



## Keeping the Peace!

We love cats and 41% of us who have a cat are owned by more than one!

In the wild cats live solitary lives, only coming together to breed and raise young and only when food is in plentiful supply.

Sometimes our cats don't get along together living in such close quarters. This can lead to tension in the home, fighting, blocking of amenities and urine spraying.

**Feliway Friends is a new product by the makers of Feliway**, designed specifically to help inter cat aggression. It is a synthetic version of the pheromone the queen gives off when she is feeding her kittens.

If you are experiencing problems with a multicat household, along with the use of Feliway Friends we would also suggest making sure there are enough amenities for each cat. For example lots of resting places, some high, some low and some inside things like wardrobes. The magic number for litter trays is one per cat plus one and these should be dotted around your home in quiet areas. If the tray is under the stairs people will be thundering down them, in the conservatory other cats may be watching and if the tray is near the food your cat will tend to move where it toilets if they cannot move where they eat. Please remember that as a cat owner a litter tray should always be available somewhere in the house for your cat to use should they need to, regardless of whether there is a problem with soiling. Giving each cat its own place to eat is also important as unless your cats are related, cats generally don't like to share. Also provide water bowls separate from feeding areas wherever possible.

We hope that you don't have any problems and that your cats live well together but if you are experiencing any issues please contact your local branch for advice. There is also some helpful information available on our website [cinqueportsvets.co.uk](http://cinqueportsvets.co.uk) and the International Cat Care website [icatcare.org](http://icatcare.org).

## Fireworks... Keep Them Calm!

Although we are still enjoying the summer sun, now is a great time to think about preparing your pet for the firework season. There are several steps you can take to help your pets cope with this stressful time. Planning ahead is important especially if you are considering using pheromone therapy.



At Cinque Ports Vets we have several treatments which will help your pet cope. These range from plug in diffusers like Feliway and Adaptil to capsules which you put in your pet's food for example Nutracalm and Zylkene. All have been proven to help in relaxing your pet in the less severe cases of firework fear. Unfortunately some pets do not respond to the natural products as their fear is too severe or they are noise phobic. In this instance sedative drugs may be required for a short period of time.

These are available from your vet but they will require your pet to have had a recent health check and you may be asked to bring your pet in for a consultation. This is to ensure there are no underlying health problems which could be exacerbated by the medication. Your reaction to your pet's fearful behaviour is also very important, since reassurance encourages pets to continue displaying a particular behaviour.

It is important to remember to reward your pet's calm behaviour with cuddles and treats but if your pet is fearful, make sure you stay relaxed and act as a good 'role model' carrying on as if nothing is happening. Your veterinary nurse is more than happy to discuss all the available options with you as well as provide some top tips for the firework season itself. Please also see our website for more information.

## £100 Credit Voucher for our Clients

Barretts Land Rover and Jaguar are offering Cinque Ports clients a £100 credit voucher towards their vet bills. All you have to do is buy a new or used car from Barretts Land Rover or Jaguar and produce proof that you are a client of Cinque Ports Vets. Terms and conditions apply.

# Barretts

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# Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease

Your rabbit should be protected against two major diseases called Myxomatosis and Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease or RHD as it is also known. These can be potentially fatal.

Myxomatosis is a widespread disease caused by a virus. The disease is spread by blood-sucking insects such as the rabbit flea and mosquitoes. To find out more about Myxomatosis please visit our website.

RHD is a viral disease which is spread between rabbits by direct contact but also by indirect contact via people, clothing, on shoes, other objects and fleas.

All types of rabbit are potentially susceptible to both diseases, including house rabbits. It is possible to protect against both these diseases by vaccinating against them yearly with a combined vaccination.

It has recently been discovered that there is now a second strain of RHD (Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease) RHDV2 which you may be hearing about in the press.

Rabbits infected with the RHDV2 virus typically DO NOT show the symptoms that are common with the original RHD virus so it is far more difficult to diagnose. Fatality from RHDV2 occurs later and over a longer period of time than RHD. Although RHDV2 is less virulent than the original strain of RHD, its difficult early diagnosis actually means it is more challenging given rabbits can carry the disease for a longer period of time without any visible signs of infection.



We are currently importing stock of the only vaccine available against RHDV2 from France. This is a lengthy process as stock levels are limited and there is a high demand. If you would like your rabbit vaccinated against this additional strain of RHD2 please contact your local branch.

If they do not have a supply of the vaccine at the time we will take your details and contact you as soon as it is available. You must still vaccinate your rabbit against Myxomatosis and Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease (RHD) as well. This vaccine is not a replacement but in addition to your normal vaccination routine. At present as we are not in a high risk area for RHDV2 we are recommending yearly vaccination against the new strain. If you are a Pet Healthcare Plan member we are offering 10% off this additional vaccination.

If you are concerned about how best to protect your rabbit or have experienced the sudden death of your rabbit and are concerned, please contact us and we will be able to help. More information will also be available on our website.

**WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT**



Don't forget Macmillan this September. Our Kingsnorth branch will be holding a cake sale on Friday 30th September to help raise money for this great cause.

## Wye Summer Fair and Dog Show

We had a brilliant turn out for our Wye Veterinary Surgery Dog Show last month which was held alongside the Wye Royal Birthday Summer Fair.

We would like to thank everyone and their dogs for coming along to support us and the Wye Summer Fair.

We raised over £210 from the proceeds of our dog show meaning that a total of £1900 will be donated to both The Kent Air Ambulance and the Wye Village Hall Project.