Small Animal Newsletter Winter 2023

CVC CLINIC NEWS

Welcome to the Winter edition of the CVC Small Animal Newsletter! We hope you and your pets are staying warm and dry despite our notorious South West Victorian weather.

Exciting changes have been happening at CVC! You asked and we listened—**we now offer late night appointments three nights a week for all your pets routine checkups that cannot be scheduled during regular work hours.** We have a vet and two qualified nurses in clinic until 7.30pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights, as well as our on-call vet for any emergencies that might pop up.

July is National Desexing Month and CVC is very proud to be a flagbearer for this great initiative! We are the only clinic from Geelong to SA that are on board—pop online to the NDN website or follow this link https://ndn.org.au/about-ndn to read more about the NDN and the great work that they do! What does this mean for you? **We are offering heavily discounted desexing surgeries for the entire month of July** so if you have been wanting to get your pet desesxed but cost restraints have been an issue, give us a call to book in—but hurry, spots are filling fast!

Does your pet have smelly breath, are their teeth discoloured or are they reluctant to eat? In this edition, we will focus on how we recognise when our pets require dental attention and what we can do to help them achieve oral comfort and tip-top health. We will look at the benefits of dental x-rays and how they help us to assess and treat your pet.

Did you know?

Our nurses are trained for many situations and are a wealth of information.

Not only do they run our hospital and assist during surgeries, they provide free dental checks, weight management consultations and can administer follow-up injections. You can also ring the clinic for general advise from our nurses - they are an invaluable part of the CVC team and we are really lucky to have the best!

Camperdown Veterinary Centre

1 Leura Street , Camperdown

Ph: (03) 5593 1077

OPENING HOURS

Monday 8.00am-7.30pm

Tuesday 8.00am– 7.30pm

Wednesday 8.00am– 5.30pm

Thursday 8.00am– 7.30pm

Friday 8.00am– 5.30pm

Saturday 9.00am – 12.00pm for routine consultations, food & medication collection.

24-hour emergency vet service available

CVC OFFERS for 2023

July 2023 - DESEXING MONTH

Whilst desexing may seem an expensive exercise, it can help prevent many health issues including prostate cancer in males & uterine infections (an extremely dangerous condition & potentially fatal) in females.

During July we are further discounting our already heavily subsidised prices. (CVC already minimizes the cost to encourage responsible ownership & help the pets in our community)

August & September 2023 – DENTAL MONTHS

What's better than one dental month? Two dental months!!! Utilise these months to book your furry friend in for their dental check up & procedure**. FREE dental checks with a nurse. Receive a goodie bag for FREE to take home after their dental surgery to keep their breath smelling fresh!**

October 2023 – GROOMING MONTH!

Time for a spring clean! Book your dog in for a hydrobath & we will do a bonus nail trim for FREE!

November 2023 – BEHAVIOUR MONTH!

November is all about your pet's behaviour! Make the most of this month by booking in with one of our vets to help curb any problem behaviours!

To make the most of these offers, give us a call now to secure a booking!

COLDER MONTHS & DEALING WITH ARTHRITIS

Like people, the cold winter weather can affect our pet's diseased joints and mobility and this can cause an unnecessary amount of pain for them.

What is ARTHRITIS?

Arthritis is a result of ongoing wear and tear and instability in the joints, although other factors such as injury, genetics, immune disease and cancer can also affect the progression. Arthritis can affect multiple joints in the body. The most common joint affected in dogs and cats are the hips, knees, shoulders and elbows.

How do I know if my pet is struggling with arthritis?

There are multiple signs that may indicate your pet is suffering from arthritis, even though most dogs and cats are very stoic and tend to hide the signs of being uncomfortable.
Signs may include one or more of the following:

- Reluctance to walk, run, play and climb stairs
- Licking particular joints more than usual
- Limping
- Stiffness and slow when getting up and down, particularly after rest
- Lagging behind

Ways to manage Arthritis

There are several ways to manage your pets arthritis pain.

