

# RIVERSIDE RAMBLINGS

Issue 27

December/ January 07

## CONSULTING HOURS:

- 8.00am-7.00pm Mon-Fri
- 9.00am-12noon Sat
- (consultation by appointment)

8523 1789

## VETERINARY SURGEONS

Dr Rob Auricht

BVSc (Melb)

Dr Mandy Auricht

BVMS BSc (Murdoch)

Dr Kate Van Staveren

BVSc (Sydney)

## VETERINARY NURSES & STAFF

Gay Ammerlaan

Level 4

Kate Preston

Level 4

Sarah Neilson

Level 4

Jo-Ann Hatcher

Level 4

Odette Applebee

Level 4

Jennifer Smith

Level 3

Michelle Gardner

Level 1

Andrew Lobb

Level 1

Louise Crossman

Professional Groomer

## MAGGIE'S MIAOW

Isn't it hard to believe the year is almost over! Summer is the busiest time of our year, and much has been happening.

Rob attended a Penn-Hip seminar in Melbourne, and we will be looking at using this method of scanning for hip dysplasia.

We have purchased a new ultrasound machine, which will be used for procedures such as confirmation of pregnancy and diagnostics for conditions such as internal organ disease. We are also waiting to receive a new surgery table.

Congratulations to Jennifer and Odette for all their hard work and completing their Vet Nurse studies. Michelle and Andrew have also done well in their ongoing studies. Andrew has been keeping us all well entertained whilst working extra shifts through his university break.

Many of you will have met Kate, who started with us in November. Dave is heading off overseas until the end of January, and may be back in the New Year to continue helping out with vet

work and administration. This month we also welcome our new nurse Jo, who brings with her many years of experience as a qualified nurse. We will also be welcoming Dr Scott Mersch in January.

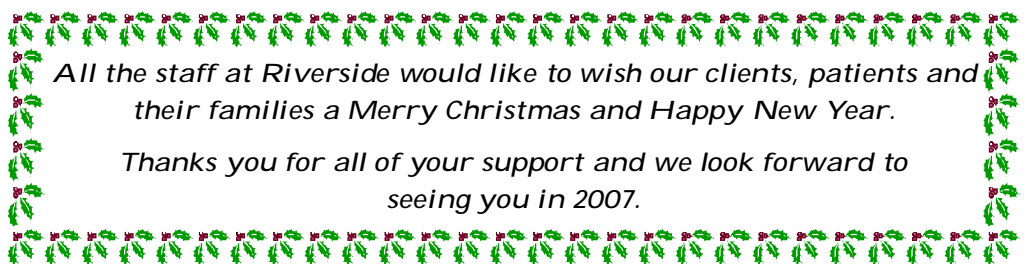
Mandy raised a litter of lovely (and lively!) Hungarian Vizsla puppies, who will shortly be heading off to their new homes.

Jennifer cared for several orphaned kittens and successfully rehomed both, at a time of the year when there are sadly many unwanted kittens around.

Riverside will be open for our normal business hours through the holiday break, however we will be closed on Sundays and the public holidays. For any after hours emergencies please ring our surgery on 8523 1789 to obtain the details for which vet surgery is on call.

Have a great Christmas!

Maggie



All the staff at Riverside would like to wish our clients, patients and their families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Thanks you for all of your support and we look forward to seeing you in 2007.

**No more shredded arms! The new, easy way to worm your cat!**

We are pleased to be stocking new *Profender*, the first spot-on intestinal allwormer for cats. *Profender* treats and controls roundworm, hookworm and tapeworm, in the form of a liquid that is administered to the back of the neck. Adult cats should be wormed every 3 months, and *Profender* can also be given to kittens at 8 and 12 weeks old. *Profender* is safe to use in pregnant and lactating mothers. Please contact the surgery for more information on parasite prevention.

