

### Welcome to glorious summertime...

Hope you all have your swim wear on, because here comes the sun!

Welcome to the Summer of 2017/2018. This issue introduces the first of our Vet's pets—Quinn and



his two gorgeous pooches and single kitty. We also welcome Quinn back from his first trip overseas—here he is enjoying the sights in Barcelona, Spain.

We're also discussing paralysis ticks-

something we don't see here, but good info should you ever travel interstate with your pet.

Merry Christmas from the team!

#### Meet our pets: Quinn's funky bunch:

Quinn and his lovely wife Ioana have two beautiful mixed breed puppies; Molly a three year old mixed breed (primarily Australian Cattle Dog x Jack Russell) and Max, a two year old (Labrador x Rottweiler). Max is a gentle giant who spends his time being taught naughty habits by the much more mischievous Molly. Penny is the last member of the Mackie clan, and being the smallest and feline she bosses everyone around! Max has a thing for sirens, and wishes he was a fireman's

dog. Their favourite treat of choice is salmon from their grandma! Here they are enjoying the fire together.



# Taking your pet on holiday? What you need to know about Paralysis Ticks

It is common for pet owners to travel with their furry companions these days, so we thought it would be important to share some information regarding paralysis ticks in case you head to the east coast!

- They are found all along the eastern coastline from Victoria to northern Queensland. Native marsupials such as possums are natural host animals.

- Ticks can be picked up from bushland, but

backyards are not immune as they can travel with native wildlife.

 The worst time is usually between August and February

- Signs of tick paralysis includes vomiting, lack of



Left: A paralysis tick in the coat of a dog Right: An engorged tick after a full meal

appetite, a change in voice, weakness in the back legs, lack of coordination. This can then progress to breathing difficulties and paralysis. If left untreated, death usually results.

If you suspect your pet may have been affected by a paralysis tick while you are travelling THIS IS AN EMERGENCY, and our advice would be to visit the nearest vet to you ASAP. They will be able to advise you of treatment required, but it will generally involve hospitalisation and treatment with a tick antitoxin.

Like all things in the vet world, prevention is always

better than cure, and we offer numerous products that can prevent tick infestation over the counter. If you ever plan to travel with your pet, please contact the clinic before you go!



OPENING HOURS: Monday to Friday: 8am—7pm Saturday: 8:30am—4pm Sunday and Public Holidays: CLOSED

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### Heartworm—the sneaky killer of our canine companions.

Heartworm in dogs is a killer. It is a blood born parasite that is passed by mosquitos, and is notoriously difficult and expensive to treat. While most pet owners are aware of heartworm and provide some sort of treatment, they may not realise the risk of infection if their monthly preventatives are ever missed or late.

A new Heartworm study from 2017 has found the prevalence of heartworm positive dogs is still standing at approximately 5% in South Australia. However the scariest fact revealed by this new study is that 40% of these heartworm positive dogs were supposed to be protected by monthly heartworm preventatives. What does this mean? This shocking result may have happened due to missed or late monthly dosing at home. Most monthly products administered by pet owners have no 'reach back', so if the application of these occur as little as a week late, your pet can become infected in that time.

What can be done? We recommend our dog patients consider the heartworm injection as a treatment choice. It can be given at any time even if you may be using another treatment alternative. This means if life gets in the way and you miss the exact scheduled dosing time for your dog, you can breathe easier knowing that the deadliest aspect of parasite prevention is still covered.

Have you let your dogs treatment lapse? In January and February any adult dogs that book in for their heartworm injection will receive a FREE heartworm test. Please call the clinic to book your appointment!



## **Christmas Opening Hours:**

Saturday 9th December : 8:30am—3pm Closing early for Staff Function

Saturday 23rd December: 8:30am-4pm Sunday 24th December: Closed Monday 25th December: Closed Tuesday 26th December: Closed Reopen as normal on Wednesday 27th December

Saturday 30th December: 8:30am-4pm Sunday 31st December: Closed Monday 1st January: Closed Reopen as normal on Tuesday 2nd January

> Friday 26th January 2018 Australia Day: Closed



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