

# RIVERSIDE RAMBLINGS

Issue 28

February/ March 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)

Dr Scott Mersch  
BVSc (Brisbane)

## 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

Didn't the new year get off to a steamy start! I have been a regular feature lying flaked out on the front porch, without even the energy to tease the dogs, like I normally do (*and* we ran out of pressed liver which is my *FAVOURITE!*).

Luckily we have begun to stock Feline Greenies, which are a tasty treat that also help keep your cat's teeth clean and come in a variety of great flavours, including chicken, ocean fish, liver and salmon. So there is one to suit every cat's discerning tastes.

We are pleased to be able to introduce our new veterinarian, Dr Scott Mersch, who started with us at in mid January.

Rob and Mandy's puppies all found new families, and everyone has been very excited to see them on their return visits.

Gay and Odette had time off over the Christmas/ January break, and Michelle went to Kangaroo Island, managing to avoid the bushfires.

Katie has been coming in frequently to do administrative duties, with baby Hollie overseeing the proceedings.

Andrew was accepted into Medical Science, and will be starting university again in March.

Sarah bids us farewell in mid-February, to return to Canberra to a position with the Department of Agriculture.

We are also pleased to be launching our new, improved website in the near future so make sure you keep an eye out for it.

Maggie

## PLEASE NOTE

As of 1st January 2007 we no longer accept Bankcard payments

## STAFF PROFILE—JO-ANN HATCHER

Jo-Ann has been a veterinary nurse for 7½ years. She completed her Certificate 4 qualification in 2002 and then the Diploma of Veterinary Nursing (Management) in 2004. She previously worked as the Nursing Manager of a four clinic practice in the northern suburbs until moving to Riverside in December 2006.

Jo-Ann is a committee member of the Veterinary Nurses Council of Australia - SA Division and is very interested in continued education and training. She enjoys all aspects of veterinary nursing but especially caring for our hospitalised patients and nursing them back to health.

She also has a keen interest in Puppy Pre-School and behavior.

Jo-Ann has three cats, Thingy, Bert & Ernie. Bert & Ernie were previously the resident cats at the previous clinic where she worked but were a little too cheeky to stay there and now like to cause trouble at home! She also has a Labrador X Rottweiler called Simba, a Jack Russell called Holly and a Jack Russell X called Sweetie.

In her spare time Jo-Ann enjoys horse riding, playing hockey and spending time with her husband Tim.

## 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 .

**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



Payment is required at the end of each visit. We accept cash, cheque MasterCard, Visa and Eftpos

**Riverside Fast Facts**

In 2006 we saw:

5981 dogs

1070 cats

Over 340 other animals; including birds, rabbits, ferrets, kangaroos, possums, guinea pigs, geese, chickens, ducks, rats and snakes.

Among the more unusual cases we saw Goannas, an Echidna, Python, Wedge Tailed Eagle and a pregnant turtle, and performed surgery on many animals including guinea pigs, a rat and a tawny frogmouth!



**STAFF PROFILE—DR KATE VAN STAVEREN**

Kate graduated from Sydney University in 2001. She has worked in several states in Australia in mixed practices, where she maintained a love for equine medicine. Kate settled in South Australia where she worked for Harbison's equine clinic for about 4 years, before coming to Riverside. She enjoys all aspects of canine medicine.

In her spare time Kate enjoys spending time with her horses and dogs, and travelling past Leigh Creek to visit her fiancée Adam and help on his cattle property.

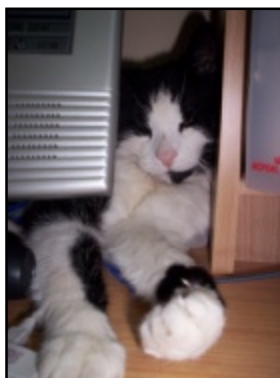
**Skin-Care for Your Pets**

- Dogs and cats actually have self-cleaning coats. It is important to examine your pet's coat and skin regularly, to help with early detection of problems or changes. Medium and long-haired pets need regular grooming to prevent knots and matting.
- Animals have different hair and skin compared to humans, including different pH. Using inappropriate products can strip your pet's skin and coat of natural oils and shouldn't be used on your pet.
- Choosing the right shampoo is very important for your pet. The wrong shampoo can be harmful, and some shampoos are specially formulated to contain medicines for specific purposes. Therefore a pet who has dry or abnormal skin, may suffer reactions to some shampoos.
- Most dogs do not require frequent bathing, unless

they are dirty or smelly. In general it shouldn't be necessary to wash your dog more than once a fortnight. Individual requirements, such as certain skin conditions, may need more frequent attention. If your pet needs special shampoo your vet will advise you.

- Dogs do have a certain degree of odour, which can increase if the dog is wet or has an oily, though normal, coat. Shampooing is an easy way to resolve this problem, and there are also some spray-on coat deodorants available.
- Some odours may actually be from an underlying problem such as oral problems, ears or skin infections.
- We stock a range of shampoos catering for different skin conditions, and can advise you on what is the most suitable for your pet.

If you have any concerns about your pet's skin please contact the surgery.



Many years ago cats were worshipped as gods...

Cats have never forgotten this.

Don't forget to keep an eye on upcoming changes to our website:

[www.riversidevets.com.au](http://www.riversidevets.com.au)

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.