

Little Coombe Kennels & Cattery

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NEWSLETTER.....AUGUST 2009

SUMMER WEATHER is lovely for most of us but can bring some problems for pets:

Dogs left in cars can very quickly succumb to heat stroke and may die in a short period of time on a warm day.

Fleas and ticks are even more common at this time of year but are easily prevented. Advice on which products work best can be obtained from your veterinary surgery. If a tick does attach, do not pull it off or the mouth parts may remain. Special tick removal hooks are available.

Adder bites may occur if a dog disturbs a snake basking in the sun. They are painful and will need veterinary attention. Woodbury

Common is a favourite dog walking area but is also a site where adders have bitten dogs.

Sunburn, especially to the ear tips of white cats, can be serious and may lead to skin cancer. Special sunblock for pets which lie in the sun is a good idea.

Skin allergies in dogs can be seasonal as some are caused by grasses and pollens. Diagnosing the cause(s) can be time-consuming but allows the best possible control of the condition.

Exercise is best avoided during the middle of the day if the weather is hot, and all pets should have access to adequate drinking water.



*Above:
The marguerite daisies did really well this year and have brightened up the front of the house all summer*

DOG LANE has recently had some surface patching work carried out. Unfortunately we had no warning of when this would take place, apart from the white paint markings which had been on the road for months. On querying this with South West Highways, who were responsible for the work, we were told that unless the road is completely closed there is no obligation to inform local residents or businesses, or to set up a diversion. It seems that by using a sign which reads "Long delays, please find another route" instead of one which reads "Road Closed", they have no obligations to lessen disruption to residents.

We are sorry that several clients have been inconvenienced by the roadworks, when advance warning could have prevented this, but unfortunately it has been out of our control.

STAFF NEWS

Kelly has recently moved on to a new job and we wish her well for the future. Kelly originally came to cover maternity leave for another member of staff and ended up staying with us for longer than expected and we are grateful for all her hard work to date.

Kelly is replaced by Kirsty, who has recently finished her studies in Animal Care at Bicton College and has been working here on Saturdays for several years.

Kirsty is already very familiar with the job, and now also has the formal qualifications to go with that experience.

Our other full-time staff are Lorraine and Erica, helped part-time by Angela.

Vets Corner WORMS

All dogs and cats should be wormed every 3 months and some will need more frequent worming, depending on lifestyle (eg cats which hunt, animals fed raw meat and animals in contact with young children). Animals which travel abroad need special precautions, both before and after travel.

Please ask for more advice at your own veterinary surgery.