

Holiday paradise for our pets

IT'S one of the moments we dread about going on holiday: taking our pets to kennels or the cattery. Pets have an incredible way of making us feel so guilty about leaving them: is it the way they look at us, the way they act, or is it — just maybe — our own conscience?



At ONE magazine, we've 'discovered' Belvoir Boarding Kennels at Colston Bassett, a place so good that you're tempted to send your pooch off to Portugal and your puss off to Catalonia while you stay there yourself. Well, perhaps that's a tad of an exaggeration but it is a place where cats are known to purr and dogs to wag their tails in delight at the prospect of a week or two's reprieve from their owners!

Belvoir Boarding Kennels is owned by farmer Martin Loxton. Martin is a self confessed animal lover who has four dogs and two cats of his own and has vast experience as carer and nursemaid to hundreds of pigs and lambs during a lifetime's career as a farmer.

He began the kennels some 18 years ago as farming began to change and rearing pigs no longer bought in the bacon. As a farmer, he always prides himself in setting high standards and today he presides over England's finest award winning boarding kennels for cats and dogs.

Such was the success of those early years that the cattery unit quickly followed and both units have been progressively improved since then in an on-going programme of improvements to ensure the pet accommodation at Belvoir Boarding Kennels is second to none.

Martin has a team of four full-time and six part-time assistants who care for their guests on a rota of five-day shifts covering the full seven days of the week, every week of the year. The team are fully trained in all aspects of animal care and experienced staff are able to administer medication.

They pride themselves in the personal touch, which begins when you first make contact with Belvoir Boarding Kennels and

continues through to the very last moments when they wave goodbye to you and your pet.

A full collection and delivery service is also available for your convenience.

As soon as you book your pet in, all the important details and characteristics of your dog or cat are taken. No matter how individual the dietary needs you can be assured they will be respected and that your much-loved animal will receive quality care and attention throughout their stay. And, because full veterinary cover is included in the boarding charges, there's a further guarantee that should the unforeseen happen, your pet's healthcare needs will immediately be put in the hands of experts without any additional cost to yourself.

It's a level of genuine concern for, and love of, animals and their high standards of service that has earned Belvoir Boarding Kennels a customer Champion Award from Unisys and *The Sunday Times*.

Says Martin: "We thoroughly enjoy our work which, for me, fits around the running of a working farm. We try to offer the very best accommodation, care and service we possibly can and we welcome people to pop in and look us over before committing their pets to our care. Many of our customers bring their pets again and again, some many times each year. It's about building trust and we work very hard to achieve it."

Belvoir Boarding Kennels and Cattery is located at New Road, Colston Bassett, Nottinghamshire. To find out more either go to the website www.belvoir-kennels.co.uk, ring 01949 81247 or call in at the kennels and cattery to see for yourself.



Our pets deserve a holiday too!

BELVOIR BOARDING KENNELS FACTFILE:

DOGWATCH:

- Top class kennel blocks with 60 kennels, 33 of which overlook the beautiful Vale of Belvoir.
- The remainder are very spacious indoor kennels to cater for post-operative and elderly dogs. All the kennels are bright and spacious and designed so that all the canine guests can see and chat to each other.
- All the dogs are exercised twice a day around two, fully enclosed, five-acre fields (below) either on a one-to-one basis or as a group. They are off the lead and free to run in this safe, adventurous environment.
- All the kennels are heated and have roomy, individual runs and dogs are free to roam from inside to outside at any time of the day or night.
- Meals are always prepared in accordance with the owner's requirements



CATALOGUE:

- Our feline friends are housed in a totally separate, spacious and secure all-weather building with heating and fresh air systems. There are 30 individual kennel units.
- Each cat's quarters have a heated under-bed blanket and a large versatile scratching log. All the cat guests can see each other.
- Exquisite murals of the Vale of Belvoir countryside and the gentle soothing sounds of the radio complement the tranquillity of the cattery.
- Meals are always prepared in accordance with the owner's requirements.

