

AnimalCare Newsletter

WINTER 2014



AnimalCare 2002 Ltd

**45 Havelock Road
Havelock North 4130**

P. 06 877 8156

F. 06 877 8155

E. animalcare@airnet.net.nz

www.animalcare.co.nz

Clinic News

We are pleased to announce that we once again passed our **BESTPRACTICE** accreditation audit earlier this year. **BESTPRACTICE** is New Zealand's ONLY quality accreditation programme that ensures a high standard of service and professionalism for veterinary clinics and hospitals in New Zealand. **BESTPRACTICE** accredited veterinary clinics offer pet owners the best possible standard of veterinary care at all times. We are proud to be a **BESTPRACTICE** clinic.

Currently, there is a lot of land development taking place on our neighbouring properties. We will be operating as normal during this time but are expecting some noise and vibration while the works are taking place.

We hope you enjoy reading our newsletter! Don't forget to keep an eye on our website for information on new products as well as current promotions and giveaways.

Antifreeze – Bad News for Pets!

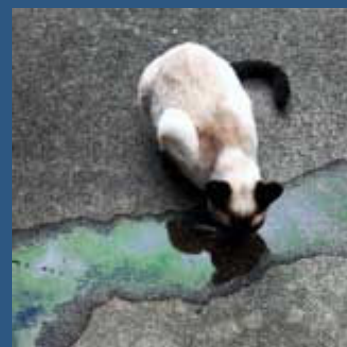
In preparation for the cold frosty months, you may decide to use antifreeze in your vehicle. If you do, it is important to ensure it isn't spilt, or stored where any animals can access it. Antifreeze is sweet tasting and may be lapped up by cats and dogs. Cats may also accidentally ingest it by licking their paws after walking through it. The ingestion of antifreeze causes devastating kidney damage which is usually fatal. Often you don't know your pet has ingested antifreeze. They will just begin to show signs of being unwell, such as vomiting, lethargy, not eating and possibly drinking excessively. A blood test will reveal that the kidneys are not functioning correctly. Sometimes it is difficult to determine if the kidney failure

is due to antifreeze poisoning. In some cases, crystals can be seen in the urine to confirm it, but not always. The treatment for antifreeze poisoning includes hospitalisation and intravenous fluid therapy. Treatment is often not successful as the damage to the kidneys is already done or is too great for them to recover. If you know your pet has ingested antifreeze, immediate veterinary treatment is required to try and remove or counteract/absorb the toxins before they can cause damage.

We have seen one confirmed and one suspected case of antifreeze poisoning so far this year. Both were young, previously healthy cats. Please take care if you use antifreeze this winter.

*We have a great
range of dog coats
in store for small to
medium dogs.*

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Antifreeze is sweet tasting and may be lapped up by cats and dogs. Please take great care if you use antifreeze in your vehicle this winter as it is very toxic

George's Pointy Problem

Last month, George, a young border collie cross came limping into the clinic. A day or so earlier, George had been running at full speed through the garden at home, when she suddenly became lame. A swelling had developed on the side of one of her front legs. After close examination, Karen (the vet), also discovered a tiny puncture wound. Karen was concerned that there may be something embedded inside George's leg that had caused an infection. We quite commonly see dogs with grass seeds embedded in various places, but this wasn't to be the case with George.

George was anaesthetised so her swollen leg could be explored surgically. After a short time, Karen found what was causing the problem. She pulled out a long, very pointy piece of what appeared to be the tip of a palm frond. It was approximately 4cm long and was totally embedded in George's leg. It was no wonder George was so sore! George's wound healed quickly and the infection cleared with antibiotic treatment. Hopefully George will steer clear of those pointy plants from now on!



We were surprised at what we found stuck in George's leg

Coats & Jumpers

Our new seasons coats and jumpers have arrived! Come and see our selection in store today.



Arthritis

Arthritis is a painful condition affecting around 80% of dogs over the age of 8. If you have noticed changes in your dog's level of activity or mood, it may be due to arthritis.

Although arthritis is not curable, there are many different treatment options available that will help alleviate the pain and discomfort. For mild cases, there are some simple steps that can be taken at home to reduce pain: 1-Warmth! Provide plenty of bedding & padding, and a dog coat. 2- Keep your dog as dry as possible. 3- Gentle, regular exercise. 4- Avoid obesity.

As the disease progresses, you will need to see a veterinarian to examine your pet and advise on suitable treatment options. Foods or supplements containing ingredients such as Omega 3, green lipped mussel, shark cartilage, deer velvet, glucosamine, chondroitin & zinc may be recommended. Other options include an injection (Cartrophen/Pentosan) given at weekly intervals for 4 weeks. This can give significant pain relief for many animals. In some cases, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs may be prescribed. These can provide excellent pain relief in moderate and severe cases.

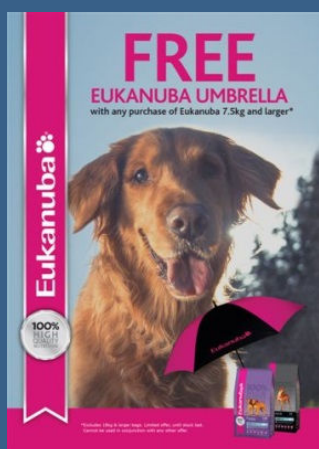
With the colder months approaching, arthritis will be more pronounced in many dogs. Be proactive and have your dog checked and discuss the many options available with one of our vets.

Free Offers

FREE UMBRELLA

Purchase any bag of Eukanuba dog food 7.5kg or larger and receive a free umbrella.

Only while stocks last



FREE SAMPLE TREATS

Purchase any 400g bag of Yours Droolly dog treats and receive a 30g pack of each flavor to try for free.

Only while stocks last

ALSO COMING UP IN JUNE: \$10 OFF SELECTED IAMS CAT FOOD 2.55KG & 3KG BAGS
only while stocks last