

**3 Maroondah Highway
Lilydale Vet Centre
(03) 9735 4211**

Clinic Hours

Mon-Friday: 7:30 – 6:30 pm

Tuesday: 7:30 – 5.00 pm

Saturday: 8:30 – 3.00 pm

**Emergency Vet 24 hours
(03) 9735 4211**



Choose us as your family vet

July 2010

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Firstly we just want to thank all our clients and patients this month for the understanding and patience shown during our computer glitch. Things are rolling again and we are upgrading the old system and changing to new software. The cold has arrived and, as predicted, some of the older dogs were immobilised by the icy nights and mornings. The interesting fact is that a lot of these dogs come in representing spinal injuries; back legs not functioning properly, pain and an inability to walk. Apart from nutraceuticals and anti-inflammatories, lifestyle changes really benefit the oldies. Bring them inside at night and if they are over weight, put them on a weight reducing diet.



SURVIVOR OF THE MONTH – Innocent cancers?

Our bodies are made up of billions of cells that grow, divide, and then die in a predictable manner. Cancer occurs when something goes wrong with this system, causing uncontrolled cell division and growth. This means that any growth is a cancer, the only difference is that some cancers are malignant and some benign. Malignant cancers spread and invade whereas benign cancers are slow growing and do not invade surrounding tissue. The best examples of these benign cancers are our common “fatty lumps” or lipomas.

They can appear rapidly or some will grow slowly over years. The best way to make a diagnosis is to do a fine needle aspirate or a biopsy. While we and every other veterinarian have probably removed lipomas for cosmetic reasons, we usually discourage it because the slight risks associated with anaesthesia and surgical complications are not worth the health benefit of removing a common growth that will not cause any problem. We may suggest that if the animal is going to be anesthetized for another reason, e.g. dental cleaning and polishing, that the tumour(s) could be removed at the same time. Monitoring their size and removing them if they are impeding mobility, or are causing friction rubs between the flank and leg, are all that is usually necessary. A word of caution though: lumps keep us humble, not all soft, non-painful lumps in the skin are lipomas. Please get all new lumps checked.





WHAT BREED IS YOUR DOG

This is a common question from new puppy owners especially regarding “non descriptive breeds” Dogs have evolved slowly from wolves and found a home with humans. Different breeds of dogs were created by man by methods of selective breeding and through geographical isolation of the animals. And then different breeds were mixed either on purpose or by accident again and again and again so the answer to this question is sometimes very difficult and vague.

Genetic technology now makes it possible to determine your dog’s breed. By using DNA analysis laboratories can provide an accurate history of your dog’s breed. It is pretty much exactly like in CSI Miami ~ we rub a cotton swab on the inside of your dogs cheek, and the sample, together with a photo, get sent to the laboratory.



Benefits

- Offers insight into behaviour and personality
- Uncovers potential health issues
- Applies a simple, safe and non-invasive sampling method
- Gives you the assurance of knowing who your dog really is
- Enables you to form an even closer bond with your loved pet

Although it is new technology the price of the test is reasonable. Please feel free to contact us for more information

INAPPROPRIATE URINATION IN CATS

I love cats. They are complex, sensitive creatures who understand us. Like humans, cats suffer from stress but..... they don’t suffer in silence. When a cat is stressed they make sure their owners are aware of it. One of the common symptoms is problems with their water works. Frequent trips to the litter box, straining, urinating in the kitchen sink ~ usually blood stained ~ are all symptoms and the causes are numerous:

- Moving to a new home
- New people visiting in the house (Christmas Time)
- New pets in the house
- When the owner is under stress
- Renovations in the house/garden
- New kitty litter etc



These cats don’t have any bacteria or crystals in their urine so a visit to us is still necessary to rule out other causes. The good news is, however, that you can control the stress levels by being aware of causes and ways to help. Feliway is a synthetic cat facial pheromone that makes them happy ☺. It can be used to help comfort and reassure cats, while they cope with a challenging situation and/or help prevent or reduce the stress caused to a cat during a change in their environment.

[What is Feliway](#)

TREATS FOR PETS



We love giving our pets treats, whether to reward good behaviour, keep them occupied or because we simply can't resist their begging. But too many dental chews, pig's ears etc make them fat.

One Anzac biscuits contains about 50 calories and that adds up to a nearly a kilo each year. The same goes for about 60 ml of full cream milk. That doesn't mean the snacks have to stop, but experts say treats should make up no more than 10 percent of your pet's allocated calories per day. That's not much, considering a 4.5 kg cat needs less than 300 calories daily and a 20 kilogram dog should only get about 1,000 calories.

Experts recommend replacing processed treats with crunchy veggies such as cucumbers and celery. The best way is to measure out the amount of food that the dog or cat is going to receive per day, put it all in a freezer bag and only give treats out of that bag.

Here are a few low calorie home made treats. Replace the food with the same volume of treats (put the dry food back in the bag for tomorrow though!)

Mini Meat Balls for dogs

250 gram of lean ground meat

1 egg lightly beaten

¼ cup grated carrots

1 tablespoon parmesan cheese

1 tablespoon water

Mix everything together and shape into 20 meatballs. Bake @ 180 degrees Celsius for about 35 minutes. Store in fridge or freezer.

1 meatball contains 28 calories



Cat delights

1 cup whole flour

1 cup skim milk powder

1 small can of tuna in spring water

2 tablespoons fish oil

2 eggs beaten till frothy

½ cup of water

Preheat oven to 180 degrees Celsius. Spray baking pan with a cooking spray. Mix tuna with flour and milk powder. Add fish oil and water and mix well. Mix in eggs. Make marble size cookies. Bake for 10 min, take them out. Cool for 5 minutes, flip them over and bake another 10 minutes. Feed when cold and store in fridge/freezer. 30 cookies at 55 Calories each

Unsubscribe, comments and remarks

We really invite feedback on any aspect of the newsletter, clinic & services we offer. Just click the address below and return to us

<mailto:admin@lilydalevetcentre.com.au>



Food for thought

*Before a cat will condescend
To treat you as a trusted friend,
Some little token of esteem
Is needed, like a dish of cream."*

~T.S. Eliot