

RIVERSIDE RAMBLINGS

Issue 31

October / November 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

Katie Preston
Level 4 - AVN

Jo Hatcher
Level 4

Brigita Daniel
Level 2

Michelle Gardner
Level 2

Andrew Lobb
Level 1

Simone Minett
Veterinary Nurse Aide

Louise Crossman
Professional Groomer

MAGGIE'S MIAOW

Well Spring is certainly here and I have been enjoying the weather by lazing about in the sun however it would be nice if we had some rain for the garden!

We are all very excited to announce that Kate has returned from her movie adventures. She is very pleased to back working at Riverside and has told us that she missed us all very much while she was away. Scott had a relaxing time on holidays in September and travelled to sunny Queensland and Stradbroke Island to visit friends.

We would like to welcome our new member of staff Simone who will be helping out as a veterinary nurse assistant. Welcome Simone!

We had a visit from Julie Harris in September who gave a talk on the latest up to date information on immunology and vaccinations.

On Friday October 5th, Riverside will be celebrating the first ever Australian National Veterinary Nurses Day. Veterinary Nurses day was developed by the Veterinary Nurses Council of Australia (VNCA) to help raise the profile of veterinary nurses as many people don't really understand the many duties that Veterinary Nurses perform in a modern veterinary clinic. So to Gay, Katie, Jo, Michelle, Brigita and Andrew, Happy Veterinary Nurses Day and thank you for all the care you give me and our valued patients.

Until next time, purrs & miaows

Maggie

You can't own a cat. The best you can do is be partners. - Sir Harry Swanson



Snake Bite Envenomation



With the warmer weather of late snakes are out and about early this year and we have already seen a few snake bite cases. Dogs and cats can be affected by snake bite envenomation with the most common bite coming from the Brown Snake. Symptoms of snake bite in the dog include salivating, difficulty walking or paralysis, vomiting, dilated pupils in the eye and respiratory distress. Cats have similar symptoms however they will often cry out and twitch their tail as well. Sometimes they are just found lying on their side. Symptoms can occur in some cases within 20 minutes of being bitten.

It is vital that if you think your pet has been bitten to bring them into the surgery immediately. If you find your pet with a dead snake and they seem to be fine it is still recommended to bring them into the surgery as symptoms can still develop over time and snake bites can be fatal.

For more information please speak to one of our staff at reception.

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

celebrate vet nurse day!

october 5th



vet nurses - comfort creatures

Allergies

Spring has sprung and with it comes the unfortunate effects of allergies. Many dogs and cats suffer from allergies just as humans do. Skin conditions are the most common form of allergies in pets. Dogs and cats can be allergic to many things such as food, dust, pollen, carpet, grass and plants. Symptoms of skin allergies are itching or scratching, pink to red skin, hair loss, flaky skin and sometimes a bad odour!

It is difficult to know exactly what your pet is allergic to but often food is the cause. Food elimination trials can be done to try and special diets are available for pets with food allergies. Essential fatty acids such as omega-3 and omega-6 which are found in fish oil can help with skin allergies. Special shampoos can also help to relieve the irritated and itchy skin.

In severe cases a course of medication may be required however all other methods of treatment should be tried first as these medications are not recommended for long term use. If you would like more information regarding allergies in dogs and cats please contact us.

Celebrate Veterinary Nurses Day

This year is the first year of Australian Veterinary Nurse Day celebrations! This year this event will be held on Friday 5th October. The aim of Veterinary Nurses' Day is to celebrate and recognise the contributions of veterinary nurses to the veterinary team and their patients. The role of veterinary nurses has changed over the years from being someone who just answered the phone and helped the vet to duties such as offering healthcare and behaviour advice, monitoring anaesthetics, taking blood samples and performing laboratory testing, assisting in radiology as well as providing love care to all animals that cross their path.

Riverside's veterinary nurses have over 60 years of experience between them and are proud of the role they play in the care and welfare of our patients. Gay, Katie, Jo, Michelle, Brigita and Andrew greatly enjoy their work and are always happy to assist you and your pet with any of your healthcare needs.



My dog's not spoiled ... I'm just well trained !

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

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.