

Summer 2017-18

Jo's Jabber

Well, it has been a 3 month period of many changes for us - in September we walked on hot coals followed by a trip to Buffalo to the snow!



We also had some changes at work: Kristy in reception has moved on and we wish her, Matt and all their animals all the best for the future. We also have some new additions to our team: Alanna in reception, Peta in our nursing team, Felix in our vet team and Courtney who helps us after school and is about to start the vet nursing course. We are very grateful to have these guys on board and we appreciate your patience as they find their feet.

In other exciting clinic news... **Floss is engaged!** A massive congratulations to her and Matt on this new chapter in their lives.

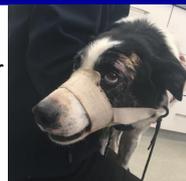
At home, Joshua's Christmas list is growing daily and I'd like to send a shout-out to his kinder team who have helped him learn to write his name. Thanks guys - he now likes to label everything to ensure we all know it belongs to him, including walls, toys, furniture, the dust on our car...



We are looking forward to a lovely Christmas with Adam's family in Jerilderie and I'd like to take this opportunity on behalf of Adam, myself and all of our team to wish you and your family and friends an awesome Christmas and New Year. We can't wait to continue our adventures with you and your animals in 2018!

Case of the Quarter

Some of you may recognise Buddy from facebook. Buddy came off worse for wear after taking on a car. His jaw was dislocated and he suffered some spinal trauma. After 2 weeks of love and care at the clinic he went home and has made a fantastic recovery.



Buddy with his sling muzzle to treat the jaw dislocation and after it was removed.

Small animals

Something wee need to mention....

Lower urinary tract issues frequently occur in cats. Most cats show signs of straining, frequent attempts to urinate, only pass small amounts of urine and blood may be noticed in the urine. It is also not uncommon for cats to lick their genital area or urinate outside their litter tray.



The most common cause of urinary disease is idiopathic feline lower urinary tract disease (IFLUTD), meaning the cause may not be identified. Other causes of the same symptoms can include infection, urinary stones and cancer. In order to determine what the underlying cause is further investigation is required. This may include urine analysis, urine culture, radiographs or ultrasound.

Cats who suffer from IFLUTD often have recurrence of symptoms over their lifetime and most commonly this is preceded by a stressful event. These stressful events might be obvious such as a cat fight or can be more subtle like a new cat roaming the area, changes in the weather or visitors to the house. Initial treatment involves treating the discomfort caused by the condition. Management (to reduce the frequency of recurrence) is aimed at reducing the likelihood of a stressful event occurring or impacting the cat including using Feliway pheromone diffusers, ensuring adequate numbers of well placed litter trays are available, other behavioural support to minimise stress and the use of prescription diets.

Trouble urinating, particularly in male cats, should be treated as urgent as male cats can become completely blocked and not pass any urine at all. This is usually due to inflammatory cells becoming lodged in the urethra (the tube running from the bladder through the penis). When this occurs their bladder cannot empty and continues to enlarge. Not only is this extremely uncomfortable but it can lead to fatal changes in the kidney.

If you have a cat that is stressed easily or are wanting more information about your cat's requirements contact the clinic.



A blue whale's heart is the size of a VW beetle.

Their tongue weighs as much as an African elephant and their fart bubbles are big enough to enclose a horse.





Where did you grow up?

My family is originally from Wangaratta where we had a pig farm. We then moved to Mansfield when I was young.

Any fur/feather babies?

Merv a wired hair pointer and a flemish giant rabbit "Peter Rabbit".

Your most memorable moment whilst nursing?

Many, however being the anaesthetist for a lion anaesthetic is a stand out! We removed his tooth, thankfully he stayed asleep for the procedure !!



Favourite treat food?

Donuts – I am a regular at the bakery here!

Hobbies?

Hiking, kayaking and snow skiing.

A horse walks into an icecream shop and....

went to order an apple icecream but then he got colt feet!!



Crazy cat haircuts!



The cause of 40 times more deaths than cancer....



Antibiotic resistance is an extremely important topic gaining more headlines recently. There are predictions it will cause 40 times more human deaths in 2050 than cancer. New bacteria are emerging that aren't being killed by current antibiotics. One contributing factor in the emergence of antibiotic resistance is the overuse and misuse of antibiotics in human and veterinary medicine.

Veterinarians have strict guidelines they must follow when dispensing medications to farm clients including that the client is *bona fide* client (which means an annual farm visit at a minimum has been performed), they know and can document why the antibiotic is being used and they select the right antibiotic for the condition being treated. This might clarify for our clients why we choose to dispense a different antibiotic to the one you had in mind or suggest alternate, non antibiotic, management options. Although your initial antibiotic choice may have worked in the past it is about choosing the most appropriate medication so we all play our role in reducing antibiotic resistance, otherwise one day none of the medications we have available will work at all. We also hope this clarifies why we cannot prescribe medications to just have on hand.

Different antibiotics have different groups of bacteria they will kill. Some antibiotics kill the bacteria while others damage them so the body's immune system can destroy them. It is important we don't use two different classes of antibiotics for the same patient. If your first antibiotic choice hasn't cleared the infection please contact our veterinarians before giving a different one.

Some suggestions of when to use which antibiotic are listed below, we always welcome our clients to ring and check their antibiotic selections with our veterinarians prior to treatment .

Penicillin (white): lameness due to infection. Not for mastitis or dirty cows.
Alamycin/Oxytetracycline (brown): mastitis, dirty cows, sick cows, feedlot pneumonia.

Trisoprim: great for calves (respiratory disease, sick calf with diarrhoea where faecal test rules out other causes, pneumonia), mastitis, salmonella scour.

Australia, although not as bad as America with antibiotic use, is still a way behind the European countries where antibiotics are rarely used. This is not only great for the contribution to reducing antibiotic resistance but also better for your back pocket with less money spent on medication!

April 11, 2012 / US News | Isaac
 FDA Seeks to Limit Antibiotic Use in Livestock

