



Village Vets

Spring Newsletter

October 2012

Firstly we would like to say a big thank you to all of you for putting your faith, and your animals' wellbeing in our hands. It is much appreciated and all of us at Village Vets have enjoyed meeting you and helping with your beloved pets.

It has been a pretty hectic few months, from our start-up in late May we have certainly been on a steep learning curve. We have, and will continue to work hard to provide the services you want from your community (veterinary) GP.

Thank You!

Boarding

Our boarding service has proved to be popular – especially in school holidays – we are already fully booked for the Christmas break. Pictured below is Splinter who spent a long weekend with us recently. He certainly enjoyed pouncing on our poor little blue mice...



Worm me - 3 monthly

Springtime Thoughts

It is nice to see some warmer weather and the longer days are certainly welcome – We hope you are all able to enjoy the change in season. In regards to your pets' health and well-being there are a few things you need to be aware of at this time of year:

- 🐾 **Seasonal allergies** – with the new season comes new plant growth and then pollination. Your pets can be susceptible to allergens, in particular pollens from pine trees and grasses. Skin problems are probably the most common symptom. If you notice any redness of the skin, particularly the ventral abdomen, groin, face or paws, excess scratching and licking/chewing your pet may have developed some allergy. Early treatment is important to ensure no secondary problems settle in – let us know if you think you have a problem.
- 🐾 **Urinary Tract Infections** – why this condition is more prevalent with the change in season it is difficult to tell, but often there is a spike in urinary problems particularly in cats at this time of year. This might show as infections or crystal formation causing bladder irritation. If you notice your pet urinating more frequently, showing signs of being unsettled or just being a bit off colour it could be this problem. There are a number of ways to help manage this including special diets – if you think this is an issue let us know P.S. while difficult to catch a urine sample is very useful...
- 🐾 **Coat maintenance** - While most animals shed hair throughout the year spring (and autumn) tend to be a period of heavy shedding. Regular brushing of your pet is recommended during this time to help maintain a good healthy coat, reduce issues with hair balls (in cats) and prevent those long coats matting up. We are now getting quite experienced in grooming – both cats and dogs – so give us a call if you want to utilise this service. We are now running a loyalty programme (every 10th groom is free) and have a full range of brushes and combs for sale – with friendly advice as well.

The fiendishly frequent and formidable flea

While these pesky parasites are a year round problem they do become more prevalent in the warmer months – probably because your pet is out and about more and therefore more exposed to flea contact.

Fleas spend the majority of time (85%) off the host, and can go many months between feeds. So if you find a flea on your pet there may be 7 or 8 fleas busy laying eggs in your carpet or bedding! Regular treatment of your pets will ensure that any fleas picked up by your cat, dog (or rabbit) will be exposed to the lethal insecticide and perish before it can return to the environment and lay eggs. Regular washing of bedding is recommended and if you do have an infestation - we can sort out an environmental treatment that suits you.

We are already seeing cases of flea allergy dermatitis (FAD) so the problem is already surfacing

We recommend that you use a suitable flea control every month on all household pets to ensure you don't get a build-up of this parasite. The most common methods are spot on treatments – with a variety of brands available. There are other methods including sprays and tablets.

We are now providing individual treatments (1 pipette for 1 month protection) for those of you who don't want to purchase the multi-packs.

Come in and talk to us about your pet's flea control

PS: Fleas are the intermediate host for tapeworm – if your pet ingests a flea it may get infected – Regular worming (3 monthly) with **Endoguard** will remedy this.



Pet Food Supplies:

For those of you interested in trying the range of Go Now pet foods this is the time. The **Now** range is grain free – grain is often implicated in allergies – and the food is preservative free.

For a limited time (while stocks last) we are giving away a free 450g sample with every purchase. It's a great time to try the food.

We also have specials on our Royal Canin and Hills ranges.

Golden Retriever Breed Specific - \$30.00 off

Large Breed & Mature Dog - \$30.00 off

Lots of other in-house specials...



Fireworks Night: 5 November.

This can be a stressful time for pets – if you have an anxious pet come in and talk to us.

