

Tuggeranong Veterinary Hospital Summer News 2012

Current Staff At TVH:

Senior Vets and Practice Owners: Dr Malcolm McKnown, Dr Karen Van Roy, Dr Ben Black.

Associate Vets: Dr Yi Jiun Law, Dr Katherine Mills, Dr Rachael Grigson, Dr Shelley Brown and Dr Joyce Yung.

Associate Part-Time: Dr Penny Baker-Gabb, Dr Seonaid Knight and Dr Heidi Beruter.

Receptionists: Donna Campbell, Laura Tebb, Alana Druitt. **Practice Manager:** Janine Crowe.

Nursing / Receptionist: Janna Horsburgh, Grace Potter, Lydia Champ, Emily Johnson, Michelle Lyons, Maddie Shannon-Hooper, Sammi Muir, Yvonne Moses and Darcy Nicol

Summer Holidays:

We will be closed from 12pm the 24th December and reopen on the 27th December, closed from 12pm the 31st December and reopen on the 2nd January and closed for the Australia Day public holiday on Monday 28th January.

If you have a veterinary emergency, please contact:

**The Animal Emergency Centre,
Telephone 6280-6344
Unit 15, 2 Yallourn Street,
Fyshwick, A.C.T, 2609**

If you are planning to go away, it is important that you make sure that your pet's vaccinations are up to date. Don't forget, if you are planning to go to the coast, you must remember to get your pets tick protection. Most of the products are sold according to your pet's weight. If you have any questions, one of our receptionists will be happy to help.

Strange Pets From History

According to legend the ancient Roman poet Virgil owned a pet house fly. He was so distressed when it died that he built an expensive mausoleum for it's remains and threw a lavish funeral. Coincidentally, the Roman government at the time could not confiscate properties with mausoleums. Talk about a creative tax avoidance scheme.



New Monthly Flea Tablet for Dogs

Comfortis® (spinosad) is now available at Tuggeranong Vet Hospital. It starts killing fleas before they lay eggs and provides a full month of flea protection. The tablet is flavoured and administered orally and very effective.



What is Veterinary Dentistry?



Our pets can be in pain with bad teeth. There are two main reasons for a vet to recommend a dental procedure under general anaesthesia at Tuggeranong Veterinary Hospital.

1. Periodontal Disease. Bacteria accumulates at the junction of the gum and tooth. Over time plaque, tartar and gingivitis erode the tooth ligaments and can cause tooth loss. Common signs include bad breath, loose teeth and gum recession. Under anaesthesia a vet can scale the plaque and tartar (including the tartar under the gum line) and polish the tooth.
2. Tooth extraction. This may be necessary due to severe periodontal disease, broken tooth, tooth root abscessation, retained milk teeth and poorly positioned teeth. Cats can suffer from a painful condition know as “resorptive lesions”.



TIPS FOR GOOD DENTAL HOME CARE

- TWICE weekly chewing is essential to remove plaque and slow periodontal disease. Offer cats and small dogs raw chicken necks or chicken wings. Offer larger dogs lamb flaps, lamb ribs and lamb shanks. Never offer bones that have been cut eg soup, chop or marrow bones as the sharp edge commonly breaks teeth. Beef bones are very hard and may also break teeth. Alternatives include daily raw hide chews (dried beef skin). Start pets young or offer to older pets in cut up small bite size pieces then slowly offer larger pieces over a month.
- Otherwise consider brushing (it does work with some compliant pets) or special diets that need to be chewed before swallowing eg Hill's T/D.