



# OLD REYNELLA VETERINARY CLINIC

## Newsletter—SPRING 2015



**Welcome...** Hello everyone - three cheers for the arrival of spring! Thank goodness winter is on its way out! Welcome to Spring, and your new newsletter. This issue covers the arrival of baby birds in our area; a fantastic new grooming tool to help your pet shed that heavy winter coat faster than ever before and much more helpful insights and goings on around the clinic. Along with our usual features, if there is something you would particularly like to see in our seasonal newsletter let us know.

*The team from the Old Reynella Veterinary Clinic*



**The Furminator—the ultimate grooming tool...** Do you have a pet who loses hair left right and centre in Spring? Well, unless you own one of those hilarious hairless dogs or cats, *everyone* experiences their pet shedding hair. If you are also *sick of it*

we have the product for you!

Introducing **The Furminator**. The Furminator is a bladed comb made for both long and short haired dogs, cats and even for pocket pets! It is designed to pull out the all the dead hair, but does a better job than any ordinary brush on the market—and will be the last brush you ever buy! Check out the reviews online to see for yourself! Used weekly, the Furminator will reduce your pets shedding by up to 90% - check out these amazing photos....

We stock all sizes of the Furminator range, for both long and short coated dogs and cats. If you would like to know more about the product or even try it for yourself, just call the clinic for more information!



### **DANGER! SNAKES SIGHTED!**

With the arrival of the warmer weather, this seasons snakes have already been seen out and about in metropolitan Adelaide. Snake catchers have had call outs as early as August! Now is the time to clean up any debris and rubbish around your home, avoid walking in longer grasses with your dogs, and even consider keeping your cats inside or in a secure run this snake season to prevent them getting into trouble!

If you are concerned that your pet may have come into contact with a snake, please contact the clinic for advice immediately! Dogs can pass away suddenly after being bitten, while cats may appear fine, then crash up to 36 hours later.

**OLD REYNELLA VETERINARY CLINIC**  
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**OPENING HOURS:**  
Monday to Friday: 8am—7pm  
Saturday: 8:30am—4pm  
Sunday and Public Holidays: **CLOSED**

 Find us on  
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**Congratulations to all our  
Puppy School Graduates!**



**Baby Birds—to help or not to help...**

Ever year coming in to Spring, we are inundated with people who bring us baby birds—many of which are in desperate need of care. However, we receive almost an equal amount of birds who have actually just left the nest, and are called *fledglings*. These fledglings are the teenagers of the bird world—they are old enough to be more independent, but still remain under the care of their parents. By bringing them to the clinic, it is actually one of the worst things you can do!

The best way to tell whether a baby bird needs our help

**It is a *myth* that adult birds will refuse to care for their babies if humans have touched it.**

or not is to quickly examine the animal. If you can see skin, maybe some fluffy down and strange feathers on their wings, like the photo

below, this is usually a very young bird. These guys need help! Look around for the bird nest, and if you can spot it, pick up the baby and place it back in the nest asap. **It is a *myth* that adult birds will refuse to care for their babies if humans have touched it.**

Fledgling birds, have a more complete feather covering, but can sometimes appear a little bit scruffy. These birds are too big to stay in the nest, but can't fly just yet. They may appear in distress,



Baby magpie—if you find one like this, pop it back in its nest if possible!

often making strange noises, flapping and fluffing themselves, and sitting under bushes puffed up. People usually spot these little guys and immediately think that they are in distress. The reality is, they make odd noises to gain their parents attention, who periodically will turn up and feed them. They also flap their wings to strengthen their flight muscles—they are not in trouble.

If you are concerned about these birds as they could be exposed to predators like pet dogs and cats, there are several things you can try to help prevent them becoming lunch! If they are in your backyard, try placing them under bushes in the front yard —their parents will still track them down. If you have concerns about wandering cats, place them up higher—perhaps in a tree, or set up a baby bird bucket!

The baby bird bucket is simply any bucket or garbage bin with the lid off. Fill the bottom of the bucket with detritus from your yard, then place a branch that extends from the bottom of the bucket to the rim. Put your fledgling on the stick so if they want to climb out they can. This can be placed under bushes or hung up in a tree to keep the bird safe.

Lastly, if you find a bird that's obviously injured, please bring it to the clinic for care.



Fledgling magpie—if you find one like this, please leave them be!