

Mansfield Veterinary Clinic

December News



FREE TO GOOD HOME

Tabby and White Female, desexed Microchipped Very Friendly Cat

Owner relocating

Call 0419 009 046



4 KITTENS

**Very Cute
4 - 6 weeks old**

2 young adult females

**Wormed
Desexed
Vaccinated
Microchipped
ONLY \$100**

Merry Christmas

The festive season is upon us once again and we all want our pets to be part of the party, but we need to be a bit careful with our choice of presents. Every year at Christmas, we have dogs admitted with tummy aches from eating too much chrissey dinner.

Some dogs can be very sensitive to overeating and consuming too much fat. This can range from just feeling a bit crook, through to life threatening illnesses such as pancreatitis, where the pancreas can actually start to digest itself!

So, when preparing your pets special treats, remember low fat and in moderation. But, if your pet does get into trouble over Christmas, we will be available to help. Our opening hours are:

X-Mas Eve - Monday 24th 8:30am - 12pm (no elective surgery)

X-Mas Day - Tuesday 25th Closed

Boxing Day - Wednesday 26th Closed

New Years Eve - Monday 31st 8:30 - 12pm (no elective surgery)

New Years Day - Tuesday 1st Closed

For emergencies during closed hours please call 5775 2055.

Threading the Needle

Constipated dogs are quite frequent at the Mansfield Vet Clinic, so it was no surprise when Bess, a young Cocker Spaniel, came in straining and passing nothing. She was very painful in the rear, so was given a mild sedative and pain relief before a rectal examination was attempted.

On examination, something very hard appeared to be digging into Bess's backside. To everyone's shock (especially the owners), a 5cm long sewing needle was retrieved!! It appears Bess had somehow swallowed the needle, thread and all, and had managed to pass it all the way through her intestine, only to get stuck at her bottom, essentially stitching her butt closed!!

The needle was removed, copious faeces was passed and Bess went home feeling much better.

Coco's Tiger Snake Tussle

Coco, a three year old Curly Coated Retriever, had a run in with a snake last month. While snake-bites are fairly commonplace at the Mansfield Vet Clinic, Coco was a bit unusual in that she was 6 weeks pregnant! After treatment with antivenene and fluids, Coco was sent home in good health. On ultrasound the puppies appeared unharmed. Wait for next Newsletter to see how it all turned out!

Remember the symptoms for snakebite can be very varied and may include: collapse, vomiting, diarrhoea, panting, salivating, dilated pupils, trembling, ataxia (unsteady on feet), weakness or death. Sometimes the animals appear to recover only to relapse and die.

If your pet shows any of these symptoms, or you believe it may have been bitten by a snake, the best course of action is to call the clinic (to warn us you are on your way) and bring the animal straight in.



Change of Season Worm Your Pets

Petes Lost Wedding Ring

Peter Cullen's first job was at Warnambool. One day he was called to do a fertility exam on a bull. In those days rectal gloves were not used as the boss was too lousy to buy them. Part of the fertility exam involved performing a rectal.

After doing a rectal on this bull, he was let out and galloped off down the paddock. When Pete was washing his hands he discovered the wedding ring placed so lovingly on his finger 12 months before by Jennie was **gone**. The ring presumably became a hoola-hoop for dung beetles.

Rectal gloves are freely available at Mansfield Vet Clinic for all staff.

Latest on Equine Influenza

During November there were two community meetings held at the Performing Arts Centre by John Ryan of the DPI. The sessions were very informative, however turnout was disappointing. It appears that EI is burning itself out in NSW and QLD, and it is still hoped that barring any unexpected outbreaks elsewhere (eg. in Victoria), EI will be eradicated.

Currently only horses in buffer zones in QLD and NSW, and racehorses in other states are being vaccinated. The local Mansfield racehorses have completed their primary course of 2 vaccinations and will follow up with a 6 monthly booster.

If we can't eradicate EI, it will mean all horses eventually will need to be vaccinated. Vaccinations would be required to be performed by a veterinarian and all vaccinated horses must be easily identified, usually by a microchip. Horses entering events would need to show evidence of being up to date with their vaccinations. The costs of these occurrences is one of the reasons we want to keep EI out of the country, and that's not even mentioning the costs of actually getting the disease!

So, remain vigilant! Community Information Packs from the DPI are available at the Vet Clinic.