

# Itch itch itch



## Irritation

Your pet has an itchy area on the leg, but licking and gnawing to ease the itch has actually made it worse! More nibbling, more licking is required in an attempt to ease the irritation, but it is now red and sore, and the other leg is starting to itch too. This could be a skin condition developing due to a number of causes. Possibly an ear disease, damp or poorly groomed coat, even a flea or mite infestation. Bacterial or yeast infection, a food, house dust or environmental allergy may also be a factor.

### Watch out for

- Excessive or constant scratching
- Red/sore skin ● Agitated behaviour
- Hair loss ● Ear and head shaking
- Pawing at face or rubbing against walls and furniture



### Harold Hill

01708 344455 01708 386046

Monday to Friday 9am - 6.30pm

Saturday 9am - 12.30pm

### Elm Park

01708 458424 01708 438039

Monday to Friday 9am - 6.30pm

Saturday 4pm - 6.30pm

Sunday 10am - 6.30pm ★

Consultations by Appointment

24 hour 7 day  
Emergency Service

www.hillparkvets.co.uk

01708 344455



Summer  
2017

*Nibbling, licking, scratching and general grooming are just part of your pet's daily cleaning routine, much like our morning shower. However, if the grooming is a constant action of excessive scratching and nibbling, this could be a sign that something is not quite right!*

## The key is to identify the underlying cause

A full examination and in-depth chat about their lifestyle, e.g. what they eat, where they exercise, which shampoo you bath your pet in, will help us in the diagnosis, as will skin and hair tests if we feel they are necessary. Skin conditions can develop anywhere on your pet's body and just leaving them to continuously scratch, lick and nibble, will result in a non-stop painful irritation for your pet. Sometimes treatment is as simple as changing their food, so let us check out the itch on your pet.



## Humans in Hot Cars!

*If you are thinking of taking your human out in the car today, remember the summer months produce cloudy, humid and sunny days, which mean your car will reach oven-like temperatures!*

**DO NOT** leave your human in your parked car not even in the shade, not even for a few minutes or even with the windows open, as they will literally cook! Sadly last year, even with all the warnings and sad stories in the media, humans were still being left to die in hot cars. Either leave your human at home with plenty of fresh clean drinking water and access to cool areas of your house, or if you have to take them with you, ensure that your two-legged friend is not shut inside the car and left..... at any time!



## Our VIP Pet

## Dental Hygiene Offer

just £60\*



Regular brushing is part of your pet's routine dental healthcare.

However, some pets can be a little reluctant when the toothbrush and paste come out! This can result in a daily build up of plaque on their teeth to cause bad breath, gum disease and tooth decay.

Unfortunately, it may also lead to loss of teeth and further complications.

So if your pet's teeth could do with a good clean up, then treat your cat or dog to our special **VIP Pet Dental**, which includes a **descale, polish and post-op nurse consult**.

Call us to book an appointment.

\* general anaesthetic fee applicable

# Rabbit Talk

Summer and with it buzzing flies, which pose an enormous threat to our bob-tailed friends. **Flystrike** is a serious and life-threatening condition that can affect rabbits very quickly. Flies are attracted to wounds, sore skin, moist and soiled hindquarters of a rabbit, where they lay eggs. The result is hatching maggots literally feeding on the rabbit's skin and underlying tissue!



**In warm weather, please check your rabbit at least once a day**

- Ensure they are clean, egg and maggot free.
- Remove soiled bedding and waste daily.
- Clean hutches frequently.

At higher risk are unhealthy, less active and elderly rabbits, plus those that cannot groom properly due to obesity or overgrown teeth and claws.

**If you suspect your rabbit has FLYSTRIKE, it is a real emergency. Contact us immediately!**

# Hill Park Vets



## Neutering Campaign

If you are not planning on breeding your dog, you may wish to consider neutering. There are many health and social advantages for males and females, as it helps to prevent pyometra and other related conditions, such as ovarian cysts and cancers.

### FEMALE DOG

- Seasons can begin from 6-9 months old
- They will last three weeks
- Seasons will happen twice a year throughout her life
- Her scent will draw much attention from un-neutered male dogs

### Spaying

- will immediately stop her seasons
- prevents unwanted pregnancies
- stops a serious illness - pyometra (womb infection)
- lowers the risk of developing mammary tumours (breast cancer)

### MALE DOG & Castration

- Signs of aggressive or excitable behaviour to people or other dogs can be reduced
- Less likely to 'wander off' in search of females in season
- Accidental mating ceases
- Lowers the risk of developing prostate or testicular cancer in later life

As you can see there are many positive reasons for having your dog neutered.

**Book your pet in for this procedure at our**

### Special Neutering Campaign Prices

Spay	Castrate
	Under 15kg
<b>£135</b>	<b>£95</b>
	Over 15 kg
<b>£155</b>	<b>£125</b>
	Over 35kg
<b>£195</b>	<b>£155</b>

**If you would like further details, please contact us and we can answer your queries.**

## Wear and Tear



Cats, infamous for long snoozes and relaxed lifestyles, do actually lead very busy lives, defending territory, eating, tree climbing, checking the shed for mice, teasing the dog next door and ensuring plenty of attention is received from their owners!

All this activity can take its toll over the years and as your pet ages, subtle changes may take place, which are not always visible. Joints can become a little stiff, hearing not so sharp and internal organs may not function so well. In older cats, kidney failure is common, as these organs have to work very hard throughout their lives. Special nephrons in the kidneys help filter the blood and remove waste products. These gradually disappear over time and are not replaced. With this loss, the kidneys then fail to function correctly.

### Senior Urine Check

Our nurses can test your cat's urine to help identify early kidney disease and prepare a management plan to prevent advanced kidney disease.

If your cat is over 12 years old, are they

- Drinking a lot? ● Urinating more?
- Have they lost their appetite and lost weight?
- Does your pet seem tired, lethargic and have a dull coat?

**If your cat is showing any of the above symptoms, then call to book an appointment as their kidneys may not be working as they should be.**

If the urine test confirms a kidney condition, although incurable, there are ways to help your pet cope with the problem.

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find us on  
**facebook.**

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