NEWSLETTER — DECEMBER 2013 — JANUARY 2014



Seasons Greetings....

Move over 2013, it's almost the New Year! Hazel and Michael will both be continuing to consult as normal throughout the Christmas holiday period. Clinic closures will only be on the public holidays and we also shut earlier at 5pm on both Christmas Eve and New Years Eve. We hope that your two and four-legged family has a safe and wonderful festive season!

Dr. Hazel Cable & Associates

Ph. 8322 4355

www.oldreynellavet.com.au enquiries@oldreynellavet.com.au

> **227** Old South Road Old Reynella SA 5161

PO Box 962 Reynella SA 5161

OPENING HOURS:

Monday - Friday

8am - 7pm

Saturday

8:30am - 4pm

Sunday

CLOSED

Public Holidays

CLOSED

Find us on Facebook





Congratulations Ursula!

Congratulations Ursula on winning our Facebook competition. We have submitted the blood sample for testing and in a few short weeks we will know Ursula's genetic makeup. We will be sure to post the report on our Facebook page for all to see. In the meantime, have a guess as to what breed you think she is. Also congratulations to Dumbledore & Shayla for winning our runner up prize packs and well done to everyone that entered.



But wait; the discounts don't stop there. For the month of December we will be offering the Mixed Breed Identification tests to everyone for only \$99—that's over 25% off. Advance are also offering a \$20 discount off their 13kg



or 15kg range of dry dog food and for cats, they get a \$15 discount off the 8kg bags.

We also have our colouring in competition for the little kiddies to do during the school holidays.



Parvovirus In The News

We have been inundated with phone calls in regards to the recent Parvovirus outbreak that has been in the news. Parvovirus is a life threatening virus that can affect adult dogs as well as puppies.

Treatment can be costly, and at times unsuccessful. It can spread quite rapidly through unvaccinated dogs by sharing common areas such as dog parks and popular walking areas. The

Parvovirus spores can survive in the environment for up to a year and because of this it can also be brought home on shoes to dogs that live solely in backyards.

The best way to deal with this outbreak is to ensure your dog is fully vaccinated. Vaccinations are given to puppies at 8, 12 and 16 weeks of age and annually thereafter. If you are unsure if your dog is up to date please give the clinic a call and our staff can check for you.

Itchy and Scratchy - skin discomfort in pets.

There a many reasons your pet may scratch excessively – here's the run down on a few that could be causing itchiness in your pet:

Flea bite hypersensitivity: The most common cause for itchiness and self harm in pets, fleas were once only a problem in spring and summer. Now with homes being kept warmer with central heating, fleas can quite happily survive — even flourish — all year round. Flea bite hypersensitivity is caused when your pet's system overreacts to the flea's saliva, most commonly showing up around the base of the tail. Unfortunately for your pet and you, the culprit is not often seen until your home is thoroughly infested, making proper treatment lengthy and time consuming. Use of a good quality flea treatment year round can ensure happy and healthy skin for your pet.

Allergies: Skin allergies are common in dogs just like they are in people! In dogs we refer to this condition as atopy. It is most commonly associated with a reaction to pollens, dust particles or grasses and tends to affect the feet, ears, face and belly. Often, but not always, the symptoms are seasonal, with spring and summer being the worst periods. Brushing and bathing your pet can help but don't over do it, the natural oils help to improve skin health. Pets with this condition can sometimes scratch themselves until the hair falls out or the skin bleeds. Medications can be helpful to stop the itching and help the skin heal. A cure is unlikely but with the right plan spring and summer can be 100x more comfortable for pet and owner.

Other causes: Some pets can develop sensitivities to their foods, particularly certain types of proteins. Sometimes, they

can even be on the same diet for many years and eventually develop sensitivities.

Some pets can have problems with mites – specifically scabies mites which are common in foxes. Insect bites, drug reactions, foreign bodies and even cancer can also cause your pet to itch! If your pet is regularly scratching but you are not sure why, contact our clinic staff for advice on what could be causing the problem.

Cats often show different symptoms of skin irritation compared to dogs. Flea, food and environmental allergies can often cause cats to be itchy anywhere on their bodies.





Congratulations (L to R) to Alana and Pepsi, Kristy and Zoe, Erica and Willow and Lyn and Shadow who graduated on the 25th November. Well done to you all!

Our Puppy Play-School will be taking a couple of weeks off over the Christmas period and will resume in January. Give us a call if you would like to enroll your puppy for next year.



MS Mud Run 3

Our vet Hazel and nurse Michelle completed the MS Mud Run on the 1st of December. They helped to raise money for people suffering with Multiple Sclerosis. We would like to thank those people who kindly sponsored them for the event. The MS Mud Run was able to raise over \$100,000 for the MS Society of SA & NT.

Here are a couple of pics from the event.







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