Firstly, we would recommend a visit with one of our veterinarians, to eliminate other health concerns. Your vet will recommend which is the best joint management plan for your individual pet—each plan is different, it is not 'one size fits all.'

- **4Cyte -** 4cyte is a liquid or granule joint supplement which is added to your pets meals. This aids in the management of a natural pain relief, stimulate cartilage repair and help repair damaged joints. We sell 4cyte in the clinic– and is simply purchased over the counter
- **Cartrophen Injections –** These injections are given initially by a vet, and thereafter can be administered by a nurse. They can help protect the cartilage, improve the quality and amount of joint fluid, and can help mobility.
- **Warm bedding –** Often as the symptoms of arthritis worsen during the colder months, it is important to provide your pet with nice, warm bedding that is close to the ground to help them enter and exit their bed easily. Coats and jackets can also help to keep them warm (plus make a striking fashion statement!)
- **Royal Canin Mobility Food –** This diet contains ingredients to promote optimal joint health & maintain a healthy weight to ensure extra strain is not put on your pet's joints.
- **Gentle Exercise –** If your pet seems sore, decrease their exercise and and try to ensure it is not strenuous on their joints.
- **There are other medical options available —please discuss with your vet at your next check up.**

CVC now offers **GAPONLY.** GapOnly is run by Petsure, a well known insurance company. It is a great initiative which provides a better and easier claim experience for insured pet parents, with less paperwork, on the spot processing, and less upfront costs! So you can focus more on the health of your pet & less on the pressure of treatment costs. Ask our reception staff for more information & visit their website!

https://gaponly.com.au/how-gaponly-works/

PUPPY PRE-SCHOOL

Did you know we offer Puppy Pre-School for puppies from 8-18 weeks old! Puppy School is run by our skilled nurses and is a great way to socialise your puppy in a controlled environment! We will also teach you basic training skills, and help give your puppy the best start in their life!

On graduation of Puppy School, you will receive loads of goodies including a graduation certificate :-)

- One hour sessions over 4 weeks
- Classes are loads of fun & rewarding for all!
- Puppies must have had their first vaccination & worming treatment.

OUR HYDROBATH!

Is your pet a little bit dirty & smelly at the moment due to the mud? Leave your dog with us for the day, while they enjoy a spa, and return home squeaky clean! Our hydrobath is a specially designed to recirculate water to penetrate thick hair, whilst giving them a lovely massage effect!

During October, we will do a FREE nail clip after each hydrobath!

Some of our beautiful Puppy Pre-School graduates from Summer 2022!

YOU'RE INVITED!

On **Thursday August 10th,** our vets Dr Lauren Harrison & Dr Allison Burgess will be talking all things dentistry in your furry friends, while enjoying dinner & drinks on us! Feel free to come along and learn a thing or two about the importance of dentistry in your pets! This will kick off our massive dental deal in August & September!

Heaps of goodies & HUGE giveaways including $500 dental vouchers!

Thurs 10th August LOCATION: Hampden Hotel, Camperdown TIME: 6.30PM

Overweight pets… the problems relating to obesity

If you have already tried weight loss but haven't been successful then your vet can rule out metabolic diseases that could be contributing to the problem. Diseases like Hypothyroid disease, Cushing's disease and even some medications can all contribute to weight gain. Your vet can perform an examination and blood tests before you start your diet program and with our in house laboratory, we can have your pet's results back the **same day**! Other factors in obesity include…

- **Diet.** Most pet foods have a feeding guide to help determine the amount to feed your furry friend.
- **Exercise.** Multiple short walks daily may be more readily tolerated than a big long run once a week. Some pets will enjoy swimming as it relieves the load on their joints.
- **Treats**. This is where we often come undone. What seems so innocuous is in fact like offering a high calorie food like a donut to us.

