

## Contact Details

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The friendly team with over 50 years of veterinary experience.



### PHYSICAL PUNISHMENT WILL NEVER WORK TO CHANGE BEHAVIOUR.

What it does do is to create a pet who is fearful & insecure. It can make some dogs aggressive and attack you in their defense. Positive reinforcement is the only way to train your pet. Cats can be trained too, but kindness and patience is required. Rather than a beating, remove your dog/cat quietly and calmly and put them in their training crate which is far more effective. They learn that the behaviour has consequences - it takes them away from their humans. Limiting their freedom when they get it wrong helps get the message across. They learn to respect the owner. Kindness, patience and rewards always work best.



## Welcome to our June 2019 Newsletter.

Winter has arrived along with shorter days and cold winds that can chill a soul to the bone! While pets may look comfy in their furry coats, if you are feeling cold then they will be feeling it too. Cold winds can whip heat away from the body very quickly, and prolonged exposure to wind and rain can lead to frostbite or hyperthermia. If a pet is wet, then it will happen a lot quicker. Cold related illnesses can affect young animals (puppies & kittens), sick or underweight pets and those on medication. Outside pets who don't have the room to move around and keep warm can suffer. Don't underestimate winter – your pet needs shelter, protection from rain and wind, and an extra ration of food as keeping warm uses more calories.



### Allergy Sufferers Can Still Enjoy Having a Pet.

Many allergy sufferers go without the pleasure of pet ownership because of their condition. But you don't have to go without, just choose your pet wisely and those itchy red eyes and running nose can be a thing of the past. Check out these cute buddies.

**The Bichon Frise** – this cute adorable dog is a lower allergen pet and the dander (dry skin and pet saliva) is harder to escape their abundant curls. They are fun, cheerful and have a great personality.

**The Sphynx Cat** – this hairless character has a ton of personality. They are intelligent, curious and love people and can be a real cuddle addict.

**Portuguese Water Dog** – with their long coat you may not consider this gorgeous dog, but surprisingly their coat is not a problem. They love to swim, rarely shed, are easy to train, and can become the families best furry non allergy friend.

**Devon Rex Cat** – with their short wavy coats they are often considered one of the best cats for allergy sufferers. They love people and are mischievous and adorable pets.

**Alternative pets** - you can choose a snake, goldfish, parakeet or budgies, or even a pet pig! The pig has hair not fur, and they are intelligent and extremely trainable.

**Our information packed website for healthier + happier pets is;**

<http://www.cheltenhamvet.com/>

**WINTER ALERT** For those who use anti-freeze in your vehicles, please remember that this substance is deadly for your pet. Antifreeze contains ethylene glycol which is toxic to cats and dogs. If your pet walks through a spill on the ground and they lick it off a paw, that is enough to bring heart breaking consequences. Always keep the container locked away. Pets are curious creatures, which can get them into trouble. Please remember - A VERY SMALL AMOUNT OF ANTIFREEZE IS DEADLY TO PETS.

## HOT SPOTS – ON DOGS



### ACUTE MOIST DERMATITIS

Hot spots are circular lesions often found on the head, hip or alongside the chest area of your dog. Often caused by a local allergic reaction to a specific antigen such as a flea bite. These lesions will be moist, raw, inflamed and hairless. Your pet usually licks and bites this area, thus inflaming them even more. Treatment involves clipping the hair around the area and cleaning the surface with a non irritating solution. In severe cases, antibiotics and painkillers may be needed. While these are less common in winter, always check your dog's behaviour. Excessive licking and biting can indicate a problem.

**SNEAKY FLEAS & TICKS.** You may think you will have a respite over winter from these nasty parasites. Sadly, this isn't so. They are out looking for a host to keep them warm and fed over the harsh winter. Don't drop your defences, keep up with the preventative measures for your pet as prevention of these unpleasant creatures is by far the best course of action.

### Cheltenham Veterinary Clinic

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**PUPPY SCHOOL – WHY BOTHER?** That's a very good question so let me answer that with another question. How much will it cost to replace your nice shoes they just chewed up? Or the pillows they destroyed or maybe your mobile phone that they thought was a toy? Puppies are the cutest thing, but leave them untrained and you are inviting havoc! Training should start for your dog from 8 to 12 weeks of age. Get them while they are young! Teach them social skills (not to bite people) and teach them what you expect from them. Puppies are like sponges, they soak everything up and learn quickly. These classes will teach you how to calm your little tornado, using positive reinforcement not punishment. Get your puppy trained with fun, not fear. An obedient dog is a pleasure to see. They know what is expected of them and they respect their owners. The cost of training is well worth it to have a happy, obedient pup in the home.



Please check out our Facebook page – it is regularly updated and covers a wealth of information.

<https://www.facebook.com/cheltenhamvetclinic/>

### Tips on How To Brush your Cat or Dogs Teeth!

Start when your pet is young to get them used to you handling their mouth. Have everything handy before your start. Let your pet investigate the brush and taste the pet toothpaste - using a beef flavoured paste may help. Always use a toothpaste made for your cat or dog, human toothpaste is not good for them. Start by putting something yummy like peanut butter on your finger then wipe it around their mouth. Then after a day or so, try it with the toothpaste. Then introduce the toothbrush, just doing the outside of the teeth at first. Go slowly and let your pet get used to this new activity. Once they let you do that, include the side teeth, brushing side to side all the way to the back. Then introduce the brushing of the inside of the teeth. Just do it for a second, don't let them get upset by this motion. Be sure to look for signs of discomfort and stop the moment you see it. Brushing your cat or dogs teeth should never become a traumatic experience. Make it fun and you will find they will look forward to this extra attention and treats. Daily brushing of the teeth can prevent periodontal disease. There are some toys available that your pet can chew that also cleans their teeth so check out our pet supplies.



Courtesy of the [www.LeFunny.net](http://www.LeFunny.net)

**LEAN PETS LIVE LONGER...**Overweight pets are at risk with studies showing that a plump pet lives a shorter life than their healthy counterparts. They risk joint problems, heart disease, diabetes and much more. Keep them lean and active and they will be healthier and much happier.

**NEVER GIVE YOUR PET HUMAN MEDICATION OR MEDICATION NOT PRESCRIBE BY A VET.** Many human medicines are toxic to our pets. If you suspect that your pet has ingested a toxic substance, call us immediately for help.