

MACKIE & BRECHIN



EASTER COMPETITION

With Easter approaching we would love to see some fun and inventive designs for our practice easter egg! Please create your design on the template below (you can print it off or pop in to one of the surgeries for a paper copy) and hand it in or email to reception@mackieandbrechin.co.uk by 1st April for your chance to win a prize.

Please also read on for information about Easter Hazards, Ticks, the Pet Blood Bank and Staff News.

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Tel. for both surgeries and
24hr emergency service:
0131 333 3203



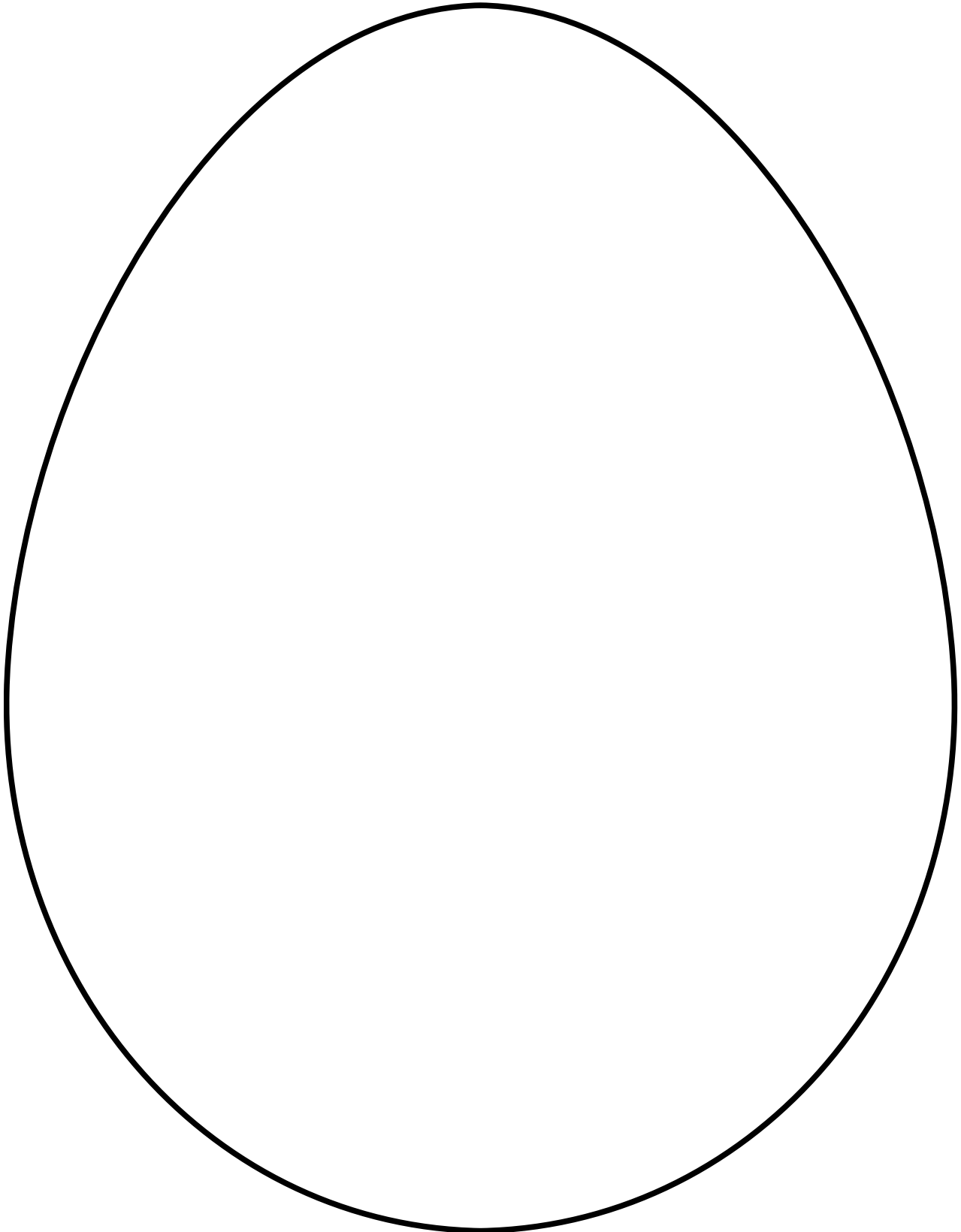
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~ Easter Egg competition ~

Please use the template below to design your Easter Egg to win an egg (for you!) and a toy for your pet up to the value of £10. There will be two age categories - under 12 and over 12 years (so adults are allowed too!) with prizes for both.

