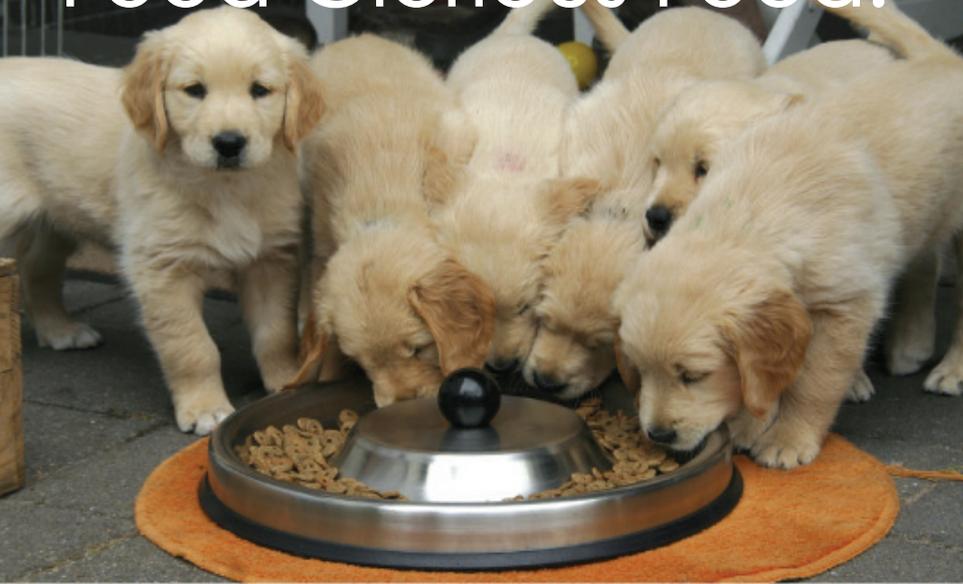


Food Glorious Food!



A big part of the forthcoming festive season is that wonderful and scrumptious side..... the food! For our pets though, there is no special time for food, as dinner is probably the highlight of their day, whatever the time of year, but are you feeding your furry friend the correct diet?

So Many to Choose Yes, it can all be rather confusing! Is this one right for my dog? What are those green bits in it? Will my cat like the jelly? Dry or wet food? Carbs, minerals, proteins, fats, vitamins.....help!

The most important point is to ensure your pet is fed a balanced diet that suits their age, breed, size and any medical conditions. This will help keep your pet active, healthy and maintain a correct weight, while still containing the vital nutrients needed.

What do we mean by a balanced diet? This is a correct mix of **nutrients** in the food to suit a pet's individual requirements.

What is a nutrient? It is an element in food that is of good value in the diet.



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

See over for our
Christmas Opening Hours

Carbohydrates are great for energy, but for those pets prone to gaining extra kilos, too much may prove a rather weighty issue. **Foods lower in magnesium** may benefit cats with urinary problems, and if your dog suffers from an **allergy condition**, after a thorough examination, it might be found that a dietary change could be the answer. Weight loss, diarrhoea, low energy levels and obesity are just a few signs that may indicate your pet's diet is incorrect, however there are other conditions that can display these signs, so it is always best for your pet to have a check-up.

Treats Well we all like giving those to our pets, and providing there are no medical conditions prohibiting treats from their diet, it is usually okay, **BUT** these should always be of **good quality** and included as part of their daily quantity of food. There are many shops and supermarkets selling an array of treats from bones to chews, and some may be imported from abroad. Please be very careful with your choice, as there have been reports of pets becoming seriously ill after eating certain treats, and sadly some cases have been fatal.



Winter
2018/19

Rabbits Don't Just Eat Carrots!

Overgrown teeth are no fun for your rabbit. They might have been okay for cartoon character Bugs Bunny, but in real life, this condition can be very painful for your pet!

Bunnies' teeth grow continuously!

The grinding, chewing and rotary action of the upper and lower teeth while eating, help wear down the length.

If fed an incorrect diet or the teeth are misaligned, problems can occur.

An important part of your rabbit's diet is **hay and grass**, which help grind down the teeth and provide a high source of fibre to assist the digestive system. Feed your rabbit an all in one pellet too, as this will stop your pet picking out just the tasty bits from a mix and leaving the essential nutritious bits behind!

