

Spring 2016

Jo's Jabber

Hooray for Spring! What a wet, muddy and wonderful winter we've just had (Joshua enjoyed all of the above as you can see)! The magnificent wattle blossoms are appearing and pointing them out to the kids while we are in the car gives us a nice break from "I Spy" which of late has degenerated into impossible guesses including 'm for molecule' (Oliver), 'g for grey clouds' (Clare) and Joshua went through a phase where no matter what letter he said, it stood for 'fire truck'!



At the clinic we are phasing in some new uniforms and a new member of our reception team – welcome aboard, Sarah Murphy! Sarah is new to the veterinary world and we appreciate your patience with us all as she finds her feet. Be warned: she's a Richmond supporter... In other staff movements, we farewelled Liz in June, Alistair has returned from a trip to Europe and Julia has returned after working and travelling overseas for the past 18 months.

Good luck to all of you in sporting finals (go Floss, Adam and the Valley!) and keep an eye out for the 5 matching beanies I knitted for us this year, they are not embarrassing at all... Have a great Spring!



Case of the Quarter

Meet 'Mush' the naughty cat who gave his owner's Katie and Lance a big scare when he got sick. It turned out he ate plastic! The plastic was retrieved with surgery and Mush has recovered well and is now sticking to cat food.



Small Animals

C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, once I caught a fish alive!

What is new in the world of small animal vaccination?

We are always trying to keep on top of the latest recommendations to keep our pets healthy and as a result the vaccination protocol for our dogs and cats has changed.

The latest recommendations from the World Small Animal Veterinary Association are to provide puppies and kittens with an initial course of vaccinations which is completed at 16 weeks or older. Their next booster is 12 months later.

The reason behind this is that young animals will vary on when they are able to respond to a vaccination. This means that one pup/kitten may respond to the first (and each vaccine) while another may not respond until the 16 week vaccine.

12 months following the 16 week vaccination, your pet will require a booster vaccination and health check.

For adult dogs the core C3 vaccine is only required every 3 years. At this stage the core cat vaccine (F3) is still required annually.

Other recommended vaccines for FIV (feline AIDS) and Canine Cough continue to be required every year.

You are probably already thinking how am I going to remember all these appointments?!!! **Don't worry we will help keep you organised with reminders!**

Another important part of your yearly visit is their health check. As they are aging a lot faster than us (around 7 years to one of ours) a once a year check up is like us visiting the doctor once every 7 years!!

During this examination we check for early signs of disease, make sure eyes, ears, teeth and skin are healthy and answer any questions you may have about your pet's health.

If you are unsure of your pet's vaccination status, just give us a call and we can make sure they are fully protected.



Two fascinating facts!!

- The sentence "The quick brown fox jumps over a lazy dog." uses every letter of the alphabet.
- Honeybees flap their wings 230 times every second.

All about AI

Favourite Pizza: Anything with salami or pepperoni

Favourite word: Serendipitous

Who is your hero? My parents

Your favourite country you have visited? Canada

Your party trick? I can make a snake head with my hands

Sweet or savoury? Savoury

Favourite movie? The Shawshank Redemption

What would you sing at karaoke? Lithium by Nirvana

Your pets? Berry: a timid but lovely Border Collie. Smokey: a cat the bullies the dog, but is equally as lovely!

Where are you from originally? Melbourne but am loving the "tree change"

Beach or snow? Snow



THANK YOU!!

Thank you for your generosity in support of the Orangutan Rehabilitation centre.



Through the fundraising and support of Zebra Vet veterinary wholesaler we were able to donate a large amount of supplies (pictured below) to help with rehabilitation of these amazing animals.



Large Animals

Like a fish out of water, an organ out of a cow!!

It's never nice checking the cows and finding there is something pink at the back end that shouldn't be there!!!

Prolapses can occur in association with the rectum, vagina or uterus.



L→R: Uterine prolapse, a very large rectal prolapse and a vaginal prolapse

Rectal prolapses may be seen in cows, steers and bulls. If detected early and the rectal tissue is still healthy it can be replaced and temporarily sutured. When the prolapse is infected and inflamed or the tissue is dead treatment is more of a salvage procedure. Rectal prolapses are generally related to a straining event like scours.

Uterine prolapses may follow a difficult calving (often a down cow, on a hill!) or in association with low calcium or fat cows! These should be treated as a veterinary emergency. The prognosis is largely dictated by the state of the cow. Some animals that have been down for a long period or are unable to stand may die from shock and blood loss due to tearing of internal blood vessels. Early veterinary intervention is key to increasing the chance of survival.

Treatment involves replacing the clean uterus into the cow and in some cases suturing the vulva. Antibiotics and anti-inflammatories are given to prevent infection and aid in healing and survival for the cow.

What do you do if you find a cow with a uterine prolapse? Call the vet! Once you have called us a vet can get moving as quick as possible. Down cows should be tied where they are to prevent them getting up and running away!! Every step they take with the uterus hanging is one step

closer to the vessels rupturing!!

If she is close to the yards she can be walked there in a calm, slow manner avoiding any running.

Vaginal prolapses are usually seen in heavily pregnant cows, often the full figured ones!! Similar to rectal prolapses they are usually related to straining. Cows grazing clover pasture can be at a higher risk of prolapse due to the phytoestrogens (natural chemicals) found in the pasture.

Treatment is to replace the prolapse and then temporarily suture the vulva to prevent recurrence. In cows that are due to calve a prolapse button may be used to allow calving through the prolapse. Many cases recover well from prolapse repair however some will re-prolapse in the same season and can have a higher tendency to prolapse again later in life.

In most cases treatment of all types of prolapses is successful. Early intervention increases the likelihood of a good outcome.



Thigh Slapper

A guy walks into a bar. The bartender says, "Do you want to play a game? See those two rib-eyes nailed to the ceiling? You get to throw one dart.

If you hit one, you get to take them home and I'll give you a free drink." The man replies, "No thanks, the steaks are too high."