Please have your designs in by April 1st (to allow time to get your egg for Easter Sunday!)



Name:

Age:

Pet's name:

Please tick here if you do not consent to your design and first/pet name to be put on social media []



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EASTER HAZARDS



Chocolate



Take EGG-xtra care around these!
The higher the cocoa content, the higher the danger they pose. Store them away from your pet and be careful when eating chocolate around them.

Flowers/Bulbs



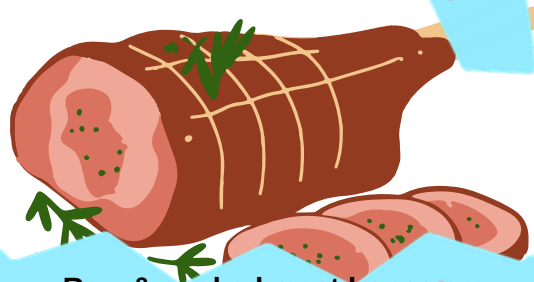
Every part of the lily can cause kidney damage in cats. Also, a lot of plant bulbs can be toxic to pets if chewed or eaten. So be careful when planting this spring or having flowers in your house.

Hot cross buns



Always raisin' suspicions!
Dried fruit like raisins, currants and sultanas that are found in easter treats can cause kidney damage when eaten by dogs.

Meat/Bones



Raw & cooked meat bones are dangerous for animals and can splinter and cause them an injury. Some meats are also quite fatty and could cause an upset.

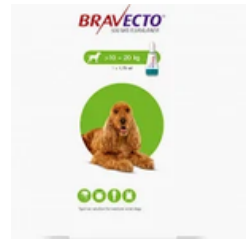
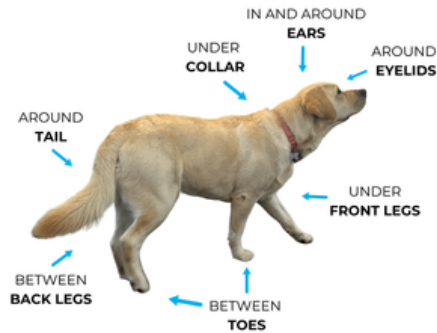


TICKS

Ticks are small, blood-feeding parasites that attach to animals and feed for several days before falling off. Common signs may include itching and inflammation but they can also transmit diseases such as Lyme disease and Anaplasma with potentially more serious consequences.

Prevention is always the best strategy so for animals at risk (typically highest for individuals with access to areas of rough ground where sheep and deer can be found) we would advise routine acaracidal treatment. High season for ticks tends to be from Spring to Autumn but they can be found all year round so it is worthwhile incorporating tick prevention into the routine parasite treatment schedule. There are various different options for prevention. One of the most effective and easily administered is [Bravecto](#), a tablet or spot-on that is given once every three months. All [dogs on our Tick & Tablet healthplan](#) get this routinely and so are fully protected. For [cats on our Outdoor Plan](#) a three-monthly [Felpreva](#) spot-on does the same job as well as worming. For lower-risk dogs on our [Standard plan we offer a 25% discount](#) on additional tick prevention for when it is required (eg. for holidays or periods of higher risk). Options here would include an Advantix spot-on or a Seresto collar. If you do find a tick on your pet then it is very important to remove it carefully ensuring removal of the head-parts. Do not use petroleum jelly, alcohol, or burn them, as these do not prevent disease transmission. Please contact us for advice.

WHERE TO CHECK FOR TICKS



USEFUL INFORMATION

ONLINE PRESCRIPTION ORDERING

Please remember that as well as ordering your prescriptions by telephone, you can also order them online. Go to our website and follow the link on our home page or follow the link below:

www.mackieandbrechin.co.uk/services/repeat-prescriptions

Please remember to give us at least 2 working days notice before collection.



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PET BLOOD BANK

We have been proud supporters of the Pet Blood Bank for around 18 months and have hosted them every 2 months on a Sunday.