If you think your pet is overweight, please book an appointment with our vets to discuss the safest way to lose

AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2023– DENTAL MONTH

DENTAL X-RAYS

DID YOU KNOW WE HAVE A STATE OF THE ART DENTAL X-RAY & DENTAL MACHINE?

There's a saying in vet medicine that "more mistakes are made from not looking than from not knowing" and no more can this be true than when it comes to animal dentistry!

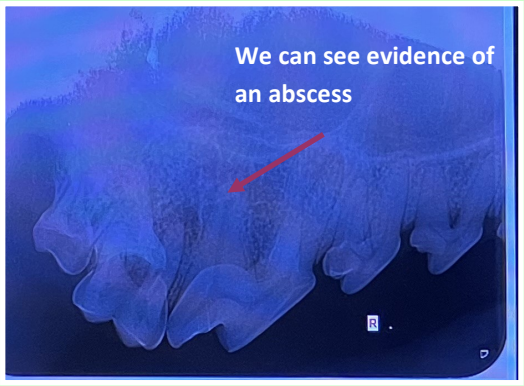
Dental disease is graded from 1 to 4. 85% of pets over the age of 3 have periodontal disease, but many go untreated. At Camperdown Vet Centre, we are committed to providing best practice care for our valued patients and have invested in up-to-date dentistry equipment so we can provide comprehensive oral care to your special pets. This includes offering dental x-rays in practice. Dental x-rays also form an essential part of a comprehensive dental examination. Why is this so? Well, you can't see what you don't look for!

When we look at your pet's mouth in the consultation room, we are limited to only seeing dental disease that lies on the crown of the teeth and the gum. But it's what lies below the gum that is the most important! To make an accurate assessment and diagnosis of your pet's oral health we need to put together a complete diagnostic picture that includes the visual examination of the teeth and gums, dental probing around the teeth to look for pockets and dental x-rays to assess the integrity of the boney structures around the teeth. Just like when we go to the dentist—the only difference is that to do this thoroughly in pets we need a general anaesthetic! (We appreciate keeping our fingers intact and it is standard practice now).

Because up to 75% of the tooth lies below the gum line, without dental x-rays we may miss significant changes such as bone loss, tooth resorption, retained roots, abcesses, jaw fractures and even tumours. If ignored these can all cause ongoing pain for your pet.

Dental x-rays are useful to confirm that teeth do in fact need extraction and sometimes this can mean we ***don't*** take a tooth out! By using dental x-rays we can make an accurate treatment plan for your pet and be prepared for surprises like extra roots, hooked roots and retained roots. Knowing this in advance helps us plan an untraumatic approach, reducing post-operative pain and complications for your pet.

Dental radiographs (x-rays) provide a wealth of information beyond what we can see when we simply lift the lip in consult. Unfortunately, it can be hard to identify oral pain in your pet's mouth as they will still eat and drink despite having loose and infected teeth. Some pets may become withdrawn or resent being touched around their head. After treatment many owners tell us "they are like a puppy/kitten again!".



CLINICAL SIGNS OF DENTAL DISEASE:

Smelly breath (Halitosis)

Discoloured teeth

Loose teeth

Gingivitis—red , inflamed gums

Changed behaviour—withdrawn or snappy

Reluctance to eat

Changes in face shape—swellings, altered jaw shape, protruding teeth or tongue

AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER ARE DENTAL MONTHS FOR OUR FURRY FRIENDS!

Early detection of dental disease can avoid diseased teeth causing pain in your pet and the associated bacterial infection affecting other organs such as the heart, liver and kidneys. If you are interested in seeing what lurks beneath your pet's gumline, get the ball rolling to take advantage of our specials and book them in now!

The offers keep on coming……. During August and September we are offering $100 OFF all dental procedures PLUS 50% off dental xrays! Pets that undergo dental procedures during August & September will go home with a FREE goodie bag! This will include awesome dental hygiene products, treats and goodies to help maintain their clean teeth. So what are you waiting for? Book now on 5593 1077