

BLOCKHOUSE BAY VETERINARY CENTRE NEWSLETTER



24 Donovan Street, Blockhouse Bay
Phone: 626 3456
Fax: 627 1073
E-mail: vets@bhbvets.co.nz
www.blockhousebayvets.co.nz

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Dear Client,

We have had some staff changes recently at the clinic. In our last newsletter we advertised for a student to help with some after school cleaning. I was somewhat surprised and a little overwhelmed by the number who applied. I would like to thank all of you who applied and I am sorry I could not meet all of you, or offer a job to more of you.

We have ended up with a great find in Debbie Officer who is keen to pursue a career in veterinary medicine and we will endeavour to mentor her along her way.

Sadly we had to say good bye to Chloe Knowles after five years of working for us. She had started working with us as an after school job, then went on to complete her vet nursing training. We wish Chloe well with her career.

The good news is we have taken on Natalie Bryson a qualified vet nurse who is great with the patients and I am sure you will enjoy dealing with her when you are next in.

Look forward to seeing you soon

Lance, Jacqueline, Geoff & the Team



THE TEAM

VETS: Lance Eastman, Jacqueline Eastman & Geoff Neal
NURSES: Fiona Hammond, Louise de Schot
Natalie Bryson.
RECEPTIONISTS: Margaret Galbraith & Vanessa Harrison
ASSISTANT: Debbie Officer

PRACTICE HOURS

Monday to Friday 8.00am to 7.00pm
Saturday 8.30am to 2.00pm

Try Iams New Zealand Lamb & Chicken



Made with New Zealand Lamb
65% more cats prefer Iams Medley Kibble

**BUY ONE GET ONE
FREE!**

Iams Lamb & Chicken Cat Food 1kg

Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer. Limited time only. While stocks last.



Life's Better
IAMS
Cat Foods

Offer available for a limited time while promotional stocks last so get in quick for this great deal.

Flea Facts

- 1 There are some 2300 different species of fleas including *Ctenocephalides felis* the cat flea and *Ctenocephalides canis* the dog flea. It is more common to find the cat flea on dogs than the dog flea.
- 2 A flea population will be made up of 5% adults, 10% pupae, 35% larvae and 50% eggs.
- 3 A female flea can lay 45 eggs per day and can lay 1000 eggs in her life time.
- 4 A flea can jump the height of 150 times its own length.
- 5 Fleas have no wings but have six legs.
- 6 Fleas feed on blood, they can suck so much blood from kittens and puppies that they cause anaemia which if severe can result in death.
- 7 The saliva of a flea can act as an allergen causing allergic reactions in people and pets.



Has that got you feeling itchy yet? As you can see it is important that fleas never get a chance to breed as one flea could contaminate your house with potentially 1000 or more new fleas.

September Special

Buy any box of **ADVOCATE**
and receive an extra pipette **FREE**



Offer available for the month of September only.
You must mention this article to receive your free pipette.
Available in both dog and cat.



New Urine Analyser for Clinic



To treat a sick patient it is important to know what is wrong with them and the faster you can find out the sooner you can start the correct treatment. We have had a blood analyser in the clinic capable of giving us accurate biochemistry results in as little as ten minutes, for the last five years.

We have just purchased a urinalysis machine that should also be of great help to our patients. When testing urine the old way we put urine on a dip stick and read the colour change off a chart on the side of the bottle.

This is very subjective and not very accurate. Our new machine gives us an accurate quantitative reading for each parameter.

It also will do a very useful test to monitor kidney function that we could not do at the clinic before. We will be able to offer this test at a cheaper rate than before when we had to use the external lab.

Bringing your cat to the vet– useful tip.

It is always best to bring your cat in a cage for its own safety. It is also a good idea to have a thick layer of paper at the bottom of the cage. If the cat urinates the paper absorbs the urine. This is especially important with the plastic cages as without paper the poor cat ends up in a urine swimming pool!





CASES OF THE MONTH

Flossy gets a bite on the bum.

Flossy is a young male rabbit who was presented to the clinic with a large swelling on his back side.

The large swelling was an abscess that had formed as a result of a bite wound from his brother.

Now I am sure many cat owners will be familiar with bite wound abscesses but rabbits are quite different. In a cat the abscess tends to burst, the infection drains out (usually on the owners bed!) and the wound heals up. This doesn't happen in rabbits the abscess tends to slowly get bigger and bigger filling up with a thick cheese like contents.

