

FEBRUARY NEWS

February 2008

Good Luck Georgia

Sadly, this month we say Goodbye to veterinary nurse Georgia Shaw. Georgia started at the Mansfield Vet Clinic in 2004 as a VET (Vocational Educational Training) student, through the Mansfield Secondary College. Having grown up with animals and running her own miniature horse stud it did not take Georgia long to settle into life at the vet clinic.

Georgia has worked nearly every Saturday morning for the past 4 years but has now decided to move on. She is relocating to Gisborne and looking for full time veterinary nursing or work in an equine stud.

Over the past years Georgia has developed exceptional skill in surgical nursing and is reknowned as being the best caesarean assistant (dog, cat or cow) available. We will miss Georgia greatly and wish her the best of luck in Gisborne.

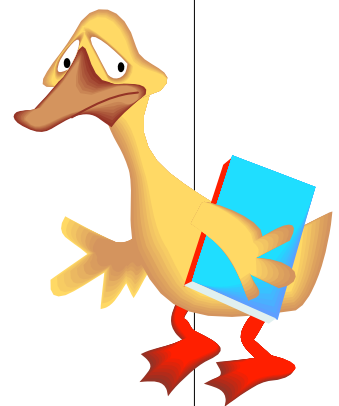
Finding ourselves without a Saturday morning vet nurse, we were lucky to have Kat Gannon doing some work experience at the clinic. Kat was so impressive with her enthusiasm, initiative and competence that we immediately asked her to take over Georgia's Saturday morning position. Knowing the vet clinic VERY well after her dog 'Frank' spent 2 weeks here with snakebite, Kat is having no trouble fitting into the swing of things.

Welcome Back Kate

You'll no doubt see a familiar face around the clinic over the next few months as we welcome back Dr. Kate Martin. Kate is doing a locum with us while Sally takes a holiday and Andrew goes on long service leave.

Kate has been working in a small animal clinic in Melbourne for the past 12 months but is looking forward to doing some *rea*/work again in Mansfield.

Can't wait to have you back Kate.



**3 FEMALE
BLACK
KITTENS**

**ABOUT
3 MONTHS
OLD.**

**ENQUIRE AT
THE VET
CLINIC.**



Vet Clinic Baby

There was some excitement at the vet clinic at the end of last month when resident broodmare 'Shady' had a baby.

The usual length of gestation in the horse is 340 days but can vary by over a month in either direction. Signs of impending foaling include enlarging of the udder over the last couple of weeks, loosening of the vulva and surrounding muscles and 'waxing up'. Waxing up is when drops of colostrum form on the teats, appearing like wax and usually occurs within 24 hours of foaling.



Unfortunately, Shady did not foal within 24 hours of waxing up, instead she ran milk for 4 days prior to foaling. This meant all of the colostrum leaked out of the udder and was replaced by normal milk. The placenta of the horse does not allow passage of immunoglobulins across it and so foals are born without a competent immune system and must consume enough colostrum within 24 hours of birth to protect them from disease. If a mare has no colostrum then either replacement colostrum should be given orally within the first 12–24 hours, or intravenous plasma can be given, as was the case for 'Lola'.

As well as having gained no colostrum, Lola was born with a contracted tendon of the foreleg. This meant she was unable to place the foot on the ground and instead would knuckle over onto her fetlock. There was a decision to be made as to whether to give Lola an injection to relax the tendons or try to manage it with splinting and bandaging. As her back legs were quite lax already, we opted for splinting as this would be easier to manage than if her back legs were sloppier.

Lola then had her first float ride out to Merrijig to be babysat for the weekend by Jacquie and Brian Pollard (owners of her father, 'Sting'). They made an ingenious metal splint welded onto a toe extension which pulled the fetlock into a straightened position.

Shady and Lola are now back at the vet clinic where we are continuing to work on straightening her leg.

WANT TO MAKE SURE YOU GET OUR NEWSLETTER?

We are now able to e-mail the newsletter to you.

Drop into the vet clinic and give us your e-mail address, or send your address to clinic@mansfieldvet.com.au.

Soon we will be able to e-mail your pets reminders as well!



Don't have e-mail?

You can still read the monthly newsletter on our website:

www.mansfieldvet.com.au

The website, e-mailed newsletter and staff photos are courtesy of David Eggert from Ozlocal.

Thank you also to local photographer Peter Lewis for the great photos.

Drop into the clinic and see our new photo wall.

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.

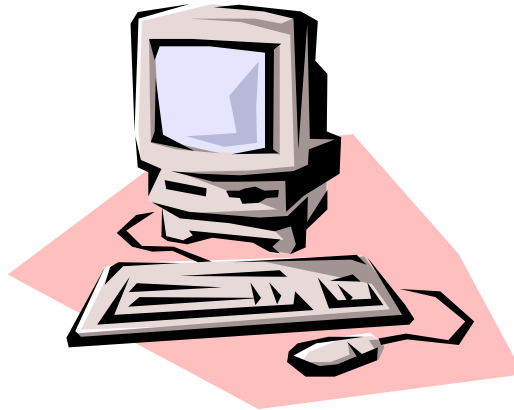
A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of upcoming events or a special offer that promotes a new product.

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

INSIDE STORY

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.

"To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here."

If
is



HEADLINE

the
news-
letter
dis-

tributed 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.



Caption describing picture or graphic.

MANSFIELD VETERINARY CLINIC

265 Mt Buller Rd
Mansfield Vic 3722

Phone: 5775 2055
Fax: 5775 1099
E-mail:

Your business tag line here.

We're on the Web!
example.microsoft.com



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.