

AUGUST NEWS

August 2008

RALPH'S RED URINE

Ralph, a normally very boisterous, 6 year old, entire Bull Mastiff cross was having an off day. In fact he had been off his food for a couple of days which was very unusual. He looked skinny, scurfy and sad. So, on Saturday afternoon he visited the Mansfield Veterinary Clinic for a checkup.

Ralph's temperature was 39.5, (normal can be up to 39.0), and there was blood in his urine. A blood test confirmed an infection and palpation of his prostate revealed it to be enlarged.

Benign prostatic enlargement is very common in entire male dogs, many entire males will have enlargement by 6 years of age. Bacteria can then invade the enlarged prostate leading to a chronic infection, or as in Ralph's case, an acute abscess.

Ralph was stabilized over the weekend with intravenous fluid therapy, potent antibiotics and pain relief. On Monday morning, Dr. Andrew Jacotine ultrasounded Ralph's abdomen confirming the presence of a prostatic abscess. Treatment involved surgery to open the abscess and drain the infected fluid and also castration, which causes rapid involution of the prostate.

As many antibiotics do not penetrate into the prostate, it was important to choose antibiotics which do. A culture was also undertaken to ensure the offending bacteria were susceptible to the chosen antibiotics.

Ralph went home a few days later feeling much better and will continue on antibiotic therapy for several weeks.



CONGRATULATIONS
DR. PETER CULLEN
ON WELCOMING A
NEW SON INTO THE
FAMILY.

PETER'S FIRST
DAUGHTER JACQUI
WAS MARRIED TO
DAVID EGGERT IN
FIJI ON THE FIRST
OF AUGUST.

SALLY AND YOUNGER
SISTER BRIONY
WERE BRIDESMAIDS.

WELCOME ROSE

Another new face at the vet clinic, we are lucky to have Rose Gilder working with us on a casual basis while some of our nurses take holidays. Rose has fitted into the vet clinic extremely well and having been introduced to us by good friend Kate Martin, that's not surprising.

Rose is almost a local having grown up in Licola and has a very good understanding of creatures great and small, and logging trucks!??



WHAT A MONSTER!

Dr. Sally Cullen was recently called to a calving (yes Spring calving is here already???) The calf unfortunately was quite dead and much to the surprise of the owner and Sally, it had TWO HEADS!!



The reason for the difficulty in passing the calf was quite apparent. Foetal monsters are encountered quite frequently in cattle, seemingly more so than in other species and in this case it is likely an unlucky consequence of poorly separated identical twins.

In another calving anomaly, Sally went out to replace a uterine prolapse (where the entire uterus follows the calf out of the vagina). The farmer had earlier in the day pulled twins from the cow. The first being a normal calf, the second a long dead one! Interesting that one calf could survive so well with its less fortunate mate.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS
HAPPY 21st BIRTHDAY
GEORGIA
AND CONGRATULATIONS
ON TURNING 21 (AGAIN)
MARGIE

ANDY'S TROUBLESOME STONE

Andy, the goat, was having great difficulty urinating. His owner noted that he was also off his feed and not his usual friendly self. A visit to the vet was required.

Upon arrival, it was obvious that Andy could only pass small drops of urine, despite a lot of straining. An ultrasound showed a very large bladder. A urinary blockage was the diagnosis and in small ruminants this is commonly caused by stones in the urethra (also known as urolithiasis).

Urolithiasis is a life threatening condition. If the stones are completely blocking the urethra, urine cannot be passed eventually resulting in rupture of the bladder, followed by death. Short term blockages can also cause irreversible damage to the kidneys. Andy's problem was diagnosed early and treatment was immediately started.

Some urine was drained by ultrasound guided needle directly from the bladder to buy some time. He was then anaesthetised and his penis extruded (not the easiest thing to do in a castrated goat). Thanks to some expert help from our wonderful students Megan and Christy, a stone was found in the urethral process, which was then surgically removed. The urethral process is a very fine extension of the penis found in small ruminants, it is not required, but as it has a very narrow diameter it is common to lodge stones here.

Without the urethral process it was then possible to pass a catheter up into the bladder. A large number of smaller stones were flushed from the urethra and the catheter was left in place overnight.