The only solution in these cases is to remove the entire abscess in one piece preferably not opening them at all.

Flossy was given a general anaesthetic and surgery was performed to remove a huge abscess on his back end. The wound was carefully sutured up, which is especially important in rabbits as they are excellent at chewing through sutures. Rabbits are often quite small creatures so maintaining their body temperature during surgery is most important.

Flossy came through the surgery well and has had his sutures removed.

We sometimes see bite wound abscesses in rabbits but the most common type of abscess is from tooth root abscesses. It is very important that rabbits eat lots of hay and grass to prevent this from happening.



Inky gets put back together.

Inky is a female 13 year old cat who you would have thought was past getting into accidents. We don't really know what caused Inky's injury but the most likely is coming into contact with a moving car.

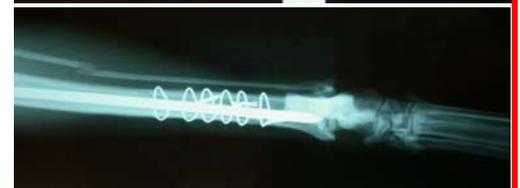
Inky was brought into the clinic in a distressed state and was immediately treated for shock with intravenous fluids and pain relief. Once she was stable, x-rays were taken which showed a badly fractured Tibia.

Amputation was considered but I only like to do this as a last resort. I decided to reconstruct the leg using cerclage wire to recreate the tubular shape of the shaft while inserting a pin down the centre of the bone to keep the bone in a straight line.

I enjoy orthopaedic surgery but I am often surprised that easy looking fractures can often be difficult to put together and difficult ones can sometimes just lock back into place. Luckily for Inky the piece naturally seemed to link back together and create a strong bone when finished.

Inky although somewhat grumpy looking in this photo, post op turned out to be a model patient who started walking slowly on the fracture within a few days.

Inky will have one more surgery to remove the pin but the wire will be a permanent souvenir of the accident.



Breeze's Column– I want to be an only child.

I don't want to come across as a spoilt child/dog, but I really would be much happier being an only child. When Twisty finally left (never really understood where she went) I was super happy. I got all the attention and never got my nose swiped again, life was perfect just me and my Mum and Dad. Then one day Radish the kitten from hell turned up! She wants to be my friend but I simply don't like her. I mean can't a dog wag its tail with out some demented ginger beast attacking it?

In the evening when it is quiet time I like to lie by the fire and dream of tennis balls. But no, this thing has to come over and TOUCH ME! I move to the other side of the room, get myself comfortable then damn it she does it again.

The worst part is my Mum and Dad. Do they tell Radish off for being a pest? No they do not, instead I get "Breeze be nice she wants to be your friend". If that is not bad enough at bed time Radish runs up stairs and sleeps on their bed. I am not even allowed upstairs. It is simply not fair.

I was considering running away from home but came up with a better idea.



FREE kitten to good (any) home.

Helping Osteoarthritis through Diet.

Arthritis in dogs is a very common problem, it has been estimated that 90% of older dogs have osteoarthritis in one or more joints. In some dogs it is obvious they are in pain and struggling but for many others it is a lot less obvious. They may simply be a little slower getting up or struggle to get in the car when they once bounded in.

For a long time we have known the benefits of compounds like Glucosamine, Chondroitin and Fish Oil in helping arthritis. Did you know however that it is important to have these compounds in certain ratios to be effective and it is even possible to cause damage with excessive levels of compounds like Omega 3 fatty acids.

Eukanuba has created a food called **JOINT/MOBILITY** that is designed to nutritionally help manage joint health and age related issues.

Eukanuba Joint/Mobility Diet Benefits

1 Fatty Acid supplements– An omega-6 to omega-3 ratio of 5:1 which has been found to be the optimal ratio to help manage inflammation.

2 Chondroitin sulphate & Glucosamine– To stimulate production of joint cartilage, inhibit degradation of cartilage and provide anti-inflammatory action.

3 Weight management– Increased levels of high quality animal proteins to help support lean muscle mass with lower level of carbohydrate and fat.

Special Offer

Receive a **FREE Arthritis check up** for your dog.

Receive a **FREE 1kg bag of Eukanuba Joint/Mobility Diet.**

Receive a **\$20 voucher** towards your next purchase of a 12 kg bag of Eukanuba Joint/Mobility Diet.

Terms and Conditions

One offer per client. Offer expires 30th Nov 2012.

To receive a free arthritis check this voucher must be mentioned when booking the appointment.

