



East Bundaberg Veterinary Hospital &

Bargara Veterinary Surgery

August 2019 Newsletter



DENTAL MONTH has arrived!

Over 50% discount price on all basic dental or oral procedures (\$285.00)

This is the month that is becoming famous in the world of East Bundaberg Veterinary Hospital and Bargara Veterinary Surgery. This is the month when we encourage ALL owners to be aware of the most common problems our animals have to deal with – dental or gum decay!

There are more dogs and cats with dental problems than there are with arthritis, heart problems and cancers COMBINED.

We, the owners, spend more time and money trying to prevent our animals becoming debilitated from cancers, we worry about the animal developing heart or lung problems and we ignore the most common problems our animals have to live with on a daily basis – mouth problems.

Because our animals do not complain, because they will still eat with bad teeth, because they do not run around with their mouth open and howling, because they do not run to get some Panadol to kill the pain – we, the owners, do not recognise that the animal is undergoing discomfort from the oral problems.

This does not mean they do not feel the discomfort; this does not mean that they enjoy the feeling of pain – this just means that they tolerate the problem and “get on with life”.

Every year I talk to owners who have had their animal’s oral problems dealt with, and they are amazed how much happier their animal is and how much more active the animal is. Even if you do not show how much discomfort you are in – the niggling pain associated with the problem will often debilitate the body and you become less happy and then that reflects onto how you interact with the other members of your family.

The staff at our animal hospital are very much aware of the problems we see when we examine the mouth of the average dog or cat and we are so passionate about our responsibilities that we want every one of our wonderful clients to take the opportunity to assist their animal at an affordable price. We want to take the cost “out of the game” when owners are making decisions for the health of their animal.

So, we developed DENTAL MONTH and we delegated August to be the month every year when we offer our services at less than half price.

For the month of August we are offering to do this procedure for \$285.00 (less than half price).

Normally to give an animal an anaesthetic, put on intravenous fluids, examine the mouth, clean and polish the teeth, monitor the animal in recovery, medications used during the procedure and keep the animal hospitalised for the day procedure would cost around \$600.00.

As all animals are not the same - there are Conditions.

The \$285.00 applies to animals who do not need teeth removed or animals who need x-rays of the mouth. As each animal needs an anaesthetic, we have a rule that any animal who is 8 years old or older MUST have a blood test before we will give an anaesthetic and that blood test will cost \$95.00.

This same blood test is necessary for any dog or cat with some form of chronic problem such as a heart problem, a diabetic, on chronic medication etc.

We encourage ALL animals to have a blood test before any anaesthetic to make sure they are healthy “on the inside” but we do not demand it if the animal is younger than 8 years and is relatively fit and healthy at the time of the procedure. If the vet needs x-rays of the mouth to

identify dental problems, then there will be a charge for this x-ray. This charge will be discussed with the owner before proceeding with the x-rays. This usually occurs via a phone call once the animal is under the anaesthetic and the veterinarian has identified the problems that need to x-rayed.

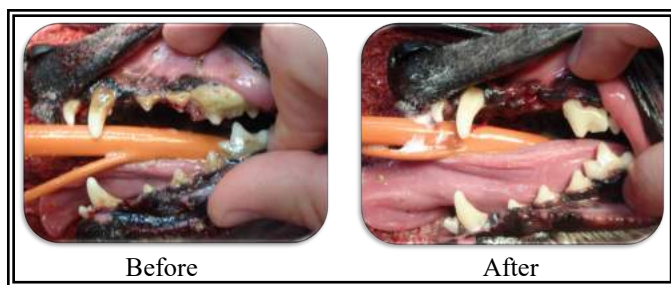
If there are teeth to be removed there will be a charge per tooth (it varies depending on the time it will take to remove the bad tooth). This charge will be discussed with the owner before taking out the tooth – usually by phone call once we have fully examined the mouth of the animal when it is under the anaesthetic. The quoted price does



NOT include any medication that we need to send home with the animal - such as antibiotics, pain relief etc. These same conditions apply every time we deal with an animal's oral problems - we cannot be certain of the total problem until we get an animal under an anaesthetic and actually look at all the teeth from both inside and outside of the tooth. A tooth can look perfect from the outside and have a great gaping hole on the inside of the mouth.

I personally have looked at an animal while the animal was awake and felt the animal only needed a teeth clean but once under the anaesthetic we have identified at least 7 teeth that needed removing!

No one can examine an animal whilst it is awake and tell you how the teeth and gums are - we all need that anaesthetic so we can examine the mouth properly. Even then it is necessary to x-ray the teeth to see how healthy they are "under the gum".



My recommendation to all owners -



Have a look at your animal's teeth. Make sure you are looking at all the teeth not just the front ones. If the teeth are not lovely and white, if the gums are not light pink - then there is a fair chance your animal has a problem.

Smell the breath - if the breath would kill a Rhino at 10 paces then there is a fair chance your animal has a problem.

If you are not sure, then bring the animal in for a FREE dental examination.

Yes - for the month of August we are offering a FREE dental examination to all clients - we will give your animal a good dental and oral check and explain any problems that we may see. It is up to you whether you want to act on this information.

I cannot emphasise too much how important oral and dental hygiene and health is important to the overall health of the animal. Every year we are learning more and more about how dental problems or gum problems can lead to chronic kidney failure, heart problems, spinal problems, liver problems, chronic intestinal problems and bone problems.

We know that chronic oral problems can decrease the immune system of the animal leading to chronic debilitation and possible long term organ disfunction.

If you would like to give your animal the best chance to live longer or happier then please address the oral problems that naturally develop in most animals.

The choice is yours - the offer for Dental Month finishes on the 31st August and the cost reverts back to the normal \$600.00. Grab the opportunity NOW and start your animal onto the road of health and happiness.

Davo's Corner



I am about to go overseas! You have no idea how good that feels to say those words - it conjures up thoughts of freedom, wandering through rainforests while paddling a canoe down some wild river, or laying on a beach on some Pacific Island, maybe leaning on the railing of some large boat whilst cruising down a river in Europe or sailing to Alaska, to others it means going to theatres in New York or driving down route 66 in USA, maybe skiing down the slopes in New Zealand.

But no - my wife and I are going to visit the wilderness of Scotland. We looked at the weather forecast of where we are going, and it estimates that there will be one day of sunshine and over 34 days of rain and wind. To most people this would not be exciting - to be continually wet

and cold but to both of us, we are looking forward to standing on windswept hill while the rain pounds down. (When I say "we" are looking forward - the reality is that my wife is not overly excited about the rain and the wind - in fact she is packing a large number of books to read plus a huge coffee mug and thermos flask "to while away the time between sunrays")

Me - I have always admired the Scottish people and their ability to withstand a wild environment and I wish to "have a look" myself. I am too much of a coward to go in their winter but I feel the early autumn months should give me some idea of what they had to deal with.

I have been practicing having cold showers with a fan blowing on me so that I can acclimatize to the weather - much to the amusement of my wife who has been practicing sitting in front of a heater while still wearing her thick winter coats.

so think of me over the months of August and September and I hope to survive the cold and the wet time and I will see you all in October.

