

Summer 2020/2021

OLD REYNELLA VETERINARY CLINIC

Newsletter

Welcome...

Welcome to the new Summer 2020-2021 Newsletter.

This issue we introduce our new staff members (although, you have likely met them as they have been here for a while!)

Now that Summer has hit, please make sure your pets are kept cool, and kept inside on the warmer days to prevent heat stress. This is particularly important for small pets such as rabbits or ferrets.

Following the catastrophic fires in Australia last summer; we have researched and provided a quick checklist for what you need to have ready should you ever need to evacuate your home.

Below we also have our seasonal opening hours so you will know when to catch us during the holiday period.

As always, stay safe and all the best for this festive season for you and your four legged family members!

X O X O, The Old Reynella Vet Team

Christmas Opening Hours:

Christmas Eve: Thursday 24th December: 8am til 5pm

Christmas Day: Friday 25th December: **CLOSED**

Boxing Day: Saturday 26th December: **CLOSED**

Boxing Day Public Holiday: Monday 28th December: **CLOSED**

Tuesday 29th December: 8am—7pm

Wednesday 30th December: 8am—7pm

New Years Eve: Thursday 31st December: 8am til 5pm

New Years Day: Friday 1st January: **CLOSED**

Normal hours from Saturday 2nd January



Meet our New Team Members:

Taylah; Veterinary Nurse.

Taylah is our newest qualified nurse to join our team.

Originally from SA, Taylah moved to the Pilbara in North Western WA to chase her dreams of working with animals and wildlife. She has appeared on several episodes of Desert Vet

which stars her former boss Dr Rick Fenny. →



She recently returned to SA to be closer to her family and accepted a job with us! She has previously worked with Sea Turtles, Northern Quolls and has a keen interest in working with wildlife again.

Taylah has a mixed breed Cattle Dog named Nova who she rescued from a remote indigenous community in the Pilbara. Make sure you say 'hi' next time you see her!

Kylie; Receptionist.

Kylie has joined us as a receptionist for our busy little clinic. She has her two beautiful pugs named Stassi and Lewis and a giant black cat named Dexter. Originally a client who spent far too much time here, Kylie got



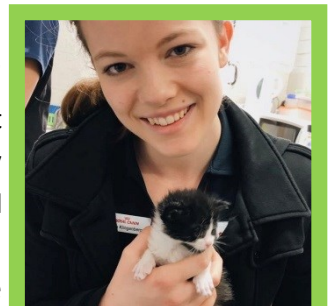
along with the team so well, we decided to offer her a job! Kylie absolutely adores animals and talking to people about their pets, but is not a fan of the more gross parts of the Veterinary field. For this reason she is more than happy to default that side to the nurses in favour of being the smiling new face of our clinic. On top of her job with us, Kylie also teaches dance and offers professional makeup services keeping her very busy.

Anja; Veterinary Nurse ; (future Veterinarian).

Anja has just started her 'official' veterinary career as a Nurse but is well on her way to being a fully qualified Veterinarian by the end of 2021.

Wanting to be a vet from the age of three, Anja is in the final stages of completing her veterinary medicine degree, with only rotations and exams to go in 2021.

She has three pets at home; a Samoyed named Misty, a Keeshond named Archie and a Domestic 'moggy' named Simba.



Preparing for Bushfire Season:

Less than 12 months ago we saw some of the worst bushfires ever experienced in recent history. More than 17 million hectares of land burnt, 33 people died and countless animals perished. With the new fire danger season here, we have compiled a plan you can follow to protect your four legged family in the unlikely event of a fire.

Your Pet's Bushfire preparation kit should include:

- Food and water—keep their food in an air tight container to avoid spoilage.
- A bowl for food and water.
- A second collar and lead.
- A carrier for cats and smaller pets. Ideally one carrier per pet, because they may not cope with being crammed in together.
- Bedding and a woollen blanket. The woollen blanket should be provided to cover your pets in case of fire emergency.
- A pet first aid Kit (see below for what you should include).
- A favourite toy.
- Any medications with a written list of what they are and their dosing information.
- Any important medical history that may be relevant and a copy of their vaccination certificate.
- Your Veterinarian contact details.



Our nurse Kylie took this photo at Vivonne Bay on KI on the Australia Day weekend in 2020.

What to do on high or catastrophic fire danger days:

- As part of your fire plan, decide whether or not you are leaving early. Have your pet's bushfire kit ready to go and make sure you have adequate room in your vehicle to take them.
- Make sure you have a destination in mind, and have called ahead to make sure that the place you are going will be able to accommodate your pets.
- If your plan includes keeping your pets with you, keep them inside for the day. This especially true for cat owners. If you have a fire emergency, the last thing you will have time to do is go searching for your wayward pet.
- Ensure you have towels and woollen blankets to cover your pet.
- Make sure your pet can be identified easily with an up to date microchip and a collar and name tag. →

- Discuss with your neighbors about your plans and how to best protect your pet if you are unable to get home during a fire emergency.
- Keep your bushfire relocation kit for pets within easy reach so you are ready to leave early if needed.
- Lastly, PRACTICE! Leaving with your pets will take longer than you might realize.

How to prevent heatstroke in your pets:

Heat stroke in animals is considered a medical emergency as it can lead to seizure activity and multiple organ failure very quickly.

Tips to keep your pet cool:

- Provide your furry friend with a cool, shaded area with good ventilation. Good ventilation and air flow is vital as many animals cool down via evaporative cooling (panting).
- Make sure they have plenty of clean fresh water, and provide extra water sources in case of spillage.
- On hot, humid days, bring your pet inside, particularly if the indoor environment is cooler for the animal.
- Small animals such as rabbits, ferrets, guinea pigs, birds, rats and mice are highly prone to heatstroke. Please bring them inside on hot days—or if that's not possible, place their enclosures in the shade, provide multiple sources of fresh water, and ventilation.
- This may be obvious, but do not exercise your pet in the heat of the day; try to aim for very early morning or very late in the day. Also check the heat of the surface you intend to walk your pet on; if it's too hot for you to place and hold your hand on for seven seconds, then it is too hot for your pet to walk on!
- Do not leave your pet in the car. Ever. Even with the windows down, they can overheat and die in less than 6 minutes.

Signs of heat stress can include:

- Excessive panting, bright red gums, salivation, vomiting, anxious pacing, incoordination and stumbling.
- Seizures, collapse, coma and eventual death.



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