

September—November 2017

Enjoy the latest edition of our clinic newsletter, the **Mog Log!****Looking Good, Feline Good**

In the wake of our new look website, we have decided to give you a new look Mog Log—we hope that you approve! Ragga the Maine Coon has become our handsome poster boy.

**Fabulous
Feline**

This sweet lady is Willow, a 14 year old Tortoiseshell. Willow was diagnosed with Hyperthyroidism in January, which is a common disease in older cats.

Unfortunately, Willow also developed Irritable Bowel Disorder and Pancreatitis, which caused her to debilitate rapidly.

One disease is difficult enough to manage, but when you add in more problems, it creates a medical juggling act. Despite using several of her 'nine lives' including a few hospital stays, a surgery and some intensive nursing, we are delighted to say Willow has bounced back and is on the mend!

**Feline Hungry? The Raw Essential**

The pet food aisle at your local supermarket or pet shop can be bewildering and slightly intimidating, to say the least. With the pet food market ever expanding, many cat owners are veering towards raw, or BARF diets (bones and raw food). Whatever you choose to feed your cat, we recommend a well-planned and species appropriate diet. Home prepared diets (cooked or raw) are often unbalanced and lead to serious health problems. Cats are strictly carnivores, and therefore can **never** become vegetarians (or vegans!). It is difficult to find unbiased advice or information on raw feeding versus processed diets, and at Cambridge Cat Clinic we do not solely recommend one or the other, but wanted to give you the facts.

Lovers of raw feeding are of the opinion that processed diets cause ill health and are unnatural, whereas die-hard fans of commercial processed diets believe that BARF is unbalanced and spreads Salmonella, Campylobacter and other harmful organisms. There are extreme opinions on both sides of the fence, which probably means that the "correct" diet of choice for our pet cats is somewhere in the middle!

To help our owners be better informed, we have produced a blog post on things to consider when choosing a BARF diet. To read all about it, click on the following link: <https://www.cambridgecatclinic.co.uk/raw-feeding-feline-hungry/> or take a printed copy from Reception.



Sarah Says...

Our feline-behaviour loving Registered Veterinary Nurse answers some of your behaviour questions.

Q: I have recently rescued an adult cat and I don't know if she will be scared of fireworks. What can I do to help her?

A: The issue with fireworks is that they are being used more commonly and not just on 5th November. This makes it very tricky to plan for such an event. Commonly, the advice given around Fireworks Night is to make sure that all animals are inside. This is not necessarily the right advice for every cat. Firstly, not all cats are scared of loud bangs and some will find it much more stressful to be forced to stay inside when they would rather be out. We must remember that cats are born with a very strong survival instinct and are very good at ensuring their own safety. If they are outside, they will find a place to hide if they are scared. So if your cat is normally allowed out at night then I would simply treat her as normal.

With indoor cats who are a little worried by loud noises then you might consider ensuring that all the windows and curtains are closed as this will go some way to reducing the noise. You could also make sure that a TV or radio is on. Another important thing is to ensure that your indoor cat has access to her favourite hiding place, in this instance this may be under a bed. So the overall message is to allow your cat access to where they wish to be as they know what they need. If possible, try to ensure that your cat has access to the indoors via a cat flap, or ensure that you are at home to let them in or out, depending on their wishes. Another thing to remember is to try not to make too much fuss if she appears frightened, just behave calmly and let her know you are there. It is possible for owners to 'encourage' fearful behaviour by rewarding it with cuddles, increasing their anxiety.

Plugging in a Feliway and/or Pet Remedy Diffuser (a couple of weeks before Bonfire Night) can increase your cats feeling of security within their own home. This helps to create a calm and safe environment which they can retreat into when frightened. These are available to purchase at the clinic.



Wriggly Worms -

Why should I de-worm my cat?

The most common intestinal worms cats get are called roundworms and tapeworms.

Most infected cats do not show signs of having worms; however, heavy worm burdens can cause weight loss, vomiting and diarrhoea, sore irritated bottoms and poor growth.

Importantly, while worms can sometimes cause problems for the cat itself, some worms can also be passed on to humans and on rare occasions can be a cause of serious human disease. For these reasons, regular treatment of cats and kittens to prevent or eliminate worms is very important.

Worms are especially harmful for young children, the elderly and the otherwise immune-compromised people.

How often you worm your cat depends on their flea control regime and their lifestyle.

For example, a cat that receives regular prescription flea control who does not hunt should receive a prescription worm control treatment every 6 months.

But, a cat that lives with young children and/or hunts regularly should be de-wormed every 1-3 months, depending on the efficacy of their flea control treatment.

There are many different worm and flea products available on the market—some more safe and effective than others.

Confused? Speak to a member of our friendly cat clinic team today.

Special Offer - 10% off health package!

Preventative healthcare is crucial in allowing cats to live long and happy lives. Nothing is more upsetting than seeing a cat suffering from a disease or illness that could have been easily avoided. Cambridge Cat Clinic provides a preventative healthcare package which helps save you money, and spread the costs of your cat's annual preventative healthcare over the year.

We are offering a 10% discount off your first quarterly payment for all new packages purchased on or before 30th November 2017 (to include those currently on the Kitten Package whom are upgrading to Adult Indoor or Outdoor. T and C apply).



Cox's Drove, Fulbourn, CB21 5HE

01223 88 07 07

info@cambridgecatclinic.co.uk

www.cambridgecatclinic.co.uk

