with pets of all shapes and sizes worry about the stress brought on by fireworks. Download our handy guide to tackling Firework Fear available on our website at:

www.daleheadvetgroup.co.uk/companion/companion-news.aspx



Winter is coming - here is a guide to managing your rabbits and guinea pigs during the chilly weather!



Managing your rabbits and guinea pigs over the winter months can be a struggle with a balancing act between giving them exercise and stimulation in the open space of the run and the struggle to keep it mud free and warm. It is possible, if you have the space and money, to build an insulated hutch with a large aviary style run, with separate straw boxes, ramps, tunnels and rain covers. For those of us with smaller budgets and gardens, we need to be a bit more inventive to keep our pets warm and dry and still having the space to exercise and move freely.

The ideal temperature for rabbits is 10-20°C, which is why they burrow; underground rabbits

are protected against extremes of temperature. If your rabbit hutch remains outside over winter, cover it with layers of carpet, quilts or old blankets. A tarpaulin placed over the top will keep things dry and can be flapped down loosely (you do not want an airtight seal!) over the front at night for extra warmth. Use Perspex over part of the mesh door to protect from drafts but still offering a view of the outside. Don't be tempted to cover the mesh entirely as good ventilation is needed to keep your pets free from bugs and germs.



If your run is not attached to the hutch, ensure you have an insulated, straw filled box in the run for the rabbit to shelter in and keep warm. You can now buy 'links' as an inexpensive way to connect your rabbit



hutch to an outside run. This allows you to move the run onto fresh clean grass or into a more sheltered area. Use a tarpaulin over a good part of the run to ensure a draught and rain free zone. Use cardboard boxes stuffed with crumpled newspaper as an alternative play area, rabbits love something new to investigate.



If you decide to bring your rabbit indoors, remember that this environment has potential to be hugely stressful if it is not done with some thought and care. If your rabbit has never been indoors before, it is recommended that you use a quiet room, away from the main bustle. Bringing them in for small periods over a few days. The area you choose should have a box of straw or shredded paper as a place to hide. Your pets usual water bottles and feeding bowls ensure familiarity. A rabbit litter tray is a good idea, most rabbits take very little time to adapt to using these. Remember that rabbits like to chew! You need to be prepared for expensive bills if you do not rabbit proof your room, it may be safer to use a play pen. The same applies to hutches that are moved to the garage or shed. A rabbit should not be confined to its hutch for the winter. The Animal Welfare Act 2006 requires owners to provide accommodation that allows at least 3 hops. As one hop equates to 2', most hutches are woefully small, so it is vital that a dry run area is provided. If you wish to let them run around the shed floor, you need to ensure it is free from anything chewable, spill-able, toxic or other hazards.



Don't forget toys, boxes and tubes stuffed with crumpled paper, hay or straw so that they can scrabble and chew, is a great way to counteract boredom. Young, thin, old or thinly furred rabbits need to be monitored closely, they may struggle to survive even in a shed overwinter. If any rabbit goes off its food or starts producing less droppings, they need to be seen by a vet.

www.therabbithouse.com
www.rspca.org.uk/rabbits
www.rabbitwelfare.co.uk
are good sources of information.

