

AUTUMN GREETINGS

FROM PROSPECT HOUSE



Firework safety for pets

We hope you and your pets have had a good summer and are enjoying the change of seasons.

As we move through the year, we like to remind you of ways to keep your companions safe.

Firework season is a worrying time for many pets and their owners, please get in touch with us if you feel you may need support to prepare for this time. Our website also has advice on how to help our furry friends manage.

[Read our Firework Season Advice](#)

- 1 Draw curtains to keep bright lights out. Reduce impact of flashes.
- 2 Keep the radio or TV on to mask the bangs. Keep radio on when out of the house.
- 3 Cover hutches or bring indoors. Give extra bedding to allow them to burrow.
- 4 Keep water bowls topped up as pets are more likely to get thirsty from panting.
- 5 Avoid letting your pet outside when fireworks are going off nearby.
- 6 Keep doors & windows shut. Block cat flaps and make sure your garden is secure.
- 7 Check your pet's microchip is up to date in case they get scared and run away.
- 8 Provide safe hiding places in your home. Cover with blankets and extra bedding.
- 9 Offer your dog their favourite toy or chew to help them distract them.

Stay safe and seen this autumn

With dark nights approaching it is worth digging out all your high visibility collars and coats.

See our tips below on how to ensure your pets are safe as the nights get darker.

- Try and walk your dog earlier in the day when it is **lighter outside**
- Bring cats & small animals **inside before its dark** to ensure they are safe
- Use **reflective products** on harnesses, leads & collars to ensure they are easily seen

IMPORTANT! Check that your pet's microchip details are up to date and that they're wearing ID tags in case they get lost after dark.

We have prepared some more detailed information on our website about other autumn hazards to be aware of.

[Read our Autumn Hazards](#)

Staff updates

The practice has welcomed some new staff over the summer!

Elen Davie RVN has joined our nursing team and has settled in well. She is looking forward to meeting your furry friends when they come in for our Nurse Clinics.

You may also notice that **Rachel Jones** has moved from the reception desk to behind the scenes with our nursing team. Rachel has started her Veterinary Nurse training at Glynllifon College.

Molly Allen has also joined us as a nursing assistant and is enjoying working with your companions.

Michelle Bagnall has joined our reception team in both Colwyn Bay and Llanfairfechan. She loves greeting you and your pets and has quickly become an important part of the Prospect House family. We have enjoyed meeting her lovely Old English Bulldogs.

We sadly **say goodbye to Beth Thornley**, who has left to fulfil her role in the family business. We wish her luck in this adventure and are hoping she is still going to help us organise our social events!

Congratulations to Sophia on passing her first year of the Veterinary Nursing course. **Good luck too to Eleanor** as she approaches the final hurdles to qualifying as an RVN.

Poisoning dangers for pets

Autumn is a time for pet owners to be cautious about potential pet poisons.

As our pets go about their daily business, whether on walks or in our homes and gardens, they may encounter various seasonal dangers:

- 1 **Conkers**
Conkers are poisonous to dogs and can also cause intestinal blockage if ingested.
They contain a poison called aesculin which can cause vomiting, diarrhoea and abdominal pain.
- 2 **Wild mushrooms**
Fungi & mushrooms begin to appear in damp, autumn months.
Some wild mushrooms may only cause a mild stomach to upset. However, others are highly toxic and, if swallowed can cause kidney and liver failure.
- 3 **Fallen fruits**
In autumn the temperature starts to cool, which leads to many trees starting to drop their fruits.
Some seeds, pips and fruit stones (apples, cherries, plums etc.) contain toxins that can make your dog ill.
These fruits can also make your dog unwell if they're eaten when mouldy or after they've begun to ferment.
- 4 **Mouse poison**
Rodents can begin to enter homes looking for warmer places to live during autumn.
Mouse and rat poisons often smell and taste good to your dogs. If you use any of these poisons, it's important to ensure they are situated in places your dog can't reach.
Always **contact us immediately** if you are concerned that they may have eaten any poisons.

Thank you all for your ongoing support, we hope you found our autumn advice useful and we wish you and your pets a happy and healthy autumn.

From the Prospect House team