A limited amount of fresh fruit and veg is okay, but if you would like advice, pop your bunny along for an appointment where we can check the teeth, and also discuss what is the best diet to help stop dental problems occurring. **If you have noticed any signs of weight loss, unable to chew, not eating, nasal discharge, runny eyes, or drooling then we need to look at your rabbit without delay.**



Prescription diets are available for many types of medical conditions, also for age, breed and size, so for more information just give our team a call so they can help you 'balance' your pet's diet.

It's a busy and fun time for all, but please spare a few minutes to take note of our helpful reminders for pet happy festivities!

MAKE sure your dog is on a lead when walking close to frozen ponds and rivers.



EXERCISE pets regularly over the festive season, it's part of their routine healthcare.

ROCKETS and fireworks can cause some pets much distress, but we have plenty of help and advice.

RECHARGEABLE and regular batteries are extremely dangerous if chewed or swallowed by your pet.



YOUR fairy lights are very pretty, but watch out for pets chewing at wires and plugs.

CHOCOLATE contains theobromine, which is poisonous to dogs and cats. Store it out of their reach.

HELP our feathered friends in winter. Keep the wild bird table topped up.



REMIND visiting guests who are on medication to store it carefully. While you eat your turkey dinner, your pet could be munching Aunt Ethel's pills!

If your pet falls ill when the surgery is closed, call our emergency service.

SUPERVISE all pets near open fires and log burners.

TURKEY carcass bones are sharp when broken and can get lodged in the throat and stomach. Please do not feed them to your pet!

MINCE PIES contain raisins, which can be toxic to dogs if ingestedgrapes too.

ANTIFREEZE for cars tastes sweet to pets, but is potentially fatal if swallowed. Please clear away any spills and don't let your pet drink from puddles.

SMALL PETS living outside require extra warm dry bedding, regular checks and unfrozen drinking water. Ensure hutches are rain and draught proof.

Lost Cats

Vets nationwide are reporting on the huge number of missing cats noted in their 'lost' books at reception desks. Ill and injured cats are being found on our streets, mostly with no identification. Cats can sometimes stray too far from home or become accidentally shut in sheds or garages. Just crossing the road is risky, so it would be great if all the worried owners could be contacted easily and quickly. The big message is.... microchip your cat! It's a simple and permanent means of identification. If a cat is taken to a vet or rescue centre they will scan for a microchip, so call your vet for a microchip appointment now! Existing chip?....then ensure those contact details are current and correct!

Carrie Cat



Reporter Extraordinaire

Cat Flu

Has your cat had their 'flu' jab yet? Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis and Feline Calicivirus are two types of cat flu and any signs of excessive sneezing, runny nose, sore eyes or discharge then a visit to the vet is needed. Better still protect your cat by vaccinating against cat flu.

Sweet Poison!

Warnings have been issued that the artificial sweetener **xylitol** could be poisonous to animals if ingested. Some cakes, sweets and biscuits may contain this, so please ensure these edible goods are stored out of your pet's reach.

Order Early

For some the festive plans are underway, so just a reminder that if your pet requires medication or other pet supplies over the holiday season, please do order well in advance. The surgery and our suppliers' opening hours vary during this period, so please call us with your order to ensure a full cupboard before Christmas Eve!

Christmas Hours 2018

Out of Hours Emergencies
Phone your usual branch

Monday **24th Christmas Eve**
Tuesday **25th Christmas Day**
Wednesday **26th Boxing Day**
Thursday 27th December
Friday 28th December
Saturday 29th December
Sunday 30th December
Monday **31st New Years Eve**
Tuesday **1st New Years Day**
Wednesday 2nd January

Harold Hill	Elm Park
9am - 6.30pm	9am - 6.30pm
	Emergencies Only
	Emergencies Only
9am - 6.30pm	9am - 6.30pm
9am - 6.30pm	9am - 6.30pm
9am - 12.30pm	4pm - 6.30pm
Closed	10am - 6.30pm
9am - 6.30pm	9am - 6.30pm
9am - 6.30pm	Closed
9am - 6.30pm	9am - 6.30pm

1 Lindfield Road **Harold Hill** RM3 9BJ



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find us on
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Published by www.vetarazzi.co.uk 787 828361