

TWO RIVERS VETS

OCTOBER 2010 NEWSLETTER

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OPENING AND CONSULTING HOURS

BIGGAR 01899 220073

Office Open

Mon/Wed/Fri 9 – 6.30
Tues/Thurs 9 – 5.30
Sat 9 – 12.00

Vet Consulting

Mon – Sat 9 – 9.30
Mon/Wed/Fri 5.30 – 6.30

PEEBLES 01721 722879

Office Open

Mon/Wed/Fri 9 – 5.30
Tues/Thurs 9 – 6.30
Sat 10 – 12.30

Vet Consulting

Mon/Wed/Fri 9.30 – 10.30
(by appointment)
1.30 – 2.00
Tues/Thurs 9.30 – 10.30
(by appointment)
5 – 6.00
Sat 11.30 – 12.00

OTHER TIMES WELCOME BY
ARRANGEMENT

**24 HOUR EMERGENCY COVER
ON EITHER TEL NUMBER**

Remember, remember your pets
this November!



Firework Fears It's getting to that time of year again when many of our pets take cover under the beds and hide in fear of fireworks. Noise fear is very common, affecting almost 50% of dogs in the UK. In most cases dogs and cats showing noise fear can be helped by following a few simple practical steps, and by providing calming dog or cat-specific pheromones (see over).

- Prepare a den/safe place for your dog 2 weeks before the fireworks start. By giving the dog meals and toys in the den, it will become a safe place that the dog chooses to go to when feeling afraid. Installing a pheromone diffuser nearby will further enhance the dog's sense of security.
- Start pheromone treatment early as the longer your dog/cat is exposed to pheromones prior to the fireworks the better they will cope with the challenge.
- Ensure that pets are safely inside and that doors and windows are secured. Dogs should be taken for walks when fireworks are less likely ie. before nightfall.
- Close the windows, draw the curtains, play music and/or have the TV on to help mask the noise.
- Fearful behaviour should be ignored. Trying to sooth a fearful dog not only rewards the behaviour, but also gives the impression that the person is also worried about the fireworks. NEVER punish or get cross with a fearful dog, as this will simply make him more afraid.



Pheromone Treatments

DAP (Dog Appeasing Pheromone) is a synthetic copy of the natural canine appeasing pheromone of the nursing bitch (mother dog). This product helps comfort both adult and young dogs during potentially stressful events such as firework exposure. DAP is available as a plug-in diffuser, spray and collar.

Feliway is a synthetic copy of the natural feline facial pheromone used by cats to mark their environment as safe and secure. This pheromone reassures the cat and can help reduce its fearful reactions to loud noises. Feliway is available as a diffuser and spray.



In addition to DAP and Feliway, for dogs and cats which are very worried by fireworks, we can also recommend Zylkene capsules. This product has a licence for the treatment of stress in pets and can be used for short periods ideally starting 2 weeks prior to 'firework season'.

Please contact us at the surgery for more information on these products and how to deal with your pet's firework fear.

Is your dog receiving treatment for arthritis?

Metacam, Trocoxil, Rimadyl and Previcox are all commonly used drugs called NSAIDs which reduce the pain and inflammation associated with arthritis.

However, when used long term there is a small risk that kidney problems can develop. For this reason, we ask that owners supply us with a urine sample twice a year for all animals that have been on these medications for over 6 months.

Dogs – catch the urine in a clean butter tub or jam jar, or we can supply you with a specially designed urine catcher.

Cats – we can supply you with Katkor, a special plastic cat litter which enables easy urine collection.

The urine test is free, but if we find an abnormality we may ask to take a blood sample from your pet to check the kidneys further.

More on arthritis & NSAIDs next month.

REDUCED PRICE WECs OCTOBER!

Horse owners please don't forget to take advantage of our reduced price Worm Egg Counts at only £5 per sample during the month of October.

Yards with consistently low WECs can reduce the frequency of worming and so save money on wormers while also helping to reduce the rate at which resistance is developing.

However horses will still need to be treated for tapeworm, with autumn being a good time to do this.

