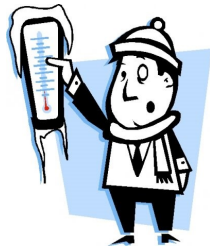




East Bundaberg Veterinary Hospital &

Bargara Veterinary Surgery

June 2019 Newsletter



Winter has finally arrived and as I sit here typing this newsletter I am wearing a jumper for the first time, and my dogs are laying around wearing their winter coats (it is early in the morning as I write this – around 4.00am). The daylight will start to dispel the darkness in a couple of hours, the coats will come off and they will be heading out into the early morning mist to run around and eat kangaroo poo and cause as much noise and nuisance as they can. All my animals seem to love the cooler months and I must admit I do enjoy the cooler mornings and then the warm days that we seem to have in our climate.

But please do keep in mind – our daytime temperatures are usually around 23 – 25 degrees, so please make sure your animal is not suffering during the day because its coat is too thick or too long. Keep up your grooming and clipping if you have an animal with long coats or thick coats and when the weather gets cool or cold – have a good coat you can put on your pet to keep it warm.



I must congratulate all the responsible owners who have continued with their vaccination program (and heartworm prevention program) – we have seen more and more animals being vaccinated against the deadly diseases of Parvo, Distemper, Hepatitis, Feline Enteritis and consequently we are not dealing with the heartache and despair of clients as we try to save animals with these debilitating and deadly diseases. To all the owners who have not kept up their preventative programs – we do ask that you seriously reconsider your decision. To treat cases of Parvo in dogs and cats is not easy and is really (REALLY) expensive.



More and more owners are realising the benefits of having their animals in our Wellness Programs and the fact that they are saving lots of money as well as keeping their animals healthy and happy. If you have not considered putting your animal on our Wellness Programs, we can supply you the names of some clients who will let you know the savings they have had. If you do not know what I am rattling on about or your need some information on the Program then please contact our manager Lynelle who will send you a pamphlet to read or she is more than willing to discuss these programs with you. Just ring 41531399 and ask for Lynelle (or Tegan). Just remember these programs

have been developed (my myself) to save you money and to maximize the health and happiness of your pet and to help you budget the health costs of owning an animal.

20% discount on all merchandise for last 2 weeks of June - 17th to 30th June

We are having 20% discount sale on all merchandise for last 2 weeks in June (17th to 30th June), where we are discounting all merchandise (except food) by 20%.



This offer has no restrictions other than all purchases must be paid for on the day and you need to be an active client of our business.

An active client is someone who has been to our business and either used our services or acquired some merchandise over the last 15 months (has spent money with us in 2018 or 2019).

Merchandise is any product that is normally sold over the counter without prescription.

This could involve toys, collars, leads, washes and conditioners, flea and tick control, heartworm tablets, worming tablets, dog coats etc. **This discount does NOT involve food.** There is no limit to the amount you can buy and if we do not have the product or the quantity that you may require then we will get it in for you.



When is “Cuddly” too “Cuddly”?

Winter is a time when all animals have a habit of putting on some weight – some people argue that it is nature’s way to insulate animals against the cold; some people argue that it is because animals eat more due to the higher metabolism that the animal uses to generate heat in their body to keep warm. Me – I believe that it because the day is short and the animals become less active but eat more because there is less to do and they use it as “comfort food” especially on cold nights. Higher



calories and less activity leads to higher weight and therefore less activity and so the cycle of less calories burnt but higher intake leads to more weight gain etc.

This is a great time to judge your animal's weight and if you feel the animal is becoming a little too "cuddly" or even a little "podgy" then it may be time to consider changing the food to minimize the calories eaten without decreasing the amount of food.

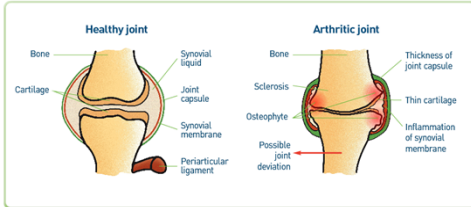


If you want some information on what to feed please contact Tegan or Lynelle on 41531399

(East) or 41591009 (Bargara).

Arthritis - a right pain the joints

Winter time is always a time to be aware of arthritis. This condition is common in all animals in their senior year (over the age of 8 years) and sometimes appears in younger animals. I would estimate that at least 20% have arthritis by the time of 8 years of age, 40% of all animals have some form of arthritis by the time they are 10 years of age and close to 80% have arthritis by the time they are 13 years of age.



That means that if your animal is over the age of 10 years then it is more likely that your animal will have arthritis rather than not. A lot of animals do not show signs such as limping nor do they complain but ALL of them have pain. Arthritis is a painful condition and should not be ignored by the owners.

If your animal is not as active, if the animal is not jumping up or down as much as it was, if your animal takes longer to rise from a lying condition, if your animal does not run up and down stairs as much, if your animal is not as fast as it once was or not wanting to walk as far etc. then there is a very good chance your animal has arthritis. There are lots of medications on the market that every salesperson will tell you theirs is the "best since sliced bread" but there is one medication we recommend above all else! This medication is called **Cartrophen**. I personally have two of my dogs on this medication. Both animals (only middle age) were starting to show signs of arthritis and are now showing signs of feeling better and running more. If you want some information on this medication, please ring 41531399 (East) and 41591009 (Bargara) and we will send you information on development of arthritis and what you can do to assist the animal with arthritis.



Larger breeds suffer earlier

Davo's Corner

I was in my "Men's Shed" last week when my wife wandered in and asked if I could hammer a nail into the wall for her. Immediately my eyes lit up and I started to pant - it was time for "Handyman Davo". Now I have a lot of alter ego's in my life but the one I do like is Handyman Davo because I get to wear my utility belt with all the bits to hang hammers, drills, screwdrivers and pliers from as well as the deep pockets to put in nails, screws, measuring taps etc. And to make matters even better - the belt and the tools hanging off it "clang" when I walk. So, when my wife entered my Inner Sanctum in the Men's Shed it made my day. I quickly put on my high "vis" vest, pulled on my thick football socks and put my feet into the steel capes shoes, placed my hardhat on the head (with the earmuffs attached) and then slammed in the safety glasses in my top pocket. I quickly gathered up the "safety witches hats" to place around the work site and headed in the work zone she had pointed to.



It was time for Handyman Davo to "make a difference". Despite my wife sighing a lot and trying to point out that she only wanted a nail in the fence to hang a plant from - I knew the dangers that could occur with a wrongly hammered nail or if the work was done too fast.

So I placed the witches hats around the work site to stop anyone wandering in who had not passed the safety induction (and that included my wife who refused to read the book on safety and flatly refused to sit for any safety test). I measured the height off the ground taking into account the weight of the hanging basket (including the plant and soil) and then I got out my phone and googled average wind speed and direction for our area. I had to take into account the "swing" of the basket in a high wind. I marked this off on the fence with my special handyman crayon (pink because I am comfortable with my sexuality). Then I got out my protractor and found the exact midpoint for the nail to be placed. I marked this spot with my special pencil (the one with the flat sides that needs to be sharpened with my Swiss Army Knife - the one with all the attachments that I am still trying to find a use for).

Now I was ready - placing the nail on the wood (difficult due to my leather gloves) I picked up the hammer from the belt, twirled it in my hand (like the cowboys in the Westerns) and drove the nail into the wood. Another job done to perfection - happy wife happy life.

It did take me another 4 hours before I would take off the utility belt - but that is another story.

Until next time - Davo.