



Welcome to the autumn 2021 edition of our newsletter. Wow what a couple of years it has been! The year of 2020 will be one to remember and we are very thankful to have such lovely clients and patients who helped us get through that year, so a big thanks to you all. As from May 2021 we have started to allow clients back in the building, although with restrictions still in place it is lovely to have everyone back, we have missed you! This newsletter is here to give advice and update you on what's new at Elands!

So exciting news, Elands as of December 2020 has become a member of the Vet Partners group. This brings with it lots of new exciting possibilities for Elands. Although rest assured nothing has changed and we are still one big family.

Elands Covid-19 guides

As of June 21st 2021 restrictions were lifted throughout England. As of this date Elands has begun to get back to a more normal way of working. We are allowing clients back in the building and you are able to stay with your pets during consults once again. However, there are still some rules in place.

1. A limited number of people are allowed in the waiting room at one time – we would recommend waiting in your car and calling to let us know when you have arrived. Once ready we can call you in for your consult. We would especially recommend this if you have a nervous pet to help reduce waiting room anxiety or a cat, so they do not have to wait next to our lovely canine friends.
2. Please sanitise your hands as you enter the building.
3. Please wear a mask unless you are exempt - you will need proof of this.
4. Only one person allowed per pet.

If you would still prefer not to come into the building then this is absolutely fine. We can complete the history over the phone and come and collect your animal from you while you wait in the car. Once again thank you for your patience and following these rules.

A very big welcome to four new members of the Elands team

Tina joined our reception team in the autumn of 2020 and has slotted in wonderfully. Picking up and taking on the role of veterinary receptionist in her stride. We are very happy to welcome her to the team.



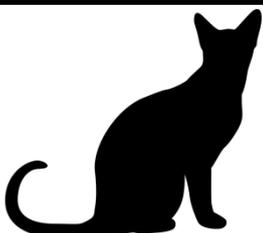
Shirley joined our reception Team in summer 2021. She has been a great addition to our front of house and picked up the role very quickly. We are very pleased to welcome her to the team.

Kirsty is a Registered Veterinary Nurse and joined our nursing team in winter of 2020. Kirsty has fitted in wonderfully with the team and is a great asset. She has an interest in emergency care and anaesthesia.



Hazel is a Registered Veterinary Nurse and joined our nursing team in autumn 2021. Hazel is a great addition to our nursing team and is currently studying for a certificate in anaesthesia. She also has a new addition to her family in the form of puppy Ivy.

A big welcome to you all!





Halloween Trick or Treat

Trick or treating is great fun however can be a danger to our pets. Care must be taken to keep sweets away and out of reach of our pets as they can be deadly. The two main dangers this time of year are:

- Chocolate – especially dark chocolate
- Xylitol – sweetener

If you are concerned your pet may have ingested either of the above please contact the clinic on 01732 452333. Please remember to bring the packet of the substance ingested with you to your consult. Remember, the earlier we know about this the better!

Please call before attempting to make your pet sick at home as sometimes this can make situation worse.



Top Tip



Don't forget to check all bonfires prior to lighting for any visiting friends.

Hedgehogs are becoming increasingly rare and every hog counts. If you see a hedgehog out during the day it is highly likely something might be wrong. We would recommend containing it and ringing either us or a wildlife rescue to get it checked. A hedgehog should weigh around 5-600grams going into winter, any less than this they are highly likely to struggle!

If you do have visiting hedgehogs, maybe consider making a hedgehog home – many ideas can be found online. You can also supplement their feed with wet or dry cat food – but please do not feed milk or bread as this can be very harmful to our hogs.



Firework Anxiety



With firework season fast approaching it is important to be prepared. Some of our pets can get very distressed at this time of the year. Here are some top tips to help our pets through this potentially stressful time:

- Close all curtains/windows/doors and keep low background noise such as a radio or television on to help mute the bangs and flashes
- Make sure your pet has a safe place to hide if they choose and once they are there please let them be, for example:
 - Crate with blanket covering
 - Wardrobe
 - Under the bed
 - Bring outside pets e.g. rabbits, guinea pigs inside or into a garage away from the noise
- Try to act normal – carry on with your usual routine. If your pet gets distressed and seeks comfort, do not tell them off but comfort them then try to carry on as normal as best you can.



If your pet really struggles there are also medications that can be given to help, such as calming support – ideally this should be started prior to the event for best results. For really bad cases stronger medication may be required and we recommend discussing this with your vet.

Have you noticed that your pet's anxiety is worsening with age??

New studies have shown a link between worsening anxiety and chronic pain in pets. Chronic pain such as arthritis may not be overly noticeable clinically, or seemingly causing a problem to our pets but even subtle stiffness or lameness can be a contributing factor to worsening anxiety. It is likely our pets are in more discomfort than they are letting on. If you have noticed a change in your pets anxiety around loud noises, change in routines, meeting new people/animals we would recommend a consult with one of our vets to have an assessment and discuss this possibility. It has been proven that by helping treat the pain the anxiety signs seem to improve.