## <u>NEWSLETTER - ISSUE 1- JUNE / JULY 2012</u>



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





### Welcome.....

Welcome to the first issue of our clinic newsletter! 2012 is the beginning of a new era for us here at the Old Reynella Veterinary Clinic, with the amicable separation from the Christies Beach practice. Dr. Hazel Cable is now the sole owner of the Old Reynella Clinic, and will be available for consultation on most days. With the separation our staff will no longer rotate between two practices. There will always be the same familiar faces to greet you and your furry friends each time you visit.



Your Old Reynella Team (L to R) Roxanne, Michael, Jenna, Michelle, Hazel and Kylie

allowing us to provide you with even higher standards of service and care

We have also introduced a new Veterinarian to the team, Dr. Michael Woodworth. Some of you may have met Michael previously when he filled in in October 2011 for Hazel when she attended the International Veterinary Congress in South Africa. Michael is a native to Perth, Western Australia and graduated from Murdoch University five years ago. He spent 3 years working in the United States and returned home with a wealth of veterinary knowledge under his belt. He recently became engaged to his long term partner and fellow Veterinarian Cammy O'Rourke. He has two dogs, Cooper and Murphy and a cat, Mufasa. He will be available most days for consultation. Michael is also featured in our new 'Meet the Team' section.

You may also notice a few changes to the clinic when you visit us, including a new paint job (although we're not quite finished yet!). The garden has had a little makeover, and we now all sport new uniforms! We also have a fresh new logo, designed and created by one of our nursing staff, Kylie Howlett.

Finally, if you have any requests for features or suggestions for improving our newsletters, please feel free to contact our friendly staff either on 8322 4355, or via email at <u>enquiries@oldreynellavet.com.au</u>. Also be sure to check out our new website at <u>www.oldreynellavet.com.au</u> and like us on Facebook! See you soon!

The Team at Old Reynella Vet Clinic

## **Creature Feature**

Name: Meisje (May-sha) Likes: Cuddles in bed Favourite pastime: Chasing flies in summer If you would like your pet featured here, please send us a photo to <u>enquiries@oldreynellavet.com.au</u>





Save \$20 on a senior health check

### During May and June 2012, pet owners can get a \$20 DISCOUNT VOUCHER

to use towards a senior health check, as part of the Hill's Senior Screening Program!

To get your voucher, access full terms and conditions, and to find out more about senior pet care, visit www.hillspet.com.au/seniors today. Please hurry though, because only 4000 senior pet owners can claim this discount! Your voucher can be used up until October 2012 at our clinic.

### Meet the team...

This section is a chance for you to get to know our clinic staff on a more personal level.

5 minutes with Michael Woodworth, Veterinarian: Nickname: Woody

How long have you been working with us?

Since March 2012

Why did you become a veterinarian?

It's corny, but I love animals! And people too!

Favourite pastime when not working?

Most sports – including soccer, snowboarding, baseball and table tennis.

Favourite Food?

Mum's fried rice. Favourite Movie?

As a child, The Lion King. As an adult, Gladiator.

### Favourite moment in your career?

Treating a hedgehog in Florida, USA. Also foreign body surgeries, they include removing stuffed toys, needles, rocks, plastic bags and even a guitar strap from various dogs and cats.

#### Any pets?

I have two dogs, Murphy, a Duck Tolling Retriever X and Cooper, an Australian Shepherd. I also have a cat named Mufasa.

### Arthritis Not Just A Senior's Disease

Arthritis is a chronic, painful, degenerative condition that can develop gradually over time, affecting one or more joints (typically the hips, knees and elbows) and causing inflammation and pain. One in five dogs suffers from pain and disability caused by arthritis. Cats can also suffer from the damaging effects of this condition and may have difficulty grooming themselves or going to the toilet. Sadly, the majority of these pets go undiagnosed and untreated as their owners don't understand the reality of this condition. However, pets experience real pain with arthritis, comparable to the pain experienced by humans with this disease. Arthritis is not limited to certain breeds and it can affect any pet at any age. It can influence a pet's quality of life and prevent it from enjoying simple, daily activities such as walking, running and playing.

### Signs that a pet may be suffering from arthritis include:

- Reluctance to walk or play
- Limping
- Stiffness of joints in the morning or after a sleep
- Licking or biting of joints
- Difficulty in rising from a resting position
- Difficulty in climbing stairs
- Change in personality less happy and playful or sometimes aggressive and irritable
- Difficulty for cats to jump off benches

Pets that have an increase risk of getting arthritis include large breed dogs, overweight animals, animals that have sustained injury, and those over 7 years of age.

### **Treatment options**

Early detection and proactive treatment is essential to ensure your pets comfort and quality of life as they age. There are many options available that will help prevent arthritis in pets that are at risk:

- Weight control : Weight and exercise determine the amount of stress put on the joints. Calorie restricted diets and gentle exercise to maintain ideal (low end of normal) body weight are essential for animals with, or at risk of arthritis
- 2. **Pain relief**: NEW: Trocoxil is a new long acting anti-inflammatory, pain relief tablet. It is given once a month and provides arthritic dogs with constant pain relief. Daily anti-inflammatories like Previcox and Meloxicam are also available.
- 3. **Food:** Hills J/D food is a fully balanced and complete food that is clinically tested to help dogs and cats walk and run better in 3-4 weeks. It reduces the pain of arthritis and maintains a healthy weight. The food has also been clinically proven to reduce the dose of anti-inflammatories by 25%. It is available in a wet and a dry form.

ARTHRITIC HIPS IN A DOG – note the excessive bony growth around the hip joint.





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