The Pet Blood Bank is a charity that collects and provides blood products from dogs and cats across the UK. Donation centres are usually veterinary practices or hospitals. Cat donations tend to be performed within hospitals whilst dogs can be done at local centres such as Mackie and Brechin! Collected blood is taken to Loughborough where it is separated into its components to make sure each unit is used fully.

Dogs have 2 different blood types: DEA 1 negative and DEA 1 positive. Unlike humans, dogs can receive either blood type for their first transfusion, each one after that has to match.

To donate your dog has to be over 25kg, between 1-8 years old, fully vaccinated, have never left the UK or Ireland and not on full time medications. They do have to lie still on a table for a maximum of 10 minutes so its best that their temperament would tolerate this. Your dog will receive a full health check with a vet prior to donation and afterwards gets lots of biscuits and a nice toy to go home with.

Each donation can help up to four other dogs!

If you think your dog could donate with the Pet Blood Bank you can go to their website to register and gain more information about the process. Emma and Laura would love to see familiar faces come in on donation days. You don't have to have a dog or cat to help the charity they do have other ways you can donate if you would like to support them.

Thank you to everyone who has already been involved in donating to the Pet Blood Bank. Our last session was held on Sunday 22nd February 2026 with fantastic results.

Our next session is on Sunday 26th April . Please get in touch if you would be interested in donating.

OUT OF HOURS

If you require a vet outside our normal opening hours please call 0131 333 3203. You will hear a message directing you to VetsNow, our out of hours emergency care provider.

STAFF NEWS

We would like to welcome two new staff members to our fold.



Julia joined us in December as our new Head Receptionist. She began her career as a vet receptionist in Watford in 2000 and moved to Scotland in 2018. She has 2 dogs, 3 rabbits and an elderly diabetic cat. She likes walking, reading and wild water swimming (brrrrr)!!!

Kim is our new Deputy Head Receptionist and also joined us in December 2025. She has always had a deep love & respect for animals after being very fortunate to have grown up with dogs, hamsters, birds and keeping horses from a young age. She has a cat called Flint and an English Springer Spaniel called Brock. In her spare time she enjoys gardening, cooking and meeting up with friends.



CHARITY NEWS

Dementia Dogs



We continue to support this wonderful initiative that brings numerous benefits to humans living with dementia. This program pairs specially trained dogs with people experiencing dementia, providing them with companionship, assistance, and emotional support.

Canine Partners



We have also been saving all our stamps and sent a large quantity off to aid Canine Partners. This is a charity that trains dogs to assist with day to day activities and provide greater independence to people with physical disabilities.



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Pet Healthcare Plan

The aim of our Pet Healthcare plan is to provide your pet with the best possible preventative healthcare, whilst allowing you to spread the cost with affordable monthly payments throughout the year.

Vaccination is extremely important to protect your pet from infectious diseases and maintain good health. All plans therefore incorporate **annual boosters** including **kennel cough** for dogs and risk assessed **feline leukaemia virus** for cats. Parasite prevention, especially worming, is also vital in protecting the health of your pet and family. All treatments should be based on risk and so we have two options for dogs and cats with tick and worming treatments dependent on their lifestyle:

Dog Healthplan	Yearly Boosters	Kennel Cough	Formulation	Lungworm Protection	Tick Protection
Standard	✓	✓	Spot-On	✓	25% discount
Alternative	✓	✓	Tablet	✓	✓

Cat Healthplan	Yearly Boosters	Feline Leukaemia	Worming	Combined Flea/Tick/Worming
Indoor	✓	✓ (risk assessed)	YEARLY	-
Outdoor	✓	✓	-	3-MONTHLY

In addition to the above all plans come with the following benefits:

6 monthly health check

25% discount on 3 monthly med checks for animals on long-term medication

25% discount on tick prevention where required

Unlimited nurse consultations

(eg. weight clinics, nail clips, routine gland clearing)

Text and email reminders

£10 microchipping

10% DISCOUNTS on:

Surgery, Neutering, Imaging, In-house Blood Tests, Additional Vaccinations (eg Rabies), Travel Documents (health and export certificates) Dental Treatment, Food & Treats, Preventative Healthcare Products.

Joining is very straightforward. If you are interested in a simple, affordable way of protecting your pet's health please ask a member of staff or have a look on our website.



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