



# Summer Newsletter

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Welcome to our Summer Newsletter from Cabra Vets. We are all looking forward to some nice weather here at Trade Kennels. We said goodbye to Stina one of our vets here this month and Mairead is our new Veterinary Surgeon here to look after your pets.

With the change in season, there are some common conditions seen in cats and dogs and in this newsletter some of them will be explained. If you have any questions regarding anything in this newsletter please don't hesitate to give us a call.

## Thinking of putting your dog in boarding kennels this holiday?? Here are some tips to consider:

1. Book well in advance
2. Check your dog's vaccination card: your dogs vaccinations need to be up to date to protect him and others from the spread of disease.
3. Kennel cough vaccine is also essential, and should be administered at least 10days before your dog is going boarding. This vaccine lasts a year.
4. It is a good idea to have your dog up to date with flea and worm treatments to ensure that he is protected while away with other dogs.
5. Bringing your dogs own bed and bowls can help them settle down quickly in the more unfamiliar environment
6. It is important to bring your dog's own food, this helps prevent stomach upsets due to the diet been changed suddenly.
7. Finally enjoy your holidays!



## Fleas

*It makes nearly everybody itchy when you mention the word fleas! Unfortunately they are very common at this time of year.*



### How do they spread?

- Fleas are picked up from:
  - Other pets through direct contact
  - Visiting other houses where fleas may be present.
  - Been outside or while on walks, especially in areas where other pets or wildlife are found.

### Interesting Facts

- The fleas found on cats and dogs are mainly cat fleas,
- Often bite humans as well.
- Fleas are wingless-use their strong back legs to jump onto animals.
- Females lay eggs in the environment and on the animal where they soon drop off.
- Eggs that fall into an appropriate environment are the ones that develop into adults
- Hatching can occur in 2days-2weeks
- Larvae emerge-food source is debris and faeces of adult fleas
- Larvae use the animals bedding as a protected environment. They spin a cocoon and develop inside until they are adult. If conditions aren't warm enough for them to emerge they can last up to a year in the cocoon!!!
- Fleas spend most of their life cycle not even living on the animal

### Problems Caused:

- Flea allergy Dermatitis
- Intermediate host for tape worm in cats and dogs
- Spread FIA and FeLV in cats

## Ticks

Ticks are relatively immobile- wait on the tips of vegetation for an appropriate animal to brush past.

### How do they spread?

- Ticks transfer onto the animals from vegetation etc
- Develop from egg to larvae, nymph and adult.
- Larvae, nymphs and adults all feed on animal for around 4-14 days then drop off and have a free-living period.
- Adult ticks mate on the animal. When on the ground they either moult to the next stage or lay up to several thousand eggs over 30 days

### Interesting Facts

- The adult tick dies after laying eggs
- Unlike flea infestations, there are no obvious signs of tick infestations other than the presence of the parasites and the local skin reactions to their bites.
- Ticks are most common in areas of rough grazing moorland and woodland.

### Problems caused:

- Skin irritation
- Potentially transmit Lyme disease



## Treatment for Fleas and Ticks

We recommend the use of products from the vet, which are medicated prescription only and will be a lot more effective than those from the supermarket or pet store. It is important to remember that if one pet has a flea infestation, all animals in the household must be treated, as well as the environment where the fleas hide!

*We have different products available in the clinic to suit your pet's needs. Call in for a free assessment and we can devise a flea treatment regime to suit your pet's needs.*

### Effipro:



### Frontline:



### Stronghold:



### Comfortis



### Interesting Pet Fact:

**No night vision goggles needed!** Dog's and cat's eyes contain a special membrane, called the tapetum lucidum, which allows them to see in the dark.



*The tapetum lucidum is what causes the eerie yellow glow that you see at night time when you shine lights like headlights from a car on your pet!*

Call us on 0504 90903

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