The next morning, Andy was feeling much better, the catheter was removed and he was happily tucking back into his feed and urinating freely.

Urolithiasis is more common in males castrated at an early age (less than 6 months) as the urethra does not grow to the full potential diameter. Some feeding regimes can increase the likelihood of stones, such as diets high in calcium, high grain diets and those with a low calcium to phosphorous ratio. Clinical symptoms are often more apparent when weather conditions cause a decrease in water intake.

Uroliths also occur in other species (esp cats) but obstructions are much more common in males than females due to the longer, narrower urethra.



INSIDE STORY HEADLINE

This story can fit 150-200 words.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases, market studies, and reports.

While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or service, the key to a successful newsletter is making it useful to your readers.

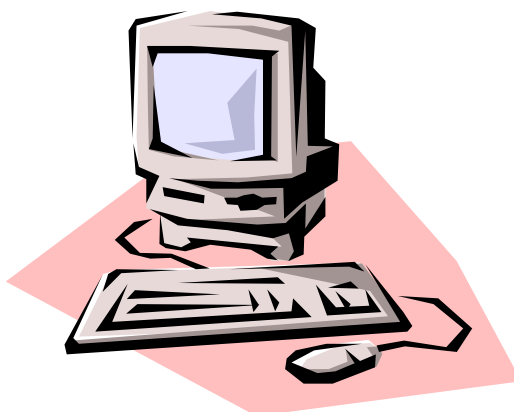
A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of upcoming events or a special offer that promotes a new product.

You can also research articles or find "filler" articles by accessing the World Wide Web. You can write about a variety

of topics but try to keep your articles short.

Much of the content you put in your newsletter can also be used for your Web site. Microsoft Publisher offers a

simple way to convert your newsletter to a Web publication. So, when you're finished writing your newsletter, convert it to a Web site and post it.



Caption describing picture or graphic.

INSIDE STORY HEADLINE

This story can fit 100-150 words.

The subject matter that appears in newsletters is virtually endless. You can include stories that focus on current technologies or innovations in your field.

You may also want to note business or economic trends, or make predictions for your customers or clients.

If the newsletter is distributed internally, you might comment upon new procedures or improvements to the business. Sales figures or earnings will show how your business is growing.

Some newsletters include a column that is updated every issue, for instance, an advice column, a book review, a letter from the president, or an editorial. You can also profile new employees or top customers or vendors.

INSIDE STORY HEADLINE

This story can fit 75-125 words.

Selecting pictures or graphics is an important part of adding content to your newsletter.

Think about your article and ask yourself if the picture supports or enhances the message you're trying to convey. Avoid selecting images that appear to be out of context.

Microsoft Publisher includes thousands

of clip art images from which you can choose and import into your newsletter. There are also several tools you can use to draw shapes and symbols.

Once you have chosen an image, place it close to the article. Be sure to place the caption of the



Caption describing picture or graphic.

image near the image.

MANSFIELD VETERINARY CLINIC

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This would be a good place to insert a short paragraph about your organization. It might include the purpose of the organization, its mission, founding date, and a brief history. You could also include a brief list of the types of products, services, or programs your organization offers, the geographic area covered (for example, western U.S. or European markets), and a profile of the types of customers or members served.

It would also be useful to include a contact name for readers who want more information about the organization.

BACK PAGE STORY HEADLINE

This story can fit 175-225 words.

If your newsletter is folded and mailed, this story will appear on the back. So, it's a good idea to make it easy to read at a glance.

A question and answer session is a good way to quickly capture the attention of readers. You can either compile questions that you've received since the last edition or you can summarize some generic questions that are frequently asked about your organization.

A listing of names and titles of managers in your organization is a good way to give your newsletter a personal touch. If your organization is small, you may want to list the names of all employees.

If you have any prices of standard products or services, you can include a listing of those here. You may want to

refer your readers to any other forms of communication that you've created for your organization.

You can also use this space to remind readers to mark their calendars for a regular event, such as a breakfast

meeting for vendors every third Tuesday of the month, or a biannual charity auction.

If space is available, this is a good place to insert a clip art image or some other graphic.



Caption describing picture or graphic.