### Riverside E-Mail List

Would you like to receive *E-MAIL REMINDERS* for your pet's vaccinations, worming, parasite prevention, health checks and our bi-monthly newsletter? Please contact the front desk on 8523 1789 to provide us with your e-mail address to take advantage of this great new service.

**RIVERSIDE VETERINARY  
SURGERY**  
QUALITY COMPASSIONATE CARE FOR  
YOUR BEST FRIENDS

170B Murray Street  
Gawler SA 5118

Phone: 08 8523 1789  
Fax: 08 8523 1785  
Email: [reception@riversidevets.com.au](mailto:reception@riversidevets.com.au)



**HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHAT HAPPENS  
BEHIND THE SCENES AT RIVERSIDE?**

Our day starts at 8:00am, when the morning nurses come in. Maggie, our hospital cat, is let out of her bedroom, to observe and oversee the staff in their morning duties. We walk, feed, medicate and clean the cages of any animals which are in hospital, as well as performing a preliminary health check prior to the veterinarian's arrival.

Duties such as cleaning the floors, answering many telephone calls, front desk duties, washing, sterilising surgical equipment, preparing the surgery, x-ray and laboratory equipment for the day are performed throughout the day.

Between 8:00-9:00am our reception staff admit patients for surgery and hospitalisation, discussing with their owners the procedures to be performed. At 9:00am the veterinarians arrive. We generally have a vet performing surgery for the day, while another vet will consult for the morning. The consulting vet will see urgent consultations/ emergencies, while the surgery vet performs a thorough examination of any patients in hospital.

The consulting vet will then see patients through the morning, to perform wellness examinations including vaccinations, and to see any patients which are unwell or injured. Depending on the nature of the illness, these patients may be admitted to hospital for further procedures including surgery, sedation for short procedures, treatment, blood tests, x-rays or observations.

The surgery veterinarian performs surgery and anaesthetic procedures through the morning, with the assistance of a veterinary nurse. The surgery schedule depends on the nature of each procedure, and each individual patient. Prior to surgery we perform pre-anaesthetic blood tests, and pre-anaesthetic examination, place patients onto intravenous fluids where required. After their anaesthetic patients are placed into a comfortable, warm bed for recovery, where they are continually monitored by staff.

At midday the afternoon staff come in, comprising of another team of nurses and a veterinarian, who will perform consultations for the afternoon. This tends to be our busiest part of the day, where we concentrate on completing all the procedures on the surgery schedule. The vets are also available to see patients for urgent consultations through this time.

The reception nurses continue to answer the telephones and manage the front desk; booking in procedures, con-

sultations, offering advice on queries including health-care, feeding, worming, parasite control, surgical procedures and maintaining the consulting rooms.

Between 3:00-4:00pm the morning staff finish their shifts, and the afternoon staff continue with surgery and cleaning up. The afternoon veterinarian consults through until close of business at 7:00pm. If there are any emergency procedures to be carried out, these will be fitted in around the scheduled consultations.

The nurses continue to monitor the patients, ensuring that all medications and possessions are organised and dispensed, intravenous fluid lines are removed, surgical sites are examined, and hospitalised patients are examined, walked, fed, medicated and returned to clean cages. We also ensure that each room is orderly and ready for the following day, checking equipment and turning off machines for the night.

The day ends with Maggie being put to bed, a final check of the patients and surgery, and the staff leaving for the night. Often the vets will return after hours to check on critical cases which are in hospital.

All the staff at Riverside strive to offer the best possible service and care for each and every pet and their owner.

The vet's roster is arranged so that each vet is available for morning and evening consultations through the week, with specific surgery days. We understand that many of you like to see particular veterinarians, and always try and facilitate this, where possible.

The nature of our work means that we must always be prepared for unexpected changes to our day, and each and every day is different from any other.

Please note :

All vets in this practice are members of the AVA and all nurses are members of the VNCA. We all abide by their strict code of professional and ethical conduct of these Associations. We are committed to using our skills and knowledge for the welfare of animals and society.