

Gilbert St Gossip



Merry Christmas

Thank you all for being such a special part of the RivaPetz Family during 2015 - we really enjoy seeing you and your pets and value the enjoyment that you bring to our lives when we see you at RivaPetz Pet Care.

Opening Hours over Christmas/New Year

Christmas Day to Boxing Day Public Holiday 25th to 28th December, Closed

Tuesday 29th Decmeber – Open - 8.30am-5.30pm

Wednesday 30th December - Open -8.30am-5.30pm

Thursday 31st December - Open -8.30am-5.30pm

Friday 1st January – Closed

Saturday 2nd January - Open -8.30am-11.30am

Normal opening hours will resume on Monday 4th January, 2016

We wish you all the best over the Christmas season - both your 4 legged and 2 legged family members - and we look forward to seeing you in 2016.

Jenni, Carolyn, Sarah, Helen, Sharon, Bec & Paige xxx



Patient of the Month

Max came into our clinic one Wednesday morning with his worried owners. He was in a very sorry state - half the skin was missing from his left back leg. Unfortunately for Max, his left leg could not be saved. He had to have a leg amputated in order to have the best chance of recovering from his ordeal. Max went into surgery that very afternoon, which was a big success. He was up and about the next morning, getting back to his old self. Max has been going well after going home, waiting impatiently to have his stiches removed. He'll be back on his feet in no time.

More of this story can be found on our website.

Charlie's Itchy Ears

Charlie the chocolate labrador was shaking his head and using his foot to have a old good scratch around his head. He was wearing a new collar and his owners thought this was the culprit, but when he started to smell a bit funny he came in for a check up.

An examination revealed hot, red and itchy ears. There was black 'muck' at the opening of his ear canals and his ears smelt terrible!

Using an otoscope (a fancy tool with a light) the canal was examined all the way to the ear drum. There was no sign of a foreign body (such as a grass seed) but the ear canals were very inflamed.

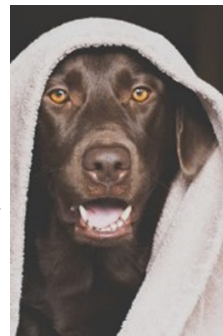
A sample was taken from the canal and examined under the microscope revealing a yeast infection. This was causing the horrible smell!

Ear infections are very common at this time of the year. We like to think of the ear as a 'mini environment'. If this environment is upset in any way (such as moisture from swimming or itchiness from an allergy) bacteria and yeast start to have a party in there! The result is a very unhappy ear canal and an uncomfortable pet.

Charlie was treated with ear ointment for a week and a recheck revealed the infection and inflammation had cleared.

If your pet has itchy or smelly ears arrange a check up with us ASAP. The longer you leave an ear infection, the harder (and more expensive) it becomes to treat.

If your pet suffers from recurrent ear infections you should ask us about some of the new medications we have available to help prevent ongoing problems.



Prevent a crisis this Christmas

Here are our top tips to help prevent a Christmas catastrophe and keep your pet healthy and happy this Christmas.

Keep leftovers off the menu!

Don't be tempted to feed your pet leftovers. Christmas dinner is notorious for causing upset tummies and nasty episodes of painful pancreatitis in our pets. Never feed cooked bones and watch out for skewered meat that falls from the BBQ - we don't want to have to remove one of those from your dog's stomach!

Be on hazard watch

Be on the look out for hazardous things your pet might find interesting. Cats love Christmas ornaments, electrical wires, ribbon, string and wrapping paper but all of these can cause major problems if ingested. Candles and burning oils are also dangerous. Remember that ingestion of stems, stamen or the flowers of Christmas lilies can cause kidney failure in cats.

Make festive plans for your pet

Give your pet plenty of love and attention over Christmas - it is a busy time of year and your pet will pick up on this. Make sure you plan out some fun for your pet on Christmas Day and remember to keep them safe and secure during festive fireworks.

Don't forget: We have some great treats and presents available to help stuff your pet's Christmas stocking so drop by to check them out!

